

# Foxcroft Equestrian Centre

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[www.foxcroftequestrian.com](http://www.foxcroftequestrian.com)

## Foxcroft Newsletter – Fall 2008

### **Summer Camp Wrap-Up**

Summer Camp ran smoothly and successfully with lots of new and old friends joining us for weeks of riding fun. We had several international guests including riders from France, Israel, Korea, Germany and Belorussia. Many thanks to our wonderful instructors, assistant instructors, counselors in training and of course our tireless volunteers for their many hours of work and enthusiasm throughout the summer.

### **Lesson Schedules**

Our Fall lessons are filling up including several new classes for first year riders. We are still enjoying our 2 outdoor sand rings and our grass jumping and dressage rings. As cooler weather approaches we will be moving into our large indoor arena and parents will be checking out the lounge and viewing balcony. Lessons continue to run Saturdays and Sundays during the day, as well as Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

### **What to Wear**

All riders wear an approved riding helmet. Ensure that the harness is snug to keep your helmet securely in place. Boots with a heel are mandatory. The heel must be at right angles to the sole. Remember to dress in layers so you can stay comfortable while warming up as you ride, and cooling down after lessons. Sweaters or jackets should zip up so they can be removed without pulling them over the head (not a safe practice while mounted). Parents should be aware that the indoor arena is sheltered but not heated, so riders must dress accordingly.

### **Watch for it...**

Upcoming items on the Foxcroft agenda include our Friday night student horse shows, Rider Level exams and our next beginner adult lessons. Last year we started adult sessions which have been a great hit. A number of our riding Mom's and other ladies have continued to ride and have made great strides (... and they look great in their fitted breeches and leather boots).

## **So Sad to Say Goodbye...**

As new riders begin their riding careers with us, we also have to say goodbye to some of our long-time riders who are leaving for college, university or other opportunities. We wish all the best to Sophie Bunting and Brook Cummings as they head to the Kemptville College equine program, Sarah Volf and Jessica Buchanan as they leave for University of Guelph, Susie Alessi as she heads off to University of Waterloo, and Emily Marcogliese as she travels through Europe. Good luck and success to each of you from your friends at Foxcroft.

## **Working Students**

Goodbye as well to two of our Instructors – Rebecca Rebus and Katie Anderson who are heading off to continue their equestrian training as working students. Rebecca and her horse “Ruby” have gone to work with Canadian team rider Penny Rowland in Orangeville. Rebecca will be working and riding full-time with Penny and will be heading to Florida with her this winter to train and compete in the sunny south. Katie Anderson has left for Ocala, Florida where she will be a working student with US team rider Jonathon Holling and his Canadian ex-pat wife Jennifer. Katie’s horse “Finn” will be heading to Florida to join her shortly.

## **Foxcroft Instructors**

Welcome to our newest instructor Jackie Chong. Jackie joins us from Kemptville College where she achieved her Equine Canada Coach 1 certification. Jackie has a competitive background showing jumper and dressage.

Congratulations to instructors Kelly Harper, Maggie Maynard, Katie Anderson and Rebecca Rebus who recently passed the Equine Canada National Instructor Exam. This is a rigorous exam process. The Instructor exam takes months of preparation and a list of pre-requisites. In the exam candidates are scored in a written exam as well as practical testing in which they demonstrate: lunging lessons, teaching mounted and unmounted lessons, bandaging and stable management knowledge.

## **Rider Exams**

Congratulations to riders who successfully completed Equine Canada Rider certificates this summer. Achieving their Rider 2 were: Janine VanOostrom, Michelle Rothner, Sophie Vaughan-Williams, Hannah Ferguson and Allysanne Lord.

Achieving Rider 4 were: Katie McQueen and Morgan Mackenzie.

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# **Foxcroft Competitive Squad 2008**

Foxcroft had 13 horse – rider combinations competing in Ontario horse trials this season.

## **Show Lease Program**

Foxcroft's show lease program is designed to introduce riders to the competitive world. Usually riding experienced, reliable horses, the show lease riders compete in local hunter shows, combined training shows (dressage and stadium jumping) and enjoy cross-country jumping lessons off-property. All of this experience helps to prepare them to ride in full horse trials (dressage, stadium jumping and cross-country jumping).

Morgan MacKenzie riding the Welsh x Quarter horse mare Santana, placed well this season including a 7<sup>th</sup> at Checkmate and 6<sup>th</sup> at Equus 3D. Lauren Johnson spent the winter working with the young pinto mare Havana. This team has come a long way in a short time. Placings included a 3<sup>rd</sup> at Caledon and a win at Checkmate.

Katie McQueen with the quarter-horse mare Sierra also had several top placings including a 1<sup>st</sup> at Checkmate and a 2<sup>nd</sup> at Equus 3D. Riding in the Ontario Pre-entry Finals at Equus on September 21<sup>st</sup> Katie won **Ontario Reserve Champion**. She went double clear in stadium and cross-country, to finish on her dressage score. Well done Katie!

## **With their own horses...**

Janelle Caldwell and her Hanoverian mare Dinera had solid placings at Training level this year including 2<sup>nd</sup> at Will O Wind and 7<sup>th</sup> place at the Ontario Championships at Canterdown. This pair recently moved up to Preliminary and are looking solid with a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish at the challenging Glen Oro horse trials. Janet Errygers has had a developmental season with her new young thoroughbred gelding Bear. This pair is gaining confidence and finished the summer with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Equus. Maggie Maynard and her thoroughbred gelding began the season with a 1<sup>st</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> at the indoor Hendervale series. They had solid rides throughout the season including a 6<sup>th</sup> at Checkmate and a 7<sup>th</sup> at Glen Oro.

Katie Anderson and her thoroughbred gelding Huckleberry Finn had a strong season with several top finishes including wins at Checkmate and Caledon at Entry level. They moved up to Pre-training and continued their winning ways taking the red ribbon at Woodwind and second place despite very rainy conditions at Belvoir. Peter Piper had a busy summer escorting the three Harper sisters, Kelly, Katie and Alexa, to competitions. The experience was all positive for this young gelding and his jockeys. Katie Harper was 6<sup>th</sup> at Caledon. With a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at Glen Oro, Kelly Harper earned the ride at the Ontario Championships. Fiona Reynolds was back on the competitive circuit with her handsome trakehner gelding Hektor. They placed 1<sup>st</sup> at Wits End combined training and 5<sup>th</sup> at Checkmate and are looking stronger as the season progresses.

Rebecca Rebus had a strong year at Training level and moved up to Preliminary mid-way through the summer. Rebecca announced her arrival at this competitive level with a 1<sup>st</sup> at Woodwind and then by winning **Ontario Champion** at Canterdown. She was also awarded Ontario Young Rider gold medal at Preliminary. Watch for Rebecca's results at the CCI\* at Wits End, September 25-28.

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