

The Blue Creek Appaloosa Story

By Charles Potts

Blue Creek Appaloosas came into being in 2008 with the purchase of four Appaloosas from Sunset Hill Appaloosas in Bloomfield, Missouri. Charles Potts, the owner and breeder at BCA, grew up with Appaloosa horses in Idaho in the 1940s and 50s. His family, like many others after WWII, was forced off the land by high interest and big debts and they had to sell everything at auction to pay the bankers. Everything included Charles' five Appaloosas. It was 48 years before he acquired the land and wherewithal to have some Appaloosas again.

As of the spring of 2016 there are 17 head of Appaloosas at BCA, most now in residence at 3010 Canberra Drive in Walla Walla, with a few head at a leased barn nearby on Braden Road and some on summer pasture in the Blue Mountains. All but one of the present remuda are 100% FPD or better with two GAP6's and ten GAP5's as accounted for in the ApHC system. All the mature horses were registered in 2015 with ICAA and all the foundation stock are negative 5-panel.



*BCA Tofoz Chatanga F5-2646, 5-Panel N/N
See him in the Stallion Showcase*

As BCA got its bearings we bred BCAP Tobys Fossil, acquired from Debra and Dan Stubblefield at Rafter DS Ranch in Fossil Oregon, to mares obtained from Sunset Hill and Decker's Red Eagle Appaloosas in Alvadore, Oregon. The stallion Fossil, now standing at Desert Spirit Appaloosas in Powell Butte, Oregon, is essentially a Wyoming horse as he is descended from the herd of Don and Mary Ulrich at Powell, Wyoming, and out of WAR Starnight (Wyoming Appaloosa Ranch breeding). Fossil has great bone, great legs and feet, and stands 15.3. We bred him to the slightly smaller and more refined mares to get taller horses with great legs and feet while keeping the refinements. We got lucky in 2012 and got three GAP5/F5 fillies, BCA Tofoz Shandalupa, BCA Tofoz Pahsimeroi, and BCA Tofoz Fudasan. Two black blanketed Appaloosas and one gorgeous leopard.

These GAP5/F5 mares are the basis of our next step and in 2016 Pahsimeroi gave birth to BCA Chats Yamahawk and Fudasan gave birth to BCA Chats Shinaku, both colts. The mares were closely bred to BCA Tofoz Chatanga, a black blanketed stallion with spots out of DREA Patchyrainwater and by BCAP Tobys Fossil. He is a full brother to Shandalupa and they have another full sister, BCA Tofoz Padopani. Our other two foals so far in 2016 were also colts, GAP5's/F5's, BCA Kagos Dazaifu, a strong and well conformed leopard and BCA Chats Tsumago, an equally well made near leopard.

In this manner our intent is to both deepen and intensify the foundation blood lines while striving to get horses that are well conformed, well behaved, with loud coloring, good bone structure and the great disposition that Appaloosas are known for. Visitors, who are always welcome, comment on how well mannered the BCA Appaloosas are. We imprint our foals and the horses get a lot of natural horsemanship handling. You can read more about our horses on our website, bluecreekappaloosas.webs.com, and all their pedigrees are on allbreed.

We have a need to fill by early spring of 2017 for a new stallion. Our criteria are: GAP6/F6 or equivalent; EE black based; LP/lp heterozygous for the leopard complex mutation; prefer black with white blanket and spots; will consider leopard or near leopard; mature to 15 hands or taller; 5 panel negative; good disposition; anatomically correct; reasonably unrelated to our GAP 5/F5 mares; with somewhat

less enthusiasm would consider LP/LP few spots or snowcaps; willing to trade for one of our colts; prefer weanling or yearling. Let us know what you have available and what your needs are. Maybe we can match needs and wants and make a mutually beneficial trade or deal.



BCA Tofoz Padopani F5-2647, 5-Panel N/N