



DECEMBER 2004

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION

Reiner

VOLUME 25
ISSUE 09

NRHA REINER

DECEMBER 2004



**MARES MAKE
THE DIFFERENCE
SOPHIE OAK
DIAMONDS SPARKLE**

2004 STALLION ISSUE

NRHA Legacy

Our **HISTORY**
Our **INSPIRATION**

The 1986 NRHA Futurity *The Move, The Mares And Hollywood Dun It!*

By PAT FEUERSTEIN

The first NRHA Futurity was held in Columbus, Ohio, in 1966. When the All American Quarter Horse Congress began in 1967, the NRHA Futurity was held in conjunction with that event through 1985. As NRHA, its Futurity, and ancillary classes grew, so did the Congress. The Ohio State Fair show facility was literally bursting at the seams. Adequate practice pens and warm-up areas were a rare commodity. It was interesting to watch reiners try to prepare their horses with halter horses being lunged, slow lopers hugging the rail, and an occasional driving class entry cruising around the make up pen. It was not unusual for the NRHA classes to run 'round the clock. And, the financial reward to NRHA did not seem commensurate with the growth of our premier event. A change of venue was being discussed.

In 1985, Dick Pieper was the NRHA President. Tim Bartlett, Jack Warne, Bill Waterman, and Gary Feldmar were Elected Board members. Butch Shaver was the Executive Director and Kaye Potts was the Secretary. The Board was a good mix of NRHA veterans and fresh faced newcomers: Leo Barbera, Bob Evans, Tim Katona, Ben Mears, Lyn Sherer, Charlie Vaughan, Clayton Woosley, Clark Bradley, Butch Gardill, Tony Lomangino, Carol Rose, John



"When we broke Sparkles Rosezana, we realized what a great producer Diamonds Sparkle was going to be," says Carol Rose. Sparkles Rosezana, ridden by Craig Johnson, won the 1985 NRHA Futurity.

Snobelen, Steve Williams, and Bob Loomis. When the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce made an offer to host the NRHA Futurity & Championship Show, the NRHA Board decided this was an offer they could not refuse. In 1986, the NRHA Futurity & Championship Show moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma!

Change is Good

"The only thing in our life that's constant is change," says Carol Rose. "When it's a good change, it's always better. Looking back, the move to Oklahoma City was a very smart move. More people could participate." Tim McQuay agrees. "It let the West Coast come to the Futurity without a big has-

sle. It just opened up the industry in every way – training methods, breeders, owners, buyers, everything.”

“It was the smartest move this association ever made,” says Bob Loomis. “I don’t care if it’s business or property –it’s location, location, location.” And the location, right smack dab in the middle of the country, seemed to be ideal. Oklahoma City became the home of the NRHA Futurity & Championship Show. It was a huge success that set our association on course for tremendous growth. But some things never change. In 1986, Bob Loomis won his sixth NRHA Futurity.

You didn’t need a crystal ball to know the move to OKC would have a huge, positive impact on NRHA and its membership. But 18 years ago, no one could have predicted the impact the 1986 NRHA Futurity Open finalists would have on an entire industry. The finalists were genetically loaded and featured sons and daughters of NRHA Hall of Famers Topsail Cody, Be Aech Enterprise, Great Pine, Miss Cee Blair, and Glenda Echols. The top three horses were Sophie Oak ridden by Bob Loomis and owned by Loomis/Lyons, Hollywood Dun It owned by Gwendy Steif with Tim McQuay aboard, and Zans Diamond Sun owned by Carol Rose and Dick Steward and ridden by Craig Johnson. You can’t get any better than that!

Sophie Oak

As Bob Loomis tells it, “I probably rode ten or 12 direct sons of Doc Bar. They were all extremely talented. Put a cow in front of them and they were big time.” While Bob wasn’t always impressed with their mental suitability for Reining, there were exceptions. “There were two Doc Bar sons who were great athletes. They were good minded and they would have been as good at Reining as they were at cutting,” says Bob. “And they were full brothers: Doc’s Oak and Doc’s Solano.” Both stallions are by Doc Bar and out of the Poco Tivio mare Susie’s Bay.

“Tom Lyons rode Doc’s Oak in the Snaffle Bit and Cutting Futurity,” says Bob. “He asked Bill Horn to come out and help with the dry work. When I

saw Bill at an NRHA meeting a few weeks later, he told me that Doc’s Oak was one of the most talented horses he ever rode.” Doc’s Oak sired the 1986 NRHA Futurity Champion, Sophie Oak. Sophie was equally impressive on the bottom side of her pedigree. She was out of Lifesaver, an own daughter of Mr Gun Smoke.

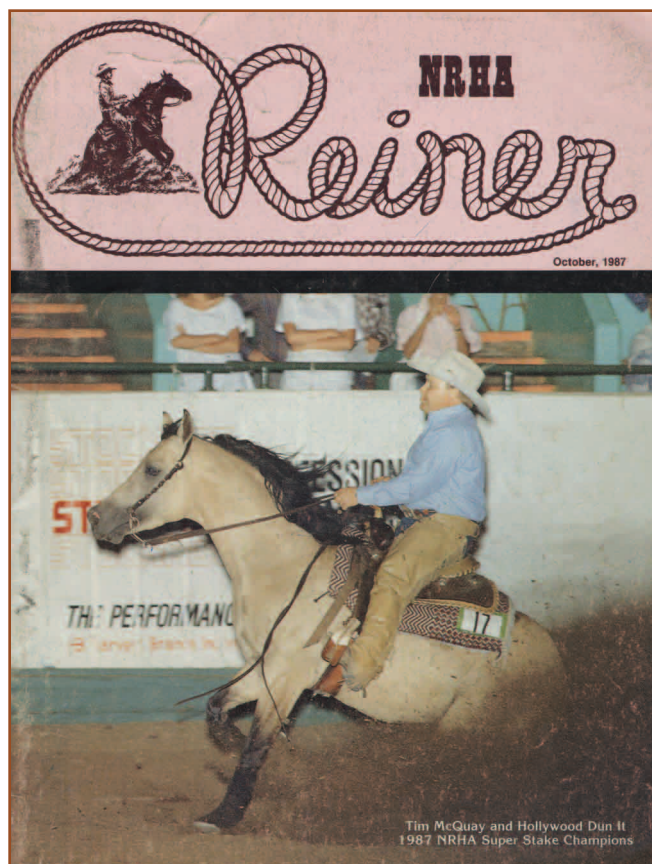
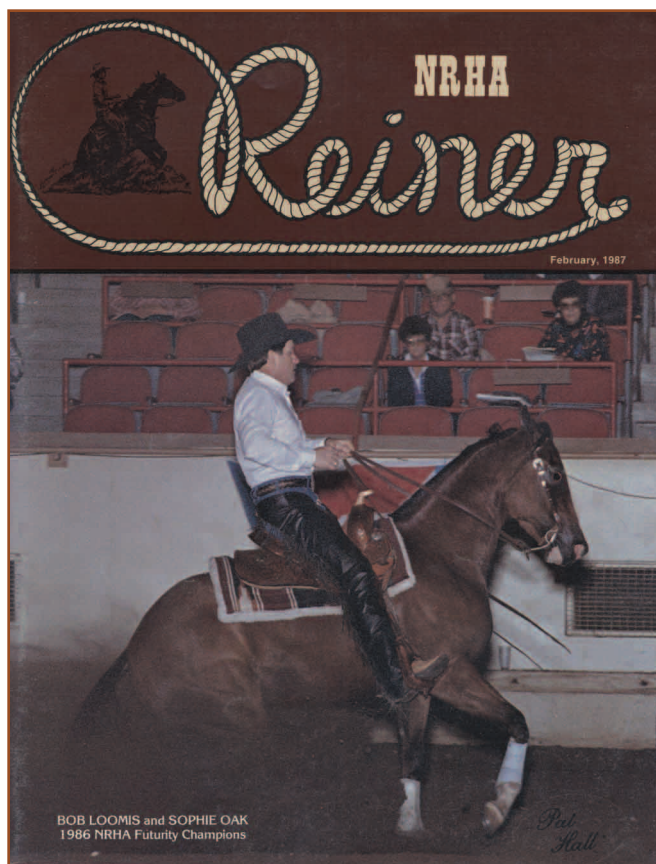
Tom Lyons had Sophie Oak in training with his sights set on the NCHA Futurity. “He called me in June of her three-year-old year,” says Loomis. “He said she was the best minded horse he ever rode and that she cowed, but didn’t have a lot of flutter in the middle of the pen.” Lyons thought that Sophie Oak would make a reiner and offered to partner on the mare with Loomis. Bob picked her up in the middle of June and with only a few short months before the NRHA Futurity admits, “I rode her on and off for two hours every day and everywhere I went, I took her with me. She was one of the sweetest, best minded horses I’d ever been around. She was so easy to train.” So much so, she was primed and ready to win in OKC, and she did.

In 1987, Sophie Oak was purchased by Eleuterio Arcese for his daughter Paola and moved to Italy, destined to spark interest in our sport worldwide. In the late 1980s, “Dick Pieper and I were asked to do a demonstration at the Equine Worlds Fair in Germany,” recalls Loomis. He asked Mr. Arcese if he could use Sophie Oak and her stable mate, Spirit Of Five, who in 1987 won the Futurity with Bill Horn, for the demonstrations. Arcese agreed. “I rode Sophie and Dick rode Spirit Of Five,” says Loomis. “We gave two performances a day – for ten days in a row. We’d work together in the ring. We’d spin, run circles, run and stop, roll back, and we did the last two thirds of each demonstration bridleless. Those two mares were wonderful. They were just as good in their last performance as they were in the first. It got a lot of people looking at our sport.”

NRHA records show that Sophie Oak has 15 offspring with three NRHA money earners totaling \$93,177.95 in NRHA paychecks. But that’s not the whole story. Though unfortunately

NRHA Hall of Fame

Year Inducted:	Name:
1986	Dale Wilkinson
1987	None
1988	R.D. Baker Stretch Bradley Bill Garvey Paul Horn Mickie Glenn Continental King
1989	C.T. Fuller Kaye Potts
1990	Joe Cody Guy Gauthier Paul Schuh Clayton Woosley Enterprise Lady Glenda Echols
1991	High Proof
1992	Banker Bar Leo Mr Doin Good Hollywood Smoke Bob Anthony Bill Horn Bob Loomis Jim Willoughby Cee Leo Step
1993	Hollywood Jac 86 Miss White Trash Dick Pieper
1994	John Snobelen
1995	Clark Bradley Cee Blair Sailor Great Pine
1996	Diamonds Sparkle Topsail Cody Trashadeous
1997	Be Aech Enterprise Nifty Jodieann
1998	Great Simon Sez Mr Feelin Good
1999	None
2000	Dr. Tim Bartlett Richard Greenberg Tim McQuay Hollywood Dun It
2001	Frank Costantini, Jr.
2002	Miss Cee Blair
2003	Linda Matthews Dodsons Little Star Gunner Topsail Whiz
2004	Eleuterio Arcese Pat Feuerstein Charles Smith Dick & Barb Waltenberry Smart Chic Olena



(L) Sophie Oak, ridden by Bob Loomis, won the 1986 NRHA Futurity – the first to be held in OKC; (R) Hollywood Dun It, shown by Tim McQuay, was second in the 1986 Futurity, then won the NRHA Derby and Superstakes in 1987.

much of her offsprings' earnings cannot be substantiated by NRHA records, since they were not earned at NRHA approved events, Sophie Oak's offspring have very impressive show records in Europe—both in NRHA and non-NRHA events. ARC Sophies Snapshot (Snapper Cal Bar), ARC Blueyed Redskin (Genuine Redskin), ARC Joy Surprise (Surprise Enterprise), ARC Genuine Oak (Genuine Redskin), ARC Just Like Oak (Surprise Enterprise), and ARC Playsophie (Playing It Out) have all made their mark in Italian Reining Horse Association futurities, derbies, and Top Ten tallies as well as AQHA events, according to Simona Diale and the Italian Reining Horse Association records. Then there's ARC Oak Enterprise owned by Cisal Quarter Horses and ridden by Martin Larcombe. He was third in NRHA's Open standings in 2002, NRHA's Open Reserve World Champion in 2003, and

will be NRHA's 2004 Open World Champion. ARC Oak Enterprise is a stallion. Sophie Oak's legacy continues.

Hollywood Dun It

When Gwendy Steif decided to breed her mare, Blossom Berry, to Hollywood Jac 86 in 1982, it was a good decision. Blossom Berry was a proven NRHA performer and was showing signs of being a producer. Her final record as a broodmare proved she was: 7 of her 11 babies are NRHA money earners. Hollywood Jac 86 was an NRHA record maker in the show pen and was building a reputation as an NRHA foundation sire. That growing reputation was well founded. In 1993, Hollywood Jac 86 was named NRHA's first Million Dollar Sire and, in that same year, he was inducted into NRHA's Hall of Fame.

The 1983 colt produced by pairing Blossom Berry to Hollywood Jac 86 was Hollywood Dun It. He lived up to his

heritage – and then some. Ridden by Tim McQuay, Hollywood Dun It was the 1986 NRHA Futurity Reserve Champion and the 1987 NRHA Derby and Superstakes Champion. He became an NRHA Million Dollar Sire in 1997 and was inducted into the NRHA Hall of Fame in 2000. To date, his NRHA get records number 18 pages with 451 out of 722 offspring listed as NRHA money earners amassing a total of \$3,946,749.17 – a figure that is obviously very close to the \$4,000,000 mark..

In 1987, Cliff and Gwendy Steif decided to sell the stallion and there was quite a bit of interest, especially from European buyers. But they would all have to get past Tim McQuay. "Hollywood Dun It had that little special spark. He tried to please you constantly," says Tim. "I think he could play today. With the different training methods we have, I know I'd be smarter and he'd be better." But would

Hollywood Dun It be a breeding prospect? "It's a hard thing to say, but I just knew he had to be a winner. I asked Cliff and Gwendy if there was any way we could put a deal together and they said, 'Yes.' It worked because I had just sold Jacs Little Pine." (Jacs Little Pine, also a son of Hollywood Jac 86, was fourth in the 1984 NRHA Futurity and a 1985 NRHA Derby and Superstakes finalist.)

When Hollywood Dun It's first foals were eligible to compete, Melodys Dun It was third in the 1992 NRHA Futurity. That first group of Hollywood Dun It three-year-olds would also include Hollywoods Heir, Jiffy Pop, HP Cody Dun It, Hollywoods New Star, Great Dun It Jack, A Real Glo Getter and Mr McDunit – all Congress or NRHA Futurity finalists. As a sire, Hollywood Dun It was off and running.

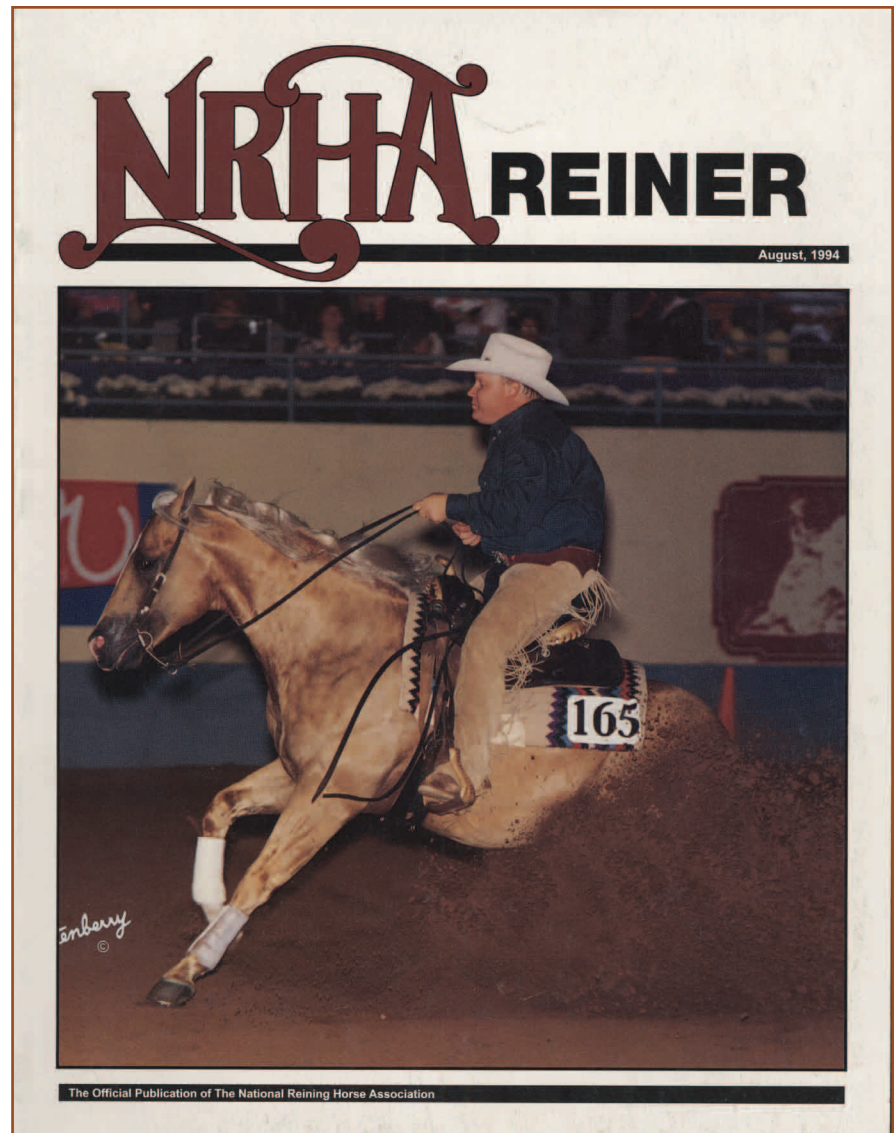
In 1997, McQuay and Jennifer Easton, a long time client and friend, entered into a partnership as owners of Hollywood Dun It when they formed McQuay/Easton LLC. Of their stallion's success as a sire, McQuay says, "I wake up every morning asking how did I get so lucky." The legacy of Hollywood Dun It will continue for a long, long time.

Diamonds Sparkle

Craig Johnson rode Zans Diamond Sun to third place in the 1986 NRHA Futurity. Zans Diamond Sun went on to win the 1987 Lazy E Classic and was a 1987 NRHA Derby finalist. Owned by Carol Rose, Zans Diamond Sun's breeding career got off to a super start. Between 1989 and 1990, he sired 44 offspring with 28 NRHA money earners. His untimely death cut short what promised to be an illustrious career as a sire. Even so, he was a credit to his heritage. Zans Diamond Sun is by Zan Parr Bar and out of Diamonds Sparkle.

In 1974, Dick Steward fell in love with, and purchased, a filly by Mr Diamond Dude and out of Pollyanna Rose by Clabber Question. The filly was Diamonds Sparkle and Steward's feelings for the pretty filly were justified. In 1979, she became AQHA's second Super Horse.

Carol Rose has an eye for a good one



Tim McQuay won the 1994 NRHA Derby on Shining Spark who is by Genuine Doc and out of Diamonds Sparkle. Shining Spark is an NRHA Million Dollar Sire.

and she had plenty of opportunity to see Diamonds Sparkle perform. "I showed against her quite a bit when I was hauling Zan Parr Bar," says Carol. When Margaret Hammond, a mutual friend of Steward and Rose, suggested that Diamonds Sparkle be bred to Zan Parr Bar, the first filly to hit the ground was Sparkles Rosezana. Rose purchased her as a yearling and Rosezana, ridden by Craig Johnson, won the 1985 NRHA Futurity.

"When we broke Sparkles Rosezana, we realized what a great producer Diamonds Sparkle was going to be," says Carol Rose. When, in 1986, the opportunity to buy the mare came

NRHA Reiner

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION AND NRHA REINER
Volume 25, Issue 09

Carol's way, she didn't hesitate. "I can remember, without a shadow of a doubt, where everyone was sitting in my living room," says Carol. "I remember the whole conversation. Bobby Lewis, Dick Steward, and I sat and made the trade. I bought the whole family – the mare, a half interest in Zans Diamond Sun, and all of Sparkles Suzana."

Cover Photo by Waltenberry



Martin Larcombe guided Cisal Quarter Horses' ARC Oak Enterprise, by Surprise Enterprise and out of Sophie Oak, to many wins in 2004, including the NRHA Open World Championship title.

Diamonds Sparkle had 18 foals – 12 are NRHA money earners and include one NRHA Futurity Champion, three NRHA Derby Champions (Sparkles Suzana, Genuine Redskin, and Shining Spark) and eight Futurity finalists: Sparkles Suzana, Shining Spark, Spark O Lena, Zans Light Sparkles, Doctor In Diamonds, Sparkin Express, Still Sparklin, and Diamonds Sparklette. The offspring of Diamonds Sparkle have earned \$331,965.85. She was inducted into the NRHA Hall of Fame in 1996.

Just as Carol remembers everything about the day she bought Diamonds Sparkle, so, too, does she vividly remember November 6, 2002 - the day she decided to put her great mare humanely to sleep. "She had arthritis very badly," remembers Carol. "She spent a good bit of that summer just lying down – getting up to eat and drink. I thought going through another winter was not in her best interest. It was a beautiful day. I was surrounded by some of my best friends. I felt it was time. I buried her on a beautiful place on my farm.

"It's amazing how Diamonds Sparkle's produce records have held

up so long – in both AQHA and NRHA," says Carol. "But records are made to be broken and I'm sure it won't be long before someone passes her. My dream is to raise good horses and she certainly helped me get there. I'm the most lucky person in the world to have had her help me reach the levels we've enjoyed. Diamonds Sparkle is definitely the biggest part of it." All of Diamonds Sparkle's offspring were special. One, Shining Spark, is an NRHA Million Dollar Sire. Diamonds Sparkle's legacy continues.

Mares Make the Difference

Tim and Colleen McQuay were still living in Minnesota when they purchased Hollywood Dun It. They had a small group of broodmares that Tim describes as "not really anything special. There's no way we could have done it without breeding outside mares. It just couldn't have happened. We bred around 30 outside mares that first year and we hit the 40-mark the next year. When we were ready to move to Texas (1989) we bred about 66 mares. People knew we were moving and wanted to breed to him." The area was a "hot bed" of reining activity – still is today. Early

on, Hollywood Dun It was given the opportunity to breed quality mares – and it paid off handsomely. "It takes a great mare to have great babies," says Carol Rose. Mares do make the difference.

"You can take a great stud and breed him to a bunch of average mares and raise a bunch of average horses," says Loomis. "Once in a while, that special horse will come out of a nothing mare, but you have to breed 100 nothing mares to find that one special horse. I found that those truly great mares put so much more consistency into your production. A stud cannot do it alone."

Loomis continues, "If you give me two broodmares, one with a huge show record, the other with a huge production record, but maybe was never shown, I will take the mare with the great production record every time. If you give me a choice between a great show mare or her mother – I will take the mother every time. And I have found that great producers produce great producers." The 1986 NRHA Futurity proves Bob's point. It was a giant step forward for NRHA and the entire industry. □