

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

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## President's Letter

This has been another very busy year in the reining horse industry. With record high fuel prices and the general economy causing the consumer to think twice about where they spend their disposable income, we've seen show numbers decline across the nation; horse sale averages take a dip and general uneasiness about where the elections will take us. However, for those who really enjoy the local and regional circuits, there's plenty of action to be seen. We congratulate all of you who have stuck with it and qualified for the Mountain RAF and the year end awards.



**RMRHA President  
Gary Pipkin**

The Loot for the Grassroots in Denver, running concurrent with the non pro ancillary classes at the Regional Affiliate Finals, has created a lot of excitement in the reining world and preliminary indications are that we are going to see a lot of new faces in Colorado as non pro reiners and their trainers travel from afar to compete in this inaugural event.

However, it appears that the "Loot" may venture out of state in future years and be held at a different venue. That being the case, the Mountain Region Affiliate Finals, hosted by RMRHA for the past few years, will be rotated to a different venue also. As most of you know RMRHA is not in the business of producing horse shows beyond our successful Summer Slide in July. Your board of directors has discussed this for years and even though we financially support the other show management and affiliates who do hold circuit series reining that our members participate in, we have been reluctant to take on both the financial risk and the additional volunteer commitment required to successfully produce another reining. The costs associated with facilities, show management, judges and related show expenses has grown to the degree that any show produced must have multi-faceted classes and events held within the show to make it

*(Continued on page 2)*

### 2008 RMRHA Board

President: Gary Pipkin  
Vice President: Terry Wegener  
Secretary: Kelly Rainford  
Treasurer: Inga Guernsey

#### Elected Directors:

Thru 2008:  
Chris Curton  
Chad Hartmann  
Linda Hitt  
Steve Schwarzenberger

Thru 2009:  
Jared Amen  
Shane Brown  
Danie Hewlett  
Patti Lee

#### Appointed Directors:

John Iacobucci  
Barnie Kurth  
John Mendl  
Kim Nordby

Immediate Past President:  
Mark Guynn

## RMRHA Elections - Get Involved!

The Rocky Mountain Reining Horse Association elections are coming up this fall. All Officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are up for election. Four Board of Director positions are up for election as well. This is a great opportunity for you to participate in the future of one of the largest NRHA Affiliates. Contact Inga Guernsey with your interest.

RMRHyA Youth Officers will be elected at the Mountain Region Affiliate Finals. This is a great opportunity for youth to assist in a growing and enthusiastic organization. Go to the RMRHA website Youth Section or contact Jan Guynn for more information.

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

## Thank You Summer Slide Volunteers

NRHA Director voting for the Mountain Region is open. Online voting ends October 7, or vote at the Affiliate Finals on October 18. Candidate bios are available on the NRHA website.

I would like to thank every one who volunteered for the Summer Slide this year. We had a great response from everyone. I apologize to any one who was left out or didn't get to participate but that was mostly due to an unexpected turn out of volunteers, I had no idea we had such enthusiastic and gracious members, also it was my first year attempting to take on this task of heading up the volunteers and I appreciate every one's patience with the learning process. I need to especially thank the Schwartzenbergers, their entire family was extremely helpful, and with out their help it would have been way more difficult and disorganized. I would also like to thank Mike and Sandy and appreciate their patience. Every one who volunteered was appreciated and thank you for a job well done. I'm continually reminded of how awesome the reining community is, especially in the Rocky Mountain Reining Horse Association.

Again thank you to every one and see you next year or some where in between.

Chris Curton,  
RMRHA Summer Slide Volunteer Coordinator

### Trainers Tip



Shane Brown

#### Spins

“Forward motion is very important, and correctness will make speed.”

### President's Letter (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

financially feasible to take on the risks. The October “International Reining Festival” management team is not committed to producing the RAF in Denver in 2009/2010 without the added hooks of the futurity and Loot event, which appear to be moving elsewhere. Thus, we have informed NRHA that our affiliate will withdraw our bid to host the RAF's for the next two years. We understand Utah has submitted a bid to host the Mountain RAF and suspect that NRHA will award the next two years to that association. Many of you recall journeying to South Jordan a few years ago to represent RMRHA at the affiliate finals held at that facility. It was an easy drive, a great facility and a wonderful show management team that did a great job in producing the show. We expect the same for the next two years.

If you don't think there's enough professional reining clinics being conducted in Colorado, just look at the schedule. Clint Haverty was in the state in the Spring, Tanya Jenkins was here in August, Casey Hinton is scheduled just prior to the IRF, his clinic to be held in Parker on October 11 and 12<sup>th</sup> and then Shawn Florida is scheduled to do a winter clinic at Shane Brown Performance Horses in February '09. Add to that our own professional trainers volunteering their time and expertise for the Rookie Day clinic at the Colorado State Fairgrounds and you have a series of events for the beginner to the serious professional rider to take advantage of to improve their reining skills.

Inga Guernsey will be chairing the Nominating Committee again this year and will be looking for members who are interested in running for the board of directors and the officer positions of the association. If you are ready to get involved, make a difference, get your ideas injected into the future of our association, now is the time to act. Contact Inga and let her know which position within the association you have an interest. Up for election this year is all four officer positions and four of the eight elected director positions.

For all of you participating at the Mountain Region Affiliate Finals, we wish you good luck and success in pursuing your goal of achieving that near perfect ride. The top four in each class from the Mountain Region Affiliate Finals journey on to Oklahoma City to represent the region at the North American Championship Finals. Let's have our share of RMRHA reiners in that group!

Gary Pipkin,  
RMRHA President

### US Team Gold Medalists at First Ever North American Junior and Young Rider Championships in Parker

Congratulations to US Gold Medal team riders Lakshami Mahajan, Jason Kvols, Carlie Thompson, and Lacey Vernon.

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

## The Penalty Box

Kim Nordby

Your horse is tuned and ready as you prepare for the Affiliate Finals. The entries and stall reservations have been made. Anything else you need to do before the show? As part of your preparation for this show, make sure to brush up on the NRHA Rules for Judging.

From the NRHA Handbook...

The following will result in a score of 0:

- (a) use of more than index or first finger between reins;
- (b) use of two hands (exception in Snaffle Bit or Hackamore classes designated for two hands) or changing hands;
- (c) use of romal other than as outlined in NRHA Handbook;
- (d) failure to complete pattern as written;
- (e) performing the maneuvers other than in specified order;
- (f) the inclusion of maneuvers not specified, including, but not limited to:
  1. backing more than 2 strides
  2. turning more than 90 degrees(Exception: a complete stop in the 1st quarter of a circle after a canter departure is

not to be considered an inclusion of maneuver; a 2 point break of gait penalty will apply.)

- (g) equipment failure that delays completion of pattern;
- (h) balking or refusal of command where performance is delayed;
- (i) running away or failing to guide where it becomes impossible to discern whether the entry is on pattern;
- (j) jogging in excess of one-half circle or one-half the length of the arena ;
- (k) overspins of more than 1/4 turn;
- (l) fall to the ground by horse or rider. A horse is deemed to have fallen when its shoulder and/or hip and/or underline touches the ground;
- (m) dropping a rein that contacts the ground while the horse is in motion;
- (n) failure to wear appropriate western attire as outlined in the NRHA Handbook

See the NRHA Handbook for a complete list of rules and regulations. Good Luck at the Affiliate Finals, and have a great show!

“Neither a no score nor a 0 is eligible to place in a go round or class, but a 0 may advance in a multi-go event while a no score may not. In the event not enough horses qualify for total purse distribution, the undistributed portion of the purse will be retained by show management.”



Takin' a break during the RMRHA Summer Slide

## RMRHA Shines at APHA World Show

Megan Mulqueen

The RMRHA was well represented at the 2008 APHA World Show in July. Fort Worth, Texas is a good 14 hours from Colorado so most of the people who went from Colorado stayed for over a week to compete in the most important Paint show in the nation. There were even a few reiners who managed to squeeze in a couple of days at the NRHA Derby in OKC along the way. It turns out that their efforts were well rewarded.

Beginning with Youth Reining 14-18, Jason Kvols began the odyssey of a lifetime when he won the World Championship on Sunny Spotacular (by Mark This Spot) – and he also won the Reserve World Championship on Dusta Gun (by The Big Gun). Third place went to Christi Gordon riding Smart First Move. Devin Warren, trainer for Jason and Christi, was proud to ride out on Dusta Gun to accept Jason's award and to make the crowd wonder who the “kid” was riding Jason's horse. Marcus Bannister finished 13<sup>th</sup> on Robins Shirley Mae.

After rinsing off his horses, Jason packed his overnight bag, loaded Sunny into the trailer and drove up to the NRHA Derby in OKC where he continued on his roll of successes. Meanwhile, the RMRHA reining crew commenced practicing nightly from 11pm to 1am, their designated timeslots.



(Continued on page 4)

FEI World Reining Championships sees team Italy win the Gold Medal while USA took Silver in the team competition. USA rider Jordan Larson captures the Gold Medal in the Individual Competition. See the NRHA website for complete results.

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

## RMRHA Shines at APHA World Show (cont)

Megan Mulqueen



Don at paddock announcers stand.

(Continued from page 3)

The next reining class was Novice Amateur Reining which also was a fruitful event for the RMRHA. The competition was tough but Sheri O'Connell, in her first World Show performance, rode Lil Jazzy Gun to 5<sup>th</sup> place; Peggy Cummings riding Dun Colored Smartly was 6<sup>th</sup>. Bill Roberts riding Boonlight N Diamonds was 12<sup>th</sup>. Denise Dunlap and Im A Classic Doc were also in the class.

Amateur Reining was a good class for Lisa Clark Hoffman. She finished 7<sup>th</sup> riding MJP Majestic Zan and 14<sup>th</sup> riding Nicsgotta Gun.

The crowd was ready to roar when the day came for the Junior and Senior Reining classes and the RMRHA reining group did not disappoint. Devin Warren, riding Spinning Dream owned by Megan Mulqueen & Bill Roberts, had a stellar ride in the tough Junior Reining class and finished as Reserve World Champion. Bobbie Boyce finished 11<sup>th</sup> on Peggy Cummings horse, Smart Little Valentine. Devin Warren finished 14<sup>th</sup> on the Cummings horse, Diablos Painted Doc.

The excitement continued that day with the Senior Reining class. Jason Kvols, back from the NRHA Derby, had one of the prettiest and strongest rides of the day on Sunny Spotacular and clinched the World Championship. Nancie Wright finished 13<sup>th</sup> on Gay Bar Drummer, owned by Joni Veloshin. She catch rode for her husband, Jack, who had been injured in Colorado prior to the show. The crowd was on its feet for the announcement of the awards. The World Show rumor mill had it that Jason was Clint Haverty's assistant. Everybody got a chuckle out of that one. The whole RMRHA gang was so proud. Maybe we need club jackets to promote the RMRHA at outside events?

In the 4 & 5 YO Challenge, a newly added class, Devin Warren rode the Cummings horse Diablos Painted Doc and finished 11<sup>th</sup>. The 3 YO Reining Challenge, normally a big draw for this World Show, is moved to the Fall.

Megan Mulqueen and Bill Roberts, Diamond MR Ranch and owners of The Big Gun, were elated because Dusta Dun, sired by The Big Gun, was Reserve World Champion. Also another offspring, The Big Time, owned by Chele Murrell, NRHA and AQHA judge, finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Jr Reining and 4<sup>th</sup> in the 4&5 YO Challenge – and will get payout from their \$75,000 Breeding Incentive Program!

The 2008 Paint World Show was a fantastic show for RMRHA. These reiners went to the Paint World well prepared and ready ride. A large part of their skill and experience comes from riding in the RMRHA shows throughout the year. It has helped them to better competitors and more powerful riders. They are outstanding representatives of the RMRHA. Congratulations.

“Jason Kvols, back from the NRHA Derby, had one of the prettiest and strongest rides of the day on Sunny Spotacular and clinched the (Senior Reining) World Championship.”



Kathy and Sally at the announcers stand during the Summer Slide

Would you like to contribute to the Rocky Mountain Reins Newsletter? We are currently looking for writers to contribute articles on the APHA and AQHA shows featuring RMRHA members. Contact Kim Nordby with your interest!

## International Reining Festival Volunteers Needed

As the host affiliate for the Mountain Affiliate Finals which is held in conjunction with the International Reining Festival, we are looking for volunteers to help at the show. The show dates are October 14-19 at the National Western Events Center in Denver, CO. We need scribes, gate help and announcer help.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Cathy Irvin.

Phone: 303.337.9321  
Email: cirvin9901@aol.com.

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

## RMRHyA Youth Corner - Gena Shifrin Ali Gordon

Genevieve Shifrin, age ten, and her gelding, "Zans A Nic," placed first in the Short Stirrup and 13 and Under divisions at this year's RMRHA Summer Slide. Gena became involved with horses at an especially young age when she obtained her first equine, a pony. However, Gena soon sought after something larger, a real horse! That's when she received her first horse, "Zans A Nic" or "Spyder," now a fourteen year old quarter horse. At the age of eight, one year earlier than most riders begin reining, Genevieve decided that she also wanted to rein. Ms. Shifrin's friend, who was an avid reiner, often came home with all kinds of ribbons. Naturally, Gena wanted to try reining too. She now trains in Carbondale, Colorado, at Cache Ranch with Jessica and Randy Dooley.

Gena attends school at Aspen Country Day, and math and physical education are among her favorite subjects. She also takes pleasure reading. Genevieve, who used to compete on a swim team, now takes swimming and tennis lessons at Aspen Recreation Center as

extracurricular activities. Additionally, Gena danced on a band team and had a lead role in a play. To help her community, Ms. Shifrin helps clean her school and take dogs out for walks at the local dog shelter. Gena, in her spare time, enjoys playing with her pets, playing outdoors, and playing Webkidz on the computer. Ms. Shifrin, with the exception of horses, holds her academic performance and assisting her family key priorities in life.

In the future, Genevieve desires to excel in riding and at school. It is her goal to be helpful and courteous to all those she may come in contact with. In the area of scholastic achievement, her teachers being fond of her and scoring well in her academic subjects are two main goals of Gena's. In the area of riding, two of Gena's goals are to attend the World Championships and eventually become a trainer. Ms. Shifrin would like to thank everyone who has helped her in reining and encourage all the riders competing against her to persevere and do their best.

Congratulations, Gena on your exciting wins!

Look for RMRHA youth member Ali Gordon's "Focus on Youth" section in your NRHA Reiner.

Ali is the Youth Editor for your Rocky Mountain Reins newsletter.

Congratulations to 2008  
RMRHA Youth Scholarship  
recipients Rebecca Malcom and  
Natalie Stallworth!

## State Fair Hosts Youth Freestyle

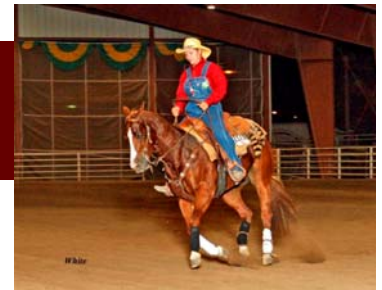
Jan Guynn



What a great event!!!! The Youth Freestyle at the Colorado State Fair was a huge success. There were ten entries and some names who are rather new to the scene. But most of all what was fun to watch is that these kids came to play. The costumes were great, the songs were varied, the camaraderie was present, and the competition was tough. Looking around from the "sound booth" you could see quite a large crowd gather as the kids prepared to exhibit in what was the very first Youth Freestyle event in Colorado. With exhibitors from the age of 8 to 18, the winner was Abby Lengel with a score of 73 who rode her horse Vons Lena to the song Boondocks.

Reserve was Jennifer DuHadway who made her parting reining pattern as a youth aboard Especially Chic to the Josh Turner song Firecracker and posted a score of 72.5.

Lindsay Wadhams and the Colorado State Fair had awards for each of the ten kids, and photos were taken of each of them receiving their placings. Thanks to Lindsay who was a total pleasure to work with. In fact she has already requested that this event to be held again next year. Also thanks to Guy and Valerie Vernon, Chad and Shelly Hartmann and Mark and Jan Guynn who provided an extra \$300 added money for the event. And of course a thanks to RMRHA who agreed to pay the entry fees for the exhibitors. It sure appeared that everyone left there with new friends and a renewed interest for the RMRHA Youth program. Thanks to all.



Abby Lengel and Vons Lena.



Jennifer DuHadway and Especially Chic

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

## International Reining Festival Announces Loot for Grassroots

Brad Etteman



“On Deck” at the Summer Slide

Now in its third year, The International Reining Festival is proud to announce the inaugural “Loot For Grassroots” Non Pro awards program to be held in conjunction with The International Reining Festival, October 14-19, 2008 in Denver, Colorado.

In an effort to support segments of the reining horse industry that do not typically have highly valuable incentives available to them and to drive enthusiasm and excitement throughout the industry, we’ve created the “Loot for Grassroots” as an additional awards program.

The \$100,000 total awards value will be distributed as follows:

- Non Pro \$50,000 in gold loot
- Int. Non Pro \$35,000 in gold loot
- Ltd. Non Pro \$10,000 in gold loot
- PT Non Pro \$5,000 in gold loot



Paybacks will be paid off of NRHA payback schedule B to ensure a far-reaching premium system, injecting thousands of dollars of value deep into each division of the Loot.

In order to focus our efforts on the Non Pro exhibitor that hasn’t yet reached the top of the very competitive NRHA Non Pro events, we have designed this awards program to include those who have not earned more than \$24,999 in NRHA LTE as of 1/1/08.

We feel that the “Loot” will strengthen the position of the National Reining Horse Association among an important segment of the industry - the highly competitive discretionary and hobby/sport industries. It is the intention of The International to offer The Loot for the Grassroots on a continuing and annual basis.

Patronships, including close-in parking, premium stall placement and highly coveted paid warm-up slots are still available and strongly encouraged.

In addition to The Loot for the Grassroots, the International Reining Festival also offers the following outstanding components:

- NRHA Mountain Region Affiliate Finals
- \$11,000 Mile High Derby
- \$10,000 Challenger’s Cup Freestyle Reining – (ticketed event on Saturday evening)
- \$30,000 Stallion Select Futurity
- A full slate of ancillary classes
- Outstanding Patronship and Sponsorship Opportunities
- Exhibitor Parties and VIP Receptions
- USEF and Short-Stirrup Youth Classes
- A fun and relaxed atmosphere
- Large-scale western trade show

Be sure to secure your tickets to the Challenger’s Cup Freestyle Reining today by clicking on the Challenger’s Cup link at [www.InternationalReiningFestival.com](http://www.InternationalReiningFestival.com).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact HorsePower, Inc. (the event management company for The International Reining Festival) at 720.982.3574, or by e-mail at [info@InternationalReiningFestival.com](mailto:info@InternationalReiningFestival.com).

### \$100,000 in Awards for NonPros!

Must have earned no more than \$24,999 LTE as of 1/1/2008 in order to be eligible for the Loot. See the International Reining Festival website for details. [InternationalReiningFestival.com](http://InternationalReiningFestival.com)



The show office at the Summer Slide runs smoothly thanks to these ladies.

### State Offers “Support the Horse” License Plates



These special license plates will be available January 1, 2009. A portion of the license plate fee goes to the Colorado Horse Development Authority for “education and promotion of other programs of value to the horse industry in the state”. You can find out more information about ordering these plates on their website, [www.chda.org](http://www.chda.org).

# Rocky Mountain Reins!

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## Art of Reining Contest Kim Nordby

Reining wasn't the only talent shown this year during the Rocky Mountain Summer Slide. Contestants displayed their artistic abilities during the First Annual Art of Reining Contest.

RMRHA youth members submitted their art work to the contest during the Rocky Mountain Summer Slide. The contest provided 3 age groups: 14-18, 11-13, and 10 & Under. Savings bonds were awarded to the first and second place winners in each age group. All art work was offered for sale during the Summer Slide with a portion of the proceeds going to the RMRHyA.

The art work was on display near the warm up pen and paddock announcer stand. This great location provided lots of traffic and Summer Slide attendees were able to vote on their favorite entries.

Contest placings were as follows:

10 & Under:  
First Place: Willie Gordon  
Second Place: Lindsay Guynn

11-13:  
First Place: Abi Gordon

14-18:  
First Place: Christi Gordon  
Second Place: Christi Gordon

Congratulations to all participants in the first ever Art of Reining Contest!



Barbie manages awards during Summer Slide



Summer Slide attendees were allowed to cast one vote per age group to determine the winners. The votes were tabulated and verified by the show office.



"You must be the change you wish to see in the World." -Gandhi"

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## Rocky Mountain Reins Advertising

Starting with this issue, the Rocky Mountain Reins newsletter will offer advertising. Take advantage of this affordable opportunity to reach your target horse and reining audience. We will offer business card and quarter page advertising options. The cost to members per issue is \$15 for a business card sized ad and \$25 for a quarter page sized ad. Discounts available for 6 month and 12 month ads. The ads will be in color for the e-newsletter and black and white in the printed version. Take advantage of this great opportunity to reach more people with your advertising! Contact Kim Nordby at [kimnordby@yahoo.com](mailto:kimnordby@yahoo.com) or call her at (719) 460-6541 for more information.

**Quarter Page Pricing:**

- \$ 25 Per Issue
- \$ 70 for 6 Months
- \$ 135 for 12 Months

**Business Card Pricing:**

- \$ 15 Per Issue
- \$ 40 for 6 Months
- \$ 80 for 12 Months

## Upcoming Events

- September 18-21, WSRHA Western Slope Slide, Rifle, Co.
- October 14 - 19, Mountain Region Affiliate Finals, International Reining Festival and Loot for Grassroots, Denver, Co.
- November 27-December 6, NRHA Futurity and North American Affiliate Championship Show

# International Reining Festival Schedule at a Glance



**Tuesday** - Limited Open\*, Rookie Professional\*, Mile High Derby

**Wednesday** - Stallion Select Futurity, NP/INP/LNP\*, Loot for Grassroots 1st Go Section 1

**Thursday** - NP/INP/LNP\*, Loot for Grassroots 1st Go Section 2

**Friday** - Open/Intermediate Open\*, Rookie\*, Green Rookie

**Saturday** - Novice Horse Open\*, NP/INP/Loot for Grassroots Finals, Short Stirrup, Challengers Cup Freestyle

**Sunday** - Youth\*/USEF, Novice Horse NonPro\*

\*Denotes Ancillary and Affiliate Class



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REINING  
HORSE ASSOCIATION**

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