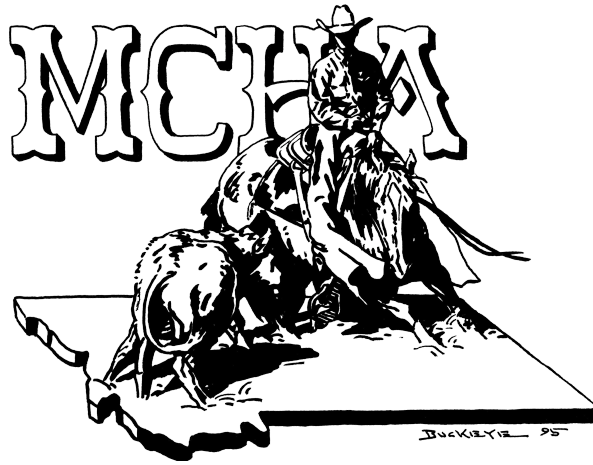


Montana Cutting Horse Association

Gratitude Report - 2023



As we enter 2024, I feel it is important to do a “look back” at the accomplishments of our 2023 year and to recognize the contributions of members and sponsors. It was a record breaking year for sponsorships with over \$23000 in contributions (up from \$13000 in 2022)! Kelly Fraser, our Secretary/Treasurer, did a fantastic job of promoting our sponsors on social media and the webpage. Our larger sponsors also receive banners and banner space in the pen at all of MCHA approved cuttings. Thanks to Mike Wood Performance Horses, his clinic in Big Piney both furthered our showmanship knowledge and supported our organization. Many, many others also supported the Montana Cutting Horse Association including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Scott & Tara Roseman Foundation · Roseman Wagner Wealth Management · CW Bar Ranch · Triple Crown Feeds · Billings Livestock Horse Sales · Hulden Inc. · RX Equine · Hoby & Joan Hogue · Sundowner Motel · Michelle Van Dyke – Montana Ranch Properties · Forever A Cowgirl · 18 Land Company Real Estate · Lil Catbaloo – Gene & Michelle Morris 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Gayle & Brien Weber · Hollow Top Angus · Shaun & Michelle Musselman · William Lewis Realty · Hayden Heaphy · Rankin Enterprises · Doyle & Jacqueline Fritz · Pinnacle Property · Big Timber Family Dental · The Den Restaurant · Tanya Dvarishkis · Farm Credit Services · Tammany Vet Hospital · Mike Wood Performance Horses
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We had 10 approved shows to attend this year, including 4 that were produced by MCHA. In response to the late 2022 survey of members, all of our shows tried for shorter cutting days, good ground, and nice circuit awards! MCHA also purchased a flag to help our producers generate income.

Other innovations happened at our shows as well! Darrell Lee has created an amazing partnership with the Montana State Prison. Along with using their cattle for the Deerlodge cutting, he has also arranged for prison help to set up and tear down the pen. This will be double the value in 2024 when we also host NCHA Days in Deerlodge! This year we invited the Treasure State Cutting Club (TSCC) to collaborate with us on the Cattle King Cutting in Deerlodge. Everyone enjoyed meeting new people and getting to watch the TSCC's reined cowhorse competitors. The Kentucky Derby social hosted by MCHA was a huge hit as well! This collaboration gained members and built comradery across western performance disciplines and organizations.

https://www.westernagreporter.com/articles/mt-associations-join-for-cattle-king-cutting-event/?fbclid=IwAR374eUHx5wX6JOoh32uK_26vuFsqJwIHdSAk5-zWwHsPnqrk1-Rtfy-9fk



John & Dorothy Seymour and I had to scramble hard when we learned the fairgrounds had booked a demolition derby and rock concert on our Dillon show dates. That wasn't much fun, but thanks to help from the University of Montana Western football players and the community, we got everyone safely stalled and the show went on! Pictured below are the "Daily Loper Award" winners which was \$100/day and was a new sponsorship by the Hollow Top Angus Ranch. We would love to expand this program to each of our MCHA produced shows!



Andrea James came through BIG TIME IN BIG PINEY with a fabulous weekend show and futurity season kick off! This was our biggest and best show in Big Piney with all of the fun daily events, the competitor dinner, and a heated dessert auction! MCHA and the Utah Cutting Horse Association's Never Won A Buckle Shootout culminated there as well. This was the second year we have put on this event which requires competitors to show in 3 qualifying shows in order to participate in the shootout. In 2022 we had 9 shootout competitors with 13 qualifying. This year there were 11

shootout competitors out of the 20 qualifiers. These are NEW cutters and this program has benefited both associations greatly! Every shootout competitor got multiple awards and the winner received custom chaps and a championship buckle! The goal for the future is to maintain (not grow) the Big Piney show and to continue to work with UCHA on the NWAB Shootout program. Danielle Pace and I intend to manage the NWAB program again in 2024, but then would like to hand the reins to new coordinators for 2025. Be thinking of whether this would be something YOU have a passion for!





MONTANA
CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION

2023 Never Won A Buckle Series

End Of Year Shootout Held at the Big Piney show in August!

~ MUST WIN 1 QUALIFYING SHOW, OR ENTER 2 QUALIFYING SHOWS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SHOOTOUT.

~ NO LIMIT ON SHOOTOUT ENTRIES

BIG GRAND PRIZE FOR SHOOTOUT WINNER

~PRIZES FOR ALL WHO ENTER SHOOTOUT

QUALIFYING SHOWS

- *Ucha: Spanish Fork February 11th
- *Ucha: Spanish Fork March 4th
- *Mcha: Millers, Laurel Mt April 14th-16th
- *Ucha: Ogden April 22nd
- *Mcha: Deer lodge MT May 5th-7t
- *Ucha: Salina May 20th
- *Mcha: Dillon MT June 9th-11th
- *Mcha: Dillon Mt July 21st-23rd

Any Questions Contact any of the committee members:
UCHA - DANIELLE PACE 801-380-6312
MCHA - PERI SUENRAM 406-925-9977

2022 SHOOTOUT CO CHAMPIONS!

WES ALAN
CRANDALL & MELENDEZ




MONTANA
CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION

UTAH
Cutting Horse Association



2023

Never Won A Buckle Shootout

Qualifiers

- Cindy Sampson	- Naomi Davis
- Justin Smith	- Tate Holmes
- Ace Sampson	- Kendall Hintze
- Josie Penrod	- Kelsie Savage
- Savannah Zararias	- Michelle Bowlen
- Sarah Coffield	- Brook Hintze
- Regan Bernal	- Byron Lacey
- Andy Hart	- Elaine Delmonte
- Jayden Cory	- John Delmonte
- Tia Lund	- Carolyn Quan

ThankYou!



MIKE WOOD
PERFORMANCE HORSES

DANA RUSSEL

KICKING VIDEO

VAN KATHY GREENWELL

MANE EFFECTS



Speaking of communities, MCHA's impact is notable! We are both appreciated and noticed when we are in town as evidenced by the increased sponsorship we saw from local merchants and hotels. We did work hard to make sure we advertised our events and invited folks to come and enjoy "the horses of Yellowstone". That sounds kind of corny, but it worked! We saw a slight uptick in spectators (including some reporters) (see the WesternAg article above).

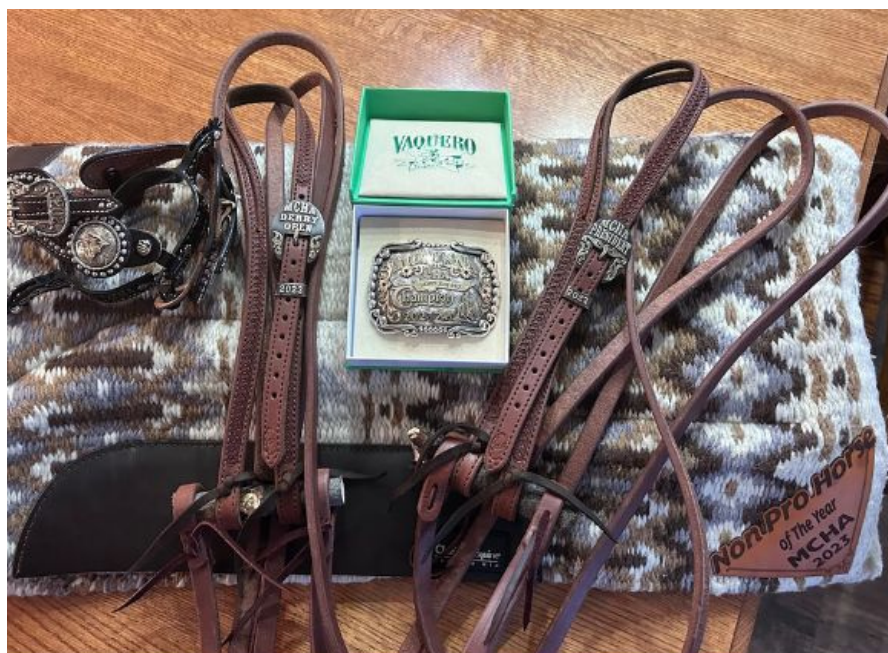
Unfortunately, we had to cancel the July Dillon show....I know many members were disappointed but it was financially smart. Because of that, MCHA took the lead in opening a scheduling conversation with our surrounding states cutting event producers.

The tentative schedule you see on our website is the product of that work. Our goal is to allow every cutting to be successful by not having scheduling conflicts! **Overall in 2023, our entries at all MCHA produced shows were up by 140% !!!**

Deer Lodge had 138 total works in 2022 and we increased to 287 in 2023 with the addition of 1 show day and the cooperation with TSCC, Dillon was up to 379 works in 2023 from 249 in 2022. Big Piney saw a massive increase, I think from the modified show schedule, to 1014 entries in 2023 over the 805 entries in 2022.

Miller's Horse Palace put on a fantastic year end show and aged event with 478 works and 1252 head of cattle used! It was very well attended and everyone had lots of fun! We had an informative General Membership meeting and an even better awards banquet. We tried something new and invited the Wyoming Cutting Horse Association to have a joint awards banquet. In addition, the MCHA covered the cost of all meals in an effort to increase attendance at the banquet. With over 90 members and guests in attendance and fantastic food and drink, I think it is safe to say the MCHA and the WyCHA members had a great time! **Congratulations to Justin Johnson on winning the Kim**

[Asay award and to John Robitaille on his MCHA “Rookie of the Year” award.](#) Thanks to our awesome sponsors, the awards were amazing - with year end award winners to [5th place!](#)



I think NCHA moving the annual convention to Las Vegas was a stroke of genius and “encouraged” many of our members to attend! We had great representation there, including both of our National Directors, who for the first time received a \$1000 stipend from MCHA to cover their expenses! Kathy Foote, who is on the Non-Pro Committee also attended and I was appointed to the Amateur Committee. Exciting things are happening nationally and we want to make sure our “affiliate voice” is represented and heard.

In 2023, the MCHA had 224 members, which was an increase of 25 members over 2022 (199)!

Of special note is the behind the scenes work that Lee and Todd Wirthlin of the TLC Ranch do with the Montana License Plate program. Their work has generated over \$13,000 in 2023 AND they do a great giveaway to promote the program. We appreciate them to the moon and back for their support of the Montana Cutting Horse Association!



As we move into 2024, Michelle Van Dyke is the new President and Doug Pearce is your Vice President. They, along with the Board of Directors LOVE to hear from our membership! Please reach out with your ideas, concerns, and any special talents that you would like to contribute to furthering MCHA with!

In closing, the purpose of the Montana Cutting Horse Association is to encourage education in equine activities, interest in cutting horses and to promote the sport of cutting in and around the State of Montana by: providing a venue for equine education, promoting cutting horse contests, encouraging the development of, and public interest in, better horses and the ever increasing popularity of the true cutting horse.

We work hard to assist the producers and managers of any approved contest in organizing and running the cutting and by striving to maintain a high standard of sportsmanship and fair play in the conduct of approved contests. We also strive to follow all rules pertaining to NCHA affiliates.

And, above all, having good family and friends fun!!! Happy cutting in 2024!

Peri Suenram, 2023 MCHA President

