

NATIONAL VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE ASSOCIATION

# NVRHA *Rundown*

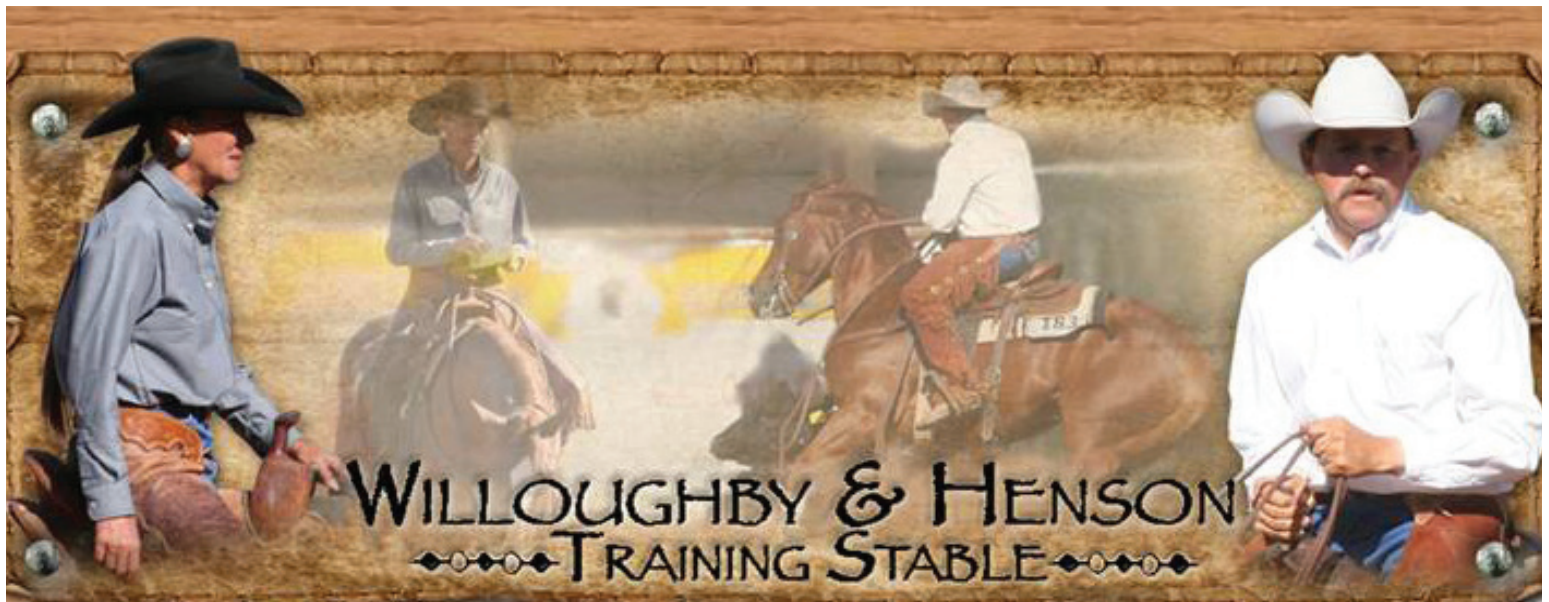
FALL 2021

VOLUME 13



**2020 LEGEND  
AWARD WINNER**

**AR ESPECIAL &  
CARLOS OSORIO**



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## ★ WHAT LEGENDS ARE MADE OF ★

2009 DOUBLE TUCKERED OUT

2010 DOCS SECOND BEST

2011 LITTLE BELL PEPPER

2011 WHISKEYS CHICK STICK

2012 LIL BIT O BADGE

2012 RISKEY IRISH WHISKEY

2013 STARLIGHT DILLON

2013 LANGTREES CD

2015 UNBRANDED

2017 SLJ RUBY SLIPPERS

2019 LANGTREES CD  
NVRHA'S FIRST DIAMOND  
MEDAL WINNER

All horses trained and/or sold  
by W-H Training Stables

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# A Letter From Our President



The Covid - 19 pandemic in 2020 was scary for all of us. Initially, we thought the impact on NVRHA would be dramatic, but that did not turn out to be the case. With adoption of common sense ride adjustments, such as waiving the log drag and gate opening

in trail, and strong event management insuring social distancing and other CDC recommendations, NVRHA managed to have a very successful year. Despite rescheduling some events and the cancellation of Wyoming's events, our attendance was up as compared to other horse associations. I would like to thank our Board and Event Managers who helped us weather this storm! As the pandemic is now subsiding, we are returning to a more normal event execution in 2021.

Building on the success of moving the Finals to Lincoln, NE. in 2019 and 2020. The 2021 Finals will again be held in Lincoln. A

side benefit of holding the Finals in Lincoln has been two New Start events scheduled nearby in 2021, one in Lincoln and the other in Saint Joe, Missouri. Hopefully these new starts will spark more participation in the region around our National Finals - expanding our South Central Affiliate and further enhancing our Finals.

The current plans for 2021 has all the makings for a very successful year. Between Colorado, Northern Lights, South Central and Wyoming, over 20 events are planned. The first event of the year has over 50 registrations indicating strong participation. New starts are being considered in South Dakota and Utah. Several of our members will be participating at the 2021 NRSHA National Championship. Could very well be our best year yet!

Our Northern Lights Affiliate has had a particularly successful program over the past five years. They been awarded our last five Legend Champions. Congratulations to our fourteenth and most recent Legend, AR Especial, ridden by Carlos Osorio of Brooklyn, Wisconsin. Carlos and wife, Kelly, have been strong supporters of NVRHA over the past seven years holding two events a year at their Horse First Ranch in Brooklyn. Congratulations and thanks, Carlos and Kelly.

Another significant achievement realized in 2020 is our rule change resolving a chronic problem of initial Division Assignment of new horse/rider teams. No longer will new horse/rider teams lose Placement Points if they are required to move to a higher Division after riding their first two events. Thanks to our Board for this welcome rule change. Another example of NVRHA moving forward in excellence achievement.

Each year our Rundown Editor sends a questionnaire to award winners requesting feedback on the journey they traveled in winning their award. In reading these responses, it is clear that the goals of NVRHA are being met and even exceeded. The responses indicate great value is placed on our association being a family that strongly supports each other in their journey to excellence. We must never rest in this quest of providing "fun and education" to all our members. It's what distinguishes NVRHA from all the other horse venues. Let's all redouble our effort to become even more successful in achieving these all important goals!

**Jay Henson**  
NVRHA President

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National Versatility  
Ranch Horse  
Association 2021

# AR Especial RIDDEN BY CARLOS OSORIO AWARDED NVRHA'S LEGEND AWARD

BY STEPHANY SIITARI



**\*VER-SA-TILE** (adjective) *Embracing a variety of skills, turning with ease from one thing to another, capable of turning to different tasks*

Like the cowboy, so is this horse! Versatile: Multi-skilled, multi-talented, ability to adapt...NVRHA celebrates AR Especial owned/ridden by Carlos Osorio as its 15th Legend horse! Together they create the magic that happens in a relationship built on trust where the rider influences the horse imperceptibly, intuitively. In turn, the horse responds willingly, swiftly and lightly and accomplishes all the ranch tasks of the legendary Western stock horse.

Since its inception in 2008, the NVRHA Legend Award is awarded as a top-level achievement award to amazing horses that exhibit talent, ability, form to function strength, brains and cow sense, health and fitness, perseverance and heart. This award is about the kind of horse that can keep going, hang in there year after year at a high level, a horse that can do it all.

4 | @NVRHA

AR Especial is the epitome of the versatility horse having earned a total of 289 of the required 200 championship points with well over the minimum 40 championship points in four of the five versatility classes which AR Especial earned in Ranch Riding, Working Ranch Horse, Ranch Cutting, and Ranch Conformation.

Carlos grew up riding horses on his grandfather's cattle ranch in Venezuela. His grandfather managed over 50 brood mares and stallions that were part gaited, part cow bred stock horses used on the ranch. It was there that Carlos discovered he too had "the horse gene." He loved the horses. He learned about cattle and ranching and riding; not just about staying on and chasing cattle over rough terrain, but understanding horses and cattle respecting them, caring for them.

Carlos is an amazing and respected leader as well as "a good hand." From bookkeeping to building structures and arenas and to fixing whatever is broken, this smart and gentle cowboy does it all. (Or adeptly demonstrates exceptional skills in delegation...)

Carlos dedicates himself to life long learning that carries over into everything he does. He continues to become more proficient and more prepared in the face of every challenge and a changing environment, locally and globally. He earned a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, became a restaurant owner, manages Wesli - English as a second language school in Madison, built a horse boarding and training facility and recently built a cheese business (where he has been known to work late night shifts with the line workers.) His technological skills are enviable, and his passion continues to be the mastery of skills necessary to be a great horseman. Versatile.

Modern cowboys who value natural horsemanship are self-effacing students of all things horse, as is Carlos. They desire to understand the mind of the horse and share knowledge with like-minded equestrians. Carlos credits his amazing good fortune in finding mentors who follow in the boot prints of the late Tom Dorrance for getting him focused on his horsemanship journey.



*Carlos and wife Kelly at National Finals*

In 2009, Carlos met Pat Parelli at the Mid-West Horse Fair in Madison, Wisconsin. They started riding and competing in cutting together regularly. Pat is a master colt starter and foundation trainer and taught Carlos how to use psychology in his horsemanship rather than force and intimidation. In 2010, Carlos met Doug Jordan who helped him learn to take that idea to a new level. Both Pat and Doug learned from Tom and Bill Dorrance and Ray Hunt and value creating true unity with the horse.

In 2009, Carlos founded "The Horse First Farm Equestrian Center," in Brooklyn Wisconsin. The goal was to provide a place where people could "play with their horses." Carlos met Kelly Messera while she was working and taking lessons at the Parelli College in Ocala, FL. In 2011 Kelly, with her background in equine science and business from St. Andrews University, Laurinburg, NC arrived at the Horse First Farm and taught a series of workshops as a visiting instructor. Carlos convinced Kelly she needed to stay a little longer as apparently her educational background had not included salsa dancing -another skill in which he was well qualified and desirous of sharing.

The dance continued. Kelly and Carlos built The Horse First Farm business into a top tier natural horsemanship training and boarding facility. Kelly and Carlos continue their education with Doug Jordan who offers cutting horse workshops in Wisconsin and training in Texas. And they became close friends of Pat Parelli and continue to ride together in Pagosa Springs, CO. Kelly effectively manages THFF, coordinating training, events, equine management, lessons, cattle care and a natural horse boarding and care program.

Late 2010 and early in 2011, NVRHA President Dave Currin met with Pat in Colorado about how their philosophies could connect to advance horsemanship and ranch versatility skills. Pat liked the emphasis on fun and learning. Two clinic and schooling competitions were held in Florida in March and April 2011 with clinicians Dave Currin, Pat Parelli and Martin Black. Carlos was at Pat's "Wows with Cows" clinic pursuing his interest in ranch versatility -particularly cow work, roping, and cutting. Later, Ryan Rose, a Parelli instructor, suggested that Carlos invite Dave Currin to Wisconsin as a clinician and to help organize NVRHA there.

Carlos and Kelly began hosting and managing NLVRHA clinic and schooling competitions at THFF beginning in 2011 and have been active participants and ardent supporters of yearly or twice events there ever since. Dave Currin, Jeff Barnes, Jay & Gena Henson and many of the NLVRHA clinicians continue to make the trip to Madison to this lovely private facility to help riders and their horses.

In 2016 Kelly and Carlos were married on a beautiful beach on the island of Roatan in Honduras with Doug Jordan officiating the ceremony in a Hawaiian shirt, and best man Pat Parelli in a cowboy hat and spurs. When they returned to Wisconsin, their friends from NVRHA and Northern Lights Affiliate questioned the legitimacy of a wedding without horses for this couple. A shotgun wedding was quickly held. "Sheriff" Matt

Heinz escorted the couple to the alter where Jeff Barnes and Dave Currin officiated, the bride wore coconuts, and Especial served proudly as Best Horse.

Not only did Carlos and Kelly invite NLVRHA members to weekend events, but they made things work. Imagine driving nine or ten hours on a Saturday night to volunteer, ride turn-back on a Saturday night, manage cattle, scribe all day on Sunday or compete and drive the distance back home in time to work their demanding full-time jobs. There were weekends when they pulled their trailer and sleepy ponies into Brooklyn, WI just as the sun rose Especial is a compact athlete with a huge heart. He was bred at the Atwood Ranch in California. He was the last son of the famous cutting horse Especial, who was the last son of Doc Bar. Tom Atwood had given Especial to Pat Parelli because he knew the horse wouldn't tolerate traditional training. Tom wanted Pat to find a home for Especial within the Natural Horsemanship community. Carlos purchased AR Especial as a five-year-old in the fall of 2010 from Pat in Florida.

Carlos says it best; "Especial has taught me about the value of partnership. He's a horse with an amazing amount of work ethic and try, but you have put the relationship first with him. He has been started traditionally and when he came to Pat's he was rank and sour. He didn't want to go or stop. He would sometimes be compliant but there was little connection. As I worked



*Carlos and Kelly's Shotgun Wedding; Best Man AR Especial Shotgun Enforcer Jeff Barnes Officiated by Dave Currin*

with him to build a relationship based on communication, connection and mutual understanding, I realized what a special horse I had. Especial is a partner like no other and he challenges me to show up to be his partner.”

The strong bond of this horse/rider team was evident to all who attended the 2016 National Finals Championship at the beautiful Norris-Penrose arena in Colorado Springs. In the Ranch Trail class, Carlos, after the ground-tie, draped his reins over his horse’s neck proceeded to the mounting block, and AR Especial side-passed over and picked him up with no rider contact. He stood like a soldier, waited patiently for Carlos to mount – on the off side. There at the base of Pike’s Peak, they finished the class and the season in style. Carlos and Especial won Amateur Division Reserve Finals Champion and also Amateur Year End Reserve Champion.

Later that evening at the awards banquet, everyone at his table buzzed with hushed excitement. His indifference to tracking points continues to amaze and delight his fellow competitors. Conscientiously or not, Carlos follows Dave Currin’s advice, “In NVRHA if all you are looking for is points, you will always be disappointed. If you want to learn and improve, you will always be happy.” Carlos’s goal has always been to help others and to learn and improve his horsemanship. He had absolutely no idea he and Especial had earned the Ranch Horse Supreme Champion buckle!

As for the future, Carlos says, “Especial and I still have a lot of miles to go together. We are always refining our communication getting it lighter and lighter and understanding each other better. He is also a big help with my two-year-old. He will continue to help me with lots of miles of ponying that the young horse needs.”

Congratulations on achieving The Legend Award, Carlos and Especial. As Jay Henson says, the Legend is just the beginning of when you know you are finally “getting it.” Especial still is mastering challenges including flying lead changes, (a skill not required of cutting horses.) He is close to earning a Superior in Ranch Trail, and we know he will succeed.

As for all of us, 2020 has been tough. Hopefully our experiences in versatility will translate to an ability to adapt to our changing circumstances. Our horses transport us away from our daily worries and invite us to be present and embrace the moment. We join you, Carlos and Kelly and celebrate these amazing creatures with gratitude. We are so lucky to have them help us adapt and learn. Hats off to you, AR Especial, NVRHA Legend Horse and Champion! May the ride continue! ★



# Year-End Award - Division Leader

AS OF JULY 1, 2021

## CRITERIA

Year - End awards for each division will be based on the horse / rider team, which earns the largest number of Placement Points in a maximum of five schooling competitions held during the award year.



### AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Megan Newlon riding Langtrees CD
2. Michael Beakley riding Dosc Shiney Pistol
3. Cori Atteberry riding Smokes First Choice  
Glenn Ryan riding Sly Fancy Cat

### LIMITED DIVISION

1. Debbie Raymond riding Chexy Bar West
2. Kim Kasson riding Spark Olena 309
3. Emily Lappegaard riding Golden H Mister T



### NOVICE DIVISION

1. Tim Telinde riding HB Sportin Cowboy
2. Connie Brase riding Mr Made Wright
3. Dave Currin riding RowdyHollywoodCowboy

### YOUTH AMATEUR

1. Jessica Jacobucci riding Aantonina



### YOUTH LIMITED

1. Kaylee Sefcovic riding Smokin N Wright On
2. Grace Douglas riding Very Smart Lover
3. Dawson Kouba riding Sunolena Gal

### YOUTH NOVICE

1. Caleb Dinan riding Kidd
2. Maclain Marion riding Gentleman Pep
3. Brody Holland riding Olenas White Gold



# Ranch Horse Supreme Champion

## CRITERIA

The RANCH HORSE SUPREME CHAMPION is a LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT award. A minimum of ten NVRHA Championship Points is required in each of the five Ranch Horse Classes to earn this honor.



## LITTLE LIDO OTE ridden by Stephany Siitari

Steph already made one great Legend horse, SLJ Ruby Slippers (Juice) in 2017 (RIP). Today, she's well on her way to making another Legend with the stunning palomino gelding she calls Ote. Sharing some of her highlights from the 2020 NVRHA National Finals, Steph says:

"I was lucky to have some really stellar rides with Ote. It often felt like his legs were my legs and his brain was my brain. Ote is such a wonderful partner, I could not ask for more. My horse experience started when I was ten years old in Maryland riding Geronimo, a black mustang stallion." In addition to Ote, Steph has another prospect at work in the wings, Rita. If you watch Steph ride she has developed a quiet confident style, she's truly a student of the various class disciplines. Steph's been such an asset to the leadership of NVRHA and affiliate NLVRHA having served on both boards of directors over the years. Today we continue to appreciate her guidance as one of our trusted NLVRHA board advisors.

## FRECKLED RICO ridden by Matt Clark

A rancher in western Kansas, Matt has been in NVRHA five years. He has been on horses most of his life, so when he purchased Freckled Rico as a fifteen year old reined cow horse, he had a head start on achieving his Supreme Ranch Horse Championship.

"I work the ranch everyday and use a lot of the same techniques in NVRHA events." He claims the toughest problem for him is "remembering all the patterns." His future goal is "getting better in the show pen by relaxing and letting my horse show his stuff. I have really enjoyed being a member of the NVRHA family."



## GALLOS SMOKIN TARI ridden by Emma Alvey

Emma got Gallos Smokin Tari as a yearling and has ridden him over the years to numerous awards, most recently finishing 4th overall at the NRSHA World Championship, in the Limited Youth Division and 7th in the AQHA Limited Youth Division. A coming Sophomore at the University of Colorado in pre-med, her goal is to be a Pediatric Neurologist. She is well on her way, making the Dean's list her Freshman year at CU. Emma is a highly accomplished young lady with a very bright future. We wish her well!



# 2020 Most Improved Rider

**Shye Makarrell, on Chicks Precious Oak**

**Barn Name: Boone**

**NVRHA's 2020 Most Improved Rider**



“  
I used to barrel  
race and was ready  
for something new.”  
– Shye Makarral



*Vicky Henderson (far left) and  
Laura Hildebrandt (middle) with  
Shye Makarrall receiving her Most  
Improved Trophy at the 2020  
NVRHA National Finals held  
at The Lancaster Event Center,  
Lincoln, Nebraska*

Every partnership has to start somewhere, and NVRHA is full of many good ones. However, it is an honor to share this one in Shye's own words on how she and Boone (Chicks Precious Oak) have humbly rose up the Novice ranks to be named NVRHA's Most Improved Rider.

Shye says, "I actually bought Boone to be a versatility prospect. I used to barrel race and was ready for something new and exciting. When my fiancé's mom, Vicky Henderson, told me about NVRHA, I decided to dive into it headfirst. So I sold my barrel

horse and found Chicks Precious Oak, barn name Boone. He was a four year old with 30 days of riding."

So what sparked her interest in versatility? Shye reflects, "The idea of the versatility challenge and to do something I had never done before was the spark. Boone and I have had quite the wonderful journey so far but have found our fair share of bumps in the road."

Our biggest challenge seems to be holding ourselves together in the show pen. I haven't quite figured out what it is or why it happens but every once

and awhile Boone will loosen a screw in his head and he takes me for one heck of a ride." Well those of us who have had the chance to watch this pair in action don't see any flustered look on this young hand. She always seems to keep a calm and cool demeanor. Shye says her next versatility goal is to just place first in one class. The bigger picture...."all I can say is I came into this with an open mind and I absolutely fell in love with versatility and people of NLVRHA. These are the best people to be around and I learn so much in the process!" ★

# LEGEND AND LADY STRIKE GOLD

BY ANN GOEBEL AND SUE EISENMAN



## *The Thrill of Cutting*

### LEGEND

Since 2012, Vicky Henderson and her dynamic horse Tatanka have been racking up the NVRHA achievement honors from every class discipline. Their initial journey culminated in 2015 with our highest association honor of Legend for the horse at the time bestowed on Tatanka. The Legend is an honor that recognized

a horse's ability, strength, brains, talent and sustainability, and Tatanka was the first "grade" horse (his dam was 1/2 Welch pony, 1/2 Quarter Horse and his sire was a breeding stock Paint Horse), to earn the coveted award under the careful stewardship of Vicky. Vicky purchased him as a weanling and gave him the name

"Tatanka" because she felt he looked more like a scruffy baby buffalo than any kind of horse. That was his start -- and Vicky took him to the epitome of Versatility Ranch Horse - we were lucky to witness their journey here at Northern Lights.

### LADY

Those of us fortunate enough to get to know Vicky's horsemanship skills, gracious nature, and spirit for western adventure first hand, can easily say she is a versatility ranch enthusiasts role model inside and outside the arena. Vicky doesn't ride for herself and the honors alone. How do we know that?

She is a master of the NVRHA point system, valued and long-time member of the Northern Lights Versatility Ranch Horse Association (NLVRHA) Board of Directors (BOD), the NVRHA BOD, and a supporting mentor to other riders. Per Vicky, the highlight of 2020 was watching her side kick, Shye Makarrall, awarded

NVRHA's 2020 Most Improved Rider! Vicky is as versatile as her horse. When not in the arena, you might find her on a cattle drive, riding the trails, or overnight camping. With her easy smile, get-r-done attitude, dedication and focus - there's no limit to the accomplishments ahead for Vicky and her talented horses!



**WE'VE GOT THIS...  
MASTERS OF RANCH TRAIL CLASS**

In 2019, NVRHA recognized that successful horse and rider partnerships needed more room to run up the achievement ladder. Advancing Medal Awards were established. The Gold Medal is awarded to the Legend horse having earned both a Bronze (earned in Working Ranch) and a Silver Medal (earned in Ranch Riding), and earning 90 points in a third class. For Vicky - that third medal will be Gold, earned in Ranch Trail.

**PERFECT FORM FOR RANCH RIDING**

You can't hold a great horse person back. Its just not in their nature. Already on to making another horse "a great one", Vicky is fostering a partnership aboard DJ Joe De Boon also known as "Cochise". The pair made their way upward quickly in the Novice Division. They competed at the 2020 NVRHA National Championship Show and pointed out of the Novice Division in their first full year of versatility together. Look out "Limited" - here they come! We stand united in congratulating Vicky and Tatanka on putting another notch in their part of NVRHA history. And the story is not over - just you wait - you'll see!



The Medal Achievement Award Series initiated in 2019. Over the first thirteen years of NVRHA, over 800 horse / rider teams have participated in the NVRHA events. During this period, thirteen teams have earned the prestigious Legend Achievement Award, an average of about one each year. Upon achieving the Legend, riders have invested much time, money, and training and the horse has just reached a level where he or she has the potential for higher levels of achievement. Additionally, the potential for many years of enjoyment for the rider remains. The Medal Achievement Award Series was adopted by the NVRHA to provide a goal for these horses and riders to climb the ladder of excellence. The Medal Award series consists of five levels ( Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and

Diamond ). Championship Points earned on the horse by multiple riders and owners are used to determine Award Levels. Medal Awards will be presented to horses having been awarded the "Legend" Award, that have earned 90 Championship Points in four of the five classes (Ranch Riding, Ranch Cutting, Ranch Trail, Working Ranch Horse, Ranch Conformation). The Bronze Medal will be awarded to the Legend horse first earning 90 points in any of the five classes. The Silver Medal will be awarded to the Legend horse having earned a Bronze Medal and earning 90 points in a second class. The Gold Metal will be awarded to the Legend horse having earned both a Bronze and Silver Medal, and earning 90 points in a third class. The Platinum Medal will be awarded to the Legend horse having earned a

Bronze, Silver and Gold Medal; earning 90 points in a fourth class. The Diamond Medal will be awarded to the Legend horse having earned a Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Medal and a total of 450 Championship points. Medals will be awarded annually at the National Finals Awards Banquet as they are earned starting with the Bronze Medal and progressing to Diamond Medal. Championship Points counted towards Medal Awards may be earned in any NVRHA Division (Youth, Novice Amateur, Limited Amateur, Amateur, and Open). All Championship Points earned will be counted regardless of owner or rider, Division, etc. Points will be cumulative. NVRHA anticipates a Diamond Medal will be awarded about once every five years at the current event participation rate.

# Ranch Horse Champions

## CRITERIA

To Achieve the Ranch Champion Award, a horse/rider team must earn five championship points in all five classes.

Ranch Riding / Ranch Trail • Ranch Conformation / Ranch Cutting  
Working Ranch Horse



### MIKE BEAKLEY riding Docs Shiny Pistol

Mike is a relatively new comer to NVRHA, but has excelled with Pistol after only two years of participation. Mike and wife, Penny, moved to Colorado Springs from Houston, Texas to be close to their grandchildren. Mike raised Pistol and has completed most of his training himself. The two make quite a team and are blazing a trail of distinguished accomplishments in NVRHA. The future is bright for this talented team.

“I enjoy the NVRHA classes where I can showcase my horse in events that I do everyday on the ranch.”  
– Matt Clark

### MATT CLARK riding Freckled Rico

Matt rode saddle broncs and barebacks in his youth and later in PRCA, retiring from rodeo in 2002. Freckled Rico was tenth overall at the AQHA World Show in 2009 and fourth overall in NRSHA. Matt and Rico make an excellent team and are blazing a trail of success in NVRHA.



### KIM KASSON riding Sparks Olena 309

Kim began riding bareback on her grandpa's Shetland ponies. She had a few dressage lessons in her 20's but when she ended up in northwest Kansas, dressage lessons were non-existent. She learned about NVRHA while visiting a ranch searching for a young prospect. "NVRHA gave me a way to learn and a way to be challenged. I love that my horse is not a one trick pony. Ranch Versatility helps keep both me and my horse fresh and the challenges never subside, as there is always a way to improve."

### SHAWN TIFFANY riding Smart Redeemin Chic

Shawn grew up cowboying in the Kansas feedyards. Although around horses all his life, he had no formal coaching. His wife, Nicky, having coached the Kansas State University equestrian team, helped him with Skip, and in three years, the team earned the NVRHA Ranch Horse Championship.

The Tiffany's have four children, all intend on succeeding with horses. They have been showing at NVRHA and AQHA for six years. "When you have that many riders and horses at a show, it's a lot of work." When we started entering NVRHA events, it was just my son, who was eleven years old at the time, and myself. It has been fun learning and competing alongside my son, Ransom. Skip is now being transitioned to Ainsley's ranch horse who will be riding him in the Youth Division.



### GLENN RYAN riding Sly Fancy Cat (No Photo Available)

If you see a cowboy headed to the back country mountains riding a Ranch Horse and leading eleven pack mules all tied head to tail, well it's likely to be Glenn Ryan. Glenn has spent the last thirty years working for the Forest Service, packing supplies into the wilderness areas in support of forest management. Glenn also rides that Sly Fancy Cat, a granddaughter of High Brow Cat, in the NVRHA program. He recently got a package in the mail. It was a pair of spurs and he didn't know why he had received them. He later learned that he had earned the NVRHA Ranch Horse Champion Award. Well, you see, Glenn rides the NVRHA program for fun, not for awards. In his words, "Don't know how the point system works. Actually, it doesn't matter, because I'm here for the fun."

# 2020 NVRHA HORSEMAN OF THE YEAR

# Sue Eisenman

*In her own words with contributions by NLVRHA members*



*A picture is surely worth a thousand words. This active leader, and champion of all things National Versatility Ranch Horse does so by wrapping her arms around what matters to move things gently in the right direction. That's just the kind of horsewoman she is as well.*

“Surely I’m late to the game in knowing all the contributions Sue Eisenman has made to members of the NVRHA and growing our organization since she first joined up in 2013 after doing her first event in 2012. When I first met Sue at my maiden NLVRHA event in 2016, she wasn’t the two year President of the Northern Lights Versatility Ranch Horse Association (NLVRHA) or NVRHA Board Member, as she is today. In fact, I didn’t know who she really was, except one of the most friendly NVRHA people on this earth who came to greet my daughter and I at a new event format when we were virtual strangers. We’ve been stuck on NVRHA ever since. First impressions do matter when an organization is working to distinguish itself and carry out a unique mission of learning and testing new skills in a spirited, supportive competition environment at the same time. Sue embodies that mission and promotes it with care and consideration. It is my pleasure to introduce the world to her journey.” Ann Goebel

Sue takes us back to where it all began... “I was raised on a dairy farm - 3rd of 9 children, 6 sisters and 2 brothers. We learned early on – about 6 years old – how to drive tractor while square baling with Dad stacking bales on the wagon.

Needless to say – he was a pretty athletic guy, coming off the front of the wagon when we stopped too quick, and thrown to the back when we popped the clutch on the Oliver 55. We all wanted to be outside working, so Dad would have us draw straws to see who was driving that day. I was pretty lucky at getting the short straw – a good thing in our house. The alternative was watching younger siblings, cooking, and weeding in the garden with Mom. I still can’t make a pie crust if that tells you anything.

Being the tallest of my sisters, and able to reach the pipeline at the high end of the barn – I regularly was on the milking crew. Dad did a good job of keeping us on chore detail or in the fields. We all spent our weekdays working, but come Sunday, “Funday”,- we worked just as hard at playing - water-skiing, snowmobiling, ice skating, and sledding. I still wonder if Mom might have said to Dad - “I’ve had them all week – You’ve got ‘em today!”

We bought our horses from the local horse jockey – Sparky Bartlett, who drove an old junk car and was always chewing on a cigar. Of course, his horses were “well broke”, with only a couple bad habits. Rusty, a Welch pony, was the choice that you could ride with some certainty that you’d be still mounted when you returned

home. Dutch was a swayback, not-too-cute paint – but put him in a race and you could sure count on winning (and not being able to stop anywhere close to where you first thought you might!) My favorite was Trigger, yes – a handsome palomino, who had plenty of flash and go. We kept our beef herd on a farm 5 miles from home, and a favored job was riding there, checking and counting cows and calves, (you always asked how many there was “supposed” to be before leaving home), and then riding back home. That was an afternoon of peace and quiet, with plenty of time to day dream of being a real cowgirl.”





I really did love farming, driving combines, tractors, and trucks. My parents encouraged me to get out and see some country – I know they later regretted that push, but I never did. My first job away from home was leading dudes on trail rides and 3 day pack trips in Yellowstone Park as their first female wrangler, an incredibly fun adventure which led to my love of mountains and wide open country. I spent 3 years on the road with jobs ranging from driving beet trucks in Montana, working in a hunting camp in the Tetons, a couple winters as a short order breakfast cook in the Everglades, feeding cake to cows on a ranch in New Mexico, and then working for a horse trainer in Monument, CO. I gained some knowledge but not much of a bank account before deciding to return to the good life in MN.

I met and married a local farmer, Gary, and we raised three sons on our dairy farm. Horses took a back seat to twice a day milking, farming, and riding herd on the boys. They are all now amazing dads to our 5 grandchildren, and the BEST part of life is being Mom and Grandma. Our son, Josh, partners with Gary at running the farm, and after selling our dairy herd – and buying my own trailer – I now had the time to travel. My job as a bookkeeper at a CPA firm helps support my horse habit, with our busiest time being during the winter months, and summer’s schedule being real flexible for horse trips.

“Little Wreck is the first horse I ever purchased. I’d been riding with my daughter-in-law, Holly, riding an older horse to give some stability to the colts she was starting. She talked me into buying LW as a weanling, for a pasture mate for her new filly, promising she’d help me start him. I actually put the first ride on him, we have a picture somewhere that was taken afterwards, and my eyes were as big as saucers! Lucky for me, he’s always been easy going and forgiving, and an awesome partner. I then purchased another registered QH – Pepi, now 8 years old and soon to be my ride when the grandkids confiscate LW. That’ll happen soon, it sure makes me smile watching them ride my horse with such huge grins.”

“After many hours of trail riding, my first big adventure was a cattle roundup at the Bug Ranch in Wyoming, which turned out to be a really great time and the beginning of the realization that I needed more knowledge of what good horsemanship meant. That was also the start of my mountain horse-packing trips with friends – we’ve done seven trips now into the Wind River Mts, the Beartooth Mts, and the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness. There is nothing more challenging for me – the planning and packing, trying to throw a decent diamond hitch, the beauty of the lakes, the pride of leading a good pack string, the taste of trout over the fire, and the bone-tired fatigue at the end of the day.





Sue recalls, “I remember my first NLRHA event well. I broke my arm in the spring, my mare kicked me, (my fault actually), and the doctor said I couldn’t ride with a cast on. I was devastated because I had all these plans for the summer!! Of course I showed up at the event in my cast, and Stephany Siitari (with a leg brace on following her knee replacement) offered to carry my bale of hay to the barn for me - between the two of us we got it there with questionable style. And the only reason that I was able to participate, after last minute registration, was because I replaced Deb Martin who had broken her back and couldn’t ride, but was there watching. A picture of the three of us together could have been posted as a “Tough Women Ride NVRHA!” banner! That first event was SO FUN – I found out that I didn’t have a stop, or a spin, or a rollback – but my pony wasn’t afraid of cows or the rope.” Deb Martin, NLRHA colleague pictured left having the honors of giving Sue her Horseman of the Year custom headstall at the 2020 National Finals reflects, “Sue Eisenman is a real-life modern-day hero; an honest demonstration of what true horsemanship and friendship is.”

Each year, the trip gets a little more challenging (like white-knuckle trails) and a little longer, and I always wonder if we’re going to live to tell the stories! The 2020 trip in the Winds lasted 16 days and led us over high, rocky passes that were astonishingly beautiful, with views of miles of mountain peaks, but I sure don’t plan to follow THAT route EVER AGAIN!

After that first event Sue notes, “So I worked on the elements all winter and returned in 2013 with a vengeance and actually did 13 events that year. Yes - I was hooked! Since then, I’ve been a regular at almost all Northern Lights events with the goal of bringing my other horse through the program too. I still enjoy every ride,

and learn something from every clinician, and STILL suffer a brain freeze as soon as I walk thru the gate - “What was that pattern again?”

Along with all the phenomenal NVRHA clinicians who work with us, Sue adds, “I’ve sought out help with my horsemanship from others, riding in clinics with Buck Brannaman, Kip Fladland, and Doug Jordan. It’s not just the fact that they are great horsemen, they are also such genuine good people! Learning with those who share the same goals make clinics an awesome experience.” “Please don’t see my failings as a reflection on them - they’ve tried their best. I’m humbled and humored as

I reflect on a fellow Buck clinic rider who commented to me “You’ve been riding with Buck for that many years - and you’re not any better than that?” Oh yeah - it’s a journey and we all travel at our own pace.”

Sue extends her appreciation, “Thank you all for the honor of being named 2020 Horseman of the Year, I was blown away with surprise, and tongue-tied as usual! I can’t begin to express enough gratitude to all the NVRHA clinicians, leaders, and friends for all their help and support over the years. Thanks to Jay and Gena Hensen for all the good times at Spring Rendezvous, and providing the opportunity to meet all the friends who know you show up when Jay cooks.



Thanks to Dave Currin – who was my first versatility contact at MN Horse Expo, when he showed me how to build a loop, and who’s the energetic foundation of all things NVRHA along with the rest of the Board of Directors. Thanks to all of our Northern Lights clinicians who have worked with us for so many years and always noted the slightest improvements and endorsed good horsemanship.”

“Lastly – thank you, friends, for the opportunity to learn from you all, thanks for your willingness to share your expertise, thanks for the huge welcome you extend to new riders, thanks for all the smiles and stories and memories, thanks for all the trailer laughter at the end of the day, and for putting up with a bit of snoring. I would never – ever – have believed that I would someday rope a cow, and still haven’t done it with cowgirl style.... But I do think it’s possible ... that I might some day... get-r-done!” This contributor must add that the next day after receiving this Horseman of the Year honor, Sue roped her cow during the 2020 National Finals Competition and witnesses will attest, she did so in complete cowgirl style and class.



Sue’s skills to assist our non-profit fiscal health is invaluable to sustain viability and transparency for the future of our association. She is a cattle coordinator extraordinaire understanding the importance of cattle selection, management, and care as a key part of successful events. On behalf of NLVRHA and NVRHA congratulations Sue! ★

“

*“Thanks to all who put on the NVRHA Finals – it’s so inspiring to watch your fellow riders achieve their goals and to get the chance to rub shoulders with the great folks of the other affiliates - that has been awesome fun! I’d also like to thank our NL BOD, past and present, for their diligent work putting on events and for the time they put into our affiliate, seeing the success of others learning and having fun has been sweet rewards. And thanks to Laura Hildebrandt – who is the backbone of NL events and who you can count on for her soothing words “it’ll be okay”.*

– Sue Eisenman

”



*Cherine Marie*



# Superior Ranch Horse Champions

## CRITERIA

*To achieve the Superior Ranch Horse Award, a horse must earn 40 Championship Points in any of the five classes (Ranch Riding, Ranch Trail, Working Ranch Horse, Ranch Cutting or Ranch Conformation). An award may be earned in each class. Points may be earned by multiple owners.*



### **Pistol Packin Picasso | RANCH TRAIL exhibited by Judy Parsons**

Judy, currently a Plant Administrator for Kansas Dairy Ingredients in Hugoton, Kansas, started riding when in the fifth grade when she got a Welsh pony for Christmas. She has been riding ever since in 4-H, American Paint Horse Association and most recent in NVRHA. Usually, NVRHA events are centered around the horse and rider as a team. In Judy's case, there is a third member of the team, Bob, Judy's husband. He helps make this tough horse / rider team tick! Pistol Packin Picasso ( Oscar ) is a registered Paint and Pinto. In 2019, he and Judy finished their NVRHA Ranch Horse Championship, was the Open Division Year End Champion and was third place in the Limited Amateur Division Year End.

### **AR Especial | RANCH RIDING exhibited by Carlos Osorio**

Carlos and his wife Kelly are both accomplished riders in NVRHA. They hail from Madison, Wisconsin where they manage several businesses, to include a fabulous restaurant, a transition school for foreign students, a cheese factory and a large horse boarding facility. They were introduced to NVRHA on the Parelli ranch in Florida.

Over the last eight years, they have hosted NVRHA events, usually two a year, at their beautiful horse facility in Brooklyn, Wisconsin.

Carlos purchased AR Especial from Parelli and was a frequent visitor to his ranches in both Florida and Colorado. During Carlos' first NVRHA National Championship, he won the Amateur Ranch Riding Class. That was just a start, as he and AR Especial have worked their way to the top, culminating in the Legend Award at the 2019 NVRHA National Finals. Carlos and AR Especial will be honored as the fourteenth Legend at the 2020 National Finals.



### **Langtrees CD | RANCH RIDING & RANCH CUTTING exhibited by Megan Newlon**

Megan is currently a college student at Oklahoma State University, studying Agricultural Communications and Animal Science. She grew up around horses and was active in 4-H, competing in rodeos and team sortings. In her sophomore year of high school, she got Langtrees CD (Willy), an NVRHA Legend and a whole new horse adventure began. She progressed rapidly in all the classes even though she had very little prior experience in cattle events. Langtrees CD (Willy) was very accomplished when Megan began riding him, having earned the Legend Award with Shane Bangerter. In Megan's first year on Willy, she took him to a whole new level. The team was Youth Year End Champion, Youth Limited National Champion and Ranch Horse Supreme Champion. In 2019, she repeated her Youth Championship of 2018 and earned the highest honor in NVRHA, THE RANCH HORSE DIAMOND MEDAL.



## **DLB Smart Blue Bars | RANCH CONFORMATION** **exhibited by Sue Eisenman**

Sue grew up on a dairy and beef farm in Minnesota. Growing up, her favorite chore was checking pastures five miles from home on a horse purchased from a local horse jockey. It didn't take her long to get there and back. She always wanted to be a "cowgirl" and her dream was fueled by her first job as a wrangler in the Yellowstone Park, which began a love affair of the mountains and wide open spaces. She rarely misses a NVRHA event. In her words, "I now know the pure joy that comes with learning horsemanship and advancing our skills. She has owned DLB Smart Blue Bars (LW) since he was a weanling and uses him extensively on cattle drives in Wyoming and park trips to the Rockies. LW and Sue have earned their NVRHA Superior Ranch Horse Champion, Superior in Working Ranch Horse and are well on the way to the Legend Award, since their introduction in NVRHA in 2011.

## **Meradas Wood Nickel | RANCH TRAIL** **exhibited by Cody Hendrickson**

When Steve (Cody's husband) bought Meradas Wood Nickel for an engagement gift and the two went to the Bighorn Mountains on their honeymoon, little did Cody know that six years later she and her horse would earn the prestigious NVRHA Legend Award. Steve and Cody run a horseshoeing business, working out of a thirty acre farm in Minnesota. Both are avid horsemen that made a great team working with horses every day.

Meradas Wood Nickel, a Quarter Horse mare was a perfect match for Cody. Cody's handling of the eleven year old mare has been superb. In Cody's words, "If I do my job well, she will do hers." They have excelled as a team, winning the Legend Award and many other honors along the way. In 2018, they won the Finals Amateur Division, Year End Amateur Division and Ranch Horse Champion. In 2019, they won the Year End Amateur Division, the Ranch Horse Supreme Champion Title, Superior Awards and capped the season off with the Legend Award. Both were quick learners in NVRHA.



## **Chexy Bar West | RANCH CONFORMATION** **exhibited by Debbie Raymond**

"I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015. Through the trials and tribulations of that, my heart was always in the barn. I purchased Cali in 2017. Her sire is West Coast Whiz with King Fritz and Colonel Freckles on the bottom side of her pedigree. She is the same every day with a wonderful disposition. I exercise, ride as much as possible, take lessons and try to be positive." Debbie and her husband Earl are quite a team. Earl (and sometimes Debbie) race cars together. They purchased a farm in NE Colorado where they raised registered cattle. Later sold the farm and moved to a smaller acreage. Debbie was introduced to NVRHA by a neighbor and "have enjoyed and lamented, the challenges of it ever since"! No doubt, a bright future is ahead for this talented team.

## **Gallos Smokin Tari | RANCH CONFORMATION** **exhibited by Emma Alvey**

Emma got Gallos Smokin Tari as a yearling and has ridden him over the years to numerous awards, most recently finishing 4th overall at the NRSNA World Championship, in the Limited Youth Division and 7th in the AQHA Limited Youth Division. A coming Sophomore at the University of Colorado in pre-med, her goal is to be a Pediatric Neurologist. She is well on her way, making the Dean's list her Freshman year at CU. Emma is a highly accomplished young lady with a very bright future. We wish her well!



# Brad Weller

A TRUE  
NVRHA  
HERO

Few professionals have made a larger contribution to NVRHA than Brad Weller. I met Brad and daughter, Sara (author of this article), at Jay Henson's barn nearly twenty years ago. He and Sara were honing their Ranch Horse skills. Since then, Sara has earned the AQHA World Championship and Brad has many,

many students that are excelling in the NVRHA program. He and the Henson's are truly the backbone of the South Central Affiliate. He excels as a Clinician and Judge. This article allows you to know him better. THANK YOU BRAD, for your strong support of our association. – Dave Currin

## BRAD WELLER HAS MADE A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO BEING A BETTER HORSEMAN.

By Sara Weller Gugelmeyer



It's hard to imagine being brave enough to leave behind everyone and everything one has ever known and literally and figuratively head west to be a cowboy. And yet, that is essentially what my dad, Brad Weller, did only a few years after graduating high school.

Growing up in southeast Iowa in the 60s and 70s, Brad's father enjoyed horses, rode some to move cows and traded horses quite a bit. He always made sure Brad and his two brothers and sister had something to ride around even if it was just an ornery pony. While all the kids rode a little, Brad was constantly riding and wanted to learn to rope.

"There was an old stump in the yard and my dad told me if I could rope it 100 times in a row without missing I could start roping cattle," Brad remembers fondly. "I roped it so much it had grooves worn in the wood and eventually he let me start calf roping."

Despite little instruction, Brad figured it out and travelled the high school rodeo circuit competing in calf roping. It was also in high school he met the love of his life, Susan Martsching.

She was the second youngest of six children, raised on a simple very rural farm, and the two attended school together. She hadn't ridden horses much, in fact most of her horse experience was with her father's team of Belgians he used for occasional farm work.

The two dated for several years. When Brad graduated high school in 1975 he worked a few different jobs, one for an electrical parts company, another working nights in the shipping department at a packing plant. He longed for a job that would allow him to be horseback. He'd heard about feedyards in Kansas, where cowboys were paid to ride through cattle in the pens, checking them each day.

Enamoured with the idea of being a full-time cowboy, he headed to western Kansas and got a job with Valley Feeders, outside of Scott City, as a pen rider. At first, his brother Doug moved with him but only stayed a few months. Brad stayed, enjoying the work and the people, but Sue was still in Iowa. It was only about six months of being apart, before, much to her parents chagrin, she followed him to Kansas. The two were married in 1980.

Brad continued working for the feedyard and Sue got a job as a secretary. After a few years, Brad grew tired of the terrible conditions for little pay.

So he got a job working for UPS in nearby Garden City - good wages and union benefits were enticing for the young couple. They had their first child, Travis Jon, in 1982.

They moved to Garden City shortly after and then the next year bought an acreage about three miles outside the city limits. Here, Brad would build a modest horse barn, round pen and arena. He continued his passion for calf roping.

Sue, ever his supporter, would have the horses saddled, calves penned and in the chute when Brad got off work at UPS so he could rope before it got dark.

In 1985, I was born. Sara Pauline, named after my grandmother. While my elder brother learned to ride a little, horses were never his thing. I, however, was the opposite. I was riding an old crippled pony by myself at the age of 3 and then by 5 I had "stolen" Dad's calf roping horse and was showing her in 4-H.

Dad was always interested in training horses, making them better, expanding his knowledge about roping and riding. When I came along, his horse world broadened as I started to participate in all the 4-H events as well as junior rodeos.

For whatever reason, my interest was more in showing than roping and it wasn't long before Dad and I were traveling around to clinics and horse events trying to expand our knowledge of the horse show world.

I remember Dad was always reading horse-training books, watching videos, and of course, asking questions of any and all horsemen he ever met.

Dad has always bought and sold horses when the opportunity arose. He would buy an ugly cheap colt, feed him up, get him riding around and resell. Most of my childhood was spent standing around waiting for him to get done visiting after we'd gone to look at the next great horse he was going to make a deal on.

We rode everything from barrel horses to western pleasure horses, tuned up some ponies, I even remember a part-Friesian horse Dad had for awhile.



All this time, his horse passion was limited to after work and weekend hours. UPS was still his day job and while it restricted the amount of time he had to spend riding, it greatly expanded his knowledge of horse people in the entire region. He would deliver a package to someone with a horse out back and strike up a conversation.

In fact, the best all-around horse I ever had was named Max The Ghost. Dad bought him out of someone's pasture on his UPS route for a steal. Max and I went on to win all kinds of titles and he was the first horse I ever showed at an AQHA event.

Max was also the horse I had when I started going to Jay and Gena Henson for lessons. Although Dad had plenty to teach me, the obstinacy of my teenage years required me to get some help from someone who wasn't my dad. The Hensons greatly expanded his and my knowledge about showing and training and we have all been friends ever since.

At that time, Dad was taking in a few horses to ride, they would pay him a little and he built a reputation for being an honest, good hand with a horse. There were also plenty

of kids and inexperienced adults in our area who needed lessons and help with problem horses. He rode all kinds, most of which were nothing special, but honed his skills and his connections in the horse business.

In 2003, my parents sold the acreage I was raised on and moved to Miles of Smiles Therapeutic Riding Center. There, Dad could lease stalls for his fledgling training business, help with the facility and riding program, and the best bonus was the unlimited use of an indoor riding arena.

The next year, he took the early retirement option from UPS and became a full-time horse trainer. My mom began showing in the novice amateur all-around events on my old horse Max, and then when he got too old and had to be retired she has had a lot of success on other horses. Dad's cattle experience and roping background has lent itself to expanding into the ranch horse discipline and currently most of his clients show in the NVRHA and AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse competitions.

Throughout the years he's coached everything from beginner riders to year-end, regional and world champions. While

he enjoys training the horses, probably his greatest strength is using his unparalleled people skills to coach amateur and youth riders to great success.

He also seems to have found his greatest purpose in life being the best grandpa ever to my two kids, Calvin, 9, and Maggie 5, who adore him endlessly.

I often ask if my parents miss Iowa, where nearly all their family live to this day. It's so incredible to me how hard it must have been to leave everything behind and then stay through all the ups and downs of more than 40 years. Mom says when they thought about going back early on it wasn't an option because Dad's job would have been lost and now Kansas is more like home than anywhere. The friends my Mom and Dad have made in the horse business are more like family to us now than any blood relation I've known. Horses have been such a big part of the Weller family now for so long, we sometimes joke at family dinners or holiday celebrations, "Wonder what other people talk about?" ★

# Youth Year-End Champions

## YOUTH NOVICE DIVISION

### CHAMPION

#### Tori Dinan riding Mighty Effies

Tori's love for riding goes back to when she was three years old, riding her pony, Freckles. She has been riding Mighty Effies, a race horse bred mare for two years. Active in 4H, she became attracted to NVRHA because in her words, "I like it all, the people are very social and helpful. I particularly like the clinics." She says her biggest challenge is "getting both her and her horse to RELAX."

### RESERVE

#### Isabel Gaines riding A Classic Page



Isabel rides A Classic Page, who was earlier exhibited by Donna Stewart to NVRHA Ranch Horse Championship. Isabel put a second

championship on him in 2020 in the Novice Youth Division. Isabel and her mother, Kelli, make an awesome mother/daughter team at NVRHA events.

### 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

#### Caleb Dinan riding Kidd



## YOUTH LIMITED DIVISION



### CHAMPION

#### Emma Alvey riding Gallos Smokin Tari

Emma got Gallos Smokin Tari as a yearling and has ridden him over the years to numerous awards, most recently finishing 4th overall at the NRSHA World Championship, in the Limited Youth Division and 7th in the AQHA Limited Youth Division. A coming Sophomore at the University of Colorado in pre-med, her goal is to be a Pediatric Neurologist. She is well on her way, making the Dean's list her Freshman year at CU. Emma is a highly accomplished young lady with a very bright future. We wish her well!

### RESERVE

#### Kaylee Sefcovic riding Smoke N Wright On



Kaylee, a newcomer to NVRHA, is a freshman at Colorado State University. She has been riding since she was seven years old. "I was introduced to NVRHA by a few friends who told me how much fun the events were. So I decided to come and try them out which was an amazing decision. They are now my favorite shows" Wallie, Kaylee's horse, has not been shown that much and she appears to have mastered "getting him use to traveling and realizing that not everything is going to hurt him."



### 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

#### Morgan Eskam riding Bets Smart Lena

## YOUTH AMATEUR DIVISION

### CHAMPION

#### Megan Newlon riding Langtrees CD

"Growing up. I've always had horses. However, I was introduced to the all-around in the Willoughby Henson barn, when I was eight. I continued showing the all-around until my sophomore year in high school, when I began learning the ropes of the ranch horse versatility with Willy. I've been stuck on versatility ever since."



# Amateur Year-End Champions

## NOVICE DIVISION



### CHAMPION

#### Emily Lappegaard riding Golden H Mister T

Emily is relatively new to NVRHA. She purchased her horse “T” from Alecia Heinz, who had exhibited him to his Ranch Horse Championship. Emily took up the reins and was runner up in the Novice Division in her first year of western riding, overcoming a restricting health diagnosis. Winning the National Finals Novice Division and the year end high-point in her second year was a huge accomplishment, as she must dedicate significant time running her real estate company in Denver. “ My goal is to continue to improve as a rider and become able to connect with my horse in such a way that the riding looks effortless as one body and mind.”

### RESERVE

#### Kelli Gaines riding Dixons Got A Big Gun

Kelli and her daughter, Isabel, make an awesome Mother/Daughter team at NVRHA events. Kelli’s 8 year old bay/tobiano gelding has a very patient and willing attitude and is used for eventing and working cattle at home. After completing her B.S. degree at Colorado State University in Equine Science, Kelli worked on a cattle ranch in eastern Colorado, using horses to work cattle extensively. Her family always had horses during her childhood, where her love of horses became deeply rooted. The fun of competition was developed during her teenage involvement in 4H and now is blossoming in NVRHA.



### 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

#### Mary Emblom riding ST Smokin' Joe

Mary is a new comer to NVRHA. A proud grandmother and a successful exhibitor of Arabian Western Pleasure (two National Top Ten awards), Mary wanted to try something new. She sold her Arabian gelding and purchased Joe (Bob Acre Doc and Freckles Time). Joe was placed in training for two years. Mary took over and her “something new” was NVRHA. She admits the learning curve was steep. “I asked lots of questions! I also participated in any and all clinics and lessons that I could. The NVRHA members were very helpful in any way they could toward my being successful and confident.” Her goal “ Keep getting better and most importantly, keep having fun! Winning is a reward for doing a good job. The FUN is what it is all about!”

# Amateur Year-End Champions

## LIMITED DIVISION



### CHAMPION

#### Debbie Raymond riding Chexy Bar West

"I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015. Through the trials and tribulations of that, my heart was always in the barn. I purchased Cali in 2017. Her sire is West Coast Whiz with King Fritz and Colonel Freckles on the bottom side of her pedigree. She is the same every day with a wonderful disposition. I exercise, ride as much as possible, take lessons and try to be positive." Debbie and her husband Earl are quite a team. Earl ( and sometimes Debbie ) race cars together. They purchased a farm in NE Colorado where they raised registered cattle. Later sold the farm and moved to a smaller acreage. Debbie was introduced to NVRHA by a neighbor and " have enjoyed and lamented, the challenges of it ever since"! No doubt, a bright future is ahead for this talented team.

### RESERVE

#### Cindy Abshire riding El Rey Conquistador

Cindy has been active in NVRHA since its founding in 2007. Her introduction to Ranch Horse was in 2002 at the National Western Stock Show. She competed at the NWSS in 2006, the first year AQHA opened the event to Amateurs, on her first ranch horse "Scooter." Scooter later became a NVRHA Ranch Horse Champion with Cindy in the saddle. She purchased El Rey Conquistador (Rango), a son of Conquistador Whiz winning both the Reserve Year- End. High Point award in the Limited Division and the National Championship in 2020.



### THIRD PLACE

#### Mike Beakley riding Docs Shiney Pistol

Mike is a relatively new comer to NVRHA, but has excelled with Pistol after only two years of participation. Mike and wife, Penny, moved to Colorado Springs from Houston, Texas to be close to their grandchildren. Mike raised Pistol and has completed most of his training himself. The two make quite the team and are blazing a trail of distinguished accomplishments in NVRHA. The future is bright for this talented duo.



# Open Year-End Champions

## OPEN DIVISION

CHAMPION - KATIE UDELL riding Shooting for Cocktails



RESERVE

← STEPHANY SIITARI riding Little Lido Ote

3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE

↓ SUE EISENMAN riding DLB Smart Blue Bars





# Northern Lights Winter Mini-Clinics

## A HUGE SUCCESS

### SO – YOU THOUGHT MINNESOTANS HIBERNATE IN THE WINTER? – NOT SO!

Just how do we deal with the long cold dull drums of winter in the North Country? First, we hold an “Introduction to Versatility” mini clinic to expose new riders to all the dry work involved with our brand of fun, a non-threatening means that’ll entice some newbies to sign up for new adventures. We did that in November with the awesome Lita Perrin, who’s such a great teacher and who tells some hilarious stories.

The new riders have SO MUCH FUN that they eagerly sign up for our “Progressive Winter Series with Lita Perrin” which is set up as one-day clinics focusing on all aspects of the dry classes – held one day each month – January, February, and March.



And ok, just to be safe, we set up a snow date in April, in case the weather lives up to its’ notorious reputation. The absolutely greatest advantage of this is having weeks between each session to work on all the new skills we learn, and then returning to take those skills one step further! Each time we meet, new patterns are handed out so all can prepare for the next gathering.

And THEN, for the last session – we hold a “mock show”, which gives everyone the chance to experience the thrill of riding a pattern and dressing the part, and to face

the fear of entering an arena solo. By that time, we’re all friends – supporting every try and every success!

Of course, we throw in some excellent noon meals in the name of building camaraderie and besides, that’s just plain “Minnesota nice”. And you’ll all thought we spent our winters huddled by the fire? Not so – we just added a new bunch of friends that are READY to RIDE with Northern Lights Versatility! Give it a try in your region – it’s been THE BEST TIMES we’ve had all winter and we’re mounted and we’re ready for a summer of more LEARNING and FUN!

# Warrior Vet Ranch Horse Roundup

## PANDEMIC STYLE



Ride the horse you are on today. I’m certain this is a saying many of you have heard over the years. I believe this is a saying that transcends horse riding alone and can be applied to life in general. Living through 2020, we all learned to adapt and deal with circumstances we’d never encountered before. Ranch Horse Round Up Clinic 2020 was no exception.

Ranch Horse Round Up is an annual fundraising event sponsored by Kit Carson Riding Club and NVRHA, with proceeds

supporting military charities in our area. This year’s event provided much needed donations to The Remount Foundation and Camp Shady Book YMCA. The Remount Foundation ([www.remountfoundation.org](http://www.remountfoundation.org)) provides equine assisted therapeutic activities in a natural, supportive environment to our wounded military members, first responders and their families. Pikes Peak YMCA’s Camp Shady Brook (<https://ppymca.org/camp-shady-brook>) provides camps for military families and children of fallen and injured veterans.

As with so many events in 2020, we had to alter a few things. Rather than a two-day event with a silent and live auction as our main money earners, we changed to a one-day clinic with an online auction. This reduced the need for the number of volunteers and planning time substantially. With a lot of effort from a relatively small number of individuals, we were able to

have a successful event and raise a total of \$7382.06, split evenly between our two beneficiaries.

There is not enough room in this article to thank everyone that was involved this year but I do want to thank the boards of NVRHA and Kit Carson Riding Club for their amazing support. In addition, it is not any exaggeration to say that this event would not have happened this year without the hard work and support of Annie Eitel, CoVRHA and Robin Mercier, NVRHA. I have made an effort to thank the other volunteers, sponsors and those who offered donation items for the event this year on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/ranchhorseroundup2020](http://www.facebook.com/ranchhorseroundup2020). Please visit our websites at [www.nvrha.com](http://www.nvrha.com) or [www.kitcarsonriding.club](http://www.kitcarsonriding.club) for more information and to be on the lookout for upcoming information about Ranch Horse Round Up 2021.

# 2020 National Finals - Lincoln, NE

## YOUTH | NOVICE DIVISION



**CHAMPION**  
Isabel Gaines riding  
**A CLASSIC PAGE**

**RESERVE**  
Teagan Eskam riding  
**DOING SOMETHING WRIGHT**



## YOUTH | LIMITED DIVISION



**CHAMPION**  
Morgan Eskam riding  
**BETS SMART LENA**

**RESERVE**  
Grace Douglas riding  
**BEE A CAPTAIN**



## YOUTH | AMATEUR DIVISION



**CHAMPION**  
Megan Newlon riding  
**LANGTREES CD**



# 2020 National Finals - Lincoln, NE

## AMATEUR | NOVICE DIVISION

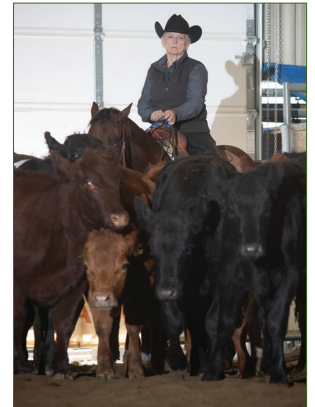


### CHAMPION

#### Emily Lappegaard riding GOLDEN H MISTER T

Emily is relatively new to NVRHA. She purchased her horse "T" from Alecia Heinz, who had exhibited him to his Ranch Horse Championship. Emily took up the reins and was runner up in the Novice Division in her first year of western riding, overcoming a restricting health diagnosis.

Winning the National Finals Novice Division and the year end high-point in her second year was a huge accomplishment, as she must dedicate significant time running her real estate company in Denver. "My goal is to continue to improve as a rider and become able to connect with my horse in such a way that the riding looks effortless as one body and mind."



### RESERVE

#### Connie Brase Riding MR MADE WRIGHT

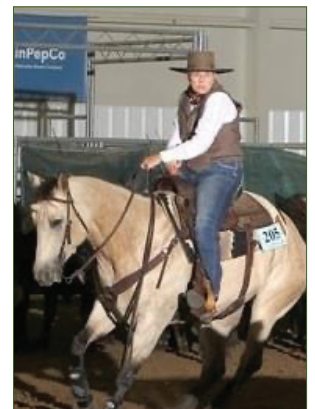
## AMATEUR | LIMITED DIVISION



### CHAMPION

#### Cindy Abshire riding EL REY CONQUISTADOR

Cindy has been active in NVRHA from its founding in 2007. Her introduction to Ranch Horse was in 2002 at the National Western Stock Show. She competed at the Stock Show in 2006, the first year AQHA opened the event to Amateurs, on her first ranch horse "Scooter." Scooter later became a NVRHA Ranch Horse Champion with Cindy in the saddle. She purchased El Ray Conquistador (Rango), a son of Conquistador Whiz and over seven years culminating in winning both the Reserve Year End High Point award in the Limited Division and the National Championship in 2020.



### RESERVE

#### Kim Kasson riding SPARK OLENA 309

# 2020 National Finals - Lincoln, NE

## AMATEUR DIVISION



**CHAMPION**  
Stephany Siitari  
riding  
**LITTLE LIDO OTE**

"My horse experience started when I was 10 years in Maryland riding Geronimo, a black Mustang stallion. Numerous horses have been in my life since then. Today it is Ote. Ote is such a wonderful partner, I could not ask for more."



**RESERVE**  
Sue Eisenman  
riding  
**DLB SMART BLUE BARS**

## OPEN | WORLD'S GREATEST



### CHAMPION

**Megan Newlon riding LANGTREES CD**

Willy is the sweetest boy who truly loves his job. He is the first horse I've had the pleasure of competing with in versatility classes. The amount he's taught me about versatility, but also life, is immeasurable." "The most fun part of the Ranch Horse adventure has been growing as a person and a horsewoman, while also connecting with incredible people along the way."



**RESERVE**  
Stephany Siitari riding **LITTLE LIDO OTE**

# 2021 NVRHA SCHEDULE

## APRIL

**17 - 18** Colorado Kickoff  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.

## MAY

**6 - 9** Kansas Rendezvous  
(Double Event), Hugoton, Kan.

**15 - 16** Wyoming State Fairgrounds,  
Douglas, Wyo.

**22 - 23** Horse First Farm,  
Brooklyn, Wi.

**29 - 30** Memorial Day Roundup,  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.

## JUNE

**12 - 13** Eastern Prairie Showdown,  
Eads, Co.

**19 - 20** Rimoe Ranch,  
New Richmond, Wi.

## JULY

**9 - 11** Mid Summer Rendezvous,  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.  
(Joint Event with approved AQHA)

**17 - 18** Strait Rail Ranch,  
Nevis, MN.

**17 - 18** Albion, Nebraska.

**31** 7th Annual Ranch Horse Roundup  
Charity Event, Colorado Sprgs., Colo.

**31 - Aug 1** Lyons, Kansas

**31 - Aug 1** Introductory NVRHA Event,  
Hermosa, S.D.

SAVE THE DATE!

## NVRHA NATIONAL FINALS

September 24-26, 2021  
Lancaster Event Center  
Lincoln, NE

## QUALIFYING?

Compete in two NVRHA  
affiliated shows in the  
2021 season.

## AUG

**21 - 22** Colorado Cowhands,  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.

**27, 28, 29** Two Events at Double F. Arena,  
Hinckley, MN.

**28 - 29** Justin Hendersons Ranch,  
Cheyenne, Wyo.

**28 - 29** Edgemont, South Dakota.

**TBD** Pony Express Club,  
St. Joseph, Missouri

## SEPT

**11 - 12** Finals Warmup,  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.

**11 - 12** Cheyenne, Wyo.

**24 - 26** NVRHA Finals, Lancaster Arena,  
Lincoln, Ne.

## OCT

**9 - 10** Fall Gathering,  
Latigo Trails, Elbert, Co.

## WINTER

Northern Lights Winter  
Mini-Clinics

# The Show Goes On

## NVRHA MEMBERS FIND SUCCESS AT 2021 NRSHA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW



Matt Clark was Reserve All Around in NRSHA Novice Division  
Wife Keri (holding Reserve Ribbon), Daughters Claire and Claudia

After members were disheartened at the cancellation of the 2020 National Ranch and Stock Horse Alliance National Championship Show, the show returned and proceeded this year from June 22-27, hosted by the Lazy E Arena in Guthrie, Oklahoma. In conjunction, the AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse World Championship, Ranching Heritage Challenge Finals and Level 1 Championship Shows were also held concurrently.

As a NRSHA founding alliance member, NVRHA had an excellent

representation with members competing in the NRSHA National Championship and each of the three other major shows, as well. Nineteen members competed showing participation across various divisions including Amateur, Limited Amateur and Novice Amateur as well as Limited Youth and Novice Youth.

Against the best competitors from around the country, NVRHA members found themselves on the leaderboards among them. Eleven members placed in the Top Ten of their respective

all-around division with 23 Top Ten individual class placings in addition to 35 placing in the Top Five. Six of those Top Five placings earned class champion and eight earned reserve class champion titles.

“Exhibitors competing at the 2021 AQHA VRH World are making history with AQHA,” said Justin Billings, AQHA chief show officer. “This year’s show is the largest in Association history, with a 30% increase in the number of entries and more than 200 first-time exhibitors.”

NVRHA’s number of participants increased by 36% since the 2019 show as well as a massive 61% increase in the number of Top Ten placings.

“To be eligible to compete in the 2022 NRSHA National Championship Show, a rider must show in at least three events hosted by an alliance partner between March 1, 2021, and February 29, 2022,” NRSHA stated.

The National Ranch and Stock Horse Alliance is providing innumerable opportunities for riders of all levels to take their skills to the next level through the National Championship Show; the National Versatility Ranch Horse Association is honored to be a founding member of The Alliance and challenges members to take advantage of the opportunity set before them and reap the incredible experience of the elite event in the future.

## LEGENDS EXCEL AT WORLD SHOW



Little Bell Pepper &  
Jennifer Sadler



Langtrees CD &  
Shane Bangerte



Langtrees CD &  
Megan Newlon



Riskey Irish Whiskey &  
Donna & Charlie Stewart

# NVRHA POINT SYSTEM

**NVRHA** has a unique point base scoring system used by judges to provide excellent feedback to riders on each and every maneuver in every class. It provides the basis for accurate assignment of horse/rider teams to Divisions based on the combined skills of the horse and rider. Of equal importance is the basis it provides for the fair CALCULATION OF POINTS which establishes the basis for awards.

## DUAL POINT SYSTEM

Two separate point systems are used. PLACEMENT POINTS are used to establish event high point horse and rider teams and year end winners within each Division. CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS are used to establish levels of achievement of horse and rider teams and horses based upon scores achieved in each class regardless of the division in which the score was achieved.

Horse/rider teams earning many Placement Points generally earn many Championship Points, but there is no direct correlation. In the pages that follow, a simplified description of each system will be explained. The Official Handbook should be consulted for more details.

## AMATEUR & OPEN PLACEMENT POINTS

One half of the horse/rider teams in the Amateur Division (horse in the Open Division) receive Placement Points in each of the five classes in each and every Division. These points are used to establish Event All Around Awards and Year End Awards.

### Example 1

8 Horses in any Class  
 $8/2 = 4$  Horses receive points  
 1st Place - 4 Placement Points  
 2nd Place - 3 Points  
 3rd Place - 2 Points  
 4th Place - 1 Point

### Example 2

5 Horses in any Class  
 Note: If odd number of horses in class, round up to next even number then divide by 2.  
 $6/2 = 3$  Horses receive points  
 1st Place - 3 Points  
 2nd Place - 2 Points  
 3rd Place - 1 Point



## CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

Championship points earned by horse and rider teams are used to recognise and reward levels of achievement. Points are awarded to horse/rider teams from any division based upon the scores received in any of the five NVRHA classes. One championship is awarded to the team for every five horses having lower scores.

### Example 1

An event has the following number of horse/rider teams, all of the amateurs participated in all five classes:

#### AMATEUR DIVISION:

Novice: 6 horses, Limited: 11 horses, Amateur: 4 horses

#### YOUTH AMATEUR DIVISION:

Novice: 2 horses, Limited: 1 horse, Amateur: 0 horses  
 Total: 24 Amateur Horse/Rider Teams

#### OPEN DIVISION:

Cutting: 3 horses; Working: 2 horses; Riding: 5 horses; Trail: 5 horses  
 Note: In Open, any horse, any rider can compete in any class)

Amateur Divisions, point calculations in all five classes are done exactly the same way. The Cutting Class will be used as the example.

In Cutting 24 horses participated, the top scores were:  
 Score Awarded

Horse A (from Limited Division)	79
B (from Novice Division)	77
C* (from Amateur Division)	75
D (from Youth Nov Division)	73
E (from Amateur Division)	69
F (from Limited Division)	68
G (from Novice Division)	62

\* Horse C has earned 10 points in cutting in previous events (Designated a Register of Merit Horse), ROM Rule Applies, i.e. The horse with the next lower score receives the same number of Championship Points.

As there were a total of 24 horses in the Amateur Division and one Championship Point is awarded to each 5 horses outsourced.

Horse A will receive 24/5	=	4 Points
B one less	=	3
C one less	=	2
D same as C (ROM Rule)	=	2
Horse E one less than D	=	1
Horse F	=	1/2
Horse G	=	no points

#### OPEN DIVISION:

Open Division Championship Points are calculated by class, on point awarded to each 5 horses outsourced. 1/2 point is awarded to classes with 3-4 horses. No points are awarded to classes with 1 to 2 horses.

In the Cutting Class of 3 horses in our example, the top horse would have received 1/2 point

In Working, no points would have been awarded, regardless of score as their was only 2 horses

In Riding and Trail(5 horses in each class), the top horses would have earned one point, and 2nd horse 1/2 point.

Ranch Horse Versatility Clinic and Schooling  
Competition  
INTRODUCTORY NVRHA EVENT

July 31st - August 1st, 2021

Circle T Arena  
14446 Daughenbaugh Road  
Hermosa, SD 57744

**Judge/Clinician: Dave Currin**  
**Clinician: Kathy Hart**

Limited to 12 Riders

Circle T Arena has 3 Trailer Hookups (Elec only) however you can park with no hookups as well.

You are welcome to fill tanks for water  
Stalls are Available for an additional \$10.00  
(BYO Shavings)

Lunch will be available to purchase each day.

Entry Fee for both days

\$200.00

Deposit to hold spot is  
\$100.00 (non refundable)

Divisions

Novice

Limited

Amateur

(All breeds are welcome and  
all levels of riders)

Please contact Sherry Sidle at 605-381-3781 should you have any questions or you can message on the SD Versatility Ranch Horse Page on Facebook.

We look forward to seeing you there to enjoy your horses, learn and have some fun at the same time.

**Saturday VHR Clinic Starts at 9AM**

Cutting

Working Cowhorse

Trail

Ranch Riding

**Sunday Schooling Competition  
Starts at 9AM**

Sunday Schooling Competitions will be conducted using the National Versatility Ranch Horse Association rules (See [www.NVRHA.org](http://www.NVRHA.org) for Rulebook and Patterns) Ranch Riding Pattern #1 and Reining Pattern #1 will be used in the Schooling Competition

This will be an INTRODUCTORY NVRHA EVENT. No NVRHA Points will be awarded.

Placings in the show will count toward the SD Ranch Horse Versatility Points

Registration Form is available on the FB page this week and Membership form (must become a member) this is available on the SD Versatility Ranch Horse Page on Facebook.

Please mail the registration form and membership form (if not a current member) with fees by check to secure your spot by July 15th to:

Julie Steinman

8797 Dearview Road

Piedmont SD 57769

Make Check Payable to SDVRHA

(Forms can be e-mailed if needed by request to either [lynnhagen58@gmail.com](mailto:lynnhagen58@gmail.com) or [paintedponiestack@outlook.com](mailto:paintedponiestack@outlook.com))





# Our 2020 Year End Award Winners



**Youth Novice Champion**  
Addison McBroom & Suka



**Novice Champion**  
Vicky Henderson DJ JOE DE BOON



**Limited Amateur Champion & Horse of the Year**  
Erin Norling & CA Texarkana



**Open Champion**  
Deb Sonneberg &  
Honest As Carl



**Amateur Champion**  
Katie Udell &  
Shooting for Cocktails



**Amateur Reserve Champion**  
Sue Eisenman &  
DLB Smart Blue Bars



**Open Reserve Champion**  
Stephanie Stull &  
The Bee's Knee's



**Novice Reserve Champion**  
Jenni Gillet & LRS I CD STORM COMIN



Cody Hendrickson

**NLVRHA  
Co-Horseman  
of the Year**

**Cody  
&  
Steve  
Hendrickson**



Steve Hendrickson  
Limited Reserve Champion

## 2021 EVENT SCHEDULE

- ~ May 22 & 23 Horse First Farm, Brooklyn, WI
- ~ June 19 & 20 Rimoe Ranch, New Richmond, WI
- ~ July 17 & 18 Strait Rail Ranch, Nevis, MN
- ~ July 31 – August 1 C5 Arena, Decorah, IA
- ~ August 27, 28 & 29 TWO SHOWS at Double F Arena, Hinckley, MN

**DREAM. DARE. RIDE. ACHIEVE.**

# CO Versatility Ranch Horse Association



The COVRHA motto for 2020 was DO.NOT.QUIT. A pandemic could NOT stop COVRHA from making history in 2020. This time last year we were wondering how we could carry on a show schedule with COVID making its ugly and heart-breaking appearance.

We cancelled our highly anticipated April Kickoff - with confidence that our Memorial Day event would happen. Record entries for the May event had riders and judges coming from 4 states and... The DAY BEFORE the show we had to cancel our event due to events beyond our control. Our board of directors was disheartened, to put it mildly. BUT we DID.NOT.QUIT. We were able to reschedule the Memorial Day show in June and started building momentum.

In July, COVRHA combined the NVRHA with AQHA hosting our first AQHA VRH event - the participation was the largest in NVRHA history! We wrapped up our season with records - record attendance, more youth participants than ever and more entries in each division than ever before.

In 2020 the COVRHA completed its Buckle series in fine style - awarding winners in 5 divisions!

## YOUTH NOVICE DIVISION

- 1st Emma Alvey / Drummers Tari Brooke
- 2nd Tori Dinan / Mighty Effie
- 3rd Caleb Dinan / Kidd

## YOUTH LIMITED DIVISION

- 1st Emma Alvey / Gallos Smokin Tari
- 2nd Kaylee Sefcovic / Smoke N Wright On
- 3rd Jessica Dekker / Taris Bonnie

## NOVICE DIVISION

- 1st Emily Lappegaard / Golden H Mister T
- 2nd Dave Currin / Rowdyhollywoodcowboy
- 3rd Kelly Preisser / Skyhawk Gladdis
- 4th Barbara Fillmore / Wise Rooster

## LIMITED DIVISION

- 1st Cindy Abshire / El Rey Conquistador
- 2nd Michael Beakley / Docs Shiney Pistol

## AMATEUR DIVISION

- 1st Kay Cornelius / HR Playin Dori



**WINNER**  
EMMA ALVEY riding  
Drummers Tari Brooke



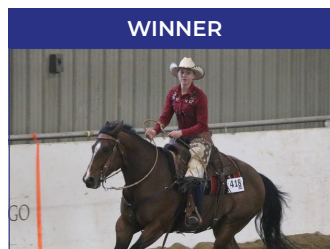
**RUNNER UP**  
TORI DINAN riding  
Mighty Effie



**WINNER**  
EMILY LAPPEGAARD riding  
Golden H Mister T



**RUNNER UP**  
DAVE CURRIN riding  
Rowdyhollywoodcowboy



**WINNER**  
EMMA ALVEY riding  
Gallos Smoking Tari



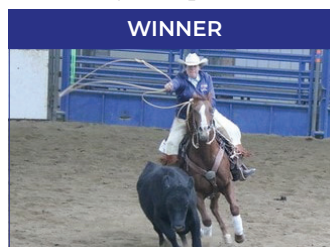
**RUNNER UP**  
KAYLEE SEFCOVIC riding  
Smokin Wright On



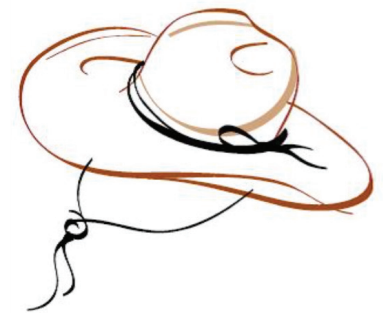
**WINNER**  
CINDY ABSHIRE riding  
El Rey Conquistador



**RUNNER UP**  
MICHAEL BEAKLEY riding  
Docs Shiney Pistol



**WINNER**  
KAY CORNELIUS riding  
HR Playin Dori



2021 looks bright for the COVRHA - our first event was held in October, celebrating the 2020 champions and now looking forward to 6 more great events from April to September 2021.

COVRHA is proud to hold at Latigo Equestrian Center and most of the 2021 events will be there. We have a great slate of clinician/judges lined up. In June COVRHA teams up with SCVRHA to hold the Eastern Prairie Showdown held at Eads CO.

In July COVRHA will hold a combined AQHA event which will be a double judged AQHA VRH event, stretching the VRH classes out over 2 ½ days. We'll all be honing our skills late in the summer to get ready for the NVRHA Finals in Lincoln NE. Here is our schedule! Come Ride with Us!



**2020 NOVICE WINNER**  
**EMILY LAPPEGAARD** riding Golden H Mister T



**2020 LIMITED WINNER**  
**JUDY PARSONS** riding Pistol Packin Picasso



**2020 AMATEUR WINNER**  
**GLENN RYAN** riding Sly Fancy Cat



**2020 NOVICE YOUTH WINNER**  
**GRACE DOUGLAS** riding Be A Captain



**2020 AMATEUR YOUTH WINNER**  
**MEGAN NEWLON** riding Langtrees CD



**2020 OPEN WINNER**  
**JUDY PARSONS** riding Pistol Packin Picasso

**SOUTH CENTRAL AFFILIATE EVENTS**

**MAY 6-9 - HUGOTON, KS**

**MAY 22-23 - ST. JO, MO**

**JUNE 5-6 - NORTON, KS**

**JUNE 12-13 - EADS, CO**

**JULY 31-AUGUST 1 - LYONS, KS**

NATIONAL VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE ASSOCIATION

# NVRHA-WY 2021 SERIES

May 15-16 Douglas WY  
August 28-29 Cheyenne WY  
September 11-12 Cheyenne WY

NVRHA SANCTIONED SHOWS  
ENTRIES GAIN NATIONAL POINTS  
YEAR END SERIES BUCKLES

for more information visit us on Facebook @NVRHAWY  
call/ text at 307-277-1419 or  
email at Heather.Gabbard@yahoo.com



# South Central States NVRHA

**NVRHA Clinic and Schooling Competition**  
**May 22-23, 2021**

Clinicians: Jay and Gena Henson

## 2 Days!

**Pony Express Saddle and Bridle Club**

20176 Co Rd 379, St. Joseph, MO 64505.

[www.pesbc.com](http://www.pesbc.com)



Learn these classes:

Working Ranch Horse  
Ranch Cutting  
Ranch Trail  
Ranch Riding  
Ranch Conformation

Fees: (subject to change)

Entry fee \$450 before deadline  
Clinic only \$325  
Competition only \$350  
Youth \$300  
Stalls \$20.00/night  
No available hook up

Bring your own wood chips  
Stock charge, judge and arena fees  
are included in the entry fee.

Deadline for early show entries - **May 1**  
Please reserve your spot so we can  
have a count on the number of cattle.

Info on flyer can change without notice.

**ORSCHELN**  
**FARM & HOME**  
Savannah, MO - (816) 324-5811

Starting time will be 8 am each day.

All breeds and non registered horses are  
welcome to participate.

Show Contacts: Rich Masoner: 816.351.8148  
[richhorses@gmail.com](mailto:richhorses@gmail.com)

Kelli Thompson: 816.261.1624  
[pesbcmail@gmail.com](mailto:pesbcmail@gmail.com)

Check web site regularly for practice dates  
and updated info.

If you are at all interested in learning these events  
prior to attending the show or clinic please call Rich.  
NVRHA is about education and making sure you are not  
afraid to compete at one of these shows, *anybody* can  
do it on any horse.

Concessions available on the grounds.

**REED**  
**CHEVROLET**  
[www.reedchevystj.com](http://www.reedchevystj.com)

**HNB**  
BANK  
[www.hnbbanks.com](http://www.hnbbanks.com)

**National Versatility Ranch Horse Association - [www.nvrha.org](http://www.nvrha.org)**

5925 Omaha Blvd, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80915

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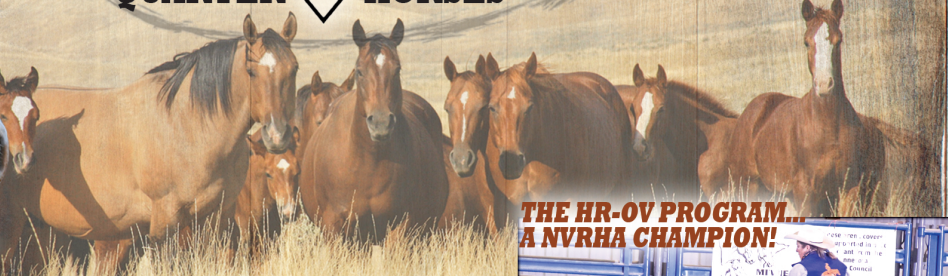
FULL SERVICE STOP!



HR  
**HARRELL - MACKENZIE**  
 QUARTER HORSES



**PERFORMANCE-BRED FOR THE RANCH & ARENA!**



**THE HR-OV PROGRAM... A NVRHA CHAMPION!**

**Versatile Performance Horses from the High Desert, Mountain Country of Eastern Oregon!**

**Ranchers, Arena Competitors, Quarter Horse Breeders**  
 ...they make their living riding good horses!

**24th Annual Performance Horse Prospect Sale**  
**MARCH 7, 2022**  
 Held with Harrell Hereford Ranch Production Sale  
 Selling Two-Yr-Old Prospects Started Under Saddle  
 Select HR-OV Program Broodmares



**HR Payin Dori** 2007 Sorrel Mare  
 Sire Payin Doc • Owned & ridden by Kay Cornelius, CO  
 A multi NVRHA Nat'l Finals/ AQHA/ CNVRHA Champion & Reserve in Amateur, Int. & Novice All-Around and Novice Cutting competition!

**THE STALLIONS...**

Select Stallions Standing for 2021 • Cooled Shipped & Frozen Semen Available

**OUR FOUNDATION...**  
 Proven stallions  
 ...sires of young HR-OV broodmares!



**BILLY RED BARON**  
 1997 Sorrel  
 Sire: Mr Baron Red, AQHA World Show Superhorse  
 • Powerful, All-Around Performance Stallion!



**PAY THE SIXES** 2015 Sorrel  
 Sire: Sixes Pick, AQHA World Ranch Versatility Champion  
 • Classy Cowhorse ... World Champ. Ranch Horse Blood!



**FRENCHMANS BULLY** 1999 Sorrel  
 Sire: Frenchmans Guy, \$14 Million Sire  
 • Hi-Powered ProRodeo/ Futurity Blood  
 ...\$120,000 Progeny Futurity/ Rodeo Earnings!



**PAYIN DOC** 1998 Sorrel  
 Paid By Chic (World's Greatest Horseman Champ.)  
 x NCHA All-Time Producer Doc's Serendipity  
 • Proven Championship NCHA/ NRCHA Blood!



**STAR LIKE FRECKLES** 1996 Sorrel  
 Sire: Grays Starlight, Leading NCHA/ NRCHA/ NRHA Sire  
 • Powerful...\$65,000 Progeny Cowhorse/ Rodeo Earnings!



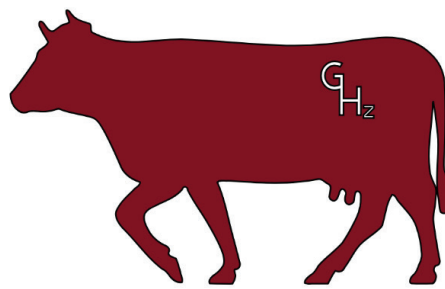
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*Alecia and  
Matt Heinz  
celebrate!*



## LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT HONORS

- Alecia and T: Ranch Horse Champion
- Ranch Horse Supreme Champion
- Emily and T: Ranch Horse Champion
- T: Superior Ranch Riding Award

## DIVISION HONORS

- 2017 Amateur Division Winner - South Central Affiliate
- 2017 Amateur Division - National Championship
- 2018 Reserve Novice Division - National Championship
- 2019 Reserve Novice Division High Point - Year End Champion
- 2019 Novice Division Winner - South Central Affiliate
- 2019 Reserve Novice Division - Colorado Affiliate
- 2020 Novice Division - Year End Champion
- 2020 Novice Division - National Championship
- 2020 Novice Division Winner - Colorado Affiliate
- 2020 Novice Division Winner - South Central Affiliate



## CHAMPION

### Emily Lappegaard riding Golden H Mister T

Emily is relatively new to NVRHA. She purchased her horse “T” from Alecia Hines, who had exhibited him to his Ranch Horse Championship. Emily took up the reins and was runner up in the Novice Division in her first year of western riding, overcoming a restricting health diagnosis. Winning the National Finals Novice Division and the year end high-point in her second year was a huge accomplishment, as she must dedicate significant time running her real estate company in Denver. “ My goal is to continue to improve as a rider and become able to connect with my horse in such a way that the riding looks effortless as one body and mind.”