

Reining Horse Foundation

Gratitude and the Season for Giving

It's November—the pinnacle month for reining. NRHA Futurity exhibitors, horses, and owners and hundreds of reiners who've qualified for the Adequan® North American Affiliate Championship Show head to Oklahoma City, and fans follow. At the Reining Horse Foundation (RHF), it's also the peak of our year and a special time for this charitable organization. It's a time to come together to celebrate, plan, and work toward an even stronger future fulfilling our mission: Caring for and honoring our reining community.

What does this look like? At the NRHA Futurity, our marquee program is Sliders' Night Out presented by Toyon Ranch. We're filled with gratitude for the support of Toyon Ranch owners John and Nancy Tague as well as a diverse group of major donors and Hall of Fame Table Hosts. In 2018, this event was our largest fundraiser of the year, and we hope to repeat that. Every donor makes an impact.

There's still time for you to join us at Sliders' Night Out! You'll want to be with us as we celebrate NRHA Hall of Fame members past and present, honor the new Dale Wilkinson Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, and give special recognition to Taylor Sheridan for his bearing on the sport.

Other special guests include the 2019 NRHA Affiliate Ambassadors—volunteers who drive the engine for our sport at the grassroots level—plus NRHyA officers and delegates. We know youth represent reining's future!

This month and beyond, NRHyA members will actively raise funds for their programs, leadership development, and scholarships through multiple avenues. We thank those of you already contributing to

the Buy-A-Pro Auction, the NRHyA Stallion Auction, and the NRHyA Silent Auction. Our youth stay involved in raising funds to support all their programs through the nonprofit RHF.

I'd like to express a special thanks to NRHA Professional Bob Avila, who has donated his 1994 NRHA Futurity Champion saddle, which he won riding Lenas Wright On, to benefit NRHyA. Watch for auction details to be announced and look for a photo of the saddle on page 36. What a generous gesture to benefit future generations of reiners! We'll have some other great items available in this auction, too.

The NRHA Futurity starts on Thanksgiving, a holiday that fills me with gratitude for this reiner life. On behalf of RHF, let me say thank you for your generosity this year. We appreciate your gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

As a gesture of caring for our reining community, we are again offering a Thanksgiving Buffet on the show grounds from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., November 28. Purchase your reservations in advance. Pull up a chair and enjoy your reining family! ❖



Mark A. Blake,
RHF Board President

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