

2022 WORLD CHAMPION BARREL RACER

HOMETOWN: RANGER, GA AGE: 50

Julie Thomas and "Amos" earned their third consecutive gold buckle at IFR53. The Georgia team had a big lead over the barrel racing field coming into the finals, "I honestly wasn't trying to have a large lead coming into the finals, but it sure took a lot of pressure off, and I got to enjoy the experience more."

"I traveled less in '22 and stayed closer to home," said Thomas. "I did go on one big trip over the 4th of July and went up north to four rodeos, but other than that, I stayed 2-4 hours from the house. My job won't let me be gone so I try to stay close and take care of myself and my horse."

"I have to say winning the first world title was the most exciting because I didn't realize I could accomplish something like this. The third one is the sweetest because Amos is getting older, he's 17. He is very low maintenance and easy to deal with, I'd take another one just like him in a heartbeat."

"I plan to rode the same in 2023, I have two younger horses that I'm seasoning, so I'll take some weekends to haul them and give Amos a break."