

Spring  
2013

# The Arizona Quarter Horse

ARIZONA QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION



**20** **FALL** **13**

**CHAMPIONSHIP**



**2013 FALL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW September 25-29**

# JANA AND JEFF McDOWELL

## A PAIR TO DRAW TO

Jeff McDowell and Jana Jones McDowell are certainly not new to the American Quarter Horse Association! Both Jeff and Jana have been showing in AQHA shows since the 1960's. The two met as youths showing in California and also served together as original Board of Directors of the Junior Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Association (JPCQHA) formed in 1971.

Jeff McDowell was a resident of Los Alamitos, California and began riding at the age of 10 in the late 1960's with Glenn Spiller and later with Ronnie Richards and Bill Enk. Jeff showed a mare by "Palleo's Note" named "Kozy Sue". Jeff credits Gene Newcomb for encouraging him to become involved in the newly formed Valley Quarter Horse Association, where in 1971 Jeff was youth president. In 1970 and 1971 Jeff showed and finished in the top five for year-end standings in two JPCQHA categories, including English and Western Pleasure, Horsemanship, Halter and Showmanship.

In the mean time during these early years, Jana lived in Fresno California. It was at a Pacific Coast Quarter horse show in southern California where Jana and Jeff first met in 1970. Beginning as a friendship through the love of horses, their relationship became a "first love" for each other! In the day and age of no cell phones or texting, Jana and Jeff kept in contact between the weekend horse shows the old fashioned way, by writing letters. In

these early days of Quarter horse showing, Jeff and Jana exhibited in just about every class offered, competing for the coveted All Around Youth trophy awarded at the end of the day. A typical show day would start early in the morning grooming your

mount for the Halter and Showmanship classes. After these halter classes, all the youth competitors would then hurry to saddle up to compete in western pleasure, horsemanship, western riding, trail, and reining. At the end of the day, the youth exhibitors would change into English attire, tack up the same horse, and post on out to compete in English Pleasure. These early 1970's certainly exemplified the true All Around Quarter Horse and Exhibitor!!!!



By age 11, Jana was showing in Working Cow Horse. Jana's first ever show horse was actually a big, black gelding who had been a ranch cow horse and roper named "Fresno Smoky". Jana learned to work cattle on "Smoky" after school, working with Troy Henry from Clovis, California. Jana's first competitive cowhorse event was in 11 & under Working Cow Horse at the Cow Palace Show (an AHSA event) in San Francisco. This event included both reined work and down the fence cow work. After enjoying her first competitive experience in cow horse, Jana then started showing "Smoky" in AQHA/PCQHA events "converting" him into an All Around horse, winning many Youth All Around High Point trophies. In 1969 Jana and "Fresno



1971 JPCQHA Board of Directors L to R: Debbie Whalen (Kail), Nick Arismendi, Nancy Weiss, Debbie Brooks. Top row L to R: Jana Jones, Jeff McDowell, Debbie Sweet.

Smoky” won her first ever belt buckle for High Point Youth13 & Under in the Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Association.

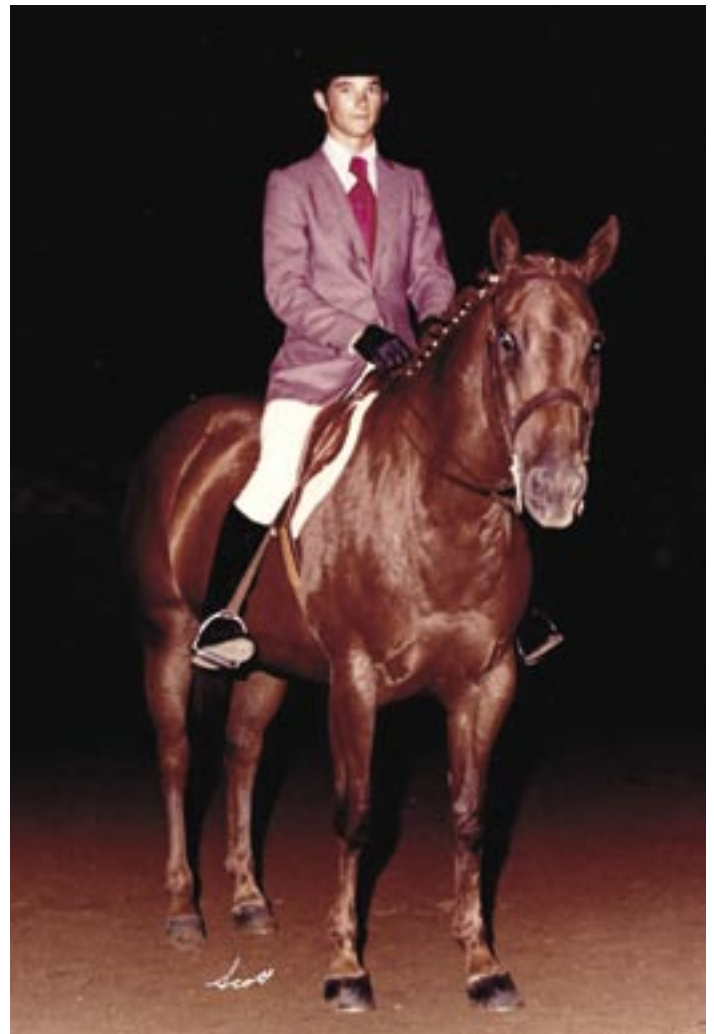
Over the next several years Jana showed horses that her parents bred and raised from a mare Jana’s parents, Bob and Lavern Jones, purchased at a sale. This brood mare, “Miss Vixen RO” was the dam of “Vixen’s Dividend” who Jana went on to show and win multiple AQHA and PCQHA High Point awards, as well as earning an AQHA Champion title. Jana also showed “Vixen’s” half sister, “Fancy Parfait”, trained by Joe Moreno, also achieving AQHA Championship status.

In 1971 and for the rest of her Youth years, Jana began training with Bobby Ingersoll. The previous year, Bobby had trained and won the prestigious World Champion Hackamore Horse Event at the Cow Palace on Jana’s gelding “Jane’s Par Three”. Jana began showing “Jane” the next year in AQHA Working Cow Horse and medal class events as a 5 year old. She finished his performance points to make him an AQHA Champion, and qualified for the AQHA first Youth World Championship show in

Amarillo in Youth Working Cow horse in 1972.

In her youth show career, Jana was fortunate to win five trophy saddles, however the ultimate high point of Jana’s show Youth show career was winning the AQHA Youth Working Cow Horse at the first Youth World show in 1972 on “Jane’s Par Three”. The pair won the very first saddle for the California team! The next year they qualified and competed again and won the Reserve Championship Award in Working Cow horse.

(con’t)



Jeff McDowell and Kozy Sue. 1972





*Jana Jones and Fresno Smokey. 1968*

In the mean time, Jeff had also qualified for the Youth World show in 1972 representing California. Jeff however moved with his family to Dallas Texas and because of residency rules was unable to compete for California at the Youth World show. This move also led to Jana and Jeff losing contact with each other, at least for a while. In the same year that Jeff moved to Texas, (1972) he showed at the National Youth Horse Congress where he was thrilled to win both the English Pleasure and Western Horsemanship classes, each with over 200 entries!



*Jeff and Elans Equilizer.*

Back in California Jana's show career ended in 1974. Her final achievement was competing for and being crowned The California Rodeo Sweetheart of the Salinas Rodeo. Winning a scholarship, she used these funds to attend and graduate from California State University, Fresno in 1978. Jana was accepted into Veterinary School at University California, Davis, and graduated as a Veterinarian in 1982. The next 28 years of Jana's life was spent doing Veterinary specialty training with residencies in Anesthesiology and Emergency/Critical Care, achieving Specialty Board certifications, and working as a Veterinarian in University Veterinary Schools/Hospitals as well as in private practice.



*Jana and 3 year old Nics Double Diamond.*

Meanwhile, in 1973, Jeff enrolled at Texas A & M University (TAMU) and received a BS in Animal Science. Here at TAMU Jeff formed life long friendships with great people such Dr. Gary Potter, BF Yates and Jerry Windham. Jeff eventually became involved in real estate and property development and continued to breed and show quarter horses in halter and reining throughout the next 30 years.

Fast forward 28 years; Jana is working as a Veterinarian on faculty at The University of Tennessee Veterinary School, longing once again to ride and be involved with quarter horses. After a move to Scottsdale, Arizona in 2003 for a Veterinary



*Jana Jones and Vixens Dividend. 1970*

job in her specialty of Anesthesiology, she purchased a reining horse “I Am a Dunit”. Jana got back into showing and competed in Reining winning NRHA Reserve Champion Rookie. As cow horse events had always been Jana’s passion, she purchased the great horse “CD Less” in 2005 in hopes of getting back into working cattle. Coached by Randy Paul and Shadd Parkinson, Jana and “CD” won five Working Cow Horse Circuit Championships back to back in 2006 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at the 2006 AQHA World Show in Amateur Working Cow Horse. The pair went on



*Jana and Starbuck Git Ya Dun.*

to be awarded AQHA Amateur SUPERIOR Working Cow Horse in 2007.

In 2008 however, Jana’s life suddenly changed. Stricken with advanced stage metastatic breast cancer, Jana spent the next three years fighting cancer, undergoing chemotherapy and multiple surgeries. In 2009, as a cancer survivor, Jana re-entered the cow horse arena showing “Lil Sweet Shiner”. Together, riding with Brad Barkemeyer, they won the NRCHA Southwest Regional Hackamore Championship.

During this trying time of cancer treatment and recovery, Jeff and Jana re-connected as friends. Eventually the pair who had first fallen in love back in 1968, re-united in love for each other once again. Jeff and Jana have many things in common, including a long history of sharing a passion for the American Quarter horse. Jeff and Jana were married in August of 2011 and now have their own riding facility, which they built. Jeff and Jana enjoy training and showing their horses in Working Cow Horse and Reining events, as well as the new AQHA event of Ranch Western Pleasure. Jana is currently enjoying training and preparing her 3 year old, “Nics Double Diamond” for reining and cowhorse. Recently at the Shamrock Show the pair showed in and won the first ever class for the 3 year old, Amateur Ranch Western Pleasure. This qualified Jana and “Nics Double Diamond” for the Select World AQHA show for 2013. Jana is also qualified for the World show in Select Reining and Ranch Pleasure on “Starbuck Git Ya Dun”. Jeff is qualified for the World show in Select Working Cowhorse on “Elans Equalizer”.

Jeff and Jana feel very blessed to have found each other again and appreciate their common passion of the love of horses. Jana attributes her miracle of surviving cancer to the Grace of God, and both Jana and Jeff enjoy and are thankful for the life together they have been given. Jeff and Jana reside in Scottsdale, Arizona with their horses and two Border Collies. Jana is doing volunteer work as a Stephen minister in their church and consulting in veterinary anesthesia and critical care, and Jeff works in commercial and residential real estate. ■