



The Pony Express

Newsletter of the Canadian Pony Club
Western Ontario Region



May 2008

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Ready, Set...Tet!



It's tetrathlon season in Western Ontario!

Keep fit and have fun (no Body Break pun intended!) with one of the year's most challenging events. In a single day or weekend, competitors participate in running, shooting, swimming and riding. The upcoming mini-meets are a great way to prepare for Regional Tetrathlon in June.

Remember, this year's regional competition will be held over two weekends. On June 8 competitors will run, shoot and swim, returning on June 14 to complete the riding portion of the event.



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When you are a rider, training for competition it is an ongoing job. Together, both you and your horse work hard to improve your level of competency. You want to do well at the next event or advance to the next level. It's rewarding when you do well, making the job of training for all those hours worthwhile; however, sometimes it is nice to just go on a hack through the countryside with your best equine friend in a less structured setting. It gives both a chance to enjoy the environment and to smell the roses, so to speak. I invite every family in every branch to take part in a hack in your own area.

Your local hack can be part of a much larger HAC (Hoofprints Across Canada).

Hoofprints Across Canada is one of the many ways that the Canadian Pony Club will celebrate its 75th Anniversary. The major celebration in Eastern Canada will be a combined Youth and Associate

Member Conference, timed to coincide with the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in 2009.

As one of the host regions for this major celebration, WOR would like to sponsor as many Youth and Associate Members as possible from each of our branches. Hoofprints Across Canada is an activity that can involve every member and every parent from every WOR branch and could provide a way to sponsor branch members to this special 75th Conference and Gala Awards Celebration.

Collectively, the Trans Canada Trail, the Ontario Trailways System and Municipal Trails puts an equine friendly trail close to virtually every branch in WOR. If each branch in Canada logs 100 km of trail over the next two riding seasons, it would collectively represent a ride across Canada, hence the name Hoofprints Across Canada. Here are some points to consider:

- This is an opportunity for parents to join their children in a pleasure ride.
- All the parents and children in a branch can participate.
- This is an opportunity for branch members to get to know each other better in

a social and fun setting.

- Pack a picnic lunch and perhaps arrange to rendezvous with parents and members from an adjoining branch.

- Participants could seek sponsorships for kilometers ridden. Money raised could be used to pay accommodations and cost to attend the 75th Anniversary Convention next November at the Holiday Inn, Yorkdale, Toronto.
- Trail maps will be available for pickup in the branch files at the May regional meeting.

I know I, and perhaps other members of the regional executive would like to join families from your branch in a fun and worthwhile project to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Canadian Pony Club.

Plan a HAC in your area. Have your branch contribute to this nationwide ride. I am available to join in and would like to meet your branch members and volunteers. As mentioned in the March newsletter, I am also available to attend your branch meetings if you would like.

Del Zelmer
WOR Regional Chair



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WOR Does Winter



Members of WOR sent winter out with a bang this year at the Ontario Winter Games. The athletes travelled to Collingwood in early March to compete provincially in a shooting competition. Congratulations to the following pony clubbers who participated in the event:

Emma Eagleson
Jean Eagleson
Alix Findlay
Nakita Krucker
Naomi Krucker
Kathryn Robertson

Out of School? Out of a Job? Out of Money?

Check out www.horsejobs.ca, Canada's first employment website dedicated to the equine industry. It's free for jobseekers. You can post a resume and search jobs in your area. What are you waiting for? Horses are your passion- it's time to make work fun!

Top Ten Reasons Why C Rally 2008 will be the Best Weekend of Your Life

- 10) You get the opportunity to go Debbie Travis on your tack room (Competitors note: Check the fire safety rules. This IS Pony Club and remember: curtains and doilies ARE flammable).
- 9) Playing capture the mascot and the finger pointing that follows (keep an eye on Guelph during dinner!)
- 8) You get to visit Flesherton, home of the annual crowd-pleasing Split Rail Festival.
- 7) You meet new people by being on a scrambled team.
- 6) Sleeping in tents, because it's socially unacceptable these days to camp on your front lawn.
- 5) Stretching your mind with stable management.
- 4) Taking your horse on vacation with you.
- 3) Despite all the fun you're having, you get the chance to learn from each other and pick up useful tips for testing and competing.
- 2) It's a great weekend away with your favourite horse and your best friends.
- 1) The Mom's are back in the kitchen!!!



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PC History Book - Submissions and Photos



**In 226 Days, Canadian
Pony Club will be 75
years old!**

We all want to leave our legacy with Pony Club. Now you can be more than the person who brought down the house with your strange Quiz answers and weird PPG costumes. In celebration of the 75th Anniversary of CPC, a new Pony Club History Book will be released, covering 1982 to the present.

Don't let your branch be left out! Submit your branch history and photos to National Office by **June 1st**.

Immortalize your branch and your achievements on the pages of Pony Club history!

We've been keeping you on the edge of your seats for the past few months, so here's the update you've been waiting for! Some of the events planned for the 75th anniversary in 2009 include:

- International Mounted Games Exchange and Anniversary Dinner June/July 2009, Calgary
- 75th Anniversary Banquet and Conference, November 11-15th, 2009, Toronto
- Pony Club History Book
- Trans Canada Trail Ride Across Canada
- Presentation of special financial awards
- Honourary Life Member and Honourary Life Director Recognition
- Pony Club Wall of Fame

It's hard getting to your next testing level without a horse...

Thanks to a new initiative from National, you don't need one! Starting this year, members may now only take the stable management part of any level.

Horse goes lame the day before your test? Give them the day off. No horse right now or starting a green one? Leave the riding clothes in the closet. You can advance through your stable management levels until you have a horse that's ready to do the riding levels.





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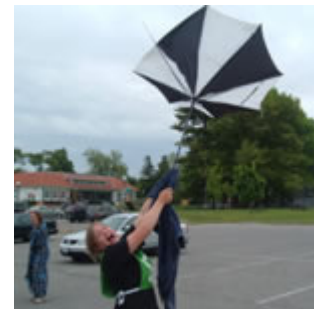
Across Canada Exchange Program

Ever wondered what Pony Club is like outside of the WOR bubble? The Across Canada Exchange provides an opportunity for members to host and visit host CPC members across Canada.

So what do you gain from participating?

- An opportunity to meet fellow pony clubbers from a different social background with different riding skills.
- Experience riding and culture in a different part of Canada.
- Meet fellow Canadian pony clubbers and exchange ideas.
- Make lasting friendships.
- Have fun!

If you're an active member 14 years old or over, round up three to seven of your pony club friends and check out: <http://www.canadianponyclub.org/DownloadFiles/Disciplines/ACEProgram.pdf> for more details on the program.



Wind, rain...snow?
It wouldn't be tetrathlon
season without it!

Catch us on Facebook!

Find us by searching in groups for Western Ontario Region-Canadian Pony Club. You already spend all your time on there...why not stay in touch?!

Classifieds

Misty Vale Trinity is a 15.2hh, 13 year old registered Morgan mare. Has done all Pony Club disciplines. Very willing and honest horse, needs a confident, advanced rider. Currently showing training level eventing, has some prelim. training. Has a 2 year old Yellow Creek colt available to see. \$20,000 willing to negotiate. Contact Kathy Hanley (519) 787-0797 or kathy_hanley@hotmail.com for more details.

16.3 Percheron/TB X available for use by approved experienced rider. Beautiful mover, well schooled on the flat & over a limited number of jumps. He just needs miles. Would be fun to drag around to local Cadoras & one day events. Has great potential for eventing. Must stay where he lives with few exceptions, between Guelph & 401. Call Judi 519-836-9300 or jmorris@primus.ca

Wanted large pony, suitable for mature woman in hunt field & for young children.

Call Judi 519-836-9300 or jmorris@primus.ca



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Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for upcoming competitions in 2008. Be sure to get your entries in on time to avoid a late fee!

EVENT	EVENT DATE	DEADLINE DATE
Regional Tetrathlon	Sun. June 8 th & Sat June 14 th	May 21st, 2008
Regional PPG	Saturday July 5 th , 2008	June 18th, 2008
Regional Dressage	Saturday July 19 th , 2008	June 20th, 2008
Regional Show Jumping	Sunday July 20 th , 2008	June 18th, 2008
Regional D Rally	Sunday August 24 th , 2008	August 11th, 2008
Regional ABC Rally	August 15 th - 17 th , 2008	*Not set yet but likely July 16th

May 24th- Mount Nemo Mini-Meet

June 18th- Regional Meeting, OVC Guelph

July 11-26th- International Mounted Games Exchange, Perth, Australia

July 16th- Regional Meeting, OVC Guelph

July 16th- PPG Zones

July 28th- National Tetrathlon, Ottawa

Want to See Yourself in Print?

The Pony Express wants your contributions! Games, stories, pictures, classifieds and club updates- it's your newsletter Western Ontario, tell us what you want to see!

Submission deadline for the July issue is
June 18, 2008.



Get a leg-up on your turnout marks.
Start braiding practice today!