

Winners of the 2007 Hildegard Neill Ritchie Foxhunting Writing Contest

The judges for this year's contest were Cindy Piper, MFH, Long Run Hounds, and Daphne Wood, MFH, Live Oak Hounds. Cindy Piper expressed the following: *"Overall, I am very impressed with the submissions... There is one common theme that came through loud and clear in all the submissions and that is the excitement each young person experienced. Whether they were seasoned foxhunters or first timers, it was clear their blood was up and they were paying rapt attention to their surroundings, something that does not happen much in the show ring. I am thrilled to see this in our Pony Club members."*

The results were:

First Place: Nikki Surrusco, 20, Ellijay, Georgia, a C-3 member of Horse Sense Pony Club "The Thrill of Discovery"

Second Place: Katherine Sunderland, 14, Dunkirk, Maryland, a C-3 member of the Marlborough Pony Club, "A Day at the Hunt"

Third Place: Amy Brown, 19, Falls Church, Virginia, a C-1 member of the Rocky Run Pony Club, "Reunion"

Other entries included: Evan Becker, Carly Dolan, Helen "Allie" Farley, Lucy Gordon, Jenna Hedstrom, Haley Rudacille, Laura Ruskoski, Samantha Mosle, and Ayla Ybarra

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There were so many excellent submissions for this year's Hildegard Neill Ritchie Foxhunting writing contest that the judging panel found it difficult to select a winner. The results were:

First Place: Sophie Ruff's untitled essay

Second Place: Sarah Green's "Keeping Balance"

Third Place: Erin Kelly's "Foxhunting Fun"

Other entries included: Allie Billings' "My Foxhunt", Kiersten Childs' untitled essay, Carly Colt's "Born to Foxhunt", Virginia Gravelle's "My First Fox Hunt, I Will Never Forget It!", Lauren Janicki's "An Afternoon with the Hunt", Kathleen Kelly's "My Fox

Hunting Story", Grace Lutfy's "Fox Hunt Clinic", Sofie Lutfy's "Fox Hunting Adventures", Ellen Palloto's untitled essay, Haley Amber Rudacille's "The Night before the Hunt", and Cara Weaver's "The Story of Northern Sky Angus". Thank you to all of the participants in this year's contest.