

RRCF Charity Handling Clinic at the 2018 National Specialty



THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Recap and Photos by Sally L Fineburg

What do you get when you have two accomplished professional handlers at the top of their game and two rings packed with handlers and their puppies, class dogs, specials and veterans...

A whole lot of people armed with invaluable information on how to improve their dog's presentation in the ring and one whopping donation to the Rhodesian Ridgeback Charitable Foundation (RRCF).

The Charity Handlers Clinic, organized by Barbara Rupert and held to benefit the RRCF was a huge success. People signed up before the National and the clinic maxed. Everyone was thrilled when the two handler instructors, kept secret until just before the event, were



Host Barbara Rupert enjoyed the class and handed out the goodies!

revealed – Juliet Clendenon of Utah and Clint Livingston of Colorado!

It all happened the afternoon before Sweeps day at the 2018 National Specialty in Loveland, Colorado. It was a little cloudy and cool in the Rocky Mountain foothills but the weather didn't dampen anyone's enthusiasm. With creative use of space, two somewhat irregularly shaped rings were set up just outside the hotel and run simultaneously, one by Juliet and one by Clint. Each had an experienced assistant working the



Linda Shue preparing the Certificates of Achievement.

back half of the line of handlers, keeping teams engaged the entire time. Spectators cheered on the participants while, I suspect, benefiting from some of the words of wisdom from Juliet and Clint.

Everyone was smiles leaving the ring receiving their Certificates of Achievement and complementary RRCF bandana. The bandanas were made possible thanks to the generosity of RRCF Board members Susan Newman and Patricia Hoffmann. In fact, the bandanas were distributed during the entire National and it was a blast seeing so many folks sporting the bright red 'cowboy' accent throughout the week.

Big thanks to Juliet and Clint for your generosity of spirit and teaching this clinic! A huge thank you to Barbara Rupert for arranging the fundraiser for RRCF and her team of Karen Stewart and Linda Shue for handling all the details, ring stewarding and creating a professionally run, incredibly informative, fun event!

In total, \$650 was raised for RRCF proving this event is truly the gift that will keep on giving....to the future of the handler teams who participated and to our breed, thanks to the donation which will go towards health research to benefit our beautiful hounds. •



Professional handler and Ridgeback enthusiast, Juliet Clendenon, explaining how to get the most out of your dog.



Professional handler, Clint Livingston, sharing his vast experience.



Smiling participants loving their bandanas.



Karen Stewart handing out RRCF bandanas.

