

Paying It Forward

Some years ago, my wife, Jill, was invited to the NRHA Futurity in Oklahoma City. Our first visit was a bit overwhelming — from the large venue to the amount of people — but it was a good educational experience all in all.

As I was not competing, I was looking for things to keep me busy. One of the things that caught my attention was a write-up about the Reining Horse Foundation (RHF) and its efforts around supporting NRHA members who had experienced misfortune of some kind.

The more I read about this, the more curious I became. I discussed this with my wife, and we both found it interesting that the reining community had a formal vehicle to help their own in times of crisis. We decided to learn more about it and set up a meeting with Rick Clark to discuss it. He did a great job of presenting the RHF philosophy, operations and future plans, and so we decided to donate to this worthy cause.

From then on, we have continued to see the RHF as one of our key charities. It was a way for us to participate and support the reining community in times of need. We saw how the RHF helps people with monetary assistance when they really need it, whether that is for repairs from natural disasters or support during medical catastrophes.

Initially, I was under the impression that the RHF was only a crisis organization, but I later learned about the youth scholarship

fund and youth leadership development, as well as its work with the NRHA Hall of Fame. Support of youth, assisting people in need and honoring the legends of the sport are core pillars of the overall reining community.

In 2021, I was once again talking to Rick Clark when he asked if I would join the RHF Board of Directors. From our years of supporting the organization, it was in many ways an easy decision to accept this invitation. I also participate on the RHF Crisis Fund and Finance committees. Being a part of this organization is personally very rewarding, as we see firsthand how we can be of help for people in need.

The “pay it forward” concept is truly the mission of the RHF, and we are very happy and proud to play a part in it.



Geir Ramleth
RHF Board Member

To donate, visit reiningfoundation.com, email rhf@nrha.com or contact RHF Executive Director Leslie Baker at 405-946-7400, ext. 106. You can also donate by texting “RHF” to 405-300-5919.

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