

Random Acts of Kindness Club is all about doing nice things for people without expecting recognition in return. > Susan Shuller, 12

Plain and simple: being nice

By: Jaime Orent

THE IDEA FOR RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS CLUB

(RAKC) was sparked at a leadership conference that Susan Shuller, 12, and Robin Hunsucker, 12, attended over the summer. When talking about ways to improve school climate, an idea for a kindness club formed.

One activity was set up after school by the committee and enjoyed first bell by the students. RAKC'ers placed candy underneath a few desks in all first class rooms and the voice of the morning announcements, Brad Konerman, 12, instructed the students to look under their desks. Random students enjoyed a treat and experienced the kindness of their fellow classmates involved in the club.

Students were not the only ones involved in the club. "Mr. Steve Imhoff, Mr. Randy Lothrop, and Mr. Stan Kaniecki were very inspirational because they are the greatest RAKC'ERS of all," said Hunsucker.



HELPING FRESHMAN WITH A SMILE. Simple acts of kindness were what RAKC was all about. Mike Rosa, 12, and Susan Shuller, 12, were great examples when it came to random acts of kindness and they proved it by helping these freshman with their homework.

Equestrian Club...

Hurtling into the top five

By: Jaime Orent

THE IDEA WAS A SIMPLE ONE. A club where students could ride horses and attend equestrian competitions with other students and have fun while working hard.

"Not all members own horses, or even ride. All members do share a passion for horses though. There are a lot of people who have never ridden and most don't own a horse," said Monica Samuels, 11.

Kelly Beech, 12, made this idea a reality. Beech, a rider of 8 years helped form Equestrian Club with Jana Schibler, 10, who has been riding for 7 years. Both girls ride in Loveland, Ohio seven days a week spending a minimum of two hours tending to and riding their horses. They travel about four times a year for competition in Northern Ohio and Northern Kentucky.

JUMPING HURTLES. Jana Schibler, 10, and her horse jumped the posts with ease. Schibler competed in the Lexington Horse Trials in Lexington, Kentucky on her Arabian horse, Dancy. She did 3-day eventing, which is a competition made up of 3 different disciplines: show jumping, dressage, and cross country.



OVER THE FENCES. Kelly Beech, 12, competed with her horse Dijon in the Lexington Horse Trials. She placed fifth out of 25 riders in the eventing discipline. Beech competed in many other tournaments, always placing within the top five.



I started Equestrian Club because I wanted the horse back riders to meet each other and learn from each other's different experiences.

> Kelly Beech, 12

