

Foxcroft Newsletter – Fall 2010 / Winter 2011

.... a few tidbits of info to keep everyone up to speed on what's going on around the barn.

Our Instructors: Our regular instructors continuing this year include Kate Weech, Alexa Harper and Morgan MacKenzie. Cheryl Cnoop-Koopmans joined us this Fall from Port Perry. Cheryl is an experienced instructor and a certified school teacher. She is already a hit with her engaging style. Past instructors Janelle Caldwell, Rebecca Rebus, Lauren Johnson and Kelly Harper are all thriving at University of Guelph. Good luck girls!

New Lessons: We have a number of new beginner lessons. It's a thrill each year to see our future equestrians starting out. Welcome and congratulations to each of you. Also a special welcome to our new adult riders. These brave souls have joined the riding crowd and so far are looking great.

Competitive Squad: Foxcroft had a strong contingent of competitive riders during the 2010 show season. Boarders out competing were Fiona Reynolds and her trakehner gelding "Hektor" who took the dressage world by storm. Alexa and Katie Harper had considerable success eventing their own "Peter Piper". Patrick St. Pierre got the ride on "Santo Domingo" this season and Nicholas St. Pierre rode his faithful pal "Fergus". Patrick and Nicholas both qualified for and rode in the Ontario horse trial championships in September 2010. Patrick won Ontario Junior Pre-training champion.

Among the show-lease crew we saw lots of ribbons and success with: Katie McQueen on Atlanta, Jessica Novak on Kizzie, Laura Elliott on Santana and Jacqui Dubreuil on Roxy. Morgan MacKenzie got in some of the early season on Havana. Alysa Beech started the season on Windsor before switching to her own Waterbug.

Sad News: We are sorry to announce that we lost our dear friend Cairo. Newer riders will remember him as the little Arabian who grazed on the lawn last summer. Our first horse here at Foxcroft, he gave joy to many riders. After a long and healthy life he reached the ripe old age of 31. In the end he was suffering from severe respiratory problems. He was humanely euthanized by our veterinarian on a sunny day in September. Thank you Cairo for all the fun rides and good company you gave us.

Equine Additions, Etc: Alyssa Beech is the proud new owner of the thoroughbred gelding “Waterbug”. Together this pair got out to a few shows at the end of the summer. Based on their successful start, this should be a competitive combination in 2011. Congratulations to Jacqui Dubreuil with her new partner “Jazz”. Jazz, a welsh x standardbred mare seems to be enjoying her new role as an eventer and we look forward to seeing them out next season. Along with Cheryl came her gelding “Sunny”. You can’t miss this very tall Hanoverian x thoroughbred chesnut. Congratulations also to Jessica Novak with her new partner “Hashid” - a handsome warmblood gelding. Morgan MacKenzie has the ride on the beautiful trakehner mare “Miko”. This promising crop of horse-rider combinations will mean a strong presence on the eventing and horse show circuit for Foxcroft in 2011.

In our equine “kindergarten” we have Maya - a 3-year old trakehner filly. We just broke her this Fall. Still unbroken is the 2-year old chestnut sport horse filly – Venice. Venice’s father “A Fine Romance” is a well-known and successful sire of performance horses. We are excited about the prospects for these two lovely fillies.

Our handsome pinto “Tucson” is now semi-retired. He has been adopted by our friend Rebecca Legere who has her own wonderful farm near Fergus. Tucson and Rebecca are having fun doing lots of trail riding. We wish them all the best.

Clinics / Training: Our competitive riders got a dressage tune-up before Christmas with Level II coach Jill Stedman. Jill put everyone through their paces and helped each rider step up to a higher level of success in their riding.

Show jumper Hyde Moffatt is giving a jumping clinic at Foxcroft on February 27. This should be an exciting and entertaining session. Spectators are welcome.

Camp: Summer camp sign-ups are starting already. Watch for details!