

Boot Camps Support the Crisis Fund

RHF BOARD PRESIDENT MARK A. BLAKE



“The relationships that are established and nurtured at Boot Camps make them important to our industry for more reasons than one.”

Of the three core programs of the Reining Horse Foundation, it is the Dale Wilkinson Memorial Crisis Fund that arguably tugs most at the heart strings. No matter how competitive we are in the show pen, when reiners know one of our own is hurting, it's easy to get behind providing aid. More than 15 years ago, a program was established to raise crisis dollars while also providing education for beginning reiners.

Now known as Reining Boot Camps, this clinic series remains an important funding source to maintain and grow the Crisis Fund. With Classic Equine as the presenting sponsor, Reining Boot Camps do more than help those enduring hardships. They help welcome rookies to the sport and now invite non pros to grow their experience interacting with NRHA Professionals and NRHA Affiliates. The relationships that are established and nurtured at Boot Camps make them important to our industry for more reasons than one.

I have to thank the Southwest, West Coast and Arizona Reining Horse Associations for committing to host Reining Boot Camps in 2018. In addition, Joao Marcos and Cardinal Ranch are conducting similar clinics across South America, many in countries that have never before hosted, like Argentina and Uruguay.

We've heard from a handful of other affiliates considering hosting, and we're doing everything we can to help them schedule. It's not too late to get one planned if you will muster a coordinator and volunteers. All proceeds from Reining Boot Camps are designated for the 501(c)3 nonprofit Foundation, but through the Affiliate Incentive Program and RHF there is some help with expenses. A typical Reining Boot Camp will gross between \$2,500 and \$5,000, so you can see why these are important in keeping the Crisis Fund healthy.

If a Reining Boot Camp is not in the cards for your affiliate at present, think about other ways you, your barn or business can benefit the Crisis Fund or the Foundation in general. Clients at Brenda Brown Performance Horses donated as part of their December holiday celebration, and Chad and Jordan Hogue made a very generous contribution from their holiday Horsin' Around party at Rafter CJH.

Find a way to give back. It will help others and make you feel great. We're here to help.

Mark A. Blake

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 • joaomarcos@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

Jillane Brown

(919) 631-0573 • jill.brown@browecon.com

Kelli Brummett

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

Rick Clark

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

Andre De Bellefeuille

(514) 578-5757 • andre@versapro.ca

Mike Deer

(970) 963-6969 • mdeer@nrha.com

Jennifer Greenleaf

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

Mike Hancock

(252) 443-0424 • mhh@boddienoell.com

Bruce Koefoot

(308) 380-8368 • bkoefoot@hotmail.com

Colleen McQuay

(940) 437-2470 • hdunit@aol.com

Chris Sullivan

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