

June 2018

This month finds us preparing for the June 16th BMC show at the Monson Fruit Feedlot in Selah. The June show is special for BMC because we hold our annual **Jim Cox Memorial Buckle Class** for cutters who have never won a buckle. Sponsored by Gail Cox, it is with this class that we remember long time member, cutter & NCHA director, Jim Cox. Jim was a friend to all cutters but had a particular fondness for the beginning cutter. This is our 3rd year of honoring his memory with the awarding of this buckle. We don't do this as a solemn occasion, although many of us feel the tug of a tear, but rather as a raucous event just the way he would like it. Calcutta bidding can be fierce and the class is filled with hoots & hollers during each run. Some of the participants have been cutting for a bit and for some it's their first foray into the show pen. The first year's winner was Evan McGuire. Although he's the son of trainer, Jerry McGuire, Evan proclaimed his *retirement* from cutting as a teenager a couple of decades ago until his reappearance in this class 2 years ago. Last year's winner was local veterinarian, Michelle Beaunau. New to the sport then, she is a fierce competitor with a no nonsense persona who melted into tears upon acceptance of her buckle. So you see, this is a cherished event for BMC and makes the June show special. The accompanying calcutta is a great fundraiser for BMC which helps ways to give back to the members. Jim felt that our job is not to raise money for selective bigger events or to grow bureaucracy of the organization but rather to give back to the members so we make the June show all about *giving back*.

So, if you qualify to ride for the buckle please get a hold of show secretary, Kim Young. Contact info can be found on the home page of our web site <http://bluemountaincutters.com>. Spectators, bring your lawn chairs and hang out on the flatbed and bid with *enthusiasm* during the calcutta bidding. Pick a winner and you could go home with a pocketful of money. And if you feel the flutter of a breeze during this event, and you believe in this kind of thing, it just could be Jim letting us all know he's watching & he approves.

See you all on June 16th.