

Happy New Year to all my Pony Club families out there. I thought it was a good time to touch base on upcoming events and some administrative changes that we are making. First of all a hearty welcome to our new board of officers:

Diane Nichols and Eric Anderson as Joint District Commissioners

Laura Pease shifting roles to be our Secretary

Lori Stuewe to take on the financial responsibilities of our esteemed Treasurer

At our recent officer's meeting, we opted to make some **changes**:

PONY CLUB \$/STORE: In the past, we've used pony club dollars as rewards for participation. We've decided to shift that so that **every child will get \$20/month**. There are kids in private lessons and some unable to take lessons with us that were being excluded from earning pony club dollars and we want to correct that so they can enjoy the store. Also, we are going to have more opportunity for the kids to shop at the pony club store by bringing it to **all** of our unmounted meetings. We will also be stocking it more diversely with horsey goodies for all ages. If you would like to request anything to be in the store email kuhlfamily5@gmail.com.

DUES/PAYMENTS: We will be collecting \$15 for the first child. For families that have more than one member, the cost will be an extra \$5 per child. Your dues are what continues your membership. If you need to drop out of lessons for a time or permanently but want to maintain your membership to participate in things like our field trips or camp, your dues still need to be paid in order for you to remain active. If you pay your monthly dues via paypal that process won't change. However, if you mail your dues, please send them to:

Lori Stuewe, 7609 Paseo Laredo, Anaheim Hills, CA 92808.

LESSONS: If you need to change/drop your lessons, please do so before the 1st of the month. Your child needs to wear a blue helmet cover to all lessons. If you need a new or replacement helmet cover, please purchase at pony club store or from Jennifer Kuhlman kuhlfamily5@gmail.com. Due to the weather, please continue to track your lessons and you can make them up wherever there are openings. We don't have enough students to cover our 5:15 Monday lesson but you will see on the calendar that there are now openings in most of our lessons. If you need instructions on how to RSVP for a make-up lesson, please give Laura a call at 714-797-1435. It is important that you do make up lessons rather than look for credit for missed lessons. In order to keep our lesson costs tiny like they are, we commit to pay Cindy every month, no matter what the weather. **You will have as much time as you need to make up those lessons but you still need to pay during the wet months.**

MONTHLY UNMOUNTED MEETINGS/FIELD TRIPS: We decided at our parent meeting in November to try a new schedule of alternating Unmounted Meetings with Field Trips. This will cut down on our activities, but give our kids more opportunity to be together & use their pony club dollars at the store.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, Feb. 18th--Field Trip to meet Josh Wassung to see behind-the-scenes how he worked with Steven Spielberg to create "War Horse". He has generously offered to give this second private presentation in the screening room of his studio. An amazing opportunity, with **no cost** involved **but very limited space**. Make sure to RSVP ASAP when you receive the e-vite if you would like to go.

This same Joshua has donated his pony, Judah to the pony club and is sponsoring her. Judah is avail to lease for trail rides or to use during lessons for \$20 (this fee is helping offset Judah's costs) please contact Ashlyn 714.858.2402 to make arrangements.

Saturday, February 23rd--D1 Certification & Unmounted Meeting

This is avail for newer members who are unrated. You'll have plenty of time to study for your D1. The testing is done by Cindy and we also provide a study session a few nights before. Contact Laura Pease 714.797.1435 for more info. On the same day we will have an unmounted meeting. Cindy will be teaching how to braid for shows & you'll also be able to shop at the pony club store

Saturday, March 9th at 3pm--Cavalía--if you have not seen this amazingly, artistic horse show you are in for a treat. Here is the link to the website where you can see a short video teaser at: <http://www.cavalía.net/en>. Tickets prices are adults \$149.50 and kids \$109 or \$139 depending on their age.

Saturday, March 23rd—Our Annual Shauna Ann Stuewe Speggtacular Egg Hunt--promises to be bigger and better than ever. Horses and dogs in costume, contests...this is our big outreach to the community in an effort to raise funds for a wonderful cause close to our hearts.

April 6th: Unmounted Meeting: for ALL levels and Pony Club Store at the Nichols home. Great for all pony clubbers to learn how to keep a horse care log & why. Mandatory for all those interested in testing for their D3 Certification.

May 4th: Unmounted Meeting: Horse Chiropractor and Pony Club Store--Meet Dr. Butch and learn about how a horse's spine affects their movement.

May 17-18: Mega Rally at Hansen Dam Equestrian Center--one of the favorite rallies for the kids. They can do the discipline of their choice (jumping or dressage) and we, the families, all stay at a local, cheesy hotel where the kids can all goof off and enjoy one another's company. It's rockin' fun.

June 1st: Family and Friends Exhibition Show at Paxton Equestrian Center. This is our chance to showcase to all our friends and family what we have learned throughout the year. It's a very fun kick off to summer.

August 10th: D1 and up Certification at Pepperglen Farms in Norco. (Must attend April 6th meeting if you plan on earning your D3 or higher certification) If you are interested or want more info please contact Laura Pease at peaseinapod@gmail.com

Please make sure to check our Pony Club calendar for more details as we've updated it for the entire upcoming year!!!