

Alberta Donkey and Mule Club News, April 2015

The 4th annual Battle of the Breeds took place at the Saskatchewan Equine Expo in Saskatoon with Team Mule participating for its second year. They moved their placing from their first showing last year to placing 5th overall this year against 8 breeds' total. Members this year consisted of Laureen Kress and her mule Roxy in Barrels who unfortunately placed low after Roxy experienced stage fright with the loud cheering of the crowd. Joe Kress on his mule Annie competed in the Timed Trail class nailing a 4th place after gambling on the extra 100 points by successfully completing the Bonus obstacle which was to back around a barrel while balancing the end of a long pole on the barrel without dropping it. Katherine Cook and her mule Dixie ran a great round in Jumping with a 4th place finish and Les Sjogren and his mule Katie, with only two weeks' notice to prepare, also nailed a 4th place in their Compulsory pattern class. Team Quarter horse came in first overall, with Team Arab second and Thoroughbred in 3rd. Other breeds competing were Canadians, Gypsy Vaniers, Appaloosas, and Paints. Congratulations to everyone that competed. The whole event is always a crowd pleaser and the mules definitely get a big share of the attention!



Team mule at Saskatchewan Equine Expo - the back Katherine Cook and Dixie,

L to R, Les Sjogren and Katie, Joe Kress and Annie and Laureen Kress and Roxy

Next up is our club's participation with live demonstrations and a fully stocked booth at the **Mane Event at Red Deer, AB. April 24 -26**. Please contact Marlene if you have a seasoned mule or donkey that you are willing to show in the demos, or if you can help at the booth. Booth workers should be members that attend events and can help visitors with donkey and mule questions. I need to have Demo animals confirmed by Monday, March 31!

Check out our website www.albertadonkeyandmule.com under coming events for all the information on our upcoming **Jerry Tindell Clinics** starting the end of May and running into July. **Please note that the Early Bird Deadline for registrations will be extended from April 17 to May 1.** The clinics will cover everything concerning a successful training program for mules, horses and donkeys in all stages including any problem areas, and are open to all equines and their owners. Jerry's training program comes highly recommended for anyone that is safety conscious and desires to expand their relationship with their stock. Remember that auditors do not have to register and are welcome at the door. The fee for PAID UP MEMBERS is only \$15 a day....for non-members it is \$30 a day.

Here's a great Clinic opportunity for our donkey owners: June 6 & 7, a clinic will take place at Eagle Hill Equine which is between Olds and Sundre. Wayne Lyon will be the very capable instructor. Wayne is well known for his achievements in training and showing donkeys in hand and under harness. The content of the clinic will include a Halter class review, harnessing, ground driving and cart driving. No previous driving experience is required for driver or donkey. Carts, donkeys and harness etc. are the responsibility of the participants.

Clinic is limited to ten participants and will fill quickly. To secure your spot, send a cheque for \$170.00 made out to Lynne Douglas. Include your name, phone number and email.

Mail to Lynne Douglas, Box 93, Pine Lake, AB T0M 1S0.

For more info email Kim Bowie at kimbowie16@gmail.com or Lynne Douglas at smilynacres@wispernet.ca



Craig Wohl gemuth, young Alberta cowboy at the lines of Jerry Tindell's team of draft mules in Sacramento, CA.

Members don't forget your presence is needed at our **ANNUAL MEETING, March 29 at 1:30** at the Drop In Center, 5015-46 ave. Ponoka. If you have anything that needs to be included in the agenda, please email me or send to Russ at rshandro@telusplanet.net. **2015 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE!!** Please bring your ideas, enthusiasm and something to contribute to our potluck lunch/ supper!!

A specific email regarding the meeting and items on the agenda will follow next week!

Marlene Quiring