

2021-2022 SDQHA DIRECTORY



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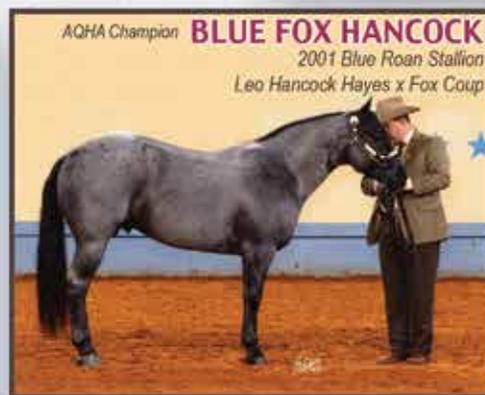
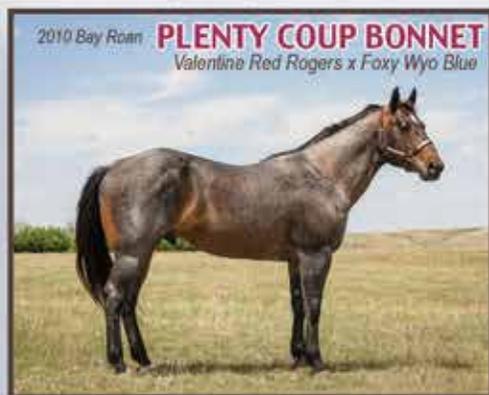


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Welcome

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association. We are the organization for all Quarter Horse enthusiasts and our membership is not restricted to South Dakota residents.

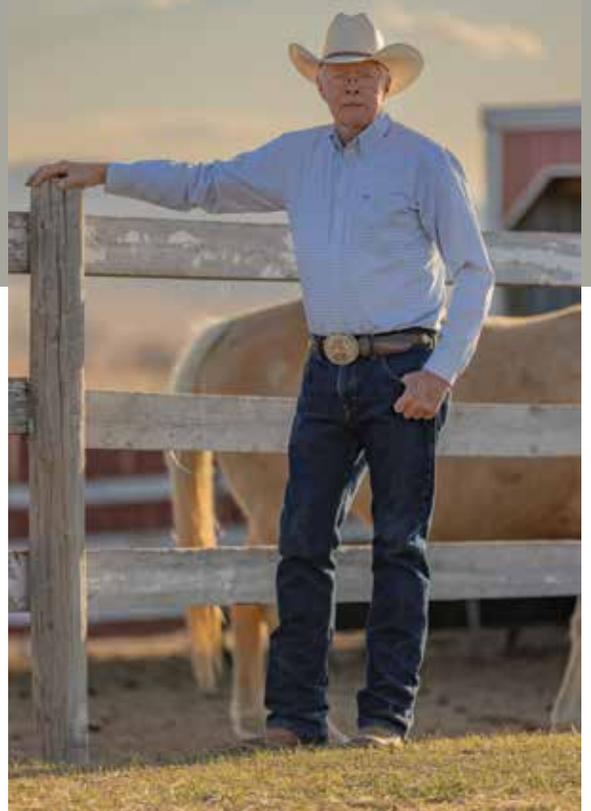
The most common response I get when I ask someone if they would consider becoming a member is: "I just didn't think it was an organization for me."

Consider these statistics.

- 1). The US Horse industry employs 1.74 million people whose work generates over 79 million dollars in salaries.
- 2). The US Horse industry is worth \$40 billion.
- 3). There are 2 million owners of 9.2 million horses in the US.
- 4). There are 3600 AQHA members in South Dakota who own 80,000 registered Quarter Horses.

If you have an interest in Quarter Horses, whether trail riding, competition, breeding, training, boarding or marketing equine products or feed, we are your group of like individuals. Each year we recognize and honor individuals, ranches, and horses in rodeo, training, show, youth, race, ranching and promotion.

The growth and development of the Quarter Horse in South Dakota depends on you, your voice, and your ideas. As a long time QH breeder once told me, "Make yourself known." The SDQHA is waiting to meet you. Please join us in 2022 to promote and enjoy your horse, the American Quarter Horse.



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Dennis and Claudia Price raised their four children with horse sense and work ethic on their ranch southwest of Buffalo, South Dakota. They themselves are fourth generation, continuing to pass on their love of good horses. Photo courtesy Price Family.



RANCHING LEGACY: THE PRICE FAMILY RANCH

By Kaycee Monnens for Tri-State Livestock News

Roughly 25 miles southwest of Buffalo, South Dakota is the Price Family Ranch, where Dennis and Claudia Price and their children still do all of their ranch work horseback. From this fourth generation homestead sprung their horse herd, well-known to buyers of performance and ranch horse prospects. The Rafter Diamond Brand brings its own reputation to the table, and the Price Family Ranch is honored this year with the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association's Legacy Ranch Award.

Dennis' great grandfather, John Cooper, settled in Harding County 1902, where the variety of landscape provided life and shelter to all stock raised there over the years. He continued to piece together the ranch with a place near the Slim Buttes and one west of Buffalo as the family grew and expanded. "We're fortunate to have a really nice place that's mixed with rolling hills, pretty good grass, and we also got a lot of good rough country for protection," Price says.

John's son, Jay, raised racehorses to run at tracks such as Miles City, Belle Fourche, and Fort Pierre. He also raised sheep. Dennis' father, Stanley Price, married his mother, Clarice Cooper, and the two purchased the land around "the Jumpoff"—steep cliffs which Native Americans used to harvest buffalo. Today, Dennis and Claudia own both the original homestead two miles south of Harding and the land near the Jumpoff, solely focusing on Angus cattle and Quarter Horses.

Raising horses began out of sheer necessity. "When I was a kid, you did everything horseback. We always had a lot of saddle horses but it was always horses we raised and rode," Dennis says. Not much has changed. Their four adult children—Joey, Jacki, Josi,

and Jet—were all raised in the same manner, working long days in the saddle. Dennis says through the work on the ranch, he was able to teach his kids work ethic and respect for horses.

Not only were the Prices heavily involved in the ranch work, they were successful with their home raised and trained horses in the rodeo arena, as well. All four kids competed at an elite level in high school and college, especially on one of their best stallions, Cozmo Rocket. "Cozmo" was a grandson of both Jet Deck and Rocket Wrangler, and all of the Prices used him for every aspect of ranching and rodeoing. Sometimes, he would take his jockeys to five events in the college rodeo short rounds.



Dennis and his son, Jet, have worked together their whole lives, particularly with raising and training horses for the ranch and arena. Photo courtesy Price Family.



Jet Price enjoys competing in rodeo events, but is passionate about his ranching lifestyle even more.
Photo courtesy Price Family.

Their depth of breeding started with Dennis' father, Stanley Price, purchasing a Bay Punk mare from the Sutton family before truly entering into the horse business. Liking her enough, they decided to breed her and kept colts out of her for using and breeding. From there, Dennis has purchased several stallions, all equal in ability but varied in their qualities. For example, they tried a halter type stud before moving into some running bloodlines. "We got a Jet Deck stud named Godfather. His colts were a little warm. I like that type, but they're not real easy to sell," Dennis says.

They had another stallion called Shipmaster with an impressive line. "[He was] by a thoroughbred named Master Hand. Master Hand produced a colt named Pocket Coin," he says. Pocket Coin, their stallion's half brother, was well known for nearly winning the Triple Crown of Quarter Horse Racing, and earning a quarter of a million dollars in 1978, with 13 first place finishes of 18 outs.

Shipmaster's colts were favorites for Dennis. "They're catty and quick and they can fly," he says. Keeping running bred mares, he then purchased a cow bred stallion for his next move. The Prices bought an own son of High Brow Cat called Have Some Cat. "They were awesome ranch horses," he said. "They still have a lot of bone and quickness and lateral movement."

Today, they are back to running bloodlines with Streakin Otoe Wonder, a son of A Streak of Fling and grandson of Frenchmans Guy. "We are riding those colts now. I am really liking those colts. They seem to have a lot of brain and still have everything else of a top rodeo prospect," Dennis says.

Jay Mattson purchased several horses over the years from Prices, taking them to the roping pen. Jay's son, Bodie, uses a son of Have Some Cat for tie-down roping, and occasionally lends him to friends in need. In this fashion, Bodie was the 2021 NRCA Year-End Champion, and his friend who borrowed his horse, Myles Kenzy, won the Finals average. Bodie was also crowned the tie-down roping and all-around champion of the SDRA this year, with



Joey, Jacki, Josi, and Jet Price competed on their home raised horses that were started on the ranch and capable of winning at elite levels in rodeo. They all helped their parents produce horse sales beginning in 1995.
Photo courtesy Price Family.

the help of his home-raised Price Ranch gelding.

Jay Mattson produced the Historic Deadwood Horse Sale for 13 years, inviting Prices to place horses in it. There, he came to know Dennis' reputation. "We really liked to have his horses. They were all ranch rode and well bred. He's such an honest person and tells you if the horse should fit you," he says. Mattson appreciates the horsemanship used on the ranch to set the correct foundation which carries over to the arena, and says that Prices brought many new customers to his sale. "He does a good job of crossing a running bred horse with a cow bred horse. They have a good chance of being rope horses, for us anyway," he says.

Price horses are guaranteed to see long days and proverbial "wet saddle blankets" before leaving the ranch. "We do all the cattle work horseback," Dennis says. The majority of riding is done by Dennis and Jet (although good neighbors help with the bigger projects), and they might go through three or four horses per day apiece. Calving and spring works are their busiest months, with plenty of pastures and ground to cover. "We always try to keep about 20 saddle horses around," he says.

Jet is passionate about ranching, and especially the cattle side of things. "It's something I've always wanted to do and I'm



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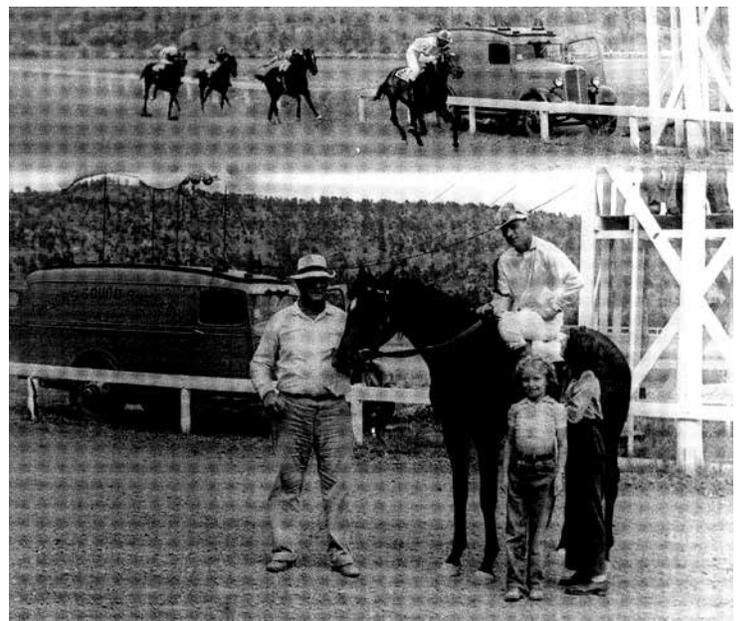
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pretty lucky to get to do it every day,” he says. Jet breaks the majority of colts that go through their program, and sees them through to the sale. From early calving to branding to shipping to riding two year olds in the barn during winter, Jet puts time into the horses in all seasons.

Dennis gives credit to the entire family for the success of their program. “It’s strictly due to Claudia and the kids for doing the hard work to make this possible,” he says. Joey (Price) Moore and Jacki (Price) Christman have three kids each, and all six grandchildren are as “horse crazy” as Dennis and Claudia’s children were. They love to help Grandpa work cattle and ride on the ranch, and for Dennis, handing down his passion is the greatest reward. “They’re getting to be good help in no time at all,” he says.

At their peak in numbers, Prices hosted a horse sale every three years at the ranch, beginning in 1995. Prices have downsized in mare numbers since their last sale in 2017, but still sell their prospects private treaty. They will be recognized at the 2021 SDQHA Awards Banquet at the Ramkota Hotel in Ft. Pierre, South Dakota Jan. 8th, 2021 at 4 p.m.



**Dennis’ grandfather, Jay Cooper, seemed to start the tradition of good horses on the Price Ranch with his racehorses. Today, Dennis sells Quarter Horse prospects private treaty.
Photo courtesy Price Family.**

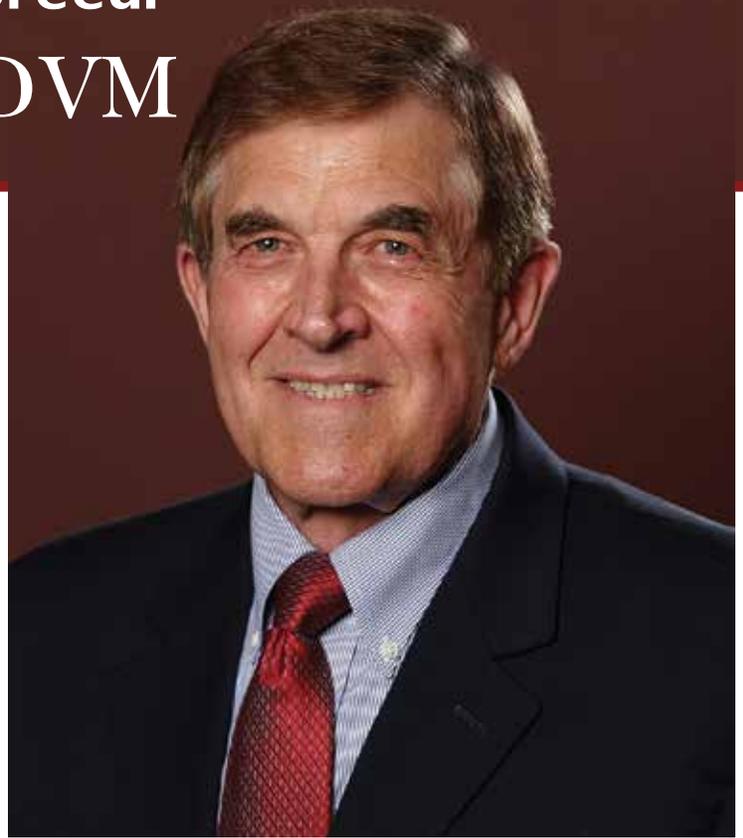
Legacy Promoter of the Breed: DR. JOHN ISMAY, DVM

By Heather Smith Thomas for Tri-State Livestock News

Some folks are high profile in the things they do--and are famous in their accomplishments in promoting their favorite breed--while others are quiet, behind-the-scenes promoters who make a big difference in other ways. Dr. John Ismay, an equine veterinarian in Sturgis, South Dakota humbly prefers to work out of the spotlight, but his talents have placed him in the limelight more than once.

“Most of what I do is just to help keep good horses performing. My wife and I also have some good horses ourselves. We had a son of Shining Sparks for quite a while, but he died recently. We have some very nice offspring from him that we highly value,” Ismay says.

He grew up in the mountains of southwestern Colorado in a ranching family, and developed a deep appreciation for the human-horse relationship at a very early age; he was horseback



John Ismay's 2 bedroom house he grew up in



John Ismay's first horse -TB-Shetland



The old clinic and the new hospital



In House surgery



John Ismay's family's 1st kid horse

nearly as soon as he could walk. The family was not rich; they lived in a two-room cabin constructed of railroad ties, with no running water. His first horse was a Shetland-Thoroughbred cross. His love of horses led to a desire to work with them for the rest of his life.

His vision to become an equine surgeon was spurred by his close relationship with a local veterinarian who inspired him to pursue this dream. After finishing high school, Ismay enrolled in college at Colorado State University and received a Bachelor of Science degree from CSU in 1969 with a minor in Chemistry. He graduated with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in May of 1971 and took a job at Sturgis Veterinary Hospital after graduation, a general practice in Sturgis, South Dakota.

This veterinary facility was started in 1952 by Dr. J.A. Chamley and his wife Annie. After working at this hospital for about a year, Ismay decided that this was where he wanted to be, and he purchased the Sturgis Veterinary Hospital in 1972.

At that time the hospital was a single-veterinarian mixed animal practice. Seeing the need for a specialized equine referral center in this region, Ismay continually improved his own clinical skills through advanced courses in equine medicine, surgery and dentistry (areas of his special interest), both in the U.S. and abroad.

He brought in highly skilled specialists to join him in these efforts, and invested in advanced technology for the practice. Over the years, with the dedication of a loyal staff, he developed the facility into an equine referral center.

Located in the Black Hills of South Dakota, just north of Interstate 90, the Sturgis Veterinary Hospital & Equine Center soon became a hub of advanced equine and companion animal medicine, surgery



**Pictured above: John Ismay doing dental exam with grandson Ben
Pictuers left: Riding Arena at the Clinic**



Pictured Left: John Ismay lecture on saddle fit - 2018 | Pictured Center and Right: John Ismay riding horse.

and dentistry, providing a referral center for patients from South Dakota, Wyoming, North Dakota, Montana, and Nebraska. The facility grew from a small flat-topped building in 1971 to a sprawling campus consisting of barns with more than 30 stalls, surgical suites, examination areas, a riding arena and much more. Plans for more facilities are on-going; additional construction on the hospital continues to this day. His vision for a high-tech specialty center has resulted in a facility dedicated to raising equine and companion animal medicine and surgery to an ever-increasing standard of excellence.

“As a referral hospital, we see diseases and ailments outside of the normal spectrum of an everyday practice. This has provided our staff with significant experience in treating unusual and more complicated ailments,” says Ismay.

This facility is equipped to deal with the wide range of medical problems that a horse may encounter. “Our staff includes a board certified internal medicine specialist and a board certified surgeon, ensuring that the patient receives appropriate and quality care. Our full-service laboratory is equipped with on-site hematology and chemistry to facilitate accurate and timely diagnoses. Emergency care is provided on a 24-hour basis,” Ismay says.

Through all of this advancement in ability to care for his patients, horses became an even more important part of his life, along with their owners. He has promoted the horse industry from behind the scene by caring for and keeping the equine athletes and beloved equine family members in the best possible health. The relationship between horses and the human race became more evident, and something to be highly valued. Ismay made certain that he understood every patient in his care as much as possible. In his daily practice, horsemanship has become as important as the medicine and surgery.

He also continues to try to find ways to improve equine care, and holds a patent on a surgical procedure he designed to re-

move uroliths (also called calculi or stones) from the equine urinary bladder. Though his practice keeps him very busy, he still takes time to try to support the horse industry; he has helped organize and do educational presentations at numerous equine events and has promoted the equine industry through lectures and donations.

“We support a lot of the youth organizations in the breed and participate in the Stock Show. We’ve promoted many things for the Stock Show and have given talks there. Every year for several years I gave a talk on saddle fit,” he says.

In his professional field he is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association, Wyoming Veterinary Medical Association, and the American Association of Equine Practitioners. He has served on the American Association of Equine Practitioners Educational Programs Committee, and as Chairman of the Executive Committee of Veterinary Management Group 11, and has been on the Advisory Council for a large veterinary medical company.

His many efforts have not gone unnoticed; in 2010 he was named South Dakota Agribusiness man of the year, and was named South Dakota Veterinarian of the year in 2014.

He has a fondness for all horses but a special devotion to the American Quarter Horse. “I’ve never actively gone out and promoted the breed, but I have been supportive in every way I can. We have put on a lot of educational meetings at the Stock Show and other places and I’ve written quite a few articles for lay magazines as well as scientific peer-reviewed papers for medical journals,” he says. Some of his work has been published in surgery text books.

His goal in life is to help humans help horses, and he pursues this goal by helping educate veterinarians and horse owners to be able to take better care of the animals in their care.

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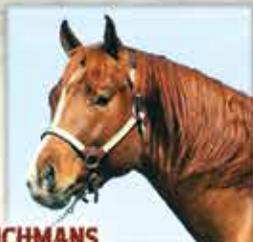
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Special Effort x Sun Frost • 15.2 hh • Sire
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Proven sire of AQHA ROM, World Show
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Patti Lou
Slash J Harletta
Jet Of Honor AAA

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Sugar Bars AAA
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Glitter Mount
Mr San Peppy
Suzanna Buck
Orphan Drift
CHICK E WOOD
Cougar Gal
Driftwood Ike
Orphan Annie C
John Red AAA
Lonsum Cougar

Sugar Bars, Leo, Orphan Drift, Mr San
Peppy • 15 hh • Sire, winners in arena,
ranch, rodeo; outstanding disposition,
versatility, conformation, athleticism!

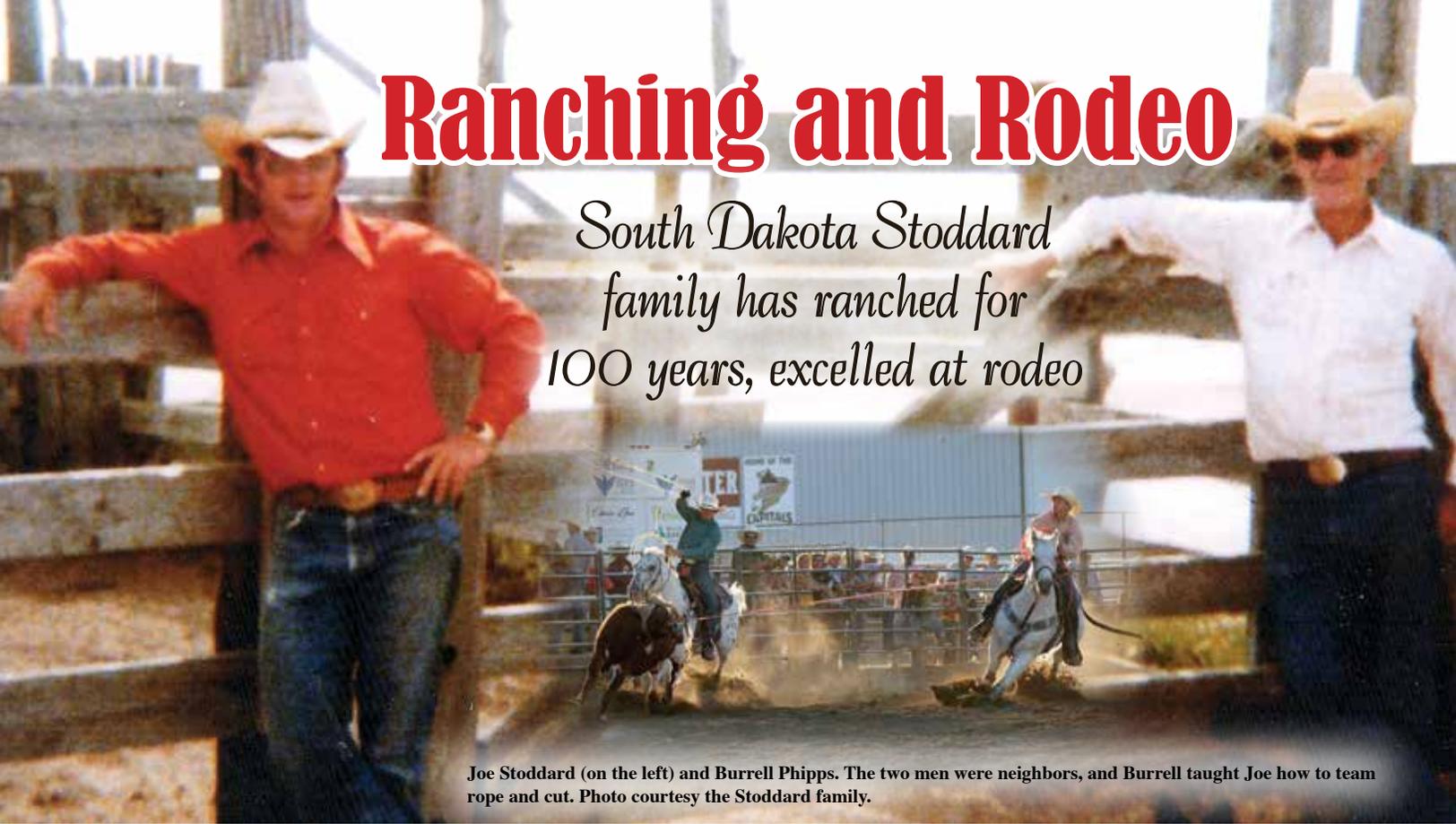


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Doc's Jack Sprat
Baby Starling
Orphan Drift
John's Sal
Jae Bar Flinn

15.0 hh, AQHA ROM Heading and maternal
brother to Rafter Ranch stallion Flit Drift
• First foal crop showed his outstanding
class and solid conformation!

Ranching and Rodeo

South Dakota Stoddard family has ranched for 100 years, excelled at rodeo



Joe Stoddard (on the left) and Burrell Phipps. The two men were neighbors, and Burrell taught Joe how to team rope and cut. Photo courtesy the Stoddard family.

By Ruth Nicolaus

When Herb and Inez Stoddard settled near Norris, South Dakota over a century ago, they had no idea the fifth generation of Stoddards would be still be there, raising cattle, horses, and rodeoing.

Now Joe, the third generation, his son Sam and his wife Danielle, and their kids Ciara and Caden are on the ranch that was established in 1924, when Herb and Inez bought it after leasing land in the area for six years prior.

The ranch always produced cattle, but Joe added rodeo and horses.

His dad, Harold, was dead-set against his son rodeoing, so after dad went to bed, Joe would ride five miles in the dark to Burrell Phipps' place. Burrell, a cutter and team roper, got Joe started in both events.

Joe didn't start rodeoing till his early twenties, competing in playdays, showdeos, jackpots, and a few South Dakota Rodeo Association events.

He married Linda "Wink" Livermont in 1965, and the couple made their home on the ranch.

They ranched, and as their kids came along: Jodi, Lori, Sam and grandson Kyle, who they raised, they hauled them to rodeos.

They produced some of the Little Britches Rodeos in the area, hiring out the contract people. By this time, Joe quit rodeoing so he could help his kids rodeo. "I could see my kids were going to be a lot more successful than I was, because they had started young. So I switched over and started helping them," he said.

His kids competed in Little Britches, 4-H and high school rodeo, often practicing at Burrell's place. Burrell and Joe would



Sam Stoddard team ropes on Tiger, one of the horses trained by his dad. Tiger was "phenomenal," Sam said. Sam began roping steers on him as a two-year-old, and when he was three, was hauling him to rodeos.

Joe and Wink Stoddard carried on his dad and granddad's ranching tradition and added their own components: rodeo and quarter horses. Photo courtesy the family.



Brian Fulton hazarded Todd Suhn at the 1999 National Finals Rodeo on a horse, Tiger Treno, "Tiger," owned by Joe Stoddard. Fulton also hazarded on Tiger for Randy Suhn, at the same NFR. Photo by Hubbell Photos.

Sam Stoddard tie-down ropes on Van A Rama, "Wagamoo" at the 1994 Indian National Finals Rodeo. Photo courtesy Jim Fain.



Danielle Faulk Stoddard competed on the team at Chadron (Neb.) State College in the barrel racing. Photo by Hubbell Photos.



A student at Chadron State College, Danielle Faulk Stoddard breakaway ropes in 1996. She is married to Sam Stoddard. Photo by Hubbell Photos.

partner on team roping steers.

The first competition son Sam remembers is when he was four years old, going over to Gordon Good's place, for a local play day. Being the youngest of the Stoddard kids, he thinks he benefited the most from rodeo, as he started out at a younger age than his sisters.

Like his dad, Sam was a team roper and a cutter but also tie-down roped and steer wrestled. In 1991, he was the 4-H state champion tie-down roper. He was a two-time high school state cutter (1990-1991) and in 1992, his senior year, was the high school state champion steer wrestler and all-around.

Jodi and Lori both won state high school cutting titles, and grandson Kyle, who was raised by Joe and Wink after Lori was severely injured in a car crash, won a state cutting title as well, as did another grandson, Tanner O'Daniel. Both Jodi and Sam served as president of the National Little Britches Rodeo Association.

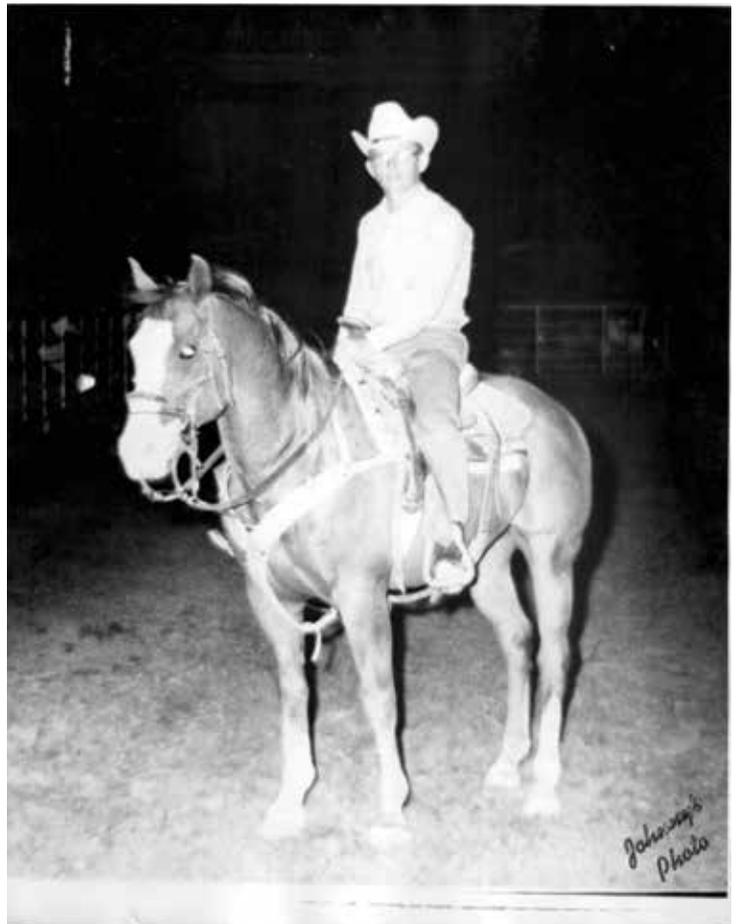
After a year of college, Sam came home but continued to rodeo. He competed in the SDR and the Northwest Ranch Cowboys Associations a little, but the PRCA was his strength. He qualified for the Badlands Circuit Finals Rodeo once in the steer wrestling and five times in the team roping. He also competed in the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association, finishing the 1994 season as regional tie-down roping champion and qualifying for the Indian National Finals Rodeo once in the steer wrestling, twice in the tie-down roping, and eight times in the team roping.



Joe and Wink, surrounded by kids and grandkids. They were married 53 years before Wink passed away in 2019.

Sam married Danielle Faulk, a rodeo cowgirl, in 2003. Danielle, a native of Gordon, Neb., competed in the breakaway roping, barrel racing and goat tying in college and at Nebraska State Rodeo Association and Mid-States Rodeo Association rodeos.

For several years, Sam and Danielle owned the Gordon Livestock. Sam's mom, Wink, had Parkinson's, and when her care required more and more time from Joe, Joe asked them to come back to the ranch. They leased it for a year, till Joe sold it to them in 2014. Wink passed away in 2019.



Joe Stoddard on Lightning in 1971. The Norris, S.D. man was a team roper and cutter, rancher, raised quarter horses, and served in a variety of volunteer capacities. Photo by Johnny's Photos.



Caden Stoddard, header, and Eastan West, heeler, won the 2017 S.D. State Junior High School Rodeo year-end title. Photo Knippling Kustoms.

Their focus has been on the Red Angus cattle they raise, and a rodeo company.

Sam and Danielle formed Stoddard Rodeos, a stock contracting company, when they realized youth rodeos don't get a lot of roughstock competitors. They bought a handful of bucking horses and now provide horses for youth, high school and some regional rodeos. In the last few years, they've contracted to take horses to the Little Britches Rodeo Finals, the National High School Finals Rodeo, and the South Dakota 4-H Finals. In 2021, they were at thirty rodeos across South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

Their family fills most of the roles. Sam sorts; son Caden flanks; Tyler Jones, their hired man, picks up, and Danielle makes

sure the little details are taken care of. At the bigger rodeos, Tanner O'Daniel and Kyle Stoddard help out. "It's a family affair," Sam said.

Sam and Danielle's kids competed in rodeo, too. Ciara, a registered nurse in Omaha, was the 2015 state high school champion girls cutter and went to the National High School Finals in 2015 and 2017. Caden, a junior in high school, won the state junior high team roping title in 2019 with Eastan West and that same year, was state champ in the goat tying. He's qualified for the National High School Finals in the cutting in 2020 and 2021.

Joe believed in volunteering. He was a state high school association board member for six years, serving three of those as president and a director for the National High School Rodeo As-



Ciara Stoddard goat tying
Photo by Cowboy Images/Peggy Gander.



Ciara Stoddard finished as reserve champion in the cutting at the 2017 S.D. State High School Finals Rodeo in Belle Fourche. The Stoddard family name is known for cutting and performance horses.
Photo by Cowboy Images/Peggy Gander.

sociation for eight years. He was vice-president of the SDRA in the 1970s, and on the Long Valley Roping Club board for five years. He served as president of the S.D. Cutting Horse Association and the Western South Dakota Buckaroos, and spent 22 years on the Kadoka School Board, twelve of those as chairman.

“I’ve always wanted to be involved when there’s something going on,” he said. “Somebody’s got to do it.”

For a while, Joe and Wink raised American quarter horses. The more memorable ones were Chico, Tiger, Dandy, Cap, Wagamoo, and Big Brown.

Yellowstone Dash, “Chico,” was the best stud they had, Joe said. “He could run. He had a 95 speed index at two different distances,” he said. Sam made the Badlands Circuit Finals twice on Chico and hazed on him, too.

He had another horse, Big Brown, by a stud called Van Dee Frost, who was fast. When Joe raced at the Western Buckaroo races, he rode Big Brown, and “most of the time I could stand up halfway down the race and see who was coming in second.” The races are fundraisers for the scholarships the Buckaroos grant, and when Joe first started racing, when the gun went off, he was the only one standing on the starting line; everyone else had left.

So Joe left the starting line early, too, and the guys gave him flack about it, calling it the “Stoddard Start.” Joe had an answer for them: “if those guys don’t leave early, that’s their fault,” he laughed. “They can see the guy pull the (starting) gun out of his

holster,” he joked.

Joe believed his horses and cattle should be good at whatever was needed of them.

For the horses, he wanted good bone, straight legs, a good mind and a good back. Color didn’t mean anything to him. A neighbor used to argue with him, that he should raise horses for color. “I raised them for performance and ability,” Joe said. “He told me, ‘you need to breed color into your horses, and I said, you can’t ride color.’” The neighbor argued, “no, but you can sell it,” Joe laughed.

For his cattle, he wanted good mothers, durability, easy wintering, and good disposition. Sam raises Red Angus now and they are “very, very satisfied,” with the breed, Joe said.

When his wife, Wink died, after 53 years of marriage, he reconnected with a school friend, Jo, and they are enjoying life together.

His 77 years on this earth have been good. “I’ve had a wonderful life,” he said. “I’ve been fortunate. A lot of guys haven’t got to do half the things I’ve done, and I’m grateful that my kids have supported me through my whole life.”

The Stoddard name lives on, in good cattle, good horses, and good rodeo. While some things have changed since Herb and Inez put down roots, the family carries on, stewarding the same land the couple started on many years ago.

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SDQHA SUMMER SHOOTOUT

Swiftel Center 824 32nd Avenue Brookings SD 57006

Approved by SDQHA June 16-19, 2022 Approved by CONQHA

Thursday 16th-Triple Judged-8:00am

HALTER

1. Open Yearling Stallion
2. Open 2 Year Stallion
3. Open 3 Year Stallion
4. Open Aged Stallion
5. Open Performance Stallion
6. Amateur Yearling Stallion
7. Amateur 2 Year Stallion
8. Amateur 3 Year Stallion
9. Amateur Aged Stallion
10. Amateur Performance Stallion
11. Open Yearling Mares
12. Open 2 Year mares
13. Open 3 Year Mares
14. Open Aged Mares
15. Open Performance Mares
16. Amateur Yearling Mares
17. Amateur 2 Year Mares
18. Amateur 3 Year Mares
19. Amateur Aged Mares
20. Amateur Performance Mares
21. Youth Yearling Mares
22. Youth 2 Year mares
23. Youth 3 Year Mares
24. Youth Aged Mares
25. Youth Performance Mares
26. Open Yearling Geldings
27. Open 2 Year Geldings
28. Open 3 Year Geldings
29. Open Aged Geldings
30. Open Performance Geldings
31. Amateur Yearling Geldings
32. 32 Amateur 2 Year Geldings
33. 33 Amateur 3 Year Geldings
34. 34 Amateur Aged Geldings
35. 35 Amateur Performance Gelding

HALTER Cont'd

36. Youth Yearling Gelding
37. Youth 2 Year Gelding
38. Youth 3 Year Gelding
39. Youth Aged Gelding
40. Youth Performance Gelding

SHOWMANSHIP

41. Small Fry Showmanship
42. Rookie Amateur Showmanship
43. Youth Rookie Showmanship
44. Amateur Showmanship L-1
45. Youth Showmanship L-1
46. Amateur Showmanship
47. Select Amateur Showmanship
48. Youth Showmanship 13 &U
49. Youth Showmanship 14-18

TRAIL

50. Small Fry Trail
51. Amateur Walk Trot Trail L-1
52. Youth Walk Trot Trail
53. Open Trail L-1
54. Amateur Rookie Trail
55. Youth Rookie Trail
56. Amateur Trail L-1
57. Youth Trail L-1
58. Amateur Trail
59. Select Amateur Trail
60. Youth Trail
61. Open Trail - All age

WESTERN RIDING

62. Amateur Western Riding L-1
63. Youth Western Riding L-1
64. Amateur Western Riding
65. Select Amateur Western Riding

WESTERN RIDING cont'd

66. Youth Western Riding
67. Open Western Riding

Friday 17th-Triple Judged-8:00am

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

68. Amateur HUS Walk Trot
69. Youth HUS Walk Trot
70. Amateur HUS Rookie
71. Youth Rookie HUS
72. Amateur HUS L-1
73. Youth HUS L-1
74. Open HUS L-1
75. Amateur HUS
76. Select Amateur HUS
77. Youth HUS
78. Open HUS
79. Small Fry HUS

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION

80. Small Fry HS/EQ
81. Amateur HS/EQ Walk Trot
82. Youth HS/EQ Walk Trot
83. Amateur HS/EQ Rookie
84. Youth Rookie HS/EQ
85. Amateur HS/EQ L-1
86. Youth HS/EQ L-1
87. Amateur HS/EQ
88. Select Amateur HS/EQ
89. Youth HS/EQ
90. Lead line
91. 10 & Under Walk Trot

WESTERN PLEASURE

92. Amateur Walk Trot Western Pleasure
93. Youth Walk Trot Western Pleasure
94. Amateur Western Pleasure Rookie
95. Youth Western Pleasure Rookie
96. Amateur Western Pleasure L-1
97. Youth Western Pleasure L-1
98. Open Western Pleasure L-1
99. Amateur Western Pleasure
100. Select Amateur Western Pleasure
101. Jr Western Pleasure
102. Youth Western Pleasure 13&U
103. Youth Western Pleasure 14-18
104. Senior Western Pleasure
105. Small Fry Western Pleasure

HORSEMANSHIP

106. Small Fry Horsemanship
107. Amateur Walk Trot Horsemanship
108. Youth Walk Trot Horsemanship
109. Amateur Horsemanship Rookie
110. Youth Horsemanship Rookie
111. Amateur Horsemanship L-1
112. Youth Horsemanship L-1
113. Amateur Horsemanship
114. Select Amateur Horsemanship
115. Youth Horsemanship 13&U
116. Youth Horsemanship 14-18

RANCH RIDING

117. Amateur Ranch Riding Rookie
118. Youth Ranch Riding Rookie
119. Amateur Ranch Riding L-1
120. Youth Ranch Riding L-1
121. Open Ranch Riding L-1
122. Amateur Ranch Riding
123. Select Amateur Ranch Riding
124. Youth Ranch Riding
125. Open Ranch Riding

RANCH TRAIL

126. Amateur Ranch Trail
127. Youth Ranch Trail
128. Select Amateur Ranch Riding
129. Open Ranch Trail
130. Junior Ranch Trail
131. Senior Ranch Trail

REINING

132. Amateur Reining L-1
133. Youth Reining L-1
134. Open Reining L-1
135. Amateur Reining
136. Select Amateur Reining
137. Youth Reining (All Age)
138. Open Reining

SPEED EVENTS

139. Amateur Barrel Racing
140. Youth Barrel Racing
141. Open Barrel Racing
142. Amateur Pole Bending
143. Youth Pole Bending
144. Open Pole Bending

SDQHA SUMMER SHOOTOUT

Swiftel Center 824 32nd Avenue Brookings SD 57006

Approved by SDQHA June 16-19, 2022 Approved by CONQHA



Host Hotel: Phone: (605) 696-3150

FEES:

All Day \$65 per horse/ per judge **May cross over to any/all AQHA divisions**
Open/Amateur classes: \$15/class | Nov/Youth: \$12/class
Small fry \$5/class is OPEN TO ANY BREED | Office Charge: \$12 per back number
Drug Fee: \$8 per horse | Stall Fees: \$30/night or \$100 for circuit
Stalls \$25/night; RV Hook-up \$35/night (elec & water)

Contact SDQHA for stall & camping reservations
Jodie Svennes 605-691-5320
svennesjp@gmail.com or
Kristen Gonsoir 605-380-7086
kristen@gonsoirquarterhorses.com



SDQHA Sponsored Special Event Ranch Riding & Ranch Trail

Brown County Fairgrounds-Akkermann Arena, Aberdeen SD

June 4, 2022 Starting at 10 am

Judge: Vicki Radtke

Show Manager: Pearl Holt

Show Secretary: Jodie Svenes

Package Fee	\$50.00
All Breed Classes	\$5.00
Amateur	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
Select Amateur	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
Youth	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
AQHA Drug Fee/Horse	\$8.00

(**) ALL BREED CLASSES ARE NON-AQHA APPROVED CLASSES; OPEN TO ANY BREED

Ranch Riding

1. *All Breed Youth W/T Ranch Riding
2. *All Breed Adult W/T Ranch Riding
3. Rookie Amateur Ranch Riding
4. Rookie Select Amateur Ranch Riding
5. Rookie Youth Ranch Riding 13 & Under
6. Rookie Youth Ranch Riding 14-18
7. Rookie Senior Ranch Riding
8. Rookie Junior Ranch Riding
9. Level 1 Amateur Ranch Riding
10. Level 1 Select Amateur Ranch Riding
11. Level 1 Youth Ranch Riding 13 & Under
12. Level 1 Youth Ranch Riding 14-18
13. Level 1 Senior Ranch Riding
14. Level 1 Junior Ranch Riding
15. Amateur Ranch Riding
16. Select Amateur Ranch Riding

17. **All Breed Youth Ranch Riding
18. Youth Ranch Riding 13 & Under
19. Youth Ranch Riding 14-18
20. **All Breed Adult Ranch Riding
21. Senior Ranch Riding
22. Junior Ranch Riding

Ranch Trail

23. **All Breed Youth W/T Ranch Trail
24. **All Breed Adult W/T Ranch Trail
25. Amateur Ranch Trail
26. Select Amateur Ranch Trail
27. **All Breed Youth Ranch Trail
28. Youth Ranch Trail
29. **All Breed Adult Ranch Trail
30. Junior Ranch Trail
31. Senior Ranch Trail

Tabs need to be finalized upon completion of the show or before. No tab will be carried over.

All Exhibitors must be current members of AQHA & Show papers of AQHA registered horses prior to entering AQHA classes; unless showing in the **All Breed Adult/**All Breed Youth classes.

Classes may be combined at the discretion of the Show Committee.

All Horses originating from outside the state of South Dakota must have a negative EIA test within the past twelve (12) months.

*****May enter online or at the show*****

Entry forms and show bills are posted on sdqha.com



SDQHA SPONSORED HORSE SHOW 2022

W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds, Sioux Falls SD

Friday August 12-Saturday August 13

Friday August 12 – 9am Halter; Judges: LeAnn Williams; Tom Crowley

Saturday, August 13 – 9am Halter Judges: Vicki Radtke; TBD

Show Manager: Mike Clites; Show Secretary: Jodie Svennes

Fair admission Free Mon-Fri until 10 AM; after 10AM - \$10 adult; \$5 child age 6-12

Vehicle pass \$10 can be purchased in advance from Fair office or at the gate



AQHA Open Halter & Performance	\$14/class/judge	\$40 All Day Fee/judge
Amateur Halter & Performance	\$14/class/judge	\$40 All Day Fee/judge
Novice, Rookie Halter & Performance	\$12/class/judge	\$40 All Day Fee/judge
Package Price for unlimited classes		\$50.00 per horse/per judge – (includes unlimited entries in eligible classes and divisions)
Youth Halter & Performance	No Charge	No Charge
Small Fry, Walk-Trot- All Divisions	No Charge	No Charge
Open Show Classes	\$5/class/judge	
AQHA Processing/Drug Fee	\$8/horse/judge	
Stalls (no straw allowed)	\$25 per night	Shavings \$8 per bag

Classes with ** designate 'open show' classes with any breed horse; not AQHA pointed or approved.

1. Level 1 Amateur Barrel Racing
2. Amateur Barrel Racing
3. Level 1 Youth Barrel Racing
4. Youth Barrel Racing
5. Open Barrel Racing
6. Level 1 Amateur Pole Bending
7. Amateur Pole Bending
8. Level 1 Youth Pole Bending
9. Youth Pole Bending
10. Open Pole Bending
11. Amateur Yearling Stallions
12. Amateur 2 Year Old Stallions
13. Amateur 3 Year Old Stallions
14. Amateur Aged Stallions
15. Amateur Performance Stallions
- Grand and Reserve Amateur Stallions**
16. Open Yearling Stallions
17. Open 2 Year Old Stallions
18. Open 3 Year Old Stallions
19. Open Aged Stallions
20. Open Performance Halter Stallions
- Grand and Reserve Stallions**
21. Amateur Yearling Geldings
22. Amateur 2 Year Old Geldings
23. Amateur 3 Year Old Geldings
24. Amateur Aged Geldings
25. Amateur Performance Geldings
- Grand and Reserve Amateur Gelding**
26. Youth Yearling Geldings
27. Youth 2 Year Old Geldings
28. Youth 3 Year Old Geldings
29. Youth Aged Geldings
30. Youth Performance Halter Gelding
- Grand and Reserve Youth Gelding**
31. Open Yearling Geldings
32. Open 2 Year Old Geldings
33. Open 3 Year Old Geldings
34. Open Aged Geldings
35. Open Performance Halter Geldings
- Grand and Reserve Geldings**
36. Amateur Yearling Mares
37. Amateur 2 Year Old Mares
38. Amateur 3 Year Old Mares
39. Amateur Aged Mares
40. Amateur Halter Performance Mares
- Grand and Reserve Amateur Mare**
41. Youth Yearling Mares
42. Youth 2 Year Old Mares
43. Youth 3 Year Old Mares
44. Youth Aged Mares
45. Youth Performance Halter Mares
- Grand and Reserve Youth Mare**
46. Open Yearling Mares
47. Open 2 Year Old Mares
48. Open 3 Year Old Mares
49. Open Aged Mares
50. Open Performance Halter Mares
- Grand and Reserve Mares**
51. Small Fry Showmanship
52. Rookie Amateur Showmanship
53. Rookie Youth Showmanship
54. Level 1 Amateur Showmanship
55. Level 1 Youth Showmanship
56. Amateur Showmanship
57. Select Amateur Showmanship
58. **Adult Open Showmanship (Not AQHA Approved/Pointed)
59. **Youth Open Showmanship (Not AQHA Approved/Pointed)
60. Youth Showmanship 13 & Under
61. Youth Showmanship 14-18
62. Level 1 Amateur Walk Trot HUS
63. Level 1 Youth Walk Trot HUS

FEES: All Day \$65 per horse/ per judge **May cross over to any/all AQHA divisions**
 Open/Amateur classes: \$15/class; Nov/Youth: \$12/class;
 Small fry \$5/class is OPEN TO ANY BREED
 Office Charge: \$12 per back number | Stall Fees: \$30/night or \$100 for circuit

Easy online entries and stall reservations at:
 or www.sdqha.com



SDQHA Sponsored Level 1 (Novice) & Rookie Horse Show
Brown County Fairgrounds- Akkermann Arena, Aberdeen SD

August 21, 2022 Starting at 10 am

Judge: Kristen Gonsoir

Show Manager: Pearl Holt

Show Secretary: Jodie Svenes

Package Fee	\$50.00
**All Breed Classes	\$5.00
Level 1/Rookie Youth	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
Level 1/Rookie Amateur	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
Level 1/Rookie Select Amateur	\$10.00 (for less than 5 classes)
AQHA Drug Fee/Horse	\$8.00
Small Fry	Free of Charge
Lead line	Free of Charge

() All Breed Classes are open to any breed**

HALTER

1. Level 1 Youth Yearling Mares
2. Level 1 Youth Two Year Old Mares
3. Level 1 Youth Three Year Old Mares
4. Level 1 Youth Aged Mares
5. Level 1 Youth Performance Mares

Grand & Reserve Level 1 Youth Amateur Mares

6. **All Breed/All Age Mares
7. Level 1 Amateur Yearling Mares
8. Level 1 Amateur Two Year Old Mares
9. Level 1 Amateur Three Year Old Mares
10. Level 1 Amateur Aged Mares
11. Level 1 Amateur Performance Mares

Grand Reserve Level 1 Am Mares

12. Level 1 Youth Yearling Geldings
13. Level 1 Youth Two Year Old Geldings
14. Level 1 Youth Three Year Old Geldings
15. Level 1 Youth Aged Geldings
16. Level 1 Youth Performance Geldings

Grand & Reserve Level 1 Youth Amateur Geldings

17. **All Breed/All Age Geldings
18. Level 1 Amateur Yearling Geldings
19. Level 1 Amateur Two Year Old Geldings
20. Level 1 Amateur Three Year Old Geldings
21. Level 1 Amateur Aged Geldings
22. Level 1 Amateur Performance Geldings

Grand & Reserve Level 1 Amateur Geldings

SHOWMANSHIP

23. Small Fry Showmanship
24. Rookie Youth Showmanship
25. Rookie Amateur Showmanship
26. Rookie Select Amateur Showmanship

27. Level 1 Youth Showmanship
28. Level 1 Amateur Showmanship
29. Level 1 Select Amateur Showmanship
30. **All Breed Youth Showmanship
31. **All Breed Adult Showmanship

LEADLINE

32. Small Fry Lead Line 6 & Under
33. **All Breed Lead Line 6 & Under

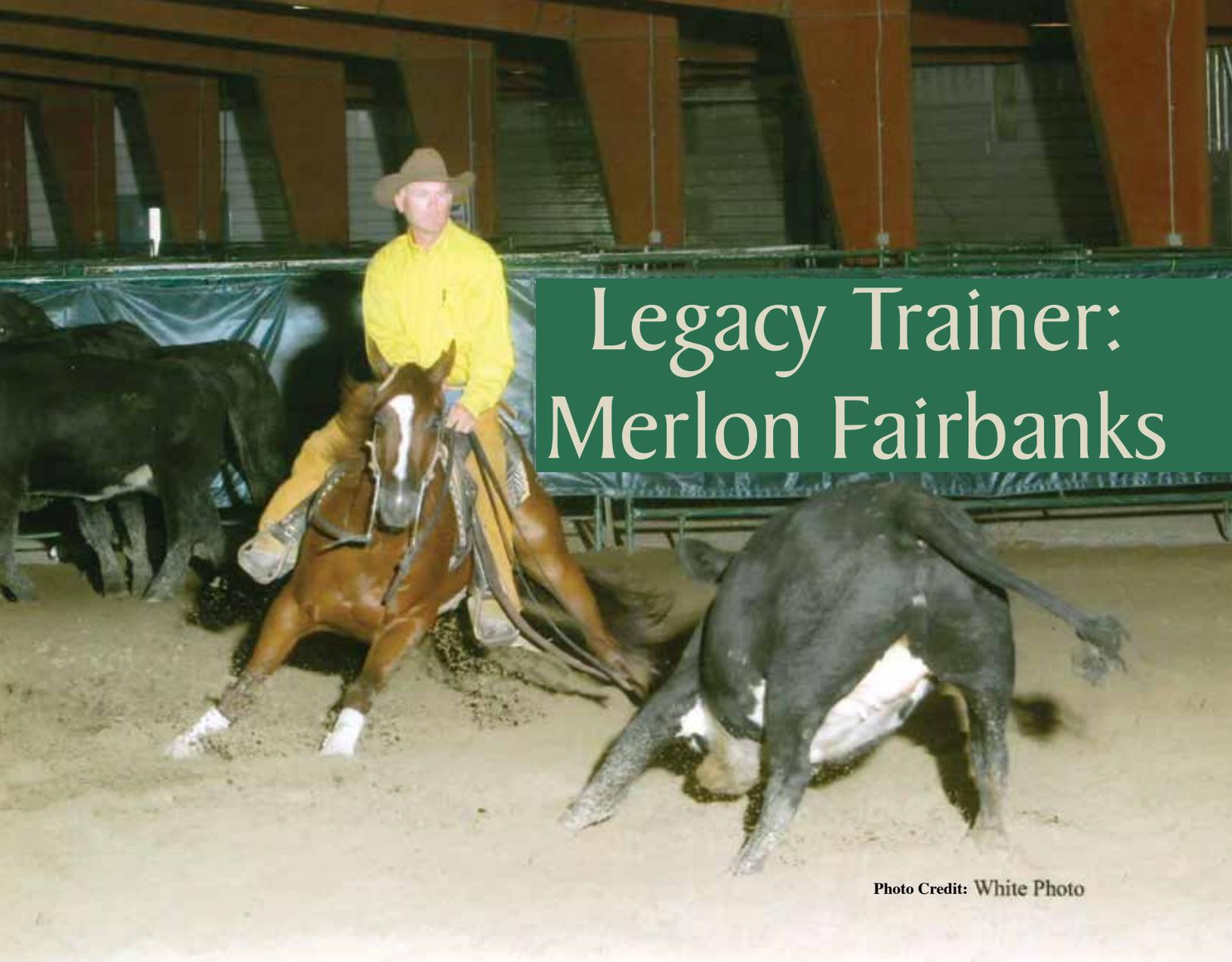
BREAK

HUNTER UNDER SADDLE

34. Level 1 Youth W/T HUS
35. Level 1 Amateur W/T HUS
36. Rookie Youth HUS
37. Rookie Amateur HUS
38. Rookie Select Amateur HUS
39. Level 1 Youth HUS
40. Level 1 Amateur HUS
41. Level 1 Select Amateur HUS
42. **All Breed Youth HUS
43. **All Breed Adult HUS
44. Small Fry HUS

HUNT SEAT EQUITATION

45. Small Fry Equitation
46. Level 1 Amateur W/T Equitation
47. Level 1 Youth W/T Equitation
48. Rookie Youth Equitation
49. Rookie Amateur Equitation
50. Rookie Select Amateur Equitation
51. Level 1 Youth Equitation



Legacy Trainer: Merlon Fairbanks

Photo Credit: White Photo

By Kaycee Monnens for Tri-State Livestock News

Merlon Fairbanks of Burke, South Dakota is honored with the 2021 Legacy Trainer for the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association for his decades of training cutting horses. His name is recognized in elite rodeo and cutting circles, and his career paths have given him lifelong friendships with notable competitors.

Fairbanks' career with horses did not start on the obvious path. He got his first taste of riding colts as a high school graduate when he worked for Louie Krogman of Krogman Quarter Horses in White River, South Dakota. From there, he answered the siren call of rodeo and pursued his professional bronc riding career for 16 years, winning the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Rookie of the Year in 1976, and qualifying to the National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City in 1978 and 1980. He continued to rodeo for several more years, but could never get over the "hump." "I was close several times, but we're not throwing hand grenades here," Fairbanks says.

Yet, the experiences and connections he had during those formidable rodeo years would help to form his life thereafter. "I



Merlon Fairbanks achieved two qualifications to the National Finals Rodeo and 16 years of professional rodeo before changing career paths. The people he met rodeoing would continue to shape his life over the years. Huffman Photo.

would have to say other than getting married to my wife, [rodeoing was] the best thing in my life. It was a lot of fun,” he says. He rubbed elbows with greats like Rick Smith, Joe Marvel, Bud Munroe, Skeeter Thurston, Bill Hutchinson, and Bud Pauley, to name a few. Once Fairbanks decided to quit rodeoing and get “a real job,” his long-time traveling partner and friend, Clint Johnson, would make a suggestion that would change the course of his life: “Larry Mahan is looking for someone to ride colts,” he said, “Why don’t you go ride for him?”

So he did. Johnson was aware of Fairbanks’ abilities because the two had attended a Ray Hunt clinic together while rodeoing. Bud Munroe had hosted the clinic for bronc riders interested in starting colts. “One thing [Ray] told me that I’ll never forget. I had this snaky colt from the King Ranch and it was a day late getting to the clinic because they couldn’t get him loaded in the trailer. He was a handful, but I went over to Ray and asked, ‘How am I doing?’ He said, ‘You’re doing just fine, but don’t forget what you knew when you came here. Just put what I’ve got on top of that.’ Which meant a lot to me, because most of those guys want you to become just like them,” Fairbanks says.

Fairbanks remembered Ray’s advice when he started at Larry Mahan’s place in 1991. Mahan himself holds six World Champion All-Around and two World Champion Bull Riding titles from his rodeo career in the ‘60’s and early ‘70’s. Both Fairbanks and Mahan took similar paths in life: they rodeoed professionally until it was time to move onto their second phase in life, which was riding cutting horses. However, by the time Mahan hired Fairbanks, he had phased out of the cutting world and into holistic horsemanship. Yet, Mahan still had a few cutting mares and show horses around and gave Fairbanks his first taste of riding a cutter.

Fairbanks entered a small show on a great horse, where they placed second. “There were a bunch of people there that I didn’t know and I got the check and it was for \$23, and I looked at Larry and I said, ‘Damn. We’re making money now!’” he laughs. His year-and-a-half working for Larry Mahan taught him new skills such as spotting colicky horses, tending to wounds, and the finite care one takes with show horses that he didn’t necessarily learn growing up on a ranch. “You have to be half a vet to do the horse thing,” he says.



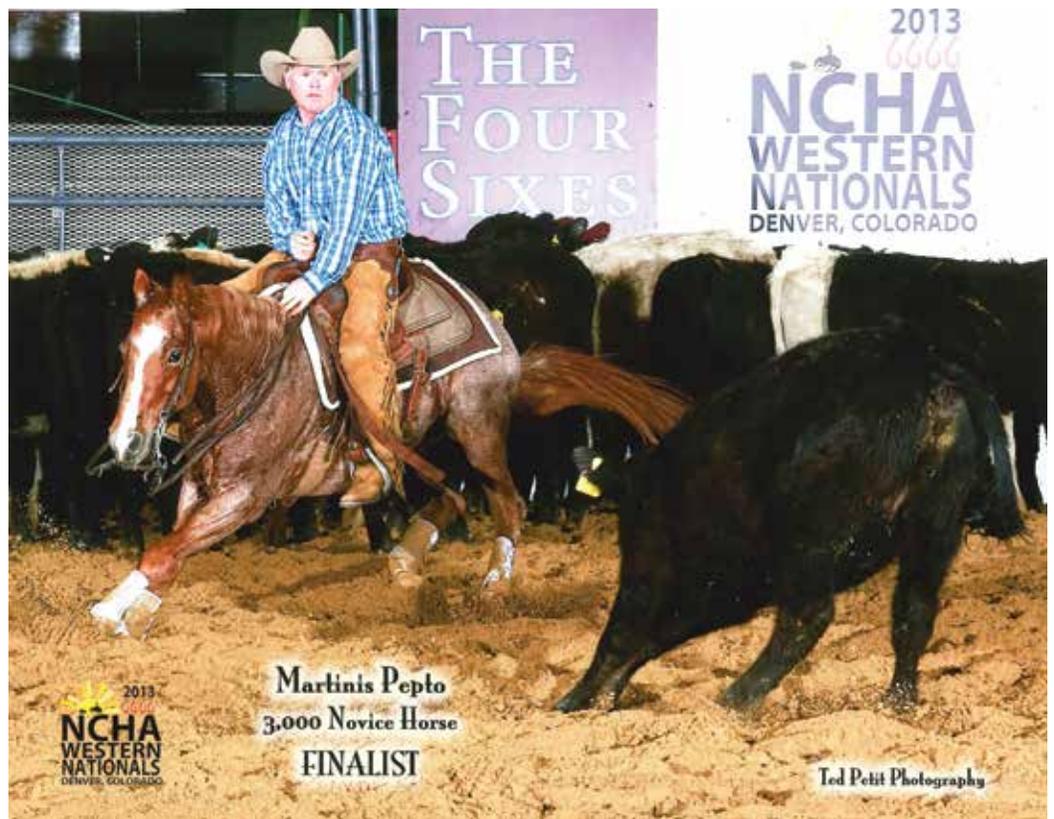
Through his other rodeo connections, Fairbanks met cutting greats such as Larry Mahan and Boyd Rice. With everything he learned, he remembered to stay true to his own style of horsemanship and add what worked with his program. Littlefield Photo.



Photo by Ron Petersen.

Fairbanks moved back to his home state in 1992, relocating his business to a barn in Burke, South Dakota. There, he began riding 30-day colts for his main income while learning more about training cutting horses. His nephew, Jason Fairbanks, rode colts with him. "That summer when I first came back, we rode a lot of horses, and some of them weren't very user friendly. They sent me everything because I had been a bronc rider," he says.

At the same time, Kevin Mahoney of O'Neill, Nebraska furthered his horsemanship geared towards cow cutting. Riding colts laid the foundation for riding cutting horses. "It made me a little more patient about reading horses. It taught me that I didn't want to ride 30-dayers my whole life," he jokes. "Mainly I had to do it for a living. It just taught me a lot of horsemanship," he says.



Fairbanks rode colts to get started in horse training and worked hard to build his reputation and career. Upon retirement, his lifetime earnings in the National Cutting Horse Association exceed \$160,000. Photo by Ted Petit Photography.

Meanwhile, he entered local cuttings around South Dakota, hosted by Gilbert Lutter and Lowell Den Besten. Many other trainers helped to progress him on his way, including Johnny Mitchell. In fact, at the time of interview, Fairbanks was watching Mitchell on television as he won the 2021 NCHA Metallic Cat World Championship Futurity Open with a score of 230.

“I was very fortunate to get to know those people. I contribute my rodeo life to meeting people,” he said. Once again, his friend Clint Johnson would pave the way for another connection, as Johnson’s mother-in-law arranged for Fairbanks to attend a pre-work session with Boyd Rice, where their friendship began. Kenny and Dana Ingalls took Fairbanks to Fort Worth for the first time and showed him the ropes. “I got to hang out with some heavy hitters,” he says.

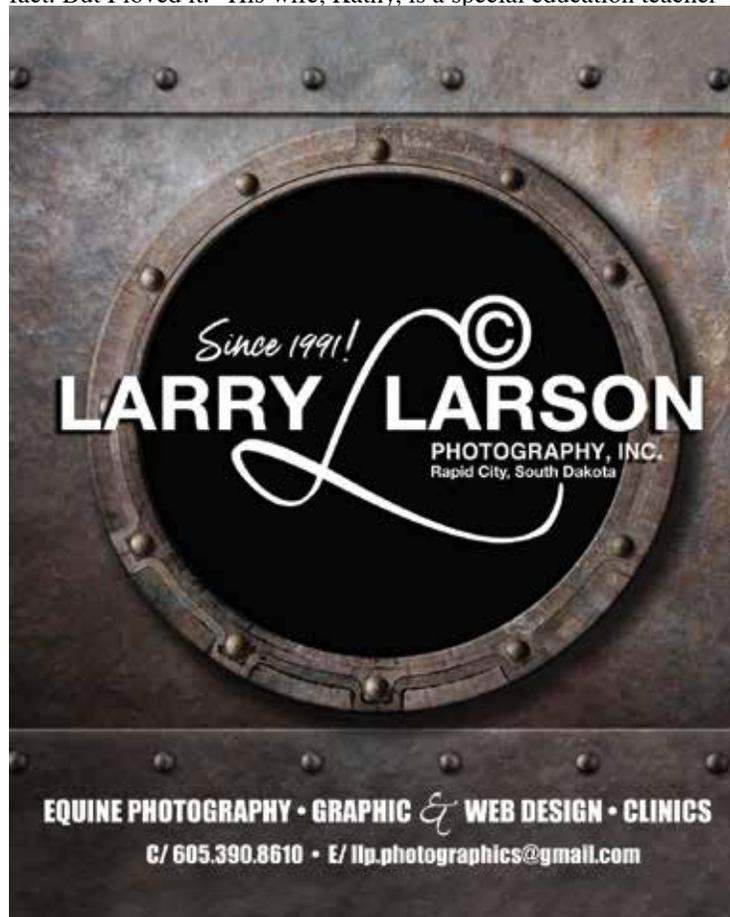
With every new tidbit he picked up, Fairbanks never forgot Ray Hunt’s advice to him. “I just tried to learn things to put on top of what I already knew that would fit my program,” he says.”

Becky Meinecke of Pillager, Minnesota trusted Fairbanks with her horses for two decades, which included training and showing her own son of Dual Rey, called Rey and Smooth. From the start, Meinecke liked his approach to horses and business. “He’s honest. He’ll tell you if your horse is a dud and there’s no sense in putting more money into training and showing them,” she says. Even when she moved to Oklahoma for a short time where there were plenty of trainers, she stayed with Fairbanks. “He’s very kind to horses. He’s not pushy with them, he’s patient with them. He doesn’t get upset with them,” Meinecke says.

One of Fairbanks’ greatest pleasures was helping high school students qualify to the National Finals High School Rodeo in cutting, including Jenalee Thompson, Mollie (Grim) Andrews, Kenzee Owens, and Katie (Lensegrav) Dibbern.

A year and a half ago, Fairbanks sent all of his horses in training home, believing it was time to move onto a new chapter. “I’ve had enough,” he says. “I’ve worked hard at it. No brag, just

fact. But I loved it.” His wife, Kathy, is a special education teacher



in the Burke School District, and Merlon cares for their handicapped daughter, Marcy, saying it to be his new occupation.

On learning of his award, Fairbanks said, “I’m very humbled about it. Jim [Hunt] told me I was going to win that, and it means a lot to me. Merlon Fairbanks will be recognized as a Legacy Trainer at the 2021 SDQHA Awards Banquet at the Ramkota Hotel in Ft. Pierre, South Dakota Jan. 8th, 2021 at 4 p.m.

South Dakota Quarter Horse Membership

You must be a member of the SDQHA prior to showing for your show points to count for awards. The horse owner, the horse exhibitor, and the trainer, if they are showing your horse must all have a membership. If a child is showing in the SDQHYA and the horse is papered in the parent’s or relative’s name (per AQHA rules) that person must also have a membership in the SDQHA for the youth points to count.

Please be sure to get your membership in before the first show that you exhibit at. A membership form can be found in this issue or online at www.sdqha.com.

Mission Statement

The South Dakota Quarter Horse Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing and providing beneficial services and opportunities for all horse enthusiasts. Our goal is to develop our membership through educational programs, recognition programs, recreational opportunities, the monitoring of equine public policy, the fostering of industry relations, and the marketing, promotion, and publicity of the American Quarter Horse.

SDQHA 2021

All-Arounds and Performance Champions

Amateur All-Around.....

Open On Tuesday and Heather Brandenburg



Open on Tuesday is a 2014 sorrel gelding by Don't Give Me No Zip owned and shown by Heather Brandborg. "Walter" is a true all around partner shown in Halter, SMS, HMS, HUS, HSE, Trail, and Ranch Riding. Walter's favorite treat is peppermints.

Amateur Performance Champion.....

Just A Blu Buddy and Alyssa Nix

Novice Amateur Reserve High Point Champion....

Just A Blu Buddy and Alyssa Nix



Just A Blu Buddy and I had an interesting summer, to say the least. We began our journey in Brookings and then ventured out to Rapid City. Those would be the only two shows I would compete in that summer WITHOUT a broken leg! Good thing we made the most out of them! We reunited the old show gang for dinner in Brookings and we won a lot of our classes in Rapid City. I still attended

the Sioux Empire Fair as a one legged show mom to some of my Amateur friends! Don't worry, the walking boot didn't stop me from enjoying the fair and dancing to the cover band! As I prepared for my favorite show of the year, Region 2, I was very nervous about how things would go for us. I had ridden Buddy about three times and was still rocking an aircast. After some finageling, I managed to get a cowboy boot over the cast and into the arena we went. Being my third summer showing with Buddy, we have formed a special bond. Our ability to trust each other is what made us successfully get through that show despite my physical challenges. We even took home a few buckles! I want to thank my mom, Barb, and my sister, Anna, for being my #1 support system during our many (many) years of showing! Thank you to Rosemary and Kate McCoy, Sadie Tolk, The Longhenry Family, Linda Foxworthy and, of course, The Montgomery Family for all of the help and support this summer! The friendships are what make showing so memorable and are what keep me looking forward to the next year. Here's to happy horses and healthy bones in 2022!



OPEN

Select All-Around.....

Born A Lazy Loper and Linda Foxworthy



My SDQHA career launched at the 2004 Sioux Empire Fair Novice Amateur Show. My husband and I had so much fun, and met so many great people that we just kept coming back. As a matter of fact, the SDQHA shows are priority on our show calendar. I have shown several different horses since 2004, but most recently, Born a Lazy Loper (aka JR).

Upon completion of the 2021 show season, I purchased JR as a 4-year old. I really wasn't looking for another horse, but when I came across this bay gelding, I feel in love right away. When my husband got home from work that evening, I couldn't stop talking about

JR. Overall, he was still green, didn't know trail or had done pattern classes, but did know Showmanship. He had a wonderful mind and would make a great all-around horse. My husband said, "If you want him, get him." Well, he didn't have to tell me twice, as a few days later JR was living in our barn.

I knew when I brought JR home that there was no doubt that I had a lot of work ahead of us, but then again, this is the stage that I truly find the most exciting. I set daily goals, take lessons, attend clinics and spend a lot of time in the saddle, whether Western or English. I just enjoy showing and simply being a part of JR's development and progress. It's been a long winter and we are really looking forward to the 2022 show season!

Novice Amateur High Point Champion.....

A Dominating Power & Clair Longhenry



This year was a very big year for me and Ike, (A Dominating Power). I knew it was going to be my last year, and I truly believe we both gave it our all. I always love the Brookings and Rapid City shows. I get to see all of my show friends again after being a winter apart.

Ike and I were able to accomplish getting his ROM this year, and if you know where we started out together, this was such a huge accomplishment. My trainers have helped us so much through our journey, and can agree he leaves an imprint on your heart. He is a type of horse that gives you is all, all the time. I have been so lucky to find a horse like him and to finish our my show career, (for now), with such an incredible horse.

I just graduated SDSU a year ago and am now at my big girl job. Ike is at home with my parents with my sisters horse. I couldn't be more thankful for my parents with how much they have helped me through my show years, the patience they had to have to deal with me. It's been an amazing ride and I hope everyone has a great 2022 show year.

**Select Reserve All-Around.....
One Powerful Krymsun and Wanda Carr**



As I reflect back on the year now passed and a show season of wonderful memories, I cannot help but marvel at how God has used horses to turn my life around. I know that had my husband, Bob, his family, and their horses not come into my life when they did, things would probably have turned out very different and not necessarily for the good.

After COVID had shut down our 2020 show season, spring 2021 brought with it a longing to get back into the show pen to see what the long hours and wet saddle blankets might have accomplished. Leonard and I couldn't wait. As the show season unfolded, I was quickly reminded of how truly blessed I am. I was surrounded by the best, most supportive family anyone could desire, some of the greatest horse friends anyone could want, and so many opportunities to build lasting memories and experiences that even now, leave me longing in giddy anticipation for, God willing, the show seasons yet to come.

2021 brought many firsts for Leonard and me. In addition to showing in Level 1 classes, we made the decision to move into showing at the Select Level as well. We knew the competition would be tough, but we looked forward to the challenge and knew that would motivate us to improve. Another first was showing hunt seat and equitation. We have a long way to go, but we came a long way, too. Showmanship and halter were two other firsts we tried. Leonard isn't much of a halter horse, but we held our own. In September, Leonard and I showed at the Region II Show in Rapid City for the first time. It was so much fun watching all the great riders who were in attendance, and the experience will hopefully help Leonard and me to improve our skills in the show pen next summer. Our most incredible first was winning a belt buckle at the Black Hills Summer Circuit Show in June. It may not seem like much to some, but it was the first belt buckle Leonard and I have ever one. We want to take this opportunity to thank the people who sponsored and put on that show because without them, we would not have been given that opportunity. We learned so much and will use our experiences to set the groundwork for our goals and dreams for our upcoming show season.

As the years go on, I hope that we can continue to get a little bit better and learn a little bit more. Horses have truly changed my life. I am grateful to have been blessed with the opportunity to become a horse person by marriage. I have so many wonderful people to thank: my husband, Bob, for putting up with my horse addiction; my amazing kids, who think it is so fun to coach Mom now; my in-laws, Gene and Carrie Carr, for believing in me and giving me the chance to ride so many great horses; the Hersoms, Darrell and Amanda, for raising One Powerful Krymsun, my Leonard, and all of the amazing horse people that have been there to compete with, laugh with, learn from, and glean encouragement from when things didn't always seem to be going in our favor. Leonard and I are forever grateful. We cannot thank you all enough.

Congratulations to everyone who showed, raised, ranched, and worked the most wonderful beasts that God has put on the face of the earth—horses are truly a pleasure to ride. We wish you all the best of luck in the season to come and hope happy trails are in store for you and yours until we meet again.

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YOUTH

**ALL-AROUND & HIGH POINT
SENIOR GIRL.....**

Emily Johnson, Black Hawk, SD and Gota Lota Style.



The 2021 show season was sure a great one for Gota Lota Style "Baxter" and me. There were a lot of firsts and so many memories made. This was only our second show season together and I feel like this year we really figured each other out. We attended some new shows, but the one that I can check off my bucket list was the Arizona Sun Circuit. What an amazing experience. I can never thank Jimmy Daurio for all his help and encouragement. What a blessing you and David are.

This year we brought home many points, All Arounds, and circuit championships. I am so grateful for all the success Baxter and I have had for such a short time

together, but more than anything I am so grateful for the wonderful friends that I have gained by being involved with horses and SDQHIA. These are lifetime friendships that I will always cherish. I always find it interesting that we don't see each other for months and then when we get together it is like no time has passed.

I am currently a freshman at Mount Marty University in Yankton. I am busy with school and I am running cross country and track for them. I am very thankful for my parents and grandparents for taking such good care of Baxter while I am away. They are so supportive and always encourage me to pursue by dreams. This will be my last youth year and I am looking forward to many more wonderful memories. Good Luck to all in 2022 and can't wait until the show season starts so I can reconnect with my show family.

HIGH POINT SENIOR BOY.....

**Colin Sprinkle, Aberdeen, SD
with Straight To The Stars & This Tigers Hot.**



My last year of youth was certainly memorable. Brookings was my favorite show since I had the opportunity to show both horses. I showed in reining at the Youth World Show. I am incredibly thankful to SDQHIA for the amazing friendships I have made over the past 10 years.

Become a member!

VISIT WWW.SDQHA.COM

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ONLINE MEMBERSHIPS**

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Superior Heading

Foals are eligible for IOHA Ranch Horse Futurity, Ranch Horse Extravaganza & Futurity (other incentives being added!)



We are excited to add Smart Alice Cat & Meradas Reynbow to our Broodmare Herd!

Smart Alice Cat

2006 Sorrel mare by Highbrow Cat x Smart Alice Boon
LTE: \$17,539 NCHA, COA, AQHA: 1 Halter point, 67.5 Cutting points
Open & Amateur Performance ROM

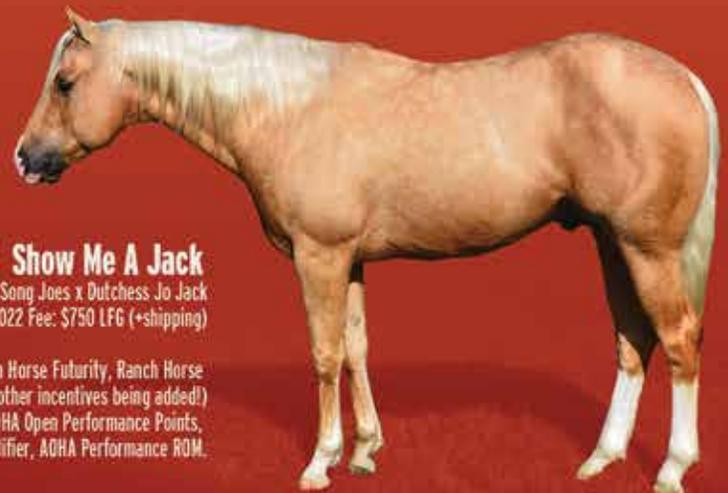
She is in foal to TR Dual Rey for a 2022 foal
Booked to Dual Reyish, Woody Be Tuff, Mr Wimpy Red and Show Me A Jack for 2023 foals!



Meradas Reynbow

2005 Sorrel mare by Dual Rey x Smart Lena Merada
LTE: \$17,006.20 NCHA, PE: \$21,528

She is booked to Woody Be Tuff, Mr Wimpy Red, and Show Me A Jack for 2023 foals.



Show Me A Jack

2015 palomino stallion by Show Me a Song Joes x Dutchess Jo Jack
5 Panel N/W | Frozen Semen | 2022 Fee: \$750 LFG (+shipping)

His foals are eligible for the HPI, IOHA Ranch Horse Futurity, Ranch Horse Extravaganza & Futurity (other incentives being added!)
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2X World Show Qualifier, AQHA Performance ROM.



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SDQH YA

SOUTH DAKOTA QUARTER
HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

South Dakota Quarter Horse Youth
2021 Membership Directory

Hagg, Nautica - Rapid City, SD

Johnson, Emily - Black Hawk, SD

Johnson, Kimberly - Mud Butte, SD

Johnson, Kendra - Mud Butte, SD

Johnson, Zane - Mud Butte, SD

Kuxhaus, Adi - Pierre, SD

Sprinkle, Colin - Aberdeen, SD

Steinbrecher, Mackenzie - Yankton, SD

Wetz, Sorley - Vale, SD



Incoming Youth President Kimberly Johnson

Build for the Future!

Welcome to 2022 and the great possibilities and growth it holds!

I am excited to serve our association and look forward to building a great year! So many exciting things are shaping up!

The SDQHA Summer Shootout in Brookings, SD is June 16-19th. This is a great family show and we look forward to seeing you there!

It's the 50th Anniversary of the AQHYA World Show! How exciting to compete and work towards attending this great show!

Don't forget the YES Convention is in July and the AQHA Region 2 Championship show in September.

I have served as your AQHYA Region 2 Director and am excited to keep pursuing leadership opportunities within our quarter horse industry!

Happy Trails!

Kimberly Johnson

SDQH YA President | AQHYA Region 2 Director



President
Kimberly Johnson

SDQH YA

SOUTH DAKOTA QUARTER HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION



AQH YA Region 2 Director
Kimberly Johnson



Secretary/ Treasure
Kendra Johnson



SDHSRA Rookie Cutter 2021
Kimberly Johnson

GOING OUT WITH PRESIDENT

Adisyn Kuxhaus

It has been an absolute pleasure to have served as the 2021 SDQH YA President. I had the opportunity to expand my knowledge and involvement within the association. I built stronger friendships with both adult and youth members. The youth had a successful year in the show pen, fundraising, and involvement within the association this past year. I am honored to have received this opportunity and look forward to my last youth year and my continuing involvement within South Dakota Quarter Horse Association. Thank you to all the members and people within this organization who have contributed to our future- our youth.



VP Adi Kuxhaus
Congratulations to our 2021 SDQH YA President Adi Kuxhaus, she has committed to the SDSU Equestrian Team! Very proud of you!
#sdqhyaproud



BUILD FOR THE FUTURE

AQHVA

The central graphic features the text "BUILD FOR THE FUTURE" in a large, stylized, multi-colored font. Below it, "AQHVA" is written in a smaller, white font. The text is set against a background of colorful geometric shapes, including a large orange triangle and a purple triangle. A silhouette of a horse is also visible, integrated into the design.

SDQH YA

SOUTH DAKOTA QUARTER
HORSE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

*"I believe that horses
bring out the best in us.*

*They judge us not by
how we look, what we're
wearing or how powerful
or rich we are,*

*they judge us in terms of
sensitivity, consistency,
and patience.*

*They demand standards
of behavior and levels
of kindness that we, as
humans, then strive to
maintain."*

- Clare Balding.



2022 SDQHA Membership Form

DUES: \$35.00 for Individual - Family - Business – Corporation

Family Membership includes Husband/Wife and children 18 & under (open only). Children holding an amateur card or over the youth age of 18 must have their own membership as an individual.

Please note **SDQHYA** membership is a separate membership. **Youth must have a separate membership to the SDQHYA** to state qualify for the youth world or to earn youth points and awards in SDQHYA. Youth who exhibit a horse owned by someone else in their family must have the owner join the SDQHA.

Each person exhibiting the horse must have a membership and the owner must have a membership to the SDQHA prior to exhibiting for qualification for state points and awards.

NAME/BUSINESS: _____
 FAMILY _____ INDIVIDUAL _____ BUSINESS _____ TRAINER _____ (Mark One)
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 EMAIL (important for SDQHA communications): _____ PHONE: _____

_____ Check if you have enclosed an additional \$10 to have your WEB or FACEBOOK URL linked on www.sdqha.com for the current membership year. (\$10 for each link you would like advertised)

WEB/FACEBOOK URL: _____

WEB/FACEBOOK URL: _____

_____ I do NOT want my membership information printed in official SDQHA publications

_____ I do NOT want to receive informational mailings/emails from the SDQHA

Amateurs must designate at the time of membership if they want SDQHA points to go towards the amateur or the select amateur division. Please circle each family member’s division.

NAME: _____ AMATEUR OPEN SELECT AMATEUR

Enclosed:

_____ Membership Dues (\$35)

_____ Web/Facebook link (\$10 per link)

_____ **Total**

Send To:

Jodie Svennes - Treasurer
 413 Central Lane
 Luverne, Mn 56156
svennes@vastbb.net

SDQHA Site: www.sdqha.com

SDQHA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/South-Dakota-Quarter-Horse-Association-199118856954035/>

Paid with (if paid online please include invoice w/ form):
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SDQH YA MEMBERSHIP FORM



Welcome to the South Dakota Quarter Horse Youth Association! We look forward to watching your youth excel and have fun in a great association! First youth membership is \$20.00; each additional youth membership is \$10.00.

If the horse the youth is showing is not registered in the youth's name, a family membership from the SDQHA is required as well for points to count in the youth division. Ownership will be according to the AQHA rule book.

SDQHA forms can be obtained at www.sdqha.com. A youth must have a current membership before their points will count for year-end awards. Visit us on Facebook!

We try to keep our page updated with everything the youth are doing!

Name: _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ (as of Jan 1) Email: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ (as of Jan 1) Email: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ (as of Jan 1) Email: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ BD: _____ (as of Jan 1) Email: _____

(If you are a first-year member, please circle your name above.)

Parents Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone# _____ Phone# _____

Required \$300.00 in sponsorship for yearend awards: For those youth who desire to go to the Youth World, Congress, YES or Novice Youth World, please contact Becky Johnson.

Walk/trot and Lead line need a membership, any participation in sponsorships is welcome. Sponsorships are due by June of current year for points to be counted. Points will not count until sponsorships are paid.

Make check to SDQH YA. Mail memberships and sponsorships to:

SDQH YA C/O Becky Johnson
19472 Nine Mile Road
Vale, SD 57788
605-490-7650

An All Around Type Horse

Growing up in Wessington Springs, South Dakota, Dr. Robert M. “Doc” Christensen learned quickly that he loved horses and purchased his first registered Quarter Horse in 1955. He earned the 50 Year-Breeder award from the American Quarter Horse Association, and until the day he passed in August, 2021, his love for horses and his passion for Quarter Horses only grew, in large part due to his prize stallion, Stage Bird Tom, who is being honored by the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association as the 2021 Notable Horse of the Year.

Stage Bird Tom was a 1966 sorrel Quarter Horse stallion and grandson to the famous King, who was well known for his early influence on the breed. With the help of a long-time friend and mentor, Art Reeves, Christensen found Stage Bird Tom down in Texas and brought him back to South Dakota to grow his own breeding program.

“First and foremost, he looked for a horse that was put together conformation wise, built in a way that he can do whatever you needed to get done, whether that was working on a ranch or taking him into a show ring to show halter or do more performance type events,” says Doc’s son, Eric. “He was looking for a stallion that could produce good all-around working horses when he found Stage Bird Tom.”

And Stage Bird Tom certainly left a legacy in the show ring of being an all-around horse and producing all around horses. Over the years, Doc employed various horsemen to train and show Stage Bird Tom and his offspring, the first being Pat Trebesch, who showed Stage Bird Tom from 1971 to 1973. In that time, the stallion participated in 51 shows in South Dakota and surrounding states, winning 47 aged stallion classes, 25 grand champion stallion titles and 18 reserve champion stallion titles. He also earned points in western pleasure, hunter under saddle and reining.



According to many, Stage Bird Tom was the most correctly put together halter horse that could be found.

“He was real smart and he was so athletic,” Trebesch says. “He could turn around faster once than you could blink an eye. I hauled him many a mile and he was nice to haul, even though he was a stud.”

It was within the first month of working with Stage Bird Tom that Trebesch realized the stallion was something special because of his athleticism, halter look and incredible disposition, which was proven one day when Doc stopped by the barn to see how his stallion was progressing. At the time, Pat’s daughter was practicing her roller skating in the same cement alleyway that Stage Bird Tom was tied up in. Just as Doc asked Pat what he thought about the stallion’s potential and his temperament, Pat’s daughter roller skated right underneath Stage Bird Tom, who didn’t react in the least.



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Pat Trebesch showing Stage Bird Tom in the early 1970s.

“I think that gives an idea of the temperament of the horse,” Eric says. “Calm enough to handle things like that.”

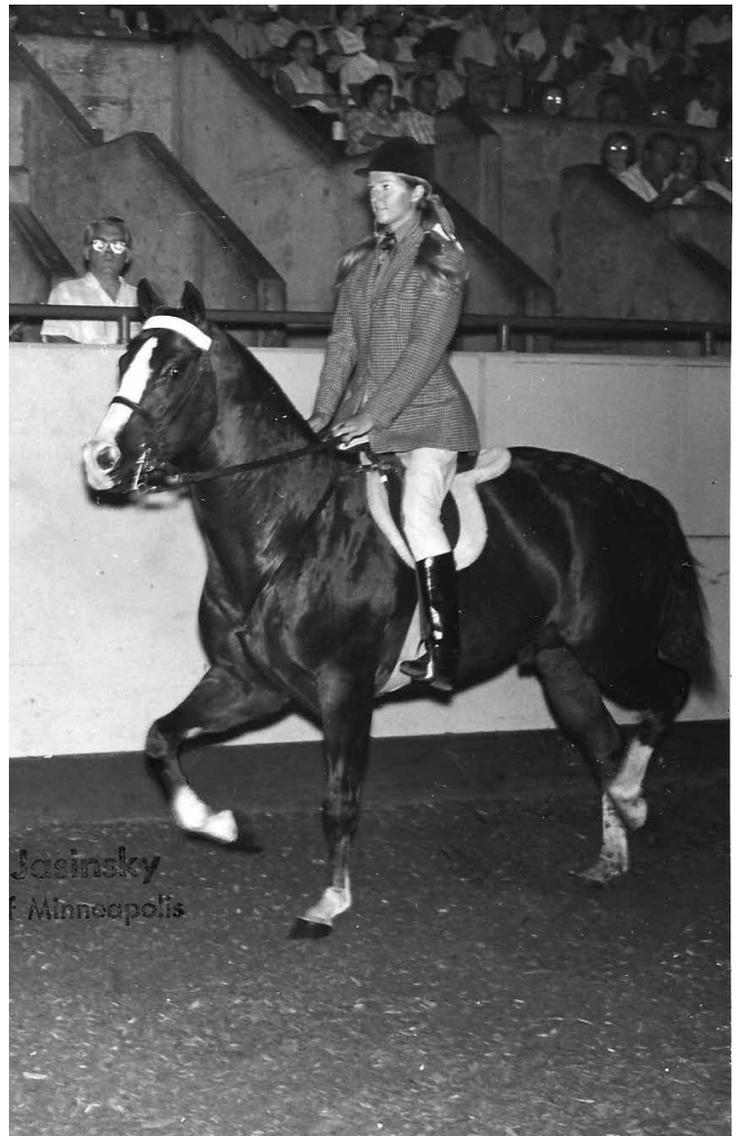
Trebesch showed a daughter of Stage Bird Tom as well, Stage Birds Image, a 1973 sorrel mare who also became an AQHA champion, earning 28 halter points and 71 performance points in her career.

Doc continued to breed Stage Bird Tom, having greatest success when he crossed the stallion with his Roan Bar mares. Some foals went on to be shown and earn AQHA points in the youth, amateur and open divisions, a testament to the temperament of his offspring that they could be shown by all ages.

“Dad didn’t have much patience for a horse that didn’t have his head on straight,” Eric says. “If it wasn’t easy to handle, it probably wasn’t around for too long. He tended to like the ones that were easy to get along with and smart enough to train and teach some things.”

Stage Bird Tom sired 154 foals over 16 years, and of those, 12 earned a total of 1,212 AQHA points, including six all-around wins and two reserve all-around wins, nine superior awards and one AQHA world champion award.

Other notable direct descendants included Stage Bird Lad, a 1973 blue roan gelding who earned 33 AQHA performance points; Stage Bird Ladie, a 1975 red roan gelding who earned 8 halter and 48 AQHA performance points, including the title of 1980 South Dakota Quarter Horse Association All-Around horse; Stage Bird Bill, a 1975 sorrel gelding who earned 722 performance points, numerous show titles and eight performance register of merits; and Stage Bird Roanie, a 1976 gray stallion who earned 220 performance points, a performance register of merit, numerous roping titles and was a contender for the 1981 AQHA



A true all-around horse, Stage Bird Tom even showed in hunter under saddle, earning 21 AQHA points.



Super Horse Award.

One of the most recent trainers that Doc hired before his passing was John Kabeiseman, who first got involved with a great-great grandson of Stage Bird Tom in 1991 by the name of Kahuna Ben.

“In the spring of '94, Doc brought me a mare to breed to Kahuna Ben and that started our relationship,” Kabeiseman says.

Through the years, Doc and K bred many of Doc's mares who went back to Stage Bird Tom back to Kabeiseman's stallion, dabbling in linebreeding but seeing great success in the crosses. K was able to make both a son and grandson of Kahuna Ben into AQHA champions and has high hopes to do the same with the next generation.

“These are just good using horses that go all day and I know that comes from Stage Bird Tom because I've heard that from other breeders,” Kabeiseman says. “The ones that didn't end up in the show pen ended up on ranches and they're loved because they can use them all day, they don't have to go in at noon and switch horses. I think a lot of today's modern bloodlines might be more specialized, better in one or two events, they're not the true all-around horse that the Quarter Horses are supposed to be.”

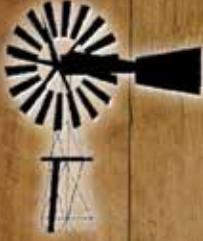
As his name gets further and further to the right on registration papers, it was his legacy of producing those true, all-around type horses that Stage Bird Tom leaves on South Dakota.



Doc Christensen showing off Stage Bird Tom's awards at a show, thanks to the training of Pat Trebesch.

“I think that's a testament to the strength of the horse that Dad's breeding generated,” Eric says. “One time Dad got a letter from a guy who had this horse for 25 plus years and the horse passed away, so the guy took the time to write Dad a three-page letter telling him how much he liked the horse. I think moments like those were some of the things he appreciated most and really got a kick out of, just visiting with folks who purchased and liked his horses over the years, whether they had shown them or just had them for fun because they could do just about anything.”

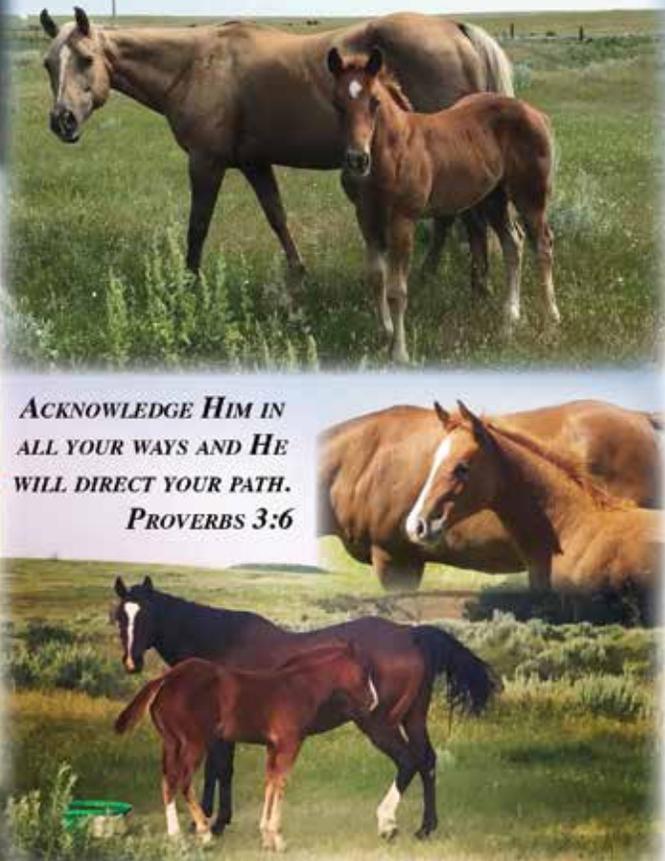
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WILL DIRECT YOUR PATH.
PROVERBS 3:6*

Jim Hootman

SDQHA Legacy Showing

By Heather Smith Thomas for Tri-State Livestock News

Jim Hootman has been showing Quarter Horses since he was a boy. “I grew up in southeast Iowa but I was a city boy who loved horses. I went out to a farm at the edge of town (Fairfield, Iowa) to ride horses.” An elderly couple named Bill and Jesse Du-Boise got him started. “They raised horses, and those were the ones I started riding. They had some great horses; they weren’t Quarter Horses but they were really nice horses,” Jim says.

“I rode their horses and started showing them, and Bill and Jesse were like second parents to me,” Jim recalls. Folks like this who take the time to mentor young people—take kids under their wing and teach them valuable skills—are a wonderful, positive force in young lives, to help them achieve their dreams. “I showed my first horse in 1957. In those days it didn’t matter whether the horses were registered; we went to a lot of open shows. There were many good horses back then,” he says. “The mare that really got me going was a Quarter Horse named Cindy Dawson. We took that mare all over and won the American Royal in Kansas City on her, and the Iowa State Fair a couple times. Back in those days, those were big shows,” he says.

Later, his wife Kathryn (who died in 2018) was also interested in horses and very helpful, and she became even more involved when their girls started riding horses. They moved to South Dakota in 1980 and Jim is on a place near Harrisburg.

“When the kids got involved, both of our daughters, Susan and Kary, enjoyed showing also, and they took some nice horses to the AQHA Youth World Show. My wife made a lot of their show clothes and made sure they looked really good when they went into the ring,” Jim says. They were on the road as often as possible, taking horses to shows, whenever he could get away from work. They spent all of his vacation time showing horses.

He worked for Hy-Vee Food Stores, Inc.—an employee-owned chain of supermarkets in the Midwestern and Southern U.S.,



Jim and Cindy Dawson | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman

with about 300 locations in Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama. This chain of stores was founded in 1930 by Charles Hyde and David Vredenburg in Beaconsfield, Iowa, starting out in a small brick building.

Jim was with this company for 36 years and ended up as the Store Director in Sioux Falls during the last part of his career. It worked out well, having the two careers and being able to follow his passion and show his horses.

“It’s been a family deal ever since the kids started showing with us. Now the grandkids are showing, too, and when they started showing, my wife helped them, also. We’ve had a great time doing



Photos: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



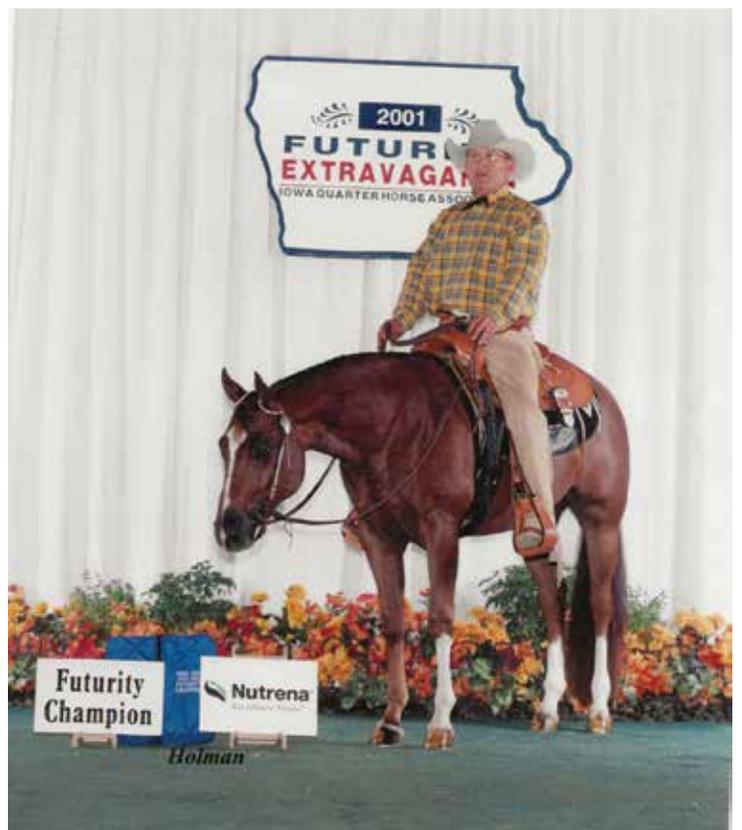
it, and were fortunate to have a lot of great horses, and enjoyed meeting a lot of great people,” Jim says.

He has been showing Quarter Horses for 64 years and has had the good fortune to have a lot of good ones. “We’ve had some really nice horses over the years, starting with that Cindy Dawson mare. Another one that really stands out was Miss Kane is Invited.” She had a long show career and was shown by several generations of the family.

“We showed our horses from Texas to Las Vegas to Columbus, Ohio—anywhere there were some good shows. The great and amazing thing about it is all the wonderful friends we made all over the country. It was also a lot of fun to do it as a family,” Jim says. He has many good memories, and good friends who are friends forever.

Most of the horses he’s trained and showed were in western pleasure classes, though he has also had some very nice halter horses that won a lot of shows, including the Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota futurities. “We’ve had a lot of nice halter horses and halter babies,” he says.

Some of the achievements he has enjoyed are the many high point State Championships. “We also placed at the Select World Show in Amarillo, Texas along with the futurities. It’s all been enjoyable; they’ve all meant a lot,” Jim says.



Jim on a son of A Sudden Impulse | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



Jim on Talk Sweetly Too Me and Grand Daughter Shelby on Miss Kane Is Invited | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman

The horses he's shown have always been his own horses; he has always showed as an amateur and not for other people. Even though he doesn't raise horses, he buys them as weanlings or yearlings, always trying to select individuals that he thinks will make good show horses. He likes to start with them as youngsters and handle them from the ground up.

"I just search around for horses I like. I have bought horses at sales and from breeders but I look more at the individual rather than the breeding or pedigree. I try to pick out good ones; sometimes a person gets lucky and a lot of times you fail!" The ones that make you feel lucky are always special, he said.

"Probably the one I enjoyed working with the most was Miss Kane Is Invited. She took me to a lot of good places and then started my granddaughter (Shelby Holmes) in her first showing experiences. Shelby did a great job riding her; she was a really good nice big bay mare."

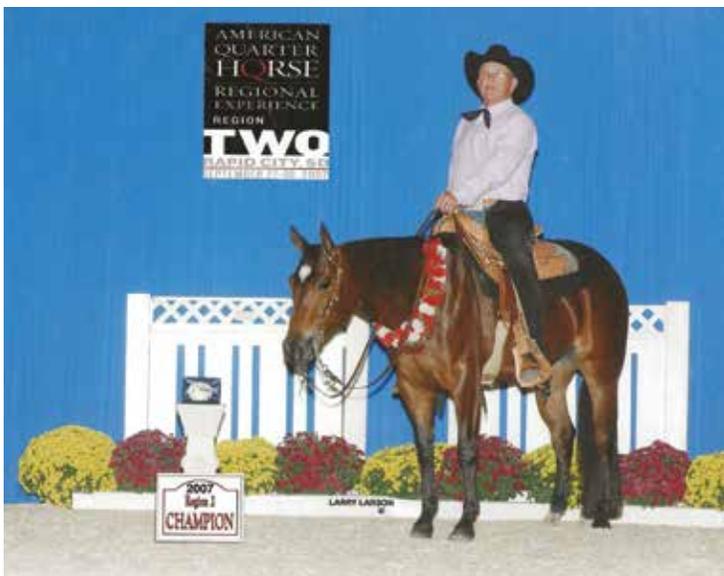
Jim enjoys passing his knowledge and horsemanship tips to the next generations; it has been very satisfying having his kids and grandkids carry on the showing tradition in the family. The youngest generation is now enjoying the chance to get some pointers from Grandpa.



Jim wife Kathryn and Grandson Cole, Horse is A Real Good Asset | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



Granddaughter Shelby on Miss Kane Is Invited | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



Jim on She's So Radical | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



Jim with Friend Roger Wacker and Dun Filly | Photo: Courtesy of Jim Hootman



RANCH HORSES, RANCH RAISED LAUING FAMILY

**Bonny Blues with Genie & Bernie Lauing JD Lauing & Becky Amio
Photo Credit: Elsie Fortune Photography**

By Hannah Gill for Tri-State Livestock News

For four generations and over 100 years, the Lauing family has been raising horses and livestock on their Blunt, South Dakota ranch. Today, the ranch is most well known for their Quarter Horse program that features the Blue Valentine, Hancock, and Driftwood bloodlines. This January, the ranch is being honored by the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association as the 2021 Producer of the Year.

“According to family history, my grandpa, Hank, who had good instincts about horses, had one of the first registered Quarter Horses in this area and it came up from Texas on a train,” says JD Lauing, the fourth generation to live on the family ranch. “Grandpa never transferred that horse to his name though, it had a race pedigree of some sort. I’ve tried contacting some people that maybe would know what his bloodlines were but everyone just called him Chalky. The registered horses we have now are definitely because of my dad though, he’s been doing this all of his life, showing horses at the South Dakota State Fair.”

For over forty years, the ranch has been registering Quarter Horses and in that time, many horses have come and gone. JD recalls going through a stack of horse papers that his father, Bernie, has owned over the years and seeing the names of notable sires like Peppy San and Docs Prescription. Though the direction of the breeding program has changed some since the beginning,

creating good looking horses with straight legs, a good disposition, brains and athletic ability has remained a constant for the Lauing’s breeding program.

Some of the colts they have sold over the years have gone on to make names for them in professional rodeo, like Woodrow Sniper Leo and LR Hancocks Two Bugs, two geldings sired by Hancocks Two Boys who are now being used as pickup horses by Randy Britton, or like LR Hancock Roan Star, owned by the



Bernie Lauing with grandson, Levi Lauing, after winning the tie-down roping at the Central South Dakota 4-H Rodeo in Blunt in the early 2000s aboard Dakota Star Pat. Also pictured is Levi’s dad, Tom Lauing and Tanner Lauing.



Blue Fox Hancock

Westphal family who has been used for not only ranch work, but bull roping, rodeo queen horsemanship contests, team roping and breakaway roping. But the big wins aren't what means the most to Bernie, instead he is most proud watching the horses he raised carry his children and grandchildren to success in the arena, from Little Britches Rodeos to professional rodeo, as well as on the ranch. Horses like Dakota Star Pat and Dakota Billy Star among many others have been passed from grandchild to grandchild.

Bernie's first notable stud, one that the whole family including JD's siblings, agreed upon, was Billy Star Pat, a 1985 red roan stallion by a Roan Bar stud and out of a Watch Joe Jack mare.

"He was the type of horse that, when you sold something of his, you may never hear from the people again until the horse got old or they lost it, then all of a sudden the phone would start ringing and people would ask, 'Do you have any more of those?'" JD says.

For a time, the Lauings used cutting horse bloodlines, standing a son of Young Gun out of a three quarters sister to Smart Little Lena, as well as an own son of Haidas Little Pep out of



Lauing Ranch JM Rowdy Blue Hayes



Woodrow Sniper Leo picking up bucking horses at the Houston Rodeo. Rocking RB Ranch Photo



Lauing Ranch Mares



Lauing Ranch Ranching Heritage Becky Amio

Levi Lauing calf roping on Dakota Star Pat. Shannon Stroman Photo



Lauing Ranch century barn built in 1921 by Bernie Lauing's grandparents. Bridget M Photography



Bonny Blues Bernie & JD Lauing

NCHA champ, Millie Montana. While they added cow and athleticism, they didn't quite have the size and bone that the Lauings were seeking.

"We got a little spoiled with Billy Star Pat," JD says. "He was an excellent broodmare sire and sired a lot of roans. We started looking around and got into the Hancock and Blue Valentine horses, crossing with Driftwood lines."

That was over twenty years ago. Now, many mares in the broodmare band still go back to Billy Star Pat, Revue Hancock, and Hancocks Two Boys, but every year fillies are held back and added to the band to preserve the direction that the horse program is heading. Stallions like Blue Fox Hancock and his full brother Hancocks Red Fox, Mr Junewood and Revue Hancock have had tremendous influence on the foal crops, but the Lauing's favorite stallion remains Bonny Blues, a 2001 bay roan by Roan Ambrose and out of Bonnie O Blue.

"Bonny is picture perfect, plenty of bone, kind eye, big hip, short pastern and cannon bones, puts a good brain on his colts and you can cross him back on foundation, cow type mares and they are outstanding," JD says, adding that his offspring are all willing to do whatever you ask of them because of their easygoing personality and athleticism.

All the stallions that the ranch stands produce good colts though, with a lot of research and emphasis going into each stallion based on how he may compliment certain mares. When Bernie and JD look for stallions either to purchase or to hold back from their colt crop, they look for all of the usual things like conformation, disposition, size, athletic ability and brains, but they also put

a lot of stock in the young prospect's dam, explaining that each step from birth to halter breaking to riding a young horse are all stepping stones to eventually finding out what the resulting offspring will be, and knowing what qualities certain mares have previously delivered in their offspring.



Revue Hancock

"You're lucky to know if you have a good breeding stallion by the time they're eight to ten years old," JD says. "It's a long process and that's why we put a lot of emphasis on the mare. Every good stud comes from a really good mare."

Every spring Bernie and JD are forced to make decisions on what fillies should be held back to possibly eventually join the broodmare band, what colts might make breeding or riding prospects and what foals to include in the annual production sale held in Springfield, Missouri with other partners from around the country.

The Lauings have learned through the years though, thanks to advice from a good friend and mentor in the horse industry, Sam Schultz, that if it doesn't hurt a little bit to sell, you're not doing it right, and every year when JD puts colts in the sale, he reminds himself of those words and the fact that you simply can't keep them all.

To add to the decision making, in 2021 they started a new concept at the sale, inspired by JD's experience as a 13-year-old boy when he was intimidated to bid against adults at a horse sale. Now, one lot is added to the production sale for kids only to bid on. The kids must be present and the foal comes with a one year paid AQHA Youth membership. Next year, the Lauings are hoping to take the profit from the Kids Bid lot and offer it as a scholarship.

Behind the brand, along with Bernie and JD are two talented women. Bernie's wife, Genie, who in addition to helping with livestock chores, does all the AQHA paperwork, is administrator for their social media, updates their website and takes many of their photos, and JD's girlfriend, Becky Amio, a horsewoman who starts the 2-year-olds and does each horse's sale preparation and promotion.

Horses have always been a part of the ranch and the Lauings say they feel blessed to continue the legacy started by the family on the South Dakota prairie over a century ago.

"My dad started this program out right and it's something that has treated us well, so we're just going to keep raising good horses," JD says.

2022 SDQHA Show Dates

All shows are pending approval until all approval application forms and fees are received.

**Special Event Ranch Riding & Ranch Trail
Akkerman Arena Aberdeen, SD**

June 4, 2022

**Brookings Summer Shoot Out
Swiftel Center, Brookings, SD**

June 16-19, 2022

Black Hills Summer Circuit, Rapid City, SD

June 24-26, 2022

**Ranching Heritage Challenge
Rapid City, SD**

TBD 2022

Sioux Empire Fair, Sioux Falls, SD

August 12-13, 2022

**Level 1 (Novice) & Rookie Horse Show
Akkerman Arena Aberdeen, SD**

August 21, 2022

AQHA Region 2, Rapid City, SD

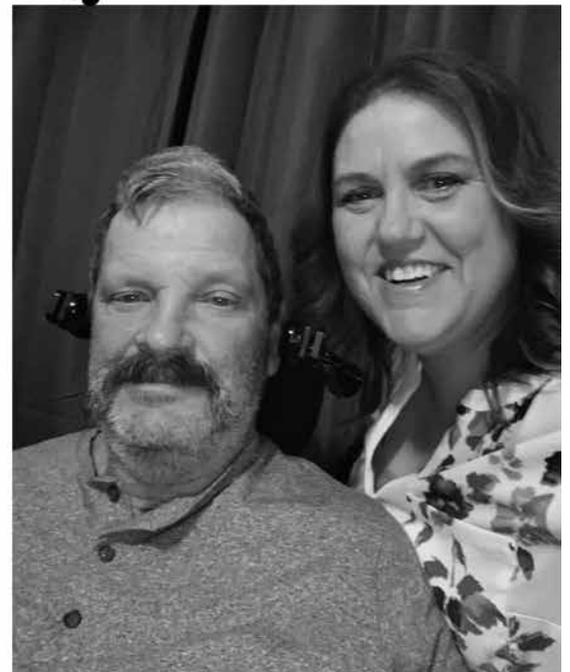
Sept 14-18, 2022

All shows and dates are tentative until officially SDQHA approved, check www.SDQHA.com/shows for updates on show approvals, show bills, and confirmed show dates



Thank You!

The Gonsoir family would like to thank everyone for all their love and support during this past year. We are truly blessed to have such a fabulous horse family!



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I can do all things through Christ, who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

MELVIN RANCH

By Doris Powers Lauing

Warren and Donna Melvin were a dynamic couple who have created a lasting legacy of family and horses. The Melvin family name is synonymous with rodeo and horse racing.

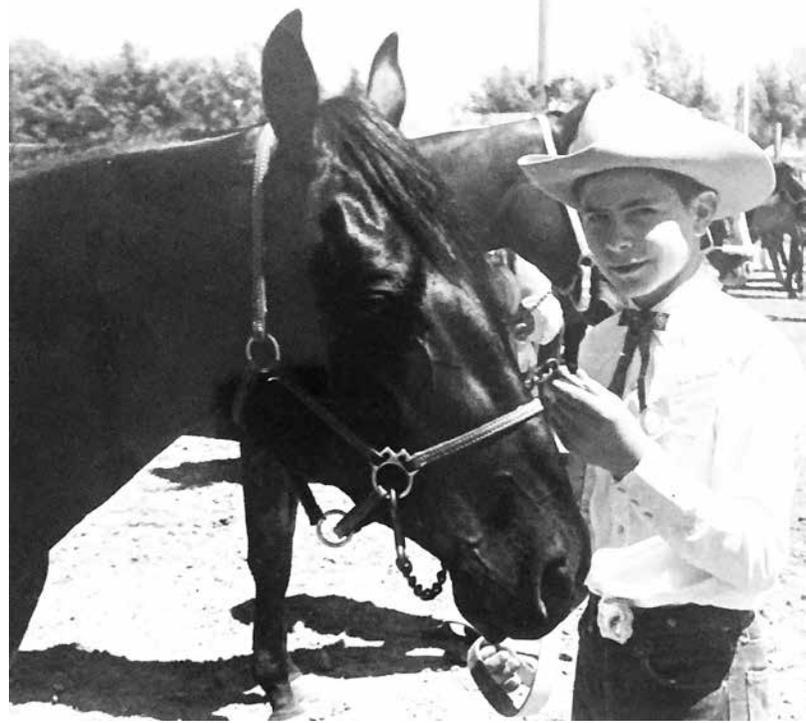
It was known that when Warren, a tall slender man, was young, he could break to ride anything with four legs. Born the youngest of twelve children to Dan and Bertha Melvin near Canning, South Dakota, he found that riding and breaking horses was good money. Warren found it natural to compete in rough stock rodeo events. While rodeoing he set his sights for a young woman much like himself, Donna Maher. In 1951, they began their lives together.

Donna, the second daughter of Bill and Reva Maher's six children, grew up in the saddle. At the age of eleven, Donna's trick riding performances would entertain audiences at rodeos her parents helped put on. Her parents contracted stock as Diamond M Rodeo Company. As much as she loved the thrill of standing atop a horse, she also enjoyed riding one in a cloverleaf barrel racing pattern at fast speeds.

Their three children Monte, Michel and Marty were all blessed with the ability to love horses and participate in rodeo and on the race track as their parents and grandparents before them.

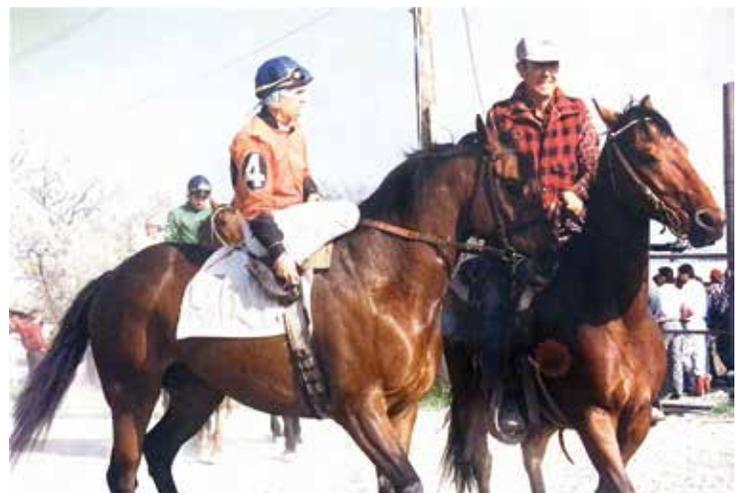
Their lifestyles did not change once they were married. This rodeo duo would continue to win and capture titles in South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska. Warren and other rodeo competitors founded the South Dakota Rodeo Association (SDRA) in 1955. Donna and her barrel racing mare "Cindy" qualified for the SDRA finals in 1956, 1957, and 1958, while Warren would claim the Bull Riding Championship in both 1956 and 1957.

The race track was also a very familiar place for the Melvin family. Warren proved his success as a trainer in 1986 and



1987, when the horses he trained won sixty races with jockey Chris Zamora riding. Easy Duplicate AAA son of Rocking Easy out of Dupes Debutant was Champion High Point Running Stallion for the SD Horse Racing Association for numerous years and in 1983 claimed the SD Derby winner in Aberdeen SD running 350 yards in 18.24.

In 1963, Warren and Donna purchased the 3,500 acre ranch south of Holabird, South Dakota, where Warren resided until his death. It was in the early 1960s that the Melvins would purchase a handful of broodmares. When their neighbor Pat Cowan, along with Tex Fulton, introduced Laughing Boy to South Dakota, the Melvins cut a deal with Pat to breed a few of their mares to this outstanding stallion. Laughing Boy was sired by Lightning Bar AAA whose sire was Three Bars (TB), the leading AQHA Race and Performance Sire. When the opportunity arose, they acquired some mares that were sired by Laughing Boy as well. These bloodlines existed throughout the Melvin breeding program. One of the Melvins' great race horses was La Boya, a 1964 black mare sired by Laughing Boy and out of Donna's old barrel horse mare Cindy. La Boya was the foundation of the Melvin Ranch racing program. She was pretty enough to show one day and win a race





the next day. Monte Melvin showed her in 1967 with great success.

The family purchased Rocking Easy, an own son of the legendary Easy Jet in the 1970s from Walter Merrick of Oklahoma. The cross with the Laughing Boy mares proved successful with their colts running and winning many race futurities. Heza Rocking Easy, Champion Two Year Old Running Horse in South Dakota, High Point Two Year Old Champion, and South Dakota Bred Futurity Champion, was one of the offspring of Rocking Easy's first colt crop. Many more champions were to follow.

The race track wasn't the only place to see Rocking Easy's offspring, they shined in the rodeo arena, finding success in barrel racing and roping events. Mr Sharp N Easy "Flint" a son of Rocking Easy X Pansy's Baby (mare of Laughing Boy) was Marty Melvin's great hazing horse which was recognized as Top Hazing Horse in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) and traveled to the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) numerous times. Babes Easy Baby (Rocking Easy X Flickas Babe) was PRCA/WPRA (Women's Professional Rodeo Association) money earner ridden by NFR qualifier Celi Whitcomb Ray, later ridden by Hallie Melvin (daughter of Monte Melvin) and Teresa Melvin (wife of Monte Melvin). Easy Jacalynn (Rocking Easy X Come On Jackie)



was a Wyoming High School Rodeo State Champion, National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) qualifier and a PRCA/WPRA money-earner, with numerous other wins to her credit.

In the late 1980s by Melvin Ranch bought a son of Dash For Cash- Power of Cash. Dash For Cash, a two time World Champion was not only a great running horse, but a successful sire as well. Power of Cash's dam, River Witch, was a winner herself with earnings of almost \$39,000. The intention of the new stallion was to cross with the Rocking Easy and Laughing Boy mares.

Again, time proved that Warren and Donna had the knack to turn out quality horses. They discovered yet another great cross producing more futurity winners and rodeo horses. Tim Nelson rode Powerful Banjo to the 2000 Heading Futurities Championship. The horse was later sold to Tyler Haugen who made the short round at Cheyenne Frontier Days. Denver Gilbert purchased the horse and used it in steer wrestling winning his way in the PRCA.

After much consideration, Warren and Donna felt it was



time to inject an outcross with their running-bred mares, thus The Little Colonel would call the Melvin Ranch home in the 1990s. The Little Colonel was sired by the all-time great cutting and reining horse sire; Colonel Freckles out of a dam direct off the King Ranch, Otoe Mia. He too produced many great arena performers like Class of Colonel (The Little Colonel X Princess Shamrock) a barrel futurity finalist, fourth average 5-State Barrel Maturity, South Dakota High School Rodeo Association (SDHSRA) qualifier and South Dakota State 4-H qualifier in barrel racing and pole bending. The Michel Melvin family still stands MFR Power of Colonel, a son of The Little Colonel out of Power of Blues by Power of Cash.

The next sire purchased for the program was Firewater Frost in 1999 from the Open Box Rafter Ranch. This stallion was sired by Fire Water Flit, a multiple leading world barrel horse sire and champion rope horse sire. Fire Water Flit's Dam, Slash J Harletta has been described as one of the greatest maternal producers of barrel horses of all time. She was an American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) World Champion and NFR qualifier; and producer of three NFR Qualifiers out of the eight colts she foaled. Firewater Frost's dam, Frost Drift, is an own daughter of Orphan Drift, the sire of many ROM performers and top arena athletes. In November 2007, Marty's wife Judy competed on Firewater Frost at the AQHA World Show and placed sixth in the world in barrel racing. The Melvins felt that Firewater Frost was their sire for the future. They hosted an annual production sale from 1985 to 2005.

The Legacy Continues through the Generations

A true love of horses run deep in the roots of the Melvin family. Raising quality horses has given the Melvin children and grandchildren added advantages in the rodeo arenas. Each of Warren and Donna's children followed in their footsteps. Marty and his family have taken on the showing aspect of the horses in the AQHA, rodeo and futurity activities. Monte's family continues with their breeding program, rodeo and barrel racing futurities with daughter Hallie Hanssen. Michel and family carry on the tradition of raising and racing horses.

In Monte's younger years he won four Badlands Circuit Championships in bull riding and all-around titles. He trained the family horses at the race track for a number of years, before turning the track duties back to Warren in order to focus more on the arena horses. Monte is married to Teresa (Daly) and they have 3 children – Ashley, Hallie and Cash. Teresa was a top WPRA barrel racer winning titles in both the Great Lakes and Badlands Circuits and claiming the 1980 Badlands Circuit Horse of the Year with Flickas Babe (Sonny Champ X Flicka Ward). In 2005 Monte, Teresa and Hallie purchased Famous Charmer sired by Dash Ta Fame. The dam, Kellys Charm was sired by the legendary stallion, The Signature. Hallie and her husband, Lee Hanssen, now stand The Kandyman (Tres Seis X Famous Silk Panties) The sire of MS French Walla Walla who won over \$230,000 in her futurity year (2021). Hallie is carry-

ing on the tradition as an outstanding horsewoman. She has been winning barrel futurities and rodeos and is listed as a top-ranked trainer winning over \$1.7 million dollars jockeying horses around three barrels. They make their home in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Michel, too, competed in all aspects of rodeo while growing up. She found her niche in the barrel racing world. She married to Gilbert Ecoffey, who grew up in the race horse family, and they continued breeding and training winners on the track. The highlight of their horse racing career was in 2006 when they were named the Leading Thoroughbred Trainer at the Ft. Pierre, South Dakota, Racetrack. In 2007, Pager, an eight-year-old gelding (Phone Trick X Hunt) was invited to run in the Claiming Crown at Henderson Kentucky where he claimed fourth place. They have raced tracks in Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, Kentucky, Oklahoma, North Dakota, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming, Oregon and Arizona. The Ecoffey's live at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, raising 3 children; Matthew Mushitz, Donnel Ecoffey and G.W. (Gilbert) Ecoffey. Michel received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and in 2006 received her Master's in Biological Science and was a professor in Agriculture and Natural Resource at Oglala Lakota College. Their children G. W. Ecoffey and Donnel Ecoffey continue the legacy on the track with G. W. receiving the Leading Trainer honor in June 2021 at the Energy Downs Track in Gillette Wyoming. Continuing yet today, Gilbert had 234 starts, 41 first place finishes and earned \$258,783 in 2021 and has total earnings in his career of \$965,215 with 1,232 starts and 191 first place finishes. Michel's husband Gilbert died in 2018.

Marty 'Chip' died in 2019 at the age of 59. Marty claimed that his highest achievement in the rodeo world was qualifying and competing at the National Finals Rodeo eight times. In 1989 he was Reserve Champion Steer Wrestler and won the average and the NFR in Las Vegas. He was also voted the Coors Favorite Cowboy. He was bestowed the Linderman Award twice, which is given to the cowboy who wins the most money in both timed and rough stock events. He always credited his parents for giving





him the foundation for his successful rodeo career. Marty's wife Judy (Painter) has taken a number of the Melvin horses to the pay window barrel racing as well. Judy too came from a great rodeo family, her mother; Marilyn (Scott) Freimark was the first Miss Rodeo America. Marty and Judy made their home in Paradise Texas raising their three children, Marilyn, Paul and Katlyn. In

2007 they all won saddles riding Melvin Ranch Horses. They too carry on the Melvin Legacy standing Firewater Frost at stud. He has sired many great athletes such as Firewater Cartel, Firewater's Fast Credit, Flits Flaming Fire, Flits Maverick and Flits Fastandfurious just to name a few.

Warren and Donna Melvin have been bestowed many honors in their lifetime. They believed highly in helping the youth in the field of horsemanship. In 1998, Donna was presented the Spirit of South Dakota award. Governor Bill Janklow appointed her to the Commerce and Regulatory Board in 2001. In 2002, the Melvin Ranch was recognized by the Casey Tibbs Foundation. Donna died Sept. 30, 2007. Warren died Sept. 30, 2010.

Photos: Provided by the Melvin family

Written by: Doris Powers Lauing. She and her husband Denny ranch and raise Quarter horses near Sturgis SD

Writers Note: My husband Denny and I are blessed to be long-time friends of the Melvin family. I worked very closely in 2007 with Donna and Warren writing and publishing an article from which a majority of the history was shared directly by them. Michele and Monte provided me with factual information from the past ten years of the Melvin Legacy carrying on. I am extremely grateful and honored to update this article recognizing Melvin Ranch by the South Dakota Quarter Horse Association as South Dakota Legacy Racing Honorees.



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It is up to us to live up to the **legacy** that was left for us, and to leave a **legacy** that is worthy of our children and of future generations.

- Christine Gregoire

