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Powhatan Riding Association Newsletter October 2009
<http://www.powhatanriding.org/>

PRA Meeting – November 7, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

Program: TBA

Pizza will be provided. Dessert will be pot-luck.

Location: Powhatan Public Library

Call Sally (379-9829) or Julie (598-3175) for more info

2009	PRA 2009 Calendar
Oct. 30-Nov. 1-	<p>Halloween Hoedown for Belmead and PRA members. Download the flyer from the calendar on the club website</p> <p>We will be holding a trail ride and campout at Belmead in conjunction with the Belmead Saddle Club</p> <p>“The Halloween/Hoedown/Scavenger Hunt will be held on Saturday.” Primitive camping permitted on Friday and/or Saturday Nights. Music and some meals will be also be provided.</p> <p>Registration due 10/19. If you forgot contact Marilyn Catlett and mail the forms in asap. 804-909-4981/ marilyn_catlett@mindspring.com</p>
Nov 7	PRA meeting (details above)
Dec 6	Holiday Party and Silent Auction at Belmead
2010	
May 28-30	Memorial Day Weekend campout at James River State Park

UPCOMING SILENT AUCTION-Sunday, DEC.6
(Submitted by Julie & Tim Timberlake)

We're looking forward to the annual PRA Silent Auction on Dec. 6. The auction will be held at the Belmead mansion again this year. Please call or email us at 598-3195 or ptimbe4391@aol.com to let us know which local businesses you would like to contact for donations. We don't want to have duplications. Thanks as always!

Club Trip to James River State Park
(Submitted by Sally Aungier)

PRA members had perfect weather for their pilgrimage to James River State Park (JRSP) in September. The temperatures were perfect for riding and for sleeping out. The group enjoyed their evenings star gazing and story-telling around the fire. Many thanks go to Ken for setting up the fire and especially for making and sharing the campfire cobbler. There is always something about JRSP that leaves me feeling mentally if not physically rested after a long weekend there.

In addition to having lots of fun, members of the club also sacrificed part of their riding time to participate in a meeting with State Parks Director Joe Elton, Nancy Heltman, Operations Director, and Mark Schuppin, Park Manager. I had set up the Friday afternoon meeting with representatives of the VHC Trails Committee, the Powhatan Riding Association, Dragon Run Saddle Club, and the Halifax County Saddle Club.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the development status of the new group equestrian campground at the park and the use of the campground template for future development. The parking pads are been complete but the barns and shower house have not yet been built. Riders expressed their appreciation for the new campground but had many concerns about the fact that the camp was touted as a replacement to the current group camp, but its layout is not conducive to a group camp. Concerns were also expressed about the fact that extensive clearing left the campground with nearly a complete lack of shade and no grassy areas. There was also much discussion of the reservation system and how the camp can be made to work as a group camp with a reservation system that is geared towards individual reservations. Another concern was a lack of tent pads for campers who do not camp out of trailers, and hardened areas at each campsite for tables, fire rings, etc.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was agreed that the current group site would remain open for reservations until the new campground is complete, and that reservations made for the current camp would not be transferred over to the new camp.

We also agreed that a similar meeting should be convened at Staunton River State Park in the near future as construction of that campground is about to begin. That meeting was held on September 5.



In addition to this meeting campers were invited to attend a dinner that was organized by the Virginia Association for State Parks, which was also meeting there the same weekend. While we were a little late to

dinner because our late start on afternoon rides, we enjoyed meeting with everyone, including other trail riders who are active with the Association. Delegate Watt Abbitt, who represents that part of the state, was the guest speaker. Del. Abbitt was very active in indentifying and obtaining the land for the park to be built and his passion for the park is obvious. His brief remarks were filled with humor and local color.

I greatly appreciate our club members giving up their riding time to take part in the meeting on Friday. Their input was extremely important to the future of campground development in state parks.

(Photo courtesy of by Nancy Heltman, Va State Parks.)

State Forest Recreational User Fee

This is just a reminder that the new law which allows the Virginia State Forest system to charge a recreational user fee for horseback riding and biking went into effect on July 1. Please be sure to purchase and CARRY your licenses so that you are in compliance when riding on the Cumberland State Forest (or any other state forest). The license is being sold as an add-on to the state hunting and fishing licenses.

When purchasing the license please be sure to select the special license box "Virginia State Forest Use Permit". The state will be able to track how many of these are sold so that we will be to obtain an impact analysis at the end of the year. You can make your purchase either on-line or at any location that sells hunting and fishing licenses. The special licenses will help the Department of Forestry to develop a small funding source for trail and trailhead improvements. This effort will by no means replace the trail volunteer efforts that are already established in the many of the Forests.

For a list of all the State Forests visit their website at <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/stforest/state-forest-map.htm>

To purchase the license on line visit the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries website: <http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/>

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

(Sandra Church)

Nan Bodine's first book is finally out! "Stormy Hill" by Nancy Clarke can be purchased from her or go to <http://www.strategicpublishinggroup.com/title/StormyHill.html> .

A former PRA member who lives in Powhatan also has written a book. Martha Leynes-Selbert has written "[Basic Training for a Safe Trail Horse-Eliminating the Fear Factors](#)".

Both books are available from the authors or Amazon.com.

Seminars and Tours:

Several events have kept horse owners busy lately. First, Powhatan County had a free farm tour that I had the opportunity to enjoy. I enjoyed visiting Garland's Arabian Farm and "tour" his huge trailer

which can carry up to 16 horses! Free wine tasting was offered at the Bodie Vineyard, the flowers were gorgeous at the orchid farm and of course, the hay farms are always nice to visit.

Next was the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation fund raiser which included a tour of 10 horse farms in Chesterfield and Powhatan. My friend and I only had a chance to visit 8 of the farms because we ran out of time! We received free gifts, delicious free food and saw beautiful farms and horses. Next year the tour will be in Goochland so plan to attend!

Hopefully, some of you got to attend the State Fair in Caroline County. I was very impressed with the new horse facility. When one of the 4 arenas gets its cover, the site will be even more awesome for horse events. I thoroughly enjoyed the free wagon ride pulled by 2 tremendous black Percherons!

Finally, many PRA members attended a free equine event at Fox Horn Stable at Sappony Creek Farm on Oct. 7. It was sponsored by Deercreek Equine Veterinary Clinic, Southern States and Fort Dodge. The food was catered by Olive Garden & absolutely delicious. Three informative presentations were given. Many prizes were given out & won by several PRA members. (I was hoping to win the 500 pounds of horse feed but...no such luck.) Several people asked about the indoor footing at Fox Horn Stable & I found the information that I received on that footing during the TRF barn tour. The synthetic footing includes wool and clay. I believe it's called Tara2000 and more information can be found at www.atwoodequestrian.com.

All above the above events were well worth the time to attend. I highly recommend future barn tours, the State Fair and local seminars. Sandra Church

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: Large round bales for \$35 each from my hayfields. Good grass horse hay mixed with orchard grass. Call Ceil Macmillan at 804-492-9701.

For Sale: Terry Adcock has 2 horses for sale. "Eapy" is a 6 year old Welch-Thoroughbred cross gelding, 14.1 hands, jumping 2'6" courses, foxhunting and good on trails. "Eapy" is \$2900. "Thomas" is a 3-4 year old Draft cross gelding, 15.2 hands,, perfect all round horse. Great on trails and just fun to ride. "Thomas" is \$4900. Pictures can be seen of both at www.oakdalehorsefarm.com or call 1-804-375-3007.

For Sale: Boa Horse Boots, size 1, like new, \$95. Sandra Church at 794-6660.

Water-n-Hole Covers-slosh-proof nylon bucket rims that fit 5 gallon flat-back buckets best. Horses can drink while you're driving! Call Roberta Young at 804-314-0787 or check out her website: www.choicetack.com

Wanted: Western saddle for a very round, mutton-withered Foxtrotter. Need 15" or 16" seat. Saddle must have wide tree. Please email Dee Bottoms at dbot7722@tds.net or call 804-561-5026.

Wanted: Horse Toys. Do you have any neglected horse toys gathering dust in the barn? If so, let me know as I have bored horse that needs entertainment before she eats another saddle pad. Contact Sally at 379-9829 or saungier@mindspring.com.

For Sale: 2 pairs of black Ariat half chaps. Size Large. One pair is thermal and designed to go over thicker winter boots. The other pair is the Classic style. Like new-used only 4-5 times. \$45 pair or best offer. Sally at 379-9829 or saungier@mindspring.com.

Attention Southern States Feed Customers

The Virginia Horse Council participates in the program where the feed bag coupons are collected and a fund established that can help finance projects related to public trails development and maintenance. Please save your bag "proof of purchase" certificates (not feed tags) and turn them in to Sally Aungier either at club events or by mail. Certificates should be clipped and neatly organized in batches of ten. For bulk feed purchases, the original customer copy of the delivery ticket qualifies as proof of purchase (no copies). The fund will accrue a credit of 25¢ for each coupon except for Reliance, which is worth 15¢.

For questions or to turn in coupons by mail – Sally Aungier, 2371 Three Bridge Road, Powhatan, VA 23139. Phone 804-379-9829 or saungier@mindspring.com.