

## Sue Greenall & Shenanigans



### 2019 AERC Decade Team



*Breeding, training and competing your own horse is the ultimate challenge in my opinion and I am proud to be Shenanigans partner for the past decade. While I have had horses that did the “big” rides, none have been so consistent as this mare. One pull and only three rides out of top ten is quite a record. She is an “all business” kind of horse, playing the game with me as much as a horse can partner with a rider. Sixty horses starting at dawn in wide open fields does not phase her at all, going on a loose rein and ignoring the bucking and pitching as horses fly past. She cruises at 12 mph and can step it up if needed, once breaking the 4 hour mark on a 50, all her idea. I am teased about her plump stature, once someone thought I was kidding when I showed them my top horse! I heard that the value of a horse could be measured by how the rider looked after the ride...I have never suffered. She owes her ability to a family of horses that made their mark in endurance, her dam’s siblings (Smoke Rise Finally and Smoke Ride Peregrine) competed at several World Championships and her own siblings, Sirocco horses, earning many top endurance awards. Her grandsire was DR Thunder Bask. Good genes, good horse, good ride. I have been so blessed. And I have her baby brother coming along....*

**Rider’s name:** Sue Greenall

**Horse’s name:** Shenanigans

**Year of First Endurance Ride** (first year in the decade): 1992

**Region:** NE

**Current rider lifetime mileage?** 7000+

Endurance: 7020

Limited Distance: 400

**Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her?** Home bred

**What is your horse’s breeding?** 7/8 Arab

**Sex:** mare

**DOB:** May 30, 2004

**Horse height:** 14.3

**Approximate weight:** 900

**Color:** dark bay

**Why did you decide to purchase this horse?** Homebred, competed her mother who won the Eastern States 100 Mile Challenge Trophy two years in a row.

**Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse?** yes

**How many different horses have you ridden in this sport?** 12

**Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities?** Pleasure driving, combined driving, fox hunting, Arabian, Quarter Horse and Appaloosa breed shows, dressage

**How many years have you been involved with endurance? With horses in general?** 32 years endurance, 56 years with horses

**What got you interested in endurance riding? What was it that kept you interested?** Challenging yet with the horse put first it is a great sport.

**How old was your horse when first started in endurance?** 5

**How many rides did you do your first three ride seasons?** 11

**What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.)** 25

**How long until you top tenned or raced (if you did)?** 3<sup>rd</sup> ride top ten

**How much time off do you give between ride seasons?** 4 months

**If you have done 100s, how much time off do you give after doing one?** 3-4 weeks

**If you have done multadays, how much time off do you give after doing one?** 3-4 weeks

**Do you use any special type of tack or shoeing with your horse?** Barefoot, EZ boots

**What kind of problems have you overcome with your horse?** Such an easy horse, none!

**Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse.** 2014, Mustang Memorial 50 – 3:54

**What was your most humbling experience?** Several hospital visits

**What lessons have you learned along the way that you feel are the most important?** To take your time with a horse, let them set the goals. If your horse is jumpy or anxious at a ride don't ignore that, the horse needs to be your partner, trust you, go back and continue training until it becomes natural for you both

**What advice would you give to new riders?** Never race, ride your own ride and if you win, good for you. Each horse has their comfort speed, learn it and use it to your advantage.

**Looking back, what do you feel you did right?** I let my horse make decisions on the trail, she is always right. I trained her with several very experienced endurance horses as her mentors and she benefited from learning pacing from them. They also were very calm and passed that to her. I train on tough terrain but more short rides than long, thus giving the horse experience but not overriding them.

**What would you do differently?** I would have liked to have ridden with more people, I tend to ride alone a lot, not by choice, but my pace is obviously faster/slower than most.

**What was your highest goal for your horse, and did you achieve it?** Decade award!!

**Describe your horse's personality? How is it like or unlike yours?** She is all business on the trail with very few things that bother her. When they do, I take notice and remove ourselves from the fuss. I suppose I am also a very focused rider.

**What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most (50s, 100s, multadays, etc.)?** 50's

**In what ways has endurance riding made a positive influence in your life?** I have traveled the world

thanks to this sport. It taught me a lot, things that many riders never know they are missing. I read books by riders like Denny Emerson and I realize I knew that because this sport demands the rider to stay ahead of issues and experience is the best teacher.

**Is there anything special about your nutrition program you attribute to your success?** KISS principle

**Are there any major changes you've made to your nutrition program (i.e., changed from one hay to another, added something special) that you feel made a noticeable improvement or solved a problem?** Vit E/Se suppliments

**What kind of supplements (if any) do you use?** Vit E/Se

**Do you give any kind of joint products?** no

**Describe your electrolyte protocol.** Weather dependent. Always dose after the horse drinks, never any other time.

**How do you choose which rides to attend?** Trail, if I don't like the trail I don't go even if close by.

**Do you go to many rides outside of your region?** Many, have ridden Tevis, Outlaw Trail, 2 Pan Am championships, Old Dominion, etc.

**Name three people involved in the sport of endurance that you look up to, and why.** Maggy Price, she gave me the best horse ever, Ramegwa Sharli. Steve Rojek, taught me not to panic when lost, Kathy Brunjes, best riding partner ever

**Did you have a mentor or first trail partner? Tell us about him/her/them.** Fran Grant, long time Eastern Competitive Trail rider, taught me everything and then some.

**In choosing your next horse, what would you look for?** Calm, easy mover, self carriage and happy with the job. Happily I have Shenanigans' younger brother coming along.