



CAMPBELL VALLEY EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY

PRESIDENTS REPORT

July 2009

Hi there,

It has been another busy winter for your volunteer board of directors. If you have been out to the park recently you definitely would have seen our latest project in the works and nearing completion. Our rustic fenced sand arena is intended to house a 20/40 dressage arena and to allow us to continue to hold the dressage portion of the annual horse trials up at the main site. Show jumping will still be held in the larger space in the lower bowl of the old racetrack as we have for the past few years.

The footing on the xc field is in good shape and thankfully most equine visitors to the park over the winter resisted the urge to gallop on the newly seeded Preliminary track and the work done last year to compact the ground paid off with less hoof holes! The field is now mowed ready for work to start on building the new course for 2009 and you will find 5 starter/preentry fences open on the south field by the red barn.

Make sure you check out our schedule of events as we have included some new items this year! We were really excited to listen to Margaret Evans talk at our AGM about TREC and decided to try to introduce it at Campbell Valley Park. The park is going to be hopping from Aug 9- 16 with our CVES extravaganza followed by the Horse Trials. The extravaganza will be a fabulous opportunity to learn and absorb information from world class clinicians. As with all monies we raise, your auditing fees will go back into facilities at Campbell Downs.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out with shows, ground upkeep, parking, ...? If you have time to give we are grateful to accept it and will in fact be holding a work bee and bbq closer to the event to prepare the course for the horse trials. As we are a non-profit society we truly need to expand our volunteer base and keep our costs low.

It is going to be an exciting year at Campbell Valley Park and we look forward to your participation,

Sincerely,

Shannon Witt

CAMPBELL VALLEY EQUINE EXTRAVAGANZA

** CLINIC INFORMATION PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

Aug 10-13th, 2009 are the dates that the Campbell Valley Equestrian Park, in beautiful Langley, BC will offer to the public at large, a variety of SEVEN clinics over the course of the 4 day period. Our goal is to offer an educational opportunity to as many people as possible, from riders to handlers, coaches to course designers and auditing to all. This clinic is a fund raiser for the Campbell Valley Equestrian Society and proceeds will also be donated to "Ride for the Cure".

CLINICS SPACES STILL AVAILABLE FOR:

- ◆ CLINIC # 4 LEAHONA ROWLAND Riding over fences, cross country and show jumping/gymnastics. Limited to 24 riders. Will teach up to Preliminary. As a minimum riders should be comfortable, over small fences, but do not need competition experience. 2 group sessions. Suitable for Pony Clubbers and open to all. Two 1 1/2hr ea sessions
- ◆ CLINIC # 5 JONI PETERS Dressage lessons. Geared to the competitor but open to all. Lessons are on a private basis only. 8 spots available, 2 sessions, 45mins ea.
- ◆ CLINIC # 6 LYNNE LARSEN Coaching. Open to all, with an emphasis on coaches who are currently assisting riders with cross country education. Not necessary to be currently certified. A "hands-on" approach helping people cope with understanding the "how to" of coaching through all phases of Eventing, with special attention to the cross country. Suitable for all levels of coaches and all disciplines.

ALL CLINICS ARE OPEN FOR AUDITING, see application form for fees.

For more information and application forms, please visit the website at

www.cves.ca



NEW DRESSAGE RING IS ALMOST READY!

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TREC REPORT

CVES held it's first TREC clinic which was well attended with a great bunch of people. Margaret Evans did a wonderful job of explaining TREC to us all. We started off with a short trail ride through the park to help teach us how to pace our horses. Then we practiced riding the corridor of paces, let me tell you it is a lot harder than you think to ride in a straight line for 75 m at a slow canter and then a fast walk!

Afterwards we all were able to practice a few of the obstacles that one might encounter at a TREC competition. We practiced going through gates, jumping small obstacles, riding through serpentines, backing, leading and ground tying.

Everyone seemed to have a great time and all are looking forward to our August clinic/competition. Look on our website for further details.



No hour of life
is wasted that is
spent in the
saddle. -
Winston Churchill



DISCOVERY DRESSAGE REPORT 2009

We have 5 days of dressage schooling offered this year in the hogfuel arena at Campbell Valley Park. Four of which will count towards a year end highpoint and reserve highpoint award. The prizes are a cotton sheet donated by Bates Tack Shop and a waterproof $\frac{1}{4}$ sheet. Our shows are a great way to get some mileage and exposure for your horse! We can always use help on the entry desk, scribing for the judge, parking, and for set and tear down.

Contact:

wittyshannon@msn.com with any questions regarding the shows.

I would like to welcome our Judges for this year's shows:

May 31st- Kathy Lifton did a fabulous job judging our over full show! Thank-you!

June 28th- Linda Dieno

July 26th- Monique Fraser

Aug 9th- Burgi Rommel ***

Sept 12th- Rob Pauze

*** The August 9th schooling show runs in conjunction with a cross country schooling day and kicks off our CVES Extravaganza followed by the horse trials. This show does not count for the series awards.

2009 CVES SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JULY

- 12..... Willoughby Saddle Club Show #3
- 15..... Cross Country Schooling Day #1
- 26..... Dressage Percentage Series #2
- 29..... Cross Country Schooling Day (Combined with a TREC Playday?)

AUGUST

- 9 Extravaganza Dressage & Cross Country Schooling Day
- 10-13..... Extravaganza Clinics—7 clinics in all: David O'Connor; Lynda Ramsay; Leohona Rowland; Joni Peters; and Lynn Larsen. Auditing passes and some clinic spots still available.
- 14-16..... Campbell Valley Horse Trials—BC Championships
- 18-22?..... Pony Club Camp (date to be confirmed)
- 30?..... TREC Competition (date to be confirmed)

SEPTEMBER

- 12..... Dressage Percentage Series #4
- 13..... 2-Phase (Dressage & Cross-Country)
- 27..... Willoughby Saddle Club Show #4

NOVEMBER

- 10? Social Shopping Night?
- 25..... CVES AGM and Keynote Speaker

**In riding a horse
we borrow
freedom.
~Helen Thomson**

OUR SPONSORS

The following businesses have agreed to return for another year of sponsorship and are integral to providing us with the means to offer quality facilities and shows at Campbell Valley Park. Please consider doing business with and supporting these people who have a such a strong sense of community and have helped CVES out.

Platinum: Township of Langley, Gaming Funds, Sunnyside Greenhouses Ltd, Daryl Ramsay, Bates Tack Shop, Friesen Equipment, LaFarge Agregates, Greenhawk Langley, Totem Photographics

Gold: Stampede Tack and Western Wear

Silver: Newmac Animal Feeds, Otter Co-Op

Bronze: Vanderveen Hay Sales

Please contact Shannon Witt for details regarding the sponsorship levels and how you can help CVES grow and continue to improve Campbell Valley Park. 604-671-1719 or wittshannon@msn.com



VOLUNTEER BARBECUE

Campbell Valley Equestrian Society Needs Your Support



CVES is organizing a volunteer barbeque and raffle in conjunction with our event set up day. Come out and help to support CVES, enjoy a pop and a burger and put your name in the barrel for some great prizes.

You must register and volunteer a minimum of 2 hours to be eligible for the raffle and the barbeque. More hours spent will earn more entries to the draw.

Thank-you!!!!
For the love of horses

More information will be available when we have a firm date and time.

TRAIL RIDING ETIQUETTE BY SHERRI FRIESEN

Ever been on one of those rides where you feel that no one is taking your skills into consideration? Or are you the more confident one that feels held back?

I'm fortunate I have the best 2 trail riding partners in the world. First there's George who is as rock solid as a horse can be unless there's a balloon on the trail, then there's Kevan who is most laid back person you can meet.

BUT, I have ridden in groups where I felt that either my horse or I were in danger of getting hurt.

When you go out as a group whether it's just two of you or more you **MUST** be cognizant of the abilities of each horse and rider. If you're the type that wants to walk all the way then you best find partners that want to do the same. Pairing yourself up with riders that may want to trot or canter during the ride is asking for problems. The same goes for the reverse, if you're the type to want to mach 9 around a trail then you best have experienced and confident riders in the group.

That said, a ride with a mixed level of experience can be enjoyable for everyone if some simple common sense rules are followed. There's a rule between motorcyclists, you never ride harder than the least experienced person. You also never put that person in the last position. The same goes with trail riding, put the least experienced person in the front or the middle. If you want to trot announce your intention. Kevan and I are fairly experienced riders and we always let each other know what we intend to do.

Shorten the length of time spent in the faster gaits. Instead of trotting or cantering for long periods break it up into short intervals. By doing this you are allowing the less confident horse and rider a chance to gain some confidence in little spurts. Play hopscotch down the trail, change positions, horse at the back comes to the middle, the middle goes to the front and front goes to the rear. This is an excellent exercise for even the most seasoned horse.

If there's a road crossing involved, ensure everyone is together before you cross. **DO NOT** leave someone alone on the other side of the road. If it's not possible to get everyone across at the same time do it pairs. Even a seasoned horse can become uncomfortable in this situation.

Now your back at the trailer getting ready to go home, what happens if one of the horses doesn't want to load for the return trip? What if you went on a late ride and now it's starting to get dark? What if you arrive back at the parking lot and your trailer is the only one there? What if you can't get cell coverage?

The couple of scenarios above can have an effect on you the rider which will in turn have an effect on the horse. Let's say you get back to the trailer and dusk has set in, you only have a few minutes of daylight left and one of the horses doesn't want to load. What do you think happens next? More pressure is put on a horse than is needed, you are not in the same frame of mind as when you left the barn hours before because now you want to leave before it's dark, there's an air of urgency. This just fuels the already nervous horse.

Do you have a back-up plan? Do you have someone you can call to help, assuming your cell phone works? What would you do in a case like this?

There is no one right answer but there is one wrong answer. You do not under any circumstances leave someone behind by themselves. How would you feel if the person you left behind was hurt by either the horse or something much worse, an undesirable person? You went on the ride together and you stay together until everyone is loaded up safely. This is, to quote Jonathan Field, a non-vote issue.

RUSSELL IS LEAVING!!

Our superlative Horse Trials organizer, Russell Petrie, has given his notice that he will not be with us next year. So we are on the lookout for someone to fill his shoes. Ultimately this person will have some horse knowledge, business sense and ability to deal with contractors, labourers, etc., and great organizational skills with a can-do attitude! The candidate must be willing to help out and shadow Russell this year, and be able to run with it for 2010. If you think you might fit the bill, please contact Shannon Witt at wittyshannon@msn.com.

★ **CAMPBELL VALLEY EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY DIRECTORS** ★

◆ PRESIDENT	Shannon Witt	wittyshannon@msn.com	604.671.1719
◆ VICE PRESIDENT (webmaster/membership)	Carol McDonald	carolmcd@shaw.ca	604.534.1676
◆ TREASURER	Marlis Blackmore		604.856.7619
◆ SECRETARY	Shirley Bradbury	msbradbury@shaw.ca	604.530.5754
◆ VOLUNTEERS	Annet Moerman	jos-annet@shaw.ca	604.504.3125
◆ HT ORGANIZER	Russell Petrie	russellpetrie@shaw.ca	604.532.8475
◆ DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Ann Britton	apbritto@telus.net	604.534.9257
◆ DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Nadine Koreman		
◆ DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Lori Liang		
◆ DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Val Mica		778.772.3760
◆ DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Shawn Stephens	shawneestephens@gmail.com	604.805.5721