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Ontario Reining Horse Association

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# Ontario Reining Horse Association

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## President's Message

Show season is now over, and even Congress is behind us, with only the Oklahoma Futurity remaining.

It has been a wonderful Summer, with fantastic weather, some exceptional reining performances, and of course, great camaraderie.

We are now looking forward to our November 5th Awards Banquet, where we will recognise the many accomplishments of

our members and enjoy one last social event.

To each and every member, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation for all you do to make reining in Ontario so much fun.

Safe sliding until we see you again next Spring.

Carol Ivey

## NAJYRC RESULTS

Congratulations to Lane Wilson for taking home the individual gold medal at the Adequan/FEI North American Young Rider Championships in Kentucky this past Summer, and to Emily Wilson for winning the individual bronze medal. And additional congrats to them both for winning the team silver.

Kudos to all of our young people who partic-

ipated in the NAJYRC:

- Star Boisvert
- Darcy Wilson
- Emily Wilson
- Lyndsay Kloster
- Lane Wilson

And special thanks to Chef d'equipe for our team - Wendy Dyer.

## Youth Association News

Darby Mailhot, ORHyA President is delighted to report that the Youth raised over \$800 this year, before the Grand Finale fundraiser was factored in. They are looking at purchasing beautiful jackets for each member with the funds raised, which will be presented at the year-end awards banquet on November 5.

The ORHyA members have had a lot of fun working together this year, and they would like to thank the ORHA members and their parents for supporting them.

Carol Ivey  
Youth Advisor

## O.E.F. People Make A Difference Award

Congratulations to Tim and Lisa Stanton for receiving the 2011 Ontario Equestrian Federation People Make a Difference Award. Tim and Lisa have been involved in the sport of reining for many years, both as youth riders and as open riders and coaches. Over the years, they have introduced countless new people to reining, many of whom are still competing today.

They have supported the ORHA in many

ways over the years and are role models to many of our members. In addition to being highly respected coaches and trainers, Tim and Lisa have also been prominent in the showpen in their own right and in fact, Lisa was the NRHA Limited Open World Champion in 2010. The Stantons are a credit to the horse world and to reining in particular and are most deserving of this recognition.

## Reining Season One

By Philip Lorimer - Green as Grass Youth Rider

If you had told me five years ago that I would be showing in a reining show, I would never have believed you (and I would not have known what you were talking about). As a kid growing up in the heart of suburban Mississauga, horses were something I had only ridden on trail rides following another tail through the woods.

In the fall of 2008, my mother and my younger brother decided to go and see some of the farms around Halton Hills on their Open Stable tours. They said there were many that they toured, but as soon as they arrived at Rustic Meadows, they knew they were in the right place. Joanne Milton, KD Grainger, and Luke Eisses were there explaining western pleasure and reining and it has been a whirlwind since then.

The first lesson I had with Joanne was in the spring of 2009. That first summer, I worked my way from walk, jog, to lope and through three lesson horses - I was hooked! Joanne was very patient as my elbows flapped, my heels pointed in several directions, and I bounced around the ring.

The summer of 2010, I participated in my first horse shows with the Rockwood Trail Riders and learned a lot about the support and positive energy of other competitors. KD Grainger was always there to tell me to relax, have fun, and most importantly BREATHE!

By the fall last year, Joanne said I should try some new moves on Angie (Flash My Show Tips). Again, I could not believe that I was making a horse spin and lead change. Angie couldn't believe it either, but she was

very patient with me as a new reiner! The first time I actually did a sliding stop, I think my mom took a picture of the tracks!

This spring Joanne suggested that I participate in the Reining Clinic at her farm. That was an amazing opportunity to be in the ring with other riders and judges. I was tired at the end of the weekend, but I had learned a lot. Then Joanne said I might be ready to try reining with the ORHA. I had watched KD compete and was not sure I was ready for this level, but Joanne convinced me to give it a try and KD encouraged me saying, "You'll love it, everyone is friendly and supportive, you have to try it".

They were right, my first show at Fletchers' in May I thought I might fall off the horse I was so nervous. Actually, falling off was not the problem, digging my heels in was, so it was the fastest pattern I have ridden this year, but I had done it!

Since then there has been Kemptville, Meaford, Powassan, and London. Hot and dusty, cool and sunny, every show has been a great new experience. I have met lots of other youth at the shows and have enjoyed volunteering too. I want to thank Gail Gimpelj who has been showing Angie with me all year. She has been really great taking care of the show details and explaining what needs to be done and where I have to be.

KD was right, reiners are friendly, helpful, and inspiring and I look forward to every show. I am pretty sure that no one else at my high school in Mississauga has had a summer like mine! Unfortunately, KD was right about something else that I am still working on...I need to BREATHE during a pattern! Maybe next season...

## Knowlton Ridge: small and perfectly formed reining event!

By Sharon Jones

I wish I'd taken my bathing suit - August 27 and 28: Knowlton Ridge Equestrian Centre's first ever reining event. Let's face it: it's a long drive for anyone from Southern Ontario (Knowlton Ridge is in Powassan, between North Bay and Huntsville) and an unknown facility to boot. Would the drive be worth it?

I can say unequivocally: yes, the drive was totally worth it. Both the facility and the show were professionally run with a friendly atmosphere that made showing there a pleasure.

We arrived early Friday afternoon, which gave us ample time to walk around and settle the horses in. I liked how it was laid out: two areas for stalls, both within easy reach of the large warm up pen and the show pen.

I also spotted the outdoor swimming pool. The weather was rather hot, the pool looked welcoming and I was tempted to jump in but, not having my bathing suit, I resisted. I didn't want to set a bad example and get arrested for skinny dipping!

Throughout the day, the other competitors arrived, trailer by trailer. The atmosphere was distinctly warm and friendly: people seemed happy to experience a new show facility. The staff at Knowlton was very friendly and answered any questions people had over the course of the next two days.

Competitors wanting to test the footing for their class the next day exercised their horses in the warm up pen and the show pen. The ground was being tested for the stops and spins: the horses working the footing and the Knowlton Ridge staff frequently grooming the pen so it would be the best it could be for the show. Some competitors took advantage of the paid warm ups to further test the ground. It was a little deep but good - my horse likes deep and there were some phenomenal slides from many horses over the two-day show.

After the day's travelling, getting the horses in their temporary homes, and riding, dusk arrived and people settled in for the night. Some

in their trailers, others in nearby hotels. At Knowlton Ridge, several campers sought out one of the fire pits and made a toasty fire. People sat around swapping stories, sharing some laughs and thinking about the next day.

Saturday dawned with a slightly overcast sky but warm temperatures. The show started on both days at 8 am, with 10 classes on Saturday and nine on Sunday. The classes ran smoothly and with less than 50 competitors, the day didn't run too long. Saturday's show included a Funstyle event - which was indeed fun - the musical preferences of the competitors showing there's more to western than country music!

Saturday high score highlights included:

- John Purdie scoring a 71.5, Limited Non-Pro, riding Fancy That With Me (John Purdie)
- Loris Epis scoring a 70.5, Open, riding Gunner Royale (Lesley Martin)
- Bev Sheremeto scoring a 71.5, Funstyle, riding Slidun In (Carol Ivey)

Sunday high score highlights include:

- Bev Sheremeto scoring a 70, Green as Grass, riding Slidun In (Carol Ivey)
- Heather Vaughn scoring a 70.5, Intermediate/Ltd Open, riding Wimpys Tinseltown (John Fletcher)

All in all it was a great show: small and perfectly formed with ORHA members supporting this new facility. Knowlton Ridge Equestrian Centre is situated in Powassan, Ontario, between Huntsville and North Bay. The facility is expanding and can stall up to 92 guest horses. Next year, note to self: take swim suit.

And coming next month: why it's never a good idea to ask someone else to run through your pattern with you right before you show... (note to the ORHA President...)

President's note: Mea culpa Sharon - at least I wasn't riding in the same class, that would have looked really bad!