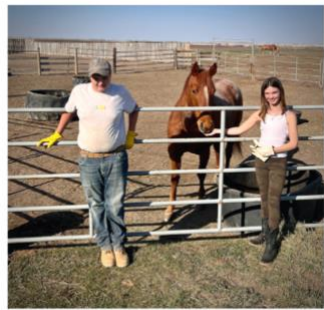


JTRS 2023 SEASON UPDATE



We embrace our Invaluable Barn Support no matter what age or stage in life!



We say "Thank You" and "Good Luck" to retiring JTRS Volunteer Doug Morrison for your many years of service!



CONGRATULATIONS!! Assistant Instructors Kaitlin and Emma earning CHA Certifications.

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

And here we are wrapping up another year at Journeys. It feels as though we were just getting everything ready for our Spring Session. Not only are we wrapping up another year, we are wrapping up our 15th year! You read that correctly. Fifteen amazing years of providing this program to enrich the lives of the many students is has served.

2023 was another productive and successful year. For the 3rd year in a row our Fundraising Coordinator, Erin, was able to get us invited to participate in the Calgary Shaw Charity Classic Foundation's, Shaw Birdies for Kids Program for donation matching. With the tireless efforts of our Program Director, Laurie, and Volunteer Coordinator, Sylvia, we introduced several new students to our program, as well as, Assistant Instructors that helped keep things running smoothly in the arena. We even had some great outside-the-box thinking for our instructional alternatives when the weather would not cooperate. Due to these great additions, we were able to run our classes fully and on schedule.

We were not without loss this year though, two of our former equine volunteers passed on to greener pastures. Buzz and Two Bits, thank you for your gentle guidance during your time with Journeys and know that you will be eternally missed by all who were touched by your presence.

I can't help but feel an enormous sense of pride being part of this organization. I started with Journeys about seven years ago as a volunteer after work. Since then I have been in and out of the arena volunteering and now more behind the scenes with the Executive Committee. There has been seasons that I was not able to take part in the program, but I have always found my way back. I know I'm not the only one that has felt that gravitational pull that Journeys seems to produce. Which is exactly how we're able to celebrate a 15th Anniversary. To everyone that has gravitated to Journeys in some way, giving your time, heart and soul for this program. Whether you are one of our incredible volunteers, donors, students, instructors, coordinators, directors, or board members. This milestone is all owed to you, and let me tell you how deeply and utterly humbled and appreciated I am of your caring spirits that contribute to the success of Journeys every year.

I can't wait to see what the 2024 season brings to Journeys. Have a safe holiday season, and we'll see you next year.

Jessica French



PROGRAM DIRECTOR MESSAGE

2023 marks fifteen years... Wow! This notable anniversary seems to have reinvigorated everyone's commitment and the entire JTRS team feels stronger than ever.

We've completed fifteen weeks of the program with our dedicated group of new and returning riders.

Our instructors, Sarah Olsen and Kelsey Jones, did an amazing job mentoring and preparing assistants, Kaitlyn Rose & Emma Drake, to successfully achieve the first leg of their credentials. They attended the CHA certification clinic in Sherwood Park in the fall, achieving Level 2 Western and Level 1 English. It has been tremendous to see their growth, commitment and enthusiasm for the important work with our riders.

Sylvia Hunter continues to nurture and inspire our keen group of volunteers. All our volunteers support our riders in creative ways, interacting with the instructors to ensure optimal experiences. Our executive committee and board of directors work tirelessly behind the scenes, making sure all aspects of the program are kept viable. 'Many hands truly make light work.'

Bless the horses who give their hearts and souls, providing so many miracle moments. The three horses owned by JTRS are aging and we recognize that two of them may only have a year, or two, of service remaining. We are amazed by the new horses who find us in various ways, so that we may count on them. Each year, loaned horses are donated by their owners, making it so that no one horse is ever overworked. We pay homage to all the horses who have made this program possible since 2008.



The future is bright and we look forward to 2024. Season's Greetings,

Laurie Messner

2024 PROPOSED NOTABLE DATES

- January 23 or 27 – Annual General Meeting (TBC)
- March 5 – April 16 Program Prep
- April 30 – Volunteer Orientation
- May 7 Spring Session Start
- September 3 – Fall Session Start

"In Lane Holmes' memory we believe that...for every rider there is a horse...for every horse there is a rider...and for every horse and rider there is a journey."

FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR MESSAGE

Once again, we would like to thank all the donors who have supported our program in 2023. From corporate donations to personal ongoing contributions, every penny means so much! We successfully participated once again in the Calgary Shaw Charity Classic Foundation's "Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink" program, and had all donations matched 50%. Additionally, I am happy to report our Swag Sales were up this year, and we hope to be able to offer even more options soon.

Erin Rehmann



Thank you Donors!

Acuity LLP
Alberta Equestrian Foundation
Canada Helps (x4 Anonymous)
Cowgirl Code Event
Jessica French
Corrine Fisher
Gift Funds Canada (Nikkel Family)
In Memory of Dakota Haakensen
Annessa Good-Hassard
Sylvia Hunter
Irene Leavitt
McMinn Family
Nanton Community Bus Society
Marilyn Nikkel
Program Recyclables (Winning Strides)
Temperli Family
Twin Valley Farms - Acres for the Community
(Holmes Family)
Schneider Charities Foundation
(McMinn & Wasylyshen)

Meet Our Other Members of the JTRS Executive



Treasurer: Wanda McMinn



Secretary: Tammy Meadows

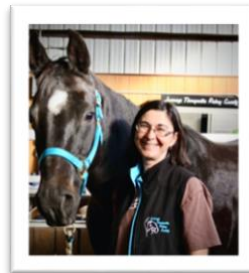
Meet Our Other JTRS Board of Directors



Director: Annessa Good-Hassard - Social Media



Director: Colleen Parker - Casino General Manager



Director: Timmi Shorr - Fundraising



Director at Large: Karen Wasylyshen

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MESSAGE

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much." Helen Keller

Together we certainly did much more this year to make our new riders to the program feel welcome and safe, as well as, help our established riders achieve higher levels of desired horsemanship. The JTRS Board and I are truly grateful to the team of volunteers that contribute immensely to make each season such as success.

In 2023, 46 volunteers stepped up during the Spring and Fall Sessions offering a combined 1129 hours of their time. Thank you so much!

As always, I look forward to working with many of you throughout the 2024 Season.

Sylvia Hunter

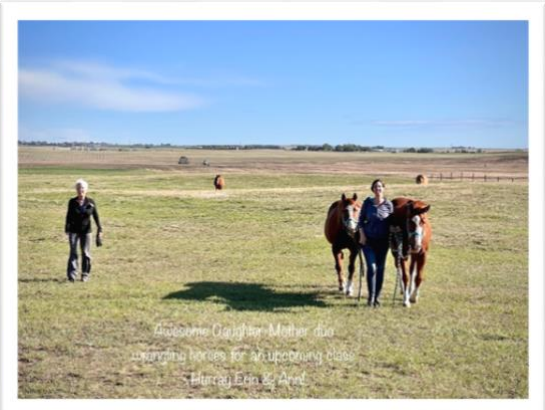


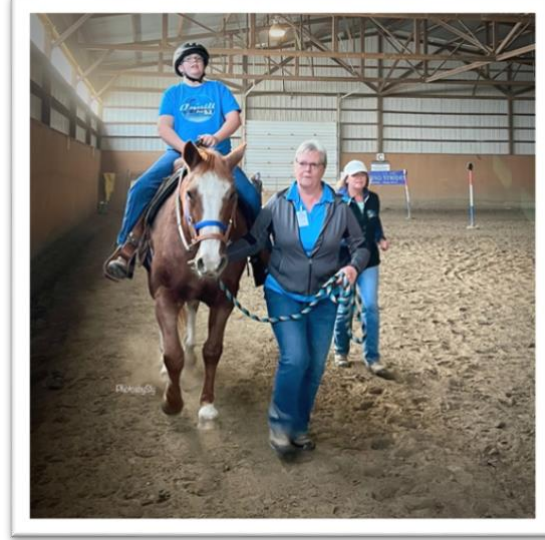
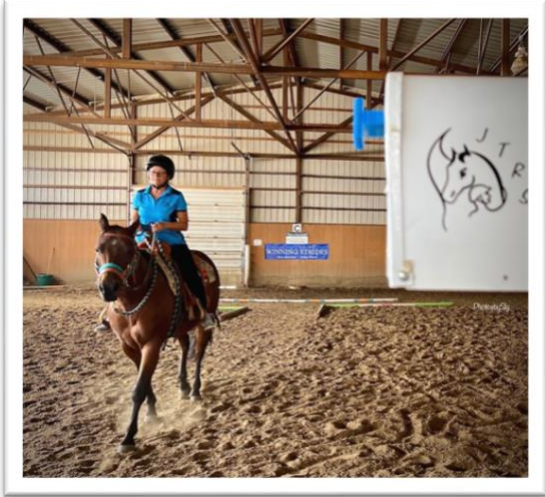
Director-at-Large: Isabella Lissell

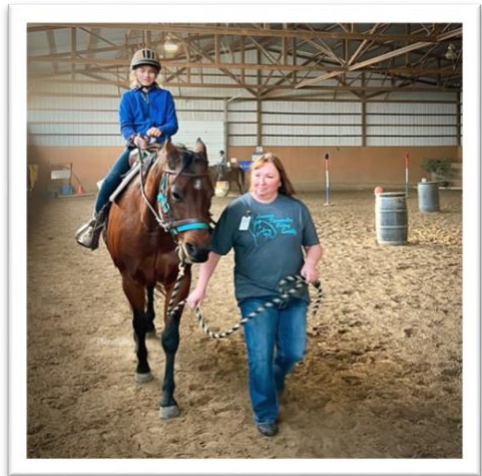
2023 PHOTO COLLAGE

Wishing Doug Morrison a very happy retirement with much gratitude from all of us at JTRTS!

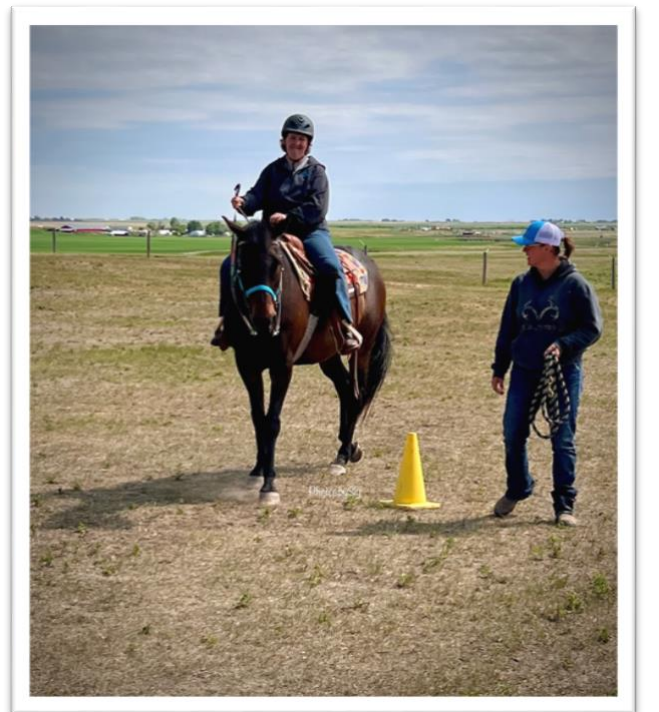
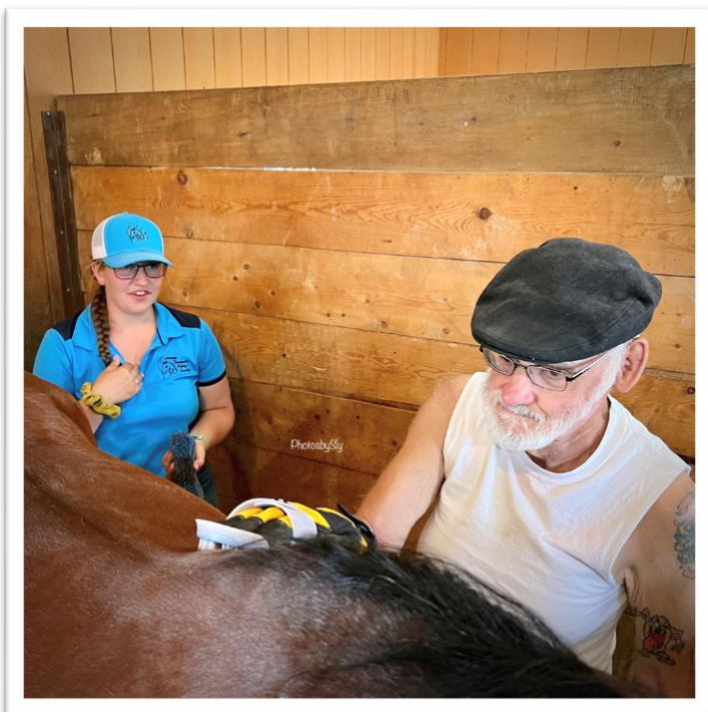








OUR AWESOME INSTRUCTOR TEAM – SARAH, EMMA, KAITLIN & KELSEY





OUR BELOVED HORSES



WE LOVE OUR HORSES AND THE GENEROUS PEOPLE WHO HAVE GRACIOUSLY LOANED THEIR HORSE TO US

JTRS owns 3 horses Izzy, Quannah & Max.

All other horses used in the program are donated including:

AJ (McMinn), Albert (McIvor), Candy (Posein), Cheese Burger, "CB" (Meadows), Emily (Messner) Hank (Patton), Juan (Parker), Katman (Zebedee), Mac (Miller), Mikey (Posein), Ruby (Keyowski), Tango (Harris).



TANGO, MIKEY, HANK, MAX, JUAN, QUANAH, CHEESEBURGER, AJ, EMILY, IZZY, CANDY, ALBERT, KATMAN, RUBY & MAC

