

Foundation Increases Crisis Fund Grants

RHF VICE PRESIDENT TIM ANDERSON



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The reining community has given much enjoyment to my wife, Kim Niven, and me. Donating to the Reining Horse Foundation is a way we’ve found to give back, and I enjoy the work I’ve been able to do serving on the RHF Board of Directors. Of the Foundation’s core programs encompassing scholarships, the NRHA Hall of Fame and the Dale Wilkinson Memorial Crisis Fund, it is the Crisis Fund that Kim and I are most passionate about, and I want to share some exciting developments.

Crisis Fund grants are reviewed under four categories covering medical hardships, accidents—whether horse related or not, disasters such as fires, tornadoes and floods, and extreme situations. These grants have been helping NRHA members since the Foundation was formally established in 2001, but we want to do more. In 2016, the maximum grant award across all categories was doubled or more. In the case of medical, the maximum was increased from \$500 to \$1,500. Beginning July 1, 2017, the award maximum was increased again to \$3,000. That’s an increase of 83 percent in just two years.

How is this possible? It’s happening thanks to the generosity of donors—large and small—and the work the Foundation is doing to grow its support for the reining community. We’ve been fortunate to benefit from special fundraisers, we’ve received several substantial donations and support is increasing for the Reiners Club, which invites annual giving.

The push to raise the grant awards is simple. We want to be able to provide financial help that is meaningful. We hope to sustain these increased grant levels, but that will only be possible if fundraising continues to grow. I hope you will consider how you can help other reiners in their time of need.

I am fortunate to chair the RHF Crisis Fund Review Committee, a group made up of RHF Board members and other NRHA members, who review applications for individuals enduring a crisis. These volunteers take their work seriously and give of their time to make important decisions. This is a great time to say thank you to committee members Ben Balow, Dave Belson, Shane Brown, Andre De Bellefeuille, Tracy Lynch, Kim Maharaj, Mandy McCutcheon and April Weaver.

Tim Anderson

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FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Blake, President

(612) 386-7465 • mab1944@msn.com

Tim Anderson, Vice President

(605) 880-5336 • timanders59@gmail.com

Becky Jordan, Secretary/Treasurer

(859) 221-3644 • becky@beckyjordan.net

Loren Booth, Officer

(559) 240-7601 • mareland@aol.com

Joao Marcos, Officer

(407) 953-5353 • joamarcos@arrudapires.com.br

Ann Admonius

(352) 804-9288 • annadmonius@gmail.com

Ben Balow

(602) 989-2098 • skullvalleyranch@gmail.com

Dave Belson

(602) 377-2593 • gangster@5breiners.com

Kelli Brummett

(209) 748-1909 • dkbrummett@softcom.net

Rick Clark

(606) 739-4661 • rick.clark@clarkspns.com

Frank Costantini

(330) 518-4120 • Franknrha@aol.com

Andre De Bellefeuille

(514) 578-5757 • andre@versapro.ca

Mike Deer

(970) 963-6969 • mikedeer@sopris.net

Jennifer Greenleaf

(540) 454-5278 • jennifersgreenleaf@msn.com

Mike Hancock

(252) 443-0424 • mhh@boddienoell.com

Tracy Lynch

(580) 277-9006 • tlynch404@gmail.com

Mandy McCutcheon

(940) 453-7543 • mcutch1@aol.com

Colleen McQuay

(940) 437-2470 • hdunit@aol.com

Chris Sullivan

(615) 881-4761 • csullivan@beamanauto.com