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Ontario Reining Horse Association

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Ontario Reining Horse Association

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President's Message

We are now well into our year and have enjoyed some great shows so far, with Kemptville and Meaford being the most recent at the time of writing.

Kemptville always seems to get good weather, which means we get to enjoy that beautiful outdoor pen. This year, we were blessed with temperatures a little more comfortable than the norm - sunny and warm but with no humidity. It was about as perfect as you can get.

Maureen Venables was a wonderful host, once again, and her group of volunteers are to be commended. And special credit goes to Judge Kristi Rose, who stuck it out to the very last competitor Saturday night (me!!), even though, between the dust and the darkness, she could barely see me. She was a very good sport about it.

The evening was capped off by a pot luck dinner, organised by Stella Gallagher of Crooked Creek Ranch, complete with live band. Stella also showed her skills as a singer by joining the band in a couple of songs. A great way to end the first day of showing.

Unfortunately, the planned bake sale by the Youth Association had to be cancelled, but the kids jumped in with plan B - "horse wash," which raised \$96, and they also raised another \$70 with the paid warmups. And on the topic of our youth members, I would like to extend a special thank you to John Snobelen for donating some of his pewter trophies to the ORHyA for

recycling as awards to their members.

The Meaford show, held at Y NOT FARMS, was just a one day event but it was packed with excitement, with classes running in both rings and the show capped off with a Futurity class. It was another very hot day and working out of our trailers was challenging but we all still enjoyed ourselves. The Youth Association managed the paid warmups in the lower pen and netted another \$110 toward their year-end awards.

Next up was Fletchers show in Waterford at the end of July, where the Youth will be holding a bake sale fundraiser, and then comes Quarterama followed by Knowlton Ridge in Powassan and I hope to see you at these great facilities.

Safe sliding.

Carol

Note: In my President's Message last issue, I refer to Larry winning a pewter and the date was wrong - It was actually 1988 not 1998 but the first pewter was at Hellyers' on Sassy Patsy Pine and then on her grandson Foxy Whiz Kid in 2011

Thank you.

Carol

A Big Thanks

Thank you to Anne Pearse and Colie Florida for volunteering to clean up the website classifieds. The Association runs so much better when everyone pitches in to assist and the Board truly appreciates the efforts of the many members who have contributed in one way or another so far this year.

Ontario Bred, Born or Owned Futurity

The OBBO Committee has been busy getting ready for the upcoming 20th Anniversary show in London. We have \$28,500 in added monies for our September show and expect to have sold 12 secure even more sponsors in around the next two months. In addition, we have amassed a lot of prizes to be given out at the show. The committee has worked very hard this year to make it a great show for one and all and we hope everyone will come out and show.

Exciting News from the OBBO Committee

The OBBO Committee is very excited to announce the addition of a Derby to our show schedule at the 20th Anniversary Show. Many thanks to Purina for their valued sponsorship and belief in our vision. "The Purina Derby" will be open to all 4, 5 & 6 year olds, with details on the OBBO page of the ORHA website for further details. While at the show please be sure to stop by the Purina booth to learn more about their quality products.

2011 North American Junior and Young Riders Teams

There will be a Young Rider combined team from Ontario/Quebec, made up of: Antony Jolin St-Laurent (QC), and Starr Boisvert, Lyndsay Ontario/Alberta: Darcy Wilson all from Badura (AB), and Lane Wilson, Emily Wilson both from ON. Congratulations to each of you and good luck!

Affiliate News

The NRHA Eastern Canada Affiliate Finals are approaching.

In order to compete at the Affiliate Finals: September 23 - 25th in Blainville, Quebec.

- You must be an NRHA member
- You must have designated the show office at each ORHA show, to see if you qualify.

- Your affiliate must have held the class three times
- You must have competed at least once in the class and received a score

The top ten horse and rider combinations plus ties in each class are eligible to compete at the Eastern Canada Finals, which will be held September 23 - 25th in Blainville, Quebec. Please check the Affiliate standings in the show office at each ORHA show, to see if you qualify. And if you do, we encourage you to consider attending the Affiliate Finals - the Quebec Reining Association and its members are great hosts and it is a fun event.

ORHA 2011 Calendar of Events

(Please note that all shows are tentative until marked Confirmed)

Aug 27-28 - Knowlton Ridge, Powassan, Ont. **Affiliate Qualifier Sunday Aug 28
Sept 12-15 - OBBO, Western Fair Agriplex, London, Ont. Contact Harvey Stevens, 705-639-5767 reinersrus@nexcicom.net
Sept 23-25 - NRHA Affiliate Finals, Blainville, QC
Oct 1-2 - Grand Finale & Sired Stakes Futurity, Western Fair Agriplex, London, Ont. Contact Mike Munroe, 519-938-0620, mmunroe@rjburnside.com
Oct 7-30 - American Quarter Horse Congress, Columbus, Ohio

POWASSAN.... Where's THAT???

By Carolyn Ruby

I've been at this reining thing for quite a few years now, starting out in Green As Grass, and very, slowly, making my way up through Rookie, and now Green Horse with a brand new "toy"! Most of the ORHA membership has at least crossed my path and made introductions. I'm over being surprised at the reaction I get from people when they find out that I live in Northern Ontario, (just) a 5hr drive northwest of Toronto! I'm probably one of just a few reiners anywhere that has had moose tracks in their riding ring! Yup...the reining craze has made it this far north, and no, we Northerners don't rely on the snow to teach our horses how to slide!! :)

The ORHA's calendar of events now has a brand-new show venue in a little town called Powassan, just south of North Bay. If you're a reiner, I doubt that your rig has ever pointed UP the Highway 11 route quite that far north, and you're probably wondering just what Powassan would have to offer!

If you get out your trusty road map of Ontario, you'll right away notice that if you flip it over you'll find Northern Ontario, and also notice, that not only is there huge wide-open spaces with few major roads (at least ones that are negotiable by a hwy-legal vehicle), but also, the scale is different...a kilometer on the southern side of the map is not represented as anywhere close to a kilometer on the northern side! Northern Ontario is dramatically HUGE, and equally impressive!

North Bay was once known as the "Gateway to the North", back in my Ma and Pa's younger days, Highway 11 was a dirt road, and the only route for any kind of supplies shipped anywhere in the North. Some areas of Algonquin Park extend close to the eastern edge of NorthBay/Mattawa, and with so much less

human invasion, moose are a very common sighting. North Bay and Calander are situated along the shoreline of Lake Nippising, the 5th largest lake in Ontario. Lake Nippising, "Big Water", in Algonquin, has a surface area of 873sq.km, but is relatively shallow, with many sandbars, making swimming, kayaking, canoeing and other summer water sports, including fishing, of course, most attractive to outdoor enthusiasts. The Fur Trade put North Bay on the map in the 1800's and in later years, logging and mining. North Bay remains somewhat grounded in her roots, however, with a new hospital, Nippising University and Canadore College, it has a more expanded and modernized economy.

Powassan is small community just south of North Bay by about a 15min. drive. Knowlton Ridge is an equestrian facility near the town that specializes mainly in trillium shows, however, the management has been trying to branch into new venues, such as reining. Riders and staff at Knowlton Ridge are extremely friendly and entertaining. (knowltonridgeequestrian.com)

If you haven't spent much time in Northern Ontario, this might be a great opportunity for you to try to understand why some of us die-hard Northern riders insist on living so far from the southern grid. Make your stay in Calander, a simple 15min drive from Knowlton Ridge, and bring your bathing suit for a dip in one of the finest lakes the North has to offer. Keep your eyes peeled on the sides of the highway...with any luck you may see a cow moose with calves, or more likely, a black bear. Perhaps a trip to the North Bay area will inspire you to find more great adventure in the vast northern outdoors. I hope ORHA riders consider coming to Knowlton Ridge on August 27 and 28 not only for an opportunity to score on a nice pattern, but also to have a vacation in an area where people from all over the world come to play!