

## President's Message

March, 2010

~Kathleen Keating

Horses are shedding out, the days are getting longer, and the one true sign of spring has arrived ~ the Rockslide Class List and Entry Forms. Welcome to WCRA show season 2010!

### *Rockslide Kicks Off 2010 Hi-Point Series*

The 8th annual Rockslide reining show is just around the corner. Known for its great prizes, fabulous silent auction, and Saturday night BBQ by the renowned Med Grill, this show is not to be missed.

Show manager Wilma Yule has added a new class to the lineup this year: kicking off the event is the "Rockslide Special" ~ a chance for everybody to get in the ring and school, warmup your pony, or run for prizes. It's open to all riders and you can go one- or two-handed in any legal bit. The only restriction is that you must own the horse.

The arena opens at 1 pm Thursday, May 6 and paid warmups run from 5 - 10 pm and 9 am - 12:45 on Friday. Classes begin at 1. No cowhorse classes this year, but everything else is back.

Get your entries postmarked by **April 15** or add \$25/class. Go to [www.wcra.info](http://www.wcra.info) for details.

### *Jody & Tim Neuls Facing a Big Challenge*

Our good friend, valued member, and WCRA Vice-President, Jody Neuls has let her network of friends and colleagues know that she is facing a serious health challenge. It's an aggressive strain of cancer and she and Tim are tackling it with faith and resolve and the kind of determination you'd expect from Jody. But the chemotherapy is daunting, so she welcomes the distraction of emails with news from the horse community, so feel free to write her at [neulsfamily@gmail.com](mailto:neulsfamily@gmail.com). She may not be up to responding right away, but you can be assured that your note will brighten her day.

### *Fraser Valley Schooling Show April 18*

Fraser Valley chapter invites all reiners and would-be reiners to its first schooling show of the year at Murray Creek Ranch, Sunday, April 18 at 9 am. Classes are \$15 each, with no pre-entries required. A special welcome to beginners. but chapter members will be eligible to win points towards year end awards. Check it out at [www.fvrc.ca](http://www.fvrc.ca)

### *Easter Weekend Clinic in Kamloops*

Thompson River Reiners hosts a clinic April 3-4 with Jarvis Anderson, who posted a score of 226 for a 3rd place finish in the Cactus Classic Derby a couple of weeks ago. Along with the clinic, the club presents a North American Junior & Young Rider Championship Qualifier. Qualifying riders will be eligible to compete in the Championship at the Kentucky Horse Park this summer. For more information contact Kim at [stordahl@telus.net](mailto:stordahl@telus.net) or 250-577-3637.

### *Don't Let Ferry Rates Keep you Home*

BC Ferries has announced rate hikes to take effect April 1, but they may not be as bad as people think ~ at least not for everyone.

The surcharge for over-height vehicles is coming off: the new rates will be based only on floor space, not air space. So if you travel with a truck and camper and no trailer, your costs will go down from the current \$72 (for an overheight vehicle up to 20' long) to \$45 after April 1.

After the first 20' the cost per foot is going up from \$3.60 to \$5.25. So a 50' rig at current rates would be  $\$72 + (30 \times \$3.60) = \$180$ . After April 1 it would be  $\$45 + (30 \times \$5.25) = \$202.50$ . A hike for sure, but not the kind of increase I've heard talked about.

Let's do what we can to keep travel costs down and make sure that there are no empty trailer spaces making that crossing. If you are looking for a ride for your horse or if you have a space or two in your trailer and are looking for a someone to share the cost, send us an email and we'll try to match you up. Write to [wcrareining@gmail.com](mailto:wcrareining@gmail.com) And don't forget about the no-cost reservation system for those hauling horses.

### *2010 Membership Forms & Rule Books Posted Online: No Cards Being Mailed*

If you haven't sent in your 2010 membership form and fee yet, why not take care of that right away, before your first show. The form is available online, as is the 2010 Rule Book.

To save both labour and expense, we will not be mailing out membership cards or Rule Books this year. You won't need a card to send with your show entries this year: as she did last year, membership secretary Leslie Bogula will provide an up-to-date membership list to each show secretary at the time of the draw, and again at show time. Your cancelled cheque will be your receipt. Let us know if you have any problem with this new system.

### *Thanks to Our New Webmasters!*

We rely so much on the web to keep in touch with our members, so I want to thank Kim Stordahl who has revitalized the WCRA website; and Sherea Williams who has created a new website to promote West Coast Classic 2010, in recognition of its exciting new profile as Canada's Team Selection Finals for the World Equestrian Games: [www.westcoastclassic.info](http://www.westcoastclassic.info) Thank you both!