

Games Gazette

Vol 2 Num 3
August, 2007
MGAA Newsletter

Galloping to you from Across America

Calendar

8/4 Antietam Summer Sizzler #3,
Neersville, VA Calhouns@hotmail.com

8/4-5 Summer Series Clinics, Malvern
PA mwashburn01@verizon.net

8/11 Antietam Summer Sizzler #4,
Neersville, VA calhouns@hotmail.com

8/11-12 Summer Series Clinics, Malvern
PA mwashburn01@verizon.net

8/18-19 Games Without Borders,
Delaware, OH
karinlunau@schmid.com

8/18-19 MidAtlantic #3, Mullica Hills,
NJ mwashburn1@comcast.net

8/25 Gladstone Games Series #2
Gladstone, NJ mymaui25@yahoo.com

9/1-3 Hoosier Pairs & Team Games
Open, Hoosier Horse Park, IN
belough@earthlink.net

9/15 Summer Sizzler #5, Neersville, VA
Calhouns@hotmail.com

9/22 Pickering Hunt PC Pairs Ludwigs
Corner, PA kyley@roninet.com

10/14 Radnor Hunt Games Demo Paoli,
PA mwashburn1@comcast.net

10/27-28 Founders Cup, Invitation only
Richmond, VA

11/3-4 Gladstone Games #3 Gladstone,
NJ mymaui25@yahoo.com

11/3-4 MidAtlantic Individuals Ranson,
WV hcpc@yahoo.com

11/10-11 Mid-Atlantic Series #4 Upper
Marlboro, MD dihickok@aol.com

11/17 Antietam PC Gobbler Games
Neersville, VA calhouns@hotmail.com

12/8-9 Snowball Series Lexington, KY
lbcaddel@aol.com



J Hickok & V Brown Photo: Annamarielka

Approximately 100 of our members competed in the United States Pony Clubs national championships in Lexington Kentucky this July including dozens of our members attending the event as officials, volunteers, trainers and helpers. MGAA would like to thank the many volunteers who helped man the booth during this event. It couldn't have been done without you.

An MGAA team complete with alternate, coach and chaperone traveled to Australia in June completing the exchange from this spring.

MGAA also made its first appearance on the DC Mall this June with the Mall Madness invitational.

Summers for MGAA members are generally packed full of games and this summer has been no exception.

Riders competed in the numerous MGAA games events held around the country as well as some international adventures both here in the states as well as in Australia.

All 5 riders on the USPC 2007 International Games Team that competed at the close of USPC nationals, as well as the trainer and chaperone are all current MGAA members.



I Erenan MMM Photo: M Reilly

MGAA Announcements:

MGAA member Kyley Hellhake is newly engaged to Mike DiLuigi. Kyle's games pony, Chincoteague Minnow, has graciously accepted the honored position of 'flower boy' in the planning of a 2008 wedding. Kyley and Minnow are part of the Special Ops team out of the PA area.



MGAA makes its first appearance on the Mall in DC June 17th 2007 Photo: D Hickok



and there off! MMM Photo: Annamarielka

Monumental Mall Madness

MGAA Stampedes on the DC Mall



Kiera Huntsman MMM Photo: Annamarielka

There were plenty of thundering hooves on the Mall in Washington, DC on Sunday, June 17th. MGAA hosted a mounted games exhibition with 39 riders at the old Polo Grounds. Eight teams competed at once. Luckily, we had plenty of room to spread out and stay out of each other's way. Some teams found that, yes, you can be eliminated in a race from leaving the playing arena.

Robert Taylor, Referee, was efficient in his starts, making sure that no one was trying anything "funny". He loved the new green start light out for just its second time. Instead of trying to keep everyone in line by



A Knapp & Brennan MMM Photo: Annamarielka

the riders watched the traffic light at the far end of the arena. Robert just pushed the start button to flash the green light on the remote control start stand. Riders were able to line up straight and focus on going forward.



M Taylor MMM Photo: Annamarielka

MGAA had plenty of eyes on the playing arena too with parents rotating through the assistant Referees locations and three judges watching the finish line. Thanks to all the parents and helpers who

tasks during the day. Thanks also for picking up all the 'leavings' in the parking area and the arena throughout the day. This will certainly ensure an invite back in the future. -Sharon Brown

MGAA would also like to thanks Diane Hickok, Organizer and Sharon Brown, Co-Organizer.



Name Photo: Annamarielka

Finishing order as follows:

- Punk Rock Ponies
- Crash
- Champagne on Ice
- Hit N Run
- Fast Forward
- Rapidash
- Swat
- Pink Spiders



Dori Wiserman Photo: D. Hickok

The United States last hosted the USPC international Games Exchange in 2004, and it has been thirteen years since the US has won the gold medal, in the then hosting country of Australia.

That was before this July when the US team galloped to the gold lead by trainer Jennifer Foreman of Williamston, MI, as well as an MGAA member. The all girl team competed against teams from Australia, Great Britain and Canada and were whispered to be very competitive during the tour.



Greta Schelling

The team consisting of Laura Crowl of Columbiana, OH, Kelsey Crowley of Campbell Hall, NY, Marjorie Niblack of Fowlerville, MI, Jennifer Porter of Seymour, IL and Greta Schelling of Newtown Square, PA, all MGAA members and chaperoned by our very own president, Donna McCready gathered July 9th for a week of two-a-day practice sessions at the farm of Michelle Reilly in Rohrsersville, MD.

After this week of hard training the US met



Laura Crowl & Marjorie Niblack

Riding Photos on this page are courtesy of our very own Kyley Hellhake of Green Horse Studios. www.GreenHorseStudios.com



Team Photo: D McCready

USPC International Games Team

Winners of the 2007 exchange



Greta Schelling

The United States Team got off to a strong start in the first set of four games taking three firsts and a second.

This was followed by a few falters where trainer Forman encouraged her team to keep looking forward and to believe in their talents like they had shown her they were capable of. The team quickly rebounded with a first place in hurdle.

By the end of the competition the US team had secured their win by nine points followed by Great Britain taking second, Australia in third and Canada finishing fourth. The standing-room-only crowd in the Kentucky Horse Park Indoor Arena had been treated top notch sports evening.

Frank Horn of USPC had remarked on how fortunate it was to have an organization such as MGAA to provide an avenue for the kids to improve their mounted games skills beyond the curriculum provided by USPC and in so doing retained and expanded the participation in that division within pony club.

up with the other three teams to begin a week of touring such places as Norfolk, VA Naval base, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg's Bush Gardens, Washington, DC's monuments & museums, Baltimore, MD's Inner Harbor, and Louisville, KY's famous Churchill Downs followed by a Harbor Cruise. All of this was excellently planned by Janey McFawn with housing supplied by host families and the University of Kentucky.

Two "friendly" competitions were hosted in Maryland where five teams of four were formed. each containing a member from



Jenn Porter

each international team. The events were highlighted by several spills and thrills on the "frisky" mounts (as stated by the British Coach Danny Wilson) supplied by the pony clubs in the surrounding area.

The 16 race international competition was held the final night of USPC's Championships in the Lexington, KY Horse Park's indoor arena. Each team rotated among four sets of ponies after every fourth game making the odds as even as possible for all countries.



Laura Crowl

This story was written by Curtis Schelling. Team Photo courtesy of Donna McCready

MGAA Members

In June Robert Taylor and Janie McFawn took six enthusiastic MGAA members, Shelli Cone, Brett Calhoun, Brea Calhoun, Rachel Welniak,

Photos and Story courtesy of Shelli Cone

Our trip finally began after a little over 24 hours of traveling. Then we took a train for about four hours to Muswellbrook. Phil and Sean Logue met us at the train station and picked us up. Our first stop was to the pizza place. Pizza in Australia doesn't come just in cheese or pepperoni it is load with thousands of unbelievable toppings.

Muswellbrook is more in the country and it was truly beautiful. For the next few days we were able to train and get to know our mounts. That weekend was the first competition. The first day was individuals and the second day was pairs. In the pairs competition Phil paired us with



The team ready to compete



The team white water rafting on the Olympic course

an Aussie partner. Both competitions went extremely well for the Americans and were so much fun. That Monday, we boarded another train and traveled to Penrith, a suburb of Sydney. There we stayed with the most generous people, the Hartog's. Over the next week we were the stereotypical tourist! We got to tour Sydney, climb the Harbor Bridge, explore the Blue Mountains (and buying Ugg boots!), and my favorite experience was white water rafting on the Olympic course. Our last weekend was spent at the JK Williams Show Jumping Competition. And finally the team competition was held that Sunday night under the lights. The USA team came up shinning and took first place. Over the two weeks that we were in Australia we were able to meet and socialize with the nicest and most generous people I have ever met. The trip of amazing and so much fun and I can't wait to go back to the beautiful country and the wonderful people.

Sunday July 8th 2007. It was our last full day in Australia. Yesterday we spent our whole day watching and marveling at what we were so fortunate to have been a part of; The JK Williams Grand Prix show. Today at the conclusion of the show it would be our turn to entertain the audience. The whole team was nervous as we awaited the drop of the flag that would signal the beginning of the competition. The four of us who were in that particular race rushed in and out of the poles as quickly as our ponies would run and to our excitement won that race. The second, third, tenth, and sixteenth race came and went in a blur.

At the end of all the races the four teams lined up and listened anxiously for the placings. Fourth place was called then third. Second place was called, it was the New South Wales team. Right then a huge smile brightened up all five of our faces. We knew we had done it! "...And first place goes to UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!"

- Brett Calhoun



The team in front of the Sydney Harbor Bridge

Arriving in Australia was such a relief after traveling 24 hours on a plane then 4 hours on a train which was soo cool. I was sooo happy to finally be there. We arrived at the Muswellbrook train station where we met our first host family, the Logues. We then proceeded to go get Pizza. We arrived to the Logues house where we met Mrs. Logue (A.K.A Lanette) and began to eat Pizza. After the first dinner we went and learned how to feed the horses that we would be riding for the next two weeks. My pony, well horse, would be Sport. He was a 15+H chestnut. His name fit him well, although after the pairs & individual competitions, I would learn that Sport couldn't travel to Penrith with us for the team competition and I would get another pony. When we arrived back in the house later, we were treated to cheeseburgers for dinner. We passed them up and instead went straight to bed at 6:30 p.m. and fell right to sleep. We were wiped out! The next day the Logues introduced us to Tim Tam's - they are wonderful Australian cookies that kept us well sustained throughout our trip. We all brought Tim Tam's back with



A Cone & S Cone MMM Photo: A Cone

USPC Championships 2007

By Jesse Pillard

Championships annually represent a highlight of the games season and this year was no different. The teams, many comprised of all MGAA members, battled it out in one of the more intense competitions in the past few years as they adjusted to the new format which granted points for every place in every heat. It was very evident how the extra opportunities offered by MGAA truly raised the level of play, particularly in the advanced division, wherein the crowd seemed to grow bigger by the day. On the final day of competition, the entire stadium cheered and sighed with each success or mistake of the top advanced teams. The intensity of the competition and the improved level of play certainly helped to raise the respect granted our often overlooked discipline and generate a new interest in those watching.

Our very own Kyley Hellhake of Green Horse Studios took photos of many of the games riders in action. The pictures can be found at: www.greenhorsestudios.com

MGAA Vendor Booth

MGAA hosted a vendor booth at USPC championships and Festival in Lexington KY this July at the Kentucky Horse Park.

This created an excellent opportunity for those new to games or just new to MGAA to gain some knowledge of our organization. Equipment was available for visitors to handle while watching slide shows and videos of it in use. Literature, as well as MGAA logoed gear was available for those who had interest. We thank the many MGAA volunteers who manned the booth and answer questions.



MGAA Booth at USPC Championships Photo: A Cone



Burberry Team MA#1 Photo: R Muldon

Do You - You Tube?

Anita Vassallo created her own You Tube channel and has up loaded an array of games videos. She has even included ones of several different teams at the MMM. Next time you are surfing the web swing by her channel to check them out.

<http://www.youtube.com>

Got Photos?

Have you checked out the MGAA Smugmug photo site - you might see yourself on there in action! You can link to it from www.mountedgames.org via the photo tab. If you have good games photos and would like to share them, please mail a disc to:

Sharon Brown 15710 Union Chapel Rd
Woodbine, MD 21797
webmaster@mountedgames.org

She is looking for photos that feature games skills, and equipment, are in focus and will show games at its best.

Bulletin Board

Katy, 13.3hh games/polo-x pony for sale. Games for 4 years, previously barrel racer, best for masters, been to PC nationals in games and polo-x, 19yrs old rides like a 5 yr old, asking \$800 but



C Mariano MMM Photo: M Reilly

The newsletter is looking for contributions of photos, stories, adventures, anything you think others would like to hear about.

If you have questions, comments, announcements or ideas for the next issue? Have you had a great games experience that others would like to hear?

Please send all of it to: mgaanews@mountedgames.org or Krista Muldoon 261 Cavalier Way McGaheysville, VA 22840

Gold Rush Series 1

First in a series of 3 Gold Rush Pairs competitions in California with two divisions, Open Pairs (6 teams) and Novice-Fossil Pairs (5 teams). All of the Open Division teams were headed to Kentucky for USPC Championships. Both divisions had a great time playing and doing the equipment for each other.



T Underwood GR#1 Photo: D McCready



James Gazi



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Check us out at
www.MountedGames.com



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