

Alberta Donkey and Mule News, December, 2009

Our Semi Annual meeting held near Devon, AB. in October was a very positive afternoon with a good turnout of enthusiastic members. A potluck lunch was enjoyed by all and after the meeting, Doug Moran gave us a very interesting presentation on insulin resistance in our stock and then answered a variety of questions relating to this and other topics including tack fit. Doug and his wife Sue operate Poplar Ridge Tack, west of Wetaskiwin, and Doug is also a Certified Equine Sports Therapist.

Congratulations go out to our own Russ Shandro for his 3<sup>rd</sup> place win at the Working Mountain Horse Open Competition on his mule Ruger in Sept. When Russ started the course on Ruger, the announcer stated that'' mules usually weren't good at this'' I think Ruger may have convinced the judges and a few others that that statement was not true!

It's a little early to have all our dates nailed down for all the events that were proposed at the meeting, but I want to give you a heads up on what's in the planning stages for 2010!

Annual General Meeting, Sunday, March 7, Ponoka, AB. Potluck Dinner  
The Mane Event, April 23 –25 club booth and hopefully demo critters. Jerry Tindell from California has been invited back so we look forward to his presentations again. Workers will be needed for the booth. Call Paul or Vicki at 780 987-3746.

A Driving Clinic is being planned for the spring. Date TBA. Contact Colleen Campbell @780-672-6105.

Doug Moran is willing to do a clinic for us in the spring on Therapeutic Massage and Saddle Fitting. Date for that also TBA.

Ft. Assiniboine Wildland Park Trail Ride, May 21-23

Teacher/ Trainer, Jerry Tindell will be back for a series of Clinics running from around June 22- July 5. Contact Marlene Quiring @ 403 783-5210.

Donalda Trail Ride, Date TBA.

Hummingbird Trail Ride, July 27 –29

Tees Longears Days, August 21 –22

Sept. 8 –12, Spruce Meadows Battle of the Breeds, Showcase and Equi Fair

Pembina Trail Ride, Date TBA.

I may have missed some events, but this will give you a good start to planning your New Year!

Christmas is a great time of the year to take stock of how things have progressed [or not!] with your stock. Why not consider signing up for a clinic in 2010 or giving it as a Christmas gift to your spouse?

If you can help with or are interested in any of our events, please contact a club member or check out our site [www.albertadonkeyandmule.com](http://www.albertadonkeyandmule.com) to get more information.

Members...if you have a story or article to contribute to our newsletter, we would very much appreciate hearing from you. Please contact me at 403 783-5210 or email [marlenequiring@hotmail.com](mailto:marlenequiring@hotmail.com). We also need your photos!

That's all for this month. From our house to yours, may you have a safe, happy and blessed Christmas and make sure that your critters are also safe, happy and healthy.

Marlene Quiring



Trail Riders at the Rust Campout in Sept. L to R. Brian Sutherland of Blackfalds, Ray MacNeil of Clive and Roy Quiring of Ponoka



Dave and Winnie Badgerow of Debolt and their team of mules participating in the Rust ride at Ponoka.



Yours truly and Smokin' Joe - 26 years young!