



JOYRIDERS
Therapeutic
Riding
Association
Prince Edward Island
Canada

The Whinny

Issue #17 June 2016

OUR MISSION is the enhancement of the physical, emotional and social well-being of children and adults with disabilities through various forms of therapeutic riding

Marc McKearney: 2015 Joyrider of the Year



Marc with a fistful of medals from the 2001 Atlantic CanTRA Games.

Marc McKearney began riding with us in the fall of 1987, which means he has ridden in our program for 29 years!

He competed on the Joyriders team at the Atlantic CanTRA Games, riding in dressage, equitation, trail, and Prince Philip Mounted Games classes. He was a big part of the Joyriders team that twice brought home the Andrea Gillies Memorial Trophy for Hi-Point Team.

Marc has continued to compete in the Para-equestrian national video competitions and always does extremely well.

Marc never complains and his smile is always delightful. Even when he has had health problems as in the past year, he has always returned to his spot in the program and tried as hard as he could to accomplish the goals of the lessons.

Marc is always gentle with the horses he rides and thanks his volunteers for their support. The Joyriders would like to honour Marc as 2015 Rider of the Year and thank him for all the smiles he has shared with us over the years.



Marc receives his award from Kathy Barrett at the 2015 Christmas Party.

A Life Well Lived

It is with a heavy heart that we share the news of the recent death of **Dr. Gillian Lawrence** in Amherst, NS.

We can scarcely believe this day has arrived, for she was the heart and soul of therapeutic riding in the Maritimes and Canada, as well as internationally. Gillian raised a family, was a family physician, rode horses, ran a therapeutic riding centre, mentored other centres, became a para-equestrian classifier and Canadian team chef d'équipe, and was honoured with many awards. Gill was a founding member of CanTRA in 1980 and made an enormous contribution to the development of its programs, especially the scientific and medical aspects. Through it all, she was cheerful, energetic, fun, full of adventure (and the subject of many great stories). And always humble.



The Joyriders was greatly in Gill's debt in our early years. She brought together our co-founders, Anita Morrison and Daphne Davey, and mentored our fledgling

organization throughout our early years. She held therapeutic riding clinics at her farm outside Amherst, and hosted several CanTRA Atlantic Games in the 1990s and early 2000s, to which we always sent a team. She welded together a Maritime team (including two Joyriders) that took part in the first Prince Philip Mounted Games for the Disabled, held at the CNE in Toronto in 1988, from which we brought home the silver medal.

In 2013, CanTRA sponsored Gillian for the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award*, which she received in Ottawa. But while we have lost Gillian in person, we are blessed with all the benefits of her contribution to therapeutic riding. Her hard work lives on in what we all do today for children and adults with disabilities.



Gillian Lawrence presents a rosette to Douglas Roper at the 1994 Atlantic CanTRA Games in Amherst, NS.

* To read the citation, go to www.cantra.ca (News & Info / News & Events)

From the Editor's Desk

Life is an adventure! Since the last issue of the *Whinny*, we have moved our program from Winsloe to a new venue in Hunter River, we raised \$10,300 in five minutes, and learned that Butch McGee had captured the 2016 CanTRA Rhonda Davies Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award. Not to mention celebrating the individual achievements of our riders as they progress in self-confidence and skill in the saddle.

Daphne Davey





News From National

Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association (CanTRA)

Watch your A's and B's! After doing an in-depth review of the CanTRA instructor certification program, the Certification Committee has revamped the levels.

- Assistant Instructors (CTRAs) are now Basic Instructors (CTRBIs);
- Intermediate Instructors stay the same (CTRIs);
- Instructors (CTRIs) are now Senior Instructors (CTRSIs).

The criteria for the Intermediate level have been revised to position it more equally between the Basic and Senior levels. This is partly driven by the fact that some centres across the country do not yet have a Senior Instructor and are run by CTRIs, and partly to clearly differentiate between those (Basic) who can teach 1:1 lessons, and those (Intermediate) who can teach group lessons.

Congratulations to Rainbow Riders (St. John's) who are hosting the Princess Royal, Princess Anne, this month to turn the sod on their planned new, upgraded facility. May the sun shine!



David and Doug man the reception table.



Christmas Cheer



Emily sports her Ugliest Sweater contest entry.



Cassidy's painting of our old therapy pony, Peanuts.



Ginny the Elf visits with Hannah.

2015 Fall Frolic

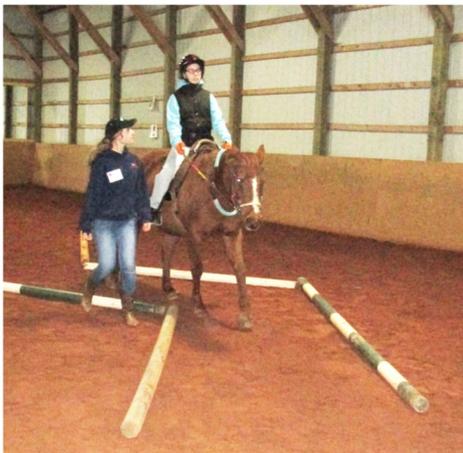
memories from the Winsloe arena



Justin demonstrates the knees-up "frog" exercise.



Paul gets ready to ride Duchess.



Patricia negotiates the zigzag without a leader.



Emily rides Jewel, surrounded by her volunteer team.



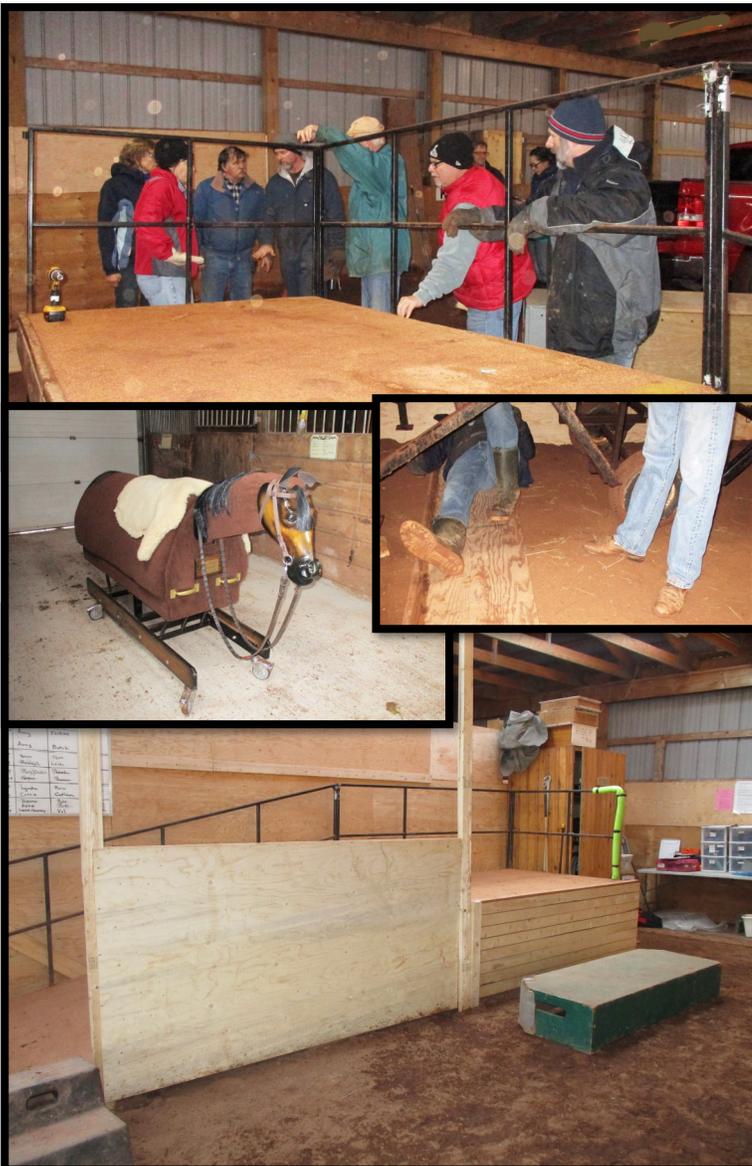
Raehael (on Duchess) and Paxton (on Jewel) play "musical chairs" on horseback.



Spencer and Duchess check out their hair-do's in the riding mirror



After 19 years in Winsloe, we said farewell to our old home, packed up (lock, stock and mounting ramp), and moved to River Trails Ranch in Hunter River. There to welcome us with open arms were John and Kathy Barrett.



We had been running our summer program in Hunter River for several years, but major renovations were needed before we could consider moving our spring and fall riding programs there as well.

Times have changed. We receive more applications for children with autism than ever before, and some of our current riders are progressing to the point of needing more personal instruction. All this led us to realize that we needed greater flexibility in our programming, including more 1:1 or 2:1 lessons as alternatives to group lessons with three riders.

John and Kathy teamed up with the Joyriders board to renovate their facility to meet CanTRA accreditation standards: doubling the arena size, installing a viewing room, and many other adjustments. Parents, volunteers, riders, and horses, are enjoying the new amenities.

We extend our deep appreciation to Kim and Kurt Kershaw, and to Harma Germs-Fraser, who have hosted the Joyriders in Winsloe since 2009.



Cassidy



Hannah



2016
Spring
Fling



Cody

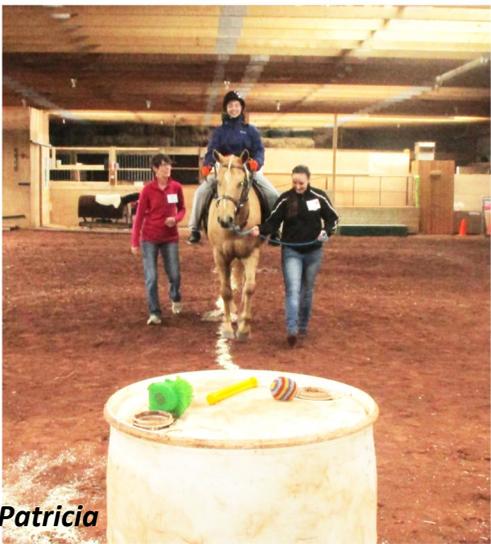
Life at
River
Trails
Ranch



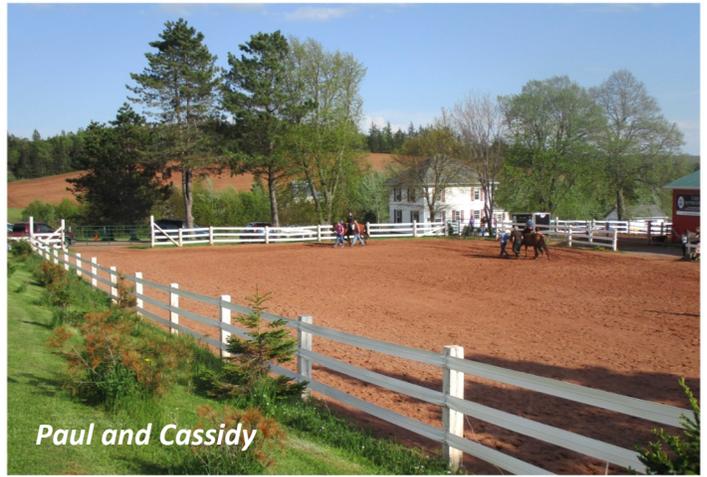
Mikaela



Jesse



Patricia



Paul and Cassidy



More...
2016
Spring
Fling



Ryan



Life at
River
Trails
Ranch



Paxton



Spencer

Bits and Bytes

AGM HELD IN HUNTER RIVER

Members attended the 2016 AGM at the Hunter River Community Centre, preceded by a tour of River Trails Ranch for those who hadn't yet been there. The new board of directors (see last page) was voted in, with Janice Cole as President. We welcomed former directors Mel Gallant and Shelley MacEwen back onto the board, and new board members Joy MacDonald and Phil Pineau.

100 WOMEN WHO CARE—REALLY CARE

Unbelievably, in just five minutes we raised \$10,300, thanks to the generosity of 100 Women Who Care (Summerside), a uniquely organized group of donors who commit to contributing \$100 per member to the charity that comes out on top in their quarterly competitions. Imagine cramming the Joyriders mission, funding needs, the "I Can" poem, and rider testimonials into a five-minute time period—audio-visuals not permitted! Janice Cole and Daphne Davey, hot-wired to win, did manage to do just that. Their support team included Valerie Paton, Kathy Barrett, and of course the board. Thanks also to several Joyriders folk who are "100 Women" members, who nominated the Joyriders (both in the Charlottetown and Summerside competitions), which got them on the short list.

FOND MEMORIES OF SUSAN

We were sad to hear that Susan Labelle lost her battle with cancer recently. She and her family (Bernard and daughters Mimi and Soleil) were wonderful volunteers with the program in the 1990s. We extend our condolences to her family.

SWIMMING RIGHT ALONG

Kudos to Hannah MacLellan for "taking her shot" at the Canadian Paralympic swimming team. She was the lone Islander (able-bodied or para) to attend the trials in Toronto. While she didn't make the team (this time around), she wisely chalks it all up to experience.



The United Way, in co-operation with filmmaker Adam Perry, has released a video about our program. On YouTube, search "United Way of PEI: Ryan's Story," featuring our very own Ryan MacNeil (and mum Heather). Our thanks to the United Way for its financial support and this valuable promotion.



Our very own Butch McGee won the 2016 CanTRA Rhonda Davies Outstanding Volunteer Award. Hannah MacLellan was at the AGM to congratulate Butch, who works closely with her in the program. Full coverage of this award will appear in the next issue of the Whinny. Congratulations, Butch, on this well-deserved honour!



Jewel shines in the circle of her admirers.



Wendy Eisen caught smooching with Tanner.



Abducted by aliens, then returned to earth with messed heads, Gilles and Trish struggle to get back into the Joyriders groove.

2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>President</i>	Janice Cole	<i>Ex officio</i>	Kathy Barrett <i>Chief Instructor</i>
<i>Vice-president</i>	Joy MacDonald		
<i>Secretary</i>	Mel Gallant		Trish Helm-Neima <i>Physiotherapist</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jennifer DeCoursey		Deena Robb <i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
<i>Directors</i>	Melda Jones Nicole Kitchener Butch McGee Jim McQuaid Lori Morris Phil Pineau	<i>Director emeritus</i>	Andy Robb

PROGRAM TEAM

Chief instructor (CTRSI)/CanTRA Coach

- Kathryn Barrett

Assistant Instructors (CTRBI)

- Stephanie Compton
- Daphne Davey
- Debbie Gormley
- Marg Gray
- Trish Helm-Neima
- Lauren MacIsaac
- Gilles Richard

Physiotherapist

Trish Helm-Neima

Also part of the Team

- Deena Robb, *Volunteer Coordinator*
deena.robbs@gmail.com
- Julie Scales, *Rider Coordinator*
juliescales@msn.com

“THE WHINNY”

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PO Box 20149, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, C1A 9E3

- Daphne Davey, Editor
- Nicole Kitchener, Designer

SUBMISSIONS are welcome! Why not write something for the next newsletter, or send a photo or drawing?

PHOTOGRAPHS are by Daphne Davey unless otherwise credited.

The Whinny is also posted on our website, www.thejoyriders.ca

CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Please forward address or email changes to the editor.

VISIT THESE WEBSITES!

www.thejoyriders.ca

www.cantra.ca

www.disabilitytodaynetwork.com

(CanTRA channel under Partners tab)

