



Tri-State e-news

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Connie Wyatt
Regional Supervisor
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Barb Nash
Vice RS: Rallies
814/450.5728

Melanie Donini
Vice RS: Ratings
304/374.6157

Melanie Stewart
Horse Management Organizer
304/266.2537

Ellen Fischer
Regional Instructional Coordinator
412/217.8290

Bridget Michael
Regional Secretary
724/612.9630

Rich Tice
Regional Treasurer
724/504.0717

IMPORTANT DATES:

January 31
IRS Form 1099-MISC due to each individual paid \$600 or more in 2013

February 8 | 10am-2pm
First Aid/CPR Seminar
Pittsburgh

February 15
Cash Receipts & Disbursements Forms due to National Office

February 28
IRS Summary Form 1096 & 1099-MISC copies due to IRS

March 1 | 8:30am-2pm
Regional Council Meeting
Das Dutch Village Inn
Columbiana, OH

From the Regional Supervisor

I am very excited to be able to reach all of our members for the first time in many years. This will be just the first of many I hope. The timing is perfect not only because it is the holidays but also it is the perfect time to reflect on our year passed and look ahead to the new year. Our region is truly blessed with amazing members and equally amazing volunteers. It is my hope with improved communications we can take an already impressive program and include more members and their families to help us reach even higher goals.

I have asked some of our regional officers to write a few words about some of the things they are working on. I think it is important for all our members and their families to know the leadership and feel they can ask questions or let us know about your concerns. We have a great group of officers and they all have ideas to help you and your club leadership get the most out of Pony Club. I am truly thankful to have them. I hope that when you see them at a rally or even a club event you will thank them for all the time they spend on behalf of our children.

Last year was a very successful year for our region. We sent 34 members to Champs and they all did very well. We

also recognized nine for having 0 points in Horse Management in Virginia which is outstanding. The list of those members are on the website. I hope that clubs will also remember those members in their newsletters and at future meetings. This is no small feat at Champs. We also had a good year with National Ratings. We passed a new H/A to bring our number to 5 and we also have a member that has successfully passed all her A certifications, Ashley Glynn of Peace Point Pony Club. I would like to get these members out to the clubs to talk to about these certifications. I want everyone to know these certifications are an achievable goal for anyone who is willing to work.

Moving forward, we are planning to have 7 rallies next year. We are one of the only regions that holds this many. We can only do this if we have members attend. Your DC cannot do all the work; let them know you want to attend and help get that together with other members. These are wonderful activities for members to learn about horse care away from the farm and to meet members from all over the region. The two aspects that I mention are only a couple of advantages that your child can get at a rally that they can

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Champs & More!

Barb Nash, Vice RS-Rallies

Champs 2013

Champs this year in Lexington, VA was not only a ton of fun and perfect weather but was very successful for the Tri-State region! We had 34 competitors and stable managers in Dressage, Eventing, Quiz, Show Jumping and Tetrathlon. The kids rode, acted and looked fantastic, really making our region proud! We

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Meet the Treasurer: Rich Tice

Welcome to our new Regional Treasurer, Rich Tice! Rich is also the treasurer of Little Creek PC based in the Zelienople area of Western Pennsylvania, of which his daughter Alyssa (HB) is a member. He is a founding partner of McCall, Scanlon & Tice LLC, a CPA firm based in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. Rich has been volunteering at rallies for many years,

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Regional Clinic Offerings

Ellen Fischer, Regional Instructional Coordinator

2013 was good year for Clinicians and excellent pass rate, especially at C2, and we are hoping to do even better in 2014! We already have two clinicians on board: National Examiner SueBeth Bunn will be visiting in May for a Ratings Prep and Cathie McLeod will be here for a Games weekend in July, which will also include her sister (another games person) and Alexis Graham. Looks like there will be all ratings offered in Tri-State for the coming year as well. Jeni Gaffney will be organizing some clinics—the first of which will focus on C3 riding skills—to be held on December 27-28 (details were e-mailed out separately to all C1 and up members and DC's.) Details will be announced as we get them.

Since timing for Championships really makes our scheduling difficult, we will not be holding an Upper Level camp this year, but instead will offer more weekend clinics to help prepare those of you wishing to rate this year. I will also be on National Committee for D1 thru C2 Ratings for the next 3 years, so we should have a great inside track to what is happening for the lower levels. Any suggestions are welcome and greatly appreciated!

Horse Management

Melanie Stewart, Horse Management Organizer

Horse Management has always been an area of strength in the Tri-State Region. The performance of our members at Championships in 2013 is proof that we're doing something right, both as a region, and at the club level! The HM program is the core of what sets our members apart, so make sure that your club sets aside time to focus on these important skills!

There will be a new Horse Management Handbook and Rules for Competition in 2014, so get ready! I will be attending the Annual Meeting and will bring back lots of new information. I will be contacting DC's, Jt. DC's, CA's, and ACA's to discuss your Horse Management training, pass along the information from the meeting, and schedule a visit if you would like.

Regional Communications

Bridget Michael, Regional Secretary & Melanie Stewart

Regional communication is a priority for 2014. We are working on improving the frequency of communications directly to all members via electronic newsletters, as well as more timely updates to our website. The website calendar will be a major focus!

Website Information

DC's, Jt. DC's, CA's, and ACA's should e-mail any information to be posted on the Announcement section and Calendar of the website to Melanie Stewart (Melaniestewart59@yahoo.com) and Connie Wyatt (djwyattsm@windstream.net). This includes any camps, clinics, shows, etc. to which you would like to invite other members of the region to attend. Remember that as much advance notice as possible is appreciated!

Vice RS-Rallies

also proved that Tri-State is a force to be reckoned with when it comes to Horse Management. Over half of our teams came home with a blue ribbon in Overall HM! These results are proof that our HM program is working. Our kids were very well prepared and their scores showed it. Congrats to all, kids and parents as well!

Champs 2013

This year 2014 Championships and Festival will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY. Champs dates run July 14-18, Festival July 19-21. If you have never been to champs this is the perfect year to give it a try as either a competitor or just to take advantage of the educational opportunities and clinics at Festival.

Mentoring Program Implementation

This year we will be implementing a DC Mentoring Program and a Rally Mentoring Program in order to give our newer DC's and members a hand with all that is involved with Pony Club. I know how intimidating it is to step up as a DC or take on a Regional Rally! I knew very little and had millions of questions when I first got into this. I would have welcomed someone to lead me along. We are very fortunate to have many experienced DC's and members in our region. Our goal is to pair up the more experienced DC's and clubs with newer DC's and smaller clubs to make the learning process easier. They will have someone to go to that can help them decipher the complexities of Pony Club and organizing a rally. If you are interested in being a mentor or in need of some help please let me know.



Regional Supervisor

not get at a regular horse show. I hear all the time that it so much work to rally and a regular show is much easier. I can tell you that if you are presenting yourself in a professional manner at your show, it is not much more work to rally. I would like to challenge each member to attend at least one rally this year. You belong to an organization that needs your participation to continue. If you are rejoining, I hope you feel compelled to support Pony Club and attend a rally. We will do our part to give you plenty of notice as to dates and location. We will also do our best to keep the cost down. The one thing I can promise is that it will be lots of fun!!

In closing, I want to tell you that is an honor for me to be your Regional Supervisor. I feel very lucky to be able to work with all our members and their families. I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am excited to see what our kids accomplish in 2014.

Connie Wyatt
Regional Supervisor
Tri-State Region

Treasurer:

always armed with a smile and willing to pitch in with whatever needs to be done!

Rich will be creating a Treasurer's Group in order to assist club treasurers with any questions or concerns that they may have regarding their Annual Cash Disbursements & Receipts reports and the filing of the I-990 forms to the IRS. He will also send tips & reminders during the year. **DC's should submit the name and contact information** (name, e-mail address, phone number) **of their club treasurers by January 1 to Rich at: RTice@mstcpas.com**

Certifications in Review

Melanie Donini, Vice RS-Ratings

Looks like 2014 is going to be another busy year—we plan on holding all levels of Ratings again! More information will be available in early spring.

All adults should consider becoming involved in the Upper Level certification process as **Impartial Observers**. It's an amazing way to learn just what the examiners are looking for, and they fulfill a very important role as liaison between examiners, candidates & parents. You don't need to be an expert—having a basic understanding of the Pony Club testing philosophy and its general format is all that's required. And we feed you!

2013 Review

2013 was a very successful year for Ratings in the Tri-State Region. Here is a summary of who tested:

21 C-2	5 Traditional C3
2 Traditional B	3 B Dressage
13 HB	3 HA

47 members tested and a total of 41 had passed at the end of the season. I'm so proud of all our members. Each and every member did a great job!

The Standards and Ratings Clinic was held in the Spring and was very well attended. Aside from being a little chilly it was a great day! Thanks so much to the VanScoy Family for making their facility available to us and to all the members who brought yummy food!

Junior Raters Program to Begin in 2014!

This program is for HB/C2 & above members who are interested in Rating at the "D" level for the Tri-State Region. This is a great way to become more involved in the Region and work with members of other clubs.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the application on page 4 of this newsletter, have it signed by your DC and mail to the address listed by January 16th, 2014. *You will be required to have your First Aid Certification* and will have the chance to attend a session in February, 2014 in the Pittsburgh area. Once we have received all applications, more information will be available.

First Aid/CPR Clinic

Saturday, February 8, 2014

10am-2pm

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1610 Powers Run Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Cost: \$25/person

Learn CPR, First Aid, and how to use an AED. This class is open to members, officers, instructors, examiners & parents! All students will receive a 2-year certification from the American Heart Association.

RSVP today to: bridgetmichael@mac.com



CPR Simplicity has
generously discounted
our class rate!

Tri State Pony Club – Jr. Rater Application



Member Name _____

Rating: _____

Club _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

DC's Signature _____

Date: _____

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**Are you interested in becoming a “Jr Rater” for the Tri State? Are you a “HB” C-2” or higher?**

**Be eligible to Rate “D” members at the club level.**

**More Details to follow.....**

**Mail Application to: Melanie Donini – 190 Valley View Drive, Wellsburg, WV 26070**

**Call 304-374-6157 with any questions.**

