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AND MORE!
Meredith Baker and Jessica Barker, were elected as full voting members on the Board of Governors. Jessica is also the Chair of the National Youth Board (NYB). The NYB has reached its goal, becoming fully functional with appointed members from the regions/areas and approved by the BoG. Jessica will be the conduit to give NYB’s input directly to the Board during the BoG meetings.

Additionally, I have encouraged the chairs of the various BoG level committees to seek out committee members as well as input from our entire volunteer base. Better information flow can do so much to better serve the members, and they deserve the best. Thanks to all our volunteers for all they do for Pony Club.

Tom Adams, USPC President
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2009—the Year in Review

- 2009 started with a great Annual Meeting in Greenville, South Carolina.
- USPC has 43 regions with 585 clubs and 55 Centers.
- During 2009 USPC reached a total of 10,185 members which is a 7% drop in membership from 2008. We all recognize that the economy played a large role in last years decrease in membership.
- 696 of our members were served by the USPC Riding Center Program and we saw a 25% increase in Center Members. Going forward, the USPC Center model that enables families to involve their children in Pony Club without the initial financial commitment to horse ownership shows promise to be a very strong program. Additionally, as space for horses becomes more expensive and limited, the Riding Center concept may well become important to the entire equestrian community.
- Testing was also impacted by the economy. We saw a decrease in the number of members taking National Level ratings. However, we are encouraged that the pass rates stayed within the same ranges. The H-B and H/H-A ratings continue to be well attended and have excellent pass rates.
- Instruction continued their commitment to Instructor Continuing Education and organized two USEA Instructor Certification Workshops at Penrose Farm in Tenn.

These workshops were supported by the USPC Brennan Fund, which helps make these valuable opportunities available to USPC instructors and upper level members.

Member activities:

- In July 711 participants attended USPC Championships East at the Virginia Horse Center.
- In August the Northwest Region hosted the USPC Pacific Coast Championships (photo below) and 284 members participated.
- At the Pacific Coast Championships Barbara Sweet and Connie Riker tested a new organizational model for Championships; they deserve a special thank you for providing a very successful Championships experience for west coast members.
- During 2009 USPC members participated in a number of special programs
  - The Eventing Grande Prix Award afforded the opportunity for 7 members to take part in a trip to Ireland.
  - Our Games team traveled to Canada for the International Exchange.
  - We sent 8 members on 2 teams to Canada to participate in the North American Quiz Exchange.
  - USPC was well represented by members participating in the Prince Philip Cup competition in conjunction with the Rolex Kentucky 4-Star Event.
  - A number of USPC members participated in Lendon Gray’s Dressage4Kids and members participated in the USEF Pony Jumper finals, earning a team bronze medal and individual silver medal.
• 2009 saw the culmination of a 6-year Strategic Planning initiative. This process included research, self-examination and involved all of the stake holder groups of Pony Club. Using the information gained, the USPC Board of Governors is now developing plans for the next few years.

Plans for 2010 are well under way:

• The 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in September and October at the Kentucky Horse Park affords USPC a unique opportunity to promote our organization and the wonderful opportunities that are available to our members.

• Pony Club members will be involved in a variety of ways. Our members will perform in Dressage and Games demonstrations and Pony Club members will be involved with the American Polocrosse Association demonstration as well.

• 25 Pony Club members will be ribbon and medal presenters at all of the awards ceremonies during the Games. There will be opportunities for Pony Club members to be youth ambassadors and demonstrate their knowledge and abilities as they greet visitors who come to the USPC National Headquarters.

• The enthusiasm of members all across the country to be involved in the WEG 2010 has been tremendous. We hope to help everyone feel part of the Games and the experiences of the members attending by including everyone via the internet. We envision video cams that will share some of the activities in which USPC members will participate.

• As a partner organization with the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, USPC is carrying beautiful co-branded merchandise. Please check out these items that are available in our Bookstore.

A word of thanks:

I would like to thank the USPC National Office Staff; they are an outstanding group of people. In this last year of financial uncertainty, they have worked tirelessly to help USPC keep costs down and continue to serve our members and leaders.

In closing, I would like to recognize all District Commissioners and Center Administrators across the country. You have the most important role in making Pony Club a wonderful experience for the members.

Peggy Entrekin, USPC Executive Director
About 70 participants came to watch and ride. There were interesting demonstrations from a variety of horse sports including: a roping demonstration, a dressage quadrille with Welsh Cobs, a reining demonstration, a mustang rescue and training expert, a Standardbred horse breeder that demonstrated driving and riding, a Pony Club rally tack room set up, a competition vaulting team, and a miniature horse driving demonstration.

There were also a large variety of clinics to choose from including: roping, reining, dressage, vaulting, ground work, show jumping, halter showmanship, trail riding, a trail obstacle course, Tetrathlon shooting, and mounted shooting. I wasn’t able to ride because I worked as a volunteer, but I was able to do some unmounted clinics. My favorite was probably the roping class or the shooting class. Of course, I also loved the great lunch that the veterinary group provided for the Fun Day. The clinicians and demonstrators donated their time for our fund-raiser and came from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. A lot of the money that came from this event came from the silent auction baskets that were donated by clubs in our region. There were so many people who worked hard to make this day really fun and educational, but none of it would have happened without the generosity and work from the McKinlay Peters Vet Group.

Our region is going to use the money that was earned to help fund scholarships to National Youth Congress, Championships, upper level prep clinics, and land conservation projects.
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Dear Editor

I have to express my pride in our organization and the outstanding display and exhibition the Pony Club had at our recent Agricultural Fair. Demonstrating the theme of the fair, “Healthy Food and a Safe Environment make Sense,” our St. Croix booth showed the similarity and importance between good nutrition and exercise for both humans and horses. Serving the judges carrot juice was just the icing on the cake. Comments from the judges regarding the depth of knowledge and maturity of our members were repeated by the judges to others. Emma (H-B), Sheela (D-1) and Duncan (D-2) were very confident and informative when being interviewed. The booth was awarded 1st place in the Educational field.

I wish I could describe our third place saw horse project. The other schools and art classes might have had more beautiful displays—but no one—no one could say that the horse had an unused piece of whatever in it. Everything was recycled (one of the requirements). The colon (guts): stocking filled and twisted with rags, the heart was an old red pocket book; but what took the cake were the old car parts making up the bones and joints of the legs; plastic water bottles made the head; the stomach was an old Purina feed bag (how perfect); worn out mops became the horse’s mane and tail; plastic fan covers were the rib cages; old soda cans made up the spinal cord and so forth.

I thought this picture (above) might start your day out with a smile.

Bettye Skeoch, DC

---

Dear Editor:

I thought I would take an opportunity to share the attached drawing and a story with you. I graduated from Mendon Pony Club, having grown up in Honeoye Falls, New York. My husband and I have lived in Indiana now for 18 years; 14 of them I have been Jr-DC for the Wabash Valley Pony Club. My daughter, Katie, is 6 and is a member of our club. This spring, with the leadership of our Pony Club parents, we have really embraced the badge program for our Junior Pony Club members.

Attached is a drawing my daughter made during dinner at a restaurant we went to earlier this week. You can tell she’s been studying pony parts and markings; all parts are carefully labeled with arrows and her version of abbreviations (e.g., “FL” = front leg and “B” is “blaze” and “D” is for “dock”). I was particularly intrigued by her drawing of how to measure a horse—it’s in hands of course—stacked on top of each other.

Anyway, I just thought I’d share.

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Choose a knowledgeable insurance agent with a reputable company that understands horses and the horse industry.

Everyone is feeling the effects of the struggling economy, and many of us are trying to trim expenses. One place you might look to trim—or cut entirely—is insurance. It is one of those complicated, often misunderstood topics that most people would prefer to avoid. Does it make sense to trim or cut it out? That depends upon your ability to assume risk and pay out of your pocket if something untoward happens. A solid understanding of how insurance relates to you as a horse owner will help you make better decisions about your insurance needs.

What is Insurance?

Investorwords.com describes insurance as “a promise of compensation for specific potential future losses in exchange for a periodic payment. Insurance is designed to protect the financial well-being of an individual, company, or other entity in the case of unexpected loss.”

Basically, you pay a premium to an insurance company in case something happens that’s too expensive for you to handle. The company, of course, is betting that the odds are in their favor and that nothing will happen.

Sounds simple, right? Not exactly.

There is a host of insurance options available, and insurance is definitely a case in which you need to understand the fine print. Rarely are policies “cookie-cutter,” and you must customize them to cover your unique situation.

Insurance is all about what is covered and what is not. Insurers who cater specifically to horse-owning clients are going to know what risks horses and equestrian activities involve and can ask questions to make sure all activities, equipment, and properties are covered to your satisfaction. There are many companies throughout the United States that offer equine insurance. That means you can shop around and make sure you are getting the best price and coverage for your specific situation.

Joe Browne Nicholson of Nicholson Insurance Agency Inc., in Lexington, Ky., notes, “We have been noticing property insurance inquiries about increasing deductibles in order to lower premiums.” He said people are looking for the best ways to spend their limited funds effectively. “Agents are responding to inquiries and meeting with clients more often to make sure their coverage meets their needs.”

General Liability Insurance

Unfortunately, our society today has become litigious, meaning folks are prone to engage in lawsuits. Owners need to protect themselves in the event someone decides to sue them for something they allege a horse has done or a mishap that happens on the horse property.

Private horse owner policy An individual horse owner might be covered by a homeowner’s policy for equine liability. Many policies limit the coverage offered, or it might not be included at all. Anytime your horse comes in contact with other people or their property, you are at risk. An advantage of having a private horse owner policy is that it covers you on or off your property, so if you are at a horse show and your horse kicks someone or gets loose and causes an injury, you are covered. This policy would also cover you in the event your...
Any horse owner needs to protect the assets on the farm as well. Property insurance will cover the physical property on your farm, such as your home, barns, sheds, equipment, etc. For the small farm owner, you might be able to cover this under your homeowner’s policy. For commercial operations you will probably want to purchase a commercial property policy. Some companies allow you to purchase packages that cover your liability and personal property.

Again, it is important that you fully disclose all that you want to insure. In most cases if it is not listed, it is not covered! You will want to make sure your policy covers fire, wind, lightning, and theft. Be sure to complete an inventory of your possessions so they will be covered. Please note that if you are running a commercial business, you will need commercial auto insurance on vehicles used conducting business.
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Mortality Insurance

Now you have covered your legal risks and your facility. What about the horses? Often the horses represent a major investment. “Mortality insurance covers that investment in the event a horse dies or is stolen,” says Nicholson. “This is a parallel to human life insurance. The premise behind mortality insurance is to insure the horse for its current market value. We have recently undergone a shift in the marketplace, so agents are now trying to review with clients the current value of their horses so as to not over insure.”

Julie Fershtman, Esq., an attorney based in Farmington Hills, Mich., notes that not all companies are the same and not all policies are the same in her article, “Important Aspects of Equine Mortality Insurance,” found online at equispec.com. Even if you are “shopping around,” you might not be comparing apples to apples. She recommends looking at the company that backs the insurance policy. Most often this is not the company with which you are applying. Make sure it is well-rated through a group like A.M. Best Company (www3.ambest.com/ratings). You want to be sure the company pays like it promises.

Read the policy carefully and understand your duties under the policy, including things such as timely notification of the horse’s illness, injury, or death. It is important that you comply with your side of the contract in order to be paid.

Companies sell mortality insurance with a variety of endorsements, such as major medical and surgical, surgical only, full loss of use, external injury loss of use, stallion infertility (against accident, sickness, and disease), territorial limits (including international transit), third-party liability, and more. The options can be dizzying, and some are cost-prohibitive for the average horse owner.

Major medical coverage is the most popular insurance addition available. With advances in medical technology have come increasing prices for care. A hospital stay for a horse can cost thousands of dollars. The major medical endorsement kicks in at this time to cover expenses such as surgery or hospital stays, much like our own health care coverage. It will not cover routine preventive care, but it can keep you from a financial crisis in the event of a major medical problem.

Nicholson notes, “We have seen more people considering major medical endorsements because they are generally a good investment compared to costs incurred.” However, he adds, “major medical is generally not offered for racehorses, as it is cost-prohibitive.”

Take-Home Message

The options for equine insurance are diverse and can be complicated. Choose a knowledgeable agent with a company that understands horses and the industry. You and your agent can decide what your risks are and what you are comfortable “self-insuring.”

It’s a balancing act and somewhat of a gamble, but it can help you be prepared for the unimaginable events and emergencies that can arise.

Tips from the Pros

My daughter got this tip from another Pony Club member on how to make foot and boot ‘trees’ for her tall boots:

She uses kitty litter (the scented dust free kind) in a tall sock (hers are outgrown soccer socks) Not only does it keep the form of the boot by filling it well toe to top, but also keeps them fresh and dry. Very handy after long wet days.

Theresa Lehn, DC, Lakeville Pony Club, New York Upper CT Region
Sole-Guard™ offers effective protection and support for the unshod foot. Simply fill the bottom of the foot with Sole-Guard creating a protective coating that bonds to the foot for three weeks*. Use Sole-Guard when transitioning away from shoes, riding in rough terrain, or to comfort later term brood mares.

*NOTE: Weather and local conditions may cause slight variations.
Money Saving Tips for Horse People
by Amber Heintzberger, graduate H-A from Greenville Foothills Pony Club, Carolina Region; reprinted with permission from Equestrian Magazine

Let’s face it: horses aren’t the cheapest hobby or business around. As the old joke goes, “What’s the quickest way to get a million dollars with horses? …Start with two million!” Unfortunately there isn’t a 12-step program for “horse addiction” just yet, but before you hand over your already maxed-out credit card, here are some tips for how to rein in your equestrian budget.

Owning versus Leasing
First off, riding does not mean that you actually have to own a horse. Many top professionals ride horses that belong to other people. There are many reasons that owners look for a rider: their horse’s talent exceeds their own ability, they are physically unable to ride the horse, or they simply enjoy taking part from the sidelines.

Alternatively, look around for a lesson barn with school horses. Not all school horses are old, worn-out walk-trot horses that can only go in circles nose-to-tail with their buddies. Some barns have Grand Prix jumpers and dressage schoolmasters available, and there is no better teacher than a horse that has “been there and done that.”

A lease or half-lease is also an option. In a half lease you and the owner or other lessee split the costs; lease agreements can vary, with the owner of the horse paying all or part of the horse’s expenses, or with the person leasing the horse paying expenses as well as a lease fee in some cases.

If you own a talented competition horse that you cannot afford to maintain yourself, you might consider organizing a syndicate, or group of owners. This entails legal and financial aspects for which you should seek professional guidance.

Make a Plan
Planning your training and competition schedules will help you achieve your goals more effectively and efficiently than just letting things happen. Creating an outline of your goals and how you plan to reach them can save time and money when you start taking lessons and competing.

Western trainer Turk Green of Athens, Georgia suggested, “Students should maximize lessons by having specific goals or areas of focus. With this approach you cut back on the number of lessons needed.”

As you plan your competition schedule, get out a calendar so you know which shows are when, and figure out their locations so that you don’t end up driving long distances unnecessarily.

The Sweat Ethic
Ask your barn manager if you can work off some board by mucking stalls or feeding horses on a full or part-time basis. Adult Amateur and mother of two Lisa Thomas of Oley, Pennsylvania feeds all the horses at her barn several times a week on a rotational basis with other boarders in order to reduce her board payments.

Maybe you’re great at taking photos, doing carpentry, or you have a truck that’s useful for hauling things around. Horse people often have dogs and horses that need feeding when they’re out of town; maybe you can offer pet-sitting services. If you’re good with kids, perhaps you can baby sit for your trainer. It never hurts to ask!

Grooming DIY
Having your horse professionally clipped can cost upwards of a hundred dollars, which is equivalent to buying a good pair of clippers once. Get an experienced friend or professional to give you some pointers and be sure to get your blades sharpened regularly and you can keep your horse sleek and shiny with your very own clippers.
Braiding takes some practice and nimble fingers, but it’s a skill that anyone can master. There are a variety of techniques and materials for creating different styles of braids, so decide which look you’re after and then seek advice from an expert.

Green said, “If you learn how to braid and clip on your own and you can save anywhere from $35 to $100 per horse per show.”

Braiding can even be a lucrative side business: if your skills are good enough, why not post a sign at your next show and make some extra money braiding horses for people who have not learned how?

Homemade Recipes

A search on the Internet can reveal money-saving recipes for fly spray, liniment, hoof and coat polish. These can indeed be thrifty alternatives to store-bought products, but make sure that you get the formula from a reputable source, follow the directions carefully, and patch test the product to make sure it does not irritate your horse’s skin.

Farrell said that she has been painting vegetable oil on her gelding’s hooves for years. “When the ground got really dry and most horses’ hooves were falling apart, my farrier complimented me on the fact that my horse’s feet were still in great shape,” she said.

One example of a homemade product potentially gone wrong is the fly spray recipe that includes citronella oil; this means the essential oil, not the petroleum product (lantern oil) with citronella scent added. These are very different products and you will have very different results if you use the wrong one!

Quality riding equipment can last a lifetime when well cared for. Consignment tack shops and websites like eBay and Craig’s List can be valuable sources for reasonably priced equipment. You can sell your old gear, as long as it is in good condition and safe to use, and make a little money while you’re at it.

If you just need a tax write-off, why not donate your old tack and clothing? Grand Prix rider Georgina Bloomberg of Wellington, Florida found a closet full of old riding clothes in her father’s house in New York, which prompted her to organize The Rider’s Closet, a charitable organization where people can donate used riding clothes which are then distributed to Intercollegiate riding programs.

Tack swaps are a convenient way to clear out your tack room and score some new equipment without breaking the bank. Talk to someone at your local riding club or Pony Club, or just get a group of friends together to organize a tack swap – you can arrange it like a yard sale or literally swap things you don’t need any more for someone else’s old stuff.

Maintaining your equipment is protecting your investment. Pony Club instructor Janna Bankston-Ritacco said, “I found a shoe repair guy that fixes all my leather stuff so that any time a horse breaks something it can be mended for usually less than $10 instead of having to buy a whole new piece of equipment. He even does blanket repairs for me.”

Share the Load

Save money by trailering with a friend to a show or lesson and splitting the cost of fuel, or even sharing a semi-private lesson with someone who rides at a similar level. If you travel out of town with your horse, try to share a hotel room or even stay with a friend or acquaintance – not only will you save the cost of a hotel room, you might have a lot of fun.

Another way to share is to buy horse care products in bulk, and split the products (and the cost) with a friend or fellow boarder. Bigger purchases can be split, too: don’t have room to store an entire truckload of hay? Split it with a couple of friends and save big when you buy directly from the grower.

Reuse and Recycle

Manure happens. It can be a pain to get rid of, or it can be a useful commodity.

Continued on page 48
Mystery Code

The answers are on page 42.

Puzzles are taken from “The Giant Book of HorseFun” written by Lee Smith-Moir. Check out www.horsefun.com for more games!
made outstanding contributions to equestrian competition while exemplifying exceptional talent, sportsmanship and dedication. After reviewing the many candidates nominated for one of the USEF's highest honors, the Awards Committee selected the young equestrian who exceeded the demanding qualification criteria.

McManamy, 18, from Templeton, CA, is bringing positive attention to competition in the sport of Eventing. With consistent skill and maturity in the three disciplines of dressage, cross-country and show jumping, the numerous successes in her young career are quite notable. In 2009, at the Adequan FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships, McManamy was the Individual Gold medalist in the CCI**, and she, along with her team from Area VI, won the CCI** Team Gold. This year, she also took home reserve honors in the Young Horse Event Series in the five-year-old division at Galway Downs.

Not only has McManamy excelled in equine sports, she is also a community leader and star in the classroom. McManamy also started a non-profit organization in which she will be retraining young, off-the-track Thoroughbreds for other meaningful performance careers while raising awareness in the breed. Also, in a venture that comes straight from her heart, McManamy hopes to pay tribute to her late father by establishing The Marcel Fortney Iron Horse Award in each of the USEA Areas. This award will be given to the highest placing Young Rider in each Area, and has already been implemented in Area VI. McManamy’s parents taught her that riding is a luxury that she has to earn, and that she must maintain a 4.0 GPA

**In the News**

**Member Teaching at Mount Holyoke**

Meredith Baker, H-A, Redland Hunt Pony Club, Maryland Region, was featured on the Mount Holyoke web site: “…Under the instruction of Meredith Baker ’11, an experienced dressage freestyle rider, and Paula Pierce, director of the MHC Equestrian Center, five determined riders learned the basics of freestyle and created their own routines, which they performed on the last day of class.”

According to Baker, the choice of music is critical to the success of the freestyle. “Horses definitely respond to music. Some horses like certain music and dislike other music.” She half-jokingly cautioned the class not to choose music they really like. “You have to listen to it so often you'll never want to hear it again,” she said.

Baker did her first freestyle at a national U.S. Pony Club competition seven years ago and has since done three more. “I learned how to create my own freestyles because it’s really expensive to have a professional do it for you,” she said. “So I got a cheap music editing program and went to a workshop and took it from there.”

Baker supervised a marathon music session in the Dwight media lab.

For Jake, a big-boned, gray veteran of the College’s dressage program, Emme Johnston ’10, captain of the MHC dressage team, chose several movie theme songs, including battle music from The Chronicles of Narnia. “That music fits Jake perfectly,” Baker said. Indeed, when Jake’s music came over the loudspeakers, his ears pricked up and he seemed to stand proudly at attention. As Johnston and Jake performed their freestyle on the last day of class, the impression was nothing less than majestic. “He looked like a war horse going into battle,” said Pierce.

**USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year**

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) selected Maxance McManamy, B-Traditional, Black Oaks Pony Club, Middle California Region, as the 2009 USEF Junior Equestrian of the Year.

McManamy, 18, from Templeton, CA, is bringing positive attention to competition in the sport of Eventing. With consistent skill and maturity in the three disciplines of dressage, cross-country and show jumping, the numerous successes in her young career are quite notable. In 2009, at the Adequan FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships, McManamy was the Individual Gold medalist in the CCI**, and she, along with her team from Area VI, won the CCI** Team Gold. This year, she also took home reserve honors in the Young Horse Event Series in the five-year-old division at Galway Downs.

Not only has McManamy excelled in equine sports, she is also a community leader and star in the classroom. McManamy also started a non-profit organization in which she will be retraining young, off-the-track Thoroughbreds for other meaningful performance careers while raising awareness in the breed. Also, in a venture that comes straight from her heart, McManamy hopes to pay tribute to her late father by establishing The Marcel Fortney Iron Horse Award in each of the USEA Areas. This award will be given to the highest placing Young Rider in each Area, and has already been implemented in Area VI. McManamy’s parents taught her that riding is a luxury that she has to earn, and that she must maintain a 4.0 GPA

continues on page 20
to compete. So far, she has done just that.

To qualify for the Junior Equestrian of the Year award, a young equestrian must have competed at USEF recognized shows over the past year while displaying good sportsmanship and integrity. The winner is also someone who has excelled and has willingly given back to their sport.

**Double Gold for Pony Club Member at the North American Junior Young Riders Championships**

For Nicole DelGiorno, B-Dressage, Shore Riders Pony Club, Delmarva Region, 2009 was a most successful year. At the North American Junior Young Riders Championships, in Lexington, KY, she was the individual gold medalist, the musical freestyle gold medalist, and she was also a member of the bronze medal team.

Her successful year also garnered the 5th place overall award at the USEF Festival of Champions, two first place awards at the Northeast Dressage Association competition for the FEI team competition and musical freestyle. She was also awarded ‘best presentation’ for her FEI jog. At Dressage at Devon in September, she won the FEI junior individual competition and received the ‘best female turnout’ award for her FEI jog.

In a letter to Dressage Committee chair Betsy LaBelle, Nicole wrote how Pony Club was a big part of her success. “I could wrap, I could fit tack, I could groom to the nines, I could follow directions, I could tell immediately if a horse was slightly off or feeling under the weather—in short, I could…and did… care for the horses. That’s what Pony Club teaches us.”

**Maggie Sullivan Wins National Title**

The American Driving Society (ADS) has announced the winner of its 2009 Youth Championship. Maggie Sullivan, C-2, Glastonbury Pony Club, New York/Upper Connecticut Region, has been named the USA’s top youth competitor in combined driving.

Maggie, 17, shows her 14-year-old Norwegian Fjordhorse mare, Riena, at the Intermediate level. Young drivers from all over the U.S. and Canada submitted scores for consideration.

Combined driving events (CDEs) are modeled after the more familiar ridden sport of 3-day eventing, with carriage drivers proving their horse’s athleticism, grace, and level of training through three phases of competition. “Riena loves to perform,” says Maggie. “Her favorite phase is definitely the marathon, which is a cross-country test of speed, endurance, and agility.”

Team Riena won this national title as a result of scoring 103.48 penalties at the Green Mountain Horse Association (GMHA) in South Woodstock, VT in August 2009. “We’re especially excited that Maggie’s GMHA score was the winning score,” says her mother, Ann Sullivan. “GMHA is a favorite venue for the whole family, and this year the extreme weather contributed to the difficulty of the competition with torrential rains, or epic mud.”

The champion is eligible for an ADS Grant of up to $750 for attendance at an ADS Youth Clinic or similar event in 2010. She “will also receive a special sports jacket showing [her] championship,” reads the announcement by ADS judge and founder of the Youth Championship, Hardy Zantke of CA.

Sullivan spends weekends and school vacations training in Massachusetts and Vermont, hiring herself out as a working student in order to offset tuition costs. “We’re very happy to see Maggie receive this recognition; she puts a lot of work into training and conditioning the pony,” says her father, Ed Sullivan.

Maggie’s 2010 goal? She’s setting her sights on the Junior World Cup in Hungary. “I have to convince the ADS to field a youth team for the very first time. The Europeans and the UK have an established youth program. We’re just in the beginning stages here in the U.S., and our new youth championships are a good start,” Maggie plans to begin competing at the Advanced level.
this year as well, “My pony's FEI (Federation Equestre Internationale) passport is almost ready.”

“She's a wonderful kid, with a wonderful pony; they're a great combination,” says Robin Groves of VT, U.S. singles team member who coaches Maggie and Riena.

**Steve Symansky Awarded USEA’s Governors Cup**

Steve Symansky, a long time Pony Club volunteer, was recognized within Area II and nationally by winning the coveted “USEA Governor's Cup” for outstanding service due to his endless energy to support eventing, competitors and horses from USEA Horse Trials, to Pony Club combined tests and rallies. In the photo above, Kevin Baumgartner presented Steve with the trophy at the USEA annual meeting. Steve has been actively involved in Pony Club since 1987. He served numerous terms as the DC of Difficult Run Pony Club. As part of his Pony Club involvement, Steve has volunteered for both the May and August Difficult Run HT for 20 years and for the last 14 years he has served as the secretary. This Horse Trial is DRPC’s fundraiser.

In addition to Pony Club, he is an anchor for many Virginia horse trials and he is also seen in Florida and the Carolina’s helping out. Steve either runs or trains other volunteer teams for scoring and secretary duties. He is often seen at Middleburg, Rubicon, Seneca, CDCTA, VA Horse Trails. His scoring computer program is posted on the USEA website and has been sent all over the country, and he has a special for Pony Club rallies.

Both Steve's children have been active in USPC. Steve and his wife, Joan, reside in Middleburg, VA, with their daughter, Lynn (graduate A) who events at the advanced level (including Rolex) and son Danny, also an eventer, foxhunter and U.S. Coast Guard Academy college student.

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Recognizing that peer-to-peer and peer-to-near-peer teaching is a basic premise of the Pony Club curriculum, we can all benefit from suggestions on how to provide teaching opportunities. Club officers and others who strive to provide teaching experiences for their members can always use new ideas to fulfill requirements.

Parents can learn from the following ideas as well.

For many Clubs, mounted lesson teaching opportunities within the Club are limited by:
- Availability of C-2 and up rated members (either none have attained the rating or they are away at school, jobs, etc.)
- Distrust of peer teaching by parents or members,
- Challenges in communicating the relevance and importance of members teaching members.

These limitations can be overcome. The importance of members receiving and giving instruction in their peer group is paramount to good Pony Club experiences.

What if your club recruited member instructors from neighboring clubs or nearby regions? This will provide a larger instructor pool and greater scheduling possibilities. It will also bring fresh instruction from a person who is not identified as “I’ve known Suzie since she was a D-1 and couldn’t even post the trot.” It will give your youngsters more upper level members to look up to. There is a potentially untapped pool of valuable instruction “in your own backyard.”

The Visiting Instructor Program seeks B, H/H-A and A rated members who have some good teaching experience and want to do more and travel. Teaching in their local region is a great way to gain confidence and experience as a step toward the VI Program. Every upper level member becomes more prepared for future ratings with the experience of teaching a variety of students.

Let this encourage you to contact nearby clubs (including clubs in the next region) for suggestions of C-2 and up members who can provide mounted instruction for your club. Even the clubs and regions that have access to amazing professional instructors can offer opportunities for your upper level members who will be the future adult professionals. You are encouraged to give your upper level members the chance to observe (in the ring, at the shoulder of the professional) the teaching of these fabulous role models. Consider offering a “Teaching to Teach” clinic in your region or cluster of clubs.

As we all know, Pony Club offers the most well-rounded equestrian and Horse Management curriculum of any equine program. Give your upper level members the chance to reach their potential as ambassadors for Pony Club by giving them all the teaching opportunities you can find.

EDITOR’S NOTE: If a club in your region has a Horsemasters group, another potential for teaching opportunity exists. Teaching adults also gives members experience—and more confidence—when preparing for upper level ratings. USPC Riding Centers also offer teaching opportunities for your members and may open up a mentoring situation with a professional instructor as well.
Where the Big Kids Go to Play
by Kimberly Knight, C & Up Camp Co-Organizer

What do you get when you combine 48 enthusiastic Pony Club members with 48 favorite mounts, 6 National Examiners as clinicians, and a fantastic facility all centrally located at a world-class horse park? That’s USPC’s C & Up Camp and National Prep at Hoosier Horse Park!

Under the long-term direction of a very determined and dedicated coordinator, Carol Bertilson, C & Up Camp has endured for 16 years. Carol says she has always aimed to “encourage reaching toward new goals without fear of criticism” into the culture of C & Up Camp and it is certainly reflected in the camp. Founded in 1994, C & Up Camp originated as an alternative to club camp for C-rated Pony Club members from just three small clubs in central Illinois. Three years later, Barb Germann, RS of North Central Prairie Region, brought her vision to C & Up Camp, inviting National Examiners to teach national prep groups for upper level kids. C & Up Camp grew and grew, until finally, at its height of attendance, it attracted some 80 campers from 11 states. Expanding the role of camp to educate both camper and instructor, Germann planned camp to offer experience to apprenticing National Examiners as both instructor and observer. Over the years, C Camp has enjoyed overwhelming loyalty from both participants and instructors; in fact, the camp has even welcomed back previous campers as instructors!

Consistent, Excellent Instruction

“The best thing about camp is staying in the same groups all week with the same instructor. This allows you to keep working on one aspect of your riding throughout the camp and in all disciplines.” – Rachel, 20, C-3 from Wisconsin

C Camp provides both instructor and student a unique opportunity for consistent, individualized instruction. Each camper is paired with one instructor, allowing both student and teacher to set goals and make specific improvements as well as develop a respectful, comfortable relationship. Riders receive consistent feedback while working toward riding goals for the week. All groups are limited in size and each camper receives individual attention from their instructor.

Each year C Camp strives to retain the talents of several fantastic, dedicated National Examiners in addition to bringing in new clinicians. Camp Co-Organizer, Kimberly Knight, says, “The consistency and knowledge...
of our returning instructors combined with the energy and enthusiasm of new instructors has allowed camp to run smoothly. Instructors and campers alike enjoy meeting new people while renewing old friendships.

“One of the things I really like about C and Up Camp is getting to see the riders progress from year to year. When we return to camp for successive years, a relationship of friendship and trust develops and grows. We share in each other’s successes and comfort each other in times of loss or setbacks. It is the development of community and we just happen to use riding and horses as the vehicle.” – Bunny Hendricks, National Examiner and Devoted C Camp Instructor.

In 2010, C Camp will offer specialty groups for Show Jumping and Dressage in addition to the traditional track and Horse Management emphasized groups. Campers preparing for an upper level rating can count on a National Examiner focused on helping them reach their goals while setting realistic expectations. Upper level prep campers will go home with notes from their lessons. They also have a chance to teach lessons to one another with feedback from a National Examiner.

Friendship and Camaraderie

“What I love about C Camp is the bond that you make with the other campers. I’ve made some lifelong friends!” Allie, 16, C-1 from Michigan.

Campers at C & Up Camp range from a C-1 rated 12-year-old Pony Club, Center and Member News
When asked what has made C Camp such an enduring success, long-term organizer Carol Bertilson modestly replies, “The success of C Camp lays not so much in the hands of the planners, but in the hands and minds of the participants.”

This year the dates for USPC C & Up Camp at Hoosier Horse Park are Sunday, June 20 through Thursday June 24. Pony Club members from ANY club and region are welcome to apply. To find out more about C & Up Camp, and download an application visit www.CUpCamp.com.

**Fantastic, Centrally Located Facility**

“The best part of camp is the cross country course.” – Alec, 17, C-2 from Wisconsin

Hoosier Horse Park (HHP) is located just south of Indianapolis in Edinburgh, Indiana. HHP hosted the 1987 Pan American Games Equestrian Events and hosts over 70 equine events every year, including a USEA horse trial in May. HHP has seven arenas as well as a fabulous Cross Country course with questions from Beginner Novice to Preliminary level.

C Camp organizers work hard to keep the costs down so that Pony Club members can afford to come to Camp year after year. Tuition includes camp, stabling, housing and meals.

Campers stay in the boys’ or girls’ dorm with “Dorm Moms and Dads.” The dorms are air-conditioned and campers bring their own blow-up mattresses or cots. Showers are located a brief walk from the dorms.

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USEF’s Varsity Lettering Program for High School Equestrians

You don’t have to be a record-setting quarterback, point guard or track star to letter in high school sports anymore. The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) is writing a new chapter in the recognition of high school sports — one that honors Equestrian athletes. The USEF’s High School Equestrian Athlete program will offer specially designed emblems and pins, exclusively for equestrian athletes in grades 9-12.

“High school equestrians have earned their place among the most dedicated athletes,” shared John Long, USEF Chief Executive Officer. “Not only are they putting in long hours to train for and compete in the sport they love — they do so while taking the concept of teamwork to the highest level, forming a partnership with a horse to achieve their goals.

“Until now, most high school students haven’t had the opportunity to letter in equestrian, simply because there are so few school-sponsored programs,” Long continued. “We look forward to the beginning of a new tradition, where equestrians are able to earn the recognition they deserve, alongside their fellow athletes and classmates.”

The new High School Equestrian Athlete program is open to equestrian athletes in all breeds or disciplines who are enrolled in grades 9-12, and are currently USEF members, or become USEF members. The program will run June 1 – May 31 of each year, and will honor those who document their training and competition involvement by awarding emblems and pins. These are designed to be worn on existing high school letterman’s jackets, or any jacket of the athlete’s choosing, as a rite of passage and symbol of achievement.

This new program requires enrollment and documentation prior to lettering. For more information, or to complete an enrollment application, simply visit this link on the USEF Youth Programs page:

http://www.usef.org/documents/Youth/HighSchoolAthlete.pdf

Please note: The deadline for THIS year was March 1st; learn more about the requirements now so that you can be ready to apply next year!

For more information on the USEF’s High School Equestrian Athletes Program, please contact lfahey@usef.org.

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Find the Lucky Horseshoe and Win a Prize!

Somewhere in this issue (not in an advertisement) is a lost horseshoe. If you find it, write your name, address, age, Pony Club and rating on a postcard along with your answer and mail it to: USPC News, 4041 Iron Works Parkway, Lexington, KY 40511. If your answer is correct, you will be eligible for a drawing to win one of five prizes per issue. The winners of the Winter 2010 Lucky Horse Shoe contest (page 8) magazine: Hannah Oldford, Orchard Hills Pony Club, D-3, age 13; Sonora Lazar, Nalio Kai Pony Club, D-2, age 12; John Rowe, Greenacres Equine Center Pony Club Riding Center, D-1, age 14; Victoria Hain, Radnor Hunt Pony Club, D-2, age 14; Katie Lockhart, Keeneland Pony Club, HB, age 16
Flash Teamwork Award:
“Teamwork: An Important Life Skill”
by Silver Bits Pony Club

One of the things I have always felt was most valuable about Pony Club is its emphasis on teamwork as an important life skill, and since the inception of our little club in 2005, we have embraced that philosophy wholeheartedly.

The last 18 months have truly taught us the power of team—as a local club, within a region, and as part of the national organization of Pony Club. This is our story.

On May 25, 2008, our club had enjoyed a day of fun with Pony Club Games followed by a family barbeque for Memorial Day. We said our goodbyes, never imagining what was to come only a short time later. The skies darkened, tornado sirens blew. Most of us dashed down to our basements—as often happens in Iowa—not really believing that there would be more than a few limbs in the yard to pick up when we got the all-clear.

The first call came from Pony Club mom Lori Harrington, whose two daughters Breanna and Ashley have been with the club from the beginning. Tragically, they emerged from their basement to find nothing left. Nothing. The barn, the house, the cars—everything was gone. They rushed to the pile of rubble that had been their barn, certain that they would find all of their 5 horses dead. Miraculously, horses were seen to be alive, but trapped under the debris. Pony Club parents rushed to help with the rescue. With chainsaws nearly touching the ponies’ faces at times, they were finally freed—only to find that both Ashsley and Breanna’s ponies Max and Misty were so horrible injured that they immediately had to be put down. Lori’s horse was found with minor scratches; another pony was found badly injured in the debris, while the last was found suffering cuts and scratches more than half a mile away. All of the surviving horses were transported through what looked like a war zone to our DC Bridget Bryson’s farm, not far away.

While this drama was unfolding, another Silver Bits family was affected as well. As with the Harringtons, members Michael and Elizabeth Huntley’s home and barn were completely destroyed. Knowing that the Huntsley’s were out of town and terrified of what they would find, Pony Club parents Lesley Taylorson and Miah Lehr made the agonizingly slow and dangerous trip with a trailer, through downed power cables and debris, to check for surviving ponies. Seeing the awful destruction at the Huntley’s home, they feared the worst. Tragically, the Huntley’s lost ponies as well, but they found little Brody—badly injured, but alive.

The word was put out to Silver Bits families to check on farms of members past and present that were in the path of the EF5 tornado. In the aftermath of the storm (which destroyed hundreds of houses and killed 8 people and countless animals), the club pulled together in a way which, looking back, makes us swell with pride and admiration for each other, and gratitude toward USPC as a whole.

As the days and weeks passed, the Brysons and Taylorsons nursed the severely injured ponies. They had to deal with huge chunks of muscle missing, lacerations to the bone, shock, depression, pain—sometimes wondering if the ponies would pull through. Stephanie Bryson, C-I, daughter of Bridget, spent many hours in the barn dressing and redressing wounds. Every day the ponies looked better—and they continue to improve to this day. Wounds that we could not imagine could ever heal are healing amazingly well because of the dedication and caring of members of our club.

The club came together in other ways as well. Phone calls from Silver bits families poured in with offers of help, clothing, money, vet supplies and just to be a supportive ear. Bridget toyed with the idea of asking the Region for help—putting together a modest list of needs; the response from clubs was “what can we do?” A phone call of notification to USPC headquarters was made, and the support from HQ was immediate. Members from the club put a list together, hoping that the family atmosphere of USPC that we experience here in Iowa would bring much needed help. The response was immediate. It brought tears to our eyes seeing the flood of donations that came first as a trickle, and then as a deluge. Through the kindness of other Pony Clubs, the 4 little Pony Club members who lost all they had were outfitted with everything they could ever dream of—even new ponies.

Lori Harrington said it best when she commented that, “Maybe the sweetest thing has been all the
heartfelt hugs and the real gratitude on their faces at the first sight of both of our families alive! It is an amazing feeling when you realize the [Silver Bits] families care about each other so much.”

Over the year and a half that have followed, this feeling of team and family has grown; and with it, so has our cub. New members have shared that one of the best things about Silver Bits is the atmosphere of ‘sharing and caring. We know that the lessons learned have changed us all. After the events of that dreadful summer, we believe that we can truly say that we have learned the true meaning of teamwork. We have lived it and we continue to do so as our membership has grown closer and closer and continue to be influenced by the amazing lessons that we learned.

Should we win the Flash Teamwork Award, we feel that it would be an award to everyone in Pony Club. What other organization would work together to help complete strangers, so far away, just because we have a common bond? Pony Club proved that it not only teaches teamwork, but lives it, every single day.

We feel that the Flash Teamwork Award would be an award to everyone in Pony Club.

Second Place: Sizzlin’ Champagne—the Best Pony Club Pony in the World, by Portola Valley Pony Club, Middle California Region

Third Place: Cisco, by Silver Stirrups Pony Club in the Red River Region

Honorable Mention: A Picture Says 1000 Words, by Peace Point Pony Club Riding Center, Tri State Region

Teamwork is What it is All About! by Autumn Ridge Pony Club in the New Jersey region

We’re Lucky for Liberty, by the members of Sandia Creek Ranch Pony Club Riding Center, Southern California Region

We feel that the Flash Teamwork Award would be an award to everyone in Pony Club.

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What a year, and what a journey I have had. I am Jessica Hainsworth, a C-1 in the Genesee Valley Pony Club. I love dressage, and have had a great partner in my 10-year-old paint mare named Monday’s Child. We have been competing together for a few years and this year our goal was to compete at the USPC Championships in Virginia. I qualified, and had a great time there, but that was just the beginning of my journey. I found out that I had been selected to represent USPC at the Youth Dressage Festival in early summer, and what an experience it was!

I want to thank Pony Club for sponsoring a team to go to the Youth Dressage Festival held at the HITS grounds in Saugerties, NY. It was one of the best experiences of my life! I met wonderful riders from all around the country. I had a great time being part of the USPC team, setting up our tack room, meeting everyone’s family and hearing where they were from... it was all so much fun! I had an amazing time.

My favorite memory was of riding with one of the ‘roving trainers’ who like us, were young dressage riders too, but most are now top national level Young Riders. The work that I did with my roving trainer led me to a 4th place finish in my division overall. The experience of meeting great people like Laura Aiken, Lendon Gray, and so many more who have a real love of dressage and are so tremendously supportive of young riders and their dressage goals was so moving. Even though it was my first time there, I felt like family it was such a great, kind, supportive environment. Everyone was so nice throughout the entire week, from the judges to the other competitors; it was just one of the best experiences of my life. The end of the weekend was the special awards and special classes like dressage trail, Prix Caprilli, and lead line. It was a great way to end the weekend helping my little sister Faith, a D1 in Pony Club, get my horse ready for their lead line class. She was judged by Lendon Gray and was asked lots of questions about horse knowledge, which thanks to what she has learned in Pony Club, she knew them all from where the pommel was to that my horse was a piebald paint! She came in 2nd out of about 10 kids and it was so much fun to see her enjoy the weekend as much as I did.

The dates for the 2010 Youth Dressage Festival are July 9-11, 2010. For more information, contact graydressage@optonline.net

Katherine Abrams, Sinking Creek Pony Club, Old Dominion Region; Chelsea DeMeglio, Sterling Stirrups Pony Club, Eastern Pennsylvania Region; Jessica Hainsworth, Genesee Valley Pony Club, Western New York Region; Madison Sycalik, Delaware Pony Club Delmarva Region.

My Lendon Gray Experience

by Madison Sycalik D-3, Delaware Pony Club

My pony, Scooter Pie, and I had tons of fun at the Lendon Gray Dressage For Kids Festival! I met so many new people and met many new friends while competing and volunteering. Being on the United States Pony Clubs Team was truly an honor. I met Katherine, Chelsea, and Jessica. Their horses were all great! As a team we were 4th in section A (13th overall). We also got 6th place in the tack room competition. I entered Training 4 and placed 12th. I rode a musical freestyle and got 12th which was rather impressive, I think, because all levels of dressage were judged against each other instead of by level. I entered dressage trail (walk/trot/canter) and placed 3rd. In Prix Caprilli I got 1st. Prix Caprilli was definitely the highlight of my weekend because my judge, Jill Kuc, said I got... Continued on page 48
On the Road to the WEG

by Emily A. Hogye, 13, D-3, Santa Cruz County Pony Club

I am a World Vaulting Champion. Pony Club has helped me extend my goals as an experienced horse person and will help me go even farther. I hope that you will be interested to read about my journey.

At the end of 2007 I was chosen to be on Team USA, FACE The Dark Side of the Moon, for the World Vaulting Championships, The Czech Republic, in 2008. I was the flyer (the one who gets lifted into the air). I drove to Moorpark, California, from Santa Cruz, California, 2 or 3 times per month to train all day, every day for a week or just a weekend. On the opposite weekends I attended Pony Club mounted and unmounted meetings with my pony Okie.

Our team trained vigorously through the year and qualified for the World Vaulting Championships on June 8, 2008. We left for our 2-month training adventure in Germany, Denmark, and the Czech Republic the next day at 6:00 in the morning.

Top photo: My vaulting team; I am the one on top—the flyer; below and bottom right: My Pony Club pony Okie.

When we arrived to Germany, we drove to Celle, where we stayed at the world famous Hanoverian Stud Farm Landgestut Celle. At the stud farm, we were able to tour the grounds, see all of the stallions, and watch the riders exercise the stallions stadium jumping and dressage. The riders were absolutely fabulous; 15 or more stallions would ride in one arena at a time, all in perfect order, completely controlled, walk, trot, and canter. It was a great experience. My family made friends with the owner of Landgestut, and his family, and I made friends with his daughter!

Continued on page 32
At Landgestut Celle we trained on a Hanoverian vaulting horse named Wasonero or “Nero.” He was 15 years old and 17.3 hands high, a regal chestnut gelding with a magnificent canter. We trained at the Stud Farm for 3 weeks before our first competition, which we won, at Krumke CVI*, ** Germany. Two weeks after winning Krumke, we traveled to Aachen, Germany, to compete in the Olympic Qualifcant Aachen CHIO*, **. After a few days of hard competition, we won the gold medal. We were very happy and felt extremely ready to compete in the World Vaulting Championships in the Czech Republic, in only 3 short weeks.

Things were running smoothly, but we hit a problem: Nero didn’t want to carry our team. 12 hours after driving, the Dark Side of the Moon Team got out of the big blue van at the Thomisminde Physical Therapy and Equestrian Center, Denmark, to try out the horse, Leonardo, who Megan Benjamin (Gold Women’s World Equestrian Games 2006 Gold Medalist) owned. He was the fit for us. We carried on training with Leonardo and went to the World Vaulting Championships. Our team won first place in compulsories (required exercises) and 3rd in our freestyles (free-style dance). We won the Bronze Medal. After having a day of adventure in Prague, we flew back to the USA, with medals around our necks. The week after our arrival home, we competed at the National Vaulting Championships, Watsonville, California, where we won yet another gold medal. This was a good year.

When I got home after my long summer of vaulting in Europe, I was reunited with my wonderful Welsh X Pony, Okie. We pursued dressage training and rated up to D-3. I love Pony Club. It brings people together in the horse world and makes kids so much more responsible, and much better horse people. I am thankful to have Pony Club as a part of my horse life because it is helping me excel not only as a horsey girl but as a person I will become. I am planning to major in Physical Therapy, Sports Medicine, and Equine Medicine in college and Pony Club is helping me get there!

In 2009, our team came together again to train and compete for the World Equestrian Games, Kentucky, 2010. I am the flyer again.

The F.A.C.E. Vaulting Team is very excited to be vaulting to represent the USA and the United States Pony Clubs!
As a participant in the 2009 USEF Dressage Youth/Pony Pilot Clinic, I would like to share my experience in this program. I was accepted as one of the ten riders to participate in a free, two-day clinic with Michael Barisone. Michael, a graduate H-A from Mendon Pony Club, Western New York Region, welcomed us all into his farm and encouraged us to bring fellow Pony Club members to audit... also at no cost. He made everyone feel at home for a wonderful weekend!

I am a 16-year-old C-3 in Autumn Ridge Pony Club, New Jersey Region, and I event at the preliminary level with my horse, Ice. When I got him three years ago, he was fat and out of work for 6 months and struggled to canter even once around the ring. He had limited dressage or eventing experience. I worked very hard to bring Ice up to this level and he is constantly improving even after three years.

I've never had a “been there, done that” horse, and I'm glad. Ice and I learned from and taught each other along the way. It's definitely harder learning something on a horse while you are teaching them at the same time and can get a little frustrating. But, when you work through it, it's so rewarding in the end and I think you learn so much more.

I have been to USPC Championships two consecutive years for eventing, placing in the top ten individually both years with dressage scores in the low 30s and clean cross-country and stadium rounds. Ice and I have also competed at Lendon’s Youth Dressage Festival (Dressage4Kids) for the past two years, where we placed first overall and received the highest scoring Pony Club member award in the training level division in 2007. In 2008, we attended D4K on a Pony Club grant. The USPC funded a team to compete together. Our team placed third overall.

Ice and I do mostly eventing, so Michael recognized the fact that Ice would be a little tighter and sharper than the other horses that do purely dressage. He helped us work through any problems that came up and really improved my riding. I liked the fact that Michael is so open to what you had to say and really does want to help you succeed. He had so many stories to tell and just made this whole experience so much fun.

I've had a lot of wonderful opportunities to ride with some great people to help improve my riding and achieve our goals such as Alison End, Lendon Gray, and Lucinda Green. Thanks to the scholarship from Lendon Grey and D4K, I was also able to train with Wendy Schaefer and Betsy Steiner. Participating in the Michael Barisone Clinic has pointed me in the direction I need to be heading in order to compete successfully again next year at prelim and accomplish our goal of moving up to intermediate and completing our Pony Club B rating. I love having the opportunity to ride with different people because everyone teaches differently and I can always find something to take away from my lesson that will improve my riding.

I hope that USEF continues to offer this program in the future. It is a great program to help young riders develop the necessary skills to succeed in their riding careers. I learned so much in the two days that I was there. You don't have to be just a dressage rider to take advantage of what the Youth/Pony Pilot Program has to offer. I recommend that anyone who fits the requirements send in an application, it is definitely worth it! Even if I don't get another opportunity to ride in this program, I do plan on riding with Michael again.
Spring Brings Change for Pony Club Polocrosse!

by Victoria Prince

Pony Club Polocrosse continues to expand and evolve! As more Pony Club members get involved in the sport of Polocrosse, and as the level of competition improves, several changes have found their way to the pages of the USPC Polocrosse Rulebook. In the past two years, a number of equipment options have been allowed that have Pony Club members excited!

Proper turnout for a Polocrosse horse and rider consists of a bridle with a bit with no protruding side bars (that the racquet could catch on), a breast plate, saddle, leg protection (such as polo wraps or boots that completely cover the fetlock) and bell boots. The rider must wear a helmet, a numbered team polo shirt, white or buff breeches or jeans, and riding boots. Polocrosse players also frequently chose to wear lower leg protection such as half chaps, tall boots, or gaiters and may chose to wear knee guards.

In 2009, Australian stock saddles were allowed as acceptable equipment for Polocrosse players at the Intermediate and Advanced levels. Such stock saddles must not have a horn, and must use English leathers and stirrups. While stock saddles are not required, many riders find that the design of the saddle, with thigh ‘poleys’ (an Australian term) and a deep seat, provides more support for the quick stops and turns required for upper level play. Many Pony Club members still chose to compete in a traditional English or dressage saddle, but others were excited to have the option of the stock saddle available.

Now, for 2010, another change has found its way to the Pony Club Polocrosse field. The attachment to USPC Helmet policy #0125 now permits helmets with a facemask approved by the APA to be used when mounted for USPC Polocrosse events. The APA requires that all players wear a helmet that is specifically designed for equestrian use. Players must wear a helmet that is certified as complying with the European (EN), British (PAS), North American (ASTM), Australian/New Zealand (AS/NZ), or International Organization for Standardization (ISO) testing standards for helmets used for equestrian activities.

This means that any helmet with a facemask approved under one of the above testing standard is now allowed.

2008 equipment: David Lynn, C-1 Marlborough Pony Club, Capital Region, at the 2008 USPC Championships in English saddle and ASTM/SEI helmet. Other required equipment shown: bit without a sidebar, breastplate, leg wraps, and bell boots. Other optional equipment: knee guards.

2010 optional equipment: Heidi Stroh, C-1, Huntingdon Valley Pony Club, Eastern PA Region, competing at an American Polocrosse Association sanctioned tournament in equipment that Pony Club members may now choose to use. Heidi is competing in a helmet with facemask (see inset) now allowed under USPC rules and an Australian stock saddle (an option available to Pony Club members playing at the Intermediate and Advanced level). She has also chosen to wear half chaps and knee guards.
to be used in USPC Polocrosse events. Neither the USPC nor the APA endorse any specific brand of helmet. The attachment to the helmet policy offers Pony Club members the option of wearing a facemask while playing Polocrosse. Many Polocrosse players do not wear a facemask while playing (in which case they must wear an ASTM/SEI certified helmet), but many like the protection a facemask offers from errant balls and racquets.

Modifications on qualifying for Championships: In 2009, the USPC Polocrosse Committee revisited the criteria for competing at Championships for Polocrosse and explored new ways for Pony Club members to qualify for Championships. Those changes were effective for 2009 and continue to be in effect for 2010. The age and ratings ranges for qualification are:
- Novice: D-3 & age 11; Intermediate: C-1 & age 12; Advanced: C-1 & age 13. Any equine 15h and under may compete in the pony division, and any equine 14h and over may compete in the horse division. Also, in areas where there are not enough Pony Club Polocrosse players to fill divisions for a stand-alone rally, rallies can be held in conjunction with a sanctioned Polocrosse tournament. For more information on this form of qualification, or for more info on any of the above changes, please contact USPC Polocrosse Committee Chair Jessie Reed.

Polocrosse continues to grow in leaps and bounds across the U.S. and within USPC. It’s never too late to get involved in this exciting and enjoyable sport. Check out the web sites and get in touch with Polocrosse contacts, and you’ll be surprised how quickly you’re out on the field getting in on the fun!

Key Contacts:
- Jessie Reed, USPC Polocrosse Chair: buckspolocrosse@yahoo.com
- Sarah Ferebee, APA Pony Club Liaison: poloxangel6@bellsouth.net
- Victoria Prince, APA Membership Chair: vlprince@gmail.com
- Also, you can go on the USPC or APA websites and find other contacts and clubs across the USA, etc.

Key Websites:
- American Polocrosse Association: www.americanpolocrosseassociation.com
- USPC Polocrosse: http://www.Polocrosse.ponyclub.org/ get info on upcoming events, articles, champs news, projects in the working, lesson plans, etc...

What’s New for Polocrosse?
- National & International Polocrosse Exchange Programs: This year we are putting together a low key exchange program for players that are looking to travel or compete with or against other Polocrosse players. If you are interested in traveling and playing Polocrosse, please contact Sarah, Victoria, or Jessie (contact info above). We hope that next year will be a full Polocrosse exchange; details will be announced soon.
- Rallies held in conjunction with American Polocrosse Association (APA) tournament: Last year’s trial rule about qualifying for Championships at rallies held in conjunction with an APA Sanctioned Tournament is allowed for 2010.
- The attachment to USPC Helmet policy #0125 now allows helmets approved by the APA in USPC Polocrosse competition. The APA requires that all players wear a helmet that is specifically designed for equestrian use. Players must wear a helmet that is certified as complying with the European (EN), British (PAS), North American (ASTM), Australian/New Zealand (AS/NZ), or International Organization for Standardization (ISO) testing standards for helmets used for equestrian activities. This means that the New Derby helmet, which complies with this rule and is certified to be used with an attached facemask, is now allowed in USPC Polocrosse competition. Neither the USPC nor the APA endorse any specific brand of helmet.
- Looking for something fun to do at Summer Camp? There are world class clinicians that can come to your camp and teach you Polocrosse! The World Cup Squad for 2011 is looking for ways to give back to the Polocrosse community, grow Polocrosse and raise money to compete at the World Cup. Contact the Polocrosse Chair (Jessie Reed buckspolocrosse@yahoo.com) for information.
- Speaking of the World Cup! The organizers of the 2011 Polocrosse World Cup, to be held in East Yorkshire, England, are hard at work organizing the big event. The USA is putting together its strongest team yet! The long list of players has been named, and includes a number of USPC graduates. Stay tuned for updates on these USPC grads and their teammates as trials and team selections continue.

Check out the USPC Bookstore for Paul Johnson’s Polocrosse Book. His third edition explains the rules and basics for all things Polocrosse. The book goes into serious detail about strategies and tactics for play. Item #2949 USPC Price $17.95

Spring 2010 USPC News 35
Highlights of the 2010 USPC Annual Meeting

The 2010 USPC Annual Meeting was held in Houston, Texas, this year and was a resounding success. 590 leaders, members and parents enjoyed the gracious hospitality of the Red River Region and the amenities of the JW Marriott Houston. At the banquet, 466 people listened to keynote speaker Gina Miles (U.S. Olympian silver medalist and Pony Club graduate A, Panache Pony Club, Middle California Region) share her journey from a humble start with a $170 auction pony to becoming one of the most famous riders in the world. Her speech was inspirational, moving, funny, and left the audience proud to be part of an organization that helped her along the way.

Added entertainment for the evening was provided by a mechanical bull; there was a constant line all night until it closed at midnight.

Outstanding lectures and seminars were available to learn about all aspects of the horse and Pony Club world. Many thanks to the Annual Meeting organizing committee, Erin Wright, Julie Herman and Vicki Taylor, for making the experience a good one for all attendees!

Recipients of Club 50 Year Awards

Mendon Pony Club, Western New York Region
Tennessee Valley Pony Club, MidSouth Region
Western North Carolina Pony Club, Carolina Region

Recipients of Club 25 Year Awards

Boulder Valley Pony Club, Rocky Mountain Region
Crescent Bay Pony Club, Old Dominion Region
Crossroads Pony Club, Middle California Region
Emerald Coast Pony Club, Deep South Region
Fox Tails Pony Club, Old Dominion Region
Foxcroft Pony Club, Northeast Region
Hill Toppers Pony Club, South Region
Horse and Hound Pony Club, Midwest Region
Mill Creek Pony Club, Midwest Region
San Juan County Pony Club, Northwest Region
Sierra Gold Pony Club, Sierra Pacific Region
Sooner Pony Club, Cimarron Region
South Creek Pony Club, Sunshine Region
Wakefield Valley Pony Club, Capital Region

Brookfield Conservation Award

The 2010 Brookfield Conservation Award was presented at the Annual Meeting to two recipients: Fox River Valley Pony Club, North Central Prairie Region, and Morgan Staudinger, an H-B member of the Mill Creek Pony Club, Midwest Region.

The Fox River Valley Pony Club partnered with a local group, the Riding Club of Barrington Hills, and
The Brookfield Conservation Award is funded by Dr. and Mrs. John R. van Nagell MFH, and is named in honor of the historic 2,000 acre Brookfield Farm near Lexington, Kentucky.

Activities Updates

The second award recipient, Morgan Staudinger of Mill Creek Pony Club, took on a project at the Longview Horse Park in Missouri. A portion of the cross-country course had become unusable due to heavy rains and poor drainage. By installing pipes and rock and creating a lane through the swampy area, Morgan was able to divert the water from the course and made the Beginner Novice course usable again.

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The Flash Teamwork Award

Cathy Aranosian, Mt. Kearsage Pony Club, presented the Flash Teamwork Award to Silver Bits Pony Club, North Central Prairie Region in recognition of their essay, "Teamwork: An Important Life Skill." Turn to page 28 to read the essay.
Assorted photos from Houston. Did you miss out on the fun at the Annual Meeting this year? Plan to join us in Nashville in 2011!
**USPC Founders’ Award**

During the Annual Meeting banquet, six individuals were awarded the Founders’ Award, an honor reserved for our most worthy volunteers. This prestigious award is made each year to one or more living persons who have made a significant contribution to USPC at the Local or Regional and National levels over a period of 20 years or more.

**Jackie Horn**

has been volunteering actively in Pony Club for over 34 years. Multitalented, she has been rally organizer, clinician, teacher, coach, chaperone, Games Committee member, Virginia Vice-Regional Supervisor for Activities, and long time District Commissioner.

When the Virginia Region has rallies, she is always there with her members participating and helping out. When anyone in the area is looking for a pony for a member, Jackie is an impressive source to find suitable mounts. She passes ponies along to club members for free lease and brings them home until the next deserving young rider comes along.

In 1994 Jackie’s talents led her to the Games Committee. She has served multiple terms on this committee and remains active in the USPC Games community. Jackie has been very active with International Games, also serving in multiple roles. She has been a member of the selection jury at USPC International Games tryouts, served as the host and organizer of the team tryouts, and has been instrumental in planning, housing and travel itinerary for many visiting International Games teams.

Jackie served as Coach and/or Chaperone for many Games teams in the 80s and 90s both stateside and abroad and is well known in the International Games community as a volunteer and organizer.

Jackie is the reason Games rallies run so smoothly. Not only has she organized her Regional Games rally for the last 15 years but she also has organized the National Games Championships for the past six years.

We are honored to recognize USPC Founder, Jackie Horn, for her 34 years of loving and dedicated commitment to impart the goals and ideals of Pony Club.

**Robin Lightner**

is a Pony Club Legend, Life Member, and “fundraiser extraordinaire.” Pony Club was a fortunate beneficiary of Robin’s dedication. Robin became involved with Jackson Hole Pony Club in Wyoming in 1980, serving as Jt.-DC and DC from 1984-87. In 1988, she was elected to the USPC Board of Governors.

Robin never did anything halfway. She saw a need on the National level and immediately filled it as Chair of the Fundraising Committee. This resulted in the first Annual Fund drive, which netted an astonishing $200,000. No one in that Dallas ballroom will ever forget Robin’s kick-off with balloons, bullhorn, and pledge cards. Her enthusiasm dulled the shockwaves that went through our constituency at the very notion of a Pony Club fund drive. Where would USPC be now without the benefits of the Annual Fund? Then Robin saw another need – to offer a Championships opportunity to members west of the Mississippi who could not manage a lengthy, expensive trip east with their horses. Thus the first Western Championships was held in Ogden, Utah in 1990 with Robin as organizer.

Robin’s legacy continues – this year her two grandchildren, Isabel and Corinne, joined Keeneland Pony Club!

**Joy and Eric Poling**

are the iconic Pony Club couple. They have dedicated numerous hours of their time and expertise to Pony Club at the local, Regional and National levels. They are two of the most GIVING people one will ever meet.

Both Joy and Eric have a great sense of humor which makes it all the easier and enjoyable to work with them. They are constantly helping others, loaning horses and providing horse transportation for more than a few members over the years.

This spirit of giving is deeply rooted in Joy and Eric and goes beyond Pony Club. Both Polings are long time volunteers at the local Food Pantry. They serve as strong role models to youth members with whom they work and also the adults who are working alongside them. The Polings were a driving force behind the founding of
Horse and Hounds Pony Club in the Midwest Region in 1985. Under Joy’s leadership and Eric’s support and knowledge this club grew to be one of the largest and strongest clubs in that Region.

Both Joy and Eric are popular Chief Horse Management Judges and avid supporters of Polocrosse. They have served as Horse Management Judges at many rallies throughout this country.

Joy Poling has extensive Pony Club leadership experience as a DC, RS of the Midwest Region, Board of Governors Member and Vice President of Activities. Eric Poling’s passion is Horse Management. He has served as the Midwest Region HMO for years, judged at many rallies in and out of the Region, has conducted numerous Horse Management clinics. Eric has been a very big supporter of the Polocrosse program and has taken an active role in attempts to “grow” the sport.

The Polings have touched the lives of many youth members during their 25 years of involvement with USPC. Their generosity and their incredible gift of serving those in need makes them a most unusual and inspirational couple.

Abby Shultis has been a Pony Club member almost all of her life. She joined the Spring Valley Pony Club in 1955. In 1958 her family moved to Far Hills and Abby changed her club affiliation to Somerset Hills Pony Club. She foxhunted with both the Spring Valley and the Essex hounds, and earned the colors of both hunts. While a member at Somerset Hills, she competed at the National Rally on Long Island in 1961. In 1962, she became a B, then rode on her college equestrian teams.

In 1971, Abby, then married with one child, became involved with the Somerset Pony Club as an instructor and parent. The club then had about 90 members.

Over the years, she has foxhunted, ridden hunters and jumpers, and driven in combined driving events. She has organized large and small combined training events, driving events, summer camps, and Pony Club rallies.

Mary Ann Turner has been involved with USPC since the mid 70s. A USPC Legend, her accomplishments are numerous. She has worked extensively at the National level, while keeping her roots by volunteering in her home club, Difficult Run Pony Club, and the Virginia Region. Most of the regular attendees of the USPC Annual Meetings, Festival, and Championships East know Mary Ann.

Mary Ann’s 30+ years of involvement with Pony Club has included a myriad of jobs at the local level including club membership coordinator and DC of Difficult Run. Regionally she served in many capacities including the Policy Committee and as Virginia Region Secretary from 1995-2007. She spent two terms on the USPC Board of Governors (1998-2002) during which she served on the Strategic Planning Committee, Policy Committee and chaired the Governance Committee.

In 1994 Mary Ann organized the USPC Annual Meeting in Reston, Virginia, and later worked as the Assistant Annual Meeting Organizer in Baltimore, Maryland. Her organizational skills led to her long term involvement in USPC Championships and Festival, going back as far as 1995. Mary Ann has also served on the USPC National Youth Congress Committee and has been a member of the USPC Activity Council and USPC Eventing Committee. Currently, Mary Ann is finishing her term on the USPC Advisory Committee of which she was Chair in 2009.

Academy of Achievement Inductees

Conrad Adams is an attorney at Bailey & Galyen in Houston. He focuses primarily on pharmaceutical litigation, products liability, and personal injury claims including injuries resulting from automobile design and manufacturing defects.

Prior to pursuing a career in law, Conrad competed in the Olympics as a Pentathlete. He moved from Virginia to Texas to train for three years and succeeded in becoming not only a member, but also the Captain of the U.S. Olympic Pentathlon Team that competed in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain.

Conrad received his Bachelors degree in Biology with a minor in
Chemistry from Texas A & M University and received a law degree from The University of Texas School of Law. Today he is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Trial Lawyers’ Association, and the Houston Trial Lawyer’s Association.

A former member of the Mattaponi Pony Club in Fredricksburg, VA, Conrad achieved his C-3 rating.

Conrad’s other hobbies include swimming, swimming, and swimming. He raced as an elite/professional triathlete for several years, so also enjoyed running and cycling. He now lives in Houston with his wife and four children.

Stephanie Noonan Drachkovich is a B graduate who belonged to Fiddlers’ Green (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas), Cornhusker (Lincoln, Nebraska) and Lake Oswego (LO, Oregon) Pony Clubs. She graduated with a Bachelors degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon in Eugene.

Her current title is Executive Vice President/Co-owner of 44 Blue Productions, Inc., a television production and entertainment company she and her husband started in 1984. She has won both an Emmy and a Peabody Award (one of the most distinguished awards in broadcast television). She is executive producer for several series.

As head of programming at Warner Bros./Telepictures, she launched “The Bachelor,” and while at Disney/Buena Vista, launched “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire,” and numerous other programs. At 44 Blue, she has eight series in production, ranging from the long-running prison series “Lockup” on MSNBC to Animal Planet’s newest hit, “Pitbulls & Parolees.”

Stephanie has been married almost 25 years to Rasha Drachkovitch. They have three sons.

L. Janell Hoffman, RN BSN, graduated from the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club with her “A” rating in August of 1980. She then spent the next seven years under the instruction of Bruce Davidson at Chesterland Farm in Unionville PA. One of the most important things that Bruce Davidson taught her is a solid work ethic. Janell went on to compete at Intermediate level.

Janell graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Shenandoah University in Winchester Virginia, in spring 1991. She is currently a practicing critical care nurse. She is currently the Chairman of the Board for the Loudoun Healthcare Foundation. She sits on the Inova Healthcare Systems Foundation Board of Trustees and the board of directors for the Inova Loudoun Hospital.

Professionally, Janell has served as the Director of Patient Center Care at Inova Loudoun Hospital and managed eight teams to implement a Patient Center Care Work Flow operations plan, to move into a new hospital at the Lansdowne Campus. It was in this role that her passion for clinical education developed. One of Janell’s dreams is to create a Clinical Education Endowment Fund to support continuing education programs for all clinical staff.

Pony Club and the guidance of Bruce Davidson taught Janell how to work with others, how to work hard, and how to get the job done with attention to detail while always striving for perfection. Janell and her husband Michael (also inducted in the USPC Academy of Achievement) currently have several field hunters that they both enjoy foxhunting.

Michael E. Hoffman is a securities firm director of research and a senior equity research analyst. He earned a Bachelors degree in Engineering from Widener University, and an MBA from the Johnson School at Cornell University.

In his most recent position as Director of Research at Wunderlich Securities Inc he is part of the start-up team building an institutional equity business at this venerable Memphis TN firm. Prior to that he was President, Chief Operating Officer and
Gina Miles represented the United States at the 2008 Beijing Olympics where she earned the silver medal in the individual Eventing competition. She was also a part of the Olympic Games in 2012.

Gina graduated cum laude with B.S. in Crop Science and a minor in Agribusiness from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She now operates a full-service equestrian business – “Gold Medal Equestrian” located at Rancho Del Rio in Atascadero that offers training in Three day eventing, Show Jumping and Dressage. She is a member of the USEF Eventing Technical Committee, past Chairmen of the USEA Professional Horsemen’s Council, Chairman of the Eventing Standards Task Force, a Pony Club national examiner, and she frequently travels to teach clinics throughout the country.

She shares her passion for horses with her husband, Morgan, whom she met in high school, and her two kids, Austin (age 11) and Taylor (age 4) who both ride.

### 2010 NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS DELEGATES

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Allen</td>
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Horses & Ponies for Sale or Lease

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Leo - 10 yr AQHA gelding. 15 h, excellent D-2 - C-1 horse. Quiet, sound, uncomplicated! Cute style over fences. Enjoys jumping, but stays quiet and consistent. Talented enough for CS and up. Great hunter, jumper, trail, or lesson horse. Too many horses, sadly must sell. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ne5HTIeb8g Contact: Janet matrixmare@yahoo.com 704-607-7523 Indian Trail, NC. Price $3200 obo.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Snickers Satisfies - 13.3 h, 12 yr Welsh eventing pony took my daughter from D-1 – C-1. Sadly outgrown. Competed SJ, dressage, games and Eventing. Qualified for Nationals in Eventing (N) and Horse I. Competed in Nationals two years in a row in Games. 3rd place in USEA H.T. BN. Safe and bomb proof. Great home only! Contact: Patty dpjoh@yahoo.com 281-334-6106 League City, TX. Price $5000.


(See PonyClub.org for photo) Medium pony need a rider! 13.1 h Welsh/TB currently being ridden by children daily! Motivated seller. 10 mover and will jump anything. Extremely brave with a naturally forward step. Very safe, easy to work with on the ground, handled by kids daily. Tiffany 860-670-3157, karen@cafarm.com Southbury, CT. Price Negotiable.


(See PonyClub.org for photo)mint Julep would be a great move up pony for an advanced beginner/intermediate rider, easily jumps 2’6”, loves to hack, swims. Should excel in games, neck reins. Great manners, no vices. 13.2 h 11yr, to a great home only. More info on web site. www.realitifarm.org Contact: Christina realitifarm@yahoo.com 931-247-3071 Decherd, TN. Price $5500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Santini - chestnut, TB, gelding,16.2 h, 9 yr. Dressage, show jumping, eventing rallies, passed 2 riders at C-3 rating, quiet enough for hunters, great personality. Owner in college. Contact: Doreen dmillhorses@comcast.net Wayne, PA. Price $15,000 neg.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Amoretto is a lovely 10 yr, 16.2 h Belgian Warmblood mare. Makes a great dressage mount, potential jumper/equitation horse. W/T/C, counter canters and lead changes. Hacks out alone in fields, easy keeper. Does not want to be a hunter, therefore must sell! Contact: Stefanie info@centurionfarmllc.com Poolesville, MD. Price $20,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Flashy 13.2 h chestnut gelding, 7 yr. Rated up to D-3 and could go higher with continued training. Daughter has sadly outgrown. Has successfully competed Dress, SJ, Event. Parelli Level 1, trailers, clips, great for vet, farrier, float, no vices, always sound, judges love his athleticism and look! Worth much more but new horse is here! Must sell Contact: Andrea ab209@comcast.net Berkley, MA. Price $3500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Scoppy jumper with chrome, Shiner is a natural athletic loaded with ability. Packs around 3’-3’3”, loves to jump and has scope from any distance. Impressive auto changes, lovely on flat, hacks, etc. Extensive professional training and evented through Novice. Lovely horse, great condition with a can do attitude. Easy keeper. Contact: Elizabeth elizabeth miney@msn.com Coatesville, PA. Price $12,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Leprechaun’s Ballyconnell is a dark bay, 14 yr, 14 h pure-bred Connemara mare. Originally a hunter/jumper children’s pony, she has been a successful broodmare for six years, having 4 foals without complications. Great pony broodmare with loving temperament. ACPS inspected and approved. Good home a must. Contact: Kathleen ksfowler@hughes.net Marlow, OK. Price $4500.
(See PonyClub.org for photo) Fleur is a wonderful TB mare. PC for 8 yrs member of our family for 10 yrs. Fleur has never raced she has been used for 2nd level dressage, events novice, jumps 3’, and is a great traveler to go camping; she is bomb proof on trail and loves swimming. $5000 OBO Contact: Sartana warmblood17@yahoo.com 760-789-8089 Ramona, CA.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Ricky is a 1993, 16.1 h TB gelding. Evented through Prelim with a JR, CCI* qualified, shown 2nd level dressage, and local 3’3”-3’6” jumpers. Has done numerous PC events, including rallies and C-3/B ratings. Owner in college and doesn’t have time to show him. Contact: Amy algiordano64@verizon.net 703-868-5301 Notre Dame, IN. Price $15,000 neg.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 12yr 16.2 h grey TB gelding. Ray is attractive, athletic gelding who would excel as fox hunter, jumper, or event horse. Has experience as a hunt horse, is great on the trails, is a lovely mover, shows lots of scope in the ring, is careful enough to be a jumper, bold enough to be an eventer. Contact: Martha spinnerrama@hotmail.com 309-530-6000 Purcellville, VA. Price $6500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Chestnut TB mare, 15.3 h, 6 yr. Quiet, but brave over fences. And a beautiful trot. Lizzie has a quarter crack in her RF, but once that heals, you’d have a nice eventing partner. Good home a must. Contact Wendy. jonesga@cox.net 845-798-2509 Lewisburg, PA. Price $12,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 16 h 6 yr Oldenburg mare shown at WEF last winter doing 2nd schools 3rd dressage started over fences brave lots of scope 1/2 sister to Danny Warringstons event horse ClassicOZ (same dam) responsive and forward consider part trade in of beginner horse for niece. Owner is retired from showing. Contact: Kimberly jsh28@aol.com EHT, NJ. Price $17,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 14.3 AQHA Gelding 9 yr. Has been evented successfully through Novice. Foxhunted prior. Excellent Temperament. Sound, no vices. Would make an excellent mount for either a beginner or more advanced rider, very willing to perform whatever is asked of him. Contact: Marcie aintitcool@aol.com 618-751-2443 Marion, IL. Price $7500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Cute and talented 12.3 h, 6 yr POA gelding. Super jumper, good mover, lead changes. Ribbons in short stirrup and pleasure classes locally w/beginner rider. Just needs mileage. Suitable for advanced beginner on up. Barefoot, lives outside. Will consider lease or option trial period possible. Contact: Melanie melanie@stonegatestables.com 919-609-1045 Aldie, VA. Price $2500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Slash - 7 yr reg. Zweibrucker gelding. 15.2 h. Still a bit green as he was started late. Excellent prospect for eventing, 9 mover. Lovely dressage work. Forward but hot. Great over fences. Brave sound barefoot kind and willing in his lives outside. Being ridden in regular dressage/jumping lessons. Contact: Tomi justjumpfarm@aol.com 580-762-9593 Ponca City, OK. Price $6000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) The new price is $55000 eventing/dressage pony a wonderful 6 yr large boned pony standing 13.3 h. Large enough for a small adult. Competing in elementary eventing placing in the ribbons and scoring in the low 30s in dressage. Has the drive and talent to go further. Incredibly well behaved on the ground and under saddle. Video available. Contact: Caroline csamson@roadrunner.com Litchfield, ME.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 13 yr 11.3 h Canadian Welsh-huge confidence builder-the perfect pony that is sadly outgrown. Ribboned @ PC Regionsals and Nationals, Welsh Breed shows, Rallies, Hunter, Jumper and HT’s. Jumps 2’9” jumps to jump ditches, logs, banks, coops, tables, tires, goes thru water w/out hesitation-Been used n lesson program includes all tack including Pessoa saddle. Contact: Oaks info@oconnoroec.com 386-755-1488 Lake City, FL. Price $20,000 neg.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Cappi- quiet safe young mare, without attitude. Perfect for a D-3 or C moving up, 16 h, TB, 5 yr, with experience eventing and hunting, good mover, jumps 3’3” easily, wonderful manners, clips, loads, ties, and great with other horses (even geldings). photos available Contact Contact: Page pagebochard@hotmail.com 615-504-7243. Price $8000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 14.2 h, 7 yr Palomino mare registered with the USEF/USHJA. Novice level eventing, 1st level dressage. Lacey has started her career on the A circuit and is ready to make a huge impact. Auto changes. Lovely jump, never spoons and also loves the trail. Contact: Nicky nichol robertson@gmail.com 404-242-7825 Acworth, GA. Price $20,000.


Teddy has the potential & pedigree to be a top pony hunter. Extremely gentle and well behaved. Currently attending schooling shows. He just placed 6th out of 18 at his first horse trial jumping stadium and cross-country clean. Teddy is currently fox hunting second field doing 29” optional fences! www.glynmagic.com Contact: Lara laraherger@yahoo.com 703-999-1614 Washington, DC. Price $10,000.

Beautiful bay gelding for sale. 16.3 h 18 yr. Has done local shows and participated in PC. Sadly must sell. No vices. Trailers well. Strong rider a must. Beautiful mover. Would be great for dressage rider. Price very negotiable. Contact: Kelly ckeaffee@lvcc-rr.com 845-590-8084 Campbell Hall, NY. Price $6000.

Wonderful bay 13 yr 16.3 h, TB mare for lease. Has done it all; dressage, PC, 3-day eventing through novice, but easily schooled 37”. Clips, ties, trailers and lunges. Very easy going, but needs a confident rider. Owner is currently pregnant and looking for a great match. Contact: Gwyne sexyfroggy@hotmail.com Brentwood, CA.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 14.1 h AHR reg Haflinger mare for sale. Great manners and wonderful disposition. Can be ridden by small adult or children. Currently jumping 2’3” to 2’6” but has jumped higher. Great horse to learn with. Silver classified at her inspection. No vices, up to date on everything. Ready to go! Contact: Laura lauraacrafen@comcast.net 615-838-8551 Hendersonville, TN. Price $5500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Paris Blues 17 yr chestnut TB mare, 16.1 h. Evented up to Prelim. Will jump anything, perfect horse to teach you the ropes and give you confidence as you move up the levels. Scope but adjustable gaits. Excellent mover. Sound, good x-rays, recent hock injections. Perfect ground manners. Contact: Carol carol_federighi@usdoj.gov Washington, DC. Price For Lease.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 15.2 h 12 yr reg purebred Connemara gelding by Aladdin. Schooled training level xc, training & 1st level dressage. Shown locally hunter/jumpers, PCed by C-1, started foxhunting & loves it. Hacks out alone. Barefoot, no soundness issues, and is an easy keeper. Not for a beginner. Contact: Susan susan6@wildblue.net 540-428-1063 Broad Run, VA. Price $15,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Canby is a 3 yr TB gelding. Nice enough to be a professionals horse and quiet enough for an amateur. Very fancy and brave. Video available at www.greenhilleventing.com Contact: Allyson allygreenc_28@hotmail.com Gig Harbor, WA. Price $20,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 5 yr, 16.1 h, dark bay TB gelding. Very scopey jumper with three good gaits. Brave xc, carful show jumping, competed novice this summer and is ready to move up. Upper level potential. Not for beginner. Call or email for more pictures and videos $15,000. Contact: Hillary hillarymose@gmail.com 610-585-9081 Unionville, PA.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 7 yr OTTB. Great upper level PC prospect. Schooling 3’-3’3” with plenty of room to go higher. Has done jumpers, evented, hunters and has dressage training. Bold over fences and out xc. Quiet on and off the farm. Ready to finish your way! Contact: Kristin diem_kar@hotmail.com 410-310-6883 Easton, MD. Price $10,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Eskimo is a 14 yr TB. He is an experienced eventer ready to help someone new come up the levels. He is very honest, dependable, hard-working and absolutely loves cross country. Eskimo is currently competing prelim with intermediate potential. Easy on the flat and very eager to please! Contact: Lisa lll@stmarys-ca.edu Fairfield, CA. Price $15,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Eskimo is a 14 yr TB. He is an experienced eventer ready to help someone new come up the levels. He is very honest, dependable, hard-working and absolutely loves cross country. Eskimo is currently competing prelim with intermediate potential. Easy on the flat and very eager to please! Contact: Lisa lll@stmarys-ca.edu Fairfield, CA. Price $15,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Tatiana is a 15 h Dutch Warmblood cross. She is suitable for a strong C or higher rider. Schooled 2nd level and is competing at 1st. She is comfortable and easy to ride with a very good work ethic. She has been shown in hunters and does easy smooth hunter changes. Turned out with others. Contact: Sharon sharon-jones@att.net Hurricane, WV. Price $8000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Noyo, 7 yr 14.1 h gelding Noyo’s favorite things are jumping and trail rides. His excellent feet are unshod. See recent videos Youtube/paragigsporthorse/ Noyo1+Noyo. Our website www.hawkhavenfarm.com Contact: Carla carlahawk@willitsonline.com 707-983-6368 Covelo, CA. Price $6500.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Fancy Welsh pony. Adorable mover, kind and safe. Perfect 1st pony has done it all dressage, hunters & eventing. 13 h 6 yr sadly outgrown, price neg to good home. See our website www.plumridgestables.com Contact: Jennifer rikki_jennifer@epix.net 570-436-8458 Nescopeck, PA. Price $7500.

10 yr bay TB/Welsh 14.3 h. Competed BN would make excellent games mount. Has been trail ridden, evented and competed locally at combined tests. Excellent ground manners. Is a forward thinking horse but can be ridden by intermediate riders. Contact: Beth stoneycreekstables@yahoo.com 336-694-9890. Price $3200.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) Annie Oakley- Talented pony jumper for sale. Currently winning and showing in jumpers- brave, fast, clean and careful. Has dressage training and also competed in hunters. Would be a great PC mount- just add finishing touches. Leesburg, VA Contact: Corinne corinne smith93@yahoo.com 570-240-5460. Price $15,000.

(See PonyClub.org for photo) 5 yr TB mare, 15.3 h. Sound, sensible and uncomplicated. Shown in the hunters and schooling dressage shows by an amateur, trail ridden by a teenager. Schooling up to 3’ at home and showing 2’6” comfortably. Good home please. Contact: Theresa rustlingwindstables@yahoo.com 860-824-7084 Falls Village, CT. Price $15,000.

Tack & Equipment

17” German-made Courbette Stylist close contact saddle with a 32 cm tree width. I have taken excellent care of it and even have the original tag! Color: Berber brown. Price includes stirrup and stirrup leathers. Shipping not included. Contact: Deborah hecdel @com cast.net Berkeley, CA. Price $450.

Services

Employment Opportunities
Live-in horse care wanted for private, friendly dressage/boarding barn with 6 to 11 horses on Tolt pipeline trail system, Woodinville, Washington. Feeding turnout, etc; clean stalls 2 days per week only; about 20 hours/week. Studio apartment, utilities, horse board & lessons with USDF “L” judge in exchange. Very stable family. Contact: Linda Ann lLinda.ann@starrmortgage.com Woodinville, WA. Price Exchange.

Working student position. Lesson barn housing a PC center. Perfect spot for candidate working on the upper levels. Room for a horse with comfortable housing. Fun barn in event country of Maryland. National Examiner needs student now Contact: Kevin KB@lan2wan.com Clarksburg, MD.

Top hunter/jumper show facility looking for working student to take care of 3-4 horses. Must be intermediate to advanced rider. Please contact me for details. www.falkirk farm.com Contact: Carla Cortship@aol.com Central Valley, NY.

Joan Ketcham
It is with great sorrow that we report the passing of Joan Ketchum, age 90, on October 2, 2009. Her long time involvement with USPC in many varied capacities will be greatly missed. Pony Club was blessed to have the benefit of her knowledge and experience which she so generously shared over the years.

Joan was DC of Sandspur Pony Club and went on to become RS of the Sunshine Region. She was also a National Examiner, Board or Governors member and Advisory Committee member three times. She received the Founders Award in 1994 and became a Pony Club Legend in 2004. She was a well-respected and much-loved Governor, untangling the most complex situations with her gentle, down-to-earth, common sense approach, but she is best known for her leadership of the National Testing program in the 80s. During this critical time, there was confusion and lack of consistency in tests conducted in different parts of the country. She organized training seminars for examiners to teach them the Standards and to promote consistency in testing. She energized individuals to examine and teach and built a team of dedicated examiners and clinicians. As one NE put it, “...she built trust in the program. Parents, DCs instructors and the Board of Governors knew that, whether or not Pony Club members met the standard or ‘required additional work’, they would go away from a testing having learned something and ready to return and try again.” Her influence in Pony Club is truly legendary, as she and the examiners that she trained have taught and examined thousands of youth members all over the country.

In her younger days, Joan Ketcham was the first non-adult and woman to ride against professionals jumping at the National Horse Show. She was also the first woman to ride over hurdles in the Americas (in Mexico). Other firsts include being both a flat and steeplechase jockey here and in Britain.

Donations may be made in Joan’s name to the USPC Annual Fund. You may indicate which program you would like to have your donation directed to. (Instruction, National testing, NE Seminar, etc.) Please contact Marian Wahlgren, Development Director. development@ponyclub.org
Jean Tonkin Brinkley

Jean Tonkin Brinkley spread her good nature across politics, equestrian sports, bridge playing, and church and garden venues in her 83 years, according to family and friends. Brinkley died December 26, 2009, and even the timing was evidence of her friendship, said her son, state Sen. David Brinkley, and her friend, Chris Rocca.

Jean Brinkley’s best friend, Mary D. Gove, died four days earlier. After that, Brinkley was ready to die and unwilling to linger, David Brinkley said. Bridge partners, pony raisers, hospital executives and political aspirants alike described a woman of action and straight talk, with a good sense of humor, a strong will and lots of love.

Brinkley had not recovered well after surgery about a month ago, and refused any treatments, her son said. She had been a homemaker, a breeder of show ponies, founding member of the Frederick Pony Club and the New Market Hounds. She was a member of the Frederick and Hagerstown bridge clubs, and a member of the New Market Garden Club; and she was active in the Frederick and Middletown Women’s Republican clubs, the Grace Episcopal Church in New Market vestry and the Daughters of the King.

Rocca said Brinkley was especially good with children, guiding and encouraging them in their equestrian activities.

“You can’t think of New Market Hounds and Pony Club and not think of Jean and her husband,” said Frederick County Planning Commission Chairwoman Catherine Forrence, a former neighbor and rider. “They were a very big part of equestrian things in the county.”

Dr. Christine Carr Dykstra

Dr. Christine Carr Dykstra, former south region VRS, DC of Hoof Print Pony Club and a professor in the School of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn University died January 30, 2010, at Bethany House after a courageous twelve-year battle with metastatic breast cancer. Chris was born in Lakeland, Florida and graduated from Santa Fe High School in Lakeland and Sweetbriar College in Lynchburg, Virginia. She received her Master’s Degree in Microbiology from the University of Florida and her Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of Georgia. Chris was also a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Graham C. Walker at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for two years and was awarded an American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellowship by the National Institute of Health. After receiving her many degrees, Chris was employed by the University of North Carolina Medical School at Chapel Hill teaching pathology and participating in medical research. She forever felt fortunate to have met and worked with so many excellent scientists through her work at the National Institute of Health and the University of North Carolina. One of those scientists encouraged her to interview at the Auburn University Veterinary School. With an offer of a full professorship at Auburn University engaging in research, teaching and lecturing, Chris accepted the offer, moving to Auburn in 1997. Thereafter, Chris often said that her years in Auburn were the best of her adult life. She felt so fortunate to be working in a place where she could combine her love of science with her passion for the outdoors and devotion to all creatures great and small, especially her horses and dogs.

She is survived by her daughter Susan (HA grad.) Susan is the current south region RIC.
Good Horsekeeping

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Young Rider Seth Tousey of Tryon, North Carolina said, “We have built three manure bins: #1 is for fresh manure, #2 and #3 are in various stages of aging. The manure is rotated regularly to facilitate aging and at 90 days we use it for mulch. During the drought, this mulch has kept our landscaping fresh and green. We have an organic farmer that wants 80 loads of manure a year—we give it away. We are spreading some in resting paddocks for fertilizer, saving us the cost of yearly fertilizing by a commercial provider. In addition it is saving us $65 per pick up load to have the manure hauled off. We have contemplated building a 4th bin, but so far the three have worked for the number of horses we have here.”

Alternative Sources

Bagged shavings can be expensive, so Bankston-Ritacco has found a cheaper alternative for bedding a barn full of horses. “Instead of paying top dollar for bagged shavings, I have access to a ‘dump’ trailer and I go to a company that makes pallets; they fill up the trailer for $7 a scoop with their big front end loader,” she explained. “The trailer holds about three scoops, which translates into shavings/sawdust for a five-stall barn for about three months for under $50, which is figuring in the diesel to go there and back.”

She also economizes at competitions: “When we go to a show and have to strip the stalls, I try to put the clean shavings in the trailer—most of the time they look almost like new and I hate to waste them.”

Budget Wise

There are a lot of ways to save money around the barn, and there are a few places where you should never cut corners: never look for savings by cutting back on your horse’s nutrition, veterinary care, or safety. In the long run, quality feed, veterinary and farrier care will keep your horse healthy and sound. You might save a little money on a cheap piece of equipment, but if it’s not well made it can fall apart and at best need to be replaced quickly, at worst cause injury to the horse or rider.

With a little creativity and ingenuity you can share services, do things yourself, and plan your way to a safe, economical and successful show season. Just think, if you save enough money around the barn, you might be able to afford to celebrate your next victory in style with your friends and family!

Activities Update

Continued from page 32

the first 9 she gave out that day. I got a book as one of my prizes that is titled “Equine Sports Massage.” I have been giving my pony one every once in a while and he loves it. Before D4K I had been taking lessons with Susanne Hassler and she was definitely a huge help. After I started riding with her my dressage scores improved dramatically. There is still some room for improvement though. She would be happy that I got a roving trainer award. I can’t wait until next year to go again. I had so much fun and I had a great time meeting new people and being on the United States Pony Clubs team. I’m definitely going to work toward a spot on the regional or national team again next year.

Thank you for all your support and effort put into this competition, and for the scholarship. Once again, it was SO much fun!
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