



# Carolina Region Newsletter

## Summer 2009

Welcome to the latest Carolina Region Newsletter, a way to communicate what is happening within the various clubs in the Carolina Region. Our goal is to send out a newsletter once a quarter recapping club and regional activities.



### **From Our RS**

*I am happy to report that pony club activity did not slow down in the slightest this summer. We had a good turnout at camp, during the hottest week of the summer (so far), we have 75 people competing in championships and will have competitors in every discipline this year, and we have 38 people (to date) signed up for upper level testing (HB/C3 and above).*

*Keep an eye on the calendar (<http://carolina.ponyclub.org/Calen/calen.html>), we will be adding fall clinics soon, and we are starting to work on the rally schedule for 2010.*

Sandy Wright  
Carolina Region Regional Supervisor



### **Emergency Workbook**

Are you prepared in case of an emergency at your barn or riding center? Please check out this web site for an interactive emergency planning workbook that you can print and post in your barn on the off-chance you have an emergency. <http://www.thehorse.com/pdf/emergency/emergency.pdf> Many thanks to Jody Hoffman from the Sandy Ridge PC for sharing this information with the region.



### **Rally Report**

Aiken County again invited the Region to Aiken, SC, for the **2009 Qualifying Show Jumping**

**Rally**, on March 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>. Here is a report from the Rally Organizer – Tammy Hanson from the Aiken County Pony Club.

*This years' show jumping rally is one we will not soon forget. It started off really well with Friday move in going as smoothly as possible. Everyone but one family was present at the briefing which meant that all the horses were seen by the vet for the Friday night jogs. Barns closed smoothly, on time with no hitches.*

*This year we had 92 riders and 31 stable managers. We had four D riders sharing two ponies, which worked out really well. We had one riding center member from Bramblewood Stables.*

*We had to adjust the schedule this year both for financial reasons and to accommodate the number of entries. We offered clinics only to those who signed a letter of intent to qualify for championships. Our clinicians this year were Richard Lamb, Kathi Hines and Morgan Whitehead. Instead of competing as in the past just on Sunday we scheduled the show jumping to begin immediately following the clinics at 1pm Saturday. It was a great schedule and had us finishing riding by noon on Sunday giving everyone an opportunity to get home at a decent hour.*

*BUT, who could predict the weather? At 6am Saturday I received a call from our clinician, judge and course designer Richard Lamb alerting me that by 1pm (jumping time) we would probably be under a tornado watch and were expecting severe weather. At this point we made the decision to forgo the clinics and move everyone's times back four hours, so if you were jumping at 1pm you were now jumping at 9am with formals at 8am. Sounds simple but remember, we have now totally changed horse managements schedule, totally changed our volunteer schedule and now there were many poor sleepy headed kids having to suddenly scrub ponies and put on their nice clothes ready for formals!*

*The great thing was, you would never have known we made any changes, everyone just took*

*it all in stride. Formals went off without a hitch, the first rider was ready in the arena at 9am and each arena was staffed with parent volunteers who had jumped in at the last minute to help out. It was quite amazing!*

*Things went well until about 11am when the lightning struck, as you know we must have all riders dismount and get in the barns as soon as we see lightning. The rain was torrential and our eyes were glued to the computer screen watching the severe weather getting closer and closer. We had a weather radio which then informed us we were under a tornado watch. We had a plan of action that would go into effect if we came under a tornado warning but luckily the warning stayed off to the west about 20 miles. However, the tent barn we were using was not safe in the event of severe weather and was starting to flood. Again, everyone pulled together when we decided that we needed to move the 42 ponies out of there, across the property in the pouring rain and over to the wooden permanent barn on the other side of Highfields. We had parents helping put down shavings in all the stalls, parents helping children move buckets and hay and children parading across puddles with their horses. It was a sight to see!*

*As we sat in the show office and observed the radar we determined that we may have a shot at an hour of rain but no severe weather, so after much discussion we decided to get the H1 - H4 kids back out of the barns and into the very soupy rings to jump their two rounds. We gave the poor things about 20 minutes to get ready and start warming up, but they were troopers, I certainly heard not one complaint. It worked out perfectly as everyone got to finish and safely too, as the last one jumped here came the severe weather again!*

*I tried very hard to downplay the severity of the weather so as not to scare the kids, horses or parents, so I don't think the majority of people knew just what a stressful day it was for us. I am happy to say that there were many wet people but no one got hurt and all the horses were as calm as could be.*

*Sunday turned out to be a lovely day for jumping! After adjusting the schedule to accommodate the riders who did not get to go*

*Saturday we ended the riding only 15 minutes behind schedule.*

*We certainly learned a lot, mainly that even with the best laid plans things go wrong! One thing we really learned was how important those clinics are. Partially due to the weather but more in part due to riders jumping a little too high for their level we observed more falls, stops, run outs and problems this year. This is why it's so important to clinic! We had many people start in one division and move down one or even two divisions. This would have been addressed during the clinics and not after round one.*

*I think that I can say almost certainly that without the bad weather this rally would have been as near perfect as a rally could be. Many thanks to all those parents who jumped in and helped with no complaints, thanks to the Mom who offered to clean all the stalls that had been used the night before - she didn't have to do all of them but I heard she did many of them, thanks to the coaches that helped coach other peoples kids, thanks to the kids and horses for staying calm, relaxed and taking it all in stride, thank you everyone for making a most stressful situation a little easier. And my final thought on it all - let's not use this date again next year - how does April sound to y'all?*

Cardinal II again invited the Region to the Latta Plantation in Huntersville, NC for the **2009 Qualifying Dressage Rally**, on April 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>.

At the Dressage Rally, the Greenville Foothills HorseMasters performed a Quadrille. Brian Morris videotaped the ride and has posted it on YouTube for everyone to view. Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJxPI0jZTug>

Eno Triangle invited the Region to the Carolina Horse Park in Raeford, NC for the **2009 Qualifying Eventing Rally**, on May 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. 170 competitors and 130 horses attended the rally. Eno Triangle Pony Club along with the help of local Moore County Pony Club which ran the dressage phase, Pirate Coast Pony Club which ran the Cross-Country phase, and Shady Lane Pony Club which headed up the stadium jumping phase all worked together to host Eventing rally this year. Sandy Wright RS and

Kathy Tanner, Region Rally coordinator, also helped to guide all of us as first time rally hosts. Dana and Manny Diemer as well as the entire staff at The Carolina Horse Park were a great help to us at this fabulous new site.

The competition ran well, overseen by key officials Cindy Deporter as TD, Robert Holt as CHMJ, and Nanci Lindroth who served as President of the Ground Jury in addition to judging for the dressage and stadium portions of the rally. The rally also incorporated new educational features for pony clubbers, thanks to the generosity of some local professionals. Marc Donovan (graduate B pony clubber) donated his time to hold a Stadium Jumping Course Design Clinic on Friday evening, and Olympic eventer Mike Plumb (graduate B pony clubber) along with Andrew Diemer led many Cross-country course walks throughout the weekend to help prepare the competitors. Pony Clubbers had fun competing at all levels from D1 through Preliminary, and many of the upper level riders were successful in qualifying for the USPC East Coast Championships to be held in Lexington, VA this July.

Congratulations to these competitors who earned special awards at the rally:

- Natalie Davis- Delaney Trophy for the stable manager on the Novice team with the lowest HM score.
- Ashley Dimmette- Dalton Trophy for the stable manager on Training team with the lowest HM score
- Susannah York- D Horse Management Award for the stable manager on the D team with the lowest HM score
- Shelby Ritacco, Rachael Wood, Benjamin Firby, and Lindsay Eddy- Elaine Jones Award for the team with the lowest HM score of the rally
- Matthew Flood- Beginner Novice Award for the best individual score in the BN division
- Gracelee Lawrence- Novice Award for best individual score in the Novice division
- Kelsey Dunlap- Midnight Blue Award for the best individual score in the Training division
- Tori Horton- Claudia's Cup for the D2 and up rider with the best individual score
- Megan Betzel- Lyndee Harrell Award for the D3 and up rider with the best dressage score
- Eliza Culbertson- Best B Award for the best scoring B rider at the rally

Thank you to all of the pony clubbers, officials, volunteers, and parents for making it a wonderful weekend, and special thanks to all of the moms who spent their Mothers Day with us. We hope to see you all again next year at Eventing rally at The Carolina Horse Park the weekend of May 7-9, 2010 !

South River Bend invited the Region to the David Brooks' farm in Hillsborough, NC for the **2009 Qualifying Polocross Rally**, held May 30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>.



### Clinic Corner

There have been several mounted clinics in the Spring 2009.

**Regional Mounted Clinic with Ann Haller** was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> in Aiken, SC. It was hosted by the Aiken County PC. Contact: Carol Minsk

**Regional Mounted Clinic with NE Richard Lamb** was held on March 14-15 in Concord, NC. It was hosted by the Rocky River PC. Contact: Chris Cronin

**Region Camp** was held in Tryon, NC on June 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. Camp was very popular this year, with 78 mounted and 2 unmounted Pony Clubbers, and 5 adults who took the instruction program. Our instructors included Jodi Lees, Annie Maunder, Janna Ritacco, Morgan Whitehead, Vicky Taylor, Jenny Majors, Sarah Hansel, Laura Bier, and Ragan Brian.

In addition to the regular programs in flat, jumping and cross-country, a number of additional programs were offered. These included an introduction to Polocrosse, a Mounted Games Clinic, shooting practice and timed Individual running. Sandy Wright held a daily HB Prep class, the American Red Cross taught a First Aid program, and several of our C2 and C1 campers taught unmounted lessons. D-rated campers participated in a cross-country competition held on the steeplechase track, with

many of the upper-rated campers serving in the Vet Box, as starters, and as jump judges and timers. Finally, a number of younger campers got to visit the Tryon Hounds and learn more about fox hunting.

Altogether, this was a great Camp that offered quality instruction and the ability to sample a variety of the many equestrian sports offered in Pony Club.



Many thanks to Brian Morris for all the preparation work he did to make this camp so successful.

**Regional Mounted Games Clinic** was held in Tryon in conjunction with the Regional Camp. Many thanks to Patt Tarr from Yadkin Valley Hounds for hosting this clinic.

**Regional Scored Tetrathlon Prep Clinic** was held in Tryon in conjunction with the Regional Camp. Many thanks to Mary Kay Coker for hosting this clinic.



**Congratulations to....**

No **upper level ratings** so far in 2009.

....and to all the members who **rated up at the club level**.

<b><u>C2</u></b>	
Frances Parrish	Greenville Foothills
Alice Winter	Greenville Foothills

<b><u>C1</u></b>	
Maria Bienhoff	Triad
Paige Brown	Rocky River
Molly Delaney	Triad
Kristen Gore	Triad
Maren Sherrill	Triad

<b><u>D3</u></b>	
Olivia Armstrong	Rocky River
Mary Campbell	Sandy Ridge
Jordan DeJaco	Rocky River
Samantha Perlmutter	Sandy Ridge
Elizabeth Richards	Sandy Ridge

<b><u>D2</u></b>	
Hailey Church	Triad
Allyson Kimbrough	Triad
Alex Sroka	Triad
Margaux Sroka	Triad
Lauren, Tarulli	Sandy Ridge

<b><u>D1</u></b>	
Emily Dyson	Triad
Laura Hanf	Triad

DCs, please remember to send the USPC National office, and Margaret Crevar, a copy of your club's Ratings Update Form after any member of your club rates up to D1 through C2. On the USPC web site under Forms, you can now fill this form out electronically and send the PDF file that is saved via e-mail. If you have questions on this, please contact Margaret Crevar at [Margaret.Crevar@sas.com](mailto:Margaret.Crevar@sas.com)



**Upcoming Events**

Regional D & I Want to Be an HA Camp  
 July 13-16  
 Hendersonville, NC  
 Hosted By: Alicia Henderson  
 Contact: Alicia Henderson  
[windridge@ioa.com](mailto:windridge@ioa.com)

USPC Championships  
 July 23-26  
 Lexington, VA  
 Hosted By: USPC

HB/C3/B/A Testings

September 5-7

Aiken, SC

Contact: Tammie Whitehead

[twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com)

Tetrathlon Rally for 2010

September 12-13

Greensboro, NC

Hosted by: Triad PC

Contact: Cynthia Parks

[cparks@triad.rr.com](mailto:cparks@triad.rr.com)

Regional Clinic (hopefully with Salie Gear)

October 2-4

Charleston, SC

Hosted by: Charleston PC

Contact: Mel Olmi

[olmi@comcast.net](mailto:olmi@comcast.net)

Carolina Region Annual Meeting

October 3

Charleston, SC

Hosted by: Carolina Region

Contact: Sandy Wright

[swright14@carolina.rr.com](mailto:swright14@carolina.rr.com)

Fall Fling

November 608

Fletcher, NC

Contact: Tammie Whitehead

[twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com)

HB/C3 Testings - Traditional

November 13-15

Tryon, NC

Contact: Tammie Whitehead

[twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:twhitehead@coldwellbanker.com)



**Did you know:**

That a graduate Carolina Region Pony Clubber rode at Rolex this year and finished 21<sup>st</sup> out of 50 horses? This person's name is Ashley Adams (see cross country photo below.) She was a member of the Greenville Foothills PC until she transferred to the Triad PC when her family moved to Greensboro, NC. She graduated as a C2. Congratulations to Ashley.



**Did you know:**

Rebecca Lewis of the Aiken County Pony Club placed first with her musical freestyle on April 25<sup>th</sup> at in the USPC South Region Dressage Rally, in Conyers, GA on her horse Mirage? A video of the ride can be seen on YouTube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FjujeBErc0>

**Do you know:**

*Who Col. Howard C. Fair is? What is the Pony Club Challenge? And, who are the Champions of the Challenge for 2009???*

Many of you may know that Colonel Howard C. Fair, United States Army Air Corps, is one of the founders of the United States Pony Club and a former resident of Beaufort and Aiken, South Carolina. Col Fair was a mentor of boys in Aiken Prep and took them hunting with the Aiken Hounds in the 1930's. He appreciated using the horse and fox hunting to help develop desirable character traits in young men. It was this background that in 1954, along with Mr. Alexander Mackay-Smith and Mr. & Mrs. Dean Bedford, Col. Fair began the United States Pony Clubs. Believing that not enough was being done to promote combined training and foster the grass roots section of the sport, he wrote to more

than 100 combined training enthusiasts asking them to attend a meeting during the Pan American Games in Chicago of that year.

Mr. Larry Byers, former USPC President and current Aiken resident and supporter of the Hitchcock Woods sponsored the Pony Club Challenge to entice young Pony Club members to participate in the most traditional hunter shows in the US.. Because of his relationship to youth, hunting and Pony Club, Mr. Byers named the cup in honor of Col. Fair. The trophy is awarded to the Pony Club accumulating the most points on a team basis during competition in the Foxhunting Divisions at the Show in the Woods, which is held annually in Aiken's beautiful Hitchcock Woods.

The 2009 Show in the Woods was held the first weekend in April as is its tradition. This year the Palmetto Pony Club had five riders qualify with Whiskey Road Foxhounds and/or the Aiken Hounds to compete in this challenge, with four accumulating points in the foxhunting divisions to win the challenge: Justice and Boyce Myers, Shannon Hardiman, and Victoria and James Jacks (James qualified, but did not ride in the challenge this year). Three other pony clubs competed for the title of Champions of the Challenge: Aiken County Pony Club, Tryon members who qualified with Tryon Hounds and even a young lady from a New Hampshire Pony Club. We hope to see them return and many more join in the fun of riding in the beautiful natural setting of the ring in Hitchcock Woods.



## **Useful Links**

Carolina Region Web Site:

<http://carolina.ponyclub.org/index.html>

US Pony Club Forms page:

<http://www.ponyclub.org/forms.php>

US Pony Club Horse Mangement page: On this website you'll find a wealth of information that will help you better care for your equine friend. The goal of this site is to share infomation that will supplement teaching tools and share ideas. The site is updated frequently.

<http://hm.ponyclub.org/>

USPC Instruction page: This site was developed to assist clubs and regions in planning their instruction programs by providing lesson plans, study guides and other tools to establish a successful program. The items on this site are a compilation of materials produced over the years by committees, individuals, clubs and regions.

<http://instruction.ponyclub.org/>



If you have information you would like to see added to the next Carolina Region Newsletter, please forward it to Margaret Crevar at [Margaret.Crevar@sas.com](mailto:Margaret.Crevar@sas.com) . **Deadlines for the Fall 2009 Newsletter will be September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009.**