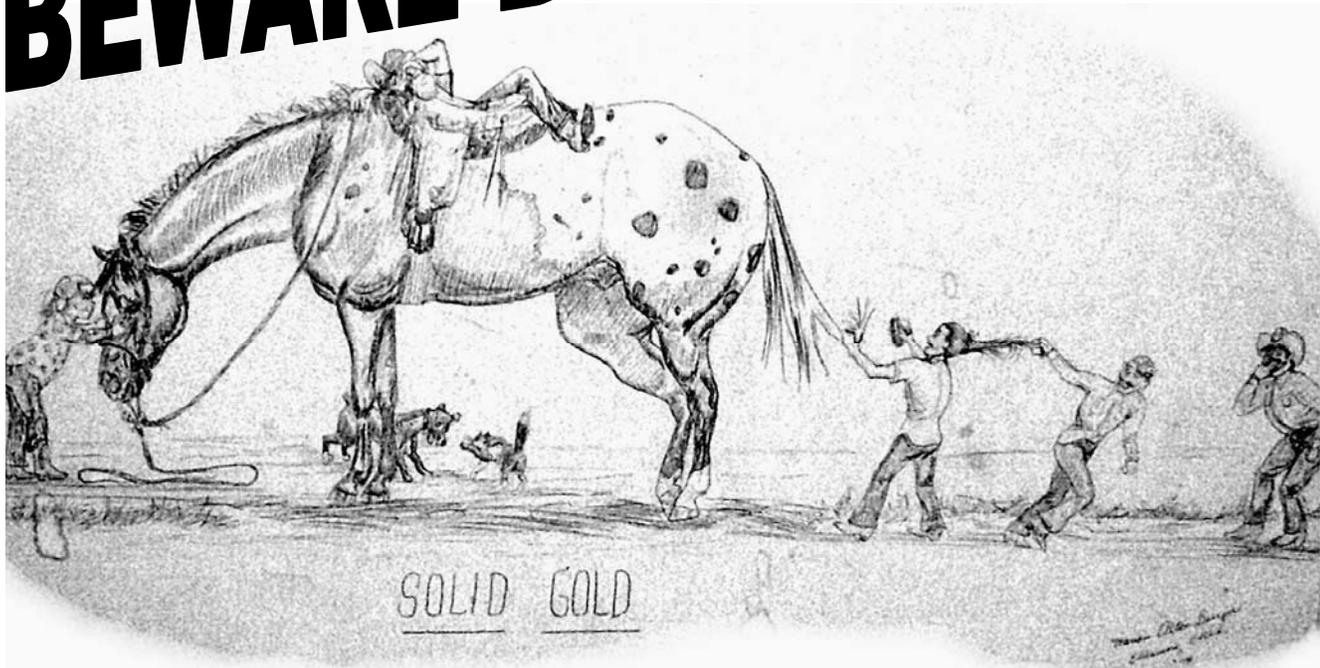


# BEWARE BRITCHES



The above sketch was done by our 'resident' Sooner artist, Marian Alton, many years ago, and was inspired by a gem of a gelding once owned by Sooner members Jim and Donna Chronister. Donna sent us a number of clippings, including a photograph that later inspired this sketch.

## Young Horseman Wins Award

Three-year-old Adam Chronister's sportsmanship in losing one prize won him another.

Adam, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Chronister, was a contestant in the May 28 Appaloosa show at Muskogee, Oklahoma in the lead-line class for 6-year-olds and under.

A judge misread a contestant's number and awarded Adam third

place in the lead-line class. Later Adam was told of the error and good-naturedly returned the plaque.

That led to his being awarded the J. E. Baker Sportsmanship Award, the first time it has ever been given to a lead-line contestant. Mr. Baker

donates the trophy at different Appaloosa shows during the show season but it is not announced until the award is made.

This is Adam's second year with the Sooner Appaloosa Horse Club. During his first year he was ranked fourth in the state of Oklahoma.

Adam's father works in the International Division in Tulsa.

The clipping at left, and lower middle, both depict late son, Adam Chronister and Beware Britches, with the middle clipping being dated 1976.

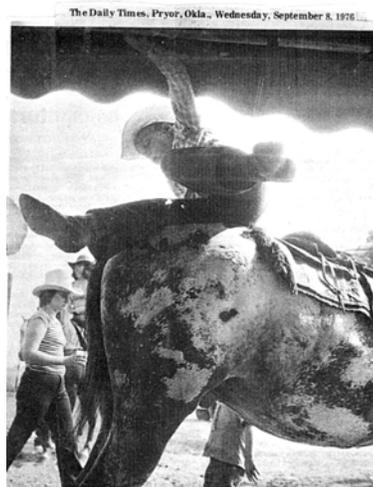
Both sons are depicted, below, in this Chronister family photo, along with the very amicable, Beware Britches.



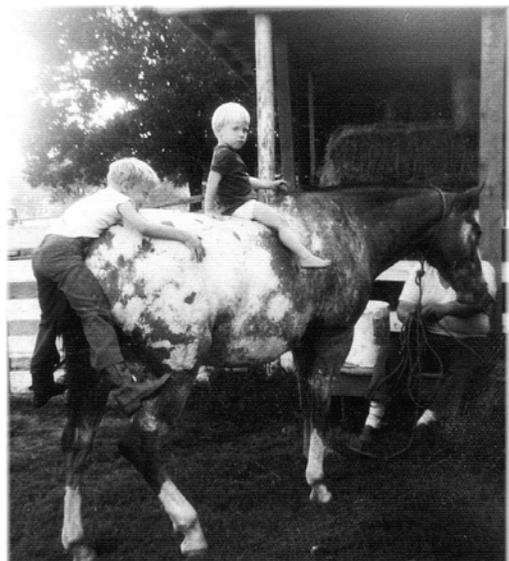
Young Adam Chronister mounted on his horse, Beware Britches.

place in the lead-line class. Later Adam was told of the error and good-naturedly returned the plaque.

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REAR EXIT — Adam Chronister, a competitor in the Mayes County Quarter Horse Show held last weekend, dismounts in his own unusual style from an easy-going horse.





*Here's a scene that acted as an inspiration for Marian's sketch so many years ago.*

*From the notes that were received with this 1980 photograph: from left to right, Matt Chronister, Carleen Lovell, Karon Smallwood, Sonja Lovell, Aaron Smallwood, and Cheryl Hood.*

*Many thanks to Jim and Donna Chronister for sharing these treasures with us!*

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Later in this issue is the complete list of stallions whose get will be eligible for the inaugural run of the Sooner Super Stallion Stakes. Be sure to check out all the stallions who will have eligible get!



# THE REST OF THE STORY ON...

Submitted by Donna Chronister

# BEWARE BRITCHES

Whenever someone tells me they have a great kid's horse, I always have to compare it to the ultimate kid's horse, BeWare Britches. Now a name like BeWare might give you pause, but the only thing you had to beware was keeping him confined to a stall.

We acquired Beware when a friend of Jim's bought him and tried to board him at one of those warm blood riding stables. Seems Beware had a disagreement with a 17 hand warm blood named Satan or Demon or something like that. Anyway Jim had to go get Beware and he said when he got there the warm blood was covered with pink wound medicine and the corner of the barn was knocked out, but Beware didn't have a scratch! We weren't sure what we were going to do with him, but when we put him out with the mares, he was a real cream puff. So we traded for him and Adam started to ride him.

Actually Beware started Adam and Matt plus Robert and Chris Ward on their show careers. In fact one of Robert's first showmanship classes he set Beware up a little crooked. Well Ol' Be just squared himself up and Gary Ward (Robert's dad) told Jim, "Well Beware takes care of another one."

Matt our youngest, was just barely two when he began to show Beware. One afternoon Matt decided he was going to catch Beware by himself, no halter, no rope no nothing. Be was grazing and didn't want to leave that particular tasty patch of grass for anyone, so he just kept one step out of Matt's reach. Finally Matt got frustrated and grabbed Be by the hind leg and hollered, "I SAID WHOA!" Be just turned his head and looked at Matt like "what are you doing back there kid?" He never moved a muscle until I came and got Matt.

Then there was the time that Jim and Adam were going to a roping and they loaded Beware and Navandy into our old two horse trailer. That trailer had seen many a mile and the butt chain was broken on Beware's side. About a mile down the road after a rough ride over our dirt roads, Adam looked back and said, "Daddy, the trailer door is open and Beware is gone" They turned around and came back to the house. They found Beware ambling back to the barn. He had scrapped his front knees and banged his chin, but otherwise was fine. Ned Tuttle (former Sooner Pres.) bet Jim Be would never load into a trailer again. Easiest ten bucks Jim ever made!

Now Beware liked his oats better than anything and one afternoon Adam decided he wanted to sit on Be while he ate. Be was in an old open stall on the outside of the barn, so Adam climbed up one side of the stall to get on him. But Be just moved his butt over to the other side, Adam got down and climbed up the other side and Be promptly moved back over. After several attempts Adam decided to jump from the side onto Be's back. But he didn't quite get enough altitude and just broad sided Be — SPLAT—just like he had hit the side of a barn, and slid down the side of Be to the ground. Beware never missed a bit of oats.

After awhile we began to call Beware Houdini because he developed the talent of opening anything. He was crippled for about six weeks because of a horse shoe nail in the wrong place. We soaked that foot everyday and he could barely walk, but I knew he was healed when I

came home from choir practice one night and he was headed out of the barn lot. As soon as my car lights hit him, he did a U turn and returned through three gates back to his pasture. He knew he'd been caught. He never went too far though because he never wanted to miss feeding time.

Beware was sired by a solid black son of Navajo Britches, but his value was not in his pedigree or his athletic ability (LOL) but in his heart and attitude. There was not a mean bone in his body and he won numerous ribbons and trophies for a lot of kids. He certainly wasn't the most beautiful or the best conformation horse we ever owned but I'd love to have a dozen just like him any day. His kind only comes along once in a lifetime. Every kid deserves a BEWARE.

*Donna*

## Declaration Of Candidacy



I am honored to seek your support in continuing to serve as the Territory IV, Zone B representative on the Board of Directors for the Appaloosa Horse Club.

As an Appaloosa Trainer, Judge, and, more importantly, Owner, my livelihood depends on the success of the Appaloosa Industry. Having been recognized by the Appaloosa Horse Club in 2008 as Trainers of the Year; by the Youth Association as Volunteer of the Year for 2007; and having served as Chairman of the Rules Committee for more than 10 years, my personal and professional goals remain the same: To See the Appaloosa Horse Club Thrive and Grow.

I will continue to support an aggressive marketing program to increase Membership and Registrations. Our emphasis must remain focused on these goals, and I believe we can accomplish this through nurturing Youth Programs, Regional Clubs, Membership, and, most importantly- The Horse. With extensive knowledge in all aspects of breeding and showing, I believe I can competently represent our territory.

***Your vote is imperative. Together we represent the future of our breed.***

**Debby Letham, Yukon, Oklahoma**

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*In this year's election for the ApHC Board Of Directors, we have a choice between two Sooner members, Debby Letham, and Sharon Marshall. We are pleased to be able to offer them both space in the Sooner News, and to have our membership informed of their positions.*

*Be sure to vote and return your ballot for the candidate of your choice.*

# Declaration Of Candidacy

Dear Appaloosa Family,

My name is Sharon Marshall and I am announcing my candidacy for the Appaloosa Horse Club Board of Directors. I live in Lexington, Oklahoma and have been a veterinarian for the past 16 years.

For the past 4 years, I have attended each ApHC Board of Directors meeting on my own dime. By doing so, I have taken the initiative as a concerned member to take part in the discussions. With my knowledge of the ApHC's policies and procedures, I can more efficiently combine the needs of the Appaloosa community with the ApHC organization.

I have enjoyed serving on the Board of Directors of the Sooner Appaloosa Horse Club since 2007. While it is a relatively small club, it is actively enlarging primarily through the welcoming of all members and not focusing solely on the show-based owners and exhibitors. The SAHC may sponsor the prestigious Reichert Appaloosa Celebration, but it also looks to involve and welcome the open show exhibitor, the trail rider and Appaloosa owner who simply want to enjoy their horse at home.

There are several key areas that must be addressed and addressed NOW! There is no time to waste!

- **Embrace the diversity of our membership.** By working with every member from every walk of life from every aspect of the horse industry, we can expect to not only survive but thrive. I am calling on members that do not want to show in ApHC shows or race in sanctioned races to become more vocal about what being a member of the ApHC means to you and what the ApHC can do for you. Communication is the key to success
- **Decrease the stagnation that is strangling the Board of Directors, the ApHC office and the membership.** Both the economy and membership demographics have changed. "That's the way it's always been done" is no longer valid. I acknowledge that change is hard and scary. But more frightening is watching the downward spiral pick up speed.
- **Eliminate the "Me, Myself and I" attitude.** What is a significant problem for one region of the US or one regional club does not necessarily hold true for others. There is no single program that will fit every regional club. I feel the Board of Directors should bring multiple ideas forward and trust the regional clubs to choose the best option for their specific area. In addition, the factional in-fighting must end. The beauty of the Appaloosa breed is the diversity of both the horses and their owners.
- **Increase the usage of the Appaloosa Journal as the mouthpiece of the ApHC.** The inclusion of timely articles that pertain to horse-owners rather than primarily show-based members will help the ApHC become more inclusive of the entire membership.

**Identify specific programs that are under-performing.** Are those programs under-utilized, under-funded or mismanaged?

Oklahoma and Louisiana members are and should be my main focus. I encourage the use of my cell phone and email for every member from any territory. I am, again, actively calling on all members: let your directors know what being a member of the ApHC means to you, what the ApHC can do for you, what concerns you have and most importantly, what potential solutions you see.

I look forward to the challenge to come.

**Sharon Marshall, DVM**

**405-590-1147**

**appydoc@hotmail.com**





# WHOA, A Minute Here! Time To Appreciate Our Editor!

Submitted by Marian Alton

Every issue of Sooner News requires more time and effort than most of our readers realize plus Editor Gerry is a man of patience when it comes to putting up with

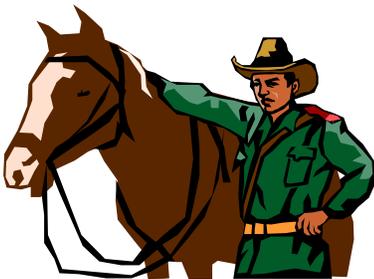
his “assistant’s” long hand, phone calls, add ons, etc. I am not a computer person, and that definitely doesn’t make Gerry’s job easier. When I tell people “Editor Gerry can do no wrong,” everyone laughs but I’m actually pretty serious. I’ve had an absolute blast working with Gerry—he’s professional, thoroughly enjoys Appaloosa history, pedigrees, photos, and meeting the people who have made our Appaloosa breed great and continue to do so.

It takes hours to put Sooner News issues together, and Gerry doesn’t do all of that alone, thanks to Carol Johnson and Dedra Tiger who drive to Oktaha to help him after they’ve approved and proof read the pages which he e-mails to them but has to mail to me; then I call him.

It’s totally amazing what Gerry can do with photographs! Remember the photo of Joleta Ingersoll-Spurlock’s home on the hill in the Jan/Feb issue? I took that photo while in my truck and Gerry eliminated the black outline around the photo, widened the photo, zoomed in, etc., and he has done his best to present all photos in all the Sooner News stories of members, horses, history, in the best way possible which often takes time improving older photos when it comes to color and lighting such as the ones in this issue.

It’s a pleasure working with someone who is interested in all aspects of the Appaloosa breed including foundation breeding, performance competition of every category, including racing, youth projects, shows, and has his own Appaloosas plans for the future. He’s enthused and that makes it fun! I encourage everyone to let Gerry know how much you appreciate what he gives in time and energy to bring everyone a really classy magazine to be proud of. It’s one of the best! Thank You, Gerry!

*Marian*



*Editor’s note:*

*Aw shucks, mam!*

Another special Thank You to Larry Colley who twice came to assist our vet, Dr. Carl Propp, who was short on help when we wormed, vaccinated, and pulled Coggins on ten horses. Two weeks later, Larry stopped by on his way home, 80 miles away, from work at Langley to help Dr. Propp with “Stelen” who doesn’t like shots. Larry was also “Stelen handler” when Randy Kirkes came to trim him.

We’ve kidded Larry about Dr. Propp calling to ask if “that man” could come help again. He didn’t remember Larry’s name but knew he was good help.

*Jerry and Marian*