

JULY 2014 CENTAUR NEWSLETTER

COMING UP ...

I would like to welcome you to our remaining horse shows – dressage Silver Show in two Sundays - -Aug 3th, the TGIF Final August 22, and a Dressage and Hunter Schooling on October 5th. Many of our school horses compete in these shows with Centaur students – so come cheer them on!

BEST OF LUCK TO the Silver Team. They will be travelling to Saugerties New York to participate in Dressage 4-Kids from Aug 8 to 10. There are already 258 entries and over 60 Teams entered. You can up-to-date on the FoxVillage Show site. They will have on-going results during the show, and we will be posting on FB during the event. Best of luck to Caroline Lanthier & Shi, Caroline Reekie & Margo and Morgan Bordillon and Raindancer. They will be judged in an Equitation class, a dressage test, and a written test.

WELCOME TO DANIEL KEHRES

Daniel Kehres is now training horses at Centaur on a full-time basis. Under his guidance the horses have improved steadily and correctly. Daniel is also available for private lessons to any Centaur student.

About Daniel:

Daniel is an established German-Canadian dressage trainer and coach. Born in 1985 in Bad Hersfeld, Germany, he began riding at 11 and soon showed a natural talent for riding at local shows. He began his apprenticeship to become a Bereiter in 2002 at Brodhecker's Burghof, a show jumping and dressage barn near Frankfurt, Germany.

After successfully completing his apprenticeship and becoming a Bereiter, Daniel was offered a chance to travel to Ottawa, Canada and train with Susanne Dutt-Roth, a Level Three dressage coach and Grand Prix competitor. Daniel trained with Susanne for 8 years and developed into a successful Prix-St. George level rider and trainer. He has trained multiple horses to this level while also starting and training many talented young horses.

During this time he has also developed into a gifted coach. When teaching, Daniel combines his knowledge and enthusiasm to ensure that every lesson is engaging, motivating, and has a positive outcome while focusing on the fundamentals of dressage based on the German training scale. He has successfully coached riders at the Prix St. George level while also bringing on and mentoring younger riders. He continues to learn and develop as a trainer, competitor, and coach and is working on making the transition to Grand Prix.

BABIES

One more baby to come! Wisteria, as of press time, is still hanging on to her baby.

Allie's was the first one born on May the Fourth – hence the name D'Han Solo. This colt has already been sold to Patrick Malone who also bought his full sister last year. Foxy had another colt, a cute little black one with a C on his forehead – so he is named DC. Lucy had a superb black colt after having a year off. He still doesn't have a name.

DAYCAMPS

There is still room next week and the weeks of Aug 11 and 18. Contact me if interested.

EXTRA RIDING – More opportunities in August

If anyone is interested in extra riding in August, send me an email, and I will let you know where the opps are.

CENTAUR CALENDAR

The calendar is attached to this newsletter. It has all the important dates: horse shows, quiet days, workshops. Quiet days for the School Session are not yet determined. ... there are always changes, so check it out

SATURDAY WORKING STUDENT PROGRAM

If anyone is interested in finding out more about this please contact Shirley. Must be 12 years old or older.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2014 CENTAUR SHOW TEAMS

As you can tell from the following, the truck and trailer have been very busy this year. Here are the highlights from the different shows that the different teams attended thus far. (The TGIF results are posted in the tackroom)

The Gold Team – Daniel Kehres & Dasahi / Dutchy; Danika & Velvet/Darlin'/Dunbar

The Silver Team - Caroline Lanthier & Shi, Caroline Reekie & Margo, Morgan Bordillon & Braveheart/Raindancer.

The ESD Team – Katie Neilipovitz and Jewell, Rowan Hughes & Shi, and Noémie Tremblay & Grace.

The OESS Team - Katie Neilipovitz and Jewell/Ranger, Noémie and Grace, Rowan & Shi, Emma Runzer-Boucher & Ranger

Gold Centaur May 18 Result Highlights

Training Level Test 1 – Junior	Caroline Reekie	Margo	67.083%	1
Training Level Test 1 –OPEN	Danika Guertin-Pierson	Darlin'	68.542%	1
	Daniel Kehres	D'Claire	67.500%	2
Training Level Test 2 –Junior	Morgan Bordillon	Braveheart	66.250%	1
	Caroline Lanthier	Shi	63.214%	2
Training Level Test 2 -OPEN	Daniel Kehres	Dutchy	68.571%	1
First Level Test 2 - Open	Danika Guertin-Pierson	Dunbar	65.946%	2
Second Level Test 1 – Open	Daniel Kehres	Dasahi	63.286%	1

Silver Spiritwood May 25

Reserve Junior Champion – Caroline Reekie & Margo

Gold - Ottawa Dressage Festival Gold May 30-June 1

Second Level Open Champion – Danika & Velvet

Second Level Reserve Champion – Dasahi & Daniel

Daniel Kehres Dutchy Training Level, Open 75.714%

Danika Guertin-Pierson Dunbar First Level, Open 66.552%

Danika Guertin-Pierson Dark Velvet Second Level, Open 72.895% 1

Daniel Kehres Dasahi Second Level, Test 3 2011 Open 75.595% 1

Silver Dewmont June 22

Reserve Junior Training Level Champion – Morgan & Raindancer

ESD Spiritwood June 29

Junior Champion – Katie Neilipovitz & Jewell

Silver Numech – July 5

Caroline Reekie & Morgan Bordillon attended.

Gold Rainbow Ridge– July 12

Open Training Level Champion – Dutchy & Daniel Kehres with scores - 73.75 & 72.20 – Judge's comments - elegant horse, a pleasure to judge, trained according to the scale of training.

Open Second Level Champion – Dasahi & Daniel Kehres with scores - 66.974 & 67.083 – Judge's comments - nice horse, nice ride, well ridden.

ESD / OESS Centaur July 20

Novice Dressage Champion – Katie & Jewell

Newcomer Dressage Reserve Champion – Emma Runzer –Boucher & Ranger

SCHOOL SESSION 2014-2015

SCHOOL SESSION INSTRUCTORS

Monday – Monica Kulas
Tuesday eve / Weds & Friday am – Shirley
Wednesday – Valerie Arseneault
Thursday – Danika Guertin-Pierson
Saturday am – Kendra Atkins & Caroline Lanthier
Saturday pm – Monica Kulas
Sunday – different activities planned for our students

LESSON PRICES

Some lessons are increasing in price by about 5%. Others are staying the same. Prices have not been raised in several years. Only price increase in recent years has been due to the tax – which goes to Harper, not Centaur.

MINI-EQUESTRIANS ... *Children learning to ride*

For ages 5 to 8.

This program is an introduction to the world of horses and riding. Your child will learn the basics of horse handling, grooming and riding in a fun and safe atmosphere. Parents will join their child in learning the in-stable basics, and leading their child on the horse or pony.

A great way to build confidence, develop a relationship with a horse or pony, and to start on the life-long journey of equestrianism... Parents must participate for the entire class. (please wear stable-appropriate clothing including safe footwear – no open-toed sandals)

Cost is \$199 for 4 classes (176.10 + hst). (max 4 children accepted per class), or \$53 per class (\$46.90 + tax). If signing up for 3 months at a time, please take a 10% discount on price.

This class will be scheduled during the Saturday lunchbreak.

TRAIL RIDES

We will be offering Trail Rides to our students on Sundays from September on. We have access to the trail which runs east-west right beside Centaur. Cost will be \$35 per ride (taxes in). Sign-up in the tack room.

BIG GROUPS

These will be taught on Monday evenings, time to be determined

The 'Big Group' lessons are modeled after the European way of the riding school. In Europe lessons are taught in groups that are much larger than what we are used to in Canada. Riders at varying levels are taught at the same time. We have been trying this system out since last winter, and it has been successful

Taking the lessons are new riders with past riding experience, new riders with zero riding experience, x-Centaur riders who had had to put riding on hold for a while, and regular Centaur riders who want the extra mileage. We focus on rider position and riding school figures.

Advantages are:

- 1) The **cost**. If you are already booked in a full-time session at Centaur, this lesson costs you \$20. And if you are not, then the price is \$25. (plus HST)
- 2) The **flexibility**. There is no need to pre-register. You can simply show up. (Although it is better if you book ahead of time.) If too many people show up, then we will add a second class, so all will get to ride.
- 3) The **learning**. Centaur's regular students who took part in these classes last winter greatly benefitted, ... and were surprised at how much they learned despite the size of the class and variety of riders. The instructor noticed a positive change in the riding skills of all riders.

To **register**: email Shirley, or sign the sheet in the tack room.

When – every Monday evening during the school session, time to be determined

Try it out! It will give you more time in the saddle perfecting your position and learning new school figures. And if you have friends who want to try out riding, it's the perfect way to start ... without breaking the bank account!

SCHOOL SESSION REGISTRATION (Sept to June)

AUGUST 5TH REGISTRATION DATE: The students who are presently registered in the summer Session have until August 5th to secure a riding lesson time. After this date, Centaur will be accepting registrations from new students.

WHAT I NEED FROM YOU UPON REGISTRATION:

TIMES: a signed application for riding indicating your best riding times, and the times you cannot come. For week evening lessons, I need to know what your earliest lesson time can be. (not arrival time, LESSON time)

PAYMENTS: registrations are accepted one of two ways. For “How to Pay”, see the price list. Also, see same list for exact prices of classes you desire. All cheques must be presented at time of booking. If unsure of eventual size of class, still pay ahead of time, and payments will adjusted once the schedule is firmed up.

No application will be considered without the \$100 booking fee.

I repeat: No application will be considered without the \$100 booking fee.

PRICE LIST: is attached.

PROCESS OF MAKING UP A SCHEDULE: This requires hours of work: emails & phone calls back and forth, juggling -trying to meet everyone’s needs. Gathering up this info takes time, so please be patient with me. If you contact me to find out your riding time and if I don’t respond to your calls/emails right away ... I’m not ignoring you, I simply may not have the answer, yet. I will be sending out some rough drafts of the proposed session – this is your opportunity to give me feedback on proposed schedule.

WHEN WILL YOU KNOW YOUR RIDING TIME: Due to the difficulty of knowing everyone’s scheduling needs ahead of time, I won’t know the exact schedule until two weeks or so before School Session starts. Once I have riders’ “wish list” of when they want to ride along with desired class size, then I can proceed to set up a schedule.

BOOKING FEE: Requests will not be processed without the booking fee. Students need to let me know they are serious with their request by submitting a \$100 booking fee along with their application. The Booking fee is deducted from the cost of the session on the last payment. If the rider stops riding or changes their mind after registering, the booking fee is forfeited.

EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT: To take advantage of the early payment discount, you can fully pay for what you have requested by August 5th. This early payment discount is available to those who were registered for a full session during the Summer. (If necessary, the bill will be adjusted later, but you will still get the early payment discount.)

HOW TO CHECK THE ON-GOING PROGRESS OF THE SCHEDULE: Check the posted list in the tackroom, and check your emails. BUT, none of these schedules will be perfectly up-to-date. The only “official” schedule is the messy one on my desk, with the many-changes-a-day scrawled on it! (Your emailed and tackroom schedules will have a date at the bottom of the page indicating when it was last worked on.) These on-going tentative schedules will give you the opportunity to see where I’m going with the schedule, and if something is not satisfactory to you, you will be able to respond before the finalized version.

TWEAKING: The classes may be tweaked after we see the students, especially the Saturday lessons. So if once the session starts up, you are unsure of class you have been placed in, don’t hesitate to contact me as soon as you can.

A REQUEST: I do my best to fit everyone in as to their wishes, but it is helpful if you can give me enough choices, and some leeway. With a bit of moving room the classes will be a better fit for you.