

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

**July 15, 2006**

The summer Regional Council meeting was held at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park on July 15, 2006 at 10:00. In attendance were the following members: Lara Hubner, Iris Realmuto, Wendy Johnson, Peggy Knight, Curtis Renner, Debra Titus, Carol Seale, Debbie Power, Pam McPhee, Lelo Reeves, Betty Staten, Chris Daly and Betsey Reeves.

Introductions were made and we welcomed Carol Seale as the new DC for Pentucket PC. Betsey began the meeting by personally thanking all the volunteers who help to make our region a success. She said that just as the children choose to be in ponyclub, we parents and adult volunteers also have many other obligations, and our willingness to volunteer in ponyclub is both recognized and appreciated by her.

First on the agenda, was a brief update on the UL, C3, Dressage and Championship programs. Last week the region held a prep camp at Mt. Holyoke for the UL and C3 candidates. Nationally ranked clinicians worked with the candidates and the experience and feedback was excellent. There are 5-6 girls attending the B rating this year. July 29-30 there will be a testing held at Valinor Farm. Due to the lack of participation, we were forced to cancel the H/A rating. Several candidates recently dropped out and the number of remaining candidates fell below the National minimum size. Kristen is testing out of region this weekend and Leigh will travel to another region this fall to test.

With regards to the C3 testing, there are 13 candidates currently scheduled to rate this summer. CNE is sponsoring the rating at New Gait Manor in Weare NH for anyone interested in attending. Betsey brought up a concern that not all candidates attended at least one of the mandatory prep camps which is required in our bylaws. We will need to discuss this at a later date since we require candidates to either attend a camp or make alternate arrangements after consulting with the RS. She suggested that perhaps DCs can help to make sure all candidates are properly informed and adhering to our guidelines.

The Dressage program is offering a Lendon Gray Clinic this Tuesday. The clinic was opened up to other regions and adults after it was not completely filled from within the region. There will be another clinic at Maple Meadow in Pepperell MA this fall and hopefully we will have better attendance.

Finally, regarding Championships, we will be sending 13 representatives to Virginia this summer. There are two Jr. D and one Sr. D Quiz competitors, a Novice Level eventing rider, a Training Level eventing rider, a Senior Games team, an Advanced Games team, and a Dressage Horse Manager. The kids will be meeting with Betsey and Lara after the Council meeting to pick up their shirts, pins etc and to review the protocol at Championships.

Next on the agenda was the topic of fundraising. We are not allowed to hold a raffle per USPC rules so we need to come up with some fund raising alternatives. Suggestions for

several fund raising projects were discussed. One possibility is to sell CNE shirts, clothing, pins and saddle pads with an order form available on the website. Wendy and Audrey will work on this. Deb Titus will set up a purchasing account with Country Supply (countrysupply.com) as a passive fundraiser. This will enable CNER to receive 5% of all sales purchased through Country Supply on line just by putting in a special code. Deb will arrange for a code to be set up and will notify us when we can start ordering. Proceeds will automatically be forwarded to Curtis. There will be a link from the CNE website and individual clubs may be able to link to the site from their own websites as well.

Next, Karen Marcotte, Wendy Johnson and Lelo Reeves have been working on the 2008 Annual Meeting plans. Karen was unable to attend but we passed around the brochure from the Westin Hotel in Boston and talked about some of the amenities and various plans we are starting to put together. Deb suggested a scavenger hunt activity for the non-workshop attendees. Someone also suggested a power point presentation. All suggestions are gratefully welcomed by the planning committee and we will continue to keep the region informed on our progress. We also passed around the two logo submissions drawn up by Leonora Giguere. Everyone agreed that the Patriot riding the CNE logo is perfect. We also agreed on the caption "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Horsemanship" to go with the logo. We will need to meet with Leonora to fine tune the sketch. Also the region is hoping that if we purchase some wooden items such as candlesticks, boxes and furniture, that we might be able to talk Leonora into painting them for the silent auction

Next on the agenda, Betsey asked that Iris remove the distribution lists from the CNE website as a means of contact. She had spoken to a number of DCs and all agreed that this method of contact does not have enough control. From now on, anyone trying to contact the region can either contact from the list of officers and DCs or the Webmaster. Betsey also mentioned she's not sure the Minutes of the Council meetings should be posted on the website but was not sure how everyone felt so nothing will change for now.

A brief discussion of the regional calendar followed. Iris will delete the H/A testing date from the calendar. The NQ Eventing Rally at Green Acres will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Wentworth PC. **The next Council Meeting will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Tubing Park and the 2006 Annual Council Meeting will be held on November 18 at the Tubing Park.** The Jr. Board will host a thank you dinner for the region, the location to be announced later.

At 12:20, with the arrival of the Championship competitors, we adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson  
Regional Secretary