

SENECA VALLEY PONY CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2020

BITTERSWEET FIELD

Reminder to members that Bittersweet Field is currently closed. Field Coordinator Debby Price is working with the Potomac Hunt to have the field mowed and prepared for our cross country course designer to set up jumps at the field.

We anticipate the field will be open to members on May 30th. Details are in the article on the right.

SVPC HORSE TRIALS, CAMP AND BITTERSWEET FIELD

Looking back at our February newsletter, I started by saying, "We are excited about 2020!" Little did I know when I wrote the newsletter that our club would soon be subject to stay at home orders and our world would change so drastically.

I hope all of our club members are safe and healthy and am looking forward to a time when we can gather together again and share our love of horses and riding.

You all should have received an email saying that we have canceled our June horse trials. The safety of our members, their families and our volunteers is paramount.

We are closely watching the advice of national organizations as they work to begin horse shows and events and will work to see if our fall horse trials will be able to take place and how other events are changing to reduce potential spread of covid-19.

Our camp organizers have made the tough decision to cancel our traditional ABC and D Camps in June. We will be working to see what type of lessons and/or activities might make sense for members as the group setting of camp is not going to be feasible as originally scheduled.

Because we know many members are interested in schooling at the field and disappointed that we will not have our spring rallies and horse trials,

Debby Price is working with our cross country course designer from our horse trials to have jumps placed at Bittersweet so our members can school. Bittersweet is currently closed but our plan is to reopen on May 30th with jumps out for members. The Potomac Hunt is going to mow the field before handing it over to our club for the rest of the year, and the farmer renting from the Kiplingers will move the herd of sheep currently grazing where members ride. We will have an online sign up for members wishing to use the field to school so we can monitor the number of people at the field. Watch your emails for the online sign up form and details on any restrictions state and local government may place on activities.

USPC has rescheduled Festival from July of this year to July 19-26, 2021.

Please contact any SVPC officers or committee chairs with questions. We are here to help navigate the pony club world and opportunities.

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If you need anything, please don't hesitate to reach out.

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.

USPC VIRTUAL SESSIONS

USPC is hosting virtual sessions for pony club members during their Lunch 'N Learn series from 11 am to 1 pm from Monday-Friday on the USPC Facebook Page. Check out the sessions created for pony club members of all ages.

Two SVPC members let me know they are willing to do an online meeting with members who have HM questions or are preparing for a certification. Ariana said she can do an online tutorial on an HM topic of interest to members and Shannon said she is willing to do a virtual certification prep with any interested SVPC member. Contact Leslie Case at 203-247-5098 if you'd like to be put in touch with either of these SVPC members.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Capital Region has postponed activities for pony club and is operating under guidelines from the State of Maryland (where the majority of our club members live). Once we have information on any activities, we will communicate with our club members.

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

Below are photos from the February 9th Horseless Rally. SVPC's team had a fun day at Butler Equestrian Center learning about rallies and how pony club horse management.

