

OXBOW STABLES, INC.
PRESENTS

GIUSEPPE'S GAZETTE

VOL. 15 No. 4APRIL 2010

Greetings from Giuseppe. Well, it doesn't feel like spring, yet, but it certainly feels like summer! So it's time to get the currycombs out and the shedding blades and get our horses and ourselves in shape. We are going to have a fabulous year, just as soon as we get the manes pulled and the whiskers trimmed and the boots polished, etc. We have our first outside show on April 25th! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

This month is a very important month for a very important horse. Yankee will be turning 38 on April 11th. That is 114 years in human age! He was born in Cadyville, NY in 1972 and named Leo Chico Bars. I like the name of Yankee Doodle Dandy better. He was named Yankee because of his rich, red color. Happy Birthday, boy, and many more! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

Our adult equestrian of the month is **Lisa Santy**. Lisa has been working on getting Greta up and supple and did a terrific job working with her at the Diane Ward Clinic. Good job!

Our junior equestrians of the month are **Caroline Kelly** and **Nicole Vascimini**. Although not quite as experienced as the other girls who went out for their rating, Caroline and Nicole passed the D-1 rating with flying colors. Congratulations

We want to wish the best to **Dave & Denise Koncelik** and daughter, **Leela**. Denise got offered a terrific job offer but, unfortunately it's in Cincinnati, Ohio. So, they are heading back. We wish you all the very best

and hope to get you to come back east for the "Jump for the Cure" in October.

It's nice to have **Max Mazzatta**, Sandyston back in the saddle. Max is now 5 and is still in love with horses. We also have **Dara** and **Sage Sollart**, Wayne, riding again. Dara started back in a big way, taking 3 lessons a week. Fortunately, Dara dances so that helped to stretch her out. Sister Sage didn't want her to have all the fun so she's now riding too. Welcome back, everyone!

Congratulations to **Shaye Moon**. Although Shaye can't ride for a while, doctor's orders, it's because she is pregnant. She and Colin wanted a second child, so the news is very welcome.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Our best wishes for a very happy birthday go out to Mike Steinberg (4), Marnie Stetson (4), Lara Mazzari (11), Yankee (11), Carolina Nelson (14), Aisling Howe (15), Sophia Dean (16), Kathy Barrand (18), Sophia Spector (18), Lara Bowles Yandell (25), Emily Cariota, (29).

EARLY SPRING CALENDAR

4/4	Michael Page Clinic
4/11	Fix-A-Test
4/17	Movie Night
4/25	Dressage Show & Combined Test
5/9	Michael Page Clinic
5/16	Dressage Show, Combined Test & Horse Trials

CALLING ALL SPONSORS

Please review our many sponsor opportunities and support our 2010 season. Funds raised go towards improving our wonderful facility and everyone benefits. If your company has a matching gift program, please take advantage of it. We appreciate your generosity.

DIANE WARD CLINIC

Diane Ward gave a terrific clinic on March 14th. Diane was a very successful hunter/jumper rider and has been training horses and riders for longer then she cares's to remember. (Tara and Diane go way back!) Lynne Rockstroh riding Journey, Lisa Santy on Greta and friends Barbara Nabors astride Evie and Chris Woodruff with Casper comprised the first group and Nicole Carolan mounted on Diablo, Jenny Dix on Jinxie and Marnie Stetson aboard Star made up the second group.

Diane worked with both groups on getting the horses to come back after a line and keeping them straight. She wanted them to be able to halt and then canter without using the corner as an aid. The horses really started to listen and become very responsive to their riders. The flat work between the jumps was much more difficult than taking the actual fence!

We want to have Diane back very soon! We'll post a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the upper barn.

US PONY CLUB

Well, we did it! We had our first US Pony Club rating on Sunday, March 28th and our members all passed! Caroline Kelly aboard Nicky and Nicole Vascimini riding Macaroni passed their D-1 rating. Katie Cantine on Nicky, Nicole Carolan piloting Diablo, Cat Futterman and Oreo, Mahala Hobbs astride Willie and Brianna Zimmerman with Kye all passed their D-1 and D-2 ratings. The girls had to exhibit their grooming skills and answer horse care and stable management questions; ride on the flat and over fences and the D-2 rating included riding outside and jumping a few fences on the cross country course. They all passed with flying colors and Patricia (the examiner) said that the D-2 riders would be able to pass the D-3 standard. Congratulations to everyone! Way to go!

OSBOW MOVIE NIGHT

We had to reschedule because of the weather. So, we'll be showing the Charles DeKunffy on April 17th. It's a wonderful tape on the rider's seat and leg. DeKunffy does a great job in taking apart how a rider should position himself in the saddle. We'll order some dinner and seat back and get clarification on what exactly the correct, classical position is. Come and join us.

DRESSAGE SHOW & COMBINED TEST

We have our first outside show on April 25th. Our judge will be Jill Kuc. Check out the omnibus for the different classes. Since the weather is still iffy and we need to get out on cross-country, the jumping will be in the ring and will include clear rounds and combined tests. The closing date is April 15th, so get your entries in and don't miss out! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

EQUESTRIAN JEWELRY

Check out the flyer on the upper barn bulletin board. Lisa Merrill makes equine jewelry with a horse's tail hairs. They are quite beautiful and what a keepsake.

4-H STORY

Here's another terrific story by our member, Katie Cantine.

I started riding Molly in the winter of last year; at this point I had been at Oxbow for about 3 entire years. When I got up to Oxbow after the crazy hour-long drive, I looked at the schedule following the 2nd lesson section and saw I wasn't riding Mac, I was riding Molly. When I saw her name printed on the schedule, I knew I was about to have one of the most difficult lessons of my life. I mounted up on Molly and the second my leg was around the cantle of the saddle, Molly bolted to the short side of the indoor arena. My shock made me tense as Molly bucked and galloped all around the arena. I was calling out to people. "Watch out move over!" as Tara said to me "Sit back! Turn her! Shut her down!" My mind processed the instructions and I took a deep breath. I stopped thinking and let Tara walk me through the lesson. I turned her in a tight bending turn, half halting with all my life. Eventually, Molly slowed to a trot, then a walk.

With every lesson on Molly it took me less and less time to slow her down to a reasonable pace. Every week Danielle's face would light up when she saw I was riding Molly. Danielle owns Molly. I hated to disappoint her so I tried to hide my emotions on the days when I was so upset about riding little miss Molly. But, throughout the year I rode her, I began to enjoy riding her more and more. I was finally able to enjoy all the things Molly had taught me. One day, after an amazing lesson in the jumping arena, Tara pulled me out to the back of the group and said, "Katie, I think it's time you move up to the first lesson!" A wave of excitement washed over me and I said, "Thank you, Tara!" I was beaming hugely when she said, "You deserve it" and walked to the front of our group.

One day when Molly had been acting up Danielle asked me if I had stopped loving her and I told her there is no past tense of love. If you stop loving something you never truly loved it in the first place. She gave me a hug then we went and played with Molly in her pasture. Loving someone or something even after it has hurt you is something she taught me. I know that without riding Molly I wouldn't be where I am today with my riding. I definitely wouldn't be in the first lesson and Molly wouldn't be where she is either without me and the combined riding skills of other people. Thought I may not have gotten Molly to where she is now single handedly, I now respect that I did help to get her to this point and I know she helped me in more ways than one.

OXBOW RAIDERS 4-H CLUB

We had a great turn out at the County Presentation night on March 19th. Held at the Frankford Township School, our members gave talks on equine subjects. This was the first time some of our members gave talks on the county level. We applaud everyone who came out and they all did such a great job. Congratulations!

Brianna Branch & Katie Cantine:

"The Friesian" (Ex)

Cat Futterman & Nicole Vascimini:

"Different Types of Jumps" (Ex)

Kristen Douma & Jill McNellis:

"Appaloosas" (VG)

Sophie King: "Thoroughbreds" (Ex)

Leela Koncelik: "The Irish Sport Horse" (VG)

Our Easter egg hunt is on April 3rd. Don't forget to bring in your candy.

Cat Futterman
Reporter

4-H SCHEDULE

4/3 – Easter Egg Hunt

4/10 – Yankee's Birthday Party

4/17 – Meeting (3:00 to 4:00 pm)

5/1 – Meeting (3:00 to 4:00 pm)

5/22 – Meeting (3:00 to 4:00 pm)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly."