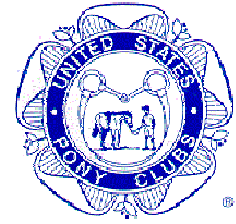




Seneca Valley Pony Express



Newsletter of the Seneca Valley Pony Club March 2008

Congratulations to our Quizzers!

The Regional Quiz Rally was held on March 1st in a new location in Hagerstown. Seneca fielded two Junior D teams, a Senior D team, and participants in two C scramble teams. Our kids were great, with two of our members – Jenny Barnhard and Kimmy McNamee – earning individual high score awards. Team results were as follows:

- Junior D, Section A: Seneca's We've Got the Knowledge, **1st Place**
Addie Thornley (Captain), Gabriella Catrett, Ema Klugman and Hannah Recknor
- Junior D, Section B: Seneca Super Stars, **1st Place**
Jenny Barnhard (Captain), Josh Klugman, Coltin McBain and Stephen Pancrazio
- Senior D: Seneca Bring on the Question, **4th Place**
Meredith Kearney (Captain), Bridget Bigelow, Maggie Jackson
- Junior C: Potomac/Seneca Percherons, **2nd Place**, Jennifer Price
- Senior C: Seneca/Shenandoah Greater Trochanter, **1st Place**
Kimmy McNamee (Captain) and Andrea Jones (If you didn't know, the Greater Trochanter is a part of the horse's femur.)

USPC Annual Fund

Attached in this issue of our newsletter is a request from USPC to donate to their annual fundraising campaign. Just like our Club, membership dues pay only a small portion of the USPC's operating costs, and they must rely on individual and corporate donations to cover the rest of their budget. Our District Commissioners urge each of you to consider making a donation – even a small donation – to help support our parent organization. Thanks!

SVPC Fun at the Field Day – April 6th

SVPC will host an informal, non-competitive fun day at Bittersweet on Sunday, April 6th, starting at 1:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for our members and parents to enjoy a spring afternoon at the field. We will have a guided trail ride, led by Pam Blumberg, or you can use the time to get in some cross-country practice. Parents, you can also participate in the mounted fun, or just socialize. Bring a charcoal grill or a picnic meal and take some time out. Watch for additional e-mail details coming soon.

News from the Capital Region

For an up-to-date resource on all regional level activities be sure to check the new regional online calendar at: <http://capitalregion.ponyclub.org/html/calendar.html>.

New Date for Non-Qualifying Eventing Rally: The Regional Non-Qualifying Eventing Rally will be held in conjunction with Marlborough Pony Club's Starter Horse Trials on June 8th (the course will be available for schooling on June 7th). Four levels will be run – including two below Beginner Novice! This will be a great opportunity to get your start in eventing. The rally will be open to all pony clubbers.

D1 – D3 Fun Day at Bittersweet: On Sunday, September 14th, a D1-D3 Fun Day at Bittersweet will be organized jointly by the Potomac and Frederick Pony Clubs. Participants will be able to take advantage of the competition course at Bittersweet, as our Fall Horse Trials will be the week before the Fun Day.

New Location for Dressage Rally: The October Dressage Rally will be held at Sunset Hills farm in Lisbon, MD. We are hoping that this convenient location will increase participation.

Tetrathlon: The Maryland Regional Tet Rally will be held on July 5th-6th; Tri-State Region will hold their Tet Rally on June 13th-15th. Maryland is limiting participation to the first 90 entrants and expects to fill quickly. Anyone interested in competing at Tet should be in contact with Mike Kearney, our Tet coordinator. He can be reached at armillary@comcast.net.

Ratings & Standards Clinic, previously scheduled for March 30th, will be held on March 22nd, in cooperation with the Virginia Region and will be held at Frying Pan Park. Check the Virginia Region web site for more details.

Important -- D3/C1 Rating Application Deadline is April 1st

SVPC will be holding a rating for D3's and C1's on April 27th, with a prep session scheduled for April 13th. If you want to try for either rating, please complete the SVPC Rating Application (available on our website under Forms) and return it to Cathy Mattax **no later than April 1st**. The application can either be e-mailed (cathy.mattax@finra.org) or mailed to 13601 Query Mill Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20878. We need to know how many people will be rating, so we can schedule accordingly.

Polocrosse Is Popping Up Everywhere!

The following polocrosse clinics will take place in the next few months, focusing on strategy and skills to get to the next level. Call Jessie Reed for more information at 267-246-7482.
3/16 - Berks PC - Jonestown, PA Clinician: Victoria Prince
4/19 & 20 - Bucks County Polocrosse - Jonestown, PA Clinicians: R. Murphy & R. Trueblood

Foxhunting Exchange

SVPC member Lela Hanagan submitted the following letter after her recent trip:

I want to thank the Seneca Valley Pony Club for helping me be a part of the USPC 2008 Foxhunting Exchange in England this February.

I really had a great time and met some very interesting kids from the US, England and Ireland. We all shared the passion for foxhunting and that made it easy to get to know them.

Crazily enough, I had to fly to Chicago to meet the other kids and my chaperone from the USA. Luckily, the weather cooperated and it was a smooth flight, met Mr. Kornacki our chaperone, waited for the others to arrive and then left for England at 5:30 p.m.

We arrived in York and did some shopping while we waited for the Irish and English kids to arrive. What a beautiful old city it is.

We then went off to our host families. I stayed with one of the Irish girls, Mouse. We stayed there for 5 days and during that time I hunted with Middleton Hunt, The Wilton Hunt, and The Holderness Hunt, and went Beagling (on foot) with The Stationdale Foot Beagles. On Saturday night we all attended the Middleton Hunt Hunt Ball, a black tie affair.

On Sunday, we moved off to Wiltshire to our second host family. Liz was a very fun Mom and I rode her horse out hunting two times. This mare was my favorite ride. I rode several different horses throughout the 11 days we were there. Some fun, some not so fun. In Wiltshire we hunted with York and Ainsty South, and Cattistock Hunt. The bad part was that I had to braid my horse every time we hunted. Seemed like some of the other kids always got horses with roached manes, but not mine. Braided every time!!

I enjoyed the hunting, but sorry to say, I have just as much fun here in Potomac and Virginia.

I gave Seneca Valley saddle pads to all the kids I borrowed horses from. They were the most prized present to any horse owners and everyone wanted me to ride their horse so they could have a pad. I did have a couple extras that I gave to some special kids.

The people of England were fabulous. Fun, pleasant and out to have a fun time. They treated the Exchange students to so much hospitality I couldn't believe it. We had several dinners with Masters of different hunt clubs.

So pretty much all we did was eat, ride, eat, ride, and laughed a lot.

The trip home was equally as uneventful with great cooperation of the Chicago weather.

Thanks again to SVPC for helping me be a part of this.

Lela Hanagan

Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival

The USPC Dressage Committee will be sponsoring a team for the 2008 Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival. Information has now been posted on the USPC Dressage website, www.dressage.ponyclub.org/Opportunities.htm. The deadline for Declarations to be postmarked is June 1st. Please contact Nancy Jones if you have questions.

Summer Camp with National Examiner

Fran Ichijo will be hosting a C-3/HB/B camp this summer, June 15 -20, 2008. From Fran -- The camp includes a daily two-hour lesson in the morning on lungeing, dressage, grid work, show jumping, pace work and cross country. In addition, all C-3/HB/B knowledge will be covered by national examiners as well as a vet and farrier. The kids will switch also daily. In addition we will ride bareback, do fun stuff, trail ride, and have picnics. As well, my neighbor has nice pool. It will be a lot of fun and a lot of work. The kids will stay at my house, camp style downstairs in a large comfortable basement, and I will feed them healthy food. We will drive 15 minutes to the barn site. For those interested, e-mail Fran directly ichijoy@aol.com and she will send out more info and forms.

Volunteer for 2010 World Equestrian Games

The Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, to be held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, September 25-October 10, 2010, are the world championships of the eight equestrian disciplines recognized by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), and are held every four years. The Games have never before been held outside of Europe; nor have all eight disciplines ever previously been held together at a single site — both firsts that will be achieved at the Kentucky Horse Park. It is anticipated that more than 600,000 spectators will attend the 16-day competition.

For those interested in providing time, effort, and resources in helping make the 2010 Games a success, a new web-based volunteer registry system is in place. They still need several thousand volunteers. Visit www.feigames2010.org and click "Get Involved." Volunteer opportunities include a range of tasks, from office assistants to competition duties. Those seeking volunteer opportunities within each discipline must list their related experience when filling out the online profile, in order to be considered.

Equine Nutrition

Dr. Clair Thunes, an equine nutrition expert who runs an independent equine nutrition and management consulting company, publishes a semi- monthly equine nutrition newsletter that is very informative and useful at all levels of Pony Club. The newsletter is purely an educational service to horse owners and is written in a very practical and useful format. Dr. Thunes is a graduate B pony clubber from the UK and a former DC here in the US. She is currently starting a series in her newsletter about the equine digestive tract and how it functions, how to understand feed labels, and what are essential amino acids which relate to the HB and HA ratings. Back issues of her newsletter are also available on this group site. This information will be very useful to those teaching nutrition at the club level and upper level members studying for their ratings. Her newsletter is available at: <http://groups.google.com/group/equine-nutrition>

PONY EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: COWBOY, 14.2, Appaloosa/Arabian cross gelding. Cowboy is a beautiful 10-year-old who specializes in building confidence in young riders. He is the perfect first pony for beginner Pony Clubbers wanting to learn how to jump but who are not quite ready for that all-too-forward horse. He is very forgiving and most recently has provided walk/trot lessons for an eight-year-old and was a star! Sadly, my 13-year-old D2 daughter has outgrown him. \$7,000 negotiable to loving home. Call Lorraine at 301-926-9248 evenings or e-mail lmottola@comcast.net, subject line: Cowboy

For Sale: Payroll, 17.1 hand gelding, 14 yrs. old, Chestnut w/four white socks, talented show hunter, 1st. level Dressage, great mover, easy keeper. Heather Arnold moving must sell, call 410-848-6597. reasonable \$\$.

CALENDAR

March 16	Non-mounted upper level rating prep
March 22	Ratings & Standards Clinic, Frying Pan Park, VA
April 5	H/B Rating
April 6	Fun at the Field, Bittersweet Field
April 12-13	Mounted upper level rating prep session(s)
April 13	Mounted D3/C1 prep session
April 26-27	C2 Rating
April 27	C1 and D3 Rating (combined)
May 11	SVPC Sponsors' Meeting
May 11	SVPC Show Jumping & Dressage Day
May 18	Capital Region Games Rally
May 24-25	C3 (Traditional) Rating
June 8	Non-Qualifying Eventing Rally, Marlborough Pony Club Starter Horse Trial
June 14-15	Capital Region Eventing Rally and SVPC Spring Horse Trials, Bittersweet Field
June 16-20	SVPC D Camp, Bittersweet Field
June 27-29	Capital Region Show Jumping Rally
July 5 & 6	Maryland Region Tetrathlon Rally
July 22-27	USPC National Championships, Lexington, VA
August 8-10	A & B Ratings
August 16-17	C3 (Dressage & Traditional) Rating
September 6-7	SVPC Fall Horse Trials
September 14	D1 - D3 Eventing Fun Day, Bittersweet Field
October 5	Capital Region Polocrosse Rally
October 12	C2 Rating
October 19	Capital Region Dressage Rally
October 26	SVPC Sponsors' Meeting



Seneca Valley Pony Express
4519 Cumberland Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815