



Bronze Horse by Patrick Bermingham  
Inspired by Isabel Dupuy  
Frolicking at Lee Academy

Winter 2013

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## Dr. Paula's Message

Dear Friends,

It is now a full two years since the tragic accident in 2011 that gave birth to Wind Dancer Pony Rescue Foundation. Although always good with numbers, I find myself unable to count the endless gifts given to Johnny, myself and all those dear to Isabel and Wind Dancer!



Photo courtesy of Flamborough Review

We have been consistently amazed by the creative energy that Isabel and her Wind Dancer legacy have inspired, from Haille Aboagye's elementary school project that received the highest marks her teacher has ever given (see photo further on), to a world class bronze created by sculptor Patrick Bermingham (Watch for our next issue for the story behind this amazing work of art.)

Our most obvious gift is the pony population—nine in all—that we can see frolicking from our kitchen window. They and the four in foster care are a happy bunch; if not when they first arrive, then soon after. Ears pricked forward, curious and willing, they all love being Wind Dancer ponies. I can only smile when I see them, and then again when I watch the smiles on the faces of our endless stream of eager, positive and helpful volunteers. These people are the unexpected gift, and they have made Wind Dancer what it is today.

Our volunteers are a community of families and friends enjoying the ponies' antics and issues, while spending that so-important quality time together. Some have much equine experience and some have none. Some, like Johnny and me, have experienced difficulty in their lives and find solace and therapy with the ponies. And, just like the ponies, if the volunteers aren't happy at first, they quickly become that way. At the time of this writing there are 95 individuals, 55 of whom are under the age of 21, freely giving their time to help the ponies.

Financial gifts to Wind Dancer continue, and for those we are most appreciative, as the costs of caring for the ponies are obviously ongoing. The children are, by far, the biggest donors, relatively speaking. In terms of individual donations compared to earning power, the thousands of dollars raised by our youth are nothing short of miraculous.

Wind Dancer Pony Rescue, created in a child's memory, continues to be recreated by our youth, and I believe this charitable organization belongs not only to the ponies but to the young people who help pay for it, work for it and believe in it every day.

I am assisted by a very talented board of eleven directors. Each individual brings a different set of strengths to the table, and their collective passion and dedication to Wind Dancer is yet another gift that I can't quantify, nor can I possibly explain.

It is refreshing to me—and to those involved with Wind Dancer, I know—that we can experience giving to a common cause in a world where many of our days are filled with the stresses of making a living and sometimes just getting through the day.

I thank our directors for assisting me in the challenges of administering a fledgling charitable organization. Our first year's financial statements are included in this issue. Please feel free to email [winddancerponies@gmail.com](mailto:winddancerponies@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Enjoy this second issue of Pony Tales! Please take in every every bit of this small summary of Wind Dancer Pony Rescue and what it is all about. Look closely at Patrick's sculpture. It is strength, it is beauty, it is freedom and, mostly, it is joy. When I watch Lucy frolic full speed across her paddock, I see all of these qualities. Perhaps they are Isabel's true legacy realized in Wind Dancer and, I hope, lived by each of us every day.



Believing in ponies,  
Paula

## WDPRF Statement of Financial Position

for the period ended June 30, 2012 (unaudited – see notice to reader\*)

ASSETS	2012
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash	\$10,844
Short Term Investments	\$20,294
	\$31,138
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS</b>	\$17,302
	\$48,440
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 6,088
<b>SURPLUS</b>	\$42,352
	\$48,440

All current assets came from donations.

Capital assets accumulated in our first year included 3 run-ins, the pony shed and new fencing. At the time of this statement Accounts Payable were catering expenses associated with the 2012 Pony Palooza.

## WDPRF Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Surplus For the Period Ended June 30, 2012

<b>Revenue</b>	
Donations	\$46,184
Events	\$19,531
	\$65,715
<b>Expenses</b>	
Advertising and promotion	\$ 2,563
Amortization	\$ 4,326
Apparel	\$ 2,265

Continued on next page

Donations	\$ 109
Event expenses	\$ 9,032
Insurance	\$ 1,140
Interest and bank charges	\$ 220
Memberships and licenses	\$ 100
Office and postage	\$ 586
Pony Upkeep	\$ 2,490
Professional fees	\$ 548
Repairs and maintenance	\$ 661
Shelter upkeep	\$ 1,337
Small tool	\$ 405
	\$25,782
	\$39,933

### Other Income

Interest Income	\$ 294
Other Revenue	\$ 2,125
	\$ 2,419

**EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES, BEING SURPLUS  
AT END OF PERIOD** **\$42,352**

Going forward "Pony Upkeep" will be divided into feed, farrier and veterinary. For this period expenses in this area were minimum as much hay was donated as were farrier and professional veterinary fees. Hay expense has increased since the end of this period and we expect it to continue to do so.

#### \*NOTICE TO READER

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Wind Dancer Pony Rescue Foundation as at June 30, 2012 and the statement of revenues, expenses and surplus for the period ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Brownlow Partners, Chartered Accountants, Ancaster, ON  
October 25, 2012

## Royal Winter Fair 2012



Bekka Karpinski, Iris Giffin, Emily Outerbridge, Quinn Moyer — glowing after a successful Spirit of the Horse ring performance with Frank



Aly Kadar and Iris Giffin educate a Royal Winter Fair visitor about Frank and Wind Dancer

★ 2nd Annual Pony Palooza

Families welcome!

Visit with a Wind Dancer Pony

Raffle Tables Activities for children

LIVE AUCTION Silent Auction Wind Dancer Clothing For Sale

Saturday, May 4, 2013

Rockton Fair Grounds

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. \* Buffet Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$35 Children: \$15

Tickets available at Troy Veterinary Services, Highway 8, Sheffield  
Settler's Supplies, Sheffield and Lee Academy, Lynden

Donations for raffle and silent auction items will be gratefully accepted at Troy Veterinary Services until April 30.

For ticket or donation information, contact: winddancerponies@gmail.com



## 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt



The 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt in support of Wind Dancer Pony Rescue Foundation was held on Saturday, March 30 at Lee Academy in Lynden. A total of \$1,006 was raised.

Children ages 2 to 14 scrambled for eggs had their faces painted, enjoyed Easter treats, met the Easter Bunny and a Wind Dancer pony.

Organized by sisters Felicia and Clarissa Chaisson along with their mother Jill, the hunt is open to all and has raised more than \$2,000 for Wind Dancer since its inception. The sisters, both graduates of Lee Academy, also make and sell greeting cards, the proceeds of which they donate to the ponies.

## Wind Dancer Ponies on the Move

At the end of March, there were nine ponies in residence at the Wind Dancer Rescue in Sheffield, and another four fostered out to loving families.

Since the last newsletter, two new ponies, Honey and Babe, have been taken in. Honey has already found a new home. Meanwhile Bomber and Ellie, Wind Dancer's first clients in 2011, have returned. Here are some selected updates on our resident ponies.



Honey

### Bomber

Aged Bay Gelding

### Ellie

Aged Liver Chestnut Mare

The very first ponies brought to Wind Dancer in August 2011, Bomber and Ellie, the gentle senior pair, came from a riding school where they were no longer used. After some months at Wind Dancer they went along with Dudley (half pony, half donkey) to the Johnstons near Paris. Much as they love these ponies, the family has decided that, with a major move in their future, the ponies should be brought back to Wind Dancer, where they've now settled in until their next foster home. Meanwhile, Dudley is so much a part of the family, he will be moving with the Johnstons. Bomber and Ellie have proven very adaptable to new surroundings, and they are ready to meet new and loving families.

### Two-Bit

14-Year-Old Mare - Black & White Paint

Two-Bit was rescued from a home that was unable to manage her chronic laminitis (painful inflammation of the sensitive laminae of the hoof). She began her stay at Wind Dancer in a stall with deep shavings to cushion her feet, with a group of curious ponies looking in on her. With the pampering of the volunteers along with vet and farrier care, including some specially customized protective boots, Two-Bit can boogie pretty quickly to her daily mash in the paddock she now shares with Frosty, an aged and blind mare.

### Babe

6-Year-Old Dark Bay Mare

Physically Babe is in fairly good shape and just needs to put on a little more weight. But because she was alone so much in her previous home with only lawn ornaments for company, she's shy and hesitates to come close to the volunteers. She is curious, though, and is trying her best to connect with her caregivers. The volunteers are patient and kind and Babe is coming to recognize that friendship with her humans can be a good thing. The trust will come with time. One day Babe will be ready to join the others on the foster list.



## Homes for Ponies: What Wind Dancer's About

As Ellie and Bomber return to Wind Dancer, Honey and Tika move out, and it is the growing number of families applying to provide foster care who make it possible for Wind Dancer to continue serving ponies in need.

Under a special agreement, the foster family takes responsibility for the pony, although ownership remains with Wind Dancer. If, for any reason, the arrangement does not work out, the pony will be returned to Wind Dancer. For details about how you and your property can become a candidate foster farm, please contact [wind-dancerponies@gmail.com](mailto:wind-dancerponies@gmail.com).

### Honey

Young - Chestnut Gelding, Shetland

The tiniest member of the Wind Dancer ponies, this personable little 'teenager' gets the cute title. Rescued along with two donkeys from a petting zoo in Sarnia, Honey won the hearts of the volunteers and soon the hearts of a young foster family in the Valens-Freelton area. In March, Honey went home to become family and friend to Sam, Addison, Neal and Amy who spotted the Wind Dancer newsletter at a local tack shop. The family has been busy preparing their new farm with pony-approved housing and supplies.

Mother Amy is now sharing her lifelong love of horses and animal rescue with her husband and two young children. Welcome home Honey!

### Tika

7-Year-Old Chestnut Gelding

Tika came to Wind Dancer with Frosty, a blind and aged mare. They had been confined to a stall for years, and Tika was so timid no one could get near him. Except for a special few. Like Bekka Karpinski, a teen volunteer on the 'Monday night crew' who has been there with Tika on his journey back.

She worked with him, waiting until he was comfortable with a halter and lead, until he would allow her to brush his belly and then his legs. He now lives with Bekka and her mom Kathi, who have been volunteers at Wind Dancer from the very beginning. Says Kathi, 'We're here to keep Isabel's dream alive.'

When Tika arrived at the Karpinski farm, Kathi says, 'He walked into the paddock and did a 'Wow'. Their 17 year old mare at first wondered, 'What is that thing?', but now the two get along very well. They're hoping to eventually ride Tika – he's OK with a saddle, not so much with a bit just yet.



*Tika gets a kiss from Bekka*

## Helping Wind Dancer Comes Naturally

For the 138 students at Lee Academy, supporting the Wind Dancer Pony Rescue comes as naturally as cheering on a friend. When the rescue was established soon after Isabel Dupuy's death, "the kids here just naturally took up the cause...I don't think anybody would have thought otherwise," says Alison Will, Director of the small private school in Lynden, Ontario, where Isabel was a student. Isabel's school mates knew that ponies were her passion. By raising money for the foundation and volunteering at the rescue, students in the close-knit school have found a way to deal with missing a good friend as they help Isabel's dream come true.

"For them, I think, they really feel it is something Isabel would be doing had she been here."

To date, Lee Academy fundraising events have collected more than \$5,000 in aid of the Wind Dancer Foundation. This figure does not include individual donations by students and their friends, who sometimes choose to forego birthday gifts or allowances in favour of donating to the pony charity instead. Nor does it include money raised through the sale of handmade Christmas cards and ornaments created by two sisters, now in university, who are former students at the academy.

Mrs. Will remembers Isabel as a positive force who had a special ability to bring people together. "People liked being with Isabel, although her preference was animals."

"If you watch children and you watch animals, they have a lot in common." Children have not yet lost their ability to rely on their intuition, says Mrs. Will. "They base their reactions on what they sense, not on what someone tells them."

The magic of that unspoken connection was something Isabel seemed able to communicate to the other children in her school, where the natural world has always been a big part of the curriculum.

Among the milestones the Lee Academy children have achieved for Wind Dancer has been enough money to build a "pony shed," a sort of volunteer headquarters, where they sign in and out of a log book, pass information to each other, and pick up the supplies they need to care for the ponies.

And the relationship between Lee Academy and Wind Dancer goes both ways. Sometimes the children visit the farm; sometimes the farm visits them. Last year,



*Lee Academy's Grade 2 children raised \$537 in their bake sale this year, assisted by adult volunteers.*

*(from left) Clarissa Chaisson, Reanne Lucek, Grade 2 teacher Darcy Morrish, and Felicia Chaisson*

Wind Dancer, the charity's mascot, came to the campus and was even invited into the gymnasium for an assembly. The academy director recalls how, when Dancer lifted her tail and left her own gift behind on the gym floor, "the kids thought that was the best thing ever!"

Lee Academy devotes one-third of its fundraising efforts to the Wind Dancer Pony Rescue Foundation. The remainder supports other local and international charities. Here is a breakdown of funds the Lee Academy students have raised for Wind Dancer since the pony rescue came into being:

- 2011
- Bake Sale - \$1,200
  - Family BBQ - \$430
  - Pony Tree (cut-out ponies which, for a donation, were hung on the school Christmas Tree) - \$600
- 2012
- Family BBQ - \$480
  - Pennies for Ponies - \$1,400
- 2013
- Dance - \$50
  - Bake Sale \$537 (The other half of the \$1,074 in proceeds goes to Madaraka Elementary School in Kenya)

Total raised to date by Lee Academy students, teachers and staff: \$5,000 & growing!

## Wind Dancer Children Demonstrate the Meaning of Giving

Children are unfettered by financial responsibilities, but neither do they earn income. The resourcefulness of Wind Dancer's child fundraisers is as limitless as their selfless generosity. Here, we recognize Wind Dancer's young supporters, but we may have missed some. If you would like us to recognize your project, be sure to remind us at [winddancerponies@gmail.com](mailto:winddancerponies@gmail.com)

A group of friends competes in the annual Toronto "Mud Run" and donates the proceeds to Wind Dancer. Among them are: Avery Oliver, Aislin Osborne, Aidan Outerbridge, Eric and Scott Justason, Philip Spicer, Rozzy Bergez, Ceri Gibbs; Greg, Josh and Jordan Curnew; Jack and Charlie Johnston; Crispin, Thomas and Oliver Sant.

Soon after Isabel's accident, Laura Passant, Emily Outerbridge and Neil O'Rourke each went door-to-door raising money for the ponies. Jackson and Charlotte Santa-Barbara sold vegetables from their roadside stand; Hannah Stone ran a used book sale at her school; and, Brooke Sampson collected money at her birthday party and organized a school talent show with friend Olivia Ferney, all in aid of Wind Dancer.

Others have collected money in lieu of birthday gifts and given it to the Foundation. Among them are: Gabriel Boyter, Abby Banko, Millie Oliver, Jake Barclay, Luke McCutcheon, Aidan Cooper, Philip Spicer, Caden Hubers, Jack Johnston, Tanner Sheppard, Jake Sim, Isabella McCutcheon, Aislin Osborne, Zach Zekl. Others, including Paige Bradford, Haille and Neleh Abaogye have donated their allowances.

Meanwhile, Cole Boland raised money in the junior achievement program at his high school.

Isabel was a leader amongst her peers and at Wind Dancer, every young volunteer is learning about responsibility, dedication, team work and the joy of giving. These are great qualities and skills for the future leaders they will become.



Pictured with Beans from left to right - Amelia Tziougras, Kathi Karpinski, Bekka Karpinski, Felicia Chaisson, Jill Chaisson, Clarissa Chaisson, and Paula Dupuy

Lucy, Ruben and Beans - enjoying breakfast in a snowstorm



Volunteer Haille Aboagy is proud of her school project on the Wind Dancer Pony Rescue and the fact she received the highest mark her teacher has ever given!



Volunteers Emily Outerbridge and Hannah Russell feeding Frosty her mash



Johnny, pictured here bringing hay to the pony shed, works tirelessly to keep our ponies fed, watered and their paddocks safe.

## Fresh water, a little hay and a lotta love: Thank You!

A critical part of the Wind Dancer Pony Rescue is providing healthy food, tender loving care and a reliable water supply. Because of the challenges of Wind Dancer's ground conditions, bringing fresh water to the ponies year-round needed a creative and cost-effective solution.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and sponsors, and to the ingenuity of Johnny Bartlett, Dr. Paula's husband, the ponies will always have fresh water even on the coldest winter days and in the driest summer droughts.

The huge outpouring of support for Wind Dancer has helped cover the \$6,000 water project startup (originally estimated at more than \$10,000). Thank you, donors and sponsors.

"It's wonderful. It's so much easier for us than carrying buckets of water to the troughs," says Dr. Paula.

The usual solution, laying underground water lines, would have been twice as expensive and structurally difficult because bedrock is very close to the surface. So Johnny researched and customized a water supply system using a network of hydro-serviced troughs in the paddocks and a specially modified bucket apparatus on his tractor. Every Sunday, he fills the four heated troughs from the huge bucket, freeing the volunteers for the rest of the week to focus on tender loving care and feeding.

Now that the installation is complete and paid for, ensuring a steady fresh water supply all winter will mean much higher hydro bills, so this will be a continuing priority for Wind Dancer's fundraising efforts.

## How You Can Help

Make a donation online at [www.winddancerponies.org](http://www.winddancerponies.org) by clicking on "Donate" at the top right of the page. (Your tax receipt will be emailed to you.)

Mail a cheque payable to "Wind Dancer Pony Rescue Foundation" and mail to P.O. Box 61, Sheffield, Ontario L0R 1Z0. (Be sure to include your name and mailing address for a tax receipt.)

Call 519-622-4575 or email [winddancerponies@gmail.com](mailto:winddancerponies@gmail.com) and arrange to drop off items for the ponies.

Thank You! It is donors like you who make it possible for Wind Dancer to continue helping ponies who need love and care and good, lifelong homes.



### Board of Directors

Paula Dupuy, President  
Karen Monteiro, Treasurer  
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Susanne Crago, Graphic Designer, Chameleon Graphics

The poster for "Isabel's Ride" is set against a vibrant blue background. At the top, the title "Isabel's Ride" is written in a large, pink, cursive font. Below it, the date "Sunday June 2, 2013" is displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The phrase "Believing in Ponies" is written in a white, cursive font at the bottom of the main text area. At the very bottom, the text "More Information Coming Soon to www.winddancerponies.org" is written in a white, sans-serif font. The poster is decorated with several colorful stars in shades of yellow, pink, and blue, and white starburst shapes.