

December
2021

Copper T Warmblood Stables Saskatoon SK

Highlights:

Mister A



By Matcho AA and out of a Goldstern mare (Gotthard) Thank you to Dr. Steve Manning of the WCVM for providing these fantastic old world and proven bloodlines. More semen available through Dr. Manning 306-966-7178 Brillianta is currently in foal to him.



Always a picture of Sophie



Our new logo for hoodies and saddle pads:



The Latest

What a year! I think everyone is giving their head a shake these days with the ever-evolving world landscape. No one is immune, and if it isn't COVID related, it's our crazy weather and climate.

A lot has happened since our last newsletter; I'm not sure where to start! We have some new faces and horses at the farm. I've been fortunate enough to have Kaitlyn Wurzer (3rd year Vet student – pic below) join our chore team on Wednesdays and Megan picked up a couple days as well. Jasmine, continues with us but will be done school soon and we will miss her terribly! Brittney, Kailey and Talia will be rounding out the schedule pitching in on weekends and when some folks need to travel home for holidays.



Late fall, as we prepared to start riding indoors, we asked all adults attending the facility to be fully vaccinated. Because youth vaccines were just rolling out, we didn't require proof or intention to vaccinate on riders under 12. The "Teamup" booking system has been very helpful to manage our numbers in the shared aspects of the facility, and to keep everyone safe to the best of our ability.

I'm sure everyone heard about the extreme drought conditions

this year, and the subsequent sharp increase in limited hay supplies. Even our regular suppliers couldn't completely fill our order. Fortunately, we were able to find some irrigated hay to make up the shortfall. I won't even talk about the cost of hay this year; the highest I've ever seen.

New horses!

Congratulations to Abreanna Naylor and her family on their purchase of "Aries" a bay 16.2 hand Thoroughbred gelding. They are an excellent match, he is a very kind forward moving horse with some jumping experience, just what Abreanna loves to do! (pic below)



Congratulations to Megan who recently took over two of her grandmother's racing thoroughbreds Gabe and Dubie.



They are both nice bay geldings and Dubie is quiet enough to let some other riders try him out in lessons. (Photo of Dubie, Gabe, Grandma and Megan previous column)

We recently welcomed J.R. and Jack, two western riding horses belonging to Maureen Wilson. I was sad to see her, and her husband Wayne move from our neighborhood, but super glad to see her often at the stables.



Congratulations to Kass Pally on her purchase of Bellatrix, a fancy Warmblood mare who is the perfect match for Kass with her eager personality and beautiful dressage gaits. She found her in Alberta, from a breeder we had visited on a shopping trip a couple of years ago. (Bellatrix waiting for her morning grain below, she always reminds me she is waiting with her friendly nicker)



I recently retired both Patti and Koolaid, who will be hanging out at the stables with their new "Moms" for light duty riding and lots of attention. Stefanie and her daughter Skyla will be taking care of Patti, and Kailey will be Koolaid's new Mom. (Below: Kailey and Koolaid)



I was lucky to source a nice 16.1 hh warmblood gelding (Beach Boy/ Beau Soliel) from Touchstone Farms named Basil, who is the perfect horse for several of my riders. (Brittney and Basil below)



In November I purchased a pretty bay 15.2 filly (paint/TB) from Bjorn Friberg named Tammi who is currently being ridden by Talia, and seems to be transitioning well here at Copper T. (Talia and Tammi below)



Unfortunately, the Clyde cross I purchased the previous summer wasn't going to be a fit for the riding program but I was able to rehome him as a "pack horse" for outback tours in the Rocky Mountains.



We lost a special horse this year. Caleb, belonging to Darien and Maezii Syroto who passed away this fall, due to a congenital heart defect. He was a great guy and is sorely missed. (Photo above is Darien Caleb and Maezii)

Mom still comes out to the farm every day. I keep telling her to relax and stay in the house, which of course she never does. On the upside she is using the golf cart more.

Late spring, we picked up some tick eating guinea fowl, who have been a great source of entertainment. They have been very smart, and good at evading the curious fox that we see more often. I also purchased a bunch of brown and olive egg layers, as well as some Americana, (Easter Egg layer) this summer who were not as able to get away from the predators. I lost about 18 beautiful hens but was left with 12 or so. Pretty sad to see the devastation. On the upside, the remaining hens have a Cadillac of a hen house built by Phil and are now laying eggs every day.



We were hoping to have several Abanico (Andalusian) foals coming this spring it turns out we will have an Andalusian (Brillianta)/Mr. A (Warmblood) foal coming instead. We will try again with Abanico and still hope we can get some of his babies here right at Copper T. I'll keep you posted as baby pictures are fun to take and share.

We continue to run our regular lesson program and have outside Clinicians help us advance our skills. Jenifer Parks comes quite regularly, and if weather permits Hendrik will be here in January.

Jim Ovsenek, my son for those who don't know, and Stephanie Fusnik of Vitality Osteopathy and Exercise Therapy have been providing unmounted exercises to help riders improve their strength and increase flexibility. I have to say I've seen a huge improvement in those riders doing the exercises. Let's face it, not everybody does their exercises, every day, every week, right but I still can see dramatic improvements. We will start a new class for those interested in spring 2022. Contact Val.

I have been continuing education through online classes and recently certified with the Franklin Method for Riders. It's a very interesting journey and a powerful set of tools for the stiff rider and those with involuntary movement. It uses proprioception and stretching exercises to improve form and function of the rider.

And, if we are lucky SaskEnergy will complete the gas meter requirements so we can enjoy some radiant heat this winter. Fingers crossed as always! We also hope to run a schooling show in the spring, with dressage, hacks and hunter classes.

I hope everyone can have a safe and wonderful holiday with family and friends and we can all go back to whatever normal used to be. Until then take care, Val

Just a reminder, the land line has been discontinued but I can be reached on my cell phone 306-230-5823. I am always available via email valsanford@hotmail.com