

# First Moon Medley



## The New Kid in Town

By Maegan McPherson

When you lose anything in life, it's very hard to overcome, whether it be a family member, a friend, or a companion. When you lose a horse that you consider to be great, you find people saying, "There's another one born every day" and "There will always be a better one." Sonya Walz explains that those were a few things she heard after losing their stallion, Sweep The Leg Johnny. "As much as I miss him and as much as I hate that we lost him, I do believe that we have found something exciting and wonderful with the potential to be one of the great ones!" exclaimed Sonya.

Walz Performance Horses are extremely excited to introduce the new kid in town, First Moon Medley, to the barrel and performance horse industry. His sire, First Moon flash won 10 graded stakes races in a row, set four world records, and earned a speed index of 122. In his short career as a sire, he has already sired the winner of the All American Futurity and the winner of the All American

Derby, along with the Reserve Champion in the All-American Futurity. His offspring have also stepped off the racetrack and have shown that they have the ability to be phenomenal in the barrel racing world. His dam, A Medley Of Chicks, has produced multiple graded stakes performers and is the full sister to equally outstanding performers and producers as well.

The Walz Family believes that First Moon Medley will be a game changer for them after all they went through losing Sweep The Leg Johnny. "Once again we are starting from ground zero, but we are very confident that we have chosen a stallion whose confirmation, disposition, and genetics are going to produce winners," explains Sonya. "After losing Sweep The Leg Johnny, there was definitely a grieving period, but I knew that we wanted to continue to offer multiple options to the barrel and performance horse industry."

"We all know that there are the definite extremely proven bloodlines, and I'm a firm believer in sticking to what works. But, I also know that there

is an ever-changing and dynamic aspect to the performance world that requires you to step outside your comfort zone once in a while. Sometimes the new and exciting option is the way to go!"

There are extremely fast horses, extremely good minded horses, and conformationally correct horses, and once in a while you find one that possesses all those characteristics. "The explosive speed and athletic ability that First Moon Medley possesses is phenomenal and thrilling! He has handled everything that he has experienced so far with a calm

demeanor. He is coming from a family that has proven time and time again to produce winners, and every day when I deal with him, I am increasingly excited and confident about his future."

"Today's horses have to be so much more than they used to be. The genetics are getting stronger, the turning ability is quicker, and the speed that they now possess is mind boggling, and in order to be able to compete as an elite equine athlete and maintain that elite level, not only do they have to possess the characteristics that I previously stated, they must

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also have the mental ability to do so.”

First Moon Medley has all of the characteristics and all of the potential to not only become a great performance horse himself, but to produce future winners. He was crossed on some outstanding broodmares for 2018 foals, and he will be placed into training and prepped for a barrel and roping career. “He is riding nicely now, loves to interact, and is very trainable. We think he deserves the chance not only to be a performance sire, but to actually perform himself.”

Before purchasing First Moon Medley, there was a lot of comparison and debating between what the options were that Jim and Sonya should pursue. It was not a decision that they rushed into. “We decided that it was a First Moonflash that we wanted to look for after a thorough evaluation of what the First Moonflash’s were doing.

We spoke with owners, trainers, and agents about the First Moonflash offspring’s abilities, attitudes, performance records, trainability, etc. The next step was to find, THE ONE.”

Jim and Sonya had the assistance of an amazing agent name Vanessa Alexander who presented them with several options. “Ms. Alexander’s racing background and her knowledge of extended pedigrees was a definite asset. There were several very good options, but we had decided that we were not going to simply except “good” and those good options were politely declined due to such things as attitude, confirmation, or a maternal line that was geared only towards racing.”

When they were presented with First Moon Medley, Jim went to see him in New Mexico where he was just beginning his training as a racing prospect. “We were given the option to pursue a racing career with him, but to be honest that is something

that we felt we just weren’t ready to commit to. It seemed exciting and glamorous and someday we would absolutely love the opportunity to “run for our dreams”, but we decided it was not only in his best interest, but our best interest to bring him home and promote him in the arena, because that is what we know how to do. Our agent still says we were crazy to not pursue a racing career with him, and I’m sure she is correct! But anyone who knows me, knows that I am a little crazy,” says Sonya.

Walz Performance Horses has big plans to promote him and help ensure that their clients have offspring that are marketable, and able to compete at the breeder’s futurities, allowing them to have the opportunity to win more money. “We know that having a great stallion isn’t the only thing that a good performance/barrel breeder has to have. We will ensure that he maintains a good public awareness, and that he stays paid into many incentive

programs.”

He is now a Future Fortunes Stallion and they will keep him paid in full to that program. He will also be paid into 5 states, Cornhusker, Colorado Classic, Valley Girl, BBR Select Stallion Stakes, and the WPRA PESI program.

“We are not the only ones to be extremely excited about him, as his book for 2018 is already half full! Because his genetics are proven in the racing and barrel word, he’s going to be a great outcross option for a large variety of mares!” So, if you are looking for a game changer in your barn, make sure and check out First Moon Medley, because some new bloodlines could be just what you need to get your next winner. Check out [www.walzperformancehorses.com](http://www.walzperformancehorses.com) for more info as well as their Facebook page. You can also contact Sonya Walz at 402-760-1624 or at [sonya@walzperformancehorses.com](mailto:sonya@walzperformancehorses.com).



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