

It began in 2006 on a trip to Saskatchewan. A newly formed trio of Appaloosa aficionados hit the road with an empty horse trailer, a joint bank account



and a mission. They returned home to Alberta, the trailer considerably heavier, the bank account lighter.

They bought four broodmares bred by High Noon from Saskatchewan. “It was very exciting to bring them home with the 4 beautiful foals they had at side,” says Pat Hyndman, the “marketer” of the trio. “But the most exciting and memorable time was the following spring when these mares plus our own mares all produced beautiful foals from our own stallion, Mr. High and Mighty. They just kept coming out one after the other- each one so beautiful and healthy. We had eight foals that year.”

Rejean Gariepy, Pat Hyndman, Rick Miller comprise RPR Appaloosas. They were long-time friends and experienced horse people who saw an opportunity to partner and further promote the Appaloosa breed.

RPR currently has two stallions, Mr. High and Mighty and RPR High Pressure. They have five broodmares and also breed up to five outside mares a year. “Our dream goal is to have 5 beautiful foals to raise in our barn per year,” says Pat, “this way we are not overwhelmed by the volume and the foals can all get enough attention and not become just a number.”

When it comes to breeding, RPR taps into the talent that they have in their partnership: Rick Miller, pedigree man and breeding expert. He has served as President of the Appaloosa Horse Club of Canada (ApHCC) as well as occupying other seats on the Board for many years.

RPR focuses on Appaloosa to Appaloosa breeding. Rick comments, “The ApHCC and the ApHC both allow out crossing, it is our feeling that the gene pool is just fine and wish to breed horses with longer Appaloosa pedigrees, which we believe will help concentrate the traits we love about the Apps, lots of stamina, good legs and feet, surefooted, best friend type of horses.”

The mares are hand-bred and foals are born in Bowden on Rick’s property, which is “on a beautiful, lush and forested quarter section of horse heaven,” says Pat. After weaning, they are moved to Rejean’s property east of Calgary. Pat does the ground work and light training when they are 18 months. Rejean carries on the light training until they are three, when they come in for “boot camp” with cattle work and lots of miles on the trail.



“Most of our clients like to mountain trail ride so we need to produce strong and enduring horses to take hours on the trail,” says Pat. “Our foals have also done well in the competition ring: working cowhorse, team penning and cattle sorting. RPR is very involved in the Calgary Stampede events and are on the road promoting the Appaloosa Horse so we need calm dispositions so they can handle the exposure.”