



# Rio Grande Region Newsletter



AUGUST 2011

RS CORNER

TRY TO STAY COOL!

Wow, it is hard to believe that it is already time for school and college to begin again. I hope you have had a wonderful summer with your family, friends, horses and ponies. We have had an unusually hot summer with record breaking temperatures and drought conditions. I hope you have all survived it well. You may have recently experienced difficulties accessing the region's website. The problem has been resolved and the website is accessible again. Summer in our region is normally pretty quiet; however this one finds many of our members quite active with their horses. Please read on for their news...

## ***Bethel***

### **USPC Championships**

Eighteen members represented the Rio Grande Region at USPC Championships in Lexington, Kentucky in July. Championships was followed by Festival this year, with a mounted and unmounted educational program taught by Pony Club graduates from all over the US. A few of the named clinicians were: David O'Connor, Gina Miles, Cathy Wieschhoff, Eric Dierks, Linda Zang, Bernie Traurig, Richard Lamb, and our own Claire Harmon.

Members attending USPC Championships and their results by discipline are highlighted below. View complete Championships results at the [USPC Website](#). Congratulations to all who competed!

Event	Level	Rider	Club	Place
Dressage	Training	Erin P.	Windy Riders	Riding: 6, HM: 9
	First Level	Suzanna E.	InStride	Riding: 8, HM: 8
Eventing	Novice	Mikaela M, Katie R	Alamo	Riding: 13, HM: 15
Quiz	Senior C	Vickie B Emma W	San Jacinto Bayou City	10 <sup>th</sup>
	Junior C	Jessica F	San Jacinto	5 <sup>th</sup>
	Senior D	Lissa B	San Jacinto	13 <sup>th</sup>
	Junior D	Brianna G Taylor M and Caden W	Bayou City Hill Top	31 <sup>st</sup>
Show Jumping	Developing Rider	Makenzie D	Tejas	12 <sup>th</sup>
	Modified Rider	Aly M Melissa G and Emily M	Lone Star Red Rock	Riding: 2, HM: 8 Melissa G earned an individual 4th for Equitation.
Tetrathlon	Novice Girls Novice Boys Junior Girls	DJ Corbett Egan Spoltore McKenna Powers	Instride Hood Tejas	2 <sup>nd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>
	Team HM: 3rd place. Tetrathlon is scored individually with HM scored by team.			



## USPC Championships (continued)

*Many Thanks:* Catie Itschner and Vicki Taylor for traveling to Kentucky to coach our members. Thank you also to Julie Herman who worked tirelessly in the Dressage barn as part of the HM team; Phyllis Loupot for her hard work on the Tetrathlon Committee and at Championships and Festival; Sara L for assisting with Tetrathlon at Championships and Festival; Claire Harmon for teaching at Festival; Caroline and Eddie Mixon for distributing Region Merchandise during Championships and Festival.

### International Tetrathlon Exchange

Sara L, from Brazos Pony Club is currently in the United Kingdom representing USPC and the Rio Grande Region on the International Exchange Tetrathlon team. This is Sara's second time to participate on the International Tet Exchange team. Sara is posting a daily blog on her experiences; check it out at:

<http://intertet2011.blogspot.com>

### UL Ratings

Congratulations to our members who have passed their National ratings this year! Mary Frances C passed her B rating at the Red River Region's C3/B immediately following region camp. Vickie B, Toni G, Aly M, Kendall R all passed their HB in May held at Freestyle Farm. Our region is hosting a Traditional C3 and B rating Sept. 30-Oct 2 at Pine Hill and a Dressage Specialty C3, B and A October 28-30 at Freestyle Farm.

### UL Clinic

A UL Clinic and Rating Prep is scheduled for September 3-4 at Pine Hill. Claire Harmon will instruct this clinic. C1 and higher rated members are invited to attend. We encourage all members who are planning to take a C2 or higher rating this fall or next spring to participate. Horsemasters are also invited to attend this clinic. Please contact Andy Mulconnery, UL Coordinator at [amulconnery@austin.rr.com](mailto:amulconnery@austin.rr.com) for more information.

### Young Riders

Congratulations to Tori N for making the Region V Jr. Young Riders Team. Tori recently competed at Young Riders championships with her team placing 1st! Tori's team included members from Red River Region, with individual 1st place earned by Pony Club member Alyssa P from Red River. Mary Frances C also participated at Young Riders Championships as a groom.

### American Eventing Championships

Commonly known as the AEC's, they are being held September 8-11, 2011 at Chattahoochee Hills in Fairburn, Georgia. Our region has 6 members qualified to compete this year: Mary Frances C, Clara C, Helen J, Tori N, Ellie N from Instride, and Laura Welsh from Brazos. Several of these members qualified in more than one division. Way to go ladies! Good Luck in September!

### Fall Festival

Save the date...Saturday October 22, the region will host out Fall Festival at Pine Hill. This event is a membership drive and fund raiser open to both members and non members, youth and adults. Bring your friends and plan to have a fun day. More information will be out soon. Activities will include:

- Costumed Halloween Party for horse and rider including mounted games
- T3 Clinic/Competition that include the running, swimming and shooting phases of Tetrathlon
- Paired Pace competition

### Pine Hill

There will be an organized volunteer work day Saturday, November 5 at Pine Hill to help prepare the facility for the USEA show on November 12. All Region Pony Club families are invited to come out and help Ruth. Pine Hill is going to need continued assistance from the local horse community to maintain the beautiful facility and grounds. Phil Sawin was such a great friend to Pony Club and our region, and hopefully you will be able to fit this worthwhile activity into your weekend. I hope to see you there!



## Rio Grande Region Summer Camp

We had a terrific camp this summer! Everyone loved the instruction, Eberly Ranch was amazing for accommodations and Martin Farms provided wonderful meals in their large air conditioned meeting room. National Examiners Ann Haller and Terri Rocovich were our featured instructors. Also instructing were National Examiner Vicki Taylor, Becky Brake, Laura Welsh, and Chrissy Itschner.

In addition to our usual instruction, we spent Wednesday morning in the dining room waiting out five hours of rain with everyone participating in fun unmounted skits. We had our Wednesday family night cookout with Andy as grillmaster, but were unable to have the planned “Games Extravaganza” due to the poor footing from the rain. Eberly Ranch took the kids on a hay ride through their wild animal park. There was a Harry Potter themed Horse Management competition throughout the week. On Friday, camp ended with a Jumper Derby and awards following lunch. We had the pleasure of welcoming four young members and two mothers from the Red River Region to our camp. Audrey, Emma, McKinsey and Molly fit right in and made fast friends with everyone. Molly’s mom, Rhonda, became our “camp photographer” and took all the wonderful pictures at the links below.

I am so proud of our members! Ann, Terri, the Martins and Eberly Ranch couldn’t compliment them enough. They were awesome students, guests in the dining room and at the Ranch. Way to go, we have awesome kids in our region!! Below are links to photo galleries posted by Rhonda Sexton, one of our chaperones, I hope you enjoy them.

<http://gallery.me.com/scherfamily/101949>

<http://gallery.me.com/scherfamily/101953>

Thank you Ann, Terri, Vicki, Becky, Laura, and Chrissy for your long hours in the sun instructing! Thank you Lisa Cairns, Rachelle Cyrier, Suzanna E, Vickie Godfrey, Carol Green, Andy Mulconnery, Sharon Munro, Jeannine Powers, Rhonda Sexton and Sarah Williams. A special thanks to Andy Mulconnery and Rachelle Cyrier; camp wouldn’t have been possible without all of your hard work.

An interesting bit of information I just learned is that the Eberly Ranch was developed by its original owner as a “retreat” for Hollywood and Las Vegas stars. It was regularly visited by John Wayne, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr, and others, which now includes our Rio Grande Region stars.

## Region Calendar

<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>
Sep 3-4 Upper Level Clinic and Rating Prep Pine Hill	Oct 22 Fall Festival Pine Hill	Nov 5 Pine Hill Work Day
Sept. 30-Oct 2 Traditional C3/B Rating Pine Hill	Oct 28-30 Dressage Specialty C3/B/A Rating Freestyle Farm	Nov 12 USEA Show Pine Hill
		Nov 18-20 Dressage Rally Pine Hill