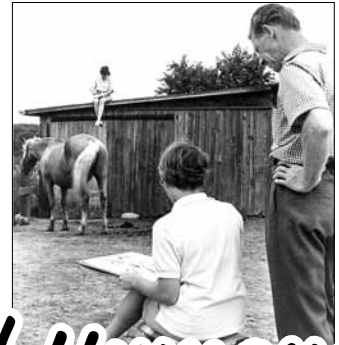


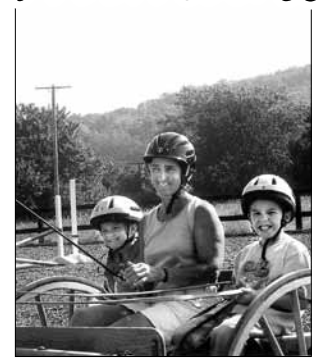
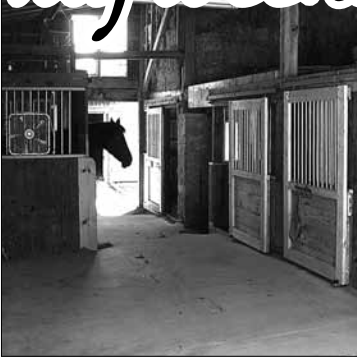


The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2009



Half a century of Horses and Humans



Scenes from Riding Centre's past and present, clockwise from top left: the RC ca. 1965; Vikki Hazelbaker and Carolyn Bailey lead Geri Weikle on 'Freckles'; Antioch College's Seth Velsey with art students; 'Dandy' in stables; riding class circa 1965 (note the RC's founder Louise Soelberg at far left); Grant and Joel Shaffer in pony cart with RC director Carolyn Bailey. Archival photos by Axel Bahnsen, courtesy of Scott Sanders, Antiochiana.

The Riding Centre Celebrates its 50th birthday

By Ann Cooper

When retired dancer Louise Soelberg stood gazing across these fields and woods, contemplating an aged barn and the blue Ohio skies, she imagined the place filled with healthy children learning to ride, to work, to carry themselves with grace, and to live responsibly on the earth and in their communities. Fifty years later, her vision lives vigorously here.

Initially, Louise had to persuade Antioch College to let her use the barn and house and fields, offering riding instruction for the college's students and care for the property as incentive for the college's cooperation. She brought creative talents, personal discipline and a powerfully persuasive personality to that negotiation and to all the challenges of creating the Riding Centre. She turned opportunity into advantage, for example, when a group of Peace Corps volunteers ap-

proached her needing riding instruction before they set off on their mission. She agreed to teach them to ride and handle horses if they would build her an indoor riding ring. We still ride in that ring today.

You're Invited!

*Join us at the Riding Centre
Saturday, Oct. 3, at 2 p.m. in
celebration of our 50th anniversary!
Bring your photos and stories —
old and new — and share in the
memories past and present!*

Over the past half century, the Riding Centre has grown, now occupying 50 acres and operating out of two barns. The therapeutic program has become an important priority. The buildings have been restored and rebuilt. Fences replaced. Students have grown and sometimes bring their own chil-

dren here for lessons. But the essentials of the Riding Centre remain constant—dependable horsemanship, personal growth and joy.

Over the past 50 years, thousands of people have been involved with and touched by the Riding Centre as students, volunteers, employees, association members, riders, clinicians, and friends. Some former students have gone on to become equestrian competitors, veterinarians, wranglers and riding instructors. It is much harder to calculate how many have internalized the strength, patience, and happiness they gained in the barns, in the rings and on the trails of the Riding Centre.

There are 50 years worth of great stories at the Riding Centre. You can feel that history in the rafters and on the soil and in the horses' breath, or you can ask someone who's been here a little longer than you have to share some memories. Or better yet, start building some of your own! 🌟

Some Thoughts on Unsung Heroes of the Riding Centre

By Marsha Casdorff

If you come to the Riding Centre for a visit, nine times out of ten, you're going to see **Carolyn Bailey** there, whether she's teaching a lesson or mucking out a stall. If you come in the morning or evening, you might also see one of our barn workers doing what they do. The Riding Centre has a staff of seven part-time workers and Carolyn, who go about doing the daily chores that need to be done, such as cleaning stalls and tending to the horses.

What you probably don't know is that sometimes situations arise that need extra attention, and the cavalry must be called in. Lucky for us, the cavalry is often Carolyn's husband, **Chris Bailey**, or Marsha's husband, **David Williamson**, or Adriene's husband, **Jeff May**. They don't have to help out; they aren't employees of the Riding Centre. They donate their time and energy with a smile whenever they're called upon. And they've been called on a lot lately.

Since the fall, the weather has been wreaking havoc on our area, beginning with the wind storm back in September. At the Riding Centre many trees and limbs came down, knocking down fences and blocking trails, not to mention all the leaves, sticks, and debris that were blown around. Jeff, a teacher by trade, could have stayed home

and relaxed since school was canceled, but he used his days off to help clear fallen trees and repair fences at the Riding Centre. Of course, Chris was there, too. If you would have come to the Centre just days after that storm, you would never even have known that it had happened. Thank you, Jeff and Chris!

This winter has been brutally cold, with

'Bucket Man' empties the frozen buckets

temperatures often dipping well below zero. These cold temperatures make the barn work more difficult because when the temperatures fall so low, all the horses' water buckets freeze almost solid. These buckets have to be emptied every day. (I say "emptied;" we call it "banging out the buckets," and it's hard work.) On one of these extremely cold days, Marsha's husband, David, came to the barn and proceeded to "bang out" the frozen buckets, to the delight of the semi-frozen stall cleaners. He has since earned the name "Bucket Man" and comes to the barn to empty frozen buckets whenever he is summoned. Thank you, David!

With the extremely cold weather comes frozen pipes. This winter at McCally Barn, the water hydrant froze and the pipes burst. Carolyn's husband Chris donated his time to dig up the old hydrant and replace it in less than ideal conditions. This task was

accomplished in a few hours, and most of the boarders there didn't even know anything had broken in the first place. Chris also did some minor repair work on a stall just for fun. Thank you, Chris!

These examples are only highlights of the important contributions of partners of our staff. We are so lucky at the Riding Centre to have a dedicated staff who do their work in any conditions Mother Nature can throw at them, with a little (sometimes a lot of) help from the unsung heroes (also known as the cavalry, the husbands, the partners) who step in cheerfully whenever they are called on to do what needs to be done.

So, if you come to the Riding Centre for a visit, you probably won't see Chris, or Jeff, or David, but you can look around and see the fruits of their donated labor. Thanks again to our unsung heroes!

Post Script: Chris Bailey Saves the Day... Again. After completing this article, I just found out that Chris spent most of yesterday breaking up several inches of ice that had accumulated over the past few weeks at the Riding Centre and was beginning to thaw. Unfortunately, the thawing ice was melting into the main barn and beginning to flood some stalls. Chris arrived with his ingenuity and a song and after several hours and blisters on his hands from breaking up the ice, averting a flood disaster. This just proves to me that Chris is a Riding Centre hero. Thank you, Chris! 🐾

The Riding Centre

Staff Members:

Carolyn Bailey,
Manager and Head Instructor
 Carly Bailey, Greg Fry, Sara and
 Yana Garing, Jody Garrett,
 Ona Harshaw, Adriene Kramer,
 Emily Moore, Elizabeth Rigsby

Board of Directors:

Janetta Lewis, *President*
 Jim Nealon, *Vice President*
 Marsha Casdorff, *Secretary*
 Charlene Carlson, Vikki Hazelbaker,
 Katie Moore, Susie Nickles

Newsletter:

Editor: Jim Nealon
 Contributors: Carolyn Bailey, Marsha
 Casdorff, Ann Cooper, Janetta Lewis
 Design & Production: Matt Minde

1117 E. Hyde Rd., Yellow Springs, OH 45387
 (937) 767-9087 • www.ridingcentre.org

Ride-A-Thon 2008—

Riders Gather for the Greater Good

Every year our most popular fundraiser is the Annual Ride-A-Thon. This is the only fundraiser in which we ask our students to participate, with proceeds going back into the riding program. Many of our riders respond by gathering sponsors.

This year was no different, although numbers were down—33% participating. Think of the great things we could accomplish with even 50% participation!

I want to thank the following riders for all their hard work:

<i>Emily Blose</i>	<i>Susie Giffried</i>
<i>Francesca Brecha</i>	<i>Molly Hendrickson</i>
<i>Audrey Fletcher</i>	<i>Sarah Hileman</i>

<i>Lindsey Kissell</i>	<i>Hillary Quast</i>
<i>Cait Lloyd</i>	<i>Abby Rutan</i>
<i>Jaden Mahle</i>	<i>Emma Schutte</i>
<i>Kenny and Zoey</i>	<i>Jorie Sieck</i>
<i>McKinley</i>	<i>Lizzie Stoermer</i>
<i>Anna Mullin</i>	<i>Stephanie Welch</i>
<i>Oona Owen</i>	<i>Anna Williamson</i>
<i>Megan Phillips</i>	

And congratulations to our winners: Anna Williamson, for Most Money Raised; Stephanie Welch, for Largest Single Donation; and Emma Schutte, winner of the Random Drawing of All Participants.

New Faces, New 'Fun'draisers

2008 was an amazing year for fundraising. In addition to our usual annual events and efforts, a favorite show returned, two delightful concerts were added, as well as an E-bay auction. The Riding Centre also received support from three new foundations.

Fundraising began with **David Williamson** once again donating his amazing magic and comedy talent along with some of his show biz buddies. We were honored to have **OperaCadabra** split the proceeds between The Riding Centre and the Cedarville Opera House.

We were also blessed this year with two wonderful benefit concerts. In June, **The Yellow Springs Brass!** gave a performance at McCally Barn. **Bruce Heckman** and **Ann Cooper** were the driving force behind this great idea. What fun! In December, The Riding Centre got an early Christmas present that came all the way from Zurich, Switzerland. The very talented **Enderle String Trio** put on a concert at Rockford Meeting House to benefit our therapeutic riding program. Who knew we were world famous!

Sharon Bell donated a beautiful framed print by P. Buckley Moss. **Mark French** gave of his time and skills to auction it on E-bay. Not to forget our priceless core of volunteers who log in many, many hours

to bring us our annual fundraisers.

A spring and fall Centered Riding clinic — many thanks to **Elaine Meredith Steele**, **Marsha Casdorff** and **Mark French**. A spring and fall Dressage Show run by **Charlene Carlson** and a Hunter Show organized by **Carolyn Bailey**. All the shows were accompanied by a new and used tack sale run by **Susie Nickles**. Carolyn also brings us the Ride-a-Thon and The Riding Centre gear sale.

The Riding Centre added some new names to our grant list also. **The Springfield Foundation**, **Della Selsor Trust**, **Turner Foundation** and **Springfield Rotary Club** continued their support through grants written by **Vikki Hazelbaker** and **Janetta Lewis**. The generosity of **Joe and Gail Deering**, along with their love of Carolyn, brought us a grant from the **Dayton Foundation**. The **United Way** supported us again through the **Yellow Springs Community Council**. We send out a warm "Welcome and thank you!" to the **Cotswald Foundation**, the **Morgan Family Foundation** and the **Friends Meeting** for joining our list of donors this year.

Our continued thanks goes out to the **Glen Helen Ecology Institute** for providing the land on which we sit and, of course, our many volunteers who quietly continue to give of their time and energy. 🌟

Photo Finish



Gene Jestice and his trick horse, 'Dutch,' garner a round of applause this summer; by Janetta Lewis
If you have a favorite photo you'd like us to see of Riding Centre horses and/or their riders, just contact us. And be sure to bring your favorite photos to the **Riding Centre's 50th Anniversary Celebration, Oct. 3, at 2 p.m.**

Our List of Contributors...

...and how you can join it!

- Adopt a Horse (yearly)\$1200
- Adopt a Dog (yearly)\$50
- Adopt a Cat (yearly)\$35

Donate towards:

- Endowment, Buildings,
- Special Projects,
- General Fund.....(Any amount)

Become a Member

- Lifetime\$500
- Corporate (yearly)\$1000
- Blue Ribbon (yearly)\$200
- Supporting (yearly)\$25

Active:

- Family (yearly)\$100
- Individual (yearly)\$75

We wish to thank the following:

Special thanks to:

Brad Luckenbill, Ralph Jones, and Allen Metz who keep our horses up and running. Also, **Cedarville University** for providing volunteers for our therapeutic program. Without these folks we could not do such wonderful work.

Businesses

AC Service
Carter Lumber,
Beavercreek
Cooper Security
Current Cuisine
Kelley & Co.
Liberty Equine Supply
Ocean Marketing
Rita Caz
The Tacky Horse
Yellow Springs News
Yoga Springs Studio

Marshall Blose
Stella and John
Bradley
Diane Brecha
Katie Seidl and Bob
Brecha
Bev Brown
Charleen and Jim
Carlson
Rosie Casdorff
Michael Combs
Chester Cooper

Foundations and Organizations

Cotswald Foundation
Della Selsor Trust
Dayton Foundation
Friends Meeting
Morgan Family
Foundation
Springfield Foundation
Springfield Rotary
Turner Foundation
YSCC

Gail and Joe Deering
Diane Dubose
Mary Fletcher
Pauline and Scott
Fletcher
Jim Nealon and Mark
French
Yana and Dave Garing
Diane and Jim Gifried
Susan and Jim Graham
Lari Graver

Individuals

Phyllis and Tom
Ashworth
Carly Bailey
Carolyn and Chris
Bailey
Rosemary and Jim
Bailey
Bob Baldwin
Sharron and Russell
Bell
Anna Bellisari
Daphne and Fred Berge
Betty Blose
Emily, Laura and

Aaron Hauser
Alberta and Mel
Hauser
Andy Hauser
Maggie and Sean
Hauser
Tony Hauser
Vikki and Dale
Hazelbaker
Ann Cooper and Bruce
Heckman
Joe Herbert
Lori Kuhn and Karl
Hendrickson
Betty and Martin
Hileman

List continues on Page 4



Scouts Aaron Fletcher, left, and Mario Cosey fulfilled their Eagle Service Projects building bridges.

When Eagles Land at the Riding Centre

This year we were lucky to have help from a new source, Boy Scout Troop 78 from Yellow Springs. Due to rain run off from the neighborhood being diverted through our wooded trail, several spots were unsafe to navigate due to quicksand-like mud and a two-foot-deep eroded gully. Aaron Fletcher, the brother of one of our students, and Mario Cosey both needed Eagle Rank. With assistance from Carter Lumber in Beavercreek, The Riding Centre was able to provide materials for two incredibly sturdy bridges. These bridges, built by Aaron and

Mario, as well as several adults and fellow troop members, are strong enough for even our tractor to cross. They have made riding the trails safe for all our students, boarders and members. Thank you both, as well as the following troop members:

Sam Crawford
William Evans
Scott Fletcher
Ben Justice
Jake Kintner
Dan Marion
Robby Marion

Russell Milliorn
Eamon Papanai
Jerry Papanai
Rory Papanai
Eli Seitz
Josh Seitz

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

(continued from Page 3)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sarah Hileman | Linda and Frank Phillips |
| Dorothy and Julian Kampf | Melinda and Jeff Quast |
| Cheryl and James Keen | David Rees |
| Corinne Kissell | Jo Frannye and Mike Reichert |
| Phyllis Kissel | Celeste Robinson |
| Bonnie Knuckles | Carol Rowan |
| Teresa Koverman | Jenny and Raymond Ruka |
| Adriene Kramer and Jeff May | Carol and John Rutan |
| Joe Kristen | Jennifer and John Schutte |
| Shirley Kristensen | Eva and Konrad Seidl |
| Inge and Max Lake | Cindy Sieck |
| Janetta and Jeff Lewis | Marie and William Slattery |
| Gina and Chris Lloyd | Lynn and Tim Sontag |
| Erika and David Mahle | Elaine Meredith Steele |
| JoAnn Mahle | Lizzie, Melinda and Bill Stoermer |
| Rachel and Doug McKinley | Marlene and Joe Stuber |
| Kathleen McMillan | Jean Tebay |
| Sylvia Ellison and Craig Mesure | Megan Trolander |
| Marian Miller | Mary Anna and Gary Welch |
| Katie Moore | William Wildenhau |
| Caroline and Paul Mullin | Marsha Casdorff and David Williamson |
| Shirley and Stan Mullin | Debra Williamson |
| Nina Myatt | Gloria Wolff |
| Brandee Naff | Martha Ann Worrell |
| Tina Newton | Sandy Love and Sam Young |
| Susie and Rick Nickles | |
| Peter Noonan | |
| Deirdre and Erik Owen | |
| Luisa Lang Owen | |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 4	Carolyn Bailey's 50th Birthday (<i>Coincidence?</i>)
May 2-3	Centered Riding Clinic
30	Dressage Show & Tack Sale
31	Hunter Show & Tack Sale
September 19	Dressage Show & Tack Sale
October 3	Riding Centre's 50th Birthday Party <i>Come join us in celebration! Bring yourself, your photos and stories old and new to share at the Riding Centre, 2 p.m.</i>
24-25	Centered Riding Clinic
December 6	Riding Centre Assoc. Members' Meeting & Potluck

For Dayton Local Show Circuit dates, call The Riding Centre at (937) 767-9087

Did You Re-Member?

Have you renewed your membership for 2009? 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.**

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



Yellow Springs Community Council, United Way, Glen Helen Ecology Institute, Springfield Fdn., Dayton Fdn., Springfield Rotary Club, and the Morgan Family Fdn.