

Riders open season with ride, barbecue

by Jennifer Barr

A trail ride, a barbecue, and an auction served to herald spring for the Rockwood Trail Riders, who held an equestrian meet Sunday at Hallow Presbyterian Grounds, Blue Springs Line, Nassagaweya.

Almost perfect weather and a record turnout made the pleasure ride the most successful ever, according to club officials. Over a hundred enthusiasts were milling around the grounds by noon and the parking lot was wall-to-wall horse trailers. An estimated 60 riders, both English and Western, went out on the ride led by Kaz Lewandowski RTR vice president, who organized the event.

Every type of horse imaginable was represented from several purebred Arabs, to one of the few Fell ponies in the country; from Appaloosas to Thoroughbreds; from Quarter horses to Heins' 57.

The ride was purely a pleasure event - a ride for enjoyment rather than competition. Accidents were minimal considering the freshness of the horses. For most mounts this was their first outing of the season. One horse bolted dumping his rider who suffered minor injuries, the only mishap of the day.

Leisurely pace
Eight miles of bush and trails were covered at a leisurely pace, horses fording streams and negotiating hills with finesse.

Riders were back in the grounds by 3:00 o'clock and had time to trailer horses home before the evening's activities began.

A chicken barbecue followed in the pavilion providing an opportunity for members to socialize.

Auction
George Adams of Rockwood was auctioneer for the white elephant sale after supper. This was a chance for members to clean their attics and tack rooms. Although many items were of a horse nature donations such as toys, clothes, artwork and nick-nacks were sold. Everything from a mature riding horse to 1500 gal. of liquid chicken manure were auctioned producing lively bidding from the crowd.

Approximately \$100 was raised for club activities by the auction and an additional \$200 from the sale of raffle tickets. The draw for a 50/50 Raffle was held after the auction, with S. Caswell of R.R. 2, Acton holding the winning ticket.

Split proceeds
The winner, who purchased the ticket at Shortills Tack Shop in Ballinacree, will split the proceeds from the raffle, taking home about \$200 when the tickets are totalled.

Organizers of the day were delighted with the overwhelming turnout and foresee great success for club activities which include competitive trail events, shows, junior equestrian events, and social activities.



OVER 60 EQUESTRIANS turned out for the Spring Pleasure Ride held last weekend by the Rockwood Trail Riders. Not a competitive event, the trail ride heralded the start of spring activities for the local riding club. More than a hundred members enjoyed a barbecue and auction sale after the ride.



"WHAT AM I BID for these lovely horses?" chants George Adams of Rockwood as he auctions such items as 1500 gallons of liquid manure and other sundries at the Rockwood Trail Riders Spring Ride. He is assisted here by Todd Smith.



I DO ENJOY a bit of wing. Shauna Stone munches on some barbecued chicken at the supper following the pleasure ride held this weekend by the Rockwood Trail Riders.



BARBEQUEING CHICKEN is a man's job. Roy Ford and Dave MacLean do a fine job producing enough chicken for the Rockwood Trail Riders barbecue.

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Eden Mills Guides, Brownies

By Diana Wallace (Brown Owl)

For our outdoor project test we decided to go bottle collecting. We were very fortunate in finding a total of \$5.60 worth which goes towards ice creams and drinks on our next outing. Bottles are harder to find than we thought.

The following week we worked on tests. At POW WOW several girls entertained us with one Brownie doing a successful magic trick (much to her own delight as well as all the others) it turned out perfectly. We sent everyone home armed with cookie boxes and very excited. They just could not wait to deliver them.

Plans are now being made for our camping weekend on May 21 at Corwin. Our theme is to be "Mardi-Gras" this year.

Brown Owl, Tawny Owl, and Captain Ann Chesworth all went to a liquid embroidery display, and came home very interested, having ordered a box of tubes. Our first venture is to be a table cloth covered in toadstools and owls, which every Brownie eventually will have a chance to try her skill on.

Guide News
We entered a crackerjack team in the South Wellington Division volleyball tournament and they played really well - But - we were "creamed" by the champion 18th Guelph (Salvation Army) Company! Never mind - it was fun seeing old friends again and enjoying the swim. Many thanks to all the people that have helped with coaching.

Captain Ann Chesworth recently attended a training course in Map and Compass and Backpacking at Owen Sound, and can't wait to pass on her knowledge to the Guides.

We had a splendid hike on Easter Monday and many girls earned their Hiker and Outdoor Adventure badges. We walked five miles in all with lunch cooked down by the Erasosa River on tiny portable stoves made from tobacco tins (saved for us by our District Commissioner) which can be carried in the pocket complete with solid fuel and matches.

The weather was so warm that a splash in the river refreshed everyone. We rendezvoused at Mrs. Webb's house for final questions and tests but still had a mile and a half to walk home.

John Ford of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade is, once again, our popular instructor for the First Aid course, being taken by 15 Guides this year. The rest of the Company is working towards the Artist badge by exploring modelling in different media such as clay, bread dough, salt dough and papier mache.

T.V. POWER
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People have been asking why I don't write about my donkeys any more. We have two more donkeys coming very soon, so they'll be sorry they asked.

Our beloved AnnaBelle died 15 months ago, very unexpectedly, and left me unable to write about donkeys for a while. However, she left a baby son, BoJay, who has now grown into a healthy loving boy, larger and stronger than his mother.

The uncanny part about the whole thing is that BoJay is so like his mom, it's like having the same animal still. I frequently misname him until he kicks his heels up and reminds me he's a BOY.

He looks just like AnnaBelle and has the same ways. He talks with the same accent and, except for a more developed masculine bray, has the same vocabulary. He chases dogs in an identical manner - in fact the dogs are convinced it's the same donkey and are fed up.

So BoJay is to have some companions.

Have a henny, honey
The new donkeys come as a set - it's sort of love-me-love-my-dog deal. The mare is a sweet serene lady called Jenny. For obvious reasons we're going to call her Jessie. I once had both a husband and a horse named Mac (still have the husband) and it got a little confusing.

Jessie has to bring her son, a two year old henny, because he hasn't been emotionally weaned, yet. Chester Henny (muse on that name for a bit) will receive his preliminary schooling in the same class as BoJay, and generally learn what society expects of a henny - as soon as I find out myself.

Maybe a mule
By the way, a henny is the result of a cross between a donkey mare and a horse stallion, in Chester's case his father was a Shetland pony stallion. A mule is the opposite cross.

I've heard terrible stories about hinnies, most of them unprintable. They are supposed to have the most peculiar voice of all the animal kingdom - rather like a tromped-on guinea fowl, I believe.

But then, a donkey's reputation is never very good, according to the uninitiated, and I have found them to be one of the most intelligent and communicative animals. We'll soon find out about hinnies - and mules!

The donkey mare and Erica's outgrown Welsh pony mare are to be put to a donkey stallion in order to produce a donkey foal and a pony mule foal. Next year we'll have wall-to-wall donkeys, mules and hinnies.

My friends think I'm nuts.

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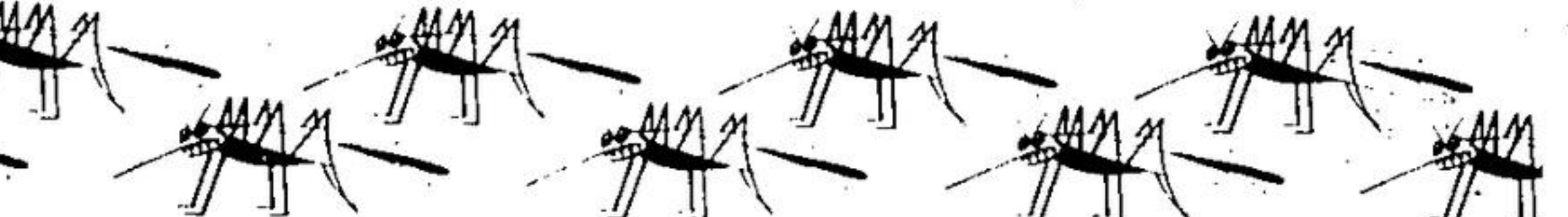
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How to stop them from breeding.

Mosquitoes usually develop in still water so the best way to eliminate them is to do away with still-water breeding sites, wherever they exist. You can do your share.

- Eliminate all standing water around your home.
- Fill in low areas to prevent water gathering.
- Make sure drainage ditches and gutters aren't clogged with trash.
- Clean blocked drainpipes and drain water from flat roofs.
- Dispose of empty cans and old tires, and up-end buckets and other containers left outdoors.
- Change water in wading pools, ponds and bird baths every few days.
- Keep your swimming pool properly chlorinated and filtered.

Insecticides and pesticides should be used carefully. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Last year, a type of encephalitis spread by certain mosquitoes occurred in Ontario for the first time. There were about 70 cases, mostly in Southwestern Ontario.

To guard against a recurrence, prevention is important and many mosquito control programs are underway.

Most mosquito bites this summer will be simply a nuisance. If, however, symptoms of encephalitis occur, such as drowsiness, loss of appetite, fever, headache, nausea and vomiting, consult your family doctor.

How to stop them from biting.

Mosquitoes are most active in the evening and in wooded areas. It is only common sense to reduce mosquito bites by keeping out of their way as much as possible.

- Repair holes in your screens and make sure they fit tightly.
- Mow your weeds and grass frequently, trim hedges and remove all unnecessary vegetation, which protects adult mosquitoes from sun and wind.
- Provide netting for the protection of babies and young children.
- Close the damper on your fireplace when it's not in use.
- Wear loose protective clothing with long sleeves where mosquitoes are abundant.
- Lighter coloured clothing attracts fewer mosquitoes than dark clothing.

Many efficient insect repellents are available, but always read the label and follow instructions.

Eden Mills

Easter theme for church meeting

Mrs. W. McDonald was hostess for the Presbyterian Church women's monthly meeting last week.

Mrs. Ted Barden, first vice-president took the chair in the absence of the President Mrs. Lasby. They opened with the poem Easter Legend and then the hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus."

Roll call was held, followed by an Easter verse. The scripture was taken from Matthew and read by Mrs. Wilma Gilbertson. The reading concerned the death of Jesus.

Devotions were given by Mrs. W. McDonald and the prayer by Mrs. W. McLean. Minutes of the last meeting were read and the Treasurer's report on the "come as you are supper" was gratifying with attendance increasing every year.

Invitations to attend the 30th Anniversary meeting May 3 at Knox Church, Guelph of the Chee-Li-Mission circle were received. The annual church cleaning will take place on May 25 followed by the monthly meeting.

The Fellowship of the least

coin was dedicated by Mrs. G. Wright before the meeting was turned over to the program committee.

Readings were given by the following: Mrs. Kaye Stevenson, Mrs. Wilma Gilbertson, Mrs. Peggy Van-Rhig and Mrs. Anna Wilson. Several numbers on the piano by James McDonald were enjoyed. The hymn "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" was followed by a prayer.

Lunch was then served and Mrs. Anna Wilson, courtesy convener, thanked the hostess for the use of her home, and all those taking part for making it a pleasant evening.

In hospital
Mr. George Weal is at present confined to hospital. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Shirley Gilbertson surprised her mother, Mrs. Wilma Gilbertson, by inviting a few friends and old neighbours in on Saturday evening to celebrate her birthday. Cards were enjoyed as was chatting over old times. A birthday cake was sampled and a delicious lunch was served.

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Hon. Frank S. Miller, Minister of Health

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