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Ontario Reining Horse Association

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Ontario Reining Horse Association

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Ontario Reining Horse Association News

President's Message

It has been a year since I was elected President of the Ontario Reining Horse Association, and there have been times since then when I've wondered what I was thinking, but in the end it has been an interesting and rewarding year, and I do believe we now have a strong and cohesive Board, a Board that is committed to growing the O.R.H.A. and making it all we would like it to be.

When I was elected, I pledged to resurrect our newsletter, and this was done (thank you Lacey Siemonsen, Laura Cofell and Rachel Day) and the feedback I've received tells me you are pleased with it. The website has been kept fresh and interesting with frequent updates, and is a place members now go to, looking for the latest news and information.

In spite of a rocky start to our show schedule, we ended up with a full slate of shows and clinics in 2009 with total payouts of more than \$116,000, and we expect 2010 to be just as good.

We had some great showings from our members at Congress, the Affiliate Finals

and the Oklahoma Futurity, as well as the Young Riders Competition, and these results have been publicized. Well done to all of you.

Recently, we posed some questions to the members via a short survey, and the responses were very beneficial, so thank you for participating. There were five questions:

Should the O.R.H.A. run its own shows? The response was an overwhelming 80% yes, but with clear concerns about the cost and whether there would be enough manpower, and a suitable facility. It should be stressed that the consideration was to possibly offer 2 or 3 O.R.H.A. run shows, not to take over the full slate of shows and deprive private facilities of the opportunity to continue to put them on.

Should the Sired Stakes and O.B.B.O. Futurities be combined? 57% of the respondents said yes, but again there were reservations and qualified answers. This proposal will not be pursued at this time.

Should there be a smaller number of shows? A resounding NO (76% of respondents),

but with some constructive suggestions for improving the shows we have, which will be considered in our planning.

Would you prefer a single venue? Again, a modest 37% said yes, citing how difficult it would be to find a central location, that would be fair to all, and also a facility that offered all the right conditions. This also will not be explored further.

How to retain our Green As Grass/ Beginner riders and attract more Youth Members? A number of suggestions were offered, and these will be considered over the coming months.

We are going to do some strategic planning in 2010 and have struck a committee for this purpose, headed by Harvey Stevens, and these survey responses will be considered during that planning, and we'll report back to you as we move forward.

In order to keep the O.R.H.A. and the shows running smoothly, we need your help, so please consider helping out in some way - manning the gate, scribing (it's easy and educational and we'll teach you how to do it), or helping in the show office. We also need help

with the newsletter and The Rider articles, so please give that some consideration too.

We are looking for a second Youth Advisor for this year, to guide and support the Youth Executive with their activities,

and also a Secretary - to attend the meetings, take Minutes, put together the Agendas, and so on.

If you have interest in one of these roles, please contact one of the Board members.

And finally, thank you to

you, the members, for all your support and feedback over the past year - I'm looking forward to this coming year.

Carol

Jordan Larson Clinic

The year is starting off strong for the Sired Stakes Futurity!!!

2010 Sired Stakes Futurity Fund Raiser April 23rd, 24th, and 25th

Jordan Larson Clinic
Friday April 23rd - Complimentary VIP Meet and Greet



Party with Jordan Larson for clinic participants and the 2010 Sired Stakes Stallion owners.

Saturday April 24th - Jordan Larson Clinic (Open to spectators)

Sunday April 25th - Sired Stakes Jackpot Warm up show (ORHA Approved - year end points)

Clinic Participants - \$300.00 per horse and rider (includes Friday night dinner/M&G with Jordan, Stall for 3 day weekend, Continental breakfast Saturday morning and all day clinic)

Clinic Spectators - \$25.00 per person includes coffee and donuts.

Sunday - S.S. Futurity Fund Raising Warm up Show (Flyer will be listed on ORHA web site ASAP)

Jordan Larson - NRHA's Youngest Top 20 Rider

As a trainer, Larson's credentials speak for themselves. Just last year, he won the Individual Gold Medal

at the FEI World Reining Championship in Italy on Lena Gallo. Larson has been the youngest rider on the NRHA's Top 20 riders list for the past two years and has made the open finals at every major event. He has won more than \$415,000 to date and also holds his NRHA judges card.

Jordan Wins Bronze at the 2009 AQHA World Show Jordan made the Junior Reining Finals on both of his horses and ended up top five on both! He marked a 221.5 to win bronze! He was also 5th overall with his second mount.

2009 NRHA Open Futurity Finalist
NRHA 2009 Open Futurity Finalist
2009 NRHA Derby Open Finalist
2008 NRHA Open Futurity - Top Ten

Jordan Larson and Lena Gallo had a huge win at the 2008 National Reining Breeders Classic! They took home the gold at the Cowboy Capital Classic Derby in Stephenville Texas, winning the CRI. At the NRHA Derby the duo competed again and took home the Silver medal which qualified them to compete at the FEI Reining World Championships in Italy. They took home GOLD in the Individual Competition marking a 228! At the 2008 NRHA Futurity Jordan and Lena won Silver in the Reining Masters.

Join the Fun and support your Sired Stakes Futurity- For more information on the clinic and show contact Ken or Dana Van Alstine at 905 384 2008.



Tip of the Hat

A special thank you to Duane and Dee Dee Hicks for stepping up to help Ken and Dana Van Alstine in their time of need after their very bad accident en route to the Futurity. We are so grateful horses and humans are all okay.

And congratulations Duane and Deirdre for your Bronze at the AQHA World Show with Spooks Gotta Gun.

Congratulations to our Reining Canada Champions

- Michelle Mailhot for making 2009 Reining Canada Beginner Champion
- John Matthews for earning Top Ten (4th place) in Reining Canada Beginner for 2009
- and our Ontario Reining Horse Association

Champions for Reining Canada, who will each receive a set of spurs from Reining Canada:

- Open** - Loris Epis
- Non Pro** - Dan Fletcher
- Limited Non Pro** - Lorrie A. Larock
- Rookie** - Terri Dunn
- Youth 14 - 18** - Starr C. Boisvert
- Youth 13 and Under** - Tristan Stevens

O.E.F. Membership

Our O.E.F. grant is calculated based on the number of O.R.H.A. members who also have an O.E.F. membership, so please enter your O.E.F. number on your 2010 O.R.H.A. membership form, or email it to president@orha.on.ca.



Gary Yaghdjian, President of the Ontario Equestrian Federation, presented a cheque for \$1,410 to Carol Ivey, ORHA President, and Wendy Dyer, ORHA Director (centre) at the 2009 O.E.F. Conference at the Delta Meadowvale Resort and Conference Centre in Mississauga. Photo by River Bend Designs

TROTS FOR SLOTS

O.B.B.O. Fundraiser
March 27th
Flamboro Downs

Lunch Buffet
Ticket \$30.00 per person

Sponsorships \$250.00 (includes 2 lunch tickets)

For tickets or more information, contact Harvey Stevens at
reinersrus@sympatico.ca, 705-639-5767
or any O.B.B.O. Committee member