



Gallopin' Greetings

Spring 2005 Quarter Begins

Congratulations to those of you that braved the long cold winter. The first quarter of this year has been cold and snowy, however we still accomplished a few things. The winter lectures in January and February went well and an AAPH Mock Meet in March was fun.

A warm welcome back to those students that took the winter off. In this quarter we are starting with our busy open show schedule. These shows are also available to SWF students that qualify. Inquire with your instructor if interested. The Mix & Match 2-phase will take

place on Sunday April seventeenth. It is the first such event we have offered and it already has drawn some interest from the surrounding horse community. Several of our students are competing along with riders from other farms in the area. Please come volunteer or watch if your not competing.

In May we will start our Sunday afternoon Field Day competitions. These should be a lot of fun too. Adri started them last year and we received a good response so this year

we have scheduled a series of six, one each month starting in May and ending in October.

In June we will have a second Horsemanship Meet for AAPH (read about it below). The week after that we will have our spring/summer student horse show. Besides shows we have a few other activities planned for this quarter, like the April school vacation Horseplay Days, a used riding clothes sale and the first week long Summer Horsemanship Program. Check your SWF calendar of events for dates.

SUCCESSFUL AAPH_{NE} MOCK MEET HELD AT SWF

On a snowy Sunday, March 13, 2005, approximately 40 people braved the winter roads and gathered at Spring Willow Farm in Mendon, MA to participate in and observe the Mock Meet organized by the New England chapter of the American Association for the Progression of

Horsemanship (AAPH_{NE}). As a new form of competition, the meet format is designed to encourage practitioners of all forms of natural horsemanship to showcase their skills in a competitive and supportive environment. The event was offered, free of charge, to introduce this new format and the AAPH_{NE} Categories of Progression. After being greeted at check-in, attendees mixed and mingled and had the opportunity to learn more about the meet format from a display that included a glossary, slide show, and printed material. Refreshments (including Girl Scout cookies!) were available for sale as were rope halters brought by Joan Adams. In June 2005, AAPH_{NE} will sponsor an Open Schooling Horsemanship Meet based on this format. For more details on the upcoming meet, visit www.aaphorsemanship.org.

In the morning, AAPH_{NE} welcomed several area enthusiasts as demonstrators of the Categories, with the purpose of giving everyone an idea of what each category entailed. **Reva Seybolt** and her Belgian cross **Boomer** were the first participants, demonstrating the Ground Work I Category of Progression. Reva and Boomer demonstrated a strong match of energy and clear communication. This class focuses on the first interaction between horse and handler, including the orientation of the horse to the handler, followed by several yields in hand, then finishing with loose work through walk, trot, and canter transitions in a round pen.

The next Category demonstration was Prepare to Ride I, with **Jean Morrison** and her Andalusian/ASB mare **La Bonita**. Like the Ground Work category, Prepare to Ride is broken up into three sections, with some work done in the round pen and some in an open area. The longest of the four categories, Prepare to Ride involves presenting various articles, such as a flag or a tarp, to both sides of the horse from the ground and then from the "upper plane" (in this case, from the top of the round pen fence). Additionally, a horse/handler team works through a series of obstacles such as hanging tarps and mud puddles, followed by saddling and loose rating in the round pen. Although she had never seen tarps hanging before, La Bonita willingly and quietly followed Jean through each obstacle.



Left: everyone gathering before the demo, right: Nikki Adams With Icceman participating in the groundwork category I during the afternoon



Following Prepare to Ride I was the Mounting and Moving I category, demonstrated by **Pamela Swanson** and **Xander**, her Oldenburg cross gelding. During Pamela and Xander's category demonstration, the evaluators took advantage of the flexible nature of the AAPH_{NE} meet format and asked for certain segments of the category

to be shown a second time, allowing them an additional opportunity to evaluate and comment on Pamela and Xanders' teamwork. The focal point of the Mounting and Moving category is to illustrate the continuation of the relationship between horse and handler that begins during the preceding categories. This includes mounting, demonstrating lateral and poll flexion from the saddle, transitions through all gaits in both directions, and other exercises designed to demonstrate clear communication between horse and handler.

Adri Kerr and her Hanoverian mare **Allegra** were the day's final demonstration team, showing the Riding I category. This category calls for demonstrating a smooth leave and halt, transition through all the gaits in both directions, yields in reverse both in a straight line and in a serpentine, and other maneuvers. These exercises work in harmony, building on the previous categories and furthering the horse/handler partnership toward the goal of riding together. Although this category is typically performed in an open area, Adri and Allegra adapted very well to the limited space and demonstrated all movements in the round pen.

Wendy Warner of Seven Springs Farm and Nancy Adams of Tana Farm graciously volunteered to participate as the evaluators for the morning horse/handler team demonstrations using the AAPH_{NE} SCORING criteria. These professional horsewomen brought their diverse expertise and provided valuable feedback in support of this new competitive format.

During lunch break, Karen Noble moderated a short roundtable discussion about the morning session of the Mock Meet, including the evaluation process. In the afternoon, everyone, spectators included, were encouraged to try their hand at evaluating four teams who competed in the Ground Work I category during the afternoon. The horse/handler teams who participated in the Ground Work I category included: **Mystique/Stephanie Glynn**, **Gryffindor/Kevin Hadfield**, **Ice Man /Nicole Adams** and **Yonek/Patricia Carnegie**. Their participation was much appreciated, as all four teams substituted for originally scheduled teams who were snowed in and unable to attend.

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SWF Lesson Payment, Cancellation, Make-up and Credit policies

In hopes to clear up any confusion about lesson payments, cancellations, make-ups and SWF credits. Please read thoroughly.

Canceling a scheduled lesson

- ◆ Sufficient notice of cancellation for a SWF lesson is by 2:00 pm for afternoon and evening lessons and 5:00 pm the day before a morning lesson.
- ◆ If SWF doesn't receive sufficient lesson cancellation, the student will be charged for the lesson and no make-ups or credits will be applied.
- ◆ It is the responsibility of the student to schedule make up lessons.
- ◆ If a student repeatedly cancels their scheduled lesson (three times in a row). That lesson time space may be reassigned.

Scheduling Lessons

- ◆ SWF lesson schedule is arranged on a quarterly basis. 1/3/05 to 3/31/05, 4/1/05 to 6/30/05, 7/1/05 to 9/30/05, 10/1/05 to 12/21/05.
- ◆ Lessons are scheduled on a monthly basis during the last week of each month for the following month whether payments are quarterly or monthly.
- ◆ When making monthly or quarterly payments for lessons— only pay for the lessons you can attend.

(check payment chart discount may not apply)

Make-ups for paid lessons

- ◆ Make-ups are always offered when SWF needs to cancel the lesson.
- ◆ If SWF receives sufficient *direct* notice of cancellation then a student can

possible make up the lesson, but only within the month it was scheduled and only if there is space available.

- ◆ If a make-up lesson is scheduled and not attended no further credit or make-up lesson will be offered.

Missed lessons or credits

- ◆ Credits must be arranged with SWF, before one is applied to any payments for lessons or services.
- ◆ If a student misses a lesson and no reschedule was made within the month lessons were scheduled, they will forfeit that lesson, no credit will apply to the next month.
- ◆ If a student misses the first lesson of the month and doesn't give sufficient notice of absence then they must include payment for missed lesson in their monthly payment .

Barn Updates/News...



- 1/15-2/26 The Saturday afternoon Lecture Series, went well for five of the six scheduled lectures. The yoga class didn't have enough entries to be held, (maybe during the April vacation).
- 1/15 Sarah Mackay's new horse Sampson arrived.
- 2/22-25 February Horseplay Days were cancelled due to lack of entries.
- 3/5 Student council Unmounted Horse Show was a success with a few participants that came out to run and play!
- 3/7 Mickey (Chip) went home to Adri's Mom's to be a trail pony.
- 3/13 AAPH Open Horsemanship Mock Meet was very successful in spite of the north-easter we experienced the day before.
- 3/18 Gwyn & Kelley Marathas's new horse Jet arrived.
- 4/2 Student Council Meeting/jump painting party was postponed to 4/9 because of rain.

Barn Bulletin Board

- 4/9: Student Council meeting 1:30pm to 5:30pm Jump painting party.
- 4/17 Mix & Match SWF open 2-phase
- 4/19-22 School Vacation Horseplay Days
- 5/7 Student Council meeting 3:00pm to 4:30 activity, TBA
- 5/21 Tag Sale 9:00 to 2:00 /Turnout Seminar (time TBA)
- 5/22 Open Field Day Competition
- 6/? Student Council meeting 3:00pm to 4:30 date & activity TBA
- 6/4&5 AAPH Open Schooling Horsemanship Meet
- 6/11 & 12 Spring Student Show**
- 6/26 Open Field Day Competition
- 6/27 -7/1 Summer Horsemanship program

New Horses & SWF Horse for sale

Congratulations!!

New horse owner: Sarah MacKay on the purchase of your beautiful buckskin QH gelding, Sampson.

New horse owner: Gwyn & Kelley Marathas on the purchase of the very cute and clever North American Spotted Draft mare, Jet.



For Sale:
Tiki

(full name Mystique)

9 yr old 14.3 hand Blk mare.

Price negotiable to SWF student

Look for info on bulletin board



For Sale:
Beau

(reg. name Gold Ironsides)

7 yr old 16.1 hand reg. QH Pal gld.

Price negotiable to SWF student

Call the farm for more info

Sign up for Summer Horsemanship Program

Summer Horsemanship Sessions

All sessions are open to all students this summer

June
27th to 7/1

July
18th to 22nd

August
15th to 19th

Limited space still available in all sessions reserve your space now

General Information

- * Must be registered with the SWF horsemanship program.
- * Each session is limited to 8 to 10 riders.
- * Must be able to ride in a group lesson.
- * Students will be assigned a horse & equipment to care for during the week.
- * Fee is \$300.00 per week per student
- * Time 9:00am to 3:00 pm Mon to Fri.

Daily Activities Include:

- * Stable maintenance
- * Daily mounted lessons
- * Unmounted horsemanship lessons
- * After lunch games
- * Horsemanship videos
- * Unmounted Horse Show

Incentive awards will be given in:

- * Grooming
- * Tack
- * Stable maintenance
- * Agreeable attitude

Some horsemanship topics for the week

- * Proper horse management
- * Ground work with rope halter
- * Round pen horsemanship
- * Parts of horse
- * Proper names for equipment
- * Basic first aid for horses
- * Competition etiquette & strategies
- * Loading a horse on and off Trailer
- * Different riding disciplines
- * Leg wrapping
- * Breeds & colors
- * Clipping, braiding & bathing

Some mounted topics for the week

- * Equitation
- * Endurance & trail riding
- * Dressage
- * Ground poles & jumping
- * Bareback

Summer Horsemanship Programs forms can be found in the SWF info center on the main barn aisle



SWF Tag Sale

Used riding clothes

May 22, 2005

10am to 2pm

Do you have outgrown riding attire?

Do you want to sell or trade?

All items must be labeled & dropped them off at the sale before 10am sale day

SWF charges a 30% consignment fee on all items sold. This fee will benefit the new student council. Any items not sold need to be picked up

SWF Student Council Up Dates

After catching up on business, Marches Meeting had the Unmounted Horse Show . It was a lot of fun for those that attended.

Aprils meeting was postponed one week due to rain. This meeting included the Jump Painting Party as the activity. The jumps look great!

Mays meeting will take place on the 7th, the activity will be announced later.

Junes meeting date may be moved due to a schedule horse show that day.

Look for more details on the SWF student council bulletin board next to the indoor arena gate.



Lead line Corner

Leadline lessons have started again ? Give Adri a call when you are ready to ride!



SPRING WILLOW FARM QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Fax: 508-473-9273

E-mail: swhf@thecia.net

*Fun & Safety While Learning
Horsemanship!*

Still working on Website,
coming soon 😊

Scheduled of SWF Events in 2005 (updated this quarter)

More events may be added to the SWF schedule. Check the bulletin board each visit for updates.

January

- 8th Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 15th 22nd & 29th Winter Lecture series (times & subjects TBA)

February

- 5th Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 12th 19th & 26th Winter Lecture series (times & subjects TBA)

March

- 5th Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30 /Unmounted Horse Show (after SCM)
- 13th Mock Open Schooling Horsemanship Meet

April

- 2nd Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 17th SWF open 2-phase
- 19th-22nd School Vacation Horseplay Days

May

- 7th Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 21st Tag Sale 9:00 to 2:00 /Turnout Seminar (time TBA)
- 22nd Open Field Day Competition

June

- 4th & 5th AAPH Open Schooling Horsemanship Meet
- Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- **11th -12th Spring Student Show**
- 26th Open Field Day Competition
- 27th -7/1 Summer Horsemanship program

July

- 2nd Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 18th-22nd Summer Horsemanship Program
- 24th Open Field Day Competition

7/31 -8/8/05 No lessons

Closed for Summer Break

August

- 13th Student Council Meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 15th-19th Summer Horsemanship Program
- 28th Open Field Day Competition

September

- 3rd Student Council Meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 11th SWF 2-Phase
- 25th Open Field Day Competition

October

- 1st Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 16th Open Field Day Competition
- 22nd Tag Sale 9:00 to 2:00 / Turnout Seminar (time TBA)

November

- 5th Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- **5th-6th Fall Student Horse Show**

December

- 3rd Student Council meeting 3:00 to 4:30
- 17th Holiday Gathering

12/21/05 - 1/4/06 No lessons
Closed for Holiday Break