

My name is Mindy Smith and I am the owner of Mindy Smith Rockies in Arroyo Grande California. I was introduced to the Rocky Mountain Breed after meeting Barney and Gloria Northcote 24 years ago. I would travel with them to the International Show every year and act as their trainer..... aka guinea pig..... and get on each horse they were interested in buying!! Bareback mostly..... as Gloria only rode bareback and wanted to know if they had a "bareback back." This made for some very exciting rides!! While at the show I would watch and learn from some of the greats, Ted Hall, HT Derickson, Keith Purdue and Gary Gwisdalla to name a few. I would follow them around and try to capture any information that they would give me!!

I've worked in the horse industry all my life but seeing the excitement and popularity for the Rocky Breed grow I set off 14 years ago to train, breed and raise Rocky Mountain horses exclusively. It was the best decision I ever made!! Now I own a 50-acre ranch, 40 Rockies and get to trail ride for a living!! I sell on average 30 horses a year all over the world. I work with children and young adults to try to motivate the younger generation to fall in love with horses like I did.

I am running for member at large in order to bring a new perspective to the board. The west coast (California) views. We don't do a lot of showing around here, but focus more on trail riding, camping and obstacle competitions. We compete in endurance rides and do have an occasional horse show, but I would like to help highlight the versatility of our breed. I also want to promote and preserve the health and wellness of this breed. To eliminate all genetic problems and health issues that have been hindering our growth. I promise to do my best to represent the breed standards and accentuate all of the amazing qualities this breed has to offer. Please consider me as your candidate for member at large. Thanks Mindy Smith