



# The Kiger Legend

Vol. I, Issue I- Spring-March 2008

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Welcome to the first edition to The Kiger Legend, the newsletter of the Kiger Horse Association & Registry!

Inside you will find a tribute to our late President, DeWayne LaRue. As the organization continues with his vision, we expect 2008 to be an exciting year.

Also inside find our upcoming events calendar, and an overview of some of our programs in the works. You will also find a detail article on our Registry's studbook categories and how your horse might qualify.

Don't forget to read, "The Road to Burns", an account of traveling to the 2007 Kiger Adoption.

We hope that you will enjoy this first edition. Our next newsletter is scheduled for May, so please get your ideas, advertisements, and articles in by **April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. Thanks!

## Have a great photo of your Kiger?!

Get it in The Kiger Legend by submitting it to:  
[newsletter@kigerhorse.org](mailto:newsletter@kigerhorse.org)

or mailing to: P.O. Box 1019 Madras, Oregon 97741.  
Include a stamped addressed envelope for your photo to be mailed back to you.

**We look forward to seeing your great Kiger!**



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## Meet Your Board

**President-**  
DeWayne LaRue

**President Elect-**  
Dr. Hale Henson

**Vice President-**  
Janice King

**Secretary-**  
Jillian McIntosh

**Treasurer-**  
Betty Linnell

**Registration Director #1-**  
Shari Woods

**Regional Director(Western)#1-**  
Mimi Henson

**Registration Director #2-**  
Jani Cochran

**Regional Director (Western) #2-**  
Janet Mendez

**Registration Director #3-**  
Scott LaRue

**Regional Director (Central)#1-**  
Steve Benn

**Registration Director #4-**  
Dave Porter

**Regional Director (Central) #2-**  
VACANT

**Regional Director (Eastern) #1-**  
Billy Walls

**Regional Director (Eastern) #2-**  
Jim Schweizer

## A Tribute to DeWayne LaRue

Last June, the Kiger world lost a great, sincere man. DeWayne LaRue was the current President of KHAR when he was killed in a tragic ranching accident.

A photo tribute has been included on page 10 as KHAR takes a moment to look back on DeWayne's impact on the Kiger breed and this organization.

DeWayne's love for the breed was undeniable. His vision for the Kiger breed was strong right up to the end. His enthusiasm for the breed was contagious, as everyone that met DeWayne shared his passion.

KHAR will continue on with DeWayne's vision and passion for the Kiger horse.

Ride on cowboy, ride on!



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Western Region:**

March 28-30 Northwest Equine **Expo**, Albany Oregon

Excellent clinics and seminars for the horse owner. Trade show galore! For info, visit <http://equinepromotions.net/NWHorseFair/NWHFHome.html>

April 20 Spring **Trail Ride**, Grey Butte, Culver Oregon

Spring trail ride, rain or shine. Easy ride with good footing. Open grasslands and moderate butte climb. Wood corrals available. Bring your own lunch/dinner. We will have a BBQ there for burgers or steaks! All breeds welcome! Follow the signs to CG. For info, contact Janet @ 541-475-7004, [janetrn\\_cen@yahoo.com](mailto:janetrn_cen@yahoo.com)

### **Central Region:**

Nothing submitted at publication

### **Eastern Region:**

Nothing submitted at publication

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Send in your membership renewal today!

KHAR Membership year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>.

2008 is going to be an exciting year,  
come be a part of it!



## SADDLE RAFFLE GIVEAWAY

### **A NEW YEAR, A NEW SADDLE**

The lucky winner was:

**Wendy Willyard of La Pine, OR**

Wendy said that she has never won anything in her life and actually forgot about the raffle until my phone call. She says the saddle will look great on her Kigers!

KHAR thanks all the individuals that purchased tickets. Your support helped raised **over \$1200** for our programs.



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## YOUTH CORNER



Hey Kids!

Want to spend more time with your Kiger?!

Our youth program is being developed right now. Do you want to help in creating the program?! We need **your** help. What would **you** like to have?

Kid Camp-outs? Kid Trail Rides? Riding Mileage Plan?

Write or Email @

KHAR-Youth Program

777 NE 7<sup>th</sup> ST, SUITE 110, Grants Pass, OR 97526

[registry@kigerhorse.org](mailto:registry@kigerhorse.org)

## The KHAR General Store

An exciting line of Kiger oriented merchandise will be available from the KHAR General Store, Summer of 2008. Keep checking the website ([www.kigerhorse.org/MarketPlace.html](http://www.kigerhorse.org/MarketPlace.html)) for updates.



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## TRADITIONAL or APPENDIX or PARTBLOOD,

### WHAT DO THEY ALL MEAN?

The Kiger Horse Association & Registry has three main categories that horses can be registered in. In order to explain how the categories are broken down, a short history lesson on the Kiger breed is necessary. The Kiger Mustang breed started when dun Spanish Mustangs were found during gathers of Beatty Butte and other SE Oregon HMAs in the late 1970s. When found, these dun Spanish Mustangs were released into East Kiger, Riddle Mountain, or Smyth Creek HMA. In the mid-1980s, Smyth Creek HMA merged with East Kiger HMA to create Kiger HMA. If the HMA herd levels were too high, some of these dun Spanish Mustangs were adopted out to interested parties in special "Kiger-like" adoptions. Horses that trace to these Kiger-like mustangs, will have a notation of their percentage of Kiger and Kiger-like blood. Only those horses that were registered with other Kiger registries and whose origins trace to Oregon HMAs are allowed in KHAR. No new Kiger-like horses are allowed.

The **Traditional** category contains two groups of horses: those horses that trace 100% to origins in Kiger or Riddle HMA and those horses that have 39% of Kiger-like blood or less. The Kiger-like blood is noted on the pedigree and registration certificate of the horse and includes the origin of the Kiger-like blood. Examples of Kiger-like origins are: Palomino Butte HMA, Sheepshead HMA, Paisley HMA, etc.

The **Appendix** category contains those horses that have more than 40% of Kiger-like blood. The Kiger-like blood is noted on the pedigree and registration certificate of the horse and includes the origin of the Kiger-like blood. Examples of Kiger-like origins are: Palomino Butte HMA, Sheepshead HMA, Paisley HMA, etc.

Both the **Traditional** and **Appendix** categories have to undergo inspection for registration. Inspection evaluates the horse's conformation and for Kiger characteristics. In order to qualify for registration, the horse must score 80 or above. Those horses scoring 90 and above are designated with a **star** icon on its name to demonstrate its excellent qualities.

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## TRADITIONAL OR APPENDIX OR PARTBLOOD,

### WHAT DO THEY ALL MEAN?

Continued

The **Partblood** category is for recording the Kiger lineage when crossed with other breeds. The Partblood is not inspected, but an identifying photograph is required. The Partblood can be any % of Kiger and can be a cross with any breed. Most common Partbloods are 75%, 50%, or 25% Kiger with breeds such as Morgan, QH, Arabian, Paso, Andalusian, and Lusitano.

If you have any questions regarding which category fits your horse, drop an email to [registry@kigerhorse.org](mailto:registry@kigerhorse.org)

Jillian McIntosh  
KHAR Registry Inspector

A wild Kiger stallion

Note the sawtooth marks on his  
neck streaking down.

Photographed by  
Norman McIntosh  
September 2007 in Kiger HMA





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## The Road To Burns

The road to Burns began well before my business manager Dean and I climbed behind the wheel of my truck and headed northwest. Already four years ago, shortly after I adopted my first Kiger in the on-line auction, I knew I would be making this 2400 mile journey (round trip), a pilgrimage of sorts to Burns for the 2007 BLM Kiger auction. I'll spare you the details of the weeks of anticipation wondering what the Kiger Round Up would bring this go 'round – and while the catalog gave some preview of what one might find, the real test would be had only by seeing the horses up close and personal.

Arriving at the Comfort Inn at “oh-dark-thirty” on Friday, my buddy and I slept for a few hours then headed out to the BLM facility at Hines, but not before running into Betty in the lobby of the hotel. Boy was I embarrassed not recognizing Betty straight off but I did hang my head in shame, for a moment or two that is, and then quickly made up for lost time – quickly because we both wanted to head out to see the horses.

With my catalog in hand, along with my notes and my first rankings, I quickly registered (my number was 37) and began the long task at hand – checking out the stock. How many times did I stand before the likely candidates trying to see numbers from afar (no, I did not think of bringing my binoculars), trying to imagine the finished saddle horse that might emerge from any number of the many diamonds-in-the-rough milling around in the pens. Long neck, short face, cow-hocked legs, too much of this – too little of that - and the list went on. What impressed me most at first was the large number of animals with white markings – is something happening to our Kigers? Are they falling victim to the lack of genetic diversity or are there other factors responsible for this observation? Hour after hour I wandered the alley-ways of the BLM facility checking out this critter and reevaluating this other one. What struck me most, like a swift kick to the gut, were the “experts” standing in judgment, and good eaves dropper that I am, could not help but listen to the “experts” expound and pontificate – all very eager to give their opinion but all playing their cards close to their chests regarding their absolute favorites. Truth be told there were as many experts as there were bidders – all of us looking for our “perfect” whatever we were looking for. As for me I came looking for a grulla mare (#8185) but was smitten by a cute little dun filly (#8263.) Must have been good choices as Betty and I, independently came to the same conclusion. I guess others were also impressed as they both went for big bucks – bigger bucks than I had in my piggy bank.

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## The Road To Burns Continued

The auction started slow and Dean, my non-horsy travel companion, wondered when all the action was going to begin. After getting past the first pen, the “geriatric” pen, the pace picked up and it was not long before I had to make my first strategic decision – do I go for that dun filly that captured my heart (#8263) or do I save my pennies for what I really came for – the grulla filly. The next question was do I wait for “my” grulla filly (#8185) in a later pen not knowing what she might bring (would she be too rich for my pocketbook?) or do I hedge my bet and go for the weanling that, at least on paper, (and pretty good looking in the flesh as well,) was my first choice. To make a very long story short I came away with a grulla filly, #8148, deciding to take a pass on the little dun, drop-dead gorgeous filly (#8283.) **I thought I was finished – after all, I got what I came for. At least I thought I was finished.** I wound up bidding and winning a catty yearling dun filly, #8156 – yes, a sort of impulse acquisition. The big question was how was I going to explain the dun to my wife?? Not to worry – I had 1200 miles to figure out how to explain the “tag-a-long.”

Waiting in line to be loaded on Saturday I was both giddy and reflective – did I really need the second horse? That ‘ole refrain of “needs versus wants” see-sawed in my mind but in the end – it was all good. Horses loaded, my buddy and I drove through the night and arrived back in Rapid City by 2 PM on Sunday, safe and sound after an uneventful trip.

The high points of the trip – the horses, meeting the folks from KHAR who were just names on a page prior to the auction and mingling with like-minded folks all of whom were drawn to the auction for one thing and one thing alone. We came from all over the country, from all walks of life, each of us clinging to that special horse, all smitten by the beauty and majesty of “our” horse – the Kiger.

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## The Road To Burns Continued

Fast forward one week – the two gals (they remain horses with no name as of yet) are in the same enclosure almost literally joined at the hip wondering just what in the hell happened to them. They remain wary, spooky and suspicious. They must be wondering when they will be loaded next and where they will be going next. The older filly, the dun is, quite frankly a wuss – hiding behind the weanling grulla. They are beginning to adjust to their new digs and if I sit very still on my stool around which I have scattered hay, the little grulla will creep up to my feet with the dun close behind at her tail – and so the journey begins.

Steve Benn

KHAR Regional Director #1 (Central)





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## DeWayne LaRue Photo Tribute



**He Will be Missed!**