

Giuseppe's Gazette ❧❧ January 2020

Greetings from Giuseppe! Happy New Year! Can you believe that this is the 25th year of "Giuseppe's Gazette"? I wonder what 25 years of treats looks like!!! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

The weather has certainly been up and down, but not cold enough not to ride or come to the barn with treats! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

We're planning our "Hairy Horse Dressage Series" and a "Hairy Horse Jumping Series. Come out and have fun with us equines and stay in shape for the new year. When Spring rolls around you'll be glad you did! Daylight Savings Time starts on March 8th! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

We welcome *Andy Montano* back. He's back for the winter months and he does a great job taking care of us equines. Speaking of staff, it's *Matt Fletcher's* two year anniversary. Matt came back to the farm on Christmas Eve 2017! Congratulations on two years, Matt. We love you both! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

You know horse people are a bit nutty? The other day there were several people (won't mention any names!) standing around in the upper barn discussing whether one should wear their socks inside or outside of their breeches. I believe that it was tied, two and two! Now really, it doesn't matter. Whether the socks or inside or outside you can still walk over and give us treats! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

January Birthdays

Our very best wishes go out to Ashley Carnival (9), Emma DoTran (10), Susan Harriman (12), Carole Cox (19), Deborah Pearce (20) Rebecca Bain (23), Jemma DeFeo (28)

January Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to Matt Fletcher (2017)

Winter Calendar

1/26	Michael Page Jumping Clinic	2/14	Valentine's Day
1/20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	2/15	Annual Dinner
1/25	Chinese New Year	2/17	Presidents' Day
2/2	Groundhog Day	3/19	First Day of Spring!

From the office

Now that we're using the indoor fairly exclusively, please remember to pick up the poop!

I know it's easy to forget, but after you put your horse away, just check in. If there are riders in the indoor, it's easy; they can see it clearly and everyone helping to keep the footing clean makes it nice for us equines who like to roll in the indoor. (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

Annual Dinner

We are planning our annual dinner for February 15th at the Firehouse in Franklin. Mark your calendars now and save the date. We always have a great time and the repast is delicious. Be sure to vote for the Equestrians of the Year.

Silent Auction

We are looking for items for our silent auction at our annual dinner. They can be an item: anything from a pair of boots to a painting. They can be a service or event: a clinic, a golf outing, a horse bathing, etc. Please contribute to this worthwhile cause. Proceeds benefit everyone at the barn.

Michael Page Clinic

We had a small, but enthusiastic group for **Michael Page** on December 29th. **Nancy Just** riding Kye, **Barbara Nabors** aboard Loki, and friends, Saffron Bessler, Newton; Annalyse Cowell, Lake Hopatcong and Camryn Downey, Hardwick all worked through the gymnastic lines and both horses and riders got better and better. So, of course, Michael raised the fences. At one point, Nancy asked Tara if Kye could jump that height. He jumped it beautifully. Michael is scheduled for January 26th.

Rules of the Arena

Now that we are into winter and doing a lot of riding in the indoor, please review the following rules.

- ✓ Please look before you enter. Make sure that you don't enter on top of a rider coming down the long side. The mirrors are a big help, please use them.
- ✓ Please look up when you are riding so you are aware of where the other riders are in relationship to you and your horse.
- ✓ Be aware of the needs of others, as well as your own position so that everyone can promote mutual safety. This is particularly important when beginning riders are in the arena. For instance, if you are going across the diagonal, make it short if there's a rider coming from the opposite direction or there is a rider on the rail. If you see the rider before s/he sees you, get out of her/his way.
- ✓ Riding lessons take precedence. If a group lesson is being conducted, please ride the same direction and reverse as the class does.
- ✓ When working as a class, the lead rider must allow the end of the class the rail. The lead rider completes the pattern by taking the inner track until the last of the class has completed the pattern. Changing rein, serpentines, etc.)
- ✓ Pass oncoming horses as you would an oncoming car, left shoulder to left shoulder (stay on your right).
- ✓ Slower moving horses work towards the center (i.e. cantering on the rail, walking inside of the track.)
- ✓ Be aware of not crossing the logical path of another horse (i.e. do not cross in front of another, go behind him.)
- ✓ If you need to pass a horse, do so by making a circle or crossing to the other side of the arena.
- ✓ Please keep the track and doorways clear.
- ✓ When approaching poles and jumps keep a distance great enough to be able to turn away if the rider in front of you has trouble or knocks the obstacle down. Turn away by riding an arc so that you may return to your place and approach again.
- ✓ If you need to stop and make an adjustment (stirrups, girth, etc.), go to the center or to the mounting block and halt.
- ✓ If any rider is in trouble, (i.e. horse bucking, shying, etc.) all riders must halt and wait for the rider to regain control.

has a safe and enjoyable ride.

Giuseppe's Jottings

New Year Resolutions -

1. Make peace with your past so it won't disturb your present.
2. What other people think of you is none of your business.
3. Time heals almost everything. Give it time.
4. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
5. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea.
6. Stop thinking so much. Answers will come to you when you least expect it.
7. Smile. You don't own all the problems in the world.
8. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctor worry about them. That is why you pay him/her.
9. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
10. Keep learning. Learn more about you love, particularly us equines. Never let the brain idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
11. Enjoy the simple things, like feeding us treats. (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)
12. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
13. The tears happen. Endure, grieve and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life is ourselves and God. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
14. Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, and hobbies, whatever. Your home and the barn is your refuge.
15. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
16. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the barn, to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where guilt is.
17. Tell the people and animals you love that you love them, at every opportunity.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

18. Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing. (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

19. You always feel better after helping someone else. So, help us equines and come give us treats! You'll be happy you did! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

Quotes of the Month

If you want your life to be a magnificent story, then begin by realizing that you are the author.

- Mark Houlahant

Close your eyes and imagine the best version of you possible. That's who you really are. Let go of any part of you that doesn't believe it.

- C. Assaad

