



**Making New Friends, Having Fun, Promoting and Preserving Canada's National Horse**  
**Visit us on the web [www.canadianhorseontario.com](http://www.canadianhorseontario.com)**

## President's Message

Greetings Everyone,

I hope you and your family are staying safe and healthy during this crazy time. I know many of us have not been able to visit with our horses, and it's been very difficult. But it seems like the rules are beginning to relax, and boarding facilities are starting to allow owners to visit with their horses.

As a result of this self-isolation, and being mindful of social distancing, the CCHAO has unfortunately had to postpone our Annual General Meeting. We have also not been able to participate in the several events we had planned. Although disappointing, we certainly feel that the safety of our members, their families, and the public is paramount, and I'm sure we are all looking forward to resuming some normalcy in our daily lives.

As we continue to get direction from government, we will ensure that all of you are kept up to date about our plans to resume activities with our amazing horses.

I would like to point out a "positive" through all of this, which for me is very exciting: your association continues to grow in membership, and the support we have from you is so important. We are very grateful to all of you for supporting our common mission, which is to showcase the greatest breed in the world!!!

With that, I and the rest of your Board are always available to respond to any questions or suggestions you may have.

Wishing you all a healthy and safe rest of the summer!

Ron Marino  
President, CCHAO

## CCHAO Board of Directors

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## From the Secretary's Desk

We hope that you'll enjoy this issue of our newsletter and that it will remind you of the dedicated community of individuals throughout our province who share your passion for the Canadian Horse. I would like to thank our contributors for their inspiring articles, and Marie-Lynn Hammond and Susan McLenaghan for their excellent work in pulling this edition together.

As we continue to live through these trying times and have had to cancel or postpone key CCHAO events, it is more important than ever that we stay in touch and support our organization.

We are still hoping to hold our annual general membership meeting in person sometime during the next few months. If that does not prove possible, however, we will arrange to have an online meeting in the fall. One of the business items will be the election of three directors to serve on the Board.

Nearly all voluntary organizations in Ontario are being adversely affected by COVID-19, and CCHAO is no different. Last year we had over 30 paid-up members. Halfway into this year, the number stands at only 17. At the same time, we have fixed expenses such as corporate liability insurance and banking fees that we must continue to pay. If you have not already paid your 2020 membership fees, please do so now. The form and mailing instructions are included in this newsletter.

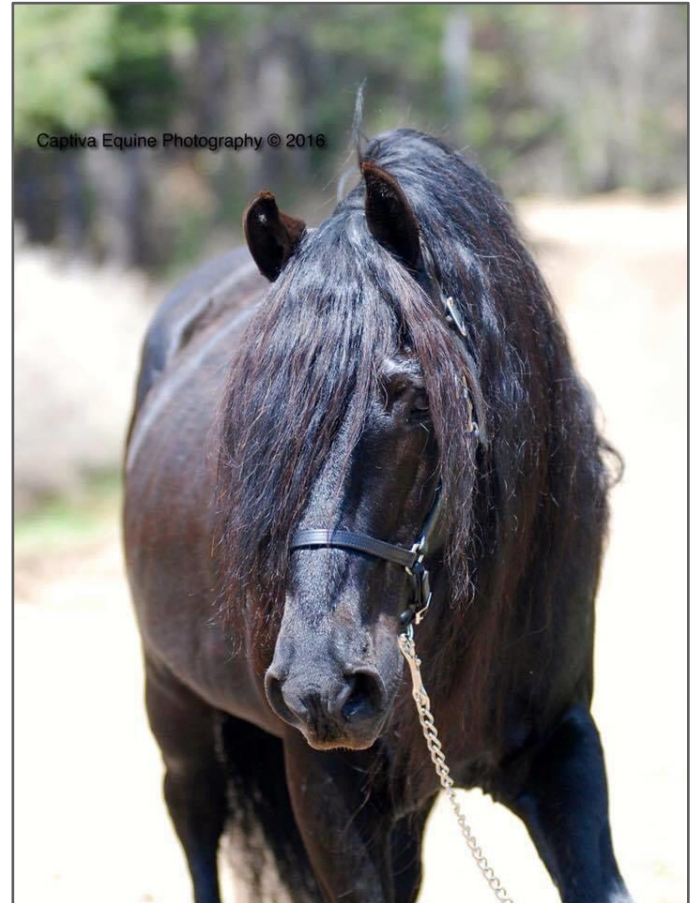
If you would like to contribute ideas or material for the September newsletter, please contact me. The deadline for submissions is August 1.

Wishing you and your horses a wonderful summer,

Gail Brandt



## Black Diamond Stables The Boone Family



*Hilltop Baron Jay*

For those who don't know me, I am Andrew Boone. I started Black Diamond Stables in 2000. I was a first-year student at Kemptville College in the Equine Studies program at the time, working towards becoming a western riding trainer and coach. I also began learning to shoe horses at this time.

That Thanksgiving I returned home to Woodstock, New Brunswick, and ended up going to a horse auction with good friends. One friend was looking for a stud to breed a few mares with. At this auction, a gentleman named Allan Dow had brought down three Canadian horses—a yearling filly and two yearling colts. Although one colt was by a stallion called Dazzler and Mr. Dow couldn't say enough about what a horse he was, it was the other colt that caught my eye.

After following up with a few other older horsemen I respected, I talked to my friend and told him there was only one colt in the barn I would consider worth breeding to. I was so sure of the colt that I promised to go in with him if the price went up too high. Well the auction price didn't go high enough, and Mr. Dow was close to going home with all three horses he'd brought. My friend and I approached him after the sale and were able to haggle out a price. And that's how I became a part owner of Hilltop Baron Jay (#8116).

For the first year we owned Jay, the plan had been to breed a few mares, train him, and re-sell him (hopefully for a profit). By this time, we had also bought a Canadian mare in foal to breed with him. Well, when it came time to sell, I wasn't as ready to part with him as I thought I would be. After working and training Jay I'd come to realize I'd never seen a horse with as much try as him; no matter what I threw at him he'd always give his best. So my partner ended up with the mare, and I ended up with Jay.

The next couple of years were challenging: going through school in another province and trying to find a place nearby to keep a young stallion wasn't easy. Thankfully I had great family near school who were willing to help me out. As I was finishing school, I started dating a pretty college friend, Amanda, who soon became my wife (I have a knack for noticing when I should grab onto a great thing). Mandy was also in the equine program, in the English training program, so Jay began his career as an English mount.

Mandy was a little skeptical about him at first (she was used to Thoroughbreds), but after a short while they became a great team, training up to third level dressage with a couple of silver level year-end reserve awards. Also, Jay carried her through all her coaching exams, doing work on the flat and lunge line and three-foot fences.

We knew Jay could hold his own in open classes, so we wanted to see how he would fare in breed shows. We were never disappointed. He could win or hold his own, easily winning many shows or placing very close to the top, as well as winning some high-point awards.



*Jay enjoying a gallop*

As time passed we moved around many times, then we started having kids. So showing slowed and we bred a few mares for folks here and there. Then in 2009 we finally bought our own farm, a place to carry the Black Diamond name. It has been a work of love and blood sweat and tears, as anyone who breeds and tries to grow a herd knows. We have bred a few fine foals, and we have had our ups and downs, the worst being in 2017 when we lost Jay in a horrible accident with a fence.

That was a real gut-check time for me. Up to this point I bred Canadians because I had Jay. He was my best friend and I wanted to do the best I could by him while I had him. Now I breed Canadians *for* Jay. I breed his offspring to carry forward his legacy and to make sure that such a great horse continues to influence the breed. We were very lucky that there were two fine colts born in Jay's last foal crop, and even luckier, we were able to end up with one of them. So with that colt and a couple of Jay mares, we plan on breeding and developing both stallion and mare lines at home that carry continuous ties back to Jay.

As life settles, we plan to move back towards more training and showing of these foals, so keep your eyes open for any Black Diamond horses for sale. We promise they will be as special as we can make them. We here at Black Diamond Stables wish all members a great 2020, and we hope that COVID-19 doesn't hurt your time with your Canadians. And





we will all do everything we can to see that more people enjoy Canadians as well.



*Jay carrying Andrew and baby Oliver*

Sincerely,

Andrew Boone and the Boone Family, Black Diamond Stables

## Playing a Role by Eleanor Graydon



*Canadream Nor'wester Lad Uluvme,  
shown by owner Sandra Dawe*

Hello to all my fellow Canadian Horse enthusiasts! Many of you I have not met but we share a common passion: the survival of the Canadian breed. Some 20 years ago, a pair of Canadian mares came to our farm. This was my introduction to the variety of ability and temperament within the breed. It was the beginning of a small and humble effort to raise the profile of these horses within Ontario.

I grew up in Peterborough at the end of the horse era. Horses still ploughed the sidewalks, delivered milk and bread, and arrived in box cars from ranches out west. But my roots were in Quebec, where my grandfather rode his chestnut Canadian every day on his farm in the Foster area, near Bromont. My interest in Canadians was therefore ever-present.

The two mares, full sisters by Farnham Coco Major out of a Wilfrid mare, could not have been more different. The older one, Farah, moved like a Hanoverian and was a rider's horse. The second one, Gene, was simple, kind, and generous with any rider.

At the time, we were still breeding a few sport horses and eventing, fox hunting, and doing local shows with youngsters. As this phased out, I wondered if we could use the later part of our riding/horse career to develop a few Canadians. Not on any grand scale, but as a test to see what could be done. And so it began.



*Canadream Alex Tidal-Wave ridden by owner Karine Rossbach*

The goal was always to find a sport-horse-type Canadian prospect and give it an education that would make it attractive to a show home. Maybe this was a small contribution we could make to the breed. As I travelled about visiting farms in Ontario and Quebec, I was humbled by the enormous work, sacrifice, and dedication I witnessed. There were many quality animals to choose from; however, often the type varied from farm to farm. It would be presumptuous to have an opinion on the breeding goals because I am not a breeder, nor a student of bloodlines. More important to me was what the market was searching for so that demand could be generated.

The sport market in Ontario, Quebec, and north-eastern US is sophisticated. The buyers are educated. They know good movement and good training, and the horses will be vetted. It is movement and straightness they search for, and they identify it easily. If you want to raise the visibility of the breed, the best adult horses have to campaign and show

what they can do—so they have to be trained and sell for more. Those educated buyers have the funds both for the initial purchase and for the subsequent years of training and competing. So yes, it costs to produce a started horse, but the rewards are there—the market will bear it.

I believe there has been debate (which I am not privy to) over the adherence to breed standards. If we try to balance history with the fact that weanlings need to sell well and their older siblings even better, perhaps the answers are easy. As things wind down for us here, I sure hope other horse people will consider taking on some youngsters. The breeders need to be free to produce, and the middle-person like myself can play an integral role in getting Canadians to market. Please, if you have land, a ring, and training ability, consider helping out. It's a pipe dream to think a buyer who has to board and perhaps pay a trainer is going to ever buy more than one horse...and it won't be yours if it's not trained.

We have now placed horses in the US and Ontario. Each one came to us unbroken or barely started. Some presented real challenges depending on their previous life, but I like to think we "bored" them into cooperating. That, and the usefulness of hot weather. Many of you will nod at that.

Although we found several of our horses close to home, quite a few of the best Canadians we worked with came from MJ Proulx at Canadream Farm. It was a tremendous loss to the breed when she ceased her Canadian breeding operation. As the training business comes to an end here, I am retaining a mare from Colette Litjens that will never be for sale.

A few horses you may see that passed through our hands are: Canadream Alex Tidal-Wave (#12095): A lovely mare by Alex who has jumped, evented, and now excels in dressage. She is owned by Karine Rossbach and in training with Andrea Bresee. Tidal-Wave (aka Falbala, or Bala) shows L3 gold and has achieved scores of 68 and 69. She is scheduled to move up to L4 this year. She is doing working pirouettes and three-tempi changes. Karine says Falbala is her equine soul mate. I applaud Karine's loyalty to her mare, as the pair learned so much together.







*Canadream Alex Tidal-Wave ridden by owner Karine Rossbach*

Canadream Nor'wester Lad Uluvme (#12670): The Captain (stable name) is owned by Sandra Dawe, and he is one lucky horse. She has given him every chance to become all that he can be. Sandra has put up with his playful stealing and escape antics. Last year, among other awards, he was Reserve Gold AA at Caledon L2 and has debuted this year L3 Gold with his trainer, Meredith Risk. Captain is increasingly solid in his changes. Sandra is looking forward to her turn with the Captain at L3.



*Canadream Nor'wester Lad Uluvme  
shown by owner Sandra Dawe*

Litjens Roby Unique (#13146): Owned by us but exclusively trained and shown by Garnet Clapp. Garnet is responsible for everything Unique accomplished, and this pair is well known in our region. Unique completed two years of L3, winning many awards and championships. She was preparing to move up to L4, but I wanted the horse to have a life, and I've decided to use her as my personal mount. Unique is also a good jumper and safe hack for a wide variety of riders. Unique will never be sold.



*Our Litjens Roby Unique, ridden by Garnet Clapp*





*Canadream Charbon Adonis, shown by Garnet Clapp.  
In so many ways, the horse of a lifetime.*

Canadream Charbon Adonis (#13800): One of the last colts by Charbon out of Penny, one of MJ Proulx's best-moving mares. Angus (stable name) is a very tall, elegant-moving gelding with the gentleness of his sire, whom he very much resembles. He has shown two years at L1 and is ready to move up. He will have a very bright future in the dressage ring and is also a powerful jumper. He will be such a grand ambassador for the breed.

I take no credit for the success of these and the other Canadians we had. That credit 100 percent goes to the breeders. It is they who matched mare to stallion and came up with the quality individuals we had so much fun with. And then it's the owners, who got the rough diamond and persevered. Thank you for the privilege of knowing each one of you.



### **Before you go.....**

Keep scrolling to the next page to find the membership form. If you haven't already done so, send it in right away!

If you have already renewed your membership, consider passing the membership information to someone who doesn't yet know about CCHO.

And last but not least, a big thank you to the contributors for this edition.



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

**CHEVAL CANADIEN HORSE ASSOCIATION ONTARIO (CCHAO) 2019**

**2020 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: \_\_\_\_\_

