



Jackie Harris and Amy LeClaire at the rodeo in Denver.

## Making a Difference

**Jackie Harris** is a wife, a mother of two, an assistant to ex-Pittsburgh Steeler, Franco Harris, and a barrel racer, who is making a difference one rodeo at a time. Jackie lost her stepfather to cancer in 2010 and three months later she lost her father to a heart attack. She has made the decision to donate her 2012 barrel racing winnings to the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and several animal rescues.

"I have always admired those that would 'pay it forward' with their good fortunes, therefore, when my horse and I started collecting paychecks most weekends this summer, I wanted to pay it forward as well," says Jackie.

This will be Jackie's rookie year with the IPRA (International

Professional Rodeo Association), a dream come true after 30 years of waiting to get that one horse that was consistent and good enough to get her card.

On a more personal approach, Jackie has decided to take a child fighting, or who has won the battle with, cancer or heart disease, along with his/her family, to the rodeos where she competes. In January, Jackie took cancer-survivor, Amy LeClaire, to a rodeo in Denver.

For more information on Jackie and her mission, visit her facebook page Dreaming of I three.

*The Cowtown/Work to Ride polo team, based out of Philadelphia, PA, took home the USPA Open National Interscholastic Championship in Charlottesville, VA, for the second year in a row. The competition featured five of the best high school polo programs from across the map and some of the most talented young polo players.*



## Beethoven's Story

By Laurie Klassen

Beethoven, a Mangalarga Marchador, arrived at my farm 20 months ago, starved and extremely aggressive. He had endured some hardship since he left Summerwind. I knew there were problems when I bought him, but as I purchased him sight unseen the magnitude of what I faced left me floundering. He was a 2.5 on the Henneke body condition scale and a horse fighting for his life.

My endurance plans went up in smoke, I dug deep and settled in for the long road of rehabilitation. Fast-forward one year – it's May 2011. I'm ready to rock and roll and show the world what a Marchador is. At each event Beethoven gained confidence, each new experience pushed me to try the next one. My goal was to find out what Beethoven loved and along the way we had amazing experiences and won a few awards.

Our season culminated with Beethoven winning reserve grand champion in Versatility at Western Canada's largest all breed gaited show.

I am still struggling with some of the remaining starvation issues. Who knew there were such long lasting effects? But I have hope that with time and consistency his mind and body will heal.

If anyone wants more information about the Marchador, they can contact me at [www.summerwindmarchadors.com](http://www.summerwindmarchadors.com).