

JEAN BRIDGES

Jalna Saffire (Skye) and Guysborough Grey (Magic)

Jean taught at the NB Community College in Woodstock and is now retired. She and her husband, Elliott, now live in Silverwood near Fredericton.

Jean has been training for, and competing in, distance riding events for several years.

It's official..

"My mother got me a pony when I was five years old to keep me off her horse."

She's been "on the road" ever since. Jean was coached by both Alan Wedge and Carolyn Wanamaker and now trains with Joanne MacBride at Keswick River Farms near Fredericton.

Personally speaking..

"I accomplished my short term goal this year. After all my concerns about trying to condition (the horses) this spring, our horses placed Reserve and Third. It was announced at the awards that we were from the 'far north'. Maybe wading all that snow last winter did keep them in condition."

Jean says she enjoys riding on the beautiful islands below the Mactaquac Dam near Fredericton

Accomplishments & Goals

Best competitive accomplishments so far?
"Achieving my 8,000 miles in sanctioned

competitions in 2010. My best accomplishment in a single event was when my 19-year-old Morgan, Justina, was Reserve Champion, won our division, trail horse and high point Morgan - all at the 80-Mile Nationals in Nova Scotia."

Best non-competitive accomplishments? "Riding and conditioning my new mare, Skye, was an accomplishment for me. Buying an untrained seven-year-old was not in my plan, but after three months with trainer Wayne Antworth, I started riding Skye on the trail. Thanks to her I am still riding."

Short-term goals? "To ride the Acadia 50 in 2011."

Long-term goals? "To keep on riding well into my 80s!"

Obstacles, Heros and Future Plans

"Starting a new horse and staying well (in order to do so) are challenges (as one matures).

"My husband Elliott, and daughter Ann, who have always been there for me and sometimes give me a little push to keep me going, are my heros."

Jean hopes to continue riding well into the future, enjoying each day as it comes.



On the Road!

Ann Bridges on Guyborough Gray (R) and Jean Bridges on Jalna Saffire (L).
Photo taken by Elliott Bridges

Quotable notes...

"I feel blessed to have my family, friends and horses."

Factoids

- Current horses - Jalna Saffire (Skye) and Guysborough Grey (Magic)
- Greatest joy - my family
- Secret indulgence - dark chocolate.

More...

- Competitive discipline - Distance Riding
- Previous horses - Spring Hills Justina

And More...

- Hobbies / interests - traveling, reading, cooking, walking and exercise classes, and enjoying time with family and friends
- Favourite book - 'To Fly Without Wings'
- Favourite music - easy listening