

PRIDE  
Stables



# STABLE TALK

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Spring 2020

To our Pride Stables Friends and Families WE MISS YOU!!!

The front page of our newsletter is usually filled with event announcements.  
*This Spring we've chosen an update!*

Let me start with an enormous **THANK YOU** for your continued generosity, your patience, understanding and wonderful kind words! With no "predicable income" your support makes an enormous difference, and is sooo **incredibly appreciated!!!**

Sadly, but I guess maybe predictably, we had to cancel our Spring Session. We have also cancelled our June Food Truck Rally. We are keeping our September 4<sup>th</sup> date! Fingers and toes crossed!

We have cancelled our summer evening lessons. Instead we will be concentrating our resources on **opening our Summer Day Camp Program!!** We are closely monitoring Public Health and Government guidelines and recommendations to ensure the safety of our Campers, Volunteers and Staff and will make adjustments as required. Parents will be updated closer to the end of June!

We are continuing to keep the office closed except for essential work that I can't do remotely. We do check and respond to phone messages as often as possible, but the best way to reach us continues to be email. I can always be reached at [info@pridestables.com](mailto:info@pridestables.com)

**FUN STUFF! YUP FUN STUFF IS GOOD!! LOL** Over the next couple weeks we will start uploading "Homemade" videos along with activity sheets that can be viewed and downloaded from the our website [www.pridestables.com](http://www.pridestables.com). Join us on facebook for regular posts! Let's **STAY IN TOUCH!!**

The **horses/ponies** are doing GREAT!!! All are enjoying an extended vacation! Doing their best to practice social distancing LOL!!! But they MISS YOU TOO!!

As the weather gets better the urge to get out more gets bigger! **Please** understand the Barn and Property **MUST** remain **CLOSED** to all but essential staff. But WE MISS YOU!!!!

There are soo many things I've learned after 22 years as Executive Director at Pride Stables, BUT the MOST Important are that: Every year it takes Over 500 volunteers! To support 350 Riders! Incredibly Generous supporters! Over 620 spaces for our riders!

Stay Safe, Stay Strong! We will get through this together!

Heather MacKneson

Executive Director

Great Canadian  
**GIVING**  
CHALLENGE



**What is The Great Canadian Giving Challenge?** It is a National public contest to benefit any registered Canadian charity. Every \$1 donated to Pride Stables in June via [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org), automatically enters us to win an additional \$20,000 donation. The grand prize draw will take place on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Canada Day, and one lucky charity will receive this new grand prize of \$20,000. CanadaHelps knows that the charitable sector has been hit hard by COVID-19, and has doubled the prize this year!

HELP US WIN  
**\$20,000**

# Giving Our Riders a Voice- What Does Riding Mean to You?

When my son Hayden was 6 years old we inquired about the therapeutic horse riding program at Pride Stables. It was suggested by his kinesiologist as good way and fun way for Hayden to improve his low body tone. Fast forward 20 years later and Hayden still attends his regular Saturday morning session. Growing up there were many things in life he was resistant to try as are many autistic individuals due to sensory issues, but thankfully riding his favourite horse on Saturday mornings was not one of them. This proved to be a win win for us as it gave Hayden something fun to do while working to strengthen his body. Hayden also was able to, with support, attend a week long fun filled summer riding camp several summers in a row which he thoroughly enjoyed. Given that adults with developmental disabilities at times are limited to program availability and choice for something that is a good fit for the individual, we are thankful that Pride Stables fills that much needed gap for our son. We know that animals at times can connect with people in a way that human beings cannot and I believe that for Hayden that this has held true with the horses over the years at Pride Stables.

Looking forward to riding again!!!!!!



Hayden & Awesome



Sara & Toby

Sara has been riding at Pride Stables for the past 8 years. We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful facility dedicated to helping individuals with special needs in our region.

Sara has Cri-du-Chat, which is a genetic disorder that, among other things, results in low muscle tone/strength. She started riding at Pride Stables at age 4 through Kidsability. We immediately noticed a huge improvement in her core muscle strength and balance. We have since enrolled Sara at Pride Stables for every fall and spring session. She is now 11 years old. She is completely independently mobile and active, and we attribute much of her success to the riding program at Pride Stables.

The connection Sara has developed with Jen, who runs her program, and her ponies is evident in her smiles and laughter every time she rides. It is such a joyful (and therapeutic) experience!

## PRIDE STABLES TRIVIA

1. Can you name our 3 "grey" horses?
2. What are the names of our Haflinger "royalty" ponies?
3. How many horses names begin with the letter "C"?
4. Which of the horses have been part of the program the longest?



## Sponsor-A-Rider

Are you looking for other ways to help?

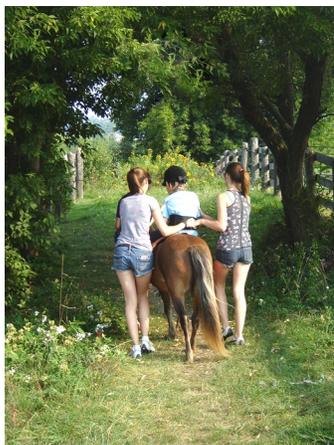
For \$35/month, you can give a child the chance to receive the benefits of therapeutic riding. Each week, that rider will not only have the chance to ride, but the opportunity to interact with others, play games, laugh and have fun in a group environment—all this while receiving a stimulating therapy.

\$420 (\$35/month) allows a rider to receive these benefits for one full year.

287 riders are currently waiting for sponsorship.

Call or email the office to find out how you can get started!

519-653-4686 [info@pridestables.com](mailto:info@pridestables.com)





Dear Trouble,  
What can you tell us  
about horses' hooves?

Dear Reader,  
Well what I know  
about horses hooves is  
despite other pet  
grooming, human sa-  
lons and nail places  
being closed during  
this time of Covid-19  
the horses somehow  
still managed to get  
their pedicures. The  
farrier has been out to  
see them to make sure  
their hooves are stay-  
ing healthy so they  
can get back to work.  
I'm the only one that  
is supposed to be  
lounging around.

Some other fun facts I  
know about hooves:

- Horses hooves are made out of the same thing as human nails and grow faster the more they get wet.
- Horses hooves are very strong, but they do have a sensitive part called the frog. Horses have a frog to provide traction which helps to stop them from slipping.
- Horses only have 2 bones in their hoof where as humans have 26!

Now you know!

*Trouble*

# Volunteer Voice

When I first heard about volunteering at Pride Stables I thought boy, does that ever have my name on it. I was excited to join. So I called, participated in an orientation and began what I consider one of my most satisfying and fulfilling jobs ever.

I not only get to spend time with the horses, which I love, I also get to be one of the dedicated volunteers that provide such a valuable and worthwhile service to the many kids (and adults) that attend this program. The physical and emotional benefits they experience is nothing short of amazing. Therefore, for me it's an absolute win/win situation!

From day one staff and other volunteers have always been so considerate and helpful. Everyone pulls together. I love going to the barn. I love the physical work involved. I love that I can be a part of making some rider's day a better day. For me it doesn't get better than that.

And, being able to see how riders progress and improve through their weekly program, is most gratifying; their excitement and laughter very rewarding. The program's value positively shines through their success.

Also, I respect and admire Jen's dedication. Her calm nature, patience and expertise keeps everything running smoothly. No small feat considering the number of people and horses that can be on the move at any one time.

Thank you Pride Stables for giving me the opportunity to be a part of your team.

~Donna

We Miss All of  
Our Volunteers!  
We couldn't do it  
without you!



My name is Roseanne Hulbert. I have been volunteering with Pride Stables since I retired four years ago.

I had no experience with horses prior to joining the volunteer team; however I did have experience with people. I initially thought I could help by cleaning stalls, putting out feed, putting up flyers etc. I put my name forward and attended my "orientation" class. It was here that I found I would indeed be working with the horses, either as a lead or side walker. Jen instructed us how to brush the horses and clean the hooves and put on the tack. The hooves made me nervous I won't lie, but eventually you get used to this task and take it in stride.

My first rider was a young boy about six years of age. I was partnered with another volunteer, Maggie. Percy, a pony, was our assigned horse. The young boy could not have been more delightful. He was non verbal, however it was obvious by his expressions he enjoyed the experience. I knew then I had made the right decision to volunteer my time with this unique service.

I have since worked with both adult and children riders. Each rider and horse has their own story and personality. I enjoy every moment.

I can certainly say the days volunteering in the barn are the best days of my week. There is never a day I leave Pride Stables without a smile, feeling I have gained more than I have given.

# Paddock Ponderings

What happened to all the volunteers this spring...it really took the fun out of rolling in the mud right after they got me clean...



Why do all the people we see seem to be getting hairier??? Don't they know they are supposed to be shedding their winter coat? Summer is coming....although it did just snow?!?



WE MISS ALL OF OUR RIDERS AND VOLUNTEERS! STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY! SEE YOU ALL SOON!



Toby



Rainbow Black

## Pride Stables Wordsearch

Y	R	E	R	D	M	Y	I	M	D	E	F	I	S	I	U	Q	O	U
C	H	K	E	E	D	B	V	R	O	I	U	P	J	P	N	Y	V	K
A	O	U	P	P	O	S	J	E	I	U	Q	M	W	R	R	E	Z	F
T	W	A	U	J	C	Q	I	G	B	G	D	A	N	N	Y	Y	T	S
I	O	E	L	N	O	U	D	E	L	R	E	M	I	N	G	T	O	N
P	T	B	S	R	U	E	E	M	A	Y	E	S	T	E	M	P	I	W
V	Z	O	Y	O	I	E	L	O	C	R	P	R	I	N	C	E	H	N
F	R	I	T	Z	M	N	I	L	K	O	U	G	S	H	U	B	E	E
C	I	E	F	Y	C	E	L	L	V	S	R	Y	D	E	R	G	R	P
C	F	U	A	O	L	H	A	Y	E	I	Y	T	O	U	U	M	C	I
H	L	Y	O	N	E	L	H	K	L	E	C	O	D	Y	A	Y	U	P
A	C	H	O	P	P	E	R	Y	V	T	R	O	U	B	L	E	L	P
R	R	Q	W	O	O	D	Y	B	E	A	U	T	Y	A	R	M	E	E
D	P	K	G	U	O	V	N	T	T	N	A	H	A	U	N	I	S	R
A	U	S	A	Y	X	P	E	R	C	Y	B	A	P	M	E	Z	E	P
Y	T	W	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	B	L	A	C	K	E	N	N	Y

Cody Woody Charday Chopper Nahauni Trouble Beauty  
Queen Lyonel Danny Pippier Kenny Delilah Prince  
Awesome Hercules Black Velvet Remington Rainbow Black  
Ryder Tempfi Fritz Toby Percy Molly Rosie Coal

## Field Side Chats



Cody

Hey Awesome...why do you have to walk so fast in classes? You are making me look bad. Don't you know it's not a race ...at least not most of the time!

It's not my fault...I heard that class is over once you get in enough steps...I just can't figure out how many steps that is?!?  
You should talk to Tempfi she makes us all look bad with her fancy prancing around.



Awesome



Tempfi

Hey boys don't blame me ! I'm a Paso Fino we are exotic and naturally gaited...not just boring old Quarter Horses or Thoroughbreds. Plus I'm in a step challenge with Beauty she is trying to shed some pounds.



Beauty

## Sponsorship Opportunities

<b>Adopt-A-Horse</b>	\$4,200 (\$350 per month)	18 Horses are hoping for sponsorship
<b>Maintain-A-Stall</b>	\$900 (\$75 per month)	8 Horses stalls are available for sponsorship
<b>Sponsor-A-Paddock</b>	\$1,200 (\$100 per month)	1 Paddock available for sponsorship
<b>Sponsor-A-Rider</b>	\$420 (\$35 per month)	287 Riders are hoping for your sponsorship

### Paddock Sponsors

*Front:* Daisy Fresh Cleaning Service

*Side:* Aden & Sheryl Frey

*Back:* Family of Margie Schenk

### Rider Sponsors

Amanda Neeb

Cities of

Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo

Crystal Rebekah Lodge

Dave & Caitlin Jenkins

David Spiegelman

Doon Pioneer Park

Community Association

Enid & Charles Emery

Hendry Family

Kin Club of Preston

Kinsmen Club of Kitchener-Waterloo

Kitchener Pioneer Lions Club

Kitchener Sports Association

Lois & Dr. Thomas Schultz

Lyle S Hallman Fdn Kids to Camp

Main Street Animal Hospital

Family of Margie Schenk

Marion Jean Wellwood

Maycourt Club of KW

Mitchell Mills Systems Canada

Motz Family Endowment

Optimist Club of Cambridge

Optimist Club of Lakeshore

Village Waterloo

Optimist Club of Petersburg

Ready Rivet Fastener Ltd

Silvia Burnett

Steve & Karen

St. Jacobs Lions Club

Stoliker Collision Ltd

Weiland Family Foundation Fund

Horse	Horse Sponsors	Stall Sponsors
Awesome	Costco Wholesale Canada	Aden & Sheryl Frey
Beauty		Jasleen & Family
Black Velvet	Westfall and Hill Family Fund	Fred & Mary
Charday		
Chopper	Waterloo County Revolver Association	KW Community Spirit Lions Club
Coal		Waterloo County Revolver Association
Cody		Optimist Club of Twin Cities
Danny		Rotary Club of Kitchener- Grand River
Delilah	Wallenstein Feed Charitable Foundation	
Fritz	Cowan Family	TMTA Waterloo Region
Hercules		Optimist Club of Twin Cities
Kenny	Waterloo Knights of Columbus	Screen Magic Ink Inc.
Lyonel		
Molly		Willar Family
Nahauni	Ava D	Katy & Nick
Percy	How Great Thou Art	Kiwanis Club of Elmira
Pipper		In memory of Daisy & Sandra & Ted Chris
Prince	Marion Jean Wellwood	Kirby Svorkdal & Family
Queen		Ken & Gail
Rachel		
Rainbow Black		Family of Mel & Peggy Hunt
Remington	George & Beverley Chris	Rorabeck Maricic Families
Rosie		Westfall and Hill Family
Ryder		
Tempi	In Memory of Debbie Marquis	Cambridge Shrine Club
Toby	Family of Margie Schenk	Family of Margie Schenk
Woody	David & Brenda Walden Family Foundation	Cambridge Highland Lions

# **Every Little Bit Helps!**

Horse Fly Spray  
Hay & Shavings  
Hand sanitizer/ Hand Soap  
Lysol wipes  
Fence Boards & Posts  
Wintec Saddles  
Covered Stirrups  
Gift Cards (Walmart, Dollar Store, Michaels)

Utility Wagon  
Canadian Tire Money  
Toilet Paper  
Paper Towels  
Dishwasher  
Craft Supplies

\*A charitable tax receipt can be issued for most donations\*  
**We ask that until we re-open that you hold onto any wish list items!**

## **VOLUNTEERS - SPREAD THE WORD!**

Please watch our website for updates on when we are able to start classes again and host volunteer trainings!  
[www.pridestables.com/volunteers](http://www.pridestables.com/volunteers)

### **PRIDE STABLES TRIVIA ANSWERS**

1. Rainbow Black, Kenny & Toby
2. Prince and Queen
3. 4 horses start with "C" Charday, Chopper, Coal & Cody
4. Danny has been here the longest. He joined the program in 1999.

### **Congratulations JEN! and Welcome CASEY!**

It's with Great pleasure to announce that Jen will be leaving us for just awhile to pursue a new wonderful adventure as a MOMMY!!! We all look forward to meeting her new little friend!

Taking the "reins" please welcome Casey Kadwell. She will be taking over Jen's role as Program Manager/Instructor and also Camp Director. Casey has been with us for many years as a part time instructor!

**Our thanks to the continued printing support of:**



Registered Charitable No. 118843564RR0001

### **Pride Stables Board Members and Staff**

- Steve McMurray, President
- Heather MacKneson, Executive Director
- Shaena Twolan, Board Secretary
- Gerhard Schmuck, Board Member
- Doug West, Board Member
- Lynn Wicks, Board Member
- Todd Wicks, Board Member
- Jen Ziegler, Program Manager/Instructor
- Casey Kadwell, Program Manager/Instructor
- Leah Mychayluk, Volunteer Coordinator
- Sheila Badry, Instructor
- Lori Johnston, Instructor
- Emily Thompson, Instructor
- Amy Antoine, Instructor