



The Central New England Scoop



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

COMING UP

Nov. 20 Annual Regional Council Meeting
Nashoba Valley Tubing Park
10:00 a.m.

NOTES FROM BETSEY

We have had a busy autumn, what with several rallies, a council meeting, a focus group, and THE AUCTION. CNER does certainly know how to do it right!

The D rally was very well attended, and I hear reports that all had a fine day, I was only able to be there at the end for awards ceremony, but I sure saw a LOT of happy faces! Good job everyone! Groton Pony Club certainly does a great job at making sure that particular rally runs smoothly. The Groton Fairgrounds does lend itself well for the lower levels to begin their eventing career!

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate as nicely for the non-qualifying Eventing Rally which was held at Green Acres Farm in Madbury, NH., hosted by Wentworth PC. A cold, damp day, with intermittent drizzle is not very conducive to having fun, and after all, rallies should be FUN! But despite the weather, everyone persevered, and it looked like the riders were all doing a very good job of keeping their mounts on track in the less than desirable conditions. A credit to them and their clubs to be sure! And thanks again to Wentworth PC doing a great job hosting the final rally of the season.

The focus group in October came up with a pilot program for the region that sounds quite exciting. We are attempting to address a concern, not only of the region, but also the national organization, that we are losing the

lower teenage members. So we are trying out a D-3/C-1 program for that age group to help show them what is available through Pony Club. They are going to have meetings, some with a social side, and some with an educational component to get them together, outside of their local club. We are hoping that this will motivate them to be better pony club members because they are having more fun, and learning new things. This is in no way trying to usurp the local level educational program, but to compliment it. The first meeting will be December 4th in Pepperell, MA with Molly Dolben.

Then there was the AUCTION! What a wonderful job Lisa Brem did to get this new fundraiser off the ground and make us some much-needed money. I sure had a good time and it looked like everyone else did as well. The members that we sent to Championships were all there, dressed in their 2004 'uniforms' helping out in all sorts of roles. It made me very proud to see them there as an integral part of the fundraising, what a great asset our young people are. And we made our goal- at least preliminary figures are looking like we cleared at least \$12,000. WOW what a lot of money for one evening's activity. There were many people who definitely worked more than one evening, and I want to pass a special thanks on to Lisa who kept on going even through her mother's illness, and subsequent death only a week and a half before the auction.

We have the Regional Council Annual meeting this coming Saturday at 10:00, and then we are looking at Christmas celebrations and the USPC annual meeting in New Orleans. Have a Happy Holidays all of you! And THANK YOU ALL for a wonderful year!!

Betsey

Directions to the Annual Meeting

Nashoba Valley Ski Area and Tubing Park Westford, MA

From Rt. 495S: 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. You can reach the Tubing Park by continuing past the lodge and down the dirt road.

From Rt. 495N: Take Exit 31 (Littleton Common), then East on Rt. 2A/119 about 2 miles to Powers Road (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.

Tubing Park: Tubing Park has an entrance off Rt. 119/2A half a mile east of the lights at Littleton center immediately past the Nashobaside Farm.

THE CALENDARS ARE IN !!!

The brand new 2005 Regional fundraiser calendars are in! The calendars arrived just in time for the auction this past weekend. We sold a bunch but there are still lots to move. So, if DCs could please check with your clubs and take a quick headcount for calendar orders before this weekend, we can hopefully sell the rest of the calendars at the meeting and in time for the holidays. Some clubs have said they will pay for them up front and take them back to the clubs to sell to the kids directly. The calendars really came out great. They are a bargain at \$15

each, so plan to pick up your supply at the annual meeting before they are all gone!

NOTES FROM THE HMO

Happy Fall Fuzzies everyone! First off, I'd like to rectify an omission I made in the last two newsletters regarding championships placings. The CNE Training Level Dressage team also placed 8th in horse management at the USPC Championships in July. They contributed to our amazing showing with no mounted team placing less than 8th in horse management at this years Championships! (better late than never, Deb! ;))

Also in regards to Championships, I'd like to express how wonderful all the PC members, volunteers, parents and bidders who did an AMAZING job bringing together our first Championships Benefit Auction were! This makes me remember why we all spend such time and energy on our PC organization! ☺ Remember how we always say PC is a clever way to teach life skills to PC'ers?(and parents, probably, on this endeavor...;)) I think I saw some future servers, hostesses, event planners and even an auctioneer on Sunday night! CONGRATULATIONS LISA and CREW!

BRAVO!

Perfect Tack and Turnout Raffle Reminder!!!!!!

This year, in trying to keep with an idea from the past, we're holding a raffle for those that had a "Perfect Tack & Turnout" at a regional rally. Each time a PC'er meets the standard for their rating, they have one chance put into a "hat" for a raffle of items donated by each club. Examples we now have are: 4 personalized saddle covers, a customizable stall plate, and a leather halter with personalized brass plate.

I still need a \$20-\$30 item from each club in the region. I've got only 6 items so far. If you are in doubt as to if your club has donated something, please contact me. Items can be gift baskets of multiple items, too. We'd love for any item that can be, to be personalized with "CNE 2004 Perfect Tack & Turnout" if possible, but that is by no means necessary. Be creative! Each club has had participants in this region's rallies this year, so we all need to help reward those that met the standard at formals and the time and effort of those who take HM seriously!!! ☺ Please bring them to the Annual Regional Meeting on Nov. 20th, or contact me if you have any questions!

One last note---The winter months are coming which means club unmounted curriculum time!

We are very fortunate to have a plethora of horsepeople who are knowledgeable in both the USPC standards and equine care. We also have a great C-3 and UL program that has eager PC'ers just dying to hone their teaching skills. ;) Please contact Louise Hara, our RIC, myself or Betsey if you need help finding speakers for your unmounted programs this winter. I'm sure between all of us in this region, we can find someone for just about any unmounted topic or for lunging and bandaging clinics.

URBAN LEGENDS OF THE HORSE MANAGEMENT KIND

Rally season has drawn to a close, finally. (Do I hear screams of joy from our readers?) Over the winter I'll try to touch on some key topics to think about for next year that were consistent trouble spots at our rallies. This is not so much an urban legend, but a useful explanation of why PC requires certain items at rallies.

Q: What is the deal with Stall Cards? Why are they so important? Do I have to use the one from the HM Handbook?

A: First off, stall cards MUST be put up as soon as your horse is settled in it's place of stabling or tying. This means as SOON as your pony steps foot in the stall at UNH, or is tied to the side of your friend Susie's trailer at D-Rally, it MUST be up, legible and complete. This is a matter of safety and welfare for mount, rider and those in the stable area. This is like a "data sheet" for each pony. It tells everything about the mount, rider(s) and emergency information. Because a new HM handbook is likely for 2005 you can use Appendix J of the 2002 Handbook as a guide ONLY! It shows what was required on a stall card for this! past rally season.

Here are some areas that are common problem areas HMJ's find at rallies:

Rider #: This is a matter of identification purposes, like a pinny. If something happens to the pony or rider, they can easily be identified to rally officials and emergency personnel. This number changes at each rally and must be put on many items when the competitors receive their packets. Label everything with this # that is required and don't forget the stall card!

Vet/Farrier/Chaperone Names and Phone #'s: Again, this is in case of emergency situations where the adult responsible for the competitor and mount while on the rally premises is needed, or if medical or farrier attention is necessary. Everything must be correct and complete! You might be able to have your own vet come out for an emergency call, but they know the animal's history and can consult with the attending veterinarian. At overnight rallies, hotel phone numbers (but not room numbers) are required too, though mobile phones are always a good thing to have listed as well.

Temperature/Pulse/Respiration: Notice a trend here? Emergency situations. HM, organizers and competitors need to know what is NORMAL for each mount. If any deviation from what is generally accepted as normal equine ranges for TPR is observed, then we need to know if that is actually normal for this particular mount. If Susie Snazzybreeches' hotshot pony "Kickstart" always takes around 50 breaths per minute then it would be a shame to have Mrs. Snazzybreeches pay \$150 or more for a midnight emergency farm visit from the Rally vet because Sally didn't take her pony's normal TPR at the beginning of the rally season?? As HMJ's and organizers we need to know what is normal in order to determine if there is truly a problem or if this mount simply is a cardiac or respiratory rebel! ☺ Not knowing how or being able to take TPR yourself is not an excuse, though. Your DC, instructor or an upper level member will be able to help with this task. Be sure to record the normal TPR in your record book for use on your rally stall card(s).

Vices: As a HMJ, I've learned to LOOK before I approach a strange pony. Vices are another requirement for stall cards that again have to do with plain old safety as well as knowing what is normal for each mount. CLEARLY mark any dangerous vices on the stall card in large bold letters, or what I've often seen and think is a great idea is to put a completely separate, large sign stating what "evil" could be afoot. "WARNING: KICKSTART BITES, KICKS and makes UGLY FACES!" (Yikes! Sounds like a great PC mount, eh?) I know that HMJ's and fellow competitors who are helping teammates like to know these kinds of things up front. Judges also like to know if an animal is acting strangely, perhaps pawing or weaving. If this is not a common vice to the pony, it could mean the pony is in discomfort and needs further attention, or simply nervous and should be thrown hay, for example. All of this stall card information provides a helpful tool that judges and rally officials use to make sure that the ponies and competitors are cared for the best way possible!

In short, stall cards must be put up immediately upon tying or stabling each mount. They must be accurate, complete and legible. The current requirements will be noted in next year's new HM Handbook for the 2005 rally season. Stall cards help us deal with emergencies and health situations if the need arises and really shouldn't be a chore to make up. They can be made up at the beginning of the year with all required information and re-used by simply changing the competitor number at each rally. You can also be creative and each PC'er can make up their own unique one if they want, as long as it is useable and legible! ☺

ATTENTION ALL PC'ers and PARENTS!!!: I just KNOW you have questions regarding HM at rallies or ratings! I hear a ton of them at each rally, and grumblings about rules, or this or that. Please email me and let me know what you want to be clarified! This is your chance to ask "what the? Why is PC so "picky"?" Let's hear it! Maybe I can help de-bunk those pony club urban legends! Got questions? Comments? Snide remarks? email me at

larahubner@yahoo.com.

Classifieds

For Sale: 1995 Kingston extra wide, extra tall 2 horse bumper pull trailer. White New tires. Has been well maintained and serviced. \$3500 Located in West Newbury, MA Call 978-465-4321 or email cmwilliams374@comcast.net

**CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND
REGIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2004
NASHOBA VALLEY TUBE PARK
LITTLETON, MA.**

PROPOSED AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Report of the RS on the Region
3. Financial Report for period Jan.1, 2004-Oct 30, 2004
4. Regional Reports from Advisors:

HMO	Lara Hubner
RIC	Louise Hara
C-3 Coordinator	Tammy Erickson
Upper Level Coordinator	Deb Maietta
Championship Coordinators	Iris Realmuto
	Jackie Jacobs
Jr. Board Advisor	Esther Short
Webmaster	Iris Realmuto

5. Report of the Nominating Committee-Esther Short
6. Junior Board
7. Calendar of Region for 2005
8. Adjournment of Business Meeting