

## **MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**February 9, 2008**

The first 2008 Regional Council meeting was held at the First Church Parish House in Groton MA on February 9, 2008 at 10:00. The following members attended: Karen Marcotte, Lara Hubner, Iris Realmuto, Wendy Johnson, Curtis Renner, Helen Robinson, Shelly Patrick, Joyleen Seymour, Peggy Knight, Elizabeth Kohler, Catherine Williams, Tom Tellier, Sara Michas, and Betsey Reeves.

Betsey opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their participation with the USPC Annual Meeting held in January. She felt this was the smoothest running Annual Meeting in years and has received lots of positive feedback. Everyone seemed to be happy to be there. Karen Marcotte reiterated that the meeting was a success due to all the hard work of the department coordinators and many volunteers. She emphasized that it would not have happened without all the help from the region. Coordinators did a perfect job in their areas, and no one dropped the ball! It was a great experience. Thanks again to everyone.

Betsey reminded DCs to be sure to submit their membership forms to her as soon as possible, and also to send updated ratings to the National Office with copies sent to her. This is very important with rally season coming right up

We are still waiting for final numbers on the auction fundraiser. We used Paypal to process credit card charges and there are still a couple of outstanding charges to collect before we do a final tally, but it looks like we grossed over \$15,000. Betsey brought the left over lanterns and logo wear to the meeting. If anyone wants to purchase a polo, hat, pin, fleece or tee shirt, please contact Betsey.

Next, Curtis passed out the CNE Actual 2007 Budget and the Balance Sheet for review. We discussed mileage reimbursement for clinicians for 2008. Our policy from last year states we will honor the IRS reimbursement rate, so the new reimbursement will be \$.515 per mile.

Catherine Williams updated the group regarding the UL Program. The program is moving along well. There will be two camps for ULs, one in May at Kingsbury Hill and one in July at UNH. Mandatory attendance at one of the camps is required for anyone rating this year. She also reminded DCs to prompt their UL members to send their paperwork to her asap. The deadline is March 25<sup>th</sup>. The upper level kids are trying to raise funds to help offset the cost of their camps. They are selling Yankee Candles. If anyone wants to help with their fundraiser, they should contact a UL member or Allison Blood or Catherine Williams to place an order. The deadline for orders is March 25 as well.

Lelo Curtis was out of town so Betsey gave a quick C3 Program update. There will be a kick off meeting soon to announce the upcoming clinics and camps that will be offered this spring/summer. Stay tuned for dates and locations.

Lisa Brem was not able to attend the meeting but she called in and relayed a message from Tracey Young. Tetrathlon Rally is in the works and a date will be announce shortly. Also if anyone is interested in doing a Daniel Stewart Clinic, call Tracey. She would need 12 kids at \$165 each for a ride, critique, ride clinic. This is a great opportunity so please contact Tracey as soon as possible. Lisa also said she had wine glasses that were never picked up at the Silent Auction. If anyone is interested in purchasing them, they should give Lisa a call.

Lara Hubner gave the HMO report next. CNE is listed on the USPC website for hosting the B and A Traditional and Dressage Specialty ratings on August 15-17 at UNH in Durham NH. We will need volunteers to help host. We have also applied for a July HA testing but have not received confirmation yet. Lara is going to organize a Mock horseless Rally, tentatively scheduled for March 8. Time and location and specific details will be announced shortly. This will be a great opportunity for members to learn the ropes of rallying and good horse management. Lara will also try to have a meeting for new horse management judges and will announce a time and place for that meeting as well.

Carol Seale was not able, so there was no RIC report.

Wendy Johnson gave a D3/C1 wrap up. The final clinic will be held on Sunday February 10 at Jordan Stables. The other two meetings were well attended and very educational.

There was no Junior Board report. The Quiz Organizers wondered if the Jr. Board would like to do a food booth again and will need to contact Chris Daly directly.

Iris Realmuto reported that the amount of spam has gone way down since she changed the regional distribution address.

USPC will be holding a Leadership Camp November 7-9. They have not announced the location yet but it should be in Nashua or Manchester NH. All clubs are required to send one representative. Expenses are covered for that person, but other club members are also encouraged to attend as well.

The next topic of discussion was Quiz Rally. The Rally Organizer has put out a call for Quiz Masters and volunteers. Without judges they will not be able to hold the Rally. Please contact Elena Wohl at Jordan Stables if you can volunteer. The discussion then turned to payment for judges. Last year Quizmasters and Station Room judges were paid \$50 to judge. After some discussion, it was decided that the Organizer should check the Quiz Rulebook to see if DCs and Officers can also be judges, and that judges should continue to be paid the \$50. Everyone agreed that payment needs to be equal and consistent for everybody. Station judges are considered unpaid volunteers.

The discussion continued with respect to reimbursing horse management judges at regional rallies. The regional policy at this time does not specify exact reimbursement levels but common practice has been to pay Chiefs \$150/day, Assistant HM judges \$50/day, Apprentice HM judges \$25/day and current pony club HM judges \$20/day. There was further discussion as to whether a judge with a child competing should be paid. A new amendment to the policy was introduced last year, but was never approved. **A motion was made that we continue with the current reimbursement schedule-\$150 for Chief, \$50 for AHMJ (regardless of child status), \$25 for Apprentices and \$20 for PCers, until we can reintroduce a new reimbursement policy.** The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Continuing with the agenda, Betsey mentioned that anyone interested in Rolex tickets should contact her. She did not have ticket details at this time.

We reviewed the Regional Calendar and confirmed rally dates. We are waiting to hear from Swift River confirming the NQ Show Jumping Rally. Rockingham PC will host the Qualifying SJ Rally this year. The Qualifying SJ Rally will not have a mini ring. Curtis mentioned that if there is a problem finding a location for the NQ SJ Rally he can probably use the show grounds in Barre MA.

The next Regional Council meeting will be held on April 12 at the Tubing Park. The Mandatory Championship meeting and the summer Council Meeting will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Keep checking the CNE website for calendar updates.

Betsey closed the meeting by discussing the Visiting Instructors Program. She encouraged clubs to look into utilizing visiting instructors at their camps. Shelly Patrick said she has used visiting instructors in the past for her club and it has worked out very well. Also, be sure to let members know that this program exists in case they are interested in applying as a visiting instructor.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 12:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson  
Regional Secretary