

RUSTY STIRRUPS MEETING MINUTES

8/19/08

Patty Michalak called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. A motion was made and seconded to accept the meeting minutes from the July meeting. Allyn Linas was not present to give the membership report, but Patty indicated we now have 132 members.

Colleen Leahy was also absent, so did not give a trail report, but Patty indicated the next trail ride is on 9/13 at Fluvanna. Plans are for those wishing to caravan, to meet at the Oilville Exxon at 8:30AM. Those traveling alone should be ready to ride by 10AM. There will be a potluck afterwards. As a sidenote, Jim Leahy is doing well after surgery and thanked everyone for their cards and well wishes.

Jen Sarosi was absent so a Treasury report was not provided. Patty indicated our current balance is somewhere around \$7000.

Discussion then shifted to the Holiday Party. This will not be held at the Linas' new home as previously discussed. Patty is looking into other venues, including Randolph Macon and Pasta Luna. Anyone with ideas was invited to contact Patty. Last year's budget was \$1800. and Patty asked for a budget of \$2500. for this year, due to pricing increases across the board. A motion was made to approve that amount and received a second. There is no definitive date yet, but could be Sunday 12/15. There was a discussion regarding whether the party should be on a week day or weekend. The members present indicated a preference for a weekend. We are planning for anywhere from 70-120 people.

The next discussion was about the Spookathon, which will be held this year at Dorey Park on October 25th, starting at 9AM. There are openings for 30 people and the cost is \$20. per rider. The budget for this event is around \$475. and allows for a contribution to the mounted police and the cost of renting the facility. Information is on the website about this event. It was mentioned that the preference would be for openings to be given to riders that had not attended the event before---or had a strong need for the clinic. However, if the event doesn't fill up, it will be opened up to prior attendees. If prior attendees are interested, they should let us know and will be put on the "waiting list". There will be a potluck afterwards. As a sidenote, it was mentioned that the trails at Dorey park are closed due to construction for about 6 months, with the exception of a trail that is about a half hour in and a half hour back out.

The Rally was the next topic of conversation. It will be held this year on October 5th at Western Riders (off Shady Grove/Cauthorne). Information is now on the website, including the registration and directions. The rally will begin at 8:30AM. There is plenty of parking available but no stalls. The cost per rider is \$5. and includes "breakfast" and lunch. The Rocky Ridge Riders 4-H is providing the food. The concession stand will be open from approximately 11AM to 2:30 for lunch. The registration cutoff is September 16th. Checks should be made payable to RSRC and sent to Janet McClean. This year the dressage portion of the event will have assigned riding times. Two tests will be offered; beginning dressage will be the Intro B test; Advanced will be the Training Level 1 test. Descriptions of the other events are on the registration form. It should be noted that you cannot add classes on the date of the event however, you may drop a class. No rider can ride the same horse in both levels of one class....for example, the same horse and rider cannot do beginning and advanced dressage. The same horse can be in both levels, if ridden by different riders. A question was asked

about why we are charging money for this year's Rally when in the past, this has been a free event. Patty explained that the cost of the facility is \$350. and we are paying \$8./head for food. Ribbons will be given out as well. The budget reflects increases in costs all around. The Board felt a \$5. fee was appropriate and VERY fair for what was being offered.

For NEW BUSINESS it was announced that the members of this year's Nominating Committee are Sue Carrieri and Cindie Willoughby. If you would like to be considered for a position on next year's Board, please let one of them know. If you have any recommendations, pass them along. The membership present at the meeting voted to accept these two ladies as the Nominating Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made:

If you know of a member that has had a loss, injury, birth or noteworthy event, please advise Patty or Sue Carrieri so a card can be sent from the Club.

Jim and Colleen Leahy are holding a Used Tack Sale at their home on 8/30/08 from 8AM to noon. If you are interested in coming, you only need to bring a table and set up. All proceeds from your sale are yours to keep. Please advise Jim and Colleen if you would like to participate. Their e mail is blarneyacres@embarqmail.com

Thought is being given to holding a gaited clinic. A few people have shown an interest and Patty will continue to explore this further.

Recess was taken at 7:45 PM.

The meeting then resumed around 8PM and our speaker was Dr. Claudia True of Woodside Equine Clinic. Dr. True was to speak on parasites, however there were technical difficulties with her power point presentation, so that was postponed until next month. Instead, Dr. True responded to general questions from the members. It was a wonderful opportunity to have our own personal "conversations with a vet". We thank Dr. True for her participation.

The meeting adjourned about 9pm.