



# Bits 'n Pieces

## Manitoba Pony Club's Quarterly Newsletter

December 2006

### AGM IN REVIEW

Everyone who attended the Annual General Meeting and Awards Banquet had a wonderful time. Held in Portage la Prairie in November, there were prizes, displays, presentations, speeches and networking (AKA Meetings).

Branches spent a great deal of effort putting together displays about their accomplishments in 2006. They provided many starting points for sharing stories about regional or branch events. Hopefully they also sparked ideas for 2007.

We enjoyed an entertaining and informative power point display about Pony Club in Australia from Jaz Zebra. Although Pony Club in name, we discovered that the Australian system is quite different and yet still similar to Pony Club here in Canada. Soon the Bradley family and Pony Clubbers in Manitoba will be seeing Jaz off. We so enjoyed your visit and hope you did too! Have a safe trip home and happy trails, Jaz.

John compiled a picture year in review from the thousands of photos sent by members. To all of the photographers, keep them coming. John thanks again for giving us all a look at the accomplishments and enjoyment Pony Club gave to us all!

Thank you to Portage Pony Club for arranging the fabulous turkey dinner and all the volunteers for your efforts in making the day complete. Debbie Moehring did an outstanding job tacking all of the table ponies – thanks!

### Quiz Time

Eastman Quiz – hosted by Quarry Ridge and Windy Plains Pony Clubs will be Saturday, February 10 at the Parochial Hall (Anglican Church) in Stonewall.

Westman Quiz - hosted by Brandon Pony Club, will be held at the Forrest Elementary School (Highway 10 just north of Brandon) on Saturday, February 24.

Regional Quiz – will be Saturday, March 17 at the Herman Prior Centre in Portage la Prairie.

Lots of horsey games to play with your Pony Club friends and prizes to boot. Be among the next members that qualify to attend National Quiz. Come join the fun! Watch for details soon!



### **HALT... PICTURE SEARCH:**

John Moehring is on his never ending search for the good, bad and even a little embarrassing Pony Club pictures. With his new high speed Internet, his job just got a whole lot easier – ridjer@skyweb.ca!

## **YOUTH REP REPORT**

Hi Everybody!

Well this past month (December) has been quite a busy one; like we had talked about in our youth meeting in Portage, we have decided to do some fundraising! Our first fundraising idea is to sell 500 rubber "livestrong" type bracelets. They will be blue with horses on them and will be sold for \$3. We should be receiving them within the month of January sometime.

Many other fundraising ideas are in the works and we would love to hear from you if you have any! You can contact Stephanie at [rider\\_chick\\_01@hotmail.com](mailto:rider_chick_01@hotmail.com) and Leighton at [lilhickcowboy@hotmail.com](mailto:lilhickcowboy@hotmail.com). With the money raised this year, we hope to bring in clinicians or hold local clinics. We would also love to hold a couple get-togethers this year!

Another thing I'd like to address is, at the next regional meeting; we are going to try to organize another youth meeting in conjunction with it. The youth reps have been talking and we believe that we would accomplish a lot more by holding more meetings. So be ready to come along with your DC or parent to the youth meeting! Time and date if next youth meeting TBA.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Stephanie Sawatzky, Leighton Dyck & the rest of the youth reps!



### \*\*\* BRANCH NEWS \*\*\*

NOTE: ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOMED, HOWEVER MAY BE EDITTED DUE TO SPACE!

#### **BALDUR**

Well, with winter upon us and our horses turned fuzzy we have hung up our helmets and dusted off our books. We will be doing stable management lessons now until spring.

Baldur had their reorganizational meeting on Oct.18th. There was a strong turnout and all in all we had a successful meeting.

Baldur has 5 new members this year, which brings our total to 25! Needless to say it's a little hard to get all of us together all the time but we try to at least once a month.

On thanksgiving weekend, three of our members went to National Quiz, which was held this year in Saskatoon. A good time was had by all and we even came home with a few things to talk about. Sara Berry

and Leighton Dyck were on the C team who placed 9th overall with Sara placing 11th individually out of almost 60 competitors. Amanda Penner was part of the 2nd place A/B team and placed 1st individually.

At the last regional meeting, one of our members Leighton Dyck was chosen to be western Manitoba's youth rep - If you have any questions or concerns you can contact Leighton at 534-6323.

This next year is an exciting year for us, as we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary. To commemorate this we will be holding a fun show on the weekend of May 12-13 at Will Farms in Carroll. On Saturday we will be having Hunter/Jumper and flat classes. In the evening there is a supper planned to which past members of Baldur Pony Club will also be invited and on Sunday it will be dressage and derby day! If you'd

like more information on this you can contact Val Crowe at 535-2368 or [pvcrowe@mts.net](mailto:pvcrowe@mts.net).

Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy 'Horsy' New Year!!

Amanda Penner

#### **BRANDON**

Our stable management is trotting into pace. We welcome 7 new members and Joanne Reader back this year. We have a great group with an outstanding group of volunteer instructors. We welcome instructors Jana Lawson, Jennifer Andrews, Sarah Cooper to assist and welcome back Melissa Jones and Lynn Robertson. A great season of horse knowledge will be shared with all the young minds of the Brandon Club.



## Le Trec – It's A New Discipline

You've attended Camp, Rally and possibly even Tetrathlon. Now there is a new outdoor riding event to try – Le Trec. Although it does not have a discipline chair, our region is going to check it out!

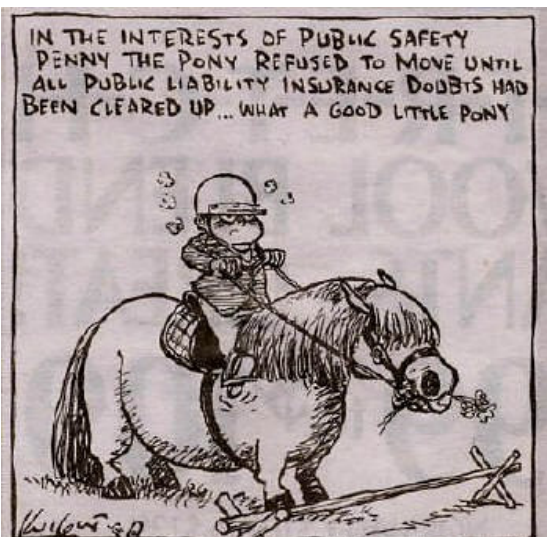
What is it? Well, it is orienteering from horseback. It has components of navigating by compass on foot and while riding a cross-country course. There are also controlled gait and quiz components. It's challenge is to provide some of the conditioning of Rally with the stable management knowledge like Quiz and round it off by demonstrating that you can use a compass and/or markings to navigate a course. Now let's try to put that together with keeping things safe and fun! Let's face it...who wants to go for a ride and not be able to enjoy your time with your special equine companion!

In 2007 a one-day clinic is being planned. This will be strictly a learning experience! It will be set up so that each participant will have the opportunity to try each of the different pieces of Le Trec. There are no free weekends this riding season (and I've been informed that the original June date will not work for our haying schedule), thus, to avoid bugs and wet weather the date of the clinic will be Saturday, September 8. Those interested please email [jmickle@mts.net](mailto:jmickle@mts.net).

### ● Bulletins ●

- Be current ... check the calendar on the Canadian PC/Manitoba PC WebPages [www.canadianponyclub.org](http://www.canadianponyclub.org)
- Do you have classified notices, jokes, bulletins, or even articles? Email [jmickle@mts.net](mailto:jmickle@mts.net) to include in your next Newsletter. Editorial deadline is March 15, 2007.

## On the Lighter Side of the Fence!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year...  
May Santa have treated you to lots of horsy  
gifts and cheer! Thanks for all the  
contributions! Please keep them coming.

P.S. Sorry about the delay in this Newsletter, but once again rural dialup produced some technical difficulties. May 2007 bring me wireless!