



JOYRIDERS
Therapeutic Riding
Association
Prince Edward Island
Canada
Charitable #
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The Whinny

Issue #24

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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

Emily Craig: 2019 Joyrider of the Year

This year's award goes to a young lady who has made great strides in her riding career with the Joyriders.

Emily joined us in 2015. Although she comes from a family of horse owners and enthusiasts, she needed to adapt to a whole new experience, putting her trust in many people new to her: instructors, volunteers and horses, all of them strangers.

You should see her now! Emily has developed and progressed out of all recognition. She is now a confident and competitive equestrian, always adapting with patience and compassion to different horses she is assigned to ride (although her favourite is probably Henry).

As a determined perfectionist, she tries hard — sometimes impatiently — to improve her riding. She can now do the posting trot with beautiful rhythm. She can also ride independently of a horse leader, and with only one side-walker.

Additionally, our instructors greatly appreciate the fact that Emily never misses a lesson, always arrives on time, and respects them as her mentors. They enjoy her sense of humour, too!

We look forward to seeing Emily and her riding ability blossom even more in the future.



Emily was presented with her award at the 2019 Christmas party. Along with the multi-year plaque that Emily gets to keep for a year, she was presented with a beautifully sculpted "keeper" trophy (right) generously donated by Glenn Pye.



From the Editor's Desk



Daphne Davey, president

Well, who could have foreseen what awaited us after the New Year weekend! Like a huge, dark cloud, COVID-19 suddenly threw a big shadow over our lives. BUT we are a resilient bunch. Despite social distancing, cancelled schools and just about every public event, closed businesses, and employee layoffs, somehow we are muddling through.

Caught up in the necessary restrictions, the Joyriders board had no choice but to cancel our Spring 2020 riding program – for the first time in 40 years. What a disappointment! And of course our AGM is postponed to a future date. Nevertheless, we will live for the time when we can resume our program in some form or another, and we will keep our riders and families, our volunteers, and our generous supporters up to date as plans unfold under the “new normal” – whatever that turns out to be.

In the meantime, rest assured our beloved therapy horses are doing fine, and we hope you are all staying sane too!

News From National

In February 2020, CanTRA announced the appointment of Daphne Davey to its advisory council. In 2019, Daphne completed twelve years as a board member (including four years as president), and now finds herself as busy as ever with CanTRA business, while also taking on the presidency of the Joyriders. As they say, nothing good comes from boredom. They also say there's no such thing as retirement!

With COVID-19 clamping down on many in-person CanTRA events (the CanTRA conference, workshops, and instructor technicals/exams), CanTRA has taken to Zoom video-conferencing. A number of meetings, webinars, and other educational events have been arranged by Zoom for CanTRA members, and especially for candidate and qualified instructors.

Kim Saville

We were very sorry to hear of the untimely passing of Kimberly Saville. Kim was a volunteer with the Joyriders a few years ago. It seems her family has not forgotten that connection. They have included the Joyriders in the list of suggested recipients of donations in Kim's memory. Our condolences to Kim's family and our sincere thanks for this kind gesture.



Trish, Vaeda and Daphne pose for a group shot at the Easter Seals Campaign launch last December.

Vaeda all set for Easter Seals Ambassador

... and then COVID-19 got in the way! But before it did, Vaeda Matheson wowed the Rotary Easter Seals organizers and the media with her captivating public speaking. Trish and Daphne, who represented the Joyriders at the campaign launch, can attest to that. We were so proud of her!

Facebook has a New “Face”!

Our social media coordinator, Nicole Kitchener, has decided to hang up her spurs. Thank you, Nicole, for all your work administering our Facebook page, and for serving on our board for a few years. We really appreciate it!

We are delighted to announce that Holly Studzinski (whom you may know as a volunteer in the arena) has strapped on those spurs as our new Facebook administrator. She is already busy posting news and photos. Welcome, Holly! Check us out at

<https://www.facebook.com/thejoyriderspei/>



Holly Studzinski, our new FB administrator with Henry.

Our Program Team: Busy as Ever

So this is how it's done! The Program Team recently met in the arena at River Trails Ranch, with appropriate social distancing (and a blanket or two). Around the circle from left: Trish, Marg, Gilles, Kerry, Kathy, Doug, Deena. (Photo by Daphne).

The Program Team was also fortunate to enjoy a talk on the subject of equine behaviour and some behaviour modification techniques, given by Dr. Laurie McDuffee from the Atlantic Vet College. Laurie is also one of our program volunteers, and supervised the research project carried out in 2017 by two of her students who were evaluating indicators of stress in horses participating in our lessons. Thanks, Laurie!





Fall 2019 Program

(Upper left photo) From left: Carol, Patricia on Tanner, Joan, Lauren, Kathy, Emily on Logan, and Taylor.

(Upper right photo) Vaeda on Logan and Gabriel on Jewel get outside for a ride in the fresh air.

(Left photo) Paxton, Charley, Marc and Ryan enjoy a lesson with Lauren MacIsaac.



Rachael lucks out in the pass-the-parcel game, watched by Marg and Justin.



Gabriel stocks up on candy canes. (Most people use their pockets!)

Christmas Party 2019

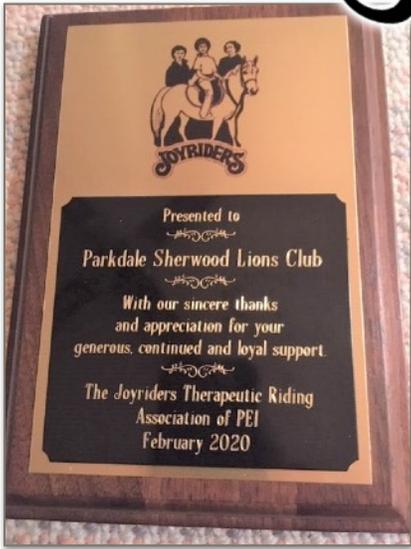


John Barrett, inductee into the "500 Club" for countless hours of support for the Joyriders program, with Daphne Davey and Marg Gray.



Charley Anne finds herself absorbed in the photo albums of Past and Present Riders.

Thank You



SAYING THANK YOU

The Joyriders board recently distributed very attractive appreciation plaques to several long-standing and generous corporate donors. This sample plaque was presented to the Parkdale-Sherwood Lions Club, whose ongoing support of our programs is legendary.



EASTER SEALS

Edna Reid, Easter Seals Campaign Chair (at the podium), announces a donation of \$10,000 to the Joyriders at the Easter Seals Ambassador launch luncheon. Daphne and Trish (at right) were joined by 2019 Ambassador Tyler MacLeod. Thanks so much to Easter Seals for this amazing support!



UPSE "HAS A HEART"

Thanks to UPSE's 2020 Have A Heart Campaign, two new little boys will start their riding lessons – pending the reopening of our program. Holding the \$550 cheque are (from left) UPSE president Karen Jackson, Joyriders treasurer Mel Gallant, and UPSE campaign volunteer.

Thank you so Much!!

Two of our board members stepped down in recent months, and we miss them both. **Lynda MacSwain** and **Dr. Cheryl Wenn** both joined the board in 2018 and have made great contributions.

They also volunteered in the arena, helping our riders. Many thanks, Lynda and Cheryl, for your hands and heart. We hope to see you at the Christmas Party (if we are able to hold it this year)!



The essential joy of being with horses is that it brings us in contact with the rare elements of grace, beauty, spirit and freedom.

—Sharon Ralls Lemon

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“THE WHINNY”

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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

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