



# The Central New England Scoop



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The Newsletter of the Central New England Region, USPC, Inc.  
cne.ponyclub.org

## COMING UP .....

- May 1**      **Regional Council Meeting 9:30 am**  
**Focus Meeting approx. 2:00 pm**  
Nashoba Valley Tubing Park ,  
Westford MA
- May 22-23**   **Games Rally**  
Topsfield Fairgrounds Topsfield MA

## NOTES FROM BETSEY

Rally season is underway; Quiz is behind us and Eventing Rally is coming right up on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of May. It is a really busy and exciting time for CNE.

The May Regional Council meeting is the next function, and it is May 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 A.M. at the Tube Park building at Nashoba Valley Ski Area. We're starting a half hour earlier in order to cover all the topics of discussion. Let me know if anyone has anything to put on the agenda. We already have a lot of topics to discuss, but we need to be sure that we cover all that is necessary. It seems to work for us to bring in food for lunch, so D.C.'s please contact Wendy Johnson to let her know what you would like to bring for food or drinks by Wednesday so we can organize the eating part of the meeting!

Immediately after the Council meeting will be the May focus Group, starting I would guess around 2:00 pm; the topic this month is ways to improve the H.M. program at the club level. Everyone is invited to attend this gathering, especially anyone with good ideas or questions.

As I write this, I am in Lexington, KY at the Rolex event where the CNER games are competing in the Prince Phillip Cup Games competition. It is raining, and the ring is muddy, but our representatives are doing an awesome job. Their spirits are high, they are playing right through the mud, and making us all proud! They

also look GREAT in their warm-up suits with the CNER logo on the back!

D.C.'s please pay attention to dates and deadlines for rallies. It makes the secretary's jobs much easier and less stressful if entries are complete and on time. Remember D.C.'s you may be the next organizer so think about how you would like to receive the paperwork for your rally.

## **Betsey**

### **Directions to Nashoba Valley Ski Area and Tubing Park Westford, MA**

**Tubing Park:** Tubing Park has an entrance off Rt. 119/2A half a mile east of the lights at Littleton center just past the Nashobaside Farm Stand. Look for small white sign.

You can also go to the ski area and follow signs through the parking lot to the tubing area. Do not be frightened-you will feel like you are driving into the woods.

**From Rt. 495:** Take Exit 32 (Westford), left off exit, first right on to Rt. 110 to Powers Road (1 mile on your left) and go approx 1/2 mile. Nashoba Ski area will be on your left. See below.

**From the East:** Take Rt. 2A/119 West in the direction of Nagog Woods and Littleton. Continue on Rt. 2A through the lights at the intersection of Rt. 27, and keep on Rt. 2A through the set of lights at Nagog Woods. Then about 1 mile beyond that, at the 3rd set of lights, go right onto Powers Rd. and Nashoba Ski area is about 1/2 mile on your left. See below.

## **HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!**

The CNER Hoppers, our games team, came in fifth in the Prince Phillip Cup, a very respectable showing considering these teams are the best

from all over the country. They played very well and we are very proud of them.

## UL UPDATE

DCs -- Please send a REMINDER TO ALL ULs participating in mounted clinics to forward Coggins and Vaccination records on to me as soon as they come in. Kingsbury Hill requires strangles for participants in the Memorial Day Weekend.

Times have been assigned for the May 16th lunging clinic @UNH with Laurie Chapman Bosco. Please let me know if your ULs do not know their assigned time.

I know that this is a stressful time of year for many of our UL's, with high-stakes testing going on and school finishing off. We're as anxious as the ULs to see them successfully out of school and able to fully participate in the clinics and riding opportunities available. In the meantime, please encourage them to do what is feasible with their riding. UL's should know, for instance, that many of the horses and riders won't be up to snuff for Memorial Day Weekend -- and that's ok. Memorial Day is a starting point, aiming towards the July Prep Camp. As always, whether rating or not, all ULs are encouraged to join us.

Deb Maietta

## NOTES FROM THE HMO

### HM Clinic Recap

First off, let me thank the SEVENTY-FIVE participants and FIFTEEN teams that participated in this year's HM Clinic that was run in a Mock Rally format held at Indian Ridge Farm in Ipswich, MA on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Along with the staff of HM judges and apprentices who helped implement the teaching element of this clinic. What an excellent turnout and enthusiastic group for the day before Easter and who adapted very well to some of the logistical issues that came up during the day. Thank you all for being good sports and superb games players while learning the Sack Race, Housewife's Scurry and Three-Legged Race on the spot! (Games Rally is May 22-23...\*elbow elbow\*.)

Second, I'd like to thank Pentucket Pony Club and Carol Greata for helping organize and letting the region use their lovely facility. We could hardly peel some of the stadium jumpers away from the hillside course!

Hopefully this gave new members a chance to experience what a rally might be like, and the

basic scheduling and components of PC rallies. For the more experienced members, it gave them a venue to teach fellow PC'ers what rallying is all about and demonstrate their competency in HM at rallies. As a wrap-up to the clinic, the participants received back their score sheets from both the required equipment checks and their formals. This was designed to let them see where they may or may not be meeting the standard, where issues might arise with suitability of equipment/tack/clothing. DC's should especially review the required equipment sheets which will point out areas or items that need to be checked/replaced before rally time.

## Urban Legends of the Horse Management Kind

*Q: What items on the required equipment list must have a current expiration date?*

A: The rules state that IF there is an expiration date that comes on the product, that it must be current. Peeling the white sticker off the bottom of the Furazone container or putting tape over the date on the alcohol bottle is NOT an acceptable way of making it current. HM judges know what items generally have expiration dates and what doesn't. The best bet for PC'ers is to check before EVERY rally when going through the kits. Common items that can come with expiration dates: Topical Antimicrobial/ Antibacterial/Antiseptic agent, Liniment, Alcohol, Antiseptic/Antimicrobial Scrub, Triple Antibiotic.

They don't ALWAYS have an expiration date depending on the brand. HINT: For those who are purchasing items for these kits: Search out brands that don't have expiration dates, but fit the requirements. The two most common that come with OR without dates, are alcohol and liniment. Buy the ones that don't have a date, if possible!

*Q: Do I have to use a cotton lead rope at a Pony Club rally?*

A: No. Page 29, Section 10-Leadlines: The handbook states that the cotton lead rope is recommended for safety reasons. As, flat nylon leads(with or without chain shank) are not allowed for tying because they tend to get too tight and sometimes aren't releaseable even when tied with a safety knot. ROUND nylon leads are discouraged for tying but NOT forbidden. They tend to slip and come untied

easily. (Think about if you want to hear "Loose horse!!!" repeatedly during a rally.)

Thus one could assume from reading the handbook that most any lead is ok for leading the pony, but only if used correctly. Chain shanks should be put over the pony's nose/through halter or in some other way so that neither pony nor handler can become entangled. One could read into this by figuring that you could loop the chain through the halter ring and twist it around making it snug and snapping it back onto the point where the shank is attached to the lead. However, one could also come to the conclusion that if you don't need a chain lead, use a plain lead instead. The rulebook states that it would be misuse of equipment. This issue is rarely if ever brought up as most PC'ers do use the equipment correctly. This just attempts to clarify what types of leads can be used and for what.

Please let me know if you have questions!  
[larahubner@yahoo.com](mailto:larahubner@yahoo.com)

## ANOTHER REMINDER

NBC-TV will present a 90-minute telecast of the 2004 Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. The national network broadcast will be titled the "Rolex Equestrian Championships" and will air Sunday, May 2, from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 2-** Second Annual "May Day 2-phase at Foss Farm". The event is limited to 50 competitors and was a sellout last year, so early entry is advised! Pre-elementary through training and dressage-only divisions Sunday, May 2, 2004 Foss Farm, Carlisle, MA Proceeds to benefit the public riding facilities at Foss. Call Tracey with any questions at: (978) 318-1944

**May 15-** Rockingham Pony Club 2-Phase and Dressage only at the Tack Shack in Fremont NH. Closing date May 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Carole Sullivan at Rockingham PC for more information.

**May 16-** Groton Pony Club 3 Phase Schooling Show. Novice through Starter divisions. Groton Fairgrounds, Groton MA. Contact Wendy Johnson at [wendyj@groton-pony-club.org](mailto:wendyj@groton-pony-club.org) or 603-888-9014.

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Looking for a horse!** Boombproof, dead quiet, been there done that pony needed for a 9 year old D1 rider. She needs to get her confidence back and just have fun. Would prefer a lease or lease to buy situation. Prefer 14-15 hands. Please call anytime. Paula Gregory (978) 649-2603.

## REMINDER

Just a reminder to please call or email me at [WendyJ@groton-pony-club.org](mailto:WendyJ@groton-pony-club.org) to let me know what your club would like to bring to the meeting on Saturday. We need donuts or muffins for the morning, drinks such as lemonade, ice tea, water, soda, etc., a bag of ice, cold cuts, potato or macaroni salads, deserts. One club is bringing bread, lettuce, tomatoes and condiments and one club is bringing coffee and related items. Please let me know right away so we can coordinate and I won't have to email you first. Thanks! Wendy

## NEW ENGLAND REGIONS PONY CLUB REUNION

June 26th, 4:30 p.m. (immediately following x-c)

Groton House Farm HorseTrials II, Hamilton MA

Help us celebrate USPC's 50th Anniversary Year by coming to this Reunion. Share Pony Club memories and honor some very special pony club volunteers. Wear your old pony club pins, bring your old photos and mementos, and of course your memories! Who's invited? Pony Club Grads, former and current RSs and DCs, devoted volunteers.

Wine.....Cheese....light hors d'oeuvres

***See you on the 1st!***

