



# AROUND THE COURTYARD

## THE NEWSLETTER OF C SQUARE FARM

JANUARY 2002

### NEWS FROM THE COURTYARD

Hi, our apologies for not getting our newsletter out sooner. We were, well, sort of busy.

The big news of the year was our November wedding, which was well attended by over 125 people including Courtney's and Neal's families, Courtney's Irish partner, Paddy Hughes, and other friends too numerous to

mention. It was a spectacular day with lovely weather, great friends, good music and dancing.

We were fortunate enough to honeymoon on the Island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas, courtesy of our friends. We had a truly wonderful time. We look forward to an exciting 2002.



Courtney & Neal

### TRAVELS AND COMPETITIONS

As for the horses, we had a wonderful year. In the Spring, we came back from Florida with one less horse as Lord Limerick was sold to our new friend from Colorado, Laura Backus. She has high hopes for this horse and recently finished her fall campaign by WINNING the Area IX Training Championships. Kudos to her!

After returning home from Florida, another of our precocious youngsters, The Color of Kells, our Pinto, moved up from Training to Preliminary and galloped right around and then caught the eye of Terri Schulte of Arizona. He went out West in May and has

made a remarkable adjustment. We look forward to continuing to watch the progress of Terri and "Murphy."

Unfortunately, Hughes' Star was hurt in Florida and ended up having to take the entire year off; we hope to have her back for 2002.

Carlingford Sky made up for the disappointment of Hughes' Star with an outstanding start to his Intermediate career placing 3<sup>rd</sup> in his first Intermediate horse trials. He continued with his wonderful ways, but a sore knee left his Spring season a bit short, and then an unfortunate stop and consequent fall of Courtney, in which Courtney broke her col-

larbone, left his Fall season short as well. However, we look forward to a banner year for "Teddy" in 2002.

This could also be the year of the "Toys," especially Toy Master. "Tucker" had an outstanding start to his Preliminary career, continuing the winning ways he learned in Ireland, with three placings in four outings, including a win, a 2<sup>nd</sup>, and a 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope this year to compete him in a CCI\* and move up to Intermediate. We also purchased two other outstanding young horses by Toy Master's sire, Furisto, and have named them, Toy Story and Toy Soldier - more on them later.

### NEW ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

In 2001 we also bought and sold some very nice horses. Hugh, a 5-year-old Irish Thoroughbred gelding, joined us in late June and has received ribbons at his first two Training events, a 3<sup>rd</sup> and a 4<sup>th</sup>; he also garnered ribbons at a recognized hunter show.

He foxhunts as well and has been ridden sidesaddle by one of our good friends, Joan Farwell. Joan and her daughter, Sara, spent some time boarding at our farm and we have become fast friends as well as admirers of both of their abilities to ride sidesaddle.

We found Michael, a 6-year-old Irish Sport Horse gelding, on the next trip; he was purchased in December by Debi and Lance Taylor of Malvern, Pennsylvania, who hunt with the Radnor Hunt Club. He will be a great addition to

their group of horses and we hope will provide many hours of enjoyment for them. While introducing Michael to his new home, Courtney was also invited to hunt with Radnor and had a great day of sport. Thank you again Lance and Debi!

Also purchased on the same trip as Michael was Siren's Song, a beautiful 5-year-old Irish Sport Horse mare, who is an incredible jumper. She has completed one Novice horse trials, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> and is ready to go and do more. She has all the technique and ability in the world and, we look forward to watching her career develop.



Gallop Prints Photo

Courtney & Siren's Song

Additionally, last year we purchased two half-brothers to Toy Master: Toy Soldier and Toy Story. Both of these young horses are incredible jumpers and

great athletes and will be great assets over time. Rich House, our partner in these and other horses, is allowing Courtney to keep both Toy Story and Toy Master for her long-term goal of representing the USA in international competition. We want to thank him for his continued support, good wishes, and help in helping us to achieve our goals, both short and long term.

As for selling other people's horses, it has also been busy. Before we left for Florida we were able to help the Kolker Family, clients of Laura Backus, find their new horse, Lord Byron. They have continued to have success in Colorado and we wish them even more. Courtney also helped another young rider, Dana Alexander, and her mother, early in the year. They purchased a wonderful horse by the name of Smudge, who had been campaigned up through Preliminary by Nicole Parkin. Courtney was helped in this sale by Jennifer Hollings; we appreciate and respect

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her abilities to help our clients so well. Thank you.

In May we sold Anna Toomey's horse, Zosimus as she decided to make a move away from horses for right now. He was sold to Jeff Lindtner of Pennsylvania. Prior to selling "Zoso," Anna placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in her first Novice competition with him. Courtney took him out at Training once, and he was 4<sup>th</sup>. Jeff has started to compete him with good results, and we hope that 2002 is all that he can hope for with his new mount.

We also sold Rumsey Keefe's lovely Thoroughbred gelding Candy Cane Rain to Christina Nichols of Texas. "Candy" and Courtney placed in one Training horse trials before moving up to Preliminary and placing 2<sup>nd</sup>

## WHO'S WHO AND OTHER GOINGS ON

As we move into 2002, we have several changes to report. First, our farm operation is moving. We have our sights on buying our own place (we have leased our current and previous locations) and plan to stay in the same area of Pennsylvania. This will allow us to develop our operation and to add and change some things that we could not given the restrictions of leasing. Our long-term boarder and friend, Jeannie Reilly is helping us find our new farm. Jeannie has been with us since 1997, as owner of her wonderful pensioner, Brandy, who is in his thirties, who we look over carefully. Jeannie has been a great help, and we thank her immensely.

Second, we have several staff changes to report. Over the summer, Anna Toomey left the farm as she completed her college studies at Penn State's Delaware County Campus. She ended up traveling the across the USA with her friend Gary Gallagher, two dogs, and two ferrets. After some time in California, she has returned to Pennsylvania.

Monica Spitzer worked with us in the fall; she decided to leave the farm to pursue other opportunities. We wish her the best of luck.

Rejoining the farm as we head to Florida will be Kim Russell and her mare, Ashanti. Kim previously trained with Courtney and has recently finished her studies at Washington and Lee University, Kim decided to take a year off before continuing at University of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School.

Our long-time student Jenn Burg is now at Cornell University. In the meantime, Kristen Crane, one of our newer students, has been leasing "Partner." Jenn hopes to take him back to school with her in the spring.

Kristen Crane, a teenager from nearby Newark, Delaware, has been helping in the barn and taking lessons with Courtney. She com-

twice in a row. Christina has continued "Candy's" winning ways, placing 1<sup>st</sup> at a Novice level horse trials in Texas.

Sharon Cooper, a new friend and student joined us this Summer. She has just started to ride and has teamed up with Kramer, a lovely Irish horse that Courtney imported a few years ago. Kramer and Sharon get along beautifully, enjoy each other's company, and by all accounts are looking to make each other happy for a long time to come.

Another opportunity that opened up this year, which also has allowed us to sell another lovely horse, is our teaming up with INSPO. INSPO is a breeding, training and sales operations that specializes in Dutch horses, especially dressage horses. It is owned and run by Courtney's dressage coach and friend,

peted in her first horse trials in the fall, riding Hanna and then Partner in Crime. Kristen is an extremely hard worker, and we hope to help her meet her goals in the coming years.

Another hard at work student-rider who has joined us this past fall is Rebecca Gray. She is a freshman at the University of Delaware. Prior to riding with Courtney, Rebe had been successful in the equitation classes at hunter shows; in fact this fall she finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in her equitation finals. Congratulations! She recently purchased a nice young horse, Kidd, who she hopes to compete sometime in the spring. We wish them the best.



G. Perentesis Photo

Kristen Crane & Partner in Crime

Several new adults have started to ride with Courtney. Patty Moshanko and Loretta MacAlpine, both of Nottingham, have started taking lessons with Courtney. Both of these ladies own their own horses and keep them at home. Patty's horse, Rem, spent two months with us and went to a jumper show with Patty where he was a Reserve Champion. Kudos to her! Loretta has a nice Thoroughbred horse named Sassy, who is a very good athlete that she hopes to event with in the spring.

Another new student is Sharon Cooper, who purchased Kramer this year. Sharon is new to riding, and each day she works on getting stronger and better in the saddle. She and Kramer are going to travel south with Court-

ney to take in some warm Florida sunshine. Sharon also has a niece, Rebecca, who has started her riding career as well this Christmas. Rebecca is full of excitement, and we look forward to continuing to teach her.

Janet Parrack has joined us this year as well. Janet got a surprise when she learned that her new horse Lark, who she sent to Courtney for training, is pregnant! WOW! Now she is looking forward to having two horses, and we eagerly await to see what the stork brings.

Joining us in December were new riders Jim Thorton and his grandson, Anthony. Both are taking lessons and progressing rapidly. They are great students and a lot of fun to have around. We look forward to their participation in our farm and its activities.

Another bit of news to report is that effectively at the end of January, Lynne Killen has decided to leave our operation and run her own boarding stable at our old farm. Lynne will be missed and we wish her luck.

On a final business note, our website continues to be up and productive and we enjoy having approximately 100-150 people visit it each new day. We are, as always, on the prowl for ways to run our business better, communicate more efficiently, and be more effective so, if you have any tidbits or suggestions, no matter how off the wall they may be, please drop us a line, or an email, or pick up the phone.

So that about wraps it up; business is good, the horses, our students, and we are healthy and happy. We look forward to an even brighter and happier 2002.

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