

Games Gazette

Vol 2 Num 5
February, 2008
MGAA Newsletter
Editor: Krista Wilson Muldoon

Galloping to you from Across America

Calendar

2/9-10 Snowball #3 KHP, Lexington, KY
lbcaddel@aol.com

2/18 Skillathon #3, Sunset Hills Farm, Mount Airy, MD
reillymichell60@hotmail.com

4/5 Robert Taylor Clinic Gladstone, NJ
mymaui25@yahoo.com

4/6 Gladstone Games Series #1 Gladstone, NJ
mymaui25@yahoo.com

4/12 Picker Hunt PC Games Show Ludwig's Corner, PA
kyley@roinet.com

5/3 No Guts No Glory Mount Airy, MD
antietamponyclub@yahoo.com

5/10-11 Mid-Atlantic Series #1 PGEC Upper Marlboro, MD
dihickok@aol.com

5/10 Hoosier Cup, Hoosier Horse Park, IN
bclough@earthlink.net

5/24-25 Mid-Atlantic Series #2 Ranson, WV
antietamponyclub@yahoo.com

June 14 or 15 Monumental Mall Madness #2
Washington, DC
dihickok@aol.com

July 3-6 Games Conference Paxton Farms, Batavia, OH,
sixconeefarm@verizon.net

July 10-13 MGAA Nationals 2008 Paxton Farms Batavia, OH, hcpc@yahoo.com

7/13 Gladstone Games #2 USET Gladstone, NJ
mymaui25@yahoo.com

7/18-20 Breyerfest, KHP Lexington, KY
lbcaddel@aol.com

8/8-10 International Games, Horsehead, NY
dancer@frontiernet.net

8/23-24 Mid-Atlantic Series #3 Mullica Hills, NJ
mwashburn1@comcast.net

8/30-9/1 Hoosier Pairs & Who's Your Team?, Hoosier Horse Park, IN
bclough@earthlink.net

9/20 Pickering Hunt PC Games Show, Ludwig's Corner, PA
kyley@roinet.com

10/TBD Halloweengamesfest, Paxton Farm, OH
lbcaddel@aol.com

11/1-2 Clinic (Clinician TBD) & Competition #3 Gladstone, NJ
mymaui25@yahoo.com

11/8-9 Mid-Atlantic #4 PGEC Upper Marlboro, MD
dihickok@aol.com

12/13-14 Snowball #1 KHP Lexington, KY
lbcaddel@aol.com

Membership Renewal

Individual: \$25 or \$45 for a 2 year membership
Family: \$40 or \$75 for a 2 year membership
Family membership can include everyone in your household and is a bargain if more than one family member is involved. Although for yearly votes only one vote is allowed per family.

Membership renewals and questions can be sent to the MGAA Secretary: Susan Melvin at scmelvin@msn.com



L Fickert D MCCready, C Peterson Phot Reyes, CA

This year MGAA will host the first annual MGAA Nationals in Batavia Ohio at Paxton Farms July 10-13. This event is open to all members as well as non members and is sure to draw a record number of competitors from many parts of the country offering both an extended team event and a social affair.

See the spot on the inside of this newsletter for more details and check the MGAA website and yahoo group email list for more information as it develops.

Your 2008 Elected Board of Governors

Stacey Calhoun, President
Linda Caddel, Vice President
Susan Melvin, Secretary
Sharon Brown, Treasurer
Diane Hickok, At-Large Member
Michelle Reilly, At-Large Member
Jennifer Foreman, At-Large Member
Jennifer McCready, Senior Rider Rep.
Aly Raynor, Junior Rider Rep.



K. De Boer Indy Games #2 Photo: J. Foreman

Address From The New MGAA President

Happy New Year! Hope this newsletter finds everyone warm and safe. I'd like to take a minute to again thank all of our past BOG members (and Sharon!) for all of their hard work and dedication into getting our organization off the ground. I know we're headed in the right direction and everyone's enthusiasm for our upcoming National Competition is contagious. The calendar is already starting to fill up with all kinds of local, national and international competitions throughout the US, so there will again be lots of opportunities to do what we love best – play GAMES! If anyone is interested in putting on a competition in your neck of the woods, but just not sure what to do, please be sure to get in touch with your District Rep or any BOG member. Any of them will be happy to help get a competition started in your area. It's easier than you might think! I wish everyone the best in 2008!
Blessings, Stacey Calhoun



N Ligon Pickering Pairs Photo: K Heitlake

Spotlight on the Riders

This section is dedicated to presenting different riders, trainers, officials and other games supporters to their fellow enthusiasts.

Meet Crash team member Valerie Brown. She has been playing games since she joined pony club in 1990 at age 5 with the last 8 years on her large grey pony, Sprite.

Val attributes her "love of games to Howard County Pony Club" part of Capital Region. They had "an exceptional program and excellent coaches." She started playing games "right away and [hasn't] been able to get enough of it!" Val has also "been lucky enough to play games around the world; in Canada, England, and in Australia."

When asked what she has gained from her years of playing games Val expresses "I fully believe that games has given me the skills to ride any horse at a modest level, or at least feel comfortable on it. Games builds confidence on a horse, and should be used in more young rider programs. I would really like to see games continue on the path that it is on - building relationships with other countries and states and helping shy riders everywhere learn how to ride."



Val also confesses that "many people probably don't realize that I never really learned how to do a running vault! Since I could to a standing or corner vault at 6, my coach at the time never bothered to teach me how to do a running vault, and I can never seem to get my legs to cooperate fully."

Now 23, Val lives in Lovettsville, Virginia with Jon Hoke, also an MGAA member and long time games player, in their newly purchased home. Working on their new property has become one of her "most recent non-horse activities" along with her current job at Magnolias at the Mill

Restaurant in Purcellville, Virginia as "a full time server and helping out with the marketing and office work." Val has also been getting into doing the major banquets for the restaurant.

With 12 trips to Pony Club Nationals including 6 wins, 2 appearances at Prince Phillip Cup, a member of the USPC International Games team 2000, an extensive list of attendance at Pony Club, IMGA, MGA, MGAA and other games organizations' competitions, clinics, friendlies, camps and practices, riding over 15 different mounts in competition, and an uncountable amount of falls, missed vaults and corrections made, Valerie can be counted as one of MGAA's most experienced players.

Elizabeth Fickert got interested in games when Donna McCready came to visit Liberty Oaks Pony Club in California. It was just an introduction. They played on foot learning pass-off techniques, but it was enough to get her hooked on the sport. Since then she has participated in Pony Club rallies, Championships in Kentucky and MGAA clinics and competitions.

What does she especially like about games? "We switch ponies, and its fun."

What most helped you at an MGAA clinic? "When Phil Louge told us - 'if you keep playing you are going to get better.'"

Her favorite game? "sword."

Elizabeth is 13, and her other interests are, well, what can I say, other horse

sports, of course, and besides that; photography, and painting.

"When our family (McCready) moved to CA, we moved into Liz's family's neighborhood, Liz would come over throughout the year, barefoot, I knew she would make a great games rider and so she has!!! Liz is also a gutsy skier." -D.McCready



I'm Juliette Maddox and I'm 17 years old. I've been riding many ponies throughout this past year but I think my favorite would be Charlie! He's 12'2hh but believes he is 17hh! My last team was with my sister Weslee. Our team name was Surfs up Sista! Since we are sisters we have been riding together for a long time. My favorite race on Charlie is three mug because he is a BEAST! and very handy and turns really well! I have been playing games for about five years and it has taken me to England, with Pony Club and all around the country with MGAA! I also do Pony Club stuff with my Paint/Arab cross mare, Delilah! Outside of riding I'm involved with a group called HOSA. It's a student organization that raises money for different organizations like Autism Speaks. We also learn about health occupations and it prepares us for college. I am a junior at Wren High School in Piedmont, South Carolina. My best experience in games would have to be when I went to England, It was amazing! Every bit of it! I made so many friends while I was



there. I try to improve my games skills by practicing as much as I can and getting on different ponies learning how to adjust to them and get to as many clinics as possible. It's always great to learn a new way or a new skill! An interesting or odd tidbit about myself would have to be I have dreams in French. Hope to meet all of ya'll at a games competition SOON! Thanks for reading.
~Juliette

Rebekkah Korn is from Monroe, N.Y. She is 18 years old, and her current pony is Spencer. She has bounced teams in MGAA, playing on Glamour Girls, Crash, Hit-N-Run, Burberry, and Drive-By. As far as USPC Teams she has ridden on Flashing Colors, Skittles, Ruff Ryders, Hot Ice, and That's Hot. Rebekkah has been playing games since 1999 with her first year at nationals being in 2000. She became interested in mounted games when the NY/Upper Conn. Region was looking for a 5th rider for their Senior Team. She was a timid rider from falls taken in the open on her ponies when she was younger. Games gave her great confidence and balance, which helped her in her other riding.

The thing she enjoys the most about playing games is making and having friends from all around the world.

She has been a member of Ridge Riders Pony Club in the New York/Upper Conn. Region since 1993 and is currently a C3. After 3 years of games nationals Rebekkah tried out and made the USPC International Games Team. She was the first to go to tryouts from her region, which started a huge games epidemic in New York. Also, in the summer of 2006 she was lucky enough to travel to Australia with Robert Taylor and Janey Lawrence.

She has competed at USPC Nationals in games for five years. Three years in the senior division, one year as a Junior, and this past year in the advanced division. Additionally she also went in 2002 for eventing. She has taught many clinics for kids in her area, and collectively has coached and helped train approximately 20 kids, of which many of them, within the last two years, have come to join MGAA. Rebekkah has also trained several ponies for herself and has helped other members looking for mounts.

Rebekkah had played some soccer early on, but riding, teaching clinics, and school left little time for it. She also enjoys spending time with her three siblings and her close friends. Last year she graduated with honors from Washingtonville High School, and is currently a freshman at Manhattan College in the city, majoring in Radiation Therapy. She has survived her first semester with a 3.6 GPA, and says she is looking forward to a challenging second semester. She misses riding her ponies during the week, but being only an hour away from home, she still gets to ride and compete on the weekends, and looks forward to the spring and summer competitions. ~Rebekkah



You are invited to
the First Annual

MGAA Nationals 2008

When: July 10-13

Where: Paxton Farms in Batavia, Ohio

MGAA will be hosting the first annual MGAA National competition this July in Ohio. Both MGAA members and non-members are encouraged to take part in riding opportunities available for *Novice, Intermediate, Master* and *Fossil* riders. The main event will be a team competition consisting of 3 qualifying sessions followed by a final. There will also be a focus on the social aspect including a welcome cookout as well as a dinner and dance. This event is intended to bring games enthusiasts of all ages, levels and locations together for camaraderie and fun. Keep an ear out for more details as this event continues to develop.

Tentative Schedule

7/10 Move in

7/11 Team Session 1 & Team Session 2, Welcome Cookout

7/12 Team Session 3 & Optional Fun Sessions and or Make Up Sessions, Dinner & Dance

7/13 Team Final Sessions & Move Out

7/14 Late Move Out

Riding Opportunities

Team Competition – Offered in *Fossils, Novice, Intermediate* and *Masters* divisions with 24 teams accepted in each division including 3 qualifying sessions with a final for all entered.

Optional Fun Sessions – These will take place Saturday Afternoon. This time has also been reserved for possible make up sessions if there are delays earlier in the competition due to weather. More detail on these opportunities will be available later.

Social Activities

Welcome Cookout – Friday night a cookout dinner will take place. This will be a wonderful opportunity for everyone to reacquaint with old friends and make new ones as well.

Banquet Dinner and Dance – Saturday night a dinner will be held with a DJ and dancing to celebrate the 1st annual MGAA Nationals! This will be a ticketed event in addition to your entry.

Help is still needed in the planning and preparation of this event. If you are interesting in taking part please contact Sharon Brown at
webmaster@mountedgames.org

Lodging Information

For the rate listed below please ask the hotel for the "MGAA Nationals" rate.

Holiday Inn Eastgate
(513) 752-4400
7.52 miles \$89/night

Comfort Inn & Suites
(513) 947-0100
8.01 miles \$80/night

Hampton Inn – Eastgate
(513) 752-8584
7.38 miles \$89/night

East State Fork Park
(866) 644-6727
Electric \$25/night or full hookups \$32/night and cabins available 9.86 miles

Thank you for answering the survey in December. These answers have been a great help in planning this event to be what you, the games enthusiasts, want it to be.



R. Goodman Skillathon Photo: TNesbet

Create a Race Round 3 - 2008

Keep games on the mind this winter and come up with a brand new race. Create a name, state the rules, list the equipment and write the instructions. Jot it down, draw diagrams, prepare a video, example equipment, use crayons, photos, anything that you think will help explain how your race works.

Entries will be given to organizers to test out during the 2008 season. At the end of the year a vote will be held and the top race will be picked by the general membership.

Races should be judged on:

- Originality of race including use of new and existing games skills.
 - Easy to obtain or create equipment or use of existing equipment.
 - Easy to explain, learn and remember instructions.
 - All races need to follow the basic rules of play.
- You may offer options for pair and individual play as well as team.

All entries should be sent to:

Krista W Muldoon 261 Cavalier Way McGaheysville, VA 22840 Kristashine@hotmail.com or MGAAnews@mountedgames.org

All entries need to be received no later than March 1, 2008

The competitions committee reserves the right to incorporate more than one race into circulation although a grand prize winner will be announced.

All entries will become property of MGAA and organizers are welcome to use any of the races entered as they see fit. The Create a Race Contest is only open to current MGAA Members.



D. De Boer Indy Games #2 Photo: J. Foreman

Skillathon Review

2 Successful dates for the newly introduced Skillathon took place in December and January at Sunset Farms in MD with another date scheduled for February. Participants ranging in age from 6 to 15 were matched with up and coming clinicians Jackie Stewart and Brett Calhoun and over seen by veteran Michelle Reilly. The fine weather at the December run was counter balanced by the extreme drop in temperature the January event provided. The December date allowed for an obstacle run and work on pole and barrel games. The January date brought brave riders who persevered to diligently learn and perfect 8 different races and enjoyed a shock absorbing science project presented by Greta Schelling on a vaulting horse. Awards were presented and everyone left with smiles on their faces.



R. Cone MA#4 Photo: K Muldoon

Some make games a family activity. When asked what it is like to ride with a sibling many were eager to answer.

Siblings On the Field



Charlotte and Becca Goodman Photo: Goodman

My name is Charlotte and I have a twin named Becca. We are 14 years old and have been playing games since we were 9. Riding with my sister is probably the best thing that could happen to me. Since we are the same age we both are at the same level and are normally on the same team. I love it because she pushes me to do my best no matter what and in the end she is probably my biggest support. It is great after a competition because Becca and I will sit down and go over how we rode and critique each other and I know that she will be honest. Having a sister is probably the best strategy to success and I am very lucky to have it. ~Charlotte Goodman

Hi My name is Brian Atherholt and I ride a pony named Ashes. My sister's name is Colleen and she rides a pony names Sparky and is training a pony named Thunder Monkey. My sister and I Love to play games. My team is called the Red Hot Speed Demons and my sister's is The Main Attraction. My sister and I love to race each other. Oh yea, I am 10 years old and my sister is 16. We competed with each other this year in MA3 and Ma4. She has taught me a lot. She has been playing for 4 years and I have been playing for 2 years It is great to have a sister playing MGAA with me and to learn from her experiences. ~Brian Atherholt

We love riding on the same team. The best part about being sisters is that we are able to practice whenever we want and that we always have a friend on the team. We tell each other the truth, even when it hurts, but we can rely on each other to be honest. We are also very encouraging to each other, when we're not yelling, but we know she'll be there because she's your sister and she'll also be there to bring you up when you're having a bad day. We have been riding together for so long, that we can



Brea and Brett Calhoun Australia 2007

predict what the other will do and you just know what to say at the right times. We also push each other as far as we can go and get to experience everything together whether it's good or bad if we win or lose. We're also able to laugh at past experiences and mistakes and even make fun of each other, especially when we watch old videos! Our favorite experiences together have been winning the Prince Phillip Cup in 2004 and riding on the winning team in Australia this past summer. Brea is getting ready to retire her second games pony, Ponch, and will begin competing more on her new pony, Henna, this year. Brett will also begin competing a new pony this year, named Havoc. ~Brett and Brea Calhoun

My name is Colleen and my little brother's name is Brian. I am 16 yrs old and he is 10. I have been playing games for 4 years now and he has been playing for 2. Usually we don't play on the same team because of the age difference and we each have different friends we ride and compete with. Having a sibling in the same sport as you, can be difficult at times because we don't always agree or get along. At other times though, it can be a great experience for both of us. We never have to trailer alone and can always help each other get ready. I really feel that I have been able to teach Brian a lot from my own experiences and he has taught me a lot too. He is 6 years younger than me but he is catching up really fast in skill level with every day. He is fearless and loves the sport. Overall I think riding in the same organization and sport is lots of fun and I'm glad we can both share the great experience of being in MGAA, and playing games together! ~Colleen Atherholt

Playing games with my sister has played a big part in my games career. I started playing games by myself but the next year was different, Hayley decided she wanted to join in on the fun. So from then on Hayley and I played together whether it was practicing together or from 2006 on playing together. Usually I reserve MGAA for teams without my sister to expand on who I play with. But at MA3, that changed. At first to be honest I was against it, but then I realized the advantages. Hayley, Helene (another member on the team) and I always practice together, given that we know each others' strengths and weakness and we know how to get each other pumped! Also our ponies live together, that makes our ponies very comfortable on the playing field. Playing with my sister at MA3



Jake and Rachel Cone at R. Taylor clinic

Hi, my name is Rachel Cone and I am 10 years old (almost 11) I have been riding horses since I was 2 years old. I started games when I was 4. I have three siblings Jake, Shelli and Aron. We have always had this dream of when I became good enough, to ride all four of us and call us C-4. For us it would mean 4 Cones, but what it really means is some type of atomic bomb. I am now good enough but my brother Jake is off at college, but in good time we will ride as C-4 and blow everyone in the competition away!! ~Rachel Cone



Shelly and Aron Cone MA#3 Photo: A. Cone

Some people learn to "hate" their families as they go through their teenage years. I guess I can't blame them either. With all the pressure put on you to do well in school and then you have all those rules and curfews. It can really hurt someone's cool factor, especially when you're one of those weird guys who ride horses. Games as it relates to my family has been the difference in my life. My siblings and I take every opportunity to get on the field and practice together. As any games player knows, it is so helpful to have someone there watching you, telling you where you made that mistake and how to fix it. These practices grew into competing together and that grew into something truly great. We learned how to work together and became what those teenagers from above really wanted and that's a family. ~Jake cone

gave me a new outlook on siblings playing together, one of those don't knock it till you try it situations. ~Bonnie Bowden



Bonnie and Hayley Bowden MA#3 Photo: Bowden



Julia and Stephanie Hickok Photo: C Hickok

Since the first time we played Games, we have been playing together. We began riding when we were 2 & 3 years old and it's natural that we would be on the same team. We played together on USPC novice, junior, senior, and advanced teams and have always played on the same MGAA team. I think playing with my sister is amazing. Just as all siblings and teammates, we do get into the occasional argument, but since we are related, we quickly get over it and move on. We think playing with each other is easier than playing with someone else. We take Games advice better when it comes from each other rather than coming from someone else. Since we are sisters, we know each other's limits and what pushes each other's buttons. On those rare (ha!) occasions that we make each other angry, we can scream at each other, but no feelings get hurt. We encourage, joke, and laugh together. Other teammates might change through the years, but my sister is always there.
 ~Stephanie & Julia Hickok

One of the reasons I love mounted games is because of the team experience. Playing with a sibling only enhances this because you know your siblings so well. I have played on a team with my younger sister Priscilla for the last two years and it is a great advantage. There is always someone to practice with and we always have a partner for pairs. I think it is especially fun to play pairs with a sibling because you know them and their pony so well that you can anticipate their every move.

Another great advantage of riding with a sibling is that you can switch ponies if you need to. Last year at Pony Club Nationals on the second day my pony wasn't doing very well, he had tried to lie down in the holding area and coughed a lot that day, so I decided he deserved to sit out the last game Windsor Castle (he had played almost all of the games up to that point). It is my favorite game and I always play the "robber" position. Priscilla was sitting out and since I knew her pony really well, I could just as easily switch to riding him instead. It worked out very well because of our sibling advantage.

I have played with Priscilla in all my MGAA and Pony Club teams for the last two years, and it has been a great experience. Even though we fight sometimes, it is still great to be able to share our achievements together. Last year our team, the Lightning Bolts, placed third at Pony Club Nationals in the senior division and was able to compete at the President's Cup at Fair Hill. This had always been a dream of ours and I was so happy to be able to achieve it with my sister as one of my teammates. It's also really fun to play against my sister. I think that sibling rivalry just makes things more exciting and helps you try your hardest. We've never competed against each other at a major team competition, however, because our area rarely sends a full team to big events. Some day however we hope to have more competitions out farther east so there may be more opportunities for that! ~Phoebe Tengdin

Last summer at USPC Nationals I rode with my sister Weslee in advanced, our team name was Surfs up sista. It was GREAT! We had so much fun picking out all of our decorations for our tack room and getting matching things for our ponies! It was so much easier to get out there and practice with just each other in the ring out back, opposed to getting a team together for practices. Though there were some practices that were pretty tough to get through without biting each other's heads off, but we would work everything out and keep going. And even when it came down to the heat of the race we did pretty well keeping our cool with each other. Knowing that neither of us would get offended, we would crack fat jokes about each other because of our dieting due to tiny ponies (we were only kidding though). But in the end I'd do it all over again. It was one of the best games experiences I have ever had just because I was able to share it with my sister. I hope that we will be able to ride together on a pairs team on down the road. Maybe even bring back surfs up sistas in fossils one day! (I LOVE YOU WES) ~Juliette Maddox



Juliette and Weslee Maddox



Krista (Muldoon) and Kerri Wilson Photo: S Wilson

My sister, Krista and I have been playing games for twenty years, but it was not until we got older that we started riding together. Riding with my sister has been very convenient. I know she is dependable and organizing practices is less complicated. Over the years we have learned each other's strengths and weaknesses, which is an advantage when working as a team. We are also familiar with each other's ponies, so we can easily swap when it is beneficial or necessary.

Riding is something Krista and I can share. I sometimes feel games is our own little secret since few people in my life know what games is.

Having a sister who plays games has been a blessing. Although, Krista and I are very different, we always have games in common. There are not many people in my life who I can talk to about games. Most of my friends do not understand what games is. Whenever I have a question about teaching a clinic or just need to share a story, Krista is the first person I call.

Over the last few years I have been disconnected from the games community but, Krista has kept me informed and involved in many ways. I recently moved to Washington, where I seeked out a new games community. Although, I am on the opposite side of the country, Krista has helped me feel connected to my games roots on the East Coast. ~Kerri Wilson

For a long time Laurel and I had a really hard time playing together. We both have completely different styles of playing, we are complete opposites in many ways. It wasn't until recently that we really started becoming in sync with each-other. And I never realized how much I would miss playing with my sister until she tore her acl this year and hasn't been able to ride in several months.
 ~Kylee Hellhake



Kylee and Laurel Hellhake Photo: Hellhake

There really isn't a downside to having a sister in games...

Practices are easier because we always have someone to ride with. This makes it so that we can go practice with each other whenever we want. We also know each other really well so it's just easier in competition because we know what to say to help each other. We also like having a sibling to ride with because that means we have more ponies that we can switch on and off of. Not only do we have more ponies because there are two of us, but we also know how to ride each other's ponies in competition. We also like coming up with team names together; often something Kendra comes up with may not be something I would come up with, but I still like. We also can figure out what clothes to match with each other because we sometimes have the same shirt or even will go shopping together. Also when we're looking for a teammate for pairs or something, we only have to ask each other.

To sum it up having a sister has many benefits for games: Together we are half a team or a whole pair team; we have more ponies together than we would if we weren't sisters; We always have someone to practice with or watch team videos with; Beating your sister is way better than beating someone else; and games is just twice as fun when you ride with your sister.

~Dana & Kendra De Boer



N. Smith MA#4 Photo: K Muldoon

Snowball Melt-Down Friendly

We had a wonderful "Snowball Melt-Down Friendly" to warm up for our kick-off Season 6 of Snowball Series. Thank you Martha Johnson and the tremendous support from our up-and-coming riders from Bluegrass Pony Club. Martha brought 7 ponies so all could ride who didn't have a pony! Thank you to Mr. Peter Taylor, owner of Westwind Farm in Lexington for generously donating the use of his indoor polo-sized arena for our friendly!

We had so much fun that we've scheduled another "Melt Down Friendly" for Saturday December 29 at Westwind Farm. We'll have more information at our upcoming Snowball at the Kentucky Horse Park December 8-9.

We picked up some new members for MGAA in addition to entries for our upcoming Snowball. Thank You! It looks like our Novice, Beginner and Fossils divisions are growing. Wahoo! -Linda Caddel



L Mitchel Skillathon Photo: TNisbet

Outback on the Mind

USPC Invitational Exchange

The following MGAA members will represent USPC in the 2008 Australian Invitational Games Exchange; Captain - Isabel Brennan (VA), Isabelle Brace (MD), Carin Brown (VA), Kathryn Karns (SC), and Joanna Arleo -2nd alt (NY) and Chaperone Janey MacFawn (MD) with other candidates considered: Aron Cone (MD) and Katie Stokes (MD)

The team will travel to Perth Australia July 11-26.

The selection was done differently this year, based on the surprise nature of the Invitational Exchange. USPC will return to their standard procedure of Try-Outs for future Games Exchange teams.



Team Taylor

Robert Taylor and Janey McFawn will be taking a team to Australia from June 30th through July 15th. This team is made up of MGAA members Jen Naji (PA), Jamie Gilbert (PA), Jen Porter (IL), Cat Foreman (IL), and Ben Soto (MI). The team will fly into Sydney and spend the majority of their time at the Hartog's orange grove residence. The trip will consist of an individual a pair and a team competition.

Daniel Johnson asked Dori Wiseman to marry him on Christmas Eve and she said yes! They are planning an April 2009 wedding in Austin, TX with receptions in both TX and MD.



R. Whitehair MA#4 Photo: K Muldoon

2007 Bragging Rights Awards

Over 40 people voted with the Midwest showing great representation! There were many close races and a few landslides. All winners receive bragging rights for the full year of 2008.

Top Rider - Brett Calhoun, retaining her bragging right from last year. Drew Sargent holds the runner up position followed by Katey Caddel.

Most Improved Rider - Leah Mitchell, with runners up Alyssa Kress and Kelsey Spicer. 19 other riders received nominations which shows how much improvement MGAA riders have made over the past year!

Best Pony - Sprite Brown with runners up Jet Stream and Tonka. This category had nearly 30 different nominations which no doubt hardly touches on how many wonderful ponies are out there playing games.

Best Team - Punk Rock Ponies with 19 votes, retaining their 2006 position. Rapidash claims runner up with 5 teams tied for 3rd position and several more nominated.

Best Looking Team Gear - Fast Forward in their "too cool hat covers". Sunny Delight claims runner up followed by a tie between Fizzing Whizz Bees and Glamor Girls.

Favorite Trainer - Jennifer Foreman closely followed by Michelle Reilly. Katey Caddel holds 3rd position.

Favorite Competition - Mid Atlantic Games with #3 in New Jersey Pulling in that landslide over the Kentucky Snowball Series and the Monumental Mall Madness held in June in Washington DC.

Favorite Race - Joust followed closely by Carton. A multi way tie is held between 3 mug, Santa Express (a demo race from the 2007 Create a Race Contest), Windsor Castle, Run and Ride and Bottle Shuttle.

Least Favorite Race - Tent Pegging and 4 Square tied followed by a tie between Run and Ride and Bending. It should be mentioned that 4 Square also received numerous votes as the favorite race but tent pegging received none. As Run and Ride should prove that one riders favorite race is another riders least.

Craziest Spill - Val and Caitlans collision at MA#3 received 12 votes with many claiming "only because everyone is ok". Following with 6 votes is Rebecca's tumble off of Rudy and then a two way tie between Jessica at Breyerfest and Dori at MA#4.

Best Official - Linda Caddel with runners up Janey McFawn and Beth Lough

Some of the best comments included:

-Can I add that Anita is the best organizer? Her Founders Cup was a great competition.

- I doubt jumping off and breaking my leg gets me anything, do we have a stupidity award?

-I would have to say my own at MA3. I need to stop going to this competition, New Jersey is never good for me.



E. Nelson + K. Boas MA#4 Photo: K Muldoon

Bulletin Board:

HCPC has several new members that need small to med ponies to start on. contact Kathy Witty at Wittsendp@aol.com

11hh 14yo gelding, games, polox, jumps, foxhunts, dressage, trails, all around perfect 1st pony. No vices, loads, bathes, etc. We love him very much but have no job for him and have been waiting for the right family to come along. Erica at ervallee@yahoo.com

Chase, steady games pony, trails, jumps, nationals, sound, no health issues, still young and can teach many more Pony Clubbers the ropes \$3,000 Shannon at 330-549-2750

Several games ponies for sale, small to large, With 11 ponies, I need to let some go. I am in Central KY but have contacts in MD area. A ride could be arranged. Martha Paris, KY 859-229-6017/859-987-4163

Misty 13yo 13.2hh POA Mare, games, jumps, polox, foxhunts, hauls, clips, bathes, terrific PC partner \$3500 Meaghan 360-897-9667 located in WA sassyraindrop@yahoo.com

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



K Crowley Pickering Pairs Photo: K Hellhake



C Nisbet Skillathon Photo: TNisbet

The Games Gazette Goes Green

You can now opt for an electronic copy of the MGAA newsletter to be sent to your email address instead of receiving a paper copy in the mail. While this will save MGAA the expense of printing and postage this will also save a tree or two. As a bonus you will receive your copy faster via email and in Color! To change your preference to Electronic mail vs. snail mail send an email to Kristashine@hotmail.com with the email address you would like your copy sent to.



Looking for a Back Copy?

If you ever want a back copy of the Galloping Gazette or you wish to see it in color you can find easily printable versions on the MGAA Yahoo group site under Files or on www.MountedGames.org.



H Bowden MA## Photo: K Muldoon

Districts

Check the MGAA website for the district contact near you. This person might come in handy when planning practices or looking for local teammates.



C McBain Skillathon Photo: TNisbet



I Canton + L Mitchell MA## Photo: K Muldoon

MGAA Create a Race 2007 votes are in

And the winner is Michelle Reilly's Rubber Ducky Race! Michelle will receive a \$25 gift certificate good for any MGAA gear.

We thank all of our organizers who took the time to demo these games and all of our members who came up with imaginative races for us to try out. We also thank those who voted for which race they like best.

Rubber Ducky Race

Equipment: One 5 gallon bucket ½ full of water positioned where the second pole would be. One small feed bucket ½ full of water positioned on top of a barrel just over the C line (in sock position). 3 rubber ducks placed in the 5 gallon bucket. 4th Rider will start with a sack in hand and wearing a white hat band with a fake fox tail attached.

Rider 1 rides to the 5 gallon bucket and retrieves a duck. The rider then continues to the barrel and places the duck into the feed bucket before returning home. Riders 2 and 3 continue in the same fashion. The 4th rider also known as the fox rides to the end barrel and removes all 3 ducks while mounted or unmounted (remounting before crossing the a line) and places them into the sack. The 4th rider then returns to the start line with his or her sack of ducks. If either bucket is knocked over and the water spills lower then ¼ full the team is eliminated. If any of the other ducks are knocked out they must be replaced before the rider continues mounted on the correction point on. If a duck falls out of the sack (4th rider) or if a rider drops a duck during flight the rider must return to that point, replace or pick up the duck mounted or unmounted and then continue from the correction point mounted to the finish line.



M Reilly MA## Photo: K Muldoon



Novice Rider MA## Photo: K Muldoon

Clinicians

Are you in need of a clinician? The MGAA website has a list of clinicians with brief bios for you to pick from under the 'more info' tab. If you would like your own name listed and are 18 or older please submit it.

Valerie Brown - Purcellville, VA - val4055@yahoo.com
 Jamie Gilbert - Oley, PA - aussiechik17@hotmail.com
 Jake Cone - Darnestown, MD - jakecone@verizon.net
 Krista Muldoon - McHayesville, VA - Kristashine@hotmail.com
 Michelle Reilly - Roherville, MD - reillymichell60@hotmail.com
 Mitchell Vassallo - Boonsboro, MD - vassallo.ma@gmail.com
 Mark Washburn - Malvern, PA - mwashburg01@verizon.net
 Kerri Wilson - Olympia, WA - kwilson9928@yahoo.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:

Krista Muldoon 261 Cavalier Way McGaheysville VA 22840

kristashine@hotmail.com or mgaanews@yahoo.com
 MGAA is looking for photos that feature games skills, and equipment, are in focus and will show games at its best. Photos may also be used in the Games Gazette Newsletter.



D Hickok MA## Photo: C Hickok



Games Gazette



Galloping to you from Across America



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www.MountedGames.org*



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