



The Riding Centre News

THE RIDING CENTRE • 1117 E. HYDE RD., YELLOW SPRINGS, OH 45387 • WWW.RIDINGCENTRE.ORG • SPRING 2017



Oreo, the Riding Centre's feisty black and white paint, sustained serious injuries to his right hind at the hock joint that required extensive medical treatments for proper healing. PHOTO: JENNIFER LAWSON

A Helping Hand for Oreo

By Marsha Casdorph

On the quiet summer morning of June 21, 2016, morning feeder Grace Keeton was bringing the horses of The Riding Centre into their stalls for their breakfast when she noticed something terribly wrong with one of the younger school horses with great potential, a sweet but ornery black and white paint named Oreo. He had somehow managed to injure his right hind at the hock joint and had sustained multiple scratches below and above the joint. There was blood everywhere, and although he was upright, he was not able to bear weight on the injured leg.

After a quick call to Carolyn Bailey, Grace called the vet. The news was not good. Although nothing was broken, Oreo had cut his leg to the bone, and several tendons were severed or exposed. The other scratches were superficial. The deep wound was unable to be stitched, so it would have to heal with careful attention to keeping it clean and removing

any proud flesh that might accumulate. There were no guarantees that Oreo would ever be sound, let alone be part of our riding program again. It's a decision that any horse owner usually has to make at some point, whether to continue treatment or not. Oreo was as feisty as ever, giving the sign that he was a fighter, although his leg wound was about as bad as it could be. So the fight began.

It's a decision that any horse owner usually has to make at some point, whether to continue treatment or not.

With the first vet call, the charges added up quickly. There was a frank and honest talk with the vet about the cost over the next several months for Oreo's treatment. It was estimated to be in the range of \$3,000–\$5,000, not small

Continued On Page Two

Proof is in the Pudding

By Janetta Lewis-Jennings

The Riding Centre is an extraordinary organization. The proof is in the pudding. In our case, the "pudding" is the amazing amount of hard work and dedication that our staff and volunteers offer because they believe so strongly in The Riding Centre and its mission. The fundraisers mentioned below are a testimony to that fact.

2016 was a year full of clinics. Adriene Kramer did several clinics for her students and put on a special one with Peggy Brown featuring an invisible rider demonstration. Adriene, along with Rebecca Reynolds, hosted a Visible Woman Retreat: a time for women to observe and groom horses. A few took advantage of the opportunity to also take a lesson. Adriene and Jim Nealon organized the Centered Riding® clinic with Elaine Meredith Steele. Jim also put on two clinics of his own that attracted jumping and cross country enthusiasts.

The Spring and Fall Dressage shows were organized, as always, by our faithful member, Charleen Carlson. Carolyn Bailey, who is a major part of everything that takes place at The Riding Centre, is in charge of organizing the Hunter show. All of the shows require long hours from many volunteers to keep them running smoothly and to put things back in order at the end of the day. During the shows, there is usually a tack sale organized by Marsha Casdorph and Susie Nickels. Marsha is The Riding Centre's "Jill" of all trades and the official go-to person whenever anyone needs help.

Carolyn also organizes the Ride-a-Thon, our biggest fundraiser. Jill O'Banion continues to sew wonderful tote bags out of horse grain bags. These go great with your Riding Centre apparel. The apparel sale, run by Carolyn, takes place every fall.

Grants have become a major source of funding for The Riding Centre. This year,

Continued On Page Two

A Helping Hand for Oreo

Continued From Page One

amounts. Carolyn's daughter, Carly, suggested setting up a GoFundMe account for Oreo's medical expenses. GoFundMe is an internet site that allows those in need to post their stories and solicit funds to help them achieve their goals. When we investigated it, we discovered that many charities use GoFundMe to raise money.

In July, a GoFundMe account was set up for Oreo's medical expenses with the goal of raising \$5,000. It was exciting watching the donations come in with heartfelt comments and well wishes for Oreo's speedy recovery. The goal was met in just three months.

Over the months and to this day, Carolyn and other helpers have cleaned and

medicated Oreo's wound every day, and Oreo received laser therapy from Dr. Brett Ellis twice a week for several weeks to aid in healing. He was allowed out of his stall for about an hour a day for several weeks until he gradually stayed out for around three hours. He was finally turned out with the other horses in September. At that time, he began to be ridden at the walk for twenty minutes at a time. Right now he is back on a normal turn out schedule and is being ridden lightly at the walk, trot, and canter. So far, he is sound, which is almost unbelievable after the severity of his injury.

We at The Riding Centre are grateful to all those who donated to the GoFundMe account and to everyone who has helped with the rehabilitation of our beloved Oreo! 🐾

Ride-A-Thon to the Rescue

By Carolyn Bailey

2016 has gone down in the history books as an eventful year, and so it was with The Riding Centre. It was a record year for veterinary calls for our school horses. It started with Oreo, who sustained a horrific leg injury that is still being treated to this day, seven months later. Then, Dottie was diagnosed with a melanoma in her lower eye lid that was painfully pressing on her eye, and she had to undergo chemotherapy. Honey Pepper and Pete were treated for extreme reactions to what may have been spider bites. And, finally, Honey Pepper and Beau were diagnosed with Cushing's syndrome. Of course, there were various vet calls through-

out the year for the normal joint and hoof aches and pains that older horses have.

Because of the unusual number of vet calls, the proceeds raised from our annual Ride-A-Thon went into our general fund to offset the expenses incurred this year. Not only do I want to thank our wonderful, compassionate vets, Dr. Brett Ellis and Dr. Brad Luckenbill, but I also want to thank the following riders for participating and raising over \$4,000:

Elizabeth Baader
Kasey Baugh
Katherine Berg
Annette Biehler
Emily Bradley
Alex Brooks
Clara Rose &
Tricia Burke
Brandon Dietsch
Elsa & Farah Girard
Sara Hallmark
Kira Hendrickson
Sanuye Hunt
MaKenna Jones
Kathy Johnson
Hannah, Jen &
Sophia Lawson
Stella Lieff
Ellie & Olivia Ling

Terry Luzader
Chedin Manley
Evan Martin
Arden McHugh-
Brahan
Harper Mesure
McKenna Moore
Sara Mumford
Trinity Raber
Lizzie Stoermer
Yvonne
Vadeboncoeur
David Warren
Stephanie Welch
Tania Welch
Bridget Williams
Lily Woods
Sara Zendlovitz
Raven Zurbuchen

The 'Pudding'

Continued From Page One

grants came from The Miller Fellowship through the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, the Springfield Foundation, the Della Selsor Trust, the Springfield Rotary Club, the Greene County Community Foundation and the Morgan Family Foundation. We are blessed to have several volunteers who write the grants and make sure that all the criteria are met. A special thanks to Cindy Minton-Piatt, Vikki Hazelbaker and Marsha Casdorff for all of their hard work.

David Williamson, manager of our website, set up a GoFundMe account for the extensive medical bills of one of our school horses, Oreo. The donations received helped Oreo's recovery immensely.

Kroger Community Rewards, set up by Janetta Lewis-Jennings, continues to bring in a quarterly check. With new participants, we can make this into a much bigger fundraiser. Please register your Kroger Plus card at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and type in The Riding Centre's NPO number, 43599. You no longer have to re-register every year!

Last, but not least, Antioch College and the Glen Helen Ecology Institute deserve our heartfelt thanks for providing the beautiful land on which we thrive.

The Riding Centre

STAFF MEMBERS: Carolyn Bailey, *Manager and Head Instructor*, Marsha Casdorff, Greg Fry, Yana Garing, Jody Garrett, Grace Keeton, Adriene Kramer, Janetta Lewis-Jennings, Abby Landolfi, Jennifer Lawson, Anna Moore, and Anna Williamson.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Jim Nealon, *President*; Janetta Lewis-Jennings, *Vice President*; Marsha Casdorff, *Secretary*; Sylvia Ellison, Alma Shipley, and Jill O'Banion

NEWSLETTER: *Editors:* Marsha Casdorff and Jim Nealon; *Contributors:* Carolyn Bailey, Janetta Lewis-Jennings, Marsha Casdorff, and Alma Shipley; *Design & Production:* Matt Minde

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

Did You Re-Member?

Have you renewed your membership for 2017? 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.**



Lisa Smith, living the dream. PHOTO: DAN KLEIN

Lisa Smith: Still in the Saddle

By Alma Shipley

There are many stories of what The Riding Centre has meant to those of us who have been lucky enough to be a part of it over the years. It is gratifying to know that, throughout our existence, our mission to encourage a thorough knowledge of horse riding and care and to foster a love for horses has been going on for over fifty-five years. We would like to highlight one of those stories.

Way back in the 1960s, Lisa Smith, who has been a good friend to The Riding Centre, was eager to start riding lessons but had to wait until she was nine years old. Because the Centre had winter lesson times then, she was able to start right after her birthday. Her first instructors were Patsy Kahoe and Debi Vernay, and her favorite school horse was a paint pony appropriately named Paint.

By age fourteen, Lisa had her own horse, Brandy. Together they went to shows at Old National Trail, Earlham, and other venues. They also spent many hours actually riding in the Glen past the pine forest and onto a cantering strip where the horses could really go! My, how times have changed.

One memory that really sticks out for Lisa is the day-camp sleepovers. Back then, students in the day camps would ride to the McCally Barn on a late eve-

ning trail ride, and then put the horses in a corral. Everyone would sleep on the hay at night and then ride their horses back to the Centre in the morning. Of course, there was not much sleep. It was too exciting sleeping in a real barn with horses and other critters. In the rafters there were bats squeaking, and outside there were fireflies lighting. Happy times!

Lisa had wonderful opportunities at The Riding Centre as a new rider when she was a girl, and her love of horses has continued into adulthood. She kept Brandy at the Centre while she went off to Bowling Green University. When Lisa changed schools, she took Brandy with her to The Ohio State University. When not at school, Lisa and Brandy would return to The Riding Centre.

Eventually, Lisa bought her own farm near Fredericktown, Ohio. She now has four horses, and she still loves riding and jumping. She has completed mini trials, which are smaller versions of three-day events, and she also likes to go on hunter paces.

With all the knowledge and experience she has accrued over many years, she credits The Riding Centre with allowing her to pursue her childhood dream of horses, horses, and more horses! Lisa is now working toward her fiftieth anniversary of riding, and we at the Centre are thrilled for her. 🐾

Our List of Contributors...

...and how you can join it!

- Adopt a Horse (yearly)\$1,200
- 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)\$1,000
- Blue Ribbon (yearly)\$100
- Supporting (yearly)\$25

Riding:

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

Special thanks to: Dr. Brad Luckenbill, Dr. Brett Ellis, Kenny Hoyle, Gary Holland, and Chris Hilsamer 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.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS:

Lifetime Members:

- Andi Adkins
- Jessica L. Andrews
- Carly Bailey
- Carolyn & Chris Bailey
- Rosemary & Jim Bailey
- Myra & DJ Banion
- Mr. Birtle
- Adrian & Joysan Edwards
- Pat Funderburg
- Sara Garing
- Yana & Dave Garing
- Vikki & Dale Hazelbaker
- Adriene Kramer
- Nina Myatt
- Ann Taylor
- Jean McCally-Tebay
- Timothy Toothman

Contributing Members:

Blue Ribbon

- Andi Adkins
- Catherine Anderson
- Rosemary & Jim Bailey
- Myra & DJ Banion
- Mary & Craig Conrad
- Colleen Ingeman
- Shirley Kristensen
- Margo Mace
- Michael McCally
- Liz Mersky
- Susie & Rick Nickels
- Jill & Doug O'Banion
- Linda Parsons
- Rebecca Reynolds
- Jenifer Cowperthwaite
- Ruka & Raymond Ruka
- Lizzie, Melinda & Bill Stoermer
- Pat & Don Swigart
- Jean McCally-Tebay

Rider Members:

Family

- Anna Williamson & Marsha Casdorph
- Nora Kaukl & Patty Erhardt
- Lauren Miller & Hans Jacobson
- Lily Woods & Sarah Maxwell
- Sophia, Hannah, Jen & Stephanie Lawson
- Jane & Gary Thompson

Individual

- Annette Biehler
- Beverly Brown
- Lynn Caldwell
- Judy Connett
- Ann Cooper
- Jody Garrett
- Julie Jones
- Janetta Lewis-Jennings
- Judy Keefner
- Terry Luzader
- Zoey McKinley
- Cindy Minton-Piatt
- Lynn Mishler
- Amanda Munson
- Jim Nealon
- Susie Nickels
- Jill O'Banion
- Linda Parsons
- Celeste Robinson
- Jocelyn Robinson
- JoDee Russo
- Alma Shipley
- Jyl Snyder
- Ginny Stack
- Lizzie Stoermer
- Yvonne Vadeboncoeur
- Diane Wilson
- Theresa Zink

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

Businesses

- Ball Corporation
- Cooper Security Systems, LLC
- Kelley & Company
- The Kroger Company
- Liberty Mutual
- Miami Valley Equine & Small Animal Acupressure
- Oberschlake Farms
- Ocean Marketing
- Pony Express Veterinary Hospital
- The Tacky Horse

- Trinergy Riding Inst., LLC
- Veterinary Associates, LLC
- Wilmington College
- Yellow Springs News

Individuals

- Anonymous
- Andi Adkins
- Catherine Anderson
- Douglas Auspach, Jr.
- Rachel & Travis Baader
- Carly Bailey
- Carolyn & Chris Bailey

A Friendly 'Whisper'

By Carolyn Bailey

When then six-year-old Whisper stepped off my horse dealer's trailer, my first thought was "a real live My Little Pony!" He was a beautiful rich butterscotch color and had a long flowing flaxen mane and tail. My second thought was that if he didn't work out as a school horse, he would be easy to sell.

Twenty years later, Whisper is still working hard and is a much beloved favorite of many. Being a school horse is not an easy job. The burn out rate is high, and at The Riding Centre, with so many young, inexperienced riders, it's higher than many riding programs. Whisper started out like most of our new horses, carrying the most skilled riders who helped him learn his role in the program, teaching him to jump and to behave like a gentleman. In the herd, we learned Whisper was a fiercely loyal friend, first to Ben, and now to Chipper. They are seldom more than a few steps away from one another.

As he has aged, Whisper's role has changed. He now mostly carries young riders



Whisper has aged — and learned — well.

PHOTO: JENNIFER LAWSON

and many of our therapeutic riders, although he is still a favorite of many for bareback trail rides or rainy days in the indoor arena. Now as I look at Whisper, all I can think is thank goodness he came to us here at The Riding Centre!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 26	Adriene Kramer Clinic
May 6	Jim Nealon Clinic
May 13	Dressage Show
May 21	Adriene Kramer Clinic
August 27	Adriene Kramer Clinic
September 16	Dressage Show
September 17	Hunter Show
October 21–22	Centered Riding® Clinic with Elaine Meredith Steele
December 3	Riding Centre Association Members' Meeting & Potluck

*Adriene Kramer's clinics will be held on Sundays, starting at 9 a.m. with a discussion on the theme of the clinic and unmounted exercises to help develop feel for the horse.

For more information, please email Adriene at adrienekramer@gmail.com.

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

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

Yellow Springs Community Foundation, Springfield Foundation, Springfield Rotary Club, Della Selsor Trust, Greene County Community Foundation, Glen Helen Ecology Institute, the Morgan Family Foundation, the Dayton Foundation and Antioch College.



Springfield Foundation
For good. For ever.



OUR CONTRIBUTORS (From Page Three)

- Rosemary & Jim Bailey
- Myra & DJ Banion
- Joanna Baugh
- Maureen Baugh
- Myra & Jerry Baugh
- Katherine Berg
- Annette Biehler
- Keith Bradley
- Marvia Bradley
- Tricia & Tim Burke
- Susan Bush
- Lynn Caldwell
- Charleen & Jim Carlson
- Kate & Dan Carrigan
- Mary Ciavarro
- Carrie Clark
- Mary & Craig Conrad
- Leslie Denner
- Beth Dible
- Susan & Richard Dible
- Jennifer & Matt Dietsch
- MJ Dodson
- Barbara & Tom Doran
- Diane Dubose
- Barbara Duncombe
- Liz Dunn
- Joysan Edwards
- Jonny Ellison
- J. Ewart
- Noreen Foreman
- Greg Fry
- Sara Garing
- Sarah & Matt Garing
- Yana & Dave Garrett
- Jody Garrett
- Amber & Jason Girard
- Abby Graver
- Lari Graver
- Phil Grear
- Marilyn Hackett
- Melissa & William Hallmark
- Kevin Hamilton
- Jennifer Harrison
- Mary & Dana Harrod
- Ann Cooper & Bruce Heckman
- Lori Kuhn & Karl Hendrickson
- Molly Hendrickson
- Joe Hill
- Bea Karthaus Hunt & Allen Hunt
- Colleen Ingerman
- Lauren Miller & Hans Jacobson
- Janetta Lewis-Jennings & Rich Jennings
- Georgia & Doug Jewell
- Judy Keefner
- Grace & Graham Keeton
- Anna Kingsbury
- Bonnie Knuckles
- Adriene Kramer
- Cathy Kramer
- Beth & Jeff Kreidenweis
- Shirley Kristensen
- Abby Landolfi
- Hannah, Jen & Sophia Lawson
- Stephanie & Jeff Lawson
- Dan Lief
- Audrey Ling
- Leisa Ling
- Terry & Mark Luzader
- Margo & Terry Ray Mace
- Susanne Hashim & John Manley
- Amy & Mike Martin
- Sarah Maxwell
- Christine Cassel & Michael McCally
- Ally McCue
- Nancy McHugh
- Liz Merskey
- Sylvia Ellison & Craig Mesure
- Carolyn Midloff
- Matt Minde
- Angela Moore
- Anna Moore
- Amanda Banaszak & Bob Moore
- Debby & Dave Mosley
- Jeffrey Mullins
- Dawn Mumford, MD
- Nina Myatt
- Rachel Neal
- Mark French & Jim Nealon
- Carey Nelson
- Susie & Rick Nickels
- Victoria Niles
- Bill Noble
- Jill & Doug O'Banion
- Linda Parsons
- Robin Patrick
- Timothy Pepper
- Lori Perkins
- Sue Pfeiffer
- Cindy Minton-Piatt & Steve Piatt
- Christine & Michael Raber
- Hannah & Lauren Reed
- JoFrannie & Mike Reichert
- Rebecca Reynolds
- Dorothy Rike
- Ann Richardson
- Jocelyn Robinson
- Linda Crouch-Roepken & James Roepkin
- Jenny Cowperthwaite-Ruka & Raymond Ruka
- Diane Scott
- Stuart Sector
- W. Seegraves
- Virginia Shaffer
- Korie Sharp
- Alma & Robert Shipley
- Lisa Smith
- Jyl Snyder
- Nancy Soloski
- Megan Trolander & Jim Spangler
- Jan Spier
- David Steckel
- Elaine Meredith Steele
- Melinda & Bill Stoermer
- Becca Strobridge
- Dana Storts
- Bobi & Ron Surmick
- Carl Sutton
- Pat & Don Swihart
- Barb & Ron Szkody
- Jeff Szkody
- Valerie Talkers
- Jean & Jim Tebay
- John Thomas
- Joan Townsend
- Yvonne Vadeboncoeur
- Margaret Veenstra
- C. Warner
- Kay Koeninger & David Warren
- Corinne & Thomas Welch
- Drs. Marnie & Terrence Welch
- Mary-Anna & Gary Welch
- Tania Welch
- Thomas Welch, Jr.
- Bridget Williams
- Jennifer & Aaron Williams
- Nancy Williams
- Anna Williamson
- Marsha Casdorff & David Williamson
- Diane Wilson
- Janice Wilson
- Chad Wilt
- Suzanne & Dick Woeber
- Lowell Woods, Jr.
- Cheryl Meyer & Deb Zendlovitz
- Chris Zurbuchen
- Fairl & John Zurbuchen
- Michel Zurbuchen