

Spotlight on...

Stacy Huston graduated from law school and immediately knew it wasn't what she really wanted to do with her life. That's when she founded LifeHorse at her Grand Review Farm, in Oxford, Michigan. She had seen a similar program at Covenant Farm in Maryland and started hers in 2002 with the help of her parents, Robert and Sparkle.

Stacy and her LifeHorse program help children ages 3 to 21 with terminal, emotional and chronic illnesses by providing interaction with horses. Stacy is also active with QPA as the Midwest Regional Representative, and her quarter ponies, who she says are the heart of her program.

"I couldn't do this without my QP's!" says Stacy. "Ele (Skipa Lena), my 21 year old QP, has been with me for 18 years. I have 2 QP's here right now and Ele does MOST of our work. She starts all of the little ones and takes them to shows and does leadline and pee wee walk with them - she's as steady as they come! My Uncle owned Huggins Quarter Horses in Crestview FL, until he passed away 19 years ago and left her to me. It took a year to get her up here, but she's been here since then and has been the best thing that ever happened to me.

"She is the reason we went out and bought Seger - he is going to grow up here and be the future of the program later in his life. Once we get more funding and can expand, my hope is to have 7 or 8 QPs for the kids to enjoy and ride and show."

Stacy has 7 horses boarded at Grand Review Farm and approximately 20 volunteers helping her bring joy to the lives of children who suffer from arthritis, cancer, diabetes and selective mutism, among other things. She has 11 children from all over Southeast Michigan with whom she works one on one.

Stacy's program has recently been nominated and asked to submit a video for NBC's newest reality show, Three Wishes, hosted by Amy Grant, which is slated to run this fall. The show grants three wishes to various causes in need around the nation. What were Stacy's three wishes? An indoor arena, services for the horses' hooves for a year, and hay and grain for a year. The video has been submitted and they are waiting to hear if they will be featured.

Stacy, you have our best wishes and admiration for the work you are doing with your quarter ponies!

Christmas Pony Sale

West Kentucky Horse Sales in Bowling Green, Kentucky, is sponsoring a Christmas Pony Sale at their last auction before Christmas. The two day sale runs November 12-13 and our ponies will have the PRIME spot on the Saturday lineup!

The West Kentucky auction has been around since the 1980's and is so successful and strongly backed they have a sale every 2 months. They focus on getting the right buyers to the sales and travel all over the country meeting with their vast network of

connections. This is a wonderful auction to be connected with and they have asked QPA and IQPA to have representatives present to inspect and register ponies on site.

“Their two-day sales bring in a lot of people on Saturday,” comments IQPA President Dominique Nave. “That is why getting the prime spot on Saturday is such a big deal. The hope is we will help build the auction’s reputation as a great place for selling ponies. They are already getting that rep. That is why they were so excited about getting us in there to inspect the ponies.”

If you live anywhere in the Bowling Green area, this would be a great place to buy or sell a Quarter Pony and to meet with IQPA and QPA representatives to discuss the future of quarter ponies in your program and life. Please check out <http://www.westkentuckyhorsesales.com/> for more information and consignment deadlines.

Inspectors Needed

Today, QPA has 32 inspectors in 19 states and Australia, but we are always looking for more! If you’re interested in being a pony inspector, we can probably use your services. Inspectors cannot charge for their services, but neither are you expected to be on call 24/7 or to make house calls unless it fits your schedule. You will be asked to measure, check gait, and possibly photograph ponies and submit your findings to the board for approval. You may be asked to be present at activities where people bring their ponies to be inspected. If interested, check it out at www.quarterponyassociation.com.

Stallion Auction

Plans are underway for a stallion auction for the 2006 breeding season. Check out the website for more information.

Wanted: Photos for Western Horseman Article

After contact with QPA representatives, Western Horseman plans to do an upcoming article on quarter ponies. They are asking QPA members to submit photos of ponies with QPA approved papers for consideration in the article. They ask that the photos show the pony in western tack. Maybe you have a star in your barn or pasture! Email photos to quarterponyassociation@yahoo.com or mail to PO Box 230, Lyles, TN 37098.