HORSE AND RIDER: WE'D LOVE TO OWN

DP

Details: 2004 Marsh Tacky stallion by Hacksaw and out of LL MT-69.

Barn name: DP, named for D.P. Lowther, a longtime Marsh Tacky

breeder and conservationist.

Owned by: David Grant, Florence, South Carolina

What grabs us: Daniela Snyder of Equestrian Images recommended DP to bring awareness to this unique breed that descended from Spanish Colonial horses and is the South Carolina State Heritage Horse.

More like a gelding: "After I bought him as a yearling, I put him out with my mares so he could start breeding when was mature," Grant shares. "He pasture-breeds and he's right there when the foals are born. What's really amazing is when the babies start coming in to the stalls to eat. The broodmares have run them off, so they'll go in and eat with DP. He acts like a father would – he'll back up, push them forward, and then eats right beside them. People never know he's a stallion."

Double duty: "I'm an avid outdoorsman; I deer hunt and hunt wild boar with my horses and dogs. I call it redneck foxhunting," Grant says with a laugh. "Hunters use horses for transportation and to help haul game at the end of the hunt. Very few horses make good stallions, and that's what makes DP so special. He knows his job, and he doesn't let being a breeding horse get in the way of being a using horse. That's just neat. Plus, he's just so handsome. His forelock and double-man make him an eye-catcher!"

-- Julie Preble, April 2014 Photo by Dwain Snyder, Equestrian Images

