



by Larry Thornton

Above: Smart Lil Scoot

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Sonscoot is the kind of mare that seems to come out of nowhere. She is the dam of several outstanding performers and she has done it quietly through the years without a lot of fanfare. Her foals include the major winners Sweet Lil Lena and Smart Lil Scoot. Her sons and daughters have won over \$412,073.93 in the arena making her one of the great producing mares of all time.

But in 2007, Sonscoot made a statement at the 2007 NCI Building Systems NCHA Futurity about the future of her line. She counts among her descendants the open futurity champion High Brow CD (great grandson) and the amateur finals champion Dual Ya Scoot (grandson). Some other open finalists tracing to this mare include Some Kinda Sweetie (great granddaughter), Moms Stylish Scoot (granddaughter), Hesa Smart Taz (great grandson) and Playware (grandson). Lil Super Sweet (great granddaughter) was a finalist in the Senior Non-Pro, Limited Non-Pro and the Non-Pro. Dual Ya Scoot was a dual finalist by winning the amateur and placing third in the Non-Pro. Smarty Lil Shorty (grandson) was also an amateur finalist and Smartware was a Limited Non-Pro Futurity finalist. All of these 2007 finalists are produced by a son, grandsons or granddaughters of

Sonscoot. The descendants of this great mare have made her a mare with more and the future looks very bright for her future as a blue hen mare.

Sonscoot was a 1978 bay mare. Her breeder was Wesley C. Eade of Yuma, Arizona. She was sired by Son O Sugar and out of Miss Tiny by Poco Tivio. Her second dam was Tiny Star by King P-234.

Our story of Sonscoot will begin with her last owner the S & S Farms of Arkansas and Texas. S & S Farms is owned by Howard and Hal Sutton. Hal an accomplished PGA golfer counts among his victories the 1983 PGA Championship. He was the 1983 PGA Player of the Year. Sonscoot was a successful producer by the time she reached her home in Hope having produced horses like Sweet Lil Lena.

Howard Sutton explained how it all came about this way, "When Hal decided to get some cutting horses, he went out and bought some. That is how we started our program here. So basically we built this program with Real Doc and some mares. But we finally figured it out that we needed to upgrade our mares and this was our reason for buying this mare."

Howard added, "This was back in about 1991 or 1992, the Nine Bar Ranch owned the mare. We were

friends with their trainer. The Nine Bar had horses in training in the United States but they have a very very large ranch in Australia. They decided to move all of their horses to Australia and I was able to buy her.”

“She was 11 or 12 years old so because of her age they decided not to ship her to Australia. When they decided to leave her we bought her,” stated Howard about why the mare wasn’t sent to Australia.

One of the reasons Sonscoot has been under the radar all these years has been her lack of a show record. She wasn’t given the opportunity to be a show horse and that kept her home on the farm and not in the limelight. Howard found the following out about why Sonscoot wasn’t shown; “She got hurt when she was with Bill Freeman when she was two and a half or three-years-old. It was something like a bone chip. They operated and it was too late to go on. So they bred her.”

So Sonscoot left the cutting pen to go to the breeding pen and as you will see she went through a series of owners. My AQHA Stud Book shows that one of the owners of Sonscoot was Ernest and Carolyn Oswald of Galt, California. They do not appear as owners on the AQHA Internet records for Sonscoot. Stuart Gildred was the breeder of her first foal the 1983 gelding Sons Cimarron. This horse was a NCHA money winner with cutting earnings over \$1,000. His sire was Doc’s Star Barred by Doc Bar.

Sweet Lil Lena is the name of the second foal out of Sonscoot. She was foaled in 1984 and is the first of five foals listed as bred by Diamond M Cutting Horses of Houston, Texas. Sweet Lil Lena earned \$124,268 while placing in the finals of the NCHA Futurity and as the \$10,000 Non-Pro Futurity Reserve Champion. She was the 1988 Tropicana 4-Year-Old Champion and the Bonanza 4-Year-Old Non-Pro Champion.

Sweet Lil Lena is the foundation of a very powerful branch of the Sonscoot family. The first foal out of Sweet Lil Lena was Smart N Sweet, a 1990 mare by Smart Little Lena. This mare has no show record. Smart N Sweet is the producer of several performers including

Sweet Pepper Spice, an aged event winner of over \$18,249.

Sweet Lil Plaything was the next foal out of Sweet Lil Lena. This mare is unshown in AQHA and NCHA events. She is the dam of three aged event competitors including Aritolee, winner of the Bluebonnett CHA 4-year-old Non-Pro Futurity.

Sweet Lil Plaything is a half sister to Garth, both foaled in 1991. Sweet Lil Plaything was sired by Freckles Playboy. Garth was sired by Doc’s Oak. Garth is the winner of \$46,713 by winning such titles as the 1994 PCCHA Open Futurity Gelding Stakes Champion.

Poison Oak Smarts was a 1992 bay gelding out of Sweet Lil Lena. He has earned \$45,148 in the NCHA as the winner of such titles as the Louisiana CHA Year End Open Champion. He has six AQHA points in the open and amateur division as a qualifier for the AQHA Select World Show Cutting.

Shady Lil Cat was the next performer out of Sweet Lil Lena. This 1994 mare is the winner of \$47,236 in the NCHA. She was the 2000 Augusta Futurity 5/6-Year-Old Open Co-Reserve Champion. She is the dam of Shady Lil Aristocat, winner of over \$9,000. One of her other performers is Shady Lil Starlight, an NRCHA Open Futurity Hackmore Reserve Champion. One Smartcat is a full brother to Shady Lil Cat. One Smartcat has earned \$18,345 and he has three AQHA performance points.

Sweet Lil Lena is the dam of Pepto Taz, winner of \$132,449. This 1997 stallion by Peptoboonsmal is a 2001 NCHA Super Stakes Finalist; 2003 Augusta Futurity 5/6-Year-Old Open Reserve Champion and the 2001 Suncoast Fall Futurity 4-Year-Old Champion. His foals include Laney O Taz, winner of the 2007 Brazos Bash Open Futurity; Jazzy Lil Taz, a finalist in the 2006 NCHA Limited Non-Pro Futurity; Imadazzlintaz, a PCCHA Open Futurity Finalist and PT Olena, winner of the PCCHA 3-Year-Old Non-Pro Gelding Stakes. His 2007 NCI Building Systems NCHA Futurity Finalist was Hesa Smart Taz, an open finalist.

Sweet Little CD was foaled in 1997, the same year



*Left:
Smartys Shadow
Right:
Travs Scooter*



Top: Dual Ya Scoot

Bottom: Moms Stylish Scoot

Pepto Taz came along. Her sire was CD Olena. She was the winner of \$106,085. She was the 2003 NCHA Open Finals Champion. Sweet Lil CD is the dam of several performers including the NCI Building Systems NCHA Open Futurity Champion High Brow CD. High Brow CD has followed up his NCHA Futurity Championship with the Augusta Futurity Open Championship in the 4-Year-Old Futurity.

Lena Boon is next on our list. This 1998 sorrel mare was sired by Peptoboonsmal. This mare has won \$29,941. She won the 2003 Augusta Futurity 5/6-Year-Old \$50,000 Amateur.

Sweet Lil Pepto is the next Peptoboonsmal foal out of Sweet Lil Lena. This red roan stallion has earned \$218,655 in the cutting pen. He won such titles as the 2003 Breeders Invitational Open Derby. He is now siring some good cutters with his foals entering the arena in 2007. This list of young cutters by this up and coming sire includes Some Kinda Sweety, a sixth place finisher in the 2007 NCI Building Systems NCHA Open Futurity. Some Kinda Sweety won \$98,937 in the

Futurity. He also sired Lil Super Sweet, a finalist in the Senior Non-Pro, the Non-Pro and the Limited Non-Pro. She earned \$40,903 in the 2007 Futurity. Sails Little Solano was an NCHA money earner of \$10,000 at the Futurity. Sails Little Solano went on to Abilene to make the finals of the Abilene Spectacular Open Derby.

Sweet Lil Wisp is a 2000 son of Sweet Lil Lena. He has no NCHA or AQHA Show record. Sweet Lil Boo is the next cutter on our list and out of this great mare. Sweet Lil Boo is the winner of \$61,759. Sweeter Than Pepto is next on the list. This horse has earned \$8,449.

The future looks bright for Sweet Lil Lena as she has several foals in the wings waiting for their turn to be in the show pen. They include colts by Peptoboonsmal, Dual Rey, Playgun and High Brow Cat. To date her foals have earned \$655,897.03. This grand mare is on her way to the \$1,000,000 club.

Sonscoot foaled the mare Easters Little Lena in 1985. She was sired by Smart Little Lena and earned \$39,748 in the cutting pen. She is the dam of several money earners like Easters Little Star, winner of \$33,367 and Easters Dual Pep, winner of \$23,292.

The next two foals out of Sonscoot came when she was mated with the great Doc Tari. Son Of Tari was born in 1986 and Sweetie Tari was born in 1988. Neither of these horses has a show record. Sweet Tari is the dam of Miss Whizard Doc, an NRHA money winner.

Smart Little Scotty finds us with Sonscoot returning to the court of Smart Little Lena. He was her 1989 foal. This stallion is one of the horses that the Nine Bar Ranch sent to Australia. This good son of Sonscoot has gone on to be a successful sire in Australia. His foals include Short N Smart, the 2004 NCHA High Point Cutting Horse in Australia; Winderadeen Scotty's Whiz, an AQHA High Point Reiner and Cowhorse in Australia and Toowoomba, dam of Non-Pro Futurity Champion Smartist.

Lenas Tiny Star was produced when Sonscoot went to the court of Doc O'Lena. This mare has earned \$2,084.43. She is the dam of Lenas Star Cat, winner of \$50,649 and Cat With A Hat, winner of \$10,000 in her first show the 2007 NCHA Futurity giving us another descendant of Sonscoot as a money winner at the 2007 Futurity.

Doctor Scoot was the first foal produced by Sonscoot for S & S Farm. The sire of this cutter was Real Doc, the S & S Farms foundation sire. Doctor Scoot started his cutting career as a stallion. But was later cut to make him a more focused cutting horse. This may have been a mistake. He sired 8 foals with four of them being money and/or point earners. He is the sire of Colonel Scoots, winner of \$14,659 and Scoots Little Badger, winner of \$5,402 as his two top money winners today. Doctor Scoot is the sire of a horse named Peponita Scootin. This sorrel stallion is the sire of Foxy Pep Cee,

an NCHA Certificate of Ability winner. Peponita Scootin was a teasing stallion for the S & S Farms.

Real Boot Scoot is the 1994 daughter of Sonscoot and a full sister to Doctor Scoot. This mare has earned \$10,317.69. Sonscoot followed this up with Real Miss Scoot, another full sister to the two horses listed above. This mare is an NCHA money winner.

The next foal out of Sonscoot is the Smart Lil Scoot. Howard explains what happened, "Mike Mowery became our trainer and he got us to breed her back to Smart Little Lena. He knew about his older sisters and that was Sweet Lil Lena and Easters Little Lena. Mike showed Sweet Lil Pepto and that is how we got Smarty."

Smart Lil Scoot (Smarty) would put the S & S Farms on the cutting horse map as a performer and now doing the same as a sire. Smarty won \$266,124.90. He is a multiple aged even finalist that won the 2002 NCHA Classic/Challenge and the 2002 NCHA Super Stakes Classic. He was fifth in the 1999 NCHA Open Futurity and a two-time winner of the Brazos Bash 5/6-Year-Old Open Classic in 2001 and 2002.

Howard tells the following, "This horse is described by many as the greatest they have seen. His rider Roy Carter told us that he is the greatest he has ridden. We have found that his foals work just like him."

Howard tells us how Smarty's breeding career started, "When he was a three-year-old we bred him and got six colts. We owned all of them but one and all five we owned cashed a check. We trained every one of those colts out of him." They include Shesa Real Smarty, (\$8,870); Smart Lil Star Deck, (\$3,823); Smartys Real Patty, (\$2,883); Smartys Real Ritzzy, (\$5,522) and Smartys Shadow, (\$158,343). Smartys Shadow is the leader of the pack with his big win coming in the Reserve Championship of the 2005 NCHA Super Stakes Classic.

Howard sees Smarty's good start as a sire as proof that he is a consistent sire. Robin Glenn Pedigrees online services shows that as of January 25, 2008, Smarty is the sire of 74 performers in her database with 73 money winners. The AQHA shows that Smarty is the sire of 196 foals in his first four crops of performance age foals and with Robin Glenn Pedigrees showing 73 performers this tells us that 37% of the Smart Lil Scoot performers have earned a paycheck.

Some of Smart Lil Scoot's top performers are Travs Scooter, his second leading money earner of \$131,251. This horse was the 2006 NCHA Non-Pro Futurity Champion. This good mare went on to be the Reserve Champion of the 2007 NCHA Non-Pro Derby. Smartys Lil Flip has earned \$53,696 as a finalist in such events as the NCHA Super Stakes Limited Open and the NCHA Derby Open. Scootin Boon has won \$41,625 in such events as the finals of the NCHA Open Derby and the Breeders Invitational Open Derby. This horse was the Reserve Champion of the Bluebonnet Open Stakes

Derby. Tip Toe N Scoot was the Champion of the 2006 PCCHA Futurity Open Gelding Stakes.

The 2007 NCI Building Systems NCHA Futurity included the following Smart Lil Scoot money winners. They are Moms Stylish Scoot, (\$86,570); Dual Y Scoot, (\$85,009); Playware, (\$65,215) Smartys Lil Shorty, (\$10,579); Short Scootin, (\$10,000) and Smartware, (\$8,166).

Howard sees the consistency of Smart Lil Scoot as a sire as a trait of the Sonscoot family. He explained, "Everything she produced is producing. It's scary the way this family is producing on down the line with her grandsons and granddaughters producing."

So where is all this coming from, Howard sees it this way, "I did a lot of studying on Sonscoot and with respect to her sire. I think Son O Sugar is the reason for her success as a producer." Howard went on to clarify that he feels that Smart Little Lena is undoubtedly a great sire, but that Son O Sugar is a key figure in Sonscoot's role as a foundation mare.

Son O Sugar is a 1961 sorrel stallion that is a full brother to the famous Jewel's Leo Bar or Freckles as he is called by some. Freckles was the sire of famous stallions Freckles Playboy and Colonel Freckles. Son O Sugar and Jewel's Leo Bar were sired by Sugar Bars and out of Leo Pan by Leo. Thus he was the cross of Sugar Bars on one of those great Leo mares. Son O Sugar was an AA rated racehorse with his racing ROM. His performance record in the arena shows that he was the winner of \$11,640.31 in the NCHA and one AQHA performance point.

The interesting part of the role of Son O Sugar in all of this is his record as a sire and maternal grandsire. His foals have won \$1,136,357.25 in the NCHA. He is the sire of 26 AQHA performers in a variety of events. These horses have won 696 AQHA points. His leading point earner is Sugar Wes with 117 halter points; 112 performance points earning a Superior in both halter and cutting. He is an AQHA Champion. Westphal Dora was an AQHA Superior Halter Mare that was seventh in the AQHYA World Show Aged Mare Class. The Son O Sugar NCHA performers include Sons Pitchfork, 1989 NCHA World Champion Non-Pro Cutting Horse and winner of \$232,088.22; Sons Scorpion, NCHA Open Challenge Reserve Champion and winner of \$215,687.49; Son O Mia, winner of \$127,642.76 and Sons Madonna, 1979 NCHA Non-Pro Futurity Champion.

Son O Sugar was a sire of good producing sons as well as good producing mares. His sons include Sons Doc, sired the winners of over \$679,604.69 and NCHA Futurity Champion July Jazz. CJ Sugar sired the winners of \$632,646.84. His leading money winner was CJ Sugar Lena, NCHA Non-Pro Finals winner with earnings of \$183,768.36.

The daughters of Son O Sugar have produced the winners of \$4,316,586.87 in the arena. This includes



Above: Smart Lil Scoot

such great mares as Moria Sugar. This great mare has formed a dynasty of good cutting horses. Her foals have won \$898,433.56. With modern technology, this mare has produced 35 foals and seven of these foals are found in the top 25 money earners of Son O Sugar daughters. Moria Sugar counts among her foals Cloud Nine, winner of \$104,200.54. Her son Smart Lil Ricochet was on the rise as a sire before his untimely death. He sired such noted horses as Im Countin Checks, who has earned \$336,322.77. He was the top-placing stallion in the 2005 NCHA Open Futurity and has been a multiple aged event champion and reserve champions since that show.

Sons Pitchfork was one of the leading money winners sired by Son O Sugar. This mare is listed above. But she has gone on to be a producer. Her foals have earned \$261,795.70. Her leading money winner is Sonny San Jo, winner of \$107,244.21. Sonny San Jo was the 2007 AQHA Select World Champion Cutting Horse.

It has to be noted that the top money winner out of a Son O Sugar daughter is Smart Lil Scoot and the third highest money winner is Sweet Lil Lena.

Howard is a strong believer in the role of Son O Sugar as a key to the success of Sonscoot and he is backing his faith in the horse by bringing that blood into the breeding program. He contacted the breeder of Sonscoot to see if he knew of any sisters of his great mare and he has gone looking for other daughters of Son O Sugar. He has found several of them and has

some colts that will be put into training by Smart Lil Scoot out of them. He is expecting a colt this year by Smart Lil Scoot and a daughter of Son O Sugar. Another phase of the plan to perpetuate the blood of Sonscoot is found with the two daughters of Sonscoot he owns. He has and will be breeding those mares to Smart Lil Scoot. The first foal from this mating is now ready for training.

Sonscoot has passed on to the great pasture in the sky. She may be gone but she will live forever through the family she founded. Not bad for a mare that failed to make it to the performance arena remaining a secret or mystery to the breed. But she is no longer a secret. She is proving to be a mare with more and a whole lot more of this mare's legacy is yet to come.

By the way—Her great great grandson, High Brow CD, is the winner of the Tunica Cutting Futurity for 2008. This makes him 3 for 3 with wins at the NCHA Open Futurity; Augusta and now Tunica. Some other finalists at these two futurities include Moms Stylish Scoot, (Tunica and Augusta); Short Scootin, (Tunica); RJJ Scootin Tanquery, (Augusta) and Little Tazman (Augusta). Play With This Deal was a Non-Pro finalist at Augusta. Play With This Deal is sired by Pepto Taz. Little Tazman is sired by Pepto Taz. Moms Stylish Scoot, Short Scootin and RJJ Scootin Tanquery are sired by Smart Lil Scoot. High Brow CD is out of Sweet Little CD, who is out of Sweet Lil Lena. The future looks bright for this good family of horses for generations to come.