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Your Horse Your Life

WE'D LOVE TO OWN

CRASHED THE PARTY

Barn name: Crash.

Particulars: 2003 sorrel Quarter Horse stallion, sired by The Invitation and out of Cache For Baby, by Cactus Cache.

Owners: Rob Miller and Shelly Burris, Lynn, Indiana.

Trainers: Mitch and Jennifer Leckey, Richmond, Indiana.

More than play: Rob bought Crash just to “play with,” as he puts it. “We started with longe line, so I could have a horse to show while my wife showed. After winning a couple of futurities, I thought, ‘I’ll be darned!’” In 2007, Crash was the AQHA High Point Amateur and Open Western Pleasure Stallion.

Lucky ‘oops’: “We were told Crash was a gelding,” Rob recalls. “During his 2-year-old year, he dropped. It never interfered with his training, so we kept him intact. It really was luck—had it happened as a yearling, we’d have gelded him.” Crash currently stands at Roger and Robin Gollehon’s breeding facility in Versailles, Kentucky.

Pleasure to show: “People comment on how *happy* Crash appears,” Rob says. “He has a pleasant expression that says, ‘I’m just happy to be here!’ He loves having a job.” Rob attributes Crash’s success to his talent *and* his disposition—the combo makes him a great pleasure mount.

Love bein’ loved: “Crash loves coming out of his stall to be handled,” Rob says. “He doesn’t care what you do, as long as it’s with him.”

Good life: “Never in my wildest dreams did I intend on breeding horses,” Rob says. “One of the best things is making friends. People tell you how they love your horse and his babies, and that feels nice. I raised cattle for 30 years, but breeding horses is a lot more fun!”

...Erin Sullivan Haynes