



The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2018



Members of the "Friday at 4:15" group: Zack Brintlinger-Conn, Jonah Trillana, Sara Zendlovitz, Hannah Lawson, Forrest Rowe. PHOTO: ADRIENE KRAMER

The Postal Service's Got Nothin' on Us

By Janetta Lewis-Jennings

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night keeps The Riding Center staff from their job. As you might have noticed, there was a long, extreme cold spell this winter. Ever wonder how horses survive in extreme weather? Well, every day, no matter what, our staff is working to make sure all of the horses at The Riding Centre are cared for. They break up ice in frozen water buckets, make sure the heated troughs and waterers are working, trudge through the snow to spread hay in the pastures—whatever it takes. When their job is done, they come back to volunteer. They're dedicated, underpaid, and amazing. Can't thank them enough!

Supporting our staff is a hardy group of volunteers helping with chores, leading therapeutic horses, putting on fundraisers, and writing grants. The spring and fall dressage shows, organized by Charleen Carlson, and the fall hunter show, run by Carolyn Bailey, are the cornerstones of our fundraisers. Adding to the shows' success, Marsha Casdorff and Susie Nickels set up a used tack sale.

The Riding Centre's most profitable fundraiser is the annual Ride-A-Thon, organized by Carolyn Bailey. Many thanks to our students and other participants, plus all those who sponsored them. Carolyn also conducts the apparel sale. What fun to advertise your love for The Riding Centre while looking fabulous in Riding Centre Blue!

Our board president, Jim Nealon, donated even more of his time and talents by putting on a highly successful jumping clinic fundraiser. Look for him again this year on August 4!

One of my favorite money-makers is the calendar sale. Once again, Jen Lawson, with the help of her mother, Stephanie, put together a calendar with gorgeous

'Friday at 4:15,' 4 ever...

By Carolyn Bailey

In almost 40 years of teaching group lessons with children and adults at The Riding Centre, some groups of riders stand out in my mind. There was one group with Adriene, Adrian, and Adrienne! (Easy for me to remember their names!) One group had two sets of identical twins. Whew, was that confusing! And then there is the "Friday at 4:15" group with three teenage girls and three teenage boys. (Girls are pretty common around the barn, but most boys have stopped riding by this age.)

They have ridden together for years, they are good friends, and watching them

"I have been riding at The Riding Centre for about six to seven years now and have been glad for the experience. I have taken lessons and helped at The Riding Centre and have had some of the best experiences of my life there. Being able to learn to ride horses, bond with people that I otherwise wouldn't have met, learning to jump, and going on trail rides with my friends always feels like a little adventure each lesson."

HANNAH LAWSON

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Friday at 4:15, 4 ever...

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together gives me hope for the future. There is Jonah, usually with a beret and ukulele; quiet, strong-willed Sara; goofy, loquacious Zack; kind, dog-loving Forrest; and the troop leader, Hannah, who seems to have a birthday every month and which the group believes should always be celebrated with a trail ride! Brielle and Marya come and go as their work schedules permit.

This group of unique personalities has captured my heart. They are kind to and supportive of each other. They work well together and are loyal, and at times, a little sneaky. This spring is likely to be the last series for all of them together, as several head to college in the fall. I hope they think back on their time at The Riding Centre with as much enjoyment and affection as I think of all of them. I will miss Chance's swinging picture! 🌟

"Our laughs? Limitless. Our memories? Countless. Our friendship? Endless. We have been in the same riding class for about eight years, I believe. Always the same group through fall, spring, winter, and summer lessons. One of my favorite memories that we have as a group are trail rides. They are always fun. Even when we have a lesson, you can guarantee that there will be laughs and smiles. As a group, we have become a kind of family. I can't imagine what riding lessons would be like without my fellow riders. It would be very dull."

SARA ZENDLOVITZ



From Eadweard Muybrige's "The Horse in Motion," 1878

Ride-A-Thon to the Rescue

I cannot say "thank you" enough to our wonderful Riding Centre families and riders who made this year's Ride-A-Thon the most successful ever! With several new ob-

stacles and—gasp—going the opposite direction around the ring, everyone had fun, but was also challenged. It is never as easy as it seems!

With the continual challenge of keeping our older group of school horses happy and comfortable, the proceeds once again went into our General Fund. Many thanks to the following participants for their help in this never ending endeavor:

Elizabeth Baader
Emily Bradley
Brandon Dietsch
Regan Dunn
Lari Graver
Kira Hendrickson
Sanuye B. Hunt
Hannah, Jen,
Sophia Lawson
Terry Luzader
Arden McHugh-
Braham
Reagan Patton

Laura Perry
Trinity Raber
Corey & Sky
Tunmore
Yvonne
Vadeboncoeur
David Warren
Tania Welch
Bridget
Williams
Lily Woods
Sara Zendlovitz
Raven Zurbuchen

Did You Re-Member for 2018?

Have you renewed your membership for 2018? For insurance purposes, no one outside the lesson program is allowed to ride on Riding Centre property unless they are a current member. This includes guests. A guest membership can be purchased for \$10 a day.

Riding Centre property includes the McCally Barn and arena, the hunt field, the woods beside the hunt field and the commons area. **A helmet must be worn at all times while mounted on Riding Centre property.**

'Snow nor rain...'

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photos that tell The Riding Centre story of 2017 for us to enjoy in 2018.

Cindy Minton-Piatt, Vikki Hazelbaker, and Marsha Casdorff work all year to keep our loyal foundation grants coming in and to cultivate relationships with new organizations. This year, we received grants from the Springfield Foundation, the Morgan Family Foundation, the Springfield Rotary Club, the Della Selsor Trust, the Greene County Community Health Foundation, and Give with Liberty. Through the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, we again received a Miller Fellowship Antioch College student to be a valued addition to our staff. The Riding Centre, with the help of the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, also participated in this year's Giving Tuesday.

Kroger Community Rewards and Amazon Smile benefit The Riding Centre every time you shop. Make sure your Kroger Plus Card is registered at www.krogercommunityrewards.com with The Riding Centre's NPO # 43599. Set up an account with Amazon Smile and choose The Riding Centre as your charity.

Our gratitude always goes out to Antioch College and the Glen Helen Ecology Institute for the beautiful land beneath our hooves! 🌟

The Riding Centre

STAFF MEMBERS: Carolyn Bailey, Manager and Head Instructor, Marsha Casdorff, Greg Fry, Yana Garing, Jody Garrett, Grace Keeton, Adriene Kramer, Janetta Lewis-Jennings, Jennifer Lawson, McKenna Banaszak-Moore, and Anna Williamson.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Jim Nealon, President; Janetta Lewis-Jennings, Vice President; Marsha Casdorff, Secretary; Sylvia Ellison, Alma Shipley, and Jill O'Banion

NEWSLETTER: Editors: Marsha Casdorff and Jim Nealon; **CONTRIBUTORS:** Carolyn Bailey, Janetta Lewis-Jennings, and Marsha Casdorff; **DESIGN & PRODUCTION:** Matt Minde

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Lari Graver, Abby Graver, Gertrude Bures at the fall Hunter Show PHOTO: ADRIENE KRAMER

Thanks to our stable of volunteers—

You keep the Centre riding!

By Carolyn Bailey

The Riding Centre is a nonprofit organization with many volunteers who dedicate countless hours to everything from cleaning stalls and helping out with our therapeutic riding program to writing grants and getting donations to allow our organization to survive and thrive. In turn, we are able to keep our lesson prices reasonable and offer partial scholarships to students who otherwise could not afford the wonderful experience of riding horses. We love being able to give back to the community as much as the community gives to us.

Along with our amazing volunteers, I want to thank my wonderful and talented husband, Chris Bailey, and his band of merry men: Craig Conrad, Mike Reichert, Bob McClain, Brian Clem, Chris Grote, John Grote, Garrett Heasley, Bill Nickells and Jim Clem. These guys can and do fix everything, including barns, fences, and equipment, along with moving hay, mowing pastures, and much more. I love you all!

If I am the face of The Riding Centre and Chris is the backbone, then the heart and soul is our Board of Trustees. In the past few years, several challenging situa-

tions have arisen, some good and some bad, which have required many, many hours of work to resolve. I feel truly blessed to have this group of quietly dedicated volunteers, who have my heart-felt gratitude. 🐾



Preparing for a lesson: Violet Summers grooms Beau, the school horse.

PHOTO: ADRIENE KRAMER

Our List of Contributors...

...and how you can join it!

- Adopt a Horse (yearly)\$1,200
- Adopt a Dog (yearly)\$50
- Adopt a Cat (yearly)\$35

Donate towards:

- Endowment, Buildings, Special Projects, General Fund (Any amount)

Become a Member

- Lifetime\$500
- Corporate (yearly)\$1,000
- Blue Ribbon (yearly)\$100
- Supporting (yearly)\$25

Riding:

- Family (yearly)\$100
- Individual (yearly)\$75

Special thanks to: Dr. Brad Luckenbill, Dr. Kathleen Lennon, Dr. Brett Ellis, Kenny Hoyle and Gary Holland for keeping our horses up and running. Also, Cedarville University for providing students for the hundreds of hours of volunteering for our therapeutic program. Lastly, Kent Oberschlake, Chad Wilt, Diane Dubose and Dave Kianka for the hay they provide...our horses thank you, too! Without these folks, we could not do such wonderful work!

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS:

Lifetime Members:

- Andi Adkins
- Jessica L. Andrews
- Carly Bailey
- Carolyn & Chris Bailey
- Rosemary & Jim Bailey
- Myra & DJ Banion
- Mr. Birtle
- Adrian & Joysan Edwards
- Pat Funderburg
- Sara Garing
- Yana & Dave Garing
- Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker
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- Timothy Toothman

- Lily Woods & Sarah Maxwell
- Cindy Minton-Piatt & Steve Piatt
- Jane & Gary Thompson

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- Beverly Brown
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- Jody Garrett
- Julie Jones
- Judy Keefner
- Grace Keeton
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- Margaret Mattox
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- Kyle Baugh
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- Angela Moore & Katherine Berg

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Good-bye, Whisper

By Marsha Casdorff

It is never easy to say good-bye to any of our school horses, whether through retirement or, sadly, death, but it is inevitable. We lost one of our stars this past December to colic—our beloved Whisper.

For many of us, Whisper was always at The Riding Centre. That may be because he came to the Centre as a sturdy and handsome six-year-old way back in 1995. With his striking chestnut color contrasted with his flaxen mane and tail, he became an instant favorite and went on to teach scores of riders how to walk, trot, canter, and jump. In his later years, he became a stalwart of our therapeutic lesson program, especially for carrying larger teen and adult riders.

For Carolyn, Whisper was special because he turned out to be that school horse that could and did do just about everything in his long career. He became a favorite of riders and staff because of his gentleness and willingness to do his jobs year after year. Even his quirks, like his inability to be tied to a post, his fear of an imaginary tiger in the corner of the indoor arena, or his separation



Whisper, led by Sophia Lawson (with assistance from Carolyn Bailey) carries Alex Oliver during a therapeutic riding session.

PHOTO: JENNIFER LAWSON

anxiety from his best friend, Chipper, were part of his charm and personality.

Good-bye, Whisper.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 8	Adriene Kramer Clinic*
May 12	Dressage Show
August 4	Jim Nealon Fundraising Clinic
September 15	Dressage Show
16	Hunter Show
October 20-21	Centered Riding® Clinic with Elaine Meredith Steele
December 2	Riding Centre Association Members' Meeting & Potluck

*Adriene Kramer's clinic will begin at 9 a.m. with a discussion on the theme of the clinic and unmounted exercises to help develop feel for the horse.

For more information, please email Adriene at adrienekramer@gmail.com.

For Dayton Local Show Circuit dates, call The Riding Centre at (937) 767-9087

THE RIDING CENTRE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS:

Yellow Springs Community Foundation, Springfield Foundation, Springfield Rotary Club, Della Selsor Trust, Greene County Community Foundation, Glen Helen Ecology Institute, The Morgan Family Foundation, the Dayton Foundation, Greene County Public Health, and Antioch College.



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