

# Peggy A. Cummings

## RESUME

### PAYNTER'S PAINT RANCH

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### I believe in:

- Encouraging and challenging everyone to be team players and to become effective at moving APHA into the future of our organization while taking care of the present member's needs.
- Providing opportunities for all to experience the joy of loving and owning an APHA horse.
- Emphasizing customer service and positive APHA images and information.
- Promoting and ensuring accurate information goes out to all members.
- Participating in the life of The American Paint Horse Association and adding whatever knowledge and skills I have to offer for the current organization.

### Skills

- I am highly organized and independently able to effectively coordinate projects within timelines using critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills.

### HORSE EXPERIENCE

As a passionate horse person, I have had a paint horse since I was 12 years old. My birthday card read, "Your mother and I agree to buy you one paint horse." This started my journey into the paint horse world with "Stardusty", a sorrel Overo gelding. Star was taught many tricks: bowing, kneeling and jumping in tandem with my friends and their horses over a set of homemade fences. Star even ran away while attached to a sled with my little sister on it. Boy was I in trouble and still have the scars to prove it. Thankfully my little sister is fine. Star became very learned as I sat in the manger and read horse books to him...My Friend Flicka and The Black Stallion were our favorites. I joined 4-H and entered every event possible, from barrel racing to goat tying, with various successes at our county fair. Later, I was Logan County Fair Queen. Star and I proudly led the annual parade down the main street of our town. We also travelled to Cheyenne, Wyoming, to represent Sterling, Colorado, and Logan County in the Cheyenne Frontier Days Parade. This was heady stuff for a girl from a small town on the High Plains of Colorado. Wow! To be part of "The Daddy of Them All"!! I can still remember the smell of horses mixed with the fun of drizzling maple syrup over the flapjacks the volunteers made for us after the parade.

I have owned and operated Paynter's Paint Ranch (PPR) for the last 30+ years. Our ranch started as an offshoot of Paynter Farms. (My maiden name is Peggy Paynter.) Star and I were the horse division and we were in charge of checking the fences and bringing in the cows when needed. Unfortunately, Star came to a terrible end and I lost him to a lightning strike when I was a junior in college. It was the only year after I was 12 that I was without a horse.

After marriage, my husband, Wendell Cummings, and I went into the paint horse business. Our first venture together was my wedding present, a Medicine Hat Tovero, Pick A Winner or "Winners". We tried him first on the race track, as I had been injured in a bad car accident and couldn't walk, let alone ride. We decided to let someone else do the riding and training. After gaining a speed index of 88 in his first official APHA race, Winners washed out on the track and he came home sick. We looked for what event he might be talented in and discovered he loved to chase cows. Thus, our journey in Working Cow Horse events began. As I healed and could ride again, Winners went on to a full career of 33 years and earned among many other awards: three APHA Amateur Reserve World Championships as well as APHA Working Cow Horse Class Champion at the National Western Stock Show in Denver at the age of 22. "The Old Guy" still had it and was retired to be the pasture ornament and broodmare and foal supervisor on PPR. At 33 Winners decided it was his time to leave me and he is buried next to his old horse friends on our PPR property where the sky is blue, my tears flow freely and the wind blows softly over his memorial.

Currently, PPR is standing two stallions, Diablos Painted Doc and Valentine's Hickory. Diablos Painted Doc, Docs Chantella x JR Red Diablo, is a two time APHA World Show Champion: once in Reining and once in Limited Amateur Cow Horse. Doc has earned many Reserve Championships and various other awards in APHA and NRCHA. Valentines Hickory, Hickory Holly Time x SmartLittleValentine mare, is becoming a star in the show pen. So far, Hickory has won the APHA World Show Jr. Working Cow Horse title in 2021 and was Reserve in the Chrome Cash at the same show. He is also actively earning money in NRCHA classes and has been a finalist in the last three premier NRCHA events. Hickory's career has soared.

Another of our APHA home raised horses, Sweethearts Legacy, or "Prince"; Cat's Moonshine x A Doc's Sweetheart, has earned his NRCHA Supreme Championship and was the # 1 in Youth Limited Reined Cow Horse in the Nation for 2021. Prince continues to show for a youth in the Down the Fence Classes. Not to be outdone, Cats Little Sweetheart, "Lil Cat", SmartLittleValentine X Cats Moonshine, has earned her Superior Cow Horse Award and was a Regional Two-Rein Champion before retiring to be our colorful broodmare. She is bred to Gonnatrashya for a 2023 foal. PPR has taken Paint cow horses to a new level of admiration and respect across the country. All our stallions and show horses have their own Face Book Pages!

At the ranch, the tradition continues. I have four select APHA broodmares of the Color Me Smart, JR Red Diablo lines. Planning breedings, breeding and raising foals, having horses trained and shown, as well as showing myself are all part of my horse related experiences. Due to all of the above involvement in the paint horse world and my love and passion for paint horses, I am applying to join the APHA Board of Directors.

## **BUSINESS EXPERIENCE**

In 1986, I started my own library company. I called it Literary Research Company (LRC) and focused on my strengths in Librarianship and literacy. I assisted authors in editing and marketing their books. Using my library skills, I became The Castle Pines Golf Club Librarian. I was one of three golf specific librarians in the U.S. The job had become open, as the previous person left, saying, "These books are all about golf and I can't do anything with them to catalog them. I quit!" I decided I would find a way to deal with the golf books in a way that made sense to

The Club Members. I created a golf model of the Dewey Decimal System that grouped "like" books. This system made the collection assessable to the members. Another portion of my job involved writing a quarterly portion of the *The Castle Pines Newsletter*. The "In The Library Corner" section kept members up to date about their "Golf Libraryland". Reviews of various golf books, golf quips and some photos were included in every issue.

For the "International Golf Tournaments at Castle Pines, I had Clubhouse Access at the matches and was able to answer any research questions for the Club members or the TV station, particularly during the rain delays. Meeting some of sport's greatest personalities was a thrill. Jack Nicklaus, John Elway, Phil Mickelson, Patrick Roy, Greg Norman, Davis Love III, Jose Maria Olazabal and Zeezo, the Golf Clown were just a few of the famous people I encountered.

Working on marketing for the library at The Club, was so special that I had to capitalize The Club each time I used the term! I assisted Richard E. Donovan when he was writing his reference book, The Game of Golf and the Written Word. The Castle Pines Golf Club Library is one of the premier collections of golf books in the world, outside of St. Andrews, Scotland, and the USGA in Far Hills, N.J. Our collection formed the foundation of this historical golf bibliography. The Club, the library collection and I received acknowledgements in the forward! My name was in print and this work has been entered for eternity in The Library of Congress' Collection

Due to that experience, next up for me was helping with a one of a kind book published by The Castle Pines Golf Club. I was assigned several chapters to write for the publication of The Silver Anniversary of Castle Pines Golf Club: 1980-2005. My job was to research and write about the history of the land that The Castle Pines Golf Club Course's original owners had homesteaded. This research sparked my interest in local history. "Footprints In The Pines" and a short filler about the hummingbird, The Club's logo, were my contributions. The book was privately printed by Mr. Jack Vickers and The Castle Pines Golf Club. It was used as a marketing and promotional tool that was sold and handed out to all of the members and traded to other golf clubs, in exchange for their club's histories.

Never did I leave my love of horses as I was working as a school librarian and running my part of PPR. I saw an ad in *Western Horseman* and answered it. Low and behold, my horse, Pick a Winner, and I were chosen to star in a picture and word book called, Horses And Their Women. I was awarded one page of writing and one picture; it took three long years of hard work before publication. Sadly, it is now out of print.

I joined The Castle Rock Writer's Club, after meeting the president, Alice Aldridge-Dennis. She came up to introduce herself after my program "Raising Your Roots" speaking engagement at the Castle Pines Public Library. Yes, I did many local history speaking engagements after The Silver Anniversary book came out. This meeting with Alice resulted in my writing various local history articles for news flyers and magazines. I subsequently became an author and one of the production designers on a book called Images of America: Douglas County. Now, our book is available on Amazon and I am officially what I consider to be "published".

My company has turned from Literary Research Company to LRC to LRC Silver, Leather and Tack, a small business that started with horse books and research and now is a one-of-a-kind horse boutique. If you know me, I can be your personal horse supply shopper for horse tack, equipment, supplements and I can even sell you a horse! I don't advertise this business to my paint horse friends, as I feel that friendship should be separate from business and I want to know people because of my horses and not because I want to sell them something.

Oh, and through all of this, my horses always had two square meals a day, fresh water, salt, maid service, turn out times, lots of love and peppermint treats at turndown time. My heart, my passion, APHA horses!

## Professional Library Experience

### **Douglas County High School, Castle Rock, CO (2004 to 2015) Retired July, 2015**

#### **Teacher Librarian**

- Certified librarian supervising a staff of 2.5 library personnel and three parent volunteers
- Helping 300/800 students per day with reading, ready reference questions and support needs
- Oversee the culture and the climate of the library
- Supervise overall library & AV budgeting
- **DCSD Strategic Plan Support**
  - Collaborate with teachers on backward planned instructional units
  - Design and present information literacy lessons, stressing ethical use of information
  - Incorporate 21st Century Skills, the 4Cs, Assessments and student learning outcomes
- **Database / Circulation Management**
  - Certified in using the Library of Congress Website as a Genealogical Resource and as a Primary source researchable database
  - Incorporate shared databases with the Douglas County Public Library system
  - In charge of creating the user-friendly textbook library from scratch (3 years of work and over six thousand barcodes created to date!)
  - Manage and maintain updates to the circulation systems for the library as well as for the textbook collection.

#### **Student and Adult Supervision**

- Certified in using the Library of Congress Website as a Genealogical Resource and as a history primary source researchable data base
- Fall 2014: University of Denver Library student mentored for a semester
- School Year 2012-2013 and 2014-2015: Four students in the IB/MYP Personal Project Class
- 2014-2015: Four IB (Extended Essay) History student

#### **Reading supports**

- Yearly: Support and encourage reading through the Colorado Blue Spruce Book Award campaigns
- Created and Sponsored the DCHS Book Club - A multi-year, multi-age group of students from a variety of background

#### **Create Connections**

- Manage the museum and archival preservation of DCHS history, in conjunction with the "Museum Parents"
- Host outside speakers and sponsor community programs
- Presented information and lecture/demonstrations for Project Based Learning National Convention

- Written and received various grants (National Endowment for the Humanities, Target Reading Grant, etc.)
- Presented at DCSD Geek Camp
- Attended DATLL sessions
- Taught district technology courses to adults
- **School Leadership**
  - Have been in charge of faculty and student escort robes for graduation for the past 8 years
  - Have been on Site Council (President 2 years) and School Advisory Council

### **Goddard Middle School, Littleton, CO (2001-2004)**

#### **Teacher Librarian**

- Managed overall library program.
- Supervised 1 aide, plus student library assistants
- Operated Dynasty Library
  - Budgeted for Library by selecting, ordering, receiving and then cataloging of books and materials
  - Created library/technology Instructional Units in collaboration with teachers for students in the library and the Mac lab
  - Coordinated Special author visits by collaborating with Bemis Public Library Teen Librarians

### **Powell Middle School (2001-1985)**

#### **Language Arts / Social Studies / Speech / Drama Teacher**

- Directed "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" and "I Remember Mama"
- Social Studies Class was awarded the "Best Environmental Video" by the United Nations

### **Euclid Middle School / Advanced Computer School**

#### **Teacher**

**Publishing Institute**, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

**Master of Arts in Library Science**, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

- Graduated with Honors
- Beta Phi Mu (Honors)

**National Board for Professional Teachers Certification (NBPT)**

- Mentor NBPT and International Baccalaureate Librarians across the country
- Speaker for Librarians and Education for the U.S. State Department at seminars in Beijing, China and St. Petersburg, Russia through People to People

**BA Education and Theatre (Minors in History and German)**, Colorado Women's College, Denver, Colorado

- Studied abroad in Vienna, Austria
- President of Saddles and Hooves Horse Club
- Senior Class Secretary
- Various Theatre Arts and Speech programs presented

## RECOGNITIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Secured DCHS as host for two National Traveling Exhibits: "Looking at Lincoln" and "George Washington and Medicine"
- Invited to Governor's Mansion for champagne reception designating DCHS as a Lincoln Legacy School
- Recognized by Dana Abbey, representative from the National Institutes of Health and National Library of Medicine, in article in the "Plains and Peaks Newsletter"
- Collaborated with Castle Rock and Douglas County Public Library Archives Divisions to host "Remembering Our Veterans" programs for WWII and Korean War veterans.
- Hosted author visits, poetry artists for poetry slams, business and marketing experts for class presentations
- Head moderator for DCHS Site Council for past two years
- Member Department Chair Committee
- Collaborator with District Center for Professional Development on technology courses
- APHA Chairman International Advisory Committee, also have been Vice-Chairman
- APHA member of Breed Integrity Advisory Committee
- APHA member of Disciple Advisory Committee
- APHA State Director

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Library Association
- Colorado Association of Libraries ... presented a session on cooperation between school librarians and public library teen librarians and poster sessions on Technology
- American Associate of school librarians (Attendee - 2 conventions, speaker at 1)
- Special Librarians Association (Attended 1 convention)
- American Paint Horse Association
- National Reined Cow Horse Association
- National Reining Horse Association
- American Quarter Horse Association

## REFERENCES

- Mr. Todd Zody, Assistant Principal, Douglas County High School 303-387-1005
- Mr. Adam Spiers, Douglas County Public Library Archivist/Historian 303-688-7722
- Ms. Liz Walhof, Former Director of Educational Information Douglas County School District, Now Directory of Instruction and Information Technology, Lewis-Palmer Dist . #38 719-488-4700

I can supply more current references upon request