

## 2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

### MURRAY & SHIRLEY DAVIDSON

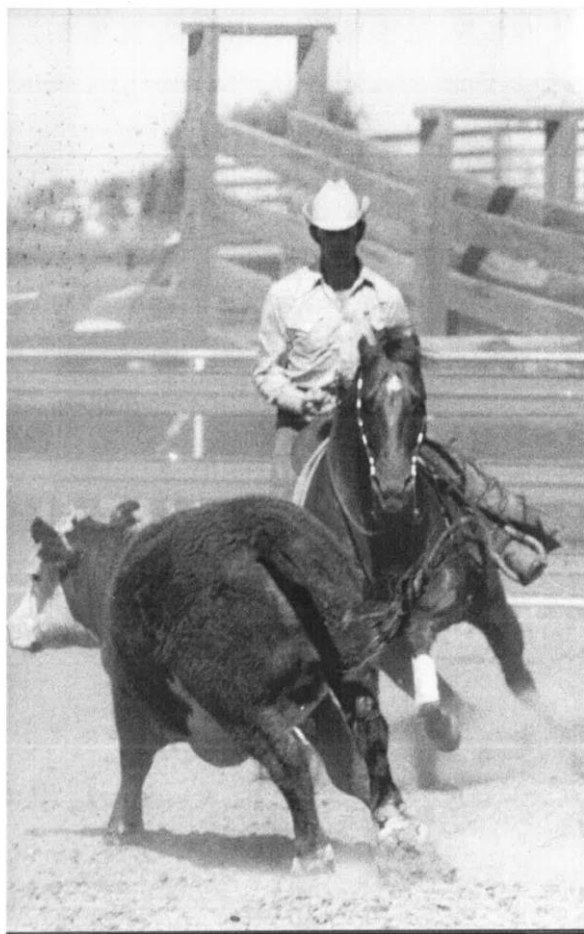
The Australian Quarter Horse Association honours Murray & Shirley Davidson with induction into the Hall of Fame.

Murray and Shirley Davidson, from Swanpool, Victoria have been involved with Quarter Horses since the early 1970's. They purchased a first cross Quarter Horse mare in 1970 and registered her ANNLEE LADY JILL A-158. She would be the first of 89 horses registered with the ANNLEE prefix. Over the next 48 years, Murray and Shirley have continued to be involved in the Quarter Horse industry.

Murray was a professional cutting horse trainer. He took many horses through the early NCHA cutting futurities that were held at Moonbi, NSW. He won the first Pleasure Futurity on the imported stallion NAVY BAR. During these early years, Murray travelled to the USA to hone his skills in the cutting industry. He also trained there as a saddle maker, a profession he continues with today.



As competitors, Murray and Shirley have excelled across the board. In the early days, Shirley was a competitive Barrel racer, winning many events and awards. Murray started out in the rodeo arena but soon moved to the new and exciting sport of cutting. The couple purchased their first cutting bred horse, CLOVER STOCKMAN R1-2168, from one of the early Clover Leaf sales. STOCKMAN proved to be a challenge as he was unbroken and unhandled. However, he went on to take Shirley to Highpoint Lady Cutter of Australia.



Murray on CLOVER COWPOKE Q-2049

Murray and Shirley have been involved with Quarter Horses at a committee level since the 1970's. Shirley was the first secretary of the Southern Branch Cutting Horse Association, where she instigated State wide cutting events. In 1994, Shirley and Murray were both part of the reformed big Valley Quarter Horse Association (BVQHA). Last year, with Shirley as President, BVQHA celebrated the 20 year anniversary of their arena being built. Shirley has been on the BVQHA committee and has run the canteen for the entire time this current BVQHA club has been in operation. Murray has been actively involved in every working bee and each ground improvement exercise.

As Quarter Horse breeders, Murray and Shirley have continued to breed quality, versatile horses for these past 48 years. They purchased their main stallion, CLOVER COWPOKE Q-2049, from Clover Leaf as a yearling in 1977. COWPOKE went on to sire 103 progeny with the offspring excelling in all aspects of the Western industry. They proved to be quiet, trainable horses, highly valued by anyone who owned one. Murray and Shirley have always strived to breed competitive, sound, quiet horses which excel across all disciplines.

Murray and Shirley have been unwavering supporters of their own children and then their grandchildren and can still be seen with them at any AQHA youth-related event. They donated their horse, CLOVER STOCKMAN to the very first Youth World Cup event at Tonimuck in 1978. They were also major supporters of their daughter, Julie and their future son-in-law, Dean Jones in gaining places in the 1990 Youth World Cup in Canada. They also played a part in the massive fundraising goal connected with the same YWC held in Canada.

They also donated their great gelding D BAR COLONEL JESSE Q-18818, to the 1992 YWC event held in Tamworth. They have always shown support for Annette and Julie in connection with their riding.

Annette, in her long AQHA Amateur show career and then Julie, through Amateur and now as an NCHA cutter. They then followed granddaughter, Rebecca, through two stints on the AQHA Youth World Cup and numerous AQHA Highpoint Awards.

At the 2016 Youth World Cup in Tamworth, Shirley spent the week hosting the dignitaries and the international judges with her beautiful cooking. Murray and Shirley also donated the use of their well-known mare, ANNLEE LIGHT MY FIRE Q-55836 to this Youth event and she was ridden by a competitor from Norway.

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