

MGAA Games Gazette



Vol 2 Num 9
February, 2009
MGAA Newsletter
Editor: Krista Wilson Muldoon

Galloping to you from Across America

Calendar

2/15 Taylor Made Games Series, Damascus MD
rtmade@aol.com

2/TBD Mark Washburn Clinic Millbrook, NY
vcf_inc@yahoo.com

3/1 Taylor Made Games Series, Damascus MD
rtmade@aol.com

3/21 Mark Washburn Clinic Millbrook, NY
vcf_inc@yahoo.com

4/18-19 Gladstone Games Robert Taylor Clinic and
Competition, USET NJ mymaui25@yahoo.com

5/2-3 Mid-Atlantic #1 Upper Marlboro, MD
dihickok@aol.com

5/9-10 Blue Ridge Games #1 Timberville, VA
kristashine@hotmail.com

5/16 Pickering Hunt Team Competition Ludwig's
Corners, PA skepainter@aol.com

5/16 No Guts No Glory Mt Airy, MD
av19651@gmail.com

5/16 Indy Games, Hoosier Horse Park Indiana
cmnwea@aol.com

5/30-31 Mid-Atlantic #2 Ranson, WV
av19651@gmail.com

Spring TBD Southern Comfort Games, SC
scmelvin@msn.com

6/14 Monumental Mall Madness DC Mall
dihickok@aol.com

7/1-5 MGAA Nationals, Batavia, OH
av19651@gmail.com

7/17-19 Breyerfest Invitational Lexington, KY
lbcaddel@aol.com

Summer TBD Blue Ridge Games #2 Timberville VA
Kristashine@hotmail.com

Summer Sizzler several dates TBD Neersville, VA
calhouns@yahoo.com

7/ 31-8/ 2 Can/AM Pairs, Horseheads NY
mymaui25@yahoo.com

8/15-16 MA#3 Mullica Hills, NJ
mwashburn1@comcast.net

9/5-6 Hoosier Games Indiana, games@consultbcl.com

Fall TBD Blue Ridge Games #3 Timberville, VA
kristashine@hotmail.com

Oct TBD No Guts No Glory Mount Airy, MD
av19651@gmail.com

11/1 Gladstone Games, USET NJ
mymaui25@yahoo.com

11/7-8 MA#4 PGEC Upper Marlboro, MD
dihickok@aol.com



Sadie TaylorMade Photo: Arens

2009 is certain to provide another year of monumental games experiences and is already in full swing with the return of the KY based Snowball Series and the quickly popular new Taylor Made Series in MD. The northeast heats things back up in April with the first installment of the Gladstone Series. May starts us back out with the exceptionally popular first edition of the Mid-Atlantic Series hosted in MD followed closely by the break out Blue Ridge Games Series in VA and the mid west's Indy Games dominating Hoosier country.

Games devotees are sure to be booking their calendars and preparing to impress with new team names, gear and energy. Get your cameras ready, 2009 is sure to wow even the most experienced games enthusiasts.



N Ellis MA#4 Photo: C Corrigan

MGAA Nationals 2009

Will be held at Majestic Farm – formerly known as Paxton Farm - in Batavia, OH July 1-5, 2009 as originally planned. See page 3 for more details.

MGAA Nationals 2010

Currently several East coast venues are being considered for desirable dates including the last weekend in June and the first weekend in July. An announcement will be made as soon as a location is secured.

Snowball Season VII

We are midway through our seventh season of the MGAA Snowball Series held at the Kentucky Horse Park. Our final weekend will be February 7-8. As in the past, each weekend features two separate competitions on Saturday and Sunday. Teams are competing for their bragging rights and at the end of the season high points are awarded. It has been great fun watching our competitor numbers grow, particularly at the Novice and Intermediate levels. Once again we have welcomed riders from a wide geographic area: Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, South Carolina and Georgia.

2009 USPC International Games Team

Once again the USPC International Games Team is inundated with MGAA members including team members Megan Griffin NY, Leah Mitchell MD, Stephanie Raynor IN, Tyler Royer PA, chaperone Nancy Crowley and coach Michelle Reilly. This year's team will be traveling and competing in Western Canada from June 24th to July 7th.

2008 Mid-Atlantic Series Champion Team: Punk Rock Ponies

The popular Mid-Atlantic Series ended the 2008 season with a heated tie breaker.

The first two segments; #1 at PG Equestrian Center in MD and #2 at Jefferson Fair Grounds in WV were taken by the 2007 Bragging Rights team winners, The Punk Rock Ponies. The final two



Runner Up Team: Hit N Run: M Washburn, R Welniak, K Crowley, L Mitchell, J Najj
additional team members include; S Welniak & D Sargent

segments; #3 at Mullica Hills in NJ and #4 back at PG Equestrian Center were captured by the green and white team, Hit n' Run. The two teams ran a tie breaker relay of 2-flag for the series title with Punk Rock Ponies pulling it out to take the win. Consequently both teams tied for the 2008 Bragging Rights Best Team. These two teams are sure to wow us again in 2009.



Mid-Atlantic Series Champions C Rutledge, R Whitehair, B Calhoun, B Calhoun, M Vassallo

Spotlight on the Riders

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

Hi, my name is Sam Weintraub and I live in Cortland Manor NY. I have a 13.2 hand pony named Skip. I have started to compete permanently in the masters division this year in MGAA. The teams that I have played on are Babes on Ponies, Wishful Thinking, ME and I am now currently playing on the team Fast Forward. I started games about five years ago in Pony Club and was on the team the Runaways that won Nationals and Prince Philip Cup. This past year I became captain of my team, The Drama Queens that will be going to Prince Philip in April. The first time I saw games being played I completely fell in love with the sport and loved all the little ponies and being able to go so fast. I really love games because it is a way for you to bond with your horse and it really has given me a lot of confidence growing up and playing. I love being



Sam at MA#4 Photo: C Corrigan

My name is Sara Tilley, I live in Boyds, Maryland, and I go to Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, where I am a sophomore. I ride Squiggles, Catherine Hanagan's pony, in the masters division on the Pink Elephants team. I started games a while ago when I was in Potomac Pony Club.

I scrambled onto a Seneca Valley team, The Bumble Bees, and went to nationals and Prince Philip. That was when I really started to love games.

Games allows you to just have fun and be on a team with all of your friends. I'm not quite sure what I plan to do in my games future, but I am interested in trying for an international team.

Outside of playing games, I have two others ponies that I event and show jump. I'm trying to go to the Pony Finals with my show jumper next year. I also sing, and recently started playing field hockey.



Sara at PPC Photo: C Corrigan

able to just have fun while being with your friends. My future goal for games is to go to Australia on the International team. My goal that I am currently working on is to make it into an A final because I have yet to do so. Besides games I also love eventing and dressage. At the moment I only own my games pony Skip but I am looking to have another horse by the summer so I can get back into eventing. Besides horseback riding I also enjoy swimming and lacrosse but don't have time to be on other teams because horses occupy a lot of my time and most of my life. I am currently a freshman at Walter Panas High School and I like hanging out with my friends and I love talking and meeting new people.

Brea Calhoun, a master division rider on the Punk Rock Ponies team, got her start at age six riding in the Pee Wee Division at speed shows on her pony Desby. She joined Pony Club when she was seven and transferred her speed riding skills to games and has been competing ever since. Brea now competes on her ponies Ponch and Henna.

Through games Brea says, "I have developed really strong legs and I have definitely developed a higher tolerance for pain." She also likes, "that not many people know about games yet, making it a rather unique sport."

Brea is no longer a member of Pony Club although when she was she did participate in eventing, show jumping, dressage, polocrosse, and tetrathlon all on her games ponies; Desby and Ponch. She also keeps active outside of horses and is a National Honor Society member, participates in the Partners Club, plays volleyball and is a starting forward for Loudoun Valley High School's varsity basketball team.



Brea at MA#4

Interestingly, Punk Rock Ponies is, "somewhat of a family affair - I ride with my sister and my cousin. "

MGAA Nationals 2009

July 1-5, 2009
Majestic
Farm
Batavia, Ohio



If you would like more information or would like to help with the organization of this event please contact the 2009 MGAA Nationals Organizer:
Anita Vassallo
av19651@gmail.com



2008 Intermediate Team Winners: Sunny Delight

MGAA Nationals 2009 will officially be taking place at Majestic Farm – formerly Paxton Farm – in Batavia, Ohio July 1-5. Last year's inaugural event was a booming success with competitors attending from far reaches of the country including California, Georgia, South Carolina, Illinois, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey and Kentucky. Competitors do not need to be a member of any organization; MGAA encourages all games enthusiasts to participate in this annual event. Four full sessions will be run in team format for Intermediate, Master and Senior (fossil) divisions. In 2008 Nationals proved to be a tremendous social event with many participants camping on-site. A return of the Welcome BBQ at the show grounds and the crowd pleasing Dinner Dance will be two highlights of the weekend.



2008 Fossil Team Winners: The Good Time Girls

Please check the MGAA website, www.mountedgames.org, and the MGAA yahoo email group for updates and additional information on this event.

Calling ALL vendors and equipment makers

All equipment makers are encouraged to bring equipment to sell at the MGAA merchandise stand. All items will need to be clearly marked with price and creator. Anyone wishing to host their own vendor stand is also encouraged to do so. Contact av19651@gmail.com to secure a space.

Nationals Ads

Consider running an ad in the show program. Run one announcing support for a rider or team, run a corporate add, advertise an upcoming competition/clinic/camp, for sale ads, services or job ads, etc.

1/8 page = \$10 for members \$15 for non members

1/4 page = \$20 member \$25 nonmember

1/2 page = \$30 member \$35 nonmember

Full page = \$40 member \$45 nonmember

Please send ad requests and payment made out to MGAA to Kristashine@hotmail.com Krista W Muldoon 261 Cavalier Way McGaheysville, VA 22840

Ads are accepted first come first serve on a space available basis.

Lodging Information

Holiday Inn Eastgate (513) 752-4400

7.52 miles

Comfort Inn & Suites (513) 947-0100

8.01 miles

Hampton Inn - Eastgate (513) 752-8584

7.38 miles

Homewood Suites Milford 513-248-4663

Holiday Inn Express Milford 513-831-7829

Some camper hookups are available at Majestic Farm
Primitive camping on grass is also available on Grounds at Majestic Farm for \$5 a night.





News From Your Board of Governors

In our 2nd "News from your Board of Governors" article, we welcome new BOG members Beth Lough, Colleen Corrigan and Rebekkah Korn! Great thanks and appreciation go to outgoing BOG members; Sharon Brown, Jennifer McCready and Michelle Reilly. We know we speak for the whole organization in thanking all of you for your willingness to volunteer your time and expertise.

MGAA has traditionally had a vendor booth at USPC Championships. After discussion, we realized that no one who has previously organized or managed the booth will be at 2009 Championships. Stacey Calhoun, who has managed and organized the booth many times, is looking for MGAA members who would be willing to take on this rather large job for Championships 2009. If anyone is interested and Stacey has not contacted you, please get in touch with her.



K Karns Snowball Photo: Housman Photography

We decided to place an ad in the spring USPC news listing all of MGAA's events, clinics and competitions rather than just placing an ad for Nationals 2009. Anita Vassallo has been asked to work up the ad. We are hoping that publishing this information will garner lots of interest from the games enthusiasts in USPC.



D Hickok MA#4 Photo: Hickok

This year's incentive award for becoming a member of MGAA (or for renewing your membership prior to February) will be MGAA Bumper Sticker magnets. These magnets are really sharp. Watch your mailbox for your magnet! Additional bumper sticker magnets are available at \$5.00 each. Contact Susan Melvin if you are interested.

MGAA is working on a Fitness Video for games riders so that they will be able to stay fit for mounted games. This project is being worked on by Sharon Brown, Jennifer McCready and Jennifer Foreman in conjunction with Dr. Chandler of Brevard College, North Carolina. Dr. Chandler teaches exercise physiology and our Fitness Video will be produced by her spring semester classes.

We are working on a comprehensive MGAA Rulebook which will include the rules from the IMGA Rulebook, the USPC Rulebook, as well as rules particular to MGAA. Mitchell Vassallo and Mark Washburn worked very hard and sent a working draft to the BOG in the fall of 2008. A committee comprised of Linda Caddell, Jennifer Foreman and Susan Melvin is now working to expand on the working draft and to further clarify some sections. At this point, we will continue to use the IMGA Rulebook as a first reference and the USPC Rulebook for the Pony Club games that are often mixed into our competitions.

We are still waiting to hear from the Selection Committee for the World Equestrian Games as to our proposal to do a Mounted Games Exhibition at the 2010 WEG at the Kentucky Horse Park. No news is good news at this point and we are very hopeful for a favorable response!



K Bechtol Snowball Photo: Housman Photography



MA#4 Photo: C Corrigan



TaylorMade Photos: Arens

Stacey Calhoun, President
Linda Caddell, Vice President
Beth Lough, Treasurer
Susan Melvin, Secretary
Jennifer foreman, Mem-at-large
Diane Hickok, Member-at-Large
Colleen Corrigan, Mem-at-large
Rebekkah Korn, Sr Riding Rep
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Ads Being Accepted

Support MGAA news by advertising your upcoming Games event, pony for sale, services, etc. in the next newsletter.

1/8 page \$10 3/4 page \$20
1/2 page \$30 Full page \$40

The Games Gazette is mailed to all 400+ MGAA members and is also emailed out and posted on the MGAA website and yahoo groups for anyone who wants to read it, reaching the highest number of games supporters in the country. Members only, please send all add inquires to Kristashine@hotmail.com well in advance of newsletter printing. This service is space and time permitting. Newsletters come out in February, May, August and November.

2008 Bragging Rights

This year 49 voters participated!

Top Rider: Brett Calhoun with close runner up Kelsey Crowley

Most Improved Rider: Abby Forenzo with 5 riders tied for runner up including Genevieve Arens, Jackie Stewart, Kelly Worker, Daniel Herbick and Leah Mitchell. Honorable mention to Ashley Johnson, Kelsey Crowley, Mackenzie Taylor and Brian Atherholt

Best Pony: TIE Lucy Lu and Copper Penny with Please Don't Tease 1 vote behind

Best Team: TIE between Punk Rock Ponies and Hit N Run, honorable mention: Shooting Stars

Best Looking Team Gear: Fast Forward with honorable mention to Shooting Stars, Radioactive, Sunny Delights and Pink Elephants

Favorite Trainer: Michelle Reilly with over 20 votes on her runners up. Honorable mentions to Jennifer Foreman, Mark Washburn, Robert Taylor and Katey Caddel

Favorite Competition: Nationals and only 2 votes shy of a tie, runner up; Blue Ridge Games. Honorable mention to Mid-Atlantic #3, Snowball Series and Mid-Atlantic #4

Favorite Race: Litter with runners up: Sock, Carton and mug shuffle

Least Favorite Race: TIE Litter and Founders/Spillers. Runners up: Run and Ride, Canadian and 3-leg

Craziest Spill: TIE between Izzy Brennan's multiple spills at MA#3 and **Ashtyn Lake's** spill at MA#4. Runner up: Good Time Girls at Nationals

Best Official: TIE Curtis Schelling and Michelle Reilly

All winners receive Bragging Rights for the 2009 season.



MA#4 B Atherholt

Blueberry Muffin, of Lexington, Kentucky, was a beloved member of the mounted games community. Standing 13.2h, a Percheron-cross gray mare, she was an honest little mount for

Jessica in her early years of Pony Club where she started her career. Blueberry traveled, serving as a novice and fossil games pony. She also



participated in D1 Rally, Dressage and was part of a Dressage Quadrille demo at the KY 3-day event. Blueberry spent the past two years with a family down the road from the Caddel's helping another little girl develop confidence. Blueberry – we love you and miss you!



MA#4 C Corrigan



A Benitez Taylor Made Photo: Arens

Midnight was one of a kind! His long and distinguished list of games, eventing, foxhunting, MOC Olympics, pony racing, 4-H, and swimming experiences will leave us with many wonderful memories. His expertise in "educating"



riders to the world of ponies, will make all of us who knew him, smile and giggle!
-Jennifer and Donna McCready



MA#4 M Vassallo Photo: C Corrigan

Mounted Games Engagement Brown ~ Hoke

November 9, 2008 at the close of the Mid-Atlantic 4 Competition, after securing a long standing family ring from his soon to be mother-in-law, Jonathan Hoke asked Valerie Brown, his girlfriend of six games filled years to marry him. She said Yes!

The couple began their relationship as junior pony clubbers on rival games teams. As their games interest grew outside of pony club they both began attending the same practice sessions hosted by USEGA as the only two consistent participants, "so we started talking more." Val says. The couple is planning an October wedding on their property in Virginia. And in case you are wondering Val can be quoted saying,

"We both want horses, dogs, cats and eventually kids. As much as some of the MGAA riders might wish, I don't think I'm up for having 5 kids so we can have a complete team, so someone else is going to have to step up."



Blue Ridge Games Clinic and Pairs Competition



**Timberville, Virginia
May 9/10, 2009**

Divisions offered for Training, Novice, Intermediate, Master, and Senior (fossil) riders. Trainer and USPC 2009 Int'l Game Coach, Michelle Reilly will be conducting beginner clinics for Novice and Senior divisions.

This is a fun sociable games weekend with camping on-site and a Saturday evening Potluck & Tack Swap.

Kristashine@hotmail.com ~ 540-226-4902



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*Check us out at
www.MountedGames.org*



MGAA News
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