

# **CNER REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

## **JANUARY 28, 2006**

### **Minutes of The Meeting**

The CNER quarterly regional council meeting was held at the First Parish Church in Groton MA on Saturday January 28, 2006. The meeting began at 10:00 with the following members in attendance:

Audrey Zwicker, Wendy Johnson, Iris Realmuto, Louise Hara, Betsey Reeves, Deb Maietta, Chris Daly, Belinda Barbas, Curtis Renner, Leonora Giguere, Karen Marcotte, Lara Hubner, Christina Keim, Lisa Brem, Debbie Power, Carol Seale, Catherine Williams, Denise Kinck, Betty Staten, Anne Marcotte, Steve Wilkins, Debra Titus, Vicky LoChiatto, and Jackie Jacobs.

Betsey opened the meeting with a welcome to new DCs and the two new clubs. She thanked everyone for giving their time and effort to this organization. She then gave a brief discussion of the USPC Annual Meeting held in Kansas City last week. There were four CNE members present at the meeting. She mentioned that there are a lot of changes planned for Pony Club over the next couple of year, designed to keep in pace with today's pony clubbers. She also reminded us that we need to start thinking about the Annual Meeting 2008 which we will be hosting.

Next, the Regional; Advisors gave their reports. Curtis handed out the 2005 Actual Budget which he will be submitting to the National office. He reminded everyone that they need to submit a transmittal with their request for reimbursement so he knows exactly where to enter the expense for bookkeeping purposes. A reimbursement form is needed with every request for a check in order to make sure that each program is credited properly.

Lara gave the HMO report next. She collected items for the perfect tack and turnout awards and will send out an announcement with the winners shortly. Every other year we hold a horse management clinic and this year is the year to do so. Lara wants to have a clinic for training new horse management judges. It was suggested that we hold the judges clinic on March 4<sup>th</sup> instead of the Horse Management focus group. Catherine Williams is going to check with Carol Greata's farm to see if we can hold it there. Lara recommended holding the HM Clinic in the fall. Pentucket will look into hosting and possible sites and let us know. Next there was a discussion on whether to pay parents who judge at rallies. One suggestion was to reimburse parents for multiple day rallies due to the amount of time and commitment involved. Another suggestion was to paying judges who have attended training sessions versus those just helping out that day, or pay half the allotted amount for non trained judges and UL pony club assistants. There will be a need for further discussion since we did not reach a final decision.

Louise Hara delivered the RIC report next. She has been working with the educational coordinators for all the regional programs, and had put together a handbook to use as a reference for the new coordinators. She also brought up the topic of camps. The focus meeting on that topic had been cancelled. Everyone agreed that a D3/C1 camp would be a good thing, using UL kids to instruct and having the camp for 2-3 days at Kingsbury Hill, preferably in July. Louise did a quick calculation and thought we could do it for about \$150 to \$225 per person. The trade off would be that parents would need to commit to volunteering at one of the Kingsbury Hill events during the year. More discussion needed since no one volunteered to pursue the topic.

Catherine Williams delivered the UL report next. It appears that there are a number of kids considering the B and H/HA tests this year. So far the program has offered a lecture with Laurie Chapman Bosco in January and another is scheduled for February. The March date will need to be rescheduled so everyone will need to be looking for updates on the calendar. Also the Lunging Clinic will be on March 26<sup>th</sup> and not the 25<sup>th</sup>. Kingsbury Hill and Mt. Holyoke will be the prep camps again this year. Kingsbury Hill is mandatory for the H/HA candidates. Other candidates can chose one of the two preps. Kingsbury Hill is charging us a lower rate this year but in exchange, all candidates must provide a volunteer for the sanctioned events this year. Betsey reminded everyone to check the National website for postings of the UL test outside our Region. The B Test is out of our region this year but there are several test choices in the adjoining regions. We will be hosting the HA on August 11-13.

Next, Jackie Jacobs updated us on C3 Program, which offered a Hoof And Limb clinic this past month and has two Teach to Teach clinics coming up tomorrow and February. There are approximately 30 eligible C3 candidates. Chris Keim will be clinician for the Bandaging and Lunging Clinic and Kingsbury Hill and Mt Holyoke will be prep camps for the group again this year. There will be several tests offered in the area. CNER will offer a test on August 11-13.

Wendy Johnson passed around charts and graphs showing participation at the D3/C1 clinics. There have been two clinics so far this season, both very well attended by most clubs in the region. There will be two more in February and March. UL kids are helping with some of the programs and Wendy is looking for more input for next year's program.

Leonora Giguere spoke a little about the Dressage program. If anyone is interested in assisting her, she would like to be contacted. She'd like to put together a clinic in late March or April and is trying to get a date for the Lendon Gray Clinic as well as a Sue Winslade clinic. More details to follow. Leonora also handles the regional insurance and asked everyone to please notify her if they add or change a meeting date so she can be sure we are insured properly.

Our webmaster, Iris Realmuto reminded people to continue to use the regional email distribution lists and to keep her updated with any changes.

After a brief lunch break, we moved on to Old Business.

After discussing what to do with the \$500 check we got for attending the USPC Leadership Camp in November, a motion was made to deposit the money in the general account. The motion passed unanimously.

Deb Titus discussed the calendar fundraiser. We sold all but 19 calendars and made a profit of over \$400. She asked if we were willing to do this again and the general consensus was that it was a lot of work for not much profit and we will not do a calendar in 2006.

Next on the Agenda was new business. First topic was a discussion of the Regional Calendar. Lisa Brem advised that Tracey Young is the organizer for Tetrathlon this year. She has lined up the Concord/Carlisle High School pool. Any inquiries should be addressed to her regarding Tetrathlon. Regarding other rallies, there appears to be a lot of interest in Qualifying Eventing this year. As in the past, preference will be given to qualifiers and we are responsible for providing volunteers for the sanctioned event. Games Rally will be hosted by Merrimack River and Groton. Betty will check with Nationals regarding participation by 21+ members and advise. Older kids are going to be allowed to participate at Quiz. Finally the focus group on long term planning has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

The next topic of discussion was the Centers Program. Betsey announced that we have two Centers, both in CNER- Hybrid Farm in Acton and Jordan Stables in Marlborough. She explained briefly how the centers work and what is expected of the participants. There was some discussion about the centers and some valid concerns were raised which Betsey will pass on to the National office. Betsey also passed around information regarding the Badges program. She also clarified that with the Specialty Ratings starting next year, candidates are able to move sideways from one discipline to another without having to drop back to the C3 level provided that they meet certain criteria as proof of proficiency. She handed out a diagram at the end of the meeting.

We moved on to a discussion of policies. The policy committee has not received any written requests to review or revise specific policies as of yet. Betsey reminded us that the procedure is to submit in writing, requests for review by the policy committee, who will discuss and present to the council at a subsequent meeting. Iris asked about a possible conflict with Audrey who is both VRS and assistant treasurer. It was agreed that where she is not the Treasurer but rather just an appointed assistant, that she can continue in her current capacity and sign checks if necessary. Also, a motion was made to allow Curtis Renner to continue as both the Regional Treasurer and the club DC. The motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was the fundraiser auction. After lengthy discussion we all agreed that we would need to do a fundraiser in 2006 since 2007 is too close to the Annual Meeting in 2008 and we can't wait until 2008 to raise the money we need to continue to pay the entry fees for Championship competitors. A straw vote showed that everyone agreed we should continue to pay for our qualifiers. Everyone also agreed that we should tie the auction in with a dinner and have the competitors wait on tables. However, no one volunteered to chair a committee to organize the auction so the matter will need to be readdressed.

Deb Titus agreed to be a co-coordinator for Championships if we can name another co-ordinator as well. Please let Betsey know if you are willing to volunteer.

The last topic we discussed was the Annual Meeting in 2008. Based on her preliminary research, Karen Marcotte handed out a list of committees that need to be filled and Karen, Lelo Curtis and Wendy Johnson agreed to co-chair the annual meeting. They will meet together shortly to start planning and will be looking for volunteers to help with the various committees. Louise Hara volunteered to work on the workshops.

The next council meeting will be held on March 11 at 10:00 with location to be announced.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson