



Our second Hall of Fame inductee tonight is Wapsie Spud.

The neighbors had mares, so the farmer wanted a Quarter Horse stud colt. This was 1959 and the Quarter Horses had been arriving in Iowa. The farmer looked at a colt 40 miles from home; then he traveled to nine states as he searched for a good looking weanling to bring back to Iowa. He would ultimately decide that the local colt was the one he wanted and commented later to a friend that he “could drive the wheels off a brand new car and find nothing as good as the one up the road”.

He sure had not planned to be showing in Quarter Horse shows, but, as the owner of a fine looking yearling that was too young for the intended job, he went to some Iowa and Minnesota Quarter Horse shows. As luck would have it, the farmer met a man in 1961 that would be willing to show this horse at halter; and who stood the two year old to place third in a class of 24 on that initial day. That summer, the stallion started his on-the-farm job, so he would sometimes arrive at shows in the back of a pickup truck to be handed over to the showman and never placed below 2nd again in Halter.

The stallion made it to 19 weekends of Quarter Horse shows, with 19 judges in his first three years shown at Halter. While the travel to be judged wasn't easy back then, earning points was second nature for this handsome colt. His chestnut coat was like a copper penny in the sunny arenas where he was awarded first place nine times. Further, he earned six Grand Champion and four Reserve Champion awards, along with 19 AQHA Halter points through his three-year old year.

The three year old stallion learned to be ridden around the farm, and he had a naturally pleasant way of moving. Late in 1962, this trainer took him for a few months of riding. It wasn't a difficult task to take this colt to the next level. With a spring tune up as a four year old, he was ready to add other events. Of course, the halter classes continued, with another 33 points added, bringing the award of Superior in Halter, with another 10 Grand Championships and 11 Reserves, in 1963. He beat some of the most highly promoted stallions of the day, while shown only in Iowa and a couple days in southern Minnesota.

Oh, and as for the other classes that this stallion accomplished as a four year old? In 1963 he earned 11.5 points in western pleasure, 8 in reining and 1 in cutting, to become an AQHA Champion. Points were distributed on a more difficult scale at that time, as being 2<sup>nd</sup> in a class of 45 pleasure horses earned only 2.5 points. He earned the interest of two well-known Midwest cattlemen looking for a ranch stallion, yet the farmer would not let him go.

He was the ultimate versatility horse; the ultimate Quarter Horse. He spent his spring and summer out with the mares, and went "to town" on the weekends. He had a disposition of acceptance, of wanting to do things for his rider. It never took much riding to get him ready to go into his classes and win. A man is only so lucky so often in his life. Wapsie Spud was the epitome of an All-Around Horse and set a lifetime standard for his exhibitor and future owner, Don Clark. He was purchased as a weanling by Richard Staveley, Reinbeck, Iowa, from Bunk Oliphant, Rowley, Iowa. He was sired by Cross Box and out of Hazel Moore.

Standing at stud to the mares around Reinbeck, Iowa, for Richard Staveley, and later, through 1973, for Don Clark and Sam Brandt out of Jefferson, he had 13 registered foal crops and 107 registered foals. His progeny were desired in the area, with local owners riding in open shows or using the foals on their farms to work cattle. A limited number of sons and daughters actually went to owners showing at Quarter Horse shows. He had seven point earners out of 12 performing foals.

In late 1973, Sam Brandt was ready to leave the horse business and Don Clark bought Spud. Without facilities for a breeding operation, in the spring of 1974, Spud was gelded and was shown to many wins by Cathi Clark in IJQHA and open shows. He was a pleasure to ride at the age of 15 and became that horse that left a lifetime of memories due to his willingness and style. Due to an injury, he was retired to Richard Staveley's to live out his life.

Go May, a 1962 daughter, was one of two in Spud's first crop. She was purchased by Don Clark and shown in 11 AQHA reining classes in 12 months to 8 first place finishes with Don, becoming the IQHA Champion Junior Reining Horse in 1966 while earning a Performance Register of Merit. In all, she earned 17 performance points in 1966 and 1967.

Peg's Wapsie (1963) was owned by Diana Dean's family, who also owned a pony sired by Spud; which was not uncommon in the area! Diana stated that she showed mostly in open shows, but that Peg won a lot and taught her even more. Diana's family showed her to two and a half AQHA points in Jr. Pleasure, sold her to a family looking for a kids' horse for their farm, and she later had two foals.

Sandy Box (1968) was a Christmas present for Kris Klingaman, having never been saddled. Kris is convinced that it was her breeding and her mind that allowed a 14-year-old to train her to become a top timed events horse in three years. Qualifying for the Quarter Horse Congress Team and AQHA World Show in 1975 in competitive Iowa classes led to appearances in Barrel Racing, Stake Race and Pole Bending.

Sandy Box finished in the Top 20 in Poles in a huge class at the AQHA World Show. Kris attributes her foundation breeding for the character and fortitude she needed to do many events, just like her sire. They could be ridden with speed and come right back down for the pleasure classes. Kris recalls watching Wapsie Spud cutting and the level of talent and ability he had. She related how Rich Staveley would become excited just talking about Spud; being so proud of him!

Wapsie the 7<sup>th</sup> a 1966 chestnut stallion out of Haythorn's Blue Girl was an NCHA money earner in 1974. Wapsie Spud earned 52 Open Halter and 27 Open Performance points plus 3 youth performance points. In 1963 earned the following AQHA achievements: Performance Register of Merit, AQHA Champion, and Superior Halter.

Wapsie Spud sired 7 AQHA point earners who earned 48.5 points in all divisions and \$3473.17 in National Cutting Horse Association events.

Daughters of Wapsie Spud produced 12 point earners with 318 points in all AQHA divisions; National Cutting Horse Association earnings of \$24,504.33; National Snaffle Bit association earnings of \$408.78; and earned 4 halter points in Palomino Horse Breeders Association.

Daughter Miss Wapsie (1969) was the first cutting horse John Schreck of Reinbeck rode. He trained her himself, stating that the mare was cow smart and she was working cattle within three weeks of their first rides. She earned AQHA points, and impressively, she was the Iowa Cutting Horse Association State Champion in Junior Cutting as a three year old, which was unheard of. She repeated as Junior Cutting Champion as a four year old. John also showed her to frequent wins in local shows in reining, western pleasure and trail.

Miss Wapsie raised 13 foals for John, including 3 AQHA point earners with NCHA earnings and another NCHA money earner. Miss Wapsie's second foal, gelding Mr Wapsie Rouge (1976), earned NCHA money for John Schreck and was sold to Texas.

Miss Waspie's first foal, Miss Wapsie Jo (1974), was the Iowa Cutting Horse Association State Champion in Senior Cutting in 1981. She was sold to Tom and Linda Holmes, Oregon, Wisconsin. Linda relates that they loved the mare much and had several foals. In all, Jo raised 6 foals, with 5 point earners, including Coloma Kid, who had multiple Open and Amateur top ten placings in Ranch Sorting and Team Penning at AQHA World Shows from 2004 to 2009, including Amateur World Champion in each event in 2007 at 13 years old. This great-grandson gathered 192 open and 173 amateur points.

Her third foal, Little Miss Wapsie (1977), became a success for Travis Grover, Hudson, Iowa. Together they had top 10 placings in the 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1987 Youth World Shows in Cutting and over \$10,000 of NCHA earnings. With Spud at their cutting foundation, members of the Schreck and Grover families continue to be contenders in the event, including Michael Schreck and Travis, Judd and Kate Grover. John Schreck still has Sugars Melody (1993 APHA), a great granddaughter, and will pull her out to go doctor calves.

Daughter Wapsie's Cowgirl (1971), was a full sibling to Miss Wapsie, also owned by John Schreck. Her foals Wapsies Babe, Kelly Rouge and Ms Wapsie Girl earned NCHA money. The foals from later years were started, shown locally and sold at young ages to area farmers who needed the handy horses. Wapsie's Cowgirl was accomplished in western pleasure and trail classes, and could perform every event, all day long, just like her sire. Daughter Wapsie's Cowgirl also foaled Cow Girl Lena in 1990. This mare, in the hands of Bill Campidilli, went on to foal eight foals. Bill's son Todd recalled that these were good roping and using horses. New foals are still arriving from this line within the past several years. The talent in the roping pen is also attributed to Wapsie Spud. John Schreck roped on Spud or watched others ride him. Spud would crouch low in the back of the chute, coming out in a giant, spring-like shot when signaled. He had speed to the calf! Don and John both believe he could have been a champion today in most of the ranch or performance events.

In all, Spud's AQHA records show 49 producing daughters had 195 registered foals, with 12 point earners out of 17 performing foals. AQHA records show his grandget earning ROMs and Superiors in Open and Amateur competition, \$24,504 in NCHA earnings and \$409 in NSBA earnings. He had other legacies in the Paint registry, as well as un-registered foals. One area son was born of a half-Standardbred mare and had a reputation in area ropings. Remaining a stallion, this horse sired a lot of respected foals. Wapsie Spud had the mentality and ability to achieve in many events and he sired the same.

Don Clark and Cathi (Clark) Luett nominated Wapsie Spud. They believe that his name would have been common nationwide had he moved to one of those well-known ranches. Instead people in Iowa were able to enjoy horses he sired. Cathi believes that Spud set the bar so high no other could replace in in her life. Don state "You've got to have a horse with talent. Spud was what a Quarter Horse was supposed to be".