

NEWSLETTER

NEXT ISSUE ONLINE AT
WWW.REDVALLEYSADDLECLUB.COM



February 1, 2009

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Welcome Back

It's hard to imagine given the persistent "winter wonderland" this year, but another show season is just around the corner! It's time to dust off your show hats, polish your boots, scrub your tack, and gently break the news to your horses that their vacation is over! This season promises to bring with it some changes, some challenges, and, as always, a lot of fun!

We wish to welcome the Melbourne District Lions Club. The Lions Club will be operating the food booth this year, and we are very excited to have them join us!

Another change this year is to the class list. We will no longer be offering Hunter Hack at Red Valley Saddle Club shows.

However, we have opted to include for the first time ever a Texas Speed and Action class! This will be held as a special event class, and therefore, we will require a minimum of three competitors in order to run the class.

Another change is that you have a new newsletter representative, so I thought I would introduce myself a little. My name is Tracy Marshall, and I am the daughter of Debbie Marshall, your Recording Secretary. I was a member of the Red Valley Saddle Club back in my Lead Line and Walk/Jog glory days before deciding to try my hand with hunter/jumpers. I returned to Red Valley in 2007, where I have shown sporadically in English events and Halter.

Now that you know a little about me, I hope that you will feel free to contact me with any news you think belongs in the Red Valley Saddle Club newsletter, which will be issued four times this year. If you have news that you feel should be mentioned in this newsletter or you have suggestions on how to improve the newsletter, do not hesitate to contact me at 519-630-1646 or the_lil_diva@hotmail.com. In an effort to go green, the newsletter will soon be available online and printed copies will only go to those who check the box on their membership form indicating that they would like a copy of the newsletter mailed to them.

See you at the show grounds!



2009 Executive

- President: Lynn Mather
- Points & Awards: Pam Grant
- Treasurer: Bob Gorman
- Banquet: Lynn Mather & Cheryl Abra
- Membership: Cheryl Abra
- Recording Secretary: Debbie Marshall
- Sponsorships: Wendy Hope & Robert Robinson
- Show Grounds: Jim Poag & Barb Caris
- Newsletter: Tracy Marshall

Memberships

If you're receiving this newsletter, you were a member of the Red Valley Saddle Club in 2008, but that membership has now expired.

If you don't want to miss all the fun this season, be sure to get those memberships in—and the sooner the better!

We are offering reduced fees for all memberships received before April 1, 2009! All memberships received after this date will be required to pay the full mem-

bership fee. As always, memberships may be purchased at each show.

You will find one copy of the membership form attached to this newsletter. Subsequent copies may be found online at our new website, www.redvalleysaddleclub.com

We will require a signed waiver from all members as well!



2009 Show Dates

- April 26
- May 24
- June 21
- August 9
- September 6

Rain Dates:

- *May 3
- *June 28

Both rings will begin at 9:00am sharp.

The clean-up date for the show grounds is April 19 at 10:00am, with a rain date of April 25 at 10:00am. Please help us prepare the show grounds for the first show if you're able.

If you are unsure whether a show will be held or cancelled due to weather conditions, please phone our hotline at **519-289-1485**. There will be a pre-recorded message indicating whether the show will be held or will be cancelled prior to 6:00am the morning of the show.

For general show and Red Valley Saddle Club information, please call:

Pam Grant at 519-289-1485

Lynn Mather at 519-289-0213

Support Our Shows



There was much discussion at the 2008 Annual General Meeting with respect to contributions of volunteers at the shows last season. I am saddened to report that the general consensus was that we simply do not have enough people volunteering their time in order to run our shows efficiently. We ask that you consider volunteering throughout the 2009 season.

One of the main areas in which we require more volunteers is in setting up and striking the trail pattern. Competitors - perhaps a friend or family member who has come to support you at the show could assist in carrying obstacles as well, or perhaps you, yourself, could volunteer a few minutes to assist in the set up and tear down of the obstacles.

We also require volunteers to assist in the announcer's booth, to assist in taking entries in the morning, and to work the gate for the speed classes.

We hope that you will find time to lend a hand during this season, and we thank all of our wonderful volunteers from 2008!

Rule & Policy Changes

The following are a list of rule and/or policy changes that take effect January 1, 2009.

1. The definition of a Novice has been changed as follows "He/she has not shown in 40 Open or Breed shows over the past 5 years, nor had a strong history of Open or Breed

showing in previous years, nor received any remuneration for riding, training, judging, or teaching." The remainder of the definition shall remain the same. Remuneration may be any form of benefit received for doing any of the above-noted including discounted board, dis-

counted riding lessons, etc.

2. With the addition of the Texas Speed and Action class, we will follow the Mid-Western Ontario Horseman's Society ("MWHS") rules for this class.
3. Discussion regarding the

proposed MWHS rule change regarding Jr. B riders and the use of 2 hands has concluded in the decision that Jr. B riders will be allowed to use 2 hands in the show ring at all times regardless of the type of bit used on or the age of the horse or pony.

Sponsorships

We are, once again, seeking sponsors for the upcoming show season. While I am thrilled to be able to announce that we have already received donations from a few sponsors, we do require more sponsorships.

Attached to this newsletter, you will find a copy of our letter to potential sponsors, as well as our new outline of the various levels of sponsorship. The new levels will give the sponsors much more recognition for their contributions.

Depending on the level, this may include announcing their names at shows or large signs along the show ring.

If you know of a person or company that you think may be interested in sponsoring us, we encourage you to provide them with a copy of this letter and sponsorship level outline.

If you are uncomfortable approaching the potential sponsor yourself, please contact Wendy Hope, Robert Robinson, or Jim Poag.



Lynn Mather presents Hailey Poag with the award for High Point 13 & Under Performance, sponsored by Champ Enterprises.

4th Annual High School Equestrian Team Challenge of Southwestern Ontario

We have received a letter from Ashley Cook of the Dresden Saddle Club inviting our youth members to participate in the 4th Annual High School Equestrian Team Challenge of Southwestern Ontario, which is tentatively scheduled for May 23, 2009. The show will take place at the Dresden Fair Grounds in Dresden, Ontario, beginning at 8:30am.

This show is open to all high school students in Southwestern Ontario. The show will be double-judged, and placings will be determined by the average of the two scores. Prizes will be awarded to all exhibitors.

In 2008, nearly 60 youth exhibitors from 13 different high school teams participated. A

team can consist of one representative from a high school.

This annual show is entirely youth directed and is non-profit, with all proceeds remaining after expenses have been paid being donated to the Dresden Saddle Club Scholarship Fund.

For additional information, please contact Ashley Cook by

phone at 519-809-7103 or via email at ashleycooka@hotmail.com.



MANY THANKS TO OUR 2008 SPONSORS!

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|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Adelaide Quarter Horses | The Fontaine Family | Poag Jewellers | Vonda O'Donnell Performance Horses |
| Blacks Photo Corporation | Chuck Hathaway Farrier Service | Quarter Bend Farm | Robert Robsinson Upholstery |
| The Catlos Family | Henry Fehr Farrier Service | Royal Fence Ltd. | CJ's Leather Design |
| Champ Enterprises | Tammy & Wendy Hope | Stewart Insurance Brokers | Greenhawk Harness & Supplies |
| Continental Building Movers | Lakeside Feed & Grain | Sydenham Community Credit Union | Hidden Lane Framing Studio |
| Crawford & Danyluk Insurance | JoAnne Lewyll Performance Horses | The Ropp Family | |
| Joanne Pack & Linda Hardy (Equine Massage Therapists) | Lynn & Phil Mather | Via Trailers | |
| Ettrick Farm | Kim & Steve Merklinger | Mike Schmeltz | |