

# The WRANGLER

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2015  
NATIONAL FINALS  
SEE PAGE 3



See more of  
The Patriot on page 23

# Thars' take the Reins of the Fizz Bomb Classic

Same Name, Same Place, New Owner/  
Producer-Thar Ranch Productions

On Saturday, September 12th, 2015, Zane and Stacey Thar, Thar Ranch Productions, took the reins of the Fizz Bomb Classic Futurity. Former owners, Scott and Carey Mackey bought the Fizz Bomb Barrel Futurity from Sherry Morrison in 2007. When asked, Sherry Morrison, Gillette WY, the original producer, answered a few questions.

"Karan McCurley came up with the idea of a barrel futurity. She had been over to Belle Fourche, SD at the Dakota West Futurity that Jerry and Sue Gollhofer put on. She called me and said, "Let's put on a barrel futurity!" I said, "Okay! What's a barrel futurity?" explained Sherry Morrison.

The Fizz Bomb Classic was born. And it was the second barrel futurity in the WY/SD area. The original producers: Karan and Sherry birthed the Fizz Bomb. In 1986 Karan got really busy with her girls in high school rodeo and bowed out. So she and Sherry produced it for 4 years and Sherry produced it the next 21 years. The Fizz Bomb was established in 1982.

"The name "Fizz Bomb" came from a cartoon in Western Horseman magazine written by Bobby Jo Corpolongo. There was a cute little girl with pig tails that rode a great big fat horse and the horse's name was 'Fizz Bomb'. We didn't want anything like...Northeast Wyoming Futurity, so we picked that like a joke. We contacted Bobby Jo and asked if we could use her cartoons in the program, etc. and she was very gracious and agreed," explained Sherry.

Sherry said, "We had the futurity at the old fairgrounds and thankfully were able to move into CAM-PLEX, (the newly build multi-events facility) in 1984."

Sherry shared, "During the first 15 years, on the



THAR RANCH PRODUCTIONS

ZANE AND STACEY THAR

same weekend (the third weekend in September), we had: A WPRA/WCRA all girl rodeo....a WPRA barrel race...a draw pot team roping...a horse sale. We went from 5 in the morning until 2 a.m. the next morning, starting on Thursday night. We had dog races and fun races. We added and subtracted events each year (some just took too much time) because the futurity got so big we had to cut out some things!"

"It was very difficult for me to sell the Fizz Bomb. I had spent 25 years making friendships (and some enemies) along the way. I miss the friendships the most. But we were getting very busy with our ministry and I think you just know when it's time to let something go," Sherry said.

When asked, Sherry said, "Any advice for the Thars? Oh my yes! I am just a phone call away!"

The Fizz Bomb Classic Barrel Futurity was established in Gillette WY in 1982, making 2016 its 34th year.

For 2016, the Fizz Bomb Dates will be the second weekend in September from the 8 through the 11, held at the Cam-PLEX Multi Events Arena, Gillette WY.

Thars' will have all of the original events, showcasing the barrel futurity and retaining the coveted Future Fortunes Breeder's incentive program that brings with them \$10,000 additional

dollars for all eligible future fortune futurity horses. Along with the barrel futurity, they plan to have a derby, a pole bending futurity, the Wendy Larson Memorial senior barrel race, pee wee barrels, a youth barrel race, and open 4d. Thar Ranch Production is working very hard to get the most added money and prizes possible! Thars' also are bringing back the trade show in Central Pavilion along with an all new Husbands' Lounge. A fun twist with bringing back a bit of the old flavor, Thars' will again have a Calcutta for the Futurity Short Go. The Calcutta sells all of the futurity riders/horses in an auction and a percentage of those monies are jackpotted back to the buyers of course in order of the winning times in the final go round of the barrel futurity. The Calcutta will be held just prior to the Short and Final go round of the futurity, Sunday, September 11. Thar Ranch Productions hired 3-2-1 Action Video to live broadcast the entire event, nationally.

The Cam-PLEX crew and their new Black Widow ground working implement will be in charge and working the arena ground, ensuring the very best conditions possible.

For more information, current Fizz Bomb news, schedules, sponsor info, added monies, entry forms, go to [www.TharRanchProductions.com](http://www.TharRanchProductions.com).

Hats off to Thar Ranch Productions and their quest to bring the next generation of winning barrel horses and great jockeys to the Fizz Bomb Classic Futurity.

Thar Ranch Productions are committed to adding great added money, incentives, and prizes, to each event at the Fizz Bomb Classic. Thar Ranch Productions will reach out to all the contestants from futurity riders to open 4-d entrants down to pee wee competitors, making it a well-run, fun and family event. Mark your calendars for September 8-11, 2016 and plan to attend the 34th Annual Fizz Bomb Classic, Gillette WY.



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