

5th ANNUAL TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK HORSE SHOW

The 5th Annual Tough Enough To Wear Pink Horse Show has come and gone, but not without leaving its mark. Once again, the show grew from 2010 to 2011. There were 100 more stalls rented and 476 more entries, bringing that total to 1,536 entries. Needless to say, that many more entries brought more wonderful exhibitors. This year's show had horses and exhibitors from 6 states, 1 more than last year.

Everyone started arriving Friday morning and around midnight we were finishing getting horses in their stalls and shavings to the right place. Can't tell you what the rest of the committee was doing, but they finished about the same time. And I can tell you that Allen, Andy, and my wagons were draggin'.

Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m., announcer Joe Coalter called the first class to the show pen. Brent Harnish handled the judging until Saturday evening. Everyone knew from the start, it was going to be a long day, just from the entry numbers.

Saturday's J.D. Equipment Fall Classic was the biggy for Saturday night, but not before a reining demonstration by Terry Murphy. Terry and his partner, Tyler, did a great job, all in the honor of Terry's mother and sister who are cancer survivors. When you think things can't get any worse, sit down and talk to a survivor. I think you will realize, you are not too bad off.

Next was the live auction and what a job, auctioneer Dan Westlake and his crew did. Matt Coldiron, Tracy Dendinger, and Todd Salome worked the crowd getting bids on a hat from Shorty's in Oklahoma City; a Harris headstall; a basket of passes from Ohio Quarter Horse Youth Association; and a Flight Simulator. And a job they did. When Dan dropped the final gavel, they raised exactly \$1,000 more than last year's live auction. Almost forgot, Todd Salome and his wife threw in the 5th item, more congress passes. Thanks again for a job well done.

On to the Classic. The crowd's favorite, the \$500 Versatility. A full class of 20 were battling thru all four stages with Sara Lebsock walking away with the blue. Next was the \$500 Non-Pro Hunter Under Saddle and Jennifer Hueker came out on top. Now for the Big Dogs; the \$1,000 Open Hunter Under Saddle. After a great class, Lynne Puthoff rode away with the blue and the money. Switch gears and call in the Western Pleasure horses. Kelly Rice came loaded for bear. Not only did she win the \$1,000 Non-Pro; Kelly turned around and brought Easy To Be Bay, right back thru the gate to take on the Open Riders and once again claimed the top spot. Kelly's winnings for the night totaled \$1,400.00. Good Job Kelly.

On to Sunday and announcer Joe Coalter called for the 1st classes at 8:00 a.m. Amber Moffett handled the trail classes and Cathy Jennings the performance classes. Trail showed a nice increase in numbers and Cathy was busy sorting thru her classes that featured many splits because of big numbers.

Sunday also brought in some very special guests. Kim Collins, Events Director for the Spielman Fund; Chuck Strickler, News Anchor from Channel 10; and Megan Masterson, Ohio Quarter Horse Association Queen. I would like to thank each of them for their help.

Survivors Walk Trot, the highlight class of the show; this year, 17 entered and what a job they did. Having gotten to meet so many survivors while selling spreader tickets, I guarantee you each and every rider is a WINNER. But in the end, Cathy's choice was Martha Limoli and I hope she enjoys her new Anderson Beam Cancer Boots sponsored, once again, by Pard's Western Shop of Urbana, Illinois.

Next was the class that was probably the roughest one for all of the committee; The In Memory Of Walk Trot with 76 entries. This class was tough due to our loss of committee lady, Loni Grice. Loni loved this horse show and was a true battler to the end. This year the committee sponsored the crystal trophy in Loni's honor and this class from here on out will be known as the Loni Grice Memorial Walk Trot. Emmy Adams walked away with the crystal.

Time to draw for the Spreader of Hope IV. This year, the spreader was donated, once again, by Green & Sons, Inc. of Mt. Sterling, Ohio, and Pequea Machine of New Holland, PA. The spreader traveled about 7,000 miles promoting our show and breast cancer awareness. It feels different to look back and not see that spreader following me. Dick Green drew the winning ticket that belonged to Lexi Winemiller. Lexi was at the show and had no plans of selling the spreader back to Dick Green.

Cathy got the rest of the day placed and now it is time to figure the 4 Hi Point Awards, as well as the 4 Reserves. The beautiful Montana Silver Buckles were donated by the Lazy N Tack Shop in Circleville, Ohio. The reserve champions receive a custom made Tough Enough To Wear Pink director's chair, donated by the family and friends of Loni Grice. Drum-Roll; and the results are: **9 & Under:** Champion, Cora Wyers riding The Last Write; and Reserve, Kaila Kovick riding Annie Lost Her Socks. **10-13:** Champion, Madeline Wyer riding The Last Write; and Reserve, Brooke Maxwell riding Raise My Limit. **14-18:** Champion, Sarah Lebsack riding Easy To Be A Hotrod; and Reserve (3 way tie) Allie Dusha riding Virtual Chocolate, Brittany Wolford riding Presidential Asset, and Alex Sims riding Expressly Shadow. All four divisions were very competitive and all very close races. Congratulations to all the winners.

Wrapping up, the 5th Annual Tough Enough To Wear Pink Horse Show was a great success.

The committee would like to thank EVERYONE who made it possible. First, our financial and silent auction sponsors; Second, all our volunteers who worked long and tiring hours; Third, our exhibitors who turned out in record numbers to support The Cause; Fourth, Gary & Jenny Riddle and staff who rolled out the Red Carpet and worked so well with us and our needs; and

Joe Coalter, the man behind the microphone that kept us going; and our judges, Brent Harnish, Cathy Jennings, and Amber Moffett who each had to work thru record numbers of entries. None of it would have been possible without all of the people who enabled the committee to present to the Stefanie Spielman Fund for Patient Assistance a check in the amount of **\$40,000.00**. Thank You to All who helped make this possible.

The 6th Annual Tough Enough To Wear Pink Horse Show will be held on September 22nd and 23rd, 2012, at Roberts Arena in Wilmington, Ohio.