

Keezlenutten Farm



**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Trail Barn Update
- Fall Shots
- New Camp

**UPCOMING  
JUMPER  
SHOWS:**

We will be showing at The Winslett Advantage in Frederickburg on December 10th. For Hannah on Hopic, Kelly on Timmy and Caitlin on Kodi, it will be their first outside jumper show! Kayla will be bringing her new horse Marley, Abby will be showing Dancer and Anna will be showing Polly. And Danielle will be showing Patrick and Ruby, this will be their first jumper show as well.

# Keezlenutten News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2011

## Trail Barn Closed

We are sad to say that due to steadily declining business, we have closed the trail barn. This has been a tough decision for all of us, but it will allow us to concentrate on building up the lesson program. I realize that the campers will be disappointed because there will not be a trail ride on Thursdays at camp, but I'm sure we will be able to come up with another activity for them!

We have re-homed the following trail horses to good homes: Red was sold to Bart & Christina Johnson right here in Keezletown, Doc was sold to Kaywin Joseph in Harrisonburg, and Roo was sold to a great family in WV



**Copper is looking forward to some relaxation!**

where she is being ridden regularly by both the mother and daughter. Pepper was sent back to his owner's home. Ranger and Tucker will be staying on at the trail barn as boarders. The Phil-

lips' will also be taking their horse Elvis and one other horse for the winter.

The horses that we will be keeping are: Ali, Cassie, Codigo, Copper, Isabella, Sage, and Taffy. K.C. and Patrick have moved down to the lesson barn permanently.

We will have some Cordura Western saddles for sale. They are semi and full QH bar sizes. There will also be some basic Western bridles with rope reins for sale. If you are interested in more information about them, please call Margaret at 540-421-4212 or Danielle at 540-290-3731.

## Fall Shots/Dewormer

Before we left for our family Thanksgiving vacation to the Outer Banks, all of the horses were given their fall shots. Every horse on the farm received a flu/rhino vaccine as well as a Quest Plus dewormer. Because of the warmer temperatures we have been experiencing, we

had to wait a little longer than usual to give the dewormer. This particular dewormer takes care of tape worms, which are most prevalent after summer. To try to avoid a re-infestation, we wanted to wait until we had at least 2 killing frosts. Normally, this is pretty easy

to do in late October/early November, but this year it took a little longer. The snow we had over Halloween weekend was our first, but we had to wait another week or two before we saw the next one.

## Potential New Camp Added

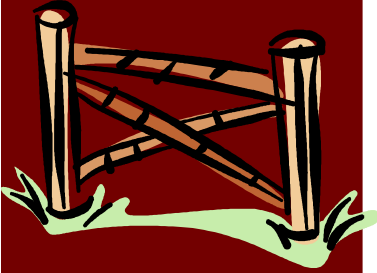
I have had a lot of parents and students express interest in “advanced” camp for their children. Since most of these kids are not quite ready for my Advanced camp (where students must be able to canter a course of fences set at 2 feet), I have decided to add an Intermediate Camp for those students that are able to jump at least a few fences through those that can jump a course but aren’t ready to canter the

whole thing or are not ready to jump 2 feet. Currently, I am asking for dates that will NOT work for this particular camp in summer of 2012. If you did not receive an email from me, but believe that your child could attend this camp, please contact me and I will let you know.

This camp will cover topics that are not covered in my regular weeks of camp including: setting courses, walking lines, counting

strides and using photos to critique your riding.

Even if your student is unable to make the week of Intermediate Camp, they will still be able to jump at a regular day camp session. This is just a new opportunity available to challenge students.



## Some horses have moved

You may have noticed horses that you don’t normally see on the left as you drive in for lessons. Since we have too many mares in our mare field, we decided to take advantage of our hayfield to give them some extra grazing. Normally, we would have had to start feeding them hay by now, but we have been able to put it off, hopefully through most of December.

Joel, Greg, Margaret and Danielle spent most of one Saturday working on the fencing to make this as easy

as possible. We are now able to move the mares from their usual field into the hayfield by opening just 2 gates! It was a lot of work, but it is definitely worth it. Now, the only problem is they don’t always want to come in off the grass in the mornings!

The trail horses have also been moved, to the adjacent hayfield. Normally, we would use both sections of the hayfield for our trail horses, but since the herd is so much smaller we were able to split it up.

We will have to monitor horses like Polly, Codigo, Tucker, Pixie, and Isabella to avoid the risk of founder with this lush grass. The other horses are also only turned out about half the day for the same reason.

Once the mares have grazed down their hayfield they will go back to their field all day and we will feed hay there. The trail horses will remain in their hayfield throughout the winter so we can keep an eye on them.



## Meet A Working Student

Kayla Spooner is a working student at the lesson barn on Tuesdays. However, you'll see her there many other days as well. Kayla is a sophomore at Bridgewater College. She is planning on going to Vet school after graduating!

Kayla grew up around horses and has been taking lessons and riding at Keezlenutten for over 7 years. Most recently she has been competing Kodi in the Novice Horse division of the Jumpers. It has been a great learning experience for both of them.

She recently acquired a new horse, Marley, that you will from time to time at our barn. She is a 16h 12 year old TB mare that seems to really like jumping. Kayla is looking forward to showing her over the next couple years.

Since Kayla has so much horse experience, she is a very valuable asset to the farm. She was a trail guide for us this summer and fall, feeds for us sometimes on the weekends, is a working student that helps with lessons and camp and she is also helping Danielle with training horses.



Kayla on Hopie

## Shoeing in The Winter

As the winter starts, you will start to notice some of the horses have fewer or no shoes.

For some horses we remove all their shoes and use this time to give their feet (and our pocket books!) a break. Horses with poor hoof wall can bene-

fit from time off from nails being driven through them, as long as they are not being ridden much. Barefoot horses also have much better traction in snow and on ice.

For those horses that will be in regular work throughout the winter we will

sometimes add snow pads (a hard plastic pad under their shoe) to keep the snow from building up in their hooves. Those without pads will have to be monitored and snow balls will have to be removed to avoid tendon strain and prevent injuries from a fall.

## Tee Shirt & Sweatshirt Order

Just in time for Christmas, we will be placing a tee shirt and sweatshirt order for our Keezlenutten Jumper logo shirts. There will be sign up sheets at the barn, or if you'd like to place an order over email, that is fine as well. I will be posting a color sheet on Facebook within the next few days. There are even MORE colors available than last time!

Adult and Youth hoodie Sweatshirts are \$25 each. Adult and Youth 100% cotton Tee Shirts are \$10 each. Payment is due upon delivery.

The order will be placed on December 14th, so make sure you get your order in quickly, and the shirts will be ready by Christmas. If lessons are cancelled that week due to bad weather, I will have them at the farm for pick-up. We will

not be leaving for my parents' house until Christmas Eve.



The back design on a hoodie

### Keezlenutten Quiz (answers in next issue):

1. What do we call the portion of a jumper class that is done after you have stopped and had a clear round?
2. How long do you have to clear the timers (start your course) after the buzzer sounds?
3. What color flag is always on your right in a jumper class?

## Keezlenutten Farm



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### Trail Riding in the Shenandoah Valley

**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 7 and up**
- **pony rides for ages 5 and up**
- **sales of quality lesson & trail horses**
- **summer day camps for age 7 and up**

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

## A New Jumper on the Farm?

I finally acquired the bunny I have been wanting for years! Her name is Beezie (after the famous show jumper Beezie Madden) and she is a Mini Angora. She was a birthday gift from Jenner, who might have siblings for sale in the future, so let her know if you're interested.



As far as the jumper portion of the title

goes, we're giving bunny show jumping a try...just for fun! (If you haven't seen this, look up "Bunny Show Jumping" on YouTube) We started out using a Breyer horse jump and while Beezie was willing to go over it, she usually knocked it down because she would climb it. While we were on vacation over Thanksgiving the girls built me a new jump though! It's much more solid and hopefully we will be able to convince Beezie to actually jump it. She's still pretty young though, so I don't want to put too much pressure on her :-)

I also plan on teaching her how to walk on a leash. The bunny I had as a child did

this and I always got lots of funny looks when I would walk her down our street. I figure she'll be happy to graze on some fresh grass though, so it might be worth it to her.



Beezie modeling her pretty harness and leash.

#### Last Month's Keezlenutten Quiz Answers:

1. What do we call the process of shortening a horse's mane? Pulling
2. What is the name of the piece that a typical English saddle is built around? Tree
3. What type of martingale has rings that slide on the reins? Running