

1999 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

GARRY MCPHEE

The Australian Quarter Horse Association honours Garry McPhee with induction into the Hall of Fame.

Garry McPhee has dominated rodeo since his arrival from New Zealand in 1965. He joined the Australian Rough Riders Association (later to be known as the Australian Professional Rodeo Association). In 1967 Garry McPhee purchased a horse called CHUCK from former Canadian, Mel Stephens at Teen Ranch near Sydney. Garry believes that Chuck was an infused Quarter Horse and it was this early association with a good horse that started Garry on his way to win 12 Australian Rodeo titles in five years.

In the early 1970's Garry and Cheryl McPhee (nee McTaggart) were both winning titles on "Molsie" (A-82), by Quarter Alman (R1-1204) by Mescal (imp) (Q-35) and it wasn't until 1974 that Garry started riding a stout Del Mingo bred gelding registered under the name of Trapper (R1-8718). Garry first saw the big foal in Eddie Wilson's paddock and was not impressed. The weanling later passed to Garry in a deal and was taken to Victoria where he finished growing. It didn't take long for Garry to realise the potential of Trapper once he had some arena work with cattle. It's now history that the gelding has gone on to win over \$200,000 in both roping and steer wrestling contests in rodeos in five States.

Garry showed extreme versatility, mastering both ends of the arena winning the 1971 Bull Riding Champion, Steer Wrestling and coveted All-Round Australian Champion. Garry and Cheryl teamed up to breed, train and compete on some of Australian Rodeo's foundation Quarter Horses.

Garry McPhee has had his own breed of Quarter Horses since the early 1970's. He started with the Quarter Elgrando (R1-167) daughters, Elgrando Cupie (Q-33069), Elamo (Q-22922) and B.V. (A-161) and is still breeding from their descendants. He bred them and others to Rojo Dynamo (Q-542) and Bobbies Cutter (Q-4073) (leading sire of rodeo time event horses) and later Hank Man Leo (Q-1490) and Diplomatic Jet (Q-15124) – a brilliant calf roping horse. Garry trained Bobby Blair (Q-14840) who went on to win the calf roping horse title at the Australian Quarter Horse Championships for his next owners. He showed reining and cutting horses in the 1970's including Bueno Brandy (R1-994) and Elgrando Cupie (Q-33069) who won the reining futurity at the Hordern Pavilion in the early 1970's. He won the cutting futurity at Walgett on Bueno Brandy and has partnered many of the top timed event horses such as Polo Buzz, Cadillac (Sonny Boy) and many more.

In 1974 Garry won four All-Round Championships and another 13 National titles. The name McPhee in rodeo also extends to Rodeo Stock Contracting with the McPhee Rodeo Company having the reputation as owning some of the most consistent and toughest bucking stock in Australia. McPhee stock has received many bucking stock awards for Saddle Bronc of the Year, Bareback Horse of the Year and Bull of the Year. The Company have won over 69 Bucking Stock of the Year awards spanning over the next 40 years. Good management, hard work and the breeding program that Garry put in place in the 1970's allowed him to continue winning so many of these awards, year after year, decade after decade.



In 1985 a new generation of stock were eager to take the stage – Toss-Up won 10 Bareback Horse of the Year titles – Chainsaw was a bull that captured the hearts of thousands of fans, television broadcasters, brewing companies and many more giants in the Australian Corporate world.

Today Garry can still be found passing on his experience and knowledge, of the required skill needed to be a successful competitor, to many potential young cowboys and indeed his own family with sons Guy and Blair and daughter Dusty following in their father's footsteps. Garry has created the market for Quarter Horses in his field of Rodeo and has arguably contributed to the promotion of the outstanding qualities of the Quarter Horse in Rodeo Time Events to the point where, today, they are dominant breed for Barrel Racers, Steer Wrestlers, Calf Ropers and Team Ropers.

Garry McPhee's ambitions are simple; he wants to continue competing in rodeos as long as he is able and lift the standards for the sport to the highest possible level.
