

8/30/07

Great news...we're growing and going some more...

This year's After School program will take on a new and improved structure for our membership youth. We are **offering a virtual 'smorgasbord to select from** as we strive to meet everyone's needs and wants. Working with so many age groups and so many youth that are now at different skill levels, we are challenged to really **diversify the activities to allow all to accomplish their selected goals** and to meet the time constraints of all. Being 'back in school' brings everyone back to structured schedules and while we will miss those wonderful unstructured days of summer, (we won't miss the heat), we are looking forward to getting everyone on the books as needed. As the following plan will detail, we will continue to offer all previous services, however, distinctly separating the 'after school' from lessons and clinics.

We feel very fortunate to have 'acquired' Ms Cindy McMasters, who has been with us through the summer and has become a valuable member closely attached to our youth. Cindy is now employed to attend to bringing horses in and out and the feeding and watering chores...she also will implement the 3-6 pm 'after-school' program, orchestrating daily activities that will include practice time, drills, arena games, trail rides, video and text, patterns of the week, grooming, and tack organization and cleaning. She will be offering a 'menu' of posted activities by the day so that all are aware of what the youth will be accomplishing on a daily basis. The 'after school' program was designed to allow time to practice what the youth are learning in their weekly lessons, and to have time to groom and care for their horses under supervision...eligibility and the fee schedule is in accordance to participation by boarders and those on the horse lease...which we have tried to keep within the doable, affordable format of allowing those that take one lesson a week to be able to participate in the 'after school' program at a nominal five dollars per day.

While Cindy is managing the after school activities, I will be conducting the weekly lessons by appointment, and, in addition to bringing Sean Zimmerman in regularly, we will be offering Saturday sessions by appointment, and our Saturday clinics will commence as scheduled. It will be important to book your lessons in advance, as we will be structuring private lessons, group sessions and group clinics. I am working out an apprentice program to assist with our English sessions and will need to know who is interested in the Dressage and Hunt Seat lessons. Please let me know what day and time slot you would like so we can make sure to get everyone scheduled.

We are looking forward to the new school year, "always amazed at how far we have come", it's a great challenge to see how much better we can get this year...

Words of caution...the extraordinary heat had some of the youth abandon their helmets...parents need to remind their youth to wear their helmets when riding...with the heat subsiding some, there is no excuse not to wear their helmets...

On a personal note, I thank each and every one of you for all your thoughts, assistance and prayers...I am somewhat successfully juggling some time back in the arena and look forward to my lesson/session times with all...the most help everyone can do for me is to select your lesson times in advance and let's get them on the books...that way I can plan my arena time ahead and we can continue our lessons plans without any interruption...I love a new school year...:>)

Come learn with us...:>)

Missy Theobald and SC staff

Silver Creek Equestrian Club
Director of Education
mingram@canufly.net
601-415-4456