



Sheriff

ARTICLE: Vicki Miller / PHOTOS: Vicki Miller

Shining Sheriff

(Imp)



Sheriff at work Grass Hut



Sheriff

Never before have Australian horsemen had the opportunity to breed to a stallion with such unique pedigree consistency, not to mention his flawless performance history, both paternally and maternally.

Shining Sheriff (imp), is another awesome product of Shining Spark – the AmQHA's (American Quarter Horse Association) All Time Leading Sire of Performance Horses. He is also the very first horse by Shining Spark ever to be imported to Australia. Shining Spark's book is now closed, and his service fee was at \$10,000 just on two years ago. If you're into statistics, proven pedigrees and performance (and if you're not – then all things considered today - you should be), then just check out the track record of this absolutely awesome family.

Carol Rose Quarter Horses in the USA bred and still owns Shining Spark, and is strong in her opinion that there has been no better bred stallion imported to Australia to date than Shining Sheriff. She is an advocate of her phrase - 'Breeding horses with a future, from champions with a past'.

Shining Spark is the NRCHA's (National Reined Cowhorse Association) Number 1 all time leading Cowhorse Sire and the first and only \$2 million

sire. He is also the NRHA's (National Reining Horse Association) youngest \$2 million sire and Number 4 All Time Sire. In the tough USA competition world, Shining Spark himself was also AmQHA's World Junior Reining Champion and NRHA Open Derby Champion. His progeny have won over \$5.4 million, and Shining Spark holds the ranking of AmQHA's Number 3 All Time Sire of Performance Horses and Number 2 Living Sire of Performance Horses. While America may not have Challenges and Campdrafting as such, the Reined Cowhorse Association covers very similar events – a tough dry work pattern, and controlling cattle to a set course.

At the 2009 NRHA Open finals, a massive 47% of the finalists were either sired or grandsired by Shining Spark, with his daughter, Shining N Sassy, eventually taking out Open Futurity Champion. Shining Spark's offspring have excelled in Reining, Cowhorse, Cutting and Rodeo competitions, and it was Rhondhu Stud that had the vision to see what a family like this could offer the Australian industry of similar events.

Shining Spark's dam, Diamond Sparkle, also has an impressive list of achievements under her belt, being the AmQHA's Number 1 All Time Producer of World Champions, NRHA's Number 5 All Time



Sheriff Campdrafting at Cloncurry



Producer, and herself a World Superhorse and a World Champion Heading Horse. Of course, with outstanding accomplishments such as these, it comes as no surprise that this mare has been inducted into the AmQHA and NRHA Halls of Fame. Diamond Sparkle is the dam of the All Round World Stallion, Zans Diamond Sun, and All Round World Mare and NRHA Open Futurity Champion, Sparkles Rosezana. This great mare also produced Sparkles Suzanna – two time All Round World

maternal grandsire. His daughters have produced earners of more than \$3.1 million, including an NCHA Open Classic Champion, the 2006 Amateur Super Stakes Classic Reserve Champion, the NCHA Non-Pro Super Stakes Champion, the NRCHA Open Stakes and Derby Champion and the NRCHA World's Greatest Horseman Reserve Champion. Now so far, we have only barely breezed over some of the outstanding achievers on the paternal line of Shining Sheriff. When you add the maternal lines, it becomes obvious that just on bloodlines and family performance history alone, it is proof that Shining Sheriff is sure to turn some heads of the more astute breeders.

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Overall Champion. Rosezana Lena, another mare out of Diamond Sparkle was an All Round World Champion and the dam of seven NRCHA, NRHA and AmQHA Champions. Genuine as Diamonds, a full brother to Shining Spark, was an AQHA Champion and Diamond Sparkle's sister, Diamond Super Sis, is the NRHA's Number 1 Producer.

Genuine Doc, one of the world's most renowned cutting stallions, sired Shining Spark. The grand old 1977 sorrel stallion was NRHA World Champion Sire, AmQHA World Show Superhorse Sire, Multiple AmQHA World Champion Sire and multiple world champion broodmare sire. He still remains the all time leading Cutting and Reining sire, as well as the NRCHA all time leading

Shining Sheriff is out of yet another great mare in Zans Diamond Jackie, who was sired by Zans Diamond Sun. This stallion was himself an All Round World Stallion, sired by yet another renowned storybook stallion in Zans Parr Bars. Zans Diamond Sun is out of that great mare again in Diamond Sparkles - you guessed it right, she's Shining Spark's dam. So Shining Sheriff has a double cross of, without a doubt, the best mare in the history of the Quarter Horse. Zans Diamond Jackie is out of a Two Eyed Jack x Star Duster mare. The Duster bloodline has been around for many years and is well respected in the American and Australian Quarter Horse industries. Zans Diamond Jackie was the 1993 and 1994 AmQHA Amateur Reining Champion, the 1994 NRHA Non-Pro Derby Reserve Champion, and the 1995 Amateur Reining Champion. She produced Shiners Diamond Jill – the 2007 World Superhorse, and Shiners Diamond Sun who won the NRCHA Open Futurity Champion. More of her offspring include Heats Hustler, the AmQHA Reserve Junior All



Sheriff Cutout Yard at West Leichhardt



Sheriff 22 Cutout at Camooweal Draft

Round Champion, Nics Black Diamond, the 2007 Open Cowhorse Reserve Champion, Shiners Diamond Jackie, who won the NRCHA Stakes and Docs Diamond Sun who is an AmQHA World Champion Heading Horse.

On the laws of average, Shining Sheriff, like his brothers and sisters, is clearly destined to be a successful sire in his own right. In April 2008, Shining Sheriff made the journey by air to the land down under. He spent 12 weeks in quarantine, and by the time he made the rest of his long journey to a very different world in a contract mustering stockcamp in the Gulf of Queensland there was very little time to prepare for upcoming competitions, let alone make the climate adjustments. However, at the Cloncurry Stockman's Challenge (which is made up of a Reining pattern and a Campdraft course), Sheriff placed 3rd in the Dry Work, 9th in the Cattle Work and was one of 12 finalists in the Challenge. He also scored a 22 yard, and ran an 85 in his first Campdraft at Camooweal. For the rest of 2008 right up to Christmas, he spent in a mustering camp, which was unfortunate for the many people who were chasing semen. Sheriff only started being ridden again in May 2009, and will be further educated in the Campdraft and Challenge forte's during the year. This young sire is a long way from being a fully trained horse as yet, but his talent shines through more with every ride, and he'd be certainly worth keeping an eye on in future events.

Sheriff is often nicknamed 'The Barbie Doll Horse', with many children frantically pulling at their parents to ask for a photo with him when his long mane is out of plaits. But this horse is not

just a pretty face. Sheriff is a very correct horse in conformation, and with beautiful gaits. He would stand proud in any halter class. He just loves cattle work, can walk out of sight, and has a rocking chair canter. He is a smooth, flat travelling horse, with plenty of speed when required. His dry work is awesome, and he could very easily waltz straight into any Reining pen with outstanding results.

His nature is impeccable. Sheriff is absolutely quiet, calm and kind. He is a very trainable horse, and the pressures of life would never bother him. It seems that this awesome nature is very indicative of the breed, and many USA trainers contribute this huge family line of success not only to their athleticism, cowsense and versatility, but also to their brilliant, trainable and unflappable minds.

November 2009 will be an exciting month for Rhondhu Stud, when the first of 14 Sheriff foals will hit the ground. These foals should be of extreme interest to the Challenge, Campdraft, Reining and Cutting industries in particular, being out of good big well performed mares by Docs Spinifex*, Docs Freckles Oak*, Peptos Stylish Oak*, Lethal Lena* and Docs Crackin Oak*, and Rhondhu Stud already has sales enquiries for the unborn crop.

Rhondhu Stud will be sending fresh semen from September 1st, and accepting outside mares at their stud facility at Mingela, just 80km west of Townsville. With a family history like Shining Sheriff's, breeding a mare to him would be definitely an equine investment. 🐾