

RANCH NEWS

Issue 2
SUMMER 2021

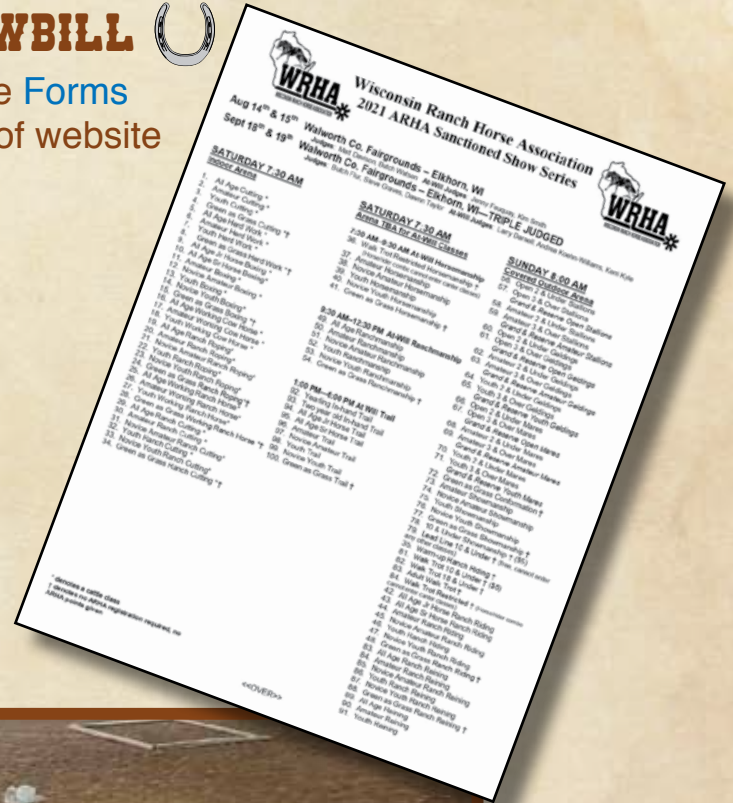


INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- U WRHA News P. 1
- U President's Corner P. 2
- U Youth News P. 2
- U Show Recaps P. 3
- U 2020 Yr. End Awards P. 4 & 5
- U WRHA Beginning P.6
- U Meet the Trainer P. 7
- U Member Spotlight P. 8

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE LATEST SHOWBILL

On the [Forms](#) page of website



REMINDERS:

To help 2021 Show season be a success for all, please review the following:

New starting in August-At Will Classes

Check out the new Sponsor Page [Sponsors](#)

2020 ARHA Rulebook, especially in the classes you plan on entering.

Know Before You Show document under [Forms](#) page of website.

WRHA's ability to pre-register for classes. This can be a big time saver for all.



WELCOME TO THE 2ND 2021 WRHA NEWS!

Hi all,

It's hard to believe the year is half over. Two shows in the books and two to go! Congratulations to our high point and reserve high point winners! We have had phenomenal growth, and everyone is enjoying the benefits of additional entries!

Our August show will have more changes! Some of us do not like change however these will be changes for the better. We have addressed the late nights by adding 2 more judges and holding Horsemanship, Ranchmanship and Trail as at will classes on Saturday. As a reminder, we will also be sharing the facility with the Pinto Club. Their Ranch classes are on Friday Aug 13th, and this will give our members the opportunity to show in two shows the same weekend. There is a solid color division, and you may want to check out how to register your horse Pinto if you are interested in showing with them.

Our Youth entries have been low for many years and with the addition of the novice youth we are hoping to grow the youth program. It would be awesome to send a youth team to the Word Show next year. Your help in growing our youth program would be greatly appreciated. If you have any ideas on fund raising or recruitment for the youth members, please contact Sue Hilbrand or Caitlyn Poels.

We want to thank Barry Fagerstrom for his suggestion on shortening the arena for the boxing classes! It helped improve the boxing runs and we plan to continue to use this going forward to save time returning the calf and keeping the show moving. Please contact one of the offices or board member with any suggestion you have that will help improve our shows! Your ideas are always welcome.

Thank you,
Jo Ellen Milkie
WRHA 2021 President

TO OUR YOUTH EXHIBITORS

My name is Sue Hilbrand and I volunteered to be the youth advisor this year. Some of you know me, I was the WRHA president for several years and started the club in 2008. I did connect with one or two of you the other week at Pam's but with such a huge show, everyone's time was at a premium.

Our youth membership has always been small and this year seems to be no exception. That needs fixing and I need your help to do that. I would like to hear from each of our current youth exhibitors to get your ideas on how to attract more youth. How did you hear about WRHA and what attracted you to ranch shows. Is there something we could do differently to help build that membership. I am open to any and all ideas on how to grow that part of our club.

I am also interested in hearing what your personal goals are. Is there something you need help with or have questions about? Would you want to compete in the ARHA World Show in July or the Midwest Ranch Horse Classic in October. Do you think money from the youth fund should be used for those shows? That money is yours and your decision what to do with it. How do we raise more money? Looking for some creative fundraising ideas from those young minds.

I really want to hear from each of you and hope you will take a moment to share your ideas with me. Call anytime at "262-880-3388 or email "Justcallmechucky@gmail.com". Or if you want to meet up with me at the next show, just let me know how to find you.

Good luck to all of you at the next show.
Sue H.



OUR 1ST SHOW OF 2021. BACK TO NORMAL! Held at the Walworth County Fairgrounds in Elkhorn, WI on **May 29th and 30th**. Participants came out in record numbers for WRHA with 588 total entries. Thank you to everyone for all the patience, dedication, and hard work to make this show a success.

SPECIAL CONGRATS TO THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND HIGH POINT AND RESERVE WINNERS.

All Age: Barry Fagerstrom
Quintana Garcia

Amateur: Chris Euhus
Amanda Gill

Novice Amateur: Mindy Weems
Sarah Nosbisch

Youth: Sophia Cook
Katie DeLapp

Novice Youth: Katie DeLapp
Lily Reese

Green as Grass: Tracy Balko Fuchs
Lydia Jones

JUNE 26TH & 27TH SHOW @ BOUNDS ARENA

Even with all the last-minute changes, rainy weather, and long show hours, thank you for making the 2nd show of the year another great success for WRHA!! You guys are awesome! The show had a total of 563 entries.

**CONGRATS TO ALL PARTICIPANTS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS.
HIGH POINT WINNERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

All Age: Sarah Nosbisch
Paul Huettl

Amateur: Chris Euhus
Caitlyn Poels

Novice Amateur: Sarah Nosbisch
Susan Laird

Youth: Kira Lee
Sophia Cook

Novice Youth: Lily Reese

Green as Grass: Tracy Balko Fuchs
Tawney Denn

A special congratulations goes out to Team Fagerstrom for winning high points in: All Age, Amateur, Novice Amateur, and Green As Grass divisions.

WAY TO GO.





2020 YEAR-END AWARD WINNERS

Posted on website "Winners" page.

CHECK 'EM OUT! CONGRATS to all members for their awesome achievements in 2020

The WRHA awards banquet was held @ the Delafield Brewhaus in Delafield WI on Sunday June 13, 2021 to honor WRHA participants for all their hard work and dedication for the 2020 season. Congratulations to all!!



2020 Year-End Division & Versatility Awards

<u>Division</u>	<u>High point</u>	<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Top 3</u>
<i>All Age</i>	Barry Fagerstrom/ GuninForSmokinChicks	Helen Lineberger/ Quakin Melody	Natalie Jozik/ Smart Kali Sailor
<i>Amateur</i>	Sara Nosbisch/ UWRF Peppyallnite	Chris Euhus/ Dun Its Charming	Lisa Davie/ Ruidoso Mercedes
<i>Novice AM</i>	Lisa Davie/ Ruidoso Mercedes	Grant Lineberger/ Royally Bee Sonny	Amanda Gill/ Tuckers Melody Jac
<i>Youth</i>	Sophia Cook/ Busy Mr Prince	Kira Lee/ RNR Peppy Sug	Carley Gehrke/ Mklilredhen
<i>All Breed</i>	Ed Holt/ Ourhollywoodhomerun	Amanda Guenther/ Jessie Sunbars	Ashley Gorczynski/ Invest In A Classic

Versatility

<i>All Age</i>	Barry Fagerstrom/GuninForSmokinChicks
<i>Amateur</i>	Sara Nosbisch/UWRF Peppyallnite

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The raffle and items auctioned off at the banquet were a great success!! Special thanks goes out to all who donated (listed below), Lisa Davie for her hard work in receiving so many donations, and Martin Printing for donation of all the printed materials for the banquet. Please visit the [Forms](#) page of website for the Sponsor Form. WRHA can always use any future contributions you can get.

Class Sponsors:

- **The Corral** (Jim & Gina Lohman) - Custom 5 Star Pad.
 - **Midwest Veterinary Dental Services** - Supporter \$150. Donation.
 - **Friends of Nature** - Supporter \$150. Donation.
 - **Baaad Blanket** - Custom Designed show blanket & matching wild rag (\$200 value).
 - **Tractor Supply Co.** - 2, \$25. Gift cards.
 - **End of the Leash** - dog gift basket (\$75 value).
 - **Bluebird Greenhouse.** \$40 Gift card.
 - **A Friend of WRHA** - 2, Conceal & Carry Purses.
 - **Martin Printing** for donation of printed materials.
- 2 class donations: **“In loving memory of Rob Diamond”**.
Suzie Thomas (from TX), yes you read that right, all the way from TX!



THE BEGINNING

I'm going to tell you a story. It's about a woman and her horse. The horse's name was JustcallmeChucky AKA Chucky.

Many of you who watch horror films are probably familiar with the Chucky series about that freaky doll that came to life and slashed people. Yeah, you got it, that was his namesake. No, he didn't kill people, but he did have what some would call a "prickly" personality. The woman loved him dearly and simply said he was just lacking in social graces. Out of all the horses she had owned, for whatever reason, Chucky made his way into her heart like no other.

Standing at 16 hands with a powerful build, he was an impressive and good looking horse. The woman thought he was beautiful. The woman liked showing, trail riding was not her thing. She was competitive and had enjoyed several years of showing at App shows as a junior rider, open shows for many years and then team penning back when the ATPA was in Wisconsin.

When Chucky was ready for a job, team penning in the area had pretty much fizzled out and he was not bred to be a little western pleasure horse (his mom was a granddaughter of Peponita). The woman was not sure what to do with him. After some research, she heard about the Foundation QH association and thought it might be a good fit. (Chucky was 87% foundation). She went to a few shows locally and then attended two of the world shows in Columbia MO. Chucky did great and his show career seemed to be off to an exciting start.

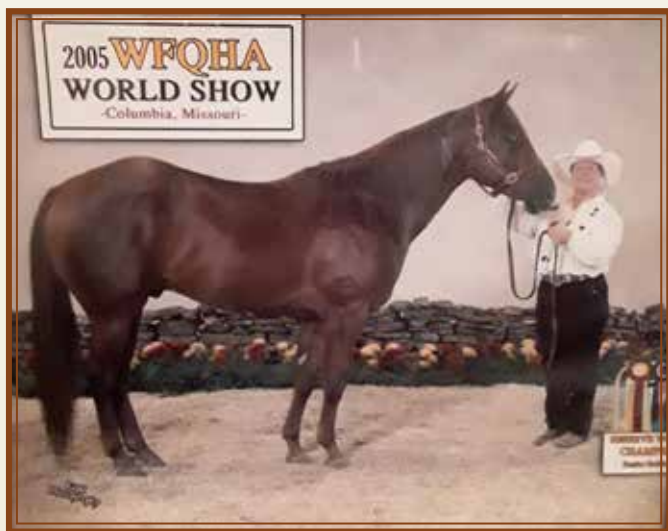
After the second foundation world show, the association seemed to die out and become very small but there was a new kid in town and that was the American Ranch Horse Association. The woman again did her research (yeah, this chick loves research) and thought it might be something the foundation group would want to be a part of. She put together a binder with all the info she could find on ARHA and took it to a foundation meeting. It was not well received and the woman left feeling very disappointed. She wanted a place to show her horse.

With nowhere to show Chucky, there seemed to be only one option, start an ARHA charter in Wisconsin. Easy right, well, not really, but she read up on the ARHA rules and what it took to start a charter but still had no idea where to start. Remember, this was 2008, hardly anyone had even heard of ARHA or ranch shows and what they were all about. The woman contacted a few of the people from Wi she had met at the foundation world show, called her sister and a couple of good friends and at a breakfast meeting in early 2008, with 8 people in attendance, WRHA as born.

WRHA's first show was held later that same year at 2K Ranch in Palmyra. It was a one day show with one judge. To the woman's surprise and delight, Jerry and Erica Keeney (at the time the head honchos at ARHA) showed up to show their support. Almost all of the show helpers were volunteers except the judge and while the show did not break any attendance records, it made money and the club was on it's way. If you were at the last show, you can see the progress this club has made.

You probably figured out that I am the woman in this story and Chucky was my horse. I started this club and was your president for the first 10 years. Unfortunately Chucky could not continue this journey with me, he was diagnosed with navicular disease at the age of 6. His show career ended but the story of WRHA was just beginning and what a story it is! It has been amazing to see how the interest in ranch shows has grown over the years.

I was asked to write an article about the beginning of WRHA, the how and why it started, so now you know. It was all because of one horse. I had to say goodbye to Chucky April 1st of this year, he was with me for 22 years. A piece of my heart went with him and I will forever mourn not being able to see him reach his full potential.



Before I go, I do need to thank the many people at that first show that jumped in and helped in so many ways. Some of them you will know, and still see at our shows. My sister Patsy (my right hand in everything I did), Beth Bentz, Ginny Cavanaugh, Mary Crain, Jane Kraus, Diane Fleischman, Paul Huettl, Bobby Glembocki, Catherine Hoban, my sister Toni, Beth May, Terry Sorenson, Gina and Jim Lohman, Sharon Dean, Bob Cox, John Bishop. If I missed anyone, I apologize. You all helped get this club off the ground.

If you see any of these people at the next WRHA show, give them a thank you. And when you enter that arena give a shout out to Chucky, it all started with him.

Sue Hilbrand

MEET THE TRAINER:

Judy Guenther

Hi, my name is Judy Guenther, I own and operate Twin Oak Training Stable near Brandon, WI where we offer training, lessons, boarding and sales. I grew up on a hog farm in Southeastern MN where I spent most of my time riding and falling off horses. I have a Bachelors in Animal Science from UW- River Falls where I learned how to not fall off and spent my summers working for and learning from trainers in the reining industry, Matt Lantz Performance Horses, Flint, MI and Jack Brainard, Aubrey, TX. And a summer at Spring Valley Farms in Newton, NJ on an appaloosa farm. After college I worked for Sanders Arabians for 2 1/2 years before buying our farm.



My daughters, Amanda and Jesse and I have been WRHA and ARHA members for 9 years. Mary Crain started us on this journey with showing her mares Jesse Sunbars and Dun Dixie Sunbars at WRHA and then to the ARHA World Show in Ohio. We have been hooked ever since never missing a show.

A Training Tip - When I was at UWRF, I had the opportunity to watch Ray Hunt give a weeklong clinic, 2 years in a row. I will never forget how much emphasis he put on knowing the foot falls of the horse at every gait and every maneuver. He would say, "Ride the Feet". So, for example the walk is a 4-beat gait, sequence is left hind, left front, right hind, right front. So, as you rode your horse, he would ask you to say up when the left front would leave the ground. This would teach the rider to know when the foot leaves the ground. Why is this important? It helps with the riders timing on when to ask the horse to move that foot and this allows you to do transitions and any maneuver easily. A good way to learn this is by walking around on your hands and knees, sounds silly but it really helps you understand the sequence of the walk. Then do a spin, which knee is the pivot foot? How do your hands cross over? Knowing what every foot is doing in the spin will help improve this maneuver and any

maneuver a rider is trying to achieve. Watch horses move, see how they move at shows. Is the rider in the way or does the rider know where the feet are? Have fun and see you at the WRHA shows.

SEE YOU ALL IN AUGUST

Member
Spotlight

Susan Laird

As far back as I can remember, I have always wanted a horse. The first 13 years of my life, I spent growing up on a farm in northern Minnesota where we had cattle, pigs and chickens, but no horses. At one point my parents considered getting a pony, but my oldest sister was too big for it, so we never got one. From then on, I just figured that having a horse of my own someday was just a dream.

In 2002, my loving and supportive husband Mark Laird, surprised me and took me on a horseback ride in northern Wisconsin for our anniversary. On the way home, he talked about getting a horse. He opened the door and I walked through and never looked back. Now, I can't imagine my life without horses.

Initially, I share-leased a big palomino gelding named Trigger until his owner decided to move him over 2 hours away. At that point, I knew I couldn't live without horses in my life, so I went in search of a trail horse.

I bought a beautiful tri-colored medicine hat paint mare with blue eyes, Allie. We went trail riding and had so much fun.

During this time, my family volunteered at SMILES in Darrien, WI, where we helped clean stalls, saddle horses, lead and sidewalk horses for the therapeutic riding program. SMILES hosts two open benefit horse shows each year, which is when I discovered the realm of horse showing.

I bred Allie and she had a beautiful paint filly we named Lexie. As Lexie grew up, I sent her off for reining training and dabbled a little bit in the Wisconsin Ranch Horse Association shows with her. Over time, I discovered that I didn't have a bond with Lexie and let her go.

I decided to pursue reining. Enter my palomino, Chic Sure Dunit (aka "Twist") into my life. We dabbled in reining, open shows and the WRHA shows.

Life happened and I needed to take some time off. Upon returning to the WRHA shows, we went to a few cattle clinics and tried our hand at the boxing class. We have enjoyed the cattle classes, despite Twist experiencing what I call the "Ground Hogs Day" effect of, "oh my, I've never seen cattle before". This effect is due, in part, to the challenges of being unable to work with cattle on a consistent basis.

Last year, we were going to try and go to the Indiana Ranch Horse Association (IRHA), the Ranch Horse Association of Michigan (RHAM) and the WRHA shows, but the pandemic had other plans for us. We went trail riding just about every weekend with my daughter and eventually, by ourselves. Finally, we went to the very last WRHA show in 2020 and brought home the Novice Amateur Weekend High Point.

This year, we branched out and went to two RHAM shows, one IRHA and one WRHA. Also, this year, WRHA has added the Novice Amateur division for Ranch Cutting and Ranch Roping, so we've expanded our repertoire of cattle classes and look forward to expanding to other cattle classes. Likewise, as we feel comfortable, we will join additional practice/clinics as opportunities present themselves.

