

# NATIONAL BARREL HORSE ASSOCIATION



# 2009 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Augusta, Georgia ★ October 26-31

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# 2009 NBHA HALL OF FAME

## **STATE DIRECTOR**

**TERRY LEACH**

OKLAHOMA

When people speak about Terry one of the first things you hear is what a great state show she puts on. According to the person who nominated her, "This lady amazes me. Terry always puts others first. She is very caring, and she puts on fabulous barrel races". Terry's hard work and dedication made her an excellent choice for the 2009 NBHA State Director of the Year.

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR**

**TAMMY DUGAN**

WEST VIRGINIA 05 DISTRICT

We received many letters about Tammy. One member said, "Tammy not only works hard for us to have a great show, but she also makes sure the ground is prepared, the concession stand is staffed and that we have an announcer. The list is endless." Another stated, "Tammy is a wonderful role model and an exceptional person." The NBHA is proud to have Tammy on our team.

## **FAMILY OF THE YEAR**

**THE FIORE FAMILY**

LINDENHURST, N.Y.

Sue and Sheralee have been members for almost 10 years. They are truly excellent ambassadors of the National Barrel Horse Association. One NBHA official noted, "Sue and

Sheralee are strong leaders; well organized and always willing to answer questions." Thanks to the Fiore family for their hard work and dedication.

## **MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

**KAREN MILLER**

BREWSTER, MASS.

Karen has been a member for more than 10 years and a district director for four. She is conscientious about everything she does and works diligently; traveling many miles alone to set up shows with very little help. She manages a Class A show with style and is extremely generous in praising others. The NBHA would like to tip our hat to Karen Miller for being the 2009 NBHA Member of the Year.

## **CONTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR**

**THOMAS YU**

CHINA

Thomas Yu divides his time between New Jersey and China. But no matter what continent he is on, he loves to talk NBHA. He has traveled to many NBHA shows in the USA and escorted Pete May and Sherry Fulmer from the USA to Beijing for the first NBHA sanctioned show in Asia this past summer. He traveled with the Chinese to Verona, Italy in 2008 so they could field a team for the NBHA World Cup.

He is the go between that has made it possible to open a barrel horse market in China. Thomas is professional, friendly and well respected by NBHA members everywhere. The NBHA tips its hat to Thomas Yu.





## MARIO IAVARONE NBHA ITALY PRESIDENT

One of the biggest boosts for the future growth of the National Barrel Horse Association came when Mario Iavarone took an interest in the NBHA.

The NBHA's brand of organized barrel racing has been a perfect match, like pizza and pepperoni.

That working relationship between the NBHA and Iavarone took a giant step when the NBHA produced the barrel racing segment of the prestigious Fiera Cavalli equestrian fair in Verona, Italy.

"In 2006, we went to this fair for the first time with the USA team competing with two other countries, Italy and France," said Sherry Fulmer, executive director of the NBHA and the International Barrel Horse Federation.

"That led us later to being in charge of the show with nine countries participating," Fulmer added. "Our agreement was that everyone who competed had to be a member of the NBHA, so that established our NBHA brand deeper in Europe."

Iavarone worked with the NBHA to create three exciting days of competition runs with each country fielding a team of two riders.

The USA Team of Chad Crider of Huntingdon, Tenn., and Scott Brown of Danielsville, Ga., now have become international champions three times.

This year it is expected for teams from 16 countries to be participating in the Fiera Cavallia fair with the NBHA again in charge of the show.

"We couldn't pull off such an amazing international event without the help and enthusiastic support of Mario Iavarone," Fulmer said. "And that's why we want to salute him as our 2009 Unsung Hero."

