

John W. Christman

John W. Christman farmed and ranched in Adams County, North Dakota about seven miles north of the town of Lemmon, South Dakota, along with his wife Blenda and their five children. He got his start in the Quarter Horse business when he bought a two year old colt from Wayne Evridge of Meadow, South Dakota at his production sale. The stud was Ruvio Copper, a Royal King bred stud. He was bred to the mares the family rode in horse shows and crossed well with them. The next year Christman bought AQHA registered mares from Bill Carter of Bowman and he was in the horse business. He also used the stud Red Dashing Cat as a cross on the Ruvio Copper mares. Later he leased Frog W. from C. G. and Milo Whitcomb of Sterling, Colorado for three years and raised some terrific colts that were sold throughout the Midwest.

The Christman Family sponsored Quarter Horse shows at their ranch starting in 1959. The Christman shows would be on Saturday. The Lemmon Jaycees sponsored a Quarter Horse Show on Sunday of the same weekend. This allowed Quarter Horse enthusiasts from both North and South Dakota to attend two shows within a close proximity. The Christman show was approved by the NDQHA.

Over the years the Christman Family would hold production sales. After several years they had a reduction sale featuring the colts and yearlings of the stud, Frog W. For several years after that they had a few mares that were bred to local studs.

Quarter Horses played an important part in the life of the entire family and they attended many horse shows, 4-H shows and fairs over the years. Their children Marilyn, Betty, Bob, Chuck and Donna were involved in horse shows for a number of years. Bob, Chuck and Donna were active in 4-H horse shows after the family started raising quarter horses. Chuck was involved in rodeos and is a rodeo judge today. John and Blenda retired to a home in Lemmon, SD. Their son Chuck took over the family farm and ranch operation which he still operates today.

In addition to Quarter Horses the Christman's raised registered Hereford cattle and small grains. John was most proud of being named Boss Cowman for the annual celebration in Lemmon in recognition of his community involvement and his long-time support of agriculture and youth in the area. John Christman died in 1993. Blenda Christman passed away in 2012.