

BLAST from the PAST

BY ALLISEN J. HARMER

This column is dedicated to exploring and giving tribute to our past, that we may understand, appreciate and grow in our passion for the Peruvian Paso Horse.

As we explore bloodlines, there is a somewhat natural order as we progress through Peruvian Paso families. Every effort will be made to present different regions and lines with prejudice towards none and interest towards all. We welcome your input!

*PILOTO

The cornerstone
of breeding greatness.
1957-1983

*Piloto was born in Ica Peru, March 1957 to the dam Centella owned by Gustavo de la Borda and sired by Sol de Oro Viejo. His owner, Javier Elias, was a pilot, so came his name, "Piloto". He was a maternal brother to the great *Laurel and *Destello, and paternal brother to Regional+, Caramelo+, El Cid+, *Estrellita del Sur+, *Otocá, *Sol de Oro CRR+ and more. As a yearling, he was given to Javier's brother, Alfredo Elias. Don Alfredo kept the horse until he was approximately eight years old when was purchased by Jose Antonio Onrubia, of Piura in Northern Peru.

Legend has it that trainers were quite unsuccessful in their attempts to train *Piloto until he was brought to the attention of chalan Eusebio Rodriguez Baca. Under Baca's care the previously "difficult" horse flourished.

When John and Angie DeLozier of Thunderbird Ranch in CA traveled to Peru in 1970 in search of the very best possible sire to found their breeding program in the U.S., they sought out Sol de Oro Viejo. When their interest to buy Sol de Oro was met with polite refusal, they were able to acquire his son, *Piloto. Many obstacles came about when arranging the import of this very important sire, but they were overcome and *Piloto came, along with his trainer, to the United States.

*Piloto left behind in Peru the very beginnings of his legacy to our breed, in the form of the great *Mantequilla, Maximiliano, Pirigalla, Don Alfonso, and Prestigio (the sire of *AV Sol de Paján) to name only a few. But when he came to the United States, he became a fountainhead of greatness for our breed in North America. The stallion sired hundreds of offspring from such a variety of mares! His offspring were



*Piloto in his prime.

Blast from the Past



Rare photos of *Piloto under saddle.

dominant for decades of competition, with many of the best siblings often dueling it out with each other for the top honors.

What a great source of unending debate to argue the relative importance of one of his get against another. In this partial list (below) lies beauty, gait, strength, show ring achievement and breeding prepotence of quality.

Through his get and grand-get, *Piloto has influenced our lives and breeding programs in a way we must be forever grateful. And thanks to those who made that possible such as Angie Schmidt, John DeLozier, Verne Albright, Javier Elias, Alfredo Elias, Jose Antonio Onrubia, Eusebio Rodriguez Baca, and Nicanor and Becky Juarez.

Later in his life, *Piloto came to the care and management of Alexander LTD where Nicanor and Becky Juarez became his greatest supporters and final home.



When he passed at a ripe old age, it was in his stall and though he was lying down, with the ultimate dignity his head and neck held erect; a befitting end to a life of true greatness. **TPC**



PARTIAL LIST OF *PILOTO'S OFFSPRING

*Mantequilla	La Fama	Marcial
Soberano++	*Perfidia	Anarquia MSR
Hierro	Tonadilla	Romancero TB
Andina	La Opera	Pepe El Capitan
Amatista	*JA Piloto II	El Brio
Iquenito TB	Don Alfonso	Relicario
Co Piloto TB	Don Juan	Jose Antonio TB
Hijo de Piloto	La Fantasia	Victoriosa MSR
Volar	La Primavera	Suspiro
El Palomilla	Jazmin del Norte	*Bello Campesino
Flor de Tejas	Aurora	Engriedo
Canica	Pitin	Don Pepe
Fina Estampa	Capricho CM	Maximiliano
Cleopatra III	Aviador	Prestigio