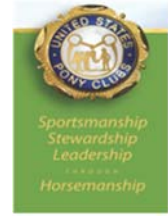


# South Region Spring 2014



Volume 3

## From the Regional Supervisor

### Thank You!

Many, many thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers and clubs for starting our season of events with a bang!

Hoof Print Pony Club gave us two wonderful events. The HA/HB Prep in January and Eventing Rally in April. The prep has gained a reputation as "one of the best", and Eventing Rally is always the rally of all rallies! Under the guidance of DC Kimberley Umphress, and her team of volunteers, we were wowed with a wonderfully organized rally with good ole Southern hospitality added in as a bonus.

Midland Pony Club hosted a great Everything But The Horse Rally, Horse Management Clinic and Quiz Rally. The Region had a record turnout, and Midland made it happen! Midland PC has a great group of pony club parent volunteers who all pulled together under the leadership DC Mikki Johansen.

Cahaba Pony Club did their best to host an upper level prep for members focusing on upper level certifications. Sadly, due to low participation, the prep was cancelled. Thank you Cahaba parents and DC Julia Banks for all of your hard work. Preparing for clinics and events requires as much work as actually putting them on, and your efforts did not go unnoticed!

Piedmont Pony Club and the South Region Youth Board co-hosted a phenomenal Standards & Ratings and Bud Hawley Clinic! And this year we enjoyed the wonderful facilities at the UGA Agriculture Center. Piedmont's DC Allisa Huestis and club volunteers, along with the South Region Youth Board, ran a very successful clinic. Our Youth Board also benefited from learning how to organize an event. Let's do it again next year!

Hilltoppers Pony Club and volunteers, under the leadership of DC Heidi Platt, hosted a great Games Rally. Unfavorable weather conditions didn't spoil the fun with a last minute change of venue to the UGA Agra-Center. The rain came down, but the covered arena allowed for the games to begin!

Pine Trace Pony Club, with Kristen Thompson's guidance, organized a D Clinic for May – but unfortunately was cancelled due to low participation. Thank you Kristen for trying! The club has offered to organize another D Clinic in the fall. Let's encourage our Ds to attend.

*Katie Fite*

## 2014 Calendar of Events

June 7 – 8	Show Jumping	Poplar Place Farm, Hamilton, GA Atlanta Pony Club Host
June 14	Champ Camp	Fayetteville, GA
June 25 – 29	South Region Camp	Poplar Place Farm, Hamilton, GA
July 14 -21	USPC Championships and Festival	Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY
July 25 – 27	HB National Certification	Cropwell, AL Cahaba Pony Club Host
Sept. 6 - 7	Dressage Rally	Georgia International Horse Park, Conyers, GA Atlanta Pony Club Host
Sept. 19 -21	Horse Management Retreat	Compton Farm Dawsonville, GA
October 11-12	Upper Level Mounted Prep	Ashland Farm, Covington, GA
November 1	Regional Counsel Meeting	Fayetteville, GA Woodbine Pony Club Host

## 2014 Regional Officers

Regional Supervisor (RS) – Katie Fite  
 VRS Activities – Willie Johnson  
 VRS Activities – Kimberley Umphress  
 VRS Instruction – Elaine Fowler  
 VRS Instruction – Lida Sease  
 Secretary – Billie Henry  
 Treasurer – Nancy Thrasher  
 RIC – Ann Haller  
 RIC – Jennifer Hood  
 HMO – Brenda Yike  
 Web Master – Kelly Smith

## Looking Ahead – Regional Activities

Atlanta Pony Club is currently planning our Region's Show Jumping Rally. Packets are in and the competitor's list will be out soon. Come and support our members on June 7 & 8 at Poplar Place Farm!

Champ Camp, June 14, in Fayetteville, GA, is a **MUST** attend for members attending Championships. We will cover many important topics to help prepare for Champs. Lou Jean McKnight, a South Region former RS, has offered to host the camp at her beautiful home in Fayetteville. We will work hard, but have also set time aside for a pool party and cookout!

**Summer Camp is June 25-29! Packets will be out soon. You don't want to miss this one!**

## Who wants to go to camp and hang out with Ann Haller, USPC National Examiner?



Ann Haller is a well-travelled "Army Brat" with a passion for people, horses and the outdoors. Her aunt, who had Ann riding on her first horse at the age of 3, instilled her love of horses. Ann's riding experiences are as varied as the places she and her family lived, but a central theme growing up was the Pony Club. Fox hunting, equitation, show hunters, eventing, western horsemanship, 4-H, vaulting, and trail riding are all integral to Ann's patchwork quilt of horsemanship.

Ann is a graduate H-A pony clubber from Hood Pony Club (Texas), having been a member of more than half a dozen-pony clubs. She has continued to be involved in Pony Club for over 25 years as an instructor, clinician, coach, National Examiner, Chief Horse Management Judge, RIC, HMO, past member of the USPC National Eventing and Horse Management Committees, and past member of the USPC Board of Governors. In 2004, Ann was asked to coach the USPC International Show Jumping Exchange Team that went to Johannesburg, South Africa. In 2006, Ann was inducted into the USPC Academy of Achievement.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB PAGE AT

[SOUTH REGION](#)

AND



Ann is a USEA nationally-certified instructor (ICP Level II) as well as being a USPC National Examiner testing to the "A" level in Dressage, Show Jumping & Traditional Certifications. She is also a current competitor herself, bringing along her young TB-Paint cross, "Master of the House" in eventing and dressage competitions.

Ann's background in communications and (human) nutrition education gives her a diverse background strongly grounded in teaching in a positive tone. Ensuring that both partners (human and equine) are confident and understand the lesson to be learned is a priority.

Other "hats" that Ann wears include having been the Hunt Seat Steward at the NCAA Equestrian Championships for last 7 years; Cross Country controller for USEA recognized events such as Red Hills CIC (FL), Richland Park CIC (MI) and Poplar Place CCI/CIC (GA); and media and press relations for national events including Rolex, Fair Hill, NAYRC (Young Riders), and most recently, the World Equestrian Games, where Ann was the Chief Press Officer for the disciplines of Reining, Vaulting, and Eventing.

Ann is our Camp Chief Instructor and will orchestrate the best camp instruction experience for our young members. You want to be sure to participate in this exciting opportunity!

## Important Reminders

- The South Region host hotel for Champs is the Comfort Suites in Georgetown, KY. If you are attending Champs and need a hotel room, please reserve your room soon by calling 502-868-9500, and identify yourself as a South Region member.
- Please remember to update members' certification level after a testing. Visit [Update](#) for on-line certification updates.

## News from USPC

D Camp during Festival Education: The camp is designed for the Pony Club youth member up to D-2 level. They will ride twice a day and will have unmounted instruction in the barn. There are a limited number of slots available.

After May 1, all rallies will be using the new 2014 Horse Management Handbook and Newsletter.

## YOUTH BOARD NEWS

The South Region Youth Board kicked off the rally season with a used tack and apparel sale at EBTH/Quiz Rally. Thanks to the generous donations of items from the region, we were able to raise over \$500! THANK YOU to those who supported our fundraiser! Besides the tack sale, several members of the Youth Board participated in EBTH and Quiz as advisors, competitors, or Horse Management Jr. Apprentices.

The Youth Board co-hosted the Standards & Ratings/Bud Hawley Clinic with Piedmont Pony Club as well as volunteering at the Poplar Place Farm horse trial.

We are currently working on more fund raising opportunities including offering saddle pads for sale that will have the South Region logo embroidered on them and raising funds for a South Region cargo trailers! Please help us achieve our goal!

Elizabeth C.  
South Region Youth Board

## Horse Management for the new Pony Club parent

My daughter started riding horses just over two years ago, prior to her taking her first lesson. At the time, I hadn't done much more than scratch a horse between the ears. Well, she completely fell in love with horses, and all of the related activities. Before I knew what was happening, I was purchasing a horse and fixing up the barn that was on our property, while at the time not really knowing what I was getting in to. Now, it is funny looking back at how much I didn't know.

Being new to horses, and particularly now owning two, (I wasn't told they came in pairs until after I committed to the first horse) I had lots of questions, and I discovered that there's a lot of foreign looking equipment. This became my first set of problems when seeking advice about horse ownership and management. When asking three people their opinion on how a particular horse related thing should be done, I would get three different answers, all with conflicting information. Each of these opinions was backed by years of experience, handed down through generations. This led to complete confusion on everything from nutrition to barn flooring. I couldn't understand why there was such a wide array of answers to simple questions. As it turns out, these people weren't wrong, there are just a lot of ways to do things, or in other words, there are a lot of ways to "skin the cat". But the advice lacked consistency and did not provide an effective reference for future issues.

Then my daughter joined Pony Club. This introduced us to Horse Management and the D Level Horsemanship Manual. This was a flood of information. From these references I found a consistent, common sense approach to not only riding, but also equipment and the care of horses. This led me to join the Horse Management team and become very involved in Pony Club. I realized that these policies and procedures are a combined knowledge from many experts, over many years, forced to come to a consensus.

As I studied the manuals and spent time in Horse Management, a common sense approach was evident. For example, the proper placement of water buckets is not just to enforce a rule, but also to provide a height that is low enough to be comfortable for the horse yet high enough to prevent the horse from getting his leg caught in it. Breakaway devices should be used when securing the horse, because a spooked 1000 lb. animal is going to hurt itself, any bystander or any physical structure if it cannot get away cleanly. The proper fit and maintenance of tack will ensure the strength of the leather and stitching, and will reduce the cost of replacement. Wearing proper footwear all the time is a requirement; there are no exceptions to this rule. You will get stepped on, and it will be when you are just doing something quick and can't be bothered with slipping on your boots. Also, having a properly stocked first aid kit for both you and your mount for quick accessibility is important.

I do not propose that the "Pony Club Way" is the only way, but it is a good way, that is safe, practical and consistent. For new parents to the horse world, I urge you to read the manuals with your children and find the Horse Management representative in your club and ask your questions and discuss your concerns. That representative has an entire South Region Horse Management team as reference to help provide information and guidance that can be applied daily, not just at rallies.

Derek Sipe  
Assistant Horse Management Judge



Youth Board members Glynnis T., Lexi C., Morgan B., & Elizabeth C.



Derek showing off his boot polishing techniques at Champ Camp 2013