

Keezlenutten News

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2011

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Summer Camp
- Floating Teeth
- Trail Barn Update
- Leasing
- Spring Shots

UPCOMING SHOWS:

CVSJA	4/17
Union Ridge Jumpers	5/1
CVSJA	5/15
Sandstone	5/21
CVSJA	5/29
CVSJA	6/12
Great Beginnings	6/18
Keezlenutten Jumper	6/19

Summer Camp

This year we will be offering 6 weeks of summer day camp. If you would like more information about any of these camps, please contact Danielle at 540-290-3731, or visit the farm website at <http://www.keezlenutten.com>

Full Day Camp

These weeks are for ages 8-18 with any level of riding experience. Camp runs from 8am - 4:30pm with two riding times a day. Towards the end of the week one of the riding times will be out on the trail. Time not riding will be spent learning how to care for horses, doing crafts and playing games. The cost is \$325 per week. There will be a show on Friday for friends and family to watch starting at 2:30. The weeks of full day camp are:

June 20th - 24th
 July 11th - 15th
 August 1st - 5th

Half Day Camp

These weeks of camp are for ages 7-10, with no experience required. Half day camp is geared towards younger campers who have no riding

experience or those with some experience but who aren't quite ready for a full day of camp. Camp runs from 9am - 1pm with one riding lesson a day. The cost is \$200 per week. There will be a show on Friday for friends and family to watch starting at noon. The weeks of half day camp are:

June 27th - July 1st
 August 8th - 12th

Advanced Camp

This week of camp is for students who are comfortable jumping at least 2'. Camp runs from 8am - 4:30pm with two riding times a day. Campers will help with the care of our horses as well as work on more advanced skills such as setting courses, developing a lesson, preparing for a show and medical care. The cost is \$325 for the week. Advanced camp will be:

July 18th - 22nd

Registration forms can be found on our website.

Hope to see everyone there!



Campers playing with "Jackie"



Kayla on "Kodi"



Katy on "Polly"

What does floating teeth mean?

You've probably heard it before, but might have wondered what floating teeth means. Horse's teeth keep growing throughout their lives, unlike ours. Because of this, points might develop that will make it hard for them to chew their food properly or have a bit in their mouth. If you notice any of

the following problems, you should contact a vet to have them come out and file the teeth with a tool called a "float".

- Dropping food out of their mouth
- Loss of weight
- Chewing the bit
- Hard to steer

- Hard to bridle

In extreme cases there can be excessive mouth odor, facial swelling or nasal discharge.

Some horses need to have their teeth floated once a year, some can go years without having it done. Let your horse's behavior tell you how often they need it.

Trail Barn Update

After being closed for the winter, the trail barn is planning to open back up at the end of March/beginning of April - depending on the weather. This year we are

going to be open Thursdays - Sundays, going out at 11am, 1:30pm and 3pm regularly with a possibility of 9:30am rides as well. The cost of trail rides is

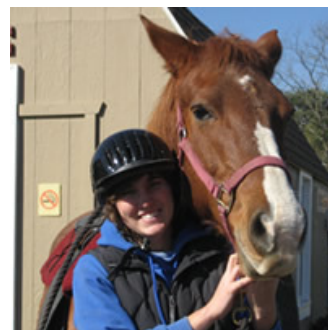
\$30 per person. We need at least 2 hours notice, but recommend more to ensure going out when you want.

Meet an Employee - Allison

Allison Wickham is a regular face up at the trail barn. She is a chemistry/geography/environmental studies major at JMU, currently a junior. Her (and sometimes her dog Lexi) work up at the trail barn most weekends and sometimes during the week. This winter she learned how to drive the tractor so she can feed hay by herself on the weekends - lucky

her!

Allison started riding when she was 9 years old and rode outside of Richmond after that until moving to the Valley to attend JMU. She is also the proud owner of a cute breeding stock Paint named "Tabs" that she's owned since 2004.



Allison with "Red"

Leasing a Horse

If you're thinking about possibly purchasing a horse in the future, leasing one might be a good first step. There are different types of leases available, and some of the horses that you ride in lessons might be available for lease.

At Keezlenutten we offer a partial lease with some of our lesson horses. This is a lease that can really be designed around your schedule. You will have 2-3 assigned days a week where you will be able to come out and ride your leased horse. Cost will be determined based on the number of days you lease, if you require the use of lesson tack as well as the horse's costs.

One of the main advantages of leasing a horse versus buying one is you will have a known cost per month. Leasees are not required to pay any medical or additional costs associated with the horse. However, because of the demands placed on the horse with

lessons, there isn't any flexibility in the days you can come out and ride. So, if it's raining on your lease day, you will lose one of your lease days that month.

What you are able to do during your lease time (no more than 1 hour of riding time a day) will be laid out in the lease agreement. Typically, only very advanced riders will be able to jump during lease time as this can be very dangerous for both horse and rider without an instructor present. However, you can work on different skills you've been working on in lessons and other exercises, and with the extra time in the saddle you will find you will excel faster in your riding.

For those students that are under 18 and interested in leasing, you will have to be a strong enough horse handler to be able to go out into the field and catch your horse on your own. Parents may only go into the fields with students if they have permission from Danielle. Young riders must also ALWAYS have someone on

the farm property with them at all times. This is for safety reasons. It does not have to be an adult, just another person who could call for help if needed.

In general, students must be comfortable riding a multiple horses, tacking up confidently on their own and able to control a horse at the walk, trot and canter to be eligible to lease a horse. Once someone expresses an interest in leasing and a horse is picked out to suit their skills, Danielle will meet them at the farm to go over safety and barn rules and to supervise catching, tacking up and riding, to make sure that it will be a safe match for both horse and rider.

You might see horses advertised for lease online as well. In most cases, they have to stay on their own farm for the lease, but occasionally there are exceptions. In all cases, make sure to have a lease agreement in writing so everybody knows what is expected of them.

Meet A New Horse

"Dell" is Shana's new horse. It's been a long search for her, and I'm glad that we finally found a good match! Dell is a 12 year old AQHA gelding. He was purchased from Hunter's Edge Horse Farm and has been in their lesson program for the last few years. So far, he seems to be settling in nicely to our farm! While his trot is not the smoothest, his can-

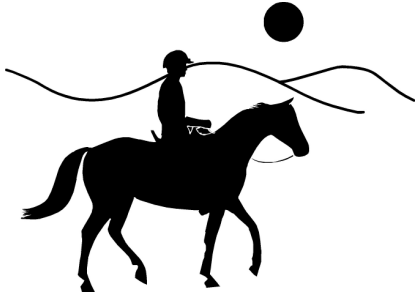
ter is quite comfortable. He's also very steady to the jumps, though he puts more effort into than some of our other lesson horses.

He's already a regular in our lesson program and a lot of students have really enjoyed getting to know him!



Keezlenutten Quiz (answers in next issue):

1. What spot on a horse do you measure their height at?
2. What is the front of the saddle called?
3. What is the large bone at the front of the leg between the knee and fetlock called?



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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:

- scenic trail rides on the Western slope of the Massanutten for all levels of riders age 10 and up
- 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!

Spring Shots Coming Up

The Blue Ridge Community College Vet Tech students will be coming at the end of March this year to give spring shots, de-wormer and pull blood for a coggins test. The students will be coming on the afternoons of March 29th and 31st. They will also be practicing leg wraps on those horses that are willing to stand.

- EWT - Eastern Western Encephalomyelitis (which is a potentially fatal mosquito - borne viral disease) and Tetanus
- Rabies
- WNV - prevents the disease caused

by the West Nile Virus

The horses will also be getting an ivermectin de-wormer this rotation. You might see some paste on the horses' muzzles, as they don't always like to take their de-wormer! You also might notice minor swelling on their necks close to the injection site, but this is temporary and should reduce in size within 24 hours. The EWT and WNV shots will be given on the left side of the horse's neck and the Rabies shot will be given on the right side of the neck.

Once the blood is pulled for the coggins test, we will be taking it to Harrisonburg

Lab of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. They usually send the test results back to us within 2-3 days and we will send a copy of the results to our boarders. Copies of the results are also placed in each of the large trailers, so they are always with us when we take the horses off the farm. The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has recently stiffened the penalties for not carrying a negative coggins in the trailer whenever you travel with your horse, so make sure not to leave the farm without a copy of yours!

Last Month's Keezlenutten Quiz Answers:

1. What is the name of the joint that points backwards on the hind leg? hock
2. Which horse is part Clydesdale? Holiday
3. What breed of cattle used to live on the farm when the Geiserts first purchased it? Hereford