

2017 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

McTAGGART FAMILY

The Australian Quarter Horse Association honors the MCTAGGART FAMILY with induction into the Hall of Fame.

Australian Quarter Horses and performance horses in particular, are in the McTaggart blood. Hilton and Mabel McTaggart raised the five boys - Kevin, Max, Malcolm, Colin and Bruce and their only daughter Valma in Goondiwindi, Queensland.

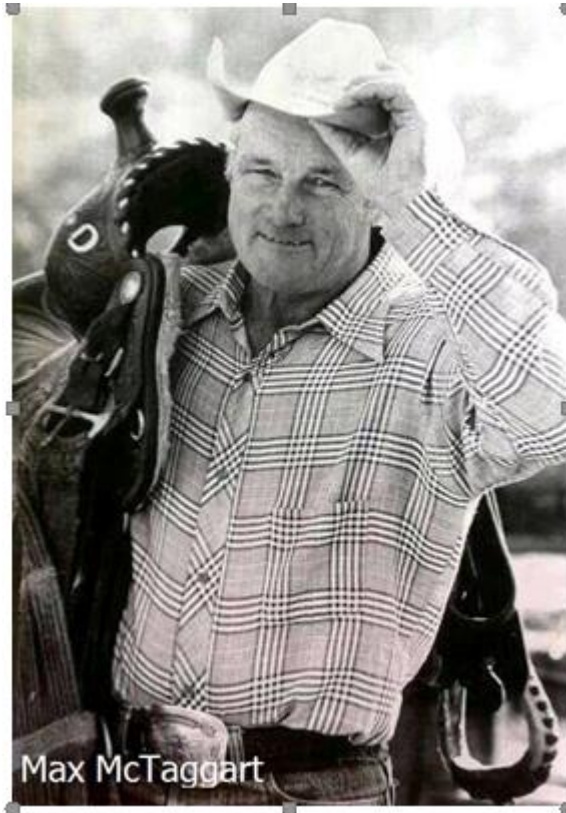
Hilton was a horse trader, drover and contract musterer. He was also the Australian Buckjump Champion in 1931. Between them, Kevin, Max, Malcolm, Colin and Bruce won many Australian and State Rodeo titles. This year, 2016 sees the McTaggart family notch up over 85 years and five generations who have competed, or continue to compete, successfully in Rodeo and Quarter Horse events across Australia and the United States of America.



Colin McTaggart worked as a stud groom for King Ranch, "Risdon" in Warwick in the late 1950's. He said he had "the honour of riding some of Australia's first foundation Quarter Horses, like VAQUERO Q-1 and JACKAROO R1-12924. He really enjoyed them and so liked these horses, he has owned bred and shown only Australian Quarter Horses ever since.



Max McTaggart was inducted into the NCHA Heritage Hall of Fame in 1991 and the AQHA Hall of Fame in 1998. The formidable ELGRANDO, the first horse inducted into the NCHA Heritage Horse Hall of Fame in the same year as Max in 1991, with QUARTER ELGRANDO R1-167 inducted in the AQHA Hall of Fame in 1998. Colin and Lou McTaggart were also inducted into the NCHA Heritage Hall of Fame in 2002.



Lou McTaggart is credited by Colin as the biggest driving force behind their family. Equally, Tom, Sharron, Kim and Jane learnt how to become a success and enjoy the AQHA horses they had acquired. All four of Colin and Lou's children have won Australian Titles in the show arena. Together, Colin and Lou organised and produced several Australian Quarter Horse shows in Victoria in the 1970's and many All Breeds Shows which led so many to becoming AQHA members and buying their first Quarter Horse.



The Third Generation - a generation of excellence and professionalism

Max's daughter, Cheryl McTaggart (McPhee) and Colin's daughter Sharron (McTaggart) McCarthy both won All Round Champion Cowgirl titles. Sharron was our first Australian Rodeo Queen in 1977 and has been an inspiration to many who followed.



Colin's son Tom McTaggart was an all-round performer on some of the best bred AQHA stock imaginable at the time. As a Youth performer, focusing on AQHA performance horses, he excelled in Reining, Reined Cowhorse and most notably, Cutting. Tom went to the U.S.A at 21 years of age and is now a much sort after Cutting Horse judge in America, coming home when he can to judge events as well as running clinics in Australia.

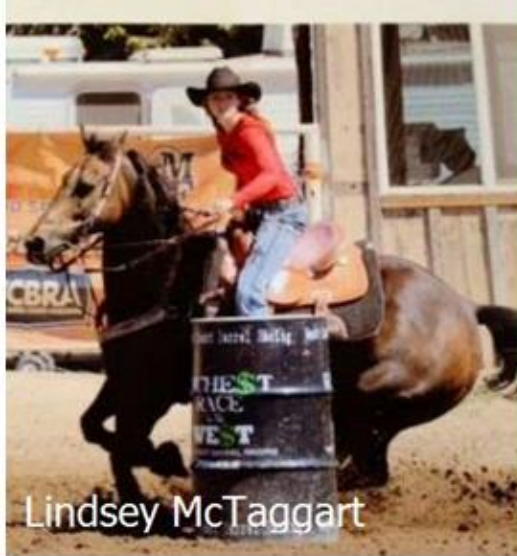
Kim McTaggart has been involved in the Australian Quarter Horse industry all her life and has represented Australia and the AQHA on several occasions. Kim has been involved in AQHA Team Tournaments representing New South Wales and Australia and was Captain of the winning AQHA New South Wales team for two consecutive years and coached the AQHA team to a win for the third year.



Jane McTaggart was taken from the Quarter Horse industry at a young age and had a way of making those around her enjoy life. Competing, to Jane was like having a good time. She is sadly missed by many.

A Fourth and Fifth Generation - McTaggart's and McCarthy's

Tom McTaggart's son young Colin McTaggart was a leading bull rider who qualified for the world finals in Las Vegas three times and Tom's daughter, Lindsey rides barrel horses. Sharron (McTaggart) McCarthy's sons, Jay and Wade McCarthy, are top Australian bull riders from Western Australia. Sharron's grandsons are already starting to rope and ride on Australian Quarter horses.



A passion for family strengthen through the bond of the Quarter Horse

Ask any McTaggart, the first horse they recall and who inspired them the most, and the answers are all similar. Riding by the time they could walk, inevitably it was to be on an Australian Quarter Horse and it was family members who gave them their inspiration. There is a deep belief amongst them that the Quarter Horse bought a new era to the way Australian's viewed horsemanship for this was a horse breed you can train and enjoy more easily than any other.

A lifetime promoting a passion

Max McTaggart was the first Australian Quarter Horse trainer to go out on his own training for the public from his base of 55 acres in the Lurg Hills near Benalla, Victoria and many young hopefuls flocked to him. He has spent a lifetime giving guidance, mentoring and helping people to improve their craft and enjoy their own hobby or career as Horsemen/women. Included on this list, Janice Hoskins, Ricky Glen, Cory and Dean Holden and Roger Wagner just to name a few. Indeed, Tom McTaggart will tell you it was watching Uncle Max and the way he had about him, and his ability to encourage a horse to seamlessly move particularly on cutting horses that was instrumental in him becoming a trainer.

Colin McTaggart, through his Rodeo Services Association, organised the first ever campdrafting competition held at the Calgary Stampede in Alberta Canada in 2002 to a receptive crowd. Whilst most widely associated with Rodeo due to his amazing success in that arena Colin, was particularly fond of the Reined Cowhorse event and an avid follower of the clinics held by the likes of Don Brown, Les Voght, Phil Ames and Wayne Havens.

Sharron (McTaggart) McCarthy and Blue Boy were a team to revere when it came to Barrel Racing and today she continues to be engaged with the Hopes n Dreams – Pink Lady – Barrel Classic raising awareness and funds for Breast Cancer Network Australia.

Tom McTaggart is a name few forget in Australia, and he surely does not forget home, travelling back from the U.S.A annually to run clinics with a desire to see our Australian industry advance and encouraging newcomers to enjoy their Quarter Horse and nurture their talent. He credits Pine Johnson

for helping him to think like a horse and his Uncle Max McTaggart and father Colin for teaching him how to succeed, grow and share any knowledge he has gained.

Kim McTaggart has goals she is not about to give up on. Kim with her father Colin McTaggart promotes and runs the annual Unique Horseman Australian Colt Starting Challenge in Dalby. Kim believes AQHA horsemen in Australia have been totally underestimated over the years and that this event helps to showcase the talent we have in Australia for the World to see.

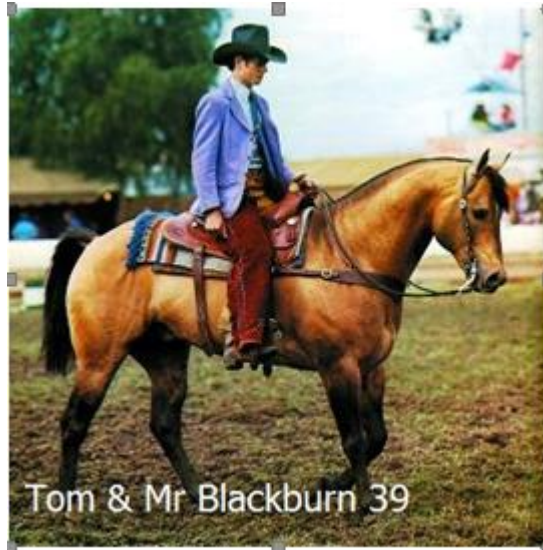
The Horses and Achievements

Too many horses to mention them all, great Australian Quarter Horses either bred, trained or shown by the McTaggart's. Here are just a few:

R1-167	Quarter Elgrando	F-05160	El Mondo
A-160	Wagga	Q-731	Mr War Cutter
Q-1490	Hank Man Leo	R2-1669	Belford Quarter Intercept
Q-29063	Docs Little Moore	Q-887	Mr Blackburn
R1-6213	Jubal	R1-2364	Sam Cade
Q-9501	Bomber Doc	Q-1404	Lady Moore 59
Q-1403	Pine OLena	R1-1100	Caballero
Q-1522	War Leo Tee	Q-542	Rojo Dynamo
R1-1023	Compact Dennis	Q-505	Tondara Jet Doll
R1-7714	Euroka Maverick	Q-1046	Tondara Charlie



Tom McTaggart's favourites include WAR LEO TEE Q-1522, son of the great WAR LEO (USA-60880) and GET HER FLOWING (USA-3544434), a daughter of MR PEONITA FLO Q-52746. Colin McTaggart lists a gelding by MESCAL Q-35 – HORDERN R1-815 as one of his favourites and shares his son's views that WAR LEO TEE Q-1522 was also a great horse.



Without a doubt, the most memorable and family favourite was COMPACT DENNIS R1-1023. A talented all round gelding by QUARTER MASTER Q-32 who was by the great VAQUERO Q-1. Colin McTaggart picked him out of a bunch of weanlings one day and he wasn't the prettiest and was partly blind in one eye but they bought him home to Flying M and Lou McTaggart set about training him. COMPACT DENNIS and their mother's commitment to training him is a memory Sharron, Tom and Kim share. COMPACT DENNIS taught them all with Tom, Sharron, Kim and Jane all enjoying success on this gelding. Lou McTaggart was always there for each of her children in every step of their amazing careers. Colin even roped off COMPACT DENNIS while his children rode him winning in Pleasure, Trail and Showmanship.

To list the McTaggart's achievements would take a lifetime, for every one of them has contributed to their own success and the success and enjoyment of so many others. They continue to succeed and share their knowledge, skills and passion for the Quarter Horse both here in Australia and also the USA and it is apparent that it is now with the fifth generation a part of their DNA.

The biggest influence in the family's lives is echoed by all – the great Pine Johnson.



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