



## Campers Shine in Specialty Camps

The 2011 camp season is already in full swing here at HorseSense -- and we're so impressed with the progress made by our campers! Weekend specialty camps are designed to boost students to a

new level of knowledge and riding ability in a particular discipline. After two full days of intensive instruction, campers get to show off their new skills in a Sunday afternoon show. We love seeing our students demonstrate camp principles at those shows: personal achievement, teamwork and camaraderie, and a partnership with their horse. These camps are also just flat-out FUN, which is why we have so many returning campers each year! Here are some of the highlights (so far):

 **Ground Games Camp** - Feb 5-6: It was very cool watching these campers learn to communicate with their horses -- lots of breakthrough moments for both species! Campers learned equine behavior theory and then applied it to a variety of ground-training techniques, and in the process they became partners with their horses. Best of all: we've seen them continue to play and learn with their ponies after camp. Congratulations to **Katie, Shayla, Heather, Maura, Kendall, and Maggie**.

 **Dressage Camp** - March 5-6: Had to be the coldest and wettest dressage camp on record -- and yet these campers were consistently cheerful and enthusiastic as they learned to perform dressage tests. Dressage emphasizes control and harmony as horse and rider demonstrate complex turns, circles and changes of gait. Many of our campers had personal best performances in the Sunday competition; kudos to **Alley, Elodie, Kendall, Katie, Shayla, and Heather**.

 **Mounted Games Camp** - March 27: We had a one-day version of this popular camp this spring, which meant that campers practiced their games skills in the morning and put them to use in that afternoon in the competition. And as always, the competition was fun and friendly - but this time it was also fast, since our teams worked well together and made very few errors! Congrats to the **Warriors (Shayla and Heather)** and to the **Shooting Stars (Kendall and Katie)**.



## Welcome to Our New Students

Welcome to HorseSense, **Isabelle, Halle, Taylor, Edith and Ardin!** We hope you enjoy all that our barn has to offer.

We also want to welcome our new horse, **Chase!** Chase is a 16.2hh Warmblood/Paint gelding owned by Hannah Newman. He is very affectionate and loves to snuggle and eat peppermints. Chase is slowly working on getting back into shape for dressage and jumping, and he is already becoming a popular school horse for intermediate and up riders.

## CONGRATULATIONS

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

### Rainbow Level:

Molly O'Sullivan  
Sophia Riblet

### Green Horsemanship:

Maura Davis

### Blue Horsemanship:

Katie Kiker

### Red Horsekeeping

John Baxter

...and special recognition to our first **Orange Horsekeeping,** Kendall Lee!

Our next ribbon day will be June 12, 2011.



Follow all the latest news at HorseSense on our Facebook page! Just search for "HorseSense Riding Academy" on the Facebook site.



### Spring Show Coming Up on June 11



Mark your calendars! The **HorseSense** Combined Test will be taking place at Fowler Farm on Saturday, June 11. All students Yellow Level and up are invited and encouraged to participate. Competitors may choose to ride in Dressage Only, Jumping Only, or Combined Test classes (dressage and jumping score combined), and may enter multiple classes. Divisions start at Pre-Amoeba (ground poles) and go through

USEA Novice (2'11 fences). Ribbons will be awarded to all competitors, with a Champion and Reserve Champion awarded at the end of the show.

The closing date for the show is **June 4, 2011**, with late entries subject to a \$10 fee. Ride times will be posted on the **HorseSense** website on June 8. This show coincides with the end of our popular **Eventing Camp**, so school horses will go quickly, on a first-come, first served basis! If you or your child would like to compete, please let Nikki know ASAP.

For entry forms and more information, check out:  
[www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/combined\\_test.htm](http://www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/combined_test.htm)

### Another Exciting 8-Mile Gallop

(Well, with lots of walking and trotting, too!)

The *In Unison Farm* hunter pace, rescheduled due to inclement weather, took place on April 2 on a windy but beautiful day in Kingston! **HorseSense** enjoyed their biannual ride over hunt country and we're already looking forward to the next pace on Oct 1. Congratulations to **Kaitlin** for her sixth place finish in Cast and Run division, and to **Alley** for her first place in Bluebird division with her new horse, Belle! Also riding in our group was **Brandy** and Romeo in Cast and Run, **Nikki** and Chase in Bluebird, and **Holly** and Charlie Brown in Bluebird.



### Handsome Palomino Gelding Seeks Half-Lease

Have you dreamed of having a horse of your own? Half-leases are a great way to get a taste of horse ownership before making the full commitment to a horse, and they help us keep our school horses fit and happy. Our half-lease arrangement allows you ride three days a week and use the horse for lessons and appropriate camps.

We still have a half-lease available on our palomino gelding, Biscuit, for a qualified student. Biscuit is 15.2hh and prefers a confident adult or older child. He is athletic, jumping up to 2'9" and schooling Training/First level dressage, but he can be lazy and needs a determined ride. Lessees should be enrolled in regular lessons, well-matched with the horse and prepared to participate in our stable management co-op. Green Level in both Horsemanship and Horsekeeping is preferred. For more information, please visit our website:  
[www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/horses\\_sale\\_lease.htm](http://www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/horses_sale_lease.htm)



**Dream Horse Penpals:** What Did Petey Really Think About Ground Games Camp?

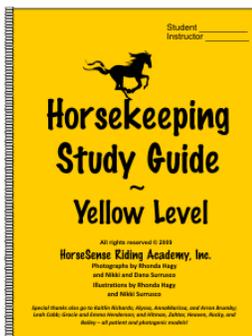
Here's an excerpt from Petey's letter to his Dream Horse penpals:

'...I also got to work in the round pen after lunch, along with Heaven and Hitman. You're probably thinking, "Oh, how nice that Petey got picked!" WRONG! Free-longeing is hard work – the Humans actually expect you to keep moving in a circle, and then just when you get it, they want you to turn and face them, and it's exasperating, let me tell you. Humans should learn to make up their minds! The rest of the afternoon was much more fun because we practiced targeting – that's when you have to touch something with your nose on command. I love targeting because when you do it right, the Humans usually give you a treat! We targeted a bunch of different things, but spent most of the time practicing with the big exercise ball and the pedestal. I like standing on the pedestal because it makes me feel TALL, and it's a pretty easy way to earn a cookie. Sometimes I got a little carried away and pawed at it with a foot, but Maggie didn't seem to mind...'

Learn more about becoming a Dream Horse Penpal at:  
[www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/dreamhorse.htm](http://www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/dreamhorse.htm)



### New Study Guides Available!



At long last... Yellow Level study guides are due to be printed and bound! Both **Yellow Horsemanship** and **Yellow Horsekeeping** will be available **May 15**, along with **revised Red Level** booklets.

HorseSense study guides are designed to be a supplement to regular lessons, and are particularly useful for students with irregular riding schedules. Each requirement of the Levels program is explained

in detail, with dozens of illustrations, photographs, and suggestions for home practice. Great for students who want to accelerate their progress through the levels, and **strongly recommended** for Horsekeeping students as a primary study aid.

Study guides are \$8 each, or two for \$15. You can pre-order the new guides and pick them up at the bunkhouse, or purchase them on the Cool Stuff page of our website. Look for Rainbow Level and Green Level before the end of 2011!

### Changes to Our Lesson Schedule

A few of our regularly scheduled classes will be moved due to conflicting event schedules in the upcoming months:

- \* There will be no lessons Saturday or Sunday, **Apr 16-17**, due to Show Jumping camp. Make up lessons may be available on the Thursday, **Apr 22**.
- \* There will be no lessons Sunday, **Apr 24** due to Easter. Makeup lessons may be available the preceding Saturday or the following Thursday.
- \* There will be no lessons available Saturday, **May 7** due to Intro to Mounted Games camp.
- \* There will be no **morning** lessons **June 1-4**, due to Rising Rider camp. Afternoon lessons will still take place as scheduled; morning lessons may be moved to an afternoon slot if available.
- \* There will be no regular lessons **June 7-11** due to Eventing Camp. Sunday lessons on June 12 will take place as usual.

Call or ask Nikki for more information!

### Class Schedule Spring 2011

*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.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/lesson\\_schedule.htm](http://www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.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

Fri @ 11am

1/2 hr, \$20

Wed @ 4:30pm, Sun @ 2:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Wed @ 10am, Fri @ 10am

45min, \$25

Sun @ 4:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Fri @ 5:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Thurs @ 10am

1 hr, \$30

#### Private Lessons Available:

Check website or call Nikki for availability

Select Saturdays; Thurs @ 11am; Thurs afternoons after May 1

1hr, \$35

Check out page 4 for a full list of clinics, shows, and camps!



### 2011 Schedule of Events - Revised

We've had to do a little tweaking to our 2011 schedule—for more information and entry forms, be sure to check out the detailed Events section of our website.

The following changes to our schedule were made to adjust to changes in school schedules (snow days! bah!) and to outside shows and activities:

- 🐾 **HorseSense Clinic - Health & Vet Care** - originally scheduled for Apr 9, rescheduled for Aug 20.
- 🐾 **Rising Riders Camp 1** - pushed back to Jun 1-4
- 🐾 **In Unison Farm Hunter Pace** - originally scheduled for Oct 8, now scheduled for Oct 1
- 🐾 **HorseSense Not-Your-Typical Schooling Show** - rescheduled for Oct 8

We sincerely hope that no further adjustments are necessary - but stuff happens, so as always, we reserve the right to change dates/costs/details as required. (Even though it gives us headaches.)

**REMEMBER: Effective Jan 1, 2011, paperwork for camps and shows must be turned in by the deadline to avoid a \$5 late fee!**

DATE		EVENT or CLINIC	COST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
May 7	*	Intro to Mounted Games Camp	55.00	Apr 30
May 14	*	HorseSense Clinic: Bandaging	15.00 or 2/20.00	May 6
Jun 1-4	*	Rising Riders Camp I	150.00	May 18
Jun 7-11	*	Eventing Camp	225.00	May 31
Jun 11	*	Open Combined Test	30.00 - 45.00	Jun 4
Jun 21-25	*	Novice Camp I	250.00 - 300.00	Jun 7
Jun 28-Jul 1	*	Level Up Camp	200.00 or 55.00/day	Jun 21
Jul 5-9	*	Novice Camp 2	250.00 - 300.00	Jun 21
Jul 14-17	*	Breyerfest Games Exhibition (KY Horse Park)		
Jul 22-24	*	Quadrille Camp	85.00	Jul 15
Jul 27 -30	*	Rising Riders Camp II	150.00	Jul 13
Aug 13	*	Rivermont (Lyerly, GA) or Foxberry Horse Trial/Dressage Show (Dallas, GA)		
Aug 20	*	HorseSense Clinic: Health & Vet Care	15.00 or 2/20.00	Aug 18
Sept 10	*	Field trip: US Nat'l Eventing Championships (Chattahoochee Hills, GA)		
Sept 17	*	HorseSense Clinic: Hoof Care	15.00 or 2/20.00	Sept 15
Sept 17	*	We-Survived-Summer Barn Party	n/c	--
Oct 1	*	In Unison Farm Hunter Pace (Kingston) - must be Orange Level or above		
Oct 8	*	Not-Your-Typical Schooling Show	5.00/class	Oct 1
Oct 22	*	HorseSense Clinic: Horse Behavior & Safety	15.00 or 2/20.00	Oct 20
Oct 29	*	Trick or Treat Games Competition	20.00	Oct 22
Nov 12 - Nov 13	*	Mounted Games Camp	85.00	Nov 5
Nov 19	*	Mock Foxhunt at Flat Branch Farm	10.00	Nov 12
Dec 11	*	Holiday Barn Party	n/c	---

For entry forms and more information, please visit our website!  
[www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com](http://www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com)