

THE SLIDING EDGE

JANUARY & FEBRUARY, 2003

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Did you know that pregnant mares are given a series of inoculations preceding their delivery?
- A horse foal takes 11 months to develop & a mule foal takes 12! Why?
- The Scottsdale horse show was originally at Paradise Park, on Bell road.

IT'S SCOTTSDALE TIME!

Who's ready for an oreo shake, early mornings, and chilly nights? Yes, it is that time again!

Scottsdale 2003 will be a show full of excitement and entertainment!

The show begins Friday, February 14 with our youth riders. Please take the time to encourage our Youth team:



Alex Mitten

Alexa Emmons

Chie Morita

Lauren Whyte

Also be sure to support our adult amateur lineup:

Karen Emmons

Trish Wagner

And our guest for the show:

Becky Nathan

The show will continue through February 23 with the amateur and open classes.



For the riders NOT attending the show, please take the time to reschedule your lessons BEFORE the show as there will be no lessons at the ranch from February 10-24.

BREEDING SEASON BEGINS

Experience the exciting world of Equine Reproduction!

As breeding season approaches us at a rapid pace, let's take this time to learn about the reproductive cycle of the horse.

On March 22, 2003 we will have the first of a two part series about Breeding. Dr. Greg Brynes will be

officiating the technical portion that will discuss Mares' heat cycles, artificial insemination, embryo transfer, and much more!



The second session will entail a discussion on imprinting, halter breaking, nominations, and if breeding is

right for you.

If you are interested in attending this clinic, please sign up today! Deadline for admission (so we can have the appropriate amount of information packets for everyone) is: March 15, 2003.



HIPPOLOGY STARS

Are you taking part in the, "Master Horsemen" Program? The Master Horsemen program was designed to ensure each student, regardless of their age, the greatest equine education possible. We want to go beyond the seat and hands to provide knowledge about anatomy, veterinary care, etc.

Please take the time to study!

We feel that this is an invaluable part of your education. If you are not currently taking part in the program, please set up an initial placement meeting so that you can also take part in this exciting program!

The following students have COMPLETED their studies and have passed these levels:

Beginner A: Trish, Chie, Alex, Debbie, Avery, & Alexa

Beginner B "Hunt": Trish, Chie, Alex, Debbie, Avery, & Alexa

Beginner C "Western" Trish, Chie, Alex, & Debbie

Intermediate A: Trish & Chie

Intermediate B: Trish & Chie

Hippology A: Trish, Debbie, Chie, Avery, & Alex.



9 year old Alex Mitten receives her Hippology plaque. Congratulations Alex for being the youngest student to ever complete Hippology A!

Congratulations to Alexa Simmons & Lauren Whyte for completing Hippology A! In addition to Trish Wagner completing Hippology B!

LESSON TIMES

Please remember that if your lesson is at 4:00, you must BE READY for your lesson at that time, not meandering down to the arena. If you are an intermediate or advanced rider, please be in the arena 15 minutes prior to the start of your lesson, to warm up.

Being punctual is a courtesy for your team mates, as many of them have a busy schedule (whether it is school or work) and have other activities that they have committed to.

If you know that you are going to be late, please advise us so that we can

attempt to accommodate you by switching lessons with another rider or help to prepare your horse.

Please take the time to check your lesson times and update them if needed.

"The world champion rider, in any event, was at one time a beginner."
Richard Shrake

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This month we would like to take the opportunity to recognize **DeeAnn Pitman** for superior riding efforts!

DeeAnn began riding last spring when her husband, our farrier, Doug Pitman, gave her a gift certificate for riding lessons.

Since that time, **DeeAnn** has spent most of her free time

riding! Her favorite horse is Letauba, but also loves to ride Sierra & Flash.

When she is not at the barn, **DeeAnn** works for America West Airlines and is a Valley Big Sister. She shares her love for horses with her "little sister" Julia.

Her hobby, besides riding, is collecting Angels and she is

infatuated with the movie, "Michael".

Miscellaneous Stats:

Favorite color is blue, wedding date 11/10/2001, Dogs Bailey & Benjamin

Currently, **DeeAnn** is working on building her "hope chest" of equine supplies (brushes, saddle, etc) and one day hopes to own her own horse.



DeeAnn and Letauba spending quality time at the barn. Letauba enjoys her baths and walks with DeeAnn.

SUMMER CAMP

Looking for some summer fun?

Summer Camp will be held June 9-13 & June 23-27, 2003. This session is targeted for the students who have been in the program for less than one year or who have never attended any lessons at our facility.

Hippology Camp will be

held July 10-12, 2003.

This session of camp is to focus on students heading off to Albuquerque to compete at the Youth Nationals in judging and Hippology.

Students currently riding at the intermediate level are invited to apply as camp counselors, regardless of age, we have a job for you!

This is an opportunity to take part in teaching others something you love, no matter what your area of expertise.

At camp, each student will ride at the level they are comfortable at, do crafts, swim, learn leadership skills, etc. All riders will try several disciplines of riding and see numerous demonstrations. Tell a friend!



Youth Riders from 2002

A SAFE SOLUTION

At risk of sounding like the safety police, it has become imperative to address a number of potential hazards that we can avoid by becoming more aware of our surroundings.

Please use caution while driving down 152nd street. Most of you have noticed that there is a lot of traffic on 152nd ST. Envision that

traffic being a dog, a loose horse, or a child on a trail ride. Please use caution (drive slower) while driving down the road.

Most of our students are used to using traditional Dutch stall doors. The stall doors we have were chosen with YOUR horses safety in mind. When leading your horse out of the stall, please

open the door completely, to be sure that your horse will fit through!

Last but not least, it is time to talk about dogs...again. Please, please, please, please, remember that we prefer not to have ANY dogs in, or around the barn during business hours. At any other time, please be sure that if you bring your dog, IT MUST BE ON A LEASH!

**A good horse
and a good
rider are only
so in mutual
trust.**

H.M.E.

SOME CLEAN FUN

One of the joys of horsemanship is the day to day upkeep of our hairy companions. It is extremely important to take the time each week to have the infamous "Spa Day" at the barn.

Now, don't let your imagination kick into overdrive yet!

There are currently no plans for a horse sized whirlpool. "Spa Day" entails a bath with a moisture rich horse shampoo for the body, shampoo & conditioner (a 2-in-1 shampoo, with Aussie 3 minute miracle to condition, or a hot oil works well), brush & braid the tail. When your horse is dry, oil their hooves

& Vaseline their chestnuts. Your horse can not be over indulged!

If you have a grey horse, use "Quicksilver" or "Show bright." These products should also be used on white markings, manes, & tails.

This is an excellent time to bond with ANY horse!



Lauren Whyte diligently braiding "Bits" tail after a good wash!