



Raindrops and Ribbons

It was another wet day of horse showing at our Over-the-Rainbow schooling show, held May 10, 2014, but HorseSense students proved once again that they are mightier than the weather! Congratulations to the Pink Team of **Momo, Sarah and Addison S.** for winning the high-point award, and to **Journey** for her Judge's Choice prize in the costume class. Special thanks to HorseSense student Kendall Lee for her excellent judging debut... to Hollie and Katie Kiker, for making our show jumping course a thing of beauty... to Evan Surrusco, for getting the farm in show-ready shape... to Maura Davis, for all-weather photography and unofficial coaching ... and to our champion volunteers (especially Paul Kiker and all of our hard-working Boss Mares). Check out our website for full results, as well as links to photos and video.



Now our [Not-Your-Typical-Show](#) is just a few months away! The fall show offers equitation classes on the flat and over fences, mounted games classes for all ages, and an exciting show jumping competition. Individual points will be tallied and added to our spring show totals to determine this year's Grand and Reserve champions. Suitable for students in every level! Mark your calendars for **September 20**; for more information, please visit:

www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/schoolingshow.htm



Tie-dye, jumping grids, poker rides, bridle-assembly races, and an exciting hobbyhorse mounted games competition—we had a great time with our returning campers during Novice I Camp!

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following students for achieving new Levels since March:

Rainbow Level:

Gracie Bartlett
Hayden Brinkley

Red Horsemanship:

Melissa Violette
Mia Sutton

Green Horsemanship:

Samantha Miller

Orange Horsemanship:

Momo Lee

Red Horsekeeping:

Hannah Walker
Journey Baughman

Yellow Horsekeeping:

Lauren Cole

Green Horsekeeping:

Lexi Lewis

Camps Coming Up!

July 8-12—Novice Camp II

The perfect camp for a first-time riding experience, or for our **Red** and **Yellow** Level students. Campers may choose between half-day and full-day options, with daily riding lessons in addition to crafts, Horse-keeping lessons and horsey games.

We still have one space available in this camp—sign up now to reserve your spot!

July 23-26—Rising Rider Camp

Just for our youngest riders, this half-day camp includes riding lessons, crafts and games geared for **Rainbow** Level riders aged 6-8.

This camp is currently full; contact us if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

August 1-3—Quadrille Camp

Our unique three-day dressage camp for adults and children teaches riders to choreograph a routine for two to four riders. Music, costumes, teamwork and dancing horses -- what could be more fun?

Horses for this popular camp are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and always go FAST—be sure to enroll early to claim your spot!

HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/daycamp.htm



HorseSense Boss Mares: We Rule!



It's official: we have an AWESOME group of women who can now proudly call themselves **Boss Mares**. Great food, morning porch yoga, perfect weather for riding, and lots of laughs and cheers during our mounted games challenge. We had so much fun we're looking to do it again in the fall— join us **October 3-4** for another special Ladies Only weekend.

HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/BossMares.htm

HorseSense Rocks at Rivermont



The HorseSense show team enjoyed another successful day of showing at beautiful **Rivermont Farm**, competing in equitation, hunter over fences, and show jumping classes. **Katie**, **Lexi** and **Nikki** (with a lot of help from Stormy and Chase) all came away with blue ribbons and confidence gained with each successful course. We love Rivermont's horse shows and recommend them to anyone looking for an inexpensive introduction to outside showing! Special thanks to **Hollie** for providing equine transportation, **Shayla** for behind-the-scenes Ground Buddying, and **Maura** for her traveling photography skills.

We're hoping to make our next outing in Talking Rock for **Fancy Mount Farm's Ride-a-Test dressage show** on **July 19**. Eligible students must have previously attended our Ready-to-Show Boot Camp or served as a Ground Buddy at another outside show, discussed showing goals with Nikki, and be prepared to take on all show-related responsibilities, including preparation of horse and tack, sending in entry paperwork, acquiring appropriate show attire, arranging transportation for horse and human, and paying all fees, including transportation costs and coaching. For more information, please visit:

HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/showteam.htm

WELCOME

... to our new student, **Alex!** We hope you enjoy all that HorseSense has to offer.



Journey and Katie get into the colorful spirit of the Over-the-Rainbow schooling show!

School Horses Available for Lease

Want a taste of horse ownership without the commitment of a half or full lease? We still have a couple of school horses available in our new quarter-lease program. For \$50 a month, quarter-lease students will be able to come and ride one additional day a week, as well as have first dibs on the horse for regular lessons and camps.

As with our full and half-lease programs, a minimum of Green Level experience is **strongly preferred**. Students must agree to all riding and horse care expectations, and be enrolled in our Horsekeeping program, actively working to expand their unmounted knowledge. In the event that a leased horse becomes lame or otherwise unfit for work, we will provide a substitute ride if possible, but no make-up days are offered for inclement weather. Ask Nikki or Dana for more information!



Hitman is a 13.2hh grade pony, a lesson veteran capable of jumping 2'3" with ease. He is quiet enough for a total beginner, although he will take advantage of a timid rider! Hitman is available for quarter-lease on **Tuesdays**.



Merlin is a 16hh Thoroughbred gelding, a former dressage mount now jumping small fences. Merlin is quiet enough for a novice, but would benefit most from an experienced rider who can help him build correct muscles. **Merlin is available for quarter or half-lease**; contact Nikki to discuss scheduling.



Jay is a 14hh Haflinger gelding, our young project pony learning to jump and play games. No vices, but needs a confident, assertive rider to help his training progress. **Jay is available for quarter-lease**; contact Nikki to discuss scheduling.



Changes to Our Schedule

A few of our regular classes will be moved due to conflicting event schedules in the upcoming months. Ask Nikki if you have any questions about scheduling!

- 🐾 There will be no *morning* lessons available **July 8-12** due to **Novice II Camp**. Regular afternoon classes will still take place as scheduled.
- 🐾 There may be no lessons available Saturday, **July 19** due to Fancy Mount Farm's **Ride-a-Test dressage show**.
- 🐾 There will be no *morning* lessons available **July 23-26** due to **Rising Rider Camp**. Regular afternoon classes will still take place as scheduled.
- 🐾 There will be no lessons available after 1pm on Friday, **August 1** through Sunday, **August 3** due to our intensive **Quadrille Camp**. Students are encouraged to come and watch the Sunday afternoon performances!
- 🐾 There will be no afternoon lessons available Saturday, **August 16** due to our Horsekeeping-Only **Level Up Clinic**.
- 🐾 There will be no lessons available Saturday, **September 6** due to our **Level Up Clinic** and **I-Survived-Summer barn party**. All students are invited to attend!

Beat the Heat



Hot weather is here to stay—here are a few tips to you keep your cool in the saddle this summer:

- 🐾 Hydration, as always, is extremely important. Drink plenty of **water**, starting the day before your lesson. Students should come to lessons with a labeled, refillable bottle of water... and drink it! (Please remember to collect your bottle from the arena/barn before you leave.)
- 🐾 Lightweight clothing is a must; tank tops are fine, but don't forget the sunblock. You may bring shorts to change into for unmounted sessions.
- 🐾 Be prepared to get wet! Lessons will include a pre-ride hose down and on the hottest days, period splash breaks. Wet paper towels, frozen in a plastic baggy, are great for wiping down mid-lesson or lining hot helmets.
- 🐾 Horses, just like children, are not designed to work well in extreme heat. If we decide it is too hot to safely ride in the arena, lessons will be modified to include groundwork and unmounted barn sessions. This is a great time to catch up on some Horsekeeping skills and horsey knowledge.

Class Schedule Summer 2014

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 joining a group class. For more information, please visit:

www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/lesson_schedule.htm

Rising Rider

Rainbow & Red Level, ages 5-8

Junior Beginner

Red & Yellow Level, ages 6-9

Beginner

Red & Yellow Level, ages 8 and up

Intermediate

Green through Orange Level, ages 8 and up

Advanced Intermediate

Orange & Purple Level, ages 8 and up

Advanced

Purple & Teal Level, ages 10 and up

Homeschooler's Special

Private lesson; all levels

Sun @ 4pm

1/2 hr, \$20

Sun @ 3pm

1/2hr, \$20

Wed @ 4:30pm, Thurs @5:30pm, Fri @4:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Fri @ 4:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Thurs @ 4:30pm

1 hr, \$30

Sun @ 5pm

1 hr, \$30

Fri AM

45min, \$25

Private Lessons Available:

Call for availability

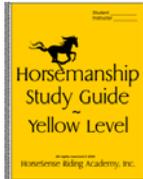
Select Saturdays

1hr, \$40 or 1/2 hr, \$25

Our class schedule is currently full! Prospective new students may contact us to schedule an assessment lesson, after which we will add you to a group at the first available opportunity.



Summer Horsekeeping Contest



School's out and summer is a great time to expand your horsey knowledge. HorseSense students can participate in our second annual **Horsey-Know-It-All** contest for a chance to earn Horsekeeping ribbons and cool prizes. The winning student is the one who earns the most checkmarks in their Horsekeeping

booklet during the months of June and July.

As always, students are welcome to borrow books from our extensive lending library as needed. We have printed and/or online study guides available for Red and Yellow levels, and a list of recommended reading on our website. Don't have a Horsekeeping booklet started? Ask Nikki or Dana for one and start your journey of becoming a well-rounded equestrian!

www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/LearningLevels.htm

Level Up and Party

The end of summer marks the return of our Level Up Clinics! Work towards your next Levels ribbon with several hours of intensive instruction, **August 16** (note: this clinic has a special, Horsekeeping-only format!) and **September 6** (featuring both mounted and unmounted instruction). Forms are available on our website, or sign up online. Suitable for all students currently enrolled in our Levels program.

After the Sept 6 clinic, stay for our annual **I-Survived-Summer barn party** extravaganza! Help us prepare for our Sept 20 schooling show and stay for a potluck supper and evening free ride. Open to all students, friends and families, barn parties are a great way to make new horsey friends. RSVPs are appreciated!

www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com/levelup_barnparties.htm



2014 Event and Clinic Schedule

Stuff happens, so all of this is subject to change! Check our website and newsletters for the latest schedule revisions.

DATE		EVENT or CLINIC	COST	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JUL 8-12		Novice Camp II	300.00 - 350.00	Jul 1
JUL 23-26		Rising Riders Camp	175.00	Jul 16
AUG 1-3		Quadrille Camp	85.00	Jul 26
AUG 16		Level Up Clinic (Horsekeeping Only)	20.00/free	Aug 9
SEP 6		Level Up Clinic/Summer Barn Party	40.00/free	Aug 30
SEP 20		Not-Your-Typical Schooling Show	10.00 + 5.00/class	Sep 13
OCT 18		In Unison Farm Hunter Pace, Kingston, GA - Orange Level and above		Oct 4
OCT 25		Trick or Treat Games Competition	20.00	Oct 18
NOV 15		HorseSense Team Challenge	20.00	Nov 8
NOV 29		Chattahoochee Hills Schooling Show, Fairburn, GA - Orange Level and above		Nov 1
DEC 13		Level Up Clinic/Holiday Barn Party	40.00	Dec 6

www.HorseSenseRidingAcademy.com

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www.facebook.com/HorseSenseRidingAcademy



And be sure to subscribe to our HorseSense YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/Nenya217> (or type "Nikki Surrusco" into the search field)