

# Vance & Kathy Blackmore

Vance and Kathy Blackmore were introduced to the Appaloosa breed in the late 1960's when Kathy purchased her first horse, a white gelding with hardship registration, and decided to invest in the breed after attending the 1976 Canadian National Appaloosa Horse Show in London, ON and seeing the many beautiful and versatile horses, including Colida and Wapiti's Senior.

Vance served on the Board of Directors for the OAHA for several years in the late 70's and into the 1980's, along with showing on the circuit across Ontario with Kathy. Vance went on to serve as show chairman of Appaloosa shows Newbury, Glencoe, Melbourne and Appin. In addition to his contributions to the local Appaloosa scene, Vance served as the ApHCC's Ontario representative for two years, attending conventions in Ottawa and Edmonton.

In the early 1980's, Vance and Kathy, along with several other OAHA members, helped to start the OAHA Area #2 Promotional Club, which later became known as the South Western Ontario Appaloosa Promotional Club.

Over the years, the Blackmore's purchased and bred a handful of well-bred broodmares and went on to show at several OAHA shows and breeder's futurities with horses such as Roman Sky Jet, Jet's Hotrod, Jet's My Toy, and Jet's First Issue. They also stood three stallions at stud over the years, including Flyaway Money, Roman Sky Jet, and Symmetricaldesign.

Vance and Kathy's daughters Erin and Amber showed at the 1992, 1996 and 2000 Canadian National shows, while Vance served on the show committees of both the 1996 and 2000 Canadian National shows.

While Kathy and Vance have drifted on and off of the show scene over the past 36 years, they have continuously promoted the Appaloosa breed in Southern Ontario, be it on trail rides throughout Ontario and Michigan, as leaders of local 4H clubs, or as participants in four ApHCC Sheltowee trail rides in Kentucky.

In 2011, Vance and Kathy returned to the OAHA family when their daughter Erin began showing after a long hiatus. Vance served as the OAHA president in 2012, and took on the role of show manager of the 2012 Middlesex Appaloosa Challenge in Ilderton.

Vance and Kathy believe their lives have been enriched by their involvement with the Appaloosa breed. They have come full circle, showing, raising Appaloosa foals, and watching their daughters showing, all while making life-long friendships with other Appaloosa enthusiasts.

