

News Flash

August 2026



Canadian Horse Heritage
& Preservation Society

Fall Newsletter

We're gearing up to issue a lengthy CHHAPS newsletter towards the end of the year. (We're open to ideas for a snappy title!)

We'd love for you to contribute an article — long or short, it will be well received by all of our members. Canadian Horses can do just about anything they're asked to do and they're delighted by the challenge. So, if your Canadien does well in a particular discipline, feel free to brag about it!

If you'd like a helping hand to write it, Carol is a whiz at working with bullet points and happy to help you flesh it out.

Introducing the Board

Carol Mackay, with a background in marketing and public relations, has been a quiet yet avid supporter of Canada's emblematic horse for twenty+ years. She joined the CHHAPS Board in early 2025 and in March of this year, started a one-page monthly News Flash to keep members abreast of activities.

Fun Fact!

Carol has several diverse hobbies, from cooking/serving soup at a local drop-in, to indoor hydroponics and worm composting (that she lives in a condo doesn't stop her!) She is also writing an historical novel that includes a fictional account of how Canadian Horses ended up running with the mustangs out West.

Featured Canadian Horse

Meet Soul Ridge Taboo Destiny, a 10-year-old Canadien mare, owned by Liz Piacentini of Southwick, MA.

"I first met Destiny as a filly, at Equine Affaire, Massachusetts; she had been signed up by her previous owner as a breed ambassador. (I coordinated CHHAPS booth and breed demos, 2015-2019 and have owned Destiny since 2022.)



Destiny and Liz dressed up as Charlie Brown and the Great Pumpkin.

In 2023, a fall on a tiled floor left me immobile for 10 months. Trainers continued working with Destiny while I battled a chronic nerve pain condition. Destiny gave me amazing purpose, which helped fuel my motivation to walk again.

We spend most afternoons hand-walking the farm, lunging, exploring versatility obstacles, or practicing equine bodywork. She is a great physical therapist and brings me much joy. For Dressage, I'm grateful to trainer, Nikole Browne, who has ridden Destiny to consistent scores in the 70's at Intro Level during 3 shows. We've come so far and I'm excited to see what the future holds for her!"

Events Review

CHHAPS Annual Iron Horse Photo/Video Contest

Sincere thanks to all who participated. Results of this competition will be published in our full newsletter later this year.

Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Countryfest, BC

As this year's theme was "heritage," our president's Canadiens fit perfectly. Hundreds of people streamed past on their way into the events. Many stopped by the booth to see the horses in their stalls and read the rack cards. It was an excellent promotional opportunity for CHHAPS too, as many visitors had no idea that Canada has its own national horse breed. We will definitely return next year!

Upcoming Events

Equine Affaire

- Thursday, Nov 12-Sunday Nov 15
- Eastern State Exposition, W. Springfield, MA

Meg is currently assessing which horses will be attending, creating trading cards, sorting out booth volunteers and getting demos solidified. Kudos to all of our volunteers, there's always a heap of prep work involved!

Where Next?

If you learn of an event where CHHAPS could exhibit or compete, please drop a note to Carol at media@chhaps.ca and she'll look into it!

Preserving a Legend

The Canadian Horse Heritage and Preservation Society (CHHAPS) is an international non-profit dedicated to expanding awareness of this historic breed, le Cheval Canadien, through education and active participation in national, local and county-wide horse fairs. Currently listed as a rare breed, help us bring it back from the brink of extinction so that riders, owners and enthusiasts alike can enjoy the versatility of these magnificent animals for many generations to come.

Join/Renew

