

The following is the presentation as read at the Hall of Fame induction ceremony:

Pinocho's Panda T-325

Pinocho's Panda T- 325 was foaled in 1969 in Riverside, CA. Bred by Don & Barbara Dunham, she was registered in ABRA as a yearling in 1970. The filly was sold to Vern Kraemer, then President of IBHA, who registered her in IBHA in early 1971 as a 2 year old. Prior to being shipped to the Midwest Vern had Rich Kurzeja sent to California to show the mare in AQHA. The registry, IBHA was the forerunner of IBHA which was incorporated in the fall of 1971.

Upon arrival in the Midwest, Mr. Kraemer proposed to the IBHA executives that a logo be made for IBHA. Laney Printing designed the logo which was Panda standing with the world behind her. That logo was used until the reknown artist, Orren Mixer, made the painting of "the Buckskin". Both logos can be found being used yet today.

Panda was shown through 1974 by the staff at Holiday Farm in Dyer Indiana. In 1974 the mare was not shown and was in performance training.

Panda was in training with Cliff Smith near Marango, IL when Candy Somerfield fell in love with her. Panda's then owner had her for sale, but the price was too unreasonable. Candy could see the potential locked inside her. But she was going to have to wait.

Panda did not sell while she was at the trainer's and went home to be bred. As fate would have it, her owner decided to lower to a more reasonable price and she came home to live with Candy and her family in 1976. Candy recalls what a wonderful feeling it was to haul her home. The realization came over Candy that this talented mare was finally hers.

Panda arrived close to her foaling date with her first foal. She had a colt they named 'Tag You're it'. Panda was very protective of her colt and it took about a week to convince her that it was ok for people to come around her and the colt. Candy was able to win the mare over quickly and went right to work unlocking this mare's hidden potential.

Candy worked with Panda in Western Pleasure, English Pleasure, trail, and barrels. Panda quickly figured it out and off they were competing in the all around events.

Candy soon realized that Panda had a distinct personality. The mare could really pass out the grief one minute and the next minute could act as innocent as can be. She had a habit of stealing items. Candy's Dad would come out to the barn to build and fix things. He had to keep all tools out of the reach of nosey Panda otherwise she would steal a hammer or stick her nose right in to see what was going on. This was not a good practice with power tools!

Panda loved Coca Cola! She would pick up the bottle in the side of her mouth, tilt her head back and guzzle it right up. The Coca Cola cans did not slow her down either. She would pick up the can with her lips and draw the succulent nectar from the tin can. The tin can would then crumple up like a discarded piece of paper. No one's Coke was safe around this mare! Some of her favorite snacks were apples and pears.

Candy and Panda traveled across the United States showing at IBHA sanctioned shows that included more than eight states. One of her fierce competitors was M E Highley and Madam Medic. Madam Medic was another very talented horse who was inducted to our Hall of Fame in 2010.

Panda's lifetime IBHA totals were 76 halter and 83 performance points in her short showing career. These performance points were earned in Western Pleasure, English Pleasure, Western Trail and Barrel Racing in the two years of 1976 and.. The halter points were earned at the time when there were no age splits in the gender classes and grand and reserve classes were composed of the first and second placings of Mares, Stallions and Geldings.

Inside these point totals are:

Champion ship earned 7/5/1976

Honor Roll English Pleasure 1977

Honor Roll Barrel Racing 1977

Reserve World Champion Performance horse 1977

Reserve World Champion All – Around Horse 1977

As you can see, Candy was very successful in unlocking this mare's hidden potential! In a great horse you will find characteristics of Panda – a great, gentle mind and a willing, can-do attitude.



Panda was not only talented, but beautiful. So beautiful in fact that her 2 year old photo was used as IBHA's Logo until Orren Mixer's Painting of the Buckskin replaced her. Candy and Panda were also featured in an article in Western Horseman.

Candy's proud moment:

Candy recalls showing to a judge she had known for a long time. This judge was of the opinion that a horse is specialized for one job and should be trained for that job, whether it be Western or English. She and this judge had disagreed on this matter many times. At this horse show, Candy and Panda were able to prove to this judge that there are horses out there that are talented enough to do it all! The judge was able to approach Candy and admit she had a horse that was talented enough to do it all!

After this fantastic show career, Panda was sold to a family and spent the rest

of her days being a brood mare.