

SENECA VALLEY PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

Horse Trials: June 13-14
and Labor Day weekend
September 5-6. SVPC
Camp June 22-26

Quiz Rally March 21

Dressage Rally April 19

SJ Rally June 7

Eventing Rally June 13-14

USPC Festival July 13-20

Tet Rally August 8-9

Round Robin Fun Day
September 20

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT SVPC ACTIVITIES, CERTIFICATIONS, ETC? LET US KNOW

We are excited about 2020! Currently we have 35 members and are expecting additional renewals as well. If you're not sure of your membership status or have questions, please contact Leslie Case at lesliecase@aol.com 203-247-5098 or Lisa Bromley at maxbo22@comcast.net.

Parents are welcome to attend Council Meetings to hear updates on activities and find out what the club is planning. We welcome suggestions and new faces...and provide food and beverages for participants. The next meeting is on Tuesday, February 18 at the Case home at 13311 Drew Lane in Potomac. The Junior Council will meet at the same time. Contact Leslie if you'd like to attend so we can be sure to have enough food.

Please contact any SVPC officers or committee chairs with questions. We are here to help navigate the pony club world and opportunities. If a new parent isn't sure about what activities to sign up for or how to prepare for certifications, please contact us.

Leslie Case lesliecase@aol.com

Debby Price jdprice15010@aol.com

Nancy Jones nancy.skylandfarm@gmail.com

Lisa Bromley maxbo22@comcast.net

Shelley Heron shelleyheron@me.com

Terry LaMotte tlamotte@nsolv.com

At the awards dinner we passed out a copy of the tentative schedule for lessons and activities for 2020. The dates may change, but we've got an exciting year planned for our members! See the back of this newsletter for an updated copy of the calendar.

The horseless rally is still looking for older members to help run the rally – contact Leslie Case at lesliecase@aol.com if you'd like to assist on February 9th at Butler School

SUPPORT SVPC

You can earn money for SVPC just by doing what you're already doing – giving your horses **Southern States®**-branded, **Legends®**, or **ProElite®** horse feed. Your organization can earn 25¢ for each proof of purchase seal from Southern States and Legends® horse feed bags. Please send your proof of purchases to: Sheila Jackson, 12227 Galesville Drive Gaithersburg, MD 20878

You can also support SVPC when you shop at amazon.com. Visit [https://smile.amazon.com/ch/ 52-6079190](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6079190) and .05% of your eligible purchases will go to Seneca Valley Pony Club. Our club has completed the registration process and if you shop through the link above you'll be supporting SVPC.

UNMOUNTED LESSONS IN FEBRUARY: SIGN UP ONLINE ASAP

This three part series is open to all members but the first two sessions are best suited for slightly older members preparing for the C1 or above. Members do not need to attend all of the sessions, but can let the organizer know which session(s) they can attend. There is no fee for these lessons.

February 8, 10:00 - 12:00

Location: Damascus Equine Associates, 1941 Long Corner Rd, Mount Airy, MD 21771

Dr. Schraer

Topics: Parasites and Infectious Diseases

February 15, 10:00 - 12:00

Location: Damascus Equine Associates

Dr. Snyder

Topics: Limb Anatomy and Lameness

February 22, 10:00 - 2:00 (time will depend on certification level)

Locations: Wind Brook Farm, Boyds

National Examiner Karen Nutt

Topics: Bandaging, Goal Setting, HB Material

Please contact Lisa Rowe at (240)401-4523 with any questions on these lessons and sign up ASAP.



SIOBHAN BYRNE DRESSAGE SERIES, MARCH 1, 14 OR 15, & 22 OR 22

Siobhan Byrne is a USDF Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist. Her students have earned USDF medals and year-end awards, as well as wins and placings at USDF/GAIG Championships, CBLM Championships, USDF Finals, and Pony Club National Championships. Her aim is to develop thinking riders and happy horses through classical principles. She trains horses and riders from green to Grand Prix at Locks Edge in Poolesville, Maryland. This series kicks off on March 1 with an unmounted presentation. Siobhan will discuss biomechanics, the training pyramid and other important aspects to the art of dressage. All members planning on participating in the mounted lessons with Siobhan should plan on attending this March 1 session from 10:00 - 12:00. Location: Wind Brook Farm, Boyds.

The mounted lessons on March 14 or 15 and 21 or 22 will take place at either Madison Fields Farm, Dickerson or Locks Edge Farm, Poolesville. Lessons will be 45 minute private sessions and will run all day. Please pick one day from each weekend and SVPC will fully subsidize (so two mounted lessons per member). For information on unsubsidized lessons, contact Lisa Rowe. The Registration Deadline is February 28 and the sign up link is <http://www.senecavalleyponyclub.org/siobhan-byrne-dressage-series-march-2020.html>

COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

The SVPC Council/Parents and Junior Council meet on the **third Tuesday of the month** – all parents and interested members are invited to attend. Let Leslie Case (203-247-5098) know if you're interested in attending so we can send agendas and meeting details.

Overview

Participants discussed the minutes from the Oct. 26, 2019 sponsors meeting, financial and membership reports, and lessons planned for 2020. Council members also provided updates on the unmounted knowledge series, the horseless rally and the upcoming awards dinner. In addition, Debby provided an update on Bittersweet Field.

2019 Financial Report

Nancy discussed some of the highlights from the 2019 financial report that she had shared via email. Overall, there was a \$2,000 year end loss. Some of the year's major cost factors included redesigning the water complex at Bittersweet Field, the purchase of a zero-turn mower, and higher camp costs due to the addition of LandSafe. Members discussed whether the budget should be realigned to match closer to actual costs, but they agreed that it was fine as is.

Membership Report

Lisa indicated that SVPC has approximately 34 members with two new members interested in joining. She had just received the membership book and suggested that the next version of the membership directory not include dates of birth and home addresses.

Lessons Update

Shelley distributed an updated lessons calendar and the group discussed changes in detail. Some of the changes included:

- Unmounted vet session on Feb. 8
- Unmounted vet session on Feb. 15
- National examiner Karen Nutt on Feb. 22 & May 9
- Mock Quiz Rally on March 15
- Jumping series on Fridays in May
- Potomac Pony Club Jump Day on May 29
- Club days on July 12 & October 25

She highlighted the March 1 unmounted dressage lesson and the unmounted knowledge series now underway. The Feb. 22 Karen Nutt lesson will focus on bandaging and standards and will be held at Lisa Rowe's house in Boyds, Maryland. The group also discussed broadening the May jumping series to include cross country and show jumping. Jacqueline Dickey will teach the series.

The lesson committee meetings are held every three months with the next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2020. Contact Shelley at shelleyheron@me.com if you're interested in learning about the committee.

Knowledge Series/Quiz Rally

Candace and Terry provided an update on unmounted knowledge series lessons. The first lesson took place last week and went well with Lisa Wagner presenting on vet knowledge. Isabelle and Kristin also presented. Ginger DeStefano is scoring presenters and providing them with certificates. The schedule is fairly complete with only a few missing presenters. Leslie indicated that Yvonneke wanted to know if there were any certification needs. Candace will take a poll at the next session to see who might be interested.

Horseless Rally

Leslie mentioned the Capital Region horseless rally scheduled on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020 which may be fun for younger members. New members are encouraged to attend.

Bittersweet Field

Debby provided an update on Bittersweet Field which is thawing out. She mentioned that the field had some damage from trucks who drove on the field during the snow. As a result, they may consider closing the gates. She also shared more about the newly redesigned water jump.

Awards Dinner

The Awards Dinner will take place at 6 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 25, 2020 at the Potomac Hunt Club. Debby requested help setting up prior to the event.

Other Business

Nancy went to the U.S. Eventing Association (USEA) Area II meeting. The horse trial dates had been scheduled for 2020 and 2021; however, USEA changed date for 2021. It has now moved to August. Nancy added that we are set with officials for horse trials. Steve will help for 2020 as the new system won't be up until the end of the year. Debby asked for feedback on placing a buy/sell page for SVPC members on the pony club website to share information about horses and horse related equipment. Silke had offered to help set this up. Most agreed that this was a good idea. The group discussed some issues with the website in collecting information. Leslie thinks it could be from updating old forms. Rather than update old forms, the group will create new ones to see if this mitigates the issues

Next Meeting: The next SVPC council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2020**. Meetings will occur on the third Tuesday of every month at Leslie's house at 13311 Drew Lane, Potomac. Please consider attending – the meetings are when we plan and discuss club activities.

GOALS SURVEYS: HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOURS?

All SVPC members for 2020 should complete a goals form online to help our lessons committee, certifications chair, rally coordinators and the Capital Region plan for 2020. We ask that ALL SVPC members take a few minute to complete the survey. The answers are non-binding but help us determine the interest in rallies and different disciplines and know our members' goals for the year.

You can view the form online at <https://forms.gle/Yz8j22suBDhJB6wJA>

INTEREST IN LESSONS COMMITTEE

SVPC is always looking for volunteers - our lessons committee is chaired by Shelley Heron and parents interested in helping to organize lessons or administer those on the calendar should contact Shelley for details on the committee. Her email is shelleyheron@me.com.

Submit photos or information for the newsletter to Leslie Case at lesliecase@aol.com.