

Annapolis Pony Club Branch Report 2006

In the Spring of 2006, the Annapolis Pony Club had a fun filled and successful summer. We held a 4 ½ day camp the first week in July where members camped overnight at Clayhill Farms in Sheffield Mills. Members enjoyed two group lessons a day from our pony club instructors Julia Young and Sue Fraser. The evenings were filled with fun activities such as a pool party, trip to a lakeside cottage and our ever popular scrap-booking night using pictures taken at camp. The highlight of camp was a cross-country event day at Applewood Farms hosted by Nancy Marshall. Members went through the Applewood starter course with Julia Young, and the more adventurous members took on the pre-training course under the instruction of Nancy Marshall. Everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch among Applewood's beautiful gardens. Camp wrapped up with a parent show and awards banquet where everyone was recognized with prizes for their success at camp.

Our summer lesson program began in June and ran for 10 consecutive weekly lessons under the direction of Julia Young and Sue Fraser.

Unfortunately Annapolis was not able to put a team together for ABC Rally, although we were proudly represented by Sydney Goodfellow who scrambled in with the West Valley Team. Sydney had a great time with the West Valley members and we would like to thank them for welcoming Sydney to their team.

Our club sponsored D Rally in August with a pre-rally clinic in July. Annapolis entered two D Rally teams and was joined by Avon and Eastern Shore. Although we were disappointed that only three (3) clubs showed up for Rally this year, we were pleased with how well the event went. Big congratulations and thank you to the D Rally Organizing Team for pulling the day off without a hitch. Hopefully next year more teams from around Nova Scotia will come out for D Rally at Hobby Horse Farm – it is a great facility and starter course for our D riders.

The following week the club was off to Truro for the Regional Prince Philip Games. Annapolis sent two teams to PPG and the members had a wonderful time. Congratulations to Friendly Breezes for taking home the cup this year. Thanks to one of our Dad's for taking photos throughout the day and creating a CD for each of the clubs that participated. Each club's District Commissioner will receive a CD for distribution.

Annapolis did their D and C testing in August at Clayhill Farms, with a pre-test clinic being offered to members the week before. We are proud to say that all members successfully passed their tests. Congratulations to Jessica Best for attaining her B at Alex Beaton's facility!

On October 22nd, Annapolis sent two teams to D Challenge in Windsor. Many thanks to Avon Pony Club for hosting a successful day – I think everyone went home with smiles on their faces and thankfully it wasn't freezing cold this year!

In addition to the many Pony Club events throughout the summer, our members also participated in the Salmon River Central Nova Horse Trials Event, Upper Sweet's Corner Show Jumping Show, Valley Reiners Open Show in Lawrenceton, Alex Beaton's Dressage and Show Jumping Fundraising Show, Applewood Horse Trials Event, Hobby Horse Horse Trials Event, Berwick Gala Days, Harbour Hideaway Fun Show, and the Greenwood Saddle Club Halloween Fun Show. It was a busy and successful summer for everyone and all our members should be very proud of their accomplishment throughout the year.

The club was busy with a few fund raisers. Members picked apple drops to help raise money for club jackets; we held a yard sale early in the spring and a dance in Grand Pre at the end of November. The canteen committee was very successful this year. Proceeds from both D Rally and Hobby Horse Event were a welcome contribution to our clubs efforts. We got a little innovative this year and sold a CD with digital pictures taken of our members during camp, disks sold for \$20.00 each.

Annapolis Pony Club held their Annual General Meeting on November 29th at the Centerville Community Hall. Also had a potluck party.

While the parents are involved with the AGM, members will be participating in a badge activity. One of our agenda items at our AGM this year was discussing new ideas for pony club program delivery. Annapolis will be looking to 'modernize' program delivery so that it better meets the challenges of today's family. Preliminary ideas presented by members show that the club is ready for change and innovation!

Respectfully submitted by Theresa Steele, District Commissioner, Annapolis Pony Club.