

# MVSRA Neighbourhood News



### Congratulations to the

SPRING, 2015

### TRAIL CLASS WINNERS

#### Leadline Class Trail:

- 1st: Hope Nicolson
- 2nd: Matthias Leischner
- 3rd: Anthony Spooner
- 4th: Sheila Daye
- 5th: Nolan Holloway

#### Independent Class Trail:

- 1st: Dawsyn Harke
- 2nd: Crystal Lewis
- 3rd: John Batarseh
- 4th: Bonnie Gooding

#### Participation Awards:

- Michael Elko
- Barbara Erhmann
- Kim Jensen
- Carmen Bugbee
- Tyler Peterson
- Amber Vanance
- Ryan Penner
- Tracy McDuff
- Caleb Sam
- Katie Nicolson

## Spring Session Successful

MVSRA spring session saw 23 riders successfully complete 7 weeks of lessons on Monday and Tuesday nights at the Mega-Dome in Olds. The lessons were enjoyed by riders and volunteers alike without any hitches in the giddyup, despite a thunder-boomer on one of the Tuesday nights, culminating in the Trail Class Competition on June 29. Nineteen riders showed off their hard work and skills navigating the trail course, and volunteers worked off the tasty goodies provided by Sandra with a rousing tug-o'-war at the end of the evening!

Thanks to everyone, and looking forward to seeing you at the Fall Session! Thanks to our Equine Partners: Teddy, Rudy, Candy, Gaby, Jigsaw, Rose, Leroy, Pepperoni, Lindy, Boon, Lucky Surprise, and Dee.

## MVSRA Executive

- President: Burt Hunt PH: 556.6883
- Treasurer: Sandra Boutwell PH: 556.7247
- Secretary: Dodie Archibald / Anne Allison PH: 505.3854
- Board Member / Tack Manager: Bonar Hanson PH: 556.7008
- Rider and Volunteer Liaison: Karla Brautigam PH: 335.9146
- Food: Sandra Hanson PH: 556.7008
- Board Member / Website: Anne Allison PH: 638.5052
- Instructors: Shelene Williams PH: 862.8359
- Diane Luxen PH: 556.2175

MVSRA will be hosting  
a **CanTRA Clinic**

**AUGUST**  
15th—16th, 2015

**CALUORI**  
**PAVILION, OLDS**

Contact Shelene if you are  
interested in volunteering  
to help with this event.  
403.862.8359

## Welcome to Lisa Blanchard

Welcome to MVSRA's new instructor, Lisa Blanchard, from Sundre, AB. She will be teaching Tuesday nights. Lisa has been riding and showing horses all her life, and brings many years of instructional experience, coaching riders of all ages and levels.

Great to have you on board!

## Olds Regional Exhibition

At the ORE AGM in March, MVSRA presented Olds Regional Exhibition staff with a Certificate of Thanks in recognition of their 30 years of support for MVSRA. ORE has kindly donated arena time on Monday and Tuesday evenings in the spring and fall for lessons beginning in 1985.

THANK YOU!

## Thank You! To our MVSRA, and CanTra Clinic Sponsors!

Our THANKS! go out to the Agencies, Businesses, and Individuals who have supported the MVSRA so far this year. They include:

Nu 2 U, Olds

Mountain View County

United Way of Central Alberta

Bowden Light Horse Club

And THANKS! to the following for their support of the August CanTra Clinic:

Blakley Chartered Accountants, Airdrie

Fair Haven Farm, Carstairs

A&W, Olds

Westview Cooperative Association

Tedd's Esso and Food Mart

## Fall Session Riding Lesson Schedule

Lessons are Monday and Tuesday nights at 5:45 pm and 7:00 pm.

Rider Forms Due by: Friday, August 21.

Monday, August 31: Volunteer Training / Horse Testing

Week 1: Sept 7 / 8

Week 4: Sept 28 / 29

Week 2: Sept 14 / 15

Week 5: Oct 5 / 6

Week 3: Sept 21 / 22

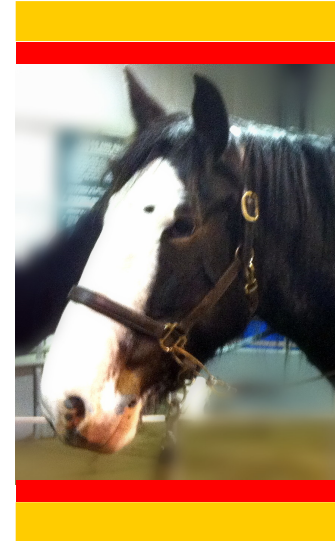
Week 6: Oct 12 / 13

Week 4: Sept 28 / 29

Wind Up Night Horse Show: Monday, October 19.



## Rainbow Bridge...



Maggie...

On a wonderful spring day in 1999, a Clydesdale foal was born who would grow up to become a beloved equine companion - Maggie. That same year would prove to be an eventful one for Maggie's caregiver as well - the loss of my faithful equine teacher and friend of 20 years - Tao... and although I didn't know it, that little Clydesdale foal would find her way to my heart as well.

I had been casually looking for a quiet horse to do a bit of trail riding, and decided to try searching online - something I had not done before. Every time I googled "trail horse" or "Draft Cross" - Maggie's ad would come up. Every time. When I first met "Mags", as I affectionately called her, I knew I'd be bringing the trailer back for her. On a fine day in 2010, Mags stepped out of the trailer to her new home west of Sundre.

Maggie was a great combination of 90% steady mind, patience, and willingness... and 10% "Are we done yet?" Her quiet nature belied an intelligent and quick mind - a hunter of cookies - and a bit of an equine prankster. One of her favourite tricks out on the trail involved river crossings - she would wait until about the middle of the crossing then start paddling the water with those big pie plate feet - thoroughly soaking the horse and rider behind her.

Mags tirelessly carried her Special Riding students through their lessons on Tuesday nights for 3 years until she was sidelined in 2014 by arthritis in her hock. Her leaders always knew when the end of the lesson was nearing (at least the end of the lesson in Maggie's mind!) - Mags would start a move we affectionately called the "toilet swirl" - quietly walking closer and closer to the arena centre until she figured no one was paying enough attention and then a quick turn and stand in the middle. "Are we done yet?"...

Maggie left us to go back home on March 6, 2014, after what appeared to be a heart attack or stroke. I miss my friend here and now - and I can't wait to see you again. Love you, Mags.