

HALIFAX JUNIOR BENGAL LANCERS NEWSLETTER

March 10, 2016

IMPORTANT DATES

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

March Break Camp -
March 14-18

Farrier Clinic
March 20

March 24 @ 6:00 pm
Shavings Delivery

Rider Level Written Tests -
March 26

No classes- March 25

Classes as scheduled on
Easter Monday - March 28



BOARD CHAIRMAN MESSAGE - ROB JOHNSON

As the newly elected Chairman of the Board, let me first thank outgoing chair Darin McLean for his dedication to Lancers. During his tenure he worked tirelessly to strengthen our organizational structure; transparency and the riding experience at Lancers. I am pleased that he will continue to lend his expertise to the Board in the role of past chair.

Other officers recently elected to the Board include, Vice President - Tamzen Black, Treasurer - Jill Hennigar, Secretary - Richard Withington. Directors include Helga Cunningham, John Young, Jamie Ferguson, Lynn Knapp, Carmel O'Keefe, Suzanne Ramsey, Tom Beveridge, and Angie Holt. These officers will serve a term from January, 2016 – January, 2017. I am looking forward to working with the members and board of Lancers in the coming year.

“Working together we can continue to build on
Lancers’ legacy as an excellent riding school.”

My involvement with the Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers goes back many years. My mother was a rider and Board member at Lancers. My two daughters, Julia and Dominique, are both avid riders who started at Lancers as young children. Today Dominique is in Ride 2 while Julia, who attends university in PEI, has instructed at Lancers. I have logged many hours in the barn and have experienced first-hand the benefits of the equestrian sport.

In our last newsletter, it was noted that a Board planning session was to be held in early February. This session occurred and was quite productive with many issues and opportunities identified under topics like program development, building and grounds, fundraising, marketing, board governance and more. We are waiting for the final report from this session and will then engage the membership to assist in prioritizing our needs for the next 15 months.

Working together we can continue to build on Lancers’ legacy as an excellent riding school. Feel free to reach out to me via email at Robert.johnson4@forces.gc.ca.

BARN MANAGER AND HEAD INSTRUCTOR



DEAD OF WINTER SHOW

What a surprise and pleasure it was to hold the “Dead of Winter” Training Show on a fabulous day in late February. Being able to ride outside as part of the show garnered us two media mentions and if you haven’t checked it out already, I encourage you to look at the following [CBC news spot](#).

The show was a great success with 38 young riders participating. Thank you for the positive feedback about how well the show was run! For this I have to thank the many riders and parents who volunteered their time the day before and late into the day of the show to help set up and take down jumps and prepare the footing in the ring. For more information on our helpers please see the separate column in the newsletter.

UPCOMING SHOW SCHEDULE

I am currently reviewing horse show opportunities and will get back to our members in April with a list of show dates for

the spring and summer. Sign up sheets will appear in the Lancer lobby. I did want to put an early plug in for a clinic with Paul Halpern, a former Lancer which will occur later in the spring/summer. Stay tuned for more information.

MUSICAL RIDE RECRUITS

With the promise of an early Spring, I am hopeful there will be more opportunities for Musical Ride members to practice, which will ideally enable us to participate in more upcoming events. Our musical ride will be in transition this year with nine of our riders graduating this year. A sign-up sheet for becoming a member of the Musical Ride will be posted later in the Spring.

Meanwhile for those who would like to consider this opportunity you need to know the following. Riders in rides 1 to 5 who will still be Junior members with Lancers in the Fall may sign up for the Musical Ride. Riders in ride 4 and 5 will be assigned as spare riders, in the event someone needs to miss a practice/performance, unless we don’t otherwise have sufficient numbers to make up the ride. Practices will take place on weekend evenings until school is out, after which they will take place on Wednesday afternoons throughout the summer. Please only sign up if you can commit to these ride times. There are no fees associated with participating in the musical ride.

HORSE NEWS

In horse news we said goodbye to “Buddy” who has gone on trial to a western style barn where he is thriving. We have received emails from Juno’s new owner that he is very happy with his move as well. As most of you know we traded Buddy for “Rockette.” The trial period for her will end in a couple of weeks. It looks like she will make a great school horse. Giquau is also working out well in our rides. Our beloved Jesse, however, after a hiatus away to improve his respiratory health has relapsed since his return home as Jesse’s condition requires an outdoor environment. We are now looking for the perfect home for Jesse where he will be well cared for. Any Lancer member who know of a suitable new owner can feel free to reach out to me.

RIDER LEVELS LECTURE SERIES

Our lecture series to prepare for 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 the rider level lectures are designed to help prepare riders for testing which is conducted by the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation.

Testing is a two phase process that begins with a written test that is scheduled for March 26 at the Halifax Central Library. Those who pass their written tests will proceed to their riding and stable management test which is scheduled for April 3 at Lancers. The date to test a handful of candidates for their instructor certification (I.O.B) will be determined soon.

Remember all riders doing their testing will need to have a current NSEF membership, available at www.horsenovascotia.ca. Rider level handbooks can also be purchased through they website.

“Let's keep our fingers crossed for an early Spring!” - Angie Holt

FARRIER CLINIC

We love our horses at Lancers and taking good care of them is a priority for us. That is why we are so delighted to team up with Rob Wentzell of South Shore Veterinary Hospital and our long time farrier Jack Zeggelaar who will hold a clinic for Farriers across the Maritime Provinces on March 20. This is the first time a clinic of this nature has been held in Atlantic Canada and we applaud Jack for be instrumental in making it happen! Read more about the clinic further in the newsletter. *Note that this clinic is open to Lancer instructors and I.O.B candidates only.*

BARNSTARS

I want to encourage all “BARNSTARS” to keep up the good work! I am so pleased that we Lancers has such disciplined young equestrians that are contributing to chores around the barn. We had the most ballots yet this month! Congratulations to Nadia Bonardelli and Kathleen Hemming who were the winners of the February BARNSTAR draw.

OFFICE TALK

Finally I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Janet Hawley who has been a tremendous support during this year of transition. Janet will continue to work for Lancers in developing and implementing our communications goals, but will be passing on many of the day to day administrative tasks to our new administrative assistant, Emily Bjornson, who is also one of our talented instructors. We will miss Janet's physical presence in the office, but are excited to have Emily on board in her new role!

Angie Holt

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.

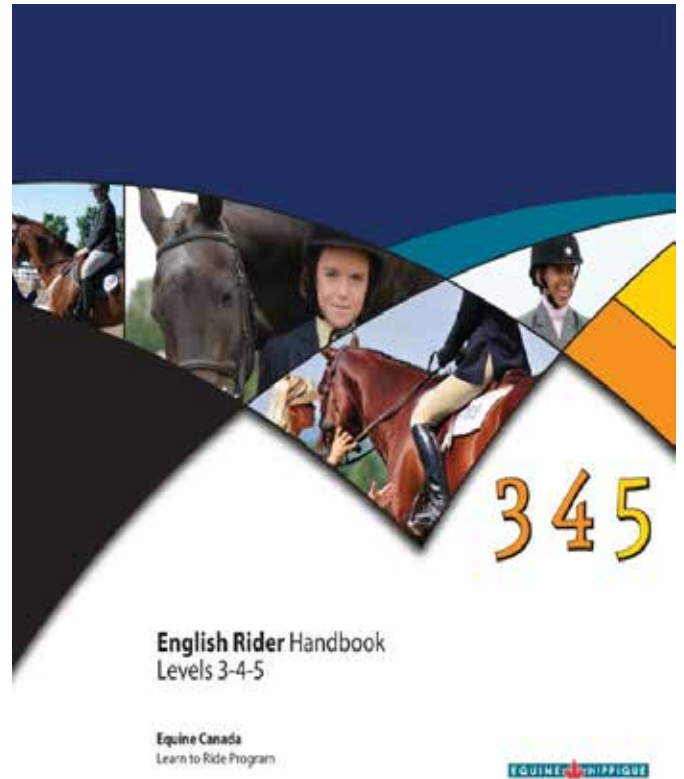
MARCH LECTURES

March 9th - Advance Feeding and Stable Construction
EC Rider levels 4, 5, 6 (Lancer Rides 2-5)

March 16th - Bandaging
EC Rider levels 4, 5, 6 (anyone interested should attend)

March 23rd - Lunging Practice
Rider levels 5 and up plus I.O.B candidates should attend

March 28th @ 3:30 pm - Additional lunging practice



TRAINING SHOW SHOUT OUTS!

The following people helped make the “Dead of Winter Training Show” a big success:

Helga Cunningham - show secretary

Tamzen Black - announcer

Pat Steele - judge

Suzanne Ramsey - gate keeper

Alex Brisseau and Emily Bjornson - coaches

Jacqueline Hartigan & Charlotte Grace - ring crew

Brenna Noble

Lucie MacDonald

Elsa Holt

Marguerite Dunkley

Sophia Andriaopolis

Caroline Fernandez

Ava Sumner

Kenzie Burke

Thank You!

Special thanks as well to the Junior Executive for providing the show canteen!

SALMON RIVER SUMMER CAMP



Session 1 - August 15th - August 19th
Session 2 - August 22nd - August 26th

Cost: \$650 per week

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

There has been a great deal of interest in the Salmon River Summer Camps which will provide Lancer horses with a taste of country life and Lancer riders the opportunity to enjoy a unique camp experience.

During the middle of August all Lancers horses will be transported to Salmon River, NS (just past Truro). Campers will arrive each Monday for the session they have registered in by 10 am. Pick-up time is Friday at 4 pm. Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from the camp. While at the camp, campers will sleep in a large tent (kids need to bring air mattresses, sleeping bags and their own pillow.) Nutritious meals will be cooked on-site for the campers. Kids will ride twice a day in the ring and also on trails. When not riding there will be games and activities as well as horse related chores. All in all - good healthy fun.

Meanwhile back at Lancers, the barn will undergo clean up and renovations/repairs that are required before the horses return home.

Enrollment is limited so please email the office to let us know if you are interested in participating. A deposit of \$150.00 received by May 20th will hold a space. Note that camp is open to Junior Riders age 10 - 18. Eligible riders aged 8-10 are able to attend if a parent is available to chaperone at the camp.

Make some memories with Lancers this Summer!

MEET LANCERS FARRIERS

far·ri·er

noun: farrier; plural noun: farriers

a craftsman who trims and shoes horses' hooves.



Jack shoeing Rainy

to do in addition to being a farrier.

Morgan enjoys art and music in his downtime. He plays the saw, didgeridoo, jaw harp, tin whistle, bodhran and guitar! While Jack enjoys reining and has his own western horses on his farm in the Valley, where he lives with his wife and two children.

Jack has initiated a clinic to be held at Lancers on March 20 for members of the Atlantic Farrier Association. The clinic will host farriers from across the Maritime Provinces and will feature Dr. Rob Wentzell of South Shore Vet Services, who will take xrays of horses hooves to show whether the joints align properly as they should if the shoe is optimal. Jack thinks that it is important to create a community and share knowledge with his fellow farriers. This clinic is a first for the association and Lancers is proud to host the session. Lancers is also proud to have worked with Jack for over 30 years!

Jack Zeggelaar always knew he wanted to be a farrier. He first saw a horse being shod on his family farm in Weston NS, where he moved with his family from Rocky Mountain House, Alberta when he was nine. Shoeing a horse looked cool although his high school guidance counsellor laughed when he told him that was what he wanted to do for a career. In his characteristic straightforward style, Jack went out and did it anyway.

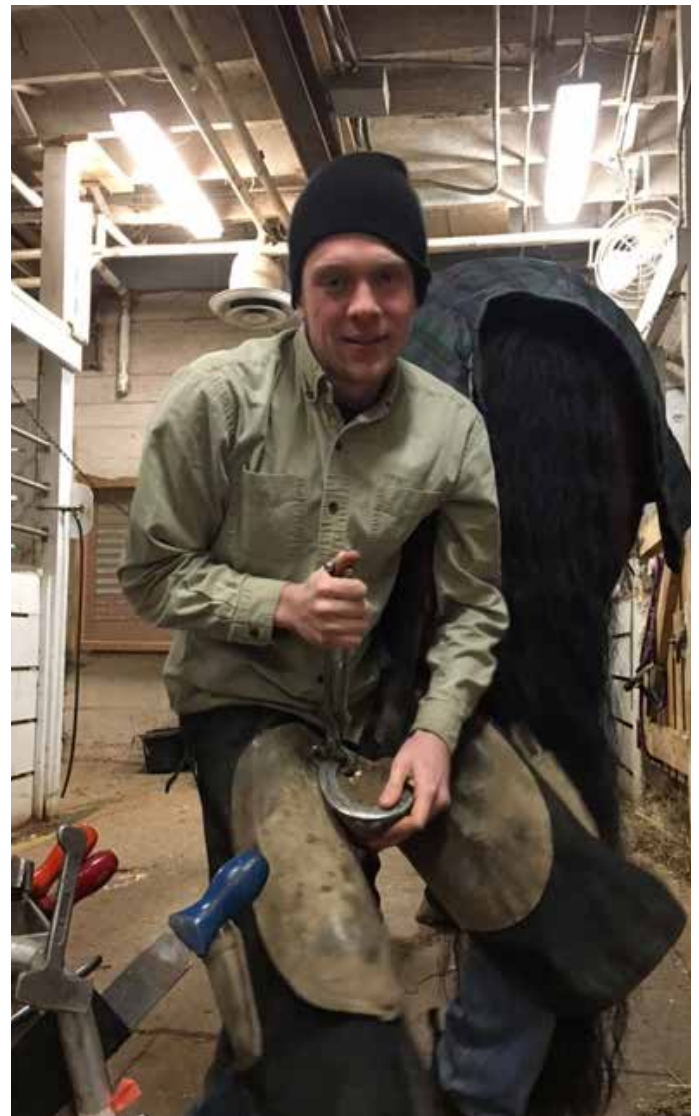
Fresh from school at age 18, Jack worked with Vince Whelan, a farrier in the Valley. He started shoeing full time when he was 24. He said it was 10 years before he felt proficient in the trade and he says he is still learning. “There are many facets to shoeing a horse. You cannot change how the horse is made but we can shoe the horse to suit the horses conformation so that the joints align properly.” Jack says that proper shoeing is important to a horses comfort and longevity. While he makes a few, most of his shoes come from Europe.

Over the years, Jack has nurtured other people learning the farrier profession. Today, working along side of Jack is Morgan Davison.

Morgan who hails from Ferguson’s Cove NS, studied at Olds College in Olds, Alberta in 2014. He finished his education at Olds in 2015 and is now sub-contracting with Jack. Morgan is also a blacksmith. “I almost went to school to either be an artist or to make architectural tools.” Morgan calls blacksmithing an “addiction” – something that he continues



Morgan Davison and Jack Zeggelaar



Morgan shoeing Jacob



Pastern Conformation Diagram

COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

The Junior Executive would like to thank all participants in our cookie dough campaign. We really appreciate your support for our biggest fundraiser of the year!

Congratulations to our winners for selling the most cookie dough!

1st place and winner of a private lesson - Nadia Bonardelli

2nd Place and winner of a semi private lesson - Gracie Walker

3rd place and winner of a semi private lesson - Emma McLean

Honourable Mentions!

Lucie MacDonald

Meghan MacMullin

Charlotte Harper

We would also like to thank those who made donations without buying cookie dough, we sincerely appreciate your contributions.

The Junior Executive made made over \$1800! Enjoy your cookies!



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. Draws will occur at the end of each month.

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 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.

Contact Us

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www.bengallancers.com

Like us on Facebook
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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!