

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The new year is off to a great start. The affiliate is looking for a new location to hold its events. Anyone interested in having events at their facility please contact us. We would like to offer our yearly Ranch Horse Event in July, clinics and at least two competitive trail horse competitions.

Round-Up planned for September 2010

After lots of planning and hard work by the Nebraska FQHR affiliate, the 2009 three-day show held at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln, Ne was a big success. The show had over 500 entries. A write up with show results will be published in the on-line FQHR spring magazine on the FQHR website www.fqhr.net

The 2010 FQHR Round-up will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska at the Lancaster event center in September. For ongoing information go to www.fqhr.net Lets plan to have a big turn-out this year of Colorado members.

WEBSITE

The colorado affiliate FQHR website www.coafqhr.com was created for the Colorado members. Any paid up member can submit articles and/or news for publication on the site. Any business can be advertised on our sponsors page. A business size ad is only \$25.00 for the entire year. All breeders of FQHR horse are encouraged to advertise. Membership and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the home page.

For additional information: e-mail info@coafqhr.com or call 970-232-5768

COLORADO AFFILIATE
FOUNDATION QUARTER HORSE REGISTRY

The first and original, FOUNDATION QUARTER HORSE REGISTRY, was formed in 1994 to preserve, protect and perpetuate the working cowhorse bloodlines of the foundation AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE. The Colorado affiliate of the FOUNDATION QUARTER HORSE REGISTRY was formed in 2000. Members work to promote the usability, versatility and dependability that these all around horses exemplify. Please help support us in our quest.

SPONSORSHIP FORM 2010

BRONZE SPONSOR: \$150.00 or more

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MEMBER SPONSOR: \$25.00

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For more information call:

970-232-5768

Make check out to: COAFQHR mail to: Jane Hunter
7108 N Lamar Ave Fort Collins, Colorado 80524

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www.coafqhr.com

A Trip to the EXTREME COWBOY RACE World Finals

by Bonnie Brown

Thanks for the opportunity to share my experience at the Extreme Cowboy Race Finals. My trip to the finals was actually a direct result of my desire to show foundation quarter horses and compete in versatility competitions. Training for versatility ranch horse competitions gave my mare the perfect foundation to transition over to the extreme cowboy races. For the last two years my husband has been badgering me to compete in the extreme cowboy races, but I didn't do it because the Colorado races conflicted with my West Slope versatility shows. Finally, in 2009, the races and my show schedule didn't overlap so I decided to give the extreme cowboy races a try. I competed on my FQH mare Bagwells Lady Grey(Peso). We had good runs in the Mid-Mountain Region Finals and won both the novice and non-pro divisions, and qualified to compete in the world finals in Topeka, Kansas in November.



Peso hurt her leg right after the regional finals, so it was a frustrating time not knowing if we would even get to go to Topeka. She only had a minor injury, but it happened at the worst time imaginable. So, we lost over 5 weeks of practice time before the world finals. We left for Topeka on a wednesday morning, with the final stop to see my vet before we left town. He told me to use my best

judgement when we got there and decide whether Peso could compete. On the two day drive to Topeka, I decided to scratch from the non-pro division and just compete in the novice which would mean just three runs for Peso instead of six, eliminating half the stress for her. Peso actually held steady the whole time, although I was a nervous wreck.

For those of you not familiar with the extreme cowboy races, even though the events are called races, the emphasis is actually on horsemanship, but there are bonus points up for grabs for the fastest times. We paced third in the first run, second place in the second run, and fourth overall in our division. In retrospect I got wrapped up in all the hype and excitement and focused more on speed than I should have.

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I was really proud of my mare for doing such a great job, especially after losing so much practice time prior to the finals. The only mistakes we had were pilot- error mistakes that I made(which I am still agonizing over). My lack of judgement cost us the 2.75 points we needed to place as reserve world champion.

I am really anxious for the snow to melt so I can start practicing for 2010. The audience was great. There were a lot of really knowledgeable horse people there, as well as people who just enjoyed watching and appreciated all the effort the contestants made. The crowd made every contestant feel like they really accomplished something after completing their runs. Craig Cameron was awesome. He really gets the crowd excited, and always complimented every rider on their run. He is great about providing positive, constructive advice without criticizing the riders. The extreme cowboy race was like the FQHR, every one was easy-going and great to get along with.

There were some really great horses (and mules) competing at the world finals that were a lot of fun to watch. For me, it was a really inspiring event to be a part of. Watching top notch horses compete fueled my determination to train harder and smarter at home. Watching the contestants that had really tough runs(ie their horses pulled out on them during the ground tie and sprinted to the other end of the arena or their horses outright refused to do the obstacles) made me really appreciate the great breeding and sound mind that my foundation quarter horse mare has. Additionally these contestants were great sports, even when everything was going wrong for them.



I highly recommend competing in the extreme cowboy race events. If you focus on good horsemanship and don't worry about the speed it will make you a better horseman, and develop a better horse for you if you work at it.

For information on the EXTREME COWBOY RACES www.extremecowboyraces.com