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October 2014

VRPC News

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Greetings From The RS

Thank you to Diane Fanta and Gina Nelson for pulling together a wonderful day for our D-1 and D-2 Rally! They worked very hard to ensure a fun, fair day for all of our little rally'ers! Thank you to all the officials that volunteered their time and spent their day at D rally: Anne Williams, Virginia LaRocque and Heather Parker for stepping in at the last minute to be dressage judges; Jamie Roseberry for volunteering as EMT; Mary Schmidt for jump judging; Dr. Traci Sandberg for volunteering to be our veterinarian; Lisa Woods for once again taking care of our scoring; Susan Fisher for taking care of hospitality; and to all the C advisors, without whom our D's would not be able to experience the thrill of the rally! And finally a big thank you to all the helpful parents!

Getting excited about the USPC Annual Meeting and Equine Symposium? We are very fortunate to be hosting it in our back yard! Everyone should attend the Annual Meeting at least once! Here's your chance to do so without having to fly! There are many great events planned, speakers and clinics, trade show, the Saturday night banquet and live auction, science and art fair, and Pony Paddock for the kiddies. Registration will open soon on the USPC website. See more USPC Annual Meeting information below.

The National Youth Congress (NYC) is one of the special events held during the Annual Meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity for our older members to participate in leadership training and self discovery. The NYC was established in 1998 to recognize outstanding older pony club members that have achieved H-B/C+ /C-3/B/H-HM/H/H-A or A certifications. NYC candidates must be between 18 and 21 years old. Each Region can send one delegate, selected and recommended by the Regional Council. **Applications are due to the RS by October 15th** in order to process for submission to the

2014 VRPC Calendar

The VRPC Calendar is available on the [VRPC Website](#).

Note that dates are subject to change. Please check the calendar often for updates.

October 2014

**Fri, Sat & Sun
Oct 3-5**

Morven Park Fall Horse Trials @ Morven Park Equestrian Center, Leesburg, VA

Sun Oct 12

The Paper Chase @ The Tanyard, White Post, VA
Contact: Anne Williams (540) 303-3931 or annewilliams81@gmail.com

Tue Oct 14

VRPC Horsemasters Annual Meeting
Leesburg, VA
Contact: Perri Green perriwgreen@gmail.com

November 2014

Sat Nov 1

Games Rally @ Great Meadow, The Plains, VA

Sat Nov 8

VRPC Annual Council Meeting @ John Barton Payne Meeting Room, Warrenton, VA

**2015 Membership
Renewals**

National Office by the November 1 deadline. If you are interested, please refer to the information on the USPC website and let me know your intention to apply as soon as possible. My daughter, Katie, participated in NYC in 2013 and really enjoyed the experience.

Our VRPC Annual Regional Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 8, 9 am to 4 pm, at the John Barton Payne building, smack dab in the middle of downtown Warrenton. All DCs and CAs are required to attend, and all members and parents are welcome to attend. See below for more information.

See you all November 1st at our Regional Qualifying Games Rally!

Too Old for Pony Club? Check out Horsemasters!

You are cordially invited to attend the VRPC Horsemasters Annual meeting on Tuesday, October 14th. The meeting begins at 7 pm and will be held at 229 Alpine Drive SE, Leesburg, VA 20175. RSVP to perriwgreen@gmail.com and plan to bring a dish to share.

At this meeting members will plan activities for 2015. If you have questions about Horsemasters in Virginia Region, please see [Horsemasters' page](#) of our website or email Perri Green perriwgreen@gmail.com, our VRPC Horsemasters' Liaison.

Horsemasters members are adults who follow the USPC curriculum to increase their knowledge and skill in all things equine. In the Virginia Region, we see wonderful opportunities for the clubs and region to benefit from this new group and for the Horsemasters to benefit from our programs. Clubs and Centers are encouraged to reach out to the Horsemasters and include them in your programs. Horsemasters are already serving as AHMJ at our rallies and IOs at our ratings and taking advantage of our club lessons whenever possible.

VRPC Regional Council Meeting

**VRPC Regional Council Meeting
Saturday, November 8
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
John Barton Payne Meeting Room
Warrenton, VA**

Your club or center will be contacting you soon about your membership renewal. VRPC will assess a \$10 late fee for any renewals received after the USPC and VRPC deadline of November 15, 2014. VRPC dues have remained \$20 for many years. Please help us keep them low by renewing promptly!

The VRPC Annual Regional Council meeting will review 2014 activities, plan activities for 2015, and elect new officers. DC/CAs and VRPC Regional Council Officers are required to attend. Members are welcome. Lunch is potluck. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Carolyn Lorenzen cslorenzen@aol.com. Please bring a dish to share.

"Give Back to Gordonsdale" Day

Submitted by Anne Williams

Members of BRHPC participated in a "Give Back to Gordonsdale" Day on September 28, 2014, which was also the date of their Annual Meeting of Sponsors.

While the kids worked, the sponsors met under tents in the field for their Annual Meeting. Sandy Johnson, owner of Gordonsdale Farm, generously allows BRHPC to use his cross country facility for mounted meetings and one day of their summer camp.

To show their appreciation to Mr. Johnson, 14 children (both members and siblings of members) worked for two (2) hours staining numerous cross county fences. We are fortunate to have landowners like Mr. Johnson who let riders use his spacious fields for equestrian activities.



Wise Words from Moose Man...

Submitted by Brian Smith

Deworming - All horses have worms and depending on conditions they can



be more exposed or less, but they are always present.



More horses on less space, or horses coming and going can put your horse at more of a risk of worms. Are your pastures over grazed or do you rotate pastures? Do you pick your paddocks weekly and compost the manure?

Horses in nature wander the plains and do not come across their feces, so there is less chance for wild horses to pick up worms. A vet can do a fecal test to get a count and type of worms, but in extreme cases worms can be visibly present in the manure. Not a pretty picture.

Worms utilize nutrients the horse eats, wasting your feed dollars and even worse they cause damage to your horse and can cause them to colic.

Consult your veterinarian to create a deworming plan for your horse or farm. Here are a few tips to remember about deworming.

Rotate Medicine - Along with a regular deworming schedule, you want to rotate thru different classes of dewormers. Even if two chemicals kill the same worms, the change in chemical will help keep the worms from becoming resistant to the dewormer. Rotate between Pyrantel, Benzimidazole and Ivermectin.

Bots - Treat with something that kills bots after the first frost. And remove the yellow pin head sized bot fly eggs from your horses body. Use a special bot fly knife, a safety razor, a pumice block or even your finger nails. The bot fly likes to lay eggs on legs and under the belly. Then the horse scratches with it's mouth and ingests the egg that can hatch in the mouth or the stomach and start eating it's way thru the tissues.

Records - Be sure to record the date and dewormer used in your record book.

11th Annual Old Fashion Paper Chase Sunday October 12th *Submitted by Anne Williams*

Please join us for Blue Ridge Hunt Pony Club's 11th Annual Old Fashion Paper Chase on Sunday, October 12th @ 10:00 am (rain date: October 19th @ 10:00) at The Tanyard in White Post, VA.

The Paper Chase - a cross-country adventure to be ridden over a marked course. Riders will follow flags (markers) from start to finish. Check points along the route will ensure participants have ridden entire course. Optimum time winners to be determined by dropping fastest and lowest team times then averaging all times in each division. Course may not be walked prior to event.

Teams of two to three riders. Adults & children may ride together. Jumping I course is approximately 4 to 5 miles & Jumping II course and Non-Jumping course is approximately 3 to 4 miles over Blue Ridge Hunt country.

Three Divisions: Jumping I, Jumping II (no coops) & Non-jumping. 1st through 3rd place awards for optimum time in all divisions - *must be present to claim award.*

Early-bird Registration Entry Fee is \$35.00 per rider before October 9, 2014 (\$40 after, including on-site registration). Entry fee includes a terrific picnic lunch afterwards featuring chili from The Locke Store.

Negative coggins, ASTM/SEI approved helmets, & proper footwear required. Safety vests recommended.

Registration information may be found on [the BRHPC website](#). Questions? Please contact Contact Anne Williams at 540-303-3931.

National Certifications News

Submitted by Anne Williams & Vicki Fox

Blue Ridge Hunt Pony Club is pleased to announce recent National Certifications:

Ellie W., H-B
Alena MS., H-B
Ava MS., H-B
Anneliese O., B & H-A

Loudoun Hunt Pony Club is pleased to announce recent National Certifications:

Heather F., H-B
Celia L., H-A

***Note to our clubs - we would like to use this space to recognize our members who are successful in achieving National Certifications. Please submit your club's member information to cshelberg@gmail.com.*

USPC Annual Meeting January 21 - 25, 2015 Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA

The Virginia and Capital Region Pony Clubs are co-hosting the 2015 USPC Annual Meeting & Equine Educational Symposium. We will have lots of opportunities for volunteers before and during this event. Stay tuned for more information on how you can assist in making this Annual Meeting the best ever!

Check out the [USPC Annual Meeting video](#) featuring our members at various rallies!

Here are just a few of the activities that will be offered:

Anatomy Lab

It's the real thing! Join Dr. Brad Gordon and Cindy Healy to get a hands on education about the horse. Real horse parts and bones will be on display for you to view.

Research Fair

Open to current youth members of Pony Club, to research and then present any equine topic they find to be of interest. Entries are judge by local horse experts. Rules & Submission Guidelines will be available in the fall.

US Park Police Barn Plan

H-B and up members are invited to submit a barn plan (which correlates with the H-HM/H/H-A SOP) for review by the Trust for the National Mall at the Annual Meeting.

Saturday Night Banquet

A time for some serious socialization and fun! Join your friends for a wonderful meal and to honor those individuals receiving the Founders' award. Then hit the dance floor.

Check out the [USPC website](#) for more information and the agenda for this wonderful 3 day opportunity!

The Virginia Region Needs Your Support

Our region has several [board positions](#) to fill for 2015. Please consider how you may be able to provide support to our region and our kids that participant in pony club. There are two formal meetings each year, in November and February.



Time needed for each position varies but some are less than 10 hours a month! We currently need a Treasurer and Regional Instruction Coordinator (RIC) for 2015. If you have an interest in any position on the regional council, please reach out to our Nominating Committee (see below). Also, if you have interest in positions that aren't posted, we welcome your participation as well. Let the Nominating Committee know your intentions and desires to support our wonderful organization.

The Treasurer is ideally someone who is comfortable with financial data, using Quicken (or similar accounting program), and some experience with accounting or bookkeeping. This is a job you can do from home with no expectation of being at rallies or clinics! The treasurer keeps the books for the region and prepares and presents reports at the regional meetings. This is a great job for dads too!

The RIC is ideally a USPC graduate or someone very familiar with the certification process and standards, with or without kids currently in the pony club program. This position requires a time commitment or about 10 -15 hours per month, however, if we can find support volunteers, the job can be divided. Currently the RIC is responsible for providing support and assistance to clubs and riding centers for their instruction programs, organizing annual regional standards & certifications clinic, coordinating and organizing national level testings hosted by the region, supporting club level testings, and planning and preparing for regional clinics (H-B, Show Jumping, cross-country, etc.). This position requires someone passionate about pony club, good at organizing and planning, very knowledgeable of the USPC standards and certifications, and excellent communication skills.

Perhaps you'd like to do some of the aspects of the RIC position, but not all? If we can get a few people interested in dividing the job, all the better! We still need a RIC but maybe a group could take on the various aspects of the position.

If you are interested in any of these positions, or know someone should be considered, please reach out to our nominating committee:

*Pamela Smith (stables@sereneacres.com),
Nicole Gnozzio (mgnozzio@msn.com), and
Diane Fanta (mareboss@aol.com).*

Games Rally & Halloween Costume Parade

Submitted by Jennifer Carpenter

On Saturday, November 1, 2014 the Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club will host the VRPC 2015 Games Rally Costume Parade at Great Meadow, The Plains. This



one-day trailer rally will be both fun and educational as well as serve as the Region's qualifying rally for USPC Championships to be held in Lexington, VA, in July 2015.

Suited for all ages and abilities, the youngest riders have fun and learn to ride effectively at the same time. C advisors can assist the non-qualifying Walk-Trot division both in the HM area and in the arena, by leading and assisting.

Riding mounted games builds confidence, balance, and riding skills by focusing on accomplishing the game. Experienced games riders and their ponies learn to go obediently in racing lanes away from the group, ride up to barrels, wait for the rider's commands, ride with one hand and without stirrups, reach for ground pick ups, mount independently and efficiently, vault onto their ponies, work well in hand, and not be afraid of loud noises like popping balloons and music.

Games offers the youngest pony club members the opportunity to ride at USPC Championships starting at age 10, D-2 minimum certification for Junior division. Seniors are thru age 18 and D-3 FL minimum certification. Advanced pairs are 18-25 year old pony club members certified C-1 FL and up.

To help you get started, come to Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club Open Games Practices, Saturday mornings October 11 and 18 at Great Meadow, The Plains, and Saturday, October 26 at Franklin Park riding arena, 17501 Franklin Park Rd., Purcellville.

You don't need to be on a team, just bring your pony or horse and come learn how to play the games. You rarely outgrow your beloved pony for games. Riders under 117 lbs. can ride small ponies and under 150 lbs. can ride medium ponies. Keep him fit and try a fun team riding sport.

See the invitation on [the Nov 1 entry of our calendar](#) on the VRPC website or contact cwpcdc@gmail.com.

Polocrosse Strong in the Virginia Region

Submitted by Jennifer Carpenter

This year more than 15 pony club members from three clubs in our region participated in polocrosse activities including the April Fun Day, camp clinics,



instructional practices, a Multi Region Rally, five eastern zone American Polocrosse Association tournaments and USPC Championships. Baker W. of the Virginia Region champs team is headed to Santa Fe, NM, for the APA National Championships next weekend.

VRPC will be competing at the Carolina Region Polocrosse and Dressage Rally, November 22 at Carolina Horse Park, Raeford NC. See the invitation on the VRPC calendar or contact cwpcdc@gmail.com to participate.

Want to learn more? Attend the USPC National Meeting in January to learn more about polocrosse in unmounted workshops. Or invite a polocrosse player to give an unmounted ground school session during the winter to your club.

That's all for now! I hope to see you at Games Rally!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Lorenzen, RS
The Virginia Region Pony Clubs

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