



## Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

January 2023

YOUR NEIGH-BORHOOD HULLABALOO

CREATED & EDITED BY HEATHER CARDER

### The Fabulous Dorinda Greenway of Dorindale

In October of 2016 the world took notice of an article written by Amanda Margison that was aired on CBC news along with other prominent equestrian-related publications and podcasts. This feel-good story brought to our attention the amazing life of Dorinda "Dinnie" Greenway and how, at the time when she was 96, she was still actively riding and working her farm in London, Ontario Canada. In the article that Ms. Margison wrote, she reported that Dinnie Greenway loved riding horses, and was not letting a little thing like age stop her. The then- 96-year-old said "horseback riding is an addiction that has kept me going my whole life."

In the report Greenway said she figured she was on a horse before she could walk and even before that, as her mother rode sidesaddle while pregnant with her in 1920. She told Amanda, "I have no idea how many horses I've ridden. I just keep riding

them," while sitting astride a tall chestnut horse in a dirt riding ring. "I just love it." Greenway said she always felt most comfortable when she was in the saddle and that is what motivated her to ride through the fields around Dorindale Manor, the farm her family has owned since the early 1800s, which is located on the northernmost edge of London. Recovering from a pulled hip muscle at the time of the interview, she said "As soon as my muscles get unstiffened, I shall do a lot more!"

### Trust your horse

For the interview, Greenway was photographed on her favorite horse, Randule, who was seemingly unaware that his rider was not as flexible as usual, breaking into a trot and then a canter almost as soon as the pair set out from the barn. 27 years old at that time, Randule was enthusiastic but sensible according to Greenway, noting that he also preferred to act younger than his age. Dinnie reminded the reporter that "Twenty-seven is considered quite senior in horse years and I trust him completely and he knows I

wouldn't put him over a fence he couldn't do. He enjoys it as much as I do." Greenway had a special place in her heart for Randule for another reason; she bred him herself along with others in that line that go back nine generations. Known to still take a fence when out in the field, Greenway admitted "The smart horses are the most fun. They test you, but it's worth it when you finally get through to them." As if to confirm this statement, a young colt was photographed bucking and galloping in the field next to where Greenway rode, the latest addition to her horse family. She promised it would not be the last.

### History on horseback

According to the report, Greenway was one of Canada's first female riders to make her mark as a competitor and later as a judge on the international equestrian stage. ... training horses at the 1936 Olympics where her eyes were opened to the horrors of the upcoming war, she stated, "Hitler made his terrible speech and that afternoon Jesse

*Continued on page 11*

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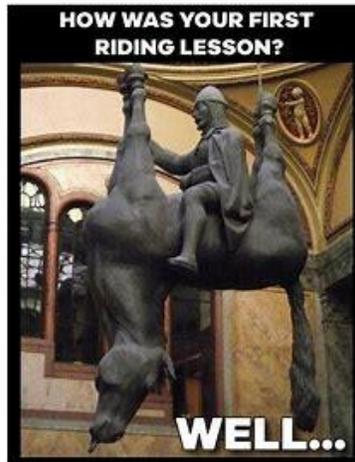
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# HAPPY HORSE...



# Angry Horse...



# Nutrition Corner

## SOME TRICKY DEFINITIONS.

Some words in nutrition are used interchangeably but they may not mean exactly the same thing. Here are some commonly used and misused words and their definitions.

**Nutrient** -Any food component that is necessary for the support of life. Also, a chemical substance that nourishes, such as protein, carbohydrate, mineral or vitamin.

**Ingredient** -Edible material that may provide nutrients as part of food.

**Food**-Any material, usually of animal or plant origin, containing essential nutrients.

**Feed**-Food for animals.

**Feedstuff**-Any substance suitable for food, several feedstuffs are normally combined to provide a balanced diet. Any component of a diet that serves some useful function.

**Hunger**-The desire for food. The opposite of satiety.

**Diet**-A regulated selection or mixture of feedstuffs provided on a continuous or prescribed schedule. A balanced diet supplies all nutrients needed for normal health and productive functions.

**Ration**-A fixed portion of feed, usually expressed as the amount of a diet allowed daily.

**Digestibility**-The percentage or proportion of nutrients in food available for absorption from the GI tract.

**Bioavailability**-The amount of a nutrient absorbed from the GI tract in a form the body can use.

**Roughage**—The primary foods for all herbivores existing under natural conditions, such food provides the major portion of their diet for most if not all of the year. Includes pasture, green chop, hay, chaff, silage and other forms. A bulky feed that has a low weight/unit of volume, high crude fiber content and low digestibility of nutrients.

## WILDWOOD FARM AND TRIPLE CROWN FEEDS.

Our partnership with Triple Crown began in 2014 through a promotion with the USEF encouraging farm members to compare their current feeding programs with Triple Crown products. We have found the TC products to be superior over other products primarily because of the EquiMix technology and the research support of a leading edge team including independent representatives of Equine Universities, Medical clinics and top level riders and trainers

## Meet Kaeyoni Eskeyon

In May of 2022 Kaeyoni was living just down the road from Wildwood Farm in a large field next to a burned down barn and a barely-livable home with no running water or electricity. We had been contacted by her owner who had to move immediately and did not have time to find homes for her horses (Penny was also there with Kaeyoni) and asking if we could take them.

When we went to see them it was clear that Kaeyoni was the boss of the two, and she was mostly business but did accept treats. A little aloof and suspicious, humans had definitely let her down and we were not high on her list of things to be trusted. Their water was non-existent but she was surprisingly fat (no doubt the spring grass had something to do with it) although her feet were in pretty bade shape. We decide to take them in, to rescue Kaeyoni.

Kaeyoni is a purebred Polish Arabian mare that was bred locally (in Darrington) and has some impressive breeding. Her sire is Eskont by Probat whose lines go back to Aladdin and Negatraz; her dam is Miss Bonnie who traces her lineage back to Iwonkatez and Abu Raseyn, a mix of polish and desert bred horses.



We have discovered that Kaeyoni has had little formal training, and lacks confidence –she forms attachments to other horses quite strongly and hates to be left by herself. She is a quick learner and has a lot of go – she would make a good endurance or gaming horse. Quick on her feet, she has never offered to buck or bolt but she is still a bit awkward at transitions; she really likes the trail riding though.

We are working hard to find Kaeyoni her forever home, she deserves to find the best owner with the neglect she suffered in the past. She has improved by leaps and bounds since we have had her, her lovely bay coat is shiny and slick and she understands the routine and trusts that she will be taken care of.

We are grateful to have Kaeyoni as part of our farm

## Riddles about Horses



### 1. Sunday trip

A man rode out of town on Sunday, he stayed a whole night at a hotel and rode back to town the next day on Sunday. How is this possible?

### 2. Cowboy

How could the cowboy travel on Friday, then sleep two days and then travel back home on Friday?

### 3. Horse race

Two men ride their horses to the town blacksmith to ask for his daughter's hand in marriage. To help decide who will get to marry her, the blacksmith proposes a very strange race: "You will race your horses down the mile-long road from here to the center of town, and the man whose horse passes through city hall's gates LAST will get to marry my daughter." The men have no idea how to proceed, but after a few minutes of thinking, they come up with a great idea to abide by the blacksmith's rules. 30 minutes later, one of the men is gloating, having won the daughter's hand in marriage. What was the idea the men had?

### 4. A farmer riddle

A farmer lived in a small village. He had three sons. One day he gave \$100 dollars to his sons and told them to go to market. The three sons should buy 100 animals for \$100 dollars. In the market there were chickens, hens and goats. Cost of a goat is \$10, cost of a hen is \$5 and cost of a chicken is \$0.50. There should be at least one animal from each group. The farmer's

sons should spend all the money on buying animals. There should be 100 animals, not a single animal more or less! What do the sons buy?

### 5. Horse's favorite sport

What is a horse's favorite sport?

### 6. Cowboys

What sickness do cowboys get from riding wild horses?

### 7. Sleeps with his shoes on

What always sleeps with his shoes on?

### 8. Breaking the Sound Barrier

A number of people have broken the sound barrier, either in a super-fast car, or in nice fancy planes. However, hundreds of years ago it was broken on horseback. How?

### 9. Horse

A horse is tied to a fifteen-foot rope and there is a bale of hay 25 feet away from him. The horse however is still able to eat from the hay. How is this possible?

### 10. Horse travels

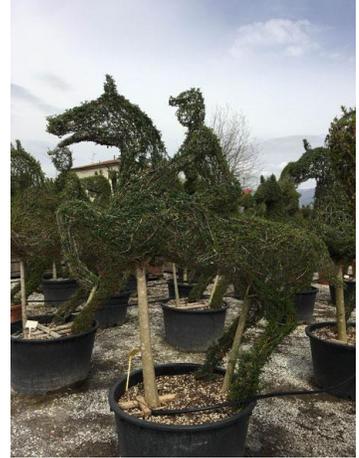
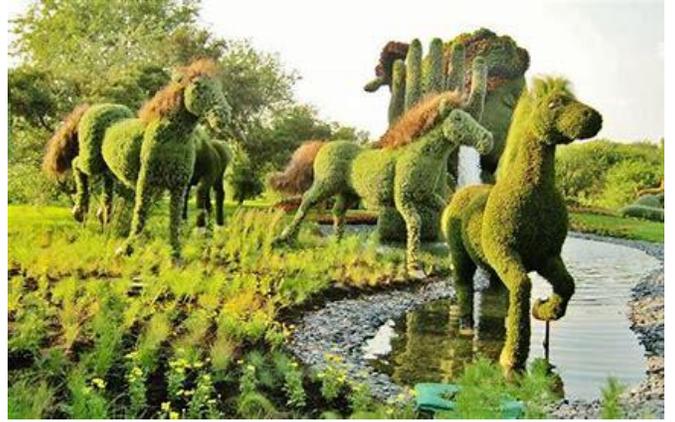
A horse travels a certain distance each day. Strangely enough, two of its legs travel 30 miles each day and the other two legs travel nearly 31 miles. It would seem that two of the horse's legs must be one mile ahead of the other two legs, but of course this can't be true. Since the horse is normal, how is this situation possible?

### 11. 24 foot chain

A horse is on a 24 foot chain and wants an apple that is 26 feet away. How can the horse get to the apple?

1. His horse was called Sunday! 2. If the horse was named Friday 3. Each man rides the other's man's horse. They race as they normally would. The blacksmith said the man whose horse crosses last would win, so the man who wins the race would have his horse finish last. 4. They purchased 100 animals for \$100. \$10 spent to purchase 1 goat, \$45 spent to purchase 9 hens, \$45 spent to purchase 90 chickens 5. Stable Tennis 6. Bronco-it is 7 a horse 8. Many people who ride horses carry whips; when the whip is cracked the tip travels faster than the speed of sound. 9. The rope wasn't tied to anything. 10. The horse operates the mill and travels in a circular clockwise direction. The two outside legs will travel a greater distance than the inside ones. 11. The chain is not attached to anything.

# BEST HORSE TOPIARIES



# Rodeo Animal Cemetery

## Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**Behind the Cowboy Hall of Fame is a burial ground for good horses and a famed rodeo bull.**



IN THE GARDEN BEHIND OKLAHOMA City's National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum (formerly the Cowboy Hall of Fame) is a small burial ground for a cavalcade of rodeo horses, a bull, and the former museum mascot.

Tombstones and wooden planks are marked with memorials for animals like the quarter horse Baby Doll Combs who rode alongside steers while a cowboy jumped off to wrestle them by the horns, and 5 Minutes to Midnight who was a "cowboy's pal." There's also Hells Angels the bucking bronc, Poker Chip the rope horse, and a horse named Midnight whose epitaph concludes: "If there is a hoss heaven, please, God, rest his soul." Abilene the Texas Longhorn who was long the museum's mascot since his donation to the institution in 1967 used to greet guests from a custom pen, and is also buried on the museum grounds.

Most famous of the late rodeo animals is Tornado the bull. Tornado was believed to be unrideable, bucking some 220 competitors. Finally on December 1, 1967, a man named Freckles Brown rode Tornado for an epic eight second ride at the Oklahoma City National Finals Rodeo. Now the great bull is memorialized outside the museum dedicated to the rich and often wild history of cowboy heritage.

### **Know Before You Go**

Access to the gardens is part of general admission to the museum.

# The Top 4 Oldest Horses on Record

## 1. Old Billy (1760 – 1822) (England)

**Oldest Age Reached:** 62 years old

**Breed:** Unknown English Stallion

**Last Owner:** Mersey and Irwell Navigation



Old Billy is considered the oldest horse to ever live in the world. He was born sometime in 1760 in Woolston, Lancashire, England. Old Billy was owned by Mersey and Irwell Navigation and spent his life working as a barge horse, dragging barges in the canals from the shore. Billy surpassed the average horse's life expectancy and continued to work even as his back became bent. .

## 2. Sugar Puff (1951 – 2007) (United Kingdom)

**Oldest Age Reached:** 56 years old

**Breed:** 10 high hand Shetland-Exmoor

**Last Owner:** Sally Botting



According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Sugar Puff is the oldest pony on record. The pony was about 56 years old when he had to be put down in 2007 after suddenly collapsing. Sugar Puff's owner, Sally Botting, said that he had been fine in the morning, but that his body had suddenly shut down and there was nothing the vet could do. Botting has owned Sugar Puff since he was 29 years old and she taught her daughter Claire how to ride on him. Sugar Puff's owner has fond memories of the beloved pony stating, "He was a safe, reliable pony — we used to teach children to ride on him at school fetes. He was also an old hand at gymkhana and Pony Club. He was a fun pony — he used to come into the house at Christmas."

## 3. Badger (1953 – 2004) (Wales)

**Oldest Age Reached:** 51 years old

**Breed:** Arab-Welsh Cross

**Last Owner:** Julianne Aston



Although there are a few horses who are reportedly older than Badger, he is still officially listed as the world's oldest horse by the Guinness Book of World Records. Badger was 51 years old when he passed away in 2004. He spent his final days at the Veteran Horse Society in Wales, which was founded by Julianne Aston. Aston rescued Badger from a livery yard, where he was treated poorly, about a year before he died and managed to nurse him back to health. She said that he was on the brink of starvation when her team found him and Aston said she has no idea how Badger survived such rough conditions in his old age. According to Badger's records, he was born in Wales sometime in 1953 and was first owned by a Welsh riding instructor who entered him in a horse show under the name Little Boy Blue. He had two more owners before being left at the livery yard in 1997. Badger's age of 51 years is equivalent to a human living to about 150.

## 4. Shayne (1962 – 2013) (England)

**Oldest Age Reached:** 51 years old

**Breed:** Irish Draught

**Last Owner:** Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary



Shayne garnered media attention in 2012 — a year before he died — after his owners at the Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary in Essex thought about submitting Shayne to the Guinness Book of World Records. At the time, Guinness officials said that Shayne's owners were welcome to submit him for review as no one has laid claim to the title of world's oldest horse since Badger, who was also 51, died in 2004. Shayne never made it into the book and Badger still officially holds the record. Shayne was brought to the Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary in 2007 after enjoying many years with his previous owners in Chingford, Essex. He enjoyed his retirement at the sanctuary before he collapsed and was unable to stand again in early 2013. The staff at the sanctuary decided to put Shayne down so he could rest. Sue Burton, founder of Remus Memorial Horse Sanctuary said that Shayne was a happy boy who lived a long life because he was well-loved and not overworked. Shayne's diet consisted of sugar beets and chaff and he was given cabbage as a treat.

(Cont'd from page 1)

Owens won and we all cheered, and I thought, I will never forget this," the details still vivid 80 years later.

Greenway said her love of horses allowed her other opportunities to see the world and to compete, including winning the first modern-day show jumping competition at Toronto's Royal Winter Fair in 1949. She said, "Riding is the only sport where women and men compete on an even keel," laughing at the suggestion that the horse does all the work. "Being on something so big, there is no way you can be in control if they are not happy. You need to learn to be patient."

## Overcoming injury

Greenway had her share of falls, an inevitability for most riders, though she said she does her best to avoid a tumble at age 96. She said she has broken her neck twice but has no residual problems. She said, "I think muscles and tendons take a lot longer to heal, especially when you get so old," and chuckled. She said she understands some people are afraid of horses but says the trick is to treat them like people. "If they step on you, it will hurt but if you are sensible and you are kind, they'll be kind to you."

## More rides ahead

At the time of the report Greenway had survived three husbands (the latest was Robert Greenway who died in 2006) but said she doubts she will remarry, as she said she "continues to be attracted to older men who are increasingly hard to find!" Instead, as she nears centenarian status, she planned to make horses the constant factor in her life. She said, "I don't drink or smoke but I do have horses. This is always going to be my addiction." When she was asked how long she plans to keep riding, her tone suggested she has answered the same question many times before. "If discretion were a part of valour, I probably wouldn't be riding at all," she said with certainty. "But I like riding, they're my horses and I am going to keep doing it until I can't any longer."

The report concluded that there was only one thing that could get in the way of Greenway's plans -and that is progress. Right outside of her driveway, a subdivision was being built and the fields she knew so well on horseback had all been turned into residential homes. Greenway said she sold Dorindale Manor and her land to Drewlo Holdings (a developer) a few years back in a life tenancy agreement which meant that it was to remain hers until her death. She quipped, "{The developer] calls me regularly to ask how I am doing and I say, 'Fine, thank you very much,' and I can always hear a disgruntled sigh."

## HONORS

According to Horse Sport magazine, Dinnie Greenway was inducted into the London Sports Hall of Fame in November of 2017 when she was 97 years old. Citing all of her accomplishments in the equestrian world that started when she was just 7 years old, the accolades were respectful and thorough including the story that early on Dinnie earned her colours with the London Hunt at age eight and later, when she attended boarding school in England, she joined Pony Club; In 1948, she founded the London Pony Club. Greenway had been an active member on committees of the Western Fair, the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair as well as Canadian and international equestrian federations and teams for many years. When asked to do a quick, 1-minute interview for the induction, here is the interview Dinnie gave:

*"Davey, the only reason I'm here today is because of sports. Really! I mean, god I'm a healthy old dame and I feel fine and it's the people who weren't interested in athletics that aren't around anymore. That's sort of number one. And two I really enjoyed it and the people I met I've enjoyed seeing them since. I did at the time and I've been friends with them ever since. And it was a friendly thing. And as I say, the camaraderie was a big part of the sports. You know, it was fine to try and do your best and we certainly did. We'd split a gusset to do our very, very best but quite apart from that it was the, the association, being with these other people of like interests. And they all do different things now, but we've got that in common forever.*

The presentation also showed that Greenway's family was very well-known on the Canadian horse show scene, with her parents, judge G. A. P. Brickenden and Catherine (McCormick) Brickenden, being some of the first to breed sport horses and were important members of the showing and hunting communities. The London theatre awards are now named after them as well; Catherine was the granddaughter of biscuit maker Thomas McCormick. She studied drama, literature and playwriting at Emerson College in Boston and was instrumental in developing amateur theatre in London. She later famously led the charge to save the Grand Theatre from sale – and a future as a bowling alley.

# Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

2326 Happy Valley Rd  
Oak Harbor WA 98277

## THE END OF AN ERA

According to an article written by Norman De Bono and published by the London Free Press in July of 2018, Dorindale Manor was finally on set to be demolished after the farm's barns burned down. In February of 2018, the barns at the farm were completely demolished by fire, leaving Greenway's five horses without a home. Word spread through the community about the fire and friends showed up to support her. Some brought horse trailers and took the horses to stable them at their barns. "You wouldn't believe how good everyone was. It was the resurrection of the pioneer spirit. People were there at two and three in the morning, with trailers and sympathy," Greenway said. After the fire Dinnie knew her time on the farm with her horses was over and the estate was handed over to Drewlo Holdings who had purchased the property more than 30 years ago. The storied London home had hosted lavish society garden parties and greyhound races on its sprawling grounds. A Canadian prime minister even wrote a book within its rooms. But the 140-year-old home was soon to fall to a wrecker's ball, making way for new development.

De Bono wrote that Dorindale sits on 36 hectares at 2154 Richmond St. at Sunningdale Road, and the plans were to turn the property into a subdivision. The estate dates to 1878 and its looming demolition would be a loss to London's history and heritage, and a reminder to honor Greenway, 98 by then, who had moved to a retirement home, giving up her life and the love that had kept her so active for decades. "I loved it, I still love it," said Greenway, seated on the patio at her new home at Richmond Woods Retirement Village. "We spent as much time at the farm as possible. We loved to get out there. It was a wonderful place." The home may be a historical and cultural icon in the city, but to Greenway it was her escape, her fun place, she recalled. "As kids we would go riding out on our bikes and our ponies to the farm. We had a stable in town (at their London home) but we wanted to get to the farm. There were 100 acres and a woodlot, coyotes, wolves. I loved it."

At the hearing to try and establish Dorindale as a Historical site, former Premier David Peterson said "Dinnie is an inspiration, a great friend," and he counts Greenway as a dear friend of his late mother. "If London had a queen, Dinnie would be the best candidate. She is just fabulous." Peterson recalls being taught how to jump by Greenway when he was in his 20s. "She always looked like a queen on a horse, perfectly straight back. Riding well is difficult and she did it perfectly. She competed at a very high level." he said, adding she hunted on horseback for more than 80 years. "She would jump fences when normal people would say, 'I am not doing that.' She never had a hair out of place. She was a total lady in all circumstances."

Despite the importance of the family legacy, the home did not meet the criteria for historical designation because of its many additions and renovations, said Kyle Gonyou, heritage planner with the city.

## DORINDALE

Since 2018 there has been little written about Dinnie and how she is; there have been no published obituaries so I will assume she is still at Richmond Woods Retirement Village in London, now at the age of 102. I am certain she no longer rides, but am completely convinced the memories of her equestrian life keep her fulfilled and happy. I understand what she gave up, and how when the time is right we all have to let go. She continues to be an inspiration not only to me, but to many others in the equestrian world.

In April of 2021 the social network Urban Explorers sponsored by OAP or Ontario Abandoned Properties, sent a reporter out to see the status of Dorindale. When the reporter visited the property most of the trim and woodwork had been stripped from the house. The remains of the barn still contained some odds and ends including ribbons and memorabilia from Mrs Greenway's horse riding past. Though not totally destroyed, it was well on its way -another soon to be forgotten piece of our equestrian heritage and history.