

SPOTLIGHT ON... DEB, FRANK, SARAH AND RICH BERGS, WINDY CREST FARMS, ROWLETT, TX

The Bergs got their start with ponies with Pachico's Little Star, who Deb trained, rode and showed during her junior high and high school years.

"She was unbeaten in halter, nearly unbeaten in trail. She was stock-type, extremely correct, with almost 50/50 markings. I showed her in everything available!" says Deb.

"Our daughter's mare Tardy's Smokin Fantasy is showing every sign of being as good or better than Little Star. Sarah has done all her finish work herself, and they have won quite a pile of ribbons this year in their first year of showing! Sarah has only been riding since January, 2005, and Smokey is her first horse. Smokey stands 13.3 1/2 hh tall, and is of the chunky bulldog type QH build (we call her "thunder thighs" around the barn!) They started out showing in walk/whoa classes, then went to walk/jog and now are trying the walk/jog/lope. She has also started to show in huntseat as well. Then, they run games! They have been steadily moving up the placings in all types of gymkhana classes."

Frank and Deb ran a training/breeding/boarding/show barn from 1977 to about 1992. They "retired" and sold off all the equipment and horses. They hadn't intended to have horses again until their daughter begged for a horse of her own.

"So we started the search for a horse for her. We found Smokey through an internet search, and went to see her on a bitter cold day, with high winds. Sarah was the first one up. As she was getting on, she brushed Smokey's rump with her foot and Smokey tucked her butt under, prompting Sarah to roll off backwards. Frank got up and rode her, and the more he rode, the more she worked for him. We never did get Sarah back up again that day (falling on frozen ground hurts!) but we ended up adding Smokey to our family. She has turned out to be the best purchase we have made in horses--she is calm, quiet, never bucks, kicks, bites, or spooks. Sarah has learned so much from her, and Smokey has never tried to go faster than what Sarah is ready to go. She's one in a million."

Sounds like a quarter pony!

REPORT FROM KENTUCKY CHRISTMAS PONY SALE

Several QPA members took ponies to sell at the Christmas Pony Sale in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on November 12. Reports back from the sale indicate, while prices were not what we would like to see and did not reflect the quality of the ponies consigned, it was a good experience and interest in our ponies and our movement extends past the enthusiasts who have already joined the organization. The information area set up by QPA and IQPA received a great deal of attention and information was given to all who expressed an interest. The facilities for the sale were high quality and the professionalism and service of the Boyds, who put on the sale, was highly praised by the participants. If marketed,

promoted and advertised more in the future, it promises to be a great avenue to market our Quarter Ponies.

“There is no doubt in my mind that the low prices are due to the economy in the equine industry as a whole that each and every one of us breeders currently faces,” reported Patricia McCullough. She was quite happy with the quality of her ponies’ new homes and said she would go to the sale again in the future.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE! IT’S AN AWESOME INTRODUCTION TO THE BREED!

Those who are familiar with the QPA/IQPA websites will know what I mean! Not only can you find out information about what is going on in the quarter pony world, there are lots and lots of gorgeous photos to give examples and aid in understanding what makes a quarter pony unique and exciting.

“The American Quarter Horse I knew as a young woman was a stocky, muscular, intelligent, quick and exciting animal. We didn’t even consider horses under 14.2 as “ponies” because it was the common size for the quarter horse,” says Lana Sibley of Kansas. “AQHA has changed over the years, but the love I had for that animal has not left me. I am seeing the characteristics I loved preserved in the Quarter Ponies being bred and promoted by our members. It is exciting to me to see the quality and dedication to breed standards exhibited by QPA members. There is no place where this pony is exhibited more completely than on www.quarterponyassociation.com. Visit today. You’ll be glad you did!”

DON’T FORGET... ADVERTISE ON THE QPA WEBSITE!

When you list a horse or pony for sale on the QPA website, our agreement with equine.com means it is listed on ALL their sites! So if you list through us, you help your organization AND get the benefit of a well established, highly regarded online classified! It’s a deal that can’t be beat! www.quarterponyassociation.com

Photo captions:

Pat McCullough’s daughter in law, Brandee Burgin prepares Red Man for the auction in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on November 12, 2005. Those who consigned and attended had a great time meeting and working together to promote QPA and IQPA.

Sarah Bergs and her Quarter Pony, Tardee’s Smokin Fantasy (Smokey) competing in western pleasure. At press time, they are also pushing hard to win the QPA year end award in English! Since points can be submitted until December 31, and press deadline for this issue was November 20, we won’t know the winners for awhile yet!