



*Promoting & Preserving Canada's National Horse,  
Having Fun and Making New Friends*

[www.canadianhorseontario.com](http://www.canadianhorseontario.com)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

➤ **June 22, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

### **Canadian Horse Day at Doon Heritage Village, Kitchener featuring CCHAO display and horse demonstrations**

For more information, please contact Gail Brandt at [gcbbrandt@sympatico.ca](mailto:gcbbrandt@sympatico.ca).

➤ **August 11, 9 a.m.**

### **Merrickville Fair Canadian Horse Show**

For more information, please contact Andrew Boone at [bdstables@hotmail.com](mailto:bdstables@hotmail.com).

➤ **August 31-September 2**

### **Upper Canada Village Horse Lovers' Weekend**

For more information, please contact Don Cook at [doncook99@hotmail.com](mailto:doncook99@hotmail.com)

➤ **October 14**

### **Erin Fall Fair Horse Parade**

For more information, please contact Ron Marino at [marinoathome@hotmail.com](mailto:marinoathome@hotmail.com).

## CCHAO OBJECTIVES

- to promote appreciation and understanding of Canada's national horse breed, the Canadian Horse.
- to encourage connections among Canadian Horse enthusiasts residing in Ontario by organizing activities and events.
- to provide support, information, and educational opportunities for its members to enhance the care and enjoyment of Canadian Horses.
- to encourage education programs to raise public awareness of the Canadian Horse.
- to encourage young people to engage with the Canadian Horse breed.
- to collaborate with other provincial and national associations that are also dedicated to ensuring the future of the Canadian Horse breed.
- to assist, where possible, local fairs, demonstrations, and other events to showcase the Canadian Horse

## **AGM and DRIVING CLINIC**

On Saturday, May 25 CCHAO held its 2019 Annual General Meeting at beautiful Stonehaven Farm located on Scugog Island near Port Perry. Cecil Pring, the farm's owner, kindly offered his facility for our meeting and for the driving clinic that preceded it.

Despite the inclement weather, more than 25 members and friends from various parts of the province turned up for the day.

The morning clinic, led by Shirley Cane, took place inside Cecil's spacious indoor arena. We were very fortunate to have Shirley as our clinician. A highly respected horsewoman, she has won many classes at the Royal Winter Fair showing and driving Welsh ponies. For over 30 years, Shirley owned and managed Hoskins Stables near Blackstock where she continues to offer lessons in English riding, Western riding, and driving.

Prior to the clinic, Shirley displayed various sorts of bits and answered questions about their respective uses. The driving demonstration that followed featured both single-hitch and double-hitch driving, thanks to Cecil and Sandy and John Churchill who provided the well-mannered horses. As a result of Shirley's informative commentary, participants went away with a much better understanding of harnessing, hitching and driving techniques.

Following an enjoyable lunch that allowed members to get to know each other, President Ron Marino called the AGM to order. The members approved the minutes of the general membership meeting held last November and recommended that the newsletter be posted on the CCHAO web site.

Treasurer Candace Gomes reported that we had \$1060 in the bank, but there were expenses relating to incorporation, the clinic, and the luncheon yet to be covered.

Members were provided an update on the Canadian Horse statue project at Upper Canada Village that CCHAO is co-sponsoring. A draft submission for funding will be submitted shortly to Heritage Canada.

A discussion of activities in which CCHAO members could participate to promote the Canadian Horse identified several opportunities. They included Peace Day Ontario in Paris, Doon Village Canadian Horse Day, Merrickville Fair, Upper Canada Village's Horse Lovers' Weekend, Ancaster Fair, Erin Fair, and the Norfolk County Fair.

Kelly Ferguson offered to work with the Secretary to produce a CCHAO brochure that members could use at horse events they attend.

The current slate of officers was approved unanimously, along with a resolution that the three directors stand for re-election in 2020 and the four executive officers in 2021. In this way, the entire Board will not be up for re-election at the same time.

Under Other Business, Wendy Bowden reported that a new website was scheduled to launch shortly at <http://www.canadianhorsebreed.ca>. [The web site subsequently launched on June 16.]

The meeting wrapped up shortly after 3 p.m. with all present agreeing that it had been a very successful day. Many thanks to Sandy and John Churchill for making all of the local arrangements!





## AGM & DRIVING CLINIC

Thanks to Ron Marino for the photos!



## CCHAO at Peace Day Ontario

On May 29, Sandra and Jack Addison and their eight-year-old gelding, Hidden Meadow Neirin Yazhi, represented CCHAO at the second annual Peaceworks festival held at the Paris, Ontario fairgrounds. Gail Brandt was also present to help promote our association by means of a photo display, banner and handouts.

Peaceworks is a non-profit organization specializing in online programs and live events for middle school and secondary school students. Through its local and global programs, the organization aims to help students become more fulfilled and to equip them to promote peace in their communities and around the world.

The Paris event, a free peace and music festival, attracted several busloads of students from Grade 6 to Grade 12, teachers, and parents. Judging by the amount of time participants spent at the CCHAO display and by their animated conversations with Sandra and Jack, Yazhi was a smash hit. Sandra rode Yazhi in the enclosed area so that students could see for themselves a Canadian horse at work.

Given that one of CCHAO's objectives is "to encourage young people to engage with the Canadian Horse breed," this was a highly successful event for our organization.



Sandra, Yazhi, Jack & Gail



Yazhi with some of his fans

Photos courtesy of Peaceworks.

## DIRECTOR PROFILE: *Rhonda Turley*

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I was always a pony-mad child, but my parents had no money for a pony.

In 1972 we moved to Caledon. The next-door neighbour had 2 horses. I confidently walked over and asked if I could help. He asked if I had any experience. I confidently told him that I did. (I had read every horse book I could get my hands on). He believed me, and my horse career was started.

My first horse job was at a nearby small private dressage farm. I was hooked on dressage from then on. I have worked on the largest horse farm in Canada, Armstrong's, doing everything from foaling, sales, stallion care, yearling care and breaking, and all the day-to-day duties. I also ended up working on the largest Thoroughbred farm in Canada, Gardiner Farms, mostly helping out at the sales.

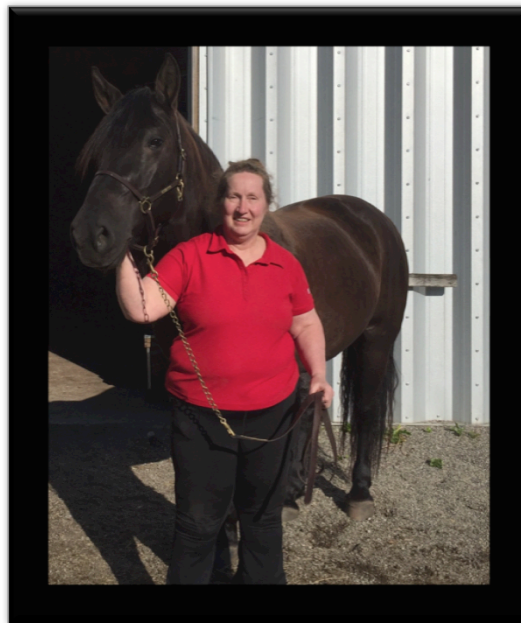
At 28, I enrolled into the University of Guelph Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program. Four years later I graduated with Honours with a major in Agricultural Economics and Farm Management.

Since then I have mostly worked for big corporations so I can afford a horse! In 2006, I discovered Canadians and in 2009 I bought Scooter and our adventure together began.

I can no longer ride due to arthritis, so four years ago, my coach took him over. He has advanced through the dressage levels.

Scooter's competition name is "Super Scooter" because he is a super horse! Scooter competes in dressage at the Silver and Gold level. This year his first show is June 22-23 at the Silver level. The next shows will be at Gold level. It has been an amazing journey to get here. Scooter regularly outscores his Warmblood competitors.

This year he is showing PSG (Prix St. George level). PSG is the lowest level used for Olympic qualification. I hope to get him to Grand Prix level.



Hidden Meadow Neirin Scooter and Rhonda

## **MEMBER PROFILE:** *Wendy Bowden*

I am a pleasure rider living in Newmarket, ON and have competed for fun at low-level hunter, jumper and dressage for the past 10 years.

I discovered this breed through a fellow boarder about 4 years ago. I was introduced to a couple more Canadian owners after that and quickly fell in love with the look and temperament of the breed. I became determined to buy one as my next horse. (I have an older Belgian x TB mare that did hunter and dressage, and I wanted to bring a young, similarly versatile horse along behind her). The prospect of owning Canada's National Horse, such a unique and beautiful horse, was exciting.

I researched all the Ontario breeders I could find. I was on my way to see a three-year old at Canadream, but it sold as I was on route, so I continued on to see a mare for sale at Beckett's Creek. Gerry Lalonde and I had spoken on the phone, and he said Xara was the horse for me. And he was right. I watched her compete, and win, at entry eventing at Wesley Clover Parks and bought her on the spot during my next visit to see Gerry with my coach in tow. I took possession of her on Canada Day weekend 2017.

Xara and I dabbled in jumpers initially, but I've recently put her in a dressage program that she seems to be enjoying more — and is easier on my nerves.

I love this horse and am so happy to be a part of this Canadian Horse community.



Wendy and Xara



# F Y I

## TICK TALK

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By: Susan Stafford-Pooley

The incidence of tick-borne diseases in horses is increasing in Canada, possibly driven by climate change.

Lyme disease and equine granulocytic anaplasmosis (EGA) are two tick-transmitted diseases that affect equines. Lyme disease is caused by *Borellia burgdorferi*, corkscrew-shaped bacteria that invades warm-blooded animals including humans, dogs, cats and horses via the bite of the black-legged or deer tick. The Public Health Agency of Canada reports that black-legged tick populations currently occur in small pockets, but their geographic scope is spreading in much of southern Canada, in part due to being carried in by migratory birds.

Lyme disease can be tough to diagnose, because it mimics other neurologic disorders, with the animal displaying an abnormal gait, as well as transient lameness, muscle pain, vision problems, weight loss, sensitivity to touch, irritability or behavioural changes, and lethargy.

EGA, formerly referred to as “equine ehrlichiosis,” is caused by the bacterial organism *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* and is also spread by the black-legged tick. Clinical signs will vary, based on factors such as the horse’s age. Horses older than four can develop fever (39.4-41.6°C), loss of appetite, lethargy, swelling of the limbs, ataxia (uncoordinated muscle movements), body soreness and tiny red lesions on and/or yellow discolouration of the mucous membranes. Symptoms in young horses may be similar, but milder. Blood tests can reveal decreased white blood cell, platelet, and red blood cell counts, as well as bacterial capsules within the white blood cells.

Sometimes an animal makes antibodies once it has “seen” the organism. This is especially true of Lyme disease. “Of the animals that are exposed, only a small percentage actually gets sick,” according to researchers at the University of Saskatchewan. As a result, Dr. Katharina Lohmann cautions against annual Lyme disease screening. “If people started running these tests “just to see” without necessarily having a suspicion that the horse is sick, it may be very confusing as to what to do with the result. The big take-home point is that in the absence of additional information about the history of the horse, the clinical status of the horse, or if there’s any suspicion of the horse even being sick, those tests may be very difficult to interpret.” When there is any doubt, a follow-up blood test a couple of weeks later is recommended.

### Treatment

The most effective current treatment for Lyme disease is a barrage of antibiotics – especially intravenous tetracycline – over the course of several weeks. Supporting treatments include anti-inflammatory medicine to combat joint pain and prebiotics/probiotics to support the digestive tract against the detrimental effects of antibiotics.

For EGA, treatment may involve intravenous oxytetracycline, a broad-spectrum antibiotic, once daily for several days, or a single IV dose of oxytetracycline followed by a week of oral doxycycline, a semisynthetic tetracycline. Banamine may be administered to regulate high fever, against which other supportive therapies such as IV fluids and laminitis prevention may also be necessary.

There have been cases of horses recovering without any treatment. “Spontaneous recoveries are reported, but, as a clinician, I would be hard-pressed if I had made the diagnosis to then say ‘let’s just see,’” said Dr. Lohmann. “It may depend on the individual situation, but, generally, I think it would require antibiotic treatment.”

Vaccination against Lyme disease, while currently available for dogs, is not yet available for horses. There are anecdotal reports of people using dog vaccine on horses, but there have been no studies done to determine its efficacy. There is also currently no vaccine for EGA.

### Prevention

“It really comes down to prevention of tick bites,” said Dr. Lohmann. Ticks can be difficult to spot, and can attach themselves anywhere on a horse’s body. In the tick submission study, owners reported finding ticks “in the mane, in the tail and between the legs where the skin is thinner. Some horses seem to be predisposed to having lots of ticks; in groups of horses, some individuals will have lots of ticks, while others may have none – or at least none that the owners will easily find.” Even if the tick has already dropped off, you will observe a welt.

Tick repellents are helpful, but some must be applied several times a day for maximum effect. Dr. Lohmann has seen good results with dusting powder (five per cent carbaryl), which only needs to be applied once or twice a week (wear gloves and avoid inhaling). Avoid tick-killing products that are not specifically formulated for horses. “Pesticides are not supposed to be used off-label,” warned Dr. Lohmann.

Keep your grass short and remove brush piles to make your property less attractive to ticks, which tend to be a seasonal pest. “Black-legged ticks are most active in the fall, so the risk is highest in the fall,” said Dr. Lohmann, who added that most horses that test positive to tick-borne diseases had access to autumn pasture. Extra-diligent inspection of your horse can be your best defence against these tiny parasites.

This is a shortened version of Ms. Stafford-Pooley’s article, *Tick Talk*, originally published in *Horse-Canada*, July/August 2014. Thank you to Dr. Kelly Ferguson for bringing it to our attention.



**PLEASE SHARE THIS FORM WITH OTHER CANADIAN HORSE ENTHUSIASTS**

**CHEVAL CANADIEN HORSE ASSOCIATION ONTARIO (CCHAO)**

**2019 Membership Form (1 January—31 December)**

**Please print in block letters.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Type:**

- |  |      |                          |
|--|------|--------------------------|
| Adult - 18 yrs and over, 1 CCHAO vote                  | \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Youth - 17 yrs and under, 1 CCHAO vote                 | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Couple – 2 adults, 2 CCHAO votes                       | \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Family – 2 adults & related youth, 2 CCHAO votes       | \$80 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Associate – Does not own a Canadian Horse – Non Voting | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Please make cheques payable to Cheval Canadien Horse Association Ontario and mail to:** Candace Gomes, CCHAO Treasurer, 5933 Battersea Road, Battersea, ON K0H 1H0. If you would **NOT** like to have your name and e-mail address shared with other members, please check the following box:

I do not wish to have my name and contact information published in CCHAO's membership directory.

**Photo/Video Release Authorization**

I, the undersigned, give permission to CCHAO and to its designated agents, to photograph/video me at CCHAO activities and to use such photographs/videos in all forms of media, for any and all promotional purposes. I further consent to the use of my name in connection with the photographs/videos. I understand that I will not receive any payment for my time or expenses or any royalty for the use of the photo/video, and I hereby release CCHAO from any such claims.

Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For Couple or Family Memberships, please provide additional names and signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature for members under 18 years: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# HORSE HUMOUR

## A Horse Riddle:

Q: You're riding a horse full speed, there's a giraffe right beside you, and a lion nipping at your heels. *What do you do?*

A: Get off the carousel and sober up.

## The Importance of Biblical Terminology

A cowboy buys a horse from the town pastor. The pastor explains, "to make the horse go, you gotta yell, 'Thank God!' And to make it stop, yell, 'Hallelujah.'"

The cowboy rides off. He rides all day and starts to nod off in the saddle when he notices he is about to ride straight over a cliff.

Searching his memory, he yells to the horse, "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" The horse grinds to a stop just at the edge of the cliff. The cowboy wipes the sweat off his forehead. "Phew!" he sighs. "Thank God!"



*We hope that you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. We are always looking for stories and items related to our members and their horses.*

*The next edition will be published in September. Please send submissions to Gail Brandt [gcbrandt@sympatico.ca] by August 15.*

*For up-to-date information about CCHAO activities, check out our web site:*

[www.canadianhorseontario.com](http://www.canadianhorseontario.com)