

## MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

September 16, 2006

The Regional Council meeting was held at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park on September 16, 2006 at 10:00. In attendance were the following members: Libbie Kohler, Iris Realmuto, Wendy Johnson, Lisa Brem, Curtis Renner, Debra Titus, Penny Jaques, Helen Robinson, Belinda Barbas, Elena Wohl, Jackie Jacobs, Louise Hara, Audrey Zwicker, Leonora Giguere, Deb Maietta, Beth Platt, Betty Staten, Chris Daly and Betsey Reeves.

Introductions were made and we welcomed new representatives from Overlook, Pegasus and Jordan Stables. Betsey began the meeting by advising DCs that the Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at the Nashoba Tubing Park. **All Advisors and Coordinators need to prepare their year end report.** If a copy could be e-mailed to Wendy Johnson it can become part of the Annual Minutes. Also let her know if you want her to make the copies for the meeting.

Next on the agenda, was a brief 2008 USPC Annual Meeting update. Leonora has agreed to paint items during the course of the year, to be auctioned off at the Annual Meeting. If anyone has something they wish to donate that is suitable for painting, they should speak to Leonora. She will need to have some lead time in order to paint for us. Smaller items that are easy to carry on a plan would work nicely although larger items can be shipped if necessary. Also, the CNE Region needs to perform a skit at the upcoming Annual Meeting on January 24-28 in Portland OR. Please contact the Annual Meeting Coordinators (Karen Marcotte, Wendy Johnson or Lelo Reeves) if you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer. Betsey urged everyone to consider attending this year. It's a great experience and lots of fun when a bunch of people from the Region attend. Parents are also welcome to attend and it's also a great experience for the kids as well.

With regards to the 2007 regional calendar, **Betsey asked that all DCs start thinking about what their clubs would like to host or co-host next year.** Quiz Rally will be up for grabs as Jericho Forest will not be hosting next year. (Several clubs can co-host this rally) A new location will probably also need to be considered. Deb Maietta did volunteer the club to host a D3/C1 Clinic which will be appreciated. Lisa Brem also announced that the Tetrathlon Rally will be held a week later next year to give the kids another week to adjust to their new school schedules. With regards to the UL and C3 programs, Catherine Williams and Eliza Edwards have agreed to co-ordinate the UL program again and Jackie Jacobs will co-ordinate the C3 program but she needs to have an assistant to help with the communication etc. Betsey commented that in the future candidates will need to be accountable for their testing status. Each candidate will be given a time line with important dates indicating deadlines for applying and withdrawing from testings so that there is no confusion. The organizers will be communicating all this information at the kickoff meetings. The upcoming year will be the first year with the new specialty ratings so there will be a number of changes and details to consider. **Betsey asked DCs to check with their members to try to determine the number of potential candidates for the various ratings and specialty disciplines.** If you could let the Coordinators know at the annual meeting, that will really help with next year's planning. Information about the new ratings can be found on the USPC ponyclub website (<http://www.ponyclub.org/specialtyratings.php> )

Leonora reminded everyone that the Dressage program is hosting a Lendon Gray Clinic at Maple Meadow Farm in Pepperell MA on October 28<sup>th</sup> and hopefully we will have better attendance than the first one. Information is on the CNE website at [http://cne.ponyclub.org/calendar\\_of\\_events.htm](http://cne.ponyclub.org/calendar_of_events.htm) .

Championships and Festival next year will be held in Kentucky on July 16-24.

Under the topic of fundraising, Lisa Brem's husband Jeff is willing to organize a golf tournament to raise funds for the region. He figured there would need to be 36 teams or 144 players and would try to arrange an event at the International Golf Course. Deb Titus had some other possible winter golf suggestions and they agreed to form an exploratory committee to determine if this might work for us. Chris Daly agreed to "consult" with them. Deb Titus has set up a purchasing account with Country Supply (countrysupply.com) as a passive fundraiser so hopefully people will start using that account. Audrey and Wendy are in the process of arranging for the sale of CNE logo items such as shirts, hats, jackets, wind pants, saddle pads and pins. The order blank will be available on the CNE website and members and parents can place their orders in time for the holidays! (hopefully). An announcement will go out when everything is lined up.

Next on the agenda was the National Youth Congress delegate. **DCs should check to see if they have any qualified candidates** (18-21, C3 and up). Nominations need to be in a month before the annual meeting and final paperwork must be sent to the National office by November 1 so DCs need to notify their candidates of this opportunity as soon as possible. The information and application are available on the USPC website (<http://www.ponyclub.org/forms.php> ) under "N".

Next Betsey discussed the "Best Practices" survey that was recently conducted by the National office. Everyone concurred that our UL program, D3/C1 program and focus groups were all best practices in our region. Betsey encouraged clubs to consider the "Badges" program for their youngest members as well as the Jr. Ponyclub program.

There will be a "DC Orientation" focus group to help new DCs with any questions. It will be held prior to the Jr. Board "Thank you" dinner on Saturday, December 2nd, time and location to be determined after the Jr. Board meets.

Finally, Lisa Brem and Karen Marcotte were re-nominated and approved unanimously to continue on the Nominating Committee for a second year. Belinda and Esther have served their final term and need to be replaced for this election. Betsey is waiting to hear back from several candidates and will email the region for approval as soon as she hears back from them. The Nominating Committee will then choose a chairman and contact DCs.

At 12:40, we adjourned the meeting and had lunch. Thanks to everyone for their donations!

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson  
Regional Secretary