

THE POWER OF A QUARTER PONY!

While shooting for the moon, some found they were already among the stars! Congratulations to all QPA participants! Remember, titles and awards are great, but you're all winners when you don't give up.

That said, lets see...

WHATSA GO'N ON WITH QPA (human membership)

QPA would like to extend a special note of thanks, acknowledgement and appreciation to 2008 ***SPECIAL AWARD SPONSORS***. Special Awards are donated, by individuals or entities, for specific divisions; in addition to QPA standard awards.

QPA recognizes the tough financial year many members and QP supporters have experienced during 2008. We aren't alone. The vast majority of the equine industry has felt this economic pain. Nonetheless, QPA looks forward to a 2009 bringing much brighter days for QPA and the equine industry overall. Given the tough financial times, QPA is especially privileged to acknowledge those Special Sponsors that did find a way to acknowledge the divisions of their choice. QPA sincerely thanks each one of you. Please note additional Special Sponsors may be confirmed, after this submission, so please check the QPA website for updated information. Remember, QPA must submit our newsletters at least 1½ months in advance of publication. A lot can happen during that time.

WHATSA GO'N ON WITH IQPA (pony registry)

A recent visit to Colorado brought an opportunity to, personally, speak with Dominique Nave, owner of IQPA. Look for an update, in a future newsletter, on Dom's plans for IQPA, her aspirations for the Quarter Pony and her continuing efforts to support IQPA's affiliate QPA.

2008 DIVISION HIGH POINT – Special Award Sponsors:

SPORT PONY DIVISION

Tami Platt has, once again, sponsored this division and generously donated an English saddle bag.

HALTER DIVISION

This year, Michelle Scran, has elected to support this division by generously donating a leather pony halter.

GYMKHANA DIVISION

Heidi Bosworth, a new Special Sponsor for QPA, has generously donated a Montanan Silversmith Buckle for this division.

Sincerest "Thank You" to ALL 2008 Year-End **QPA SPECIAL AWARD SPONSORS!**

WHATSA GO'N ON WITH 2008 POINTS

OFFICIAL 2008 YEAR-END WINNERS AND TOP PONIES ARE HERE! QPA, and its' affiliate registry IQPA, is pleased to extend sincerest applause and congratulations to all 2008 winners!

DIVISION TOP PONIES:

HALTER –

1. Skippers Peppy Lena owned by Wendy Loper of OR
2. Buenos Soft Jazz owned by Valerie and Cesarina DiBlasi of OR

EQUITATION

1. Angels Image owned by Michelle Scran of NJ
2. Cruisin My Lexus owned by Madison Ross of OR

DRIVING

1. Ro Jo's Pokey owned by The Whitling's of PA
2. Smokin DoubleDutch owned by Tami Platt of OR

TRAIL

1. Code of Arion owned by Mary Senseney of MS
2. Buenos Soft Jazz owned by Valerie and Cesarina DiBlasi

ENGLISH

1. Cruisin My Lexus owned by Madison Ross of OR
2. Angels Image owned by Michelle Scran of NJ

SPORT PONY

1. Justin Time owned by Deanna Bates of MO
2. Angels Image owned by Michelle Scran of NJ

GYMKHANA

1. Ro Jo's Pokey owned by The Whitling's of PA
2. Miss Painted Lady owned by Alicia Liddle of CA

WORKING COW PONY

1. Code of Arion owned by Mary Senseney of MS
2. Ro Jo's Pokey owned by The Whitling's of PA

WESTERN

1. Blues Starlight owned by Karin Tillisch of Germany
2. Lakotas Pepper owned by Tulsa Cabaniss of AL

OVERALL TOP PONIES:

TIED FOR THE NUMBER 2 POSITION AND IN **RESERVE** FOR THE QPA 2008 TOP PONY:

ANGELS IMAGE owned by Michelle and Megan Scran and exhibited Megan Scran of NJ - Angels Image earned her Superior Championship in 2008 by obtaining, over the years, ROH's in Halter, Sport Pony, English, Equitation and Western divisions. Angels Image is one of only four ponies earning the title of "QPA Superior Champion" since QPA inception in 2005. Under the tutelage of mom, Michelle, and trainer Alicia Morgan, Megan and Angels Image have come along way in short period of time.

CODE OF ARION owned and exhibited by Mary Senseney of MS – Code of Arion is an up and coming QP that earned his Superior in Cow (cattle) Pony prior to 2008. However, 2008 brought Code of Arion his ROH in Gymkhana and Trail. In addition to the aforementioned titles, Code of Arion has also earned QPA points in Equitation, Halter, Sport Pony and Western divisions. Another wonderful representative of a quality QP, Code of Arion, is counted as a top QP contender for the 2009 season and certainly a team to watch!

And finally...

OPA's OVERALL 2008 "TOP PONY"

RO JO'S POKEY owned by Laurie Whitting and exhibited by Adrian Whitting of PA - It's no surprise to find Ro Jo's Pokey (aka Kip) in the QPA Top Pony position. Adrian and Kip have worked long and hard to achieve their goals. Earning the 2008 QPA Top Pony position was but one of this pair's goals. Already holding his Superior in Gymkhana, 2008 brought Kip his Superior in Cow Pony and an ROM in Western. In 2008, the pair not only showed in all nine divisions recognized by QPA, they earned points in every division; to date, not one other QP can claim such an accomplishment. Another noteworthy point is Adrian hasn't even hit her teen years yet!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL TOP PONIES, EXHIBITORS & OWNERS!

**TO SEE MORE PICTURES AND INFORMATION ON ALL 2008 TOP PONIES -
AND OTHER WINNING PONIES
PLEASE VISIT WEBSITES MENTIONED IN "REMINDERS" BELOW**

REMINDERS:

The Quarter Pony Association (QPA) official website can be located at www.UQPA.com or www.QuarterPonyAssociation.com (both will get you where you need to be).

The International Quarter Pony Association official website is located at www.IQPA.com .

QPA members are encouraged to submit pictures of their 2009 IQPA eligible foal(s), for posting in the "Nursery" section of the QPA website. Submit 2009 foal pictures to photos@quarterponyassociation.com.

All submissions for consideration in QPA Newsletters, including, but not limited to, emails, articles/stories, commentaries, informational submissions and pictures/images, become property of the Quarter Pony Association and no compensation, for use, shall apply. Submissions may be sent to QPA_Newsletter@mac.com .

Very special thanks to newsletter affiliate, EQUINE JOURNAL, for helping "get the word out" to QPA members and other Quarter Pony enthusiasts!

By Rhonda Lange,
QPA Writer/Publicist