



The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2013

Of Stable Friendships

By Caitlin Turner

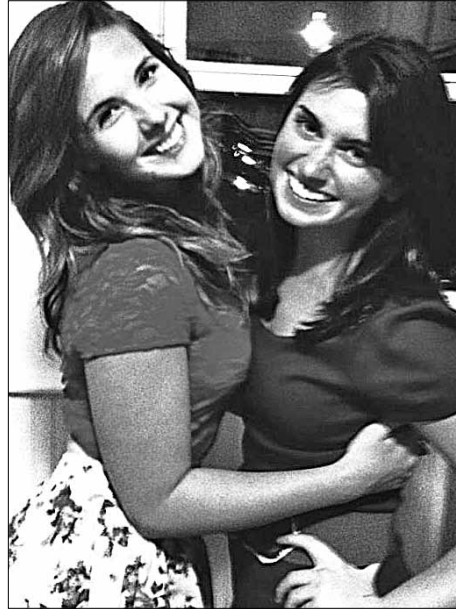
I remember it like it was yesterday. I was eleven years old and about to embark on another weeklong summer camp at the Riding Centre. I was assigned to ride Jeb and was working on cleaning out his stall when I noticed that I was not alone in my section of the barn. It started with a few “hellos” and sharing a wheelbarrow as we mucked out our stalls, but my fellow camper, Grace, soon became my best friend.

When you are a little girl who loves horses, your non-horse-loving friends often roll their eyes when you talk about horses, run around like one, and hoard Breyer toys. When the dream of riding becomes a reality, it gets worse. Suddenly, you are an eight year old who loves the smell of a barn more than perfume, you beg your parents to buy carrots and apples at the grocery store, and you get caught reading *The Saddle Club* books at school instead of doing your assignments.

So, as you can imagine, I was relieved to meet Grace. Finally, I knew someone who was as crazy as me. We thought we were so adventurous as we took long trail rides through the woods and galloped in the open fields we found. Then we would go to Young’s Dairy and grab some ice cream and plan our next ride.

But Grace and I are not the only ones who started our friendship at the Riding Centre. Jenny Cowperthwaite-Ruka and Patsy Kahoe met outside of the tack room in 1967. Jenny was the teaching assistant for Patsy’s class, and they hit it off almost instantly (or became “joined at the hip” as Patsy refers to it).

“Back then those of us who were part of the Centre were nearly inseparable. It went far beyond teaching, riding, showing, and barn chores,” Patsy said. “We rode into town to eat lunch at the Tastee Freeze. We took all day long rides, such as to nearby towns. We went to the movies, live theater productions, out to eat. We snuck over to Morris Bean at daybreak to play horseback hide and seek in their



Caitlin Turner and Grace McCoskey last Fall.

beautifully mowed woods.”

The two began their friendship at the Centre, but Patsy attributes most of their friendship to Jenny’s personality, intelligence, and humanity, and to Louise Soelberg, founder of the Riding Centre. It was Louise, Patsy said, who created a unique place where people of diverse backgrounds could come together because of their love of horses and create meaningful, lasting relationships.

Carolyn Bailey, director of the Riding Centre, continues the legacy of Louise. Carolyn tries to nurture the unique friendships that develop at the Riding Centre because she also met her lifelong friend, Linda Winters, while they were learning to ride as children at the Riding Centre. She and Linda have been friends since the fifth grade, when they rode in the same class together. Their friendship blossomed as they spent many summers riding their horses or helping out at the barn by hauling hay and painting.

Forty-five years later, their friendship continues, through marriages and children (now grown) of their own. Carolyn even taught Linda’s three girls in Riding Centre riding

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Volunteers are the Backbone of The Riding Centre

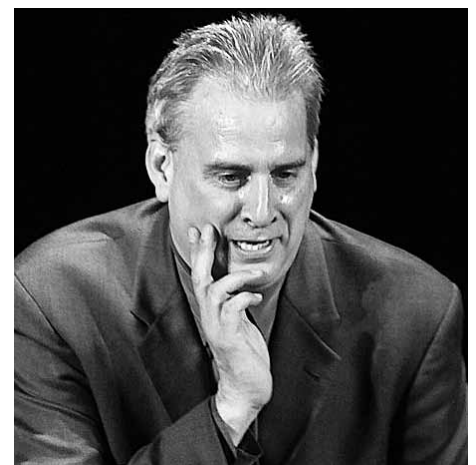
The Riding Centre has amazing volunteers. They can be spotted leading horses in therapeutic lessons and busily working at horse shows and clinics wearing Riding Centre t-shirts. But, on any given day, there are many volunteers working behind the scenes. To name just a few...

The duties for which **Carolyn Bailey** gets paid are just a fraction of what she does for The Riding Centre. She is in charge of three fundraisers, but is always in charge of making sure everything is in perfect order and runs smoothly at every fundraiser or event. One cannot begin to list everything Carolyn does. The Riding Centre is truly her life.

Marsha Casdorph keeps on working long after the horses are fed and the stalls are clean. She’s always there when something extra needs doing. In addition to organizing clinics, she’s the secretary on the Board, helps with almost every fundraiser, and assists her husband, **David Williamson**, in keeping the Riding Centre website up to date.

Speaking of David Williamson, his ef-

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Master magician David Williamson reappears this spring with another fabulous OperaCadabra fundraiser. Photo by Susan Gartner.



Vikki Hazelbaker retired from The Riding Centre Board after serving 15 years. During her tenure, she wrote grants that made it possible for the Riding Centre to be the beautiful facility it is today. Vikki is a true Riding Centre BFF! Photo by Kris Hillock.

Volunteers

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forts in producing OperaCadabra take an enormous amount of work. Those magic hands can also be spotted banging out water buckets at the Riding Centre when it's 10 degrees.

Our super-duper grant writer, **Vikki Hazelbaker**, has spent countless hours on her work for the Riding Centre, picking just the right words and just the right pictures, putting together a slide show and

then a power point presentation, Vikki has earned approximately \$150,000 for the Riding Centre. She retired from the board after serving 15 years, but only after another super-duper grant writer, **Cindy Minton-Piatt**, could take over.

In addition to the day-to-day work that was offered, the Riding Centre had 10 fundraisers in 2012. That's a lot of volunteering! There are so many that give so much and not enough room to cover them all. The Riding Centre volunteers are dedicated, tireless and indispensable. Thank you. 🐾

Ride-A-Thon replenishes fund

This year has been a busy year for maintenance of our barns (which are over 100 years old), fields, and riding trails. Some of the projects completed include new fencing in the mares' field, three new automatic waterers, complete stall renovations and new electrical wiring at McCally Barn, and trail

refurbishing in Hidden Valley. The proceeds from this year's Ride-A-Thon, one of our most successful fundraisers, will help replenish the Building and Grounds Fund. We want to thank an anonymous donor for a cash donation, and the following riders and their families for participating:

Kasey Baugh
Olivia & Zachary
Brintlinger-Conn
Spencer Christie
Tyler Dickson
Abby Graver
Kira & Molly
Hendrickson
Jaden Johnson
McKenna Jones
Alex Kearns

Hannah & Sophia
Lawson
Ellie & Olivia
Ling
Ally McCue
Jaden Mahle
Evan Martin
Anna Mullin
Alex Oliver
Mason Potter
Trinity Raber

Forrest Rowe
Maritza Slattery
Holly Smith
Kathleen Spencer
Lizzie Stoermer
Beck Wagner
Stephanie Welch
Anna Williamson
Brielle Willis
Sara Zendlovitz
Raven Zurbuchen

Stable Friends

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camps and supported them when they entered their horses in shows. The two friends have become like two families who now vacation together and visit as often as they can, with their experiences at the Riding Centre the foundation of their shared bond.

"Through all this, Linda would come to visit, and I would visit her," Carolyn said. "We both still had horses, so she would always ride when she visited."

As for Grace and I, what began as two girls giggling about riding lessons, having sleepovers, and talking about how nervous we were to jump cross country soon turned into two teenagers helping each other through high school, break ups, and incredibly steep ski slopes.

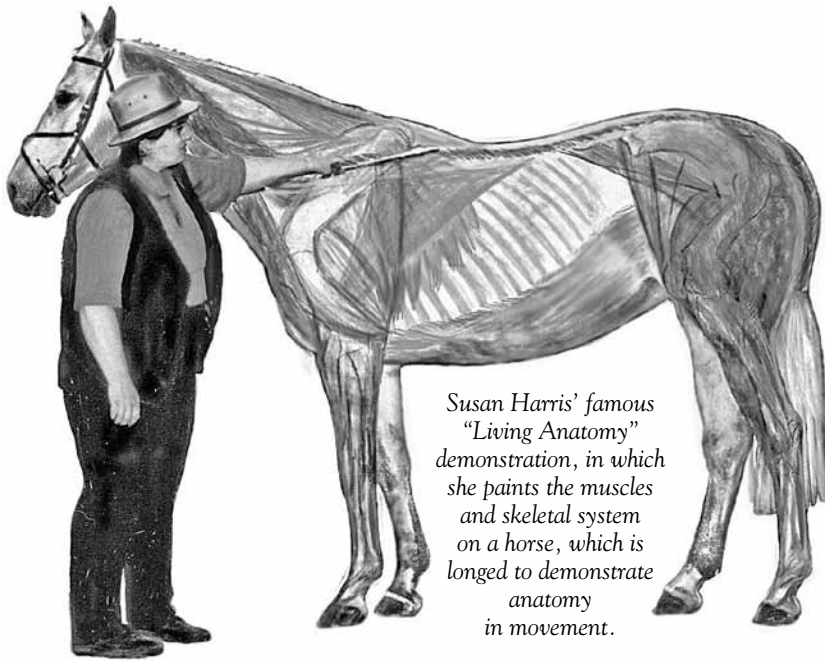
I went to college, and Grace now teaches at the Riding Centre. No matter what happens, we are always there for one another. Every time I visit home, we try to make time to ride. Our shared love of viewing the world from a horse's back brought us together and began the sisterhood we share now. Whenever people ask me how we know each other, I always remember that one hot summer and the first morning I cleaned Jeb's stall. 🐾

The Riding Centre

STAFF MEMBERS: Carolyn Bailey,
Manager and Head Instructor
Carly Bailey, Regina Brecha,
Marsha Casdorff, Greg Fry,
Yana Garing, Jody Garrett,
Ona Harshaw, Adriene Kramer,
Janetta Lewis, Grace McCoskey,
and Zoey McKinley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Janetta Lewis, *President*
Jim Nealon, *Vice President*
Marsha Casdorff, *Secretary*
Charlene Carlson, Vikki Hazelbaker,
Sylvia Ellison, Cindy Minton-Piatt,
and Alma Shipley

NEWSLETTER:
Editor: Jim Nealon
Contributors: Carolyn Bailey, Caitlin
Turner, Janetta Lewis, Adriene
Kramer, Cindy Minton-Piatt
Design & Production: Matt Minde



Susan Harris' famous "Living Anatomy" demonstration, in which she paints the muscles and skeletal system on a horse, which is longed to demonstrate anatomy in movement.

Susan Harris—

Drawing on Experience

Susan Harris, an international clinician, riding teacher, equestrian author and artist, came to Yellow Springs in July 2012. She is a Senior Clinician through Centered Riding® (she apprenticed under Sally Swift) and also a "Master Instructor" through the American Riding Instructors Association. Susan has authored and illustrated many equestrian books and is a renowned expert on equine and rider conformation and movement.

We started the weekend with a lecture in the Great Room of the Senior Citizen Center on Friday. Susan brought some diagrams she made that afternoon to talk about the anatomy of the horse and rider and how the rider can use Centered Riding principles to help the horse perform better. It was an information-packed overview for our weekend ahead.

While we have enjoyed many Centered Riding clinics over the years, this was the first official Centered Jumping clinic we have hosted, and it was a hit. Susan is very approachable and friendly. She was open with sharing information and eager to see improvement.

Saturday was a day of flat work, no jumping, getting the riders and horses working together to make the jumping on Sunday successful. On Saturday afternoon, before a potluck dinner, Susan offered to teach us how to draw horses. Watching her draw was one of my personal favorites of

the weekend. She starts with random lines that don't resemble much of anything, but as she keeps adding to the paper, the colors start to come alive and the horse almost starts moving on its own.

This past year was recorded as the hottest in history, and the weekend Susan came to The Riding Centre was no exception. We had to change the clinic schedule to be finished by noon both days to avoid being outside, as heat indexes were approaching 120 degrees. We ended each morning with an unmounted lecture, which was an excellent discussion of conformation, as each horse is built a little differently and that can predispose them to different skills and weaknesses. Susan brought a lot of enthusiasm with her and was able to share that with the participants. What a great weekend! 🌟

Did you Re-Member?

Have you renewed your membership for 2013? 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.**

Our List of Contributors...

...and how you can join it!

- Adopt a Horse (yearly)\$1200
- 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)\$1000
- Blue Ribbon (yearly)\$100
- Supporting (yearly)\$25

Riding:

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

Special thanks to:

Brad Luckenbill, Brett Ellis, Kenny Hoyle, and Allen Metz who keep our horses up and running. Also, to Cedarville University for providing volunteers for our therapeutic program. Without these folks we could not do such wonderful work.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS:

Lifetime Members:

- Andi Adkins
- Mary Agna
- Jessica L. Andrews
- Mr. Birtle
- Adrian & Joysan Edwards
- Pat Funderburg
- Yana & Dave Garing
- Vikki & Dale
- Hazelbaker
- Adriene Kramer
- Nina Myatt
- Ann Taylor
- Jean McCally- Tebay
- Timothy Toothman
- Contributing Members:
- Blue Ribbon
- Kaethi Seidl & Bob Brecha
- Jean & James Nealon
- Jenifer Cowperthwaite
- Ruka & Raymond
- Ruka
- Sandy Love & Sam Young

- Charlotte, Mary & Michael Jarrett
- Karen & Rachel Hammond

Individual

- Claudia Benson
- Annette Biehler
- Jenna Boettcher
- Bev Brown
- Lynn Caldwell
- Ann Cooper
- Jody Garrett
- Molly Hendrickson
- Joe Herbert
- Gary Holland
- Janetta Lewis
- Sarah Maxwell
- Grace McCoskey
- Jane McGinnis
- Zoey McKinley
- Liz Mersky
- Laurie Miller
- Cindy Minton-Piatt
- Lynn Mishler
- Brandee Naff
- Jim Nealon
- Susie Nickles
- Jill O'Banion
- Hillary Quast
- Celeste Robinson
- Jocelyn Robinson
- Alma Shipley
- Jyl Snyder
- Lizzie Stoermer
- Carol Van AUSDAL
- Diane Wilson

Supporting

- Dr. Gordan
- Cowperthwaite

Rider Members:

- Family
- Carly, Carolyn & Chris Bailey
- Anna Williamson & Marsha Casdorff
- Nora & Patty Erhardt
- Calla Morris, Holly & Valerie Smith

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

Businesses

- Ball Corporation
- Beavercreek Pediatric Dentistry
- Cooper Security Systems
- Dunphy Real Estate
- Edwards Excavating
- Give With Liberty
- Greene Co. Council on Aging: In honor of Karen Peterbaugh
- Hewlett-Packard
- Kelley & Co.
- Miami Valley Equine
- Acupressure
- Oberschlake Farms
- Ocean Marketing
- Pony Express Veterinary Clinic
- Southtown Heating & Cooling, Inc.
- The Tacky Horse
- Trinergy Riding Inst., LLC
- Wagner Subaru
- Xenia Shoe & Leather
- Yellow Springs News

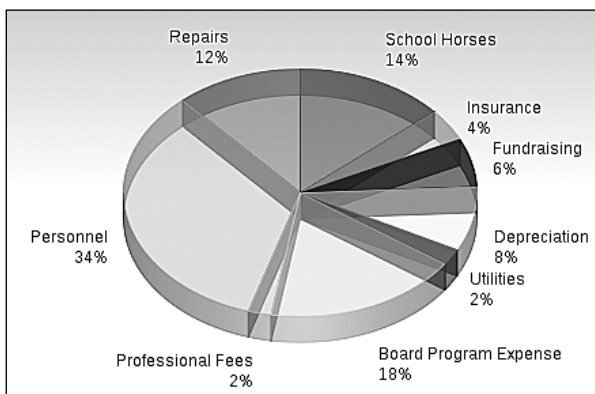


Doggone (re)tired

After eight years of protecting his people, cats and horses from raccoons, ground squirrels and UPS trucks, Bogey is retiring. He is now living with longtime Riding Centre employee, Marsha Casdorff, enjoying company, couches and beds. Although we will miss him dearly, at twelve years old with hearing loss and creaky hips, we know this is what's best for him. So look for him on his frequent visits to the barn; he will love to see you!

Riding Centre Breakdown

In case you've ever wondered what it takes to run the Riding Centre, the chart on the right shows exactly how much of our resources go to which parts of the operation. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to Carolyn.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 24	*Adriene Kramer Clinic: "Bring the Spring in your riding"
April 13	OperaCadabra magically reappears!
May 24	*Adriene Kramer Clinic: "Dressage: What's it all about?"
June 1	Hunter Show
June 2	Dressage Show
September 8	*Adriene Kramer Clinic: "Jumping: How to 'up' your ride"
September 14	Dressage Show
October 26-26	Centered Riding® Clinic
November 17	*Adriene Kramer Clinic: "Game Day: Season wrap-up"
December 1	Riding Centre Association Members' Meeting & Potluck

* Adriene Kramer's clinics will be held on Sundays, starting 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 go to www.adrienekramer.com or 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:

Yellow Springs Community Council, United Way, Glen Helen Ecology Institute, Springfield Foundation, Dayton Foundation, Springfield Rotary Club, Morgan Family Foundation, and the Yellow Springs Community Foundation



OUR CONTRIBUTORS

(continued from Page 3)

Individuals:	
David Acton	Leah Lind
Melanie & Ralph Acton	Audrey Ling
Andi Adkins	Leisa Ling
David Alexander	Yu R Yuan-Ling
Carol & Steve Artley	Kimberly & Gary Lovings
Phyllis & Tom Ashworthy	Sara Lowe
Carly Bailey	Katie, Jill & Brad Luckenbill
Carolyn & Chris Bailey	Erika & David Mahle
Rosemary & Jim Bailey	Katie & John Malone
Bob Baldwin	Adriene Kramer & Jeff May
Myra & Jerry Baugh	Grace McCoskey
Don Beard	Monica & Mark McCue
Annette Biehler	Barbara McKenzie
Aurelia Blake	Zoey McKinley
Kaethi Seidl & Bob Brecha	Liz Mersky
Regina Brecha	Sylvia Ellison & Craig Measure
Lynn Caldwell	Cheryl Meyer
Kate & Dan Carrigan	Gene Milgram
Charleen & Jim Carlson	Adriane & Michael Miller
Craig Conrad	Marion Miller
Angela Crawford	Dorothy & Ernest Moore
Angela Brintlinger & Steven Conn	Anna Mullin
Arlene & David Cooper: in honor of Ann & Cypress	Caroline & Paul Mullin
Judy & Chester Cooper	Shirley Mullin
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Diane Dubose	Christine & Michael Raber
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Laura Ellison	Peggy & David Erskine
Anne & Staffan Erickson	Greg Fry
Mora & Mike Gama-Coba	Mora & Mike Gama-Coba
Yana & Dave Garing	Jody Garrett
Jody Garrett	Lari, Meghan & Geoff Graver
Lari, Meghan & Geoff Graver	Dione & Saul Greenberg
Dione & Saul Greenberg	Chris Grote
Chris Grote	Kathy Groth
Kathy Groth	Dave Gullett
Dave Gullett	Ron Hampton
Ron Hampton	Ona Harshaw
Ona Harshaw	Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker
Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker	Ann Cooper & Bruce Heckman
Ann Cooper & Bruce Heckman	Bob Hendrickson
Bob Hendrickson	Lori Kuhn & Karl Hendrickson
Lori Kuhn & Karl Hendrickson	Kira Hendrickson
Kira Hendrickson	Molly Hendrickson
Molly Hendrickson	Dave Hyson
Dave Hyson	Laurie Miller & Hans Jacobson
Laurie Miller & Hans Jacobson	Sue Jacobson
Sue Jacobson	Georgia & Doug Jewell
Georgia & Doug Jewell	Diane & Eric Johnson
Diane & Eric Johnson	Jaden Johnson
Jaden Johnson	Missy Jones
Missy Jones	Alex Kearns
Alex Kearns	Chris & Mike Kearns
Chris & Mike Kearns	Bonnie Knuckles
Bonnie Knuckles	Shirley Kristensen
Shirley Kristensen	Stephanie Lawson
Stephanie Lawson	Laurie Leitzel
Laurie Leitzel	Janetta & Jeff Lewis
Janetta & Jeff Lewis	