

THE POWER OF A QUARTER PONY!

Spring brings with it the promise of warmer, brighter and longer days - much missed by many as we wave goodbye to ole man winter. Yet another show season is upon us. It seems appropriate to wish all members and their ponies best wishes for a safe, productive and most enjoyable season as you embark on your QP journey throughout 2009. That said, let's see...

WHATSA GO'N ON WITH QPA (human membership)

2008 Year-end award winners will be featured in an expanded version of QPA's April 09 newsletter. QPA encourages members to submit updated pictures, if desired, just in case you and your pony are determined to be among the official Top Ponies for 2008. Submissions may be used on the website or in the newsletter.

For 2009, QPA encourages members to take advantage of showing off your 2009 IQPA foals in the QPA website photo gallery. Trail riders, pleasure riders and those who are into driving, don't forget to sign up for the riding or driving program. The driving/riding program is a great way to participate with QPA and track your time in the saddle or in the cart, without the expense of the show ring.

WHATSA GO'N ON WITH IQPA (pony registry)

IQPA reminds owners to submit height verification annually, prior to showing, for all ponies under 6 years old. Height verification is not necessary if you do not plan on showing your IQPA registered pony this season. Ponies 6 years of age and older may obtain height verification and submit for permanent height records, to be recorded with IQPA, if you haven't already done so.

ANGEL'S IMAGE MAKES NEW FRIENDS IN 2008

While Quarter Ponies are increasing in popularity, and for good reason, stories shared by members serve only to remind us why we continue to love and support the breed. Special acknowledgement goes out to Michelle Scran, of New Jersey, as she shares with us her pride in Angel's Image during her 2008 journey, as follows:

“As we close 2008 we have reflected on another great year with our magnificent Quarter Pony Angels Image. She (Angel) has taken her rider Megan Scran through another successful show year and has proven once again how versatile the Quarter Pony breed is. Angel & Megan finished up the 2008 Central Jersey Horseman's Association show season as reserve champion in the Versatility division at the year end awards. Angel and Megan also represented the Ocean County 4H at the state horse show this year and placed high in all her classes.”

“More important than all the awards she has won this year Angel has touched the hearts of many children this year. Her gentle nature has shown through and several children have enjoyed showing her or just hanging out with her. One of our county's 4H members just loves to hang out with Angel at the shows and comes to find us whenever she knows we are there. Jessie says Angel gave her the confidence she needed to canter again after taking a few bad falls off her mom's horse. She took another 4H member to the top placing reserve champion at our fair show, Ellen rode her for the first time that day and only had 15 minutes to get acquainted with her prior to her division. What a good pony! She has hacked around 4H members around the barn giving them a safe and confident ride - to some on that road to transition from small pony to horse. The smiles we have witnessed on children in her presence makes us very proud that we have raised & trained such a wonderful animal. Let's see how many smiles she will create in 2009.”

Michelle and Megan have done extremely well with Angel's Image. It brings QPA great joy to share in the accomplishments and pride brought to many by such a fabulous example of the Quarter Pony. Congratulations and continued best wishes into the future, Angel and all!

REMINDERS:

Quarter Pony Association (QPA) official website is www.UQPA.com
or www.QuarterPonyAssociation.com.

International Quarter Pony Association official website is www.IQPA.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 .

By Rhonda Lange,
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