

# Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch

by Nancy M. Brannon

The goal of becoming one of the top pleasure Paint breeders in the country is becoming a reality for Chuck and Sherry Marx, owners of Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch in Prescott Valley, Arizona. Their 2005 sorrel overo stallion, The Gift of Midas, "Felipe," won his very first show as a weanling and hasn't stopped winning since. In just four years, he has earned points in nine different events, plus seven ROMs and two Superiors. The handsome stallion has earned seven World Titles and many World Show Top 5's.

At the 2009 Pinto World Show in Tulsa, he was World Champion in both Hunter Hack and Hunter Under Saddle Stallions and Geldings, plus he earned four Reserve World Championships in Ideal Pinto, English Pleasure, Working Hunter and Hunter Under Saddle. These awards added up to a Reserve High Point Championship for Hunter Type horses at the World Show! The champion at the show was an Arizona Paint horse mare owned by Jenny Loveland named "An Unfair Advantage."

Felipe has earned five APHA Reserve Grand Championships at Halter and has over 270 APHA points. Earlier this year, he won the APHA Open Horse High Point Horse at the Zone II show in Utah. He just returned from Fort Worth where he earned an APHA Reserve World Championship in Jr. Hunter Hack and a Top 5 performance in Jr. Working Hunter.

Felipe's natural talents as a true all around performance stallion were enhanced by competent trainers. For two and one-half years, he was with World Champion trainer Mark Kuhlwein. After he finished his flat work with Mark, Felipe moved to California for full time training over fences with



*The Gift Of Midas excels at Hunter Under Saddle, Working Hunter and Hunter Hack, but also has a Superior in Trail.*

Roger Deromedi and Rod Safty of D&S Performance Horses.

Standing at 16.3 hands, the stallion reflects his impressive winning pedigree. His World Champion sire, I Got Charisma, was sired by Red Charisma, a World Champion sire. Felipe's dam, Supreme Silver Bullet, has gone Reserve Champion in several open shows, and her sire, Vans Silver Bullet, has a lineage with at least seven AQHA Hall of Fame horses. All of Felipe's foals are enrolled in the APHA Breeders Trust and are eligible for the NSBA Stallion Incentive Fund, NSBA Breeders Championship Futurity and Arizona Paint Breeders Futurity.

Felipe's first foal crop, a colt and a filly, both have color and are preparing for the show ring. The filly, A Perfect Gift, was purchased by Mark and Delores Kuhlwein. The colt, The First Gift, is for sale, and Sherry is working with him to show him in-hand. Both babies have their dad's characteristics of a very sweet temperament and phenomenal conformation. They're sure to follow the hoof prints of their ancestors.

"Everyone says we got lucky with the foals we've had because each one is so gorgeous," says Sherry. "People won't go wrong with any baby they buy, and we have a number to choose from. Along with Felipe's daughter, his full sister is for sale. She is six months old with minimal color. She is described as the 'ultimate horse' because of her conformation. We also have for sale a seven-month-old filly by Indian Artifacts out of World Champion Valencia Sol. She has lots of color and is a fabulous mover with fantastic conformation. Black Diamond Bay, a nine-month-old filly by All Time Fancy out of RC Cruise Control, already stands at 14.3 hands at the hip. She is a minimal bay with a belly spot and four white socks."



*Black Diamond Bay is sired by All Time Fancy, out of a Red Charisma daughter. She is already 14.3 hands at the hip.*



*Belles Beauty is a full sister to The Gift Of Midas.*



*The First Gift is the first colt sired by The Gift Of Midas.*

Foals produced at Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch are selectively bred for many characteristics that include pedigree, show record, conformation, size, color, futurity eligibility, eye appeal and trainability. Each foal is enrolled in the APHA Breeders Trust and the NSBA Stallion Incentive Fund.

In their quest to produce champions, Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch mates champion stallions to champion or champion-bred mares. Broodmares have either excellent show records or were sired by APHA top 20 Stallions. World Champion Valencia Sol is a 16.1 hand World Champion and Reserve World Champion Hunter Under Saddle mare.

Valencia was a foundation broodmare and show horse in the breeding and show stable of Breedlove Farms, home of APHA stallion Think Im Hot. Valencia's 2009 filly by Indian Artifacts, an AQHA World Champion in Jr. Hunter Under Saddle and registered American Warmblood, is now available from MVPHR. Embryos from Valencia Sol will be available in the spring of 2010. Contact the ranch for further details. Other mares at the ranch include:

Kick A Little Assets is a 1999 black overo mare by Frozen Assets, a three-time World / Reserve World Champion Western Pleasure stallion and out of Doc's Easter Sunday.

The gorgeous 1998 Bueno Blue Lady is a rare blue roan overo mare sired by Bueno Cowboy Cadillac and out of Lettys Sis (AQHA). She has some of the greatest AQHA / APHA horses in her pedigree.

Supreme Silver Bullet, "Belle," is a large 16.2 hand 2000 sorrel overo with excellent conformation. Her sire, Vans Silver Bullet, is pedigreed with at least seven AQHA Hall of Fame horses. Belle foaled the stallion "The Gift of Midas."

RC Cruise Control, a 2001 loud sorrel overo mare, was sired by the late, great Red Charisma. She is a large, powerful 16 hand mare.

Will Miss Ya is a 2004 tobiano mare sired by the leading sire, Will Spot Ya and out of the dam Plain As Dirty. Her pedigree is solid on both the top and the bottom and is loaded with outstanding proven performance horses.

Red Classy Sensation, a 2007 mare is by multiple World Champion sire, Zippos Sensation, and is out of the late APHA Champion mare, Red Classy Dee. Zippos Sensation has sired over 50 World and Reserve World Champions and is the first Paint horse to be nominated to the NSBA hall of fame. She has started her under saddle training with Mark Kuhlwein and will start showing in 2010 at the APHA World Show. She earned two Top 10 finishes as a yearling at the APHA 2008 World Show.

Frozen Solid Zippo, a 2007 Paint Me Zippo filly, was born on Valentines Day in 2007. She is sired by the late World Champion Paint Me Zippo and is out of Frozen Assets.

Shez Solid As A Rocki is a 2006 mare who was sired by three-time World Champion, R Big Time Fancy, and out of the Western Pleasure standout mare, Rock With A Zippo (96 APHA Western Pleasure Points).

Zippo Sandy Rapper, a 2000 mare, is a sweet tempered sorrel solid mare by Heza Royal Rapper and out of Looks Like A Zippo. Her pedigree is loaded with AQHA winners such as Reynolds Rap, Brother Heathen and Zippo Pine Bar.

"Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch has bred its mares to some of the top Paint Horse stallions in the country to create a future broodmare band for Felipe that is second to none," says Chuck. "The stallions we have bred to include Zippos Sensation, Frozen Assets, Indian Artifacts, All Time Fancy, Special Invitation, R Big Time Fancy and I Got Charisma. We will continue to breed to top Paint Horse hunt seat stallions to create diversity in our breeding program."

Chuck and Sherry learned about a peril of Paint breeding, and they are committed to breeding with integrity so



*Waves of Valencia is a beautiful filly sired by Indian Artifacts and out of World Champion Mare, Valencia Sol.*

others may not have the same painful experience. "We learned the hard way about the dangers of OLWS when we bought two beautiful mares in foal. Both mares delivered solid white foals which were required to be put down the night they were born," says Sherry. "We strongly suggest that mare owners test their mares for OLWS. The Gift of Midas is positive, as are a majority of the overo horses in APHA. Breeding two positive horses gives you a 25% chance of receiving a lethal white foal. If a negative mare is bred to our stallion, they will not produce a lethal white foal. The test kit for OWLS is available from University of California at Davis and others.

"We understand the importance of color to our breed, but this gene is where it comes from. With APHA's move to reinforce Paint horse pedigrees, there will be more focus on the traditional Paint horse bloodlines like our stallions. The alternative for many breeders is the foaling of solid bred Paints, which are not allowed to show side by side with Regular Registry Paint Horses. However, even with the breeding of a OWLS positive sire and a positive dam, you have a 25% chance of producing a solid colored foal. That number jumps to a 50% chance of receiving a solid colored foal when you breed two negative horses.

"Because of this, we plan to continue to create a market for solid bred Paints. Mountain View Paint Horse Ranch sponsors an Ultimate Yearling Award for solid bred horses competing at Arizona shows. We also sponsor an award at every show for the Solid Bred Champion and Solid Bred Reserve Champion. At the Prescott Valley show in September, the Champion award was won by Tanya Tyra riding Damified Do, and the Reserve was won by Laurie Roden and her mare Miss Coolsified.

"Our stallion, Norfleets Super Sun, is OLWS negative and comes from the bloodline of the number one all-time stallion, Mr Norfleet. He can be safely bred to any mare."



*Red Classy Sensation, by Zippos Sensation, is a two-year-old mare who is being trained by Mark Kuhlwein.*

Along with breeding and showing horses, Sherry and Chuck Marx board horses on their ten-acre ranch. The show barn is accompanied by six 100-by 200-foot turnout paddocks that have ample cover along with wind blocks for protection from the elements, and the size allows the horses room to roam and run. The facility has an 80-foot round pen, a trail course, a roping arena, heated waterers, and the horses are fed three times daily. Besides the miles of trails right outside the gate, the ranch has a fifteen-foot wide 1/2 mile walking track around its perimeter.

This year, the ranch held its first annual Phoenix Horse "summer camp" to give horses a break from the 120 days of 100 degrees in the valley. Summer camp horses enjoyed the cool weather and the Ponderosa Pine loaded forest trails in the Mingus Mountains just five miles from the ranch.

Mare care and foaling services are available. Mares are kept under lights, and their cycles are monitored by Sherry and Dr. Carolyn Lee, DVM, of Prescott Animal Hospital. Dr. Lee handles the artificial breeding procedures of frozen or cooled semen. Sherry foals out the mares and handles the foals as much as the owners desire and teaches them the ABCs of ground manners. There is someone on the premises 24-7.

Chuck and Sherry are actively involved in the Arizona Paint Horse Club. "If you own a Paint horse, we encourage you to check out the programs for new, renewed and experienced horses and riders," says Chuck. "We have programs running throughout the year and throughout the state. We have many trainers ready to help you get back into show business."

Chuck and Sherry Marx welcome visitors to their ranch. It is located at 7950 Coyote Springs Road in Prescott Valley, Arizona. Their cell phones are: Sherry: 602.882.0868 and Chuck: 602.820.7801. The fax is 928.772.6498. The e-mail quick contact is [riomontana@aol.com](mailto:riomontana@aol.com). Visit their website at [www.mountainviewpainthorseranch.com](http://www.mountainviewpainthorseranch.com). □