

# Jump For Hope For Kids With Cancer

Story and pictures by Lorna Lowe

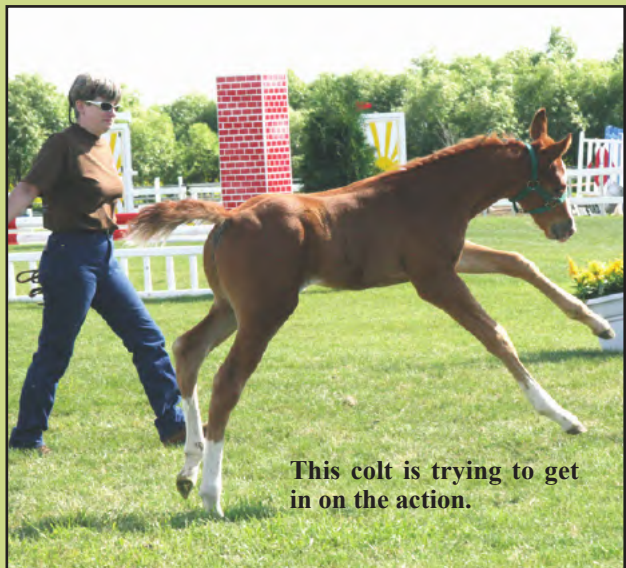


The annual Jump For Hope fundraiser for Kids With Cancer was held over the July 5-8 weekend.

Along with the horse show itself, Amberlea Meadows is celebrating their 25th anniversary and officially opened their new Grand Prix Jumper Ring which has been in the works for the last three years. It was an exciting weekend at Amberlea!

Saturday was a hot and brilliant day for the many competitors and audience members that were treated to some spectacular competition and special events. At 4 pm the Grand Prix arena was officially opened by County Reeve John Whalley and Amberlea matriarch Agnes Drews cutting the pink ribbon.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, there was a Pas



This colt is trying to get in on the action.

De Deux ridden by two young ladies, one of which was Elexis Ortlieb, cancer survivor and daughter of Ellen Drews-Ortlieb, owner of Amberlea Meadows. The Pas De Deux signified the loneliness of being diagnosed with cancer, as Elexis started the ride on her own, and then as the other young lady joined her in the ride, it signified the importance of friends during treatment and throughout the rest of your life.

Two new foals were also introduced. A Bay colt named Victory, to signify victory over cancer, and a Chestnut colt named Voricano, named after a drug called Voriconazole that saved Alexis Ortlieb's life when she was battling her second bout of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

Dottie, the miniature spokes-horse for the Kids With Cancer charity was also at the show all weekend long, having her picture taken with all the children. The Dottie doll, who's \$10.00 selling price goes directly to the Kids With Cancer charity, was one of the most popular items for sale at the show, and kids and adults alike could be seen carrying them everywhere.

There was over \$45,000.00 in total to be won by com-



petitors at the show this year, thanks to many generous sponsors. Two of the largest prize classes were sponsored by Jaguar - Land Rover of Edmonton who sponsored the \$5,000.00, 1.30 meter Grand Prix class, and Cat - The Rental Store who sponsored the \$5,000.00 1.40 meter Grand Prix class.

Money for Kids With Cancer was raised by various methods over the weekend. Wagering was allowed on the Horse and Hound class, which saw horse and rider paired up with an agility dog, as both raced the clock around a circuit of jumps and half of the \$10.00 betting fee was donated to the charity. There were also several timed jumping classes where a certain amount of money would be donated for every second a competitor went over the time allowed. There was also a silent auction, BBQ and dance with live music provided by the Gord MacDonald Band, held on Saturday night.

The total amount raised for Kids with Cancer was not available by press time so unfortunately we are not able to give a final amount of money raised, but based on the weekend's attendance, the fantastic organization of the entire event and everyone's motivation to help make

a difference for Kids With Cancer, I'm sure a spectacular amount was raised for the cause.

Congratulations are due to Ellen Drews-Ortlieb and Gerald Drews, owners of Amberlea Meadows for organizing such a wonderful event again this year, as well as to all of the riders and audience members who helped make this event the success it was. I'm sure that next year will somehow be even bigger and better!

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