July 2022 Josyln Terry (by Elayne Barclay)

We recently finished our annual focus on the ultimate endurance ride in America, The Tevis Cup, where we root for and follow our fellow Pacific Northwest riders through this grueling endeavor for horse and human partners. It was thrilling to watch a rider from the PNW win the race in 2022. Every rider that completes Tevis has to start somewhere and what better way to start the endurance journey than before you are born? The next focus features a PNER member that was at her first endurance event while still in the womb. Joslynn Terry is now 12 years old and many of us have watched her grow up in ride camp and eventually shared the trail with her (or even sponsored her - at least 15 riders that she could name) for the last 5 years.

Joslynn's family has always had horses but she didn't start riding at endurance events until she was eight years old. That's when Sue McLain generously offered Joslynn one of her horses, Prior (AH Priority Male). Prior had more than 2,000 endurance miles when Joslynn got him and she rode him for 2 years doing Limited Distance rides. In 2019 another amazing horse came into Joslynn's life via Darlene Merlich with the blessing of Terry Ross: Lumpy (SAR Tiki Eclipse). In 2020 Lumpy carried her to her first 50 mile completion.

When asked about her current endurance mount, Joslynn replied, “My current horse is Ruby [Belesema Ruby Jewel], a twelve year old Araloosa. Ruby is my favorite because she is well-behaved and springy yet I still get to work with her on things. One of my favorite endurance memories was when I got Ruby as a surprise birthday present, I was so happy and excited (thank you Layne Lewis)!”

I asked Joslynn what her favorite ride has been so far and why, she answered, “Trout Lake because I like the views and all the trees and the weather is very nice and last time I went I rode with Darlene [Merlich] which was so fun!”

Joslynn accomplished an endurance milestone in 2022 that many of us never even attempt: she completed a 100 mile ride. She rode Kristen Grace's stallion, Monster. When asked if she enjoyed the experience and if she would do it again, she enthusiastically said, “Yes!! It was so fun and Monster did very well. Someday I would like to ride Tevis on Ruby.”

In addition to endurance riding Joslynn has also competed in events put on by Equine Trail Sports (obstacle competitions) and has practiced jumping. She would like to do more jumping and also try her hand at barrel racing.

Joslynn has a lot of hobbies and interests besides endurance riding that keep her busy. “I like photography and drawing as well as hanging out with my friends and shopping. My favorite topic in school is P.E. and Science. I'm active in 4-H with sheep, rabbits and poultry. I also sew and bake for 4-H [Joslynn's 4-H club is going to be sewing the completion awards for the upcoming Santiam Cascade ride]. I participate in volleyball and basketball in school. I love volleyball and have been on a club team and sand volleyball team.”

Joslynn has been the PNER Junior Representative for three years now. When asked what comes to mind when she thinks about our organization, Joslynn stated, “I get to have fun with my sponsors and get amazing awards at convention (I love getting embroidered blankets for my horses so I can remember that I didn’t just do the ride, that me and my horse worked together) and I love the junior parties at convention!”

Maybe in the not too distant future we will be rooting for Joslynn and Ruby at the Tevis Cup!