



CORBITS

Well the show season has ended, school has started, and it looks like COR survived Sandy ... I am not sure if those three things are actually related or if it is just a coincidence that they all begin with an 'S'. What I am sure of is that the members of COR have provided some fantastic articles and pictures for everyone. In fact, rather than spend any more time reading what I have to say, I think we should just get right to it. So have a peruse through my links – or better yet, save them for another day and continue on to what your fellow CORians have been up to recently.

I do have one more thing to add before we get to the links and articles. Sue Foell, former COR chair, TNY DC, sometimes tack check and all around fantastic Pony Club mom, has been looking for a new mount for quite a while. This summer she finally found the one that fits just right. Congrats Sue, and welcome to COR Limerick!!!



Limerick paying homage to her heritage

Hands down the coolest thing I have watched in a long time

Like most of you, I watched the Olympics this summer with excitement, a little awe, and when it came to Valegro's Kur, I will admit there were a few tears. However, I watched something else this summer that I have to say was more amazing than nearly anything I saw at the Olympics. These are the links to a blog that I began following during the Bromont event in Quebec this summer (followers of Eventing Nation will remember a certain video from that event ...). For watchers of Heartland or the movie Flicka, this is the real deal. For anyone who has ever tried to train a horse, develop a relationship with an animal or for any Pony Club parents who has ever tried to understand just what all the crazy people are spending their time trying to achieve ... this is basically the holy grail of horse training.

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/170-extreme-mustang-makeover-the-beginning>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/171-emm2012-1>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/174-emm2012-2>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/175-emm2012-3>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/176-emm2012-4>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/177-emm2012-5>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/180-emm2012-6>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/184-emm2012-7>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/196-emm-update-2>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/202-emm-90days>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/204-emm2012-2weeks>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/205-emm-apison>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/206-emm-win>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/207-emm-coth>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/208-emm-victory>

<http://www.teamwallace.org/blog/210-emm-journey>

Random (but fun)

<http://eventingnation.com/home/meg-kep-a-horse-called-tate.html>

<http://www.horsenation.com/2012/09/17/i-test-drove-a-saddlebred/>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/happy-halloween-a-ghost-story.html#more-45271>

<http://www.horsenation.com/2012/07/20/the-age-impaired-rider-to-old-for-that-never/>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/claire-lomas-has-finished-the-london-marathon.html>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/claire-lomas-plans-to-bike-from-london-to-paris.html>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/catching-up-with-claire.html>

http://www.stumbleupon.com/su/4kzcXi/:_TNkhHSU:As8-

[SXFh/www.equitrekking.com/articles/entry/famous_horses_in_history_-](http://www.equitrekking.com/articles/entry/famous_horses_in_history_-)

[_sir_barton_americas_first_triple_crown_champion/](http://www.equitrekking.com/articles/entry/famous_horses_in_history_-sir_barton_americas_first_triple_crown_champion/)

<http://sidelinesnews.com/blogs/chasin/2012/08/20/a-simple-gift/>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/yvette-seger-metropolitan-pony-club-regional-d-rally.html>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/mechanical-horses-now-then.html>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/punkin-chunkin-at-seneca-horse-trials.html>

<http://www.theideaoforder.com/>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=X9kj2HPLbgI

Training (and such)

<http://www.eurodressage.com/equestrian/2012/08/16/ingrid-klimke-where-riding-becomes-art>

<http://badeventer.blogspot.ca/2011/03/finally-bad-lesson.html>

<http://www.chronofhorse.com/article/schultheis-chronicles-part-8-learning-master>

<http://www.eurodressage.com/equestrian/2012/09/23/classical-training-art-letting-go>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/EventionTv?feature=watch>

Olympics

<http://eventingnation.com/home/mark-todd-i-am-an-athlete.html>

<http://eventingnation.com/home/what-its-all-about.html>

You think you feel bad when your horse misbehaves at a show ... it gets exciting around 3:40 http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1CdFM_qgcg

Just in case you didn't get up at 6 am to make Olympic Waffles and watch the Olympics ... now you get the chance!!!! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTOpW8GqNVk>

My Adventures Out West

Karen Foell – TNY

Boy was I ever excited when I found out I qualified for National Dressage in British Columbia! What an incredible opportunity I had the privilege of taking advantage of. After several fundraising opportunities and getting to know the other members of the team better, we were off to BC. The team representing COR was comprised of Amy Westlund, Ali Sprague, Lindsay Weber and myself. I snuck into the hotel to meet the girls late one night before the first day of the competition and could barely sleep I was so excited!

The first day of the competition involved meeting the other competitors and being match with a mount. The other competitors were all super nice and a lot of fun! I was very excited to meet my mount and waited patiently for her to arrive. When I looked

over her stall when she arrived I took a look around to try and find the rest of her! That's right... my mount was a 13.2hand Haflinger cross pony named Carousel Candy Cane! She was gorgeous and reminded me of my games pony Miley. I had very specific instructions from her owner: She needs spurs and can be very silly. Silly eh? After inquiring about this the definition of silly is: can be difficult to ride. My thoughts? Challenge accepted!

The next phase was to ride and "try" little Miss Candy. I was excited to ride her especially after watching Ali ride! It's a little difficult for me to watch riding and not get inspired to ride myself, lol. I was finally able to ride Candy and she was fantastic! I was very pleased with her and since the judges didn't come up to me suggesting I change mounts, I believed we were in the clear!

The next day was our first day of the riding competition. Each of us did two riding tests and then a written test at the end of the day. Candy was fantastic! That little pony sure knew how to move and I had a blast riding her. Ali did amazing on her beautiful grey mount and Lindsay and Amy showed off some incredible skills on their horses as well. I didn't quite know what to expect from this "written" test but it was surprisingly not as intimidating as I thought. It was actually fun!

That night for a fun activity we were all placed on teams and did some relay races in the field. The property the competition was at was an eventing center and was absolutely beautiful! There were some nice looking cross country jumps there and I had to sit on my hands to prevent myself from giving them a whirl with Candy. Our team ended up winning the intricate relay race involving egg and spoon type races over jumps. Apparently we girls from Ontario really know how to handle an egg and spoon!

The next day was the final day of the competition so I had some bitter sweet feelings. It was fun to be on the last day, but it was sad that it had all come and gone so fast. The final day involved the mystery test which certainly was an interesting mystery for Candy and I. The test we received was actually for the level above us so we were both a little in shock before entering the ring. Luckily Candy had quite the big heart and tried her best to lengthen her pony stride and master that test. Plus that pony just made me smile the entire time so it really didn't matter what she did, I knew it would be a blast. You can't take everything too seriously especially when you're having so much fun!

After pulling things together in our mystery test, Candy and I ended up in third place overall! I was so proud and Candy definitely got lots of treats from me! Her owners were amazing and as a special thank you I gave them (and Candy) a special padded leather halter for the fancy National Dressage Pony to wear. She deserved nothing less for being so awesome!

Before the final dinner and award ceremony we were able to sneak off to a fun tree-top-treking activity. What is tree-top-treking? Oh well it's merely defying death and gravity climbing from tree to tree across scary unstable obstacles high up in the trees. Me, scared? No! Okay, maybe just a little! You see I don't have a fear of heights, that's quite illogical. A fear of falling however is quite logical! After completing a smaller size obstacle course we were set free into the scary world of the tree tops, progressively getting higher and higher throughout the trees. It was a ton of fun and once I stopped sweating from pure fear it became even more fun! So perhaps I didn't make it through the entire course, but I was still very proud of myself! Amy made it further than me which was amazing! And honey boo-boo Ali completed the entire course! Amy and I completed the entire course too, just on foot, lol. It was a ton of fun and next time I'm sure I could make it a bit farther. One bit at a time!

The awards ceremony was fun and it was nice to see everyone in real clothes and not riding clothes. It's amazing how much you can't seem to recognize people not wearing dirty breeches and a helmet! After the ceremony it was time to say goodbye to everyone and make our way back to the hotel for one last night before heading home. It was sad saying goodbye to everyone but it was a truly incredible and fun experience. Some things that I feel are important to take away are to never underestimate what a horse can do. No matter the build, breed, or size of a mount, always try your best because just like us, they shouldn't be judged based on that. Finally, something that I think is very important to take home: Dream big and just say yes.



Karen and Carousel Candy Cane



The girls Tree-Top-Treking



Karen showing how they do it in COR ...



Showing off some loot!!!

National Show Jumping

Emma Bradbury

This year I had the honour of representing COR at the Pony Club National Medals. This opportunity became a highlight of my summer. I had the pleasure of riding some wonderful horses and meeting some wonderful people. My horse for competition was named Sunny, he was a delight to ride and a fabulous jumper. As part of the experience all competitors were also treated to a clinic with Selena O'Hanlon. She was an excellent clinician and helped everyone get to know their mounts better. The National Medals are an amazing experience and I hope CORs up and coming show jumpers have the opportunity to compete in it in the years to come!



Emma and Sunny

Maple Pony Club Cross Country Clinic

Emily Gray – Maple Pony Club

On August 8, Maple Pony Club participated in a cross country clinic with Sally Sainsbury. It was super fun and very helpful, I thought, for all the participants. Some had evented before and others were schooling for the first time. Sally was very positive, giving instruction and feedback to each individual rider. We jumped a variety of obstacles including coops, ditches, logs and banks. My favourite jumps were the banks and ditches which I had never jumped before. We learned cross country positions including how to bridge your reins and the galloping position. The host, Tag Along Farm, was very great with a nice jumper ring for warm up and a large cross country field for learning. Overall, it was a great experience. On behalf of Maple Pony Club I would like to thank Sally for coaching us, Lisa at Tag Along for hosting and our D.C. Anne-Marie for organizing the day. We had a blast!



Talia Rockman and Paris



Emily Gray and Scooter



Sally, the clinic gang and a spectator

My Horsey Holiday

Patricia Rothenburg - Centaurus Pony Club

This summer my family and I went on vacation to Alberta. During my trip my mom and I visited Spruce Meadows and then went on a three day horseback trip through the mountains. At Spruce Meadows, I saw the 'International' ring, and the 'All Canada' ring, and some of the paddocks and barns. I was really inspired by the fact that Eric Lamaze with Hickstead and Ian Millar with Big Ben have competed there. There were no events happening, but it was still really cool to see in real life, and not just on TV! Then we went on the horseback trip, which had some amazing views. It was really fun to ride up and down, and through the mountains, and then return to camp for a nice dinner around the campfire. The outfitters really care well for their horses, but they sure do things differently than Pony Club!



Centaurus in the News!

These are some articles about the Centaurus Pony Club to the local news paper
<http://www.simcoe.com/sports/article/1402677--youth-inspired-by-olympic-sport>
<http://www.simcoe.com/sports/article/1361379--barrie-hosts-jumping-qualifier>
<http://www.simcoe.com/sports/article/1342077--pony-club-members-shine>

Le Trec

Pictures from Anita Barnes



DUCK!!!!!!



Don't worry pony, Spiderman's got the gate



What would COR be without our fantastic volunteers – these ones heading out for the Orienteering phase



The Canadian Synchronized Swimming/Riding team – complete with flags, medals, be-flowered riding helmets, nose plugs (sort of) and bathing suits – 1000 gold stars to Bryson

Proof that not everyone finds Dressage boring

The Peanut Gallery to the right of the ring is there completely by choice, and it looks like they are studying hard.



Bob's Corner

For all those cat lovers out there and for all the barn cats that keep our barns mouse free and our laps warm in the winter, Bob brings you ...

Well done Meower

(Sung to the tune of "Take me out to the ball game")

Take me out to the backyard.
Let me eat lots of grass.
Peeing on bushes is so much fun.
I won't stop till I've sprayed every one,
Then I'll nap, nap nap in the sunshine.
Make sure poor Daddy gets fried.
Then I'll puke! barf! whoops up the grass
Once I'm back inside.



Max, aka Meower