

## ALBERTA DONKEY AND MULE CLUB NEWS, OCTOBER, 2012

The Alberta donkey and mule club held its 23 annual Tees Long Ears Days on the weekend of August 18 -19. Saturday was mostly riding and fun classes with the driving classes run on Sunday. Saturday had a strong showing of mules and donkeys, with not so many in the driving events on Sunday.

Bob Leggette was presented with the Hi Point award of the show, entering all the riding classes on his mule Jessie and then also driving her in the classes on Sunday. However, let it be known that when three year old Cash Stasiuk learns to drive that little black Samuel mule of his....Bob Leggette will be given a "run for his money"!

Some of the newcomers to the show included the Pryshikow sisters, Jessica and Kaylee. They exhibited a lot of skill, technique and fun showing their donkeys. The Dykstra family and their young mules including a lovely and well behaved young mule foal still on his mama, were a welcome addition to the halter and lead line classes on Saturday. Carol Wadey surprised the participants by putting her endurance riding skills on hold for the weekend in lieu of buzzing around Tees with her miniature donkeys.

Robyn Wadey, Carol's daughter did a fine job with her little Appy mule in many of the classes and won the Coon Jumping class.

Another mother, daughter duo, Glenda and Martia Irwin showed Glenda's paint mule Alice in many events. Alice showed great potential last year, having just been started and now she is really developing into an outstanding mount.

The costume class this year appeared to have a theme from "Out of Africa" with Nicole Kroetsch and her "zebra" mule, and Brogen Nye and his trained "elephant" carrying his African Princess, Katie Skeels. The Pryshikow sisters successfully disguised their donkeys as a skunk and Tinkerbell.

Julia Oudshoorn travelled all the way from Champion, Ab. to participate with her mule and also rode Marlene Quiring's mule Denver to a win in his first class ever.

The Drill Team just gets better every season, sharp outfits, precision turns, the pinwheel [or "windmule"] the charge...the only thing that doesn't improve is the age of the riders!

Thank you to our fine judge, Doreen Hooker, our always entertaining announcer and auctioneer, Russ Finlay, and the good food served from a real chuck wagon. Another successful fund raising auction and another Tees Longears Days became history. Plans for 2013 are already underway! A special thanks to Show chairman, Russ Shandro and his crew for all the work of putting on this show.

Please join us for our semiannual meeting, Sunday October 28 at 1:30 pm at the Ponoka Drop in Center, 5015-46 ave. Ponoka, Alberta.

News collaborated by Russ Shandro and Marlene Quiring