

## DR. RICHARD MCDONALD

**WHAT STARTED AS** a fun activity to do with the family turned in to so much more. Dr. Richard McDonald began his adventures in the horse industry after his wife and daughters attended the Appaloosa National Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. His daughters Tracy and Leslie, along with his wife Anette, had such a fantastic time that he and Anette eventually purchased a Thoroughbred mare in foal to an Appaloosa stallion. It was this purchase that led to the powerhouse breeding program that he and his Medicine Man Ranch are known for.

Growing up, Richard and Annette both had fond memories of horseback riding, a hobby their daughters took to immediately. Both girls showed in 4-H with Richard and Annette learning what they could about showing and mentoring them along the way. To become more competitive in the show arena they eventually purchased Arco Miss Hyspot (a granddaughter of High Spot) and bred her to Bright Dude (sired by Bright Auctioneer). Tracy showed the foal Bright Yankee as a weanling in the 1976 National Show without a trainer and they came home with a top ten in produce of dam and offered an exceptional sum for the foal. This inspired the McDonalds to continue their breeding program growing it into one of the industries' most well known.

Dr. McDonald was able to grow his breeding program while practicing as a general surgeon in Flagstaff, Arizona. He has since retired as a surgeon, but is still an active member of the Appaloosa Community. In his 80's Richard continues to breed, promote, sometimes show and train Appaloosas at Medicine Man Ranch. He has participated in several regional clubs over the years, even serving as a director. Dr. McDonald was key in developing a successful stallion service auction for the Arizona Appaloosa Association, served as trail boss for several trail rides and spearheaded the youth scholarship program for the Ari-



zona Appaloosa Association. The youth program in particular is something he feels very passionate about.

To this day, Dr. Richard McDonald's breeding program continues to accrue World and National titles and top ten placings. Those who know him praise him for his words of wisdom, helpful comments and encouragement. He is admired by many and is a true ambassador of the Appaloosa breed. The Appaloosa Horse Club is very pleased to honor the remarkable impact Dr. McDonald has had on the Appaloosa Breed and the Appaloosa Community as a whole by welcoming him into the elite group of Hall of Fame inductees.

