

The Oakhurst ???

Dec 2017

(We need a name for our new monthly newsletter!)



















In This Newsletter

- WWCRD (Ruth's Report)
- Stuff You Should Know
- The Monthly Scoop with Meg
- Helen's Mystical Horsescopes

Important Dates

Dec 9 - 1 - 3 PM

Drill Team Practice

Dec 10 - 8AM - 12

OE Coach Evals

Dec 17 - 1PM

Drill Team Performance

Dec 29 - 6PM

Oakhurst Holiday Party

WWCRD? (What Would Coach Ruth Do?)

By Coach Ruth Allum!

Welcome to an exciting new format for information about all things Oakhurst! Change is hard, but here it is, brace yourself: The coaches aren't blogging anymore.

I know, I know, there are going to be people that are upset about the weekly blogs being a thing of the past, and to you I say, "You'll be okay. Take a breath. Change is good, you will get used to it, and you know what? You might even like it!!".

Helen has thankfully been instrumental in designing this new format for us to report on upcoming news, however we are looking for a super cool name for the newsletter moving forward. If you have name ideas for the Oakhurst newsletter please forward it to **helen@oakhurstfarm.com** so we can include them in next month's voting.

Along with the cool new newsletter, the past month also saw some other exciting happenings. The Ottawa Area Dressage Group Awards Banquet took

place last weekend and in true Oakhurst style we had some winners!

Rebecca Walker & Kira took home the Reserve Champion Training Level PW/JR Schooling Trophy as well as the OEF Schooling Young Horse Award, and an OEF Schooling Award of Merit. Sylvain Jobidon and



Heimdall were awarded the Silver Training Level Adult Amateur Reserve Champion trophy. Jenna Mayhew and Kinsale received the Silver Third Level Adult Amateur Champion trophy and of exceptional note Kristin McLaren and Sambuca were the Gold First Level Adult Amateur Third place and Jenna Mayhew and Kinsale were the Gold Third Level Adult Amateur Third place Boarder & Student Links

Buy Swag

Student Page

Rider Level Education

Follow Us

www.oakhurstfarm.com

Instagram: oakhurst3d

Twitter: oakhurst3d

Facebook: oakhursteguestrian

winners. Quite an accomplishment for a facility specializing in Eventing! Congratulations and keep it up Prancing Peeps.

And speaking of Prancing, Drill team started last weekend and watch out world, they rocked it! The final Drill Team performance will be on Sunday December 17th at 1pm, I hope you've pre-purchased tickets. And speaking of tickets, the Oakhurst Awards party is being held on December 29th at the Ashton Pub and tickets are on sale now!

There are some cool things afoot Nationally in terms of Eventing and I hope that as the new Chair of Eventing I can relay them to you as efficiently and concisely as the role permits. I can tell you that one of the most influential, relevant and coolest Facebook sites in terms of Eventing in Canada is the 'United Event Riders of Canada' group – affectionally titled the UROC group and they are absolute front runners in terms of Eventing News so be sure to check them out. If you need a link to the site I know a couple of girls who can link you up ©.

Stay tuned for the next edition and don't forget to submit Newsletter names! And let's do a quote of the month:

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." *John F. Kennedy*

Ruth

Resident Poop removal expert - in training - soon to be certified

Stuff You Should Know

Our 2018 Competition dates are set! Just because the 2017 season is over, doesn't mean we are slowing down – check out what we've got planned for 2018:

- May 12 Upper Canada Derby
- May 13 Silver/ESD Dressage Show
- July 29 Oakhurst Horse Trials I
- Aug 23-26 Oakhurst 3 Day Competition & Clinic
- Sept 23 Oakhurst Horse Trials II
- Oct 06 Upper Canada Derby
- Oct 07 Silver/ESD Dressage

Yup, you read that right – 2 Horse Trials and a 3 Day! 2018 is going to be EPIC!

The Monthly Scoop (of all the Oakhurst Poop!)

By: Coach Megan Jenner

Currently happening within the barn at Oakhurst;



- Monday Dec 4th Dr. Ted Thomas will be at Oakhurst to do vaccines and worming Boarders can still ride and lessons will still go on!
- Did everybody hear that there is a Coaching Evaluation on Sunday December 10th? Boarders please note that the arena will be occupied for the evaluation from 8am – 12pm and lessons may be rescheduled.
- December is here, which means the holidays are right around the corner, therefore the lesson schedule may vary slightly. Lessons are canceled on December 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st and January 1st, make sure to talk with your coach if you would like to reschedule.
- Students Don't forget that the Holiday Party is at the Ashton Pub on Dec 29th order tickets and reserve your seat for all of the fun on the Oakhurst Student page by Dec 22.
- **December 25**th, Christmas Day! Yay! **The barn is closed**, but don't worry we will give all the horses a Christmas kiss for you!

Helen's Mystical (and completely fictional) Horse-scopes

By: Coach Helen Richardson

These horoscopes are completely fictional, made up and have been invented after several intense minutes of astrological googling. Any advice gleaned from them should be considered accidental and unintentional – unless they change your life for the better!



You might feel like you don't measure up to others this month. How others see you is completely different from your perception. Don't be too hard on yourself. Just add more sparkles to your wardrobe. They will make your pony go better. Trust me.



Letting go is a hard lesson to learn this month. You may have to retire a plan that just isn't coming to fruition, but don't worry – new ideas are in the works and the Oakhurst Coaches have a plan. It involves a lot of circles and transitions, but it will be worth it.



Try not to hold onto negative emotions. Focus on all of the happy memories you have made with your equine friend and your mood will instantly brighten. Your pony didn't MEAN to buck you off, and to be honest, he HAS saved your butt many, many times.



Honesty is the best policy. Have that conversation with someone even if it is a bit uncomfortable. But don't be surprised if there are consequences. Coaches don't love being criticized. They WILL make you pay for the whining.



Don't underestimate your abilities Leo – You are creative and imaginative and CAN make that sitting trot without stirrups look painless. Just keep practicing. It will get easier. When you first started riding it was the only trot you could do!



Its good to stay ahead of the curve. Just because your coach hasn't started working on the next dressage test for 2018 yet doesn't mean you can't start learning the pattern in your living room. Then you can wow them when they pull it out in March!



This is a good month to take stock of the people (coaches) and ponies who mean the most to you. And bring them treats to show them how much you love them - hint: ponies love carrots, coaches love sparkly things. And chocolate.



A little dose of being naughty might just be what you and your pony need this week – try changing it up, grab a few friends and skip the Dressage for one day – go for an epic group hack instead. And take lots of group selfies to brag about it.



Don't forget to take some time out for yourself this month - a spa day for your pony and a bubble bath for you, may just get you through the December craziness! And you'll both sparkle more, which is always a good thing.



Although you can't put your finger on it, something doesn't feel right in your world. It's your 2 point position. Lift your shoulders. Stop staring at the ground. That's it. Now you can relax and enjoy December.



You have reached a crossroads where everything you have dreamed and worked for has finally converged. Enjoy the fruits of your labour. Don't start slacking off now though – do you think Michael Jung takes a day off?



Rather than looking at the differences between your riding and someone else's, look at the similarities. I mean, every one of the competitors at Badminton has to do dressage, in white pants, on a horse, in front of a judge, sometimes in the rain. Just like you! It's like you are twins.

That's it for Newsletter #1!

Submit your Newsletter name suggestions on the Oakhurst Newsletters page or email them to helen@oakhurstfarm.com



And don't forget to wish Coach Ruth a very Happy Birthday – She turns 29 on Dec 02!

