



BITS 'N PIECES

**MANITOBA PONY CLUB'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2008**

Happy New Year to All!

It's a new year and MPC has a new editor for Bits' n Pieces. Doug Dealey is taking over from Jennifer Mickle. Thanks to Jennifer for her efforts. Any submissions for the newsletter can now be sent to Doug at hddealey@shaw.ca.

Portage Camp 2008

Camp 2008 dates – Sunday 20 July to Saturday 26 July 2008
Location – Portage Fair Grounds

Contract negotiations are ongoing. We are looking for alternative method for manure removal so more user friendly for smaller members.

Grounds include enclosed grass ring, enclosed sand ring and grass area at west end of infield; enclosed dressage ring located east of the office building. Enclosing the dressage ring will encourage younger members to participate.

Instructors in place: Cindy Klassen, Lorraine Wilson and Hugh Crawley.
Suzanna Danyluk will be the Dressage instructor.

Stall check prizes – Budgeted for \$15 per branch to cover cost of purchasing stall check prizes – PPC will do the purchasing.

Instructor breaks & lunches – Budgeted for \$30.00 per branch to cover cost of groceries and drinks. PPC will prepare the snacks and lunches for the instructors.

Incorporating more stable management into Camp 2008, and it will be geared to the D to D2 levels.

Evening activities include:

Monday – Parelli demo with Heather Davey
Tuesday – currently a free evening (cheap night at the movies)
Wednesday – Dressage demo with Suzanna Danyluk
Thursday – Pool Party at Splash Island

Friday – Show Jumping

Hay orders will be included on the registration form with payment to be made at time of registration. Pick up hay on move in day.

Straw – looking at allocating a specified number of bales per stall and may ask each camper to store these bales (3 bales for the week). This is an effort to avoid waste and reduce clean up at the end of camp.

PPC is looking at running a small canteen with penny candy. The Tack Swap will be offered with set hours of operation – likely 10:30 am to about 4:00 each day. The Tack Swap will be closed for lunch hour. More security will be instituted such as a deposit for articles taken out and not paid for in full, or a cheque to cover the cost, sign out book, etc. A craft activity hopefully will be offered at a reasonable fee and PPC is looking at having the campers do the craft in their riding groups.

Camping – must be booked on the registration form with payment made to the Portage Fair Board. Need to specify which group you want to camp with, type of unit, including length and amp service required. If you have a bigger unit, with air and lots of electrical appliances, please camp in the regular campground where your camper's requirements can be fully met. Camping fees give you 7 nights for the price of 6 so you can move your camper in early, or stay a night longer.

Campground rate - \$108

Group camping - \$90

Tenting (no services) - \$60

Pole C issues – this camping area is located directly north of the sand ring. Some issues have arisen in the past however; this area should be filled with Pony Club campers and not left available for outside campers for more control.

What we need help with:

Night Checks of the barns. If you have someone who likes to roam around at night,

please let us know as the barns need to be checked during the night.

Camp Photographer – it would be nice to have a picture taken of each riding group

Silent Auction – any volunteers to organize and sell tickets?

Ring upkeep – the grass rings need to be poopy scooped on a regular basis. A branch schedule will be set up. PPC will look at purchasing two muck buckets at Walmart with these to be kept in the MPC jump trailer.

Clean up – we will need help picking up the MPC jumps and packing the MPC jump trailer. Please allow for this in your move out plans.

Camp is being downsized by approximately 30%. Only 2 horse barns are being fully utilized for stalls. The half of Heritage Building that we normally have can be used for stable management, group meetings, or just a place to sit and chat or for storage. We are not being charged per se for this building with only 4 or 5 stalls being used. We are not renting the Zipperlock barn as the panels out of this barn are needed to enclose the dressage ring and opening up this building would mean an increase in the rent as 4 barns are then being used.

This puts a limit on campers and horses with a maximum of 50 horses. No extra horses will be allowed. We are operating on a very tight budget. Instructors will be housed in campers and a per diem provided for meals appropriate to the cost of eating out in Portage la Prairie.

Camp focus is on the D level of riders (D, D1 and D2), green horses, flat work, show jumping to 2/6" and stable management up to the D2 level. If more experienced members do register for camp, they may mentor the younger members, as appropriate.

Registration forms will be ready to hand out at Regional Quiz on 16 March 2008 and we ask that they be handed in at the next MPC regional meeting which is being held on Sunday, 19 April 2008. At that point, the number of registrations

will be assessed and you will be advised if there are stalls still available.

Grants – Dressage and Show Jumping Chairs will be approached.

Barb Bradley

Camp 2008 Chair

252-3448

barb.bradley@servicecanada.gc.ca or

bjbrtb@mts.net

Youth Report

2008 is now upon us and so are schooling shows, stable management classes etc... The youth are very excited for 2008 and we hope you will be too!

Our first project for 2008 is the MPC Amazing Race! It's a really fun game for everyone to play. More information is in this newsletter.

We also will be fundraising again this year. We haven't decided on quite what yet but we hope that everyone will be excited about the projects and help us out! Again, the fundraising we are doing is to be able to bring in a high level out of province clinician! And if you have any great ideas we'd love for you to send us them. Also, this year we have a youth committee going on...just a bunch of people who get their opinions asked by email. It's a great help to have people give us their thoughts! So send your email to either Stephanie at riders_chick_01@hotmail.com or Karly at karlywoods@hotmail.com to get on the list! So stay tuned for news from the youth later in 2008!

Have a great year! The youth reps.

On the Web

www.nickernetwork.com/index2htm

Online, on-demand TV for the horse world.

Watch on line for free, download or purchase programs.

www.QuaterHorseTube.com

For the Quater Horse Enthusiasts.

www.dressage.net/canadatests.html

Diagrams of dressage movements for all tests at all levels. Can help with memorization and visualization.

Manitoba Pony Club's Amazing Race

MPC's Amazing Race is a 6 week game for teams of 2 players. To play, you need to find a partner, fill out an entry form and send it in to become officially entered. We would love to see every pony clubber in the province playing! There will be 3 different legs to the game lasting 2 weeks each. Your team will be assigned specific tasks that will need to be completed within that two week period. All tasks have been designed with the fact in mind that people live in different parts of the province. Keep in mind that you'll want a partner that lives fairly close to you because you will have to do tasks with them.

Every two weeks, teams that will have not completed the tasks on time will be eliminated from the Amazing Race. Also, your quickness may come into play. So make sure to send in your answers as soon as you are done to ensure that you move on to the next round.

At the end of the three, two week legs, there will be a final challenge in March at the Regional Quiz in Portage. 2 teams will participate in the final challenge and battle it out to win first place! There will be prizes for the winners!

The game encourages character, loyalty and sportsmanship as well as team work. We hope that many pony clubbers will play the Amazing Race for a chance to win some awesome prizes and have a blast!

Entry Form

Name of 1st team member: _____ Age: _____ M or F

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
(Regularly checked email)

Name of 2nd team member: _____ Age: _____ M or F

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
(Regularly checked email)

(Signature of 1st team member)

(Signature of 2nd team member)

Preferred method of contact for 1st team member: _____ 2nd team member: _____

By signing above we agree to partake in the MPC's Amazing Race game and to play until eliminated. If we make it to the finals, we will be present to partake in them. We also realize that this is a game created for fun and enjoyment and any foul behavior will result in elimination.

Thank you for entering into the MPC's Amazing Race. We hope that you will have lots of fun finding the answers and doing the tasks assigned to you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact either your east or west active youth representatives. Stephanie Sawatzky (444-2363) or rider_chick_01@hotmail.com or Karly Woods karlywoods@hotmail.com

Please email this to rider_chick_01@hotmail.com or karlywoods@hotmail.com or post to;
Stephanie Sawatzky
Box 26 Grp 3 RR 2
Dugald, Manitoba
R0E 0K0



**Manitoba Pony Club
Eastman Dressage Series**

Saturday, May 31th, Meadowview Ranch, Anola
 Saturday, June 28th, Meadowview Ranch, Anola
 Sunday, July 13th, Meadowview Ranch, Anola
 Saturday Aug. 30th, Meadowview Ranch, Anola
 Possible date in September if there is interest

- ◆ Series offered to all Pony Club levels (12 spots only this year)
- ◆ Low cost of \$25 per clinic, \$100 in total (\$125 for outsiders)
- ◆ One 45 minute semi-private lesson each Saturday or Sunday of the series
- ◆ Elaine Banfield: clinician for the Eastman region

Requirements:

- ◆ For MPC members and MHC members (if space available)
- ◆ Riders must sign up for the whole series
- ◆ Payment in full with completed application form by April 13th (regional meeting)
- ◆ Non-refundable unless vet certificate or found a replacement

More clinicians may be added if the demand warrants it. Clinic holds 12 participants

Name: _____ Level: _____ Region: _____

Dressage experience: _____

Dressage Tests ridden: _____

Other pertinent information: _____

Private lessons at \$50 per 45 minute session **may** be available. Yes No

Include separate check of \$100 (\$125 outsiders). It will be returned to you if private lesson is not available.

Payment included

Testing Update

This year we are planning to offer a Regional C1 Test. This will be optional. Branches may still run their own C1 Test if they choose.

Those planning to test C1, C2, B or B2 at the Regional Test must have their applications into Dianna Fraser Box 758, Souris, MB R0K 2C0 by February 15, 2008. Ask your DC or contact Val Crowe for a copy of the application.

The fee is \$100 per test but you can get a \$50 refund if you show up for the test, fail the written or withdraw in writing prior to the written test date.

The dates for the Regional Testing are August 25-28 at Will Farm in Carroll. There is plenty of stabling and hook ups for camping.

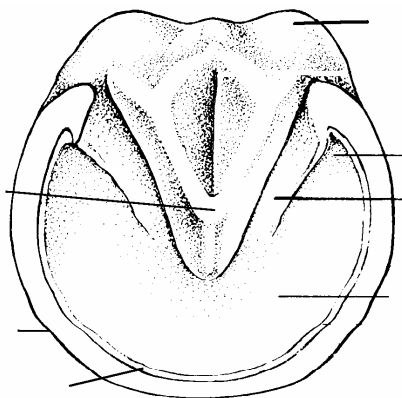
Coming Events

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Jan 13, 2008 | MPC Regional meeting 11 am | Portage Fair Board |
| Jan 20 th , 1pm | Council of Clubs meetings | Manitoba Horse Council |
| Jan 26-27, 2008 | Pineridge Schooling Show | Pineridge Equine Park |
| Feb 1-2, 2008 | Brandon LHS Schooling Show | Keystone Centre, Brandon |
| Feb. 9th, 2008 | NHPC Bud, Spud and Steak | Oakbank |
| Feb 9,10 2008 | Pineridge Schooling Show | Pineridge Equine Park |
| Feb 15-17, 2008 | Brandon LHS Schooling Show | Keystone Centre, Brandon |
| Feb 15, 2008 | C2 up testing application deadline | Mail to Dianna Fraser |
| Feb 23, 2008 | MHT Snowbound 10-4 | Oakbank |
| Feb 24, 2008 | Westman Quiz | Minnedosa |
| Feb 29-Mar. 2, 2008 | Brandon PC Schooling Show | Keystone Centre, Brandon |
| March 1,2, 2008 | Pineridge Schooling Show | Pineridge Equine Park |
| March 16, 2008 | MPC Regional Quiz | Portage |
| Mar.31-Apr. 5th 2008 | Royal Manitoba Winter Fair | Keystone Centre, Brandon |
| April 4-6, 2008 | CPC National AGM | Calgary |
| April 12-13, 2008 | Gina Smith Clinic | jrneufel@shaw.ca |
| April 19, 2008 | MPC Regional meeting 11am | Portage Fair Board |
| April 26-27, 2008 | MHT Clinic | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| April 26-27, 2008 | May Schooling Days MHJA | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| April 26-27, 2008 | Natural Horsemanship Clinic | Stonewall (contact L. Tunmer) |
| April 30th, 2008 | Deadline for National Grant | To National Discipline Chair |
| May 3-4, 2008 | Dressage Winnipeg | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| May 3, 2008 | Tet Clinic | Eastman, TBA |
| May 3-4, 2008 | MHT Hunter Trials/Derby | |
| May 10-11, 2008 | Possible MHT Clinic | |
| May 11, 2008 | Eastman Dressage Series | Meadowview Ranch, Anola |
| May 11, 2008 | Baldur PC Fun Show | Will Farm, Carroll |
| May 17-18, 2008 | | |
| May 19, 2008 | Tet Clinic | Minnedosa |
| May 23-25, 2008 | Red River Pony Club Show | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| May 24-25, 2008 | Spring Fling Westman Cadora | |
| May 31 | Eastman Dressage Series | Meadowview Ranch, Anola |
| May 31-June 1, 2008 | | |
| June 4-8, 2008 | Brandon Summer Fair | Keystone Centre, Brandon |
| June 14-15, 2008 | Dressage Winnipeg | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| June 13-15, 2008 | Willville MHT Regional Rally | Will Farm, Carroll |
| June 20-22, 2008 | Summer Classics MHJA | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| June 21-22, 2008 | Touch of Class Westman Cadora | |
| June 28, 2008 | Eastman Dressage Series | Meadowview Ranch, Anola |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| July 5-6, 2008 | Bird's Hill Summer Event MHT | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| July 10-13, 2008 | Beach Party MHJA | TBA |
| July 18-20, 2008 | Combined Driving Event | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| July 19-20, 2008 | Dressage Winnipeg | Pineridge Equestrian Park |
| July 20-26, 2008 | MPC D-D2 Camp | Portage |
| July 23-27, 2008 | Derby Show MHJA | TBA |
| Aug. 2-3, 2008 | | |
| Aug 8-10, 2008 | MPC Benefit Show | Birds Hill Park, Winnipeg |
| Aug 9-10, 2008 | Summer Classic Westman Cadora | |
| Aug 16-17, 2008 | Mordha Farms' Event (Tentative) | Mordha Farms |
| Aug 20-24, 2008 | Senior Camp | Will Farm, Carroll |
| Aug. 25-28 | Regional Testing C1-B2 | Will Farm, Carroll |
| Aug 22-24, 2008 | Fall Harvest MHJA | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| Aug. 30-31, 2008 | MHT Clinic Chelan Kozak | Eastridge Farms |
| Aug 30th, 2008 | Eastman Dressage Series | Meadowview Ranch, Anola |
| Sept.7, 2008 | Fall Fest Event MHT | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| Sept 6-7, 2008 | Dressage Winnipeg | Birds Hill Park,Winnipeg |
| Sept. 13-14, 2008 | | |
| Sept. 20-21, 2008 | | |
| Sept 27-28, 2008 | Spirit of Pan-Am | Pineridge Equine Park |
| Sept 27-28, 2008 | Willville MHT | Will Farm, Carroll |
| Sept. 30th, 2008 | Deadline for post event reports | To National Discipline Chair |
| Oct. 11-13, 2008 | CPC National Quiz | Toronto |
| Oct. 4-5 or 18-19, 2008 | Gina Smith Clinic | jrneufel@shaw.ca |
| Nov. 8th, 2008 | MPC Awards Banquet | TBA |
| | | |

Pony Club Events:

Red: National level **Blue: Regional level** **Green: Branch level**
 Black: Other dates of interest **Nothing scheduled at this time**



Getting Ready for Quiz D Challenge

How many parts of the foot can you name?

Branch News

Portage

PPC held a test day on Saturday, 3 November 2007 and thank goodness it was a really nice day!

We had 4 members doing their very first tests. Examiners were Hugh Crawley, Senior Examiner with Kalee Bradley and Michelle Johnson as Junior Examiners. The testing site was the Rutbeek residence northwest of Portage la Prairie.

Breanne Neudorf, Jacqueline Hoyes, CJ Wishart and Nicole Rutbeek all successfully tested D level and Breanne continued on to successfully complete the D1 test level.

Congratulations girls and parents! Thanks to the Examiners for bravely stepping up to our call on such a late test date in Manitoba!

Red River

"Red River Pony Club started a new year in September with membership sign-up and registration. Our members meet most Saturdays at Teskes in south Charleswood in Winnipeg for stable management and usually ride once a month at Teskes with a guest instructor. Ashley Buss kindly taught our December class. We would like to thank the Teskes for allowing Pony Club to continue to use their facilities.

For 2008 we are working on the RRPC & NHPC Spring Classic horse show at the end of May at Birds Hill Park. We are also looking to update our website page and recruit new members from the south and west areas around Winnipeg. For information about Red River - please contact ADC Cheryl Heming at 831-6246 or caheming@hotmail.com"

Brandon

Brandon Pony Club is growing!! We have a total of 22 members this year with ages ranging from 6 to 17 and levels E to C1. We have gotten together for a couple of outside stable management sessions in the fall while the weather was nice. We have now moved inside and are enjoying guest speakers. We had a very informative presentation from Myra Cryderman on endurance riding. We have another guest speaker planned for January when Gloria McBurney will talk to the members about conformation. At the upcoming schooling shows,

we plan to get our stable management groups together for some sessions. We have 4 members that are preparing to take their C2 level this year and are meeting every 2 weeks to do stable management. A lot of our members are continuing to take riding lessons in preparations for the upcoming schooling shows in Brandon. We are busy organizing for our own schooling show, which is Feb. 29 to March 2 at the Agricultural Centre of Excellence in the Keystone Centre.

Prairie Valley

The newest Branch in Manitoba got off the ground this fall with 5 members: three D2's, one D and one new member. Our District Commissioner is Elizabeth Sims and Sarah Read is our Education Rep. We have been working on stable management on Sunday afternoons at Pegasus Riding School, with sessions so far on wrapping and bandaging, mane pulling, deworming and vaccination, and measuring striding and distances between jumps.

We had a Christmas party on December 9th at the riding school, but without horses. We played arena volleyball, arena croquet and snow golf, then went inside to have refreshments, play pass-the-parcel and open the stockings that the horses had given to the members (they got the moms to do the shopping for them).

After that we took a little break for the busy holiday season but we will get started again on January 20th. We plan to have a session fitting various pieces of tack, such as different martingales, on our poster boy, Wylie to make our own study pictures for Quiz and testing. In January we also welcomed another new member to bring our total to six.

Three members have started training for tetrathlon by joining the Brandon Bluefins Swim Club to swim once a week and joined an air pistol club in Winnipeg to shoot twice a month. Running training will get underway when the weather warms up in the spring. The members are looking forward to entering the schooling shows in Brandon in February and March as they have all been riding regularly thanks to having an indoor arena. The milder weather in December provided an opportunity to do some trail riding as well.

Don't forget that we are hosting Westman Quiz in Minnedosa on February 24th at Tanner's Crossing School.

Baldur

We are down to 16 members this year compared to 25 last year. This is due partly to the forming of the Prairie Valley Branch in Minnedosa. We wish Prairie Valley our best wishes and hope to continue to do some joint activities with them.

The Penner Family from Glenboro has also moved to Lacombe, Alberta. Amanda Penner has been a member of the Baldur Club for many years. Our best to the Penners. Hopefully Amanda will have mercy on Manitoba if she meets up with us at National Quiz.

We have a couple of new faces in our club this year. Leyna Murphy from Souris and Laura Elder from Wawanesa. Welcome Girls !

We started meeting every second Sunday for SM Lessons for level E-C1 at the beginning of December. We are extremely fortunate to have very knowledgeable instructors in our branch. Our sincere appreciation to Val Crowe and Dianna Fraser for all they do.

Our Christmas party was on January 6/08. We had a potluck supper and gift exchange at the Fraser home. A good time was had by all.

We are all looking forward to spring to get on with what we love besthorsing around.

Mars Hill

Mars Hill held their Christmas party on the 15th of December. Wall climbing at Vertical Adventures was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Linda and Brian Zimmerman for literally climbing the wall for us and helping the kids do the same. The party then moved to the Dealey's home in St. Andrews for a gift exchange and skating on the back yard rink. The weather cooperated and the parents held a club meeting while the kids skated.

Mars Hill is off to a slower start this year. Stable management will begin sometime after regional quiz. Riding will begin about the same time. Linda Zimmerman and Sue Wilson will be working with the riders on PPG. Many members continue to ride on their own through the winter.

Mars Hill would like to wish all a happy new year and look forward to a successful 2008 season.

North Hill

Happy New Year to all!
NHPC will be celebrating 25 years in 2008!

North Hill PC members are looking forward to the New Year after a fantastic Christmas Party at the Reeves' residence. Karaoke and the gift exchange were again favorites. Thanks to Frank and Doreen for all their hard work. Stable management should start soon and spring should be just around the corner (yes I know that this is wishful thinking...).

Members and parents are busy planning 2008 activities and hope to be as successful as they were in 2007, including National competitions, branch testing, regional championships, etc.

Parents and members over 18 are invited to NHPC's 2nd annual Valentine Bud, Spud and Steak on February 9th at the Twin Barrels in Oakbank. Contact me for tickets. I guarantee you a fabulous time! It's a great way to meet horsy friends without all the work and the horses!

Robby Norris has left Pony Club with her A level. She worked hard to achieve this and the whole NHPC crew wishes her continued success in the horse world.

We have now 17 members. 5 E's, 2 D's, 4 D1's, 5 D2's and 1 C2.

I am looking forward to see you all in the New Year at the various Pony Club functions!
Hélène Savard, DC

Quarry Ridge

Hi from Quarry Ridge! We have had an exciting start to the pony club season...we are thrilled to say we are "back home" with Catherine and Kurt McCullagh at Quarry Ridge Farms. We missed you! The excitement continues...Brennan and Kieran McCullagh joined our pony club family. We are looking forward to not only watching Brennan and Kieran jump those x-rails, but Catherine, herself, finally have time to train and compete with her special girl, Indy.

This year we have 11 members. Returning are Megan, Shannon, Jessi, Dominic, Nicole, Aylucia, Kylie and Shae. New this year are Jessi and Dominic's cousins, Sara and Hollie Good, along with Brennan and Kieran (who just bought a new pony, Shadow!).

Wednesday evenings are busy with riding lessons and stable management for the E/D/D1 members. The stable management lessons are organized by Kylie's mom, Tammy along with our DC, Karen. Tammy is also great at organizing sessions for us to work on badges. Sunday mornings are off to an early start in the barn with our older members riding with Catherine. The day finishes up with Catherine,

assisted by Megan, teaching more of our avid, young riders. The cold temps haven't slowed us down too much but we have to admit that the -45 has...but not for long!

We'll be spending the upcoming months continuing with our stable management, working on badges, strengthening our riding skills, attending clinics and preparing for Eastman and Regional Quiz. See you there!

Stay safe, stay warm and have fun!

Better Horsey Pix

Once again this year the Canadian Pony Club is asking for your photographs for the annual calendar. The selection process has already begun for 2009 but we can start now for the 2010 effort. Here are a few tips to help improve your images.

Why is it that my pictures don't look like the ones in the magazines?

The main reason your images may differ from those found in magazines is equipment. Point and shoot cameras are great; they are portable and easy to use but they have their limitations. Long telephoto and wide angle lenses provide for different perspectives which add interest to photos. Less expensive cameras do not have either of these options but that does not mean that they are incapable of producing nice images. Read your user's manual and work with the limitations. There is a time delay when you push the shutter on many of these cameras. (This delay is to allow the camera to set exposure and focus) It becomes necessary to anticipate what your subject is doing in order to catch the right time. Your camera may not be able to take good shots of horses jumping which is great because too many of these types of photos are being submitted. Your camera is better suited to photographing your friends enjoying pony club activities.

What is the best time to take pictures?

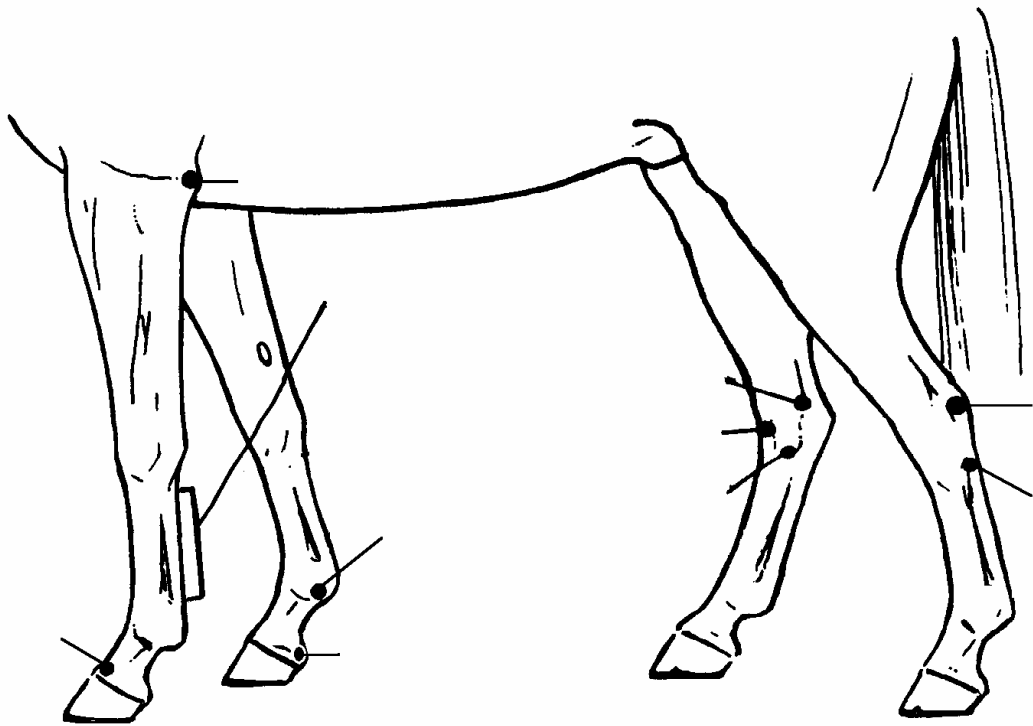
Once you have mastered the use of your equipment it is time to take some pictures. The oldest rule in photography is to shoot with the sun over your left shoulder. The light will be in front of your subject making for a better photo. Save noon for lunch. Put your camera away at this time as the sun will be too high and harsh. Early morning and evening light are much nicer. If activities are happening during lunch time go ahead and take some shots but be aware that they may not look that great.

Is it possible to take too many pictures?

The only thing cheaper than film is a photographer that won't use it. With digital technology taking pictures no longer cost money so don't be afraid to push the button. Twenty pictures from the same angle will give you twenty copies of the same subject. It is better to shoot from different angles. Try your photo from a low angle then stand and take another. Move left then right. When you get home view your images and be critical. Ask yourself what made the best photo. Get rid of the pictures that didn't work that well. In time your pictures will improve.

It's winter. Get your camera out now and start shooting. Photography is not only a summertime activity. Look for your next newsletter for more photo tips.

The next news letter will be published in April. If you have any information you wish to share please submit it to hdealey@shaw.ca



Getting Ready for Quiz ABC Challenge

How many of these unsoundnesses can you name?

Are they bony or bursal enlargements?

A/B's name the interior structure involved.