

Chapter Year End Activities Report – 2011
By Mylene Chow

The 2011 year has been a fun, educational and prosperous year for the Pomona Chapter. We had four successful shows, three single rated and one USDF/USEF/CDS/DASC rated show, all of which were well attended and profitable. We have continued to keep class fees low due to the current economic climate and have therefore been able to fill all of our shows. We began a cash prize at our four-star show for each class Training through FEI in every division (Open, Amateur and Junior) awarding a \$50.00 cash prize to the first place winners in classes with three or more entries. Small prizes (such as drink coolers with our Chapter logo, etc) for all entrants were also given to encourage continued participation in our Chapter shows. We have managed to keep overhead costs minimal by using local judges and negotiating low rental fees for the venues.

In addition to our shows, we offered several education events this past year. We started off the year with a free to attend trailer safety clinic which we offered to not only Chapter members but members of the local riding community and Pony Club. Attendance was very good and the information well received by all.

Our second clinic was offered was with clinician Gerhard Politz. The first day of the two day clinic was offered to Chapter adult amateur and open members and was well attended by auditors. The second day was offered at no charge due to the fundraising efforts of our Juniors to those Junior/Young Rider chapter members. Eight Junior riders participated in the clinic and again, auditor and parent attendance was outstanding.

We also offered a clinic open to all members of the Chapter as well as to any others interested on a first come basis with clinician Willy Arts. The two day clinic was held at Brookside Equestrian and was not only full, but had a waiting list of riders desiring the opportunity to ride with Mr. Arts. Auditing was also well attended.

Our final educational event for 2011 was a Ride Your Test clinic with “R” Judge Rebekah Eisner. With the new 2011 USEF/USDF tests we wanted to give everyone the opportunity prior to CDS Championships to have a practice ride in preparation. Fourteen riders participated in the clinic. Auditing again was by donation only.

Our Rider Subsidy Program which is available to all Pomona Chapter members (Open, Amateur or Junior) in good standing has awarded \$1,075.00 in monies in 2011 to help members who participate in a clinic or educational event that is not with their regular trainer. They must submit an application and written narrative of their experience and can be reimbursed for up to \$300.00 of their actual clinic costs.

Many of our Junior Chapter members participated in the Junior Championships this past year at Del Mar and were very successful in their individual as well as team classes. Also several Adult members enjoyed participating in RAAC held in Southern California as well.

The Pomona Chapter website (cdspomonachapter.org) was completely revamped in 2011 with a better, more informative, user friendly format. With a goal to become a more “green” Chapter, we have all of our premiums available online. We have eliminated the Chapter newsletter by mail and send out email blasts with news flashes to all our members along with a “News Flash” handout that is available at all our shows with updated information and fun facts.

All our 2011 Board members are returning to serve for the 2012 year and it is our goal to provide not only an educational source for all of our members but also to promote the sport of dressage throughout the local equestrian community through involvement with local organizations such as the Royal Riders Pony Club and others. We plan to host our traditional four horseshows and several educational clinics, again with clinicians such as Willy Arts and Gerhard Politz (returning by popular demand). We look forward to another successful, rewarding, educational, profitable and fun year in 2012.