



# The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2019



*The more things change, the more things stay the same: Riding Centre activities past and present. TOP: A horse show at the Centre in the past. BOTTOM: A lesson at the Centre today; Adriene Kramer is teaching. BOTTOM PHOTO: JENNIFER LAWSON*

*Celebrate with us this September—*

## Riding Centre Turns 60

by Carolyn Bailey

The Riding Centre is turning 60 this year! WOW! Join us at The Riding Centre on Saturday, Sept. 7, to celebrate. We are also planning on this celebration being a major fundraiser! For details, keep an eye on our Facebook page, visit us at [www.ridingcentre.org](http://www.ridingcentre.org), or simply call us at (937) 767-9087. Who remembers it as RO7-9087? If you do, then names like Bonfire, Satan, Duke, and Ron will be familiar to you. Maybe you remember Paint, Dandy, Ringo, Emperor, and Berwick Number 1, and they still bring a smile to your face. Are you of our current generation of riders? Do you still miss Whisper desperately, but think Santana, Doc, and Berwick Number 2 are rock stars? Maybe you are not a rider at all, but you have sat on Emily's bench across from us on the bike path and enjoyed the loveliness that is Glen Helen and The Riding Centre.



Now is the time to honor these memories and experiences in a tangible way. No donation is too large or too small. Your contribution will help future generations learn what our founder Louise Soelberg had in mind 60 years ago from the very beginning: At The Riding Centre, horses teach all people—regardless of abilities, age, race, or economic background—love, humility, and grace and the virtues of hard work. Please join us in our celebration. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your stories! 🐾

## *Finding the Fountain of Youth at Day Camp*

By Gilah Pomeranz

The quest for the proverbial fountain of youth has been written about for centuries and in many different cultures, focusing on finding an actual fountain. Turns out there might be a key to lasting youth that has nothing to do with water. Could it be horses? Riding them, grooming them, feeding them, simply being around them—it works a certain magic for so many of us. As playwright George

---

*This past year, the Centre's Summer Day Camps included one specifically for adults.*

---

Bernard Shaw said, "We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." And surely both he and those seeking that fountain would be heartened by The Riding Centre's students, volunteers, and boarders, who know that their equine friends keep them, at the very least, young at heart.

This past year, for the first time, the Centre's Summer Day Camps included one specifically for adults. Six women, with a combined 163 years of horseback riding experience, spent a week enjoying all the same activities that the children do. Two of the women had actually participated in Riding Centre Day Camps when they themselves were young and were delighted to relive the excitement they remembered from their youth. Another had never had a camp experience at all and was delighted to make up for this as an adult. The overwhelming response to the week, however, was shared by all six participants, as well as their two instructors, Carolyn Bailey and

---

*Continued On Page Two*

# Finding the Fountain of Youth

*Continued From Page One*

Adriene Kramer: The new and renewed friendships and camaraderie the riders developed were benefits that were as important as honing their riding skills.

The campers rode school horses in their lessons (even if they had horses of their own). They also made name tags for their stalls, decorated horseshoes, and ate their brown bag lunches together. There were both less experienced and advanced riders in the group, but they all encouraged and learned from one another.

One camper, who had attended as a child, noted, “Even though your body doesn’t always respond to what your mind knows, it’s satisfying to try.” Another, who had never attended, shared, “It was a week to be a kid at camp: No schedules, no phone calls, no meetings. Just riding, bagged lunches, crafts, and conversation—something I never experienced as a child.” One spoke of feeling out of her element at the beginning of the week, but then revealed, “With encouragement, I became more comfortable and confident. I tried things I hadn’t done before, like jumping with my eyes closed.” A rider with two horses of her own said of her school horse, “We formed



*The author's selfie with “Doc.”*

a partnership as the week went by,” and she concluded by saying that Adult Day Camp was the highlight of her summer.

I, too, can personally attest to the rejuvenating power of horseback riding. I rode back in the late '60s to early '70s, starting at age eight or nine, but dropped out of lessons when I was 14 and got a “real” job shelving books at the library. Over the years, I’ve remained friends with Carolyn and so have vicariously remained connected to The Riding Centre, but never to the point that I contemplated riding again. Then this fall she invited me on a trail ride—and Doc got me feeling the spark again, like Paint did all those decades ago.

So now I’m back at it. Riding again—and just being around the horses—has me feeling better physically, but more significantly, it has improved my spirit and my attitude. Especially my attitude about winter! The older I’ve gotten, the more I hate the cold, gray Ohio months that seem to last forever. But now I just layer up, bundle up, and saddle up, and I’m not miserable or grouchy (at least for the time I’m at the Centre).

I am enjoying the same sense of accomplishment as I re-learn different skills that I felt when learning them originally as a little girl. And at a recent 60th birthday celebration for another Riding Centre “kid” from back in the 1960s, the conversation inevitably turned to the joys of riding and caring for horses—and the lifelong friendships that are forged from these experiences. Fountain of youth, indeed! 🐾

## New Miller Fellow Lois Chermansky

By Carolyn Bailey

We want to welcome Lois Chermansky to The Riding Centre family! Lois is our most recent Miller Fellow, coming to us through a grant from the Yellow Springs Community Foundation’s Miller Fellowship Program. Although new to the horse world, Lois is not new to hard work, being an aerialist in her Chicago neighborhood Social Circus, an organization that uses the circus arts as an agent for social justice and social good. She hopes her time at The Riding Centre allows her to develop riding skills, as well as help with our therapeutic program, because she plans to pursue a career in helping people with disabilities.



*The Riding Centre’s new Miller Fellow Lois Chermansky with “Beau.”*

PHOTO: CAROLYN BAILEY

## The Riding Centre

**STAFF MEMBERS:** Carolyn Bailey (Manager and Head Instructor), Marsha Casdorff, Rowan Coburn-Griffis, Greg Fry, Yana Garing, Jody Garrett, Molly Hendrickson, Grace Keeton, Adriene Kramer, Elise Laskowski, 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 Gilah Pomeranz

**DESIGN & PRODUCTION:** Matt Minde

1117 E. Hyde Rd., Yellow Springs, OH 45387  
(937) 767-9087 • www.ridingcentre.org

### Did You Re-Member?

**Have you renewed your membership for 2019?** 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.**



# No Pain, No Gain? Not Always

By Janetta Lewis-Jennings

The Riding Centre hosts many fundraisers and writes several grants every year. This requires a lot of time and effort from our wonderful staff and volunteers. We also have a great group of donors who give financial support. Did you know there are two ways to support The Riding Centre without giving your time or money?

The first way is to shop on smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com and choose Riding Centre Association as your charity. Your Amazon experience will remain the same, but The Riding Centre will benefit every time you make a purchase!

Next, name The Riding Centre as your charity in Kroger's Community Rewards program. If you have a Kroger Plus card, go to [www.kroger.com/account/enroll](http://www.kroger.com/account/enroll), sign in, and choose Community Rewards Now. Follow the instructions to name The Riding Centre Association #AF920 as your charity. Now, every time you use your Plus Card, The Riding Centre gets



a donation!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank a few of the many people and organizations that make The Riding Centre the special place that it is:

- Our volunteers, who put on these fundraisers: Spring and Fall Dressage Shows, Fall Hunter Show, Jim Nealon's Jumping Clinic, the Centered Riding Clinic, the Ride-a-Thon, the Tack Sale, and the sale of Riding Centre apparel and mugs. Our volunteers also helped with Giving Tuesday activities that enabled us to receive a grant from The Yellow Springs Community Foundation and wrote grants for the Springfield Rotary Club, the Springfield Foundation, Give With Liberty, Greene Giving, the Dayton Foundation, the Morgan Family Foundation, and the Della Selsor Trust;

- Our staff, who work long hours for little pay and volunteer too; and

- Antioch College and the Glen Helen Ecology Institute, who share their land.

Thank you to all who give so much! You are truly appreciated! 🍎



Cedarville University students spreading new rubber footing around the indoor arena.

# A Year of Maintenance

If The Riding Centre gave years names, 2018 would be called the Year of Maintenance! The barns and fences were starting to look a bit tired, the bridge over the stream was on its third redo, and the semi-permanent fence around the stream had been knocked down too many times to count, so we fixed it all! Unfortunately, lots of fixing requires lots of money. When we were finished, our Buildings and Grounds fund was almost empty, so the proceeds from the 2018 Ride-A-Thon went to replenish it. A great big "thank you" to the people participat-

ing this year (with a hug also to one of you—you know who you are—we miss and thank you). To the following riders, you are the best: Kasey Baugh, Katherine Berg, Sophia Birdsall, Emily Bradley, Alex Brooks, Alannah & Meghan Calfee, Ayla Current, Brandon Dietsch, Tiffany Erhardt, Elsa & Farah Girard, Sunny Hunt, Adriene Kramer, Renee Lawkoski, Jen & Sophia Lawson, Chedin Manley, Evan Martin, Alex Oliver, Sophie Schwalbe, Audrey Strietz, Nicole Suzel, Kate VandenBos, Brandon VanHoose, Lily Woods, and Raven Zurbuchen. 🍎

# Our List of Contributors...

...and how you can join it!

- Adopt a Horse (yearly) .....\$1,200
- 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. Brett Ellis, Dr. Kathleen Lennon, Dr. Brad Luckenbill, Gary Holland, and Kenny Hoyle 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, Diane Dubose, Dave Kianka, Sean Oberschlake, and Chad Wilt 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
  - Carolyn & Chris Bailey
  - Rosemary & Jim Bailey
  - Bob Baldwin, Jr.
  - Myra & DJ Banion
  - Mr. Birtle
  - Carly Brookshire
  - Adrian & Joysan Edwards
  - Pat Funderburg
  - Sara Garing
  - Yana & Dave Garing
  - Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker
  - Adriene Kramer
  - Cindy Minton-Piatt
  - Nina Myatt
  - Ann Taylor
  - Jean McCally-Tebay
  - Timothy Toothman
- Rider Members: Family**
  - Anna Williamson & Marsha Casdorph
  - Nora Kaulk & Patty Erhardt
  - Lauren Miller & Hans Jacobson
  - Janetta Lewis-Jennings & Rich Jennings
  - Sophia, Hannah, Jen & Stephanie Lawson
- Individuals**
  - Lily Woods & Sarah Maxwell
  - Cindy Minton-Piatt & Steve Piatt
  - Annette Biehler
  - Katherine Berg
  - Lynn Caldwell
  - Diane Colvin
  - Ann Cooper
  - Jody Garrett
  - Amanda Huckle
  - Judy Keefner
  - Grace Keeton
  - Anna Kowal
  - Terry Luzader
  - Margaret Mattox
  - Lynn Mishler
  - Amanda Munson
  - Jim Nealon
  - Susie Nickels
  - Jill O'Banion
  - Celeste Robinson
  - Alma Shipley
  - Maggie Stack
  - Lizzie Stoermer
  - Yvonne Vadeboncoeur
  - Carol Van Ausdal
  - Diane Wusland

### THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

- Businesses:**
  - AC Services
  - Amazon Smile
  - Ball Corporation
  - Brian's Diesel
  - Buckley Bros
  - Calypso Grill and Smokehouse
  - Chad Wilt Farm
  - Clark Shaffer Hackett
  - Cooper Security Systems, LLC
  - Dunphy Real Estate
  - Grand & Reserve, LLC
  - The Kroger Company
  - Liberty Mutual
  - Little Art Theatre
  - Mark French Antiques
  - Oberschlake Farms
  - Ocean Marketing
  - Pony Express Veterinary Hospital
  - Roger Storer & Son Inc.
  - Stewards for Christ
  - The Site Group, Inc.
  - The Tacky Horse Veterinary Associates, LLC
  - Wagner Subaru
  - W.A. Hammond Drierite Co., LLC
  - Woerber Mustard Mfg. Co.
  - Yellow Springs News
- Individuals:**
  - Anonymous (5)
  - Gilah Pomeranz & Shep Anderson
  - Michelle & Douglas Auspach, Jr
  - Rachel & Travis Baader
  - Beth & Mark Bailey
  - Carolyn & Chris Bailey
  - Rosemary & Jim Bailey
  - Bob Baldwin, Jr.
  - Myra & DJ Banion
  - Myra & Jerry Baugh
  - Sharon Bell
  - R. Andrew Bell
  - Angela Moore & Katherine Berg
  - Daphne & Fred Berge
  - Akilah & Joseph Biederman
  - Annette Biehler
  - Melissa Bautista & Matt Birdsall
  - Valerie Blackwell-Truitt
  - Gloria Blue
  - Jenna Boettcher
  - Marvia Bradley
  - Nancy McHugh & Patrick Braham
  - Josie, Maureen & Drew Breckner
  - Melissa Brooks
  - Carly & Deton Brookshire
  - Lynn Caldwell
  - Meghan Calfee
  - Dennis Campbell
  - Charleen & Jim Carlson
  - Andrea Carr
  - Kate & Dan Carrigan

LIST CONTINUES ON PAGE FOUR



Beck Wagner, Doc Wagner's grandson, right, rides 'Doc,' a paint that was adopted in honor of Bo Wagner's father, Doc Wagner, above. PHOTOS: BO WAGNER

## A tribute that keeps on giving— Adopt-A-'Doc'

To honor his father, Doc Wagner, founder of Wagner Subaru, Bo and Maria Wagner and Wagner Subaru have adopted Doc, The Riding Centre's 14-year-old paint gelding, through our adopt-a-horse program. This program allows individuals, businesses, and or-

ganizations to "adopt" a horse, offsetting the cost of maintaining these wonderful animals who work so hard for us all. What makes this adoption even more special is that Doc is the favorite horse of Beck Wagner, Doc's grandson. A perfect circle!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 10	Adriene Kramer Clinic*
May 11	Dressage Show
August 3	Jim Nealon Fundraising Clinic
September 7	60th Anniversary Celebration
21	Dressage Show
22	Hunter Show
October 27	Adriene Kramer Clinic
December 8	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](mailto:adrienekramer@gmail.com). For Dayton Local Show Circuit dates, call The Riding Centre at (937) 767-9087.

### OUR CONTRIBUTORS (From Page Three)

- Adrienne Chesire
- Wendy Clark
- Brian Clem
- Deloris & Duke Conrad
- Mary & Craig Conrad
- Mary Fahrenbruck & Harvey Curran
- Ayla Current
- Karyn & Steve Current
- Erin & Neil Davis
- Gabby Devoe
- Jennifer & Matt Dietsch
- Diane Dubose
- Barbara Duncombe
- Jennifer & Kelly Dunn
- Liz Dunn
- Regan Dunn
- Sheila Dunphy-Pallotta
- Teresa Dunphy
- Roy Eastman
- David Edmonds
- Joysan Edwards
- Linda Egger
- Patty & Peter Erhardt
- Peggy & David Erskine
- Mary & Trent Fisher
- Noelle Fisher
- Pam & Jerry Fisher
- Peter Foreman, CFP
- Jill & John Franzen
- Greg Fry
- Kelsey Fuhrmann
- Sara Garing
- Sarah & Matt Garing
- Yana & Dave Garing
- Jody Garrett
- Amber & Jason Girard
- Elsa & Farah Girard
- Abby Graver
- Lari Graver
- Dione & Saul Greenberg
- Mark Grimes
- Erica & Matt Grushon
- Vivian Grushon
- Missy & Bill Hallmark
- Suzette Castonguay & Ron Hampton
- Lynda Hardman
- Laura Maxwell Hartman & Joshua Hartman
- Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker
- Ann Cooper & Bruce Heckman
- Lori Kuhn & Karl Hendrickson
- Kira Hendrickson
- Molly Hendrickson
- Charlotte & William Henning
- Lauren Herren
- Elizabeth Hoffman
- Cathy Howard
- Beatrix Karthaus Hunt & Allen Hunt
- Amy & Bob Hunter
- Tia & Bob Huston
- Janetta Lewis-Jennings & Rich Jennings
- Kathy Johnson
- Judy Keefner
- Grace & Graham Keeton
- Carol & Charles Kidwell
- Anna Kingsbury
- Karen & Daryl Kitchen
- Bonnie Knuckles
- Adriene Kramer
- Toni Dosik & Len Kramer
- Beth & Jeff Kreidenweis
- Shirley Kristensen
- Louise Lambert
- Ruth & Hank Lapp
- Elise & Tim Laskowski
- Hannah, Jen & Sophia Lawson
- Stephanie & Jeff Lawson
- Sharon & Zack Leach
- Barbara Leeds
- Audrey Ling
- Randy Link
- Jim Lunay
- Terry & Mark Luzader
- Margo & Terry Ray Mace
- Susanne Hashim & Tom Manley
- Michelle & Patrick Marek
- Amy & Mike Martin
- Margaret & Will Mattox
- Sarah Maxwell
- Judy & Dan McGregor
- Liz Mersky
- Sylvia Ellison & Craig Mesure
- Ryan Miller
- Susan & Phil Miller
- Matt Minde
- Cheryl Molli
- Audrey Morgan
- Caroline & Paul Mullin
- Nina Myatt
- Donna Pollex-Najarian & Pete Najarian
- Mark French & Jim Nealon
- Susie & Rick Nickels
- Jamie Noble
- Jill & Doug O'Banion
- Margaret & Larry Ostrowski
- Debbie Otherson
- Tina & Plato Pavlatos
- Mary Beth & Timothy Pepper
- Cindy Minton-Piatt & Steve Piatt
- Sue Pfeiffer
- Christine & Mike Raber
- Trinity Raber
- China Ray
- Hannah & Lauren Reed
- Lori & David Reed
- JoFrannie & Mike Reichert
- Celeste Robinson
- Earl Robinson
- Jennifer Robinson
- Amy Ruber
- Jenifer Cowperthwaite Ruka & Raymond Ruka
- Maria & Fritz Schuermeyer
- Al Schlueter
- Sophie Schwalbe
- Jane & Bob Scott
- Sherrid Scott
- Virginia Shaffer
- Alma & Robert Shipley
- Maritza Slattery
- Shawna Sorrell
- Suzy & Dennis Sparlin
- Jan Spier
- Elaine Meredith Steele
- Melanie & Bill Stoermer
- Becca Strobridge
- Suzanne & Mike Sumner
- Marcia Sutherland
- Nicole Suzel
- Barb & Ron Szkody
- Jessica Tanner
- Laura Taylor
- Jean McCally Tebay & Jim Tebay
- Megan Trolander
- Thaddene Triplett
- John Thomas
- Carol & Paul Van Ausdal
- Amber & Daryl VandenBos
- Bonnie VandenBos
- Melanie & Nick VanHoose
- Margaret Veenstra
- Nancy & Rick Viramontes
- Maria & Bo Wagner
- Lauren Heaton & Kirk Weigand
- Joel Weikle
- John Weikle
- Corinne & Thomas Welch, MD
- Lorie & Thomas Welch, Jr.
- Mary-Anna & Gary Welch
- Tania Welch
- Erin Whitty
- Julia Hegeler & Kathryn Williams
- Anna Williamson
- Marsha Casdorff & David Williamson
- Debra Williamson
- Diane Wilson
- Linda & Jerry Winters
- Tina & Lowell Woods, Jr.
- Bob & Chris Wyatt
- Janet & Nick Yahle
- Stephanie Zirkin
- Chris Zurbuchen
- Fairl & John Zurbuchen
- Michel Zurbuchen

