

**THE MANE ISSUE**



**Meet a Member- Brennan McCullagh**

Brennan is 16 years old and has been in Pony Club for about 9 years.

He has the following to say about himself:

My mom, Catherine McCullagh, ran a PC branch, so I started when I was pretty young. I am in grade 11 and attend St. John's Ravenscourt in Winnipeg. My favourite subject is chemistry and that might be something I do in the future. I plan on going to university after graduating, although I will try to stay involved with riding.

within and outside Pony Club. Over the summer I got to go to pony club show jumping nationals at Ebon Stables in Saskatoon, and placed first overall.

Outside of Pony Club, I also qualified to compete at the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships at Wesley Clover Park in Ottawa. I was the junior representative for Manitoba and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall junior and 1<sup>st</sup> overall team with my teammate. These were two great experiences and I would highly recommend other pony club members to try to qualify for them. Besides riding I do several sports, although not as competitive. I play a bit of badminton and sometimes race dirt bikes in the summer. In the winter I play a fair bit of hockey and do lots of snowmobiling.

One of the funniest experiences I've had in Pony Club was jumping out of the ring at the national show jumping championships. It caught me by surprise and I was pretty embarrassed. Although it turns out you do not get eliminated for jumping out of the ring! I ended



with his gelding Akrobart MHS

up scoring pretty well and still had a lot of fun at the event. One tip I have for other Pony Club members is to take advantage of all the opportunities Pony Club can provide. I've had the opportunity to go to a few different national events and they have been great experiences.



national show jumping with borrowed horse Autobot

My favourite PC discipline is definitely show jumping. Our barn does lots of hunter/jumper showing so I quickly fell in love with it.

This year I had some success



with his mare Gotham City

## Testing Tip (by Sam Eakin)

*This issue's testing tip is brought to you by Samantha Eakin. Sam is from the Terrace PC Branch BCIN Region.*

Hi everyone, I'm Sam and I'm currently in my 12th year or pony club! I have my full B and HB2 and well as the B2 flat ride.

I love pony club, it is a fantastic organization that helps us horse lovers become well rounded horse people. Pony club is fun for the most part but can also be stressful, especially at testing.

The best advice I can give is to practice, practice, practice,

and stay positive and confident.

Trust that you have worked hard and your coach has prepared you for your testing. Do your best as it is all you can do!

If you are unsuccessful, don't see it as a failure, but as an experience that will help you learn and help prepare you to try again and be successful!

I am aging out of pony club in a few years and am sad that my journey is coming to an end. Best of luck to all pony clubbers old and new!



## Active Member Review.....

*The Board has 2 Directors who are Active Members. One must come from east of Manitoba and one must come from west of Ontario.*

*The Active Member Directors host a Youth Meeting at National Quiz each year.*

*The Active Members have a vote on all decisions made at the National Meetings.*

**Jessica Van Nostrand Youth Director East—retiring**

Age: **20**

Years in CPC: **9**

Branch and Region: **Evangeline PC, NS**

School: **3rd yr. student at Guelph University**

What do you want to do after school: Stable **Manager**

Favourite CPC discipline: **PPG and Show Jumping—but really all of them!**

Favourite CPC memory: **Attending International quiz in Kentucky where I had the opportunity to meet Pony Clubbers from Australia and the USA**



Tip to others to achieve Pony Club success: **Participate in everything you can, whether it is branch, regional or national events. CPC is a great way to meet people from all over.**

{ editor's note: The National board would like to thank Jessica for all her hard work and dedication these last two years. }



Replacing Jessica in Jan 2016 will be Kathryn Robertson from Westover Pony Club in WOR Region.

Age: 22

Years in Pony Club: 13

Branch/Region: **Westover PC, WOR**

School: **Studying Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering at Ryerson University**

Favorite CPC Disciplines: **Rally & Tetrathlon**

Other sports/hobbies/interests: **Target Shooting**

Favorite PC Memory: **I've had so many awesome memories from Pony Club but my most recent favourite memory would be from D-Rally in 2015. I was the captain/coach for my club and we had 5 riders and**

**only 1 groom. It was a very hectic day! The groom and myself, were running around making sure our riders were clean and on time for their events. I don't think we sat down once! Our hard work payed off since it ended up being one of our club's most successful years at D-Rally!**

Anything else you would like members to know about you? **I was chosen as one of the torchbearers for the Toronto 2015 Pan Am Games as well as one of the volunteers! It was an amazing experience!**

{ editor's note: Welcome aboard Kathryn! We look forward to working with you. }

*In the next issue we will profile Maeghan Forster the Active Member West.*



s	d	e	z	s	t	a	e	r	t	x	f	e	g	h	u	i	s
q	w	e	r	t	s	e	h	c	e	e	r	b	k	d	z	r	t
b	c	y	m	a	n	u	a	l	u	i	a	r	l	o	n	a	f
a	u	r	s	f	g	h	j	k	g	f	f	u	r	f	u	t	b
z	r	c	o	x	v	s	b	n	m	e	g	s	s	e	m	s	r
q	r	e	k	p	u	a	i	q	u	e	t	h	f	z	n	n	i
p	y	n	s	e	y	d	c	l	p	b	n	e	a	x	a	h	d
g	f	a	e	z	t	d	e	r	o	t	m	s	g	s	h	j	l
g	h	z	v	y	r	l	t	w	n	e	e	g	i	r	t	h	e
f	g	c	o	r	o	e	c	h	y	s	f	z	a	g	l	j	h
a	s	l	l	c	q	w	e	r	t	y	r	x	s	t	k	l	k
e	p	u	g	a	k	f	h	o	r	s	e	c	d	o	j	h	j
s	u	b	a	h	g	s	d	g	e	s	w	v	T	r	h	g	f
l	r	r	e	h	c	t	a	c	t	a	r	b	f	r	g	s	d
e	r	w	a	r	y	a	h	a	s	d	e	n	e	a	e	a	p
i	i	o	s	s	i	y	t	w	e	r	i	m	s	c	f	e	o
g	t	c	a	k	m	h	b	c	u	r	n	m	r	s	d	u	i
h	s	a	m	n	a	r	b	r	y	t	s	t	o	c	k	y	t
l	k	s	b	u	g	s	p	r	a	y	q	r	h	q	w	e	r

**Things You Might Find Under your Christmas Tree!**

- Saddle
- Pony
- Hay
- Sleigh
- Bran mash
- Carrot
- Brushes
- Manual
- Gloves
- Crop
- Numnah
- Treats
- reins
- horse
- curry
- ratcatcher
- breeches
- stock
- zocks
- stirrups
- bridle
- bucket
- girth
- bugspray



## How many Horse related words can you make out of "Mare"y Christmas? I'll start you off...

**star**

### Here's to learning something new today.

An adult horse's brain weights 22 oz., about half that of a human.

The word chivalry comes from *cheval* the French word for horse.

Chariot racing was the first Olympic sport in 680 B.C.

Horses have 16 muscles in each ear, allowing them to rotate their ears 180 degrees.

Horses have 7 common blood types.

## GREAT GROOMING (BY ANNE-MARIE)

*Anne-Marie Duarte is a current A member of SLOV who happens to also be Barn Manager and International groom for Canadian Equestrian team member Selena O'Hanlon.*

During the winter months when bathing is less accessible, try "hot towelling" to maintain your horse's coat or clean them up before a clinic or for clipping. Hot towelling will be most effective when the horse is already as clean as possible through normal grooming measures.

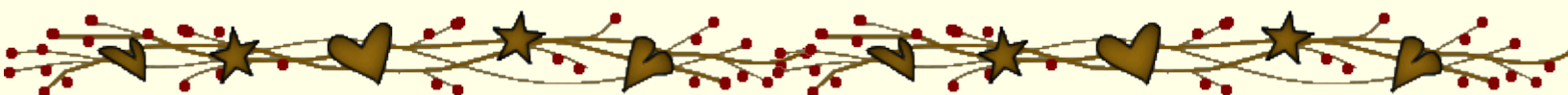
Step 1: fill a small bucket with water as hot as is comfortable for your bare skin. Add a liberal splash of white vinegar. Fill a second bucket with plain tap water. Gather a number of small or medium sized towels.

Step 2: soak a clean towel in the vinegar water, wring out as much water as possible, then use on the horses coat in small vigorous circles similar to a curry comb. IMPORTANT when the towel begins to feel cool, rinse in the bucket

of plain water. Then re-soak in vinegar water.

Step 3 use a dry towel to dry the area you just scrubbed as much as possible. Ideally use a white towel so you can really see when you have cleaned an area.

Step 4 continue this process moving over the horse in small areas making sure that both damp areas and areas to be cleaned are kept warm with a wool cooler or other such blanket.



## Editor's Column (by Cat Hunter)

**Habit:** (noun) 1. An acquired behaviour pattern regularly followed until it has become almost involuntary.

**Good;** (adjective) 1 Satisfactory in quality, quantity or degree.

Pony Club teaches "good habits" - practices that are designed to create instinctual behaviors that minimize risk and optimize safety in the handling and riding of horses. We see these best demonstrated at our events and testing days where the goal is to show ones knowledge and practice of these proven skills.

However, I must admit that I find myself puzzled and yes, sometimes frustrated, that these same proven good habits may appear to be forgotten when participating in a "non pony club" activity.

Pony Club teaches first and foremost about safety! Like any sport, ours comes with some inherent risk. Remember, we are dealing with an independent, non logical, flight animal many times our size. As prey animals, they act first and think later. This, when not managed properly, can lead to embarrassment (at best) and disaster (at worst). The reasons we encourage the behaviours we do is for the health and safety of you, your horse AND everyone around you.

Some examples:

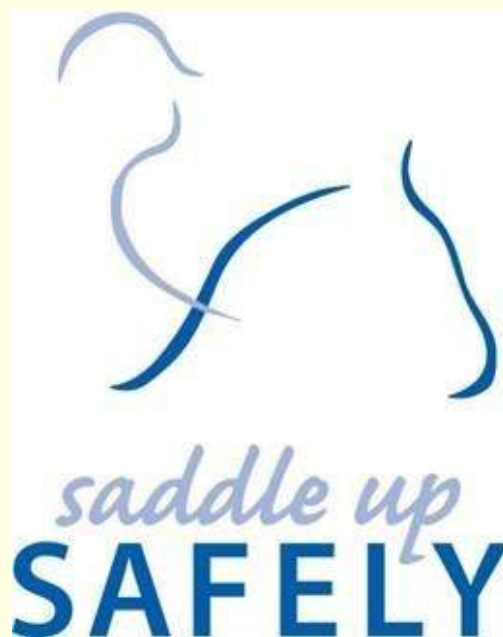
Why do we insist on proper footwear? Have you ever had your toes bruised or broken when a thousand pounds of horse spooked and landed on your boot clad foot? Imagine if you had flip flops on. Now imagine your foot without toes....or skin. No more pedicures and pretty sandals to worry about!

Why must you wear gloves when lunging? Two words: rope burn. Two more words: loose horse.

Helmets: Have you ever had a concussion from a fall when you did have a helmet on? You probably got away with a bad headache, maybe a couple of days off school and a good story to tell your friends. Sweet, eh! Now imagine the consequences of having that same fall with no helmet on? I know some people don't think helmets are cool ....but neither is having to relearn how to talk, eat, or bathe yourself, Not so sweet.

Sitting on the lawn chair or on the ground while holding your horse may be comfortable, but what happens when some little kid pops a chip bag and that flight instinct kicks in? His urge is to go forward through whatever is in his way...oh, wait, that's...you. And ...the people near you....

The "Pony Club way" is more than just for pony club activities and testing days. It should be a way of always working around horses to keep them safe, healthy and happy and you safe and having fun! If you wouldn't do it at your Pony Club test, don't do it anywhere else. For true horsemen (and women), the commitment to safe habits for themselves and their horses is not optional -it is a way of life and a sign of knowledge and maturity. Be Pony Club Safe.



*{My name is Cat and I am a lifelong Pony Clubber I was a member as a teen and have been volunteering longer than most of you have been alive.*

*I hope you like the first issue of the "The Mane Issue"*

*Please send me feedback at s.c.hunter@sympatico.ca }*

## THE MANE ISSUE

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW? *RACHEL FAHL (SHACKLETON)- (VANCOUVER PONY CLUB & OTTAWA VALLEY HUNT)*

My favorite discipline was always jumper but I really enjoyed dressage, cross country and the hunter ring. I liked being able to ride in any ring at a show with my horse and thought it was important to have my horses be able to compete in any discipline.

My best memories of pony club were at quiz and rally. When I was a member of Vancouver Pony Club we used to meet every Friday night for pizza quiz study sessions. We would get into our groups with our team coach and study quiz while pigging out on pizza. We always had great pony club spirit and wore our club colours (with sometime very outrageous wardrobe choices) at all our events. I have extremely fond memories of quiz competitions, with all the team spirit and different types of individual and team tests.



I always had a great time at rally. It was a time where we got to show off our knowledge and come together as a team. We worked hard and played hard,

quiz and rally were both really great bonding times with other club members.

A funny story: When I was a member of Vancouver Pony Club, most people that kept their horses in Southlands (a neighbourhood in Vancouver where every house has to have a stable or a greenhouse) rode at the central riding club that had all types of riding facilities including 2 huge indoor arenas, multiple outdoor rings, cross country course and a track around the whole complex. Our pony club decided to all go out for a ride around the track wearing boxer short underwear to celebrate boxing day. Most of us dressed in club colours and we all galloped around the track in our underwear!

My advice for entering the horse industry is to know what you want to do. Know what discipline you want to work in and learn all you can. Pony club is an amazing way to learn everything imaginable about horsemanship based on the classic British methods. I am so thankful that I had pony club to teach me what I know today and I really owe all my horse experiences to pony club. Many of the grand prix riders started their careers as pony club kids and they really love people that they can share that common ground



with. I worked in the barns of many Olympic masters and all that is due to my pony club knowledge. Never be afraid to talk to the very experienced riders or people in the horse industry that are your idols, many of them are waiting for the chance to inspire the passion that they have in someone else.

My advice to you is to stick with pony club. Get your levels and you will never ever regret it. I still have very strong connections with many of the people I met when I started as a D level and I will forever be thankful for this. I have met some of the best people through pony club and the memories I have will be cherished forever. Pony Club is awesome!!

I would be more than happy to rejoin pony club as an adult. I never completed my A level and that is something I would love to achieve.

I am still riding and I own 1 horse today. His name is Thurman and he is a 9 year old Hanoverian. I have owned him since he was 4 and he's really a character. We compete in the jumper ring at trillium shows and in dressage. *{Rachel now resides in Lindsay, Ontario}*

# Branch ABCs—Temperance Lake

Temperance Lake Pony Club is a branch in SLOV. TLPC was established in 1979 at a farm on Temperance Lake Road which borders Temperance Lake.



Our colours are blue on blue! I, Cat Hunter, am the current DC for TLPC.

We had 10 members in 2015, ranging in age for 9 to 17. Our current testing levels run

from E to C2.

Shaylie Brokate, 16, is our C2 member and this year represented us at both National Rally and National Quiz.

Shay also represented SLOV at National dressage in 2013 and 2014.

We also were represented at National Quiz this year by Fiona Hunter, 14.

In most years we have members representing us at every activity offered by SLOV region. Winter Camp, quiz, tet, show jumping, dressage the two working rallies and the regional Stable management clinics.

In the past we have had members represent CPC internationally in tetrathlon.



Shay at C rally



National Quiz 2015—back Fiona  
front (l-r) Captain Jordan (Appleton), Shay, Melina (Appleton)



Winter Camp 2015

# HOLLY JOLLY HORSE TREATS

**When making your own equine treats, be aware of potentially toxic ingredients, such as St. John's Wort, tomatoes, chestnuts and bull or horse nettle.**

**If you compete, you should also steer clear from ingredients such as valerian, poppy seeds, licorice, and cocoa or tea leaves, which could potentially test positive for drugs.**

## Jack's Cookies

**1 cup carrot, grate**

**1 apple, grated**

**2 tablespoons corn oil**

**1/4 cup molasses**

**1 teaspoon salt**

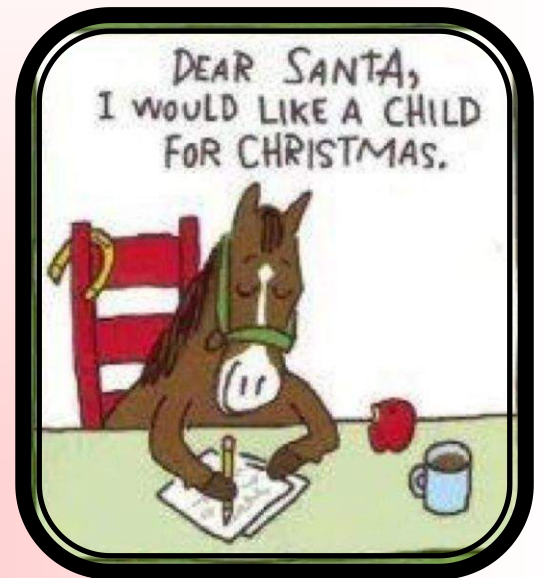
**1 cup rolled oats**

**1 cup flour**

**Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a cookie sheet.**

**In a large bowl, mix carrot, apple, corn oil and molasses together. Then fold in salt, oats, and flour until mixed well. Spread dough out in one big piece on a cookie sheet.**

**Score dough with a knife to make it easier to break apart after baking. Cook for 20 minutes or until brown. Let cool break apart and serve.**



## Val's Corner

Welcome to a new year of Pony Club adventures. Many thanks to Cat Hunter for producing this news letter for our members. Here are a couple of things from the SAM that may interest you:

*Are you close to aging out and are afraid you won't meet your testing goals?*

The good news is that starting in 2016, Horsemasters Members will have full access to our testing system. At the National level, fees will be the same as for the Active Members. At Branch and Regional tests, the fees will be set by the Branch or Region. At all levels, the worksheets and criteria will all be the same.

*Did you participate in the Educational Youth Conference supported by National in 2013 or 2014?*

Lots of members did and by all accounts, had a great time. Well, get your thinking caps on. National is once again offering financial support to each Region to host another Youth Conference in 2017. This is your chance to give your Region feedback regarding what you want to see at next year's conference.



### The White Horse That Won A War

In 1423, Daniel de Bouchet, a Knight of Burgundy whose troops had been beaten back eight times by English defenders of the Belgian fortress, Braine-Le-Comte, mounted a white horse and changed to an ancient set of armor bearing the insignia of St. George. The English, seeing what appeared to be their own Patron Saint riding towards them, were thus tricked into surrendering.

### Mount Up

When his pony was lamed in a hunting accident, Baron Christophe de Tursanne of Bigorres, France, carried the 420-lb animal on his shoulders for more than a mile to a veterinarian.

### Nightmare Army

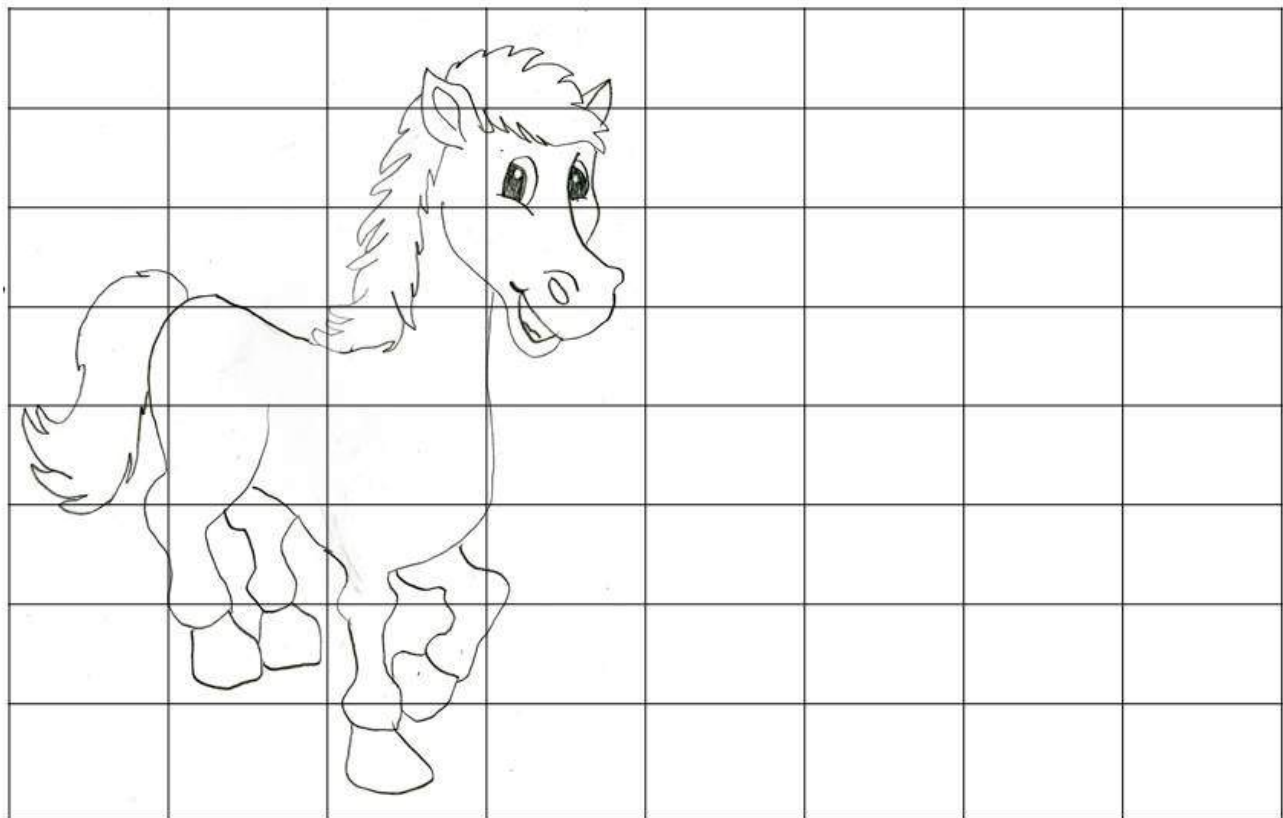
The city of Landrecies, France, was saved in 1543 thanks to the ghost troops of General Du Bellay. He tied 600 bags of flour on the backs of 600 cavalry horses, attaching lances, helmets, and shields, and then ponying

them one foggy night past an enemy encampment of 40,000 soldiers. The flour bags, looking like giant riders, so terrified their foes that they were allowed to pass unchallenged, and the city was spared attack.

*It's a lot like nuts and bolts - if the rider's nuts, the horse bolts!*

*~Nicholas Evans*

## Use the boxes to recreate the horse!



*It is not enough for a man to  
know how to ride; he must  
know how to fall.  
~Mexican Proverb*

## The Groundline

-A takeoff point for discussion... (by Kim Leffley)



Pony Club.... The name has been the topic of much debate and opinion in recent years (not the organization itself but simply "the name"). Is it outdated? Does it represent who we are and what we do? Is it a barrier to membership or a misunderstood legacy? Should it be changed..updated? Well, let's take a closer look at the word that seems to be causing all the fuss - Pony.

The modern word "pony" actually has its roots in multiple languages: the Scottish term "powney" - meaning "specifically a riding-horse; also a general name for a horse", French's obsolete "poulenet" meaning "little colt" or "poulain" meaning simply colt, and perhaps originally from the Latin term "pullus" referring to a young animal or foal. Therefore, we can see from this that the original word had less to do with the size of an animal than with its stage or purpose in life. Huh - who knew...?

If you look at equines, you'll discover there are some inconsistencies with how they are categorized. We have horses - equines over 14.2 hh.

We have ponies - under 14.2 hh with a specific "phenotype" or body style (stockier, heavier coats, shorter legs, stronger hooves etc.). Then we somehow jump back down to "horses" again - miniature ones to be precise (under 38" tall) but with similar body types to ponies. OK, now it just gets confusing. Because there are "horse" breeds that may actually fall under 14.2hh - like the Arabian, American Quarter Horse and Morgan, as well as the Icelandic Horse, and Fjord Horse. As well, we have polo "ponies" are often Thoroughbred horses over 14.2hh. ...and you thought the difference between a horse and a pony was easy!

So then, it seems the concept of "pony" is open to some interpretation. Both the US and Canadian Pony Clubs define "pony" to mean any mount used by a member regardless of its breed or size.

Pony Club itself began in Britain where most backyard horses were fondly referred to as "ponies" as a term of endearment, regardless of their measured size.

Now - let me raise an interesting point here...I have many equestrian friends on Facebook, both young and old (er). In scanning their posts, I see an interesting trend happening. See if any of this sounds familiar...  
"So-and-so was such a good "pony" today" (accompanied by a picture of a hulking 17 hh behemoth nibbling sweets from its owners hand; or maybe this one - "The "pony" and I at such-and-such a show last weekend" - posted with a selfie aboard a beautifully turned out 16 hh hunter; or possibly this one - "Going out to play with the "po" {read short for pony} later today" (written by the owner of much taller than 14.2 hh equine)....and so on.

Sooooo - are we not the pot calling the kettle black?

If we and our own "horsey" culture are using the term "pony" generically as a term of affection or endearment, what is the objection to the globally recognized name "Pony Club" based on? Are we perhaps buying into the prestige and performance based "own the podium" mentality that is ruling the equine culture today,

**The Groundline** *(continued from page 10)*

which promotes the image of the fancy, high end elite equestrian as the only "valid and serious" rider, but which in turn minimizes the importance and value of the more common "backyard pony"(or horse if you insist) to the growth and development of strong, capable equestrians? Are we in Pony Club, given the right circumstances, not capable of being both?

Do I agree we need to do a better job of expressing the full range of Pony Club identity beyond the Thelwell image of children on beloved pudgy ponies? Definitely! We are currently looking at ways to accomplish that.

Do I feel that a simple name change will result in a flood of new members and heightened respect within the equine community? Sadly, no.

The US Pony Club tried that, eliminating the term "Pony" in their name and simply going by "USPC". Not only did it not

have the desired effect but, if anything, it became more unknown as people had no idea what the letters stood for (United States Polo Committee? United States Physics Committee, Underground Sewer Pipe Cutters of America)?

People join or don't join an organization for a variety of reasons of which the name is only one. Ability to help meet personal goals, whether their interactions with members of the group are positive or negative, financial considerations, peer pressure, distances to travel to access services - all these things influence that decision. If our organization is known for its inclusivity, excellence in education, broad opportunities for participation and personal growth, and helping its members meet their goals - our name will be a non-issue. THAT is where we need to focus our efforts.

Over 100,000 youth in 17 countries proudly claim membership in the Pony Club. Like Canada, all have members who have gone on to be strong and capable contributors to their world, through equine and other pursuits. If we cannot take pride in the name of an organization that created Jumper, Dressage, Eventing, Mounted Games and Tet superstars, then perhaps our focus is misplaced. The name doesn't define who we are - our actions do.

If we conduct ourselves in ways that show others the value and merits of this program, the name will naturally develop a credibility and image that matches our efforts. But if we who believe most in it and have benefited most from it appear ashamed of the name and the heritage behind it, how can we ever expect others to value it?

Just a little food for thought !



**Art Contest!**

Submit a photograph of a piece of your original art work to [cpcyouthreps@gmail.com](mailto:cpcyouthreps@gmail.com) by Feb 7, 2016.

Subject must be Horses and Valentines!

The winner will be announced in the Feb edition of "The Mane Issue".

Open to all Youth members of CPC!

(Must be a member at the time of judging)

(max 2 submissions per member) (Please include your age in the submission email)

### CANADIAN PONY CLUB

Box 127, Baldur, Manitoba R0K 0B0  
Phone: 1.888.286.PONY  
Fax: 1.204.535.2289  
www.canadianponyclub.org

*Loyalty, Character,  
Sportsmanship*

### Classified Ads

Wanted articles, stories, s.c.hunter@sympatico.ca  
opinions, drawings for the  
newsletter. Email your Please include "The Mane  
youth reps at Issue" in the subject line.  
cpcyouthreps@gmail.com  
or contact Cat at



### *Coming Soon .....*

The 2016 registration is upon us please make sure you get your memberships renewed!

*National Dressage* August  
18-21 Birds Hill Park, MB

*National Quiz*

Oct. 7-10 Charlottetown,  
NB/PEI

Don't know anything about these events? Email [cpcyouthreps@gmail.com](mailto:cpcyouthreps@gmail.com) and they can answer all your questions.

And the winner of the Name the Newsletter Contest is:

*Emma Shepherd*, (North Hill Pony Club, Manitoba) *Congratulations Emma!*

The two top runner ups were:

*Fiona Hunter*, (Temperance Lake Pony Club SLOV)

and *Anna Buck*, (Campbell River, BCIS)

*Thanks to Kim, Jessica and Val for judging!*

*Thanks to EVERYONE who submitted names. I hear it was a tough decision!*