



ORS newsletter

Winter/Spring 2012

Vershire Riding School * Vershire, Vermont

Happy Late Winter!

It seems as if the cold days of winter are now giving way to warmer days of spring. Soon our white fields will be green again and horses will graze freely waiting for our campers to return.



Whinny's from the field

We have had a pretty mild winter as far as winter goes in Vermont! A bit more ice than we would have wanted but the temperature stayed mild. Coming out of the winter the horses are wonderfully fat & furry. Everyone is still snuggled into their down winter blankets and some getting itchy with the warmer weather.



We welcomed a new gelding to our herd this winter! We were donated Aries, a 17 hand Warm blood,

originally from Germany. His former owner had Evented him Training level. He has already fit right in, and has a best friend in Shadow. Shadow, our 4 year old, brings out the baby in Aries. After a snow fall I found them both covered in snow from head to tail after rolling and making snow-angels!



Dream was allowed to stay in for the winter after having an accident with a tree branch this fall. We think she was backing up to scratch on a tree when something startled her and she punctured & pulled her skin as she stood up. It was a very intense wound but she has healed remarkably well. Dream was a super patient, and she never seemed bothered by her injury at all! This spring we will start her up with a lot of hill walking. Needless to say she loves living behind the barn! She has been with her best friend Sully all winter.



When all the snow melts we will have our horse release from the winter paddocks. What a sight! This year Peter will be filming it and we will post a clip on YouTube. I will let everyone know with a link on our face book page when the link will be posted. We usually move them to their grassy fields at the end of April or beginning of May. Depending on when the snow melts.

Every Christmas Eve we thank our horses & ponies with our annual Christmas Eve Super Delicious Bran Mash! After our helpers tasted & approved the batch we served it up to our horses and ponies. They loved it!



In this years Bran Mash
 100 pounds of Bran
 50 pounds of Pacer Grain- Oats, Corn,
 Pressed Grain & Molasses
 20 lbs. Carrots- chopped into pieces
 25 lbs. of Apples- chopped into pieces
 Gallon of Molasses!
 Plenty of Water
 & lots of Love!



DVD

This winter Peter's computer crashed. After rebuilding it Peter will be able to finish the DVD from the 2011 summer. If you would like to order a DVD please mail in our order form. If you do not have one contact me and I will email or mail you one. An order form provides us with your name, address, phone number, which session you attended and a \$40.00 check for each video you would like. **The video is a great way to see your own riding!** We love watching all the horses in their top shape in the green fields of summer!



Spring Riding Lessons

This spring we will be offering riding lessons throughout the week. Our instructors Judy Ofchus, Megan Shannon and Ellen Ricker will be offering weekly riding lessons to the local Eventing community.

If you would like to travel to Vershire to ride you may schedule a lesson for this spring! You could come up for the day, or stay at a local B&B and take a few

days of lessons! A great way to get a start on your summer of riding!

We will also be offering a Stadium & Cross-Country Clinic this spring. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and we will be able to have a clinic in May before our camp season. We will also be offering these clinics in the fall. I will post the dates of the clinic on our face book page.



Become a “fan” of our Face book page
Vershire Riding School

Keep updated throughout the year on what is happening at the riding school.

We post our upcoming events & current photos!
You can also test your VRS horse identification skills by playing
“Name that Equine!”

A great way to stay in touch with Vershire Alumni!



Moving old Maples

This winter we cut down 7 trees around the Red Farm House and the Main Dorm. What a difference the light makes! One of the Maples was so large around that I would need another person to be able to stretch our arms around it. After noticing some falling branches we decided it was time to take the old trees down. To our shock one of the trees was completely hollow in the middle! Now our back yard is full of tree trunks. This makes me think of the cross-country jumps I can build with them this summer!



New Cross-Country

This past summer we added fences to the Upper Loop of our cross-country course. This spring we will continue to add to this loop. We will also be adding more variety of jumps to Druid’s field. I would like to reinstate our baby ditches up to a more Novice ditch. I have been thinking of a gymnastic type course for cross-county jumps.

I am always interested in hearing student’s ideas for fences. If you have an idea for a Pre-Elementary (18”) up to a Novice (2’11”) fence let me know! Maybe it will be incorporated into our course!

Over the spring/summer I will be posting photos of our new cross-country fences on our face book page. I will also be posting the fences that will be part of the x-c course for the 2012 summer.



Farm & Garden

This spring we will continue to work on our Organic vegetable garden. Last summer we put in raised beds and reorganized the garden. This spring I am excited to add more Blueberry bushes, Paw Paw trees and other perennial vegetables and fruits! I welcome any help keeping the weeds in check in the summer!

Scholarships, Barter or Trade

The Vershire Riding School continues to offer partial scholarships to people who would like to attend one of our programs, but are unable due to finances. If you are interested in a partial scholarship or barter/ trade contact Sarah at:

vershireridingschool@yahoo.com and she will email you the form.

If you would like to contribute to the **Scholarship Fund**, to make it possible for even more students to attend Vershire, please contact Sarah.

Second Sibling Discount

We offer a 5% discount off of the second sibling's tuition for camp.



Outside Events

In addition to our own Schooling Trials we try to go to local away events if our camp calendar allows.

Over the summer a few campers, who were ready, have Evented at Hitching Post Farm, Denny Emerson's Event at Tamarack Hill and Huntington Farms in Strafford, VT. I am excited to offer campers, who are ready, the learning opportunity of participating in an away event in Vermont.

V.R.S Diaries

We continue to add your photos and stories to our "VRS Diaries" page on our website - www.vershireridingschool.com

See some of the horses/ponies we have had since 1970! If you have a photo or story about one of your favorite Vershire Riding School horses please email me.

We send well wishes to you all, and hope to see you this summer!

Best regards!

Sarah, Peter, Gabriel & the Horses



Vershire Riding School



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