

The WOW! Factor at the Horizon Equine Spring All Breed Horse Show Event

June 12th & 13, 2010

Cranbrook, BC

by Tanya Ryan

What is the WOW! Factor and where did it come from for our 7th annual Horizon Spring Horse Show?

- It was the jaws dropping at the two days of unbelievably perfectly timed intense heat from the heaven above
- It was the addition of the incredible participant turnout ~ 68 horses exhibited this year!!
- And it was topped off with beyond expectation of support for our first ever Youth Education scholarship event.

The only word is Wow. The rain blessed our grass pastures right up to the Friday night prior to the show, then for the show days the skies cleared and the sun shone down on the horses and exhibitors. It must have had something to do with the increase in entries, the participant numbers went from 47 horses exhibited in 2009 to 68 entries in 2010. A 45% entry increase for 2010, up from the 35% increase in 2009. We are on the rise! The show ran the same format as 2009 with Trail Classes on Saturday night followed by Sunday's performance of Halter, Showmanship, Reining, Longeline, Western Horsemanship, Western Pleasure and the all time favorite 'Fox's Transport Jeopardy Challenge'.

To add a little spice to the show program this year, we created a special class called the 'High Stakes' Pairs Horsemanship. The objective of this class was to have fun and be interactive with the crowd and raise a \$300 Youth Scholarship by 'auctioning' off the paired riders to the crowd. Once all the teams were 'sold' the judge continued to run the class by having each team ride a well choreographed horsemanship pattern. The judge placed the class. Our expectations were well exceeded with this event. We raised a total of \$855 – which gave \$300 toward the scholarship, and the balance was split between the winning team and the buyer of the winning team. In a further Wow! Factor moment, the winning team (**Deb O'Brien & Petra Stewart**) and the buyer of the winning team (**Serge LaCroix**) both kicked back a \$100 towards the scholarship, which resulted in a \$500 Youth Education Scholarship from our first ever auction event. WOW! Congratulations to **Marlo Salanski of Cranbrook** – winner of the Youth Scholarship – we wish you the best on your future educational endeavors. Thank you so much to all the participants and bidders/ buyers involved with this event.

And hats off to the Green Horse/ Rider class...many of them new to the show or their horse's first time to a show and their classes ran with 23 exhibitors! We also had an excellent youth turnout this year – 12 Junior, 6 Novice Youth, & 5 Intermediate Riders. There were also 16 Senior exhibitors and 6 In-Hand Exhibitors. Nice big classes, very long day..but lots of fun!

A huge thank you to our show judge and clinician Carolyn Dobbs, 100 Mile House BC for her words of encouragement and insight, and for her tireless hours teaching and judging.

All the best of the riding season to everyone ~ see you all next year!

This year's **High-Point Montana Silversmith Buckles Winners** are:

<u>High Point</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Winner</u>
In Hand	Jesse's Boarding Kennel, Fernie	Bobbi Fenner, Bull River (Zip)
Green Horse/Ride	R&L Trucking, Cranbrook	Joy Dekkers, Cranbrook (Prince)
Junior Rider	KWR Equine Services, Cranbrook	Dilon Zaugg, Cranbrook (Partner)
Novice Youth	Cranbrook Pest Control, Cranbrook	Jessica Benson (Minx)
Intermediate	McGibbon's Auto Repair, Cranbrook	Shayla Pukas (Mr Eldorado Lee)
Senior	KWR Equine Services, Cranbrook	Pam Malekow (Tejona's Gold Sierra)
Fox's Jeopardy Challenge	Fox's Transport, Cranbrook	Reili Savage (Miss Dee Dee Sailor)

Youth All Around Award Horizon Equine Facility Jessica Benson (Minx)
(Montana Silversmith Watch)

Thank you again to all of the exhibitors, spectators, volunteers and sponsors for a wonderful weekend!

Be sure to check out our website: www.horzonequine.com for more show pictures and highlights.