



Changes to Lesson Schedule Coming in 2010

Change is a necessary part of keeping a business afloat in these tough economic times, and The Stables' lesson program will be undergoing several changes effective **February 10, 2010**. In order to keep the lesson program financially viable, and to allow Nikki to balance teaching with college, we will be offering primarily group lessons, based on ability level. Private lessons will still be available on a first-come, first-served basis on certain days of the month. An updated schedule for each month will be posted on our website before the first of the month.

Not all classes are filled, and we are accepting new students for 2010! Special discounts are available for students who enroll before April 1st. A full schedule of classes can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

If you have any questions about which classes are appropriate for you or child, or any other questions about the new format, please ask! We appreciate your understanding and flexibility, and look forward to another fun-filled year of horseback riding at The Stables.

Dream Horse Penpals are Here!



We're excited to announce the launch of our new program, Dream Horse Penpals. Now there's a way for you to keep in touch with your favorite horse at The Stables. Adopt one of our six participating horses and receive monthly letters straight from the horse's mouth. Heaven, Zahtar, Sage, Biscuit, Petey and Hitman take you behind the scenes into their daily life at The Stables, providing an inside look at a year in the life of a school horse.

We're offering three levels of Dream Horse subscription:

Online Subscription

\$9.95/year

Electronic delivery of twelve monthly personalized letters, plus penpal photo

Basic Subscription:

\$19.95/year

Twelve personalized letters plus penpal photo delivered to your mailbox

Bonus Subscription:

\$29.95/year

Twelve monthly personalized letters, monthly HorseSense lessons, coupon for discounted riding or grooming lesson, plus special gift offers, delivered to your mailbox

For more information, or to adopt a horse, visit

www.eaglemountainstables.com/dreamhorse.htm

CONGRATULATIONS

*to the following students for achieving
new Levels since September:*

Red Horsemanship:

Elodie Frezier
Maura Davis

Yellow Horsemanship:

Katie Kiker

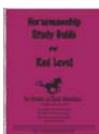
Green Horsemanship:

Shayla Finley
Katie Hermann

Purple Horsemanship:

Angela Parn

Our next ribbon day will be in April 2010.



Don't forget that we have study guides available to help you progress through the levels! Red Horsemanship and Horsekeeping available now - Yellow coming in Spring 2010!

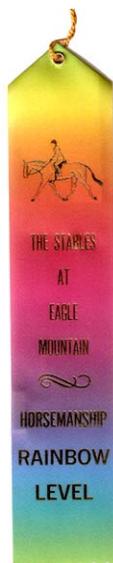
Mock Fox Hunt Raises Money for Angels on Horseback

On December 12, 2009, riders from The Stables braved the cold to enjoy the trails of Flat Branch Farm and raise money for local therapeutic riding center, Angels on Horseback. Sly foxes Kendall and Kaitlin led the first flight on a fast-paced chase through the woods and over the fields, while the second flight did some hunting of their own, searching for fox pictures hidden around the farm. Afterwards, everyone convened for a delicious potluck hunt brunch.

Special thanks go to Brent and Susan Lee for providing the use of their beautiful farm, and to Leslie & Bruce Elliot, Tom Davis, Carla Yates and Doug Richards for transporting horses. For more information on Angels on Horseback, visit their website at www.angelsonhorseback.org.



Rainbow Level Now Available for Rising Riders



We've expanded our popular Levels program to include our youngest riders! The Rainbow Level is geared towards children ages 4 through 7 who are not yet capable of riding or handling a horse independently. To earn a Rainbow ribbon, Rising Rider students must demonstrate basic skills and horse knowledge, with the supervision and assistance of a knowledgeable instructor.

We will also award ribbons to any student in our full Levels program who takes an active role in teaching or mentoring Rainbow Level participants. Booklets are now available through Nikki, and you can find the Level requirements on our website: www.eaglemountainstables.com/lessons/LearningLevels.htm.

School Horses Available for Half-Lease

We currently have half-leases available for **Sage** and **Biscuit** for qualified students. Our half-lease arrangement allows you ride three days a week and use the horse for lessons and available camps. Lessees should be enrolled in regular lessons, well-matched with the horse and prepared to participate in our stable management co-op. An ability level of Green Level or above (both Horsemanship and Horsekeeping) is preferred. Half-leases are a good way to get a taste of horse ownership before making the full commitment! For more information, please visit our website at www.eaglemountainstables.com/horse_sale_lease.htm, or talk to Nikki or Dana in person.



Bailey is also for sale or lease to a good home. Contact Nikki at gamespony@yahoo.com, or at (706) 889-6453, for more information!

Class Schedule Winter/Spring 2010

Classes will be held rain or shine, with unmounted Horsekeeping sessions if we are unable to ride. Students are required to take 1-5 private lessons before advancing to the next class. For more information, please visit:

www.eaglemountainstables.com/lesson_schedule.htm

Rising Riders

Rainbow Level, ages 5-7

Rising Riders - Homeschooler's Special

Rainbow Level, ages 5-7

Beginner

Red & Yellow Level, ages 8 and up

Beginner - Homeschooler's Special

Red & Yellow Level, ages 8 and up

Intermediate

Green & Blue Level, ages 8 and up

Advanced Intermediate

Orange Level, ages 8 and up

Advanced

Purple/Teal Level, ages 8 and up

Sun @ 3:30pm

1/2 hr, \$20

Friday @ 11am

1/2 hr, \$20

Fri @ 4pm, Sun @ 2:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Fri @ 10:15am

1/2 hr, \$20

Fri @ 5pm

1 hr, \$30

Wed @ 4pm

1 hr, \$30

Thurs @ 11am

1 hr, \$30

Private Lessons Available:

Check website or call Nikki for availability

Wed @ 10am, Wed @ 5pm, Sun @10am, most Saturdays

1hr, \$35

Check out our 2010
Schedule of Events
on page 4 of this
newsletter for
camp, show and
clinic dates!



Barn Party Moved to Jan 30

Third time's a charm? We're moving our no-longer New Year's barn party, previously scheduled for Jan 2, to **Saturday, January 30** from 11am to 4pm. Hopefully this time we won't be derailed by frozen ground and burst water lines!

The party is open to all boarders, students, and family and friends. We will have a community pasture clean-up from 11 until 12:30, enjoy a potluck lunch, and then ride horses from 2pm until 4pm. Bring the yummy goody of your choice, and a heavy-duty garden rake or shovel if you have one! RSVP by January 28.

Hunter Pace Scheduled for March 13

In Unison Farm will be hosting its biannual hunter pace on **March 13, 2010**, at Meike Hanssens's beautiful property located in Kingston, GA. This event is one of our favorites, and a rare opportunity to ride and enjoy open countryside. Riders follow a marked trail through hunt country, with optional jumps and obstacles along the way, and awarded ribbons based on an optimum time.

We will have a *limited* number of school horses available to students with cross-country experience—preferably Orange Level and up—who are able to assist with trailering. For more information about the hunter pace, contact Lee Ann Gilson at (678) 873-8785 or at www.inunisonfarm.com



Eagle Mountain riders raked in the ribbons at local hunter paces last fall! Above: Nikki, Angela, Kaitlin and Kendall show off their blue ribbons at the Mercy Stables Hunter Pace.

Show Off Your Horse Sense at Our Fun New Event

We're offering a new event on **February 27, 2010**, based on our experiences with the United States Pony Club's Quiz competition! Our **HorseSense Challenge** allows you to test and expand your horsey knowledge, with a chance to earn ribbons and prizes. Open to our students, their parents and friends, and outside competitors -- lots of fun for students of all ages. Younger students who are not yet reading/writing with confidence may have help from a Ground Buddy.

Competitors are grouped into teams, and may compete in one of three different divisions based on our Learning Levels program:

- **Rainbow/Red Division:** Appropriate for competitors aged 5 and up who are working towards achieving their Rainbow Level or Red Level Horsekeeping ribbons.
- **Yellow/Green Division:** Competitors in this division are working on their Yellow Level or Green Level Horsekeeping ribbons.
- **Blue/Orange Division:** Competitors in this division are working towards their Blue Level or Orange Level Horsekeeping ribbons.

Competitors who are not currently enrolled in the Learning Levels may look over the requirements on our website and enter the division of their choice.

Teams work together to identify equine items, complete puzzles and challenge activities, and answer quiz-bowl questions. Each team will complete activities in three phases:

- **Tables** -- Competitors identify the objects on the table, matching the items with the correct term.
- **Tasks** -- Teams work together to complete a hands-on activity (e.g., converting a cross-rail jump to a vertical).
- **Quiz bowl** -- Competitors take turns answering verbal questions, with or without the help of their teammates.

Ribbons will be awarded in each division, and a special prize will be awarded to the individual competitor with the highest overall score. **Only \$15 to enter!**

For more information, and a list of recommended study materials, visit www.eaglemountainstables.com/HorseSense_challenge.htm



2010 Schedule of Events

The dates for our 2010 camps, clinics and shows have been set! Entry forms and details are available on our website. Please note that this schedule does not include outside shows or events, which we encourage our students to attend whenever possible.

Occasionally, stuff happens, so we reserve the right to change dates/costs/details as required.

DATE		EVENT or CLINIC	COST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
Feb 5-7	*	MGAA Snowball Games Competition (KY Horse Park)		
Feb 13	*	HorseSense Clinic: Horse Behavior & Safety	10.00 or 2/15.00	Feb 11
Feb 27	*	HorseSense Challenge	15.00	Feb 20
Mar 6	*	HorseSense Clinic: Feed & Nutrition	10.00 or 2/15.00	Mar 4
Mar 13		In Unison Farm Hunter Pace (Kingston) - must be Orange Level or above		
Mar 20	*	Intro to Mounted Games Camp	45.00	Mar 13
Apr 10 - 11	*	Mounted Games Camp	85.00	Mar 27
Apr 17-18	*	Show Jumping Camp	85.00	Apr 11
Apr 24	*	HorseSense Clinic: Health & Vet Care	10.00 or 2/15.00	Apr 22
May 1	*	Spring Barn Party	n/c	---
May 8	*	HorseSense Clinic: Bandaging	10.00 or 2/15.00	May 6
May 15	*	Spring Open Combined Test	20.00 - 35.00	May 8
May 26 - May 29	*	Rising Riders Camp I (4 half-days)	125.00	May 19
Jun 8 - Jun 12	*	Eventing Camp	225.00	Jun 1
Jun 19	*	HorseSense Clinic: Hoof Care	10.00 or 2/15.00	Jun 17
Jun 22 - Jun 26	*	Novice Full Camp (5 days)	225.00	Jun 15
Jul 5 - Jul 7	*	Novice Mini Camp (3 days)	175.00	Jun 28
Jul 16 - Jul 18	*	Quadrille Camp	85.00	Jul 9
Jul 28 - Jul 31	*	Rising Riders Camp II (4 half-days)	125.00	Jul 21
Aug 11 - 14	*	Rising Riders Camp III (4 half-days) - tentative	125.00	Aug 4
Aug 28	*	HorseSense Clinic: Tack & Grooming	10.00 or 2/15.00	Aug 26
Sept 11	*	HorseSense Clinic: Trailer Safety	10.00 or 2/15.00	Sept 9
Sept 18	*	We-Survived-Summer Barn Party	n/c	--
Sept 25	*	Not-Your-Typical Schooling Show	5.00/class	Sept 18
Oct 2	*	HorseSense Clinic: Horse ID & Conformation	10.00 or 2/15.00	Sept 30
Oct 9		In Unison Farm Hunter Pace (Kingston) - must be Orange Level or above		
Oct 30	*	Trick or Treat Games Competition	20.00	Oct 23
Nov 13 - Nov 14	*	Mounted Games Camp	85.00	Nov 6
Nov 27	*	Intro to Mounted Games Camp	45.00	Nov 14
Dec 4	*	Mock Foxhunt at Flat Branch Farm	10.00	Nov 27
Dec 11	*	HorseSense Clinic: Longeing & Ground Training	10.00 or 2/15.00	Dec 9
Jan 1	*	New Year's Barn Party	n/c	--