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UPPER CANADA EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION INC.

Make'N Trails JUNE 2009 Issue 40 www.ucea-niagara.com

from the PRESIDENT

Surviving the Trail

We all look forward to the end of the wet weather for various reasons. For some, it's the getting out of indoor riding into the sun; for others its seeing our favourite trails drying up enough to head out!

But at the beginning of the season, its essential to "remind" not only our horses about trail safety, but also ourselves!

First things first-check out your equipment! If you haven't used your breast collar or rear cinch all winter, don't just throw it on and go—make sure to check the snaps, stitching & yes, even the fit! Your horse might've gained or lost weight over the winter so the setting you had it on last year may not be right anymore!

If you participated in our "Trail Clinic" then most likely you've been reminded of all the different types of obstacles you'll encounter out on a ride—But there is 1 that most people tend to forget—water crossings. Puddles, streams & ditches can be the undoing of even a great trail horse! Try working on these at home first, because there's nothing worse than having a soaking wet boot all day from having to get off & lead your horse through the water!

We all encounter training issues from time to time. If you know your horse has a problem with a particular obstacle—or is very green @ trail riding, take them out in a small group of 3 –4 riders on good solid trail horses with the express intention of training on the ride.

A large group of riders is not the place to be doing a training lesson, as it can upset other horses in the group and is a recipe for disaster.

Also, when riding with a large number, it's a good idea to appoint a "trail boss" & discuss what pace the group will go at. If some people wish to go at a quicker pace, let them move up front and allow a space between them & the slower riders. This way, when they pick up the pace it won't upset the horses in the back.

Rides are supposed to be enjoyable—remember to respect the other riders in the group, as levels of experience always vary greatly...and everyone was a beginner once.

Happy trails!

Loretta Valstar
President-UCEA

NEXT MEETING: Wed., June 10th, 2009
@ Inge's - 957 Line 6, RR# 4, Niagara on the Lake at 7:30 pm.
Plan to attend! Strawberries...

UCEA MEETINGS EVENTS & RIDES

MEETINGS

UCEA Meetings
take place the
second Wednesday of
every month at 7:30 pm.
Plan to attend
when you can!

CLINICS

Trail Clinic
May 23rd, 2009
More info to follow

RIDES

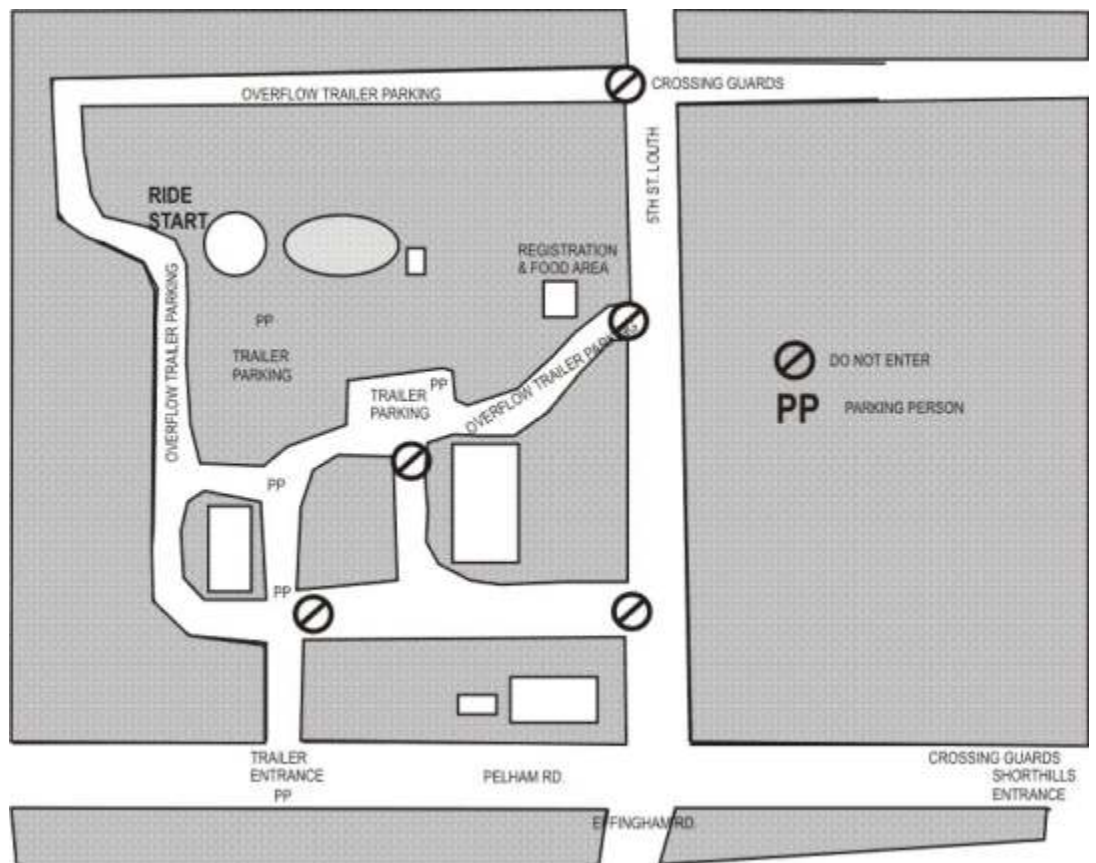
Heritage Trail
April 19th, 2009
Canal Ride
May 3rd
Shorthills Judged
Trail Ride
May 24th
Cancer Ride
June 7th
Swim Ride/Camp Over
July 18th & 19th
(tentative)
Sandaraska
August 15-17th
Sentineal's Ride
September 27th
Colour Ride
October 18th
Friendship Trail
November 8th

Cancer Ride - this weekend

Henry of Pelham Winery is on the corner of Pelham Rd., & 5th Street Louth in St. Catharines. Please use the Pelham Rd., entrance only. Follow the people directing parking. Thank you.

Please remember to bring your lawn chairs and those necessary tools for cleaning up after your horse. I'm sure no one needs to be reminded of this anyway. We do want to make sure we leave the scenic grounds of the winery as we found them. The ride starts at 11am - arrive early as registration is bound to be busy. For any one wishing to drop off registration forms and pledges prior to the ride, call me at 905-684-6030 or drop in to the farm at 2783 Oille St., Saturn Stables. Thanks.

Below is a bigger map of the grounds for your convenience. Hope the weather is good for us all and enjoy the ride....



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Content for the next issue is due
by July 1st.

Send me your classifieds, your photos of the rides
and any thing else pertinent to the club.

Send to:
info@saturnstablesofstcatharines.com
or call 905-684-6030.

Thanks!

Membership

Just a reminder to renew your membership for 2009 if you haven't already done so.

We also encourage you to promote the club and encourage others that enjoy the cowboy life to join and participate. To continue to grow the club, new members are required to enhance the quality of the club, the success of the rides and the enjoyment of our trails and horses.

Minutes of May 13th Meeting

Attendees: 24

Welcome Guest/New Members

Treasurer's Report

Russell motioned to defer the Treasurer's Report for May, considering it was not available and Lucie was not in attendance. 2nd by Marge, all in favor.

Minutes from April 2009:

April minutes were read by Brenda. Marge provided corrections to be made to the new business report on the Region. Motion moved to accept the amended minutes by Russell Vamplew and 2nd by Mark Dobrindt, all in favor.

Mail:

2 pieces – Insurance papers and a membership

Trail Clinic Update provided by Russell Vamplew:

To be held on Saturday May 23, 2009 Starts at 11:00 am at the NRE grounds in Welland.

He requires copy of the Clubs insurance for the NRE

You need to participate in the Trail Clinic to participate in the judged ride on Sunday

No limit to the number of riders

Judge Trail Ride:

To be hosted at Mark Dobrindt's & Brenda Delano, on Wiley Road

Parking will be permitted at Mark's – weather permitting

Pot Luck

Club will provide Hamburg's/Hotdogs

Cancer Ride Update provide by Debi Katsmar:

To be hosted at the Henry of Pelham winery No power/electricity will be available on site Discussed the prizes – over \$6000

Volunteer meeting to be held June 4 at 7pm @ 2783 Oillee St. St. Catharines

Debi looking at having the food donated.

Russell suggested Homers Meats in Stevensville.

Will require a port a potty

Expecting 50 to 60 Riders

Debi will be at the Winery on Monday May 18 if anyone wants to view the parking from 10am to 4pm, weather permitting.

Debi advised Breck has donated the 1st aid kits and if not used they will be returned, she is looking for walkie talkies, fluorescent vests for parking and crossing the road

T-Shirts for the Cancer Ride

Purchasing from Hang Up from Niagara Falls. Logo on front left in black and pink and the back will have "On the Trail to a Cure" Pricing depends on the quantity purchased.

New Business:

Debi advised she received a door prize from the Trail of Painted Ponies and they would like a donation made back to them. The prize consisted of \$250 worth of products that could be sold individually to make a profit.

Debi advised the club that the owner of the Queenston Quarry is investigating at turning the grounds into a trail riding facility with the possibility of camping facilities. Russell suggested members should try to ride and camp out there this summer, great place and a great time.

Russell motioned that Debi invite the owner out to the next club meeting to discuss further, 2nd by Nancy, all in favor.

Inge will be hosting the next meeting, Strawberry Shortcake Meeting, June 10, 2009. Her address is 957 Line 6, RR# 4, Niagara on the Lake at 7:30 pm.

Old Business:

Mark discussed improvements that need to be made for future rides, based on the ride that took place on May 3, 2009.

Recommends a Trail Boss; no trail boss was appointed at this ride, club could have been liable for any accident that could have occurred.

The club needs to show due diligence for legality reasons.

No first aid kit was available; no contact information was made available, no out riders.

Need to find the "Trail Ride Rules" that the club had created in the past.

Training Tip of the Month

When you first mount your horse, insist that he/she stand there for a few minutes. Never mount and ride off whether you are training or just going for a trail ride. Insist your horse stand still until it is relaxed and not trying to walk off. Only then should you ask for forward movement. This exercise will help teach your horse to stand while being mounted as he will begin to realize that he is going to be required to be relaxed and quite before he can move off.

Russ Vamplew

*Keep you head up
and your heels
down.*

Mark handed out "Best Practices for Horses on the Trail" which was supplied by the OEF, to all in attendance.

Russell questioned the whereabouts of the 1st Aid Kit for the Clinic and Trail Ride. John advised he had it and would ensure it was at both functions.

Nancy Skotar suggested a handbook that would contain club information, the goal, location of all the trail rides etc. This could also include the trail ride rules. She suggested this should be provide to all new members. She will bring an example in that she has from another club.

50/50 won by Darlene Davidson - \$20, she donated back to the club.

Buy/Sell:

Inge:16.5" Steuben English Saddle - \$ 200

Marge & Dick:For Sale 15" Big Horn can be seen at Horsecworld asking

\$300 negotiable

Russell:17" Billy Cook Saddle trade for a smaller 16" Billy Cook
17" Steuben Saddle, Headstall with blanket = \$500
Camcorder – not digital = \$100 negotiable

Loretta:15" Barrel Saddle

Mark:Old Mac Therapeutic Saddle Pad \$50

Brenda D.Western Boots size 7.5/8 - \$40

Next meeting to be held at Inge's -Strawberry Shortcake Meeting, June 10, 2009. Her address is 957 Line 6, RR# 4, Niagara on the Lake at 7:30 pm.

Motion moved to close the meeting at 8:30 pm by Russell and 2nd by Mark, all in favor.

Horse Empowerment Clinic

Building Confidence Through Trust

Just a reminder, please register now if planning to attend.

Registration is limited.
Contact Ron Derksen
905-382-3671

naturalhorse@hotmail.com

