

# NORTH CENTRAL PRAIRIE REGION

## R.I.C. REPORT 2014

### Club & Riding Center Instructional Program Review

#### **Fox River Valley Pony Club**

DC: Judy Freeman Email: [jfreeman@jpmg.com](mailto:jfreeman@jpmg.com)

Web: <http://foxrivervalleyponyclub.weebly.com/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? We hold them weekly for the D kids in the winter only – no HM meetings in the summer during eventing season. Last year we had to cancel about 1/3 of our meetings due to low participation.
2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach We sometimes have difficulty teaching foxhunting.
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? We are going to try to have fewer meetings but longer meetings.
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? We hold mounted lessons weekly as long as the temperature is above 20 degrees.
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Typically our lead instructor is Jennifer Rousseau, sometimes Jamie Price also.
6. Do you have different plans for 2015? No. This seems to work out for most kids.
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? Two – spring and fall.
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? Two.
9. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? We had a C study group that our C kids were involved in; once a month HM meetings where speakers came in on specific topics. We offered this to the other clubs, some of whom actively participated.
10. What can your club offer the region? We host ratings here that other clubs' kids come to, we offer C study also (not sure about this year because the person who runs it is not with the club any more, still working on it.)
11. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted teaching. Lizzie Foos fits this profile.

#### **Hayburners Pony Club**

Club has been disbanded

#### **Heart of Illinois Pony Club**

DC: Laura Stiverson Email: [laurastiversongmail.com](mailto:laurastiversongmail.com)

Web: <http://heartofillinois.ponyclub.org/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? 2 from January through April. 1 from Aug to Nov.

2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach Teaching/longing are not well practiced areas, but Sarah does a great job organizing the teaching of them. We may just need to offer more opportunities.
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? I'm trying to add a couple days specifically for reviewing HM checklists prior to certifications. I like to have kids paired up to do this whenever possible.
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? 1 each month except June & December plus pony camp in the summer.
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Guest clinicians from around the area.
6. Do you have different plans for 2015? No.
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 5 days (Spring - 2 days; HSE in July, Fall - 2 days)
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 5 days (Spring - 2 days; HSE in July, Fall - 2 days)
9. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? We had a vaulting clinic. The participants had a ton of fun.
10. What can your club offer the region? I don't know! I feel like at the moment, I'm just trying my best to keep up. I'd love to help the region in any way I can, but am having a hard time identifying the way we can best help. If I'm assigned something, I'll figure out how to make it happen. :)
11. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted teaching. Cassie Kramer, Kelsey Grombka-Murphy, Andrea Meyer, Megan Spitzer, Faith Wilkerson, Savannah Trent, Allison Weber

### **Hearts and Hooves Pony Club**

DC: Dawn Mahalik Email: eminkyle2@aol.com

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? 1
2. Do you have different plans for 2015? Yes, mounted/HM prep type of meetings.
3. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? 1
4. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Burny Todd Smith, or invited clinician
5. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
6. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 4
7. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 4
8. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? No
9. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction?
  - a. Caitlin Neander (away at college)
  - b. Emma Smith (away at college)

### **Old Mill Creek Pony Club**

DC: Alison Volpentesta Email: barlink6@aol.com Web:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Old-Mill-Creek-Pony-Club/116332238424666>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? 1-2 each month
2. Do you have different plans for 2015? No

3. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? 1-3 mounted lessons each month, sometimes less during show season
4. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Chris Neff, Nikki Jewel, Erin Dierks, Sedate Keohler, Emily Sutton, Lizzie Foos, Heather Kuenzi, Alison Blood
5. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
6. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 3
7. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 3
8. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Erin Loitfellner (HB)

### **Paddock Hills Riding Center**

CA: Kim Cederlund Email: xhalt10@fvi.net Web:

<http://www.paddockhillsequestrian.com/ponyclubridingcenter.html>

9. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? Every Monday.
10. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach? Confirmation/ lameness/Disease
11. Do you have different plans for 2015? Yes, Now that we have some D3 and C1s- we are going to split the sessions into 2 groups. We will have 2 C Level HM meetings, and 2 D level HM meetings
12. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? Since we are a riding center, each of our PCers has a weekly riding lesson.
13. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Shelley Remensnyder
14. Do you have different plans for 2015? Yes, we are going to incorporate Heather McCarthy, a dressage instructor.
15. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 2
16. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 2
17. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? Have not done them yet, but trying to get a skype or some sort of upper level study group.
18. What can your club offer the region? We now have a full time Grand Prix dressage trainer, that is an old pony clubber herself, Kim is on the USPC dressage committee as of 2015, so we hope to help pony clubbers that want to move towards the dressage track.
19. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? None
20. Thoughts about how the region could help your club: I think that as a region, we need to get together more, for planning, ideas etc., instead of twice a year.

### **Prairie Jumpers Pony Club**

DC: Della Glenn Email: dellagl@msn.com

We operate a little more like a center as we provide horses/ponies for those without.

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? PC meetings are weekly, with riding when the weather is good. Horse care instruction is given while the girls are tacking up. When unable to ride we do HM. In the past we have started Jr. PC in September to coincide with the pro-rated membership program. We have a winter camp with speakers from outside Pony Club as well as our regular Pony Club instructor, Ali Glenn. January and February are when we do our unmounted with preparation for Quiz

Rally, teaching a more in-depth overview of the subjects. Summer camp is mounted, but subjects like poisonous plants, cross country knowledge and related topics are taught. Really helps for the kids to see and walk the XC course rather than look at pictures.

2. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? Weekly when weather is good.
3. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Ali Glenn
4. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
5. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 2+
6. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 2
7. What can your club offer the region? RIC and co-hosting Quiz.
8. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Ali Glenn

### **Quad Cities Pony Club**

DC: Gerry Jones      Email: [Gerry.a.jones@gmail.com](mailto:Gerry.a.jones@gmail.com)

QCPC was founded in January of 2014. Regionally, we had members at Quiz Rally, Dressage Rally and Festival with horses. The Quad Cities Horsemasters was founded in June and that has had a great impact on fundraising, enthusiasm, and education. We have invited them to QCPC unmounted meetings too.

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? We have one HM meeting per month except December.
2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach
  - a. I would say none of them are hard to teach at this level but we do not have time or instructor time to teach all of the subjects.
  - b. We have brought in great speakers for our unmounted meetings on such subjects as: Dressage with Sara Davisson, AA Dressage Rider, Medical Emergencies with Pat Gaines, EMT, Farrier Issues with Cody Sherer -farrier, Vet Issues with Dr. Carls and Trailer Safety with Mike Belowske (CDL). By utilizing area experts, we gain knowledge and community support. This also gives our instructor a break from doing all the unmounted education.
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? I would like to break down the standards and teach a section each
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? We have one mounted meeting/month except December.
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? We generally have Annie Johnson, HA.
6. Do you have different plans for 2015?
  - a. We would like to bring in more UL instructors and do more clinics.
  - b. Need to keep track of attendance at Mounted meetings.
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014?
  - a. Two – April and June – we also have one planned for Dec. 13th and
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? Same as above
9. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well?
  - a. We had lessons to fill the UL Prep with Bunny Hendricks.
  - b. We were asked to do a presentation on “Shetland Ponies” at the Celtic Festival in Davenport, IA. Each member gave a report and we took a Shetland ponies for festival participants to see and take pictures. It also served as a recruiting day for QCPC.
  - c. Participated in Iowa Mock Quiz.

- d. We had Ali Glen for a clinic.
  - e. We had Bridget Bryson for Games Day. That was excellent and introduced the kids to a new discipline.
  - f. Went to Fox Hunt and that was also very exciting.
  - g. Annie did "Grooming to Win" with the kids – complete with giving the horse a bath!
10. What can your club offer the region? We plan to host Quiz Rally next year and possibly host an UL Prep
11. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction. We have Annie Johnson, HA who is excellent but also very busy.
12. Thoughts about how the region could help your club:
- a. Possibly sponsoring a D Camp or C Camp for the Region
  - b. Providing a list of willing instructors to teach at lower levels
  - c. Providing individual club assessments of treasurer role, secretary role, DC and Jt.DC. By this I mean having a Regional person come the club and review what is being done and provide guidance/advice of the various administrative roles. (Would take time/work but I think it would be beneficial.) This time of year is always challenging when trying to make sure you have everything to submit to the Region and USPC. I think if there were a standardized way to do a treasurer's report at the club level, it would help the Region.
  - d. Reward members who attend and do well at rallies with more recognition through facebook, at regional meetings or website.
  - e. D3 and Up kids want to go to Horse Trials. Maybe have an educational horse trials where they go, learn and compete with an HA or A level instructor to help. Could be incorporated into Eventing Rally? Or C and up Camp?
  - f. Maybe stipulate they attend an UL Prep to get "education to compete in Eventing" before? Many young members are going to Horse Trials with instructors who do not have a Pony Club background and have no certifications. I worry for their safety.

**QCHMX** by Stephanie Belowske, QCHMX Group Liaison

2014 has been a year of growth for QCHMX. Our club came to be May 29th of this year with Liason Stephanie, Secretary Valerie, and 4 members. As of this writing there are 13 members in QCHMX with more possible members in our local community. As this has been a year of building foundations and relationships, we have taken advantage of a lot of education opportunities with our parent Pony Club, QCPC. We look forward to making connections with other groups in our region in coming months.

QCHMX holds two meetings a month on the second and fourth Tuesday. These meetings are mounted, typically instructed by Annie Johnson (HA). For unmounted educational topics QCHMX members attend QCPC unmounted meetings, or arrange 'field trips'. The club plans to continue with this format for 2015.

The first certification opportunity for QCHMX will be this December, and a third of members plan on attending.

The strength of QCHMX is in its membership--we have a fantastic group of horse-minded people who are always willing to put forth 150%. Volunteering, teamwork (with no expectation of

return), and hospitality is the best we have to offer to our club, our Pony Club, our facility, and our equine community. We look forward to offering our best to the region in 2015.

### **Royal Oaks Pony Club**

DC: Johanna Large Email: [jk.large@gmail.com](mailto:jk.large@gmail.com) Web: <http://royaloakspc.blogspot.com/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? 0-1
2. Do you have different plans for 2015? Not aware of any different plans
3. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? 1
4. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Local instructor (pony club grad)
5. Do you have different plans for 2015? Same for next year
6. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 1
7. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 1
8. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? No
9. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Only upper level member is away at college

### **Sangamon Valley Pony Club**

DC: Nancy Rosse Email: [nrosse@eosinc.com](mailto:nrosse@eosinc.com)

Web: <http://www.sangamonvalley.ponyclub.org/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? Weekly from mid-January to mid-March, twice a month from July through October
2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach: Nutrition and horse sports
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? Once a month March - September
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? National Examiners or local professionals
6. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 2
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? At least 4. We always schedule at least 2, and offer several additional individual certification opportunities to help members to qualify for championships.
9. What can your club offer the region? Assist hosting events and rally volunteers.
10. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Erin Buckley and Susan Rosse
11. Thoughts about how the region could help your club: The inter-regional meetings with RIC and HMO this winter were the best - it allowed more one-on-one advice, encouraged more dialog and idea-sharing, engaged and educated many more parents, and created opportunity for members from nearby clubs to know each other.

### **Silver Bits Pony Club**

DC: Becky Huntley Email: [sambecky\\_1@msn.com](mailto:sambecky_1@msn.com)

Web: <http://silverbits.ponyclub.org/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? In 2014, we met 12 times for HM. Once a week in Jan-March. We also have one scheduled for December. We try to

incorporate HM into all camps including winter and summer. We plan to move to once a month HM meetings in 2015.

2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach? We cover all subjects that are included within the D through C2 standards of proficiency, and all HB (in 2014) that are not covered through the region, or where the members need extra help.
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? We now have HA candidates so will be expanding instruction.
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? In 2014, we had 36 mounted meetings. We met weekly from March - November.
  - a. 13 D Meetings
  - b. 9 C Meetings
  - c. 3 Clinics
  - d. 2 Camps
  - e. 2 Certification Preps
  - f. 1 All-Club Meeting
  - g. Mock Fox Hunt
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? We had our HB's, and some outside instructors, who taught at our mounted meetings, as well as two pony club national examiners who came to do our clinics.
6. Do you have different plans for 2015? In 2015, we plan to meet once a month for mounted meetings bringing in Pony Club instructors with our HB's helping to do warm-up and cool down. We hope that our HBs will also have experience teaching the HMX.
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 2
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? Only held one in May but doing the D-1 and D-2's as they were ready.
9. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well?
  - a. HMX held a saddle fitting event
  - b. Lunging clinic
10. What can your club offer the region? We will co-host Quiz Rally. We have offered to host an UL prep. We have active Jr. Board members. Our club could also help with some HA prep as we have resources through Iowa State University.
11. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? We have HB members who would be willing to help.

**Silver Bits HMX** report by temporary liaison, Bridget Bryson

1. Meetings were held throughout the year, both mounted and unmounted.
  - a. Unmounted were held as 'Equine Expert Evenings' where local vets, farriers, etc., visited and instructed our members.
  - b. Mounted were a mix of 'open ride', youth HB members teaching, and local instructors coming to educate.
2. In 2015 we will be integrating more with the local Pony Club, sharing their monthly mounted clinics as well as hosting our own month mounted events that youth members will be invited to. Once a month we will host an Equine Expert Evening that will vary between social and educational activities on the agenda.
3. Certifications will be held in conjunction with the local club, a minimum of two will be offered in 2015.
4. Special Events:



- a. SBHMX held a successful trail challenge event.
  - b. A saddle fitting event was well-attended and benefited many horses!
  - c. SBHMX raised enough money to fund at least one mounted clinic for all SBPC members (youth and adult) in 2015.
5. How SBHMX can help the region:
- a. SBHMX will help the local club at events as well as regionally when local to Iowa.
  - b. The HMX will help the other Iowa clubs in hosting Quiz Rally for the region.

### **St. James Pony Club**

DC: Kathy Cieslak    Email: [stateautomatic@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stateautomatic@sbcglobal.net)

Web: <http://stjamesponyclub.blogspot.com/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month?
  - a. D Study group met 8 times, plus a 2-day overnight event, Jan through March. Will be meeting again December.
  - b. C Study group met monthly Jan-April, with one pre-champs meeting in July
2. What HM subjects are hardest for your club to teach: We seem to find experts as needed.
3. Do you have different plans for 2015? Similar events scheduled. Calendar sent to RS
4. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month?
 

We don't have a monthly program. Mounted meetings 2014 were as follows:

September 21, 2013 – FUN DAY at the Richardson's:

September 29, 2013 – St Jimmy Shimmy @ St James Farm: Bandaging and Bareback Riding

November 16, 2013 – Mock Hunt at Richardson Farm

March 8, 2014 – Zoey Gudger Flat Lesson at Katie's Barn

April 19 – Certification Prep at Richardson Barn w/ Cameron Eades

May 24: St James Farm Family Field Days Demonstration of different Horse Sports w/ Jane McDowell:

June 28: Versaille Clinic with Bernard Morauw

August 4-7 CAMP

September 13: Certification Prep with Kailey Bauer

September 27: St Jimmy Shimmy: Bandaging and Flat Lessons with Sarah and Sam

October 12: Danada Fall Festival

November 8: Mounted Instruction w/ Melanie Kording

December 13 – Jump Around
5. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? See above
6. Do you have different plans for 2015? Similar plans, calendar submitted to RS
7. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? 2
8. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 2
9. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well?
 

Please see mounted schedule. PR/volunteering events were:

  - 9-28-13 St Jimmy Shimmy – Provided equestrian presence for 5K Run at St James Farm
  - 5-27-14 St James Farm Table – Education about St James Pony Club – Coloring Sheets / Horsey Bookmarks for Visitors to event
  - 9-27-14 St Jimmy Shimmy – Provided equestrian presence for 5K Run at St James Farm



- 10-12-14 Danada Fall Festival – Coloring Sheets/Horsey Bookmarks / Horsey Temporary Tattoos - Educate about Pony Club to visitors – even referred to other local Pony Clubs depending on locale of family.
10. What can your club offer the region? Tetrathlon
  11. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Sarah Coltrin and Sam Diulus

### **Timber Ridge Pony Club**

DC: Dianna Romanick      Email: diannaromanick@yahoo.com

Web: <http://timberidge.ponyclub.org/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? Jan- March we met biweekly to get ready for quiz, also held winter camp to help them prepare. All meetings for those 3 months were unmounted. At our monthly mounted meetings (April-November) we often did unmounted at the same time. June we held our summer camp.
2. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? April-November we met once a month for mounted meetings.
3. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? For our mounted meetings we had Bill Coester, Ali Glenn and Andria Pooley and Annie Johnson taught.
4. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? 2. We held ratings in June - we had 2 D2's, 1-D3, 1-C1. At our October rating we had 1-D2, 1-D3 and 1-C2
5. What can your club offer the region? As what we can offer, Bill Coester has held upper level preps in the past.

### **Wayne Du Page Hunt Pony Club**

DC: Joan Griffiths      Email: joangriff@sbcglobal.net

Web: <http://www.waynedupagehuntponyclub.org/>

1. How many HM meetings does your club hold each month? Weekly January-March in preparation on quiz rally. Quarterly for C's and UL
2. Do you have different plans for 2015? No
3. How many mounted meetings does your club hold each month? Weekly until spring and then once/twice monthly
4. Who instructs at your mounted meetings? Upper level members and professional trainers
5. Do you have different plans for 2015? no
6. How many certifications did your club offer in 2014? Three
7. How many certifications did you hold in 2014? Two
8. Did your club host any other interesting educational opportunities that worked well? C level Camp/clinic and a fall clinic
9. What can your club offer the region? Venue for camps and rallies
10. Who do you have as UL members (HB and above) who could help clubs in the region with unmounted or mounted instruction? Agne Stoskute, Bailey Gilbert

## **RIC Activities**

- Developed a RIC website with tools for clubs to use
  - Includes links and files
  - Survey for certifications and instruction (neither utilized other than a couple of early entries for instructor contacts)
  - Asia's Webinar linked
  - RIC PowerPoint from sessions posted, as well as other tools to accompany the information.
    - Note: with change of RIC moving into 2015 this information has been transferred to the main regional website. Lesson plans have not been transferred over but are available on request.
- Held 3 sessions, each with a minimum of 4 clubs in attendance, in conjunction with HMO.
  - 1/2 day RIC with parents and volunteers to discuss creating a club instructional schedule, HMO with youth members to discuss HM
  - 1/2 day RIC with youth members to teach about teaching and creating lesson plans, HMO with parents and volunteers to discuss rally preparation and the 'whys' of HM requirements.
- Provided Standards & Certifications with Asia Thayer in conjunction with regional Annual Meeting this fall.
- Scheduled 4 Upper Level preps with opportunity for DC/instructional committee members to meet with RIC to discuss club calendars, questions, etc.

## **Specialty Certification Support**

- Upper Level preps have had a variety of National Examiners to help members have feedback from different specialists:
  - Kevin Bowie
  - Bunny Hendricks (HA Prep and regional clinic opportunity)
  - Jen Verharen
  - Cherie Gaebel
  - Teri Rocovich (canceled due to lack of registrations)

## **Standards & Certifications 2014**

Asia Thayer provided a wonderful Standards & Certifications this year. Attendance was not what we hoped, but the local club did a good job bringing in attendees. All in attendance vastly preferred the indoor video/photo format, and Asia did an excellent job helping to show us position and techniques on foot that all attendees could try/feel. It was agreed that we should repeat this format and suggested that we think about a spring S&C event, possibly back-to-back with an examiner's clinic or a lungeing clinic. I would strongly recommend asking Asia to return.

## **Instructional Resource Support**

It has been a struggle to gain information from the clubs about their instructors and/or Upper Level contact information - although everyone wants a list provided! Names that have been submitted or suggested are:

- Melanie Kording
- Ali Glenn
- Liz Foos
- Rebecca Alper (Lakeshore)
- Marlie Nauta (Lakeshore)
- Annie Jones
- Cameron Eades
- Julia Davies
- Art Richardson (hunting)

## **Upper Level Testings Review**

National Level Tests 2014 NCPR candidates

- i. HB 3, 2 MS
- ii. C3 10 with 5 MS, including 1st C3 Show Jump
- iii. HA 1 Retest for 1 section
- iv. Zoey Gudger achieved her A certificate

## **Recommendations**

- Develop a way to have club level testing evaluation forms sent to the RIC for consideration of strength and weaknesses, and to find out who is doing the examining. I tried to develop a survey to collect this information, but it was not used.
- As Sarah forwards the certification reports, this would be a good time to perhaps send the survey or request the paperwork.
- Repeat the format of this year's Standards & Certifications, in the spring if possible.
- Use the club reports above, add to the list as presented and put a list of instructors together and send to clubs.
- Add dressage test options to prep and increase lunging opportunities.