



NORTH RIVER RIDERS HORSE CLUB

Orillia, Ontario

www.northriverriders.ca

February 2009

North River Riders is a multi-disciplinary equestrian club committed to promoting safe and enjoyable equestrian sports for people of all ages. With diverse membership from show, trail, gaming, recreational and other equestrian pursuits, North River Riders is a volunteer-based club which sponsors shows, trail rides, fundraisers, educational clinics and social events through the year.

Incoming President's Message

Happy New Year! As we welcome in 2009, we also welcome in a new executive to North River Riders Horse Club. Thank you to everyone who has already shown so much support for the club and the executive for the new season. I would especially like to thank Gail Stover, who has been the driving force behind the club for the past two years! Thank you, Gail, and we look forward to continuing to work with you as membership coordinator.

I am very excited about 2009! We have a number of new ideas for the club, as well as keeping many of the tried and true. Keep an eye out in future newsletters for all of the fun and exciting events for the upcoming year!

Sincerely,
Meghan Hudak
North River Riders President 2009

Introducing the 2009 North River Riders executive committee!

President	Meghan Hudak
Vice-president	Evan Powell
Secretary	Melissa Sherwood
Treasurers	Val Mathias Lynda Smith
Membership	Gail Stover
Trail Rides	Barb Clare-Powell
Special Events	Evan Powell
Newsletter	Meghan Hudak
Website	Tina Horne
Sponsorship	Mike McCahon
Show Convenor	Faye Rose
Western Games	Greg and Kelly Walters Lindsay Kent
Youth Reps	Taylor Walters Jamie McHugh Bekka Kreiger Danielle Mathias
Drill Team	Lynda Smith
Fun Show Convenor	Val Mathias

Outgoing President's Message

Our year end awards presentation, Annual General Meeting, Silent Auction and potluck luncheon on November 22 at Jarratt Community Hall was well attended. Year end awards were handed out, elections for the 2009 Executive and Committees occurred and the Silent Auction ended the day, raising \$419.00. A huge thank you is extended to those members who participated in the Orillia and Midland Santa Claus Parades.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all members of the 2008 Executive and Committee Chairpeople for all their commitment, enthusiasm and dedication displayed this year. A huge thank you is also extended to the volunteers who helped out when asked.

Gail Stover
North River Riders Past President

Executive Profile

In this section of the newsletter, we will be introducing you to the members of your executive committee in a more in-depth way! Our first executive member to be featured is...

Gail Stover

Gail Stover has been a member of the club for seven years and she has enjoyed the past 2 years as club president. She has shown her horses in a variety of classes and she enjoys the friendly and competitive atmosphere of the shows. Gail remarks on what a wonderful group of members the club has. "There is such a wealth of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm".

Gail is taking care of the membership for the club in 2009. Watch for her competing for the red ribbons this year!

Upcoming Events

2009 Show Dates

May 10 June 14 July 12 August 9 October 4

A class list has been included with this newsletter and is also available on our website (www.northriverriders.ca). We have added a number of new classes to keep up with the demands of the club. Please note that the start time for the gaming ring has moved up to **9am**.

ANOTHER NEW YEAR, LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Please, Please, Please.... Yes, I am begging for volunteers to help us at the horse shows this year. I also know that Evan and Barb could use a hand with the trail rides, parades and special events. What we're looking for within the horse show committee are people who will be reliable to assist us in the following positions on the day of the show: Announcer; Ring Steward; Entry Booth Personnel; Ribbon Runners; Set Up Crew for the trail and over jumps courses.

If you are a high school student looking for community service hours, please give us a call. How much better can it get than working in the beautiful out-of-doors surrounded by gorgeous horses and fun loving horse people? OR... if you usually bring the whole family to the show, and they're not actually showing, maybe they can be available for set up and ribbon running. Or perhaps they'd like to take advantage of the view of the ring from the entry booth, or gain knowledge from the judge while acting as ring steward. The more the merrier and we can make this a fun filled, exciting day.

We would like to have a list of people and their commitment to one or all of the show dates. The most important asset for this club is the volunteers. Please give me a call (705-309-7070) or send me an e-mail (faye@roselane.ca) if you can be available for any or all of the show dates.

Thanks,

Faye Rose

Winter Carnival

North River Riders is once again participating in the Orillia Winter Carnival Ice Sculpture contest on February 14th. Come on down to Orillia's Couchiching Beach Park and show your support for the club (not to mention seeing some spectacular ice sculptures!).

Diabetes Ride-A-Thon

The 24th Annual Diabetes Ride-A-Thon is being held at the Copeland Forest on May 31st this year. Monies will be donated to Camp Huronda near Huntsville. This is a camp geared towards teaching kids how to manage their diabetes.

Parades

North River Riders will be participating in the following parades in 2009:

Orillia Canada Day Parade, July 1st

Orillia Santa Claus Parade, November 22nd

Midland Santa Claus Parade, date TBA

Open House

Somerset Farm Equestrian Centre is hosting an open house on Sunday, March 8th at 1pm. For more information, call 705-687-2455 or email bakerm3@hotmail.com.

CLINIC IDEAS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS

We can't ignore that winter is coming!

To help break up those long winter days, we'd like to offer some clinics and gatherings for members. If you have an idea for such an event, please let us know. Contact Evan Powell 327-4287 and we'll get some events planned.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our final membership count for 2008 reached 232. As of February 1, membership for 2009 has grown to 52. Welcome back to returning members and a warm welcome is extended to new members.

Membership forms are included in this edition of the newsletter and on the website at www.northriverriders.ca



OTRA

YOU are automatically a member of Ontario Trail Riders Association when you join North River Riders Horse Club. Visit their website, www.otra.ca for information on trail rides and events hosted by OTRA

North River Riders Drill Team

New members are welcomedbring your enthusiasm!

The club Drill Team will begin spring practices soon. If you are interested in joining this team please e-mail General Manager, Lynda Smith lynschis@aol.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS- High School Students

Offer to help at a horse show or at a parade and you can have fun earning your Community Service Hours.



SPONSORSHIP

Visit our website for 2009 sponsorship details (www.northriverriders.ca) or e-mail Mikael McCahon at rushmount@sympatico.ca

Bronze \$25 to \$249	Silver \$250 to \$499
Gold \$500 to \$999	Platinum \$1000 +

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED LATE MARCH- please forward all your articles to Meghan Hudak at mahudak@dal.ca by March 15.

Hmmmm....Interesting
By Faye Rose

Professional Animal Transfer Services

- ❖ Experienced Handlers
- ❖ Humane, Safe and Practical Handling
- ❖ Safe Equipment
- ❖ Police Background Checks

***We are here to help you all
With your Creatures Great and Small***

Other Services:

- ❖ Horse and Dog Training (At your home)
- ❖ Birthday Party Pony Rides
- ❖ House and Farm Sitting
- ❖ Daily, in Home, Pet and Plant Care visits
- ❖ Landscaping and Gardening
- ❖ Interior Decorating
- ❖ Commissioned Poetry, Artwork and Photography

Wherever you go in the horse world today, you hear talk about the "new method" of horse training called "Natural Horsemanship". Terms like "horse whisperer" and "join up" have been buzz words over the last few years and are used to describe people and techniques that are involved in the "new way" to train horses.

You might be interested to know there's nothing new about it. The techniques and methods of training used by the majority "natural horsemanship" practitioners have their roots in ancient Greece. Xenophone was the great horse trainer of that time. The gentle "vaquero" cowboy traditions of the "buckaroo" and the skills of the Native American horse trainers are mimicked and implemented in this "new" horse training phenomenon.

I guess "natural" is not so "new". It's just been marketed extremely well.

There are so many training methods to choose from. I believe that as long as it's a humane and safe for all involved, (because as we all know, each horse and each trainer is different) and we develop a true partnership with our horse, well...how much better can it get?

Did You Know?

Horses do not have a gallbladder.

In the wild, foals will suckle until they are a year old, and sometimes longer.

The horse has the largest eye of any land animal.

A horse's teeth occupy more space in its head than its brain.

Horses are not colour blind.

Horses have memories that put elephants to shame.

Adult male horses generally have 40 teeth, but females only 36.

The oldest horse on record is Old Billy. Foaled in 1760, he died at age 62 in 1822. He was a draft cross bred in Woolston, Britain.

Women rode astride until the 15th century; then followed the period of side saddle.

In riding a horse, we borrow freedom. ~ Helen Thompson

Top 10 Spooky Things *A horse's point of view*

10. Blowing Paper: "At any moment it could whip up into our faces, covering our noses. We could suffocate. And don't try to tell us you'd do CPR."
9. Barking Dogs: "What? You've never read Steven King's CUJO?"
8. Puddles of Water: "Quicksand."
7. Trash Cans: "They've been known to swallow horses and transport them into another dimension."
6. Babies and Little Kids: "Long lost tribe of horse-eating pygmies."
5. Plaid Horse Blankets: "Hey, when was the last time you wore plaid? It adds 100 lbs."
4. Ropes and Hoses on the Ground: "Dreaded North American Trail Snakes."
3. Ponies: "Cute, clever, hardy. They want to take over the world."
2. Windy Days: "Two Words: impending tornado."
1. Carts and Wagons: "Look. You put a human on our backs, we can always buck them off. But hitching a horse to a wheeled object? It's just not right."

You can lead a horse to water, but if you can get him to roll over and float on his back, then you got something!

~ Joe E Lewis

Classifieds

APPLE PIES

Orillia and District Agricultural Society (ODAS) is holding its pie-making fundraiser in April. All proceeds from the sale of the pies help to support the ongoing activities of ODAS. The apple pies are \$7.00 each and can be ordered by calling ODAS office at 325-0353 by March 28. These pies can be frozen and they make wonderful “in a hurry” desserts for family and friends. **Order your pies early** as a limited number of pies are made and it is always a SELLOUT! North River Riders Horse Club is pleased to support ODAS in this fundraiser. If you would like to come out and help on the pie-making days, just show up...it is quite a production line, lots of fun!

Stalls Available

Somerset Farm Equestrian Centre has stalls available! We have indoor and outdoor riding arenas, a heated tack room, and scenic trails. We offer quality riding lessons on quality lesson horses, day camps, and host birthday parties. Lots of TLC for the horse and family oriented fun for the rider! We can be contacted by calling 705-687-2455 or email bakerm3@hotmail.com.

How to Get a Pony
By Norman Thelwell



