



MASTERTON EQUESTRIAN UPDATES

FALL 2011



You can “bank” on this...

MET takes on renovation & repair of Novice Water Jump and Prelim Bank

Masterson Equestrian Trust (MET) Foundation is embarking on a major renovation and repair project of two significant cross country obstacles at Masterson Station Park (MSP).

The obstacles being renovated are the Novice Water Jump and the Preliminary/Training Bank Jump, two long time favorites of the equestrians who are involved with the sport of Eventing. The water jumps and bank jumps are part of the "meat and potatoes" of an Eventing cross country course. These obstacles were built over 25 years ago by local volunteer enthusiasts and have been showing signs of wear over the past several years. The project will allow these obstacles to be rebuilt to today's safety standards and will once again allow local Eventing riders the opportunity to ride over these landmark fences.

There was significant planning and discussion amongst the board and their equestrian partners prior to committing to this project. Members of the MET Board of Directors have been in consultation with the likes of David O'Connor, an USA Eventing Olympic Gold Medal winner, and Derek di Grazia, one of the cross country designers for the World Equestrian Games held in 2010 in Lexington. The jumps will be built by top-class cross-country obstacle builder, and Lexington resident, Aaron Rust. The level of expertise and knowledge base involved throughout the project ensures the plan is well-designed and will be expertly executed. Meetings with the Lexington/Fayette County Government Officials and Park Staff resulted in their complete support of the project.

The renovations began in November with completion date planned for Spring 2012. Progress on the project will be reported at MET's website at www.mastersonquestrian.org and at the FaceBook site. MET would like to thank all donors, volunteers and patrons who have tirelessly contributed with their time and support, making funding possible for the renovation of the Novice Water Jump and the Preliminary Training Jump. There are still additional improvements to be made to the equestrian facilities. Please join us in our efforts to enhance, improve and protect Masterson Station Equine Facilities.



One of the many trucks delivering the final top footing on the bank.



Stage one of the water jump: the enlargement and shaping of the footprint itself.

Masterson Equestrian Trust Foundation is a non-profit foundation dedicated to the preservation of Masterson Station Park for use by all equestrian enthusiasts and to the improvement and enhancement of facilities and services available to the equestrian public. MET acts as an advocate for all MSP equine enthusiasts, thus strengthening Lexington's distinction as the Horse Capital of the World.

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Visit us at:
www.mastersonquestrian.org

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<http://facebook.dj/met/>

Masterson Indoor is open!

For our riding enthusiasts during winter.

Now that the days are shorter, and the weather is colder, LFUCG has agreed to open the indoor for rental use at the following rates: \$15 per hour, \$25 for 2 or more riders. Payment must be made at the door. Ring should be left as it is found, and manure needs to be picked up.

- **WHEN:** all Tuesdays and Thursdays, Saturday Dec. 10 and Sunday Dec. 18
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. until December 1
8 a.m. – 8 p.m. after December 1
- **WHO CAN USE IT:** Tuesdays are reserved for **Associates** and their students, Thursdays and weekends are open for general public use. (*Find out more about our Associates Program on the back.*)
- **HOW TO SIGN UP:** Call Georgia at 253 -0328 or 559-6056 or email to gockerma@lexingtonky.gov. Reservations are required, 24 hrs in advance.

Letter from the President



Exciting times at Masterson in 2011!

We started the year off with Spring Bay Horse Trials in early April, and what a beautiful weekend that was – the cross country courses looked spectacular and the Park enjoyed a huge crowd. Close on Spring Bay's heels was the MET show. Not such great weather the first day, but still many brave souls came out and showed in the Hunter classes, and Sunday's weather sure made up for it. We also held a cross country schooling on Sunday as Mary Fike kindly left us her cross country fences to use.

May brought us the Sayre Show (this is the 21st year for the show!); June brought several pony club camps, August the Summer Sizzle Mini-Trial, September the Horse Aid Live Show, and a MET sponsored Jumper Stumper, and October the wildly popular Buck Brannaman clinic.



A big thank you to our title sponsor for MET Benefit Show 2011.

But, more importantly than the shows at the Park are the many, many people use the Park daily, weekly and monthly for pleasure riding, fitness training, schooling cross country, practicing dressage tests – and how grateful we are to all of you!

We held another volunteer workday in late September, and many of you came back to help clean up and do some needed maintenance. For 2011, MET was able to hire someone to work the dressage rings and the Hunter ring twice monthly. A signboard has also been erected at the Hunter ring so we can keep you notified of happenings at the Park.



*Sayre School (their 21st!).
Picture: Jan Whitehouse*

MET repaired some of the cross country fences, and was able to get the Hunter Ring fence repaired and painted. MET was optimistic about the potential to fix the wash racks in 2011. Unfortunately, the City was not able to complete that project this year, but we hope they will in 2012. The big news of course is the renovation of two of the major permanent structures at the Park. Many thanks must go to MSED and to USEA Area 8 for their financial support.

We must not forget to thank the folks at Parks and Recreation for their continued support of the Equestrian activities at Masterson and to Georgia and Tad who are always available at a moment's notice to help out when needed.



Buck Brannaman Clinic.

Lastly thank you, to each and every one of you who helped us with a monetary or other contribution in 2011. We would not be able to continue to improve the facilities without you. Please put some thought into how much you use the Park and how much you would miss it if it were not available to you, and consider helping us out – we need your support to continue our endeavors to protect and improve Masterson Equestrian facilities for years to come!

Sally Lockhart

2012 Calendar of Events

April: • Spring Bay Horse Trial • Masterson Equestrian Trust Benefit Hunter/Jumper Show

May: • Sayre School Horse Show

June: • Summerbird Dressage Schooling (June through August every Wednesday)

August: • Summer Sizzle • KDA Schooling Show

September: • Summerbird Dressage Show • MET Work Day • Horse Aid Live Horse Show

October: • Woodford Hounds Show

Please mark these months for the listed activities. Final dates will be available in February 2012. Check our website for the information: www.mastersonquestrian.org

Find us & be a fan at our Facebook site: <http://facebook.dj/met/>

We look forward to seeing you at the park!

MET Associates Program

LFUCG asked that anyone using Masterson for their financial gain (i.e. giving lessons at the Park) donate \$100 to MET annually. If you are interested in becoming an Associate, please contact Sally Lockhart at sallyire@aol.com or 859-621-6522.

Current Associates: Antebellum Farm, Megan Moore, Jorge Montalvo, Cathy Wieschhoff, Keeneland Pony Club, Mary Fike, and, Julie Congleton.



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