

MARVIN LARSON

RACING HALL OF FAME

MARVIN LARSON from Payette, Idaho, was an Appaloosa breeder, owner and trainer. As a child he contracted polio but after several operations he was able to develop a career training Appaloosa racehorses and promoting the Appaloosa breed. His early service to the ApHC and especially the early years of the racing industry, developed a history leading to this 2015 induction into the ApHC Racing Hall of Fame.

Service always came first for Larson, as member of the Cal-Western Racing Association, the Snake River Valley Racing Association, and director of the I.O.N. (Idaho, Oregon, Nevada) ApHC Regional Club. In particular he helped create that club's early promotion of racing in the Northwest. As Ranch Manager for Leo Marsters' Chicaro-bred racehorses, he continued his own breeding operation, achieving his



toric notoriety as breeder and owner of Pass Key, 1966 winner of the first pari-mutuel race for Appaloosas in the state of California (Humboldt County Fair track, Ferndale).

Pass Key later competed throughout California and the Pacific Northwest, winning or placing high in most of his races. After the 1969 California racing season, Pass Key was named Cal-Western's Champion Racehorse from a field of 72 starters over that year. As a trainer, Larson helped Marsters become the ApHC's 1965 Leading Owner With

Most Wins (14). Also in 1965, still training his own and others' horses, he placed second to the legendary Joe King, ApHC Leading Trainer With Most Wins (17).

Larson was active into the late 1960s and 1970s and achieved ApHC fifth Leading Trainer With Most Wins in 1969 and 1971. He was an active father of seven and married for 46 years to his wife Doris. He was a dedicated member of the ApHC from 1959 until 1982 when he finally retired from training full time.