



REINER

WEST COAST REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION

HAPPY holidays

YEAR END AWARD WINNERS

Photo Courtesy of John O'Hara



Chics Dream & Mike Boyle

The WCRHA affiliate is comprised of some of the toughest competitors in the NRHA. Every year, the competition is fierce as points are accumulated throughout the year at WCRHA approved shows. Many

of our reiners have their "eye on the prize" of beautiful WCRHA Year End awards. Gorgeous Skyline Silversmith buckles are awarded to the Champion and Reserve Champion of every Year End division. Other nice awards are given to third, fourth, and fifth places. All five placings are presented with award jackets. Awards are formally presented at the Year End Banquet, held on January 19, 2019, at the Murieta Hotel and Spa.

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President's Letter

Last weekend, someone asked me why we train horses. It was an

innocent question by someone entirely removed from the world of horses and I answered the question with an off-handed and shallow response. As most of you know, the reasons we ride and show horses are so deep and sometimes so impossible to pinpoint or put into words that I think we don't even know why we do it. That same night, I was thumbing through a magazine and ran across this quote and it caused me to pause for a moment and consider its meaning.....all the while thinking about the question earlier that day. I think that oftentimes we tend to blur and even misconstrue the difference between success and happiness and how one effects the other. Beyond the individuality of these two concepts is how the combination of the two affects our view of ourselves and our

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journey to be "happy and successful" in our endeavors. This seems especially applicable to the horse world because our success and happiness with regards to horses and showing are so intertwined and riddled with ups and downs that it warrants a little thought and maybe even introspection. Our success and happiness rely heavily upon our perception of ourselves, the performance of unpredictable animals, and how we feel others are judging our performance. All that considered, bear in mind that on any given day that pendulum can swing drastically one way or another. We can be completely on our game while seconds later we can be ready to set the game board to flames. In this moment, are we happy? Probably not. Are we going to walk away from what has become our passion? No. Why? Because we LOVE it... because by and large, it makes us happy. Why do we love it? Why does it make us happy? Take a minute and try to put it into words. Try to commit it to paper.

So as one season comes to close and I look forward to the season ahead, I consider the state of my suc-

cess within the horse industry, I feel content in the fact that I am doing something I am passionate about. I am sharing my passion with others who all come together to travel the same path of ups and downs and successes and failures. Are we always successful? If we keep in mind that we are doing what makes us happy and that we are doing what we love with people that make us happy, I think the overwhelming answer is YES.

As we prepare for the 2019 show season, it is with much gratitude that I thank the Board of Directors for their tireless dedication to our club. Without your hard work and diligence, none of our success could have been possible. Thank you also to all of our volunteers and man power, our trainers who have brought record numbers of competitors to our events, and to our membership who continue to place their equine goals and dreams in the hands of the West Coast Association. Again, we feel so fortunate to be surrounded by so many people with like aspirations and we hope that you will continue to plan our events into your goal set. With that

in mind, we will continue to broaden our horizons, expand upon our goals for West Coast Reining Horse Association and work to the best of our abilities to provide the best Reining Horse events on the West Coast. We hope that you too feel as if you have been rewarded in some way by your hard work and dedication and that you continue to make the West Coast Reining Horse Association a part of your life. We look forward to seeing you all next year with a new goal set and the desire to reach them! Thanks again to everyone who made 2018 a successful season and to those who will continue to gather to make West Coast Events some of the most successful Affiliate Reinings in the nation!



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—MANE STREET TACK—
CONSIGNMENT

In 2018, horse and rider must have shown in at least four WCRHA approved shows (three for Short Stirrup) in order to qualify for Year End points. Ties in point totals are broken by monies earned. More complete details of the points can be found online at www.wcrha.com. Thank you to board member, Rachel Fingerle, for dutifully tabulating these points all year!

Reservation forms for the Banquet are included in this newsletter as are the Horse Nomination and Membership forms for 2019. The Horse Nomination form and a small fee must be submitted to the club before points will count for 2019. The fee goes towards payment of the year end awards.

Congratulations to all the winners of the Year End awards!



Gunnachicya &
Ollie Galligan



Shewiz Electric &
Kelly Keenan

Year End Awards

PL/SCORE HORSE/EXHIBITOR/OWNER

OPEN

- 1 60 Chics Dream/Mike Boyle/Betty McHugh
- 2 54.5 Spangled Desire/Martin Padilla/Tobyann Faingold
- 3 44 Rockabilly Banjo/David Hanson/Melinda Gaw
- 4 41 Aces High Whiz/David Hanson/Stephanie Munzinger
- 5 39 Spooky Gunner/David Hanson/Bill Bertolani

INTERMEDIATE OPEN

- 1 25.5 Gunnachicya/Ollie Galligan/Margaret Daley
- 2 21.5 EZ On The Slide/Kain Emmons/Tereasa Canada

LIMITED OPEN

- 1 74.5 Shewiz Electric/Kelly Keenan/Mike Silva
- 2 55.5 Gunnachicya/Ollie Galligan/Margaret Daley
- 3 53 EZ On The Slide/Kain Emmons/Tereasa Canada
- 4 46 General Relativity/Cody Rowe/Richard Boer
- 5 36 Bay Shine/Robyn Burton/Nancy Hersh

PRIME TIME OPEN

- 1 27.5 Gonendunitt/Deborah Avila/Same
- 2 23 California Shines/Lavonne Sturgeon/ Same
- 3 8.5 Cromeless In Sonoma/Mike Mallo/ Mike Mallo & Shawna Smith

ROOKIE PROFESSIONAL

- 1 35.5 Electric Kit/Cody Rowe/Larry Pearle
- 2 29 Dreamin About Wimpy/Cody Rowe/Richard Boer
- 3 26.5 Bay Shine/Robyn Burton/Nancy Hersh
- 4 22 Mercedes Shiningstar/Cody Rowe/Maggie Munro
- 5 12.5 Nu Steppin Shoes/Paige Gentry/Same

NOVICE HORSE OPEN I

- 1 47.5 Rock N Roll Baby/Mike Boyle/Pam Hurst
- 2 37.5 Spooky Gunner/David Hanson/Bill Bertolani

NOVICE HORSE OPEN II

- 1 62 Spangled Desire/Martin Padilla/Tobyann Faingold
- 2 40.5 Aces High Whiz/David Hanson/Stephanie Munzinger
- 3 39 Thischicsamistress/Thad Carr/Kelli & Derek Brummett
- 4 34.5 One Big Dream/Kaity Sotomayor/Cindy Laver
- 5 34 Dreamin About Wimpy/Cody Rowe/Richard Boer

SNAFFLE BIT/HACKAMORE

- 1 61.5 Miss N Wimpy/David Hanson/Barbara Morlan
- 2 52.5 Yolo Jersey/Martin Padilla/Sara Curtis
- 3 40.5 Shezintheblack/Kathleen Cook/Same
- 4 31.5 Roos Red Berry/Paige Gentry/Same
- 5 28.5 Squeezin Da Trigger/Amanda Anderson/Same

Year End Awards

PL/SCORE HORSE/EXHIBITOR/OWNER

NON PRO

- 1 57 Jacs Red Pine/Debi Murnan/Same
- 2 50.5 Chics Dream/Betty McHugh/Same
- 3 41.5 Hollywood Voodoo/Ken Hamilton/Same
- 4 41.5 Smart Nu Cash/Jaimie Foster/Same
- 5 37.5 Thischicsamistress/Derek Brummett/Kelli & Derek Brummett

INTERMEDIATE NON PRO

- 1 67 Jacs Red Pine/Debi Murnan/Same
- 2 59.5 Chics Dream/Betty McHugh/Same
- 3 48.5 Hollywood Voodoo/Ken Hamilton/Same
- 4 45.5 Thischicsamistress/Derek Brummett/Kelli & Derek Brummett
- 5 41.5 Wimpchester 73/Carla Odetto/Same

LIMITED NON PRO

- 1 59 Chics Dream/Betty McHugh/Same
- 2 56 Boom Box Dancer/Kimbal Griffith/Same
- 3 53 Thischicsamistress/Derek Brummett/Kelli & Derek Brummett
- 4 52.5 Shine Kitty Shine/Ann Jeppesen/Same
- 5 39.5 Magnums Chic Dun It/Leslie Baxter/Same

PRIME TIME NON PRO

- 1 63 Jacs Red Pine/Debi Murnan/Same
- 2 55.5 Boom Box Dancer/Kimbal Griffith/Same
- 3 54.5 Chics Dream/Betty McHugh/Same
- 4 50.5 Shine Kitty Shine/Ann Jeppesen/Same
- 5 43 Hollywood Voodoo/Ken Hamilton/Same

MASTERS NON PRO

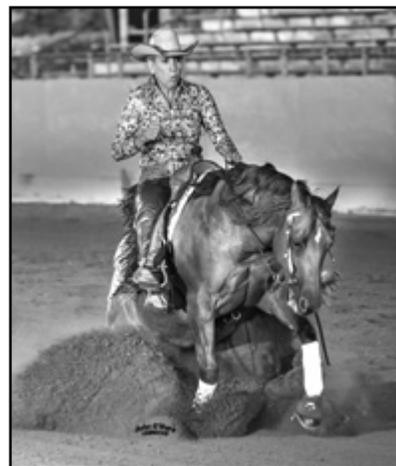
- 1 40 Lokotas Whizen April/Jennifer Fisher/Same
- 2 36 Great Banjo/George Deffterios/Same
- 3 33 Gonendunitt/Deborah Avila/Same
- 4 30 Cromeless In Sonoma/Mike Mallo/Mike Mallo & Shawna Smith
- 5 20 Custom Coffee/Marion Walker/Same

NOVICE HORSE NON PRO I

- 1 60.5 Steppin Up Haidas/Mari Hess/Same
- 2 43 Gonendunitt/Deborah Avila/Same
- 3 41 California Girl/Stacy Hamilton/Same
- 4 34 The Poker Face/Tiffany Bauer/Brenda Andrews
- 5 33 Spooky Gunner/Bill Bertolani/Same

NOVICE HORSE NON PRO II

- 1 68 Steppin Up Haidas/Mari Hess/Same
- 2 61 Ms Benz/Britta Jacobson/Same
- 3 59.5 Revolutionic/Megan Lynch/Same
- 4 55.5 Jacs Red Pine/Debi Murnan/Same
- 5 52 Hollywood Voodoo/Ken Hamilton/Same



Jacs Red Pine & Debi Murnan



Chics Dream & Elizabeth McHugh



Lokotas Whizen & Jennifer Fisher



Steppin Up Haidas & Mari Hess



Smart Nu Cash & Jamie Foster



Mercedes Shining Star & Margaret Munro



Wimpchester 73 & Carla Odetto



Peptos Silver Holly & Erica Winans

Year End Awards

PL/SCORE HORSE/EXHIBITOR/OWNER

ROOKIE I

- 1 52 Smart Nu Cash/Jamie Foster/Same
- 2 44.5 Lokotas Whizen April/Jennifer Fisher/Same
- 3 43 Hollywood Big Chex/Jennifer Trattner/Same
- 4 39.5 Whiz N Kachina/Brenda Andrews/Same
- 5 35.5 West Coast Hick/Randy Engler/Same

ROOKIE II

- 1 72.5 Mercedes Shining Star/Maggie Munro/Same
- 2 67.5 Smart Nu Cash/Jamie Foster/Same
- 3 54 Wimpchester 73/Carla Odetto/Same
- 4 51.5 Coronas In Hollywood/Laetitia Loubser/Same
- 5 42 General Relativity/Richard Boer/Same

PRIME TIME ROOKIE

- 1 61.5 Wimpchester 73/Carla Odetto/Same
- 2 53.5 Coronas In Hollywood/Laetitia Loubser/Same
- 3 46.5 Lokotas Whizen April/Jennifer Fisher/Same
- 4 44 General Relativity/Richard Boer/Same
- 5 44 Mr Twister Whiz/Lisa Dentoni/Same

GREEN REINER

- 1 55.5 Peptos Silver Holly/Erica Winans/Same
- 2 53.5 Star Trek Tag/Kelly Staley/Same
- 3 51 Mister Big Gun/Danica Caravetta/Same
- 4 39 Marlena Got Nicd/Natalie Cook/Same
- 5 35.5 Lucky Whizmo/Jill Fasani/Same

YOUTH 13 & UNDER

- 1 65 Dunnit With A Shine/Margaret Chancellor/Same
- 2 35 Katie Tag/Mya Clader/Tammi Clader
- 3 30 Im Magnificent/Madison Kautz-Johnson/Joan Kautz
- 4 23.5 Bills Sparklindiamond/Trevor Skadden/Melanie Skadden
- 5 21 Stars Revolution/Abby Lubin/Same

YOUTH 14-18

- 1 62 Shining Doc Colonel/Kirsten Rodocker/Same
- 2 48.5 Revolutionic/Megan Lynch/Same
- 3 32 A Wayward Revolution/Caden Hanson/Laetitia Loubser
- 4 19.5 Jacs Star/Julie Fry/Bruce Fry
- 5 16 Dunit Like An Oakie/Kendal Scheiner/Same

YOUTH ROOKIE

- 1 30.5 Stars Revolution/Abby Lubin/Same
- 2 18 Crome Topsail/Jaiden Cohlmiya/Steven Allen
- 3 15 Chicadero/Logan Lindberg/Tessa Lindber g
- 4 14.5 Cielo Travs N Armani/Annabelle Burke/David Scroggins
- 5 13.5 Bills Sparklindiamond/Trevor Skadden/Melanie Skadden

Year End Awards

PL/SCORE HORSE/EXHIBITOR/OWNER

SHORT STIRRUP 10 & UNDER

- 1 17.5 Crome Topsail/Steven Allen Jr./Steven Allen
- 2 8 Hick A Shine/Naudia Gilliam/Jennifer Gilliam
- 3 5 EAF Storm Warning/Steven Allen Jr./Steven Allen
- 4 2 Shine Like Cash/Casey Skadden/Debbie Tweedy

GREEN AS GRASS.

- 1 55.5 Timber Winner/Mackenzie McDowell/Same
- 2 45.5 Suga Suga/Paolo Troia/Same
- 3 43 Aces High Whiz/Stephanie Munzinger/Same
- 4 33 Spook N Cody/Julie Beach/Same
- 5 27.5 Fresno Queen Virginia/Zach Orfali/Same

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
John O'Hara
Photography

THANK YOU
JOHN!



Gonendunitt & Deborah Avila



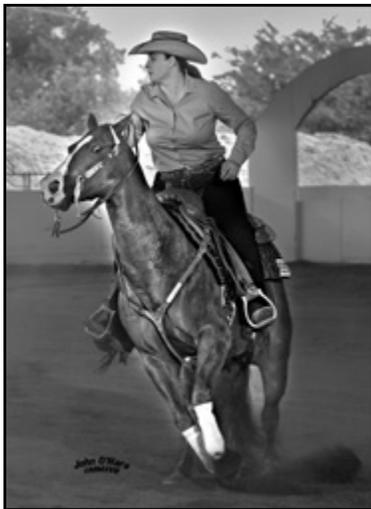
Electric Kit & Cody Rowe



Rock N Roll Baby & Mike Boyle



Spangled Desire & Martin Padilla



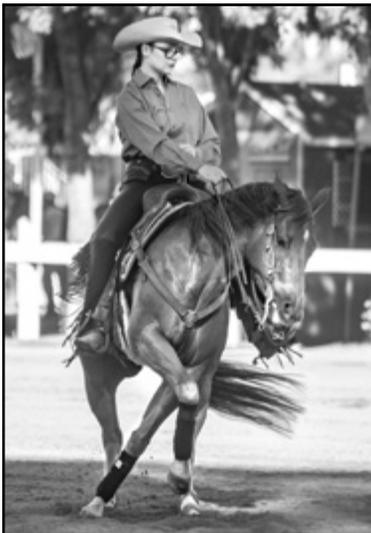
Dunnit With A Shine & Margaret Chancellor



Timber Winner & Mackenzie McDowell



Crome Topsail & Steven Allen Jr.



Shining Doc Colonel & Kirsten Rodocker



Stars Revolution & Abby Lubin



Miss N Whimpy & David Hanson



Happy New Year to our Wonderful Sponsors

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Gold

PADILLA PERFORMANCE HORSES NON PROS - OPEN DERBY LEVEL 4 CIRCUIT SADDLE
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Silver

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Non Pro Shoot Out High Point Youth Buckle

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NRHA NORTHWEST AFFILIATE REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Chilly, but nice weather on most days, welcomed reiners from all over the northwestern states to the NRHA Northwest Affiliate Regional Championship show (also known as the Low Roller Reining Classic) held at the Ford Idaho Horse Park in Nampa, Idaho, this past October 7-13. Many WCRHA exhibitors spent the show year earning NRHA points to qualify for the ARC (Affiliate Regional Championship) classes. Only exhibitors placing in the top 15 of their affiliate classes qualify to compete in the ARC classes, with the hopes of then placing in the Top Ten so that they can show in those classes at the NRHA Futurity in Oklahoma City. Of course, the usual ancillary classes are also offered at this show as well as Futurity and Derby classes.

The classes were huge with over 100 entries in many of the classes. WCRHA reiners were not to be outdone though. Of particular note was Chics Dream owned by Betty McHugh. Early in the show, Betty and her Chics Dream earned the top awards in the Limited Non Pro and the ARC Limited Non Pro with a score of 145. Later in the week, with a score of 147, Betty then placed in the top three in all eleven Non Pro and Non Pro Maturity classes. Mike Boyle continued the winning streak by winning the Open, the ARC Open, and the Open Maturity L4 classes with a score of 147.5. An exciting feature of this show was that the winners of all the classes participated in a draw to win a horse trailer. Betty McHugh was the lucky winner! Congratulations to Betty on all her winnings!

One of the highlights of the show is the fierce competition to qualify to compete at the NRHA Futurity in the Rookie of the Year class. Only the Top Ten in the Rookie I class at all the Affiliate Regional Championship shows held throughout the world can compete in that class. A hearty WCRHA congratulation goes to Jamie Foster on her own Smart Nu Kash for placing fourth with a score of 141.5. She has earned a space in the class to show for the NRHA Rookie of the Year in Oklahoma City!

Debi Murnan and her trusty mare, Jacs Red Pine, also had a successful



Entrance to Idaho Horse Park



Relaxing and enjoying the show are Ollie Galligan and David Hanson



Picking up the headstall for High Point Horse of the show, Chics Dream, was Jeanne Levine, owner Betty McHugh, and Ann Jeppeson



Our club hosted a wine and appetizer get-together on one of the afternoons.



showing. A 147.5 earned her wins in the Novice Horse Non Pro L2 and the ARC Novice Horse Non Pro L2. With a 148 score, Debi also won first or second in all eleven Non Pro classes and Non Pro Maturity classes. Debi had great success with her three year old, Hezaredhotmercedes, in the Non Pro Futurity, placing second in all levels with a score of 216.5. Way to go, Debi!



Mike Boyle, Betty McHugh, and Barbi Boyle with the trailer that Betty won in the "class winners" drawing



Always a welcoming smile from Stacy Hamilton at the Welcome Party

Lastly, one must mention EZ On The Slide owned by Tereasa Canada and shown by Kain Emmons. Talk about consistency! Kain has won the ARC Limited Open class on Tereasa's horse three out of the last four years! Great job, Kain!



Becky Hanson and Gillian Galligan having some fun at the Silent Auction

Every year, WCRHA provides support to the Great Western Reining Horse Association, as they have put on this NW regional championship show for the past few years. As in past years, West Coast hosted a Welcome Party, and our membership stepped up to help out. Lisa and Dave Dentoni procured Lockford sausage, cheese, and supplies as well as being instrumental in setting up. Michelle and Nev Devine sent beer kegs and water for the event. Cases of red and white wine were provided by Ironstone and Bella Grace wineries. Anne Driscoll donated cases of beer and also helped with the set up. Eileen Maxinoski provided sugared California walnuts to munch on. Becky Hanson shopped for supplies with monetary donations made by the West Coast trainers. Anne Driscoll, Ann Jeppeson, Pam and Tom Hurst, Stacy Hamilton, and Vicki Dias all helped with serving. Thank you to all who helped put the Welcome Party together. A good time was had by all!

Check out the show results of WCRHA members who competed at the show, listed through 15th place, which follows.

~Eileen Maxinoski



Debi Murnan is sporting a huge smile while hauling out all of her Non Pro winnings

2019
Membership
Forms are Due
December 31st!

Membership Forms Enclosed
and at wcrha.com



WIN with Selective Horse Buying

by BOB AVILA

I've lost track of the number of horses I've purchased over the years, but I haven't lost sight of one fact that was hammered into me long ago by horsemen I respect: The quality of your horse determines the heights you'll reach. Compromise when you make your purchase and nine times out of ten, you've just compromised your goals.

As you know, if you've ever shopped for a horse, there are many, many variables you have to consider, not the least of which is price. Yet no matter how cheap or expensive a horse might be, I've found that I make my best choices by sticking with one hard-and-fast rule: If I have to talk myself into liking a horse—if he doesn't make me say, "Wow, I want to own this one!" from the first time I lay eyes on him—I walk away and keep looking.

A huge part of my horse business is based on showing and selling, and I've learned that if a horse doesn't jump up and grab me on first impression, he probably won't do it with judges or buyers either. This makes the showing or selling task that much harder, and I'd rather not start

out with the handicap.

A horse doesn't have to be in tip-top condition for me to buy him, because that's something I can change once I own him. However, a horse does have to be inherently pretty before I'll consider him. If he doesn't have eye appeal, I'm not interested. When you ride a pretty horse into the show pen before a panel of judges, or lead him out of his stall for a prospective buyer (who's also in judging mode at that moment), you make winning or selling that much easier for yourself.

Beyond that, here's how I'd advise you if you came to me for help in buying western performance-type horses for various purposes. I'll aim my advice at the top levels of the marketplace, because that's where standards for quality are established.

BROODMARES

Buyer's tip: Invest in quality instead of numbers.

It's been said that great men have great mothers. I think the same can be said of great horses. Today, quality in a performance



Bob Avila, Temecula, California, is an AQHA World Champion, three-time NRCHA Snaffle Bit Futurity winner, NRHA Futurity Champion, and two-time World's Greatest Horseman. He's been named the AQHA Professional Horseman of the Year.

broodmare begins with popular, lasting breeding—not just something that's popular today, but that's withstood the changes of style, and the rise and fall of various events' popularity.

The Doc Bar lines are a good example. They've gone from success in halter and western pleasure to winning at cutting, reining, working cow horse, roping, barrel racing, and just about any other performance event you can name. There's a reason why the Doc Bars are still in demand, even though Doc Bar himself has been gone for many years.

But don't just go out and buy mares that have a certain name on their papers. Just because a mare has Doc Bar or any other famous stallion on the far right side of her registration certificate doesn't necessarily mean she'll be a good broodmare. The rest of

Win...from page 10

her pedigree could consist of horses nobody's ever heard of or cares about, or who have done nothing else their entire lives except stand out in the pasture.

When you buy a mare without contemporary market credentials, no matter how cheaply you can pick her up, you automatically reduce both the market for her foals and the price you can get for them. Results from any auction of performance-bred horses will prove this to be true.

It's different if you're looking at a mare who's by, say, Smart Little Lena, who was sired by Doc O'Lena, who was by Doc Bar. In this case, having Doc Bar on the mare's papers is significant, because both Smart Little Lena and Doc O'Lena are proven sires

and household names within the performance-horse industry. When someone comes along to look at that mare's offspring, a printout of her sire-line accomplishments will be impressive.

The bottom side of a broodmare's pedigree is every bit as important as the topside. The better her credentials there, the more interested buyers will be in her babies. Was the mare's dam by a proven, well-known stallion? Did the mare's dam ever win anything? Has she produced winners of anything? These are questions that today's buyers of performance prospects have learned to ask, which means you need to be asking them too.

The next aspect of quality in a broodmare is determined by

her own show and/or production record. Look for a mare who either won a lot in her own career, or who's produced at least one winner. If you can't get that, look for a full sister of a mare who's won or produced something. It's not just the claim to fame you're after, but evidence of tested and proven performance genetics.

I can't put enough stress on how important this factor will be to your breeding program. Anymore, the first question buyers ask when they call about a performance prospect is, "What's the mother done?" If you have to make excuses for her lack of record, chances are good that the buyer will move on to the next prospect on his list. That's really likely if you've priced your mare's

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John O'Hara Photography

Journalism • Equestrian Events • Weddings • Lessons



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Win...from page 11

offspring the same as ones out of mares with records.

Where do I look for broodmares? Everywhere. I don't necessarily go to farms that are known for great broodmares, because owners who have great broodmares know what they've got and don't sell them. (The exception might be the very old mare whose future producing years are numbered, or in the case of personal crisis, like a death or divorce.)

Because my customers and I breed horses with the intention of producing show horses, I look for retiring show mares, with the hope that they can become great broodmares. I know I'll be gambling on what they'll produce, but I work to reduce my gamble by insisting on certain criteria.

Besides a solid show record, I want a broodmare prospect to have had longevity in the show pen, without a history of complicated soundness problems. I want her to have been a good young performer, too, because that in-

creases the odds that she won't be one of those mares who produce late bloomers.

I want the mare to have the same pedigree qualities I outlined above—good on both sides—and then I check to see if she has any brothers or sisters who have performed, and if her dam has produced anything note-worthy except this one mare. Some families are more consistent than others in producing performers, and I want as much proof of that as I can get in a broodmare prospect. I won't take a chance on a mare who's basically a freak of nature.

If you're shopping for a broodmare on a limited budget, you can buy an old mare with a production record cheaper than you can a young mare with a show record. I'd definitely buy the old mare instead of a young one with neither kind of record because her foals will be easier to market.

You do have to keep in mind that you're gambling with fertility, resale value, and longevity. An old

mare can be difficult to settle and keep in foal; decline in fertility is one reason why good older mares come up for sale in the first place.

Also, if an old mare fails to settle once you won her, her resale value will be low. If you keep her, the day will come when she has to be put down, and you'll need to be prepared to face that.

YEARLING PROSPECTS

Buyer's tip: You can do a lot to educate your eye for yearlings by going to one of the major breeding farms or a select yearling sale—not with intent to buy, but to compare lots of horses in one place. Pay attention to what grabs you and what doesn't. Then carry those mental pictures with you when you finally do shop to buy.

You take a bigger gamble with a yearling as a performance prospect than you do with a started 2-year-old, because you really can't tell how a horse will ride until he's actually being ridden. Sometimes

continued on page 13

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Win...from page 12

you'll pay less money for a yearling than a started 2-year-old, and you just have to weigh that against your risk.

When I do shop the yearling crop, I'm still hunting for the horse with that "something special" to go along with good breeding on both sides. I find it in maybe one out of twenty yearlings I see, so I know that most of my trips to look at specific horses are going to end up as dry runs. I don't let that keep me from continuing to look, though, because you never know when you'll walk out to someone's yearling pasture and hit the jack pot.

The more pedigree-and-records homework you do on a yearling before you make an appointment to see him, the better idea you'll have on whether he's priced fairly for what he is. Breeders whose yearlings are "good on both sides" want good money for them, which is deserved.

But you'll also find yearlings for sale who are by top stallions and out of mares who are only so-so. If they're priced the same as the yearlings with two good sides on their pedigrees, you're not getting a good buy.

Is it a good buy if the price is reduced? Maybe, maybe not. You have to remember that it'll cost just as much in money and time to train the cheaper prospect as it will the more expensive one. And, when all is said and done, the less-well-bred prospect won't bring as much at resale time as the better-bred one.

When it comes to buying performance prospects, I don't have a preference between colts

and fillies. Outstanding is outstanding, regardless of gender. When I find a prospect that interests me, I develop a program for the individual, and go from there.

TRAINED SHOW HORSES

Buyer's tip: Don't buy any candidate until you've actually seen him shown.

That's the most important advice I can give to anyone who's shopping for a trained show horse. The only way you'll know how honest a horse is in the show pen is to observe him in that setting. Don't take the seller's word on the subject. See for yourself if the horse is pleasant in the arena and does what the rider asks without cheating or getting mad.

That's a big part of having a showable show horse, right there. Some show horses are for sale because they're not showable any more. They're ring-sour, ring-smart, ring-cheater, to whatever else you care to call them. You want those to stay someone else's problem.

You can be seriously misled watching a horse being ridden at his regular home, and people are misled by this all the time. Not realizing that horses eventually figure out when they're in the show arena and when they're not, buyers will hear about an out-of-state horse who's earned a lot of show points and take an exciting trip to try him out at the owner's or trainer's place. After the horse performs beautifully in his home environment, the buyers will happily fork over the purchase price and not know that their new horse cheats in

continued on page 14

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the show pen until they find out the hard way.

I'm actually wary of the for-sale show horse who's accumulated a pile of points, because to me, it's a red flag that he may be used up. The exceptions—the true-blue show horses who will just keep going and going for years without getting sour—seldom come up for sale unless the owner's going to college or making some other big life change. You can't find one of those deals every day.

Instead, I look for horses who, for one reason or another, haven't been shown more than a few times. Maybe the owner didn't have the time or money to show him a lot, or took time off to start a family. Maybe he saved him to show a couple of times a year at special events. Whatever the reason, that "low mileage" is something I'm after. The fewer times a horse has been in the show pen, the fewer chances he's had to learn how to cheat.

RESALE PROSPECTS

Buyer's tip: A pretty horse helps resell himself. Don't settle for less when you buy.

A good-sized segment of the horse industry is made up of people, including myself, who buy horses with the intent of reselling them at a higher price after adding more training or condition. Since there's no shortage of horses available for sale, for any purpose and in every price range, how does a sharp resale buyer sort through them?

Here's one of those learned-the-hard-way lessons:

You should never buy anything

for resale that you're not willing to live with for the rest of your life.

I know how tempting it can be to buy a horse on the basis of a cheap price. In the past, I've gone ahead and talked myself into buying certain horses just because I thought I could make a buck on them.

That method of choosing resale prospects has almost always ended up biting me in the butt. When a horse's best feature is that he's cheap, low price usually remains his most attractive feature. That doesn't bode well for you in the profit-making department.

I've been a lot more successful with my resale projects ever since learning to ask the "could I see myself keeping him forever?" question. It's been my experience that when you can say yes—truthfully, without apologies or justifications—you've found a resale prospect with inherent value to a buyer. Chances are you won't be the last buyer who'll recognize that value and be willing to pay for it.

ADVICE

Beware of a Bad-Minded Horse

No matter what purpose you have in mind for a horse, I recommend that you turn thumbs down on any purchase prospect who shows himself to be inherently bad-minded. If you already own such a horse, the best thing you can do is get rid of him. You can't change what's inborn, and you can't do anything well without a good-minded horse. The following traits are signs of a bad-minded horse watch out for them.

1. The horse communicates with threatening body language that says he'd rather be left alone than be handled. He pushes against you, lays his ears back, swings his rear end toward you, or offers to kick or bite when you come near him. He's always "growly."
2. He has a bad temper and shows it. When you ask him to do something he doesn't want to do, he either sulls up or blows up instead of complying.
3. He pins his ears constantly.
4. He's persistently switchy with his tail. This often goes along with the pinny-eared trait, and in my experience, you can't train either one out.
5. The horse has frequent "brain short-outs" that cause him to explode for no apparent reason, even on familiar turf. You never feel that you can trust him.
6. He insists on walking all over you, with total disrespect for your attempts to get him out of your space. (Note: A horse with this trait may not be inherently bad-minded. Often, he simply was raised as a spoiled pet who always was allowed to have his own way. Sometimes you can get a horse over this with competent, consistent handling, and sometimes you can't. If he doesn't show improvement within 30 days of your effort, chances are he never will.)



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Learn more at bobavila.net.



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To meet our commitments to the sport, participants and fans, we rely not only on our direct membership base but also on the generosity of our Sponsors. Our Sponsorship program provides awards as well as youth scholarships.

DONATIONS NEEDED

WCRHA is hereby asking for donations for our Annual Awards Banquet Auction which will be held on January 19th, 2019. Value of donations will be used toward sponsorship fees.

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- Advertisement in our newsletters
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Please call Britta Jacobson, WCRHA Silent Auction Coordinator, at 415-279-4307 or email her at britta@bennettvalleyranch.com to confirm your donation or mail to:

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Delbert Tullos

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 June Show - High Point Youth Shootout
 July Show – Youth Class on Saturday - Details TBD
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We would like to start a new tradition in honor of Delbert.
 When one of Delbert's sponsored buckles are won,
 we would like all his friends to join in on the win photo.
 Del always liked big award pictures and who doesn't love lots of people in a win picture!



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This 'n THAT

NRHA JUDGES



Congratulations are in order to the new NRHA judges with WCRHA memberships! Way to go Martin Padilla, Kain Emmons, Ollie Galligan, and Gabe Davide. They join Mike McEntire (Head of the NRHA Judges' Committee), Eric LaPorte, Christian Rammerstorfer, and Wilma Holcomb in the pool of Northern California locals who are available to judge NRHA reining events world-wide.

RFD-TV SHOWCASE

Becky Hanson was recently featured in a segment on RFD-TV, showcasing her photographic wares and how photography has helped to shape her life. Great job, Becky!





Don't miss it!

2018 Awards Banquet January 19th, 2019

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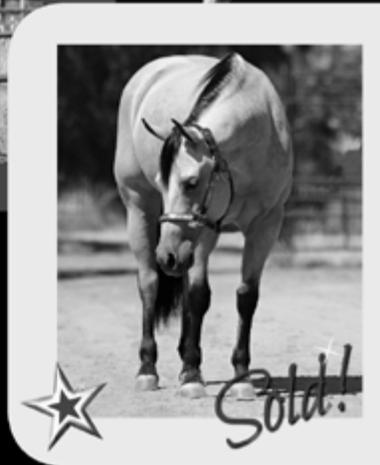
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Thanks to everyone who made 2018 a successful season and best wishes for a wonderful year ahead.

Happy Reining!



From the "heart" of the Artichoke Capital of the World (Castroville, CA) comes an appetizer recipe that is guaranteed to be a hit at your holiday parties. Enjoy!

ARTICHOKE DIP

INGREDIENTS

1 can artichokes in water, drained
1 cup parmesan cheese
1 cup mayonnaise
1 small can green chilies (optional)

DIRECTIONS

Chop artichokes and mix with other ingredients. Place in casserole and bake at 325-degrees for 20 minutes. Serve warm with slices of baguette.





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- Samuel Riddle



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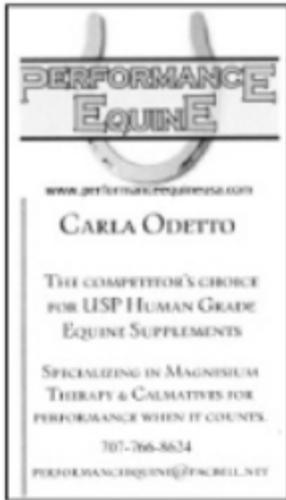


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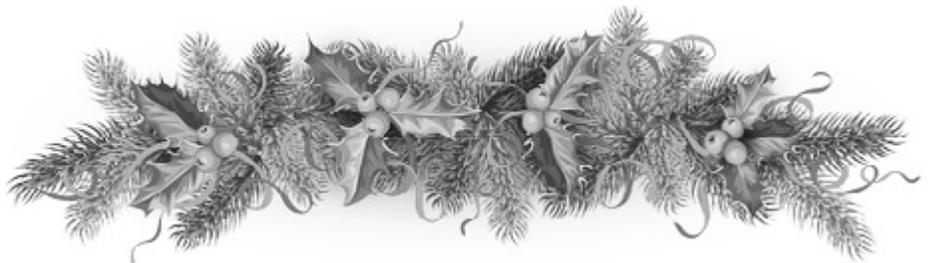
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2019 EVENTS

(tentative schedule)

Year End Awards Banquet January 19 Murieta Inn & Spa February 1-3, 2019 Schooling at MEC	May 2-5, 2019 WCRHA Affiliate #2 "Rein for the Roses" Brookside (schooling May 1st)	July 4-7, 2019 WCRHA Affiliate #4 "Star Spangled Slide" Brookside (schooling July 3rd)
March 1-3, 2019 WCRHA Affiliate #1 Rolling Hills Casino Corning (schooling Feb 28th)	June 7-9, 2019 WCRHA Affiliate #3 MEC (schooling June 6th)	August 22-25, 2019 WCRHA Year End Show at MEC (schooling Aug 21st)