

## Giuseppe's Gazette June 2019

Greetings from Giuseppe! The weather has been a bit cooler than normal for this time of year, but what great riding weather! Come out and enjoy the weather and us equines!

We have a very exciting event this month! On **June 29<sup>th</sup>** Daisy and Chester will be tying the knot! Come out and join the celebration! They are so cute. The other day they let Daisy and Domino out before Chester and me and Chester walked from the center aisle to the front aisle and to Daisy's stall. She had already left the barn so Chester went out to find her and he did. Chester was always a bit of a loner, but now he and Daisy spend each day together.

We have some new members in our Saturday Program. We welcome **Cheryl Abraham**, Hackettstown. Cheryl is friends with **Rachana Bhattacharya**. Rachana's dad, Animesh is happy with having another member coming from Hackettstown. He doesn't have to do all the driving!

The funny thing is that our other new member is also from Hackettstown, **Aleksandra Greenwich**.

The Greenwich family needs to meet the Abraham and Bhattacharya families. They can all come together! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)

We're happy having **Tara McAdams** back in the saddle. She took a bit of a hiatus to be part of her school's production of "Beauty and the Beast".

### June Birthdays

Greetings go out to Luke (7), Maggie Baran (15), Starbeam (17), Emily Lucania (18), Danielle Shuhnicki (22).

### Anniversaries

We want to celebrate the following anniversaries of members joining the Oxbow/Phoenix family.

**APRIL** – Darby Callahan (1999), Ann Kearney (1999), Rachel Zenhausern (1999)

**MAY** – Lisa Merrill (2009), Randy Sehn (2017)

**JUNE** – Michele O'Keefe (2019), Riley Simon (2018), Melissa Sinopoli (2016)

### Early Summer Calendar

6/16	Michael Page Master Jumping Class	7/1	1 <sup>st</sup> Session of the Summer Program
6/23	Oxbow Show	7/6	1 <sup>st</sup> Session of the Summer Sat. Program
6//29	Daisy & Chester's Wedding	7/7	Michael Page Master Jumping Class
6/30	Cross Country Clinic	7/14	Oxbow Show

### Phoenix/Oxbow Clothing

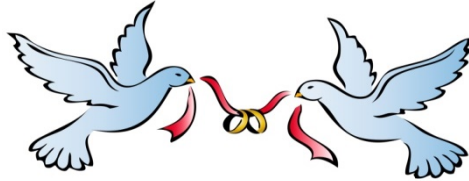
We are placing orders for our Phoenix/Oxbow summer clothing of t-shirts and polo shirts. Check it out. We'll also be placing orders for rain jackets.

### Summer Program

We are getting reservations for our Summer program, so please let us know what your plans are for riding over the summer. We will be offering our Summer Program during the week, as well as continuing our Saturday Program on Saturdays. We offer leases and an advanced summer program for our D-2 and up riders. Check out the 2019 schedule.

### Daisy & Chester's Wedding

Everyone is welcome to come out and celebrate the wedding of Daisy and Domino. Light refreshments will be served and bring the treats for all their equine friends! (Heehaw! Heehaw! Heehaw!)



### Oxbow Show

The weather was sunny and warm for our show on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Marsha Montgomery was our dressage judge. A big thank you to **Lisa Merrill**, our dressage scribe and **Marilia Tanis**, our dressage steward. We also thank **Jo Iacono**, our show jumping judge and **Nancy Nelson** and **Barbara Nabors** our jump crew. The results:

#### Intro & Elementary Combined Tests

**1<sup>st</sup> tie Capri Tanis & Luke [Elem] (34.700)**

1<sup>st</sup> tie Sophia Kucinski & Ethel [Intro] (34.700)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Capri Tanis & Luke (Intro) (38.500)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Calkin & Sugar [Elem] (39.100)**

4<sup>th</sup> Eliminated

#### Pre-Starter thru Novice Combined Tests

**1<sup>st</sup> Nancy Just & Kye [S] (34.800)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Melissa Sinopoli & Lacey [PS] (36.500)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Calkin & Sugar [PS] (43.800)**

4<sup>th</sup> Eliminated

#### Dressage Tests (Intro & Elementary)

1<sup>st</sup> Carlee Curcio & Loki [I-B] (33.500)

**2<sup>nd</sup> tie Capri Tanis & Luke [I-B] (34.700)**

2<sup>nd</sup> tie Sophia Kucinski & Ethel [I-A] (34.700)

3<sup>rd</sup> Heather Bath & Benjamin [I-B] (35.400)

4<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Nebel & Honey [I-A] (38.200)

**5<sup>th</sup> Capri Tanis & Luke [I-A] (38.500)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Megan Calkin & Sugar [I-B] (39.100)**

#### Dressage Tests (Pre-Starter thru Novice)

1<sup>st</sup> Carlee Curcio & Loki [I-C] (34.300)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Just & Kye [BN-A] (34.800)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara Nabors & For Mentor [N-A] (36.000)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Melissa Sinopoli & Lacey [I-C] (36.500)**

**5<sup>th</sup> Barbara Nabors & For Mentor [BN-B] (37.800)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Megan Calkin & Sugar [I-C] (39.800)**

#### Presentation

**1<sup>st</sup> Capri Tanis & Luke (108)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Megan Calkin & Sugar (107)**

### 4-H story

Members are asked to write a story about what they have experienced in the past year as part of the project book requirement. **Kimmi Coscia** won the "Best 4-H Story" award for 2017-2018. Here's her story.

When I started at Oxbow I was a little skittish and nervous that I wouldn't fit in or I just wasn't going to do anything right. School was pretty rough and I really had no friends that were nice to me. When it was my first day I was scared and very shy. I didn't want to mess up because I thought I would be laughed at. I was happy to see that everyone at the barn was nice and would help no matter what, and they wouldn't laugh at me if I messed up. When I got on top of Nicky's back for the first time, I felt very scared. I knew if I stayed at the barn, my life would be very different. I wasn't sure if I wanted to stay or not.

I decided to stay and when I came back for the second day I was on a different horse. I rode a couple of different horses and some of them weren't really my type, until I found Princess. When I first saw her I was excited but didn't know if she was perfect for me. After a few rides I knew that she was my dream pony. After that, I gained more confidence from her. She has taught me a lot and much more than I thought she would.

She taught me to stand out and not be afraid to talk. When I started to talk to Megan more we became better friends. When Capri came we became the best of friends. I didn't think I would ever come out of my shell. This is all because of my Dream Pony/Princess.

Princess taught me that no matter what I should be myself, if I am crazy, happy, or just having a bad day. Now the barn feels like my safe place. A place where I can be myself, my crazy old self. She has taken me through the roughest times, and has given me so many emotions I can't even explain. Without Princess I probably wouldn't be as far as I am today. Thank you, my Dream Pony.

#### 4-H story

Here is *Megan Calkin's* story.

As equestrians one of the best things horses teach us is patience. When working around and riding horses, we must have patience. I chose to write my 4-H Story about my experience at my first event at Applewood Farm with Sugar. This doesn't just include what happened at the event, but what I learned leading up to the event.

To begin, three days before the event I had one last cross country ride. I went out with Tara, my instructor, and another rider who joined us. It started out nicely, but went a bit downhill when I cantered Sugar up the hill. I started to get nervous and hang on her mouth, when then makes her nervous. I got frustrated and upset with myself quickly. As the ride ended, I had lost some confidence. Little did I know, Sugar doesn't care about my crying and my frustration. She only cares about me riding her fairly which she will always tell me when I do. I straightened my mindset and put that ride behind me, then took my emotions and placed them on the ground until further notice.

The next two days passed quickly and I busied myself with cleaning a not-so-white pony and the tack I was going to use. We left around 9:30 the morning of the event and arrived around 11:00, just enough time to walk the course and warm up for dressage.

I, who had never walked a cross country course before, thought just walking the fences I was going to jump was super awesome. My nerves settled as I observed each fence and didn't come across anything I hadn't jumped before.

We hurried back to the trailer and unloaded Sugar along with Barbara's horse, Evie. Barbara had been kind enough to trailer Sugar for me to the show.

I had a lot of support and help, including Tara, my mom and stepdad, Melissa, Barbara and my friend Emma. We took a brush to Sugar before we started to tack her up. I finished by dressage test, which I scored a 39.0%. I was very excited and happy about this score since it was our first time doing the Beginner-Novice Test A test. I had a boost of confidence while warming up and doing my dressage test since Sugar was very relaxed and seemed content.

We took a minute to relax and regroup while we changed Sugar's saddle. We started warming up for show jumping/cross country (the course included both). We took a cross rail, a barrel fence, a fence with mannequin cows on each side and another vertical. This was very important, because during the warm-up Sugar didn't rush any of the fences and took everything very easily.

We walked out to the field, where there were 5 stadium type jumps that flowed into the cross country course that consisted of 6 jumps and water. We started and took the first five stadium fences. I took a sigh of relief as we continued on. Jump 1, 2 and 3 were all logs. We continued jumping and Sugar trotted every fence. After a tire and log fence there was 1 last log before we went into the water. Sugar stopped at the water, a little unsure, but after a few moments she walked in and I let her canter a bit up the hill to the last jump. The last jump was a tiger trap and Sugar did pass it the first time, but we turned around and took it as we ended our course. Although at first I was a little mad at myself for having that refusal at the last jump, it quickly faded as the happiness of how well we did took over.

We took Sugar back to the trailer and I gave her a huge hug. Emma and I cooled her off while Barbara finished her round. Sugar seemed very happy herself after we finished. I got my dressage test back along with a red ribbon. I had gotten 2<sup>nd</sup> place! As exciting as this was, I was more proud of how different of a pony Sugar is and how different of a rider I am after this summer. Overall, I learned two big things. Horses don't care all that much about crying and thinking we're not good enough; they need us to use our brains when we are riding and caring for them, so we can treat them as well as they treat us. And the other is that you must have patience. Having patience is necessary with horses. Nothing about riding is easy, and if it was, I don't think it would be as much fun.

Oxbow Raiders 4-H Club

Please enroll in 4-H if you have not already done so. You must do it online. Go to *NJ.4HOnline site: <http://nj,4honline.com>*. If you have questions, please give Tara a call. Her cell is 973-903-3722.

We are busy working on public presentations and our project books. We are also preparing for Daisy and Domino's wedding!

*Megan Calkin*  
Reporter

4-H Schedule

6/29	Daisy & Domino's Wedding
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Quote of the Month

"Talk to yourself like you would to someone you love."

- Brené Brown

**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
Day!**