



NEW OWNER of Carpet Corner is Bill Lamberink. He, wife Sonya of R.R. 2 and Gord Allan of Georgetown are employed there now. Store's at the Mill-Willow corner.

Let's talk about horses

by Jennifer Barr



We went to the first Eb-Ho horse show in Erin last week and thoroughly enjoyed what we saw of it in between trailering four horses up and down. The show was well organized and very professional with the most beautiful jumps I've ever seen at a small riding club (small by comparison to wealthy city clubs).

Both Western and English rings are set up with the spectator in mind. The announcer was easily heard and entry tables worked efficiently. There was a catering truck on the grounds if you didn't mind a steady diet of hot dogs and donuts.

The only complaint was the lack of washroom facilities. It's a bit undignified to expect the judge to bound out of the ring into the bushes. Our trailer was pressed into service to cover this lack but it does offend the horses so.

Ask for traditional schools

Norval school or Chapel Street school, Georgetown, could be reopened if Halton Board of Education accepts a proposal Halton Renaissance Committee will put before them sometime before the end of this year.

Betty Fisher, Georgetown, an executive of the Halton Renaissance Committee, announced recently the group

will retain a lawyer and press the Board of Education to open up alternative schools for children of parents who don't like the present system of education.

She suggested either Norval or Chapel Street schools would be excellent locations for an alternative school in Halton Hills.

Next local show on the agenda is the Rockwood Trail Riders first show on May 25. This club has less professional but more homey, family type fun - and a washroom.

Classes available include English flat classes, a working hunter, dressage and games. Western classes run from trail, pleasure, games etc. Junior classes intermingle and two showman-

Mrs. Fisher, who is working on the alternative schools project, said the schools would be for the children of parents "who are dissatisfied with the present education system in Halton."

Renaissance would like to see one alternative school set up in each municipality in Halton

ship classes are offered. Having ridden predominantly English for fifteen years (no "predominantly" about it—almost exclusively!), I'm now having fun learning western.

I know a fair amount of western theory—certainly enough to become opinionated about it—and have used a western saddle for pleasure trail rides. My husband has always ridden western too, it's a mixed marriage.

So, it follows that learning to ride properly in an accepted western style would be fairly easy. What a laugh!

After the simplicity of an English saddle, a stock saddle feels like a honka on an elephant. It's all very well being aware of the correct leg aids but trying to get your legs close to the horse with five yards of cow hide between you and the horse poses a problem.

The cues or aids required to guide my new Appaloosa are completely opposite to the ones so automatic in a hunt saddle. I feel as if I'm driving on the left side of the road.

Cantering was the hardest (excuse me, loping). My whole body fell apart when we tried to do a nice school loop around the arena and I grabbed that handy horn like

a greenhorn. However, thanks to a friendly friend's help, I'm getting used to the feeling

that I'm in that saddle for life and can't even bale out in an emergency. We hope better - I don't hold on any more. The

mare doesn't over-react when I forget and turn her with a snug rein. And we're really enjoying ourselves.

Pet of the week



HARRY AND Dot Norton on 25 Highway south of Acton hosted the arrival of a new colt. They have no name picked yet. The colt is out of Ransom by stallion Master Bart II. The colt has a star on its forehead and is still all legs.

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