

Spring 2015



PARDNews

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We would like to welcome back all of the riders in our program and all of the wonderful volunteers that enable PARD to continue with our therapeutic riding program. We look forward to another great season at PARD.

2014 was a busy and exciting year for PARD

Angie Muir, Chairperson

It was a year of change and new beginnings. The spring began with the completion of the riding ring and driveway. With help from our host farm, Wendon Hills, and our dedicated volunteers, the larger 100x200' gravel ring was constructed using the gates, footing and boards from the old site with new posts and a few new boards. By reusing much of the materials from the former site we were able to reduce construction costs and save items purchased through past grants and donations. A special thanks goes to Fred Edwards, who worked with the Board to complete the excavation on time and get the site ready for the Volunteer Orientation the first weekend in June.

The orientation was an exciting opportunity for our

friends to check out the new facility. As I pulled up the freshly dozed driveway, I became overwhelmed with gratitude seeing PARD's new home start to take shape. The weather was beautiful and it was welcoming to see familiar faces after a long, cold winter and inspiring to see some new faces too. The volunteers were very eager to start the season and see the riders up on the horses again.

After the orientation, the program was up and running and we were able to complete 5 each of weeknight lessons despite Mother Nature's seeming vengeance against us. Our independent riders enjoyed a longer riding season and the 'boys' enjoyed the love and affection from the visitors to their new home.

During the summer we welcomed a new horse, Sonny,

and wished Reno all the best at his new farm. Sonny is still undergoing training and assessment to determine his place in our program and we will continue to search for another suitable horse to add to our program. The rest of the boys are "happy and healthy" as Kathy likes to report and settled into their new paddock with ease.

This summer, PARD also welcomed a new instructor-in-training. Sarah Magee-Graham began her certification process this summer and will work alongside Kathy, Chris and Wendy to complete her certification. Then in the fall, PARD welcomed a new Board Member. After spending the summer volunteering on Tuesday nights, Nicole Warren wanted to continue helping out with PARD during the off season and the Board welcomed her enthusiasm.

The summer went by quickly, and



Brendon and Dave Carruthers secure the PARD sign at the new location.

continued on page 2...

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes

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the PARD peeps were busy building, planning and fund-raising. Soon after lesson began, PARD hosted the first of two fund-raising shows. The feedback from participants in the Schooling Show was positive about our roomier ring.

August started with the Open House and ended with the Annual Corn Roast and Volunteer Appreciation where our volunteers couldn't get enough of that delicious fudge one of our super-moms generously made for everyone. Before the year ended, PARD was surprised to

be the beneficiary at a fabulous Casino-themed Christmas party. Money was raised and fun was had, all for a good cause!

Although the winter was seemingly quiet at the farm, the PARD Board of Directors were working behind the scenes planning for 2015. We look forward to seeing everyone and sharing what we have been working this past winter. Our goal to have the new, accessible tack building constructed this year but we can't do it without our wonderful supporters. As our program grows, so does everyone's opportunity to help. We're always looking for help with fund-raising events or new grants or foundations to pursue.

As I look back on the busy, and wonderful year PARD had in 2014 I can't help but to feel grateful and thankful for our many volunteers and the Board of Directors. Each of you committed so much of your talents and time to see that PARD not only continues for the riders, but continues to grow; and I can't help but to look forward to 2015. When you support PARD you support PARD riders and I just want to say "Thank you"!

2015 CALENDAR

of events

Tuesday lessons begin: June 9, 2015
Thursday lessons begin: June 4, 2015

Open House
 Sunday, May 3, 2015
 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

Volunteer Orientation & Training
 Sunday, May 3, 2015
 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

PARD Schooling Show
 Sunday, July 12, 2015
 9:00 am
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

Horsemanship Clinics
 Saturday, July & August, 2015
 Dates and times to be confirmed
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer


Volunteer & Rider Appreciation Corn Roast
 Monday, August 17, 2015
 6:00 pm
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

Equine First Aid Clinic
 Saturday, September 19, 2015
 10:00 am
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

PARD Games Show
 Sunday, September 27, 2015
 11:00 am
 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

Bingo to benefit PARD Therapeutic Riding
 Tuesday, November 10, 2015
 7:15 pm
 Delta Bingo Hall
 1019 Clonsilla Av, Peterborough

Warsaw Christmas Parade
 Date and time to be confirmed
 Town of Warsaw (meeting details to follow, RSVP required)





Donna checks out the information on the PARD presentation board at our Open House.

Our instructors share their time and talent

All of the PARD instructors are volunteers, most with full-time employment and family commitments or even other community-oriented activities that demand attention. That they share their time and talent with the PARD program and its riders is a wonderful blessing that we should not take for granted.

Kathy Carruthers
Program Coordinator



Kathy (R) with PARD rider, Aimee

Kathy has been with PARD since 1994 when her daughter, Keri asked about volunteering with the program herself. The instructor that was with PARD at the time was familiar with Kathy's horse experience and asked her to stay, as well. She quickly got hooked by the people and has been committed to the program ever since. She currently holds the position of Program Coordinator on the PARD Board of Directors with an AI level instruction certification through CanTRA (Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association).

Known for her sharp wit and sarcastic tongue, Kathy has a huge heart when it comes to her students. She is proud of the true therapeutic benefits that the PARD program offers every rider and gets a genuine rush of joy with every success a rider experiences, however small that success may be.

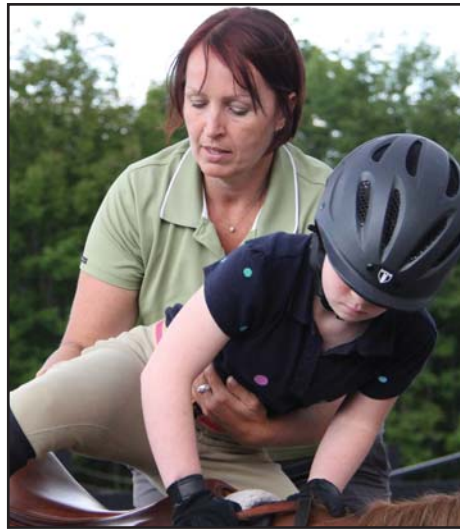
"Our riders are brave and dedicated - they are willing to try anything we

ask of them in order to achieve a goal," says Kathy.

She also expounds on the value of a good therapy horse, having selected and trained many firsthand. She would like people "to understand that our horses are quality horses. They are - and need to be - sound and healthy in order to do the job they are expected to do."

Born in the small eastern Ontario town of Finch, Kathy remembers her parents telling her that "you only get out of your community what you are willing to put into it." It is that civic-minded attitude that Kathy has instilled in her three children, Chris, Keri and Brendon. They, along with her husband, Dave, find themselves helping out at PARD often, doing whatever might be needed to ensure the program continues.

Chris Walker
Instructor



Chris helps PARD rider, Hannah

It was a lucky day for PARD Therapeutic Riding when Chris saw an ad in a local Peterborough newspaper

about the program. She says, "I wanted to give back to the community and, with my love of horses, I thought this would be a great way to do so."

With the intention of just volunteering to help out on program nights, Chris' involvement quickly expanded to include joining the board of directors and pursuing her certification as a therapeutic riding instructor. Having achieved her Intermediate Instructor, she admits that she was inspired by the huge smiles that consistently light up the faces of each PARD rider when it's their turn to start their lesson and mount their favourite horse. Chris notes that the PARD program instills confidence in the riders by showing them that they can accomplish goals they never thought possible.

While the PARD program benefits by having Chris as an instructor, she enjoys, "watching our riders work towards and meet goals, to see them leave behind their assistance devices and sit upon a horse without them, to see our independent riders compete at horse shows and walk away with ribbons, to see in each riders face the unconditional love they have for the horse they are riding. I can't help but leave each lesson with a smile on my face because of our amazing riders."

Chris and her son, Josh, are both riders themselves. With her horse, Fancy, at Wendon Hills, Chris continues to train and compete in Eventing competitions.

Wendy Carruthers
Instructor

Wendy grew up in a large family on a Peterborough farm and was always surrounded by an assortment of animals

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

but it was her life's dream to eventually own and run her own equestrian facility. She met Brendon Carruthers in 2008 and they married in 2011. Brendon's family - especially his mother Kathy - was very involved in PARD and were quick to recruit Wendy. It was a natural fit and Wendy is happy to be able to give back to her community through sharing her lifelong passion for horses and equestrian activities.



Wendy coaching one of her students.

When asked about her favourite memories of PARD, she answered, "My first time teaching a lesson in the program and how much the riders thoroughly enjoyed the freedom they gain from the horses."

It is that freedom of movement that is the basis for therapeutic riding. Wendy is actively working towards her CTRII certification for therapeutic riding instruction through CanTRA while she teaches PARD riders and riders from her own barn, Wendon Hills Equestrian Centre.

Wendy is pleased to have such a close working relationship with PARD, eager to help the program settle into their new home and to be a part of PARD's

growth as they continue to expand with bigger and better facilities.

She is quick to offer praise to the program and the opportunities it affords riders in need of such therapy. But doesn't want anyone to forget that, "We are always looking for volunteers and people to support the program as we are 100% volunteer based."

Sarah Magee-Graham

Instructor-in-Training

Having registered for CanTRA's instructor certification program in 2014, Sarah is looking forward to assisting with rider lessons this year. She has been volunteering with PARD since 2009, sidewalking, leading and working with the horses. She is patient and enjoys people, especially when she can share her love for horses.



Sarah sidewalking with a PARD rider.

In fact, some of her favourite times at PARD are the social opportunities - the annual corn roast, visiting before and after lessons, the horse shows and fund-raising events.

Despite her natural people skills, Sarah can be shy and appreciates that

PARD gives her the opportunity to build those skills. And she enjoys being able to give back to the community doing something that is so much fun!

Sarah moved to Peterborough with her family in 2008, with the promise of getting a horse offered to ease the pain of leaving her school friends behind in Ajax. Instead of getting her own horse right away, Sarah started taking riding lessons and ended up at Wendon Hills with Wendy as her coach. She has her own horse now, and she and Mojo enjoy hanging out or getting ready for Eventing. They also participate in PARD's annual Schooling Show (in July) and the Games Show (in September).

In order for the shows to be successful, PARD is hopeful to attract riders from numerous area barns. While Sarah simply loves to spend the day with horsey friends and jump her courses, she admits that it's a lot more fun with more riders.

Sarah is a grade 12 student at TAS. She is currently completing her co-op placement at the Peterborough Humane Society and has decided to pursue a career as a veterinary technician alongside her teaching with PARD.

OPEN HOUSE

**Sunday, May 3, 2013 @ 1pm
1372 Fourth Line Road
Douro-Dummer**

Visit PARD and meet our team while our instructors and riders showcase a sample lesson for you. Find out if volunteering with PARD is right for you!

Were you at the PARD 2014 Volunteer Orientation?



Sunshine and warm temperatures are always a blessing when your main activities are all conducted outdoors. Fortunately for PARD, Sunday, June 1 2014 was a beautiful day and lots of interested people attended our first volunteer orientation and training session at the new location.

Our instructors coordinated an opportunity to showcase sample lessons to the crowd of potential volunteers and riders with their families and field the active question & answer period. The orientation once again proved to be a productive and successful afternoon which resulted in finding new volunteers to join the PARD program and reacquaint returning volunteers with the program expectations.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and made the day such a success.



Wendon Hills Equestrian Centre has great plans to fulfill a lifelong dream



Brendon and Wendy Carruthers, owners and operators of Wendon Hills Equestrian Centre.

Wendon Hills Equestrian Centre is a family-owned and run facility at 1372 Fourth Line Rd in South Dummer of Douro-Dummer township. Purchased in 2008, Brendon Carruthers moved in June of 2009 and Wendy Carruthers moved in shortly after in May of 2010.

Wendy had worked in numerous barns in the area caring for horses, handling general farm maintenance and teaching riding lessons. It had been a long-time aspiration to own a facility of her own and teach riding lessons to her own students. This became a reality in 2011. Over the next year, the business grew and Wendy began working full-time on the farm in the spring of 2012.

Wendon Hills caters to riders of all levels and aspirations - whether you are a beginner rider of any age (you are never too old to enjoy the company of an equine friend!) or a rider with competitive goals in mind. Wendon Hills travels all over southern Ontario competing in schooling shows, combined test and horse trials. The farm is also open to boarding and training clients.

In the fall of 2013, the farm began construction in preparation to welcome PARD Therapeutic Riding, an organization Wendy was already active in as an instructor. PARD moved to the property in the Fall of 2013 and the program has settled in well with a comfortable field for the PARD horses, a larger riding arena, lots of parking space. There are still plans in the works to erect a tack room and office.

Wendon Hills also continues to grow with the addition of a new sand ring and grass ring expected in the Spring of 2015. This will also include the construction of new stalls in the barn and new turnout fields for the horses.

We are gearing up for an exciting year in 2015. Come out and see us along with all the new changes!

Wendy Carruthers

Welcome Bobby to the team

We're very excited to introduce everyone to the newest member of the PARD team: Bobby.



Bobby is a 16-year old Arabian gelding, all grey with big dark eyes. He is very much a younger version of our friend Sequel.

He loves attention and will be a great fit with our program as he provides us with the narrow base of support that our current horses don't have.



Sarah and Angie speaking at Learning In Leisure on April 28th about the benefits of therapeutic riding at Northminster Church to a group of very generous seniors (who surprised us with a donation at the end of our presentation!).

2015 Schooling Show

Classes begin at 9am
Entry fees - \$10/class or \$35/division

Sunday, 12th of July

1372 4th Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

CASH PRIZES!

- ☑ Champion in these Divisions wins \$100
 - Hunter
 - Jumper
- ☑ Champion in these Divisions wins \$50
 - Showmanship
 - Cross Rails
 - Hack
 - Novice
- ☑ Reserve Champion wins \$25
- ☑ 1st Place in each Class wins \$10
 - Hunter Pairs wins \$20 per winning team
- ☑ Ribbons awarded 1st through 6th

Special thanks to our sponsors for their generous support!

Emilie Raaymakers and Joker take a jump at the 2014 PARD Schooling Show.



SHOWMANSHIP DIVISION

1. Showmanship
2. Halter

CROSS RAILS DIVISION

3. Equitation Under Saddle
4. Hunter Under Saddle
5. Equitation Over Fences (X-rails)
6. Hunter Over Fences (X-rails)

HACK DIVISION

7. Show Hack
8. Hunter Hack
9. Pleasure Hack
10. Road Hack

NOVICE DIVISION

11. Equitation Under Saddle
12. Hunter Under Saddle
13. Equitation Over Fences (1'9")
14. Hunter Over Fences (1'9")

SPECIALTY CLASSES (no Champion)

15. Lead Line
16. Hunter Pairs On Flat
17. Hunter Pairs Over Fences

HUNTER DIVISION

18. Equitation Under Saddle
19. Hunter Under Saddle
20. Equitation Over Fences (2'3")
21. Hunter Over Fences (2'3")

JUMPER DIVISION

22. 2'6" (no jump-off)
23. 2'6" (with jump-off)
24. 2'6" Speed
25. Gamblers Choice

GAMES DIVISION

26. Command Class
27. Steady Hands
28. Chew the Cracker and Whistle
29. Ride \$5 Bucks
30. Best Turned Out



For more info, visit www.pard.ca
Proceeds to support PARD Therapeutic Riding

PARD 2014 Schooling Show



Holly Drain and Oreo had a lot of fun!



Zoey Martin shows off the ribbons she and Dr. Bryson won in the Walk/Trot division.



Everest carries Katie Winship over this jump with ease.



Mikayla and Isabelle pose with Doc.



Ginger and Hillary Lunn show the versatility of the Standardbred horse.



Benji shows off his great form under the guidance of Cassidy Meier.

Aimee Carter smiles with Stormy.



Jenn Shaughnessy rides Delilah with confidence in an Equitation class.



Sarah Magee-Graham and Mojo taking a jump.

2015 PARD Board of Directors

Chairperson: Angie Muir

Treasurer: Julia Dean

Secretary: Crystal Edwards

Program Coordinator: Kathy Carruthers

Volunteer Coordinator: Michelle Bozec

Communication Coordinator:

Marissa Wheal

Media Coordinator:

Tracy Magee-Graham

Directors: Sarah Magee-Graham

Kevin Reimer

Chris Walker

Nicole Warren

PARD's Board of Directors meets monthly. You can contact **PARD Therapeutic Riding** or members of the board at: PO Box 1654, Peterborough ON K9J 7S4, Tel **(705) 742-6441** or email at **info@pard.ca**.

It takes a lot of resources to keep the PARD program running. One of the most important

resources is the selfless volunteer who comes out on Tuesday and Thursday nights to help with the program. Whether it be to lead a horse, sidewalk with a rider for safety, assist with grooming and tacking or just to help the riders put on their helmet at the start of a lesson, the program night volunteer is vital to keeping the program operational.

"Thank you" to all of the program volunteers to come out to support us!

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with PARD or joining the board of directors, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator.

Did you purchase a membership in PARD Therapeutic Riding? *Thank you!*

Last year was our inaugural year for selling annual memberships in PARD Therapeutic Riding and we were pleased to welcome many to the organization. For a nominal fee of \$10.00, members receive all electronic newsletters & updates and are welcomed at our events including the annual appreciation corn roast and the annual general meeting. That's combined with the knowledge that you have supported a wonderful program that truly makes a difference in people's lives.

The membership fees are used directly to help offset the operating costs of our riding program. Selling memberships is an integral part of our fund-raising activities.

The Board of Directors for PARD Therapeutic Riding would like to thank ALL of you who joined and will be inviting you to continue your membership this year. Why not consider inviting a friend or family member to join as well?

We greatly appreciate your support and interest in keeping PARD Therapeutic Riding going and growing!

Can you help fill our wish list?



- MSM equine supplement
- Canadian Tire money
- Paper towels
- Hand sanitizer
- Large garbage bags
- Bottled water
- Kleenex
- Dry erase markers
- Sun screen
- Bug repellent
- Stapler and staples
- Letter size printer paper
- Letter size card stock
- Pencils
- Large manila envelopes
- Canadian stamps
- Size #10 envelopes
- Metal pencil sharpener
- Laminating sheets
- Blue recycling bags
- Simple green cleaning products

Important notice: police checks

Reminder that all volunteers require a current Police Check with a Vulnerable Sector Check. If you are under 18 yrs old, only the Police Check is required.

For Peterborough-Lakefield Regional Police, we have a letter so that you can qualify for the volunteer rate. For OPP, we have a form that needs to be taken for the Vulnerable Sector Check. Please inquire.



It's who you share it with...

Earlier this year in February, the PARD board launched a fund-raiser with Steeped Tea consultant, Sarah Goard-Heber. We held a tea party to introduce the products we would be selling and enjoy a little social time in the midst of the deep, cold winter. The fund-raiser raised almost \$350!

In December, members of the PARD team along with friends and family attended a Casino Night fund-raiser. A huge "Thanks!" to the Martin Family for organizing the evening.



Come shopping at the PARD Store

Therm-O-Snack Bag

Sturdy insulated bag is imprinted with the PARD logo & features zipper closure & elastic pouch on side.

\$10 each

Executive Umbrella

Nylon umbrella imprinted with PARD logo features wooden tipped ribs & sturdy wooden shaft & handle. Automatic open for quick coverage. Velcro® tie closure.

\$15 each

Elite Baseball Cap

Heavyweight 100% brushed-cotton cap includes PARD logo embroidered on front.

\$10 each

Roll Up Fleece Blanket

Cozy fleece blanket folds up into itself, secures with a Velcro® closure & has handle for easy carrying. PARD logo printed on flap.

\$15 each

PolySure Sport Bottle

Screw-on cap has a push/pull lid. Wide mouth offers easy access for cleaning or stirring powdered drinks. Bottle made with BPA-free PETE plastic bearing recycle symbol #1. PARD logo on side.

\$5 each

Folding Chair

Comfortable oversized seat & mesh cup holder on each arm.

Made of sturdy 600-denier nylon & steel tubular frame with a 136kg weight limit. Includes carrying bag. PARD logo on back of backrest.

\$25 each



The reward for volunteers is unexpected

by Nicole Warren

Initially, I came to PARD because I knew first hand how calming it was for me to be around a horse, and thought I would be able to help others likewise see how soothing and stress-relieving being around a horse could be. However, once I arrived at PARD and was assigned to leading horses through all sorts of different rides for each individual rider, the tables turned, where I now think I have gotten more out of the experience than I could have ever provided.

The volunteers, the coaches, and the riders all mingle and become a very close group by the end of the season. Each individual helps another, and everyone learns from everyone else.

With PARD, as a volunteer, you can immediately see reward for your hard

work. The detailed lessons improve each rider's balance, coordination, verbal skills, and brings out their personalities a little more with every passing week. You can see their confidence grow, and there is so much satisfaction in being a volunteer when you see them settle in the saddle, sitting proudly, with the biggest smile spreading across their face.

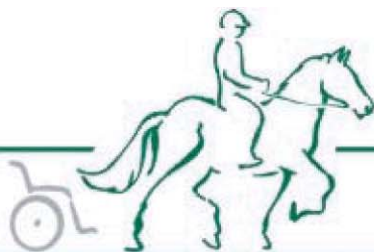
PARD allows both the riders and the volunteers to escape for a few hours, a couple times a week, into a world where there are no physical or psychological barriers. There is only the sheer joy of being



Nicole leading Stormy with PARD rider Richelle with help from her dad, Ron and instructor Wendy.

able to watch a rider sit high above the ground on a horse, and see them move freely around the ring where only they and the horse matter.

PARD
THERAPEUTIC RIDING



P.O. Box 1654, Peterborough, ON K9J 7S4 Canada
Tel. (705) 742-6441 • Online: www.pard.ca
e-mail: info@pard.ca

Charitable Registration No. 11909 1759 RR0001

YES, I want to help PARD riders achieve their dreams.



☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other _____ ☐ Donation-in-Kind

☐ Please find enclosed my cheque payable to **PARD Therapeutic Riding**

☐ I prefer to charge my contribution to my credit card.

*Credit card donations are coordinated securely through PayPal online at www.pard.ca via the **Donate** button.*

Donor(s) Name: _____

In memory of (optional): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ PC: _____

Telephone: () _____ Email: _____

Charitable tax donation receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more. Receipts for Donation-in-Kind will be issued for retail value before taxes.
Contact information collected here is for administrative purposes of **PARD Therapeutic Riding** only and will not be shared with third parties.

PARD 2015 Games Show

Sun, 20th of Sept, 2015

1372 4th Line Rd, Douro-Dummer

WALK/TROT DIVISION

1. Command
2. Steady Hands
3. Barrel Race
4. Team Relay Race
 - 4 horses per team
5. Flag Race
6. Key Hole
7. Trail Class

WALK/TROT/CANTER DIVISION

8. Command
9. Steady Hands
10. Barrel Race
11. Team Relay Race
 - 4 horses per team
12. Flag Race
13. Key Hole
14. Trail Class

OPEN DIVISION

15. Ride \$5 Bucks
16. Chew the Cracker & Whistle

Games begin at 11am

Entry fees - \$5/game

Emilie Raaymakers and Cactus Jack compete in the Key Hole event at the PARD Games Show.

Registration information and forms available online at www.pard.ca.

*For more info, visit www.pard.ca
Proceeds to support PARD Therapeutic Riding*



It takes a community to build... well, a tack shed

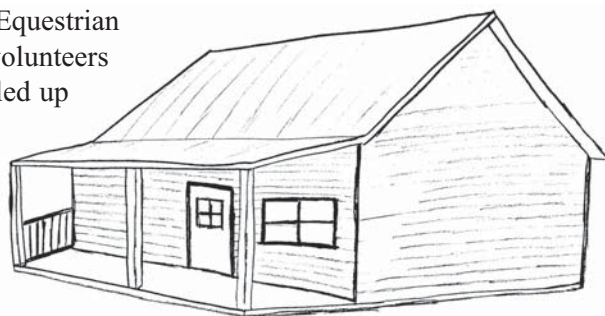
When PARD moved to the new location at Wendon Hills, the ring, office and tack shed were disassembled for the move. As a not-for-profit organization, it was vital that PARD retain as many of its assets as possible.

The ring was re-erected in the spring of 2014 and used for the program that season, it was made larger at 100ft x 200ft to accommodate more riders and a broader range of activities. Many of the necessary supplies were salvaged from the previous ring but it was necessary to rely on grants, fund-raising and donations to accomplish this task. Most notably, PARD would like to acknowledge the generous support and sacrifice of time and energy by Fred

Edwards, Wendon Hills Equestrian Centre and the numerous volunteers and board members who rolled up their own sleeves to help.

While the ring is a key element in PARD's program, equipment, feed, administrative supplies and records, first aid and a whole bunch of other stuff need to be kept somewhere. Operating out of the horse trailer and a number of plastic bins is less than ideal so re-erecting the outbuildings are a priority over the next two years.

The tack shed is planned for 2015 - larger and more accessible than its



PARD's own Julia Dean - interim Treasurer and all 'round handy person, has drafted plans for the tack shed.

former design. Diligent efforts on behalf of our board members to seek sufficient funding through existing grants and new grant proposals have been underway for over a year. It's never quite enough, however, and the board has devised a sponsorship program to encourage benefactors to come forward and be a part of this great effort.

The office plans will follow in 2016 with financial support already falling into place. Previous support from Fred Edwards has been earmarked for the office building. Home Depot has announced that PARD is the recipient of a \$1000 grant. And we can't forget the support of our volunteers and rider families - like Gerry Smyth - who contribute throughout the year. We appreciate your kindness and say, "Thank you."

Gifts from HATS

CanTRA recently announced that Niagara Region's Horse Alternative Therapeutic Services (HATS) would be shutting down its program. HATS generously offered its equipment to other centres to benefit from their use.

PARD visited HATS' site, bringing home two surcingles, assorted first aid supplies, ladder reins and a number of other useful items for our program.

The PARD board is saddened by HATS' closure but is appreciative of the shared equipment.

PARD board members, Julia Dean and Chris Walker attended the Durham Region Special Olympics, sharing information about the program with our display booth.



Equest Equine First Aid Clinic

Register online at www.equestequinefirstaid.com

- Hosted by PARD Therapeutic Riding with Equi-Health Canada
- Saturday, September 19, 2015
- PARD, 1372 Fourth Line Rd, Douro-Dummer



Straight from the horse's mouth



featuring the PARD horses: Doc, Stormy, Nubuck and Bobby

Well, another winter is almost over and my herd mates and I are basking in the (almost) warm rays of sunshine. We are eagerly awaiting that first taste of spring grass!

For all of us – Stormy, Nubuck, Bobby and “me”, Doc – springtime also means a visit from our veterinarians at Gilson Equine Veterinary Services. Gilson Equine

Veterinary Services employs 3 top-notch veterinarians: Dr Kelli Gilson (owner) and her associates, Dr Kyle Goldie and Dr Leah Knox. They are dedicated to the health and wellbeing of only horses. They provide us with our yearly check-ups and administer our vaccinations so that we are protected against several important diseases. Just like humans, horses can “catch” respiratory viruses like ‘flu and vaccination helps to prevent this. We also are at risk in the summer months of some really serious infections like West Nile Disease and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. These infections are spread by mosquitoes which can carry and pass the viruses when they bite us. We’re very relieved to be protected from these diseases!

Our vets also check our teeth (say AHHHH!) to make sure that there aren’t any sharp edges or points that could making chewing difficult and even painful. Sometimes tooth problems make wearing our bridles and bits uncomfortable during the therapeutic riding program - we are grateful that our vets are able to take care of our teeth to remove problem areas.

The third thing that our vets do for us in the springtime is to make sure that our internal parasite (“worm”) burdens are low. We know that a small number of these parasites likely won’t harm us and may even be a good think to boost our immunity. However, our vets may suggest that each of us provide a manure sample for testing. Our vets will use this information to help decide if we need to be treated with a dewormer, and with which one. I’m really glad that most dewormers have great flavours like caramel or apple!

We very much appreciate all that the veterinarians from Gilson Equine Veterinary Services do to keep us healthy. We know that their knowledge, expertise and commitment to keeping us healthy are important factors contributing to the success of PARD Therapeutic Riding.

Gilson Equine Veterinary Services is a fully mobile service, providing veterinary care to horses, miniatures, ponies, donkeys and mules. The office is located south of Peterborough, ON in the Cavan-Monaghan area. It offers many services in reproduction, lameness, dentistry, endoscopy and surgery, and provides medical care, wellness programs, pre-purchase examinations and coverage for emergencies. Check them out at: <http://www.gilstonequineservices.com/index.htm> or contact them: tel (705) 939-1748 and email: office@gilstonequine.com.

That’s all my news for now, but stay tuned for more in the next newsletter! Better yet, why not visit us this summer at our home farm – Wendon Hills Equestrian Center - and see us “in action” in the therapeutic riding program!

2014 PARD Corn Roast



Angie, Courtney and Cathy get to work early to ensure all of the corn is husked.



The corn roast is a great chance for riders, volunteers, friends and family to relax.



Aimee and her family enjoying the BBQ.



Aimee's mom, Gwen, is famous for her fudge which they share with the PARD team.



Tuesday, November 10, 2015 starting at 7:15pm.
Delta Bingo Hall, 1019 Clonsilla Ave, Peterborough ON

Contact PARD to purchase your special Bingo package!

A \$26 value for only \$15

Proceeds support PARD Therapeutic Riding.

Come out and join us for a great evening.

Drop us an email to **info@pard.ca** to make arrangements for your tickets
or call us at **705 742-6441**.

Special note - parents and families of our PARD riders are encouraged
to give us a call and sell some tickets to their circle of friends, too.

We need all the help we can get!