

MILE HI BARREL HORSE ASSOCIATION

November
2011

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Welcome Back

By Lexie Ashurst

It's been a while since Mile Hi Barrel Horse produced a newsletter and I know it has been missed by many of our members. Well, starting this month, IT'S BACK! Our goal for the monthly newsletter is to provide our members with a variety of articles centered on the people, places and things relating to our association. In the Sponsor Highlight Section, you can read about our sponsors and how they make this association work. Further, we will highlight a member in our Champions Corner and you can learn more about your fellow members. From the Desk of the Secretary, we will share tid bits of info from the producer's point of view. And of course, we will bring back a relic from the newsletter of old.... The Wise Old Owl will return with her monthly rambles of non-sense!

This month I want to welcome all members, old and new, back for another great year with Mile Hi Barrel Horse. Just over 6 weeks ago we put the 2010-2011 Year in the books and those of us behind the scenes with Mile Hi are hard at work

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getting ready for the 2011-2012 season. We have many returning members and your constant support of this association is most sincerely appreciated. We also have lots of new members and that is always exciting because it means that our association and the sport of barrel racing in general is continuing to grow and that can only mean good things for all of us! I hope you enjoy this first newsletter and those to come in the months ahead.

I want to wish you all a very happy and safe Thanksgiving Holiday.

Lend a Helping Hand to those in need...Please Participate in Our Holiday Food Drive and Toy Drive Events!

Details on Page 3



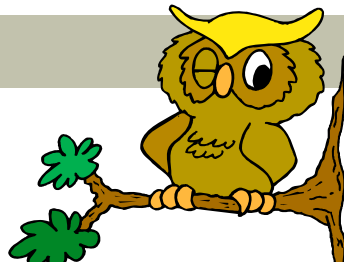
Bring your can food donations to Castle Rock Nov 26 and 27th.



Bring your Toy Donations to The Ranch Dec 3 & 4 or Castle Rock Dec. 10 & 11. Watch your emails for info on how to sponsor a specific child.

The Wise Old Owl

By Bonnie Crowder



I have been waiting for a snow storm so I could write some more. Not waiting anymore. Let's see, I will tell about the hayracks we had at our stables many, many years ago. One that I remember, along with others, is hayrack rides we did for Green Gables Country Club. They were located on Old Morrison Road and Wadsworth. We could truck the horses there but we could not truck the wagons, So... we drove the teams and wagons from 6th and Simms to Jewell and Wadsworth and then into the Country Club. Now follow close as this is where it gets confusing. We would line up the wagons at the club house one after the other. Out would come the gentlemen helping the well heeled ladies onto the wagons! They were dressed in fancy dresses, diamonds and every kind of fur wrap you could imagine! The men had on suits and ties, some even had on tuxes! I can't figure out why the flyer for the club said to have them dress like that? The first wagon would pull out and the next would pull up to be loaded. The first wagon followed a route around the outer side of the golf course for about 1000 ft. and there would be a bar and bartender set up for these folks. Some would then get off the wagon to get their drinks. That wagon would then go on to the next stop, which also had a bar and bartender, and again some guests would get off. Then that wagon would go on to the next stop. All together 4 stops. Meanwhile the second wagon was now loaded and doing the same as the first one. As it got to the first stop any of the guests from the first wagon could get back on the wagon and ride to the next stop or two. Meanwhile wagon number 3 was now loaded at the club house and was making its rounds like the first two. Guests were free to get on any of the wagons and ride to the club house, or continue on around the ride to the stops. As we went on all the rides you cannot imagine how many

watches, earrings, and necklaces were lost and we would have to stop and try to dig thru the hay to find it. Now you have never dug thru any hay looking for a needle with 15- 20 drunken guests. Each time we went past the club house the dress code changed! Furs were thrown on the hay to cushion the itchiness, nylons were removed as they were ripped and snagged beyond recognition. All those beautiful dresses I am sure ended up in the trash. The ladies and fellows that started out together ended with other ladies and fellows. Now these were lawyers, judges, council men, aides, very well to do folks that did not know how to behave. You know that song "Tequila makes her clothes fall off." I know where the thought came from....We found all kinds of clothes on the wagons and on the guests as we helped them off the wagons. Men's jackets, ties, cumber buns, suspenders, and those things that hold the socks up, ladies furs, jewelry, blouses, skirts, nylons, and shoes! Many auto keys were lost along with money clips. Some of the men ended up in the little lake on the golf course! By the time it was over it was the wee hours of the morning. We now had to drive the team and wagons back to 6th and Simms. We were tired and wore out but the teams of horses were very happy. They had been hugged, loved and fed much of the grass from the golf course by the inebriated guests. Some even tried to give them a beer or two. Yes some horses drink booze. By the time we got home it was 3-4 a.m. and time to un-harness the horses and go to bed... only to be wakened the next morning early by the fellows from the club wanting to know if we had found this and that? We told them to go look at the wagons themselves to try to find whatever they were looking for. I also think this is what made confidentiality reports popular. Hah!!! We never signed them....Until Next Time...The Wise Old Owl.

Do You Ever Wonder????



This is intended to be a light hearted column highlighting some of the rules, policies, procedures or what haves that you maybe don't fully understand.

This month we are going to talk about entry cards....

Do you ever wonder why you have to fill out one card per person, per class, per horse??? Why can't you just write your name, your horse's names and circle that classes you want to enter?

The office staff has found that it really, really helps to have each entry, horse and class have its own entry card. The reason being, often times the person taking the entry is not the same person entering them in the computer.

And if the office is busy, the cards quickly stack up. Then

when we go to enter the cards in the draw, we can't remember what you wanted to do, which horse runs in which class, where you want to roll your time, etc. With each entry having its own entry card, we are able to sort the cards into a basket by class name and then enter them in the computer at a later time. We can enter larger batches of entries for the same class with less flipping between screens on the software. The office can be so hectic, especially right before an event starts and having separate cards seems to help us enter entries into the draw faster and with fewer mistakes!!

We appreciate you filling out separate cards for each class, even if you are rolling your time. If you have any questions one of us will gladly help!

Holiday Food Drive and Toy Drive Events

By Lexie Ashurst

As in years past, Mile Hi will once again host a Food Drive and Toy Drive in conjunction with our events in November and December. This year, I have teamed up with my son Miles' elementary school. Year round every Friday the school, in conjunction with the Weld County Food Bank and the area churches, send home back packs with food to help ensure the neediest of families are able to feed their children over the weekend. It is a shocking reality that many students only get to eat when at school. Mile Hi will be supporting the school in their efforts by donating the food we collect to the elementary school to support Miles' fellow classmates. Please bring your food donations to Castle Rock November 26 & 27. I will personally ensure the food is transferred to the food banks that support this effort.



*Our Toy Drive will be held at our events on December 3 & 4 at The Ranch and December 10 & 11 at Castle Rock. These toys will also go straight to Miles' school. Please watch for emails about specific children in need and I encourage you to considering "sponsoring" one of these kiddo's! I will personally be coordinating with the teachers and staff from the school to identify which children is in need, what their interests are and then working hard to ensure they have something special to open Christmas morning. I volunteer on a weekly basis at the school as well as work with after school committees I have come to know many of these families and they are great folks with amazing kids that just need a little help. My own life and the lives of my children are blessed beyond measure and I cannot fathom the idea of a child not having the same Christmas thrill we all experience. **SO PLEASE HELP ME and PARTIPATE EVEN IN A SMALL WAY IN OUR HOLIDAY FOOD AND TOY DRIVES!** Contact me directly at clayandlexie@hotmail.com for more info.*

The Food Drive and especially the Toy Drive is near and dear to my heart, please help make the holidays great for children in need.

*Got something for sale? Post it on the Mile Hi Website.
3 months for \$45
milehibarrelhorse@gmail.co*

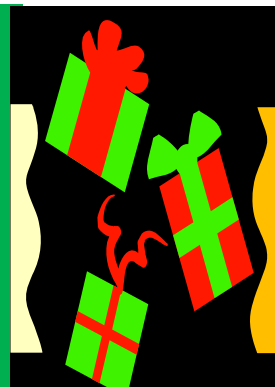
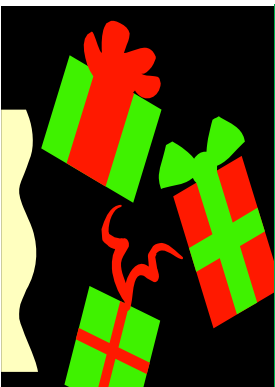
Online Entries and Ride Time Exhibitions are taken ONLY at entermilehi@gmail.com starting at 12:00 midnight on Mondays before an event.

Do you know a person or business who would like to join our list of sponsors?? Even what you might consider a small sponsorship can sure add up to help with awards. Watch the website for NEW info about our sponsor packages.

Christmas Raffle Run!

One of the most memorable events of the year! Pack your running shoes; buy a raffle ticket (or 2). We scatter gifts across the arena, you line up and when the whistle blows everyone runs to a gift! You are guaranteed a gift for each ticket you purchase...but even better you are guaranteed a good giggle!!!

Don't miss it: December 3 and 4th.



From the Desk of the Office Staff

This Month's Topic: Online Entries

Planning on attending an event? Want to reserve a ride session, pre exhibition or get in the draw but don't know the ropes of the system! This month's column is for you!

Mile Hi accepts pre-entries; ride time and exhibition reservations beginning the Monday before an event via email through our entry account

entermilehi@gmail.com

For example, for our upcoming event on December 3rd and 4th, you can put in your requests starting Monday November 28th at 12:01 am. I fill requests that are sent via email in the order they are received according to the time/date stamp. Now, keep in mind, numerous emails begin pouring in at 12:01 a.m., so if you are looking for a ride session, they sell out fast! The Early Birds Get Their Worms!

Okay, so you know when and where to send the email (entermilehi@gmail.com) but what do you send? Just send what you need!

To help me best, please be as specific as possible.

Sponsor Spotlight: Solera National Bank

By Shaye Wade

Solera National Bank was established in 2007 on the principle of building lifelong financial partnerships. A Colorado-based institution, we represent a dramatically different banking experience -- welcoming, inclusive, and respectful. Our goal is to fuel long-term prosperity by making financial objectives a reality achieved via first-rate, interactive customer service and thoughtful financial products & services. We have earned an increasing number of customers who embrace the "Back to Basics of Banking" and seek the personalized services and localized decision making that we, as a community bank consistently provide. Solera National Bank is excited to continue embracing our community one individual, one family, and one business at a time.

Solera National Bank has already helped many small businesses achieve their goals despite the tough economic environment of the past several years. Visit www.solerabankonline.com for more information.

A new PROUD sponsor of Mile Hi for 2011-2012! Consider depositing YOUR winnings with Solera National Bank!



Ride Sessions:

Session 1: 9:00-9:20 am

Session 2: 9:20-9:40 am

Session 3: 9:40-10 am

The more details you provide me, the easier!!! I have found the below template to work extremely well:

Name:

Ride Session(s) Requesting:

Second Choice Ride Session:

Day(s) Saturday, Sunday or Both:

Exhibitions: Remember only the 10:00-10:30 are pre sold.

Then when pre-entering via email:

Classes entering:

Rolling time to ??

Horse's Name:

BBR#

Mile Hi Member: Yes or No

Pay Onsite or DACH Card?

We want to make this as simple and convient for all involved. As of writing this article, there are over 75 emails in the inbox waiting for my attention. I usually work on pre-entries late at night after my family has gone to bed! By being specific and sending your entry requests to entermilehi@gmail.com it helps make my job a little easier, I am able to accommodate more people with less mistakes and we all remain happy!



"Smaller and more community oriented, Solera National Bank was in a stronger position to give Servicios genuine personal service"

Rudolph "Rudy" Gonzales
Executive Director
Servicios de la Raza

- A true partner in banking
- No ATM Fees for Mile High Barrel Horse Members
- Remote Deposit Capture
- Retail Financing
- A Home Town Bank
- Solutions Oriented Lending
- Accounts Receivable
- Commercial Property Lending
- Business Development Partner

Champions Corner–Kelcey Haas 1D Year End Champion 2011

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the wonderful people that make up the Mile Hi family that have served as my support through my accomplishments as well as the low times. It means so much to have people in my life that all try to keep each other up and it is something that is easily taken advantage of. This year has served as a huge year for “Frank” and I and we could not have done it without Mile Hi. In fact, this association is where I found my start as a barrel racer and Carol Crowder has been the greatest cheerleader and positively throughout my journey. I started riding horses when I was two, got my first pony when I was six, trained my first pony when eight. I showed horses in 4-H and through the AQHA and APHA for eight years. When it came to training and showing, I have always idolized my dad. I thank him every day for the support and advice that he offers me as well as sharing the huge amount of knowledge that he has gained over his lifetime in the horse industry. It was my dad that pushed me to try something different and run barrels instead of showing. As we can all vouch for, training barrel horses is a science of repetition. The first years were the hardest. I assumed it was all the same stuff just at a different pace with some obstacles thrown in...boy was I wrong. My great aunt, Kay Miller was recruited to help me through the repetition process. Training included the practice of slouching at the dinner table, because all my years of showing had taught me too perfect of posture, and carrying around a piece of rope to teach me the proper turning techniques with roping reins, a far cry from pivots with split reins. When it was time to start competing, there was Mile Hi. Every time I see Carol is just like the first. She found my dad and me and welcomed us into the association and answered every question that we had. I solely believe that having somebody like her so prevalent in my life is the reason that tragedy hasn't kept me down. My first horse came up lame with an injury and I was going to have to sit out an entire year before she would be better.

Continued on page 6.



Kelcey and Frank at the 2011 Mile Hi Finals.
Photo by Dickens Photography

**“It was like nothing I had ever experienced before...Frank chose me.”
Kelcey Haas speaking about the moment she met her horse Frank.**



Kelcey Haas 2011 Open 1D Champion.
Photo by Dickens Photography.

A family friend of ours had Frank in one of their pastures and we decided to go and try him out. They had him penned up in a small pen, but between three men no one could get him caught. Of all of my experiences with God, the moment that I met Frank was the moment that let me He was there and that my relationship with Frank wasn't just chance. I had been hassling my dad about not being about to catch Frank so of course, I get called in for help. I grabbed the halter and walked through the gate and closed the gate behind me. When I turned around, Frank walked right up to me and dropped his head in the halter. I can't exactly explain that moment and the feelings I felt, but it was like nothing I had ever experienced before...Frank chose me.

From that moment on, Frank and I have become a team and I can honestly say that he is my best friend. There is not a day that goes by, even on days that we have an off run that he doesn't bring joy to my heart. This year brought us the Mile Hi Championship, an event that I was so grateful to have my entire family present for the night that I received the saddle. Both sets of grandparents were able to make it and even extended family. My Grandma Barb Haas has not missed a run that has been close by. As a former barrel racer, she has been a key coach to me since I was little and the majority of my early knowledge has come from her. Before every run I make, my grandma has given me a penny...a lucky penny. I keep it in my pocket before I run, because "In God We Trust." Those four words helped me through the learning experience of the professional rodeo circuit, a very trying journey. We won our permit money in the first two rodeos we competed at, and with a push from my mom, I bought my card. As I thank people throughout this article, my mom has been the single greatest woman in my life. She is at nearly every race and is the first one to call me after a run when I am away from home. She has instilled in me the love, strength and the faith to drive through adversity. She has always believed in me. The rodeo trail is not anything like I expected or that I have competed in before. It's tough. I struggled with being away from home and away from my family. My little brothers Kolton and Kody also come to many of my competitions. We have always traveled together has a family so it was particularly hard not to have them there for me at the end of the day. They were competing in other rodeo associations and roping in jackpots, and I missed being able to be around to watch them and cheer them on.

Some people say that champions are made from their drive, or their grit, and their passions. All which I can relate to and agree with, but I personally would have to say that my accomplishments have been made from the individuals who support me. You all are my foundation. From the sponsors to the members, to the grounds crew, to my family and my friends, I thank you immensely for the opportunities that you have all opened up to me through your support and I can only hope to offer you the same.

Online Entries and Ride Time Exhibitions are taken ONLY at entermilehi@gmail.com

Enter online by emailing entermilehi@gmail.com starting at 12:00 midnight on Mondays before an event.

Get entered up starting Mondays before an event...no reservations taken before midnight. Email entermilehi@gmail.com