



N RHA RUNDOWN

National Versatility Ranch Horse Association

Volume 2, Issue 3 Winter 2010



'Down and Dirty' is the name of this original artwork created for the NVRHA by artist Connie Johnson. Meant to embody the spirit of the versatility ranch horse, the original painting was auctioned at the NVRHA annual award and recognition banquet.

2009 NVRHA National Championship Event

Donna Stewar

<u>Spectacular</u> would be one word you could use to describe the 2009 NVRHA National Championship Event held at the foot of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs on the last golden fall weekend of September.

<u>Organized</u> and <u>efficient</u> would be appropriate words to describe the event, thanks to the incredible amount of work by Bill Hauschildt and his excellent staff of volunteers. <u>Successful</u> or <u>profitable</u> might be words that Tim Rose, NVRHA treasurer would use.

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Congratulations to all those who did well at the NVRHA Finals!!!

Also, congratulations to Jennifer Sadler on her purchase of Little Bell Pepper!!





"Hope to see you all at our W-H Rendezvous Clinic and Competition in May!!!"

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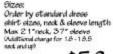


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2010 Rule Changes

Highlights of Rule Changes approved by the NVRHA Board of Directors are summarized below. All Rules and Regulations have been condensed into a pocket – size Rule Book, a copy of which will be provided to members upon renewal of NVRHA membership in 2010. The full text of the revised Rule Book will be posted on www.NVRHA.org Web Site. This new Rule Book will prove indispensable at future NVRHA events, so renew your membership soon, so you will have your own personal copy and be up to date on the rules.

1. Horse Identification Record (PP II.F.)

Each horse ridden in NVRHA will be assigned an Identification Number with required information on the horse and riders maintained in the NVRHA office.

2. NVRHA Handbook of Rules & Regulations (PP I - XIII)

All Rules have been consolidated into one rulebook requiring no reference to other breed rulebooks.

3. Protective Boots: (PP V.B.a)

Protective Boots may be used in all classes except Ranch Conformation.

4. Lameness: (PP VC.3)

Horses with minor lameness may be exhibited if, in the Judge's opinion, there is no risk of injury to the horse or rider.

5. Ranch Trail: (PP V.E)

A rider may elect to skip an obstacle but will receive a Maneuver Score penalty.

6. Ranch Cutting (PPVF11)

The Judge may intervene during herd settling if it is not being done in an adequate manner.

7. Working Ranch Horse (PPV.G)

Scoring will be divided evenly between Reining, Working Cow Horse, and Roping.

8. Working Ranch Horse "Box Only" / Limited Class:

Affiliates may hold Intermediate Division "Box Only" Working Ranch Horse Limited Classes. The NVRHA score sheets must be used (unaltered) with appropriate scores/penalties recorded for maneuvers not completed. Participants will be eligible for year end awards within the NVRHA Intermediate Amateur Division. Affiliates may offer an Affiliate Year End Award for this class.

9. Working Ranch Horse - Roping (PP V3)

A. Penalties have been adjusted to provide an even spread of scoring over the entire range of points available based upon the quality of the roping run.

B. Contestants catching with at breakaway rope will receive full credit for a catch; however penalties will be applied for not stopping the cow.

10. Ranch Conformation: (PPV.H.)

A. The top 20 horses will be placed in the Balanced Judging. This will allow more horses to be competitive for the all around award.

B. A new prototype scoring procedure which scores each conformation feature separately will be evaluated in 2010 for possible adoption in 2011. Each Clinic will devote a minimum of one hour in which volunteers present their horses with the judge scoring each conformation feature (using the Prototype Ranch Conformation Score Sheet) providing an explanation of the score based upon the quality or fault of the feature. The current Ranch Horse Conformation scoring procedure will be used in 2010 with dual judging using the new Prototype scoring procedure at selected Schooling Competitions.

11. Clinicians and Judges: (PP /VI. A-C)

All Clinicians and Judges for all 2010 NVRHA events must be approved by NVRHA. A new Certification Program will be initiated for Clinicians and Judges consisting of credential evaluation, rules testing and event evaluation. Uncertified Clinicians and Judges may be used during 2010 with a waiver by NVRHA as it will take several months to get the program up and running. A list of Certified Clinicians and Judges will be posted on the Web Site.

12. Division Definition: (PP VII. B)

A. Scores defining new Division ranges will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2010. They are as follows:

Advanced Amateur: A score of 330 or more

Intermediate Amateur: A score range of greater than 250 but less than 330

Novice Amateur: A score of 250 or less

- B. For veteran participants, the average of the scores of all events in the previous year will be used for establishing the permanent Division Assignment. Many veterans will have the option of moving down one Division this decision will be totally voluntary.
- C. A Collegiate Division has been added.

13. <u>Division Placement for Riders New to NVRHA:</u> (PPVII.C)

At the rider's first event, the Clinician will assign the appropriate division for Schooling Competition participation. The rider will ride in this same Division at his/hers second Schooling Competition. The average of the first two event scores will be used for Permanent Division Assignment for the remainder of the Event Year. Only performance classes will be used as the basis of division assignment based on the following criteria:

Novice Amateur Division Less than 200
Intermediate Amateur Division 200 to 300
Advanced Amateur Division More than 300

14. Grievance Committee: (PPVII F)

A Grievance Committee has been established to handle all written/signed grievances.

15. Open Division: (PPVII G)

An optional Jackpot Payout schedule was adopted. The payback for the Open Class has been simplified so that the last place receiving payback will receive the majority of the entry fee. Payback for open goes to the rider (allows rider to compete on multiple horses).

16. Placement Points for Year End Awards: (PPIX B)

A. Effective Jan 1, 2010, Placement Points will be awarded within each class to the top 50% of the class participants. Example: If there are 20 horses in the class, the top ten horses will receive Placement Points with the first place horse receiving 10pts.

B. Year-end awards will be based on the total number of placement points earned that event year (rather than the top four event scores).

(Continued from page 5)

17. Division Awards (PPX)

A. Year End: A minimum of five schooling competitions having a minimum of five entries in each class are required for a national year-end award to be presented.

- B. National Championship: Inclusion of a Division in the National Championship will be considered if the minimum year end criteria for awards are met based upon level of support.
- C. A Superior Ranch Horse award will be presented to horses earning 40 Championship Points in any individual class. The Superior Award may be earned in each of the five classes.

18. National Championship Event-Worlds Greatest (PPXI D):

The Worlds Greatest and the Open Competition will be combined at the 2010 NVRHA National Championship.

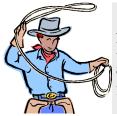
19. Scoring

A. The Judge's maneuver scores have been expanded to include a 'minus 7' maneuver score for 'does not perform maneuver'. An example of this score being used is in Ranch Trail when it is unsafe for a novice rider to drag the log.

B. Major penalties have been reduced from 'minus 20' to 'minus 10'.

20. Future Rule Changes:

All proposed Rule Changes for 2011 must be received in the NVRHA Office in writing and signed by July 1, 2010 to be considered by the Board for possible execution in 2011.



A huge thank you to photographers Brent Erikson, Terry Hisle, Doug Heyvaert, and Charlie Stewart for contributing photos for this Rundown edition.



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NVRHA does provide an ad layout service... for fees and more information contact Donna Stewart at 719-495-8079 or <a href="mailto:dmctamai



'NORTHERN LIGHTS' AFFILIATE COMES TO TOWN FOR THE NVRHA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT.

--Susan Heyvaert



From left: Shirley and Terry Lund; Susan and Doug Heyvaert; Lyla and Rick Demulling represent the Northern Lights NVRHA affiliate

Some people are talkers and some are 'doers'... when I first met Susan Heyvaert it became immediately apparent that she was a doer. Susan's positive energy and enthusiasm in promoting the NVRHA has propelled our organization into yet another region of the country. With lots of support from her husband Doug, Susan has been the driving force behind the inception of the newest NVRHA Affiliate 'Northern Lights' which encompasses the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. This group of folks is planning a big 2010 Season with events in several great locations. Read on to learn more about Susan's journey to the NVRHA...

-- DS

It all began innocently enough... a neophyte empty nester, a past showmanship/horsemanship competitor, a 4-year High School rodeo hauler... you get the picture. What to do? Trail riding seemed to be the easy way to go for the time being so off my daughter and I went to Prescott, Arizona, a week prior to the Buckskin Extravaganza Sale. They say never buy a horse for its color, but, hey, there were 80+ buckskins/duns for sale. Surely I could find the perfect one for me, right? Auctions are rarely the recommended way to buy a horse but after riding 16 horses in one day, my daughter and I whittled it down to two. We were just looking for one calm, 4+ year old, well-mannered, smooth gaited, gorgeous horse. Does that wish list sound familiar to any of you? After a nerve racking phone bid the next weekend, we were able to win the bid on Dillon, my daughter's pick. (She's always had an eye for a good horse, so I knew this would all work out!)

Fast forward to the Denver Stock Show, January, 2008. My husband and I were escaping the Minnesota winter and watching the AQHA Ranch Versatility Finals that had been advertised in one of my horse magazines. It sounded like fun and I just wanted to see what it was all about. As luck would have it, Henry and Donna Block were sitting behind us, avid supporters and participants of the newly formed National Versatility Ranch Horse Association. The classes in the NVRHA, as I would discover, were very similar to the AQHA's but with a different slant. NVRHA focuses on education preceding a competition and members compete against others of like abilities. I'd "been there, done that" with the show scene many times, leaving a show not knowing what I had done wrong when not placing, or for that matter, what the judge had liked when I did place!

I left Denver with a new-found enthusiasm and determination to jump head first into the NVRHA! By the time we boarded the plane to head home, I had contacted Jay and Gena Henson, a recommendation from the Blocks, and had my plans to send Dillon to Kansas... that's in the Midwest... it couldn't be too far away, right? (I can hear you all who know where Hugoton is chuckling.)

Events: There is conformation, trail, ranch riding, cutting, and working ranch. OK, conformation, trail, and ranch riding sounded pretty familiar, but I had only observed my daughter cut in High School Rodeo. Maybe I had absorbed SOME-THING from all those lessons I watched. Reining... now that was a new one. I'd better figure out how to do spins.

stops, circles, and flying lead changes. UH-OH, you have to ROPE too?! How is a middle age woman going to learn that? Slowly, very slowly...

Luckily, my new buckskin had some cow in him... some Peppy San Badger goes a long way. Over the past two years, with the help of talented NVRHA clinicians, various trainers, and my peers, Dillon and I as a team, have managed to progress along the NVRHA continuum. It's a challenging but rewarding journey for this empty nester. Not so much rewarding in the sense of winning, but rewarding in the satisfaction of learning new skills I never thought possible. The exhilaration of running and turning a cow on the fence brings a huge grin to my face... and shortness of breath! On the rare occasion I rope my cow, I am on CLOUD 9 way past bedtime and into my dreams, where I catch much more often!

As Doug and I are driving the 17 hours home to Minnesota from the National Championships in Colorado Springs, my thoughts are not of the event or how I did, as much as the friendships we have made through NVRHA. Two couples, Terry and Shirley Lund and Rick and Lyla Demulling, came from our area, all the way to Colorado just to watch the Nationals. Rick and Lyla have taken on the responsibility of Wisconsin Advisors and showed their support by bidding on a nice mare at the auction Saturday night. Terry and Shirley are preparing to put on an event in 2010. I suspect they and many others from the North Central Region will all be at Nationals next year with horses.

The memories I bring home are of a group of gracious and fun-loving people who offer their homes and stalls to us, openly give advice, and show patience as they answer my zillionth question. It is the people who set the NVRHA apart from any other horse organization. See you at the next clinic!







Susan Heyvaert and Starlight Dillon

Go for the Gold -- California 2010!

CeCe Chambless

We are excited to announce that California, one of the newest affiliates to the NVRHA, is up and running! We have a busy year ahead with five planned events and two more tentative events on the calendar for 2010.

Mark Luis will be hosting two events at his beautiful facility in Paso Robles, Central Coast area, in May and October. Sarah Clifford will host an event in Monterey, the Northern California area, in July.

And, Romeo Ramirez will be hosting two events in March and May at the Liberty Oaks Ranch, Temecula, Southern California area, with 2-3 more events coming later in the season! Join us and experience all that California Versatility Ranch Horse has to offer!

For more information on the CVRHA, please contact CeCe Chambless at 505-470-8989.







2009 NVRHA YEAR-END STANDINGS - TOP TEN

	NOVICE					
Placing	State	Riders Name	Horse	Division	Number of Events 09	2009 Total Placement Points
1	со	Raymond, Debbie	Mr Smart T Smoke	N		6 87
2	AZ	Cummings, Kristi	JNT Go Leo Man	N		3 44
3	AZ	Banks, Kandy	Chase Me To The Top	N		2 33
4	MN	Underwood, Lorri	Silver Spike Poco	N		2 29
5	NM	Young, Brian	Ima Candy Bar Man	N		4 27
6	СО	Balzer, Sheri	Big Bank Hancock	N		2 25
7	CO	Cool, Lynn	CD Snip on Her Nose	N		2 24
8	CO	Walker, Jennifer	Nike's Pepper Hancock	N		2 18
9	MN	Langemo, Julie	Jazz	T-N		1 18
10		Morris, Sue	Impeccably Dun	T-N		1 18
	INTERMEDIATE					
Placing	State	Riders Name	Horse	Division	Number of Events 09	2009 Total Placement Points
1	NM	Clare, Diane	One Chexy Chic	1		7 85
2	AZ	Jensen, Donna	Mister Cowboy Chant	l		4 60
3	NM	Padilla, Charles	Tequita Poco Doll	l		4 56
4	CO	Stewart, Donna	A Classic Page	l		3 54
5	CO	Christensen, Nikita	Savannahs Command	1		5 53
6	NM	Lynch, Clint	Cuchara Easy Cash	1		4 53
7	CO	Zueck, Herman	Captian Osage Roan	l		3 52
8	CO	Munson, Al	PWR Lenas Tari Pines	l		3 51
9	NM	Cook, Richard	Dun Real Red	1		4 50
10	AR	Sadler, Philip	Lena's Silver Gay Bar	1		4 50
	ADVANCED					
Placing	State	Riders Name	Horse	Division	Number of Events 09	2009 Total Placement Points
1	NM	White, Heath	Rise to the Challenge	Α		7 97
2	CO	Block, Henry	Little Bell Pepper	А		6 95
3	CO	Block, Donna	Dunnit Leanin	А		7 90
4	CO	Lauby, Rita	LiL Bit O Badge	Α		5 89
5	СО	Marshall, Paulette	CW Playmates Gun	А		6 69
6	СО	Hunter, Jack	Playgun Kit	А		8 63
7	CO	Rose, Tim	Double Tuckered Out	А		4 62
8	СО	Flood, Mick	Mr. Chex Nix	А		6 60
9	NM	Cantrell, Bill	Whiskey Stick Chick	А		0 59
10	MO	Masoner, Rich	Tanguery Natural Budha	A		4 59

Dave Currin might call it <u>inspiring</u> or <u>extraordinary</u>. Bill Cantrell would say it was a <u>fine time</u> and the food was <u>delicious!</u> A very nice lady from Arizona told me that this was the best weekend she had ever spent at a horse event, '<u>rejuvenating</u>' she called it. Tony Lauby described the event as <u>challenging</u> but as long as he got his steer roped all was good! Shane Bangerter from Kansas said he was going to work harder next year because the competition was <u>tough.</u> Charles Padilla, the intermediate rider who won the division high point saddle smiled a lot. Some of our youth said the championships <u>rocked</u>. And, of course everyone complained about the cattle but that seems about status quo. These words are a good sampling of adjectives used to describe the 2009 Championship Event, the second to be held by the NVRHA in as many years.

Members representing numerous active NVRHA states and four affiliates totaled over 100 entries for the three day extravaganza that included a gala banquet on Saturday night and culminated Sunday with the World's Greatest VRH Competition. The NVRHA Championships for Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced divisions were held Friday and Saturday.



Having two days to run the divisional portion of the event was a real luxury. Class schedules were relaxed and there was plenty of time to warm-up, visit, and watch your friends compete. We even had time to enjoy the first rate social hours graciously sponsored by Henry and Donna Block, Tim and Cindy Rose, and Jack and Lana Hunter. An open jackpot division was offered concurrently with the amateur division events and drew many riders, some of whom were professionals readying their horses for the big World's Greatest contest on Sunday. Everyone who undertakes the endeavor of competing in the Championships is a winner. The significant expenditure of time and resources required to get a horse ready for a competition like this is no small feat. Thank you to all who made that effort and a huge grin for all of you division saddle winners! (...for more on these guys see page 20)

Custom Trophy Saddles provided by Pierre Lamont at Cimarron River Saddlery

Saturday night was the NVRHA awards and recognition banquet held in the dining room at the Norris Penrose Equestrian Center. Everybody celebrated the close of another remarkable year for this still young organization! The Bob Norris family and Russ Wolfe family

were guests of honor. Dinner was excellent and everyone enjoyed seeing themselves and friends in the year-end video program. (Send photos folks - that's the only way you get in there!)

Thanks to the hard work of Tim and Cindy Rose, the auction to benefit NVRHA was a rousing success! There were a variety of valuable items and services that put everyone in the bidding mood! From the original 'Down and Dirty' painting by artist Connie Johnson, to Denver Bronco tickets, there was really something for everyone. We even had two horses for auction this year. Mike Major's yearling colt was purchased by Shane Bangerter, and Mike and Debby Ross donated a 3 year old who was purchased by Rick and Lyla Demulling from Wisconsin. Wow - what an event - you can show horses and shop all in the same place!

Master of ceremonies for the evening was none other than Dave Currin. Really, have you ever known anyone to do this better than Dave? He's makes everyone feel welcome and appreciated, and he took us smoothly through all of the evening's awards. This year's high point winners were pretty evenly distributed between members from New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona. In addition, five riders earned the title of Ranch Horse Champion, and another six earned their Supreme Ranch Horse Champion. Henry Block earned his Supreme on Little Bell Pepper in only five events - wow - way to go Henry! As the evening drew to a close, we named one of the nicest guys around as our 2009 Horseman of the Year - congratulations Tim Rose! And lastly, we had the honor of bestowing a new and coveted award to the highest point earning horse in the NVRHA - the Legend Award was presented to Cindy Rose for her horse Double Tuckered Out. This Rundown issue is chalked full of stories about many of these special people and their accomplishments, so read on. I hope you will enjoy getting to know the hard working cowboys and cowgirls featured in this issue, and that their stories will strengthen the bond that keeps us all coming back to the NVRHA.

Winners of the first Affiliate Challenge held at the Championship Event this year received embroidered NVRHA jackets. Congratulations to Team Colorado who had the highest combined horse/rider scores for the Amateur Divisions.

Pictured from left - Charlie Stewart (Advanced Division), Debbie Raymond (Novice Division), and Tony Lauby (Intermediate Division). Heads up for this fun competition for next year - start rounding up your team now!



NVRHA World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse Competition - It's Déjà Vu

by Donna Stewart

Proving it can be done despite some serious competition, Mike Major and Smart Whiskey Doc rocked the VRH world by claiming their second NVRHA world's greatest title in as many years. There is not much new to say about this cowboy and his talented stallion, also winners of the AQHA Versatility Ranch Horse Championship. Mike and Whiskey remain consistently tough and on top of their game.

The World's Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse Competition drew twice a many entries this year as it did in 2008, and it was something to see! It doesn't take long watching Mike Majors, Channing Hawks, Dolly Wallace, Jay Henson, Bob Grant, Lavert Avert and all the others, to make most of us realize what real amateurs we are! We watched, mostly in awe, as they got the very best performance out of each equine athlete. Somehow it is kind of satisfying to watch the people who spend so much time teaching us and training our horses actually DO the thing.

I watched in amazement as Jay Henson rode three horses, all with different temperaments, strengths, and weaknesses, showing each to its optimal potential. The crucial change of riding style and focus required for each of the five versatility events, something that most of us work so very hard to achieve with just one horse, Jay performed effortlessly, adapting to each of the three different horses class after class. Heck, just keeping up with which horse was in which class in what arena, would have been enough to do in most of us! I noticed something, though, about all these professional folks. They are focused. They are 'in the zone'. They show up with their game faces on. This is business buddy. So why did they come? Big NVRHA money? A custom trophy saddle? A custom belt buckle? The title and bragging rights to the NVRHA World's Greatest VRH? Who knows. But come they did and we all benefitted from their outstanding performances.



Left: Mike Major and Smart Whiskey Doc claim the title of NVRHA's World Greatest Versatility Ranch Horse.





















2009 NVRHA Year-End High Point Champions

ADVANCED DIVISION: HEATH WHITE AND RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

This award came as no surprise to those of us who know Heath and 'Riley'. These boys have known their share of wins and now have topped off a very successful year by securing the Year-End Advanced Division Award, as well as earning their Ranch Horse Supreme Championship. Top of the NVRHA folks - this is what it looks like.

Heath is from New Mexico and is very active in that NVRHA affiliate. But, no state lines stopped this young man from competing in numerous events in Colorado, Kansas, and Arizona. Total year end points for Heath and Riley were 97, putting them a

very important 2 points above the closest competitor. And, since this Advanced group of riders contains no slouches, that is quite an accomplishment!

What I notice most about Heath is his determination. Watching Heath at a clinic it is easy to see that he must be a clinician's dream. There is no fooling around - Heath listens, learns, and then applies what is being taught. He has the ability to take the best

from each clinician, tailor it to his and Riley's needs and use that knowledge to his best advantage. Heath also has a work ethic sorely lacking in so many folks these days. You don't get where he is by having someone else do it for you.

Heath told me at

the National Event that he 'knew his limitations'. Well Heath, you are finally wrong about something - people like you don't really have limitations. You are a living example of the NVRHA philosophy. So set the next goal and go for it. We know you will and we know you can - now you should know that the whole NVRHA will be watching and is very proud you are one of our own!

--Donna Stewart





INTERMEDIATE
DIVISION:
DIANE CLARE
AND
ONE CHEXY CHIC



O ne of the highlights of the New Mexico show season was Brandon Clare running toward my pickup proudly telling me that his Mother, Diane Clare, had won a buckle at our Moriarity Show. In our New Mexico shows we have become used to Brandon with his mother, and next year, we will see Brandon competing in the youth division.



Diane Clare started out like many others who participate in the Ranch Versatility Event. Her neighbor showed a horse in the Dodge National Finals at the Denver Livestock show, and Diane asked about it. She attended a few shows and took on the job of scribe and volunteer because she liked the people. Then she asked Andy Anderson of Amarillo to find her a horse. He suggested a four year old red roan mare named One Chexy Chic and she

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began to ride. She says of the Ranch Versatility, "It was fun to do lots of stuff."

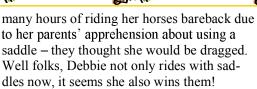
This was her beginning two years ago. With training her goal was to improve and to do better both as a rider and at the events she attended. During 2008, Diane showed at six NVRHA events, including four in New Mexico as well as the T-Cross and Longmont events in Colorado. "I had to get out of my comfort zone," she told me, and traveled to learn that she was really getting better as the year went on. It did, and

Diane finished as the NVRHA Year-End Intermediate Champion for 2009 with 85 points. Her goals are now to become more precise, to keep challenging herself, and working on Chexy's skills, including rating. Of Chexy, she says that she would like her mare to stand still more, to slow down and to rate better, and equally, Chexy may say of Diane Clare that her owner is in the fast lane in Ranch Versatility, and that at each show, she just gets better and better. As for Brandon, he could not be more proud of his mother's accomplishment.

--Charles Padilla







Debbie was trained as a cosmetologist and owned her own salon before marrying husband, Earl. The family moved to a farm near Keenesburg, CO and began raising their two sons as well as registered Hereford cattle. For about a decade, Debbie's love for horses took a backseat to her duties as a mother and the job of keeping up with their growing

cow/calf operation.

Coming back to her roots in 2000, Debbie purchased her horse, Mr. Smart T Smoke, as a reining prospect. Debbie began taking lessons and showing Smoke on her own. In 2008 a friend suggested she try out the NVRHA – and the rest is history. In a very short time, Debbie and Smoke have become extremely competitive and ultimately successful in the NVRHA. Says Debbie, "The NVRHA has a wonderful Novice program. The clinics and the caliber of clinicians are so helpful... and getting the scorecards back,

what a learning tool!" Congratulations Debbie! We are so very pleased that you found the NVRHA!

--Donna Stewart

Congrats to Debbie, and thank you, for taking on the role of Secretary for the NVRHA.



NOVICE DIVISION:
DEBBIE RAYMOND
AND
MR SMART T SMOKE

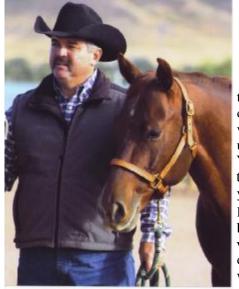
Everybody knows Debbie Raymond. Even if you don't recognize her name, you would definitely recognize the little lady with the big smile! Debbie, a Colorado native, is in her second year with the NVRHA and scored big with 87 points to win the Year-End Novice Division Award! And to add icing on the cake... Novice Champion and Saddle winner for the 2009 National Event!

Debbie grew up a horse-loving kid in rural Colorado, participating in 4H and local events. Her natural riding skills may be attributed to

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NVRHA Selects 2009 Horseman of the Year

By Donna Stewart



he 2009 recipient of the NVRHA's Horseman of the Year is not only a great horseman, he is just an all around great guy! Tim Rose had no problem meeting the basic requirements of being an excellent horseman and enthusiastic supporter of the mission and goals of the organization. Tim is one of the founding members of NVRHA, and anyone who knows him is aware of the unparalleled effort he has given to this versatility ranch horse program. Currently in his third year as NVRHA treasurer and board member, Tim was the natural choice for our Horseman of the Year. So, before we get on with Tim's story, on behalf of the NVRHA – Tim, thank you for all you've done, all you continue to do, and the assurance that your steady hand will be there to guide this young association into the future. Pick an event, any event in any state, and Tim is probably there. But, if his busy schedule doesn't allow him to attend, you can bet he has certainly reviewed the event's plan and budget, spoken with the event mangers, answered dozens of questions, and most likely lent his name as the off-site manager. So why does this busy businessman, husband, and father spend so much time making sure the NVRHA works? Money – ha! Fame – not that kind of guy! A

'cowboy heart'... now you're getting there...

Tim's story may start out sounding familiar but it doesn't take much telling before the uniqueness begins to emerge. Basically, how many little boys born in farming communities in southwestern Ohio dream of becoming cowboys? Lots. But how many actually do it? Few. And, how many do it all of their own accord while concurrently building a business and taking care of a family? Darn few.

Tim did grow up in Ohio the only boy in a family of five children. Four sisters – now that explains why we ladies love him – he 'gets' us! While the girls did their thing, Tim dreamed of the western cowboy life, fuelling his imagination with television shows like Rawhide and the Rifleman. But the reality of being a cowboy was slim in those days, so when Tim graduated from high school he enlisted in the Air Force. Now for those of you who don't know, the Air Force has set a high priority on airplanes, not horses. So, on his off time from duty in Little Rock, Arkansas, Tim focused all his cowboy energy into another love – hunting and fishing. At the same time Tim also enacted his plan to become a truck driver hauling steel from Ohio steel mills. (Remember how easily he backed that big rig of his into tight spaces at NVRHA events? Now it's all coming together!) So he did that – surprised? – don't be – the common thread in this story is – Tim makes a plan and achieves it. Today we call that - work ethic.

It didn't take Tim long to realize that college was a better choice than truck driving. He moved to Houston, Texas, earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, and then went to work for Price Waterhouse as an oil/gas auditor. Living in Texas revived Tim's cowboy dreams and he packed up and moved west to Colorado Springs in 1986. Tim continued his work in the accounting field for several years before launching his own commercial real estate company in 1991. Today Tim is the owner and driving force behind the successful Summit Commercial Group, Inc in Colorado Springs. Anyone who runs their own business knows the incredible time commitment involved to achieve success. Tim was rewarded in 1996 by meeting and marrying his wife Cindy. What a team these two are! Great guy, lovely lady... but now the story is just beginning.

Cindy shared Tim's passion for horses, and the couple bought four (!) in 1999. By Tim's own admission, this first venture into horses was a 'train wreck'. Tim says it was so bad that he was afraid Cindy would lose her desire to ride. No giving up here though, Tim and Cindy gained knowledge and eventually ended up owning several nice trail horses. But cowboys do more than trail ride, so Tim kept searching. Enter Dave Currin – versatility ranch horse guru – who met the Roses in Ft. Robinson, Nebraska at an early AQHA VRH event in 2002. Dave's enthusiasm rubbed off on the Roses and now you know the rest of the story! Might want to thank Dave when you see him!

Tim and Cindy did not just test the VRH waters, they dove in head first! These guys sold all four trail horses in the same week and hit the road looking for a different kind of horse. Now this next part isn't new to those of us who know Tim and Cindy. They met Jay and Gena Henson who helped them find two great geldings and get started in the VRH program. (Read about Cindy's horse, Double Tuckered Out, in this issue – winner of our first Legend Award.)

Tim purchased Smart Enuf to Smokem (aka Rowdy) and ever since then it has been 'game on'!

From the time he began to compete on Rowdy in 2005, Tim is the only member of the NVRHA who has accomplished the versatility trifecta – THREE SUPREME RANCH HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS ON THREE DIFFERENT HORSES! If this doesn't make you sit up and pay attention then you don't know much about our sport. To put it simply, this is difficult folks! And from a more realistic perspective, this is darn near impossible for most people. But again, we are not talking about most people, we are talking about Tim...remember that work ethic thing? No doubt Tim has had terrific success on these three horses – Smart Enuf to Smokem, Stylish Gus, and Double Tuckered Out – and that success was born out of his love for horses, the versatility event, and that cowboy dream.

So, it must be time for Tim to rest on his laurels...are you kidding me? Tim has already begun work on his next VRH champion, a 6 year old gelding called Mega Powder N Moore. In addition he will be starting a 3 year old that he purchased as a yearling from Mike Major. Also look for Cindy on the Rose's 4 year old gelding Kwik Silver Rooster. These two just don't quit, which is one of the reasons they are favorites among the NVRHA members. As Tim reminisces about his whirlwind tour of the VRH world, he comes back to one basic. "It's the people that make it all work for me," says Tim, "we have met so many dear friends over the last several years."

Tim is humble in his amazement about his horsemanship skills and numerous accomplishments. And he is quick to credit and thank his wife Cindy and two beautiful daughters Katie and Jackie for supporting the realization of his dreams. Tim is living his dream, as much as anybody can be a cowboy in this year 2010. So back to that 'cowboy heart' thing... it's as big as that grin on his face and those fancy high top orange boots!





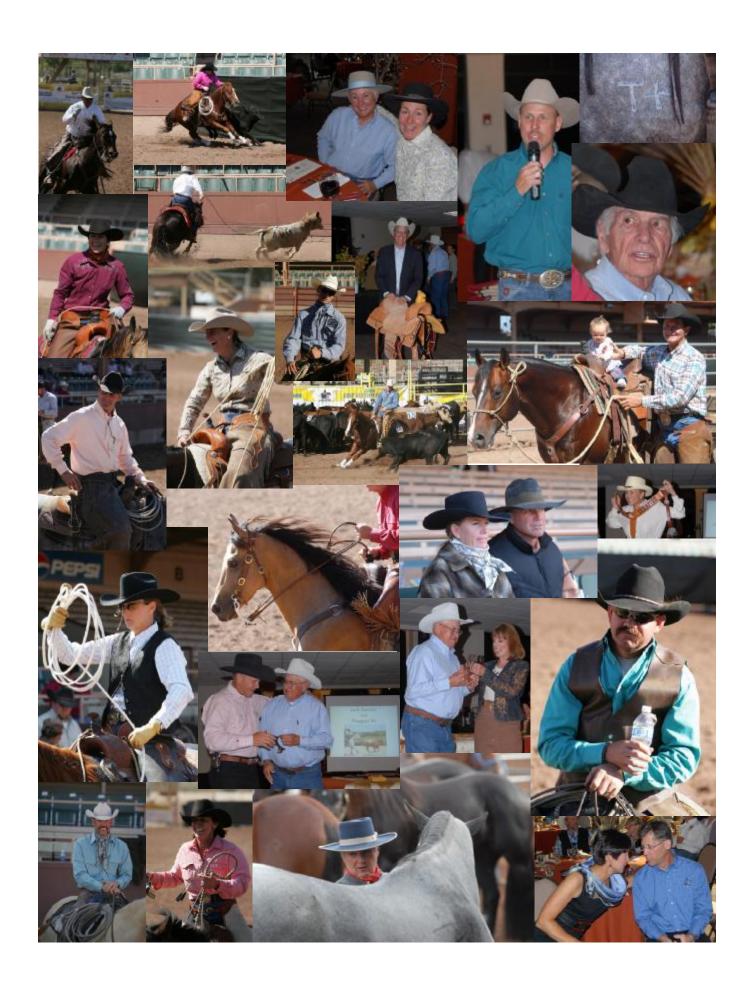


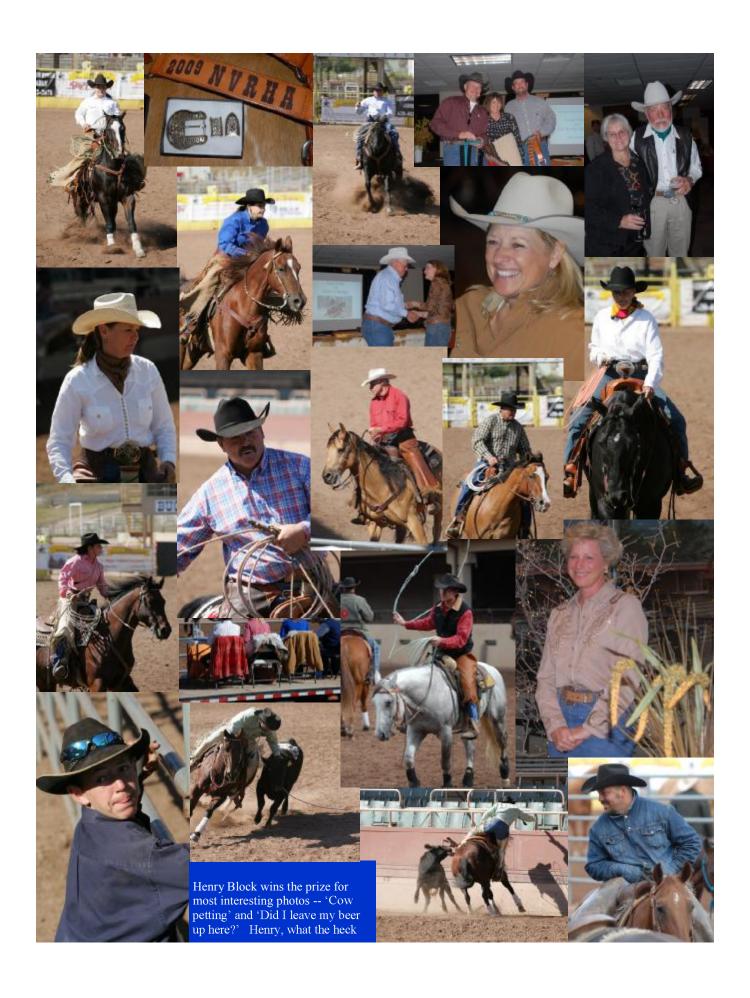


Clockwise from top left:

Tim accepts the Horseman of the Year Award from Bill Cantrell, Tim and Bill - the NVRHA is all about friends (and great boots!), The Rose girls - Jackie, Cindy, and Katie,

Tim and his next champion Mega Powder N Moore





NVRHA LEGEND AWARD

-- Donna Stewart

very issue of the Rundown has acknowledged outstanding achievements and contributions of people who make up the organization. Although this is a good thing, it is also an incomplete view of whom and what the NVRHA is all about. You see, most people who belong to amateur organizations like the NVRHA don't pay their bills by riding or showing horses, and they don't often seek personal recognition for something they love doing. That being said, there is not an amateur cowboy or cowgirl out there who does not want their horse recognized! After all, this is the partner for whom you spend all your extra time, money, blood, sweat, and tears. You may not get a new blanket every year, but you can bet he does. How many days, nights, weekends, and of course all of your vacation time, have you spent with your horse; even when that small voice in your head says maybe you should really be at the family reunion, son's ball game, church, or the million other activities and obligations we all have.

So, in this issue, we are proud to begin the tradition of honoring our outstanding equine counterparts who led us to the NVRHA in the first place. Guided by the insightful inspiration of President Dave Currin, the NVRHA has created a new category of achievement known as the Legend Award. This award will be presented to those horses accumulating a total of 200 lifetime points in the NVRHA. This year we are celebrating the first horse to achieve this feat, a 1995 AOHA gelding owned by Cindy and Tim Rose:





DOUBLE TUCKERED OUT

Double Tuckered Out, known as JJ, has a story of his own. JJ was purchased by the Roses' in 2003 as an eight year old. He was sired by Dry Double, by Dry Doc, and out of a mare by Doc Tom Tucker. JJ is a horse with a lot of talent who has had his share of success.

It's not hard to see why Cindy fell in love with JJ when she met him in 2003. Cindy will tell you, "my journey to JJ was my quest for a versatility horse."

Cindy had been a trail rider and like so many others was looking for something else to do with horses. She and Tim went to a combination trail ride/VRH event in Fort Robinson, Nebraska and 'fell in love with the challenge that versatility offered.' They met Dave Currin who shared his passion for horses and the VRH program. Now anyone who knows Dave also knows how hard it is to resist his enthusiasm. The Roses' were not immune to that either and soon began attending clinics and private lessons to better their horsemanship skills with the goal of competing in VRH.

One day in Nathrop, CO, at a Richard Shrake clinic, Cindy came to the realization that to be competitive in the versatility events she would have to buy a different horse. Riding her trail horses in a challenging event like VRH had become too much of a struggle.

Again, enter Dave, who called Jay Henson to inquire about a likely prospect for Cindy. Thinking this would take six months to a year to accomplish, everybody was surprised when Jay said, "yes, I have 3 prospects for her right now." Despite Dave claiming, "it shouldn't be this easy", Cindy and Tim headed for the Henson's place in Hugoton, Kansas to look at horses! Cindy rode several horses that day, but none compared to JJ. She felt immediately at ease and comfortable with the big bay gelding. Cindy vividly remembers her first ride and how in sync she felt with JJ.

"He was a gentle horse with smooth motion," says Cindy. "I felt so much better on JJ. He did everything that the other horses' did, but didn't seem like he wanted to eat the cattle. JJ just wanted to do his job and then get out. I knew without a doubt that this was the horse for me!"

And so it started... Cindy admits that JJ knew a lot more than she did at the beginning.

"I was able to learn all of the parts of VRH because I could concentrate on me and not have to worry about the horse," says Cindy. She quickly excelled in all aspects of VRH but especially ranch riding, trail, and the reining portion of the working cow horse event.

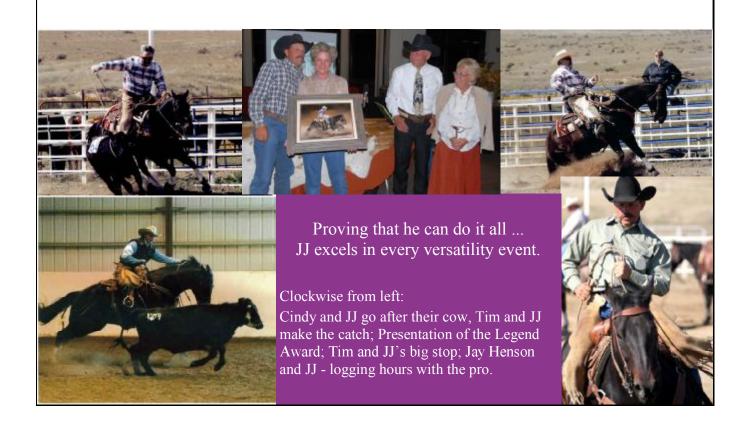
"The cow events were harder for me because I was afraid. Of what, I really don't know. Maybe just coming off and being in the middle of all the cattle. Consequently, I held JJ back from doing what he was really trained to do," Cindy admits.

Taking every training opportunity she could get, Cindy says that after awhile she and JJ became 'like a hand in a glove.' "He would know what to do, and when I have more courage and when I am afraid," said Cindy, "and I do know that I have babied him too much which has made him soft."

Nonetheless, this pair started competing full bore in the RMQHA and AQHA from 2005 to 2007 and one success followed the next. The points racked up, and the Cindy/JJ team earned their Ranch Horse Champion and Supreme Ranch Horse Champion in 2005 and Overall High Point Award for Ranch Trail, Ranch Riding and Conformation in 2007! As of this date, JJ has earned over 351 lifetime VRH points making him the highest point earner in the NVRHA!

So how does Cindy feel about her horse winning the Legend Award? "JJ has worked very hard and he deserves every point. In my opinion, he is and always will be one of the best versatility ranch horses in America!" Cindy says about her old friend.

We agree Cindy, and it gives all of us at the NVRHA great pleasure to present Double Tuckered Out the first ever Legend Award! As for JJ, well like most of our 'silent partners' he is pretty humble.





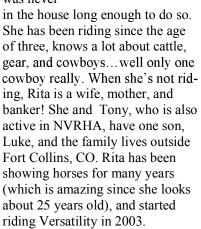
2009 National Championship Event Winners

ADVANCED DIVISION: RITA LAUBY AND LIL BIT O' BADGE

here are a lot of great women in the NVRHA who love horses and all things western, but when you start talking 'real cowgirls', only three names come to my mind. These are women who know horses, I mean really KNOW horses, and who can step on any of them and get something done. One of these ladies, Rita Lauby, is the 2009 National Championship Event winner! Rita and her big red horse, Lil Bit O' Badge (a.k.a. Marshall), got it done on that beautiful Colorado weekend in September by outscoring all the folks in the advanced division to take home the coveted title and championship saddle from Cimarron River Saddlery. And let me tell you folks, the competition in the advanced division is tough.

When I asked Rita for some information about herself for this article, I got back the typical cowgirl response - several really nice descriptive paragraphs about Marshall and two short sentences about Rita. So, taking plenty of editorial license, I will tell you what I know about Rita which isn't a lot but it is what I know to be true. Rita is honest, funny, sincere, laughs a lot, self-depreciating, hard-working, the 'real deal', and a great friend. None of this is news to those of you who know her.

What you may not know is that she grew up in rural Nebraska where horses were a way of life. Her mother will tell vou that Rita never learned to cook because she was never



And now on to what Rita really wants to talk about, Marshall. A seven year old AQHA gelding originally trained in cutting, Marshall is the third horse Rita has taken through the versatility program. He is the son of Playboy's Badge (100K NCHA money earner), and his grandsire is Freckles Playboy. Mom was no slouch either with lineage including Peppy San Badger and Poco Tivio. Rita purchased Marshall through Hen-



sons and with them worked on getting him up to snuff in ranch riding and trail while simultaneously trying to rise to his level in the cowhorse pen. Rita describes Marshall as 'an awe-some athlete with a very strong work ethic... who thinks ahead and doesn't like to make mistakes'. Sound familiar? No wonder these two found each other, they are identical twin personalities.

Oh yes, one more 'small' thing. Rita and Marshall also scored their Supreme Ranch Horse Champion title this year – just another reason to celebrate! When you next see Rita, be sure to comment on three things, the pinky finger on her right hand (I am not telling), her NVRHA Ranch Horse Supreme, and her tremendous win at the Championships. Congratulations Rita and Marshall!

-- Donna Stewart

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INTERMEDIATE DIVISION CHARLES PADILLA AND TEQUITA POCO DOLL

ho ever saw Charles Padilla at the National Championship Event is sure to remember his big smile, but they had to wait until the Banquet to find out what he was smiling about.

Many people at the show remember his beautiful six year old dark bay mare, Tequita Poco Doll, but after the dinner they would remember both his smile, his horse, and his Intermediate National Championship win.

Charles, age 58, is a 38-year veteran insurance man with Northwestern Mutual, and from Santa Fe, New Mexico, credits his National finals win to a change that he made in July more than half way through the year. "Annie," seemed to be very heavy and it seemed like she had a hard time stopping." He said. "I asked Kevan Saunders of Santa Fe if she would help." They both realized that the mare would have to be lightened up in the front end. The diagnoses would mean two months of intense work, rebuilding the top line muscles,

bending ribs, and changing the mare's center of gravity backwards to her hind end. For Charles, this was new work, and barely understood, but work that he felt was fundamental, and Kevan provided advice that he felt he had no choice but to understand and accept. It meant new aerobics and gymnastic exercises for Annie.

"C.S. Lewis, once said that the smartest man is the one that will turn back first," Charles said, we had to go backwards in order to go forwards."

For Annie, this was not different than the routine that Charles expounds; twice weekly classes at core training and Saturday mornings at Pilates to keep himself in shape.

Charles and Tequita Poco Doll won the Reserve Champion buckle and vest at the NM State Fair Ranch Versatility AOHA Show four days before the

NVRHA finals, along with first place ribbons in conformation and trail, and he felt that his horse was beginning to understand what was needed. "She just kept moving up with me," he said. "She kept up with my own intensity."

Charles came to the finals with another coach, Dolly and Bob Wallace, of Bosque Farms, NM who helped in conditioning, cutting and working cow horse. "Dolly is a task master," Charles said. "When she says to do something, she says so from an experience that includes over 95 national championships."

Charles and his mare went home to Santa Fe with a new saddle. Annie had placed first in Conformation. They were third in the national standings (intermediate) for the year after finishing first in the New Mexico standings. No one saw him driving home, Annie earned a good rest, and slept, but he had to still be smiling.

--Charles Padilla



NOVICE DIVISION:
DEBBIE RAYMOND
AND
MR SMART T SMOKE

o you are not seeing things...this is the same Debbie Raymond who was the year-end Novice champion! Debbie just can't seem to get enough of the NVRHA, so she attended the National Championship Event and won the novice division saddle!

You novices can take a breath...Debbie will most likely be 'whuppin-up' on folks in another division next year!

Please refer to page 13 for the article on Year-End High Point Champions to read more about Debbie and her great horse Smoke.

--Donna Stewart

Newsletter Title Page 21



Bob Grant and Boom Tang

ARIZONA AFFILIATE HEADS NORTH FOR THE NVRHA CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT

--Becky Grant



Bob Grant and Primos Peppydoit

In February of 2009 Bob and I were spending the day at a horse sale in Prescott, AZ, this particular event is as much a social gathering as horse sale, as we browsed the vendors and tables we came across a flyer for a new association called the National Versatility Ranch Horse Association. (I still don't know where that flyer came from.) We had been discussing ranch horse competitions and wondering how we could get involved and perhaps bring something to AZ and had been looking at an organization in Texas. We went straight home and called Dave Currin, he was so eager to help us get started we set a date for our first event right then and there on the phone... that was the beginning of an epic and eventful year and half. Our first event had 9 participants, our second event 15, and our fourth had 38. Here in AZ we are experiencing phenomenal growth, my contact list has exceeded 150 people. We get calls every week from eager horsemen looking for a place to have fun and we tell them... you have found it! We are so very proud of our new friends and family, what a fantastic year this has been.

To culminate this year, seven from AZ made a trip to Colorado Springs to participate in the National Championship Event... with a lot of success I might add... and I thought it would be fun to share some of our stories...



Kandy Banks and Chase Me To The Top

My mid-life crisis came last year when I just couldn't decide what to do with my horse. I've tried just about everything from western to trail riding but I wanted something exciting, something to make my heart sing and something I really enjoyed. I read about the NVRHA Arizona Sun Country Rendezvous in Buckeye and I packed up my Appaloosa and headed west. I was pretty anxious about the whole thing and didn't know what to expect. Were my novice skill level and my ornery Appaloosa going to make it through that weekend? Well we did and we were hooked.

The people were fantastic, the clinicians taught me so much and even my horse seemed happy about the change. We continued training through the year and made it to several practices and one other clinic/competition in Camp Verde. It was all I thought about. We even moved closer to my training facility so I could learn more and excel. To say I have found a new love is an understatement. I even purchased another horse so I can move up the levels and compete to my fullest ability. To finish out the year my Appaloosa and I planned on going to the Finals/Championships in Colorado Springs. We wanted to finish the year with a bang. Again...my heart was in my throat watching all the big rigs arrive and thinking "why am I here?" But it all changed once we entered the ring and got down to business. We ended up placing 3rd in the Finals and 3rd in the Overall Standings. My Appaloosa put on quite a show with a bucking finale in the Ranch Cutting but I stayed on and we even penned our cow for the first time this year. As my skill level grows so does my excitement and love of the versatility horse; what a wonderful opportunity to be able to learn from the best, to have new found friends and family and to feel the accomplishment of a well mannered horse. I look forward to training and feeling that rush of going 0-90 mph chasing cows in one pen to taking it one step, one transition at a time in the next pen. Who could ask for more?



Donna Jensen and Mister Cowboy Chant

For 30 years, my husband (BJ) and I have bred, raised and shown Arabian horses. In June 2008, at the invitation of Bob and Becky Grant of Anchor Cross Ranch, Camp Verde, AZ, we observed our first NVRHA clinic in Prescott, AZ. Participants of all ages were having a blast! Seeing this reminded us that you can learn and have fun at the same time. Now in our early 60s, BJ and I realized it was time to simplify our lives and enjoy our horses more. And being a three-time ovarian cancer survivor, it was especially important for me to fulfill some dreams. The decision to go with NVRHA led to the acquisition of two special quarter horses... Mister Cowboy Chant (Tippy) and Boom Tang (Boomer). Tippy and I practiced several days a week at home with occasional lessons from excellent trainers...Ivan Stewart, Bob Grant, Ben Balow, and Tom Hayman. Tippy and I began competing in NVRHA events in February 2009. Attending the 2009 NVRHA National Finals in Colorado Springs in September, along with six other members of our Arizona team, was a great finale to a fabulous year. I was impressed with the overall team spirit of the participants. It was an atmosphere of friendliness, support, encouragement, and celebrating success. Tippy and I were thrilled at being awarded 2009 NVRHA Reserve National Champion for the Intermediate Division. We look forward to 2010!

The beauty of Versatility Ranch Horse is the average horse owner and their broke horse can start right off participating and improve their skills in the various classes as they attend more clinics and practice at home. The camaraderie and support of fellow competitors just makes the experience all the more enjoyable. I have been involved in just about every equine discipline that exists at one time or another and I have to say the people involved with the NVRHA in Arizona are some of the greatest out there. There are no clicks, or cattiness and everyone is very enthusiastic and supportive of each other. With such a great group of people, the sport cannot help but grow and flourish!

I have also had the privilege of participating in NVHRA both as a clinician and judge as well as a competitor. Competing at the National Finals was truly a memorable experience, all of us from Arizona are glad we made the trip to Colorado and are already making plans for attending in 2010!



Kim McElroy and Chex N Playboy







All of us in Arizona would like to thank the board and founding members of this organization for your hard work and dedication to this endeavor. Those of us who have come along recently are reaping of benefits of your foresight and knowledge.

We are looking forward to 2010 with great anticipation, and we are planning a premier event at Buckeye in February, please come a join us!

2010 NVRHA EVENT SCHEDULE

(CURRENT AS OF 2/1/2010 ~~ REFER TO WEBSITE FOR LATEST UPDATES ~~ www.NVRHA.org)

February	18-21	Buckeye, AZ	July 16-18 Granby, CO
February	26-28	La Mesa, NM	July 17-18 Longmont, CO
			July 24-25 Wessington Spg, SD
March	20-21	Temecula, CA	July 24-25 Sedalia, MO
			July 30 - Aug 1 Payson, AZ
April	10-11	Colorado Spgs, CO	July 31 – Aug 1 Larkspur, CO
April	17-18	Elkhorn, NB	July TBA Monterey, CA
April	17-18	Camp Verde, AZ	
April	23-25	Goodwell, OK	August 13-15 Lamey, NM
Apr 30 -	May 2	Larkspur, CO	August 14-15 Bayfield, CO
			August 16-18 Yampa, CO
May	6- 9	Hugoton, KS	August 21-22 Minneapolis, MN
May	14-15	Red Rock, AZ	August 28-29 Grand Island, NE
May	14-16	Watrous, NM	August TBA Albuquerque, NM
May	15-16	Osceola, WI	
May	15-16	Paso Robles, CA	September 10-12 Pueblo, CO
May	16	Larkspur, CO	September 11-12 Minneapolis, MN
May	22-23	Kansas City, MO	September 24-26 Colorado Spgs, CO
May	22-23	Temecula, CA	***National Championships***
May	22-23	Pueblo, CO	
			October 9-10 Paso Robles, CA
June	5- 6	Dardanelle, AR	October 15-17 Camp Verde, AZ
June	12-13	Wellington, CO	October 23-24 Dodge City, KS
June		Rapid City, SD	
June	19-20	Valley City, ND	November 12-14 Red Rock, AZ
June	25 - 27	Moriarty, NM	
June	26-27	Rifle, CO	Planned Introductory Events for 2010:
June	26-27	Muldrow, OK	Eugene, OR
			Amarillo, TX
			Kentucky
			Pennsylvania

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For more information contact:

Bob or Rebecca Grant

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928-853-6183

www.NVRHA.org



Mark your calendars!!

May 15-16: Osceola, Wisconsin

Contacts: Rick and Lyla Demulling #715-248-7243

June 19-20: Valley City, N. Dakota

Contact: Wyatt Zuan #701-840-0104

July 24-25: Wessington Springs, S. Dakota

Contacts: Kamber Ulmer #605-890-2188, Bill Krech #605-291-9398

August 21-22: Minnesota

Contacte: Susan Heyvaert #763-479-1895, Greg Booth & Vickie Kettlewell #218-828-8895

September (TBA): Minnesota

Contacts: Sue Nerud #612-581-3745, Terry & Shirley Lund #218-310-5847



2nd Annual Best Bawl Benefit Renee's Friends Fund Sunday, May 16, 2010

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Modified Versatility Ranch Horse Competition

Grab your friends and form a team of three to compete in Ranch Trail, Ranch Cutting, and Working Ranch Horse.

Divisions: Pro, Pro-Am, All Amateur.

Awards by division and best team costume!

Live and silent Auction and Dinner

Go to www.bestbawl.com for details and to view photos of the 2009 event fun!

Renee's Friends Fund is a Colorado based charity the provides hope by assisting with living expenses as patients go through treatments and therapies necessary to fight breast cancer. As a 501 C3 charity, RFF provides nonmedical expenses such as transportation, household costs, food, and supportive therapies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT GERRIE BARNES AT 303-646-9855

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For more information visit www.nvrha.org or contact Brian Thomas at 303-659-6551 or briancarolthomas@msn.com



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Loe Hart 2000 Extreme suppoy Association World Champson

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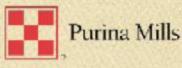
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CLINIC AND SCHOOLING COMPETITION
CLINICIANS/JUDGES:
JAY HENSON; 2ND TBD

For Information: www.nvrha.org

Nebraska: Burton Smith (308) 379-1467

NVRHA: Dave Currin (719) 481-9311

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