

On Saturday, March 12th 10 Louisiana Bred Accredited Two-Year-Olds will run in the (RG2) Mardi Gras Futurity Finals at Harrah's Louisiana Downs in Bossier City, Louisiana for a guaranteed purse of \$250,000.

North of the Red River, there are three farms within a sixteen mile stretch have that connections to the qualifiers that will be represented in the 2016 Mardi Gras Futurity Finals, **Grant Farms**, **JLA Farms**, and **Dr. Natalie and Jim Montgomery**.

Grant Farms, Breeders, John & Donna McPherson have the fourth fastest qualifier from the 11th trials **GAMEPATRIOTDELUXE**, the 2015 Bay gelding is a LQHBA Sale Graduate out of **Game Patriot** and **Corona Deluxe** by **Corona Cartel** was purchased by the Ten for Ten LLC, connections in the amount of \$33,000 is trained by Mr. Michael Taylor and qualified with a time of 15.905.

Nestled between the two farms Ms. Joanie Arabie, foaled the sixth fastest qualifier Shaded Oak Tree a sorrel filly out of **Oak Tree Special** and the mare **Shaded Sins**, by **Teller Cartel** bred by Mr. C. Edward Taylor from Tyler, Texas is a qualifier from the 3rd trials. Ms. Arabie has a small farm that she breeds and foals out mares for the owners that do not reside in the state. Shaded Sins is owned and trained by Luis Armando Castellanos qualified with the time 15.963 and is one of only four fillies to qualify for the futurity.

The eighth fastest qualifier from the 8th trial of the day with the time of 16.013 bred by Dr. Natalie Montgomery, DMV has some mighty big shoes to fill in order to keep up with his big brother, the 2015 AQHA and the LQHBA Aged Stallion **OPEN ME A CORONA. SAN LORENZO CORONA** was originally named IMA CORONA DUECE, a gray colt and who also is a 2015 LQHBA Sale Graduate that was purchased by Rogelio Marquez Jr. in the amount of \$ 68,000. He is trained by Martin Trejo.

Wishing the best of luck to all the connections of the 2016 LQHBA Mardi Gras Futurity qualifiers, and also to the long racing career's. Hopefully we will see you in the winner's circle in the fall for the \$1,000,000 2016 LQHBA Breeder's Futurity at Evangeline Downs in Opelousas, Louisiana.

A little Louisiana Lagniappe Martin Trejo who also trained the 2015 Mardi Gras Futurity Champion **MAGIC BLACK JACK** for owner Ana Alvidrez and bred by Mr. Bruce Salard who also has roots on the south side of the Red River, originally from Alexandria. Mr. Salard now resides in Dallas, but still has strong roots in the Louisiana Bred Racing Program.

Submitted by Ashlee Hatwig
2016 Senior at Oak Hill High School
Elmer, Louisiana