

Ontario Reining Horse Association

SLIDER

SUMMER 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The show season got off to such a great start with the Fletchers Spring Thaw, but then incurred a setback when the folks at Powassan cancelled their show due to weak interest. This left a long interval between shows, with the second event of the year at Pickering Horse Centre at the end of June.

Many reiners attended out of province shows in the interim and some of you placed very well.

The weather so far this year has been unseasonably hot and humid, which has challenged us all in terms of keeping our horses fit and show ready, and I hope you have been able to cope and all is well.

Looking forward to seeing you in the warmup pen.

Carol

MEAFORD SHOW:



There will be a FRIDAY EVENING MEET AND GREET compliments of Y Not Farms:

A welcome BBQ (hamburgers, hotdogs, cold salads) for all competitors

Equine Travel and Hospitality

If you are travelling with your horse, you might want to check out www.equinehospitality.com. (800-931-8362)

This site offer horse friendly campgrounds, vacation spots and overnight locations, along with equine travel tips and discounts.

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REINY SEASON CLINIC

By
Anne Lorimer

The Best \$5 Deal in Reining!

The annual Reiny Season Clinic at Rustic Meadows is always a unique combination of weather and clinician. I am still new to this, but the 2012 clinic has to rank with one of the best combinations in recent years. Seven riders tacked up and spent two incredibly valuable days with this year's clinician, Heather Vaughn from Fletchers' Horse World, under blue skies and warm sunshine.

I have spent the last few years as a "show mom" and beginner rider watching shows, listening to feedback, benefitting directly and indirectly from the help of experienced coaches and trainers. I went to the clinic expecting to come and go and help out with anything our host Joanne Milton needed. By the end of Saturday, I slapped my \$5 on the table and said I was an official spectator having already benefitted from listening and watching Heather. \$5 - what a bargain! I couldn't tear myself away from the arena in case I missed something.

On Saturday, Heather brought along Dan Fletcher and together they got to know the students, assessing rider levels and giving feedback and assistance during manoeuvres. The riders ranged from novice pleasure riders to faces that would be familiar to ORHA participants. Heather assessed everyone's level and encouraged them to start and build from wherever was comfortable. Participants and spectators all commented on Heather's keen eye and clear directions.

On Sunday, the sun was up and the sky was clear again. The attendees of the scribes clinic arrived to be guided through the process by Mike Munroe. There was a steady stream of cars all day with people dropping in to chat and watch.



Heather built on the learning from Saturday, and it was rewarding for the riders to apply the techniques Heather was teaching and see the transformation in their horses in just one day. In many cases, Heather would demonstrate on each horse the best correction technique and talk through what she was doing, so the rider could watch their own horse and see exactly what Heather was suggesting.

After a great lunch with many delicious donations from Joanne's students (the best students in Ontario I am told!), the scribes and judge took their positions and the riders strutted their stuff. For several students it was their first time riding a pattern and they had really good rides! If

laughter and enthusiasm are ever scored, Liz Turnbull and Sabres Roan Gal were the class favourites!

At the end of the day on Sunday, Heather took her obligatory side-saddle lesson and made her way around the arena on Rustic Matador. She had a great cheering section of students reminding her to sit back, look ahead, and keep her hands down. Mike even jumped up and loped around aside. The day ended with sunburned faces that made the big smiles stand out even more. Thanks Heather and Mike for donating your time and expertise to the clinic, and Joanne for coordinating and donating the proceeds from the weekend to the ORHA. Watch out John and Dan, I think Heather is going to be in demand for follow-up coaching.

Go Team Fletcher



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to both **Heather Vaughn** and **Loris Epis** for their amazing runs at the first AQR show of the year in Blainville. They tied to win the OPEN with a score of 74 each, both on four year old horses owned by John Fletcher - "**Gotta Magnum Dream**" and "**Resting Whiz**."

And **Dan Fletcher** kept the family name front and centre by earning Reserve Champion on "**Wimpys Tinseltown**" with a score of 71.5 in the NON PRO class.



Loris Epis on Resting Whiz

Team Fletcher then rocked Quebec again at the Classic 7up Show, with Heather Vaughn and Wimpys Tinseltown winning the Open Level 2 and 4, along with the Intermediate Open. She also placed 3rd on Custom Maid To Order in the Open.

At that same show, Dan Fletcher earned Reserve in the Level 2 Non-Pro on Wimpys Tinseltown, and placed 4th in the Level 4 Non-Pro. Way to go Team Fletcher!

WAHOO - Ontario does it again!
Congratulations to **Tim Stanton** for winning the \$2000.00 added Open in Syracuse, NY with a score of 150 on **Chex To Bee Cashed**.





NRHA Derby Newsflash



This past month saw some very exciting news out of Oklahoma, where Loris Epis and Resting Whiz placed 4th in Level 3 Open first go, with a score of 218.5, which qualified them for the Finals.

And another Canadian owned horse also made the Finals, when Elanachics, owned by Steve Carr and Laura Russell of Rainbow Ridge Equestrian, scored 222 to finish 4th in the Level 4 Open, ridden by Casey Deary, and 7th out of the total 196 horses in the Open .

Quistador, shown by Shawn Florida, and owned by Ontarians Gus and Gaynia Ravensberg of Windsor, made it to second place in the Level 4 Open qualifier.

Heather Vaughn had a great ride on Gotta Magnum Dream, and missed qualifying for the Finals by just 0.5 points.

The Finals took place on the Saturday, while we were all at the Pickering Horse Show, so we waited anxiously for news. In the end, Loris had another amazing run, scoring 220, to take Reserve Champion title in the Level 3 Open.

Quistador earned 5th spot in the Level 4 Open, and Elanachics finished 14th with a 219.5, both very impressive placings.

What an exciting week for Ontario reining.



"Before you criticize someone walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticise them you are a mile away and have their shoes."

You Know You're A Horse Person When...

- your horse gets new shoes more often than you do.
- your friends no longer ask to get together after school/work or on a weekend because they know you'll say, "I can't, I have to ride."
- your boyfriend complains that you love your horse more than you love him and you say: "And your point is..?"
- someone does something nice for you and you pat them on the neck and say 'good boy'.
- you try to get by someone in a restricted space and instead of saying "excuse me" to him/her, you cluck at them instead.
- no one wants to ride in your car because they'll get sweet feed and hay in their socks and on their clothes...but that's ok because you'll have to rearrange all the tack to make room for them anyway!
- you say "whoa" to the dog.
- you groom your horse daily for hours and you haven't seen a beautician since...?.
- on rainy days, you organize the tack room, not the house.
- you can remember worming schedules, lessons, and farrier visits in your head, but often forget your class schedule, household chores, and meals.
- you are unreasonably pleased to get a horse item, ANY horse item, as a gift.
- you actually get to a point where flies don't bother you that much anymore.



Horse enthusiasts celebrate all things equine at 4th annual Toronto Horse Day

Horse enthusiasts kicked up their heels on Saturday, June 2 at the fourth annual Toronto Horse Day, a free public event designed to educate people of all ages about riding and give them the opportunity to meet horses up close and personal.

“Toronto Horse Day was bigger and better than ever this year,” says Allan Ehrlick, the president of the Ontario Equestrian Federation, which hosts the event in partnership with the Riding Academy at the Horse Palace, Toronto Police Service’s Mounted Unit and Greenhawk Harness and Equestrian Supplies. “It’s a welcoming environment to experience the horse industry and many of the visitors who came out will no doubt be inspired to take up riding at some point in their lives.”

Avid equestrian and actor Daniel Fathers, host of *Canada’s Greatest Know It All* who played Uncle Brown in Disney’s *Camp Rock* and Stewart Forrest on CBC’s *Heartland*, was the official ring emcee at Toronto Horse Day. He entertained and informed the crowd during live demonstrations showcasing various breeds and riding disciplines, including jumping, mounted games, roping and endurance, to name a few.

Visitors toured the Horse Palace at Exhibition Place where various interactive displays were set up, including an Olympic Avenue that included a special guest appearance by Jim Elder, who represented Canada at seven Olympic Games, taking home team gold in show jumping at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico. The Toronto Police Service’s Mounted Unit provided guided tours of their stables and Woodbine Entertainment Group brought the coveted Queen’s Plate trophy. Greenhawk Harness and Equestrian Supplies was on hand for free helmet fittings and acclaimed equine artist Debbie Goldring taught aspiring artists tips and tricks on illustrating horses.

“Toronto Horse Day is a great opportunity to introduce the public to horses in a safe and fun environment,” says Ehrlick. “It gives the public a chance to learn about different horse breeds and riding styles and how they can get involved in the sport. The Ontario Equestrian Federation is looking forward to the 5th annual event.”

Participants at Toronto Horse Day 2012 included:

Daniel Fathers, Riding Academy at the Horse Palace, EquiMania! Greenhawk, Woodbine Entertainment Group, Toronto Police Services Mounted Unit, Canadian Sport Horse Association, Canadian Pony Club – Central Ontario Region, Canadian Pony Club – Western Ontario Region, Arabian Horse Association of Eastern Canada, Ontario Quarter Horse Association, Ontario Rodeo Association, Canadian Road Horse Association, Ontario University Equestrian Association, University of Toronto Equestrian Club, Canada’s Outdoor Equine Expo, Cavalia’s Odysseo, Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Kevin Alcock, Symon Pidhainy, Debbie Goldring, RCMP Officer Terry Russel, Mark Dobrindt, Jimmy Elder, Quest for Gold Athletes Bronwyn Barlow Cash, Alana Aird, Brook Pickering, Zoe Beckerman.

For more information about Toronto Horse Day visit www.horse.on.ca



Taking the Reining Non-Pros Down Memory Lane

By

Sharon Jones

Sunday March 18, I was sitting at the ORHA booth at CanAm (London Agriplex). It was early and the crowds of horse fans who later filled the exhibition halls with excited walks and happy demeanours, were still enjoying the land of nod.

Dan Fletcher and Mike Munroe – veterans of both CanAm and Reining – were helping to keep me amused at the booth.

I've been interviewing the trainers for the ORHA Trainer Blog and I commented that for the new riders coming into the sport, it can be intimidating to ride in the same arena as some of these very accomplished riders, both professional and Non pro. I started reining not very long ago and I still recall vividly how intimidated I felt because all these people seemed to know what they were doing. I couldn't imagine them having off days or doing goofy things like I have done (my horse tried to wipe out the judges at one show, I wore sunglasses into the pen in another and couldn't see so missed centre). I wondered had the-now seasoned non-pros got any stories to share that could ease the minds of the newcomers? (and people like me!)

So I asked Dan and Mike to tell me stories from their early show days.

Dan started the ball rolling.

His first show was in 2000, in Pickering. His horse was Colnel Dox Cocktail (who is now showing on the Hunter circuit). It was torrential rain and Dan's then-trainer (who shall remain nameless!) was supposed to meet him at the show. Dan got the horse ready and warmed up – wetted up – then he got the call from the trainer – sorry could not make it. Dan had two choices: go home and get dry or go show. He showed. The class was large – 40 people – and Dan came second. Wow says I, what an achievement! Dan laughed heartily and said it went all down-hill after that!

I suspected he was right when he told me the next story...

The 2002 Reining season, Mike Munroe and Dan were both riding as Green as Grass. Again, this story takes place in Pickering. Dan was riding the same horse, Mike was riding The Colour Slide. There were 16 entries in the class. Dan was 15th in the pen, Mike 16th. Riders one through 14 all scored...zero. They all got the pattern wrong. Dan enters the pen and knows he's got a pretty good chance of winning. He sets off, and scores... a zero. On the way out of the pen Dan said to Mike – 'Don't do what I just did' so Mike enters the pen and what does he do? Exactly what everyone else did. Scored a zero. A whole class scores a zero! I couldn't believe it!

I howled laughing when Dan told me about the horse he was riding (at Pickering again!) that half way through the run, during one of the large fast circles, the horse ran right out of the arena, exit stage left!

Mike then volunteered a story: it was his second year reining, this particular show was in Ilderton. He'd run a fine pattern and was coming to his last stop. Mike was galloping nicely towards the stop, asked the horse to 'whoa' but the ground was sticky: the horse's feet jammed and Mike popped right out of the saddle, flew over the top of the horse and landed on his own two feet right in front of the horse! Sadly, he scored a zero for that run.

Carol Ivey had now arrived and as a seasoned non-pro herself, she was more than happy to share some stories.

In 2004 Carol had just bought her then new reining horse: Cleo. Cleo came all the way from Texas. They were at a show in Palgrave, this was their first time together showing. Cleo wasn't used to the wet and it had been raining hard, the ground was rather soggy. Carol entered the pen, started her pattern and expected the horse to simply run through the puddles in the pen. Not Cleo – she jumped over each and every one, combining both an English discipline and a Western

discipline, “Jumper/Reiner or ‘Jumner’, Carol didn’t zero her run but each time you grab the saddle incites a five-point penalty: several puddle jumps later = one low score = would have been better to zero!

So although a lot of the stories seemed to involve rain, the other key takeaway for me as a relative newcomer is that even the seasoned non-pros had to start somewhere! They make just as many errors as the newcomers do – and the fact they can laugh about it and share their experiences makes me feel OK about wearing my sunglasses into the pen. Still a bit embarrassed about my horse trying to run the judges over though...



The Do’s and Dont’s of Feeding Treats

Many of us enjoy giving our horses treats, and it is okay IN MODERATION, and here are some tips you might want to keep in mind.

- a. Select healthy vegetables and fruits as treats – they taste good to your horse and are usually close to foods they eat in their normal diet.
- b. Feed only a small amount. Feeding too much of any treat can have negative effects on a balanced diet like lowering protein content, raising starch levels and diluting vitamins and minerals. In addition, too much of certain treats can lead to severe digestive upset and even colic or laminitis.
- c. Treats are only special when they are not available all the time.

GOOD CHOICES

- a. Healthy snacks like apple slices, carrots, and hay cubes are good treats, even bananas in some cases.
- b. Commercially made horse treats store and travel better than fresh fruit or vegetables when you’re on the road.
- c. Sugar cubes are a very traditional (although not healthy) treat for horses.

BAD CHOICES

- a. Lawn clippings (these can contain poisonous plants, can cause choke, and can drastically change the pH of the hindgut)
- b. Cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower can cause severe gas if fed in large amounts
- c. Potatoes and tomatoes are members of the nightshade family and while some people report feeding these with no issues it is best to avoid them.
- d. Unpitted stone fruits, as the pits can cause choke.
- e. Chocolate – your horse may enjoy it, but chocolate can cause a positive result in a drug test.
- f. Fresh bread, donuts, etc. – these items can become a doughy mass in the digestive tract and cause a blockage.
- g. Sweet Feed (COB & unfortified sweet grains) can quickly unbalance the diet when enough is fed as a “treat”.

Keep your treats as close as possible to the natural diet and you and your horse will both enjoy it.



Shiloh's Story

I am writing this to say Thank You to Andrew Dewar of Dewar Performance Horses who so generously lent us his great AQHA mare, AGR Amegio Impulse--Mocha, to love and nourish our foal when her Mother died shortly after her birth. Also to Jazmin Nelson who had just purchased Mocha shortly before we called.

On May 5 early in the morning, A Foxy Whiz--Kali gave birth to a strong, beautiful sorrel filly by Gun Dealer with a big white face and 4 white stockings which we named Shiloh. After a few hours, together with our vet, we could not save Kali. She was only 8 yrs old and had been shown very successfully by Larry. She was beautiful inside and out. We were and are heart-broken over this loss.

I happened to talk to Laura Russell and Steve Carr at Fletchers' horse show the next weekend. They were only there for a short time and luckily I ran into them. I actually tried to talk to Steve in the middle of Tim showing their mare, but at least quit talking until the run was over. They put us in touch with Andrew and he immediately agreed to us bringing Mocha home that day - Mother's Day. There were so many coincidences in this whole situation. Mocha had a tragedy of her own. Two weeks before her baby of 3 weeks was kicked by another mare out in the field and died. Mocha's baby was also sorrel with a big white face, while Mocha is almost black.

Four years before all this, Andrew, who we had never met, called about picking up a mare in Texas when we were down there that January. I said sure, as long as the paper work was in order. He had been assured that it was. When we got to the ranch to pick her up, they handed me a coggins and said they were sure, "You all can get into Canada with that"!!! I all was just as sure I couldn't!!! We had 3 other horses on the trailer, so you can imagine the panic. Finally we tracked down a vet who signed the initial papers for export and then scrambled to get to OKC for the Federal Vet's signature by 4 o'clock on a Friday afternoon. We brought Mocha to Canada. Thank Goodness we didn't leave without her.

When I first talked to Andrew, he said that it was Mocha we were picking up. Out of all the mares in the world, it was her. What are the chances?



MacDougall Mocha and Shiloh

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When we introduced her to Shiloh, it was amazing. Mocha was wonderful with her and let her nurse as long as someone held her head. The minute anybody walked to the mare's head Shiloh was nursing. We had been bottle feeding her every hour for the first 8 days and then every 2 hours when we brought Mocha home. We still continued the bottle but she also nursed at each feeding as well. It took one week for Mocha to let her nurse on her own. We were so thrilled to see Shiloh become dependent on the mare and not on us.

The filly is over a month old now and looks absolutely beautiful. You would never know what had happened. She does still enjoy a bottle now and then. She and Mocha are out with our other mare, the filly's Grandmother, Too Sassy Patsy, and her Gun Dealer colt who is only 6 days older. The older mare did not have enough milk for 2 and her stud colt refused to share. He would chase Shiloh away when she tried to nurse. Now it is a beautiful sight to see them all out together and seeing how Mocha loves the filly. All four are best friends. I am sure this helped Mocha's heart to heal, as well as Shiloh's.

So many people to thank through all this - my sister Carrie who shared the feedings with us every hour around the clock. Thanks to Lisa Stanton and her "book". Lisa spent every waking hour the first few days researching and helping sort this out. Thanks to Vicki Nelson, whose standardbred mare we tried but realized that her own baby was too new. Thanks to all of our friends who offered to help.

Most of all, Andrew, Jazmin and Mocha, words cannot express our gratitude and thankfulness. We are so humbled by your generosity and wonderful spirit.

Mother and Daughter

by Sharon Jones

I first met Anne and her daughter Dominique (Dom) at the Meaford show, July 2010. I heard the 'heated' discussion they were having as their trailer drove up next to mine: I was startled and wondered whether they were going to come to blows. The 'heated' discussion continued as they off-loaded their horses, tied them to the side of the trailer, and then wandered off to find the show office. They were oblivious to anything else around them – including me, stood agog, watching.

It's March 31st, 2012 and I am relaying this story to Anne and Dom in a Second Cup store somewhere up-town. The two of them are laughing loudly and easily – their connection obvious: a mother and daughter, who love each other to bits, drive each other nuts and share a passion for horses.

I am here to interview them and their experience of reining.

Anne Pearse (Mother) had a pony as a child, and like many people seem to, she got out of riding for many years (cough... 25) before her passions were re-ignited.

Dom (daughter) started taking lessons at the age of seven; she rode English (ah well... ha ha). She bought her first horse at the age of 12 –Ben – and they still own him now. He's 16 and loving life.

When Anne got back into horses, Dom was already riding and showing English. Anne was showing Western.

In 2009, they both went to an ORHA show at QuarDream; their trainer at the time put Dom on a reining horse and what a strategic move that turned out to be. Dom had a smile on her face the size of Texas and Anne knew their lives were about to change. Dom rode the horse (called Grumpy) to score a 68 and won Green as Grass Youth that day.

2010 saw Dom with a new reining horse; they didn't get on well and it wasn't a good year. Anne was still doing pleasure and was the 'show Mom.' Later that year, a golden opportunity came knocking for Anne... in the form of Goldun – a stallion she'd had her eye on for a couple of years. He was reining trained and up for sale. Meanwhile, Dom was falling in love with another horse – Aire –who happened to be a son of Goldun!

Anne's first show with Goldun wasn't quite what she expected: Goldun had been an open horse after all and Anne, well Anne started as we all do – in Green as Grass. Anne's pattern started with spins: Goldun did two perfectly and then side-passed towards the gate for the rest.

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Spring Thaw Show, 2011

By now they were all in agreement – they LOVED reining. They also realized that it was time to switch it up. They connected with Darren Bilyea and started taking lessons with him. They both say their riding and competing abilities have improved tenfold since they’ve been with him. Anne says they learned more from Darren in their first lesson than she had learned in **two** years.

Their goals for 2012: Dom’s – to have consistent rides. Anne’s – to get her nerve up for more speed!

I asked them both what their biggest challenge was in showing together; I had to laugh when they said ‘driving in the truck together.’ They know each other so well... Dom gets restless legs, she gets hungry (teenagers!) and she’ll need to stop for a pee. Anne, meanwhile, is trying to move out of show-Mom mode and into her own competitor mode, along with her daughter.

When they’ve competed against each other, Dom usually wins (I could see the happy grin Dom tried, unsuccessfully, to hide at this point!).

A wonderful moment when Anne talked of having a fantastic run at a London show – and Dom was scribing – proud as anything, fit to bust and couldn’t say a word to the judge.

I asked them both now what did they most admire about each other.

Dom said of Anne: since she got Goldun, she’s become a better rider. Mom doesn’t need daughter any more – she’s gone from being an uncertain rider always needing assistance, to riding alone, figuring things out for herself.

Anne said about Dom: aside from being an excellent rider, she has a lovely singing voice - she sang at Anne and Doug’s wedding, she is a voracious reader and apparently, an expert list maker!

Good luck to both of you this year and see you in the show pen!

Yankee Reining Horse Association



Presents

Summer Spectacular & Cazabu Farms Derby

July 20, 21 & 22 2012

Level 4 Open & Non Pro Derby - \$1000 Added

Level 1 Open & Non Pro Derby - \$500 Added

2 Full Slates of Ancillary Classes

\$1000 Added Open * Darrel Sherwin Memorial*

\$1000 Added Non Pro

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www.yankeereiners.com for more detailed information

Upcoming Shows

YRHA Approved Jackpot

May 19, 2012 Nash Hill, Gowanda, NY

NRHA Spring Slide

May 20, 2012 Nash Hill, Gowanda, NY

NRHA Lake Effect

Sep. 29-30, 2012 The Showplex, Hamburg, NY

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