



2015 Show Season

The 2015 KPHA show season wrapped up in September at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson, KS. KPHA would like to thank all of our volunteers that helped to make the show a success. With the 2 day venue, exhibitors had the opportunity to enjoy both a great show and all the food and fun of the Kansas State Fair. In addition, the show was held in honor and memory of Bill James and on the second day of the show a ceremony was held during the mid-day break. Circuit and Hi Point division awards were awarded and KPHA would like to congratulate the following Hi Point division award winners!

Open - Caren Millie & Invest N Miller Time
Amateur - Jackie Lissolo & Fancy Me Loot
Nov. Amateur - Deborah Wartick & Sum Beach
Youth - Cassidy Watters & Knock Out The Magic
Youth WT - Carly Rothfuss & Just Say Josie
WT Amateur - Sabrina Seehafer & Sterling Expression

Remembering Bill James

Excerpts taken from: World Renown Horse Trainer-Judge Was True All-Around Cowboy, Friend Of All- by Frank J. Buchman on July 15, 2015 at 11:57 am Kansas Ag Network

The 2015 Kansas State Fair show was held in memory of the great horseman, Bill James. Duke Neff spoke in memory of Bill James and KPHA president Sheri Grinstead presented the family a plaque on behalf of KPHA in honor and memory of Bill James and for the contributions he made to the Kansas Paint Horse Industry. Family members present included Carol James (Bill's wife); daughter in law Wendy James (wife of Bill's son Kelly), grandchildren -Jamey Stover, Cory Urban, Tyler James and great grandson Tripp Stover. KPHA would like to thank Sandy Albright for assisting with the planning and carrying out of the celebration. Duke Neff and Vicki Ryan were in attendance to share memories.

Close friend, and the longest standing-active Paint horse judge, Duke Neff, reflected on memories of Bill James' relationship with KPHA and APHA during the memorial service.

["I first saw Bill James at the first national Paint Horse show in Hutchinson, and Bill's abilities with horses were apparent," said past executive secretary of the American Paint Horse Association (APHA). Sam Ed Spence. James had three horses at that first national show on the Kansas State Fairgrounds and responded by earning national titles with all three.

"After viewing the quality of some of the others horses at the show, James is said to have decided Paint Horses were a horse of the future," according to Duke Neff, who was at that same first show. One of the first big time horses exhibited by James was Adios Amigos, a 1962 brown overo stallion, owned by Claude Howard of Sedgwick Kansas and a lifetime member of the Kansas Paint Horse Association. It was shared that Bill's accomplishment on horseback in his early years attracted Mr. Howard to aid in promoting his paint stock. The national champion two-year-old, reserve champion three-year-old and national champion junior reining horses Adios Amigos, sold to Neff, who had James continue campaigning Adios Amigos to an APHA Championship.

"When Adios got that final reining point to complete his championship at a South Dakota show where it was 10 below zero, Bill came up to me, and said, 'I guess I have to buy your supper.' I said I should buy yours, it's my horse you won with. Bill said, 'It takes a good horse to win, I was just riding him.' Bill was that kind of a trainer and horseman," recognized Neff, who then stood Adios Amigos to sire many Paint Horse winners including supreme champion You Bet Amigo. During a tribute to 50 years of Great Paints and People, Bill James was inducted into the American Paint Horse Association Hall of Fame in 2012 along with Adios Amigos, and Skip Bar, Sam Ed Spence, Fellow Kansan-Claude Howard, Jack Campbell, and other Paint Horses and breeders-owners, that James had worked with.

"Bill James was a true horseman and instrumental to the Paint Horse Industry".]

Celebrating our Past, Planning our Future

The 2015 KPHA Annual Banquet and General Membership meeting was held November 21, 2015 in Salina, KS. Members gathered for a General Membership meeting, dinner and Awards Ceremony. More details to come in future newsletter. KPHA would like to congratulate to all of our exhibitors for their successes in the show pen!

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