

Autumn 2021



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

Visit us on the web www.canadianhorseontario.com

AGM REMINDER

Our annual general meeting will take place via Zoom on Saturday, October 30, beginning at 2 p.m.

The election of officers will take place at this meeting. To be nominated, each candidate must have been a member in good standing for at least one fiscal year (January 1–December 31) and be nominated by two members in good standing (paid-up voting members in 2021).

Nominations will be accepted at the meeting, providing that the nominee and the two required nominators are in attendance. Officers serve two-year terms.

Also on the agenda will be a review of our past year's activities and data (membership and financial) and planning for 2022.

The AGM is an excellent opportunity for you to meet members from across the province online and to have meaningful input into the running of our organization.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Gail Brandt (gcbbrandt@sympatico.ca).

We look forward to seeing you on October 30th!

CCHAO Board of Directors

Ron Marino, President
Email: marinoathome@hotmail.com

Rhonda Turley, Vice President
Email: rhonda.turley@clorox.com

Gail Brandt, Secretary
Email: gcbbrandt@sympatico.ca

Candace Gomes, Treasurer
Email: Candace.gomes82@gmail.com

Tina McNaughton, Western Ontario Representative
Email: canadian@rogers.com

Sandy Churchill, Eastern Ontario Representative
Email: johnsandychurchill@gmail.com

Kelly Ferguson, Director at Large
Email: fergy244@hotmail.com with Gail Brandt

In This Issue

Page 1.....AGM Reminder – Gail Brandt

Page 2.....Cancellation of Ancaster Fair

Page 2-6..CCHAPS 100 Hours in 100 Days Challenge

featuring Gail Brandt, Jane Hunt, Sandy Churchill,
Wendy Bowden, Rhonda Turley, Susan McLenaghan

Page 6Brilliant, A Most Influential Founding
Sire by Roxanne Salinas with thanks to Marie Lynn

Hammond for making the article possible.

Page 8Membership Form



Cancellation of CCHAO Demonstration at 2021 Ancaster Fair

by Gail Brandt

You may have wondered how the CCHAO demonstration, scheduled for the afternoon of September 26 at Ancaster Fair, went. Unfortunately, it did not take place due to the Fair Board's efforts to protect participants and spectators from the fourth wave of the COVID virus.

On September 14, we received word that attendance would be limited to members of the Ancaster Agricultural Society, the exhibitors, and their families. Since our goal in putting on the demonstration was to educate the public about the Canadian Horse, we reluctantly concluded that the time and expense involved in appearing before a potentially very small audience was too great.

We had a great lineup of horses ready to demonstrate various disciplines, including riding (English and Western), singles pleasure driving, and team driving. Thank you to Tina McNaughton for all her work in negotiating with the Ancaster Fair team to create the opportunity for CCHAO to highlight the Canadian breed.

I would also like to thank Sandra and Jack Addison, Wendy Bowden, Barbara Malcolm, and Heather Nicoll for volunteering themselves and their horses to participate in what would have been an excellent show.

Hopefully, we will be able to mount a similar demonstration next year at Ancaster and, with the help of our members, in some other venues around the province as well.

CHHAPS 100 HOURS IN 100 DAYS CHALLENGE

by Gail Brandt

This past spring, CHHAPS (Canadian Horse Heritage and Preservation Society) issued a challenge to Canadian Horse owners and their friends to spend at least 100 hours working with a horse of their choosing between July 1 (Canada Day) and October 11 (Thanksgiving Day). Participants were required to register and to log their hours, with the registration fees going to support CHHAPS programs and the Canadian Horse Rescue and Rehoming Society.

The CCHAO Board endorsed this endeavour from its inception and encouraged our members to join in the fun by offering additional cash prizes to members who logged the three highest number of hours during the challenge.

I am happy to report that six of our members officially registered for the Challenge. They included Wendy Bowden, Sandy Churchill, Jane Hunt, Susan McLenaghan, Rhonda Turley, and me. Unfortunately, Wendy and Rhonda eventually had to withdraw from the competition after their horses developed medical issues.



Beckett's Creek Ferari Xara with Wendy Bowden



The final results have been posted, and congratulations to Jane, who completed 132 hours and 15 minutes with her horse. Susan was second with 75 hours and 40 minutes, while yours truly was third with 42 hours and 35 minutes. Sandy was able to log 30 hours and 54 minutes.

We all agree that participating in the challenge has been a wonderful experience. Through the special Facebook page that participants used to record their experiences and post their photos, we got to meet fellow Canadian horse enthusiasts from across the country and to share in their accomplishments as they achieved new goals with their horses. As Sandy Churchill commented in one of her posts, “This challenge has shown me what a diverse breed our Canadians are and what we do with them mirrors our diverse weather and country!”



Hidden Meadow Neirin Scooter owned by Rhonda Turley

In her account that follows this report, Susan provides a vivid description of the frustrations and rewards of participating in the Challenge.

Although I did not meet the 100-hour goal, I have certainly enjoyed spending more time grooming, lunging, riding, and driving my mare, Beckett’s Creek Ferari Rita (#11488), over the past three months. As a result, our skills and our bond have grown even stronger.



Glennview Brandy Mocha owned by Sandy Churchill



Beckett’s Creek Ferari Rita owned by Gail Brandt



The 100 Hours in 100 Days Challenge: An Interview with Jane Hunt



Rowista Philip Windy-Skye performing a Training-level dressage test, 2015. Owned and ridden by Jane Hunt, “Skye” now successfully competes at Second-level dressage. Skye also jumps, pulls a carriage, and goes on trail rides. Photo credit, JumpCut Media.

Why did you enter the Challenge?

It sounded like fun, and that’s a big goal in life! Also, it is *not* an adversarial type of challenge; it is inclusive and tracks what people *do* with their horses. It doesn’t expect people to just do competitive riding or engage in long-distance wear-and-tear on the horses.

What have been the main benefits of participating?

Virtually “meeting” (e-meeting) other people from across Canada who have fun with their horses and enjoy all types of riding/driving/interacting with their equine partners. Seeing nice photos of the fun things they do. And seeing nice, supportive comments from lots of participants when someone meets their goal, or even has to admit that they are not going to reach their goal—no-one gets picked on or made to feel bad.

What have been some of the challenges?

It wasn’t really challenging because it’s just tracking what I do anyway. I didn’t do anything different; I just put my hours spent with Ms. Skye (Rowista Phillip Windy-Skye, #12895) into the on-line tracker. I was absolutely certain that I would

meet the goal of 100 hours spent with my horse within 100 days—because a couple of hours a day, four, five or six times a week adds up really quickly!

I tracked my hours right away, but almost from the beginning I discounted the Hours Tracker where I was supposed to identify what I actually did. Close to the end, the organizers sent out a reminder that we should have our Hours Trackers ready for submission and I went “Uh-oh!” Luckily, I always keep a daily logbook—I’ve done this for years now. I use one of those weekly planners and write about my ride or lesson as the last thing before leaving the barn, so I had to remember to bring that log book home from my locker at the barn, and sit down for a couple of hours to transcribe from the log book to the on-line Hours Tracker! Oh well.... It was kind of fun going down memory lane of what I did during the summer, reminiscing over a glass of wine!

Would you do it again?

Oh yeah! No question!

It’s fun to confirm that putting in consistent time with my horse translates into steady progress, and that a few hours a day adds up to a lot over a period of weeks! And it was fun, reading my daily logbook to fill in my online Hours Tracker—a cool reminder of “what I did with my horse this summer.”



The 100 Hours in 100 Days Challenge, and How We Did

by Susan McLenaghan



Bertiaume Xerox Molly-Shady and Susan McLenaghan in the foreground with riding buddies.

Why I Entered

When I first read about the 100 Hours in 100 Days Challenge I thought, “This will be a cakewalk.” I liked the idea of being in touch with other Canadian horse owners across Canada, with an added bonus of perhaps raising the profile of the Canadian horse. I had an audacious plan for summer riding, as in every other day, with other modes of training sprinkled in.

What I neglected to factor in was my also very audacious gardening/landscaping plans and the Zoom dance classes with the National Ballet. I thought of a friend who warned me that if I kept horses, I could forget about gardening. But I threw caution to the wind and decided, after many years of not growing veggies, to jump in again in addition to the aforementioned landscaping plans. I figured it would all work out.

The summer unfolded with heat and drought that saw me hauling water to my newly planted fruit trees and shrubs and several hours every morning picking LLD caterpillars off our

aging apple tree. With whatever strength I had left I squeezed in rides and managed to record what I had done...but I had no time to put it into the computer, or even upload an image to Challenge’s Facebook page.

When the rain came so did the heat, humidity, and bugs. By then my audacious horsing-around plan had been overtaken by mowing grass, weeding, and landscaping. I discovered smooth bedstraw in the pastures and spent many hours eradicating it by hand (it grows right back).

Benefits

But I kept at it and enjoyed some fantastic rides with my neighbour and good arena sessions. Riding with my neighbour increased my mare Molly’s (Bertiaume Xerox Molly-Shady, # 9768) confidence in different situations: on the road with all kinds of distractions, in the forest, up and down steep hills in the company of another horse. I am really pleased with the progress we made.

August brought another interruption when my donkey became ill with anaplasmosis (a month of antibiotics and he is feeling much better) and then—sigh—there was the election that involved supporting our local Green candidate.

In spite of all my good intentions gone awry I probably would do it again—but with more focus and fewer distractions. I liked that there was a record of our rides, even though we probably won’t reach the goal of 100 hours in 100 days. It reminded me of how useful it is to keep training notes as a way to track progress. I will probably hold the 100 hours goal in my head every summer from now on, just to see how we make out. It reminds me that life is short and horse time is precious.



For this newsletter we're including material written by BC's Roxanne Salinas (with her permission). When she stopped breeding Canadians, she was going to eliminate her website, where this material first appeared. With Roxanne's permission, it's now archived on CCHAO member Marie-Lynn Hammond's website, who felt the information was too valuable to be allowed to disappear.

Brilliant: A Most Influential Founding Sire

by Roxanne Salinas

Exploring the reasons why Canada embarked on a new and centralized livestock registration system at the turn of the century is an interesting study in Canada-US relations and the far-reaching importance of the competitive horse market of the times. The details would fill a chapter in a book.

Old Stud Books vs the New

In terms of the Canadian horse, adopting the new process meant becoming part of one of the most accountable livestock registration systems in the world. Unfortunately, it also meant a considerable loss of Canadian-horse breeding history and pedigree continuity. In starting fresh with new books, horses with generations of recorded bloodlines behind them would simply become known as foundation horses or *chevaux de souche*. Their stories, achievements, bloodlines, and their owners' pride, farms, and generations of breeding, would be forgotten.

While there may have been a few horses inscribed in the old hand-written ledgers of the *Livre de Généalogie de la Race Chevaline Canadienne* that perhaps should not have been recorded therein, there were over 300 horses registered in those two volumes that the inspectors saw fit to include as foundation stock in the new genealogical record books. In the first ledgers are found the references to our old family strains—the Bayard and St. Lawrence families, the stallions

who stood at stud for the agricultural societies, those horses that were fleet on the track, or those that made the “big time” in the show rings of their day.

A New Type of Canadian

The closing of the old books and adoption of the new also marks the transition of the Canadian horse away from the



horse that Dr. Couture described as “remarquable par son allure, du devant et du derriere” (remarkable for their action, in front and behind). This was the fast trotter and saddle-type horse so frequently exported.



From then on, Canadian Horses would be bred to become a heavier, and more practical, working agricultural horse, typified by the progeny of Albert de Cap Rouge.

Albert was celebrated as a three-year-old for outweighing his sire and his dam, and for being able to produce progeny of increased weight and size. While he provided uniformity in type, his extensive use as a sire changed the direction and perception of the breed forever.



Albert is well-known to all Canadian Horse owners. However, there is likely no more important stallion in the history of the Canadian breed whose memory has been lost to us than Brillant, #23 in the old books, and #935 in the new.

Brillant—What the Old Books Tell Us

Brillant was a handsome, 15-hand black stallion foaled in 1890, the property of Louis Messier of Varennes, QC. The Messier family was well-known in horse-breeding circles of the times, competing and placing highly with their stock in local and provincial exhibitions. Brillant was sold as an eight-year-old to Eusèbe Boucher of St. Madeline, QC, and then was sold once again at thirteen years of age to Hubert Chagnon, St. Norbert, Manitoba.

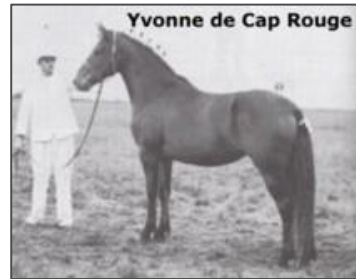
If one was to look at the CLRC pedigree site, or in the early volumes of the new books, it would appear that Brillant was simply a *cheval de souche* who left only a few progeny whose lines died out, making him inconsequential to the Canadian breed. However, what the old books tell us is that Brillant had recorded pedigree information going back three generations, and that he himself sired 90 offspring registered in the old books. Several of his progeny, along with their descendants, were registered as anonymous *chevaux de souche* in the new books. Their bloodlines survive in our best horses today.

Several old and respected breeders—J.B. Remillard, Louis Vandal, Phileas Brodeur, and the Delands—took their mares regularly to Brillant's court, and often inbred or line-bred his progeny. Brillant's get were sold to the government, to agricultural societies, and to show barns in Montreal, Ontario, and New York.

Brillant's Legacy

Almost every living Canadian horse descends in some way from Brillant. Bourgeois (#752/#63) was a double grandson of Brillant (see pedigree below), and Brillant's son, Beau-

Choise, sired broodmare supreme Poulette (#750/#240), dam of Florence (#1574). Florence was the dam of both Yvonne de Cap Rouge (by Tom) and Laurent de Cap Rouge (by Albert).



“Ben,” Brillant's sire, was recorded, and may have been one of the top trotting horses in the area of Montreal in the 1870s. However, as it was often the custom in those times to name a stallion after a possibly unrelated famous horse, verifying Brillant's ancestry is still a work in progress.

Brillant himself trotted the mile in 2:20. In 1896, Brillant won the large 4-and-over stallion class and champion stallion at the prestigious provincial exhibition in St-Jean.

Even on his own, Brillant deserves to be once again recognized as an historic and influential founding sire of the Canadian breed.

Roxanne Salinas has been researching the Canadian horse for 21 years and has written several articles on the breed for magazines. She is currently completing a book on the history of the Canadian horse from 1665 to current times. Although she's retired from breeding, Roxanne is still an active rider. She lives near Lone Butte, BC, and owns two Canadians, her mare Glenminguay Prior Ulster (#12658) and her gelding Legacy Kelbeck Yankee (#13562).



PLEASE SHARE THIS FORM WITH OTHER CANADIAN HORSE ENTHUSIASTS

CHEVAL CANADIEN HORSE ASSOCIATION ONTARIO (CCHAO) 2021

2021 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: _____

