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February
2014

VRPC News

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2014 VRPC Calendar

The 2014 VRPC Calendar is available on the [VRPC Website](#).

Note that dates are subject to change.

Greetings from the RS

I just returned from the USPC Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon and I am so excited about our upcoming year and all the wonderful things our clubs are doing in support of the Pony Club Mission. If you've never been to the USPC Annual Meeting, I strongly recommend it!

For club/riding center leaders the leader meetings are full of great information and training on USPC compliance requirements, issues and concerns. Simultaneously, there are planning meetings for all the committee members. Our own Vicki Fox and Leslie Pitcher are on the Eventing Committee! There are also meetings for HMOs, RICs, NEs, and probably some I'm not even aware of!!

The Annual Meeting offers Workshops for members. This year the Workshops were formatted by "track" so that members could easily pick topics most valuable to them. I got to go hear Daniel Stewart's talk on sports psychology. He was excellent and if you ever have the opportunity to hear him, go for it! Your time will be well spent.

The Annual Meeting concluded with the banquet that honors our "founders" with the Founders Award. This year the key note speaker was David Blake, a former pony club member and accomplished dressage rider and trainer. Google him!

Plaques for the "A" Traditional Certificate were given to **Amy Brown** and **Christina McKittrick** from Difficult Run and recognition was given to **Cara Goode** from Loudoun Hunt for achieving her H-A. The evening culminated with the passing of the "whip" (really a whip) from the Portland Annual Meeting organizers to the 2015 meeting organizers - The Virginia and Capital Region RSs! Yvette Seger prepared a fantastic video montage to invite folks to DC in 2015! Check it out on YouTube [2015 USPC Annual Meeting - A Monumental Experience](#)

I hope I will see you all at the Quiz Rally - this is a great way to qualify and go to Championships without a horse! It's also a great prep for the H-B test.

The HM Seminar is scheduled for February 15. This is a wonderful learning experience for members and parents! It's one of the rare Pony Club events that you can do "together". The HM Seminar is also an opportunity for our H-B candidates to practice their ground school teaching. Come out and support our candidates and learn a

Please check back often for updates.

February 2014 Calendar

Sat Feb 1
H-B Prep @ Morven Park

Sat Feb 1
Regional Youth Board @ Morven Park

Friday Feb 7
H-B Test Registration Deadline

Sat Feb 8
VA Regional Meeting @ Warrenton

Sat Feb 15
HM Seminar @ Guildford Manor Farm, Haymarket

Sun Feb 23
Quiz Rally @ The Hill School, Middleburg

March 2014 Calendar

Sat March 1
H-B Prep, Dover Saddlery Chantilly

Sat March 8
H-B Prep @ Dr. Paula Horne, Purcellville

Sat March 15
H-B Mock Test @ Millwood Equestrian Center

Sat & Sun March 29 & 30
Morven Park Spring Horse Trials

Sun March 30
River Bend PC CT @ Frying Pan Park

April 2014 Calendar

little something along the way!

As always, if you have anything to contribute or information you'd like to see in the regional newsletter, please contact our new newsletter editor Cindy Shelberg at cschelberg@gmail.com.

H-B Certification May 2-4

The Virginia Region will host an H-B certification test on May 2-4 at Morningside Training Farm, The Plains. **Registration & payment due to USPC office by February 7th.** (Late fees applied after Feb 7th.) To register for this test, go to the USPC site at USPC National Tests Info then click on *Application to Test* to submit your application. Click on *Test Fees* to submit your payment. The USPC fee is \$160. The region fee is \$175 and is paid separately. Details for this test (agenda, start times, etc) will be provided to all applicants prior to the test.

HM Handbook Gets Updates

The 2014 Horse Management Handbook and Rules for Rallies will be available for the 2014 Rally season in early February along with the 2014 HM Newsletter. This document will be available online and for purchase through Shopponeyclub.org. Stay tuned!

Quiz Rally - Offers Contest to Name the Skull!

February 23rd kicks off our 2014 rally season with the Quiz Rally! Entries are due by February 10th.

This year in addition to a **tack swap, silent auction and barn phase** we are offering a friendly competition amongst our clubs/centers. This picture has been a part of the Virginia region for quite sometime but sadly this fella doesn't have a name!



So Quiz Rally will host a little **competition "Name the Skull"**. Each club/center should select their name choice and bring it to Quiz Rally. The club/riding center must be present at Quiz to win. The winning name will be picked by our RS and Regional Youth Board. The winning club/center will receive a gift certificate to Dover Saddlery for their club. Good luck naming our region's skull and we look forward to seeing you at Quiz!

Quiz Rally Info

Date: Sunday, Feb 23rd
Location: The Hill School, Middleburg
Organizer: Nicole Gnozzio (703) 346-7282 mgnozzio@msn.com
Host Clubs: River Bend Pony Club, Gray Ghost Pony Club, Blue Ridge Hunt Pony Club, Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club

Schedule for Rally

8:00 a.m. Check in begins (In the music room)
8:45 a.m. Rally begins with briefing
9:15 a.m. Quiz phases begin

Sat April 5
Horseless Rally @
Glenwood Park

Sat April 5
Show Jump Clinic @
Turner Farm, Great
Falls

Sat & Sun
April 26 & 27
Loudoun Hunt PC
Horse Trials @ Morven
Park

May 2014 Calendar

Frid, Sat & Sun
May 2, 3 & 4
H-B Certification @
Morningside Farm,
The Plains

Sat & Sun
May 10 & 11
Show Jump Rally @
Deep Run Hunt PC

Sat May 10
Multi Region Games
Rally @ Boyds, MD

Sat & Sun
May 24 & 25
Dressage Rally @
Morven Park

Sat & Sun
May 31 & June 1
XCcountry Clinic &
Fix a Test @
Glenwood Park

10:00 a.m. Silent Auction/Tack Swap begins
2:30 p.m. Silent Auction/Tack Swap closes
3:30-4:30 p.m. Awards Ceremony begins

HM Seminar Feb 15th - Guilford Manor Farm

Join us at the Horse Management Seminar on Feb 15th. Parents and Pony Club members are both welcome.

What: The HM Seminar is an unmounted ground school. Presenters set up stations, each station focuses on one aspect of Horse Management. Attendees (members AND parents) are divided into groups and rotate to all stations.

Why: Fun educational sessions for members and parents to see/learn. Upper level members practice teaching unmounted lesson plan.

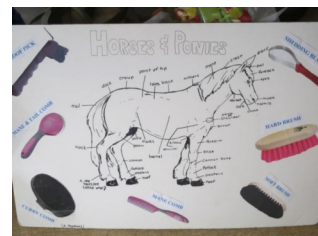
Who: For parents this event provides Horse Management Judge (HMJ) training/refresher for rallies. For D level members the topics will expand your knowledge. Upper level members develop and teach unmounted lesson.

When: Saturday, February 15
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Guilford Manor Farm
15150 Doe Ridge Rd
Haymarket, VA

Lunch is bring your own; drinks & snacks will be provided.

Proper barn footwear & Pony Club Medical Cards are required!



Visiting Instructor Deadline Feb 28th

Has your club or riding center ever considered hosting a USPC Visiting Instructor? The Visiting Instruction Program provides a unique opportunity for you to have a well qualified A, H-A, H or B visit your club, center, or region to instruct in a summer, weekend or vacation camp or clinic.

In addition, USPC is looking for upper level members to participate in VIP. Does your club/center have upper level members that enjoy teaching? Please encourage those spectacular upper level Pony Club members that are terrific teachers to complete applications for this program.

The February 28 deadline is quickly approaching for your members to apply to be a Visiting Instructor as well as for clubs, centers and regions to request a Visiting Instructor to come to your area. (USPC considers applications year round, but it is often harder to make those requests work out.)

If you need more information please check out the USPC website for all the forms to complete. [USPC VIP](#)
You can always contact the committee with questions at visitinginstruction@gmail.com.

Morven Park Spring Horse Trials

March 29 & 30

Please save these dates and sign up for a day of volunteer duty for this event. You can choose what volunteer duty you would prefer (e.g., cross-country jump judge, scribe for dressage, or bit and spur check for dressage). Volunteers receive lunch and a pass for use at the cross-country schooling day, the Wimert cross-country schooling field or the indoor ring.

Our region receives a discount for our events at Morven Park. In exchange we are asked to provide volunteers for the horse trials in spring and fall. This is a wonderful experience for parents as well as your pony club member!

Dorothy Renfro Memorial Award for Excellence in Leadership

Nominations Due March 15th

In celebration of the 15th year of the Dorothy Renfro Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Renfro family has generously gifted an additional award for 2014 for "The Dorothy Renfro Memorial Award for Excellence in Leadership".

This \$1,500 cash award will go to a Club or Center whose leader is selected through your nominations. This award is for the DC or CA who goes above and beyond the duties of a DC or CA by using those leadership abilities to recruit and retain members, and continually inspire them through the core values of Pony Club: Horsemanship, Teamwork, Respect and Education.

The recipient of the Dorothy Renfro Memorial Award for Excellence in Leadership will be announced by May 1, 2014. The Award presentation will be made at Festival 2014.

For more information about the award and how you can make a nomination please visit the Pony Club website [Pony Club Awards](#).

Deadline for nominations is March 15, 2014.

That's all for now!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Lorenzen, RS
The Virginia Region Pony Clubs

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The Virginia Region Pony Clubs | 229 Alpine Drive, SE | Leesburg | VA | 20175