

# Sunny Days



## Welcome to the Newsletter!

Welcome to what will be a GREAT year for the Sunshine Region! This is the first of many regional newsletters to help keep all of our members and their great parents up to date on what is happening. However, we need a name for our newsletter and I think it should be coming from the members. We will be having a "Name the Newsletter" contest. Pony Clubbers send in your best ideas. Yes you can send multiples, and we will pick five for you to vote on in the next newsletter. Each finalist will receive a Templeton Thompson CD (If you don't know her, check out her videos on [youtube](http://youtube)). Send entries to [newsletter@wrenrock.com](mailto:newsletter@wrenrock.com) with your name, rating and club.



In order to keep the newsletter exciting, we need stories to put in it. Take a look at our first issue and then send a note and let us know what you are up to. I know the Pony Clubbers in Sunshine Region have a lot of activities and stay busy, so there must be plenty of great things to share. It doesn't only have to relate to horses, tell us about other fun things you have been doing. You can write the stories up and we will publish them, or you can just send us some details and we will work with you on creating the story.

DC's, I expect to hear from you too! What is your club up to? Who made a rating? Planning a fun clinic? Tell us about it!

This is a great region with great people, and I want to show you off! Let's all have a great year and celebrate being part of the SUNSHINE REGION!

Jane T. and Mr. Tuff Sundance of Wekiva Basin PC were selected for the latest issue (Jan/Feb 2011) of "Young Rider" in the "I'd rather be riding!" section. (See page 48 bottom left hand corner.) For being selected, Jane will receive a PURPLE grooming kit from [JeffersEquine.com](http://JeffersEquine.com).

### Upcoming Events

- HM Seminar Feb 26
- Ratings & Standards Feb 27
- Eventing Rally Mar 18-20
- Show Jumping Rally April 8-10
- Quiz Rally TBD
- Games Rally June 18
- Champ Camp June 24-26

## Pony Clubber Tops USEA Leaderboard

Annie K. of Alligator Creek Pony Club and her Mustang pony, Indiana Jones, are currently first in the beginner novice USEA points.

One of the great advantages we enjoy in Florida, is the incredible winter show series. While the rest of the country sits idle and practices, we can be out showing and gaining experience.

Annie and Jumper Jones were originally part of the Sunshine Region Show Jumping Team for the past summer, but had to withdraw when Indie developed an infection after having his hocks injected. After many months of rehabilitation, the pair are again doing fantastic and we hope to see more of this dynamite duo at the Eventing



and Show Jumping Rallies.

In the mean time, cheer them and many other pony clubbers on at the recognized shows this winter at Rocking Horse and the Florida Horse Park.

## Young Rider Development Program



Samantha on Tucker

Samantha S., Sydney S. and Katherine K. were awarded 3 Scholarships for the TECHC Young Rider Development Program. The inaugural clinic was Dec 17, 18 and 19. Daniel Stewart is the head coach of the program but will be bringing in other international level trainers and experts as well.

The TECHC Young Rider program believes that America's youth should be inspired to follow their dreams. Dreams of learning from the finest and competing against the best. Dreams of dedication, commitment, education, self-belief and hard work. Dreams of becoming elite and

perhaps one day representing their country.

TECH understands that achieving these dreams requires more than talent and desire. It requires confidence, motivation, inspiration and knowledge from seasoned coaches and clinicians. It requires riding and competing with – and against – other aspiring young riders. It requires skill development and sacrifice... and it requires time.



Katherine makes it look easy

## Samantha K.—our newest “H”

The “H” is the highest level of horse knowledge recognized by the USPC

For those that don't know about the upper level ratings, here is an explanation. Once you are referred to as a “B” (it requires the “H-B” knowledge and the riding “B” portion). However, a member may elect to take the “A” knowledge portion before the “B” riding. If this occurs, they are referred to as an “H”.

“C+” is the riding portion of the C3 rating

“H-B” is the knowledge portion of the “C3” AND “B”.

SO, when a member passes both the “C+” and the H-B, they are then referred to as a “C3”.

As noted above, the “H-B” covers the knowledge

portion of the “B” also. SO, when a member passes the “B” riding portion, they are referred to as a “B” (it requires the “H-B” knowledge and the riding “B” portion). However, a member may elect to take the “A” knowledge portion before the “B” riding. If this occurs, they are referred to as an “H”.

To achieve an “H-A” level, they must have the “B” PLUS the “H” knowledge.

Finally, the “A” has a riding portion and when passed they are called an

“A” (which requires both the H-A knowledge and the “A” riding).

This is obviously a little confusing but I hope this helps you understand the Upper Level ratings a little better.



Sam and examiner Janet

## Equine Education Day was a Hit

## Boxing Day is Fun for All

## We need a name!



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Dawn McLane, VRS of National Ratings, put together a fantastic program to help our members and volunteers learn more about their equine partners.

It was a great day on December 26 for a fox hunt. Well it might have been a bit chilly, but that didn't stop the fun. Thank you South Creek Fox Hounds!

Help name the newsletter! Come up with a new name for the newsletter and win a prize! Entries must be submitted by February 25. Send them to newsletter@wrenrock.com

## News from the RIC, Bunny Hendricks

I hope some of you traveled to the **USPC Annual Meeting** in Nashville, TN January 27-30. There was an incredible assortment of exciting and informative workshops, a terrific trade fair and lots of new friends to make and old ones to reconnect with. In addition, Noel Brown was our National Youth Congress (NYC) delegate. And some of our own regional folks presented educational workshops.

If you couldn't make it this year, the meeting will be in New Orleans, LA next year, January 26-29, 2012. Mark your calendars and plan ahead for a great time in "The Big Easy"!

Lately, I've been asked a few questions about "**Covered Activities**". The excerpt below is copied from the USPC web site under "Insurance", then "Details for Clubs and Regions" which addresses the question, "What is a covered activity?"

### WHAT IS A "COVERED ACTIVITY"?

Any club-scheduled educational activity to which the entire club or an entire segment of the club (for example, all D-3s) is invited is covered, even if during the meeting there might be only one rider in the ring at a particular time. If an instructor who normally teaches lessons at a club-scheduled activity also gives private lessons to Pony Club members outside of the club-scheduled meeting, the private lessons are NOT COVERED.

DCs, please ensure that either the entire club or entire segment of your club are invited to participate in any club meeting, lesson, or activity to be in compliance with USPC's Insurance requirements. If you have any further questions, follow the directions given above to find the Insurance information on the USPC web site.

FAQs about what's covered:

Q: A group of Pony Clubbers at my barn often goes off the property for a trail ride after our Pony Club meetings. Since it is after a scheduled meeting, is the trail ride covered under Pony Club insurance?

A: It may be covered- **if you do the following beforehand**: Any time you have any scheduled Pony Club activity at a different location, go to the Insurance page in the USPC web site and enter the full information, including the name of the property owner, address of the property the kids will be riding on, the date they will have the ride and any other information the RS asks for. If it is a one-time activity, there will be a \$28 special activity coverage charge. If the trail riding happens frequently, and you have the land owner's permission to ride, you would do best to list it as a regular venue to protect you and the property owner. If you do not have the trail property listed as one of your regular meeting venues, and you do not do what is described above, there is no insurance coverage! AND remember, any time your Pony Club has an activity, there must be a designated adult in charge who has emergency procedure information and first aid kits (human and equine) physically present and able to supervise the activity.

Q: Our Pony Club would like to schedule a mounted ride and picnic afterward. Some additional family members want to participate in the ride as well as the picnic. Are they covered by USPC's insurance?

A: When you invite non-Pony Club members to ride at a scheduled Pony Club function, you must secure additional coverage to include them. AND everyone riding must conform to USPC helmet and footwear requirements. Helmets must be ASTM / SEI approved (with tag identifying them as such intact) and all must wear sturdy soled, leather/leather like boots with a substantial heel, which cover the ankle. Please note that USPC's insurance does not cover activities such as racing the mounts or extreme sports such as jousting, so those activities must be off limits!

**THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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<b>H</b> Samantha K.	<b>C2</b> Barclay P.
<b>B</b> Haylie W.	<b>C2-HM</b> Lizzie H, Alexa P
<b>HB</b> Sydney S.	Caitrin B, Annie K

### *SpaceCoast Pony Express Starts the Year Well*



Space Coast Pony Express PC served snacks during the January 29th Painted Dreams Horse Show in Palm Bay. Maxwell Phillips did a great job manning the snack booth

all day! Skyler Norris and Jessica Ruiz also helped out between their rides.

the supplies for the snack booth! Nothing like starting the year with some extra funds!

A big thanks goes out to Andrea Phillips for getting all



### *Summer Camp 2011*

Alligator Creek Pony Club will be hosting their 3rd annual summer camp this year from June 12-17. The theme this year

will be games, in honor of the games rally being held on Saturday June 18th.

Contact Curtis at [curtis@wrenrock.com](mailto:curtis@wrenrock.com) for more details.

### *VI Program Open*

The Visiting Instructor program is now taking applications for upper level pony clubbers and for camps. Check out the VI page at [www.ponyclub.org](http://www.ponyclub.org) for more information.