

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEWS RELEASE

Pony Club: Lakeville Pony Club

Contact Name: Theresa Lehn, DC

Contact Phone: (860)435-1475

LOCAL RIDERS ATTAIN D2 RATING

Salisbury, CT : Lakeville Pony Club announces the uprating of six junior members, Eva Clough (Sheffield MA), Sarah Mendelsohn (Salisbury CT), Emily A. O'Connor (Lakeville CT), Emily J. Sullivan (Lakeville CT), Margaret Sullivan (Lakeville CT), and Daisy Torres (Lakeville CT) from D-1 to D-2 at a testing held on Monday, September 7th 2009 hosted by Riga Meadow Equestrian Center, Salisbury CT.

To earn a rating, these young riders all passed an examination that tested horsemanship skills and knowledge. Examiners that day were Sarah Halle, former C3 member of Lakeville Pony Club testing the mounted (riding) portions of the rating and Litchfield Pony Club graduate Rebecca Hartmann-Berrier testing unmounted (horsemanship knowledge) sections. Rating organizer was Diana Lafer and club level assistant was C-1 rated Caroline Sullivan. Each of the Pony Club rating levels is more difficult than the preceding one and requires Pony Club members to learn more about horses and their care and to become increasingly accomplished riders and teachers of riding and horse care to younger members. The top rating 'A,' is reached by fewer than one in 300 and denotes throughout the international horse industry a highly competent and knowledgeable horseperson.

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (USPC) was founded in 1954 as a nonprofit national youth organization to teach riding and horsemanship through a formal educational program. Many of the nation's top equestrians, including most of our Olympic Equestrian team members, have Pony Club roots. Members range in age from as young as 4 through age 25. Activities are English-riding based, and members ride both horses and ponies, depending on the size of the rider and the discipline in which s/he is competing. Horse ownership is not a requirement for USPC membership. All Pony club competition is team competition, much like the Olympic games, where members learn the importance of cooperation and teamwork.

Lakeville Pony Club (LPC) was founded in 1956 by the late Lucy Drummond. Now more than half a century old, Lakeville Pony Club is one of the oldest member clubs of the USPC. LPC serves the young people of the northwest Litchfield County, as well as bordering areas of New York State and Massachusetts, and is one of the 16 clubs that constitute the USPC's New York/Upper Connecticut Region. During the more than 53 years that LPC has been in existence, hundreds of young people have been members. Today Lakeville Pony Club has around 20 members, their interests and aspirations range from simply acquiring basic riding and horse care skills to participation in the equestrian community in a meaningful capacity. We invite you to learn more about Lakeville Pony club by visiting our website at www.lakevilleponyclub.org , the New York Upper Connecticut Region website at www.nyuc.ponyclub.org , and the United States Pony Club's Inc. website www.ponyclub.org



Left to Right:

Margaret Sullivan D-2

Emily J. Sullivan D-2

Eva Clough D-2

Lakeville Pony Club's U.S. Blues aka "Jerry"

Emily A. O'Connor D-2

Daisy Torres D-2

Sarah Mendelsohn D-2

They sure are cute!