

SENECA VALLEY PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

February 2019

SAVE THE DATES

SVPC members are invited to come out to Bittersweet for work days from 10:30 am to noon on **Sunday, February 17** and **Sunday, March 10**.

We will be doing a field clean up on 2/17 so bring your work gloves! We will also be putting together a list of projects for the future.

SVPC will provide hot chocolate for volunteers who are able to attend!

WINTER UNMOUNTED LESSONS UNDERWAY

We have two sets of unmounted lessons running this winter. The first is for unrated to D3 members and will be organized by Yvonneke Weitzel. The original lessons listed on the website include February 22 and March 8, 22 & 24, but the group may be adding additional Fridays in March. This is a wonderful opportunity for members who want to prepare for quiz rally and/or upcoming certifications.

For our C1 and up members, we have a three session series with National Examiner Cathy Frederickson who will be preparing members for C2 HM, HB and HA certifications. Members of SVPC were joined by Capital Region members from other clubs and centers. Remaining sessions will take place at Wind Brook Farm (the Rowe's) on February 23 and March 23.

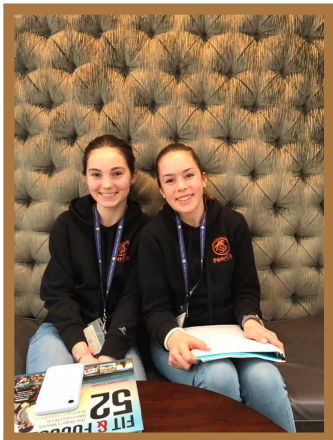
Now is the perfect time to join Seneca Valley PC

If you have friends interested in joining pony club, now is the perfect time to join so new members can attend unmounted sessions.

Q: How can someone join SVPC?

A: Direct people interested in joining SVPC to our membership secretary Nancy Jones (nancy.skylandfarm@gmail.com) or incoming membership secretary Jenn Nelson (rundirtgirl@gmail.com). They can get new members signed up.

Reminder: Sign up for Seneca Valley Pony Club is a two part process. You sign up or renew with USPC and also complete club paperwork to join SVPC and the Capital Region.



Seneca Valley Pony Club members Abby and Gretel attending the USPC Equine Symposium in Stamford, Connecticut

Be sure to RSVP to the February 16, 2019 Awards Dinner

YOU CAN 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> 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.

LESSONS COMMITTEE INVITE AND MEMBER SURVEY: ACTION NEEDED

The lessons committee will meet on **Tuesday, February 12** at 7 pm the Rowe's home. Parents interested in organizing lessons or helping with the work are invited to attend and members of the junior council are also invited to this meeting as we begin planning for SVPC camps. RSVP to Lisa Rowe at windbrookfarmdressage@gmail.com if you plan on attending. Watch your email for details on upcoming lessons.

As noted in the last newsletter, SVPC needs all members to complete a member goals survey. We use the results of this survey to plan lessons and to communicate with the Capital Region and USPC. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey – a link to the survey is on our website on the forms page. Thank you to Ella B, Eliza S, Eliza M, Sarah, Peri, Lexie and Sydney for completing the form – your feedback will be helpful to the committee. We'd love a form from all other members so we can best serve our membership.

BITTERSWEET FIELD UPDATE

SVPC has taken the portable jumps off of the field and put away the stadium jumps. SVPC has been adding yearly to the permanent jumps that remain open for schooling for members. The meadow has a number of 12" - 24" jumps for D's to school. There are quite a few BN - P permanent jumps at the field as well. If you're planning to head to the field but unsure if the ground is too wet, please contact Debby Price by phone or text at 301-580-4666.

The stadium jumps have been put away for the winter, but our club has schooling standards in the shed and members can set up a member ring in SJ warmup area if they'd like. We need volunteers willing to coordinate the set up and communicate with Debby on location.

SVPC MEMBER CHOSEN FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EVENTING EXCHANGE

Congratulations to SVPC's Ema K who was chosen for the USPC team for the Inter Pacific Exchange which will take place in Hong Kong in July. Ema hopes to be able to come to SVPC camp to talk to members about this opportunity and other programs for members who achieve their upper level certifications. Way to go, Ema!



NEW DIVISIONS FOR PONY CLUB

At the annual meeting USPC announced new divisions for pony club activities. There will now be a junior division (members up to age 18) and senior division (members over 18) for all rallies and USPC championships.

At USPC championships there will be a modified division in each discipline that will allow members who are not within the age or certification level for a discipline to qualify and compete at Championships. Each discipline has it's own qualification rules and SVPC will be reviewing the new materials from USPC and sending out information to our members.



JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING RECAP

The SVPC Council and Junior Council meet on the **third Tuesday of the month** – all parents and interested members are invited to attend. Let Leslie Case know if you're interested in attending.

Below is a recap of the January meeting.

Financial reports were distributed electronically before the meeting by Annette.

Nancy reported she has passed the membership job on to Jenn Nelson.

Leslie passed out a spreadsheet with Council Volunteer Jobs for 2019 and members present volunteered in various areas.

In preparation for dressage rally Lisa has organized lessons with Siobhan Byrne on March 2, 9 and 16 at Windham (3/2 and 3/16) and Locke's Edge (3/9). Lisa noted that By Chance Farm has a schooling show on April 13 and SVPC members may want to go to prepare for the rally. There are Basculle jumping lessons on the website and the lessons committee needs to meet.

Yvonneke said the unmounted series for D's has begun with 7 D's and 2 more from Loudon Hunt PC who plan to join. Eliza and Abby were the first presenters and the group is off to a great start. She plans to add Fridays in March as members prepare for Quiz rally.

Lisa has Cathy Frederickson booked for three HM sessions for members going for their C2 HM, HB or HA certifications.

Debby reported that the club received a grant from the Maryland Industry Horse Board for \$1,500 for a MDIHB jump in the new modified division. Jenn suggested that the Club organize work days where members can do jobs at the field.

Debby reported there are jumps in the meadow that will be out until April - May for members

to school. She said there are show jumping schooling poles and jumps in the shed if Council members want to set up a schooling ring at the field. The ring would need to be cleared in April when the Hunt is preparing for the races.

Nancy reported that the horse trials officials are set for the spring and fall horse trials. The FEH will take place in the spring this year. Nancy reported SVPC has not been chosen to do the Charles Owen Rider Award in the fall. This fall will be the 30th year of horse trials at Bittersweet. Nancy anticipates the AEC's being the week before our horse trials hurting our entries.

In other business, Nancy and Yvonneke stated that the Bittersweet Equine Club is official with USPC. Watch for details on membership. Leslie reviewed with the Council that SVPC supports the club and appreciates they plan to restrict membership so that the club's formation has minimal impact on area clubs recruiting horsemasters members.

Debby reported that she is working on the Land Safe Clinic and has confirmation from Tom Gutierrez that SVPC can use his indoor for the clinic during the Thursday and Friday of camp week.

The Junior Council helped the club by continuing to sort through prior year horse trials entries and recycling old materials. Debby Price asked each member of the Council to describe their ideal camp experience.

SVPC Upcoming Dates: Subject to Change

February 16	SVPC Awards Dinner at the Potomac Hunt (evite was sent – contact Leslie if you need details)
February 16	Julie Hagen Lesson at Bascule (sign up online)
February 17	Work Day at Bittersweet from 10:30 am to Noon (bring work gloves)
February 22	Unmounted Knowledge Session (sign up online)
February 23	Upper Level Prep with Cathy Frederickson (sign up online)
March	Siobhan Byrne dressage lesson series 3/2, 3/9 and 3/16 (sign up online)
March 7	Capital Region Meeting (for Capital Region officers of clubs and centers)
March 8	Unmounted Knowledge Session (sign up online)
March 10	Work Day at Bittersweet from 10:30 am to Noon
March 22	Unmounted Knowledge Session (sign up online)
March 23	Upper Level Prep with Cathy Frederickson (sign up online)
March 30	Capital Region Quiz Rally (sign up has not been sent yet – watch emails for details)
April 4	Capital Region Meeting (for Capital Region officers of clubs and centers)
April 14	Capital Region Dressage Rally
May 11	Maryland Region Games Rally
June 2	Capital Region Show Jumping Rally
June 15-16	Capital Region Eventing Rally and SVPC Horse Trials (all SVPC families can help!)
June 24-28	SVPC Camp
July 24-28	USPC Championships East in Tryon, NC
September 5	Capital Region Meeting
September 7-8	SVPC Fall Horse Trials
September 21-22	Capital Region Tetrathlon Rally hosted by SVPC
November 7	Capital Region Annual Meeting