

Acres of News From the Farm

September/October
MacNair's Country Acres

Welcome back! We are busy packing up our fun Camp supplies and heading into the most beautiful season on the farm. Our calendar is packed full with fall activities, so hop on and let's go for a ride!!!!

From the horse's mouth:

Staff happenings:

Desirea Jevons has been a wonderful part of MacNairs Country Acres. She has been offered a position in the real estate business and wants to try her talents in that field. We will certainly miss Desirea and look forward to her returning to visit and to stay a part of the farm. Once a horse woman, always a horse woman so I am sure we will see her back. From all of us to Desirea, "We will miss you and thank you for the wonderful job and care you provided all the horses and the best of luck in your future."

From: Your friends and staff

Help us welcome new staff members:

We are very happy to have **Julie Garnett** from Hague, Virginia join our staff. She comes with years of experience from barn managing to starting young horses, riding and teaching. Her objective is, "I am dedicated to classical and gymnastic training to improve the balance and co-ordination of both horse and rider. My focus is to instill correct basics in the horse and rider so that he/she may succeed in any discipline of the equine industry." Julie is a North Carolina Dressage and Combined Training Association Educational Committee Member, has organized and participated in USDF Instruction certification classes and is currently testing for her Pre-cert for USDF certified Instructors.

Julie comes with a huge list of recommendations and the best reference is from Kris Hamilton. She will be available for teaching students starting September 10. Please call the school barn and speak with Debra to get on the schedule for Julie. 851-1118.

Julie will be the barn manager for the Boarder Horses located at MacNairs School Barn.

Laurie Ford grew up riding hunters/jumpers in Columbia, South Carolina. She rode for the College of Charleston and served as the captain for the intercollegiate team. After college, Laurie fell in love with dressage and has ridden with many famous instructors. Laurie is currently competing her horse, Attention, at the Prix St. George Level and is trying to get her scores for her silver medal from the United States Dressage Federation.

Educational and fun learning opportunities:

Continuing Education

Theory/riding clinics with Kris Hamilton:

Kris Hamilton will be cutting back to part time starting in September. She has returned to her beautiful farm in Raeford and she has agreed to come back for a theory/clinic session 1 day per month. This will be an opportunity for those of you that are currently working with Kris to continue forward. To be eligible for her theory/clinics you must be enrolled in a weekly lesson program. Please call Debra to schedule lessons with Julie and then participate in this wonderful educational program that Kris will put together. The theory session will be during the evening hours in the lounge at Country Acres and the riding clinic will be the following day. Dates will be announced. The cost will be \$25.00 per theory session. You will go back to school with homework and goal setting for your riding.

Halloween Gymkhana

This is a spooky time of year!!! Bring your family, dress up, play with the horses and learn through games on horseback. We will have concessions, prizes, and contests for the best dressed. Come and spend the holiday with us!

Sunday, October 28

Teacher Workday Pony School Clinic

9:00-1:00

Let your child come spend the morning with us! Let your child love, groom and ride and then eat lunch with their favorite four legged friends. Pack your lunch, boots, helmet and let's have fun! Space is limited, so please sign up ASAP and reserve your spot for this new program.

Monday, September 24

Monday, November 12

Track Out/Home School Camp

9:00-1:00

Enjoy a special time with your horses and friends. Own a horse for the morning. Come in and take care of them, learn about what is involved with ownership and ride.

Bring a bagged lunch and have some fun!

Wednesday, September 19

Wednesday, October 10

Wednesday, October 31

Wednesday, November 28

Wednesday, December 12

Wednesday, January 16

Hoof Beat Clinics

Come out & enjoy an informative unmounted session.

Watch the bulletin board for topics of interest.

Saturdays, 3:00-4:30

November 3

November 10

December 15

Trail Rides

These fun times give the student a chance to ride outside of the ring on uneven terrain. You may even see some really neat wildlife!!!!

Saturday, October 6

Monday, October 29

Saturday, November 24

(Watch the bulletin boards for times)

Hunter Riders Corner

These Riding clinics are open to students in 4-H and any community students interested in additional learning opportunities. What a great way to continue to practice your skills and spend more time with a horse.

Saturday, October 13 (adults only!!)

Saturday, October 20 (adults only!!)

Saturday, November 3

Saturday, November 10

Saturday, November 17

Saturday, December 15

Saturday, January 5

Saturday, January 12

Saturday, January 19

Saturday, January 26 (mandatory for show team tryouts)

Sunday, January 27 (Show Team Tryouts)

Saddle Up:

This program is designed for the first time rider as an introduction to horsemanship and riding. Bring your parents and friends and join in this introductory program to this life time sport. Open to children and adults. Saturdays 3:00-5:00

September 15

October 20

November 17

Holiday Horse Lease

Sign up to ride your favorite horse over these holidays. This is a supervised opportunity to come and practice your riding skills.

Wednesday, November 21

Friday, November 23

Saturday, November 24

Wednesday, December 26

Thursday, December 27

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29

Sign-ups will be posted on the Community Bulletin Board across from the desk.

Lesson cancellation

Please remember that if you need to cancel a lesson you need to contact the office 24 hours in advance. Our policy on lesson cancellation is posted on the bulletin board for your review.

Thank you!



THE CLOVER CORNER MACNAIR'S 4H NEWS

New Members Meeting for 4-H members

*Come and see if you are interested in becoming a 4-H member. Must be
9 years of age!*

*Date: Thursday, October 18 in the lounge at
Country Acres*

Ask Betsy for more details

News from our 2006 club:

MacNair's 4H Club members have concluded a fantastic 2007 4H show circuit with great results. Congratulations to County/District Show Team members Grace Stallings, Kate Rogers, Reid Smith, Scot Thompson, Meredith Sitze, Hayden Rizer, Sally Henry, Lauren Guidotti, Courtney Ketzler, Marion Price, Jessica Mohr and Katie Newton from Country Acres. Joining them from the School Barn were: Caity Caggia, Olivia Chason, Jaime Fordham, Emma Elsea, Mary Copeland Cain, Laura Barkley, Lauren Clements, Lindsey Greenfield, Alice Burnett, Lila Miller, Olivia Bachman, Ellen Mason, Kara Wilcox, Lauren Piurkoski and Lizzy Kane. As always, our team rocked, bringing home many ribbons, but more importantly, demonstrating great horse- and sportsmanship! Nancy, Betsy and Melanie couldn't have been more proud.

Following County/District, Sally Henry, Olivia Chason, Courtney Ketzler, Laura Barkley, Grace Stallings, Meredith Sitze, Jessica Mohr, Katie Newton, Caity Caggia, Jaime Fordham, Mary Copeland Cain, Alice Burnett, Kara Wilcox and Lauren Piurkoski carried the farm's colors to the State Show and brought home more ribbons. Congratulations to Sally Henry for being Junior Horse Champion and Meredith Sitze for winning reserve champion in the Short Stirrup division.

Moving on to Southern Regionals: Jaime Fordham and Scooteriffic went to Memphis and were champion in the Training Level Dressage.

Member Reminders:

4H regular meetings will resume Thursday, August 30 with the officer's meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the lounge. The following Thursday, September 6 will be the regular full membership meeting. The new meeting time is 7:30 for this upcoming year.

Don't forget the FIELD TRIP to the Washington International Horse Show on Saturday October 13. This will be a great trip, with the opportunity to watch the final round of the Washington International Equitation Medal Final and The President's Cup International Nation's Cup competition. We will discuss this trip in detail at the September 6 meeting.

Volunteers are needed to help at the horse show:
September 16 October 14 November 18

This is a great educational opportunity to see how a horse show works and Nancy gives a free lunch to those that work the full day and a NCDCTA volunteer card for those that volunteer for the NCDCTA show.
Give your name to Nancy!

Holly Hugo-Vidal

September 29 and 30, 2007 at Country Acres

Three groups of 4-5 riders each day. Clinics progress from the first day to the second. Fee for both days is \$250, (\$150 for one day if space is available. **LIMITED TO 15 RIDERS PER DAY.**

Audit fee is \$50 per person or \$75 for a child accompanied by one adult.

This clinic is U\$HJA-approved.

For more information about Holly or the clinic specifications, please contact
Melanie at Country Acres: 851-1171

We are thrilled to offer our hunter/jumper riders the opportunity to clinic with Holly Hugo-Vidal!

Holly Hugo-Vidal grew up in Westchester County, NY, where she had the opportunity to train with the legendary horseman, George H. Morris. Morris has remained a strong influence throughout her professional career, as well as writing the forward for her book *Build Confidence Over Fences*.

Rodney Jenkins, another legendary figure, also played an important role as one of the most naturally gifted hunter and jumper riders of all time. His influence of always putting the well-being of the horse first as well as his tremendous understanding of horses is always with Holly.

Holly's former husband, the late Victor Hugo-Vidal was also a huge influence. Together they ran the successful show barn, Cedar Lodge Farm in Stamford, CT. Victor's great teaching aptitude, coupled with George's dedication and high standards and Rodney's unique ability all contribute to the methods Holly uses today.

Today, Holly runs her own Pacific Blue Show Barn in southern California. She specializes in hunters and equitation and works with juniors and adults, with the main requirement being a love of horses and learning. Holly holds an "R" judges license and judges at horse shows across the country. She has given clinics all over the US and in Panama and New Zealand. She writes for several magazines including *Practical Horseman* and produces a monthly column in the *Equine Journal*.

For those of you who missed the new filly born, this story will give the details of a great experience for all.

The First Day of Summer And/Or Summer's First Day

By Patti Sheriff

It was very early morning on the first day of summer when Beau and Wild Card's beautiful baby girl was born. The plan had been for Beau to deliver her foal at veterinarian hospital, but she chose to have the baby at home with only the other mares and her pasture friends for witnesses. Caroline awoke in the early hours of a rosy-fingered dawn to the sound of horses calling from the field to announce that something was happening – as she rushed outside all the mares were lined up at the fence hollering at her to hurry, but Beau had gone ahead on her own. She was standing looking tired and maternal, with a just-born, perfect little filly lying in a heap by her side. She was still wet, with one ear flopped down and the other flopped over. Her fuzzy mane and tail were black, and she had a perfect white circle in the middle of her forehead. As Caroline was examining the bay baby girl and congratulating Beau on her fine work, she confided that this might actually be the last baby for her – Beau helped Caroline understand that she knew, and this was the reason for the Circle of Life mark on the foal's forehead. They named the baby Wild Summer.....Summer for short.

That same morning, while Caroline was excitedly sharing the good news all around the farm, my husband, Steve, arrived to watch Lily and me in our hunt seat lesson. He is very supportive of my love for horses but even so, his visits to the barn are quite special and I'm always especially happy to see him there. Naturally, I thought it would make Steve's visit even more special if we went down to admire the foal at the brood mare barn after my lesson, and then maybe even had a nice lunch "out" after that.....

We arrived at Beau's barn and walked quietly around to the stall where we were told mother and baby were bedded. There she was! Precious Wild Summer was lying on her side by the gate, swaddled in deep fresh shavings with Beau proudly standing watch over her. Summer began to rise up to greet us, but her wobbly knees gave out and she slid back down, resting a little closer to the bars of the gate. She tried again...and again...and again.... And each time she fell back, her little legs slid farther through the gate until she was stuck, lying nearly on her back with all four spindly legs completely through the bars of the gate all the way to her chest. Then, she was still. Beau continued to watch quietly from a corner of the stall, helpless and confused. It had happened in a matter of seconds.

Steve and I were horrified. Visions of past farm tragedies flew through my mind. Steve expected me to rush in and do something right away, but what would that be?? Plus, I was reluctant to enter the stall unless a life was in danger, and at that point I wasn't sure. Comfortable and confident in my own barn, at the brood mare barn I was only a casual visitor and I knew better than to enter any stall without permission, especially a brood mare's. The instinct to protect her foal from a predator could mean serious trouble for a human. I was close to panic but at least thought to use my cell phone to call for help: Terry promised me that someone who knew what to do would be right there.....Thank God! Steve kept asking me if I was really sure I shouldn't go into the stall and try to help, but while I was considering that, the situation began to change by the second.

This is where the story gets really interesting. While Summer lay trapped, and Beau stood watching, we saw that the other mares were coming closer to check out the scene. Maybe they sensed Beau's concern or heard the fear in our voices as Steve and I whispered by the fence. One mare, Princess, came all the way to the edge of Summer's gate, lowered her head to sniff and examine the feet sticking out, and then she began to paw the ground. At first we thought she was going to hurt Summer and/or anger her mother and make the bad situation worse. But that wasn't it at all. Her soft brown eyes were filled with tenderness and we realized she was trying to tell Summer how to get away from that gate. Little Summer tried but couldn't do it. The human

rescuers just weren't getting there fast enough, and we knew time was running out. Soon it would be a true emergency.

But then the most astonishing thing happened. Princess began to nudge Summer's little feet and legs with her nose. Each time she nudged a foot, Summer pulled it back a bit – then a nudge to a different foot, and then each of the others followed by a repeat of the entire process. Princess continued the nudging and waiting, nudging and waiting, until Summer had withdrawn her feet all by herself and had squirmed around in the shavings until she was away from the gate. She rested for a few minutes and we held our breaths along with Princess, Beau and the other mares. It looked like she might have injured herself; but finally, she wiggled and squirmed and thrashed her way to her feet and wobbled over to Beau, who was still waiting patiently in the corner. As Beau sniffed and licked her baby and positioned herself so Summer could nurse, the human rescuers arrived – Michele, Desirea and Debra. We heard the car doors slamming and the pounding of their feet as they raced toward the barn. It had only been a few minutes since my frantic call to Terry, but it seemed like an eternity.....

They found a peaceful scene – mare tenderly nursing her hours-old foal, other mares nibbling bits of hay in the paddock. Princess had rejoined her group and barely glanced up at us as we tried to explain everything that had happened. We wondered if anyone would believe our story, but everyone agreed that Princess was indeed the heroine. She said it was simply all in a Mom's day of work..... and then she turned back to her hay.

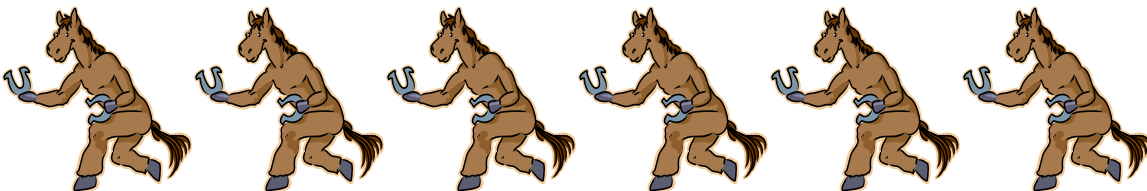
(If you have a story, poem or memory you'd like to share.... we'd love to print it here. Memories like this make our lives with our horses so special.

Come take a walk and visit Summer. She is living a pasture board with her mother and sisters. Remember, do not enter the pastures and no treats cause all horses will bite.

We welcome your suggestions and comments. Come find us or drop them off in writing in the black box on the porch beside the office door.

Thank you!

From the staff and your four legged friends at MacNairs Country Acres



MacNair's Country Acres

Fall 2007

Calendar of Events

August/September



<i>August 12</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<u>Fall Applications due</u>
August 12	Sunday	NCDCTA Show @ Country Acres
August 18	Saturday	Saddle Up (3:00-5:00pm)
August 27	Monday	Block 1 begins!!!!
September 3	Monday	Labor Day.....NO CLASSES
September 15	Saturday	Saddle Up (3:00-5:00pm)
		Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm
September 19	Wednesday	Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)
September 16	Sunday	NCDCTA Show @ Country Acres
September 24	Monday	Teacher Workday Pony School Clinic 9-1:00

October



October 4-7		State Fair AA Show @ Hunt Horse Complex
October 6	Saturday	Trail Rides (times TBA)
<i>October 10</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<u>Block 2 fees due</u>
		Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)
October 13	Saturday	Adult Clinic (1:30 & 3:00)
October 18	Thursday	4H New Members Meeting (7:30 @ Country Acres)
October 20	Saturday	Saddle Up (3:00-5:00pm)
		Adult Clinic (1:30 & 3:00)
October 28	Sunday	Halloween Gymkhana
October 29	Monday	Teacher Workday Trail Ride (times TBA)
		Block 1 ends
October 30	Tuesday	Block 2 begins
October 31	Wednesday	Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)



November

November 3	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Hoof Beat Clinic (3:00-4:30pm)
November 10	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Hoof Beat Clinic (3:00-4:30pm)
November 7-11		Duke Children's Classic Charity Horse Show @ Hunt Horse Complex
November 12	Monday	School Holiday Pony School Clinic 9-1:00 School Holiday Community Clinic 9-1:00
November 17	Saturday	Saddle Up (3:00-5:00pm) Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm
November 21-24	Thanksgiving	NO CLASSES
November 21	Wednesday	Holiday Horse Lease (10:00am-12:00pm) (2:00-4:00pm)
November 23	Friday	Holiday Horse Lease (10:00-12:00) (2:00-4:00)
November 24	Saturday	Holiday Horse Lease (10-12:00) Pony School Trail Ride (1-3:00) Community Trail Ride (3:30-5:00)
November 28	Wednesday	Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)



December

December 8	Saturday	Schooling for show (times TBA)
December 9	Sunday	Hunter Schooling Show
December 12	Wednesday	Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)
December 15	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Hoof Beat Clinic (3:00-4:30pm)
December 24-31	Christmas	NO CLASSES
December 26	Wednesday	Holiday Horse Lease (10:00am-12:00pm 2:00-4:00pm)
December 27	Thursday	Holiday Horse Lease (10:00am-12:00pm 2:00-4:00pm)
December 28	Friday	Holiday Horse Lease (10:00am-12:00pm 2:00-4:00pm)
December 29	Saturday	Christmas Saddle Up (1:00am-3:00pm) Holiday Horse Lease (10:00-12:00)

MacNair's Country Acres
Winter 2008
Calendar of Events

January



January 2	Wednesday	Block 3 begins
January 5	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Hoof Beat Clinic (3:00-4:30pm)
January 12	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Hoof Beat Clinic (3:00-4:30pm)
January 16	Wednesday	Track Out/Home School Camp (9:00am-1:00pm)
January 19	Saturday	Community/4H Prep Clinic 1:30 & 3:00pm Saddle Up (3:00-5:00pm)
January 26	Saturday	4H Show Team Tryout Prep Clinic (mandatory)
January 27	Saturday	4H Show Team Tryouts (times TBA)