

Ontario Reining Horse Association

SLIDER

WINTER 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2010 is now in the history books and 2011 a blank canvas for us to paint as we see fit. I hope you all had a good 2010 and have an even better 2011.

Our members placed very well in 2010 in the Reining Canada Top 10 and N.R.H.A. Top 20 and we are very proud to be so well represented. The placings are listed in this issue of the Slider. And in particular, let's congratulate Lisa Stanton for being 2010 NRHA WORLD CHAMPION in Limited Open on Gun Dealer, this is an amazing accomplishment.

The show schedule for 2011 is being firmed up and is now posted on the website, but is tentative so please monitor it for updates, and if you know someone with a suitable facility who might like to host a show, please let Joanne Milton know.

At our Annual General Meeting on February 13 at the Holiday Inn, Scottsdale Drive, Guelph, your Board will give you a full update on events and changes that pertain to the O.R.H.A. and our sport, so please try to make it to that meeting – 1 p.m. start.

I would like to close 2010/begin 2011 with a heartfelt thank you to the O.R.H.A. Directors, who work so hard behind the scenes to keep this Association running – most members do not realise how much time this takes and it is often a thankless task.

This past year, we had five new Board members who stepped up to the challenge – Michelle Mahabir, Art Roberts, Tom Cudahy and Julie Bacon, and more recently Linda Barnes. Their fresh insight and enthusiasm are much appreciated.

And our long time Directors – Mike Munroe, Ken Van Alstine, John Purdie, Harvey Stevens and Joanne Milton – are invaluable.

Each of these individuals, along with Mary Jo MacDonnell, our hardworking Membership Secretary, deserves a huge thank you!

And finally, thank you to each of you for making our sport and our shows so much fun. All the best to you and your family for 2011.

Carol Ivey

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Brian Heaton Memorial Award

The very deserving winners of the Brian Heaton Award for 2010 were Larry and Lynne McDougall, icons in Ontario reining. As one member said, “They truly embrace the sport and are happy to see anyone doing well,” and Sally Heaton echoed the sentiment and also added, “Brian would be so pleased.”

At the Awards Banquet in November, Dan Fletcher read a piece by H. Jackson Brown, Jr. that sums up the qualities of an individual worthy of this award, and the McDougalls truly exemplify these qualities:

- “1. Marry the right person. This one decision will determine 90% of your happiness or misery.
2. Work at something you enjoy and that's worthy of your time and talent.
3. Give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully.
4. Become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know.
5. Be forgiving of yourself and others.
6. Be generous.
7. Have a grateful heart.
8. Persistence, persistence, persistence.
9. Discipline yourself to save money on even the most modest salary.
10. Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated.
11. Commit yourself to constant improvement.
12. Commit yourself to quality.
13. Understand that happiness is not based on possessions, power or prestige, but on relationships with people you love and respect.
14. Be loyal.
15. Be honest.
16. Be a self-starter.
17. Be decisive even if it means you'll sometimes be wrong.
18. Stop blaming others. Take responsibility for every area of your life.
19. Be bold and courageous. When you look back on your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than the ones you did.
20. Take good care of those you love.
21. Don't do anything that wouldn't make your Mom proud.”



AFFILIATE FINALS ANNOUNCEMENT

Your Board of Directors is pleased to announce that our application to host the Eastern Canada Regional Affiliate Finals for 2012 has been approved. The Finals will be held in London, Ontario. Since the NRHA had already committed to AQR for hosting of the 2011 R.A.F., it will still be held in Blainville, Quebec for this year.



KUDOS to LISA STANTON

Limited Open
World Champion
for 2010
on
Gun Dealer

IT WAS A TOUGH WEEK.... BUT DARN IT, I MADE IT

There comes a point in your life when you realize:

Who matters,

Who never did,

Who won't anymore,

And who always will.

So, don't worry about people from your past,

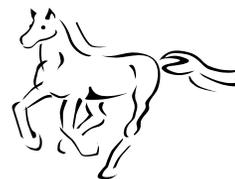
There's a reason why they didn't make it to your future.



DAN FLETCHER Shines at the Futurity

Dan Fletcher and Wimpys Tinseltown blasted the competition at the Oklahoma Futurity in November by placing 6th in Prime Time, 8th in the Intermediate Non Pro and 14th in the NAAF Non Pro with a very impressive 212.5.

What a great way to end a fantastic year Dan.



REINING CANADA TOP TEN

Congratulations to the following ORHA members who placed in the RC Top Ten for 2010:

OPEN

Reserve Champion:

Jason Richards on Wimpys Tinseltown
3rd spot: Loris Epis on SV Save Sum Cash
7th spot: Harvey Stevens on Peptoleap

INTERMEDIATE OPEN

Champion:

Jason Richards on Wimpys Tinseltown

LTD. OPEN

5th spot: Bill Rinzema on Ghost Busterima

ROOKIE PRO

Champion: William John Rinzema on Ghost Busterima

NOVICE HORSE OPEN I

Champion: Jason Richards on Custom Crome Wonder
4th spot: Loris Epis on SV Save Sum Cash

NOVICE HORSE OPEN II

Champion: Loris Epis on SV Save Sum Cash
Reserve: Jason Richards on Custom Crome Wonder
5th spot: Paul McGrath on Super Slide Over

NON PRO

6th spot: Dan Fletcher on Wimpys Tinseltown

INTERMEDIATE NON PRO

3rd spot: Dan Fletcher on Wimpys Tinseltown

PRIME TIME NON PRO

7th spot: Dan Fletcher on Wimpys Tinseltown

NOVICE HORSE NON PRO II

4th spot: Dave Dorland on Double Jac Dunit
5th spot: Dan Fletcher on Custom Crome Wonder
6th spot: Dan Fletcher on Tinselgun
9th spot: Larry McDougall on Foxy Whiz Kid

ROOKIE II

4th spot: Carolyn Ruby on Spinnin Jac Flash
5th spot: Colie Florica on Slide Over Hollywood
9th spot: Lesley Martin on Rondalena Chex

YOUTH 14 -18

Reserve: Darby Mailhot on Long Island Ice Tea

“To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did.”



NRHA 2010 Standings

We are thrilled to congratulate the many ORHA members who made the top 20 NRHA standings for 2010, and particularly to Lisa Stanton for being # 1 in the world in Limited Open.

Limited Open: #1 Lisa Stanton & Gun Dealer

Intermediate Open: #3 Jason Richards & Wimpys Tinseltown
#12 Lisa Stanton & Gun Dealer

Rookie Pro: #17 Bill Rinzema & Ghostbusterima

Novice Horse Open I: #9 Gene Munger & I Luva Lena
#9 Jess Cofell & I Luva Lena

Novice Horse Open II: #3 Gene Munger & I Luva Lena
#3 Jess Cofell & I Luva Lena
#5 Loris Epis & SV Save Sum Cash
#15 Jason Richards & Custom Crome Wonder

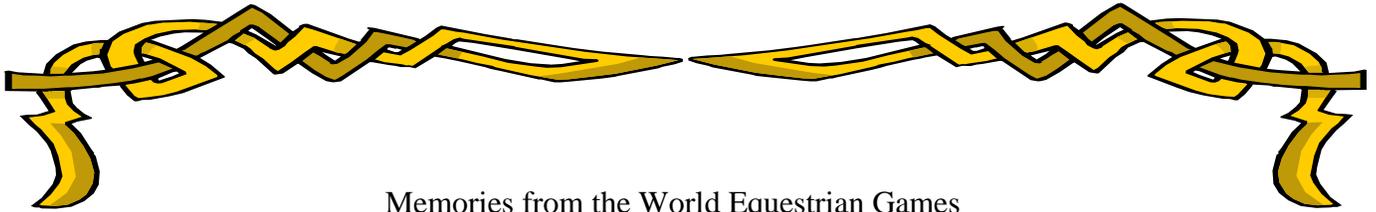
Int. Non Pro: #22 Sandy Ebersole & Lope A Lena Whiz

Ltd Non Pro: #16 Sandy Ebersole & Lope A Lena Whiz

Novice Horse Non Pro II: #17 Ken Van Alstine & WB Whiz Kid

Youth 14 -18: #13 Darby Mailhot & Long Island Ice Tea





Memories from the World Equestrian Games
By Jane Lyon-Foster

What can I say? As a young girl first interested in horses, my heroes were on the Canadian Equestrian Team. Specifically jumping as I really didn't know what Eventing was and had never seen Dressage. So my dream became to represent my country at the Olympics. Well, we do grow up and the realities of life can get in the way of our dreams but lurking, way back in the dusty corners of my "little girl life" there was still a spark. Mine got re-ignited big time when I was invited to be a Steward at the 2010 Alltech World Equestrian Games more than a year and a half before the Games began.

I had very little confidence that taking the FEI Steward's course at my neighbour's farm in 2007 would lead to getting as close to my Dream as I could have ever imagined. Hey, look at me, I may not be riding for my country but I am representing my country by ensuring, to the best of my ability, that the horses under my care and their riders would have the most fair shot at medals in my chosen sport as I could manage. My sole responsibility would be the welfare of the horses.

I was part of an international Stewarding Team that included FEI Stewards and NRHA and AQHA Judges that were also Stewards from Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, Israel and four American states. I have trouble expressing how proud I was to be a part of such an enormous undertaking as WEG was. And, how beautifully Kentucky was represented by its' Horse Park.

As the Reining and Endurance events were first up, our horses and competitors arrived before all the services were up and running for the not so small army of volunteers. Memories are created from anywhere and we had a few good ones. Our first cafeteria was a "chip wagon" parked just outside of the restricted stabling area. It was good for a chuckle even though the walk was a bit far but on day two when they ran out of coffee.....well, needless to say, my friend from Switzerland and I took a tour of the Park in search of a hot cup of coffee. We were eventually successful and in our search became quite familiar with the rest of the Park.

Our accommodations were also "memorable". My Kentucky friend drove me to the Trailer park, I had packed a bathing suit for the down time, and as we drove in we began to laugh our heads off. What had been a recently defunct housing development, was taking shape as a trailer village. Row after row of used holiday trailers would be our home for the next twelve days. At the time I checked in I was told I would have a room-mate so I carefully saved some room for her. When Sari and I met and she told me she had already checked in – to another trailer – so we kept quiet thinking we had pulled off a great treat each having a trailer to ourselves! One of the other reining stewards told us how small his was that he couldn't get out of the bed if someone took a shower. As the first week wore on we all finally disclosed that NOT ONE of the reining stewards was actually sharing a trailer! Such luxury! As it was some days we had air conditioning, sometimes heat, sometimes hot water and occasionally bugs. We learned to keep our food in the refrigerator not the cupboards as one of the stewards said his bugs were big enough they carried back packs. There were volunteers from lots of different countries and



disciplines all living with the same conditions and as we piled into the van every morning to go to the Park we shared our stories.

Eventually, as competition days got closer the Alltech arena became our hub of activity. Lucky for the reiners our stable blocks were as brand new as the arena itself and right beside the arena. Most important of all, the cafeteria for all the volunteers and competitors was also in the arena! For the first few days the volunteers ate in a separate dining area from the competitors who had a slightly more upscale menu. In no time a black market in food vouchers developed and we went over the wall. Truthfully, we were well cared for by our Chief Steward, Eric Strauss. Even other disciplines mentioned how much care he took of us. This was quite a compliment for him.

Our daily shifts were eight to ten hours, walking the stable blocks and standing watching warm-ups for days before the reining competitions began. Bit checks were done, watching for horses being fed and watered properly, organizing rest days, overseeing medications being administered by veterinarians, accompanying horses going out to graze were all part of our days. Three of the competition horses were positive for a communicable disease and were sequestered even further away from the rest of the competition horses. These horses required a Steward to accompany them anytime they left the stables for an exercise opportunity or were in competition. Thank Heaven for cell phones – we would get a call or text from our Chief Steward to meet “our” horses and escort them back and forth from their stables to the arenas. On my long walks from the sequestered stalls I learned some Portuguese from a Brazilian cowboy showing one of the two purebred Criollo horses taking part in the Reining. Wellington’s horse was a champion in Brazil and he was very proud to show his horse at WEG.

All of the Stewards were expected to do an overnight shift. I was very lucky to share my evening with two very experienced Stewards from New Zealand. They had arrived in Kentucky about the same time as the Reining Stewards, as they were covering the Endurance horses and expecting the arrival of the Eventers. We were also joined by a dressage steward, who was a trainer and coach in his regular life. With a golf cart available to us we would whiz around to the various stabling areas then walk the stalls looking for any horses that might be in distress, in need of water or just reassurance. Once the gates were shut there were last minute checks by grooms meaning paperwork to be recorded, escorting them to their stalls, waiting as buckets were filled and blankets adjusted and escorting them back out of the stabling area. By three am, having been brought some refreshments we started up the computer in the Stewards trailer and watched You Tube videos of each others disciplines! With such great company the night went quickly and we enjoyed the freedom to see the Park without its’ normal daytime bustle.

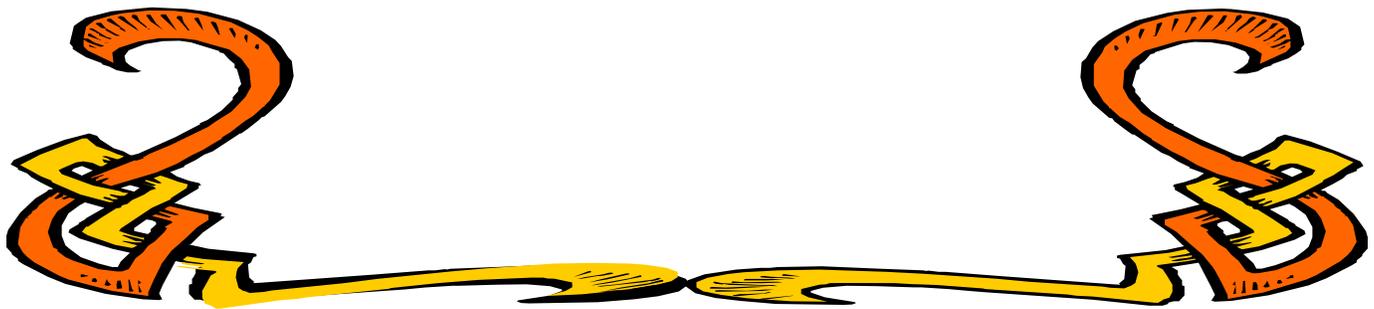
Our official duties were met with a great spirit of cooperation from all of the countries. It is a real change for most riders to be told when, where and how they may exercise and show their horses. All of the restrictions are based on the horses’ welfare so that they may retire from competition sound of mind and body, to enjoy a retirement they deserve.

So now the results are final and the videos are available so I don’t need to tell you what happened but on Individual Finals day – WOW! The excitement was electric. We all had our stations and during the Team competition we had found where we were most comfortable. I was watching the “make ready” pen which was attached to the show arena. A nod or an extra long look at a competitor was just about the only warning necessary that the rider was getting close to

the Steward's "discomfort zone". From my perch on a small riser I could see the entire warm up plus the television feed from the show arena. A particular moment stands out for me. As Canada's Shawna Sapergia was just about ready to go into the chute for her bit check, with her family around her, she bent down and kissed her baby and her husband. As she sat back up a look came over her face that reflected the kind of ride she would have to make to get into the finals. It was remarkable to watch the transformation from Mom to Warrior Princess. She rode up that chute and into the arena and asked her mare for the run of her life. She got it. Her score topped the field for a very, very long time before the rest of the field slowly crept past it. Thanks for that memory Shawna.

Duane Latimer provided another memory for me. As Duane was preparing to ride I asked to be relieved and went to the upper deck to watch. It is hard to explain the difference between watching the jumbotron and watching it live but video can't even come close to the live experience. Duane's horse was on fire. He is such a good, big moving horse that he looks like he is on rails in his circles. Unfortunately, looking like it's effortless didn't get bigger scores. Even the announcer was incredulous when he said no other horse so far had run this fast into his stops! It was beautiful to watch. But that wasn't really the important part of my memory. Back at the make ready pen and after Shawn Florida's heartbreaking equipment failure, when we realized Duane had won the Bronze Medal, It was the gentlemanly way Duane quietly said, "What a way to win a medal." That for me is the true meaning of sportsmanship.

After the class I asked to escort Duane and his horse Dun Playing Tag to the drug testing area. Blood is drawn, urine collected and all samples are sealed and signed by witnesses. The only identification is the bar code on the samples. One hour after the final scores are posted, we are done. C'est fini! Tough to go back to the real world after that.



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A RIDER's PRAYER

Dearest Creator in Heaven,
Give me strength to guide my horse.
Make my hands soft and my head clear.
Let my horse understand me and I him.

My heart you have blessed with a special love of these animals.
Let me never lose sight of it.
My soul you have gifted with a deep need for them.
Let that need never lessen.

Always let my breath catch as the sun gleams on an elegant head.
Always may my throat tighten at the sound of a gentle nicker.
Let the scent of fresh hay and a new bag of grain be sweet to me.
Let the touch of a warm nose on my hand always bring a smile.

I adore the joy of a warm day on the farm.
The grace and splendor of a running horse,
The thunder of its hooves makes my eyes burn and my heart soar.
Let it always be so.

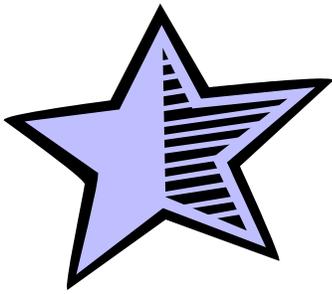
Dearest Creator grant me patience,
For horses are harnessed wind, and wind can be flighty.
Let me not frighten or harm them.
Instead show me ways to understand them.

Above all, dear Creator, fill my life with them.
When I pass from this world,
Send my soul to no heaven without them.
For this love you have given me graces my existence
And I shall cherish it and praise You for it for all time.
- Author Unknown



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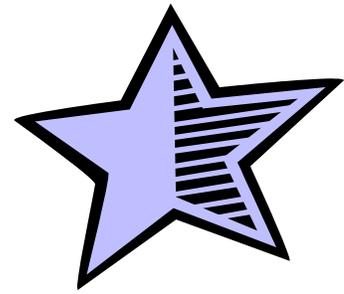




YOUTH BIO

Jesse and Brianna Pecore

by Gina Coburn Steele



What Canadian kid quits hockey to start riding horses? Jesse Pecore, that's who, and his passion for reining inspired his little sister Brianna to turn in her jodhpurs and slide into the world of reining.

Hailing from Stony Creek, Jesse, 16, and Brianna, 14, train with coach Loris Epis and count Loris, along with Ashley Black and Stacy Westfall, as their inspiration for riding. The Pecore kids began riding in the fall of 2005 and have their eyes firmly on their goals. Both have explored other equestrian disciplines, but for this brother-sister duo, reining is where it's at.

Big brother Jesse has made his mark right out of the gate by becoming Reserve Champion in Green as Grass Youth in his first year of showing and as well as winning Senior Varsity Youth. In 2010 Jesse placed 4th in ORHA Beginner, and also earned the ORHA Most Improved Youth award. With his foot firmly in the door, Jesse's goal is to become one of the Top 10 reiners in the world and is moving towards that goal at a fast pace, and with the help of his equine partners, Grady and Argo, he hopes to make it to Congress this year.

Not to be outdone by her older sibling, Brianna was Champion in her first year in Green as Grass Youth, placed 3rd in NRHA Youth 13 and Under and 8th in ORHA Youth. Brianna's accomplishments are in spite of her struggles with arthritis that limited her in other sports, and she credits her equine partners, Bowe and Grady, for giving her a bit extra on her tougher days. Brianna hopes to create a name for herself in the equine industry and this charismatic teen aspires to the field of veterinarian medicine. With her drive and compassion, we can count ourselves lucky that Brianna Pecore may in fact be the first name that comes to mind in the future when one of our equine partners needs veterinary care.

When they are not in the saddle, Jesse and Brianna are like every other teenager and love to hang out with their friends. Jesse plays Sims and watches TV and Brianna likes to draw and play with her menagerie of pets. Both teens are actively involved in activities that support their passion and also volunteer for fundraising and pitching in wherever they can.

When asked for a funniest moment, Jesse Pecore left me in tears of laughter picturing this bloopster moment. Jesse shares his story so we can scratch this idea from potential solutions to an ongoing challenge - keeping our hats firmly on our heads!

"One of the funniest moments I had reining was when I taped my hat to my head, and when I was performing my pattern and did my first sliding stop, my hat flew off but stayed stuck to my forehead, and dangled in front of my face. I blindly rolled back and had to knock it off with my hand so I could see where I was going."

Jesse could also consider a career as a writer of humour, as many of us recall his very entertaining article in the January 2010 Slider on his experiences as a first time reiner.

This brother, sister duo is going to be worth watching, both in the riding pen and in their personal endeavours, and we are delighted to have them as members of the O.R.H.A.



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