



Alexandria Equestrian Association

NEWSLETTER

RIDER's DIGEST
November 2004

2004 Officers:

President:	Lou Corbo
Vice-President:	Tom Aversa
Treasurer:	Judy Tucker
Secretary:	Scott Whitaker
Membership/newsletter:	Sherri Dolan
Trustee	Pete Tucker
Trustee	Bill Daniels

THE NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE AEA WILL BE: Thursday, December 9th, 7:30pm at the Alexandria Twsp Park.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all for their volunteer efforts in 2004. Your efforts were sorely needed and your response greatly appreciated.

Starting 1/1/05, the AEA will start a 'Volunteer Incentive Program'. All members will be required to pay \$50.00, in addition to your membership fee. This \$50.00 will be returned to you when you achieve 5 hours of volunteer service (i.e. Team Penning, trail clearing, indoor arena maintenance, etc...). Susan Rocca has agreed to be Director of Volunteers and as such will maintain all records and recommend reimbursements. This will be discussed further at the meeting on Dec 9th.

Membership in the AEA expires on Jan 1st

- Please complete the membership renewal form attached at the end of this newsletter.
- Please read rules of conduct and rules for use of indoor arena.
- Non-residents have until Jan 31st to renew, after which, they may be placed on a membership waiting list.
- The membership fees have been increased for new members who reside outside the township. Existing non-resident member's fees will remain the same as resident members for 2005.
- USA equestrian is now USEF. USEF membership expires 11/30/04. Please renew your membership online at: www.usef.org You can print out a temporary card for proof of insurance.
- Send proof of insurance with your membership renewal. **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A TAG UNTIL PROOF OF INSURANCE IS PROVIDED.** You will not be permitted to ride the trails or in the park without a tag.

TEAM PENNING IS BACK!

Upcoming dates: Dec 11th, Jan 8th, Jan 22nd, Feb 12th, Mar 5th, Mar 26th, April 16th, May 7th.

Starts: 1:00 p.m.
Where: The Alexandria Township Park
Cost: \$35/rider

FMI contact Phil Rochelle @ 908 391-1633

Trail Alert!

By Pete Tucker

A front page photo appeared recently in the Democrat taken while a group of riders paused on the Columbia Trail. Two of the riders were Hunterdon County Freeholders. The caption indicated that the Hunterdon County Park System was seeking assistance from local riding associations to create and maintain trails for riding/hiking in various Park properties.

Voila! A week or so later there was a rather productive meeting at our house. Two officials from the Park System had coffee with some AEA members to discuss the Schick Preserve. We talked about mapping out a trail along the perimeter of this 271 acre property.

The planning of this will take some time as there are wetlands, streams and crop fields to consider, but much of the property is quite rideable now, as is. The crops are off right now. The land is hunted so Sunday rides are best during hunting season.

The Schick Preserve is a gorgeous piece of property and its right here in Alexandria Township. It can be accessed from Hickory Corner Road, Schick Road or County Road 519/631. It's an exciting project for our association and would certainly be a big addition to available trails. From it you could about "throw a stone" to our Alexandria Park, so the possibilities become even more inviting.

In the meantime, if you're unfamiliar but would wish to ride here right away, you might want to call an AEA member who knows the property. To that end Judy or I would take a stab at any questions. The Aversa Boys or Lou and Sherri could help too. Scott Whitaker hunts the property so he is another resource to tap.

The primary result of our meeting with the county folds was that AEA would suggest a course for the overall trail to take. The county folk would then consider and make whatever modifications. Details as to the actual work still have to be worked out, but it looks as though plenty of volunteers will eventually be needed. Stand by for details!

It should be noted that the gentlemen from the park system were very enthusiastic about meeting with us and pursuing this trail project. They brought along some aerial maps that are quite helpful. They are also enthused about joining various trails within the county park system wherever possible.

Maybe this has the cart before the horse a bit, but pardon me while I dream for a second. Some of you have

recently enjoyed one or another trail pace. A few AEA members recently rode the Tewksbury Trail Pace. I think Julie Farneski would smile if she was referred to as a trail pace junkie! East Amwell, Covered Bridge, Tewksbury...her list goes on. Wouldn't the Schick Preserve and Alexandria Park be nice components of an annual Alexandria Trail Pace? Fancy the notion! And talk about needing volunteers!

SUPPORT THE BILL PROTECTING HORSE AND RIDERS FROM PASSING MOTORISTS

Please contact Acting Governor Codey to request that he sign S. 1247, a bill to protect horses and their riders from passing motorists. Current New Jersey law requires only that a motorist stop at the request of a horseback rider. S. 1247 would amend this law to require a motorist passing a horse and rider to also reduce the vehicle's rate of speed to 25

miles an hour. Violation of either provision would be subject to a \$150 fine. To ask Governor Codey to sign S. 1247, please follow the instructions for electronic correspondence at

<http://www.state.nj.us/governor/govmail.html> or call the Governor's office at 609-292-6000.

Thank you for taking action for animals.

Sincerely,

Debora M. Bresch, Esq.

Legislative Liaison, Eastern Region

TRAGIC BARN FIRE

Last month, the barn where Barbara & Tricia Haertlein kept their horses and equipment burned down. The cause of the fire is still unknown but suspected to have started in an adjacent barn filled with equipment. They lost one horse, 2 carriages, saddles and other tack. One horse survived by jumping out of a double dutch door. He has suffered major burns to his face, neck and back, but is expected to make a complete recovery. A fund has been set up to help them, "Hearts for Haertlein". The AEA has agreed to contribute \$100.00 to the fund. If you would like to donate privately, send your contribution to:

Hearts for Haertlein
c/o Skylands Bank
PO Box 17
Baptistown, NJ 08803

DECEMBER 11TH: DAY OF THE HORSE

To: AHC Member Organizations

From: American Horse Council

Date: November 19, 2004

Re: National Day of the Horse

Yesterday the Senate passed a Resolution (S. Res. 452), introduced by Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO), designating December 13, 2004 as the National Day of the Horse and asking the President to issue a proclamation to that effect. Since this is a Senate resolution only, it does not go to the House of Representatives for any action. The Resolution will now be published for the President's action.

The Resolution provides that the horse "is a living link to the history of the United States," that horses "continue to permeate the society of the United States, as witnessed on movie screens, on open land, and in our own backyards," that "wild and domestic horses rely on humans for adequate food, water, and shelter," and that "horses are a vital part of the collective experience of the United States and deserve protection and compassion."

Resolutions do not have the same force as bills when they are passed. They are not law. They are used to express principles, opinions and purposes and often call on the President to do something, as this Resolution does.

FOR ADOPTION:

Dude

Dog

Jack Russell Terrier (Parson Russell Terrier)

Notes: This is a very handsome JRT-boy, about 3 years old, confident and yet very loving. He gets along with everyone in the compound, puppies and adult dogs alike. He likes people, but like most JRT's thinks HE is in charge. We think he's a real HOT DOG. He'll be neutered shortly and is already up-to-date on inoculations. Small in stature, at about 11 - 12 pounds, he's a great, compact companion that loves going for walks and seeing the sights.

To adopt Dude, fill out our on-line application [Online Application](#) at <http://www.petfinder.com/pet.cgi?action=2&pet=3654546> or download our Microsoft Word [dog application](#) and return it to rawhiderescue@hotmail.com. It will help expedite the process.

Rawhide Rescue is located in Green Brook, NJ
