

Campbell Springs Farm

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Welcome!

Please join us in welcoming **Emily Kottraba** and **"Sam Lord"** to the North Barn! Sam is a TB gelding looking forward to getting back in the Hunter ring after recovering from an injury. Welcome!

We are delighted to have **Tink Doyle** and **Big Will** join us at the North Barn! Big Will is a 12 year old grey Hanoverian who makes a handsome addition to the barn.

Amanda St. John has brought her charming 14 year old Arab/Saddlebred gelding to South Barn. **Frank** has been living the high life trotting around the pastures up at the South Barn. Welcome Amanda and Frank!

Congratulations!

To all of the absolutely amazing riders who competed in the **Fall Horse Trials**. Everyone was impressed with the quality of skill and horsemanship observed on the field and in the ring. Look for your names in the next newsletter!

Best Of Luck!

Sadly **Jennifer Harrell** and **Frankie** will be leaving the North Barn at the end of the month. Jennifer was a fixture at Campbell Springs and many of us enjoyed watching her and Frankie in the shows. We'll miss you Pookie!

FARM HAPPENINGS

Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered at the Fall Horse Trials. You exhibited lots of patience, willingness and cooperation. We know that we are lucky to have such a wonderful group of people as a part of the Campbell Springs farm family. The show was a great success, a learning experience and a lot of fun thanks to your efforts. As we continue to grow & enjoy this wonderful farm, we are all privileged to have each other to lean on, laugh with and learn from. Thank you! *-Wayne, Sara, Shawn and Carrie*

The farm needs you to help us reach out to area schools, churches, and agricultural groups to get more volunteers for the October 8th Hunter Classic! This is the last horse show we're putting on this year, so let's make it a success. Of course we've got many exciting events planned for the fall, so keep an eye on the "current events" postings in the barns. The sign up sheet for volunteers is waiting for you in the farm office - stop by today.

Horseplay Therapeutic Riding is back in action at the farm. This wonderful program will be going on in the South Barn ring every Monday night from now through October 10 (although a rain date of October 17 is planned). Horseplay has just branched out on its own as a non-profit organization so they need your help. Donations of time, tack, horses or money can be made at their brand new web site www.horseplaytherapy.org.

Randy Abernathy is offering a two-day clinic on the 17th and 18th of this month! Randy is an experienced horse trainer who works with problem horses to resolve issues like loading, leading, lead changes and willingness. Check out his credentials and sign up at www.randyabernathy.com. Better control through communication!

The Equine Education Field Day is coming to Campbell Springs! October 1st will find an arena and barn full of riding demonstrations, talks on weed control and pasture maintenance, tack and equine goodies for sale and oodles of must-have information. Do not miss out on this smorgasbord of valuable horse-related stuff. You have to RSVP, so call 804-957-6148 to sign up today!

Fall is finally here with cooler weather! This is a great time of year to take advantage of the farm's outdoor riding rings, including the new professionally installed Dressage Ring, as well as the miles of bridle paths. Please do not trail ride alone or in questionable weather. Take a cell phone and leave a note on the boards about where you went and when you expect to return. If you notice any hazard spots such as fallen logs or large holes across the trails please let the office know so the problem can be fixed. Have fun and be safe!

The covered arena is host to a variety of private and public functions throughout the fall season. CSF is welcoming clinicians, competitors and even a police training seminar. We appreciate your patience as we accommodate groups in the arena. Hosting these functions is important to helping the farm improve its bottom line. If you have any questions or concerns about group functions at CSF, please don't hesitate to speak with Wayne so he can address your questions. Your help in being courteous to guests and keeping the farm looking nice by closing gates behind you and picking up litter is very much appreciated. Finally, extra copies of Laura Bern's "Ring Etiquette" are available in the front of the lesson log book in the North Barn.



CSF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Randy Abernathy "Problem Horse" Clinic 17-18
 Horseplay Therapeutic Riding 9/ 12-10/10

OCTOBER

Equine Education Field Day 1
 VHSA/GRHSA Hunter Show 8
 AVA Vaulting Regional Competition 21-23

NOVEMBER

Pat Parelli Clinic 11-14

THE MAN IN THE GLASS

When you get what you want in your struggle for self,
 And the world makes you King for a day,
 Just go to the mirror and look at yourself,
 And see what that man has to say.

For it isn't your Father, or Mother, or Wife,
 Whose judgment upon you must pass.
 The feller whose verdict counts most in your life
 Is the man staring back from the glass.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest,
 For he's with you clear up to the end,
 And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
 If the man in the glass is your friend.

You may be like Jack Horner and "chisel" a plum,
 And think you're a wonderful guy,
 But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
 If you can't look him straight in the eye.

You can fool the whole world down the pathway of years,
 And get pats on the back as you pass,
 But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
 If you've cheated the guy in the glass.
 by Dale Wimbrow, (c) 1934, 1895-1954

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.
 - Eleanor Roosevelt

"On the Bit" Demystified by CSF Instructor Karen Bell

If you've ever been told that your horse should be "on the bit," you might have some idea of what this phrase means, but it is one of the more misunderstood terms in riding. Contrary to common belief, being "on the bit" does not mean a vertical head set with nose pointed to the ground. Rather, being "on the bit" means the horse's nose should be in front of the vertical with the poll being the highest point of the horse. This cannot be achieved by pulling or sawing back and forth on the reins or by restraining the horse's forward movement with more contact, but rather by increasing the energy of the hindquarters of the horse. This increase in energy works to push the horse through his back and naturally into contact with the rider's hands. Depending on the age and training of the horse, the degree of bend in the poll will vary, with green horses having less bend than well-schooled horses. Going behind the bit, often mistaken for being "on the bit," is when the third vertebrae in the horse's neck is the highest point and the nose is behind the vertical. The horse avoids contact, usually as a result of riding the horse with too heavy a restraining hand. The horse feels light in front, but there is often no feeling of energy or engagement behind. To fix this, stronger leg aids are needed to increase the driving force of the hindquarters until the horse lengthens his neck and raises his poll so his nose moves in front of the vertical. The rider's hands should be light and steady, moving forward with the horse's head. The opposite problem of going above the bit, in which the horse's nose and neck are raised so that the head moves toward the horizontal plane, can also be fixed with increased leg aids, steady contact, and lots of circling and bending. Getting a horse to go "on the bit" then requires the rider be soft and steady in the contact, in addition to encouraging the horse to move over their back by engaging the hindquarters. Achieving this can take many sessions and requires patience and consistency while the horse learns to trust the rider's hands and move in a more relaxed way.



HUGE THANKS to Dale & Rodney Collier and Shawn Campbell for their hard work in laying down a new aisle way in the indoor South Barn in August. These volunteers gave up their weekend to put down dust-free, level granite-dust flooring. THANK YOU!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Corporate Sponsorships at Campbell Springs were introduced in July with the appearance of banners and brass plaques at the North Barn Facility. Sponsorships allow us to continue to offer educational programs and fun events at a low cost to the public, and provide a wonderful opportunity for companies to get noticed and get involved. If your company is interested in a show sponsorship or annual corporate sponsorship, brochures are available at either barn or in the office. Please feel free to call us with any questions about how you can get involved.

SHOW SPONSORS

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 Equine Clinic**



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