

Hi All,

January 2017

Hopefully you and your horses are enjoying the warmer weather! It surely is a nice break from the bitter cold.

As a reminder, the 8th Annual Saratoga Horseman's Social will be held Friday, February 10th from 6:30-9pm at Longfellows. We have great raffle items coming in! Enjoy an evening out with like-minded folks who enjoy horses as much as you do! The social is THE event for the capital region horse community to get together and talk "horse". Why not make it a night out for everyone at your barn, business or veterinary practice. By February everyone needs a night out after hunkering down all winter. This social networking function was originated by the CCE Equine Leadership committee to encourage horseman of all disciplines to get together and discuss the state of the industry and foster relationships within the equine community. The cost is \$30.00 per person and includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, soda, bottled water, coffee and tea; a cash bar is available. Horse related businesses are encouraged to bring their business information/card to put on a horseman's information table. Please call 885-8995 or visit www.ccesaratoga.org/agriculture/cce-equine to register. All are welcome! Sponsorships and raffle item donations are still needed for this event. Please contact us if you have something you would like to donate.

The sudden cold temperatures after rain and melting snow have left many areas icy. Steps to improve footing (courtesy of Rood and Riddle Equine Hospital) are:

- Preventative measures: Adequate drainage around barns and feeders, as well as having gutters on the barn roof to prevent snow from sliding and accumulating will prevent ice from forming in high traffic areas. Remove wet snow from walkways and barn entrances before it freezes.
- Applying traction: Sand or salt can be used on walkways to provide better footing. They can be used in moderation in the pasture, although salt may kill pasture grass and a salt/sand mixture should not be used in the paddock because horses may eat the salt and ingest the sand with it. In a pinch, rubber mats or old carpets can be placed on top of ice to provide temporary traction.
- Snow removal: Make sure horses have cleared walkways to feeders and water areas. You may also need to reduce snow drifts next to low fences to prevent the horse from stepping over the fence.

-Foot care: Pick out snowballs from horse's feet and discuss with your farrier any special shoes or pads you may want to use for added traction. (In our next post, we will have pointers from our Podiatrist Dr. Morrell for winter hoof care).

-Staying in: If there are no other options, horses can stay inside if the footing is dangerous. However, they will be much happier if provided a safe area where they are able to go out, move around, and get fresh air.

Saratoga Back Country Horseman will soon be celebrating its 2nd anniversary and they invite you to join them for the celebration. Saturday January 21, 2017 6-9pm, 110 Spring Street Saratoga Springs, NY. Good Food, Good Fun and Take a Chance on some Great Raffle Baskets! Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share. Beer and Wine provided. Additionally, they are interested in starting a chapter to the north of us which can address issues in the ADK park. If you are interested, please email debballiet1@gmail.com and please join us for the annual meeting.

Peaceful Acres Horses has a job opportunity either for an employee or a sub-contractor with a business in stable care and horse care (with DBA or LLC). The position is for a self driven, hard working, able bodied person who can maintain and clean, a stable of 30-40 horses, minis and donkeys. The position duties include morning feed, cleaning stalls, watering, stacking hay, grain and shavings (This is very much a labor intensive position) . The person must be available to work consistently 8:00-1:00 Monday - Friday.

Nanci Beyerl, MSW, 518-887-3178, www.peacefulacreshorses.com.

Featherbed Lane Farm is Saratoga's only draft horse powered CSA. We are a full year and community focused farm with a unique CSA Membership program. You can learn more about the farm, meet our draft horses, see great farm photos and arrange for a visit at: www.featherbedlanefarm.com. They are currently accepting new CSA members. Tim Biello Featherbed Lane Farm, LLC 518-207-7224 tim@featherbedlanefarm.com.

Lastly, please save the date for the Saratoga Horse Symposium, which will be held Saturday May 20th. Plans are in the works for some great demonstrations and speakers.

Wishing you, your families, and your horses a happy and safe winter – and we hope to see you at the Saratoga Horseman's Social!

Carter