



Well thank goodness for February giving us some better weather! It has set the stage for a great spring and summer, and I am so excited as I feel it will be a season of great riding, great camaraderie and great fun! The show season officially starts this month with two Brownwood shows and a Rolling Hills....hopefully the weather will hold out for us to get to one of those. We also have an Anne Kenan clinic in April, and our EIF show is just around the corner in May. We will go over all the show info in our annual meeting (see below) but since we've got a lot of work to do to prep for the show (both in and out of the saddle) every moment counts. Make the most of your lessons, keep your tack clean, and your horses tidy. But most of all, let's enjoy riding again!!

EIF Client Meeting

Last year around this time we had an EIF annual meeting to go over rules, show information, and our EIF show; well, it's that time again!

This meeting is to address some rules & policies, address our show schedule, and to go over information regarding the EIF show on May 1st. Once again, this meeting is **mandatory** for all clients in our program so please mark your calendars for attendance.

This year our meeting will be held Sunday March 13th. I would like boarders to arrive at 1:30, lesson students at 2:00. I expect it to be over by 3:00 at the latest.

Thanks so much in advance for your attendance!!

"Once a week" riders, what's the next step?

A lot of parents come to me wanting to know what options are available for their "once-a-week" rider who wants more saddle time. Buying or full leasing a horse is, of course, the best option for progress. But if that isn't in your budget, there is another option: the half-lease.

What is a half-lease? It is a lease option in which clients are given partial ownership of a horse. Typically it is set up that the lessee is given 3 days a week (1 lesson & 2 free rides), the lessor gets 3 days, and the horse gets one day off each week.

What are the benefits of a half-lease? First, it is an opportunity to ease into horse ownership without the full financial or time commitment of full leases/ownership. It also eliminates the long

term commitment of ownership; in other words, if you want out, you can without the hardship of selling.

Secondly, it gives our riders a chance to create a relationship with a horse, get more miles in the saddle, and give them free rides to apply their lessons.

What are the costs? That depends upon the horse owner, but here at EIF I try to make it simple. Clients pay a fee of \$575 per month, and that covers half the board, 4 private lessons, half of the shoes, and incidentals. It also includes use of the horse's bridle, girth, brushes, and saddle pad/riser pads. It does not include use of the saddle; that must be provided by the rider.

Who is available? EIF show horses, such as Adelle & Kit, are always available to approved riders. But for the first time ever, I am letting Joe and Sally be available. Riders can choose a month-to-month lease, or I am offering a "summer lease" where lesson students may half-lease them from June 1st to Aug 30th.

If you are interested in a half-lease, please contact me immediately!

Upcoming EIF Events:

EIF Annual Meeting March 13th

Anne Kenan Clinic in April Date TBA

EIF SHOW May 1st 2011

Please help me update the website with new testimonials! Please submit them on the bulletin board by 3/15. I will gladly proof-read and/or dress up if you are unsure what to write!!