



***Sharing a Wealth of Experience***

### **History & Membership**

The Leeds County Draft Horse Club [LCDHC] was formed in 1986. With an initial membership of 12, the very first meeting was held at Bill Gibbons' near Brockville. Membership has since grown to over 70 families.

Membership is \$20.00 per household per year, which includes the cost of a monthly newsletter, and participation in club activities and events.

Membership is comprised of a combination of seasoned teamsters; people just starting out with their first team or horse; and people who are not yet horse owners. We welcome a diversity of horse-related interests, from photography and art, through harness making or carriage building, to antique horse-drawn equipment.

### **Purpose**

The LCDHC is a not-for-profit organization with a goal to help preserve the significance of the draft horse through promoting proper care and use for agriculture and/or recreation.

### **Meetings**

Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month (except December) in the Toledo United Church Hall during the school year. In June, July, and August, meetings are held in conjunction with a host farm visit and pot luck supper at individual members' farms. Meetings often feature guest speakers addressing a variety of equine-related topics such as: horse health care; safety; insurance; breed profiles, etc.

## **LEEDS COUNTY DRAFT HORSE CLUB**

### ***MEMBERSHIP FORM***

(Please Print Clearly. Or include all information if paying via E-Transfer)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost:** \$20.00 per Family Membership

Payable by E-Transfer:

[treasurer.lcdhc@hotmail.com](mailto:treasurer.lcdhc@hotmail.com)

or

Mail completed membership form with a cheque for \$20.00 (payable to Leeds County Draft Horse Club)

Darlene Jackson – Memberships  
Leeds County Draft Horse Club  
2900 Sandhill Road, RR #1  
Seeley's Bay, Ontario  
K0H 2N0

**Note:** LCDHC Membership Year is from November 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year to October 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. Renewal memberships are due the month of November.

***Thank you for your interest in our***

***LEEDS COUNTY DRAFT HORSE CLUB!***

### **Scope**

Members have an interest in many draft breeds, whether they be of the traditional varieties such as Belgians; Clydesdales and Percherons; Heritage breeds such as Canadians, Shires and Suffolk Punches; or the more recent arrivals to North America like the Fjords and Haflingers. Horses need not be purebred or registered in order to take part in club events. In fact, mules and oxen have participated in Club events over the years too!

### **Events**

Every year, the Club hosts various events such as field days where teams perform tasks such as plowing, discing, log-skidding, and giving wagon rides; site tours; general wagon drives; and attending major Community events such as the Tall Ships Festival in Brockville; Upper Canada Village Spring Field Days & Horse Lover's Weekend; & other Community Parades and Events.

The Club holds an annual Christmas Dinner, Dance, & Silent Auction in November. Another favourite winter activity is the annual sleigh ride and pot luck lunch.

### **Education & Community Involvement:**

The LCDHC members share their ideas and expertise within the Club, as well as Community Events. We have been very successful in hosting basic harness and driving training clinics to the public, and will continue to educate and be involved in Community events like those listed above. We welcome invitations from various Communities and will attend those events that fulfill our Club purpose...including fund-raising initiatives such as helping to fight global hunger for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



### **Volunteer Activities**

There are often opportunities to become involved in volunteer farm activities such as grain binding and thrashing, plowing, etc., which help to expand the participant's knowledge of the draft animal experience.

### **In Summary**

The draft horse is a large, powerful animal that played a major part in the civilization of man. Before 1910, at least 90% of all agriculture and resource industries relied on 'horse power' to complete jobs both large and small<sup>1</sup>. After World War II and the climb of mechanization, the need for these 'gentle giants' diminished greatly. As mentioned previously, the LCDHC's goal is to help preserve the history and significance of these 'gentle giants'.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.horsejournals.com/history-draft-horse-muscle-men-horse-world>

-----

Our club looks forward to having new members, and receiving requests from the various Communities to be involved in fairs, parades, and other events.

For more information on membership or event requests, please contact a LCDHC Executive member.

*To view Executive Members & Other Information, please visit our Webpage:*

### **LEEDS COUNTY DRAFT HORSE CLUB**

<http://www.vkirkwood.ca/lcdhc.htm>

or follow us on Facebook:

