



# Keezlenutten News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2014

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- New Horses
- Lessons
- Summer Shows
- Helping an Older Horse Gain Weight

## UPCOMING SHOWS

CVSJA	April 13
Farmington Jumper Show	April 27

## Summer Day Camps

Keezlenutten Farm will be offering 7 weeks of day camp this summer.

June 16-20 All levels

June 23-27 Intermediate

July 7-11 Advanced/Intermediate **ALREADY FULL**

July 14-18 All levels **ALREADY FULL**

July 21-25 Intermediate

July 28-August 1 Half Day

August 4-8 All levels

Camps listed as All Levels are for ages 8-18. Students will be grouped based on their riding skill level. They will also learn about horses and their care through many different hands-on activities.

Intermediate Camp is open to riders that are comfortable trotting cross rails and small verticals. In addition to horse care, Intermediate camp will go over basic course setting, medical care and feeding of

horses.

Advanced/Intermediate camp is open to riders that are comfortable cantering jumps and doing courses. Advanced camp will tackle setting and riding more difficult courses, more advanced horse care and vet treatment as well as critiquing their own and others riding.

All of these camps run from 8-4:30 Monday through Friday and will get to ride 2x a day. On Friday there will be a show starting at 2:30 for friends and family to come watch. The cost for each week is \$350 per student.

Half Day camp is for students ages 6-10 that have little to no riding experience. It runs from 9-1 Monday through Friday and campers will get to ride every day. On Friday there will be a show starting at noon for friends and family to come watch. Students will cover grooming, tacking and basic horse care. The cost for this camp is \$225 per student.

## VTO Keezlenutten Night

VTO Saddlery in Broadway will be hosting a Keezlenutten Farm Night on Thursday April 10th, from 6pm-8pm. The store will be open for Keezlenutten students and most everything will be 15% off! There will also be pizza and refreshments. If you want to attend, please let Danielle know how many people will be coming so VTO can get an accurate number for food.

## Lesson Announcements

Starting in April, I will have some openings in my evening lessons. There are two openings in a walk/trot/canter lesson on Tuesdays at 6pm starting April 15. There

are two beginner lesson openings on Fridays at 4pm and one beginner lesson opening on Fridays at 5pm. It also looks like there will be 2 beginner openings on Wednesdays at 7pm to-

wards the end of April. As always, there are private openings available before 3pm everyday.

Let me know if you are interested in any of these lessons.

## Spring Shots & Deworming

The Blue Ridge Community College Vet Tech Program brought students to administer our **horses' spring shots and dewormer** the first week of April. This year, in addition to Rabies, West Nile Virus, Eastern/

Western Encephalitis and Tetanus vaccines, we also gave Potomac Horse Fever vaccines to those horses that frequently leave the farm for horse shows or trail riding. All of our horses received a dose of dewormer and had blood

pulled for their coggins test - which is required in order for horses to show.

After all that fun, some of our horses volunteered to allow the students to practice their wrapping skills :-)



## Summer Shows

We have selected dates for our summer shows.

June 14

July 26

August 16

September 13

We will have classes for all levels of riders and horses. The first divisions will be our jumpers starting with beginner

**jumpers through 3'.** After a short break (usually around lunchtime) we will start our beginner equitation classes including walk/trot, walk/trot/individual canter and over small jump divisions. We will then have an open equitation division and a couple pleasure divisions.

Class fees will still be \$10 each to try and keep it af-

fordable for everyone. And we are happy to have Holly Keplinger as our judge and food by Jenner Brunk.

We also welcome spectators, so if you're interested in seeing what our shows are about, bring a chair and come watch!

# Two New Horses At The Farm

**“McKinley”** is a bay 13 year old 16h Appendix gelding. At some point in his life, he competed in the Hunters. So far, he has proven to be a very solid citizen in the ring. He is on the slower side, but has a nice size step. He is out of shape right now, so we are bringing him into work slowly. I haven't tried him over fences yet. He is very calm and has excellent ground manners.



**What's entertaining is that he has** befriended Kip in the gelding field, and the two of them look like brothers!

**“Robin”** is a chestnut tobiano 6 year old 14.1h Paint mare. She has not done very much ring work, and had never been over jumps before she came to our farm. So far, she is showing real promise over cross rails. She stays very quiet trotting to the jumps and



has even cantered into a couple little cross rails. Both Abby and Hannah Wheeler have ridden her and they **really like her!** She's a little more nervous about tacking up, but has started to get used to the routine.

Both of these horses belong to a woman that lives in Charlottesville and are on long term lease to our farm. She has owned Robin for almost all of her 6 years and McKinley for the last 3 years. They have both primarily been trail horses for the last few years.

# Changes at the Trail Barn

Since we are no longer taking out trail rides, we decided to change the 6 standing stalls in the trail barn to 3 box stalls. There is an area beside one of the box stalls that we can use for hay storage and it is large enough that we could change it into a crosstie area in the future, if we want. Joel, Daniel and Greg have been working hard on this project! The stall

fronts came in today and hopefully will get installed soon.

Once the stalls are finished, Ruby will be moved up to that barn. Ivory moved up there this Spring since we have retired him from the lesson program. Once Elvis comes back for the summer, we will have 9 horses living up there.



Keezlenutten Quiz (answers in next issue):

1. What is the difference between tobiano and overo?
2. What is the difference between a sorrel and a chestnut?
3. Which registry is abbreviated ApHC?

Keezlenutten Farm



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Keezlenutten Farm, LLC is located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley just minutes away from Harrisonburg, VA, Massanutten Resort and I-81.

We offer:

- Hunter/Jumper riding lessons for all levels of riders age 6 and up
- sales of quality lesson & trail horses
- summer day camps for ages 6 and up

The next time you're in the area, set up a time to come out and enjoy our horses!

## Putting Weight on an Older Horse

This was a hard winter for a lot of horses, but especially the older ones. Unfortunately, horses cannot put on weight quickly (unlike me in **the winter time...**), but can lose weight quickly, and as they get older it is harder and harder for them to gain weight.

With a younger horse that is under weight, you feed them as much forage as they will eat. However, as horses age, it is harder for them to chew up their hay and most of the time they wad it up and spit it out. (You will also notice if you look by **Gandalf's paddock, there are lots of** wadded up balls of hay around it. He still enjoys chewing on the hay,

**but he doesn't get much nutritional** value from it.) This means you have to feed a significantly larger portion of grain than when they are younger.

Senior is a complete feed is designed to be chewed up and digested easier by older horses. It is a high protein/high fat food that can assist in putting on weight and contains all necessary nutrients. Beet pulp is another way to add calories and fiber (which would normally be found in hay and grass) without a lot of sugar. However, beet pulp **MUST** be soaked before feeding (which makes it easier for an older horse to chew) because it expands when it gets wet. Unfortunately, beet pulp is not necessarily a

palatable food and pickier eaters sometimes might not like it. You can also purchase hay cubes and soak them which will make it easier for your older horse to eat them. Rice bran is another option. It is high fat and protein and a very small amount is fed at a time, in addition to grain.

It is not uncommon for horses to lose a little weight in the winter, and usually when the green grass comes in they will pick the weight right back up. However, the older horse will need more help in putting on weight.

So, now if you see a bucket at the barn that looks like it has some kind of mush **in it, you'll know one of our older** horses is about to get fed :)

### Last Month's Keezlenutten Quiz Answers:

1. There are 3 APHA horses on the farm. Who are they? Copper, PJ and Ladybug
2. What type of martingale does Finn use? German
3. What are the boots that Hopie is wearing...and why does he wear them? Bell boots to help him keep his shoes on.