

First things first: mark your calendars for the Cowboy States Reining Horse Association's *General Membership Meeting and Awards Banquet*! The big event this year will be at the Sheridan Best Western in **Sheridan, Wyoming** on Saturday, **March 18, 2017**! If you are planning on attending, you must RSVP with our Treasurer, Nancy Pfeiffer, as the Best Western in Sheridan needs an accurate count for meals! Also, be sure to bring a silent auction item or two for our primary fund raising event of the year. Funds will help purchase your class prizes and year-end awards.

The Cowboy States Reining Horse Association officers and board of directors met via teleconference on Wednesday, **January 18, 2017**. Following the review of our meeting minutes from the November 22 meeting and current treasurer's report, we moved on to business. Of course, the upcoming Awards Banquet was first on the agenda. Nancy Pfeiffer gave us the most recent updates. Ryane Clark has been working on an invitation/flyer/RSVP for the banquet. We can expect this to be posted on the website and the CSRHA facebook page by February 1. RSVPs and funds will need to be submitted to our Treasurer, Nancy Pfeiffer. It was noted how important it will be to get an accurate list for the banquet this year as the Best Western will charge for 'no-shows'. It was suggested that folks pre-pay to avoid an unnecessary expense to the club. Nancy suggested everyone get their room reserved to take advantage of the CSRHA room rate. Year-end awards have all been ordered and paid. Without spoiling the surprise for our year-end winners, let us just say no one will be disappointed! There will also be a silent auction again this year, so everyone needs to bring an item or two for this big fundraiser. It was asked that everyone contact at least one sponsor to get items for the silent auction. The CSRHA will have a board meeting at the Best Western from 2-4:00 pm on March 18 as well.

The 2017 show season was the next item on the agenda. George Pfeiffer reported that the CSRHA will have 5 shows (3 NRHA shows and 2 play days). Please note that some of these dates have changed by a day or two. They are as follows:

- **April 22, 2017:** CSRHA *Play Day* that will include Ranch riding at the Flying T Ranch (Nanette Till's arena) outside of **Cody, Wyoming**. Points will count toward year-end awards.
- **May 20, 2017:** NRHA/CSRHA *Grasslands Market Slide* in conjunction with the Wyoming Quarter Horse Association's Woolly Quarter Horse Show in the new Ford Arena in **Douglas, Wyoming**. This will be a jackpot show where competitors may enter NRHA classes, CSRHA classes, and/or AQHA classes or any combination as they wish. The Show Committee also opted to add a Rookie Professional class which will run concurrently with the Open and Limited Open classes. Note that the Rookie Professional class will not count toward year-end awards and there will not be a Ranch Riding class offered through the CSRHA.
- **June 4, 2017:** NRHA/CSRHA *Sheridan Slide* following the Bob Loomis clinic on June 2-3 in **Sheridan, Wyoming**. The Show Committee elected to name this event the CSRHA show of the year with an add \$2,000. Note that Ranch Riding will be offered.
- **July 15, 2017:** NRHA/CSRHA *Park County Slide* in **Powell, Wyoming** will be a jackpot show at the Park County Fairgrounds. We will have Ranch Riding classes which will be counted toward year-end awards.
- **September 9, 2017:** CSRHA *Play Day* that will include Ranch Riding in **Sheridan, Wyoming**. All points earned will count toward year-end awards.

The CSRHA Show Committee decided to eliminate the Western Dressage, Ranch Trail, and other ranch type classes (with the exception of Ranch Riding) for the 2017 show season. Due to the fact that the CSRHA is a reining horse association and the club does not want to tax our judges with learning new rules for the various classes, the ancillary non-reining classes will not be held. The Ranch Riding classes

are similar enough to reining classes that it is hoped we can still recruit competitors who may show some interest in getting involved with reining as well.

The classes for year-end awards will include: Green Horse (\$200 earnings limit on horse), Green Reiner (\$100 earnings limit on rider), Rookie L2, Non Pro, Limited Non Pro, Prime Time Non Pro (riders 50 and older), Novice Horse Non Pro L1 (\$5,000 earnings limit on horse), Novice Horse Open L1 (\$5,000 earnings limit on horse), Open, Limited Open, Youth 13 and under, Youth 14-18, Short stirrup 10 and under, Novice Ranch Riding, and Ranch Riding. In order to qualify for a 2017 year-end award, one will need to show in at least 3 of the 5 shows the CSRHA hosts. The more shows in which a rider competes, the better his/her chances are at earning a year-end award. Riders will have to compete in at least 2 of the 4 shows if they are riding for a year-end Ranch Riding award.

Neighboring affiliates, various facility managers, and NRHA judges have contacted CSRHA officers in regards to upcoming events. This is great news for the CSRHA, but with the 2017 show schedule outlined and in the books, we will have to consider these options for the future. The CSRHA paperwork has been submitted to the NRHA for 2017.

Everyone was asked to apply for sponsorships , specifically for the Sheridan Slide on June 4. For just a \$100 sponsorship, a banner can be hung and ads can be placed in the Membership Directory. The Sponsorship Committee will be developing a new, more generic sponsorship package for submission to potential sponsors. We are looking forward to a good silent and live auction at the upcoming Awards Banquet.

Work on the NRHA's Affiliate Incentive Program continues. Nanette Till will be submitting information to the NRHA from the events the CSRHA partook in 2016. The deadline for these submissions is in March.

Nanette Till reported that the CSRHA trophy saddle for the 2017 show season has been ordered through Continental Saddlery. This year-end award will be offered for the 2017 CSRHA Rookie Level 2 class only. Again, note that the rider must show at more than 50% of the 2017 CSRHA shows and previous saddle winners will not be eligible in order to qualify. Those who wish to donate for this outstanding year-end award will be asked to submit these funds shortly.

There was no further business to discuss. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm. The next CSRHA meeting was Wednesday, **February 15, 2017** at 7:00 pm. More highlights from that meeting will be in our next newsletter but this is HOT off the press:

BOTH the *Grasslands Market Slide* AND the *Sheridan Slide* will have \$2,000 added money! These two shows are going to be the highlights of the CSRHA show season, so be sure to get them on your calendars and plan on showing with us!

If you would like to dial in, please dial **951/797-1058** with the passcode **681306**. We welcome new faces and new ideas, so please do not hesitate to join us.

Have YOU renewed your CSRHA membership? Have you been planning on joining? NOW is the time! Membership dues for 2017 will be kept the same as in years past. Dues are \$20 for an individual membership, \$30 for family, \$10 for youth, and \$25 for a joint membership. Brenda Leonhardt will submit the 2017 membership applications shortly, so be sure to keep your eyes peeled for them in your email and/or mailboxes!

Nancy Pfeiffer and Kathy Nicholson are working on the 2017 Membership Directory. Ads for the 2017 Membership Directory will be due by **April 1, 2017**, with a target date of May 18 for having them ready to be distributed at the *Grasslands Market Slide*. If you would like to advertise in the 2017 Membership Directory, please contact Nancy Pfeiffer at 307/673-1331 or email her at [npfeiffer1@gmail.com](mailto:npfeiffer1@gmail.com) or Kathy Nicholson at 307/660-4496 or email her at [kathyn2401@gmail.com](mailto:kathyn2401@gmail.com). Funds from your paid ad will help support the year-end saddle for the winning rider!

Want to learn more about reining in our area? Check out the CSRHA website at [www.cowboystatesreiners.com](http://www.cowboystatesreiners.com). Our new and improved website will give you lots of good information including dates of upcoming events, points-of contact, and information about our NRHA affiliate. You may also visit us on facebook and become one of our fans by visiting us at <http://www.facebook.com> and typing in Cowboy States Reining Horse Association in the "search" box at the top of the screen. Reining events in and around the great state of Wyoming are really starting to take off and flourish! We'd love to have you join the fun! If you would like to join and/or get involved with our organization, you can also contact our president, Gordon Hinders at 308/340-5509, our vice-president, George Pfeiffer, at 307/673-1331, treasurer, Nancy Pfeiffer at 307/673-1331, or our secretary, Peggy Peterson at 307/851-0443.

If you have **any** news, upcoming events, photos and/or stories to share about clinics, shows, jackpots, fun-days, or *anything* associated with reining, feel free contact your reporter, Peggy Peterson at [shieldquarterhorses@gmail.com](mailto:shieldquarterhorses@gmail.com) or 307/851-0443. We're always delighted to receive information about our members, their accomplishments, or anything we can include in our articles to help everyone keep in touch. Please remember that our publications do have deadlines, so the sooner she receives your updates, the better the chance of getting them in print!

Upcoming reining events:

**March 18, 2017:** Cowboy States Reining Horse Association's *Awards Banquet and General Membership Meeting* at the Best Western in **Sheridan, Wyoming**. RSVP by March 1, 2017, and please bring a silent auction item or two for our primary fund raiser!

**March 22-26, 2017:** Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Association's *Gold Rush Circuit* at the National Western Complex in **Denver, Colorado**. A full slate of AQHA classes will be offered including Senior, Junior, Novice Amateur, Amateur, Amateur Select, and Youth Reining classes. Visit [www.rmgha.com](http://www.rmgha.com) for more information.

**April 4-9, 2017:** Northern Colorado Quarter Horse Association's *Mile High Classic* show at The Ranch Events Complex in **Loveland, Colorado** will feature a full slate of classes including Junior Reining, Amateur Reining, and Senior Reining classes. Visit [www.excelshows.com](http://www.excelshows.com) for more information.

**May 4-7, 2017:** Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Association's *Colorado Gold Circuit* at The Ranch Events Complex in **Loveland, Colorado** will feature a full slate of classes including Junior Reining, Amateur Reining, and Senior Reining classes. Visit [www.excelshows.com](http://www.excelshows.com) for more information.

**\*April 22, 2017:** Cowboy States Reining Horse Association will host a fun day/play day at the Flying T Ranch arena outside Cody, Wyoming. Visit [www.cowboystatesreiners.com](http://www.cowboystatesreiners.com) or contact Nanette Till for additional information ([nbtil@tctwest.net](mailto:nbtil@tctwest.net) or call 307/899-9090).

**\*May 18-21, 2017:** Cowboy States Reining Horse Association will co-affiliate with the Wyoming Quarter Horse Association along with the Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Association in hosting the *Wooly Horse Circuit* and NRHA/CSRHA *Grasslands Market Slide* at the Wyoming State Fairgrounds Arena in **Douglas, Wyoming**. The CSRHA will have \$2,000 in added money for the NRHA classes. Points accumulated with the CSRHA will count toward year-end awards. Visit [www.wqha.org](http://www.wqha.org) for more information.

**May 26-29, 2017:** Central Plains Reining Horse Association's *Platte Valley Classic* at the Custer County Fairgrounds in **Broken Bow, Nebraska**. Visit [www.cprha.com](http://www.cprha.com) for more information.

**June 2-3, 2017:** Idaho Reining Horse Association's *Teton Slide II* at the Madison County Fairgrounds in **Rexburg, Idaho**. There will also be the Tamarack Derby/Maturity with an Invitational Freestyle class. Visit [www.idrha.com](http://www.idrha.com) for more information.

**June 2-3, 2017:** Cowboy States Reining Horse Association is hosting NRHA Professional and reining icon, Bob Loomis, for a *2-day clinic* at the Sheridan College Arena in **Sheridan, Wyoming**. Bit and spur artist and master craftsman, Tom Balding, has offered to have a reception for Bob and Pam as well (date TBD). Tom will also be providing trial bits for anyone who wants to try out a new bit during the clinic. Contact Nancy at 307/673-1331 or [npfeiffer1@gmail.com](mailto:npfeiffer1@gmail.com) for your reservation. A deposit will be required to hold your spot in this clinic. This is a great opportunity to ride with one of the greats in reining, all while trying out some new Tom Balding bits!

**\*June 4, 2017:** Cowboy States Reining Horse Association will host a NRHA/CSRHA jackpot reining at Northern Wyoming Community College's AgriPark arena (1 Chris LeDoux Way) in **Sheridan, Wyoming**. The CSRHA will have \$2,000 in added money for the NRHA classes. This event is NRHA sanctioned and points earned will count toward CSRHA year-end awards! Visit [www.cowboystatesreiners.com](http://www.cowboystatesreiners.com) or visit the CSRHA facebook page for more information.

**June 8-11, 2017:** Intermountain Reining Horse Association show at **Farmington, Utah**. Visit [www.irha.com](http://www.irha.com) for more information.

**June 8-11, 2017:** Wyoming Quarter Horse Association will co-affiliate with the Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Association's *Colorful Colorado Circuit* where they will have a full slate of AQHA classes to include Novice Amateur, Amateur, Junior, and Senior Reining classes at The Ranch Events Complex in **Loveland, Colorado**. Visit [www.wqha.com](http://www.wqha.com) or [www.rmgha.com](http://www.rmgha.com) for more information.

**June 9-11, 2017:** Central Wyoming Performance Horse Club show at the Cam-Plex Central Pavillion in **Gillette, Wyoming**. Visit the Central Wyoming Performance Horse Club's facebook page for more information.

**June 12-18, 2017:** Eastern Plains Reining Horse Association's *Eastern Slope Slide* in **Castle Rock, Colorado**. Visit [www.rmrha.com](http://www.rmrha.com) for more information.

\*denotes CSRHA affiliate qualifying shows where points count for year-end awards!