



# 2005 HOLIDAY GATHERING

What a fun gathering! The time just flew by while we played games, won prizes, eat goodies listened to music and gave out achievement awards. The sing-a-long didn't really take off because sadly we were confused about some of the lyrics. Next year maybe some sheet music or song books would help.

After weeks of stealthily collecting contributions and signing the card, it wasn't easy but I think we were able to surprise Adri with her big tack trunk (or dumpster as some are calling it). She says Thank you to everyone!

I'm sending a heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to the barn gift. I know all the horses will benefit from the assortment of supplies in the box, brightly colored bell and splint boots, large stirrups for the bigger winter boots and the generous gift certificate to the feed store.

Finally a big thanks to everyone who brought all of the wonderful goodies and supplies that made this gathering such a success.



Above: A silly group shot of the gathering. Left: Adri just before receiving her gift. Right: Lorna & company opening the barn gift.



## GETTING READY FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF RIDING

Our horses have had a very welcomed two weeks of R&R. They really deserved a good break because they were so good to us last year. Hopefully we can ease them back into our riding schedule now that they had their time off and we start the new year.

I hope everyone had a wonderful "Holiday Season" and we look forward to seeing most of you soon. The first quarter of riding is always chilly but if you layer your clothing you can still enjoy your lessons. We'll see our leadliners and the warm weather riders in the spring.

Please notice that the 2006 registration form is included with this newsletter. You can cut it out or copy it. We will need it with your 2006 registration fee at your first lesson.

Our first quarter schedule has been set and we are ready to start lessons. If you aren't sure about your lesson time please contact the farm.

Most of our policies, programs and services from last year will remain the same however a few rates have changed and some events will be limited.

We are very glad to have our website online and hope to utilize it for communication of farm happenings as much as possible this year. Please note we also have a new email address (swhf@comcast.net). If you are interested in being put on our new email ring, please fill in your email address on the registration form.

The calendars we planned to have ready have run into a couple complications so we are a bit delayed in getting those to everyone that ordered one. Hopefully they will be ready for you when you return to ride.

As this new year begins we are very pleased to be able to share our love for horses with you and look forward to helping you with your horsemanship goals.



### Winter Lecture Series

This year we are offering winter lectures again. There will be four, two in January and two in February. The first one will be Saturday January 14th, look for other dates on page two.

The topics are not specified yet but will be posted in the barn on the sign-up sheet. Some ideas have been; *Horse Shows explained, What to do when that happens, Traditional Horsemanship vs Natural horsemanship.* We would like to get your input too on some topics that would interest you. Lecture times will be from 1:30 to 3:00 in the afternoon. The cost is \$10 per person. No charge for parents accompanying a student.

We have set up a nice classroom in the house so no one will freeze.

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## New Lesson Rates for 2006

All students must pay an annual registration fee in January. If a student registers after Oct. 1st then this fee will be applied to the next year for registration.  
 \$25.00 Single      \$40.00 Family

When students are scheduled into regular weekly lessons in the SWF Horsemanship Program, lessons payments are expected on a monthly basis during the payment week at the end of each month.

<u>Per lesson</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	
Group: \$35.	4wks \$140.00	5wks \$185.00
Private: \$45.00	4wks \$180.00	5wks \$220.00
Semi-private: \$40.00	4wks \$160.00	5wks \$195.00

Leadline lessons: \$35 per lesson

**10 % Quarterly Discounted Rate** (a cost savings of more than a lesson) 10% may be deducted from lesson rate if payment amount is for the entire quarter of lessons. If more than one family member is registered in the program and attending lessons on a regular basis a 10% discount can be applied to monthly payment.

Quarterly Private    Quarterly semi-private    Quarterly group

12 lessons \$486      12 lessons \$432      12 lessons \$378

13 lessons \$527      13 lessons \$468      13 lessons \$410

Please make these adjustments to your next lesson Payment.

## Barn Updates/News...



- **The End of October** The Wood's new horse Finnegan arrived at SWF. Sorry we forgot to mention him in the last newsletter. Finnegan is a very cute 16 hand grey thoroughbred gelding. Rebecca and Meagan are sharing him. They have both been doing groundwork with him and should be riding him soon. Congratulation girls on becoming new horse owners!
- **12/10/05** Joker arrived at SWF. He is a 10 year old registered quarter horse gelding His full name is *Jet Powered Joker*. My son Jake bought him and will be working with him for a while. His former owner did quite a bit of jumping with him, together they won a lot of ribbons at the local shows, in the jumper classes.
- **12/17/05** The annual Holiday Gathering took place at the Unitarian Congregational church of Uxbridge and Mendon on Maple Street in the center of Mendon. We've had our Gathering there for several years now and it really works out great with the nice big hall for all our activities. See front page for more details.
- **12/20/05** Beau was sold. After months of trying unsuccessfully to sell him ourselves we sold him to a farm that sells fine horses. It was very difficult to see him leave but we're confident they will find the right person to appreciate how wonderful he is.
- **Congratulations!** All leadline riders that graduated to the regular SWF Horsemanship Program for 2006, see you in the spring.

## New 6 week course of Horsemanship for Adults



*Horses have a lot more to teach us than just riding!*

This program is for anyone interested in knowing more about the horse from their instinctual behavior and how this knowledge can help us develop confidence when we interact with them. Participants can, but don't have to, have any prior experience. So if you are a Mom, Dad or just always wanted to learn about horses from the ground up, then this course might interest you.

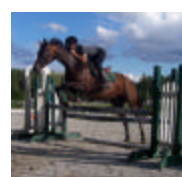
This program will be a flexible format adapted to the interests of the participants. It will take place on Tuesday mornings starting January seventeenth. The cost will be \$35 per session or \$190 for the full course. Look for a flyer on the bulletin board in the barn or call the farm for more information.

## Barn Bulletin Board

- \* **1/4/06 First day of lessons 2006**
- \* **1/15/06 AAPH meeting at SWF**
- \* **1/14 & 28/06 Winter Lecture Series**
- \* **2/11 & 25/06 Winter Lecture Series**
- \* **2/20-23/06 February School vacation Horseplay Days**

**Check boards in barn for more events**

## SWF Horse for sale



For Sale

Tia, 16yr old 16.2 h Bay  
TB mare  
(reduced price) \$2000

We've had several offers from students to lease Tia, however we are more interested in finding her an owner. She has been graciously working for us but we feel she would be happier with one person. She is an awesome horse and has a lot to offer the right rider. If any students are interested contact the farm.



# Horsemanship Program's 2006 Annual Registration & Release Form

Fun & safety while learning horsemanship!

Spring Willow Farm Owned & Operated by The Palmer family at 18 Blackstone Street Mendon, MA 01756

## READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY; SIGN IT ONLY IF YOU FULLY UNDERSTAND IT!

### "WARNING"

"UNDER MASSACHUSETTS LAW, AN EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM INHERANT RISKS OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES, PERSUANT TO SECTION 2D OF CHAPTER 128 OF THE GENERAL LAWS"

An annual registration fee is required when participating in the SWF Horsemanship Program. Fee must accompany this form when beginning the program or by the first lesson of each riding season (January 1st to December 31st) with return students.

**Registration Fees:** \$25.00 per student or \$40.00 per family

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ D/O/B (if under 18 yrs. ) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/guardian info if different from above:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### In case of emergency if I can not be reached please contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Medical Authorization

In event that the above named student requires emergency medical treatment on account of any accident or injury which may occur in connection with activities at Spring Willow Farm, the authorities at Spring Willow Farm are here by given authority to provide all such medical treatment for the above student including administration of anesthesia.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Parent or Guardian is required if under 18 years)

### RELEASE

I recognize the inherent risks involved with equine related activities, riding, handling and learning to ride in particular. In taking lessons at Spring Willow Farm, I assume any risk of injury and further, I voluntarily release Spring Willow Farm's owners (David and Lorna Palmer), it's instructor (Adrianna Kerr) and agents from any responsibility on account of any injury I or my child or ward may sustain while receiving instruction or while involved with any activities in connection therewith and I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Spring Willow Farm, it's owner's David and Lorna Palmer. Its Instructor (Adriaana Kerr) and agents on account of any such claim.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Parent or Guardian is required if under 18 years)





SPRING WILLOW FARM QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Phone: 508-473-8630  
Fax: 508-473-9273  
E-mail: [swhf@comcast.net](mailto:swhf@comcast.net)

*Fun & Safety While Learning  
Horsemanship!*

We are  
online!



## Website up date

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Our website is on line now.

**[www.springwillowhorsefarm.com](http://www.springwillowhorsefarm.com)**

Some of the features it has are:

- Info on our program policies
- Current rates & services
- Bios on instructors (still working on this page)
- School horse pictures & info
- Links to other websites
- Forms to download
- Bulletin board
- Schedule up dates
- Pictures of SWF events