

Annual Youth Meeting and Elections



Mandy Kennedy

With the NRHA Futurity quickly approaching, our current NRHyA officers are preparing to finish a very successful year. There are many activities planned for the NRHyA members during this year's NRHA Futurity & Adequan® North American Affiliate Championship Show to be held November 23 through December 2 in Oklahoma City.

NRHA Judge Cyndi Brown of Gainesville, Texas, will offer a Youth Judging Clinic and practice on Saturday, November 25. This is a great opportunity for all Youth to become more familiar with the NRHA judging system. You can never know too much about how you are being judged.

There is also a fun night planned for Thursday, November 30, complete with games and food. The festivities will conclude with the annual NRHyA Meeting and the Election of Officers on Saturday.


The NRHyA is very excited about the delegates who will be running for office. All NRHA Youth members are invited to attend the meeting and vote for the 2007 officers. The meeting will take place in the Hall of Champions from 1-3 p.m., following the Clinton Anderson Downunder Horsemanship Clinic, presented by *Horse & Rider Magazine*, the NRHA's educational partner, which is FREE to all Youth! I look forward to seeing everyone at the show.

Thank you,

Mandy M. Kennedy
Supervisor of Youth Programs

FUTURITY ACTIVITIES FOR NRHYA MEMBERS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23	FRIDAY NOVEMBER 24	SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25
YOUTH SILENT AUCTION		YOUTH JUDGING CLINIC/PRACTICE 11AM-3PM • COLISEUM Contact Cyndi Brown for Details 940-727-9757
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26	MONDAY NOVEMBER 27	TUESDAY NOVEMBER 28
YOUTH SILENT AUCTION		
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 29	THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30	FRIDAY DECEMBER 1
YOUTH SILENT AUCTION	YOUTH 13 & UNDER CLASS SLIDER'S GAME NIGHT FOOD & GAMES • 6-8 PM NRHA Office, Great Hall	YOUTH 14-18 CLASS
YOUTH SILENT AUCTION		
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 CLINTON ANDERSON CLINIC 10AM-1PM FREE FOR YOUTH YOUTH MEETING & OFFICER ELECTIONS 1-3 PM <i>Hall of Champions - Treats and Soda</i> YOUTH SILENT AUCTION ENDS		



NRHA Central US Regional Affiliate Finals Youth Delegate Elections

BY AMBER OLDHAM



Cash Bridges

The NRHA Central US Regional Affiliate Finals youth meeting was held on Saturday, September 2. The newly appointed Central US Affiliate delegates are Cash Bridges of Long Branch, Texas, as the 14-18 delegate and Meaghan Burns of Cheyenne, Oklahoma, as the 13 & Under delegate.

Bridges has been competing in the great sport of Reining for six years. For Bridges, his goals include always trying to be better, and working more as a team with his horse. When asked what his favorite part of Reining was, he simply replied, "Just the love of the sport ... It's the greatest." Bridges, NRHyA's current Treasurer, hopes to increase the

NRHyA membership if re-elected as an officer for 2007. In addition, he plans to create more activities for youth at shows, bringing an "everybody knows everybody" element to the association. Lastly, Bridges would like to do more fundraising to give back to the association that has done so much for the youth.

Burns, active in rodeo, runs poles, barrel races, goat ties and ropes. She may be new to Reining, but is no stranger to competition. Burns favorite part of Reining is the spins, and her goal is to master those 25-foot, dirt-flying, sliding stops with her horse, Don. If elected as an officer for 2007, Burns would like to increase the membership of the younger age youth and have more to offer them. Burns said, "I would really like to see more kids my age getting involved."



Finals

Youth Team Tournament Results



Carlie Thompson

The team Spin Reiner, Reiner Spin won first place with a total score of 421.5 in the Youth Team Tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the NRHA Central US Regional Affiliate Finals. Allison Byrd, Alexis Daggett and Carlie Thompson weren't destined for success, as it wasn't until Alexis's original team fell through that they joined together to create this 'force to be reckoned' with.

Allison Byrd, a small town girl from Murfreesboro, Arkansas, won big with her mom's horse, Mo Mega. Although she has grown up riding, Byrd has only been showing NRHA for a year. Byrd enjoyed meeting Alexis and Carlie and said, "They are both great girls." With a successful start to her Reining career, Byrd looks forward to the challenge of showing a three-year-old. Aside from her time spent in the saddle, she is very active in her church youth group, plays volleyball and loves an ultimate Frisbee game with her friends. Lastly, she gives thanks to her family and God, "He has blessed me so much."

Alexis Daggett, of Montello, Wisconsin, loved every part of the Youth Team Tournament. From naming their team, to cheering her fellow teammates on, she enjoys the thrill of competition. A seasoned reiner, Daggett has been showing since she was seven and loves everything the sport has to offer. Daggett and Catalynx Chic are sure to do well in December at Oklahoma City. She also hopes to be in the NRHA Top Ten for year end points. When she's not reining, Daggett plays volleyball and badminton for fun. Like many youth riders, she competes at the county fair with her livestock, which includes her miniature horse!

Dublin, Ohio, native Carlie Thompson is no stranger to the show pen. Thompson had a great time competing in the Youth Team Tournament, mostly because it was the first time in a long time that she was actually able to compete in the Youth class, and not school her horse. Thompson's success came with a little help from her five-year-old mare, Maggie Chex. She's been showing Maggie Chex for almost a year now and can't decide if she is more fun to stop or spin. With most of her time dedicated to horse showing, Thompson truly enjoys relaxing and spending time with friends when she's not on the road.

NRHA Eastern US Regional Affiliate Finals

Youth Delegate Elections

BY LAUREN CAMBARARE

The Eastern US Regional Affiliate Finals youth meeting was held on Saturday, September 9. The newly appointed 14-18 Eastern US Affiliate delegates are, Ian Barnard of Kendallville, Indiana, and Seth Forgey of Thurman, Ohio.

Barnard, 17, attends East Noble High School where he is involved in the National Honors society and varsity soccer. When it comes to horses, Barnard has been active in his 4-H club and is also the Indiana Quarter Horse Youth Association youth director. He is excited to be an NRHyA delegate and looks forward to running for office in hopes to better understand how NRHA works, increase involvement and help the NRHyA grow while building his leadership skills.

Forgey, an ambitious senior, plans on attending Rio Grand Community College after high school. He enjoys Reining and currently rides with Woody and Cathy Taylor, Hurricane, West Virginia. His partner in the show pen, Sure Slides Quick, aka 'Slider' is a seven-year-old chestnut gelding. Unsure of what officer position to run for, Forgey looks forward to helping the NRHyA with different fundraisers that will benefit the association and help its membership grow. He is also excited to go to the NRHA Futurity and help with the different activities the youth have planned.



Ian Barnard

Finals

Youth Team Tournament Results



Kate Stewart

The team Rein to Live, Live to Rein was the Youth Team Tournament champions at the Eastern US Regional Affiliate Finals in Springfield, Ohio. Their name says it all and it's clear that they do "live to rein." Team members included Lauren Tieche riding Melon Kali Jac, Kate Stewart on Pica Peppy Doc and Alexis Daggett with Catalynx Chic.

Tieche of Ocala, Florida, has been a member of NRHA since 2001 and received the NRHA Youth Incentive Award in 2004. In her last year of competing in the Youth 13 & Under class, Tieche and Melon Kali Jac have been a dominating force in the show pen this year and their reserve championship at the Eastern US Affiliate Finals is just more proof of their success!

Nineteen-year-old Kate Stewart from Dawson, Georgia, was a mem-

ber of the winning youth team. She rode her five-year-old Quarter Horse gelding, Pica Peppy Doc, in the tournament. Her horse was previously shown in aged events and has won over \$21,000. Stewart's father, Chip, bought the gelding in May and Kate has been doing very well on him. The pair also won the Limited Non Pro and Novice Horse Non Pro Affiliate championships in Springfield! They are currently seated 14th in the Youth 14-18 NRHA Top Ten standings. Stewart does not have a lot of free time as she attends school full time at the University of Georgia and also competes on their equestrian team.

With much success at the Central US Regional Affiliate Finals and her heart set on being in the NRHA Top Ten for year-end points, Alexis Daggett headed to the Eastern US Affiliate Finals with determination and the desire to win. With another great run on her Quarter Horse gelding, Catalynx Chic, Daggett is obviously Oklahoma City bound come late November.

NRHA Mountain US Regional Affiliate Finals Youth Delegate Elections

By MELANIE COLETTA



Caroline Daniels

The Mountain US Regional Affiliate Finals youth meeting was held on Saturday, October 21. At the meeting, Lauren Luedke, who lives in the small town of Silt, Colorado, and Caroline Daniels, of Snowmass Village, Colorado, were elected to represent the Mountain US Region in the 2007 NRHyA officer elections.

If elected as an officer for 2007, Luedke plans to spread the word about Reining in the Mountain US Affiliate Region. She feels as though the non-horse related populace of the region is surprisingly uneducated about Reining. Luedke said, "Most people have heard of barrel racing, roping and jumping, however, not many people have even heard of Reining. Reining is becoming such a huge horse sport, which the public needs to be informed about, including the facts that we are not another rodeo and we know how to have a good time too!"

Chexers Be Quick, or 'Blondie,' is a five-year-old palomino Quarter Horse mare that Luedke reins on. She is sired by Jac Be Quick and out of Chexers Lena by Keiths Comet Chex. Lauren has had her for a little over a year, and she said, "I am finally getting all her little quirks figured out, so we are starting to make a pretty good team."

When she isn't riding her horse or cleaning the barn, Luedke is usually hanging out with friends, going to sporting events and camping.

In the past, she has been involved in several other horse organizations such as; various Quarter Horse associations, 4-H and school clubs. She has won competitions with horses as well as horse judging. Luedke is a third-year Youth Director for the Colorado Quarter Horse Association and has been presented with school awards for academics.

If Daniels is elected as a 2007 youth officer, one of her main goals for the NRHyA will be to get more youth involved in Reining. She said, "The youth are the future of the reining horse industry and it is important to get them involved now. I want to encourage friendship and fun between the youth and I think it would be great to have planned social events for youth members during shows."

The horse that Daniels shows is a nine-year-old Half Arabian gelding named Colorado Cowboy Roy, aka 'Creedence.' Creedence is Daniels first reining horse and they have learned a lot together.

Daniels attends Aspen High School and is a junior. She said, "When I am not riding my horses, which doesn't happen often, I like to hang out with my friends, ski, bake cookies, play with my dogs, swim, run, listen to music and watch *Grey's Anatomy* and *The OC*."

Daniels is a part of her student government, and is also involved in her school's Action in Africa club. Daniels and her friends have started an organization to help raise money and spread awareness about many tragedies effecting Africa. Their focus has been on both Kenya and Uganda. She hopes to travel to one of these places by the end of next school year to help those who are less fortunate.

Finals

Youth Team Tournament Results

The team, Mel's Posse, won first place with a total score of 624.5 at the Youth Team Tournament held during the Mountain US Regional Affiliate Finals in Denver, Colorado. Bryan Luark, Taylor Weisshaar and Melanie Coletta made up the trio that walked away with awards and scholarships totaling \$1,800.

Bryan Luark, 17-years-old and from Burns, Colorado, has had a great youth career in Reining. Luark showed three horses at the Finals, two of which he personally trained and finished. Bryan was second in the NRHA class and Affiliate Finals — Youth 14-18 Division, with a score of 213.5. His horse, Boomen James Foley, is an eight-year-old Boomernic gelding that Bryan has owned for four years. Luark and 'Boomer' make a great team. Luark said, "Before my run I was kind of nervous but afterwards, when I heard my score, I was really excited and happy that all of my hard work paid off."

Besides Reining, Bryan also helps run his family's ranch and outfitting business. He rifle hunts on the ranch. Bryan also competes in working cow horse. Even though this is Luark's last year as a youth, he plans to make the best of it and is very happy with his accomplishment on making it to Oklahoma City for the Adequan® North American Affiliate Championship Show.

Taylor Weisshaar from Steamboat Springs, Colorado, said, "The competition down at the Affiliate Finals show was tough, and was totally different than what competition is usually like, but I was showing to win." Weisshaar, fifteen-years-old, was excited and nervous at the same time, but after his run he was very happy with what he had accomplished. His horse, Friendly Brother, or as he calls him 'Tex,' is a Smart Chic Olena gelding. Taylor said, "He is a very funny horse and has a great personality. He and I have been doing well together." Besides Reining, Weisshaar enjoys four wheeling, snowmobiling, skiing, hunting and target shooting.

Melanie Coletta, from Boulder, Colorado, knew from the start that Mel's Posse was going to be a great team. She was excited and felt very competitive. "In my run, I felt awesome. I stepped it up to more than what I was used to and in the end did great. The experience I had at this show was amazing," said Coletta. She was second in the Affiliate Finals Youth 13 & Under class and is going to Oklahoma for the Adequan® North American Affiliate Championships. Her horse, Ms Taxi Cat, is a six-year-old sorrel mare by Lynx Stampede. She has had Taxi for three years and is really starting to bond with her. Besides horseback riding, she likes to play volleyball and the violin, and rifle and bow hunting. Coletta just started reined cow horse with Taxi.

NRHA Western US Regional Affiliate Finals

Youth Delegate Elections

By BRANDON BOYLE



Kailey King

The Western US Regional Affiliate Finals youth meeting was held on October 16. At the meeting, Kailey King of Brea, California, and Brandon Boyle of Ione, California, were elected the 2007 Western US delegates.

King is the current NRHyA Sentinel and looks forward to having the opportunity to run again for a position on the officer team. She is currently a junior at Brea Olinda High School, but spends much of her time riding and participating in NRHA activities. Among other things, King would most like to see the NRHyA

grow in numbers and get more youth involved.

Boyle, also a junior, attends Amador High School and he's an active member of the Ione Marlins Swim Team. He competes in the Youth 14-18 Division and has also advanced to the NRHA Category 2 events on his mare, Shewhiz Hollywood. Boyle would really like to get more involved, and help other youth members get more involved, in NRHyA. He feels the NRHyA is a great program and would like the opportunity to give back to the association and see it grow even more.



Brandon Boyle

Finals

Youth Team Tournament Results

The Youth Team Tournament Champions, Big Stoppers, won big at the Western US Regional Affiliate Finals in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Team consisted of three young ladies who have spent the majority of their lives in the saddle.

Jennifer Thompson, 16, of Torrance, California, has been riding her Twisted Sanalena since the futurity last year and it is clear they make a great team. Thompson said, "I had a really great time and didn't even know that our Team won until we were called; I was so excited."

Tamra Hunt, 17, of Eagle Point, Oregon, takes great pride in every run on her horse, Docs Ultimate Image, a.k.a. 'Rebel,' as she has done all the training herself. All Hunt could say about the tournament was that the show "was amazing!"

Brooke Boyle, 12 of Ione, California, not only loves showing Peppy Jo Chex, she also loves to ride him around the ranch bareback. Boyle had a great time at the show and was also shocked to learn that her Team won.

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3000 NW 10th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73107-5302