

NATIONAL VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE ASSOCIATION

NVRHA *Rundown*

Fall 2022

Volume 14

Congratulations
2021 Legend Award Winners...
HR Playin Dori & Kay Corneilus



Stephany Siitari & Little Lito Ote



A Letter From Our President



2021 was a banner year for NVRHA. Our two new Affiliates in Wyoming and South Dakota strengthen with successful events. Gena and I were invited to a South Dakota event and were very impressed with both the quality of the event management, the quality of the horses and their riders, and the excellent friendly atmosphere that

we experienced a special thanks goes to Sherry Sidle for her excellent work in bringing NVRHA to South Dakota. A fantastic job.

Although, Gena and I haven't visited Wyoming, the results there are also impressive. Erin Mullinane and Heather Gabbard have done a great job -- adding new events and creating a fun and educational experience for their participants. Thanks to you both for your great work! Gena and I plan to come to Wyoming and experience first-hand, that cowboy comradery!

2021 was a very impressive year for rider / horse achievements, as Vicky Henderson and Tatonka became our second Diamond Medal winner. Two new Legends were honored -- Stephany Siitari riding Little Lito Ode and Kay Cornelius riding HR Playin Dori. We congratulate you three special achievers! Already, two additional horses have earned Legend in 2022 and their achievements will be celebrated at the 2022 National Championship to be held in Lincoln, Nebraska in September. Hope you all can come help us celebrate!

Despite the fuel prices going off the charts, our 2022 events have been well attended. At the price peak, two events on the Colorado / Kansas

border were canceled, but all the rest survived. It now looks like we have passed the peak and prices are receding, so we look forward to a highly successful National Championship. Brian Duer, one of many key volunteers helping make our National Championship extra special is my new neighbor in Kansas and he has agreed to help us out this year! Thanks Brian and all the other great volunteers!

On another positive note, several new events are being added to our venue, Cheyenne, Wyoming, St. Joseph, Missouri and Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Our new start team are also working with the folks on the Western Slope of Colorado for an "Intro Event" in Rifle, Colorado in late October.

Another exciting happening in NVRHA is the addition of an Intermediate Amateur Division which is starting up this year. Those participants that "Point Out" of Novice now have a third Division option to consider. Many in the past chose the Limited Amateur Division as they were uncomfortable with the Amateur Division, as you had to go down the fence and either rope or circle. The new Intermediate Division keeps Cutting the same as Novice but the Working Class requires a Double Box (same as in the Limited Division). We think this will be very successful, as our participants advance up the ladder of horsemanship achievement.

The past in NVRHA has been very successful and the future looks even brighter than ever! We must all dedicate ourselves to continuing the "having fun" and "improving horsemanship" emphasis to insure our onward and upward progression! See you at the National Championship in September!!!

Signed,
President NVRHA

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay Henson	President-New Starts	wbarthraingstables@yahoo.com
Channing Hawks	Vice president Affiliate Chair-Sentral	chanhawks@yahoo.com
Megan Newlon	Secretary Assoc. Editor-Rundown	megan.newlon125@gmail.com
Dave Currin	Rundown Editor New Starts	dcurrin@msn.com
Alecia Heinz	Treasurer	smartace007@yahoo.com
Kay Cornelius	Affiliate Chair-CO	kay@coyoteridgeherefords.com
Connie Brase	Colorado Rep	cbrase030@gmail.com
Bill Hauschildt	Business Manager	bill@centralstatesroofing.com
Shane Bangerter	Legal Counsel	shane@rbr3.com
Sue Eisenman	Affiliate Chair Northern Lights	speisenman@aol.com
Vicky Henderson	Northern Lights Rep	vhender4429@gmail.com
Ann Goebel	Northern Lights Rep Assoc. Editor-Rundown	ann@gritwins.com
Makenna Lilly	South Central Rep	makennalilly@yahoo.com
Sherry Sidle	Affiliate Chair South Dakota	PaintedponiesTack@Outlook.com
NVRHA Office	Secretary, Robin Mercier	nvrha.office@gmail.com 719-550-0189

Office:
5925 Omaha Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO
80915

Telephone:
719-550-0189

Fax: **719-550-0194**

Website: **nvrha.org**

Advertising Rates:
Inside front/back
\$500
Full Page \$250
Half Page \$150
Business Card \$25

Editor:
David Currin

Associate Editor:
Megan Newlon
Emily Lappegaard
Ann Goebel



Special Contributors:
Ann Goebel
Sue Eisenman
Megan Newlon
Dave Currin
Stephany Siitari
Coleman Cornelius
Kay Cornelius
Donna Stewart

Copyright (C)
All Rights Reserved
National Versatility
Ranch Horse Association
2021

Vicky Henderson Riding Tatanka

COMPLETE THEIR JOURNEY TO THE COVETED NVRHA DIAMOND MEDAL AWARD

BY ANN GOEBEL AND SUE EISENMAN

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 (NVRHA) 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!

The road to the Diamond Medal was near

ten years long with many hurdles to cross along the way. Vicki was only a few points away in Conformation at the end of 2020. As the Conformation class requires high scores in all four performance classes to earn Conformation Points, it was no "walk in the Park." This amazing team rose to the challenge and earned those difficult to achieve last few points.

NVRHA congratulates Vicki Henderson and her great horse, Tatanka, on the honor of the second horse to achieve this award. This award was earned competing against a field of 1700 horse / rider teams.



HR Playin Dori, Ridden by Kay Cornelius

RECOGNIZED WITH NVRHA'S LEGEND AWARD

BY COLEMAN CORNELIUS

In her day-to-day life, HR Playin Dori is at home on a cattle ranch in northern Colorado – often gathering, sorting, and bringing in breeding pairs of Polled Hereford cattle, moving bulls from one pasture to another, or pulling a sled loaded with a sick calf across the snow to the barn for treatment. It's likely you'll find her saddled and tied to a corral fencepost, waiting for her next job.

"Dori is a true ranch horse – she's got work to do every day on the ranch. We don't use motorized vehicles to move and work cows. We use ranch horses for all cow work," said Kay Cornelius, owner of the 15-year-old Quarter Horse mare.

Now, Dori is something more: the 2022 NVRHA Legend. Since 2008, the annual Legend honor has been bestowed as a top-level achievement award to horses that display the very best attributes of a Versatility Ranch Horse, including innate talent, competitive success, heart, smarts, fitness, and a keen cow sense. These elite performance horses and their riders stand as an inspiration for other riders competing in the sport with their own mounts.

For Dori, those attributes get a regular



workout at Coyote Ridge Ranch, a nationally recognized family operation that raises registered Polled Hereford cattle in LaSalle, Colorado, near Greeley. The mare's Versatility Ranch Horse competition has improved the skills needed for her daily working life.

"I have always firmly believed in the quality and power of VRH events, and I

always say 'I bring a better horse back to the ranch every time I go to a NVRHA event weekend.' Dori is the epitome of the spirit of VRH – a solid ranch horse with a willingness to work for a living, who can also go into the VRH show ring and compete," Cornelius said. "She is a truly special horse, and I'm lucky to have her. I'm very honored that Dori has been recognized as a Legend, and I hope we can encourage other competitors, just as my VRH friends have encouraged me."



Cornelius grew up on a farm and ranch in South Dakota and became "horse crazy" as a preschooler, after sitting atop a pony for the first time. At age 5, she took English hunt seat riding lessons. Then, as a 6-year-old, Cornelius got a pony from her grandfather and rode constantly – everywhere on the family farm; she fanned her passion with Billy and Blaze books. Two years later, the young equestrian pleaded for a horse as her 4-H project. Her parents agreed, and her family gravitated to Morgans for their versatility and amenable disposition. Through her school years, Cornelius showed and became increasingly accomplished in English hunt seat and harness competition, with a few Western riding classes thrown in.

Those Western riding skills quickly grew

when Cornelius married into a family with what has become one of the largest and best-known registered Hereford cattle herds in Colorado. She transitioned from the English discipline and the up-headed Morgans of her youth to consistently ride ranch-style Quarter Horses.

In 2007, she sought something more to do with the horses at Coyote Ridge Ranch, and an article in the American Quarter Horse Journal piqued her interest in a growing event concept called Versatility Ranch Horse. Soon, Cornelius was off to her first clinic and schooling show with a ranch gelding; they were far from accomplished, but, Cornelius recalled, "I had a ton of fun." Over a couple years, she learned, took lessons, tested other ranch horses, and was encouraged by a new acquaintance and polished VRH rider, Cori Attebery, who is now a close friend.

Then, Cornelius and her husband, Hampton, decided to upgrade the horse power at Coyote Ridge Ranch. In 2009, they attended a sale of started 2-year-olds at Harrell-Mackenzie Quarter Horses in the



high country of eastern Oregon. The horse ranch has an established breeding program that combines cow horse, performance, and speed bloodlines to produce all-around Quarter Horses. (The ranch is owned by a family that also runs Hereford cattle.)

"When we got to the preview, I absolutely fell in love with a flashy sorrel mare with two white socks and a big blaze – registered as HR Playin Dori," Cornelius recalled. "I circled her as my pick in the catalog and

wrote the words 'I love her!' on the page."

Hampton Cornelius picked a different mare – Dori's sister – and they agreed to buy the first of the two to appear in the sale. To Kay's disappointment, her husband's pick came first in the sale order; they bid and bought the sister, and Kay Cornelius left the sale arena to pay for the mare – unable to watch as Dori entered the ring, sure to go to a different buyer.

"As I was entering the sale office, my pick was going through the ring. Then, I heard the auctioneer say, 'Sold! Buyer is Coyote Ridge Ranch in Colorado,'" Cornelius said. "Well, I learned my husband can't resist a good horse in a sale. He surprised me by buying my pick as well as his. That's how Dori came to us."

Dori is by Harrell-Mackenzie's long-time stud, Payin Doc; he was Bob Avila's mount in a National Reined Cow Horse



Association World's Greatest Horseman competition. Dori's dam is a Colonel Freckles daughter with Pitzer breeding solidly on the second dam's side. She has plenty of cow on both sides of her pedigree, brains from the dam's sire, and flashy sorrel good looks and conformation.

Cornelius started showing Dori in 2012 and joined NVRHA/CoVRHA as a Novice. "We were green, green, green," she said. She remembered a Ranch Trail class that challenged horse and rider to cross logs at a trot, on a curve. "I joked afterwards that the instructions said, 'Nuke the logs,' which is what we did – going too fast, out of control, and displacing logs everywhere," Cornelius said. "Needless to say, we re-ran those logs a lot of times and figured out how to slow down and work on control."

The rider and her mare additionally benefited from the guidance of clinicians,



including Kelly Hall, who taught Cornelius the finer points needed for competition, especially in Ranch Reining and Ranch Cutting classes.

The duo entered the next show year as Novices ready for a full summer of shows. Even though Dori has been called a "stubborn redhead" at times, the horse and rider won the 2013 Novice CoVRHA Buckle Series and qualified for the National Finals show in Queen Creek, Arizona. To her surprise, Cornelius won the Novice Ranch Cutting class. That cemented her quest to advance to upper divisions.

In fact, Cornelius and Dori have continued to compete through the years and have moved to the Amateur division. In 2020, Dori won her Superior awards in Trail, Cow Work, and Conformation; the following year, she earned Ranch Horse Champion spurs when the duo amassed 10 points in Ranch Riding. And at the 2021 National Finals, Dori earned points for the Superior award in Cutting. That made her a "40 in 4" championship point earner – leading to the NVRHA Legend Award.

As Cornelius and Dori have become more



adept in competition, they also have developed a love of trail riding, camping, and hunting in Colorado's high country. The Cornelius family spends time off with their horses in the mountains – each summer, camping at 12,000 feet in the San Juan Mountains of southwestern Colorado – and Dori has proven a skillful trail horse and willing pack horse. This NVRHA Legend has packed elk out of the West Elk Wilderness near Gunnison, Colorado.

During her years of participation in NVRHA/CoVRHA, Cornelius also has advanced in her career and now serves as general manager of Panorama Organic of Westminster, Colorado, the largest producer of organic, grass fed, and grass finished beef in the United States. She has found riding – and setting goals in VRH competition – to be a passion and a source of close friendships outside the sphere of professional life. Yet, her avocation is naturally related to her cherished lifestyle and career in ranching and beef production.



Cornelius said she is grateful for the support she has received from her family and from the many friends she has made while training and showing Dori.

"There are a lot of people to thank for being able to ride a Legend," she said. "I've learned there really is a ranch horse family – and Dori brought this to me."

The Tale of Two Legends

Two best pals (both descendants of Smart Little Lena) are out in their pasture, munching on green grass up to their bellies, swishing flies when they see their favorite two-legged, Steph Siitari amble toward the gate. They never outright tell her that they call her Feed Bag, but she has a suspicion.

The year is 2017, SLJ Ruby Slippers (Juice) a 2007 Smart Like Juice Rabicano has just earned the coveted “NVRHA LEGEND” award. Feed Bag tells Juice she is the most wonderful horse in the world.

Little Lido Ote (Ote) the palomino, is one year younger than Juice. Ote is the result of AI, (a big rip off for his mother) a Minnesota pasture mare. His sire is Little Lido – a successful cutter out of Iowa (who being little, couldn’t have reached her anyway). The price tag on each of them is over \$10k as two and three-year-olds. Both are bought on payment plans, loans, and luck.

Tom Bjorkland, one of the fabulous NLVRHA clinicians started Ote as a cutting horse. After competing in the cutting world, the owner brought Ote back to Tom to sell. He was a couple hundred pounds underweight, which Tom fixed.



You couldn’t really call Ote broke when Feed Bag meets him. He spooks from clippers, Velcro boots, fly spray, vets, plastic bottles and does not let anyone touch his ears or move in his blind spot. He sees ghosts and he is afraid of the fuzzy end of a rope. He is an extreme introvert. Tom likes him and says he is cowy.

Juice gets laminitis due to the “food is love” program and Steph needs a spare tire. A friend suggests Steph buy Ote and they join the palomino club. She has been told it is never a good combo to have a novice



horse and a novice rider, but she ignores the wisdom of all the experienced professional horsemen and women and brings the cute untamed three-year-old blond prospect home. He is terrified of the trailer, and paws, kicks and tries to climb out of it. The friend sells her palomino and they don’t join the palomino club. Steph rides both Juice and Ote on the NVRHA trail.

Ote shakes his head and his eyes narrow as Steph approaches the gate, “Do you think Feed Bag wants to make us do something? I hope she just brings us cookies.” Ote is very fond of German Muffins which are loaded with molasses and oats. Always the optimist, he holds out hope. Besides “whoa,” “cookie” is Ote’s favorite word.

Ote cocks an ear back, “I hope we aren’t doing the drill today. Whenever she gets on my back, she is always fidgeting. I swear her legs are painted on. My circles are never round enough, her hand holds my reins too high so when we are working cattle she pulls my face off the cow when I try to turn. I know what to do, but it’s like she doesn’t trust me. I am pretty sure she is going to face plant.”

He sighs deeply, “Oh she gets me so confused. Then I get nervous, then it’s like her brain falls out of her butt. Nobody home up on top. I think I’m supposed to do something but I don’t know what, I start to sweat, I see nothing but sky. I just keep my feet moving faster. I hate being in trouble and I’m pretty sure I did something wrong, but no idea what.”

Juice understands this all too well. “Well, Ote Dear,” she says, “Feed Bag has been in the Jay and Gena Henson learn to ride program at W-H Ranch for several spring seasons with us both. I cross the braids in

my mane hoping she is catching on. God knows I’ve tried to teach her. You have to be patient with the two leggeds. They are an inferior species. Opposite of us, their reflexes are slow, their muscles are jerky, their hands are all over the place. Because they are so top heavy they try to balance on our tender mouths until we are numb. Their legs hang over our sides like straps with no purpose. They can’t run very fast, their memories are particularly short, they are very slow to learn; especially the ones who like to think they are stallions. How ridiculous it is to walk on your two hind feet. Walking and quacking like ducks. If we walk on our hind legs, there is trouble. All you can do is try to keep her in the middle of the saddle, the best you can.”

“Speaking of Henson’s Boot Camp for horses – what do you think of that place?”, he asks.



Ote continues, “It is always too hot or too cold. You never know which to expect. Gena always comes out to the barn wearing a puffer jacket and a scarf and you get all fixed to ride in an ice storm and it would be like 100 degrees. Hot weather, cold weather, howling wind, tin flapping everywhere, snow up to your belly, haunted horse eating tumbleweed, and those lead changes... AARGH. It is such hard work for both of us; being ridden every day, separated from you, it makes me crazy.”

“But then after the hard riding, Gena and I, we go sit on the bridge -she smokes a cigarette, then we go and stand in the gate, sit on the bridge, another cigarette, stand by the log drag, another puff. I got to love trail so much. I hope Feed Bag takes up smoking.”

“Sometimes Gena strokes my forelock and says, “Good boy, Ote.” I put my head in her

arms and close my eyes. One-time Jay comes out and says, “That horse has what it takes to be a LEGEND. He is everything that award was designed for; everything the American stock horse stands for.’ I feel pretty proud, but what I really feel like is having a good roll or --a cigarette. And a cookie. I miss Feed Bag.”

“Well,” snorts Juice, that Jay called me a ‘freak of nature’ but he did say I was fun. I didn’t think he was much fun. When he rode, he folded my hindquarters into my chin like an accordion in a banjo band. I couldn’t wait for Feed Bag to ride me so I could stretch out and sag in the middle and dive into cows shoulder first. Pretty sure that’s what Feed Bag wants since she is leaning that way all the time.”

Juice reminisces, “Feed Bag met up with us each year just before Rendezvous’. Gena worked with all of us and tried to break Feed Bag of her old habits. She’d say the same things over and over: ‘Put yer hand down, slow yer brain down, look up, sit back...’ Then Gena would climb off the fence and walk away shaking her head. And then light up another one. It must be hard teaching old two-leggeds new tricks.”



Ote paws and considers, “The cows sure are fun! They were really scary at first. Feed Bag’s legs were shaking when one came too close. I thought there was maybe something to be afraid of and I was thinking I should booger out of there until she learned to keep her legs close to my sides and stop jerking my face. The best part of the ride is when she gets off, loosens the cinch and gives me a scratch. And a cookie.”

Ote’s head goes up and he perks his ears forward, “Oh BOY! Would you look at that, Juice! Feed Bag is hooking up the trailer! I hope we are going trail riding! It is so pleasant being on the trail enjoying the



scenery with our friends.”

“I love hearing the old two-leggeds quacking away on the trail, don’t you? Sometimes they sound like ducks and donkeys and their bellies shake all the way down to their boots. The noise is constant You can’t hear if something might come out of the woods, so you kind of forget about being on alert every second. Isn’t it strange what sounds the two-leggeds make? I would understand better if they stopped making noise all the time and would just touch me gently when I need to move, or even if they just think which way they want to go and turn themselves that way. They never know what they are doing ahead of time and then we have to make a decision and then more loud sounds come out of them and they started pulling and kicking. Then I get scared. The only sounds I am sure of are ‘Whoa’ and ‘Cookie, Ote?’.”

“OH NO, she is loading the trailer with show gear. Looks like somebody is going to have to stand in one of those little dusty stalls at night, no grass and get the pants ridden off them all weekend. And she’ll be trying out new stuff. I get so confused. It makes my head hurt.”

Feed Bag braids Ote’s tail and puts protective boots on his front feet and a breakaway halter and mask on his face. He knows now it is he that is going to another NVRHA Schooling Competition, and he’d like to run off, but she bribes him with a cookie.

“Ote Love, don’t worry. The weekends aren’t so bad,” nickers Juice, reassuringly. “Feed Bag will get some professional instruction and hopefully she’ll catch on to what the great NLVRHA clinicians are trying to explain and become a better rider. Meanwhile, she will work hard to make sure your stall is clean and you always have fresh water, hay and lots of cookies (although you may have noticed she is not much for mornings.)”

“I know it is especially hard for you to be away from me,” continues Juice. But you’ll make new friends. Who knows, someday you may become a LEGEND, too. Just keep working at it and learn your lessons. Maybe someday Feed Bag will actually remember her patterns.” Ote’s eyes roll back in his head.

One day, Ote begins to worry that Juice is slowing down and can no longer keep up. He is surprised when she buckles and goes down when the farrier picks up a front hoof. Every step seems so painful, she even stops rolling and lying down for naps. In April 2019 Ote loses his best friend, SLJ Ruby Slippers due to severe arthritis in both front knees. He sighs as Feed Bag drape her arms over him and they just stand there together, lost for a long while. Years later he watches the horizon and calls out to liver chestnuts with white blazes and big bushy manes and tails hoping it is she. Feed Bag’s eyes well up with tears when he does this.

Juice’s last words to Little Ote were, “You are timid and you are kind. You are quick and you are smart. Try to help her and always be polite. I know you can do it and she will always bring you cookies!” And that is exactly what he did.

In 2021, Little Lido Ote became the 15th NVRHA LEGEND horse. And that is how Stephany Siitari with the help of all of the friends in NVRHA and excellent horsemen and women on her horse journey became the first NVRHA member to be fortunate enough to “RIDE THE LEGEND” on two extraordinary horses.



For NVRHA Rundown – Horseman of the Year 2021



Annie Eitel is a lifelong Colorado horse person. Anyone can sense it the moment they meet her. Perhaps it is the way she speaks, perhaps it is the way she conducts herself. There is just something about her. She appears to know, or know of, just about everyone in the Colorado horse scene – whether it be the local 4-H leaders or nationally noted trainers. She'll often say about a clinician or judge: "I've known him since he was in diapers" That is just the way she is. She's in the business of knowing people, events and their horses – and that is certainly one of the reasons why she is so appreciated in the CoVRHA and NVRHA.

She's a Colorado Springs area native and her connection to horses started through her father putting her in lead line classes at Mark Reiner's stables when she was 2 years old. She'll tell you that the most influential horse she rode was an Appaloosa stallion from that same stable. She said that horse could do everything and was the all-around quiet horse that taught her horsemanship and started her love for horses that can be versatile. In her teenage years she showed both all-around stock horse and – little known fact – hunters as well. That is, until she was given an ultimatum: English or Western – pick. It was also about that time she experienced her first sliding stop on a reining horse. She picked Western from then on out.

As a teenager, being so close to Tee Cross's headquarters, her father made a deal with Bob Norris, owner of Tee Cross, when they were showing cutters – he'd buy the gas if they'd take Annie and her horse Tee Cross Scooter along to the shows. From there on out – she was with Tee Cross for 10 years. Afterwards she moved to Meeker and competed in roping events. Life moved Annie around to several spots in CA and WY – but there were always horses, horse people and horse events in the picture.

Later – she really focused on reining. (Remember that sliding stop?) She's had many horses along the way, but her path to NVRHA was through her stallion Tucker in 2012. Her stallion Tucker was a competitive reining horse which she showed from age 3 to 10. But – Annie didn't enjoy the way reining was headed, so in 2012 entered Tucker in a CoVRHA class and, as she said "found her home".

Along the way – CoVRHA was Tucker suffered an injury and she went back to the well – breeding wise – to Maynard Smith – and purchased I'm Your Huckleberry. She started showing Huckleberry in 2018. It feels like she and Huckleberry have been showing a long time – but she said she's only showed him in 8 5-event shows since 2018. In 2022 she's working to have Huckleberry achieve his Performance Horse Champion and Supreme in Trail.

At a Memorial Day Roundup in 2015– Paulette Marshall asked Annie if she would co-manage a show sometime in the future. Of course, Annie said "yes" – that's just the way she is, always willing to be a part of the events she competes in. She co-managed her first show the next month – the July 15th show. Annie immediately jumped right into being a volunteer and pulling together her own wealth of contacts and resources in order to make the organizations better while also still showing her horses competitively. People willing to jump in and help NVRHA/CoVRHA are often not without controversy – Annie is one of those people – but she continues to rise to the top as someone who always offers a willing hand and a generous spirit of collaboration.

Through Annie's deeper relationships with the Latigo event center – CoVRHA found a "home" for the majority of CoVRHA events the past 7 years. She immediately jumped right into being a show manager and to this day directly manages or co-manages 6 of CoVRHA's 7 events a year. This alone is amazing work. She worked with the management to provide a quality event experience for NVRHA National Finals exhibitors at this location. As a result –



our event participation levels have doubled, even tripled, to what they are today. Her willingness to be such a great member with the volunteer spirit is immeasurable! To top it off, she manages, or co-manages these shows all while also showing her horses in these events. CoVRHA has truly found an event manager of a high caliber in Annie.

Because of her success managing CoVRHA's shows, she also willingly helped with NVRHA Finals events at Norris Penrose for several years in whatever capacity was needed. As a result, NVRHA tapped her to be the National Finals show manager for 2017 & 2018. She was the on-the-ground person willing to develop budgets, build relationships and find vendors and volunteers to make these shows a success.

She has also been an active volunteer participant for at least 5 years at NVRHA's Ranch Horse Roundup Veteran Warrior event held each summer to benefit our nation's veterans. She volunteers at numerous 4-H and Colorado Winter Buckle series shows in the local community as well.

As a CoVRHA board member for the past 6 years. She has been instrumental in the recruitment & retention of new members, willingly gives of her time, provides great thought, finds volunteers, and has the "can-do" attitude that simply makes CoVRHA what it is today.

When asked what she wants to be remembered for as Horseman of the Year – all she said is "The Youth". She is most proud the growth of CoVRHA's youth involvement. When she started in 2015 there were no youth consistently showing at CoVRHA shows. It started with 2 exhibitors from the local 4-H Ranch Horse program wanting to learn more and improve. Now it has culminated in the 2022 Memorial Day Roundup show having 22 (!) youth (half of the show) participating. We think she's only hitting second gear with this youth initiative. In addition – she's innovative – she was the one who suggested adding a youth board member (Kaylee Sefcovic) to provide insight into CoVRHA activities in order to make our organization and events more responsive to youth and their families. Her outreach to youth in her own local community is the very essence of NVRHA's learning and education and better horsemanship.

On behalf of CoVRHA and NVRHA we congratulate Annie Eitel on her Horseman of the Year achievement. The highest honor and well deserved.

Kay Corneliu, CoVRHA President

NVRHA Board Member

Cell: 970-396-9131

Email: kay.cornelius@panoramameats.com



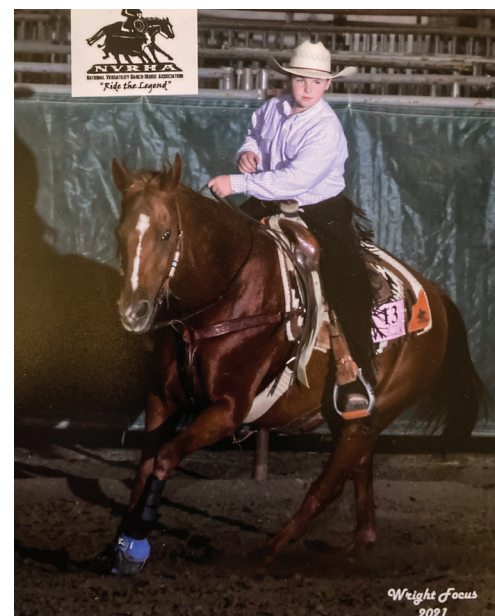
Caleb Dinan Riding Kid MOST IMPROVED RIDER

Ten-year-old Caleb Dinan started riding before he could really walk. He can ride both English and western, but his passion is working cows. This is why he has fallen in love with competing at the NVRHA shows. He has mainly shown in the Colorado affiliate for the last three years.

In 2021, Caleb was blessed to win the 2021 NVRHA Most Improved Rider Award presented at the National Finals in Lincoln, NE and was the youngest to win the award. It was most special since he won

it on his horse, Kid. As a feedlot and rope horse, a right lead was not something he had when Caleb started showing him. It took Caleb over two years to where he could get his leads consistently.

Caleb is also an active 4-H member and also loves playing basketball, football, and baseball when he isn't riding his horse.



Riding the Broke Horse - Benefits of the Ranch Riding Class with Gena Henson

BY DONNA STEWART



The temperature is 40 degrees. The sustained wind speed is not far behind. Fragments of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” rise in the wind. My horse is tense, jumpy, anticipating. Someone is watching...

Am I about to engage in a bloody Civil War battle? Well, not quite. Squinting into the blowing dirt, I see a lone figure perched on the top arena rail. ‘Relax,’ Gena Henson shouts, ‘and keep humming!’ ‘*Mine eyes have seen the glory*’... and around I go.

We are practicing Ranch Riding. My mare is not relaxed but I am trying to convince her that she should be. Go slow, but collected, and on a loose rein. Neck level, ears forward – look HAPPY for pete’s sake! How hard is this anyway?

It shouldn’t be hard, really. Most of us ride a lot. We can all walk, trot, and lope pretty well. There are no lead changes in this class. There are no cows to chase. This should be a piece of cake. But, go to any NVRHA event and watch what happens to even the best cowboys, ropers, or cutters when it comes time for Ranch Riding. Not all of them can jog 20 feet and stop AT the cone. Not too many can transition from a lope to walk without a fancy slide (not appreciated here) or seven strides of a bone jarring trot before old Tex finally makes it to a walk. And, what do you mean the lope comes in more than one speed?

(Continued on page 13)

‘That girl is a cowboy...’ a great music lyric by Garth Brooks which could easily have been written about Gena Henson. A born cowgirl raised in Hugoton, Kansas, Gena is one of the NVRHA’s best kept secrets. Now an NVRHA Professional Advisor, if you think Gena is just ‘Jay Henson’s wife’, then think again. Successful in her own right, Gena has trained and shown horses, as well as coached youth and amateurs, to five World Champion Western Riding titles.

Growing up in a supportive and horse-minded family (mother Maryann Willoughby holds eight judges cards; and father Gene is a longtime Kansas farmer/rancher), Gena took naturally to riding and showing horses. By age fourteen she was training outside horses, and eventually took client horses with her while attending Panhandle State College. Talent and success have since combined to define a thriving career. Gena’s strong suit is teaching – both horses and riders. She is skilled at presenting information and techniques in a way most people can understand and apply.

At some point, Gena got tired of Jay Henson hanging around all the time and decided to just marry the poor guy. Good move, because together they have built W-H Training Stables and an impeccable reputation based on an honest, straightforward, and effective training program that has earned the respect of the country’s best horseman. Gena possesses strong convictions about horsemanship and training, and her philosophy meshes perfectly with Jay’s allowing them to work smoothly together as a synchronized team. It is the advantage of that team approach that benefits their clients.

Ask Gena about herself and she won’t tell you much. Ask about her family and you’d better pull up a chair. Gena credits her success to the constant love and support of her husband, parents, daughter Channing, son-in-law Dustin Hawks, and grandson Cutter who also happens to be the cutest kid in the world. Four generations of Gena’s family live within a mile of each other in southwestern Kansas. They work together, laugh together, and enjoy each other’s success. Its all good.

'I hate this class.' 'Why do we have to do this?' 'There is no point to this.' Oh, really? Just what is it about a few orange cones that gets you boys so fired up?

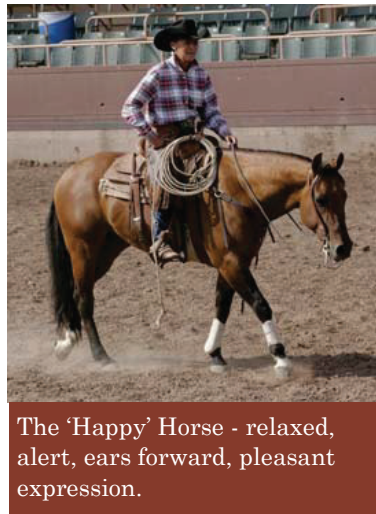
Maybe the place to start is by looking at the value of Ranch Riding, one of the five versatility events. Gena will tell you that Ranch Riding is the foundation for all of the other versatility events. The name of the game for this pattern class is CONTROL. And, she says, most people hate it at first because they just want to chase cows.

"Nobody wants to come to my pen", she says, "until they understand that what I'm teaching is necessary for success in all the other events." Riders realize the importance of Ranch Riding when they learn how to gain control over the horse's body position, movement, and speed. It's this level of horsemanship that allows a rider to become better at all five events. Each maneuver in Ranch Riding relates to a maneuver in one of the other areas of versatility. The control gained in the riding class will influence how carefully and easily the horse moves through the trail obstacles. Those lope speed transitions in the reining portion of the working cowhorse event are no different than what you are asked to do in the ranch riding pattern. And a person just might want to move into that herd slowly in a relaxed controlled manner for cutting, unless you like that scattering thing. Remember that the beauty of versatility is that each event compliments the other.

Some people and some horses make out better in this class than others. Gena thinks that Ranch Riding is usually easier for women. "Men tend to be more aggressive. It's harder for them to relax, go slow, be precise, and ask the same of their horse," she says, "everybody needs to slow down, breathe and think! Funny thing is that if we would just listen to the clinicians in the cow pen they are usually saying the same thing – 'Slow down!', 'Control the cow'. I have been to a lot of NVRHA clinics and have rarely heard any clinician shout 'run like a crazy out of control fool!'

The horses best suited for the Ranch Riding part of versatility are the quiet, good minded, 'good old boy' type. They can handle the pressure in the cow pen, then gear down and come quietly into the riding pen. These horses are valuable – for lots of reasons. If you have been around Gena much, you have heard her tell the "Grandma Story", a great description of the perfect versatility horse. (See box at right.)

NVRHA Ranch Riding consists of pattern work only, which is performed individually by each horse/rider team. The NVRHA now has two approved Ranch Riding Patterns (refer



The 'Happy' Horse - relaxed, alert, ears forward, pleasant expression.

to Rule Handbook). Each pattern is designed similarly to evaluate the horse/rider team's ability to perform a set of maneuvers:

'...with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position. The pattern is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues. The horse/rider team will be judged on the different elements of the patterns and for performing the pattern in correct order.' NVRHA Rulebook 2010

Only one pattern will be required at an event and will be the choice of the show manager and judge. The elements of each pattern include: walk, jog, extended trot, lope, and extended lope with a variety of upward and downward transitions. In addition, the horse will lope on both leads, jog small circles in both directions, stop and settle at cones, and back-up. Gena will tell you that either pattern requires thinking your way through, anticipating the next maneuver, and properly setting up your horse to execute it.

So, what do we do? Go home, set up one of the patterns then drill our horses until we get it right? no, No, NO! Gena will tell her clinic participants not to practice the pattern! What??? Yep, you heard right. Most times our horses are smarter than we give them credit for being, so it doesn't take long for a horse that is constantly drilled on a pattern to begin to anticipate what to do at cones. Then, all of a sudden, he is in control and you are not – and the fight is on. So, instead, Gena coaches us to practice pieces and parts of the pattern, but not in sequence. And don't practice with cones. If you do, ride past the cone to stop or do transitions. Try practicing speed changes in the pasture, picking out markers (a flat rock, a fencepost, etc) to use as cones. Gena reminds us to practice a lot more 'slow' than fast. Keep in mind the idea of slowing down your brain.

If you are having trouble learning the pattern sequence, go ahead and set it up and walk through it a dozen times – on

(Continued on page 14)

The Grandma Story for 'Real' Cowboys

'Everybody loves Grandma, and Grandma still owns the ranch. Even though she lives in town now, she's coming this Sunday after church to see her cows. What are you going to put her on so that she can enjoy the day? She needs a horse that's smooth, quiet, and good minded, but one that she can still go to the sorting on. Something she can have fun with; without a fight. You don't want to hurt Grandma. You want her to be able to enjoy the day, then get off and still be able to walk to the house with a smile on her face.'

-- Gena Henson

(Continued from page 13)

foot. That's right, leave your horse tied to the fence as YOU memorize the pattern, learning where to carry out each maneuver and where the markers are. Some other tips from Gena are to do the pattern backwards or from a different starting point, and mix things up so that you and your horse learn to achieve each maneuver skill without 'souring' him on the pattern. This does not mean you can never practice the real pattern, just do it very occasionally, to keep your horse fresh and thinking.

Now its competition day and you are up next for Ranch Riding. You can do this pattern with your eyes closed. You own this pattern. Your horse is ready. So, what is the judge looking for? Here's where you might want to take a big deep breath and begin that humming thing again, because what the judge is looking for is a correct pattern performed by a team demonstrating an overall relaxed demeanor. Your goal is to present a visual picture of a quiet, well-controlled, responsive horse/rider team who can execute all movements smoothly and pleasantly.



Head and neck should be carried in a relaxed and natural position. Three acceptable headsets: Left - optimal position with level neck, correct head position, light contact. Center - neck higher and nose is slightly behind the vertical. Right - head carried higher but natural.

In the NVRHA, each horse/rider team is judged against a standard, not against other participants. In addition to the expectation of performing the pattern sequence correctly, maintaining consistency of gaits, and exhibiting the correct leads, there are numerous ways to earn plus points in Ranch Riding and Gena outlines some of them here:

- Show a major difference in speed in slow versus extended gaits
- Relaxed and natural head position and movement
- Rider able to sit at the extended trot, showing the horse's quality of movement
- Clean lope departures
- Transitions or stops done at the cone, not early or late
- Precision of movements

Gena also tells us that the judges will fault you for variety of things, including but not limited to:

- Excessive speed, out of control
- Wrong lead
- Breaking gait
- Opening the mouth or chewing on the bit
- Unnatural head position
- Poor quality of movement

(A complete discussion of the Ranch Riding class can be found in the NVRHA Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations.)

The moral of the story? Ranch Riding has its place, just like any of the other versatility events, even for the best of cowboys. Understand it, appreciate it, and practice it. Gena will tell you that Ranch Riding will 'keep a horse good longer'. Beyond that, it shows us that ranch horses can be 'broke' horses, and that the best roper can also be the best horseman.

Level Of Achievement Award
LADDER OF SUCCESS



2021 Year End Winners

2021 AWARDEES

DIAMOND MEDAL

Tatanka ridden by Vicky Henderson

Medal Awards

Vicky Henderson
Platinum Medal in Ranch Conformation

Legend

Kay Cornelius riding HR Playing Dori
Stephany Sitari riding Little Lito Ote

Superior Award

Stephany Sitari/Little Lito Ote - Trail, Riding
Deb Martin/Page Martin Parker - Trail
Sue Eisenman/DLB Smart Blue Bars - Trail
Megan Newlon/Langtrees CD - Trail
Glen Ryan/Sly Fancy Cat - Working Ranch
Deb Raymond/Chexy Bar West - Trail, Riding

Ranch Horse Supreme Champion

Cindy Abshire/El Rey Conquistador
Mike Beakley/Docs Shiney Pistol
Kim Kasson/Spark Olena 309
Emily Lappegaard/Golden H Mister T
Kay Cornelius/HR Playing Dori

Ranch Horse Champion

Erin Norling/C A Texarkana
Emily Lappegaard/Golden H Mister T
Kay Cornelius/H R Playing Dori
Bruce Perry/Surelyleapnforsugar
Debbie Raymond/Chexy Bar West
Kaylee Sefcovic/Smoke N Wright On

ROM

Numerous - see NVRHA website

DIAMOND MEDAL

MEDAL AWARDS

BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD,
PLATINUM

LEGEND

SUPERIOR

**RANCH HORSE
SUPREME CHAMPION**

**RANCH HORSE
CHAMPION**

REGISTER OF MERIT

Four Medals with
minimum of 450
points

Legend award plus
90 points in any
class

Four Superior
Awards with
minimum of 200
points

40 points in any
class

10 points in all five
classes

Five points in all
five classes

10 points in any
class



NOVICE

1st- Nichole Mallick and Patch of Blue Moon
2nd- Tim Telinde and HB Sportin Cowboy (Opie); 3rd- Paul Haugland and Whoa Betsy Parker



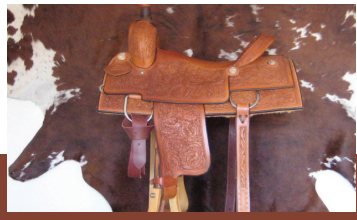
YOUTH NOVICE

1st- Caleb Dinan and Kid
2nd- Maclain Marion and Gentleman Pep; 3rd- Lilly Quern and Sweet Resurrection



LIMITED

Debbie Raymond and Chexy Bar West win the Back to Back Buckle
1st- Kim Kasson and Spark Olena 309
2nd- Jessie James and Im Gunna Let It Shine; 3rd- Emily Lappegaard and Golden H Mister T



2021 Year End Winners

YOUTH LIMITED

- 1st- Kaylee Sefcovic and Smoke N Wright On
- 2nd- Dawsen Kouba and Sunolena Gal
- 3rd- Grace Douglas and Very Smart Love



AMATEUR

- 1st - Megan Newlon and Langtrees CD
- 2nd - Stephany Siitari and Little Lido Ote; 3rd - Cori Atteberry and Smokes First Choice



OPEN

- 1st- Alexis Spencer and Uno What Time
- 2nd- Ricky Quinn and Don't Bak Down
- 3rd- Michael Beakley and Docs Shiney Pistol



2021 National Championship Winners



NOVICE DIVISION

- 1st - Tim Telinde and HB Sportin Cowboy
- 2nd - Nikki Mallick and Patch of Moon; 3rd - Janet Cusick Jost and Heza Splashy Chic



YOUTH NOVICE DIVISION

- 1st - Lilly Quern and Sweet Resurrection
- 2nd - Caleb Dinan and Kidd; 3rd - Stanton Tully and Obi Wan Kenobi



LIMITED DIVISION

- 1st - Kelli Gains and Dixons Got a Big Gun
- 2nd - Sue Weller and Moonstruck Remedy; 3rd - Kim Kasson and Spark Olena 309

2021 National Championship Winners



YOUTH LIMITED DIVISION

1st - Dawsen Kouba and Sunolena Gal
2nd - Kaylee Sefcovic and Smoke N Wright On; 3rd - Grace Douglas and Very Smart Lover



AMATEUR DIVISION

1st - Megan Newlon and Langtrees CD
2nd - Michael Beakley and Docs Shiney Pistol; 3rd - Kay Cornelius and HR Playing Dori



WORLD'S GREATEST

1st - Megan Newlon and Langtrees CD
2nd - Ricky Quinn and Don't Bak Down; 3rd - Alexis Spencer and Uno What Time



2021 National Championship



www.wrightfocus.com
Wright Focus Photography
 Edye Wright
 316.641.6900
 Certified Professional Photographer
 specializing in FUN, Stress-free weddings



A HUGE THANKS to Edye Wright of Wright Focus Photography for the exceptional photography at the 2021 NVRHA National Finals. With only a few exceptions, all photos between pg 21 and 22, are Wright photos.



Vicky Henderson riding Tatonka

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Amateur Division



2021 AWARDS:
 DIAMOND MEDAL AWARD
 PLATINUM MEDAL AWARD



Kay Cornelius riding HR Playing Dori

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Amateur Division

2021 AWARDS:

LEGEND | RANCH HORSE CHAMPION | RANCH HORSE SUPREME CHAMPION

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 3rd Overall - Amateur Division



Stephany Siitari riding Little Lito One

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Amateur Division

2021 AWARDS:

**LEGEND | RANCH TRAIL SUPERIOR | RANCH RIDING SUPERIOR
YEAR END, 2ND AMATEUR DIVISION**



Nichole Mallick riding Patch of Blue Moon

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Novice Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 2st Overall | YEAR END, 1st Novice Division



Megan Newlon riding Langtrees CD

SOUTH CENTRAL AFFILIATE

Amateur Division

2021 AWARDS:

**RANCH TRAIL SUPERIOR | NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1st Amateur Division
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1st Open Division (World's Greatest)
YEAR END, 1st Amateur Division**



Tim Telinde riding HB Sportin Cowboy

SOUTH CENTRAL AFFILIATE

Novice Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1st Overall | YEAR END, 2nd Novice Division



Lilly Quern riding Sweet Resurrection

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Youth Novice Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1st Overall

YEAR END, 3rd Youth Novice Division



Kaylee Sefcovic Riding Smoke N Wright On

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Youth Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

YEAR END, 1st Youth Limited Division

RANCH HORSE CHAMPIONSHIP

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 2nd Overall



Dawson Kouba riding Sunolena Gal

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Youth Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1ST OVERALL

YEAR END, 2nd Youth Limited Division



Grace Douglas riding Very Smart Lover

SOUTH CENTRAL AFFILIATE

Youth Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

YEAR END, 3rd Youth Limited Division

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 3rd Overall



Kim Kasson riding Spark Olena

SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

RANCH HORSE SUPREME CHAMPION

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 3rd Overall

YEAR END, 1st Limited Division



Deb Raymond riding Chexy Bar West

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

RANCH HORSE CHAMPION

SUPERIOR AWARD, Ranch Riding | SUPERIOR AWARD, Conformation

SUPERIOR AWARD, Ranch Trail | YEAR END, 1st Overall



Kelli Gains riding Dixons Got A Big Gun

SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION

Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 1st Overall - Limited Division

(Year End : 2nd Limited Division (2020))



Emily Lappegaard riding Golden H Mister T

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

RANCH HORSE CHAMPION | RANCH HORSE SUPREME CHAMPION

YEAR END, 3rd Overall

Note: Completed Requirements For Legend In First Part Of 2022 Season



Deb Martin riding Page Martin Parker

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Limited Division

2021 AWARDS:

RANCH HORSE CHAMPION

RANCH TRAIL SUPERIOR AWARD



Michael Beakley riding Docs Shiney Pistol

Colorado Affiliate

Amateur Division

2021 AWARDS:

RANCH HORSE PERFORMANCE CHAMPION

RANCH HORSE SUPREME CHAMPION

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, Reserve Amateur Division

YEAR END, 3rd Overall

NOTE: completed requirements for legend in first part of 2022 season



Ricky Quinn riding Dont Bak Down

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Open Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 2nd Overall

YEAR END, 2nd Overall



Alexis Spencer riding Uno What Time

COLORADO AFFILIATE

Open Division

2021 AWARDS:

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 3rd Overall

YEAR END, 3rd Overall





South Central Versatility Ranch Horse
W-H RENDEZVOUS 2022
A Year of Firsts!

STEPH SIITARI

The annual W-H Rendezvous' in beautiful Hugoton, KS May 5-8, 2022, was a huge success! Old friendships were renewed and new ones cemented by ranch versatility enthusiasts from all over the country. Old skills were honed by accomplished riders and there was plenty of practice. New skills were introduced to young horses and first-time participants. There were so many firsts! What an exciting time to be in NVRHA!

To ride all weekend on a privately-owned cattle ranch on your own horse, surrounded by trainers, enthusiastic riders, and friends from all over the country who support you, help you, cheer for you, and feed you is a privilege about which most people can only dream.

The W-H Cavalry led by Channing Hawks and all its volunteers spared no effort to ensure an epic experience. They even got the south west Kansas weather to cooperate. Micro-derm abrasion was provided at no additional cost.

A new star is rising in the South-Central sky: Clara Bond brought a wagon load of life experience with her from her childhood cattle ranch in New Mexico. She covered a lot of ground including working and training horses in Oregon. Her family moved to Garden City, KS, and Clara found the road to the W-H. She joined the training team there about a year ago and trains with Jay and Gena Henson and has developed clients of her own. Clara not only worked tirelessly in the background to make Rendezvous work, she



rode and showed a beautiful young palomino in the Open Division. It was their first NVRHA schooling competition! A strong work ethic doesn't even begin to describe this young person. She is lovely hat to spurs, competent and quietly confident. And oh my, but can she cook! If you get a chance in between asking bovine and equine questions, ask her about her experience with poultry: Specifically, her recipes for Southern Chicken Salad and White Enchiladas Verde.

Speaking of cooking and firsts, Clara arranged for her father, James to provide the Rendezvous' feasts! James is no stranger to hard work either. He managed a large cattle ranching operation in New Mexico, and passed his hard work and horse genes to his delightful daughter.

A new venture, ours was James' first big group. He and his foodie friend roasted cast iron Dutch oven pork chops with baked apples and onions. Burgers and all the trimmings were served up with an authentic chuck wagon. For more information about James Bond's chuckwagon cooking, contact Clara at (208) 914-0500.

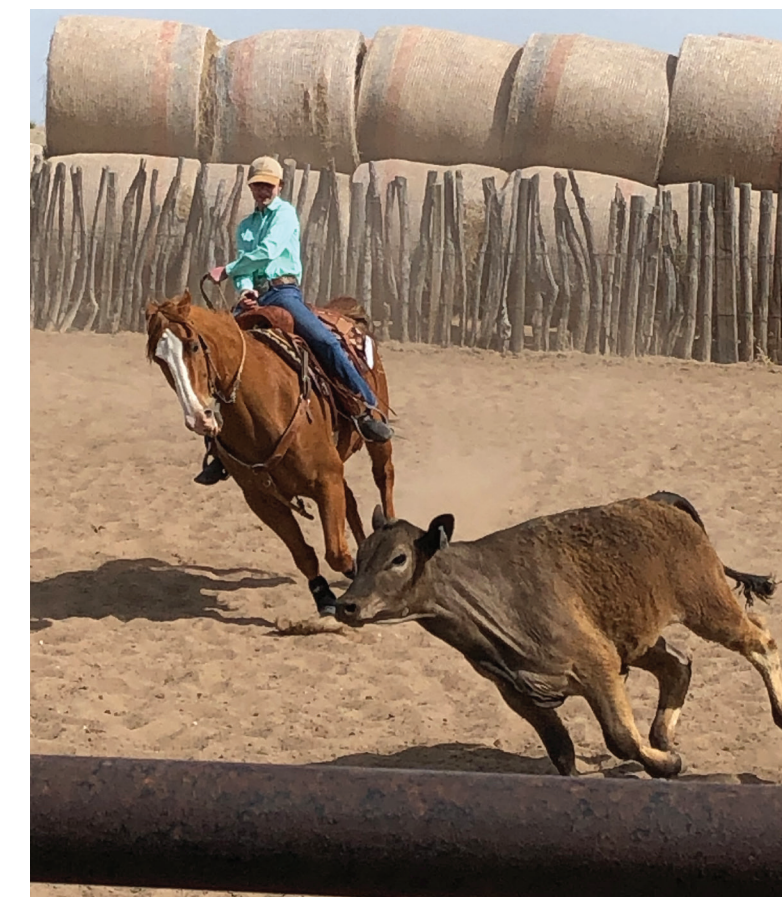
Incredible food is shared by participants who show they can not only ride well, but cook! The world's finest culinary delights including salads, appetizers, cookies, bars, desserts find their way to the Rendezvous' table. Dee Spence - hats off to you for the fabulous lunches! Fun continues after the horses are put up and cattle are fed. This year's event happened to fall on Cinco de Mayo. Thank-you Janet for the margaritas!

Rendezvous' included two days of clinics focusing on cattle work, reining, trail, and ranch riding. Expert instruction was provided by Jay and Gena Henson. Both of them know exactly what steps to take with your horse to progress without intimidating the horse or the rider. Because of all our new horse/rider teams (and many of us who needed reminders), they exercised a lot of patience. Any greenhorn passing by would often hear them say, "slow yer brain down, slow yer hands down!" You could see horses say, "Thank-you!" and sigh with relief.

Joining Jay and Gena as a judge for the two-day schooling competition was everyone's favorite horseman and grandpa, Brad Weller. Brad's famous family, Sue Weller, and world champion daughter Sara and her husband, Jeremy Gugelmeyer joined the fun. One highlight was watching Calvin Gugelmeyer sweep the novice youth division. There is a lot going on under that polite young man's cowboy hat. He is serious about his horsemanship and willing to work and get the job done. When everyone else was warming up their horses and visiting with each other in the round pen, Calvin was out helping settle the herd so we could get the show on the road.

Ask Sue Weller about her ride at this year's Rendezvous'. Just when you think you know everything about your spouse, there are still surprises that can impress you. Perhaps Sue had an inkling that Brad was the kind of guy to take the road less traveled? Brad thought it a good idea to take a short cut to the chuckwagon chow line and drove straight into the Bar B Que pit. This route created an opportunity corner for couple closeness. Post vehicle extraction, the new road was named "Weller's Gulch."

W-H RENDEZVOUS' 2022 CON'T TO PAGE 32





W-H RENDEZVOUS' 2022 CON'T FROM PAGE 31

Speaking of firsts! SCVRHA welcomed Mike Keller as a new NVRHA judge! Mike sat in with Jay and Gena on days one and two of the clinic, and second chaired day one of the schooling competition, and judged on day two. Mike grew up in riding in his home pasture in Colorado. He graduated from Colorado State with a B.S. in Equine Science. As the owner of Keller Performance Horses, Mike has been training horses professionally since 1993. Mike says he likes horses that do a lot of everything. About NVRHA he says, "I like the camaraderie. Every person gets cheered. I really like the level of try - everyone tries hard and is serious about learning and improving."

Mike's says his most enjoyable moments are watching his whole family ride on their ranch; wife, Heather, daughters Tatum (17) and Piper (14). (Although Tatum will be attending Texas Christian University next year on a full ride scholarship and won't be riding as much in that pasture. Congratulations Tatum Keller!)



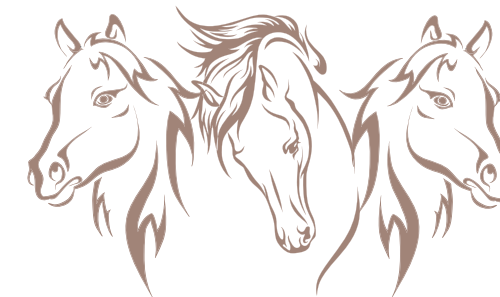
Keller Performance Horses is located in El Reno, OK, outside of Oklahoma City. Mike specializes in training all around Quarter Horses including reining and versatility and also offers sales and lessons. Mike can be reached at (405) 203-5841 and Keller Performance Horses may be found on FB. Welcome, Mike Keller!

Channing Hawks, your team was super organized. Don't know how you get those scores tabulated so quickly. Thanks too for rounding up such nice prizes. Thank your man for the cattle! Much appreciated. Thank you Bryan Duyer for everything

you did to make things work. Bryan was dislodged from his horse while trying to dislodge Mike Beakley's rope from the steer he caught. We were busy celebrating Mike's catch and didn't realize your horse zipped when you zagged. Congrats Mike! (You owe Bryan some ice -for his whiskey.

Big thank you to Jay and Gena Henson! You will need the whole year to recover. I asked Gena what was different about this year's Rendezvous' and she said, "Everyone is better!" I asked if she meant the riders or the horses, and she said, "BOTH!" She said it is really getting hard to judge because the scores are so close.

Rendezvous' 2022 will make us all think about setting goals and riding intentionally with purpose. And slowing our brains and hands down to help our horses. And to take a moment to celebrate each other, our horses and all our "firsts."



Charity Event Nets Over \$60,000

FOR FALLEN AND INJURED VETERANS

The Kit Carson Riding Club of Colorado Springs (founded in 1943) and the NVRHA teams to sponsor this event to benefit fallen and injured veterans, in the Colorado Springs area. The net proceeds over seven years

exceeds \$ 60,000, all going to military charities. A very special thanks to the Kit Carson Riding Club who organizes and executes the event. A very special thanks also goes to the NVRHA Judges and

Clinicians who volunteer their time to make the event a special learning experience for the participants. Jeff Barnes, one of NVRHA's most sought after Clinicians has coached in seven of the eight events held to date.

Thanks Jeff for your devoted support.

Our goal is to exceed \$100,000 by 2025. Your patriotic support would help us meet or exceed this goal.

Presented by: Kit Carson Riding Club & National Versatility Ranch Horse Assoc.
The 8th Annual

Ranch Horse Round Up

Helping Our Military

100% Net Proceeds Support Military and their Families

Saturday, July 30th, (8 am - 5 pm)
A Family-Friendly Event for All Ages and Levels of Rider
Low Cost Ranch Horse Clinics and Fun Day Schooling Event
Top Notch Clinicians
Location: Kit Carson Riding Club
6775 Cowpoke Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80924

Working Ranch Horse, Ranch Riding / Ranch Trail, and Ranch Cutting.
Clinic Fee of \$160.00 / Adults; \$120.00 / Youth (thru age 17) includes four Clinics.
Please Register early as space is limited.
Opening date for Registration is June 15th.
Estimated closing date is July 15th (or prior if capacity is reached).

Registration Contact: Robin Mercier 719.550.0189
Event Contact & Sponsorship: Joni Zimmerman 719.800.3096

Registration application posted on the Ranch Horse Round Up Clinic Platforms:
www.nvrha.org
www.facebook.com/RanchHorseRoundUp/
www.kitcarsonridingclub.com

Clinicians available for purchase.

Clinicians and Judges:
Linda Hitt
Jeff Barnes
Keith Vogel
Spencer Bruce

Art & Design by Focus Media - www.focusmediapro.com

GOAL \$100,000 BY 2025	
2021	\$8,600
2020	\$7,382
2019	\$12,731
2018	\$11,285
2017	\$9,950
2016	\$9,000
2015	\$3,500



Colorado Versatility Ranch Horse Association



NOVICE DIVISION

1. Tim Telinde riding HB Sportin Cowboy
2. Dave Currin riding Rowdy Hollywood Cowboy
3. Kelly Doyea riding Grand Maximum

LIMITED DIVISION

1. Debbie Raymond riding Chexy Bar West.
2. Emily Lappegaard riding Golden H Mister T
3. Jessie James riding Im Gunna Let It Shine

AMATEUR DIVISION

1. Corey Atterbury riding Smokes First Choice
2. Micheal Beakley riding Docs Shiney Pistol
3. Glen Ryan riding Sly Fancy Cat

OPEN DIVISION

1. Alexis Spencer riding Uno What time

YOUTH NOVICE

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

YOUTH LIMITED

1. Kaylee Sefcovic riding Smoke N Wright On
2. Tori DinanP riding Mighty Effie

2022 COLORADO SCHEDULE

APRIL 15 - 16
MAY 27 - 29

ELBERT, COLORADO

JUNE 11 - 12
EADS, COLORADO

JULY 8 - 10
AUGUST 20 - 21
SEPTEMBER 10 - 11
OCTOBER 8 - 9
ELBERT, COLORADO

NOVEMBER 12 - 13
PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO

TBD
RIFLE, COLORADO



NORTHERN Lights
Versatility Ranch Horse Association

NLVRHA 2021
Year End Award Winners



Youth Novice Champion
Addison McBroom & Suka



Novice Champion & Horse of the Year
Nikki Mallik & Patch of Blue Moon



Novice Reserve Champion
Cody Hendrickson & Wizkey and Ginger



Limited Champion
Steve Hendrickson
Meradas Wood Nickel



Limited Reserve Champion
Connie Gebhart &
I'm Your Wimp



Amateur Champion & now with her 2nd Legend Horse!
*** Steph Siitari & Little Lido Ote ***



Amateur Reserve Champion
Ann Goebel &
SDP Ruby Blue Sue



Open Champion
Ann Goebel & SDP Ruby Blue Sue



Open Reserve Champion
Vivian Bearbower & PBR Black Diamond



Vicki Henderson
Horseman of the Year

2022 NLVRHA EVENT SCHEDULE

~ May 28 & 29 Horse First Farm, Brooklyn, WI ~ Jun 18 & 19 Rimoe Ranch, New Richmond, WI
~ Jul 16 & 17 Strait Rail Ranch, Nevis, MN ~ Aug 19-21 "Double Show", Double F, Hinckley, MN
~ Sept 09-11, C5 Arena, Decorah, IA

DREAM. DARE. RIDE. ACHIEVE.



South Central
Affiliate
2021 YEAR END WINNERS



NOVICE AMATEUR
Connie Brase & Mr. Made Wright



LIMITED AMATEUR
Kim Kasson & SpRK O Lena



LIMITED YOUTH
Grace Douglas & Very Smart Lover

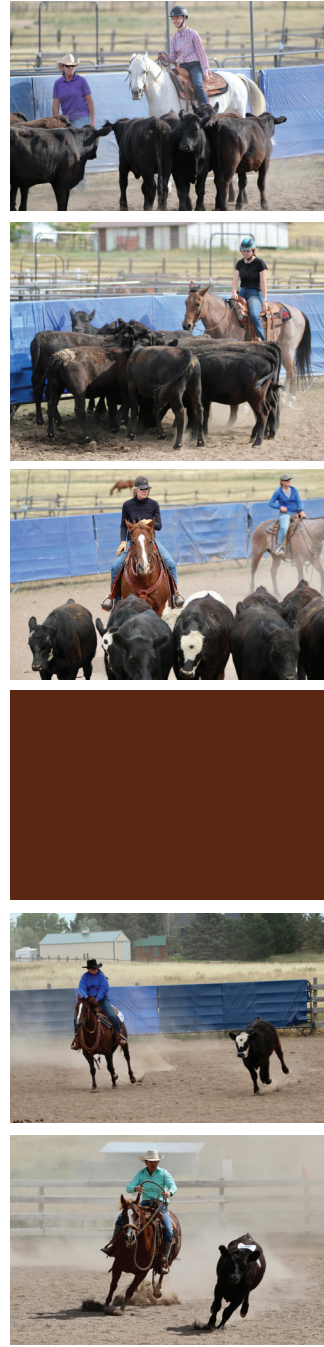


AMATEUR
Megan Newlon & Langtree CD



OPEN
Judy Parsons & Pistol Packer Picasso

2022 SOUTH CENTRAL SCHEDULE	
APRIL 9 - 1 LYONS, KANSAS	MAY 21 - 22 NORTON, KANSAS
MAY 5 - 8 HUGOTON, KANSAS	JUNE 11 - 1: EADS, COLORADO
AUG. 6 - 7: LYONS, KANSAS	



2022 WYOMING SCHEDULE

May 14 – 15, Wheatland, Wy.
 June 4 – 5, Glenrock, Wy.
 July 23 – 24, Lusk, Wy.
 Aug. 27 – 28, Northern Co. (TBD)
 Sept. 10 – 11, Cheyenne, Wy.



2021 Buckle Winners



NOVICE LIMITED DIVISION
 Tammy Welnitz



NOVICE DIVISION
 Gretchen Burgess

2022 SOUTH DAKOTA SCHEDULE

MAY 21 - 22
 HERMOSA, SD

JUNE 11 - 12
 EDMONT, SD

AUGUST 27 - 28
 HERMOSA, SD



SOUTH DAKOTA AFFILIATE CHAIRMAN
 Sherry Sidle & D.J.

2022 NVRHA EVENTS

COLORADO AFFILIATE

April 15-16, Elbert, CO
May 27-29, Elbert, CO
June 11-12, Eads, CO
July 8-10, Elbert, CO
Aug 20-21, Elbert, CO
Sept 10-11, Elbert, CO
October 8-9, Elbert, CO
Oct 15-16 - Durango, CO
TBD - Rifle Area, CO

*July 30th, Ranch Horse Roundup - Kit Carson
Riding Club, Colorado Springs, CO
Clinic benefiting Military and their Families*

NORTHERN LIGHTS AFFILIATE

Apr (TBD), Nevis, MN
May 28-29, Brooklyn, WI June
17-19, New Richmond, WI
July 15-17, Nevis, MN
Aug 19-21, Hinckley, MN Sept
9-11, Decorah, IA

SOUTH CENTRAL AFFILIATE

April 9-10, Lyons, KS
May 5-8, Hugoton, KS
May 21-22, Norton, KS
June 11-12, Eads, CO
Aug 6-7, Lyons, KS

SOUTH DAKOTA AFFILIATE

May 21-22, Hermosa, SD
June 11-12, Edgemont, SD
Aug 27-28, Hermosa, SD

WYOMING AFFILIATE

May 14-15, Wheatland, WY
June 4-5, Glenrock, WY
July 23-24, Lusk, WY
Aug 27-28, Northern CO (TBD)
Sept 10-11, Cheyenne, WY

NVRHA FINALS Sept 22-25, Lincoln, NE

For more information visit
www.nvrha.org.

DENNY'S Trailer Sales



**HORSE
LIVESTOCK
LIVING QUARTERS
CARGO
CUSTOM**

18880 COUNTY HWY. 8 | WYKOFF, MN. 55990
WWW.DENNYTRAILERSALES.COM | GRELLI@HMTEL.COM

"Take care of each customer after the sale."

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED BUSINESS SINCE 1986.

DENNIS AND KATHY GRELL - OWNERS

JOEY GRELL - SALES AND SERVICE
SEAN AARSVOID - SALES AND FINANCING

ELITE • EXISS • SOONER • MERHOW • CALICO • SURE TRAC
LARGE SELECTION OF NEW AND USED HORSE TRAILERS,
LIVING QUARTER TRAILERS & CARGO TRAILERS
FULL SERVICE STOP!

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



HR HARRELL- MACKENZIE

QUARTER HORSES

Performance-Bred for the Ranch & Arena!



25th Annual Performance Horse Prospect Sale MARCH 6, 2023

With Harrell Hereford Ranch Production Sale
Selling Two-Yr-Old Prospects Started Under
Saddle • Select HR-OV Program Broodmares

THE HR-OV PROGRAM... HR PAYIN DORI, THE 2022 NVRHA LEGEND!



PAY THE SIXES

2015 Sorrel
Sixes Pick (AQHA World Ranch Versatility Ch.) x
Raise The Pay (Dam, noted stallion Irish Pay PE \$216,000)
World Champion Performance for Ranch & Arena!



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

THE BROODMARES... A Pitzer Ranch and
Driftwood foundation...dgtrs. of Payin Doc, Sun
Frost, Frenchmans Guy, Billy Red Baron (Mr Baron
Red), Star Like Freckles (Grays Starlight), Nu Cash!

STANDING OUR STALLIONS...

Cooled Shipped & Frozen Semen Available



FRENCHMANS BULLY 1999 Sorrel
Sire: Frenchmans Guy (\$14 Million Sire)
Hi-Powered ProRodeo/Futurity Sire...PE
\$120,000!



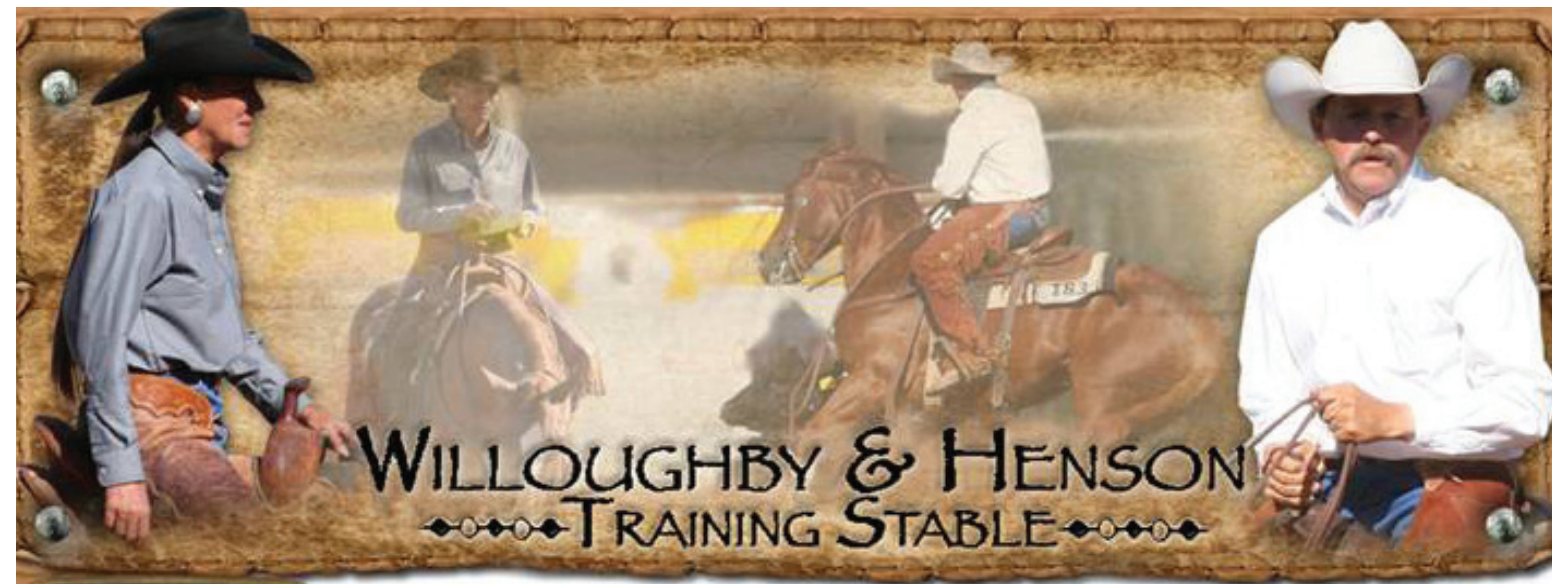
**CALL HIM
MR SMOOTH** 2017 Bay
Sire: A Smooth Guy (Frenchmans Guy son & \$2 Million Sire)
Performance, Rodeo, Barrel Horse Legends!

www.harrellherefordranch.com

HARRELL RANCH 541/403-2210
42590 Salmon Creek Rd. • Baker City, OR 97814

MACKENZIE RANCH 541/403-0345
19265 Chandler Lane • Baker City, OR 97814

UNITED LIVESTOCK BROKERS, INC. Jay George 605/391-6230 • Lebo, KS



CO 2009 Double Tuckered
Out & Cindy Rose



CO 2012 Lil Bit O Badge &
Rita Lauby



KS 2013 Langrees CD &
Shane Bangerter



MN 2017 SLJ Ruby Slippers
& Stephany Siitari



CO 2010 Docs Second Best
& Dave Currin



CO 2012 Risky Irish
Whiskey & Donna/Charlie
Stewart



MN 2015 Unbranded &
Shelly Johnson



?? 2021 Golden H Mister &
?????



AR 2011 Little Bell Pepper &
Jennifer Sadler



MN 2013 Starlight Dillon &
Susan Lucas



NM 2011 Whiskeys Chick
Stick & Bill Cantrell

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
Jay & Gena Henson 620.544.8078
wbarhtrainingstables@yahoo.com

2021 Diamond Medal Award

*Vicky Henderson &
TATONKA*

