

**USERL Richmond Region
Meeting Notes
March 11, 2010**

Scott Pauley, Deputy Director called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Vicki Pinner read the minutes from the previous meeting held on February 18, 2010.

Oral Reports from Coordinators:

Adoption & Fosters: - Kim Chewning-McCarthy gave an update from the last meeting. Bonnie June and Bob Marley have left and gone into foster care. Buckwheat/Beau went to a new foster and is doing well. Kim is meeting with new fosters as well as talking to a trainer in Powhatan. Since the last meeting, Ginger, Niles, Jill, and Jett have all been adopted. Kim is processing an application for Kharis. Pansy has been pulled from the website for the time being. She is currently being evaluated as to what her future status might be. Kim continues to look for fosters and adopters. If you are interested in a particular horse, let her know ASAP! Some new horses are being added to the SPARE program—among them: JoJo, Orion, and Tee.

Fundraising: - Suzanne Deer updated us on the “hay status.” In addition to the 350 bales of hay donated by Mr. Swartz, we have also been offered 240 square bales from one person and 20 bales from another. Dana Vegas let us know about 40 to 90 round bales of Orchard Grass which are being offered to us. We will need to get a caravan together for that. Rusty Stirrups has put out a “challenge” for hay and feed to help us.

Tack Sale in Beaverdam: - brought in \$236.00. We also got a lot of leftovers for the next tack sale.

Tee Fundraiser: - We had a good turnout for it, and we made \$340.00 for Tee.

Pet Expo: - We had good exposure there and made between \$250 & \$300 there.

Angel Trees: - We had 10 this year, which brought in all kinds of things: salt blocks, treats, wormers, etc. This will be included in our future Yard/Fire Sale. Barn Managers have first dibs.

Upcoming Events:

Virginia Horse Council Meeting is this weekend.

Yard/Fire Sale is March 27. We need people to work it as well as people to set up. It is being held at the East Hanover Fire Squad building.

Pool for Ponies is April 10. We need table sponsors. They do not have to be “horse related.” Talk with Bryan Duchesne is in charge of it.

Sushi Stampede: is May 12 as a part of the Strawberry Hill races. It will be again at Moshi Moshi. There will be a silent auction, raffles, and overall a night of fun! Last year, we made about 1800 clear, and we hope to surpass that this year.

Horse Shows: Upperville, Deep Run, State 4-H Championships—Suzanne can use the help!

State Fair: We will again have a booth. We get a lot of our new volunteers there.

Angel Horse Tree & Equine Extravaganza are both upcoming possibilities.

We also continue to get donations of things including office supplies.

Deputy Director: - Scott said that he and Susan had been discussing upcoming seizures. He again encouraged us to look for potential rehab barns as currently, all our facilities are filled to the max. We need four more facilities by June.

Feed Program: -Scott continues to work to get us on one feed program. It is good to have all barns (and fosters) on the same page.

It was suggested that each facility post a State of Virginia Equine Liability sign on the property. Before posting it, take a picture and date it in case of future problems. On that note, Vicki mentioned letting prospective volunteers who are trying to let their children volunteer that their parent MUST come with them. It appears that at times we are viewed as a free babysitting service.

Rehab Barn Managers:

Powhatan Barn: - Gwen Duchesne said things were going well out there. Bonnie left, but Mocha is doing fine without her. In fact, she is now under saddle.

King William Barn: - Lisa Revis said the barn was almost full with 12 horses. She asked for help with a clean up on March 20th. Food and drink are being provided.

Mechanicsville Barn: - Judi Tilley spoke for Anne Guard, who was sick. She said things were going well. Princess Olivia had her teeth floated. Gus was improving, and Sissy is working with Stormy. Dylan continues to do well. They requested more MORNING volunteers. This is a difficult shift to fill in all of the barns.

Rockville Barn: – Virginia DeChant spoke for Virginia Stirnweis who was not there. Cody has left, and Caroline and Linus continue to do well.

Mustang Barn: - Vicki Pinner said all is well with the mustangs, but she encouraged anyone to take in a mustang as a companion horse as the owner is getting “restless.”

Vet Talk: - Virginia DeChant, DVM brought her “Box of Horse Guts.” It was a graphic of the horse’s gastrointestinal system. She placed an emphasis on the importance of feeding small meals frequently to horses.

We returned to the discussion of Bryan’s suggestion at the last meeting of “advice articles” on the website. Scott took a vote on this which passed. Send articles of interest to Bryan’s webmaster email.

Other questions were entertained.

Vicki set the date, time, and place of the next meeting for Thursday, April 8th at 7pm at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church, 9000 St. Martin’s Lane, Richmond, VA 23294. Minutes from this meeting will be posted on the web as well as on the Yahoo Message Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by Vicki Pinner