

Minutes of the Meeting

The September Regional Council meeting was held at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park on Saturday September 18th. The Council meeting was preceded by a 9:00 am focus group meeting regarding the upcoming auction fundraiser. Attending the DC meeting were Betsey Reeves, Judy Pelis, Wendy Johnson, Leonora Giguere, Tammy Erickson, Iris Realmuto, Lisa Brem, Louise Hara, Esther Short, Steve Realmuto, Deb Maietta, Karen Agule, Peggy Knight, Debbie Power, Belinda Barbas, Chris Eaton and Lara Hubner.

Betsey started the meeting by proposing a regional calendar fundraiser. Proceeds would not be specifically earmarked but be available as needed. The calendar will have each month represented by the 12 clubs. We could print up stickers with the various regional functions to be included with each calendar. EACH CLUB NEEDS TO GIVE BETSEY 1 or 2 PICTURES REPRESENTING THEIR CLUB BY 10/1. We would plan to sell the calendars at the auction. Pictures could be seasonal or random, anything from a collage representing the club to a formal picture of the members.

Next the Fundraiser was discussed. Plans are coming together. Details were fine tuned at the focus meeting but basically DCs were asked to indicate the number of invitations they would like to have sent to them initially on a sign up sheet. Wendy Johnson will print up a supply of invitations and return reply cards with return envelopes and send to each DC. The DCs will then distribute the invitations to their members and to selected community equestrian supporters at their discretion. Additional invitations can be downloaded along with reply cards at the DC's request or by contacting Wendy.

The next focus meeting will be at 9:00 at the Tubing Park on October 23 entitled "How to Keep Your Unmounted Program On Track" with Louise Hara. The November focus group on camps will be postponed until January. November 20th will be the Annual Meeting. Please watch for location announcement.

There are still three more rallies scheduled. September 25th will be the lower level one day dressage rally hosted by Worcestershire Pony Club at Camp Marshall. Then D Rally and Eventing Rally. The Eventing Rally entry has been posted on the website. The group agreed that the Games mini rally was a great idea and Betsey encouraged more clubs to work together on interclub functions.

Championships was a great success with a large participation rate and excellent results from all the teams representing CNER. Every team finished in the top ten for horse management. It was agreed that Betsey and Lara would work up a certificate of recognition since the ribbons for HM only went to third place this year. The CNE tents were a hit and the BBQ and pizza dinner were very well attended. The horse van also worked out very well and we will use them again in the future.

We held two successful upper level testings at Mt. Holyoke and UMass this summer and have been asked to sponsor the ratings again next year. In the future we will ask a club to host each ratings just as we have done in the past. DCs were also urged to attend the ratings. We will also hold our own C3 rating next year.

National Youth Council nominations need to be in to Betsey by November 1st. Eligible nominees must be 18 and a C3. Information, instructions and the application are available on the Ponyclub

website. The annual meeting is in New Orleans this year. The National organization pays for the hotel but the representative is responsible for transportation. Steve Realmuto moved that we budget up to \$200 per person towards travel expenses for the year 2005. Judy Pelis seconded and the motion passed. It was noted that this expense should be a line item on the budget for next year.

Next on the agenda was the calendar. It was agreed that the Eventing Rally qualifier would be held at King Oak again next spring with Nashoba as host. Groton will host the D Rally. The rest of the dates and locations are very tentative and hopefully can be firmed up at the next meeting. Old North Bridge and Swift River are looking into hosting a back to back Tetrathlon and Show Jumping Rally at Mt. Holyoke on the second or third week in June. Overlook and Rockingham will host Games rally at Topsfield and Jericho Forest will host Quiz Rally with Pegasus and Overlook hosting the mega room and Worcestershire hosting the barn segments subject to date and location approval. The smaller clubs will also help host the UL ratings. March 13th is the tentative date for Quiz Rally. Pentucket will host the Horse Management Clinic and Standards Clinic. Dressage Rally and the non qualifying Eventing Rally will need to be discussed at the next meeting.

A reminder that all clubs need to hold their annual meetings prior to the Annual Council meeting. A notice of the meeting should be sent to members 30 days prior to the meeting and a copy should also be sent to Betsey so she can try to attend as many club meetings as possible. Club packets need to be completed and sent to the National Office by November 15th with a copy of the List of Officers sent to Betsey.

The Junior Board will be sending out an email to members. Minutes from their meeting are attached.

Finally Betsey asked for suggestions on ways to improve the Region. Anyone with comments or suggestions should send them on to her. Lisa Brem commented that Show Jumping Rally rulebook was very confusing and contradictory. She'd like some scoring software support. Betsey suggested passing on their feedback to the Show Jumping Committee. For the November meeting we will be asking clubs for contributions for lunch, i.e. hot items, casseroles and the usual goodies. Feel free to email Wendy to coordinate as soon as you know what you'd like to bring.

Louise Hara mentioned the Dorothy Renfro scholarship application and the Betsy Raine grant which she will be applying for.

This year Central New England Region will be sponsoring a booth at the Equine Affaire and will also be presenting a demonstration of the digestive tract on Saturday and Sunday, November 13-14. Volunteers should contact Betsey.

The council meeting was adjourned around 2:00 and was followed by a brief advisor's meeting.

JR. BOARD MEETING

The Jr. Board is re-doing their member contact list. All current members should send name, club, rating, birth date, years in pony club, email and telephone number and address to Leigh Davis and Annie Maietta. Other Pony Clubbers who are interested in joining the Jr. Board should send us their email address and any questions they have.

Our next meeting is November 20th during the DC annual meeting. This is when the region sets its calendar for the upcoming year. We have raised roughly \$3000. This money is set aside for Jr. Board members in good standing to be used as scholarships and Jr. Board activities. We will be discussing these activities and fundraisers at this meeting.

LToko789@comcast.net

Dressagequeen02493@hotmail.com