

The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2022





The Riding Centre's first annual Clip Clop 5K in October, 2021: Yunus Brevik of Yellow Springs, left, and Meredith Johnson of Xenia, right, overall male and female winners, cross the finish line with their helpers. PHOTOS: REGINA BRECHA

Running for the numbers—

The Riding Centre's Clip Clop 5K

By Marsha Casdorph

Fundraisers are the "life blood" of all nonprofits, and The Riding Centre is no exception. Our fundraisers, focused mostly on clinics, horse shows, tack sales, and our beloved annual Ride-A-Thon, have allowed us to improve our facilities and keep our horses happy and healthy.

When Terry Luzader came to The Riding Centre as a riding student and volunteer several years ago, she wanted to use her knowledge and expertise as a marathon runner to benefit The Riding Centre. When our 60th anniversary rolled around in 2019, Terry volunteered to oversee the festivities, and she percolated the idea of a first-ever 5K run/walk to go along with other events.

Her expertise as a runner and organizer resulted in a successful race with over 70 runners and walkers. Not only did she design the course, she also found sponsors and introduced The Riding Centre to many in the community who were unaware of our mission to teach good horsemanship and riding to any-

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one, whatever their abilities.

The event was so successful and fun that the Riding Centre Therapeutic Program Clip Clop 5K was born, with the idea to hold it annually. But then, 2020 happened. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic halted all of our in-person fundraisers, including the 5K.

However, with 2021 being the year of COVID-19 vaccinations, we crossed our fingers and hoped to hold our 5K fundraiser in November. Terry again took the helm, designing the course, advertising

the 5K, and getting the sponsorship of Wagner Subaru, one of our most steadfast supporters over the years.

With Wagner Subaru's gracious sponsorship of our first Annual Riding Centre Therapeutic Program Clip Clop 5K, Terry was able to obtain one of the premier timing companies, Can't Stop Running, to professionally time our event, as well as provide online pre-registration, a stunning archway, music, clock and chute, hats, unique awards, refreshments, and amenities.

More than 60 runners participated in our 5K on Saturday, November 13, 2021, despite the blustery weather. Marketed as a family event, it was only fitting that the two 5K overall winners crossed the finish line with a stroller and a dog! The male overall winner was Yunus Brevik of Yellow Springs, with a chip time of 22:51.6, and the female overall winner was Meredith Johnson of Xenia, with a chip time of 26:50.7.

Thanks to Terry's vision, we can look forward to our annual 5K for years to come. Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22, 2022!

Ride-A-Thon 2021— Ride, donate, share!

By Carolyn Bailey

"Ride—Donate—Share!" was the theme of this year's Ride-a-Thon, and, boy, did kind folks step up! After last year's virtual-only Ride-a-Thon, we were able to have riders back in the saddle and completing obstacles once again, while still offering a virtual option. This hybrid version was also very successful, with proceeds going to repairs and upkeep of our barns and grounds, a neverending endeavor.

Many thanks to everyone who participated, both online and in person, with special shout-outs to our Secret Santa of fundraising and to Sophia Birdsall, who, with the help of her parents Melissa Bautista and Matt Birdsall, posted a sweet video that tugged at the heartstrings and inspired people to give. With class sizes still being kept to a minimum due to COVID-19, fundraising has become more important than ever, and we are grateful for your generous contributions.

The Riding Centre

STAFF MEMBERS: Carolyn Bailey (Manager and Head Instructor), Adriene Kramer (Assistant Manager and Instructor), Regina Brecha (Instructor), Marsha Casdorph, Rowan Coburn-Griffis, Greg Fry, Yana Garing, Jody Garrett, Elise Laskowski, Jennifer Lawson, Janetta Lewis-Jennings, Susie Nickels

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NEWSLETTER: Editors: Marsha Casdorph and Jill O'Banion; CONTRIBUTORS: Carolyn Bailey, Marsha Casdorph, Janetta Lewis-Jennings

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Farrier Kenny Hoyle putting shoes on Monty. PHOTO: CAROLYN BAILEY

Did you know?

Caring for Forty-four Feet

Domesticated horses need regular attention to their hooves all year round because a horse's hooves keep growing just like our fingernails and toenails. That can mean just getting hooves trimmed, a new set of horse shoes, or a reset of the shoes. The farrier or blacksmith, who specializes in horse-shoeing and hoof care, helps to keep the horse comfortable and sound for any discipline.

At The Riding Centre, our horses wear shoes for most of the year, with reg-

ular shoeing or trims averaging around every six weeks. Shoes are usually pulled after fall lessons end sometime in November and put back on before spring lessons in March. Even when the horses are unshod, they still get trimmed regularly. Even though it is necessary, it is not cheap. Imagine buying a pair of expensive running shoes every six weeks, and multiply that by 11! That sounds luxurious, but for our horses, it's just normal.

The Wagners Pay It Forward

By Carolyn Bailey

Almost everyone is familiar with the concept of paying it forward, an unsolicited kind gesture to friends, family, and strangers. No one I know embodies this sentiment more than Bo Wagner, his wife Maria, and their two children Grace and Beck.

Beck started riding at The Riding Centre many years ago on a pony named Trinket, which tells you how young and small he was! Over the last 11 years, he has become proficient at riding on his own, mastering the walk, trot, and canter, as well as jumping small fences.

Throughout those years, the Wagner family, as well as Wagner Subaru, the family-owned Subaru dealership, has been

extremely generous to The Riding Centre. For instance, they have "adopted" Doc, our paint quarter horse that Beck adores, to honor Doc Wagner, founder of Wagner Subaru and Beck's grandfather. Wagner Subaru also sponsored our 60th Anniversary Celebration in 2019 and our first annual Clip Clop 5K in 2021. Without the Wagners' generosity, these fundraisers wouldn't have been as fun and successful as they were.

And it's not just The Riding Centre who benefits from their giving— many local fundraisers and organizations are beneficiaries of Wagner Subaru's support. What a help they are to The Riding Centre and the local community, paying it forward with smiles, kindness, and generosity.

'New Normal' Fundraising

By Janetta Lewis-Jennings

As we all face a third year of the CO-VID-19 pandemic reality, our creative abilities are challenged to adapt in order to survive. The Riding Centre has evolved to meet the challenge of fundraising in multiple ways.

Although our shows and clinics seemed "normal," there were many adaptations made prior to and even during the events to ensure a safe environment, and our Spring and Fall Dressage Shows went smoothly. Although we will greatly miss Charlene Carlson, who retired last year after years of organizing our dressage shows, Regina Brecha stepped up to take her place and did a wonderful job of organizing the Fall Dressage Show. As always, Carolyn Bailey ran a flawless Fall Hunter Show.

In addition to clinics by Adriene Kramer, Lori Miller, and Jim Nealon, some new activities were introduced. Adriene directed several drill team exercises, and Regina tested out an obstacle training clinic. Both were met with rave reviews.

In October, the always successful Ride-A-Thon went hybrid, after being only virtual in 2020. Riders and supporters could participate and/or sponsor virtually, thanks to David Williamson, or in person, thanks to Carolyn. It was a lot of fun no matter which way you chose.

In November, the first annual Riding Centre Therapeutic Program Clip Clop 5K run/walk took place. Terry Luzader organized the successful race, with the generous sponsorship of Wagner Subaru, and all the hardy volunteers and participants who weathered the cold to support The Riding Centre.

All you have to do is shop to benefit The Riding Centre. Prints of Liz Dunn's delightful design of names of our favorite school horses were offered for sale. So many memories for so many students — Who wouldn't love that? Hang the poster next to the beautiful calendar that Carolyn created, and you've got a wall full of joy. Don't forget to sign up and choose The Riding Centre Association as your charity of choice through Amazon Smiles and Kroger's Community Reward (The Riding Centre's number is AF920).

Many thanks for their support to Community Health Foundation; the Dayton Foundation; Della Selsor Trust; Greene County Community Improvement Corporation; Mark A. Kreusch Memorial Fund; Morgan Family Foundation; Ohio Foundation; Rotary Club of Springfield, Ohio; Springfield Foundation; and Yellow Springs Community Foundation.

A big thank you to Cindy Minton-Piatt for her hard work and expertise in writing grants.

Finally, a big shout out to the Glen Helen Association for sharing the Glen with The Riding Centre.

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Did You Re-Member?

Have you renewed your membership for 2022? 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.

Special thanks to: Dr. Brett Ellis and Elisha Wilson of Veterinary Associates, and Dr. Ashley Appelhans, Dr. Kathleen Lennon, and Dr. Brad Luckenbill of Pony Express Veterinary Hospital for keeping our horses healthy and sound; Cedarville University for providing students for the hundreds of hours of volunteering for our therapeutic riding program; Diane DuBose, Sean Oberschlake, and Chad Wilt for the hay they provide (our horses thank you too!).

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

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LIST CONTINUES ON PAGE FOUR



Our Board of Trustees gets the job done! Clockwise, from left: Colleen Iungerman, Carol Van Ausdal, Sylvia Ellison, Carolyn Bailey, Susie Nickels, Stephanie Lawson, Marsha Casdorph, Janetta Lewis-Jennings and Jill O'Banion. PHOTO: JENNIFER LAWSON

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 24	Lori Miller Fundraiser Clinic
May 14	Dressage Show
August 13	Jim Nealon Fundraising Clinic
September 10	Hunter Show
11	Dressage Show
October 1–31	Annual Ride-A-Thon
22	Riding Centre 5K Fundraiser
For more information, check www.ridingcentre.org and our Facebook page.	

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

Antioch College; Community Health Foundation; The Dayton Foundation; Della Selsor Trust; Glen Helen Association; Greene County Community Improvement Corporation; Mark A. Kreusch Memorial Fund; Morgan Family Foundation; Rotary Club of Springfield, Ohio; Springfield Foundation; and Yellow Springs Community Foundation.





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