



# COR BITS

**Feedback is Welcome ...** Please send comments or suggestions to [Bob Inglis](#),  
COR Communications Chair.

## Fall 2009

### **Your 2010 Regional Officers and Chairs**

At the Central Ontario Annual General Meeting on Saturday, November 21, the following people were elected or acclaimed.

*Regional Chair/National Director* - Sue Foell (Regional Chair has a two year term, while all the others are for one year; Sue is starting her second year)

*Regional Vice Chair* - Laurie Blake

*Regional Assistant Chair* - OPEN (this is meant to be occupied by someone from one of the northern Branches, to make sure they are represented at the highest level)

*Treasurer* - Marg O'Neill

*Assistant Treasurer* - Karol Shipley

*Secretary* - Debbie Baker

*Membership Secretary* - Maisie Durward

*Active Member Rep(s)* - To be determined by vote of the Branch Active Members if more than two nominations received

*OEF Association Rep* - Karol Shipley

*Communications Chair* - Bob Inglis

*Communications Assistant: CORCOMMs* - Bill Murray

*Communications Assistant: Website* - Teri Lindsay

*Education Chair* - Christy Barnes

*Education Assistant Chair* - Katie Stephenson

*Quiz Chair* - Sally Chamney

*Quiz Assistant Chair* - Margie Kenedy

*Testing Chair* - Gwen Barnes

*Testing Assistant Chair* - OPEN

*Dressage Chair* - Bev Rice

*Dressage Assistant Chair* - Marie Howran

*PPG/Games Chair* - Debbie Davies

*PPG/Games Assistant Chair* - OPEN

*Rally Chair* - Mike Stephenson

*Rally Assistant Chair: D Rally* - Daina Strickland

*Rally Assistant Chair: Working Rally* - Education Committe

*Show Jumping Chair* - Teri Lindsay

*Show Jumping Assistant Chair* - Heather Lane

*Le Trec Chair* - Brenda Rowe

*Le Trec Assistant Chair* - OPEN

*Tetrathlon Chair* - OPEN

*Tetrathlon Assistant Chair* - OPEN

*Properties Chair* - Debbie Davies

*Properties Assistant Chair* - Debbie Baker

*Visiting Commissioners* - Nancy Codlin, Barbara Grimm, Bill Murray, Marg O'Neill and Karol Shipley

There are two points to be made about the above list. First, it is meant to let you know whom to pester about what. And second, please note how many people are doing more than one job, and how many jobs are open. Apparently there have been some complaints heard about our slimmer than usual 2009 program of activities, but the reason the program was slimmer is that the number of people available to help out was smaller. Everyone is busy, but we hope everyone will also try to help COR in whatever way they can. And if they can't help at all, then we hope they don't spend a lot of energy complaining - energy that might have been better spent doing. Here endeth the first rant.

## **Report from National Quiz** By Kyra Holmes and Katherine Earle

National Quiz was held in the lovely city of Vancouver this year. We were on a combined AB team with BCLM. Team A5, as it was called, consisted of two Quiz veterans and two Quiz newbie's, which was a great match. Casey Leroux, the Western Canada Youth Rep and Amanda Brooke were on our team. Katherine's mom, Tina, was our awesome chaperone this year.

Saturday morning was the written test. Almost every competitor agreed that this year's test was a fair yet tough challenge. There were lots of questions on anatomy, nutrition, and barn building specifics. The afternoon had the games, which was a lot of fun, as always!

Saturday night we were taken on a lovely boat cruise of Vancouver Harbour. This was probably the best possible way to see the city, and it was a lot of fun! We saw the famous Seawall in Stanley Park, the Olympic Village, Granville Island, where we would go on Sunday, and the Science Dome. The weather was fantastic, with no hint of rain, and with the scene of the mountains and the city skyscrapers, it was certainly an impressive view!

Sunday morning we had the I.D. portion. It went quite well, with Katherine achieving one of the only perfect scores of 15 at a table. There was a large variety of items this year, and it was all balanced out.

Sunday Afternoon we went to Granville Island, a marketplace on the waterfront. We spend almost two hours there, and that was not nearly enough time! there was so much to see, including the cheese market, the Emily Carr Institute, which is an art school, the various street performers, the arcade, the candy stores, the toy stores... there was just so much stuff!

At the end of the day, we had the Awards Banquet. Team A5 had a great team placing of 6th, and Kyra was 2nd individually. Katherine did not place in the ribbons, but we were all very proud of her score considering it was her first time at National Quiz and she had to go as an AB!

This year was a lovely year, and we are both looking forward to qualifying to go to National Quiz in Halifax in 2010, in conjunction with International Quiz. We both

encourage every club to send as many kids as they can to Regional Quiz, because the opportunity to compete all over Canada is amazing! Thanks to everyone who made it happen!!

## **Riding With Royalty**

This November 6, nine Central Ontario Pony Club members had a once in a lifetime opportunity to assist Their Royal Highnesses, Prince Charles and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, at the opening of the Royal Winter Fair. Along with Pony Clubbers from the Western Ontario and Saint Lawrence-Ottawa Valley Regions, they provided a ceremonial guard of honour.



From left to right in the picture, Sarah Cowie of the King Pony Club (rider), Rebecca Simmons of the Durham Pony Club (rider), Emily Lindsay of the Rising Star Pony Club (rider), Kayla Weber of Rising Star (groom), Karen Foell of the Toronto & North York Pony Club (groom), Jenna Meeser of Rising Star (groom), Meaghan Lloyd of Durham (groom), Jennifer McKeen of the Oshawa Pony Club (rider), Laura Austin of the Kawartha Pony Club (rider) and Shelby Heinbuch of the United Counties Pony Club in SLOV (rider). Standing in front of all of them is J.P. (pony).

Ms. Heinbuch, by the way, was NOT showing at the Royal anyway. She trailered her pony all the way from the Ottawa area just for the opening ceremony, then took him home again. Who says Canadians are no longer interested in the monarchy?

Your Humble Editor was not a member of the selection committee, but he understands that there were many strong applications, and that the selection committee had a hard time choosing the lucky nine.

Yr. Hmbl. Ed. has also heard a rumour that the acceptance e-mails prompted much squealing and running in circles. And that was just the Moms!

Finally, we hear from Gayle McPherson, President of the Royal Winter Fair and one of the newest Honourary Life Members of the Canadian Pony Club, that the Royal couple were quite complimentary about how well all the Pony Clubbers and their mounts were turned out. Congratulations to all from Y.H.E., and haven't you got something to tell your grandchildren about!

### **Canadian Pony Club Awards/Honours**

Year-end awards are always an important part of any Fall issue of CORBits. Before we get to our Central Ontario awards, however, it is a pleasure to report that several Central Ontario members have been honoured by the national organization this year.

One Active Member and one Affiliate Member received Sandra Sillcox Memorial Awards. They were Christy Chamney of the Maple Pony Club and Katie Stephenson, formerly of Maple and now an Affiliate.

Katie and her Dad Michael also accepted the award for the top showing in the Ride for 75 program, on behalf of Maple. (Durham, Rising Star, Uxbridge-Scugog and Kawartha also finished in the top ten Branches, making it five from Central Ontario and five from the rest of Canada - well done all!)

Gayle McPherson, President of the Royal Winter Fair, was made an Honourary Life Member. We have Ms. McPherson to thank for all those Royal tickets we get every year (and also, we suspect, for the Riding With Royalty opportunity). At right we have Ms. McPherson introducing Prince Charles



at the opening ceremonies for the Royal.

Kyra Holmes of Maple was chosen to be Youth Director on the National Board, representing Eastern Canada.

Last but certainly not least, Karol Shipley, former Central Ontario Regional Chair, received the Canadian Pony Club Chairman's Award for her efforts as Chair of the 75th Anniversary Committee.



## **Central Ontario Region Year-End Awards**

### *Dressage*

Entry - Champion was Solstice Pecile of Kawartha, with Samantha Lobbezoo of Brooklin the Reserve.

Starter - Champion was Meg Scott of Victoria, with Emily Pearson, also of Victoria, the Reserve. Third place went to Jessica Rowe of Durham.

Pre-Training - Champion was Jenna Crone of Rising Star, with Rachel Scott of Victoria the Reserve. In third was Meg Scott, also of Victoria. Fourth place went to Laura Austin of Kawartha, with Jenna Meeser of Rising Star fifth and Janel Semple of Kawartha sixth.

Training - Champion was Alexandra Sprague of Kawartha, with Jennifer McKeen of Oshawa the Reserve.

First Level Division A - Champion was Johanna McKeen of Oshawa, with Janene Howran of Kawartha the Reserve.

First Level Division B - Champion was Meaghan Lloyd of Durham, with Rebecca Simmons, also of Durham, the Reserve.

Third Level - Carolyn Russell-Poliquin of Oshawa was the Champion with no Reserve.

The Wes Goff Award for high points of the year went to Alexandra Sprague of the Kawartha Pony Club.

### *Show Jumping*

Pre-Entry A1 - Champion was Kimberley Moriarity of Maple, with Alexandra Saltouridis of Brooklin the Reserve.

Pre-Entry A2 - Champion was Rachel Scott of Victoria, with Victoria Papp of Ajax the Reserve.

Pre-Entry B - Champion was Dalton Wright of Durham, with Patricia Rothenburg of Centaurus the Reserve.

Pre-Entry Schooling - Champion was Karen Foell of Toronto & North York, with Shay Lucas of Maple the Reserve.

Entry - Champion was Jenna Meeser of Rising Star. There was a tie for Reserve between Kaisha Barber of Durham and Laura Austin of Kawartha.

Starter - Champion was Taylor Ryan of Whitchurch, with Maggie Brims, also of Whitchurch, the Reserve.

Beginner - Champion was Sarah Smith of Maple, with Samantha Lobbezoo of Brooklin the Reserve.

Novice - Champion was Emma Bradbury of Centaurus. There was a tie for Reserve between Jennifer McKeen of Oshawa and Emily Lindsay of Rising Star.

### *Prince Philip/Masters Games*

Championship ribbons were actually presented after the final meet in July rather than at the banquet, and the exploits of our A and Masters teams have been reported in previous issues, but it is still appropriate to honour the winning teams here.

At the A level, a combined Uxbridge-Scugog/Simcoe team won the Regional championship. The members of this team were James Cruikshanks, Crystal Geer, Jane Stephenson, Emily Stubbings and Rachel Stewart (Simcoe).

In the Masters competition, Uxbridge-Scugog also finished on top, with a team comprising Kendra Abbey, Mori Cruikshanks, Sean Cruikshanks, Jesse Durward and Samantha Macdonald.

The Durham Pony Club team took the honours at the B level. Team members were Kaisha Barber, Jake Durack, Jessica Rowe, Michelle Treen and Sarah Treen.

At the C level, Temiskaming was first, with a team including Reid Archambault, Spencer Brisson, Kiara Crawford, Ashley Maille and Lynnsey St. Louis.

### *Quiz*

As noted earlier in this edition, Kyra Holmes of Maple was the leading A/B competitor at our Regional Quiz, with Katherine Earle of Ajax the top C, and off they went to National Quiz in Vancouver. Emma Lemay-Nedjelski of Ajax was the top D2 individual.

In team competition, Maple won at the A/B level, Ajax took the honours at all of the C, D2 and D levels, while Durham was the D1 Champion. Centaurus won the project competition.

### *Chair's Award*

The winner of this prestigious award for 2009 was Daina Strickland, for her work in reviving D Rally.

### *Welsh Pony and Cob High Point Award Program*

This program comprises two awards, one to a purebred Welsh and one to a half Welsh.

The purebred Welsh winner for 2009 was Sec. D Welsh Cob Stonecroft Geraint ap Dilwyn (a.k.a. Winston) owned by Lisa Hossack Scott and ridden by Janene Howran of Kawartha Pony Club. Winston and Janene were partnered in Dressage, at the First level, in Central Ontario Pony Club as well as at Bronze level Dressage shows. The half Welsh champion was Wabi Brook Tarragon, owned by Emily Lindsay, ridden by Olivia Gionet in Show Jumping and by Emily in the A level and by Jaide Johnson at the C Level, Prince Philip Games.

### *Stillwoods Farm Award*

Not awarded this year.

### *Royal China Memorial Award*

This year the award went to In the Ribbons, who belongs to Jenna Meeser of the Rising Star Pony Club. Here is the nomination that won "Ribbons" the award.

My pony's name is In the Ribbons, but at home, we just call her Ribbons. She is a beautiful 14HH bay pinto mare who has really helped me grow as a rider. I didn't learn to ride until I was 14, so I was a little older than the average rider when I started out.



My family purchased Ribbons back in March of 2007. This pony has helped me to try a lot of new things and made me more confident. Everything I learned about riding, I learned on her. My first dressage test I ever rode was on her in the Starter level, which we placed 3rd on my Starter test 2. At the end of 2007, I was fourth overall for the Starter division. Last year I went to two dressage qualifiers and competed at the pre-training level, where we finished 6th overall for the year.

Along with dressage, I tried some eventing outside of pony club, which Ribbons was not a huge fan of, but she still did it, because I asked her. She is a very obedient pony.

Last year I tried Show Jumping with her and absolutely loved it. We did our best and even with it being our first year, we came out with pretty good results. The first time we went we got a 5th in Table A, 2nd in Power and Speed and 4th in Equitation. After that I went to the other two qualifiers, but I was unable to attend finals. Still, luckily, I ended up fourth overall for the Entry division at banquet.

This year was especially fun because we tried PPGs for the first time together. The year before I borrowed a pony from our DC, but this year I wanted to see if she would be good at it. Plus, if I was going to do PPGs, I had to do the Masters level, which many people know is the hardest...so I was nervous. To my surprise she was amazing. Usually she is a little cautious of new things, but she took to PPGs like a fish to water. I still couldn't believe that she liked it so much, so we had an animal communicator come out and "talk" to her. She said that Ribbons runs really fast, not because she is scared, but because she is having fun! I thought that was funny and could relate to how fast she went and how she didn't want to stop...I thought it was fear of the props, but apparently it was joy.

This year we have also had a lot of great results with Show Jumping. At all of the qualifiers I have been champion and I am really proud to own such an outstanding pony. It is her hard work that got us there. We now have a very strong connection and I trust my pony beyond belief. My mom's friend has little children who love to go for pony rides. Her oldest daughter has just turned 5 and she is determined to ride all by herself this summer and she wants to do it on Ribbons. I have full faith in her and I know she fills their little hearts with happiness.

One of my favourite days with Ribbons was when I entered her in our local fair for the western games. She earned a ribbon in the egg stomp, which was a lot of fun. We were just out of the ribbons in the musical stalls game, and we gave everyone there a good laugh. There was my Ribbons pony cantering around the ring in collection, her head in a pretty frame, while we competed against all of the western quarter horses who were going a million miles an hour. There was no question who the dressage horse was out there, she just looked so cute!

Outside of shows and riding, Ribbons is a character in our barn. She is the first one to nicker hello to you in the morning when you come outside, and she has been a second Mom

to our little companion pony we bought to keep her company. Ribbons always lets the other horses know when meals are almost ready, with her steady neighing and nickering from her stall. She is sassy, and can sometimes be a bit bossy, but she is also the cuddliest pony in the world when she wants to be. Ribbons has no trouble letting you know what she likes. She even lets me die her tail to be pretty for a show, or just for fun! I absolutely love her!

Unfortunately, I am outgrowing my wonderful talented pony which breaks my heart. She was the first pony that I have ever shown with and tried new things like dressage, eventing, show jumping and PPGs. We are at the point where we have to decide what is best for her, whether it be staying with us, or finding a new home where some other new rider can experience the wonderful things she has to offer. I sincerely hope that you will consider Ribbons for the Royal China Memorial award. Ribbons' is a brave, helpful, loving and reliable pony, which are all attributes that I believe make her a remarkable pony!

~Jenna Meeser, Rising Star Pony Club~

### ***Karen Meuleman Award***

Karen Meuleman was a member of the Leitchcroft Pony Club branch who was part of a severe motor accident on her way to enter a dressage show in March 1989. This memorial award was created by the Leitchcroft Pony Club branch in memory of Karen. As the branch is now retired, due to the sale of the property known as Leitchcroft Farm, the branch has given the award to the Central Ontario Region.

Recipients of the award can be of any level within Pony Club and from any branch within the Region. The winner will be a member who best meets the ideals of Pony Club in his/her participation in activities, sportsmanship and effort, support of others and progress in riding and horsemanship during the current year. There is a trophy that remains with the Region with a plate with the winner's name engraved upon it. The winner is presented with a commemorative gift and an award card.

This year's winner is Taylor Ryan of the Whitchurch Pony Club. Her nomination form read as follows.

At Whitchurch Pony Club, Taylor Ryan is Pony Club. She exemplifies all the Pony Club ideals of sportsmanship, encouragement and attitude. She is a leader at WPC. Having joined the club five years ago, Taylor has faithfully attended all activities. In fact, I think she has a 100% attendance record over those five years! However, it's not about the attendance; it's about the attitude.

Taylor is currently our most senior member. Over the past two years she has taken an active role in mentoring the younger members of the club. As a barn-based club almost 100% of our members ride out of Whitchurch Riding Academy. Taylor can be found on most weekends cheerfully going about her barn duties and all the while encouraging younger

members in their flat work, their jumping and in their horsemanship. At every event, Taylor takes an active leadership role. When competing, she cheers on each WPC member even if they are competing against her. If they win, she cheers loudly, if they do not, Taylor always finds something positive in what they've done and points out their accomplishment not only to the rider but to the entire club. Her encouragement has made many a discouraged rider feel better about themselves and their abilities.

This past year Taylor organized and led two clinics for members that resulted in our members obtaining two badges: Barn Safety and Handling and Grooming. She has organized games nights for our members, supported them in their riding goals and constantly encourages riders to join the pony club.

Last Christmas Taylor organized a barn night at Greenhawk and coordinated the event by sending out reminders, putting up sign up sheets and following up with all members on their attendance and the benefits of going as a group. In total over 30 members and parents attended the event.

Taylor has participated in many Pony Club disciplines including dressage, jumping, rally, and quiz. At these events Taylor supports those competing with and against her from the other Pony Clubs. As well, she helps younger members prepare teaching them how to groom, how to braid, and most importantly how to tame the butterflies in their stomachs!

Last year Taylor finished 6th overall in the Entry Division on Sammy's Girl. At the start of this season Taylor put together a personal plan for her riding. She decided to focus on jumping at the Starter level. This season Taylor participated in two of the three qualifiers and was eligible for the Show Jumping Finals. At Finals she finished as Champion! Interestingly, the first thing Taylor said when she received her trophy was 'This is going to look great in the Pony Club lounge; it belongs to all of us'. (As a barn based club, we have a lounge at Whitchurch Riding Academy). The entire WPC was thrilled to see her achieve her personal goal. We know that Taylor will make everyone at the club feel as if they were a part of her accomplishment.

We're nominating Taylor because of her enthusiasm, her love of the horse and her support of her fellow riders to both in and outside of her own pony club. To us, Taylor Ryan is Pony Club!

Thank you for considering our nomination.

Elizabeth Brims, District Commissioner, Whitchurch Pony Club

*People Who Make A Difference Award*

This is actually an Ontario Equestrian Federation Award, presented at the OEF Annual Banquet. COR gets to nominate one person per year, and this year the award went to Bill Murray. Congratulations to Bill!

In closing, Your Humble Editor would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Ecstatic Eid, Delirious Diwali, Karefree Kwanzaa, Sensational Saturnalia, and All-the-Best to Anyone-I've-Accidentally-Left-Out