

JANUARY FEATURE

Shelley Speck-Catto - The love that brought me to LTS



I guess you could say I started riding as soon as I was able to walk!
Horses and riding were in my blood.

My Mom 'Judy' introduced horses & riding to my Sister & I at a very young age.
Growing up on a farm – Coached by my Sister Heather I learned how to ride in my own backyard.

One of our traditions every November, my Mom would take me out of school and we would go watch pony day at the Royal Winter Fair! At the age of 7 years old I said “Mom – I want to show here next year!” Music to her ears – before I knew it we were pony shopping.

Needless to say my showing career started! In 1988 – I qualified my 2 new ponies for the Royal Winter Fair. After this I spent many great years on the 'A' & Trillium Circuit always with my Mom by my side – She was a great groom!

In the year 1999 I decided to take a break from showing.

With my Sister & I out of competitive riding my Mom decided it was her turn to have a horse again – so off we went shopping for the perfect Western Pleasure Horse. This is when she found “MYLES” It was love at first sight. My Mom & he were a great team in the western pleasure world – this time I got to be the groom!!!

Flash forward to Spring 2008 – My Mom was diagnosed with terminal cancer, so she decided she had to sell Myles! This is when we found Tessa & LTS. My Mom was great friend's with Olga Laughton (Tessa's Mom) So we sent Myles to LTS to be sold. This boy being a western star I had to train some English into him – So I rode him everyday – and what do you know I became ATTACHED! “Mom – don't sell him – I'll keep him!”
So I did.

My Mom passed away August 2008 - Myles and LTS were my only salvation!!!

LTS then turned into my second home! At the beginning I thought I only wanted to be a pleasure rider – but then I got this sudden itch to show again. As much as I love Myles – he wasn't the right show mount for me. After trying out a lot of horses I found my match – Frankie!!

With Tessa's help – I got back into the show ring - Frankie & I are striving towards showing in the Hunter Ring for the 2011 Trillium Show Season.

LTS has changed my life – I have a second home - Many new great friends – Exceptional care for my horses – It truly is a family!

They say some things happen for a reason – this was mine!
I know my Mom is looking down with a smile!