

KVHA Spotlights Exhibitor Lauren Keller

By Jodi Mondy



Lauren Keller, up, Quite Appealing, mount

Hi, I'm seventeen year old, Lauren Keller, and I've been involved with horses for more than eight years. I started riding at Cavallo Farm at age nine and have been stuck on horses since.

This year I'm showing Quite Appealing, a.k.a. "Cody," in Juvenile Country Pleasure and Flat-Shot Pleasure Driving. I ride at Fiesta Farm, where Stephanie Lily is my trainer. (Be sure to visit Fiesta Farms website at www.fiestafarmwv.com)



I am working on improving both mine and Cody's performance in the ring (you can never stop improving). Blue ribbons are always great, but my main goal is to make sure that Cody's ring experience is kept positive and that we improve upon something each show (he was unable to show last season).

My best moment was at my first show. I was riding a pony named Pizzaz and I was so nervous going in to the Academy Walk-Trot class. But then we won first place and I was so thrilled.

I'm very partial to Saddlebreds, because (mainly) I've learned to ride on ASB's and both our horses are Saddlebreds.



Cody Inspects Laurens Art

Outside of horses, I'm also a violinist with the WV Youth Symphony and a Theatre Technician at Capital High School. I also love reading: My favorite stories being *The Odyssey* by Homer and various Michael Crichton novels. We have two cats; Jackie & Chloe and two dogs; Max and Bailey. My favorite artist is Loreena McKennitt and my favorite bands are Matchbox 20, Goo Goo Dolls, Metallica, Collective Soul, Mass Ensemble, The Offspring etc. My favorite color is green! A favorite quote of mine is, "Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind." – From "*Self Reliance*" by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Thanks to MOM & DAD for supporting me through the years.