



TRACK WATCH

May 2022



MILLARVILLE RACING & AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

OUR VISION:

MILLARVILLE RACING &
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IS
DEDICATED TO BUILDING
COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

OUR MISSION:

MILLARVILLE RACING &
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
PROVIDES AUTHENTIC
FAMILY EXPERIENCES AND
EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES
WHICH CELEBRATE OUR
AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE,
INSPIRING A SENSE OF
BELONGING FOR OUR
COMMUNITY

SPRING OFFICE HOURS:

May Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 3pm

Closed May 23rd

For all general inquiries please email
office@mras-track.com

All market related matters
melonie@mras-track.com

www.millarvilleracetrack.com

403.931.3411

President's Message

Dear MRAS Members,

As I write this letter it is April 30th and the big day for our inaugural MRAS Spring Market! I am very excited to dust off my pull cart and load it up with fresh, local produce. I hope that you also have the opportunity to visit the spring market and find some Mother's Day gifts for the important ladies in your lives.

We have been very busy over the past month preparing for the 2022 season. I am delighted to report that **Burgardt's Butcher Shop** will be renting the MRAS concession for the season. After 2 long years without a tenant, we are very pleased to see a business operating in this space again. Thank you to Melonie and Brent for managing the request for proposals and for working through the contract details with Burgardt's. Please let Melonie and Shayla know what you think of their offerings, they are open to tweaking the menu to best meet our customers' tastes.



Anna & Dominic at the Millarville Mutts and Mustangs archery practice in the arena

I also have an exciting update on the MRAS playground initiative. We have received approximately **\$20,000** in donations to date and plan to start the groundwork for this initiative in May and early June, prior to the start of the summer market season. Our friends Clayton and Lainey at **Acreage Development Solutions** have kindly offered to donate a portion of the cost of scrub clearance and top soil removal to make this a possibility. After ground clearing, we will place a wooden border around the playground area and cover it with specialized wood chips. This area will be used all summer to host fundraising games and events aimed at families and building support for our initiative. In addition, we will be launching a "name a brick" campaign shortly. Blaine Clark has kindly agreed to lead this project and we are excited to start working on it in the month of May. More details to follow.

We will also be hosting a **Benefit Concert** for the playground on **Saturday July 16, 2022, at 3pm**. Award winning band **Drew Gregory** of Strathmore and **Brayden King** of Edmonton will be performing in the arena from 3 to 6pm. This is a family orientated event, so bring your children and grandchildren to enjoy some live music. Food will be available from local food trucks, and we will have a bar selling both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

Tickets are available at: <https://millarvilleracetrack.ticketspice.com/fundraising-concert-drew-gregory>

On the grant front, we heard that our application to the CFEP grant has been moved into the current round of reviews. This means that we won't hear back until July. The more we fundraise in the meantime, the higher our chances of success, so please give generously to this important project. For more information on how to donate, please go to: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/donate/>.

The MRAS golf tournament will take place on June 10th at the Turner Valley Golf Club. Reserve your tee times at: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/golf-tournament/https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/golf-tournament/>

Thanks to Nancy Seaman and the golf committee for all of your efforts.

Registrations are also open for the **Run to the Farmers' Market Half Marathon on June 18th**. If you have gained a few pounds during covid, this is a great way to get your body moving and have a goal to work towards. Full details are available at: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/run-to-the-market/> Rick Charlton will be retiring as Race Director after this year, so please come and thank him for 10 years of dedication to this fabulous event.

Tickets are now on sale for the **July 1st Millarville Races**, VIP tickets are selling well and attendance to the VIP tent is capped so get your tickets early: <https://millarvilleracetrack.ticketspice.com/millarville-races>

This year we are going to a **timed entry arrival at the races** to help reduce traffic congestion and aid with parking control. You can pre-purchase your timed arrival slot between 10:00 and 11:30am. Full details are available at: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/race-track/>

Volunteer News

As we ramp up to full operations this year, we are looking for volunteers in many areas. If you are interested in volunteering, please email fairvolunteercoordinator@gmail.com to connect with Antonia Goudy, our new volunteer coordinator. Antonia is leading the charge to implement the Better Impact software for volunteer management at MRAS. This will make it easier for you and us to coordinate volunteer needs with interests. Thank you, Antonia, for leading this important initiative!

We will be hosting our **Volunteer Appreciation event on June 11th**. In the coming days, we will be sending out a survey to gather feedback from you on what you would like to see at this event. In the meantime, please mark your calendars for the afternoon and evening of June 11th. Many thanks go to Foothills County and in particular our ever-supportive Councillor Barb Castell for providing us with FCSS grant money to support this important event.

As you can see, we have been busy! I look forward to seeing you at the track soon.

Anna De Paoli

MRAS President



MRAS EVENTS

Mark your calendars for our
2022 events!

CAMPGROUND
NOW OPEN FOR
BOOKINGS

CAMPGROUND OPEN
- MAY 20, 2022

MILLARVILLE
SPRING MARKET
- APRIL 30, 2022

MRAS GOLF TOURNAMENT
- JUNE 10, 2022

RUN TO THE MARKET
HALF MARATHON
- JUNE 18, 2022

SUMMER FARMERS' MARKET
- EVERY SATURDAY
FROM JUNE 18-OCTOBER 8 2022
9 AM - 2 PM

MILLARVILLE RACES
- JULY 1, 2022

PRIDDIS MILLARVILLE FAIR
- AUGUST 20 + 21, 2022

CHUCKWAGONS, CHARIOTS,
AND BULLS
- SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2022

MILLARVILLE CHRISTMAS
MARKET
- NOVEMBER 3-6 + 10-13,
2022

MRAS 2022 General Memberships: Available Online!

To Renew/Purchase a membership, visit:

<https://millarvillrace-track.com/about/membership/>

*2022 Memberships are valid until October 31st, 2022. *

2022 MRAS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anna De Paoli
President

Barb Parker
Vice President

Brent Foster
Treasurer

Patt Peterson
Secretary

Sylvia Checkley
Director

Lai Chen
Director

Darcie Jensen
Director

Janice Tranberg
Director

Nancy Seaman
Director

Roy Mathis
Director



DONATION FORM

Please complete the form below and include it with your donation.
MRAS directed donations will NOT be eligible for a tax receipt.
For a TAX RECEIPT, donations must be over \$150 and cheques
made payable to Foothills County.

Date: _____

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

For Foothills County donations, mail tax receipt to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Return completed form and cheque to:

MRAS
Box 68
Millarville, AB T0L 1K0



If you have any questions, please contact the MRAS office
office@mras-track.com | 403.931.3411 | millarvilleracetrack.com

**If you want a tax receipt, please make cheques payable to Foothills County.*

*** For donations not requiring a tax receipt, e-transfer to accounting@mras-track.com
or send a cheque payable to the MRAS.*

Family Friendly Benefit Concert
in aid of the MRAS Agriculturally
Themed Playground

FUNDRAISING CONCERT

July 16, 2022 @ 3pm

Adults \$35+ GST

Children \$20+ GST

DREW GREGORY



WITH

**BRAYDEN
KING**



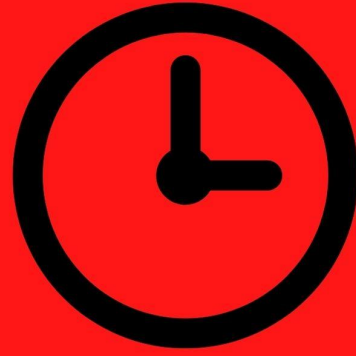
AGRICULTURAL THEMED

PLAYGROUND

office@mras-track.com | 403.931.3411  

millarvillercetrack.ticketspice.com/fundraising-concert-drew-gregory

MRAS OFFICE NOW OPEN!



HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY-FRIDAY

9 AM - 3 PM

- ***OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**
- **HOLIDAY MONDAY MAY 23rd**

CAMP GROUND OPENS: MAY 20TH 2022

campground@mras-track.com

403.931.3411 ext. 3

Reservations can be made online @

<https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/campground/>



Millarville Horticultural Club

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, September to May, usually at 7:30 p.m. We are currently in the process of finding a new place to hold our meetings.

May's meeting will be on May 28, 2022, in the hall at MRAS. Time to be advised. Patty and Paul will be putting on a workshop we are calling "Getting Ready for the Fair". It will show what the judges are looking for in your flower arrangements and stem submissions.

Members are free and non-members will be \$15.00. If you are planning to enter the horticultural section of the Fair, we encourage you to attend this workshop.

If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Gail Dziuba (587-578-3798) at millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com. If you are a novice or expert in landscaping or gardening, join our club; \$15/year for singles or \$20/year for a family.



2022 Annual MRAS Fundraising Golf Tournament Friday, June 10th at the Turner Valley Golf Club 9:30AM Shotgun

Tournament fee includes
for green fees, lunch
and prizes
\$150.00 per individual
OR \$550.00 per team

Registration details available at:
www.millarvilleracetrack.com or
Email: golf.MRAS@gmail.com

Each year we are thankful for the generosity of our participants and donations to our auction, proceeds of which assist the Millarville Racing and Agricultural Society in providing financial support to our programs and capital projects.



2022 MRAS Annual Golf Tournament
Friday, June 10th at the
Turner Valley Golf Club

Player/Team Registration Form

Cost: \$150.00 per individual registration
\$550.00 per team - must be paid in full upon registration (no separate payments)

Registration includes cart, luncheon and prizes

Lunch choices: Steak, chicken or vegetarian - indicate preference
*If steak, indicate cooking preference - rare, medium, well

Texas Scramble - 9:30 am Shotgun

Entries accepted prior to: Tuesday, May 31, 2022

Payment options:

- 1) E-transfer to accounting@mras-track.com
Please include your name and MRAS Golf Tournament in the notes section.
- 2) Visa or MC payment in person or phone the MRAS Office at 403.931.3411
- 3) By cheque payable to: Millarville Racing & Agricultural Society (MRAS).

Registration forms can be scanned and emailed to: golf.mras@gmail.com, snail mail to: MRAS / Box 68 / Millarville, AB / TOL 1K0,
OR delivered in person at the MRAS Office

Registration:

Individual Player Name: _____ Email: _____ Lunch: _____

OR

Team Captain/Player #1: _____ Email: _____ Lunch: _____

Company (if applicable): _____ Contact # _____

Player #2 _____ Email: _____ Lunch: _____

Player #3 _____ Email: _____ Lunch: _____

Player #4 _____ Email: _____ Lunch: _____

Registration Total \$ _____

Thank you for your support!

ALBERT STUART CANNON 1871 -1932

Submitted by Gene Blakley & Lorretta Stabler - Millarville Historical Society

Albert arrived in Calgary (how it was spelled then) on April 17 having come to Canada in 1889. He came West via Winnipeg, after taking the ferry across the St. Lawrence and onto Carlton Junction where he caught the CPR train. In Calgary he was met by Jack Ellis and after spending the night they went on to the UP ranch at Pine Creek. In his words, Albert started his "career as a wild and woolly cowboy by climbing on a cayuse bareback and driving in four milk cows." He stayed at the UP for a year and then at B.S. Lloyd's for three years gaining more experience.

Albert went to work for Joseph Fisher trailing JN horses as far as the Little Bow for grazing. Some of the horses he trained ended up in the Calgary Fire Department. From here he worked also for John Ware and Johnny Quirk, spring and fall round-up and branding.

Albert managed to fix up a shack for the winter and springtime found him working with John Ware herding cattle north and south of Calgary. He remembers one night when there was an awful storm - thunder and lightning was crashing. John Ware sat shaking in his saddle as he remembered a previous experience with lightning. He was driving his democrat to Sheppard when lightning struck his team and killed them and tore the boot off his brake foot.



Albert Stuart Cannon and Miriam How Cannon on their wedding day June 1914.

Albert cooked for Sam Howe on that roundup which was made more interesting as the Sheep River was in full flood at that time. This was the wettest and most eventful round-up Albert was ever on.

In 1900 Albert homesteaded on Section 10-21-2-W5. His wife Miriam came to Canada in 1913 and they were married in June 1914 in Calgary. They had three children – Helen May b 1917 – David Stuart b 1918 – Nevill b 1921. David stayed on the farm and his son Lloyd farms it now and his daughter Ali married Gord Pain farming on one quarter of Albert's homestead. Nevill became an Air Force mechanic in WWII, farmed after the war and then continued as a mechanic in Okotoks.

Helen Cannon married Francis Sinclair-Smith and had two children - Cathie and Stuart. Cathie and Jim Scatterty married in 1959 and they built their house on family land. Stuart and Ruby Lowe married in 1963 and ranch on the original family land in the original stone house.

When Sheila Jameson interviewed Miriam in 1958, Miriam shared that A.S. Cannon always liked

race horses and he raised and raced them for many years. Many early race programme cards and Millarville race meet posters dated from 1906 onward showing Mr. Cannon as an owner and competitor. Their racing colors were chocolate and blue. Stuart competed in all the race meetings around and owned some very good race horses.

Miriam and Stuart were supporters of Christ Church Millarville for many years. A.S. Cannon acted as Clergyman's Warden from 1919 – 1927 and served on the vestry at various times. Mrs. Cannon was one of the original members of the Millarville Ladies' Guild. An incredible beginning to many generations of remarkable family traditions and community-mindedness!

Dedicated Local Volunteers Don and Fern Ward

Submitted by Lorretta Stabler – Millarville Historical Society

It's amazing the impact that volunteers can make in a community. Don and his wife Fern have lived in the Millarville area for more than 30 years, and both began volunteering right away, becoming involved with events at MRAS. Don served ice cream, installed and tore up event floors, helping to tear down the former grandstand and Fern volunteering for several years at the Priddis and Millarville Fair. Fern has been active in Country Lane Quilting Guild, too, creating and donating numerous charity quilts given to people in need. Don has also been actively involved in Foothills Search and Rescue and Lion's Club. As one volunteers, the other offers support.



Don was recently recognized with the inaugural Don Ward Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of service with Foothills Search and Rescue, a group that he helped found and has actively volunteered with for 30 years. Please read the Western Wheel April 27th article which highlights his many accomplishments with that organization. Don is a perpetual parking squad leader with more than 30 years of experience at Millarville Races, Priddis and Millarville Fair and other high profile MRAS events, along with a team of volunteers. He offers his services even

on freezing Alberta days, outside for 7–8 hour shifts. Don is masterful in problem solving, uses humor to respectfully negotiate individual parking “needs” and gives selflessly, going above and beyond. Walking around outside, greeting visitors, and directing them to parking spaces is something he really enjoys. Don eagerly gives a thumbs up when he is offered a hot chocolate on cold days!

Other volunteers who work closely with Don describe his business-like abilities in organizing parking, calm even when it is very hectic and drivers not necessarily patient. Don has a real commanding presence, even though he isn't a big man; his demeanor demands respect from others. Safety is important and he gets people to listen and has taught other volunteers how to effectively use hand signals, get eye contact from drivers, and create efficient parking flow patterns. He has an incredible talent in managing the entire “landscape” and strategically plans how to “fit” the most vehicles in any space, alleviate traffic jams and quickly restructures plans when issues arise. Don wants everyone to remember that “We are here for a good time!”, working cooperatively with others, with a smile on his face.

Don and Fern are very happily retired in Millarville - God's country and both have dedicated time and energy to improve our community for everyone to enjoy. Thank you both for your perseverance!

Read more historical articles on Facebook Group - Millarville Historical Society or email us - millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com

117TH MILLARVILLE RACES

JULY 1  2022

EVENTS START AT NOON

PARI-MUTUEL HORSE RACING

LADIES' SIDESADDLE RACE

STOCK HORSE RACE

WIENER DOG RACING

INDIAN RELAY RACES

PLUS...

BEER GARDEN

KIDS' ACTIVITIES

FARMERS' MARKET

AGE 12 & UNDER - FREE

\$15.00/ea

TICKETS SOLD ONLINE



VIP Tent ~ \$85 ^{+ GST} /person



SHAPING MEMORIES



millarvill racetrack.com/race-track
403.931.3411 races@mras-track.com



Saturdays 9AM - 2PM

June 18th -
October 8th
2022

Over 200 Vendors
ENTRY FEE BY DONATION



MILLARVILLE
**FARMERS'
MARKET**



millarvilleraetrack.com





Millarville Horticultural Club

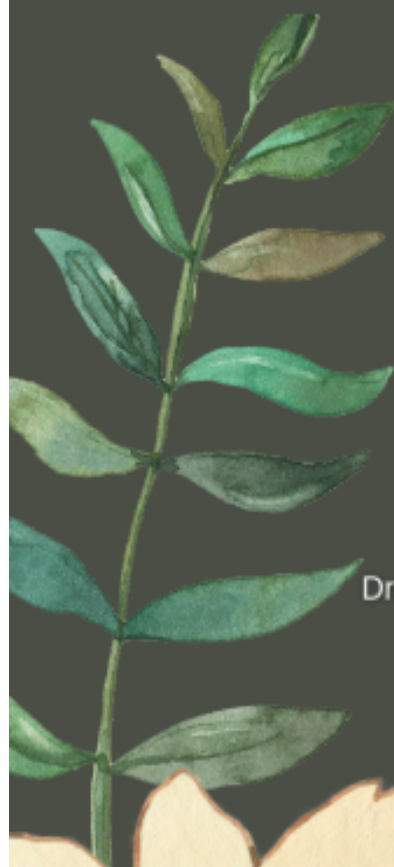
Annual Plant Sale
Saturday, June 4th, 2022

📍 Millarville Racetrack | 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Perennials, annuals and surprises!!
Very reasonable prices. All plant material is from
Our local Horticultural members

Drop off your plant donations on Friday, June 3rd from 3pm - 6pm
Call Jill at 403-669-4609 for more info

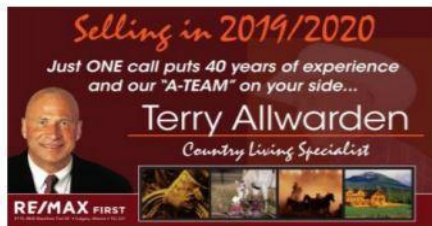
www.MillarvilleHortClub.com
[@millarvillehortclub](https://www.facebook.com/millarvillehortclub) 



Selling in 2019/2020
Just ONE call puts 40 years of experience
and our "A-TEAM" on your side...

Terry Allwarden
Country Living Specialist

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IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT SELLING OR BUYING, CALL ME!

EVALUATIONS ARE FREE!



Special close in paved location for this 39 acre property just 6 miles south of Spruce Meadows on 80 Street West. Stunning landscaping, trees, decks and private ponds plus lots of pasture for your horses/cattle. Bungalow home (1840 sq ft) with fully developed walkout and double attached garage. 7 stall barn with tack room and water. Big shop that is lined and heated plus storage side that is also heated. Pole hayshed and pole cattle shelter. Current owner bought it from the builder! It is so quiet and peaceful here, not a busy road for miles! Only 10 minutes to Stoney Trail or Okotoks, Strathcona Tweedsmuir School. **\$1,695,000.**



MRAS EQUINE NEWS

Questions about the MRAS Equine Facilities and memberships, please email: mras.equine@gmail.com

MRAS Riding Memberships

The May through July Quarter Riding memberships available for purchase. For fees and registration information please refer to the MRAS website: www.millarvilleracetrack.com under Get Involved Memberships Riding Memberships. Should you have any questions, please contact MRAS.equine@gmail.com.

New riding members will need to make an appointment or come into the office to complete their registration and receive their access FOB and information about booking riding times.

MRAS Equine Activities

We are happy to announce that Lindy Barron and Jesse O'Brien will be instructing clinics for MRAS. Please refer to attachment for further details.

Clinics dates:

Lindy Barron – Saturday May 28th

Jesse O'Brien – Sunday, June 26th

Plans are in the works for more equine activities in the spring and summer. Dates will be posted on the website. Also, check your email and the TrackWatch in the coming months. If you have an idea for a clinic or activity you would like to see, please contact MRAS.equine@gmail.com

Ranch Riding Equitation and Patterns

As a wrap up to the season, a fun show of the ranch riding participants over the past months was held on April 30th. Hope to provide details and pictures next month.

This program has been a success for both MRAS and its participants. Again, we send a big thank you to Lynn Brunton for facilitating the program for our riding community.

We look forward to more Ranch Riding, please keep an eye on your email and the TrackWatch for any upcoming dates.

MRAS Junior Rodeo

The Junior Rodeo program wrapped up on April 29th. The program ran from November through to April and had 29 pre-registered participants ranging in age from 2 to 17. A big thank you goes out to Niki Doenz and the committee for facilitating this program throughout the season.

We look forward to Jr. Rodeo returning in the fall; details will be posted to the website.

Lindy Barron Riding Clinic

MRAS is thrilled to have Lindy Barron instructing a one-day riding clinic on Saturday, May 28.

In this clinic participants will be working on refining skills through a series of exercises and riding drills with the goal of riding competitive patterns with finesse.

The focus will be on developing even better communication and consistent messaging with your horse. This will encourage riders to have more invisible cues to achieve greater success with each maneuver. To this end transitions, guide, speed and body control for both horse and rider will be key elements in this clinic since these are all very important tools to riding an accurate well executed pattern. Participants will then put practice to perfection and ride a pattern. Lindy will critique each rider so when the day is done participants will feel accomplished and ready to ride any pattern with skill and ease. The pattern may include some aids such as poles, rails etc.

In order to get the most from this clinic it is expected that the rider and horse are comfortable at all gaits including a lope with good guide, can stop their horse on command, side pass and back up.

Riders will be divided into two groups with a maximum of 5 riders in each group. You will ride once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Group 1 – 9 to 10:30 am and 1 to 2:30 pm

Group 2 – 10:30 am to noon and 2:30 to 4 pm

A minimum number of participants is necessary for this clinic to go ahead so please register as soon as possible MRAS.equine@gmail.com. Once the minimum number has been reached payment instructions will be sent to you.

Current MRAS Riding Members cost \$125 (includes GST) priority registration until May 10. Non-Member cost \$150 (includes GST) registration accepted after May 10th Audit cost \$10 (pre-registration)

Register early to confirm your spot!

ABOUT LINDY BARRON

Lindy Barron grew up on a cattle ranch in Missouri before moving to Alberta.

Lindy has trained horses and students in Working Cow Horse, Team Penning and Ranch Horse Versatility for over 30 years. Award winning rider and trainer in Alberta, Canada and the US, ARCHA, NRCHA AND CTCPA. She has won the prestigious Calgary Stampede Open Team Penning and the Calgary Stampede Open Working Cow Horse. Her outlook is "a positive attitude will get you a long, long way" A direct and encouraging Coach her classes and clinics are fun and packed with great learning for you and your horse. She has many students competing and riding at advanced levels.

JESSE O'BRIEN RIDING CLINIC

MRAS is excited to have Jesse O'Brien return for a one-day riding clinic Sunday, June 26, 2022. For more information about Jesse, see attached biography.

Horsemanship and Patterns with Obstacles will be the focus of this clinic:

Part A - Horsemanship

- lateral movements (side pass, turn on the forehand)
- spins (turns on the haunches)
- stops
- speed transitions at all gates

Part B - Obstacle Work

- working through a Ranch Horse Versatility pattern using the skills learned in Part A. - desensitizing horses, if required
- obstacles could include: opening and closing a free-standing gate, bridge, side pass over rails (beginner & advanced), backing through rails (beginner & advanced), carrying a slicker from point A to B, log pull and so on...
- there will be time to practice and a fun "show" with critique at the end of your group



Riders will be divided into two groups, maximum of ten (10) per group. Each group will ride once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Group I: 9:00am-10:30am and 1:00pm – 2:30pm

Group II: 10:30am – 12:00pm and 2:30pm – 4:00pm

In order for participants to get the most from this clinic, groups will be arranged based on previous experience and riding levels. Please provide any information that may be helpful when you send your registration request. Based on the clinic information and the skills described, how would you best describe you and the horse you are bringing: A) just learning, B) pretty good, C) very good, or D) refining skills.

A minimum number of participants are required per session; therefore, payment instructions will be provided following the registration deadline. If you are interested in this clinic, please contact MRAS.equine@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Cost: Current MRAS Riding Members \$85

Non-members \$110

Audit(pre-registration) \$10

All pricing includes GST

Current riding members have priority to register prior to **June 3, 2022**. Upon availability, non-members may register after June 3rd. Register early to confirm your spot!

JESSE O'BRIEN

jessemdupont@gmail.com · 403.200.9735

www.oreillyranch.com · FB/Insta: O'Reilly O'Rena

Jesse O'Brien coaches horses and riders of all levels in disciplines of Ranch Horse Versatility, Team Penning & Sorting, Barrel Racing & general horsemanship at her family's arena in Millarville, Alberta.

She has a wide range of experience including:

- Member of Okotoks Pony Club (1996-1998)
- Member of the Millarville Saddle Sores 4H Club (1998 – 2004)
- Member of the Alberta High School Rodeo Association (2004 – 2007)
- Riding Director at Pioneer Ranch Camps Jr. Girls (2007 – 2009)
- Trainer and Coach at O'Reilly O'Rena (2015 – Present)
- Riding coach for Courtney Dingreville crowned Stampede Princess 2019
- Teaching multiple ranch horse versatility and sorting clinics for the Calgary Regional Trail Riders club
- Participant in the 2018 Calgary Stampede Ladies Side Saddle Race
- Author of horsemanship blog: <https://oreillyranch.com/blog/> and horsemanship tips found at: <https://www.facebook.com/oreillyorena> and <https://www.instagram.com/oreillyorena/>



Recent notable championship

- 2018 Calgary Stampede Working Cowhorse Classic Open Bridle Finalist
- 2018 Calgary Stampede Open Team Penning Championship Finalist
- 2017 Alberta Ranch Horse Versatility Association Open Division Season Champion

Jesse is known for her encouraging and positive teaching style – helping her students become better riders and help their horses reach their full potential, while having fun in the process!

MILLARVILLE 130TH BIRTHDAY

In a conversation with Tim Baby at the Millarville General Store we got to talking about the history of this vital business in this area. Tim had found a postal stamp dated April of 1892 and that would make this store 130 years old. It was decided by the Directors and Executive of the Millarville Historical Society to honour our community. So, on August 7 at 1 P. M. at the Millarville Race Track we will be celebrating this milestone. In attendance will be representatives of the families that have owned and operated the Millarville General Store. The afternoon will be filled with reminiscence and stories of the founding and building of our community. So, please put this date on the calendar as it will be a wonderful opportunity to meet old and new friends and share your family history in the area. For the newer residents it is a chance to learn the history and see why this is such a great community.

Malcolm Tanner Millar came to Canada in 1879 and in 1880 he joined the RNWMP as Constable No. 429. He came west via Fort Benson and to Fort Walsh. Here he ran the Post Office at the fort. He was discharged on July 27, 1885, and came to the North Fork of Sheep Creek almost immediately and homesteaded SE12-21-3-W5 on June 21st. He left the RNWMP on May 9 but was not Discharged until later.

He settled the homestead quickly and was preempted NW12-21-3-W5 and here he established a trading post and a police outpost in 1889. He was sworn in as postmaster in April 1892.

In 1910 when Mr. Millar gave up the Post Office and General Store, W. H. King built a store up on the hill north of his house above the present site of Millarville. It had a room for the post office in the back of the building, living quarters upstairs and a basement for storage. He ran this business for several years, with the help of Frank Shaw and later Humphrey Brewis from 1916 to 1918.

In 1919 Luke Forward and Enoch and Annie Walton had bought the Millarville General Store from W. H. King. In 1920 they also bought the Kew store, so Annie stayed in Millarville to run that business. Luke bought a truck and started the first trucking business in the district. He hauled cream or anything else to Calgary. On his return trips he brought back the empty cream cans, groceries for both stores, and any goods that the ranchers would order.

In the 1920's the mail was delivered to Millarville and Kew twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays. The locals looked forward to these days and the horses were hitched to the railing at both stores while the owners were inside, buying gum and candy, and exchanging news and stories. In the 1930's Luke became ill, and Jim Colley took over the hauling of mail and groceries for both stores. Annie became very ill, and after being bedridden for quite a long time she passed away in 1937. Enoch died in the early 40's and Ford Lohead took over the Kew store and Norman Pegler entered the scene. Luke returned east to live with his daughters.

Norman Pegler opened a new store about half a mile west of the Millarville post office and then later took over the post office. Norman after serving with the Lord Strathcona Horse returned to Canada and operated a store at Dalroy. In 1925 he married Marguerite Travers. In 1926 they came to Millarville and bought a small acreage from Ted Rawlinson. The Pegler's built the store here. Norman had a truck and made his runs to Calgary via the Weasel Head Hill, which could be snow or mud blocked, and he never knew how long a round trip would take.

Keeping a store running during the "Hungry Thirties" presented many problems, and it was during this period the Pegler's made many friends because of their kindness.

In August 1941 the post office was moved to Pegler's and had been run by Angus MacKay after Mrs. Walton's death. The Pegler's continued with the store and post office until 1944 when they sold the business to D. W. "Jappy" Douglas, a grandson of Malcolm Millar.

Jappy was born and grew up on the Hillside Ranch 8 miles west of Okotoks. In the fall of 1918, he married Lulu Hamilton from Okotoks. When Mr. Pegler sold it to Jappy Douglass in 1944 it was just in time for the oil boom. This brought many new residents to the district and the store reaped some of the benefits. Jappy built a coffee shop and moved the McFarland Lumber Yard from High River and attached it to the store.

In 1956 Jappy was injured in a shotgun accident and sold the store to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Orthner who stayed for two years. Clark Jacobson took over and built the store up but sold out in 1959. Nora Andrews served as postmaster for the Orthner's and for Clark.

Arlie Laycraft and his wife Veryl and son Ron took over in 1959 and ran the store for 15 years. They put much into the store with improvements and also the daily mail came to Millarville and the Rural Route was carried by Clark Jacobson which he did rain, snow or shine.

In 1968 Ron decided to go to university and so Arlie and Veryl bought out his share and carried on until arthritis affected Arlie and in 1974, they sold out to Nick and Janet Cooke from Okotoks, after selling their house in Okotoks and a Coin Laundry business in Calgary.

Nick and Janett Cooke ran the store until 1978 when they sold to Mr. and Mrs. John Clarke of Calgary and moved to Vancouver. Karen became the new postmaster and Nick took over when Clark Jacobson wished to retire. John was electrocuted when they had a pump problem in the basement.

Rick and Pam Shindrick and Rick's father bought the store. Rick then had massive seizures and he was in hospital at Foothills. Wendy Kinsman met Joyce Backs while she was at the Foothills Hospital as a nurse where both Rick and Bob Backs were. A while later Wendy and her husband Brian heard that the General Store was for sale and decided to explore the idea of buying it. They viewed the store in November of 1982 and took possession December 1, 1982. They operated the store until the night of December 22, 1988, when it caught fire in the middle of the night and burned down. They rebuilt the store as you see it now.

Mike Patterson and his wife Lesley bought the store in 1992. A building for Power Products when they tore the old storage building down. Banking was added by Kinsman and carried on by Pattersons. They were able to apply and got the AGLC liquor licence. Mike became the postmaster and Leslie was the bank representative. Sandy Kimball opened a travel agency in the old building where Brian was running Millarville Power products. The Patterson's stayed and raised their children and retired and sold in 2015.

Hamed Narsingani, his wife and son took over 2015

Tim Baby – September 2020



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Millarville Community Library

May 2022

Millarville Library is a busy place these days as more people venture out of Covid isolation, although everyone is still being careful and more people are ordering books online. There has been a large increase in books and other library materials going out. We are so lucky to be part of Marigold and have their huge selection across the province available for us!

The school Spring break was over the Easter Week with limited library hours but we did offer a movie night showing two family friendly movies in the school library.

May 31st is the date for our annual, always popular Book Club night. There are **TWELVE** book clubs in the area and we invite two representatives from each book club to a wine and cheese get together to share their favourite books. The meeting will start at 7.00p.m., (outside if weather permits for wine and cheese) and then we will move to the school library for discussion (more space, thanks Millarville School). Check out the library website for more information. Lorraine Clark is organizing this- thank you Lorraine!

Natasha plans to run a drop-in summer reading program. More information coming nearer the time or call Natasha at 403-931-3919 with your questions.

Kelly Nutbrown is reactivating Story Time - Yeah! - it's been two years since the last one. The first "new" Story Time is Thursday May 19 for kindergarten and pre-schoolers.

The library has welcomed two new volunteers but there's still room for more. Call Natasha if you're interested. Training provided! Big thank you to retiring Library Board members Kym Burns and Lyn Brown.

Author visits will have to wait until the fall but there are exciting plans in the works as well as new art from the Leighton Centre.

Summer is just around the corner (I hope) and I know many of you will be heading out to hike and camp. There is a great new book in our library "Outdoor School: Hiking and Camping". This comprehensive book covers everything from planning your adventure, packing your gear, campsite cooking and eating, setting up camp and building a fire, flora and fauna spotting and identification, First Aid and Survival and so much more. "No experience is required - only curiosity and courage" for adults and children!

Check out this great picture book in our library: "The Proudest Blue; a story of hijab and family." It is written by Ibtihaj Muhammad who is a fencer and was the first woman in hijab to compete for the United States in the Olympic Games. Beautifully illustrated by S.K. Ali and Hatem Aly it tells the story of one sister's first day of hijab, and her younger sister's love and support. "Ajb's hijab is like the ocean and the sky, no line between them, saying hello with a loud wave."



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Board of Directors

The MRAS is looking for 1 new volunteer Board of Director member. Preference will be given to those that can fill some of the specialty gaps we currently have such as IT or financial expertise (CPA or equivalent). If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Anna De Paoli – MRAS President at adepaoli@mras.com



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