

HALIFAX JUNIOR BENGAL LANCERS NEWSLETTER

February 5, 2016

BOARD CHAIRMAN MESSAGE - DARIN MCLEAN

Can you believe we are one month into 2016? With the groundhog not seeing its shadow this week, in Nova Scotia anyway, perhaps the rest of the winter months will pass as quickly as January!

Thanks to all members who attended our Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Halifax Central Library on January 25. The AGM was one of the briefest in recent memory with no new business brought forward from attendees! Routine items of business included review of the 2014-2015 financial statements, election of new board members from nominations received by November 25, 2015, and a vote on bylaw changes. As well, there were reports from HALTR, the Junior Executive and also John Young, Past President on behalf of the Building

“I encourage all members to review our Annual Report!” Darin McLean

Committee.

I encourage members who were unable to attend the meeting to review our Annual Report which is currently on the website (members only section) to understand our financial position. It is important to note that as a not-for-profit, Lancers receives most of its operating funds from the dues paid by our members. This is our primary revenue stream to pay for our horses and our historic facility, and of course our staff. We are also eligible for grants from time to time and fundraising activities play an important role in purchasing needed items for the barn.

Last but not least, I want to share with you that the board will embark on a planning session later in February which will serve as an opportunity for us to identify and prioritize tasks that need to occur in the coming months. We will report back on this in the near future.

Stay warm!

Darin

IMPORTANT DATES

Rider Levels Lecture Series
Wednesday Nights @ 5:30 pm
January - March

Junior Executive Cookie Dough
Campaign - forms due on
February 10

Dead of Winter Training Show
February 28

Make Up Rides - February
Feb 5 - Rides 1-5; A's
Feb 12 - Rides 6-10; A's
Feb 19 - Rides 6-10; A's
Feb 26 - Rides 1-5; J's

Farrier Clinic
March 20



BARN MANAGER AND HEAD INSTRUCTOR

- ANGIE HOLT

With one month of 2016 behind us, our lesson schedule is well underway. I have been busy teaching and taking many private lessons which were gifts to Lancer members for Christmas. It is great to see such a high level of interest and marked improvement from so many of our riders.

I am pleased to say that the Equine Canada's Rider Levels lectures have been going well. For those new to riding, the Equine Canada Rider Levels are a proficiency system for riders which tests rider skills at ten levels. All lessons at Lancers are taught using the progressive guidelines of the EC Rider Level Program, however, it is not a requirement to be tested. For those who wish to do so our rider level lectures will help prepare for testing. So far we have had three sessions which have had about 10-15 riders per session. Testing will occur over two weekends in April, beginning with written tests. Those who pass their written tests will proceed to their riding and stable management tests the following weekend. All riders who want to be tested require a current NSEF membership, available at

**“Our horses have taught hundreds of children
lessons in love, respect and humility.”**
Angie Holt

www.horsenovascotia.ca. Rider level handbooks can also be purchased online. There will be a 3rd weekend where we will test a handful of Candidates for their instructor certification, which will give us a full roster of highly qualified instructors for the coming years.

We will be hosting a “Dead of Winter Training Show” on Sunday, Feb 28th starting at 9:00 am. There will be hunter divisions from x-rails to 2'9”, 2 medal classes, a jumper class, and 2 flat divisions for those who are not yet ready to jump - one will be for Juniors, the other for Adults. Please sign up in the lobby. The cost is \$30.00 per division (three classes) or \$12.00 for the medal classes and the jumper classes. There is a \$5.00 ring number deposit required as well which is refundable.

In horse news you may have noticed that we are trying out “Giquau” to see if he will be suitable as a lesson horse. He is four years old, and still has much to learn, but we have many capable riders who are ready school a youngster. A barn favourite, Jesse, is back. We will see if he can handle the environment and work load at Lancers now that his health has improved. Pumba has been officially retired from his lesson duties. He is spending the winter months in the warm barn at Lancers, but will move to the country come spring time, where he can enjoy his retirement with some green grass. We hope to have Freddy join him in retirement. Both Pumba and Freddy are in their mid-twenties, and have served as lesson horses at Lancers for over 20 years. Pumba and Freddy, along with our other horses, have taught hundreds of children and adults how to ride, along with so many lessons in love, respect, courage and humility.

Planning has begun for a busy summer, which will include the Downtown Horse Show, Musical Ride, off property horse shows, and the much anticipated Salmon River Camps. I encourage any parents or Adult members who are interesting in joining a programming committee to reach out to me via phone or email.

I want to thank all of our fabulous “BARNSTARS” for their hard work. It is great to be able to rely on some many disciplined young equestrians as they contribute to chores around the barn. Congratulations to Gracie Walker and Lauren Whillet who were the winners of the January BARNSTAR draw.

HJBL LECTURE SERIES

Lectures will take place on Wednesdays from January to March from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm in the Mitchell Room. All riders are encouraged to attend.

FEBRUARY AND MARCH LECTURES

Feb. 10 – EC Rider levels 1, 2 & 3 (Lancer rides 6 – 10)
Tack & equipment

Feb. 17 – EC Rider levels 4, 5 & 6 (Lancer rides 2 - 5)
Tack & equipment

Feb. 24 – EC Rider levels 5, 6 & IOB (Lancer rides 1 - 5)
Lunging (will be done in the arena)

March 2 – EC Rider Levels 1, 2, 3 (Lancer rides 6 – 10)
Feed & bedding

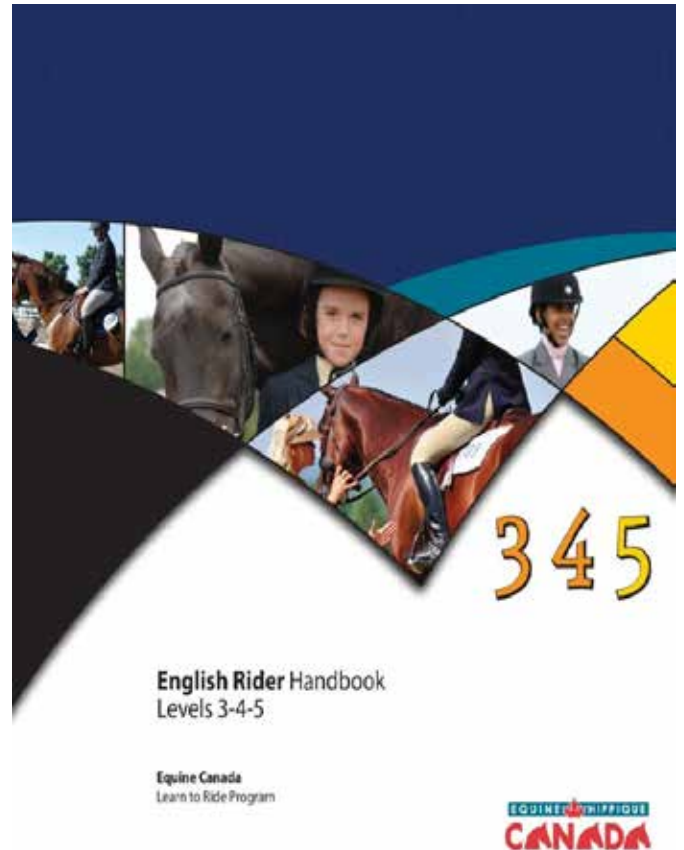
March 9th - EC Rider levels 4, 5, 6 (Lancer Rides 2-5)
Advanced feeding & stable construction

“DEAD OF WINTER TRAINING SHOW”

Each division will consist of two over fences classes and one flat class except for the flat divisions which will consist of three walk/trot/canter equitation classes. There will be ten minute warm up sessions prior to the start of each division.

\$30/Division \$12/medal class/jumper class \$5
refundable ring #

1. Cross-rails hunter division
2. 18” hunter division
3. 2’ hunter division
4. 2’medal class
5. Junior Equitation Flat Division
6. Adult Equitation Flat Division
7. 2’6’ hunter division
8. 2’6’ medal class
9. 2’9’ hunter division
10. 2’9’ jumper class



MARCH BREAK CAMP

Lancers will offer a March Break Camp from March 14 -18 for 8-12 year olds. Camp times are 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. The cost is \$300 including HST. An early drop off or late pick option will be available at a charge of \$5.00 per day. To register for the camp please visit our website www.bengallancers.com, download and fill out the March break camp application and provide a \$50.00 cheque to secure a spot in the session. Space is limited to 12 riders and registrants will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Campers will learn to groom and tack up, as well as the fundamentals of walking and trotting. While not riding, riders have in-barn lessons where they learn the parts of the horse and important barn rules. Please tell your friends who have children who are interested in learning to ride!



Chevy enjoying the attention of younger riders.

SAFETY TIP - Horses love a treat such as a cut up apple or carrot but do not feed by hand.

SALMON RIVER CAMP

Save the date - August 15th - August 19th and August 22nd - August 26th

Junior Riders age 10 -18 eligible

Cost: \$650 per week

Register by: May 20th, deposit of \$150.00 required with balance due before August 1st

During the middle of August all Lancers horses will be transported to Salmon River, NS (just past Truro) for a mini-break. Horses will enjoy a taste of country life while Lancers volunteers and instructors will host two separate week long overnight camps for 30 junior members.

Juniors will ride twice a day in the outdoor ring and also on trail rides, as well as enjoy games, crafts and the camp experience. Meanwhile back at Lancers, the barn will undergo clean up and renovations/repairs that are required before the horses return home.

Children between 8 and 10 are able to participate if a parent is available to chaperone at the camp.

Save the date and stay tuned for more information!

JE COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

The Junior Executive cookie dough fund raiser is well underway! Forms should be returned by Wednesday, Feb 10th. Each rider should sell three tubs of cookie dough. Each tub costs \$14 (3lb each). There are prizes for the people who sell the most dough! If you have questions email Brenna (noblebr@shsh.ca) or Gracie (graciejwalker@gmail.com).

Remember, the money is going back to our caring school horses and ponies!!!



BOWLING FUN

The JE Bowling Fun Night held at Bowlarama on January 30 was a big hit with young and younger juniors!

A BLAST FROM LANCERS PAST

This photo is from 1943 and depicts Lancers appearing in a Halifax parade.

Share old photos or your favorite Lancer memory!



HORSE TALES

All Lancer riders have a “favorite” - horse that is. Pumba is a 16 hh Clyde/Thoroughbred Cross who has been with Lancers since the mid 90's.

Pumba has a special place in the hearts of Lancer riders as he wouldn't hurt a fly, despite being a little grumpy at times. He is our most trusted horse for keeping riders safe, and giving them confidence. In particular, he has a special bond with HALTR participants.

Let it be known though that Pumba can be a bit of a scamp. He once decided to pursue greener pastures right out the back door and up Bell Road. Yes those chains across the doors are important... [Tell us your favorite PUMBA or horse story.](#)



PUMBA

PROFILE - BARB MABE

*Barb is pictured
here with her horse
“Al.”*



LANCERS: When did you start riding?

BARB: I rode on and off since I was 4 years old. Mostly trail riding.

LANCERS: What brought you to Lancers (and when)?

BARB: I started lessons at HJBL 19 years ago this May. I came to Lancers because a friend dragged me to the Downtown horse show to cheer me up after my dog died.

LANCERS: Who is your favorite Lancer horse?

BARB: Pumba

DID YOU KNOW?

Barb is a self-taught artist that does mostly animal portraits in graphite. She has also lent her artistic talents to fix tack and create beautiful works for art for the Christmas party silent auction.

Not only is she a talented artist and horse lover, Barb works as a Lancer Barn Monitor, schooling junior and adult riders as they prepare for their lessons. Barb performs this role with her signature wit and wisdom!

Barn STARS

What are barn stars?

Barn stars are Lancer members who help out with weekend night hay, the delivery of shavings/ hay and other jobs as required. To recognize our barn stars, each time a Lancer member signs up (and shows up) they will receive a star(s) for their efforts. For every three stars earned your name will be entered into a draw to occur at the end of each month for a semi-private lesson with Barn Manager and Head Instructor Angie Holt. Other prizes will be awarded throughout the year. The first draw will occur at the end of December.

Who can be a barn star?

- Rides 1-4 and adult riders can sign up for weekend night hay
- Rides 5-10 can sign up for night hay if accompanied/mentored by someone from Rides 1-4 or an adult rider
- Anybody who helps with shavings/hay delivery will receive a star
- Barn stars may be rewarded for general awesomeness like mentoring younger riders

How many stars are earned for doing work?

3 stars = 1 ballot

- Shavings delivery = 2 stars
- Hay delivery = 1 star
- Night Hay = 1 star

What is involved in weekend night hay?

- Night hay occurs between 8:30 and 9:30 pm
- 8 bales of hay have to be dropped from the hay loft
- Each horse gets 3 flakes of hay; each pony gets 2 flakes of hay
- For horses who receive wet hay – there is a sign by the chute who needs this
- Fill water buckets as well and give to each horse
- This takes 30-60 minutes and gives the members some nice quality time with the horses at night
- The night lock up procedure must be followed

How to get in the “Barn Star” program?

For those who are not Barn STARS all you have to do is sign up to do weekend nighthay. The sign up sheet is in the Lancer lobby.

Every three stars will get you an entry in a monthly draw for a semi-private lesson with the first draw occurring at the end of each month.

Special thanks to all BarnSTARS who are demonstrating their awesomeness around the barn!

Contact Us

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NS
B3H 2Z3
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hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca
www.bengallancers.com

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and Twitter

NEWSLETTER

We would love to hear from you if you have news or a special story to share. Please provide updates, important dates and other information that you want to share by email at hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca. In the subject line - say Newsletter Content.

Special thanks to Rickey Osmond of Rickey G Photography for generously sharing photos taken of Lancers.

LANCER ALUMNI

Send us your email addresses and share your favorite Lancers memory and photos if you have them! We would like to add you to our distribution list.

CALENDARS

HJBL calendars created by Arisha Grabtchak are now on sale for \$10.00 in the Lancer office.

CANS AND BOTTLE DRIVE

Please consider saving your refundable bottles and cans and donating them to Lancers now and throughout the year. There are two easy ways to do this:

- 1) Bring your empties to Lancers and place them on the stairwell to the hayloft OR
- 2) Drop off empties at TANNERS ENVIRO DEPOT, 6393 Bayne Street, Halifax, N.S. (At Lady Hammond Road take first right beside Rubber Duck Car Wash then first right onto Bayne Street).

Note - you don't have to count your refundables just make sure to speak with the person in the office to let them know that your donation should be added to the HJBL account.

Special thanks to Lynn Knapp for organizing this fund raiser on our behalf!