

Alberta Donkey and Mule Club News, May/ June 2016

Members who participated in the daily Parade of Breeds during the Mane Event in Red Deer in late April were Bob Leggette driving his mule and Russ Shandro and Matt Nielson on their saddle mules with Matt leading a pack mule. Heather Rioux drove her mammoth donkey while Keith Kendrew rode his large standard donkey. In the parade on Friday and Saturday the pack mule appeared to be carrying a rather large tarped load. Part way around the arena the load became live and the illusive Sasquatch [Brittney Penner] was revealed as it was recently captured on the eastern slopes by club members and since learned to ride a mule. One thing that longears owners do enjoy is a good laugh! Thank you to the demo people and also to our Booth workers which included Caroline Boddy, Jim Potter, Rodney Tetreault, Jennifer Johnson, Linda Leggette, Terry Tiberghien, Kim Baerg, Jerry and Linda Forsman and yours truly.

The following weekend, several members and friends took advantage of a club sponsored opportunity to learn from Dr. Laura Taylor, a Holistic veterinarian from Calgary who spent two days with us addressing common issues in horses and mules. Her unique approach zeros in on correcting organ function which is often the source of many lameness, behavioral and performance issues. Her approach to equine health is backed up by the thousands of horses that she has successfully worked on. Mules are relatively new to her but she enjoyed her work with them and their compelling characters. Those of us that attended are very grateful for the knowledge we gained and for Dr. Laura's attentiveness' to our questions and her passion and teaching stamina. She is someone we really want to see back again!

Our Tindell Clinics throughout Alberta will be getting started soon.

At this point most all of the clinics have room for a few more participants. AUDITORS just need to show up at the door but PLEASE ARRIVE BEFORE nine each morning to sit in on the important orientation session each day with THE master of horse and mule communication himself, Jerry Tindell. This is also a great time for questions/concerns from participants and auditors! The coffee pot will be on and contributions to the snack bar are always appreciated! Visit our site www.albertadonkeyandmule.com for a complete list of clinics and dates OR open the attachment in this email that has all the clinics listed that are happening around Alberta. ALSO take note that there will be a few days available for private Lessons with

Jerry AND a couple of our TEAMSTERS have requested a day or two of lessons with Jerry to help them with their teams. Please contact me if you would like to join in on this!

Everyone is welcome to Join us at our annual **Club Trail Ride at the Hummingbird** Staging area, west of Rocky Mountain House, AB. July 22 -14. All equines welcome! Call Keith Kendrew for more information at 403 843-3293.

July 30 -31 will be the Great Canadian Mule Race at the Stampede in Bruce, AB. Call Russ Shandro for more information at 780 632-7510.

Then get ready for our **Alberta Longears Show**, August 13 -14 at Eagle Hill Equine, 26 km west of Olds Ab. Reserve your Saturday evening supper tickets at 403 556-1195. The club is also hosting a Special evening Concert by Tim Hus, recording artist and entertainer. Supper tickets are \$20 for adults, 16 and under are \$10, with the little Tykes FREE. Concert tickets are also \$20 for adults and 16 and under are Free. We have Classes for all sizes of mules and donkeys with the entry fee PER FAMILY only \$20 for the whole weekend. Enter when you get there. The complete Class list and details are up on our website but please note that new this year are MORE DRIVINGING CLASSES and specific Classes for mini donkeys and mules! Also WESTERN DRESSAGE has been added! Another feature will be the famous ''Tennessee Mule Artist'' Bonnie Shields, who will be travelling here with some friends from Tennessee to join us in our celebration!! If you arrive on Friday, August 12, there will be an afternoon TRAIL RIDE from Eagle Hill Equine that you can participate in. ALSO, anyone with a mule or donkey that guides well and can sustain a trot and is interested in our DRILL TEAM, please check in with me on Friday for our evening Drill Practice that we will perform after our Grand Entry on Saturday and Sunday. Dress code will be Western or English Hats, with black or dark jeans and white shirts. The white shirts are available from the club. The Drill Team is ALWAYS a crowd pleaser!!

Until then Happy Trails!

Marlene Quiring