



THE MANE ISSUE

The Official Newsletter Of The Canadian Pony Club



Members at their Regional Quiz across the country!

(Left: Alborak Pony Club. Top Right: BC Islands. Bottom Right: Central Ontario Region.)

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Meet a Member: Kathryn Palmer

Hi! My name is Kathryn Palmer, I am 17 years old and I will be 18 in the summer. I ride out of the Cochrane Pony Club from the Alberta South region. 2018 will be my twelfth year in Pony club, and I am looking forward to many more. I am currently a C2 stable management and flat level, and a C1 jumping level; I am hoping to complete my C2 jumping, and test to my B stable management and flat this summer. I also attend many regional events that Alberta South holds including: quiz, rally, finals, and schooling shows. This year I attended both National Dressage and National Quiz! I am also the Alberta South Regional Youth Rep, and I teach stable management at Cochrane Pony Club. I am currently shadowing in order to get my coaching this year when I get my B level.

My mare Bailey is a bay 15.3 hand American Warmblood. Bailey is 12 years old and I have had Bailey since she was green broke, and together we have come a long way.



My favourite thing to do with her is three-day eventing. Since I have had Bailey, we have started competing at the Pre-Training level in eventing, we have also attended show jumping shows from Spruce Meadows. I have loved being able to train my own horse; for while it was not easy, I find that I am now a better rider and a better horse person because of the experiences it gave me. I was having to make

decisions that would impact Bailey's process, and while I made mistakes, she has grown into such a good mare. She has helped me to find the confidence to take on the challenge to train her, and to ride other horses.

One of my favourite memories from Pony Club includes going to regional finals with my friends from Cochrane. At those events, we usually have a big team to represent our club, and we all work together to help each other out. The older members help the younger members by coaching and help them get ready, while the younger members help us older riders by holding horses, or help us groom and get ready. Another favourite memory is from National Dressage this year. This was my first national event, and I loved every minute of it. From riding a new and advanced horse, to working with another Alberta South rider, I wouldn't trade that experience for anything. I got to meet so many riders from all over Canada, and I made new friends that I hope to see again at other national events. Riding is my main sport, so I don't do a lot outside of Pony Club and my other lessons. I am currently in grade 12 in high school, and I will be graduating this year. I am a first flute and flute soloist in the school band, as well as the main photographer for the school. I have always been very musical, and I love band; but riding and eventing will always be my first love.



This year we played and attended workshops at Disneyland for our international trip. Not only this, but we are playing live with a movie in April, while playing songs from Marvel, Star Wars, Star Trek, Harry Potter, and more! This concert is called Nerds, and we are all looking forward to it!



My advice to other members would be to not doubt yourself, and to try everything. If you see an opportunity, take it! For the memories will be worth every minute, and you may even enjoy it. Try anything that you are curious in, and don't be afraid to fail. I know that we are always told this, but I can say it's true as I have flown Air Equestrian more times than I can count. Always get back on, and be lighthearted in your defeats, for your time to shine will come. Also, don't be afraid to talk to the older members in your club. They may seem intimidating, but I can assure you they will be happy to talk to you, and will try to help you in any ways they can. They were just like you at one point in their Pony Club career, and one day you will be like them.

Kathryn



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Volunteers and What They Mean to Us

by Jane Goodliffe - National Chair

April 15th to 21st, 2018 was National Volunteer Week in Canada. Our entire organization is run by volunteers; (Canadian Pony Club has only one full time and one part time employee) which in itself for the size of our organization is truly amazing. On my way to the recent AGM I sat beside a gentleman who actually knew all about the Canadian Pony Club, but had no idea that we do what we do pretty much exclusively with just our volunteers and no government funding. He was astonished and full of admiration that we could accomplish such a thing. Sometimes though, we take our wonderful volunteers for granted and really we don't acknowledge what they do nearly enough.

Nationally we give special pins and certificates for those volunteers who have served for 15 and 25 years, but it would be a nice gesture if the regions and branches also honoured their volunteers with possibly a plaque or trophy. Perhaps even a year end special supper or banquet with entertainment laid on for everyone to enjoy would go a long way towards thanking all those special people who do so much for us. We all of us spend many hours working on behalf of Pony Club running camps and clinics and education nights etc. but it really makes our day when someone takes the time to thank us for all our hard work.

The next time you go to theory night or a camp or a clinic, thank your volunteers and give them a great big smile.

Congratulations to our 2018 Award of Excellence Winners



Kassidy Moore with Jane

Goodliffe, CPC National Chair

\$1000

Rachel Spencer from British Columbia Lower Mainland
Melissa Bayer from St. Lawrence & Ottawa Valley

\$500

Kassidy Moore from Manitoba

New criteria for 2019 will be available soon on the National website!

Testing Tips from an Examiner

Tips by Linda Hauck, an 'A' Pony Club Alumni and Examiner.

With spring testing fast approaching, here are some helpful tips for the big day!

- Make sure to have a neat appearance from head to toe.
- An Examiner knows you are nervous. Best way to minimize your nervousness is to practice telling someone your answers (the guidelines tell you what you will be asked). Know more than you need to and that will make you confident.
- You need to be able to back up what you say!
- Understand that as Examiners we have gone through what you are going through so we know what it is like. Try not to get on your defensive if the day isn't going well. Remember we can only mark you on what we see on the day.
- Read through the comments from your previous tests and address them before you get tested again. You may need to get input from other coaches as you move up the levels.
- Read, read and read some more! You have access to Youtube for tons of tutorials, etc
- Tell the Examiners as much as you can about the questions asked - we will say something like "that's great, you know your stuff" and move on to the next question.
- We are there to give you 10's, so you need to come prepared. For the riding phase that means knowing how to ride proper figures, transitions, pace, etc.
- Always be safe around your horse; on the ground or when mounted.
- You don't need a fancy or expensive horse for Pony Club, just one that can do what is asked for the level being examined.
- Most examiners for the jumping phases aren't worried if you have a quit, rather we want to see how you handle it.
- Get as much practical experience as possible - spend a day with a farrier, vet, feed person, dressage judge, etc - it is all invaluable!

As an "A" Pony Club Alumni that never owned my own horse for Pony Club, I used school horses and privately owned horses to examine through the levels, if you want it bad enough you will make it happen for yourself!

Volunteer Anniversaries

15 Year Volunteers

Jacqui Dennis - WOR
Debbie Anderson - BCLM
Ian MacLean - BCLM
Marcia Reid - ABS



25 Year Volunteers

Maureen Walters - BCLM
Janice Spenst - BCLM
Marta McIntosh - BCLM
Margot Vilvang - BCLM
Karen Ritchey - BCIN
Cat Armitage - BCIN
Margaret Rigby - BCIR

Branch Basics: Mission Hills Pony Club



Nestled at the base of the Fraser Valley alongside the mighty Fraser River and surrounded by majestic snow-capped mountains, Mission Hills Pony Club is one of twelve pony club branches within the BC Lower Mainland region. We are a small but dedicated group of equestrians; a tight knit group that has forged friendships from the saddle and shared personal growth through triumphs and challenges together.

Our branch is a little unique, in that every single member owns their own horse, and we trailer in together for group riding lessons. We have eight pony club weekends throughout the year:

four from September to December, and four again beginning in March with the coming of spring. As we ride outdoors, we ride rain or shine and our horses see all kinds of weather.

It is telling that a key piece of equipment for our riders are their oilskin coats! Our members are blessed to be taught by Darcie Kerkhoven, a top level local eventer who balances a busy competition schedule with our pony club lessons, and our members receive an exceptional riding education.



Our branch is comprised of seven members this year: Jordan Carver and Ariel Carver, both full B members. Makala Louis, Faith Ray and Kooper Mansell, all full C members. Karis Mackie, a full D2. And our newest and youngest member Sigourney de Jong, brand new but planning to challenge test her D, D1 and D2 all at once at our branch test this fall – and from what we have seen that will not be a challenge for her!



Our lessons begin with a stadium lesson on Saturday, where riders are grouped according to what they are currently working on with their equine partner, and cover flat work and tons of innovative jumps to improve their ring skills. Sunday brings one large three hour group lesson with all members riding together. The focus is cross country and safely riding in a group outside of a ring, and the lesson begins with a metres-per-minute warm up where members ride the correct speed for whatever

level they are testing/competing. Then on to a lesson over varied terrain, incorporating hills, ditches, river banks (and the river!) as well as a huge number and variety of cross country questions: Trakehners, logs, coops, brush jumps, and chevrons – it is truly no wonder that most of our members are very avid three phase eventers!

During the winter months, when the wind, rain (and often snow!) drive us indoors, we run our Stable Management program. We offer a structured course of twelve lessons based on the CPC Study Guides, taught by a combination of our upper level members and guest speakers – local professionals who share their knowledge and expertise with lectures and hands on demonstrations. In fact, the year before last our entire program was basically a series of lectures and demonstrations from vets, equine nutritionists, saddle fitters, farriers shoeing a horse, bit and tack specialists, and even a fire chief who discussed barn safety and toured one of our barns giving fire prevention and safety tips for an entire evening. Our members learn so much from our program and more importantly, they bring that knowledge home to their own barns and horses, where their equine partners benefit.

Our branch members are very active in the region, year after year. We are a small club but we all participate in and support our regional events. And the first regional event, one of our favourites! – is Quiz. Our members spend countless hours studying together and preparing for Quiz, and it shows. This year we sent six members to our regional Quiz, and came home with several first place awards, both team and individual – a very strong showing for our group. Last year Jordan and Ariel qualified to represent our region at National Quiz (we have a lot of competitors at regional Quiz, so only the top four C2 and AB members qualify to go to Nationals). Not only did they win top C team, but Jordan placed 3rd and Ariel placed 8th out of over 60 competitors. Ariel Carver was also honoured to be the recipient for the Phil Crowe award in recognition of her dedication and contributions both to our branch and our region. And this year we are excited to announce that both Jordan and Ariel have again qualified to represent our region at National Quiz next October – this time as members of the AB team!

Our members are preparing for a busy show season now that the sunshine has finally arrived. First on our list is our BCLM Show Jump event, being held the last weekend in May. All of our members are competing with the exception of our brand new member – she will be the “club groom” and learn a ton about horse shows. Next we are sending two members to our Regional Rally event – one a returning competitor from last year and one brand new to Rally but eagerly anticipating the fun the multi-day event offers. Our season will be wrapping up with the BCLM Dressage event being held in September; a fantastic show that year after year finds our entire club entered and having a blast together.



Our club is also very focused on testing this year.

Every single member is intending to test, so it will be a busy summer of preparations for us.

Jordan and Ariel are testing their full B2 level this August, and Makala, Faith, Kooper, Karis and Sigourney will be keeping our local examiners busy with a full day of branch testing in September beginning with a challenge test and ending with full C1 level testing. Good luck to all!

As many of you know, pony club branches are not just comprised of members. Anyone who registers their children in pony club is quickly brought into the fold, and parents find themselves filling several volunteer roles both at the branch and the regional level. Our entire organization is volunteer run and depends heavily on the efforts of the parents in our branches. Dedicated kids take dedicated parents, and our parents are deeply committed to pony club. For our little branch, there are a lot of responsibilities shared by our few parents, and they take their roles seriously; we have reps on the testing committee, education committee, show jump, rally and dressage event committees, and of course the regional committee, where you will find our DC and ADC always in attendance. Our parents show up, be it lessons, branch events or fundraising, and we share the workload. Character, loyalty and sportsmanship is our motto too, not just for the kids, and we have become fast and true friends as a result. Pony club is a big part of our lives, and for our families is a source of joy, support, information, help, and warm friendships. We are so thankful for this organization, and eagerly look forward to where our pony club journeys will take us.



Volunteer Appreciation: Bob Inglis

Submitted by the Central Ontario Region

When thinking of a volunteer to profile for the reading enjoyment of members across the country, who else could we think of other than Bob Inglis? The non-wavering, ever-engaged Bob Inglis, who was District Commissioner of Eglinton Pony Club when it had over 100 members. The always-obliging Bob Inglis who has a full kit of announcer garb at the ready for any and every type of weather event (including snow on Mother's Day at PPGs!). The uber-resourceful Bob Inglis who can quote any part of regional by-laws and if he couldn't quote it he had it in hand, at the ready, at any regional committee meeting.

Bob's wit and a knack for literary flair kept him as the long-time editor of CORBits, Central Ontario Region's seasonal newsletter, this being an extension of being in the role of regional communications chair. Bob maintained the role of Visiting Commissioner for COR for many years, offering steady insight into branch and regional operations and best practices. He also sat on the awards committee, providing thoughtful consideration towards nominations for various awards.

Bob himself has garnered several awards. In 2006, Bob was awarded, along with his wife Liz, an Honorary Life Membership with Canadian Pony Club. In 2008, Bob was COR's recipient for the Ontario Equestrian Federation's People Make a Difference Award. In 2015, Bob received the COR Barbara Grimm Memorial Volunteer of the Year Award. Continuing to make an impact in the region, Bob received the Chair's award in 2017.



Bob Inglis confirms instructions as to what the next announcement might be at COR's annual Fun Rally event.



Bob Inglis, left, with wife Liz, Ian Millar, and Pony Club members and executives at the 2010 inauguration of Canadian Pony Club into the Jump Canada Hall of Fame.

In 2017, Bob announced his semi-retirement from Pony Club. While he may no longer sit in for regular regional meetings, or lend his time and talent to sub-committees, he has already agreed to several upcoming announcing "gigs" for various competitions and events. We'll continue to enjoy Bob's anecdotes, especially his stories of Colonel Gutowski (about whom Bob wrote an inspiring article in the May 2013 issue of CORBits), when Bob takes the mic this summer and beyond.

Thank you, Bob, for your many years of dedication to Pony Club in Central Ontario. If we all strive to be as dedicated in our volunteer roles, Pony Club will continue to be the fun, well rounded organization it is!

Val's Corner

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the CPC is now over and I thought you might like to hear some of the more interesting happenings.

We have updated the Scholarship application. You can download this on the Pony Club website. We are still giving out three scholarships, but the amounts and criteria are a little different. Scholarship #1 is for HB2 and higher and is \$1200, Scholarship #2 is for full C2 and higher and is worth \$800, and Scholarship #3 is for full C level and higher and is worth \$500. The 2017 winners were Rachel Spencer from BC Lower Mainland (\$1000), Melissa Bayer from SLOV (\$1000) and Kassidy Moore from Manitoba (\$500).

We also honoured 2 fifty-year Branches: Red Deer Pony Club from Alberta Central and Clearwater Pony Club from Alberta North.

We are now offering a new Western stream starting with the D, D1 and D2 levels. The workbooks will be ready soon. The new testing sheets are already available.

As we prepare to rejoin the Tetrathlon International Rotation in the next couple of years, we have taken the first step by sending one senior male competitor this year, who was invited to fill a spot on the USPC International Tetrathlon Team. Erik Zimmerman is an experienced Tetrathlete and will represent Canada well this summer. We are also happy to have his father, Brian Zimmerman, attend as a chaperone.

A change to the Bylaws has now made it possible for a Branch to be viable with only Horsemaster members. However, these Branches must be open to accept Active Members as well.

The Active Member Directors are setting up a Shopify site where Pony Club members, D.C.'s and other interested people may buy supplies online. There will be discounts for Pony Club members.

I hope you all have a busy, fun and successful season!



Canadian Pony Club

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Calendar of Events

July 26-30: National Dressage
Hosted by COR

July 31-Aug 4: National Tetrathlon
Hosted by SK

Aug 8-10: National RA/HA Test
Annapolis Valley, NS

Aug 13-17: National Rally
Hosted by ANR

Aug 23-26: National Show Jumping
Hosted by WOR

Aug 27-29: National RA/HA Test
Saskatoon, SK

Aug 31-Sept 2: National PPG Masters
Hosted by NS

Sept 8-9: IMGE Selection Camp
Hosted by BCLM

Sept 15-16: National PPG A
Hosted by COR

Oct 5-8: National Quiz
Hosted by SLOV