

RIDERS CHOICE Award Winner: **CH SHAMM BASHIRE - AKA BAD ANDY**

"FOR SALE"

ENDURANCE PROSPECT

15 HAND BAY EGYPTIAN ARAB GELDING DOB 3-29-98

TRAIL BROKE - NO SHOES NECESSARY

INDEPENDENT - ASSERTIVE - TRAILERS WELL - CAUTION - WILL BITE!

2004 New horse needed. I have rules about "how to buy a horse".

Rule# 1 Interpret the ad. If the ad says "Endurance prospect" RUN - means no one else can ride it.

"Trail broke" means was ridden outside the barn once or twice.

"No shoes necessary" means my farrier won't go near him.

"Independent" means guaranteed uncatchable.

"Assertive" means he is a BOSS HOSS.

"Trailers well" means only if you have rubber padding 6 feet high inside trailer.

Rule # 2 Never take the trailer along when you go to LOOK at the horse..

So - when my gray mare was having hoof issues I needed a backup horse to ride. Someone had a 7 yr old, trail broke gelding that needed a new home. SUNDAY afternoon I hooked up the trailer and went to SEE "Andrew." Small, scrawny, bay and handsome. Oh, oh!

Rule # 3 Always ask the seller to ride the horse.

That went OK. Had to ask the seller to remove the tie down, martingale, etc and give me operating instructions. Rode Andrew for 15 minutes.

Rule # 4 Have a set price in mind.

Made an offer. It was accepted!

Rule # 5 If I can load it - I will buy it.

Andrew walked into the trailer and I took him to his new home.

WEDNESDAY - Andrew had two days to acclimate to his new home. Time now to fit him with his own saddle & tack.

I rode him for 15 minutes.

FRIDAY – Loaded horses in the trailer and hauled to the Northern Highland ride competition. Mare was lame and didn't vet through. Bright idea – ride the new gelding. Andy placed 4th. OK! Hauled 100 miles south to get shoes put on him because he now had a job.

Next step was lots of trail riding to condition the scrawny bay gelding, that did NOT look like a distance horse. Just one small problem. Every time I mounted, his back went up and his head went down. Does the term "cold backed" come to mind? My solution? He just needs more miles.

Off we go to an organized trail ride. Trail riders do not rise and ride before noon, so Andy and I went out by ourselves. We rode Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening, and planned a short ride for Sunday morning.

Well, Andy protested. He bucked! HARD! The ground was also hard. He left me lying in the gravel and ran off to eat breakfast with the trail horses while their riders slept. I found and caught him, remounted and proceeded to do a loooong ride. The black and blue rider had to take two months off. My new solution to the problem? Have someone lead him 20 feet until his back relaxed, then ride with a tight rein at the back of pack so he could be stopped. He had earned his "Bad Andy" name!

2005 New season. New tack. New attitude.

Our 1st ride of the season was at North Kettle Moraine. We rode Comp with friend Linda J. Andy was way too fast, so I let him run ahead to "burn off steam". Black hole in trail! Andy stops! I do not - Over his head I went, but I held fast to his reins, knowing full well he would leave me there in the dirt.

My finger snapped and I lost the reins. Andy galloped back toward camp for "help". I walked. Met Linda J and new friend Jennifer P leading him. They helped me remount as my finger was obviously broken. I straightened the finger and finished the ride with the help of Vet Wrap. I went to see the Dr. that Monday. Andy was fine. This was the start of our serious competitive riding.

2006 New problem.

I started noticing his left eye was cloudy. Veterinarian's diagnosis.....his allergies had attacked his eye. He received a surgical implant of medication in his eye, as well as medication applied in his eye twice a day. Did I mention that he was allergic to everything topical? Wool saddle pad, neoprene, topical aids such as Green Cool, shampoo, etc. all caused a reaction. I managed to deal with that. All was well UNTIL! I brought him in from pasture for the night. He was standing at gate on three legs with a LARGE three corner tear exposing the tendons on his left hind leg. Obviously the gray mare had taken revenge! Andy spent TWO YEARS OFF to heal and developed a huge scar.

2009 – 2012 Back on trail! New plan. New goal.

Andy becomes King! Just do it his way and all is well. We are on a winning competitive career. We have three thousand plus miles under saddle, are consistently in the Top 10 in UMECRA, and claimed two Championship jackets. He was the Champion Heavyweight Competitive Horse in GLDRA, Top eight in DRAW, and earned championships in AHR & AHDRA. That's my boy!

In 2009 we decided to take on the challenge of Shore to Shore. That year we only rode three days. In 2010, 2011 and 2012, we completed all seven days, and in 2012, riding with good friend Leslie, we won the Shore to Shore Competitive ride. What an adventure!! Life is good!

2013 New goals.

Rider is lame! Unable to ride long distances, Andy got a new job leading Novice riders down the trail. Novices Beware! Do not dare to pass! Ears back and cobra neck extended, Bad Andy set the pace, found the trail and showed them how competitive riding was done. We made many new friends and had fun doing it. We also spent a relaxing week of trail riding in the Black Hills of South Dakota. We rode through a "hole in the rock" and managed our way down a "Man from Snowy River" trail. Over mountains, rocks, logs and water, Andy carried me without a mishap. Through cattle and past deer, always taking care of his rider, Andy was happy to be doing his job. There was no more "cold back". While still able to buck and bite, Andy and I are looking forward to another seven years!

2014

Seriously back to competition. The goal this year being to sponsor a Jr rider and ride 1000 miles, and, have fun doing it! My Jr rider completed 1030 miles. Due to this riders decisions Andy completed 795, a bit short of 1000.

Enough to place 3rd in UMECRA top 10 mileage, second in UMECRA LD division, third in GLDRA, second in DRAW, first in AHDRA, first in AERC regional and third in AERC National. Lifetime miles are now 4001 and we are looking forward to many more.

2015

I promised Andy a "vacation" this year. Our major goal was to again ride the Black Hills of South Dakota. We did the trip with good friends and great adventures! Also rode UMECRA competitive, this time as a light weight rider. Andy teamed up with his mare friend, Missy and we had a fun and wonderful ride. We did manage to place in top 10 UMECRA, top eight in DRAW, 3rd in GLDRA and reserve champion purebred in AHDRA. We completed 500 miles this year with only fun in mind and are working toward 5000 lifetime miles.

Our goal for 2016 is a vacation riding in Kentucky and MORE FUN!

My favorite ride and this RIDERS CHOICE is BAD ANDY!

Max p.s. NOT for sale!