

TERRITORY IV

SONJA BERRY

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As an Appaloosa owner for twenty years, I have showed in many events from halter to western pleasure to hunter under saddle to jumping, reining, games, roping and logging saddle club miles. I have owned Appaloosas that drive, competed in ACAAP, competed in Endurance racing and track racing. I am currently focused on breeding, racing and showing Appaloosas. My journey has been one of learning the Appaloosa horse and truly appreciating the versatility that defines the Appaloosa. The lessons I have learned in all these activities brings me to run for ApHC Board of Directors in Territory IV.

Throughout my journey I have participated in regional clubs, always advocating for the Appaloosa horse. I was first a director and then the Secretary for the Arizona Appaloosa Association (AAA) from 2009 – 2015 when we focused on growing club membership. Together, we assembled the Regional Club of the Year competition winning 5 years in a row. I wrote a publication called the Spot News, focusing on our AAA accomplishments whether in the show ring or on the trail. I authored several articles with the Appaloosa Journal showcasing our trail rides and breeder accomplishments.

In 2019 I watched my first race horse running down the track, an experience to behold, after my husband and I moved to Oklahoma. In order to learn as much as possible, I joined the Oklahoma Appaloosa Racing (OAR) association. I assisted leaders with the stallion

auction fund-raising activities and other club matters, eventually became Vice President and then President. I started representing Appaloosa owners before the governing Oklahoma Quarter Horse Racing Association (OQHRA). In this role, I presented a new stakes race at the prestigious Remington Park, which was approved. The inaugural running of the new futurity occurred in April 2026. I have recently submitted a welfare rule change to the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission (OHRC) the organization that is responsible for racing Oklahoma.

I retired from The Boeing Company after 27 years where I led teams that developed aircraft weapons systems designs, briefed numerous four-star generals on designs, and executed on multi-million- and billion-dollar programs.

This experience prepared me to work with others at all leadership levels, to set goals, to achieve objectives and execute for the benefit of Appaloosa owners. As an advocate of the Appaloosa, I ask for your vote so I can better champion and promote the Appaloosa horse.

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering – University of Arizona, August 2018

Executive MBA - ASU, May 2015

BS in Electrical Engineering - ASU, December 1996

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (1989-1993)

- DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE - Certified Arabic Linguist
- Awards: Aerial Achievement Award (3OLC), USAF Commendation Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal

US PATENT HOLDER 6791508, co-invented a Spiral, conical wideband HF antenna