

NRHyA

National Reining Horse Youth Association



The NRHyA President's Message

President Ashley Fuchs

June 1, 2006

Hi!

The NRHA Derby has come and gone, and this year the NRHyA Youth officers have much to show for all of their hard work. We had many activities going on throughout the week. On Thursday, May 18, we hosted a Family Fun Day for 4-H, FFA and Oklahoma home-schooled kids. The day consisted of a quick power point presentation about Reining and a live demonstration by trainer John Horn. Then, the kids played a quiz bowl game to see who had learned the most about Reining. To cool off from the heat, the kids played several carnival games that the officers had set up. The favorite seemed to be the pie throwing booth, where I was pried over and over and over again! Finally, we ran out of whip cream and I was thankful for the break. The day was a huge success, and everybody had a great time.

On Friday, we had the opportunity to visit the Oklahoma State University Equestrian Center. This was a wonderful chance to learn more about varsity equestrian teams, especially for the girls on the officer team. We talked with Coach Larry Sanchez, and then went on a tour of the Animal Science building. Later in the day, the officers sold tickets to the Taste of Reining, an RHSF fundraiser. We had a great time seeing everyone, and the food was superb!

Saturday was by far the busiest day we had while we were in Oklahoma City. We started out the day by attending the NRHA Collegiate Reining Championship draw party at the Biltmore Hotel. Then, it was off to the fairgrounds where we split in 20 different directions trying to get everything in order for later in the day. Kailey and Cash were busy cutting vegetables and watermelon for the cookout at lunchtime, while Tara and I gave Primary Pines Dude a bath. Thanks to Linda Davis-Grisley, and a ton of other people, the NRHyA was able to auction off Primary Pines Dude, a broodmare bred to Roosters Wrangler, in the Derby Spotlight sale. At about 9 a.m. all of the officers met in the Coliseum to present the Youth awards. Then we all hurried over to Barn 7 where the mare was being sold. She was the first consignment to sell and sold for \$2,400. Afterwards, we set up everything outside of Barn 6 for our cookout. We had excellent burgers cooked on a charcoal grill, baked beans, chips and watermelon. The cookout was a huge hit! We had expected a larger turnout than last year, but all of us were pleasantly surprised to see even more people than we expected! When all was said and done, we raised about \$1,300. It was a great fundraiser and a ton of fun. In the evening, we attended the owner and exhibitor reception in the Cantina before the Open Finals, then it was time for the big event. Although we watched the Finals, we also threw out promotional items from NRHA sponsors during the drags and helped hand out the awards that evening.

The Derby was a busy show for the Youth officers, but all of the hustling was worth it. We had a wonderful time and accomplished much. We look forward to our many other events this year, including a Youth event at the Clayton Woosley Memorial Reining, the AQHYA conference and a membership drive at the Northeast Classic, as well as Rookie Day and the Shawn Florida Workshops. □

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Fuchs".

Ashley Fuchs
NRHyA President

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