

IMA RADICAL DREAM Q-45888

Medal of Excellence Recipient 2015

Born 16 November 2000

Bred by LD & KA Neilsen

Sire: Tall Dark N Radical Dam: Peppys Triple Treat

Following is taken from the 2005 AQHA Yearbook

Dream started her Halter career early, gaining her ROM in only a few shows, quickly followed by her Superior.

Kerry couldn't wait to ride her, so like she had done with Dream's mother, Kerry just saddled her up, with no "breaking in" period and had her friend Travis ride her down the road. "I started riding her then, and knew she had it all" said Kerry.

Kerry made the decision (based on the ridiculous fact that she thought she was too old), to send Dream to a trainer to prepare her for her first shows under saddle. Doug Farmer took her on and it was decided that she would only start out at Pleasure, as she was such a natural. "Her first show was just a small one, the day before a big AA show at Gatton. She gained a second in the two year old Pleasure, I was over the moon. The next day, she took out Champion Mare, and went on to win the two year old Western Pleasure" said Kerry.



Dream did a few more shows with Doug, and came home. She didn't get to the AQHA Nationals in her two year old year due to a virus. "My vets advised not to travel her, I was so disappointed" said Kerry.

Their next big show was the Queensland State Show. Kerry explained "Dream and I worked really hard at home, I wanted her to do really well but I got cold feet at the last minute, I didn't feel I could do her justice, so I asked my friend Dionne White to ride the two year old Western Pleasure for me. Dionne looked lovely on the mare, the American judge thought the same, and she won."

After a spell, Dream came out for her first junior year, still only doing Halter and Pleasure. "I had always loved Trail, her mother was a good trail horse, so we branched into Trail, where she did really well. I started doing other events show by show and she took it all in her stride" said Kerry.

Dream finished her first junior year with runner-up All Round Quarter Horse of Australia and of Queensland, High Point Western Pleasure Horse of the Year, High Point Amateur of Queensland,

High Point Amateur Trail and third overall in Amateur Western Pleasure. I was so pleased, as I had ridden all the events myself. I also won my first buckle that year in Junior Western Pleasure.

2005 had been Dream's second Junior year and it started out well, finally making it to the Nationals, but only by chance explained Kerry. "I had intended going to the Congress in America, but when Lynette Hall asked if she could ride Dream at the Nationals in her Youth events, I agreed. Lynette had been riding Dream in some Youth events and as it was her final year, it would be a shame to stop her. It meant I wouldn't be going to the Congress, as I couldn't afford both."

As Dream was now going to the Nationals anyway, Kerry decided to enter four events. Open Western Pleasure and Amateur Pleasure, Open Trail, and Amateur Trail. Lynette did a marvellous job on Dream, gaining a second in Youth 15- 18 years Showmanship and a second in Youth Western Pleasure. She placed in nearly every event she went in, finally riding her in the winning team for the Youth Challenge. Kerry gained a third in Junior Western Pleasure, fourth in Amateur Pleasure, and won the Amateur Junior Trail. "Dream picked up a tree in the Junior Trail and decided she wasn't giving it up, to the amusement of the crowd, and my embarrassment" said Kerry.

The elated owner/rider exclaimed "I never thought I would get a National Buckle at 59 years of age! My grandson has laid claim to that one. The buckle and rosette had to go to school for show and tell. What better recognition can you get than that?"

Dream went on to have a really good year. "We knew she was in with a chance with the end of year Awards, when my son had a horrific accident. Horses and shows were the furthest things from our minds, we just wanted our son to survive. We missed quite a few shows, and thought we would have not been in the running for any end of year Awards. We did our last AA show at Gatton, but Dream just hadn't had the work she was used too, and I was just too totally drained."



It wasn't until the Youth World Selection Camp held in Tamworth, a week before the Annual Awards Night, that Kerry became aware of Dream's achievements. "I had taken Dream down to Tamworth, for a youth rider, to try out for the Youth World Cup, when Paul Lorimer, one of the Directors on the AQHA Board, gave us the news." Dream had won High Point All Round Quarter Horse of Australia and Queensland, High Point Western Pleasure Horse of Australia and Amateur Pleasure Horse of Australia and High Point Trail Horse of Australia. She also came Runner-up in numerous categories including Amateur Trail, Performance Horse Category 1, Mare or Filly at Halter and Amateur Mare or Filly at Halter.

In riding Dream to so much success Kerry was also rewarded with High Point Amateur of Australia and of Queensland. Overjoyed at her mare's achievements Kerry stated "I think she has done her

mother, Peppys Tripple Treat, really proud, and given us more than we could ever have hoped for. I always thought you only got one special horse in a lifetime, but to the credit of Peppys Tripple Treat, we were blessed with two.”

Dream is now enjoying a long rest in the paddock, and rumour has it that Kerry also has her feet up!