

**SARI THERAPEUTIC RIDING  
RIDER AND FAMILY NEWSLETTER  
WINTER 2011**

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Welcome back Riders and Families!

We hope you've had a wonderful holiday! The horses, volunteers and SARI staff are glad to have everyone back in the saddle!

### **WHAT'S NEW**

**SARI WELCOMES NEW HEAD INSTRUCTOR, JANINE LANGLEY;** new to this role but not new to SARI. Janine is a 9 year SARI veteran bringing loads of experience and enthusiasm to the Head Instructor position.

**SARI ALSO WELCOMES A NEW PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR, ANGELINA PICKERING;** once again, new to the role but a SARI gold nugget for the past 4 years.

*AND THEN THERE WERE 4...*

**AMANDA CYBULSKI** joins the SARI staff team to bring our Weekend Barn Staff roster to 4. Welcome Amanda!

*BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...*

## **BOWLING FOR PONIES!!**

Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Palasad South.

We are hoping to have our best turn out yet, so mark your calendars for this fun, family fundraiser!

Stay tuned for more details.

*And right on the heels of Bowling for Ponies...*

## **The Grand Theatre SARI benefit performance of "THE HOBBIT"!!**

Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup>, reception at 6 p.m. at the Talbot Centre, play at 7:30 p.m. at The Grand Theatre.

Tickets are \$65.00 each and are available from Amanda in the SARI office.

### **THE QUILT THE COMMUNITY BUILT**

SARI is extremely grateful to have an exquisite queen size quilt to raffle as a fundraiser.

Special thanks go to Greenwood Quiltery in Guelph for donating almost \$400.00 in material, Quilts and Calicos in Exeter for donating countless hours of time to sew the quilt, The Marsh Store and Quilt Shop in Coldstream for donating the batten as well as their time to do the quilting and to Joan Warden for donating her time to sew on the binding. The result of all of these contributions is an outstanding quilt that has travelled across 4 communities!

Watch for tickets to go on sale soon!

### **OTHER FUNDRAISING UPDATES**

Team SARI was successful in raising \$1,706.00 for the United Way! Thank you to everyone who contributed their loose change to see your staff of choice wear the zany outfit on the United Way Stair Climb.

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Wine Basket raffle. We are pleased to report that \$2,100.00 was raised!

### **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Riding fees are due at the start of each session. If you have not already submitted your fee, please do so at your earliest opportunity.

Your Instructor is committed to working with you to maximize the benefits of therapeutic riding for the rider. Should you have any questions, please feel free to ask your Instructor.

Everyone on the SARI Team is passionate about the work they do and they are committed to providing the best and safest experience for our riders!

In an ongoing effort to raise the profile and validate therapeutic riding, SARI has again partnered with Brescia University College to complete a study on the “Effects of Therapeutic Riding on Children”. Psychology Student Sarah Murray will be completing her thesis on this topic. A number of parents have consented to their children being part of this study. You will see Sarah at SARI from time to time conducting her research. Please note that if you did not consent to being part of the study, Sarah will NOT be collecting information regarding your child. The study will not be identifying any riders by name. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to approach Sarah or the Executive Director. We look forward to sharing the outcome of the study.

### **Weather-related Closures**

December was an incredibly poor month for weather and road conditions. We regret having to cancel a number of lessons and extend our gratitude to you for your understanding. It is never an easy decision to make as we are aware of the time and expense that you commit to riding. The Environment Canada website is consulted each and every time and where there is a warning to avoid driving, combined with blowing and drifting snow on the SARI section of Medway Rd., SARI will err on the side of safety for all. As lesson fees are budgeted annually to cover our operating costs, it is SARI policy that we do not issue refunds for cancelled lessons.

### **Visitors to SARI**

SARI donors account for a significant portion of our budget. The best way for someone to understand what we do is to show them the program while it is operating. From time to time, SARI will conduct tours of service groups, e.g. Lions Clubs so that they may see first hand what their donations support. We will always endeavour to disrupt the atmosphere as little as possible. We trust you will support the need to conduct tours. As always, your questions and concerns are welcome.

Sincerely on behalf of the SARI team,

Diane Blackall  
Executive Director

Administrative Coordinator – Amanda Reynolds  
Farm Manager – Ken Charron  
Head Instructor – Janine Langley  
Program Instructors – Annie Campbell & Angelina Pickering  
Volunteer Coordinator – Dana Bell  
Weekend Barn Staff – Amelia Pilon, Rachael Pilon, Ashley Parker, Amanda Cybulski