

Roberta Wong & Bold Letice



American Endurance Ride Conference

2011 AERC Decade Team



Region: West

Current Rider Lifetime Mileage 5235 miles

Endurance: 5235

Limited Distance: 80

Tell us about your horse. When/how did you come to get him/her? Found in newspaper ad and purchased him in 1996 as a 6 year old

What is your horse's breeding? Arabian

Sex: gelding

DOB: May 14, 1990

Horse height: 15 hands

Approx. Weight: 900

Color: chestnut

Shoe size: 0 and 1

Why did you decide to purchase this horse (or if you didn't purchase, why did you choose to use

this horse in endurance)? Because of all the arena training he had

Did you do endurance with any other horses before this horse? Yes with one horse

How many different horses have you ridden in this sport? two

Do you participate in any other horse sports or activities? no

How many years have you been involved with horses? Since 1982

In endurance? Since 1986

What got you interested in endurance riding? Participating in Ride and Tie

What was it that kept you interested? I am astonished at the athletic ability of horses

How old was your horse when first started? 9 years

First ride? 9 years

How many rides did you do the first, second, and third ride seasons? (list w/ distances) First season 2 x 25 miles; second season – 12 x 50 miles; third season 18 x 50 miles

What mileage distance did you start with? (25, 50, etc.) 25 miles (only 2))

How long till you top tenned or raced? (if you did) 6 years

How much time off do you give between ride seasons? October to January

If you have done multadays, how much time off do you give after doing one? Until the next one, up to 3 months but often only a couple of weeks.

What kind of tack do you use? (saddle, pads, girths, bits, etc.) Torsion treeless saddle, Zilco bridle, breast collar, and crupper, neoprene girth, Tom Thumb with snaffle bit

What kind of shoes do you use on your horse? Pads? Barefoot? Barefoot and booted? Steel shoes, padded for multi-day

What kind of problems have you encountered? none

What was the worst or most severe injury your horse has had? A stick stuck in his leg just above his coronary band caused him to be lame at vet check-in. Got while taking a walk before vet in – only time we've gone out for a walk – probably would never do it again. A freak incident

How did you work through it? Soaked in Epsom salts

What was the worst or most severe injury you have ever had relating to horses or endurance riding? Slight concussion due to fall from horse (horse tripped due to rider error); dislocated shoulder

How did you work through it? Concussion – got back on the horse, rode to noon check, then completed ride. Dislocated shoulder – rode the next day with arm in a sling and dislocated 2 more times but finished the day- did not finish the rest of the multi-days, went home then to doctor- went thru physical therapy to strengthen muscles around the shoulder

Describe the best ride you ever had on your horse. The last 4 days to complete the 5,000 mile journey. Powerful!!

Describe the worst day you ever had with your horse. Not finishing Tevis due to time

What was your most humbling experience? Finishing the 5,000 mile goal

What lessons have you learned along the way that you feel are the most important? Be patient and read the horse all the time; starting a horse in multi-day rides after the pack is gone; learn everything you can from a variety of sources; find a compatible riding buddy; don't over-electrolyte

Where does your horse live? Northern UT with my stepdaughter **Full turnout?** Yes

What kind of environment did your horse spend the first few years of its life? Stall/pasture before I bought him; pasture since I've owned him

What are your horse's strengths? Sweet, hard worker, willing to learn, willing to listen, lots of heart, gets along with all horses – not a mean streak in his body

Weaknesses? None

What advice do you have for new riders? Learn everything you can from people and other sources; don't ever think you know everything about horses; find a riding buddy/horse

Looking back, what would you do differently? Not ride with my ex-husband

What do you feel you did right? Rode multi-days and didn't over-electrolyte; always feeding a very wet mush

What was your highest goal for your horse? 5,000 completed competition miles

Did you achieve it? yes

Describe your horse's personality? Sweet and sometimes standoffish; hard worker; lots of heart; tough; willing to listen; willing to learn How is it like or unlike yours? We're pretty much the same except he's really beautiful

What kinds of rides do you enjoy the most? (multidays, 100's, 50's, etc.) multi-days

In what ways has endurance riding made a positive influence in your life? Made me more of a disciplined athlete, More respect for the horse as an athlete

Describe your electrolyte protocol. Usually only electrolyte at noon stop and only after a good drink and eating a very wet mush. Has always worked, horse never dehydrated, and recoveries always good. Sometimes but not always would administer a ½ dose back at the trailer after finishing the day.

Is there anything special about your nutrition program you attribute to your success? Nothing special about feeding other than basic grass hay and a wet mush with beet pulp/senior/vitamins/joint supplement

Are there any major changes you've made to your nutrition program that you feel made a noticeable improvement or solved a problem? No changes except no alfalfa

What kind of supplements (if any) do you use? Platinum Performance Equine and Select (Joint) Pellets

Do you give any kind of joint products? (describe) Select (Joint) Pellets

How far do you usually travel to rides? 5-1,000 miles

Do you go to many rides outside of your region? Almost all

Name three people involved in the sport of endurance that you look up to, and why. Mari Ural because she always pays attention to what her horse is doing; Dave Rabe because he can ride anything and pace from slow to fast; Karen Fredrickson because she really knows how to get and keep the horses in condition.

Did you have a mentor or first trail partner? Tell us about him/her/them. None

Describe the first rig you had and then tell us how it compares to your current rig? First rig was a 1968 Miley 2 horse straight load – very narrow- very small tack compartment at the front under the feeders;

2nd rig was a Sundowner 3 horse slant-load with living quarters/full bathroom/ great set-up to cook and entertain;

3rd trailer (current): Sundowner 3 horse slant, extra tall with ramp, collapsible tack room at the rear and large tack room at the front; very adequate but miss the living quarters.

In choosing your next horse, what would you look for? Same qualities as my first horse