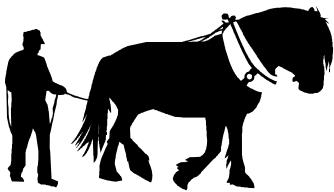
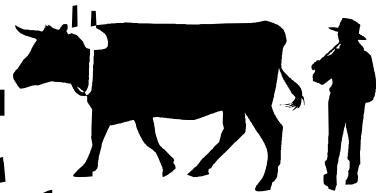


VOLUME 8, NUMBER 1  
WINTER 2018



# DAPNet

Draft Animal-Power Network



CONNECTING ANIMAL-POWERED FARMS, FORESTS, PEOPLE, AND IDEAS

## INSIDE:

President's Message  
*page 3*

Rethinking DAP Logging  
*page 5*

An Alaskan Perspective  
*page 9*

Oxen in Your Market Garden  
*page 11*

New BOD Members  
*pages 14*

Horse Logging as a Business  
*page 16*

And More!

## Celebrating Our 10th Year: The 2017 Draft Animal-Power Field Days in Cornish, NH

*Written by members of the Draft Animal-Power Network*

Celebrating Our 10th Year, the Draft Animal-Power Network Field Days took place Sept 29-Oct 1, 2017 at the Cornish, NH Fairgrounds. We were joined again by the American Suffolk Horse Association for their Annual Meeting. This was the 5th Field Days since Carl Russell and Lisa McCrory's four years of the Northeast Animal Power Field Days in Tunbridge VT where DAPNet began.



**US Marine Veteran Chip Pinder guides the 6 yo Shire geldings from Blue Star Equiculture. His insights on using draft horses as therapy touched the hearts of many that weekend.**

Thursday evening, teamsters gathered in the grange hall for a potluck dinner after setting up the forestry site, bringing in equipment, and arriving with their animals from all over the northeast. It was the beginning of a reunion, a gathering of like-minded and hardworking people who perhaps only get the chance to see each other biannually. Old friends from far away reunited as if no time had passed since last they spoke. Jovial tales of narrowly avoided disasters, bumper crops, and anticipation over new bloodlines could be heard in every conversation. New friends were made quickly, bonding over shared ideas and aspirations. As the weekend drew on, conversations and friendships deepened.

On Friday, we opened to perfect weather for three day-long intensive workshops. DAPNet highlighted the **Forest to Frame** Intensive this year, by reaching out to New England and New York certified foresters and forest and woodlot landowners.

*continued on page 4*

**Our Mission:**  
Advancing the use of  
draft animals and promoting  
sustainable land stewardship  
to build community through  
education and networking

## DRAFT ANIMAL-POWER NETWORK INFORMATION:

### Officers/Board of Directors:

President: Donn Hewes

Vice President: Michael Glos

Treasurer: Brad Johnson

Secretary: Jared Woodcock

Board of Directors Additional Members:

Sara Dougherty, Meryl Friets, Lizzy

Koltai, Isabel Ruffin, John Smolinsky,

Will Stephens.

Administrator: Reva Seybolt

**Newsletter Editor:** Reva Seybolt

**Newsletter Layout/Design:** Sean Mallinson

**Copyright (2018)** Advertisements do not

constitute endorsement of any advertised

business, product or service.

### Ad Rates:

Half page: \$90.00

Quarter page: \$50.00

Eighth page: \$30.00

Discount when also purchasing web ads

### Advertising Questions:

Reva Seybolt

dapnetinfo@gmail.com - 802-763-0771

### Pay with Paypal online

[www.draftanimalpower.org](http://www.draftanimalpower.org)

### Please make checks payable to DAPNet

#### Send to:

DAPNet Newsletter, 271 Plank Rd

Vergennes, VT 05491

## President's Message

By Donn Hewes, North Land Sheep Dairy

It's a rainy winter day, a good time to work inside and talk to you about DAPNet's future. At our Board of Directors retreat in early December, we talked about the ways DAPNet could better achieve our mission and spread our message.

First and foremost is **maintaining the community** we have. We recognize that the importance of the Field Days and Annual Gathering to our membership is community - time to get together and share our draft animal lives and knowledge. Many of our members come to DAPNet through these yearly events. We are committed to continuing having a yearly event that brings the community together. Currently we are not planning a Field Days in 2019, but are considering one in 2020. The reasons for holding off on planning the next field days are twofold. First, we need to take a realistic look at the cost of the Field Days in money and resources (mostly human resources like you and me). While we have had very successful events in our last two Field days in Cornish and Cummington, the dollars and time spent have not been proportionate to the event and are not really sustainable. The second reason for not planning a Field Days for next year is to give time and space to explore other possible types of successful DAPNet events.

In the past on non-Field Days years, we have presented small specific workshops on plowing, haying, mower building and the like. This year, we are exploring doing a service project and perhaps a community-based logging job. The idea of **service events** is that we use and demonstrate our teamsters skills to create something real rather than just an exhibition. They would be similar to an Annual Gathering with a focus first on production and then education. With a service event (not long term name) and unlike a Field Days, teamsters and the public would come together in a more focused and man-

ageable event with the success not dependent on weather and turnout.

We are going to start with the 2018 Annual Gathering at Reber Rock Farm this September 7 – 9th. Reber Rock Farm in Essex, NY is the home of Nathan Henderson and Racey Bingham. (Chad Vogel and Gwen Jamison live across the street and share in the Reber Rock Farm as well.) It is a diversified livestock farm, and raise cattle, poultry, as well as vegetables, grains, and maple syrup. They also farm with, train, and breed Suffolk Punch horses. The service aspect of this Annual Gathering would be helping in preparing ground for a fall grain crop.

What could other DAPNet service projects look like? Start with the premise that there is a village, town, school district, or a not-for-profit organization that could use our help in a forestry or farming activity. Under the right circumstances, this might even be a small business or farm we can help getting started. Perhaps they want to build a building using their own timber for lumber or create a new community garden. With our help their project can become a reality. I can imagine an event that starts with a few teams and teamsters and culminates with a large gathering and celebration at the end. On the weekend we can also include some workshops and demonstrations as part of the finale.

Another version of this service idea is the Woodsman's' Week. Jason Rutledge of Healing Harvest Forest Foundation, pioneered the Biological Woodsman's Week in the southeastern US. These events pulled together students of horse logging, restorative forestry, and comrades in advanced draft powered forestry to showcase the potential for this craft to help build healthy forests and communities. In 2014 our own Carl Russell organized the first Northeast Biological Woodsman's Week, in Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson, ME. In the case of a DAPNet service event, a commercial forestry job could be the basis for an event and a gathering. The value of timber sold can help in reducing the costs of producing an event by at least helping with the cost of animal transport and teamster expenses. Once again, this is a great opportunity to add public demonstrations and a few quality workshops to an ongoing operation. If you know of a wood site that you think might be suitable for such an event, please forward that contact information to us.

The first step will be locating the right projects. We need your help. Please stop for a second and think of any ideas you might have in the community around you that might create a good service project and then send those ideas to us.

The other area we will be focusing on coming out of the Board Retreat is **improving our online presence**.

The website clearly needs to be updated, made more user friendly, and become a true networking and working animal resource center. DAPNet already has a great foundation of dialog stored into the Forum history which we plan to make more accessible with improved searching ability. We are also looking into ways to bring the draft animal power conversation back to the Forum with increased traffic and more in depth user profiles.

Along with revamping the Website and Forum, we are planning to launch a dynamic Resource Directory which will host a list of online DAPNet profiles and professional businesses who are offering services needed by people working with live power. We will be reaching out to members and businesses in 2018 to join the Resource Directory. We also want to hear your thoughts and ideas as to how to improve our online presence.

As **long term projects**, the Board is brainstorming ideas to build mentor or apprenticeship programs and to outreach to the farming and forestry industries. We are even asking the question: what if we had a working model farm where we could offer year round training. We are calling it "The Home Farm". We would love your input on these ideas also.

Obviously, the funding for all of our dreams will be crucial. The Jeffery Trust generously gave DAPNet \$8000 toward our work with draft animals again this year. Since the grant world is unaccustomed to the idea of draft animal power, we are dependent on our supporters and large donors rather than grants. We thank you for your financial support and welcome suggestions of other like minded folk who might be excited about DAPNet and our future plans.

In coming together for the great Field Days in Cornish New Hampshire, we were reminded of why DAPNet is important to us: the work and the people bind us as if by an invisible yoke. The nature of our community invites anyone that will lift a hand to the work. Thank you everyone, and looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

## Welcome to the Draft Animal-Power Network!

Thank you for supporting our goal to highlight the ongoing efforts of people throughout the region who are educating, mentoring and building community around animal-power and renewable land use, providing opportunities for education & networking throughout the year.

Your 2018 membership benefits include:

- The knowledge that you are supporting growth of the practical application of draft animal-power.
- Access to the online forum including viewing photos & posting to the forum.
- Biennial Newsletter available by email or print/USPS which includes resource contacts, articles of interest, calendar events and more
- An advertisement for Business Members in the Newsletter or on the web
- Free on the web, an opportunity to participate on the DAP Discussion Forum
- Enhanced connections within the broader community of interest.
- A voice in the organization: one member = one vote.

## Boynton's Yokes 'n' Bows



Robert J. Boynton, Jr.

220 Mansion Rd, Dunbarton, NH 03046

603-774-4412

boyntonyokesnbows@gseinet.net

Ox Yokes, Bows & Goad Sticks  
Cattle Halters, Neck Straps, Lead Ropes  
New & Used Equipment Bought & Sold  
Wagon Repair

Vermont certified forester and horse logger Carl Russell developed a comprehensive harvesting plan for the upper 16.5 acre woodlot of the Fairground's property to show how animal powered loggers can operate within a cooperative model to accomplish short-term harvest and long-term management goals for these woods. Fifteen skilled practitioners from five states with six teams of animals worked together on the ground demonstrating how horses and oxen can provide exceptional, minimally invasive harvest outcomes in a small woodlot. Over the course of the weekend, safe directional felling, crop tree management, ground skidding, and the use of log arches and scoots were all shown and explained. The woods crew generated a small number of saw logs which were milled onsite with Ed Thayer's Woodmizer as well as firewood and pulpwood to be sold by the Fairgrounds. A number of folks commented on how beautiful and healthy the woodlot looked with the harvest and new trails.

The valuable outcomes of the weekend were four-fold. Forest owners had the opportunity to learn in some depth



Bill West, up from MD, skillfully guides his Suffolk geldings to successfully parbuckle a log onto the scoop during the Sunday morning obstacle course. Bill and Kin West have helped with all aspects areas of the DAPFD. In Cornish, Bill discovered a rarity - a decent place to plow at a New England fairgrounds. Kin made the office and information booth function smoothly.

about the potential benefits draft powered practices could have in their own woodlots. The eleven participating professional foresters from Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Massachusetts had the rare chance to see how animal power might fit into their logging operations while earning continuing education credit certificates from the Society of American Foresters accredited state licensed forester programs. The public was able to walk through the cut site, learn about and watch multiple animals and their teamsters working together in unison. Finally, the animal powered practitioners demonstrated the value of combining multiple loggers and their animals to work on a larger scale project.

*continued on page 7*

All day Friday and Saturday, teamsters worked hard to move at a pace that allowed questions to be asked and safety measures to be highlighted. It was great exposure for this growing group of teamsters to work together. These loggers had the chance to see other animal powered practitioners working alongside one another which is a rare situation in the commercial logging world.

Another Friday intensive was the **Seed to Sale** workshop at the Cedar Mountain Farm in nearby Hartland VT.



Tim Huppe and his grandson Luke Bronnenberg with Luke's young team of working steers put on a great demonstration. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree in this New England family.

Thirty beginner and advanced farmers attended the workshop led by Stephen Leslie of Cedar Mountain Farm, David Fisher of Natural Roots, Tim Biello of Featherbed Lane Farm, and Miriam Goler of Full Circus Farm. The workshop started with an overview of the most useful equipment on a diversified vegetable farm including manure spreaders, plows, cultivators, spring tooth harrows, discs, potato diggers, forecarts and more. Along with Stephen's team of Fjords, Phil Warren brought a well behaved team of 11 year old Belgian geldings, Mike and Max, to demonstrate the nuances of market gardening and cultivating. With the two teams, the participants could see the contrast between 18 hand 2,000 lb Belgians and the lively, smaller Fjords.

The workshop then turned its focus to the riding cultivator: the non-horse workhorse on many vegetable farms. David and Stephen both demonstrated various ways that they use their cultivators, as well as the attachments and innovations they have made to get the most out of this versatile tool. The riding cultivator can be used to prep beds, mark rows, cultivate crops (depending on the various attachments and their set up--cultivation can start pre-emergence and continue until the crop is quite large), side-dress, hill potatoes, and to "disc in" a single row or bed.

The workshop finished up in small groups where participants had a chance to try out the riding cultivator single with Max. They received expert coaching from Ken Laing of Ontario who has authored many articles about horse farming. Everyone got a chance to learn more about all of the equipment demonstrated and discussed earlier, as well as ask questions and share information on everything from buying

## Jay's Horsedrawn Mower Service

**Does your mower hum like a sewing machine?**

Rebuilt McCormick #7 & #9 with 5' or 6' bars  
Rubber tires available for #9

Jay Bailey  
513 Upper Dummerston Road  
Brattleboro, VT 05301  
802-254-9067  
[www.fairwindsfarm.org](http://www.fairwindsfarm.org)



## SEAN MALLINSON, GRAPHIC DESIGN



Logos, Ads,  
Brochures, Etc.  
Reasonable Rates  
[sean@marshmallofarm.com](mailto:sean@marshmallofarm.com)  
518-993-5022

## Rethinking DAP Logging in Climate Change

Dear DAP friends,

About twenty years ago a group of friends and I began a series of courses on draft powered logging. The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association supported our effort with classrooms and a woodlot. During this time over one thousand students have attended courses in chain saw safety and draft and mechanical low impact forestry. We have learned a great deal, both from our accomplishments and our mistakes.

One topic we constantly address is the role the draft animal plays in the forest. I started working in 1974 for the industrial forest with a team rescued by the SPCA. Back then there were lots of 'private contractors', one or two person teams running crawler tractors and small skidders. My horses felt at home in this crowd. Today my town's largest employers are companies running multiple forest operations with 50-60 employees each. Needless to say there are no feed bags to clip on at lunch near these operations.

One day this past spring I went up back with my team and picked up my saw. But I was unable to pull the starter cord. For over the winter I had read some powerful books that really confused my thinking. I now saw the trees in my forest no longer as boards and beams, but rather as front line soldiers working to save the human race from climate change. Now instead of cutting them down, I am measuring the amount of carbon they annually sequester.

Low impact forestry (LIF) is now working to create appropriate extraction guidelines to help these trees do their work. We are learning that the science is really not about the trees, but rather about the forest environment as a whole. What is becoming apparent is that 'it is all about the soil'.

Like organic farming, forest soil health is measured by moisture, compaction, and microbial activity. It turns out that avoiding soil compaction is essential. And what better animal to use to avoid soil compaction than a horse or an ox? Let me emphasize that we are learning as we go. And we at LIF are just beginning to get a handle on the science behind this idea. The implications of saving the big timber for carbon mitigation are complicated at best and it may be a slow sale in a timber state like Maine.

But when I close my eyes at night just before drifting off to sleep, I see my town twenty years from now. I see high school students heading for the Forest Works classroom where they will study the science of the forest environment and its relationship to the carbon crisis and develop a skill set that they will pursue through college. When they graduate they will work with landowners to develop a low impact management plan that keeps the trees doing the job they need to do. In the new forest, there will be more wildlife to hunt, better quality water to drink and better air for all to breath. And there will be more feed bags hanging on the trees.

All the best,  
Peter Hagerty,  
Porter, Maine  
[peter@peacefleece.com](mailto:peter@peacefleece.com)

### Suggested Reading:

*The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben  
*Beyond the Beauty Strip* by Mitch Lansky  
(both available on Amazon)

Peter and DAPNet welcome any of your thoughts and comments.



# Small Farmer's Journal

**BACK IN PRINT!** *The Horsedrawn Mower Book 2nd Edition* by Lynn R. Miller is now available.

Call or visit our website to order. Also check out his other titles including: *Art of Working Horses*, *Haying with Horses*, *Work Horse Handbook* and coming soon, *Horsedrawn Plows and Plowing*.

PO Box 1627, Sisters, OR 97759 [www.smallfarmersjournal.com](http://www.smallfarmersjournal.com) 800-876-2893 • 541-549-2064



**THE WORLD'S FOREMOST HEAVY HORSE PUBLICATION**

## *The Draft Horse Journal*

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES** Published four times a year.

1 YEAR U.S. \$40 | Canada/Foreign \$45 2 YEARS U.S. \$72 | Canada/Foreign \$82

Digital & Digital + Print Subscriptions available online

[www.drafthorsejournal.com](http://www.drafthorsejournal.com)



Canadian & Foreign subscribers pay in U.S. Funds only.  
Iowa Residents please apply your local option sales tax.

PO Box 670, Dept. DAPN | Waverly, Iowa 50677-0670  
319-352-4046 | [subscriptions@drafthorsejournal.com](mailto:subscriptions@drafthorsejournal.com)



## 2018 Field Days, from page 4

horses, to harnesses and troubleshooting horse behavior.

During the **Beginning Teamsters** Intensive, Donn Hewes, Jada Haas, Jay Fisher, Bill West, and Jared Woodcock introduced the basics of harnessing and driving. Students came with a variety of backgrounds, from those with very limited horse experience to experienced riders and even some teamsters currently working their own horses at home, but wanting to learn more. The course started with an introduction to a horse's point of view, then harnessing, ground driving, and twitching logs. The students had a chance to pick up the lines and drive both single and double, working up to twitching a log through a slalom of cones. Multiple teamsters taught the workshop with a variety of horses, the students had a chance to hear from many perspectives and learn from driving several of the horses over the course of the day.

The **Cornish Fairgrounds** turned out to be a wonderful location for the DAPFD as it is centrally located, small and intimate with a diversity of terrain, and a terrific Fairgrounds

about some of the advantages of live animal power when they saw some of the animal powered farm machinery. The oxen were a big hit with the kids.

Friday night's dinner was served in the Town Hall by local volunteers, followed by a lively Square Dance called by Bob Boynton of Boynton's Yokes n'Bows. Fortunately, there were some locals attending which was key because the teamsters had lots of energy, but not a lot of knowledge about dancing steps. It was quite hilarious. In addition to the music at the Square Dance, we were also very fortunate on Saturday to have Jay Bailey with his daughter, Bekah Perry, playing a selection of the fiddle music based on New England and animal power that he has collected over the years.

**Saturday** morning's weather change to cold rain did not deter us nor our attendees that had come from as far away as Alaska, Minnesota, Indiana, West Virginia, N Carolina, Ohio, Iowa, Texas, Missouri, Montana, California, Ontario, Quebec, England, and Australia. The day contained 30 plus workshops, presentations and demonstrations on logging, cultivating, haying, driving instruction, animal care and methods of training. In addition to diverse educational topics, the planning committee works hard to bring a large variety of draft animals to the event. 2017 was one of the most breed diverse years yet. There were Suffolks (14), Belgians, Percherons, Shires, Clydesdales, Fjords, Suffolk x Cleveland Bays, Haflinger x Percheron draft pony, Morgan x Percheron draft pony, Belgian mules, Mammoth Donkeys, Milking Shorthorns, Shorthorn/Holsteins, Holsteins, and Milking Devons.

Along with our emphasis on forestry and our traditional workshops, this year we also had a the veterans workshop, "Draft Powered Healing" presented by **US Marine Veteran**, **Chip Pinder** of Petersham MA, who also volunteers with Blue Star Equiculture. While harnessing Blue Star's team of Shires, Ben and Tommy, Chip shared his story. He is a Combat Veteran who returned home with a constant struggle to adjust to life on this side of the world until discovering draft animal power and agriculture. Chip like other Veterans returning from combat needed a sense of purpose, not just a job. Veterans know that they have made a difference, but when they come home, there is no way to connect with anyone on the same level, let alone make the impact they have been trained all of their lives to create. Chip talked about a fellow Veteran describing his PTSD not as a disorder, but as "Separation Anxiety." Chip described the way that the skills he had developed in combat gives him and other veterans a unique perspective on working with horses. As prey animals, horses respond with fast instincts to potential threats. Veterans, too, have learned to look for unseen dangers and respond with quick instincts. As the tools that enabled him to survive in combat morph into PTSD when he returned home, Chip found that these same tools gave him a unique perspective and skill to do meaningful work with this young team.

**Neal & Rebekah Perry** returned to DAPFD on Friday and Saturday covering the basics of their two standard programs tailored to meet the needs and interests of the horses, owners, and spectators who were present. The "Physical Therapy Bitting Program" is used to teach horses to yield to

*continued on page 8*

the bit (“steering”) and develop proper muscling so horses can work effectively and efficiently. It is a great way to teach young horses and is a “tune-up” tool for older horses as well. “5 Steps to a Great Drive” could be described as “round-pen basics in a bottle” to use when you don’t have a round pen or don’t know what to do in the pen you have. These steps act as a checklist to take a young horse from “0-60” in a safe, logical progression that can result in a horse who is “on your team.” These programs are both simple and straightforward, yet incredibly profound.

**Phil Warren** of Alstead NH who works with Billings Farm in Woodstock, VT as well as having his own livery business gave a valuable workshop on “Buying Good Horses”. Phil Warren led the group through his personal observations having owned drafts for thirty plus years. Phil started off with Maurice Telleens quote from The Draft Horse Primer-1977, “Two that are gaited alike is more important than having two that look like peas in a pod.” Having asked everyone present where they were with horses and what information would be most helpful to them, he went on to review health, personality, behavior and training of prospective horses. Green horses need seasoned teamsters and seasoned horses are perfect for green teamsters. Having a mentor is crucial. Sources of good draft horses were discussed from breeders to the major sales and sale catalogs. Your farrier is a good source. Phil went on to talk about the actual purchasing: knowing the seller, the vet check, and try before you buy. This was followed by actual stories “what I did right” and “what not to do...” which was the best part.

Then Phil drove Mike and Max bringing attendees



**The Suffolk Punch Five** driven by Liza Howe making their way around the Fairgrounds on Sunday morning.

around the Cornish Fairgrounds. The favorite stop was up at the log landing where three yoke of **oxen** and three teams were drawing logs and full length trees. This was a full blown logging operation with some 200 logs, an excavator stacking and a portable sawmill spewing out boards. Mike and Max stood as “here comes a yoke of oxen with a log and right there is a team of Suffolks with another log and look at that 4800 lb yoke of oxen coming uphill to the landing and there’s a mixed team a Suffolk and a Belgian with yet another log.” It just never stopped.

One of the other high points of this year’s DAPFD was the oxen. Working with Sanborn Mills of Loudon NH as well as with, Tom Jenkins (MA), John Jenkinson (VT) and

Bob Boynton (NH), we were able to offer a variety of oxen demonstrations. Sanborn Mills Farm is a place for people to learn how to work the land in ways that are sustainable and self-renewing. Using the model of a traditional New England diversified working farm (agricultural fields, managed forests, timber framed barns for animals, sawmill, grist mill and blacksmith shop), the farm serves as a place to apply the



**Jay Bailey** playing New England farming songs on his fiddle.

lessons learned from the past to current needs for sustainability and community. Tim Huppe and others at Sanborn teach animal husbandry with oxen, how to use animal power on the farm and in the forest, and how to raise and process animals for food. Tim Huppe’s grandson, Luke Bronnenberg gave a great demonstration with his young team.

On Saturday night after dinner and the DAPNet and ASHA Annual Meetings, DAPNet hosted a **roundtable discussion** on the future of draft animal power. Many participants cited the growing number of draft animal powered farmers and loggers along with growing interest in and support for live power as they painted a bright vision of the future. At the same time, several participants brought up specific obstacles facing farmers and loggers trying to enter the field. The difficulty of securing the insurance required to run a business these days-- especially a logging operation-- remains a large hurdle for people wanting to enter the trade with live power. Other participants cited the current shortage of well-trained working horses as their largest concern. While we could not solve these problems in one evening, the discussion will help guide DAPNet as an organization as we work to support the bright future the participants were envisioning.

**All Weekend:** The Cornish Fairgrounds offered the wonderful Blacksmith’s Shop created by John Hammond, a local farrier and a Cornish Selectman. As a breeder of Suffolk and Cleveland Bay horses, two rare breeds, John is the President and the host for the ASHA Annual Meeting. The Fairgrounds also has a Tool Museum which was open to all on Saturday. Eight people put together their own stone boats from per-cut lumber and steel fronts with help from Jean Cross. A highpoint of the weekend was the erection of a timber frame by Andrew Purdy.

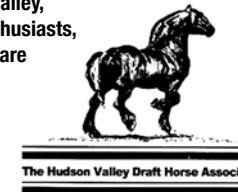
Sunday dawned sunny and bright with an incredible *continued on page 10*

## HUDSON VALLEY DRAFT HORSE ASSOCIATION

John Ingram, *President*  
845-657-2032

Matt Smith, *Vice President*  
845-883-4007

To promote draft animals in the hudson valley,  
communicate with other draft animal enthusiasts,  
including horses, mule, oxen. Our events are  
festivals, plows, fairs, etc.



E-mail Robin at : dmjure33@frontier.net  
Ask about our up & coming events  
**NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!**

## Specializing in McCormick Cultivators **CROSSROAD CULTIVATORS**



Delivery and Pick-Up  
Service Available

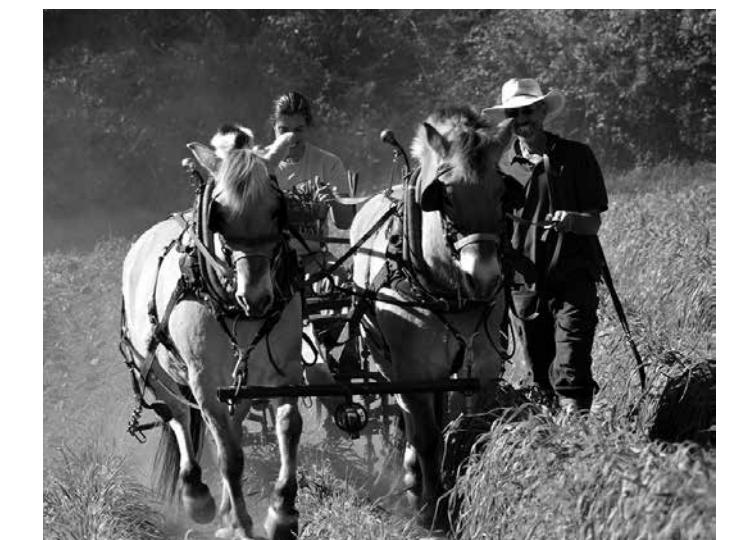
### **BUY, SELL, REBUILD**

Jonathan L. Beiler  
1697 Furnace Road, Brogue, PA 17309  
**717-927-1697**

DAPNet welcomes articles and photos  
about draft animal power for this  
newsletter. Deadline for the Summer  
issue is June 1st. Send something in!

experience was simply the observation of how each person there was working with their animals in such a kind and harmonious way. There was this one particularly squirrely Fjord horse who just wouldn’t stop fidgeting. It was a very familiar scenario for me with my own little Fjord cross mare, and it was what was holding us back from progressing any further. To see the men who were working with this little handful of a horse (a borrowed horse for the event, new to these teamsters) with perfect calm and non-reaction, was just what I needed to see. Returning home with new inspiration, I got straight back to work with my little mare with a new confidence I’d never felt before. Once I wasn’t feeling nervous about it anymore, my mare and I were finally able to move past this little block easily.

This September, I returned to the Field Days in Cornish, NH where I was able to take a full day workshop with Stephen Leslie at his farm in Hartland, VT. It was another incredible weekend for me and, of course, I learned all kinds of wonderful things. I’ve made some awesome friendships through this group of generous and helpful people. Once upon a time, I was pulling weeds by hand on my knees, daydreaming about how cool it would be to put my little Ginger pony to work on this farm. Now we cultivate between rows, pull Christmas trees and firewood logs out of the woods, and haul loads of manure from here to there. DAPNet has mentored me along and has helped to make my dream lifestyle come true!



**Christina Castellanos** from Alaska cultivating with Stephen Leslie at the DAPFD

Teamster Breakfast created by Jean Cross, Jen Judkins, and Trish Avery with help from many others. Admission was free for seniors and veterans. Sunday morning started with a **five horse hitch of Suffolks** driven around the Fairgrounds by Liza Howe from Lena, Illinois. Liza, a member of the Suffolk Horse Association, came for the Annual Meeting and to see what DAPNet was up to. An experienced handler of the multiple hitch, she quickly adapted to the DAPNet hijinx of throwing horses from three owners together. She shared many useful tips to everyone that wanted a chance to drive. Whenever one of the horses was not acting perfectly, Liza would have the horse's owner talk to them. The horses belonged to Bill West, Chad Vogel, and Mark Cowdrey. Many more Suffolks were present throughout the weekend including two yearlings and one stallion. Don, the four year old stud, was not included in the multiple hitch, but maybe next time!

All morning there was an **Obstacle Course** created by Tom Jenkins, a certified forester and ox teamster from Westhampton MA. Tom likes to develop obstacles for oxen and horses that are both intellectually and physically challenging, that use skills that are needed in a teamster's "real world", that the teamster has to think about and then create a plan - all of which makes for great viewing as well as fun to do. This year, the obstacles included a bucket tip (using a log pressed against a pivot to tip a bucket over), cross hauling a log and balancing one log across another, dragging a log on a curved path between cones, rolling a log onto a scot, raising a bucket of water on a pole without spilling which could be done pulling either forwards or back, turning a log 180 degrees inside a tight circle on the ground made of firehose, and two boards on the ground to simulate a narrow bridge. The "bridge" turned out to be difficult for the oxen as the horses could be driven over it, but the oxen had to be called over it as their teamster usually walks beside them, but not on a narrow bridge. There were about a dozen contestants including one experienced horse teamster who used oxen for the first time and a new teamster who used someone else's team of Suffolk horses. It was fascinating to watch how the oxen and horses did it both differently and the same.

A silent auction had been running all weekend and closed at noon when the live benefit auction began. Former DAPNet board member and current Facebook moderator, Erika Marczak, took the reins putting together our **benefit auctions and marketplace**. Inspired by the 2007 NEAPFD auction, we wanted a fun way to generate funds and to help folks clean out or restock their tack rooms/closets. The silent auction brought tables full of small items including a yoke staple, bag of Alaskan goods, prints, hats, grooming supplies, small tools, seed garlic, and a copious amount of books, both new and old. The bidding became heated at the last minute especially for some logging tools. Our auction volunteers did a fantastic job setting up and organizing the items at the end of bidding, their help plus your bids and donations were greatly appreciated.

The live auction by led by our professional auctioneer Phil Warren followed the closing of the silent auction. As this was a benefit auction, all the items were donated. Harnesses, yokes, a Piggy Back Arch, a Ray Ludwig ox whip, shafts, eveners, carts, cultivators, plows and many small

lots lined the lane. One by one all of these items found new owners as our President Donn Hewes and Erika tried to tempt hands out of people's pockets for bids. The deal of the day was a McCormick Deering straddle row cultivator formerly owned by the late Paul Moshimer, donated by Blue Star Equiculture, Chuck Cox added this fine piece to his collection. Several dozen bidders and just as many donors contributed to this great way to re-home handy items and support the 2017 Draft Animal-Power Field Days. These efforts made the Field Days a financial success. Thank you to all involved.

The moment had come to auction off the 10'x14' Timber Frame which was created off site and erected by Timber Frame Guild member Andrew Purdy from Wheelock, VT. Andrew had brought most of the timbers with him on Thursday, adding a few from the harvesting on Friday. He worked night and day over the weekend assembling the structure across the lane from Boynton's Yokes n'Bows with help from a number of DAPNet members including Jay Fisher, Will Stephens, and Ken Cranson. They all described Andrew as being a knowledgeable and easy tempered instructor. The frame was finished just in time for very intense auctioning. The winner was a local couple, Everett & Susan Cass from Cornish Flats, NH.



Brad Johnson from VT with his team balancing a log in the obstacle Course

The last official item of the day was to pick the winning ticket for the DAPNet **Raffle** of a Single D-Ring Harness made by Bowman Harness of Millersburg, Ohio or \$300 cash. The winning ticket was sold by Robin Jurechko (again!) to Dennis and Karin Skala from Saugerties NY of the Hudson Valley Draft Horse Association.

Then we said our tearful goodbyes, took all the haying and other equipment back to Jay Fisher's farm in Charlestown NH about half-hour south, and picked up the Fairgrounds after one of our best DAPFD yet.

## Using Oxen in Your Market Garden

By Lain Pinello

Are you contemplating using your beautiful bovine in your market garden this coming year or right now? Well the right now isn't an option for me because I live in upstate New York And I can't fit Purple into the green house that we don't have. Purple is my beautiful bovine for the people that don't know him. I had a market garden in the summer in 2017 but the rows were close together and Purple would have trampled my beans. I have helped my mother Anna Peck in our past market gardens and I went to MODA this year and cultivated their evenly spaced rows.



Oxen are wonderful animals but maybe I'm biased because cows are my favorite. In my opinion having single is more efficient because there is only one animal to maintain but, they do get lonely so the more the merrier! They can usually outwork a horse but not always. They can get very frustrating to but, can't everything? We have two single oxen and we find that for the most part it is easier to use a single in the garden because you can walk in one row while the ox is in the other cultivating or plowing. Watch out though, when they pull something heavy they go fast so be ready.

You can cultivate with a team but it is more difficult. We use harnesses on our oxen because it is more comfortable. It is called a three-pad collar harness, it is a German design. The single yoke can also be modified to be more comfortable by adding a breaching. We also use a single tree or evener, we attach it to the tugs and attach a logging chain, cultivator, plow, or another piece of equipment.

I must admit that a team is more efficient for plowing. It's hard to work pulling up the sod and roots so it is easier with twice the strength. With a single, it easier to get them ready to do work if you have harness adjusted to fit the ox. Cultivating is easier than plowing, so long as you do it often, two people are the usual amount needed to cultivate. One drives the ox and the other holds on to the handles and pushes it down to get as many weeds as possible. We do this so that we don't have to do it as often and so your garden does not get mowed because it is thought to be a hay field. You can use the same method for plowing also. Harrowing is a one person job if you know how to adjust them. You harrow after you plow

in the fall and the spring. If you plow and harrow in the spring and fall you will have very nice garden with less weeds.

Thank you for your time and I hope you are considering getting or using the ox or oxen in your market garden. This year is a good time as any to grow healthy food for you and/or your community. Remember that oxen are very good at what they do if they are trained well.

*Lain Pinello from Madrid, NY works a single ox. Anna Knapp-Peck, Lain's mother, and Lain took Purple to the MODA Gathering at Tiller's International in June of 2017. While at Tiller's Lain cultivated with a single ox on their corn fields. She also did much of the cultivation when we had a market garden.*

*DAPNet welcomes future Newsletter contributions from other young drovers and teamsters.*

### Shop on Smile.Amazon.com and help DAPNet!

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, please consider selecting DAPNet through the AmazonSmile program when you check out. AmazonSmile will then donate a percentage of your every sale to support DAPNet. It is as easy as regular shopping Thank you.

**715 Sulky Plow**  
with Leafspring™ Reset

- Draft Line Adjustment
- Hands Free Steering
- Lift Assist Spring

**715 Sulky Plow**  
with Leafspring™ Reset

- Coulter & Skimmer Combination
- Shown with Keystone #4 Sod Bottom
- Bottom automatically resets over rocks

**WHITE HORSE MACHINE**  
5566 Old Philadelphia Pike, Gap, PA 17527  
717.768.8313



Donn Hewes skijoring with a homemade rig and Jess, a 12 y/o Percheron Mare. It was a nice way to unwind after a few weeks of cold weather, logging, and barn cleaning.

## BARDEN LOG/FORECART PLANS AVAILABLE from DAPNet

Les Barden was a NH teamster who taught a couple generations of new and old teamsters from his vast knowledge, guidance, innovation, and example. Thanks to his nephew, Carl Russell, the hard-copy plans for Les' log/forecart are available for a \$20 donation to DAPNet. The plans are 12 pages with very clear and detailed drawings and four pages of pictures. Send a check made out to DAPNet at 271 Plank Road, Vergennes VT 05491 or pay online ([www.animalpower.org](http://www.animalpower.org)) and we will send you the plans. While you are at it, why not join DAPNet and support draft animal power?





**GENETIC DIVERSITY FOR BREED SECURITY**

Rare Breeds Canada is a federally registered organization formed in 1987. We are working to conserve, monitor, and promote heritage and rare breeds of Canadian Farm Animals.



Photo: Lynn Cassels-Caldwell


**WWW.RAREBREEDSCANADA.ORG  
RBC@RAREBREEDSCANADA.ORG  
204-573-8204**



Above: Donn Hewes' first wooden version that didn't stand up to the snows of 2015

Right: Donn's new plow has a back blade turned into a "front" blade with adjustable heights and angles. "I call it the "horse dozer". "



**Sanborn Mills Farm  
Loudon, New Hampshire**



**2018 Oxen Workshops**

master teamsters \* individual attention  
practical skills \* meaningful work

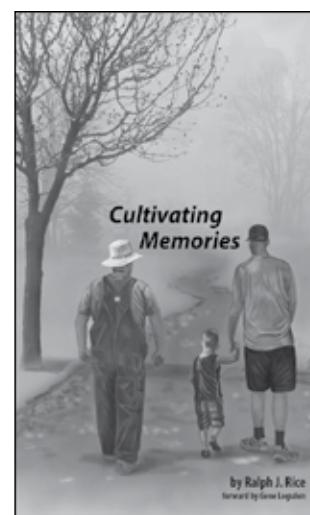
[www.sanbornmills.org](http://www.sanbornmills.org) 603-435-7314

Sanborn Mills Farm  
7097 Sanborn Rd, Loudon, NH 03307  
Dedicated to sustainability, creativity, and preserving  
folklore and agricultural knowledge.

# RURAL HERITAGE MAGAZINE

*Helping you harness draft animal power*

In print, online or on our RFD-TV program, Rural Heritage offers a wealth of information about "borrowing from the past to do the work of today."



"Cultivating Memories," essays by Ralph Rice, \$14.95 + \$7 shipping & handling. **Call for a free catalog of our books & videos!**

Rural Heritage Magazine  
1-year US subscription, 6 issues, \$34.95  
2-year US subscription, 12 issues, \$66  
Also available digitally for \$19.99 a year



Rural Heritage • PO Box 2067, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406  
(877) 647-2452 • [www.ruralheritage.com](http://www.ruralheritage.com)

# New DAPNet Board of Director Members

Treasurer, Brad Johnson, Northfield, VT  
bradburyjohnson@gmail.com



I first came into contact with horsepower on the Salt Marsh Farm in Wiscasset, Maine. At the time, I was a recovering high school teacher looking for something a little more hands on, and in the nearly twenty years since then I have certainly found it. After farming and logging with horses in Maine for ten years, my family and I moved to central Vermont, where we owned and operated a small, diversified farm in Randolph Center. During those years I began shifting away from farming with horses and into logging with horses and small machinery. For the past nine years, I have been working full time in the woods with my horses. In December of 2106, my wife, daughter, and I bought a woodlot in Northfield, VT and began building a house, utilizing wood pulled from our land. All the other livestock and cropland were left behind, but my horses remain at the heart of what I do for work as well as for fun.

I discovered DAPNet early on through Carl Russell and I served on the first DAPNet Board of Directors. Much has changed since we first tackled the challenges of forming a non-profit organization focused on promoting the use of animal power, but I remain as committed as ever to the DAPNet mission. Much of my early success with working animals resulted from relationships with wonderful mentors and DAPNet played a significant role in connecting me with those fine folks. Today I continue to treasure the people I am interact with though the DAPNet community.

When I am not at work, I spend my free time outside mountain biking, hiking, skiing, or doing anything else that might involve a day in the sun, water, snow (or dirt). And our family always tries to finish a good day with a Vermont maple creamee!

**Sara Dougherty, Saranac Lake, NY**  
sdougherty@s.paulsmiths.edu



Sara grew up on a small farmette in rural New York. Her passion for sustainable agriculture began at an early age. Her first glance into the local food movement began in Homer, NY at Main Street Farms with Allen and Bobcat. There she worked in the hydroponic houses where several varieties of lettuce and micro-greens were grown along with Tilapia. Sara graduated high school from the OCM BOCES New Vision Environmental Program and was later accepted into Paul Smith's College of the Arts and Sciences. In college, she began studying as an integrated studies student with a focus in environmental studies, green communities & sustainable landscapes, and with a special interest in draft horse management. After her freshman year, Sara worked at a small organic vegetable farm in Keeseville, New York where she continued to fuel her passion for feeding people. As a returning sophomore, Sara began studying alongside of Bob Brhel in the draft horse management 101 course. That winter, she assisted Bob and the school's draft horse club in providing sleigh rides at the Lake Clear Lodge. In the summer of 2015, she returned home to Cortland County to work as the produce manager at The Local Food Market. Sara returned to school and became one of the school's professional teamsters, a position she would continue to hold for three years. In the summer of 2016, Sara piloted an apprenticeship program for the school. She worked and managed a 40 acre vegetable farmstead in Crown Point, New York under the supervision of Charlie and Candy Harrington. Her summer was spent keeping a daily log of hours and tasks. She traveled around the Adirondack North-Country hauling home-grown vegetables to farmer's markets with her coonhound co-piloting. During Sara's "last year" at Paul Smith's, she signed up for an independent study with Bob. Her and her mentor wrote a Forestry Management Plan for a plot on the college's lands. They used the school's team of draft horses to log the area of Balsam Fir in the Spring of 2017. Since Sara's recent graduation in May, she accepted a instructor's position at the school to teach a section of first year seminar to incoming freshmen and works as a writing specialist in the school's Writing Center. And although those are cozy desk jobs, she is also the school's assistant barn manager. Every Thursday, she still throws on her barn boots to help teach the draft horse management labs. Sara has recently become a board member of DAPNet. She is so thankful for the opportunity to learn and work alongside of the wonderful teamsters that make up this network.

**Meryl Friets, Craftsbury, VT**  
meryljf@gmail.com



Meryl just graduated from Sterling College in Vermont having studied Sustainable Agriculture Education with a minor in Draft Horse Management. She has been around horses since a young child and was introduced to draft power when she started at Sterling College. Meryl's interest only spiked from there and she has spent her last two years in the program, both in learning and teaching positions. She hopes to one day run her own draft powered educational farm. Meryl is spending the winter months WWOOFing in New Zealand, learning about the farming culture and seeing what she can find for draft powered operations. Starting in March, she has a full time job with Ardelia Farm in Irasburg, VT where they hope to integrate a team of draft horses into the farm.

**Isabel Ruffin, Dresden, ME**  
izzymruffin@gmail.com



I was first introduced to draft horses my junior year of high school at Salt Marsh Farm, in Wiscasset, ME. At the farm, Sal the Belgian would assist in field prep and upkeep (plowing, harrowing, discing, cultivating) during production season to help feed the campus, along with assisting in the management of Chewonki's woodlot. When I was applying to colleges, I was specifically looking for a college with a working garden/farm/woodlot that used draft power. From there, I found Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, NC. My second semester there, I was hired onto the Draft

Horse Crew. The crew had 4 students on it, and was entirely student-run, assisting in the college's garden prep, logging in the forest, haying in the summer, harvesting, etc. For 2 years, I worked 15 hours a week with two Belgians, Doc and Dan, alongside three other wonderful young teamsters. I helped in the planning and organizing of the college's annual Plow Day event, that celebrated local agriculture, community, and tradition. The event showcased draft power, as teamsters from the surrounding areas joined the Warren Wilson College Horse Crew in plowing a farm field. The event was family friendly with craft vendors, cider pressing, cake walks, music, and a BBQ.

From Warren Wilson, I found Sterling College. Mainly I was interested in Sterling's Draft Horse Management Minor and Draft Horse Crew. I was hired onto the crew, consisting of 4 students, and worked approximately 8-10 hours a week taking care of the college's draft horses, using them in the woods, and in the gardens. I went through the college's class in draft horse management – Working Horses & Working Landscapes, Draft Horse 1: Driving Principles, Draft Horse 2: Woodlot Principles and Draft Horse 3: Garden Principles. I also created independent studies in order to further my education on draft horses, including Regional Differences in Tack & Harness, Groundwork and Behavior, as well as helped to teach the Introduction to Teamster Skills class this summer 2017. Sterling College really helped to hone my skills as a teamster, and the knowledge and teamsters I met while in school, will help to guide me and support me for the rest of my time involved in agriculture.

I hope to someday have my own team to log and farm with. However, it'll be a couple of years until I get there. Draft horses will always be a part of my life, and I currently am connected with an organic vegetable farm in Dresden, Maine that uses draft horse power to hay and cultivate.

## Membership Renewal

Your renewal date is under your address on the back cover. Rather than sending out another appeal, please respond especially if you are up for renewal this spring. If it says Complimentary, then you are not currently a DAPNet member. Join us for \$25 and support the ongoing efforts of people throughout the region who are educating, mentoring and building community around animal power and renewable land use.

# Horse Logging as a Small Business: A Primer

by Brad Johnson

As a small business owner focused on animal powered logging in New England, I often get questions relating to the most important aspects of owning and operating this type of enterprise. Any small business owner will recognize that there is nothing "small" about trying to run your own business, and after much thought, here is my effort to come up with a list that folks who are considering this kind of work might find useful. These are details I wish I had known or at least considered more thoroughly before I got started; they are in no particular order as all are worth considering.

**1. Logging is piecework, not hourly, and certainly not salaried.** It does not matter how many high school, college, or graduate school degrees you bring to the table, nearly all loggers are paid by how much wood they put on the landing. Hourly work is virtually non-existent so if you can't learn to be efficient you will not make a living. With horses, you need to cut and land no less than 1 mbf (thousand board feet) a day and most days more like 2 mbf to earn your keep. Consider that an average skidder operator with a chainsaw will likely cut and land 10 cord (5 mbf) a day and you begin to see what kind of working climate we are in.

**2. The pace at which you work is what determines how dangerous the job can be and also how effective you are.** Based on OSHA statistics, cutting wood is one of the most dangerous jobs in our country. And, the faster you work, the more treacherous it becomes. The goal is not to work fast, but to work efficiently. You have to be able to tell the difference. You don't get extra pay for being efficient, but it allows you to make a living. Efficiency with the various tools used in the woods takes time and experience to develop, no exceptions.

**3. The most important piece of equipment in a horse logging operation may, in fact, be your tractor.** That's right, your tractor. Had I to go back and do things again, the very first piece of equipment I would purchase with a team of horses would be a small 4WD tractor with a winch and loading forks. My 45 HP Kubota gets used on the landing to stack logs, saving me time. A logger using his/her own muscles and a peavey may spend more than 25% of the work day stacking logs for the truck. I bought my tractor used and it costs me the equivalent of an extra mbf of logs or two cords of firewood a month. Given how useful it is, this cost is next to nothing. In addition to using it to stack, another person skidding with the winch and forwarding the wood the horses twitch equals a significant increase in daily output. There are also certain situations where a tractor winch is just a better tool for the job.

**4. You have to leave your ego at the breakfast table.** Now that I am into my mid-forties, I am able to look back and see that I made some poor decisions with horses based on my own ego. I tried to pull loads that were too much for my horses. I pushed out the length of the day too far so that I could say I got to some arbitrary daily total. I took on jobs that were over my head based on my experience level and turned down a few that I did not consider to be worthwhile.

Unlike a skidder, horses remember the positive and negative experiences that we, as teamsters, expose them to and I could have made better decisions if I had been thinking from their point of view.

**5. How you look may determine how you are perceived in the field.** I am a youngish looking white male, and I am still surprised at how other people's preconceptions about how a "logger" should look influence they way they interact with me. I can't tell you how many times I have shown up to meet with a landowner or forester for the first time to be greeted with "Oh, I spoke with Brad on the phone, and, well, is Brad your Dad?" or "Ahh...is your older brother also named Brad?" It seems that when the logger is not a 6'2" hulking white guy with a beard, flannel shirt, and ax in hand, people are a little confused. Sadly, our culture is still full of biases and misconceptions and you may find that you do not fit people's poorly considered notions of what a "logger" is especially if you are female, your skin color is not white, you are LGBT, or you are otherwise outside of some folks' cultural norms. Patience, self-confidence, and professionalism are required here.

**6. Location, Location, Location.** I know a number of animal powered loggers who are more skilled than I am who are struggling to make a living in their area. Here in central Vermont, there is a healthy market for animal powered logging practitioners, but that is not the case everywhere. Before you decide to start an animal powered logging business, a well-researched business plan that includes an analysis of the markets in your area is a must.

**7. If you hope to become wealthy doing this work, you might want to consider another small business venture.** This is the reality – logging of any type is a low profit margin endeavor. In fact, most resource extraction jobs are (think here of dairy farmers, coal miners, etc.). The rewards are not going to be financial so you have to love the work; love being in the woods with your horses; love being sweaty, dirty, freezing cold, soaking wet, exhausted, challenged mentally and physically. You have to embrace situations that most other people would find daunting at best and impossible at worst. The rewards are many, but they do not come of the form of a fat check.

**8. If you share your household with another person, it helps if they have a job that produces regular income (and that is not dependent on good weather).** My wife is very supportive of my work in the woods and her work is not affected by the weather. So during mud season here in Vermont, I am able to take some time off from logging work and our family still has income. My work would be a lot harder to do if my wife was also a logger, farmer, or anything else affected by bad weather. It seems as though the weather is becoming less and less predictable and having a check regardless of the season really helps the household economy (more of this later...).

**9. Horse logging is 30% horse work and 70% logging.** If you think that all your work days are going to consist of you driving your horses around in the woods, think again. No matter what tools you use to move wood, there is so much more to the job than simply your time with the lines in your hand. You need to know how to fell trees, how to use a chainsaw safely and efficiently, how to deal with

log trucks and buyers, how to market your wood, how to build, repair, and effectively use horse logging tools (arches, bobsleds, scoots, eveners, etc.), how to build roadways and log landings, how to repair all the equipment that you break in the woods, how to market yourself to landowners and foresters, how to... well, you get the picture. Needless to say, there is a lot to the job beyond your role as a teamster.

**10. No trade school exists to teach these skills so when your elders talk you would be smart to listen closely.** Much of the collective wisdom related to horse logging exists only in the minds of a generation of teamsters who are in their seventies and beyond. For most hands-on jobs, you can find a trade school to teach you what you need to know. This is not the case for animal powered loggers. We have to rely on the oral wisdom of generations of teamsters who have come before us. So, when you get the chance to pick the brain of an older teamster, make the most of it.

**11. The most important part of your work is not the wood on the landing, but the trees you leave behind in the woodlot.** Horses are tools that allow the operator to do exceptional work in the woods. We are able to minimize residual stand damage and increase the residual stand value of woodlots in which we work, which gives the landowner more economic value in the long run. None of this value is related to how much wood you put on the landing or how much you pay for stumpage. What separates horse operators from mechanized loggers is the degree to which we are able to leave our woodlots in better ecological and economic shape than we found them when we began which produces considerable value for the landowner in the long-run.

**12. In general, loggers have a poor reputation with the public.** I have discovered that many landowners and foresters as well often assume that my primary goal is to take as many of their sellable trees and pay as little money for them as possible. An honest and open approach really helps here including sharing with the landowner all the details you have access to, including scale slips from the mill. They should be able to clearly see the exact value of their wood. You should try to patiently answer every question landowners have as well as addressing questions and concerns presented by foresters on your jobs.

**13. The weather determines whether or not you have a successful year.** Before I began farming and logging, I had no idea the extent to which these jobs are dependent on Mother Nature. The weather is becoming less and less predictable, and this lack of consistency presents a huge challenge. You need to be willing to work in all types of weather conditions and also be willing to stay home on those days when safety margins are compromised for you and your horses or conditions on the ground are not good for cutting and moving wood.

**14. There is nothing more satisfying than working a good team of horses in the woods!** Despite the considerable challenges, I love my work - this is the honest truth. I love being on the job with my team. I am my own boss and most of the successes and failures of my small business are mine alone. When you are heading down to the landing with the final load of the day, your horses are tired but content with the day's work and you can't imagine doing anything else, you might just be a horse logger.

## DAPNet Events Planned for 2018

### February 3rd and 4th, 2018. THE MOWER RENDEZVOUS

At Reber Rock Farm in Essex, NY. Come work on horse drawn mowers, work on your own mower, or just learn more about how they are rebuilt and maintained. A fun, casual, and informative weekend. A group effort led by horse farm and mower repairman, Donn Hewes with Jay Bailey. We will pay particular attention to the McD #7 and IH #9.

### September 7th, 8th, and 9th 2018. DAPNET ANNUAL GATHERING

Come join us at Reber Rock Farm as we plow, fit, and plant several acres to a winter grain. We will also have teamster training and horse training workshops going on Saturday and Sunday. All the fun of a gathering, a service project, and a Field Days.

### Autumn 2018. HORSE LOGGING AND AGROFORESTRY WORKSHOP.

At Glynwood Farms in the Hudson Valley NY. Two days of a forestry service project improving woodlots and creating shaded pastures. This weekend will also offer intensive training in woodlot management with horses, teamster training, and a whole lot more. Stay tuned next spring for dates and more details.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CHECK OUT THE DAPNET WEBSITE  
[www.draftanimalpower.org](http://www.draftanimalpower.org)  
or email  
[dapnetinfo@gmail.com](mailto:dapnetinfo@gmail.com)

# 2018 Draft Animal Focused Events

## March 13th - 14th

### Keystone Draft Horse Sale

Centre County Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall, PA

FMI: Amos Beiler (717)-989-8260 or mountjoyacres@gmail.com

## March 18th

### Hudson Valley Draft Horse Association Driving Class

Ulster County Fairgrounds, New Paltz, NY

Cost will be \$75.00 for the entire session + \$15 membership fee + book cost.

FMI: Call Robin (845)-294-9016

or email dmjure33@frontiernet.net

## April 7th

### Mohawk Valley Draft Horse, Tack & Machinery Auction

Schoharie County Sunshine Fairgrounds, Cobleskill NY

FMI: Robert Detweiler Jr. (315)-858-2631

## April 10th - 13th

### Fairwinds Farm Draft Horse Workshop

Four-day workshop at Fairwinds Farm, Brattleboro, VT

Cost: \$495 per person, \$940 for two people from the same farm. Meals included.

FMI: (802)-254-9067 or email fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org

<http://www.fairwindsfarm.org/workshop-schedule.html>

## April 21st

### Plow Day at Blue Slope Farm

10 A.M. at 138 Blue Hill Rd. Franklin, CT

Bring your horses to plow one of Blue Slope's fields!

No cost: Coggins and rabies required

FMI: Beth Holland at erapson@vt.edu (Eastern CT Draft Horse)

## April 21st - 22nd

### Oxen Basics for the Teamster & Team

Sanborn Mills Farm 7097 Sanborn Rd. Loudon, NH 03307

Cost: \$300

FMI: Tim Huppe (603)-568-7388

## April 21st - 22nd

### Spring Beginner Driving Clinic

Green Mountain Draft Horse Association, Shelburne Farm, Shelburne VT

Cost: \$130 for members, \$145 non-members includes 1 year membership

Saturday \$75 for members, \$90 non-members. Sunday \$70 for members, \$85 non-members.

FMI: [jean@greenmountaindraft.org](mailto:jean@greenmountaindraft.org) or (802)377-2259

## April 26th - 28th

### Tri-State Horse and Mule Sale

Abingdon, NY

FMI: Ray Raber (331)275-2877

<http://www.tri-statehorsemulesale.com>

## April 28th

### Hudson Valley Draft Horse Association Driving Class

Ulster County Fairgrounds, New Paltz, NY

Cost: \$75 for the entire session + \$15 membership fee + book cost.

FMI: Call Robin (845)-294-9016

or email dmjure33@frontiernet.net

## April 29th

### Hudson Valley Draft Horse Association Spring Plow Day

Saunderskill Farm, 5100 Rt. 209, Accord, NY 12404

FMI: Call Robin (845)-294-9016

or email dmjure33@frontiernet.net

## May 1st - 4th

### Fairwinds Farm Draft Horse Workshop

Four-day workshop at Fairwinds Farm, Brattleboro, VT

Cost: \$495 per person, \$940 for two people from the same farm. Meals included.

FMI: (802)-254-9067 or email fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org

<http://www.fairwindsfarm.org/workshop-schedule.html>

## May 12th

### Fairwinds Farm Plowing and Cultivating with Horses

One-day intensive workshop at Fairwinds Farm, Brattleboro, VT

Cost: \$125 per person, lunch included.

FMI: (802)-254-9067 or email fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org

<http://www.fairwindsfarm.org/workshop-schedule.html>

## May 17th - 20th

### Ox Yoke Making

Sanborn Mills Farm 7097 Sanborn Rd. Loudon, NH 03307

Cost: \$400

FMI: Tim Huppe (603)-568-7388

## May 22nd - 25th

### Fairwinds Farm Draft Horse Workshop

Four-day workshop at Fairwinds Farm, Brattleboro, VT

Cost: \$495 per person, \$940 for two people from the same farm. Meals included.

FMI: (802)-254-9067 or email fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org

<http://www.fairwindsfarm.org/workshop-schedule.html>

## June 2nd - 3rd

### Working Cattle on the Farm & in the Garden

Sanborn Mills Farm 7097 Sanborn Rd. Loudon, NH 03307

Cost: \$300

FMI: Tim Huppe (603)-568-7388

## June 8th - 9th

### Fairwinds Farm Mowing with Horses Workshop

1.5 day intensive workshop at Fairwinds Farm, Brattleboro, VT

Cost: \$175 per person. Supper, breakfast & lunch provided.

FMI: (802)-254-9067 or email fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org

<http://www.fairwindsfarm.org/workshop-schedule.html>

## June 10th - 15th

### Introduction to Teamster Skills: Working Horses and Cattle

Sterling College, Craftsbury, VT

FMI:<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5eVYfy9134xYmFWQ0hfM3FVbi1zMFZFTzlQU5icEZDaVpZ/view?usp=sharing>

## June 22nd - 24th

### Midwest Ox Drovers Association

Annual gathering at Tillers International Scott, MI

FMI: Rob Collins 269-251-7069

## J

## une 29th - 30th

### Annual Horse Progress Days

Clare, MI

FMI: Dale Stoltzfus (717)-940-4412 or [logcab7@ptd.net](mailto:logcab7@ptd.net)

<http://www.horseprogressdays.com>

## July 15th

### ECDHA Draft Horse Show at the North Stonington Fair

North Stonington Fairgrounds CT

FMI: Beth Holland at [erapson@vt.edu](mailto:erapson@vt.edu) or Nita Kincaid at [windstonenita@scbglobal.net](mailto:windstonenita@scbglobal.net)

## July 21st

### Rodale Institute Annual Field Day

Kutztown, Pennsylvania

FMI: Maria Pop (610)683-1481

[Email maria.pop@rodaleinstitute.org](mailto:Email maria.pop@rodaleinstitute.org)

## July 31st - August 5th

### Ulster County Fair, New Paltz, NY

Draft Horses in the horse barn and competitions in the horse ring.

Admission \$15. July 31st: \$40 per car, maximum 8 people per car.

FMI: (845)-255-1380 email [ulstercountyfair@hvc.rr.com](mailto:ulstercountyfair@hvc.rr.com)

<http://ulstercountyfair.com/fair-info/>

*If you want your event posted here or on our website, send your info to [dapnetinfo@gmail.com](mailto:dapnetinfo@gmail.com).*



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Become a DAPNet Member today!

Mail in this form or check out our

website to register online at:

[www.draftanimalpower.org](http://www.draftanimalpower.org)

Individual/Family - \$25.00

Farm/Business - \$50.00

Supporting Member - \$100.00

Other amount of your choice: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to volunteer:

Preference \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONS?

CALL 802-763-0771

OR EMAIL [DAPNETINFO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAPNETINFO@GMAIL.COM)

EVEN IF YOU ARE A CURRENT MEMBER, PLEASE FILL IN THE INFO BELOW  
TO ENSURE WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FARM/BUSINESS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER?  BOOK  RURAL HERITAGE SUBSCRIPTION

WOULD LIKE MY NEWSLETTERS VIA:  EMAIL  HARD COPY

## SEND TO:

DRAFT ANIMAL-POWER NETWORK OR DAPNET

271 PLANK RD, VERGENNES, VT 05491

**Farming MAGAZINE**



**1 year (4 issues)**  
US \$18.00  
Canada \$24.00

**2 years (8 issues)**  
US \$32.00  
Canada \$45.00

**"A magazine that brings hope and direction to those of us that are concerned about our land and the food we eat."**

Mail Payment to: Farming Magazine PO Box 85 Mt Hope, OH 44660 If you want to give someone a special gift, we will send gift cards to your recipients if you include your name and address. You can also subscribe through our web site.

**[www.farmingmagazine.net](http://www.farmingmagazine.net)**



271 Plank Road  
Vergennes VT 05491

CHECK THE DATE BELOW YOUR ADDRESS TO FIND YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE. USE THE FORM ON PAGE 19 OF THIS NEWSLETTER TO RENEW.



**The Horse Progress Days**  
— Mission Statement —  
To encourage and promote the  
combination of animal power  
and the latest in equipment  
innovations in an effort to  
support sustainable  
small scale farming  
and land stewardship.  
To show draft animal power  
is possible, practical,  
and profitable.

**Clare, Michigan**  
June 29th & 30th, 2018

General Coordinator:  
John Paul Kaufman  
517.852.0237

Look for additional information in the coming weeks at [www.horseprogressdays.com](http://www.horseprogressdays.com)