



THE JOYRIDERS

THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION

Prince Edward Island, Canada

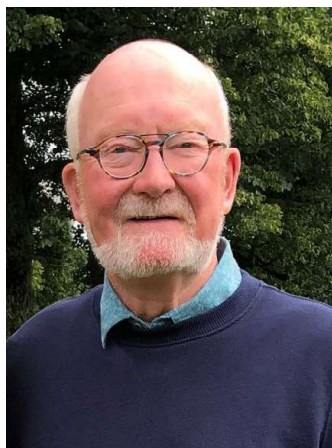
“THE WHINNY”

Issue #26 ~ JUNE 2021



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.



ANDY ROBB MEMORIAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY LAUNCHED AT 2021 AGM

The purpose of this special fund is to provide long-term financial stability through sustaining revenue from ongoing monthly donations.

The project was instigated and developed by Andy Robb, who called it his “swan song” as he prepared to retire from his position as Director Emeritus. The fund was officially launched at our AGM on May 19, 2021. We are only too sad that Andy did not live to be present at this special event.

Andy was a devoted and active member of the Joyriders Board for almost 20 years, during which time we were able to eliminate long waiting lists for our riders, establish a greater community awareness of the value of our service, and broaden our group of faithful supporters. In 2014, Andy was named Director Emeritus in recognition of his long and dedicated service.

The Joyriders has been blessed with a generous group of donors who, year after year, help make it possible for us to deliver therapeutic riding opportunities to Islanders with disabilities. Most years, however, our costs outweigh our revenues. Over time, it is anticipated that this sustainability partnership will compensate for any shortfall in revenues needed to fully support the Joyriders program.

For more information about this fund and how to become a sustaining donor, please visit our website at

www.thejoyriders.ca

On the home page, click on the **Donate to Joyriders** button.



THE JOYRIDERS
Therapeutic Riding Association of PEI, Inc.



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The Andy Robb Memorial Partnership for Sustainability

In honour of Andy Robb, the Board has launched a subscription initiative that he was in the process of developing prior to his passing. Andy's vision was to seek out individuals who would be prepared to commit to a modest monthly sustaining donation to Joyriders.

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Your participation in this partnership would be very much appreciated.

CANADIAN THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION

2021 MARION CHARTLEY OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR AWARD

BESTOWED ON ANDY ROBB

This annual CanTRA award is sponsored by JoAnn Thompson Franklin (CanTRA president) of Tidewater Physiotherapy in New Brunswick. We are so glad that Andy's many years of service to the Joyriders has been recognized nationally. Our thanks go to Janice Cole, who drafted an eloquent main submission, and Mel Gallant, David Park, and Nicole Kitchener who wrote support letters. Nicole also wrote a lovely piece about Andy in her PEI column in *Atlantic Horse & Pony* magazine.



"Andy was always first and foremost a hands-on volunteer. Although Andy was an excellent coordinator and leader – and excelled in these roles as situations commanded – he was also forever willing to assume numerous roles and tasks for himself at the same time." *Mel Gallant.*

"Separate from his service to The Joyriders, Andy was a shining example and inspiration of service to others as a core personal value. Quietly and without fanfare or the need for recognition, Andy gave back to those less fortunate, with selfless dedication and energy. The legacy of Andy Robb is his commitment to volunteerism for the benefit of others." *David Park.*

"Andy couldn't be a better candidate. He was a kind, thoughtful man. Quiet, yet his words held gravitas. He was also incredibly dedicated to the causes and organizations he believed in and his commitment to the Joyriders is unparalleled. Andy is missed." *Nicole Kitchener.*

THEY DID IT!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Lauren MacIsaac** and **Gilles Richard** who both passed their recent examination with flying colours to become CanTRA CTRBI-2 instructors. That is, Basic Instructors (which they already were) who are now qualified to teach two riders in a lesson, not just one.

Due to travel restrictions preventing the examiners from coming to PEI, CanTRA organized a videotaped exam. Joan Leslie stepped behind the camera to tape the two demonstration lessons, while Ryan and Emily, Paxton and Marc were model (and very sympathetic!) riders.

Lauren and Gilles had been preparing for this happy day for three years, suffering through nerve-racking delays, so victory is extra sweet. But the final word goes to Charley Ann, who declared, "The whole test thing is Absolutely Ridiculous, as they are all Really Good at their jobs." Well said, Charley!



"TANNER" CARDS FOR SALE

Our very attractive "Tanner" cards (blank inside) feature the beautiful painting of Tanner and friends donated by Lindee Climo. They have become quite a popular fund-raiser. The cards are \$20 for a box of five cards. For more information, please contact

Karen Thompson

karenthompsonpei@gmail.com



Joan Leslie unobtrusively videotapes demo rider Ryan riding Henry during the exam.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

We have so much to celebrate!

The life and service of Andy Robb. Two instructors elevated to the next level of certification. The successful conclusion of our Spring 2021 riding program. Generous funding support keeping us steady on our feet through the challenges of COVID.

And individual achievements, too, among our riders and volunteers (see Ryan's news on page 7, and a boxful of congratulations (see this page).

Now we take a quick breath before turning our attention to the summer program, and never far from view, the fall riding program. Who knows! Perhaps we may be able to hold our Christmas Party in December.

We all live in hope.

Daphne Davey

A SPECIAL AGM

This year, not only did we launch the Andy Robb Memorial Partnership for Sustainability, but we had great pleasure in making a special presentation to Dr. Rosemary Henderson, a long-standing and generous individual donor. Knowing that she really liked our "Tanner" cards, we thought we would give her something more permanent to enjoy.



Butch McGee presents "Tanner" to Dr. Rosemary.

We also welcomed the new slate of directors for 2021–2022. They are listed on the last page. A warm welcome to Gillian Lush who joined us part way through the year and is now elected for a full two-year term.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Maria Compton, volunteer, is now enjoying her first year at the Atlantic Veterinary College.

Dr. Laurie McDuffee, professor of large animal surgery at the AVC (and a past Joyriders volunteer and researcher), has been awarded the Animal Welfare Foundation of Canada's Dr. Carol Morgan Memorial Award.

Sarah Sonier, volunteer, has successfully completed her Bachelor of Education at UPEI.

WE HAVE WONDERFUL SUPPORTERS

Our deep thanks to the following corporate donors who have helped us overcome the COVID challenge.

HUESTIS INSURANCE GROUP

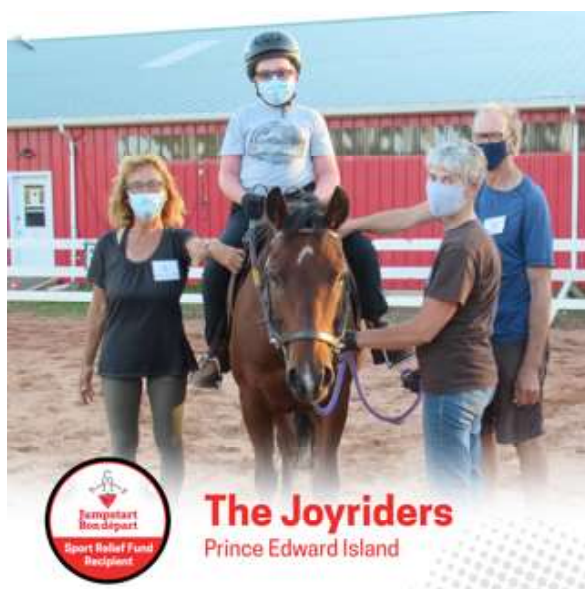
Donation of \$2,000



Huestis Insurance representative Nancy Fullarton presents a cheque to Daphne Davey.

CANADIAN TIRE JUMPSTART SPORT RELIEF FUND

Donation of \$14,300



HUNTER RIVER LIONS CLUB

Donation of \$500



Janice Cole and Kathy Barrett accept a cheque from King Lion Scott Wakelin, who just had to try out Whinny.

PARKDALE-SHERWOOD LIONS CLUB (AGAIN!)

Donation of \$2,000



King Lion Gordon MacDougall and Lion Barry Stewart present a cheque to Daphne Davey.



SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Once again, we have been able to serve almost all our riders in our COVID-adapted Spring Riding Program. Many thanks to our instructors, physios, WPs (Welcome Protocol) and volunteers who have so patiently and with good humour filled in waiver forms, signed in, signed out, donned masks and gloves, sanitized, and generally ensured that our program could operate safely for our riders.



Stretches! Physio Trish puts Emily through her paces on Whinny, with Molly joining in at left. Winston is watching at the back, picking up useful tips on how to be a warm-up horse.

Now it's Ryan's turn to warm up, this time on Winston. Marg calls the tune, while Stevie (left) and Libby are side-walkers. Winston wears a blanket (even though the weather is warm) as part of our COVID protocol to ensure riders do not use the same equipment.



Marc gets set to walk on with Henry, accompanied by Sarah (leader), with Marg (hidden) and Doug (side-walkers).

MORE SPRING HAS SPRUNG!



Look, no leader! Jessica shows how it's done, riding Henry over the poles. Maria (left) and Geraldine stay in touch.



Gabriel and Henry enjoy the great outdoors, along with Michelle (left), Heather and Ewen.



Rowan, riding Logan, discusses stirrup lengths with instructor Lauren. Carol (left), Geraldine, and leader Florine make up the team.

RYAN MacNEIL, A MAN WITH A MISSION

Inside the theatre at Kings Playhouse, Georgetown, sit rows and rows of seats that need cleaning. Twenty-year-old Ryan MacNeil is on a mission to get them all. "I help care-take the building. That includes mopping the floors, cleaning the washroom, folding pamphlets and, if necessary, painting," he says.

The project is called Let's Get to Work. It was developed by the PEI Association for Community Living with funding from Skills PEI, with the aim to give individuals who have an intellectual disability or autism the opportunity for successful employment.

Ryan plans to parlay this on-the-job experience into more permanent employment. And we're sure he will!



Sharlena models a warm sweater, a gift from a donor that she gets to keep. It fits perfectly!

Photo: Dailes Perry

CANDID CAMERA



Donk tries to hide during the Bobbi program. But Norah found him out (see page 8).

A SALUTE TO PARASPORT PEI

Our past president, Janice Cole, recently attended the ParaSport AGM (on Zoom, of course). She reports that it was great to hear that they had survived COVID really well, helped by federal and provincial funding, and had managed to safely operate 85% of their programs this past year.

Janice reported on our own COVID-adapted programs, including the new "Bobbi" program. The audience enjoyed seeing him jumping, going through hula hoops, and sporting his special braids.

We sincerely thank ParaSport PEI for their past and current support, including taking phone messages for us. Some of those messages have translated into donations!

BOBBI BRINGS JOY

Thanks to **Linda Stewart** and **Karen Thompson** for coordinating another Bobbi “Pet and Play” program, and to new volunteer **Kellie-Lynn Younker**, who truly found her niche with this program. This spring, some interesting elements crept in, such as hoola hoops, a mailbox (with Donk), blowing bubbles and throwing quoits – not to mention braiding and decorating Bobbi’s mane with wildflowers, and even an attempt to fly a kite (see Candid Camera, page 9)!



Clockwise from top left: First you groom (with Justin) / Then you walk (with Mikaela) ... / Then you check the mailbox (with Norah) / Then you skip home (with Vaeda) / And don't forget to admire Bobbi's "flower power" mane. (OK, he's a boy, but he's cool with it.) Photos: Linda Thompson and Daphne Davey.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS

We were delighted to welcome several new volunteers this spring: Michelle Coyle, Katie Douglas, Brianna MacLean, Molly McHugh, Stevie Murphy, and Kellie-Lynn Younker. We just have to mention that Kellie-Lynn is the granddaughter of one of our most-loved volunteers from our early years, Roy Younker from Cornwall Lions Club.



Social distancing at the Volunteer Orientation.



Exam day.

Go for it, Gilles!

And he did.

Rowan shares a quiet moment with Logan.



PIXIE PICKS UP THE REINS

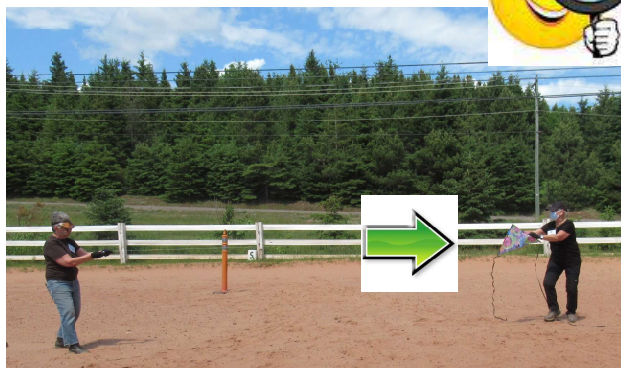
With the well-deserved retirement from our program of Jewel, now well into her twenties, we were in need of another small horse to take her place. Enter **Pixie**! Her owner, Kyle Knox, kindly lent her to us for a try-out this spring, and she has fit right in, taking everything in her stride. And, as you know, that's quite a lot! We are happy to say that Pixie will continue in our program this fall.

Many thanks to Debbie Gormley for purchasing Jewel so she could continue to serve our program for several more years, and continuing to care for her.



Julie Leger and Pixie getting to know each other.

Let's go fly a kite! Linda and Karen goofing off.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2021-2022**

President Daphne Davey
Past president Janice Cole
Vice-president Jim McQuaid
Secretary Florine Proud
Treasurer Mel Gallant

Directors Gillian Lush
Pat Lush
Butch McGee
Elizabeth Rankin
Linda Stewart
Karen Thompson

Ex Officio Kathryn Barrett
Chief Instructor
Deena Robb
Volunteer Coordinator



“THE WHINNY”

Semi-annual newsletter of The Joyriders Therapeutic Riding Association of PEI Inc.
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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 posted on our website
and Facebook.

PROGRAM TEAM

Chief instructor (CanTRA Coach)
Kathryn Barrett

Basic Instructors
Daphne Davey, CTRBI
Debbie Gormley, CTRBI
Marg Gray, CTRBI
Lauren MacIsaac, CTRBI-2
Gilles Richard, CTRBI-2

CTRBI Trainee
Doug Ellis

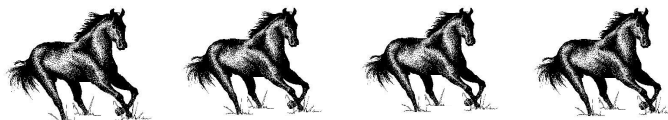
Physiotherapists
Trish Helm-Neima
Kerry O'Connor

Volunteer Coordinator
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Rider Coordinator
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RIDER APPLICATIONS COORDINATOR

Ellen MacCloskey
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