

Flying Lead Changes

the CENTAURS 4-H CLUB newsletter

www centaurs4hclub.org "RIDE WITH PRIDE" COUNTRY CARE CODE: Centaurs



"Be wary of a horse with a sense of humor!" – Jim Brown

October 2011

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Our next Club meeting: Thursday, October 20th at the 4-H Building located at the Howard County Fairgrounds.

Don't forget to bring:

- ✓ *Your assigned snack item.*



This Month's Highlights:

- *Club Meeting: The Spanish Riding School*
- *Avon Fundraiser*
- *Schooley Mill Horse Show*
- *Record Book Trainings*

THE MANE EVENT



Our October Club Meeting: The Spanish Riding School - Our next Club meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20th at 7:00 at the 4-H Building located at the Howard County Fairgrounds. At this Club meeting, Kathleen and Kamille Periera will be providing a presentation on the Spanish Riding School.



The Spanish Riding School of Vienna, Austria, is a traditional riding school for Lipizzan horses, which perform in the Winter Riding School in the Hofburg. Not only is it a center for classical dressage, the headquarters is a tourist attraction in Vienna that offers public performances as well as permitting public viewing of some training sessions. The presentation builds on four centuries of experience and tradition in classical dressage. The leading horses and riders of the school also periodically tour and perform worldwide.



Kathleen and Kamille visited the Spanish Riding School last year and they will be providing a very informative presentation. We hope that everyone can

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Centaurs 4-H Club Leaders: Marcie Barnard 410-461-3985 Barb Dashiell 301-262-4549

Sue Hart 301-776-8134 Beckie Peregoy 410-635-3281

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come to this event. Afterwards, we will all share a snack.

The following families are responsible for bringing snack items and setting up at the October Club meeting:

Setup: **Owens Family**

Sweet snack: **Williamson Family**

Salty snack: **Wingate Family**

Drinks (including paper napkins and cups): **Thomas Family**

If you are assigned to Setup, you will be required to arrive at 6:45 to get the tables and chairs set up so that we can start our meeting promptly at 7:00. *You must also stay and ensure that all tables and chairs have been put away.*

Club Elections Are Coming Up -

Thinking about becoming a Centaurs Club officer? Think no more. Club elections will be held at the **November** Club meeting. Following is a list of officer positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Corresponding Secretary
- Historian
- Club Reporter (multiple positions).

Club Officer positions provide a terrific way for you to grow in your leadership skills. You will be asked to give a short speech explaining why you are qualified for the position you are running for. Have any questions? Feel free to ask Marcie, Sue, Becky, or Barb.

Reminder: Centaurs Avon Fundraiser

– The Centaurs 4-H Club is having a fundraiser in conjunction with Avon. It's easy and participation by friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers is welcome. The Club will benefit 25% of the order total.

Just go to www.youravon.com/mjones1522 and click on ONLINE EVENTS. Then, start shopping. At checkout, use the code CENTAURS and 25% of the purchase price will be donated to the Club. Orders over \$30.00 will automatically get free shipping. No additional code is needed. **It's fast and easy.** So spread the word and participate in the Centaurs Avon fundraiser.

So far, we have only sold \$108.00. We know we can do better! Come on Centaurs – show your team spirit and participate in this event!

Record Book Reminders - Now that summer has waned, we all need to be focusing on filling out our Record Books for 2011. Record Books are the "window" in which your 4-H participation can be recognized at the Club and County levels. It is a lot easier to work on your Record Books a little bit each week than to try to do it all in one or two days.

Remember: it is your Record Book that is used to calculate points for the Centaurs Club Banquet Awards and the Howard County Awards. The better you document the Club activities that you have participated in your Record Book, the more points you can accumulate. Many times, we know that a member had participated in a certain event, but we were unable to give them credit for that

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event because they failed to mention it in their Record Book.

Our Club website located at [www.centaurs4hclub.org](http://www centaurs4hclub.org) contains a Calendar of Events that lists each Club activity and where it should be placed in your Record Book. Use this valuable resource wisely. If you have any questions about Record Books, feel free to ask Marcie or Sue. We would be happy to help.

Record Book Trainings - Attention all newly joined Centaurs 4-Hers. Its Record Book Time!!! Have questions? Need help or advice? Come join us for our annual record book trainings. The exact location of the training will be announced shortly. Please save the following dates and times:

7 pm Monday, October 10th- First year Workshop

9:30 am Friday, October 21st- Clover Workshop

7 pm November 2nd- Workshop for all Junior, Intermediate and Seniors.

CLOVER BOOKS - Clovers have a special Clover Report Form for their record book. All forms are on the web.

JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE BOOKS - Information on how to do a book, complete the Summary Form and Project Records.

SENIOR BOOKS - All seniors will have to complete a resume and essay as part of their record book. All information is on the web.

SUMMARY REPORT FORM - This form is used to record all of your years in 4-H. All of your past summary records not on the present form are to be placed in the book so we can see your progress. These will also be available at the workshops.

It is a good idea to come to this workshop so that all of the mysteries of Record Books can be dispelled. Please attend the workshops if you have never completed a Record Book or if you have any questions concerning Record Books.

Horseman's Party Information -The plans are well underway for the upcoming Maryland 4-H Horsemen's Party scheduled for Sunday, October 9th, 2011 at Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville, MD.

Honored Guests of the 2011

Maryland Horsemens

Party Include:

Rita Anselmo

4-H Horse Program
Volunteer of the Year

AND

Jim Steele

Youth Development Award

This year's party will feature:

- 2011 Ford F-250 4x4 Truck Raffle
- Silent Auction
- Live Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- Saddle Raffle

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Tickets:

- \$30/adult (add \$10 per ticket after Sept. 18th)
- \$20/youth (13 and under) (add \$10 per ticket after Sept. 18th)

This event is a lot of fun to attend: delicious food, prizes, silent auction, cake walk, and other activities. Monies raised from this event supports our National Horse Bowl, Horse Judging and Communications teams. Barb Dashiell, Marcie Barnard, Sue Hart, The Sullivans, and Patty Hollidge will be attending. It would be great to see other Centaur families!

Ticket Forms and Donation Forms can be found at:

www.4horse.umd.edu/activities/HorsemenParty.html

Schooley Mill Update - The next Schooley Mill Horse Show will be held on Sunday, October 16th. The rain date is Sunday, October 30th.

Volunteer Certification Training – The Centaurs encourages all parent volunteers to become officially certified. You can now do this online. It's quick and easy and only takes a few minutes.

If interested in becoming a volunteer, you must register for the online training offered by the State 4-H program and complete the volunteer paperwork with the Howard County office prior to attending an online class. Once you have registered for a class, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or crein@umd.edu to obtain necessary paperwork.

Volunteer trainings have been scheduled for 2011:

October 13th 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
September 15th 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
November 15th 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
October 11th 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
November 17th 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Volunteers may register at the following link:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/Seminars/Description.cfm?ID=127>

We strongly recommend that each parent of a Centaur 4-H Club member becomes officially certified so that they can fully understand the responsibilities of being a 4-H Volunteer.

Horses Perform Better when Drinking Clean Water (*abstracted from AQHA America's Horse*)



Just like people, horses do not like strange odors or funny tasting water.

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Depending on the type of activity, the average horse drinks 10-12 gallons a day.

Did you know that water affects your horse's fluid balance, temperature, exercise tolerance and ability to digest feed?

There are two primary concerns to keep in mind when you think about water for your horse.

First, make sure your horse has access to water at all times, except when you're on the trail, of course!

Studies show that limiting water for just two hours can increase the chance for your horse to colic by 40 percent! So, avoid trips to the vet and late-night scares by always providing water.

Second, provide the cleanest water you possibly can. Would you want to drink icky dirty water? Your horse doesn't either!

Depending on the size of your water tank, you should clean it out at least once a week, and more often if needed. Be aware of algae, old hay and dirt collecting in the trough.

Some horses like to drop hay in the water when they eat, and it can cause an odor to develop. Remember to keep it clean, and your horse will be happy and healthy.

Tips for Cleaning Tanks

Cleaning out your horse's water trough can be fun! First gather the tools you will need for the project.

- Scrub brush
- Water hose
- Pliers to unplug the drain

The first thing you need to do is to drain the old water from the tank. Some people don't want to get the stall or pasture muddy, so you can use a hose that's not hooked up to a hydrant to drain the tank. As the water is draining, use your hands or scrub brush to wipe dirt and grime off the side of the tank.

After all the water is drained, start scrubbing. Add some water to scrub with, and then make sure the sides and bottom are clean and free from dirt, old hay and algae. It works best to tip the tank over to dump out excess water.

After that, you're home free! The only thing left to do now is fill the tank up with fresh water. It might take a while, depending on the size, but don't forget to turn the water off when it's full.

Your horse will love you forever if you make this a weekly chore!

Secondhand Uses

Some water troughs get too dingy and rusted to continue using. Here are some ideas of uses for old water troughs! Maybe you'll put one to use when you retire your old trough!

- A planter for summer flowers
- Storage for leg wraps

- Paint your old trough and use it for shelves in the barn
- A fish tank
- A trash can
- A beverage holder at barn get-togethers
- Indoor decoration
- Stepping stool for the barn
- Storage for older tack
- Toy box

What creative things have you done with old water troughs?

Mark Your Calendars!

October 9th – Maryland 4-H Horseman's Party

October 16th – Schooley Mill Horse Show

October 20th – Centaurs 4-H Club

Monthly Meeting

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Holiday Party



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