

BAKAS PARENT MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 1st – Parent Meeting 6pm

April 3rd & 4th – Area Special Olympics

April 25th – Riders Banquet at All Peoples

May 29th & 30th – State Special Olympics

NEED LIST:

Area Special Olympics: Food Fri. night \$400 to \$800

Sat. bagels and donuts

Rider Banquet: \$500 for decorations and give aways

The meeting started at 6:55 p.m. on the 4th at Bakas, with a wonderful pot luck dinner provided by the parents. We had 19 people in attendance. Linda Blum was unable to attend, so Sandra Van Dijk acted in her place.

Kim Hajastron went over last month's minutes, and Sandra went over the Treasures report. For the month of January, we spent \$4,000 more than we brought in, but still have a balance of \$30,000.

Suzanne Sylvestre would like to recognize Fred, our web master and grandfather of one of our riders. She also wants to start a photo gallery where you can upload and download pictures, so e-mail them to her at pps.sylvestre@gmail.com. Go check it out if you haven't lately.

Lorraine Potocki is working on the press kits, and a draft was given to Beth. We are gearing it toward corporations, and have different pages which target specific businesses. Thanks to Bozena Gasior who made 35 copies of the Bakas DVD for the kits. There is also a sample press release for the media regarding up coming events, so if you have any media contacts, let Beth know so we can get the information out.

The Area Special Olympics will be held at Bakas on **April 3rd and 4th**. Some firefighters have volunteered to cook hot dogs and hamburgers Friday night. Please see if there is a group that would like to donate the food which will cost between \$400 - \$800. The event will run from 5 to 9. On Sat. morning we ask that you bring in a box of donuts or bagels to sell at the concession stand, and Patty Haislop will pick up the Starbucks coffee, who usually donates it to us. The event runs from 8 to 2. Lunch for the riders on Sat. will be provided by the Special Olympics. New this year, we will not be providing lunch for non-riders, but there will be snacks for sale, so if you can bring in some individually wrapped items, that would be great. There will be 3 or 4 other stables competing, with a total of about 50 riders. Beth will talk to Gina to see if we need any volunteers, and she requested that only parents run the concession stand.

April 25th on Saturday from 6 to 8 is the annual Rider Banquet at the All Peoples Life Center. There is little wall space, so we will decorate the tables and we need help with getting balloons there. We have the DJ booked and will probably have the same food as last year. Linda will get the cakes. A sign up sheet for volunteers was passed around. Invites will be sent the first part of April, where you cut off the bottom for RSVP's and all checks need to be turned in by April 20th. You can also RSVP at Bakas. We will not be taking money at the door. We expect about

150 people at the banquet. We are going to have a medal and certificate for each rider. Beth Hemmert will print the certificates and Lorraine will calligraphy the names. We need to know who is coming to make sure we have a certificate for each rider. The barn brats will also get a certificate and a thank you gift. The cost is free for riders, \$12 for adults and \$6 for kids 10 and younger. Info is also on the website. Each child will have something to take home like beads or a hat. Please get involved to make this a fun time for our hard working riders and staff. We need people to volunteer their time or donate toward the event. Contact Sandra or Beth to volunteer.

Susan Gordon is having a women's only benefit party at the Highland Park Clubhouse on May 16th. Half the profits will go to Bakas. There is a flyer at Bakas and this would make a great Mother's Day gift. There will be mini manicures and pedicures, along with massages and martinis.

The State Special Olympics will be May 29th and 30th. We are allotted 12 riders and usually the 1st place finishers age 10 and up from the Area Special Olympics get to go. More details will follow in later months.

Luis Newell is getting information for the upcoming newsletter, which needs to be at the printer by the end of the month. Let Beth at Bakas know if you would like to have something included.

April 1st, on Wednesday at 6:00 will be the next parent meeting at Bakas. We will be ordering pizza, so RSVP or sign up at the barn so we know how many pies to buy!

Meeting ended at 8:00, minutes taken by Kim Hajaistron

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