

# Track Watch

FEBRUARY 2025



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OFFICE@MRAS-TRACK.COM



(403) 931-3411



[WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM](http://WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM)



## OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 3:00PM

## OUR VISION

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

## OUR MISSION

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

# Track Watch

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# 2024-25 MRAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Millarville Arena Phase 2 Development

We are excited to announce that through extensive work by volunteers and Board members (both current and past), MRAS has commenced the development of the south side of the riding arena. An extensive RFP process was initiated in Fall 2024, and we are pleased to have awarded the construction contract to Everest Construction. The two-story development will include washrooms, family washroom, and general community space. Construction plans are still being finalized with a view of having construction complete in May ~ June 2025. Roy Mathis has agreed to lead the development with input from staff and other volunteers. We look forward to bringing more information in the March 2025 TrackWatch.

Suzanne Sills  
Director



Colina J. Clark  
President



Aryn Mything  
Vice President

Natasha Phillipson  
Director



Brent Foster  
Treasurer



Chit Lutchman  
Director



Andrea Neumann  
Secretary



Colin Hill  
Director



Sylvia Checkley  
Director



Kerry Dark  
Director



We would love to hear from you, please reach out:

[mras.feedback@mras-track.com](mailto:mras.feedback@mras-track.com)

# 2025 MRAS STAFF

Dan Heyde  
*Operations Manager*

Melonie McKee  
*Farmers' Market & Events  
Manager*

Chad Thomas  
*Market Lead*

Craig Howe  
*Maintenance Manager*

Tylene Hay  
*Office Administrator*

Shannon Breeze  
*Bookkeeper*

Val Evenson  
*Janitorial/Cleaning*

Lance Piltingsrud  
*Maintenance*



# MRAS STAFF INSIGHTS AND ADVENTURES

Welcome to our new Track Watch feature! Each month, we'll share articles written by our MRAS staff to help you get to know us and stay updated on our adventures. We'll kick off with introductions and move on to department adventures. We're excited to share our stories, photos, and updates with you!



Hello, MRAS friends and members!

My name is Melonie McKee, and I have had the incredible privilege of being the Farmers' Market & Events Manager at the Millarville Farmers' Market for the past 13 years. During this time, I have not only worked hard to make our market a vibrant community hub but have also built lasting relationships with many of you all while supporting hundreds of small local businesses.

Outside of work, I'm a wife and a mother of three beautiful girls aged 26, 19, and 15, complemented by the antics of our two chocolate labs. We love spending our summers outdoors, enjoying the warmth and light that the season brings, and we're always up for a few winter activities to make the most of our beautiful Canadian landscape. I also spend some of my spare time volunteering for the local Legion organizing and building a weeklong haunted house each year, Secretary for the Cowboy Trail Lions Club, director for the Alberta Farmers' Market Association and just help wherever else I can lend a hand.

As of February 3rd, my journey with MRAS will transition; I will no longer be an employee, however, I will be stepping into a new 6-month role here as a contracted consultant dedicated to ensuring a smooth transition of my current position as market manager over to Chad Thomas. While I am excited about this next chapter of my professional life, I will always hold dear the time I spent here, the knowledge gained, the friendships forged, and the vibrant community we've built during our time together.

Thank you for your support and memories over the years. I look forward to what's next for us all!

*Melonie McKee*





Happy  
Valentine's  
Day





# Campground Host(s) Wanted!

Are you ready to be the heart and soul of our serene Millarville campground? The Millarville Racing & Agricultural Society (MRAS) is on the lookout for four dedicated individuals or two dynamic couples to take on the role of Campground Host for the 2025 camping season.

## Availability:

- May 16 – July 31, 2025
- Aug. 1 – Oct. 13, 2025

## What we offer:

- Stipend-paid position
- Electricity, water, sewage disposal and propane all included by MRAS (Need your own Travel trailer/motorhome)

**Your Role:** As our Campground Host, you'll be our on-site ambassador, greeting campers with a smile and ensuring everyone has a pleasant stay. Responsibilities include:

- Being a model camper and maintaining a tidy host site
- Knowing MRAS campground rules and local points of interest
- Managing all reservations via our online system (computer skills required)
- Performing light maintenance tasks independently

If you or someone you know is interested, send us your contact details and availability at [office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com) or call 403-931-3411 for any questions.

Learn more about MRAS and our beautiful campground at [MRAS Campground Website](https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/campground/).or; <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/campground/>

Join us and make this camping season unforgettable! 🏕️



**HAPPY**

**FAMILY**

**DAY**





**MILLARVILLE**  
**run** TO THE  
FARMERS'  
MARKET

### Announcement:

*Pending a refurbishment of the core volunteer organizing committee, the Millarville Racing & Agricultural Board has decided to hibernate the Millarville "Run To The Farmers' Market" Half Marathon in 2025, with the intent of returning again on June 20, 2026.*



## **2024/25 AFMA Award Nominations**

### **Outstanding Market Manager of the Year Award**

Candidates strive for continuous improvement. They are teachers, visionaries, and big picture thinkers. They are in tune with what customers want and with what vendors need. They show creative thinking, creative problem solving, and integrity.

### **Outstanding New Vendor Award**

This award recognizes the diversity of the talents of AFMA's new Make it, Bake it, Grow it vendors. This award is for vendors who have been selling three years or less. The products have to be local and unique. Characteristics of excellence and uniqueness include: packaging, labeling, marketing, popularity and customer impact for the market.

### **Outstanding Perennial Vendor Award**

This award recognizes the diversity of the talents of AFMA's long term Make it, Bake it, Grow it vendors. Products have to be local and unique. Characteristics of excellence and uniqueness include: packaging, labeling, marketing, popularity and customer impact for the market. These vendors have products that have stood the test of time, have a loyal customer base, and attract customers to the market.

### **Wanda Klimke Memorial Award**

Named in remembrance of Wanda Klimke, long time dedicated AFMA board member, and a good friend of our association. The Memorial Award honors a retired or deceased volunteer who has given much time and effort in direct service as a member and has promoted farmers' markets throughout the community.

To NOMINATE click [HERE](https://www.albertafarmersmarket.com/afma-award-nominations/) or go to: <https://www.albertafarmersmarket.com/afma-award-nominations/>



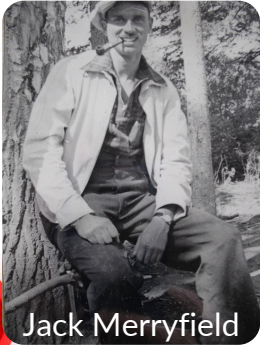


# MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca)

## The Road to Bragg Creek - a personal account by G.J. "Jack" Merryfield

Shared by his daughter Marie Nylund – MHS Board Member



Jack Merryfield

We are fortunate in these modern times to travel in our vehicles on paved highways and well-maintained roads. We are well aware that the roads in our foothills are not always easy to travel when challenges such as drifted snow and wet conditions are encountered. For many years Bragg Creek's groceries, mail and other necessities were transported from Calgary by Jack Elsdon, Harry White, John Fullerton, Bunny Purmal, and my father to name a few. The TransCanada Highway from Calgary west was not completed until 1962 so the route from Calgary in the early days was "The Twin Bridges Road" (now called Highway 8). Back then the Twin Bridges Road presented an assortment of challenges to motorists. The following personal account written by my father describes four obstacles that might be encountered on trips to and from Calgary.

"I first drove the Calgary to Bragg Creek Road during the summer of 1935, when five of us went on a camping trip to the mountains in our trusty 490 Chevrolet, with extra supplies such as cans of oil, gasoline, haywire and two spare tires. The next year, 1936, I made the same trip in my homemade Model T Ford "Bug". The road was dry, very dusty and full of chuck holes, but with an average of only three flat tires a day, both trips were a success. In 1946 I started "The Bragg Creek Truck Service" and for 22 years I learned what driving could be like over the miles of mostly dirt and sometimes gravel roads of those days. The Calgary to Bragg Creek Road had four obstacles, each one as good or as bad as the weather dictated. Fighting the road in rain or snow was bad enough, but the worst conditions of all were experienced during the annual spring thaw and break-up.

From Calgary, the first obstacle was the low-lying stretch of road on the west side of Twin Bridges (near present day Elbow Springs Golf Course). This rubbery piece of gumbo moved up and down as you drove over it, not daring to stop in case you broke through and became hopelessly bogged down. When it appeared to be at its worst, we would stop on the second bridge and probe with long sticks to find bottom through the broken surface of the gumbo, often pushing the sticks out of sight without touching bottom. Once past this hazard, we would continue across the flat to Morgan's Hill (near what is now Morgan's Rise sub-division. The grade has been substantially reduced).

Morgan's Hill, obstacle #2, was a maze of axle-deep ruts full of muck and water, with no way to pass if another vehicle came down the hill toward you. Sometimes that vehicle would manage to back up the hill to Morgan's gate, and other times the lower vehicle would have to back down to the bottom and then out would come the shovels, and enough mud and water would be removed to allow the vehicles to pass without bogging down. A well-founded saying in those days was, "If you can make it up Morgan's Hill you can probably make it to Bragg Creek."

The next strip of road west from Morgan's Hill was generally passable enough to get you as far as the turn north up Dawson Hill and down the other side before going on west to fight "obstacle #3", the notorious "six-mile stretch" to the Vince Robinson Ranch corner (today's traffic circle at Highway #22). This low-lying stretch of prairie road had practically no ditches to speak of and no drainage at all due to so much of the road surface being lower than the surrounding fields. Black mud and numerous deep ruts stretched westward for six long miles and at times impossible to negotiate. At such times, we would cut through the barbed wire fences and proceed as far west as possible over the comparatively solid fields of the nearby ranches, eventually coming back out on the passable stretches of the Bragg Creek Road. Tire and logging chains, boomers, shovels, axes, wire cutters, and fencing pliers were all part of our standard equipment then. Wire fences that were cut were quickly repaired before proceeding on with the hope that you would still make it to Bragg Creek that day. There were times when we had to bypass Dawson Hill and drive through the Matthews Stock Farm and out across their fields and eventually back onto the Bragg Creek Road.



Having finally reached Robinson's Corner, the road was generally not too bad from there to the Tsuut'ina Reserve boundary. (At that time the road skirted the Robinson's quarter section. The road went south of today's traffic circle for half a mile, then west for half a mile then north for half a mile then headed south at the Tsuut'ina Reserve boundary at today's Bragg Creek Paintball location). It was a twisting, winding road with a slight, almost unnoticeable up-hill grade through the trees to Bragg Creek with short stretches of road and approximately 17 corners not like today's paved road that has only seven corners. There were some winters though, when strong westerly winds blowing across Robinson's fields would cause the low-lying road to drift in solidly with wind-packed snow along the entire north-south stretch. One winter evening, on our way back to Bragg Creek with the loaded truck, my swamper (helper) and I shoveled snow for two hours and finally gave up and left the truck in the middle of the road. We hiked into Major William Atkinson's Horseshoe A Dude Ranch (later this ranch became Kamp Kiwanis in 1951) where they opened up a small cabin for us to spend the night. The next day with more help, we got the truck into the Robinson's field, where we broke trail all the way through to the Tsuut'ina Reserve, by-passing the drifted road.

Next came obstacle #4, the "home stretch" piece of road through the Tsuut'ina Reserve to Bragg Creek. Back then it was mostly sheltered by a coniferous forest, except for the open area known as Chicken Flats, (Redwood Meadows on one side and the Rodeo grounds on the other). Being more exposed it often drifted in solid during the winter and turned into a boggy, rutted mess in the springtime or during heavy June rains. During the spring thaw and break-up, the swollen waters of Chittem Spring would turn this section of road into a two-foot-deep river of flowing water. It was a bit annoying sometimes to be almost through to the other end of this river, to have your truck suddenly tip over to one side when you drove into a hidden washout. Then it was a job, with the help of Dave Jacobs, to round up poles for a tripod and with a chain block & tackle, hoist the truck upright and back onto solid roadbed. We often by-passed this piece of road by going through the fence and following a wagon trail through the bush and across the open area near today's Tsuut'ina Rodeo Grounds until finally coming back out to a more solid piece of road. Once during a bad spring, a municipal grader bogged down to where only the top half of the big wheels showed above the muck.

Some of the local people including the truckers would donate a few dollars each to a "kitty" which was kept in the Bragg Creek Post Office/Store as a means of paying anyone who could be found with a bulldozer to plow our snow-bound roads. Sometimes a plow would come into our Improvement District from the Municipality of Springbank and do the job for us. Generally speaking, it was the dual-wheeled trucks that kept the drifted roads open in those days. One wintry day in the 1950's with my partly loaded truck from Bragg Creek it took about three hours of bucking drifts to get to the top of Morgan's Hill, at which time we managed to shovel out a turn-around and plow through the same drifts for a two-hour trip back to Bragg Creek. Situations often occurred where two vehicles approaching each other in the single snow-rutted road could not normally pass without one or both becoming stuck in deep snow, so a by-pass had to be shoveled out. If one vehicle was a truck the practice then was to have the lighter car run off into the deep snow and the truck, after passing on the solid track, would back up and tow the car back onto the track.

For the Easter holidays, some Calgary businessmen would drive out and leave their families at their cottages in Bragg Creek, but often a heavy wet spring snowstorm prevented their return to pick them up. At times like this, I took the outside dual wheels off my truck and chained up the single wheels and picked up a family and their gear and headed off down the road to Vince Robinson's back gate (across the road from today's Bragg Creek Paintball). I would then follow the wagon trail east through the trees and across the dry irrigation ditch and onwards past the Robinson ranch buildings and finally out to the main gate (where the traffic circle is now) where a car from Calgary would pick them up for the rest of the trip home. Many of these Calgary people made it a habit of loading their cars with stones, sand or whatever when coming to or leaving Bragg Creek, and dumping the stuff into mud holes etc., and so helping in the endless battle of trying to make the road passable."



Bragg Creek road grader

Contact us at: [millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com)



CASINO  
BLACKFOOT

We are doing a Fundraiser  
**March 4 & 5, 2025** in conjunction with the  
Ace Casino Blackfoot! This is an opportunity  
for MRAS to raise up to \$40,000!

We need volunteers for a variety of  
positions and shifts.

Sign up HERE or go to:

<https://volunteersignup.org/3W9XF>

For more info please email: [office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com)





## Kids Only Shoppe

The elves are back in action after some well-needed downtime. Planning is well underway for the first few months of 2025. Please see our newsletter [HERE](#) or go to: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Newsletter-issue-2-2025.pdf> for upcoming work bee dates and crafting ideas.

New volunteers are welcome at any work bee but please drop us a quick note to let us know to expect you at [kos@mras-track.com](mailto:kos@mras-track.com). This way we can ensure we have all the supplies needed to keep you busy. Each work bee is about 3 hours in length and most are held in the Hall at the Racetrack.

### We have a short stash needs list right now:

- o Small ornaments or figurines for snow globes
- o Large pieces of polar fleece
- o Fabric for men's aprons – denim, heavy cotton, men themed patterns for cut out and appliqué
- o Christmas bags - all sizes

Please drop off any stash at the Racetrack office.  
Thank you!





## Another Busy Month for the Millarville Stockland Beef Club!



Members of the Millarville Stockland Beef Club at the Rising Sun Long Term Care on December 15TH

We had our monthly meeting on the 11th of December at the Millarville Racetrack. We talked about what we were doing for the Christmas party and then we took a break to go multi-judging. We were judging feed scoops this month. All the beef kids handed in our record books to our Beef Leader for marking. At the end of the meeting someone who had the most complete record book got a \$25 gift card. The person who won this meeting was Pyper Stanley.

Then we had our Christmas party on the 14th in Okotoks. We all went bowling together then we stopped for a bit to do Secret Santa gifts. Overall, it was a fun experience to do as a club.

We packed hampers for the Adopt-a-family program on the 13TH of December at the Red Deer Lake Hall with the Foothills District, and then we went to decorate cookies with the seniors at the Rising Sun Long Term care on the 15TH.

In the new year we have lots of interesting things planned, like a Beef Farm tour, a Hands-on Clinic where we get to bring our animals and another club workshop, all in the month of January. It should be an exciting time!

*Club Reporter – Kenzley Stanley*





## Exciting Times with the Millarville Mutts and Mustangs 4-H Club!

The Millarville Mutts and Mustangs 4-H group is where passion meets adventure! With projects ranging from Horse, Canine, and Archery to the more recent additions of Sewing and Cooking, there's something for everyone to dive into. This past holiday season, the group made sure to celebrate in style, bringing their unique 4-H flair to the festivities.

### **Riding into the Holidays**

On December 8, the Horse group galloped into the Christmas season with a festive Christmas Ride. It wasn't just about the ride—members enjoyed exciting games both on and off their horses, making memories filled with laughter and cheer.

### **Spreading Holiday Cheer**

Community service is at the heart of 4-H, and members stepped up to give back in meaningful ways. On December 13 and 14, they participated in the annual Christmas Hamper initiative. Members wrapped presents, packed hampers filled with food, and delivered them to families in need. Some also joined the Christmas Kettle Bells in Okotoks, spreading holiday joy and goodwill.

### **A Post-Holiday Party to Remember**

Rather than squeeze in a Christmas party before the break, the group opted for a fun-filled celebration on January 11. And what a party it was! Members enjoyed scenic sleigh rides, tested their strength in a spirited game of tug-o-war, and gathered around a cozy fire to roast hot dogs and marshmallows. It was the perfect way to kick off the new year with warmth, laughter, and camaraderie.

Whether it's riding, crafting, cooking, or giving back, the Millarville Mutts and Mustangs know how to make every moment unforgettable!

*Club Reporter: Justin Penner*







# MRAS EQUINE FACILITIES

Questions about the MRAS Equine Facilities email: [grounds@mras-track.com](mailto:grounds@mras-track.com).

For memberships email: [office@mras-track.com](mailto:office@mras-track.com)

Hello Equine Members,

The MRAS riding rules, and sign-up sheet have been developed to help our members have a safe and enjoyable time riding while also maintaining our building in good condition.

Riding Rules: These have been created and agreed upon to ensure everyone using the facility remains safe and that our facility can be kept in great condition. Please continue to follow the rules and encourage your fellow riders to follow the rules. Click [HERE](https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/) for the rules or go to: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/>.

Booking Sheet: Please use the booking sheet when you plan to ride and honor your time. This practice is in place to ensure fair usage of the facility and helps the maintenance team plan when they can be in the arena for maintenance.

Manure: Please continue to clean up after your horses. We know the vast majority of you are excellent at this, but it continues to be a problem.

**\*\*LEAVE IT BETTER THAN HOW YOU FOUND IT\*\***

Please respect all riders and clean up after every ride. Sweep the mats, put things back where they belong, dispose of your horse's manure from the arena and parking lot using the forks and transport it to the BLUE BINS (not the garbage can).

Help us take pride in our arena and its use by following the rules that we have in place,

*Thank you!*



# OPEN LETTER TO FELLOW EQUESTRIANS

Dear Fellow Equestrians,

This morning, I arrived at our arena and found two large pools of urine on the rubber mats. While I didn't mind cleaning up after your horse, I'd like to remind everyone that using this arena is a privilege.

I believe we all value this facility and want to maintain its high quality. Incidents like this morning's detract from that quality and erode the sense of community we share.

Please remember the arena's simple rules:

1. **\*\*Sign-Up Sheet Accuracy:\*\*** Ensure the sign-up sheet reflects who is currently using the arena. Book your time prior to riding and remove it if you need to cancel.
2. **\*\*Cleanliness:\*\*** Leave the arena as clean or cleaner than you found it. Not everyone is comfortable cleaning up after others.

This is an honor system, and I trust we can all behave honorably. By working together, we can ensure that our arena remains a clean and enjoyable space for everyone.

Thank you,  
Lynn Donaldson





# UPCOMING EQUINE ACTIVITIES:

The volunteer members of the MRAS Equine Committee are working hard to bring a variety of clinics and activities to the MRAS riding membership and equine community. Please check the website regularly to see what is available at: [www.millarvilleracetrack.com-Equine](http://www.millarvilleracetrack.com-Equine) tab under Upcoming Events.

## PROGRESSIVE 3-DAY ENGLISH RIDING/JUMPING LESSONS

with Stephanie Patterson

Monday evenings: February 3, 10 & 17

Stephanie Patterson was a Hunter/Jumper for many years, working for competitive and successful barns as an assistant trainer in Calgary, Vancouver and Ireland. She loves being able to help horse and rider pairs in their jumping journey whether it's just starting or has been going for a long time.

Lesson Series Format:

Maximum group size – 4 riders

Lesson 1: Flatwork prep for jumping

Lesson 2: Gymnastics

Lesson 3: Course work

Minimum riding requirements:

Walk/trot/canter, ability to stand in stirrups

Registration Full for February lessons.

Any questions about this series, please contact Caia Williamson directly at [caiawilliamson@hotmail.com](mailto:caiawilliamson@hotmail.com)

## KIDS RANCH RIDING

Saturday, February 9th

Sunday, March 2nd

Time: 2 to 4pm

Fun filled way for kids to work on and develop their equitation skills and ride a pattern at the end of the day. Good for any age and level providing they are riding independently, can stop their horse and the horse is good in a group of horses.

Cost: 2024/25 MRAS Riding Members \$15.00

Non-Members \$20.00

(All prices include GST)

Any questions and to register contact Lynn Brunton [lynnbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com) 403-651-4301. Once you have registered payment instructions will be sent to you. Payment then confirms your spot. This is a non-refundable program.



# RANCH RIDING at MRAS

Saturdays: February 8th and 22nd

Sunday: March 16th

Saturday: March 29th

11 am to 1pm OR 1:30 to 3:30 pm

This is a fantastic way to work on your equitation skills and have fun in a relaxed environment with other riders. The goal is to ride a pattern with ease at the end of the day. The patterns may include some Obstacles. It is best if the horse you are bringing has good guide at all gaits, can back up, stop on command, move off your leg, rider can lope with confidence (at minimum trot) and the horse is ok in a group of horses.

Cost: 2024/25 MRAS Riding Members \$22.00

Non-Members \$32.00

(All prices include GST)

Any questions and to register contact [lynnbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com). 403-651-4301. Once you have registered payment instructions will be sent to you. Payment received then confirms your spot. This is a non-refundable program. Maximum 10 riders.

## MARCH KIDS & ADULT RIDING LESSON SERIES

With Danielle Bartlett 🐾

Saturday afternoons: March 1, 8, 15 & 22

Danielle is a fabulous instructor that has a wonderful ability to communicate with youth and adults of all ages. From learning to ride youngsters to those that are refining their skills. She is a certified Equestrian Canada Instructor with over 20 years of experience in the equine industry, which has led to the success of Danielle Bartlett Performance Horses. She is a graduate from Dalhousie University, earning a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture), majoring in Animal Science.

In this lesson package riders will have the opportunity to build on their learned skills at each ride developing better communication with their horse. Individual lessons may be purchased if space allows.

For more information or to register contact [lynnbrunton@gmail.com](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com) or visit the website [Equine Page](https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/) or go to: <https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/equine/>



## JANUARY DRESSAGE LESSONS SERIES

with Kimberly Cox

Wednesdays evenings: January 8, 15 &  
22

OR

Thursday mornings: January 9, 16 & 23

Work on the fundamentals of Dressage:  
Fine tuning of aids  
Rhythm, balance through suppleness  
Connection and softness through  
transitions

Lessons are open to both western and  
English riders. Participants will be divided  
into groups base on their riding ability and  
training needs.

Cost:  
2023/24 MRAS Riding Members \$189.00  
Non-Members \$219.00  
(All prices include GST)

Registrations accepted to Friday, Dec.  
27th. Contact [mras.equine@gmail.com](mailto:mras.equine@gmail.com) if  
interested in a spot.

Next 3-day Dressage Series in March.

## JUMPING PRACTICE / FUN NIGHT AT MRAS

Thursday, March 20th

Group I: 5 to 6PM – X-rail to 2'

Group II: 6 to 7PM – 2'3" to 2'6"

Group III: 7 to 8PM – 2'9"+

Full course practice (7 to 9 jumps).  
Maximum 6 riders per group. Groups are  
based on jump height.

Prior jumping experience highly  
recommended. Ride at your own risk.  
There will not be jumping instruction, this  
is NOT a lesson.  
No first aid on site.

Registration Opens: February 14th  
Cost: 2024/25 MRAS Riding Members  
\$189.00, priority registration until  
February 21st.  
Non-Members \$219.00  
(All prices include GST)

Contact [mras.equine@gmail.com](mailto:mras.equine@gmail.com) if  
interested in a spot.  
Registrations accepted to Friday, March  
14th.

### Clinic and Lesson Series Cancellation Policy

MRAS cannot guarantee your spot will be filled in the event of cancellation however every attempt will be made to do so. Should your spot be filled, a refund will be issued less a 15% administration fee. If your spot cannot be filled the full amount will be forfeited.

Substitutions may be allowed; the Clinic Coordinator must be consulted and approve the substitution. MRAS will have no part in facilitating payments from a substitute.





# EQUINE MEMBERSHIPS



## 2024 – 25 MEMBERSHIP PLANS

### ANNUAL\*

NOVEMBER – OCTOBER

**FAMILY \$475**

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$70)

**INDIVIDUAL \$325**

All year access to  
Indoor Riding  
Arena and  
Seasonal Outdoor  
Rings

### NEW! SEASONAL\*

NOV– APR OR MAY– OCT

**FAMILY \$350**

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$50)

**INDIVIDUAL \$225**

For your  
Seasonal Riding  
needs.

### QUARTERLY\*

NOV – JAN; FEB–APR;  
MAY–JUL; AUG–OCT

**FAMILY \$225**

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$30)

**INDIVIDUAL \$150**

Try out our  
Riding facilities!

\*All Equine membership plans  
require a General MRAS membership

403-931-3411

[WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM](http://WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM)



# 2024-2025 MRAS GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS



***New Lower Rates !***

**FAMILY \$50**

**INDIVIDUAL \$40**

**SENIOR \$30**

**STUDENT \$30**

## **BENEFITS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP:**

- Free Admission to *MRAS Hosted Events*
- Access to our indoor arena and seasonal outdoor riding facilities with the purchase of a riding membership
- Event committee participation
- Connection with neighbours, friends and our community



**Purchase/Renew your Membership HERE OR**

**GO TO:**

**<https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/membership/>**

**\*\*MEMBERSHIP YEAR: NOV. 2024 - OCTOBER 2025**



## A Tribute to Jim McCreary

Submitted by Lorretta Stabler – Millarville Historical Society President



**September 18, 1933 – January 13, 2025**

Sadly, Jim McCreary passed away January 13, 2025. Jim is remembered in our community for his volunteerism. He started volunteering at the Millarville Racing and Agriculture Society in 1975 and served on the MRAS Board as Vice President, and then President in 1977. Jim was the coordinator and builder for the outside washrooms in the 70's as he was very knowledgeable about the construction industry.

Jim volunteered at the Millarville Races as a stable judge for three years and also was a representative for C.W.T.A. (Canada West Turf Association).

Jim was a Director on the Hall Board and volunteered on monthly dance committees.

Those who knew Jim and worked alongside him, stated that he was a common sense, commendable and personable community-minded individual who strove to make his community a better place.



**SOLACE**  
GRIEF SUPPORT SOCIETY  
*Foothills County, Alberta*

**Solace Grief Society Provides Individual and Group Counselling  
Free of Charge**

Group Counselling (via Zoom) – Third Thursday of each month at 6 pm

Group Counselling (in person) – First Wednesday of each month at 6 pm at the Okotoks Library

Men's Group (in person) – Second Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Individual – By arrangement between client and counsellor

To register for a session or for more information please contact:

**Intake Coordinator at 403-601-3312**

**or**

**Email: [solacegrief1@gmail.com](mailto:solacegrief1@gmail.com)**

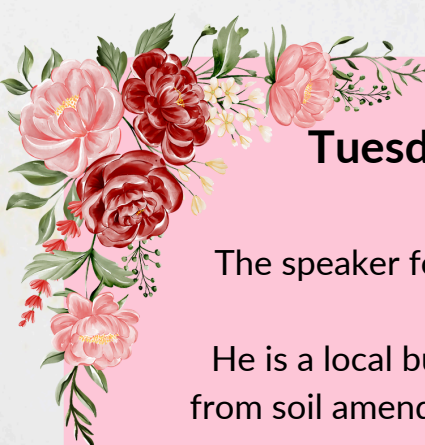




GARDENING UNDER THE ARCH

<http://millarvillehortclub.com>

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, September to May, at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are held at the Millarville Anglican Church House on Hwy 549.




**Tuesday February 11, 2025 is the next meeting.**

The speaker for the February meeting will be Dallas Otto from Earth Smart Solutions.

He is a local business man. He will be speaking on his products which range from soil amendements, cleaners, septic, pet and personal health products. We look forward to hearing about them.

**Tuesday March 11, 2025 meeting will feature Patty Webb.** She will be speaking on the History of Flower Arranging.

There is no one better to give this talk. She is a wealth of knowledge!



If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Louise Patterson Bruns (our new President) at [louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com](mailto:louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com) or at [millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com](mailto:millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com). Whether you are a novice or expert in landscaping or gardening, join our club; \$15/year for singles or \$20/year for a family. Check us out on Facebook as well.

# MILLARVILLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

## Would you?

If you would like to volunteer, we are looking for people who would like to help shape the direction of the library to serve as board members! The board meets every other month, and needs fresh new ideas and people who want to help make an impact in the community.

## Bouquets

Thank you to all the new volunteers! The time you give is greatly appreciated!

## Did You Know?

We now have a photo scanner and you can convert your old photographs, slides and negatives into a digital format. The scanner and instructions are available to use during regular library hours. You will need to bring a USB drive along with your pictures, so if organizing a container of old photos is a New Years resolution a few hours at the library will help.

Remember the front entrance to the library has a huge selection of used books. These books are ideal for travel. The pennies you pay will allow you to leave it behind for another reader to enjoy. New titles are added every week.

## Need a read?



The Stay at Home Chef Family Favorites Cookbook by Rachel Farnsworth - "We use this book all the time to get out of the dinner rut! Each recipe is very clear and the ingredients are most likely things that you have or are easily available. Very kid friendly recipes. And each recipe has a QR code that links up with a video so you can watch it being prepared before you attempt it yourself" - Natasha Grusendorf





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Please contact Anna  
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Please include a clear, well-lit photo, brief description, price and your contact  
information. No businesses. All ads subject to approval by MRAS.

**Deadline is the 19th of the month for the following month's  
Track Watch publication.**



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