

Ontario Reining Horse Association

SLIDER

October-November 2009

President's Message

The O.R.H.A. 2009 show season is officially over - the year-end awards banquet is now behind us, with only the Oklahoma Futurity and Affiliate Finals remaining.

And what a great season it was - some outstanding horses and memorable runs, terrific camaraderie and great sportsmanship.

So many "special mentions" come to mind, but I hate to overlook someone by highlighting particular individuals. I will, however, thank all the show hosts and show managers, the show office staff, the scribes and people who manned the gate, the announcers, and all who stepped up to the plate to help out in any way.

Our committee Chairs (Ken and Dana Van Alstine, Harvey Stevens, John Fletcher, Dan and Bernice Fletcher) and their many committee members also deserve special mention, as does India Hathaway who keeps our website fresh and up-to-date. All of these people work so hard behind the scenes to ensure our shows take place and that things run smoothly.

And let's not forget your Board of Directors - Ken Van Alstine, Mike Munroe, Harvey Stevens., Wendy Dyer, Brian Stewart, John Purdie, Rosemary Hilbert, Dave Alexander, Mary Jo MacDonnell and Joanne Milton - who put in more hours than

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Slider Contact

Editing/Advertising:

Carol Ivey

president@orha.on.ca

Editing:

Lacey Siemonsen

newsletter@orha.on.ca

many members realise. Thank you ladies and gentlemen for all you do on behalf of the O.R.H.A.

And finally, thank YOU - the members - for your support and participation, and for making the O.R.H.A. the BEST equestrian organization out there.

See you at the A.G.M. on February 14, and in the meantime remember, if you ain't slidin, you ain't riding!

Best wishes to you and your family.

Carol Ivey

The First Year Reiner's Survival Guide

By Jesse Pecore

Hello! My name is Jesse Pecore, I am 14 years old, and a first year reining survivor... I think. I began reining in March 2009, and learned some very important lessons and tips everyone should know in order to survive their first year:

- 1- **You will have a nickname!** If you're lucky it's only one. If you're *really lucky* it's cool or at the very least your last name. If you're *extremely lucky* people call you by your first name and in that case I suggest you buy a lotto ticket. Unfortunately for me, I've had several nicknames and none of them have been my first name. Some of them are very embarrassing, like what people call my friend Bob (not me...) like Miss Daisy, Helmet, and one that is inappropriate that I can't say here. The most common one people call me is *Timbit*, because I believe Tim Horton's Timbits should be their own food group.
- 2- **Don't talk the talk until you can walk the walk... in spurs.** In other words, don't push a Rubbermaid full of dirty water until you learn to walk in spurs... Nothing good or *dry* will come of it.
- 3- **Always tack your hat to your head.** It is not good enough to simply bobby pin it to your head. No! You have to use double sided tape, duck tape, bobby pins, toilet paper, cigarettes, and much more. Because if you don't very bad things will happen to you. As an example my friend Bob (still not me...) tried everything to try to stick his hat to his head but they didn't work out so well. A valuable lesson was learned when he only used double sided tape on the front of his

head. Instead of the hat flipping off backward, it flipped off frontward but then stuck to his face so he couldn't see where he was going on his rollback. Here's a tip: when using double sided tape, apply to the front and back of your head so this does not happen to you.

- 4- **Always know your pattern before you show... or severe consequences will occur.** This happened to my friend Bob in Midland, Michigan, last class of the day, last draw of the day, Pattern 10. During Bob's pattern, he screwed up and he zeroed. While he was walking to the gate to exit the show ring, he was thinking in his head, "Oh my God my coach is going to kill me". But surprisingly the first time bob ever zeroed all his coach said to him was "it happens", boy was bob relieved. The next show directly after that one was at Meaford Ontario I... I mean Bob was second class of the day so it was pretty early for him. It was pattern A and Bob had forgot to spin to the right, so he looked over to where his coach was standing and poof he was gone in a flash Bob had never seen anybody leave so fast in his entire life. It was like magic. After that his coach told Bob if he ever zeroes on his pattern twice in a row again, he would have to do the Macarena in front of everybody, on the horse, in

the center of the show arena. I think Bob would die.

- 5- **Beware! Halloween make up in June.** I was lucky enough to be asked to assist my coach in a reining demo for a Horseweek celebration at Black's Equine Centre this year. For fun and the entertainment of the crowd, I dressed up as the devil and reined a freestyle pattern to "The Devil Went Down to Georgia". Needless to say the red face paint does not come off as easily as it says on the box. So I was forced to walk around for the rest of the day with a red face (literally).
- 6- **Circles, circles, circles.** When asked to ride your horse around and warm up, remember this is not western pleasure and that means you warm up in circles; not on the rail. If you don't your coach may have something to say about it...
- 7- **Metal bleachers make a great bed.** Sleep is a luxury. You sleep where and

when you can. I can tell you from personal experience that metal bleachers are quite cozy and comfortable at 3:00 am. I can also suggest the car, an empty stall or even a tack room. Oh! And bring a pillow (just hide it from your coach. You don't want them to think your sleeping on the job).

- 8- **Reining is an absolute blast!** The most important tip I can pass on is to have fun. Reining is by far the biggest rush I have ever had. From the hoots, and whistles in the show ring to the jokes, and laughter around the barn, make sure you enjoy every minute because I sure am.

Thank you to all who have made my first year so great!

This is Jesse Pecore, first year survivor signing off. Don't worry, I am sure there will be plenty of "Bob's" bloopers in year two.

ONTARIO EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

Thank you to the O.E.F. for their generous grant of \$1,410 under the O.E.F. Sports Award Program.

And congratulations to John Purdie for being nominated this year's O.R.H.A. candidate for the O.E.F. "People Make A Difference" award.

CONGRESS STARS

- Loris Epis, 1st in Int. Open, 5th in Open and Novice Horse 2 Open
- Darby Mailhot, 4th in Youth 13 and Under
- Dan Fletcher, 5th in Amateur Reining
- Molly Stevens, 10th in Ladies
- Dean Brown, 12th in Final Go of the Open Futurity Class

Congratulations to each of you!

Member Survey

The results are in for our member survey and following is a recap of the results.

Positives: great people, lifelong friendships, atmosphere, camaraderie

Negatives: high cost of showing; scary warm-up pens; show calendar posted too late in the year; lack of awareness of what is going on at Board level; need for a full time trainer to be competitive.

Suggestions: offer a one day membership for local people to try reining in an ORHA class; ORHA should run its own shows, using a single central location; more social events at the shows; more clinics; on-line entries; make Saturday an ORHA classes only, for people to haul into and save money; run Mens/Ladies on Friday evening; earlier draw postings; add AQHA, ORHA Rookie and ORHA Ltd. Non Pro classes; post Board Minutes on the website.

Fundraising Ideas: tack auction; bbq; concert; bake sales; potluck dinner with donation for dessert; photo calendar of prior year's shots; lesson with a trainer raffle.

Ask the Trainer!!!

What is your biggest piece of advice for those involved with Reining?

Loris Epis:

Reining is a very special sport, a sport in which even the person in the winner's circle has room for improvements. Be proud of yourself when you win, but win or lose, remember there is always something

Attracting new members: demos at equine events, Fall Fairs, local club shows; videos on the website of good runs; videos on You Tube and Facebook; AQHA reining class; free entry and no ORHA membership for first-timers (could present insurance coverage problems to host facility); advertise in other equine publications; more cash for entry level classes to help offset showing costs.

Notable Quotes:

"The friendly supportive people."

"Comradeship between fellow competitors not found in other sports."

"It has to become more reasonable for people who don't have 70++ horses."

"It is pretty hard to justify a \$500 weekend."

N.B. Winner of the survey draw for a \$100 Tim Hortons gift card was Mary Dancey Clark. Thank you to all who participated.

By Lacey Siemonsen

more to learn, and you can always ALWAYS do *something* better! Make sure to go to clinics, watch videos, and constantly try to better yourself. Not everything works on every horse, but remember the advice people give you because you can usually put it to good use in the future.

What should a green as grass rider look for in his/her first horse?

Joanne Milton:

TEMPERAMENT, TEMPERAMENT, TEMPERAMENT!!! You need a horse that will do exactly as you say (including doing something wrong if you ask them wrong, this will be invaluable in helping you recognize your mistakes) & not get frustrated with your blunders (you WILL make them). The horse also has to be forgiving enough to then turn around & do exactly as you say when you get it right (this will help you recognize you are improving so YOU don't get frustrated).

Be wary of buying too much horse for your first.....you can always move up when you're ready to handle that much speed & responsiveness, and starting out slower will help you get solid in your seat & aids. And above all else, make sure it is a horse you like to just spend time with.....you will need to spend a lot of time with it and it's easy to lose sight of your goals if you're not having fun!

How does one incorporate natural horsemanship into Reining?

Susan Dahl:

I incorporate natural horsemanship and body control reining techniques right from day-to-day handling on the ground, to foal handling, to round penning, to colt starting, to foundation work/basics, to tune up training, to sports like team penning, english events, working cow horse, etc and of course... reining training. I've actually combined natural horsemanship *with*

reining to develop the best foundation training for all horses that I could ever imagine. They are the two key fundamentals in my training program.

As for reining, after a horse has been through my foundation reining training program (natural horsemanship + body control reining techniques), the horse has had their **initial reining training**. Then it's just a matter of refining it and perfecting it to the best of the horse's ability in order to compete in reining. (Other horses would then move on further into their sport specific training.)

It's as simple and easy as that!

What is ideal when searching for a reining horse with good conformation?

Bill Rinzema:

The biggest thing when it comes to finding a reining horse with good conformation is balance. It's all about proportion, the neck compared to the back. Traditionally, manoeuvres come easier to horses with relatively short backs and naturally low headsets. Usually it's nice to have a horse with low hocks to help him with stopping. This is not to say, however, that there are not anomalies! Some of the nicest horses in the reining industry do not fit this bill!

Reining Icon: Joanne Milton

Although you rarely see her competing, as she is usually in the office or coaching on the fence, Joanne makes the world go around in the Ontario Reining Horse Association. She, and her team, work

tirelessly in the office to keep everything running smoothly. She works long hours, to ensure that we all have fun at the horse show! Because of this, Joanne has been selected for this issue's Reining Icon. In case we don't say it enough, thank you Joanne!

1. How did you get started in Reining?

WAAAYYYYY back, when I was still in high school (in the dinosaur age), I showed in the Reining class on my old Barrel horse at one of the local Fall Fairs... (I'll never forget it because I locked the keys in the car and had to get the Police to break into it for me).....I don't think I placed too well, but I was hooked.....

Several eons later (in my mid-thirties), I was finally in a position to get an actual Reining horse and I took lessons from Bridget Gilkinson and started showing in the Beginner & Ladies classes (that was in the days before Green As Grass).....in my second year, I added the Freestyle.....my third and last year (my back was fried way back then) I only showed in the Freestyle. I had students showing my horse (Cricket Reflection) in Beginner or ORHA Youth or Ladies in order to warm her up for me and I got on 5 minutes before my class.....students also did all the work on Cricket during the week, so she was a pretty darned good horse to get me through



the season and win the year-end championship for Freestyle (the last year it was a year-end award).

I wanted to stay involved with all the wonderful people I met in the ORHA, so instead of just going to watch the shows and jacking up my jealousy quotient, I started helping out in the show office.....and the rest, as they say, is history!

2. What do you enjoy most about Reining & the ORHA?

I've always loved reining for the precision (my second love is Trail).....I'm terrified of speed, so it's not a thrill sport for me! But even though you get rewarded for going fast (as long as you are still correct), it's amazing how many classes you can win just by staying out of the penalty box! I find the judging system to be very fair and rewarding for correctness.

The ORHA is positively THE best organization I have ever been involved in! The people are just like a close-knit family and everyone is so helpful & supportive. I can't imagine my life now without the ORHA!

3. Advice for newcomers?

Get a horse that will forgive your mistakes (or find a coach that has such a horse to learn on).....get in the pen.....and

HAVE FUN!!! It's not all about winning & especially not about who you can beat (9 times out of 10 it will be yourself)! It's about doing the best you can. And definitely get a coach/trainer a knowledgeable person to help you sort through the maze of rules & regulations (ORHA/NRHA/RC) because the eligibility criteria can be VERY confusing.....

4. Favourite ORHA memory?

This one was the hardest question.....there are SO many.....but I have to say it was getting a standing ovation when I came out of the ring at Kemptville after showing Vanna White in Sidesaddle!! What a rush!

OBBO 2009 Futurity Results

Submitted by Harvey Stevens

It is with great pleasure the OBBO committee congratulates all the winners of this year's OBBO Futurities. The Futurity was held Wednesday September 16th during the London Western Fair at the Agri-Plex. A total of \$16,912 in purse money was paid out to the top finishing horse and rider teams at this year's OBBO Futurity classes and Reining Pleasure class. We commend you all on your hard work!

3yr old Open Reining Champion

RR Stranger

RR Star x Crying In The Rain

Owned & Ridden by: Tim Stanton

Winning: \$3268.86



Photo Courtesy of River Bend



Photo Courtesy of River Bend Designs

3yr old Ltd Open Reining Champion

Cruisen In My HotRod

Body Cruise x HotRodder Miss Bell

Owned by: Bob Grenier

Ridden by: Laurier Côté

Winning: \$515.41

3yr old Non Pro Reining Champion
WB Pirate Whiz

Willow Brook Whiz x Pretty Pirate
Owned & Ridden by: Ken Van Alstine
Winning: \$2008.73



Photo Courtesy of River Bend Designs

2yr old Western Pleasure Champion
Custom Shirt

Custom King Cutter x High Slit Skirt
Owned by: Wilburn Archer
Ridden by: Harvey Stevens
Winning: \$693.77



Photo Courtesy of River Bend Designs

3yr old Ltd Non Pro Reining Champion
and Graduate Award

GuessImOutOf Bullets
Smokin Silver Bullet x Jacks Eternal Ember
Owned & Ridden by: Candice Griffin
Winning: \$505.80 and Recipient of the Graduate Award



Photo Courtesy of River Bend Designs

A Token of our Appreciation

Chairperson of the OBBO Committee, Harvey Stevens of Indian River ON, Presented each of the Stallion owners with a plaque in appreciation for donating and selling their Stallion to the OBBO's 1/2 price breeding program



Left to right: Kathy & Nelson Bilyea - Ginnin Cowboy, Lloyd Diehl - Master Chex, John Thompson - Custom King Cutter, Paul McGrath - Slide Over Hollywood, Deidre & Carley Hicks - Spooks Gotta Gun, Debbie Bateman - Smokin Silver Bullet (Absent from Photo): Avalon Ranch - Listo Pollito Lena, Brian Stewart - Trodi San Badger, Duane Hicks - Spooks Gotta Gun

Graduate Award

Candice Griffin Placed 2nd in the 2008 2 Year Olds Reining Pleasure Class and 1st in the Ltd. Non-Pro 3 Year old Futurity class of 2009 to received the Graduate Award.

**Congratulations to the winning Stallion owners of this years "Get of Sire" award.
Winning \$1000 Paul McGrath and Slide Over Hollywood, John Thompson and
Custom King Cutter.**

Thank You

The entire OBBO Futurity Committee would also like to thank all who participated in the ORHA/OBBO Futurity Show. This year's show was a great success with the help of all our contributing sponsor's. Product was donated by many of our sponsors and awarded to many of the competitors who finished in the mystery spot for that class. It was a pleasure working with Cheron and the Western Fair Board, and we look forward to working with you again in 2010. OBBO 2009 Futurity Show Sponsors:

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Champ Enterprises	VanAlstine Quarter Horses	Embroidery by Donna
Brubacher's Harness Supplies	Alberton Veterinary Services	
MacDonnell Fuels Ltd.	Sign Up	River Bend Design
	Radisson Hotel & Suites	

With the support of all the above mentioned sponsors the total purse money paid out at this years OBBO Futurity show was \$23,495.00. A great big thank you goes to all our volunteers who help out at the show it made for a smoother run show. A special thanks to all the riders who took the time to come out to the OBBO Futurity Show your support is greatly appreciated.

Reminder

Nominate your weanlings and yearlings. Nomination payment is due December 31, 2009.
See the OBBO Futurity page at www.orha.on.ca for more information and Nomination Forms.

Year-End Awards Banquet

On November 7th, we celebrated another year of member accomplishments at the Holiday Inn in Guelph, with Dan Fletcher once again our very entertaining Master of Ceremonies, supported by the lovely Dana Van Alstine.

The Youth Committee presented a special award of an embroidered cooler to Darcy Wilson, in recognition of her impressive gold medal at the Kentucky

Young Riders competition, and we all got to enjoy a video of her winning run.

In addition, John Thompson was awarded a personalized jacket by the O.R.H.A. Board for his four years of service as Association President, which Harvey accepted on his behalf since John was not present.

The recipient of this year's Brian Heaton Memorial Award was Joanne Milton, for her years of service and dedication to the O.R.H.A. Her emotional reaction to the news and her acceptance speech were very touching.

John Purdie was nominated as the O.R.H.A. candidate for this year's O.E.F.

“People Make a Difference Award.” Again, a much deserved honour.

And the winner of the Pard's Saddle Series this year was Loris Epis, who is getting very comfortable with acceptance speeches – must be all the practice he is getting!

Those present enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner and dancing, and live and silent auction, with lots of fun thrown in. It was a great evening, as always.

Thank you Dan and Bernice and Dana for a job well done, and to all our generous award sponsors and those who donated auction items.

Now the planning begins for the next one!

2009 Sired Stakes Futurity: RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2009 Sired Stakes Champions, Reserve Champions & Participants!

2 Year Old Pleasure

Open 2 Year Old Pleasure – Champion: Harvey Stevens & Custom Skirt owned by Wilburn Archer

Res. Champion: Chad Thomas & Smart and Spicy

Non Pro 2 Year Old Pleasure – Champion: Chad Thomas and Smart and Spicy

Reserve: WB Hickory Girl & Rebecca Dayboll

3 Year Old Futurity

Open – Champion: Ken Van Alstine & W B Whiz Kid

Res. Champion: Tim Stanton & Defined Great owned by Samantha Allen

Ltd. Open – Champion: Jess Cofell & Peppys Lil Reminic owned by Lindsay Hayes

Res. Champion: Jess Cofell & Custom Tory Pine owned by Melissa Glidden

Non Pro – Champion: Ken Van Alstine & W B Whiz Kid

Res. Champion: Andrew Fuller & Slide Over Bay

Ltd. Non Pro & Non Sanctioned Ltd. Non Pro – Champion: Andrew Fuller & Slide Over Bay

Res. Champion: Candace Griffin & GuessImoutofbullets

*The Grand Finale Sired Stakes Futurity show also hosted two line ups of ancillary classes!
Thanks to the O.R.H.A., Black's Equestrian Centre and The Sired Stakes Committee for
putting on another fabulous show!*

Don't forget to nominate your 2009 Foals Now!!

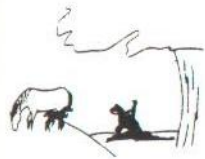
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