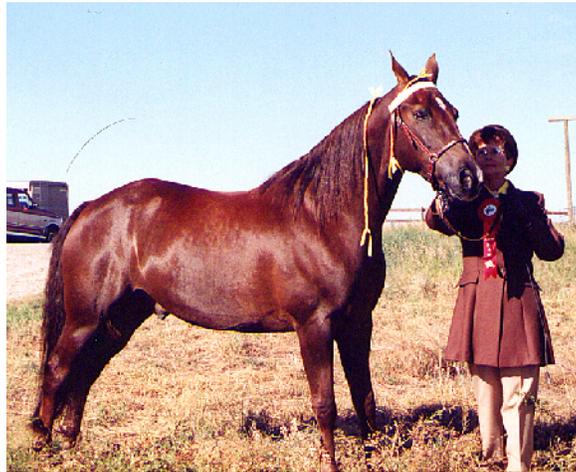


## Donna Edwards and Koko – Century Partners

Donna Edwards is 76 and the horse referred to as Koko or more accurately in Donna's words as the Old Boy is 28. Shadows Koko Boy (Canadian Registration 566 and US registration 871472) is by Luckys Koko Prince out of Shadow of Riverview. He was bred by Bill Howes of Walking Horse Junction. He is a chestnut gelding with a broken strip.



<p>LUCKYS KOKO PRINCE -154-- -[US]713971-</p> <p>SHADOWS KOKO BOY CDN - 566- -[US]871472-</p> <p>SHADOW OF RIVERVIEW -155-- -[US]74494-</p>	<p>RAMBLERS LUCKY SOCKS - -[US]610195-</p> <p>SUNDOWN LAMARR -[US]540634-</p> <p>GO BOYS SHADOW -[US]540615-</p> <p>LAD'S HOT SHOT -[US]721727-</p>	<p>ZEPHYR'S GOLD RAMBLER -[US]482616-</p> <p>SHAMROCK GLORY BROOK -[US]483117-</p> <p>SILVERTIP-RICKEY -[US]479752-</p> <p>MARGARET LA MARR -[US]440480-</p> <p>MERRY GO BOY -[US]431338-</p> <p>MERRY WALKER -[US]591238-</p> <p>PERFECTION'S GAY LAD -[US]645011-</p> <p>MERRY HOT SHOT -[US]491743-</p>
<p>Gelding</p> <p>Chestnut. Broken stripe.</p>	<p>April 24, 1987</p>	<p>Bill Howes, Stoney Plain, AB ID No. 5071622.</p> <p>Bill Howes, Stoney Plain, AB ID No. 5071622.</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Tennessee Walking FOR ASSOCIATION USE ONLY</p> </div>	<p>V#440676-1-143-FDL</p>	<p>ALLEN'S GOLD ZEPHYR -[US]431975-</p> <p>CREAM TOPSY -[US]411643-</p> <p>FITZ ALLEN -[US]410360-</p> <p>THORNTON'S GLAMOUR GIRL -[US]411874-</p> <p>TROUBLE -[US]370306-</p> <p>STROLLING BEAUTY A -[US]450763-</p> <p>MOSS' BROWNIE -[US]401379-</p> <p>PATTY LA MARR -[US]380002-</p> <p>MERRY BOY -[US]350189-</p> <p>WISER'S DIMPLES -[US]370096-</p> <p>MERRY BOY -[US]350189-</p> <p>EARTHMAN'S QUEEN MARY -[US]391237-</p> <p>RODGERS' PERFECTION -[US]551107-</p> <p>SHADOWS SIS W -[US]640453-</p> <p>LORD CHESTERFIELD -[US]422152-</p> <p>MINNIE GIRL -[US]463411-</p>

July 16, 2002  
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Registered UNKNOWN

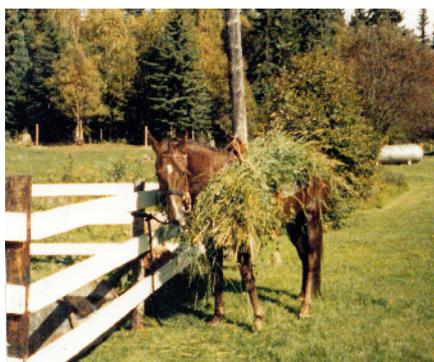


*Koko and Donna begin the journey.*

Donna has been in love with horses all her life. Donna lived in Tofield Alberta and rode to school on a horse. She fondly remembers a very smart Shetland or cross who would lay down in the middle of a puddle if she felt like. The horse had no concern for the rider and the rider learned to cope with the peculiarities of the horse. This early lesson has remained part of Donna's experience with horses to this day. Donna's husband Frank remembers when he first saw Donna riding, "She was riding bareback like a wild thing. I have never forgotten that vision".

In 1991 Donna and her husband Frank knew nothing about Tennessee Walking Horses when Donna saw an ad for a registered TWH. The ad stated the horse was related to Trigger. Donna was intrigued and contacted Jim Tyschuk the owner of a horse related to Allen's Gold Zephyr on the sire's side. Donna and Frank travelled from Whitecourt to Onoway to try out the horse. The horse named Trigger was not really broke, but Donna liked what she saw and rode, and bought him. Once the horse was on their property, Donna changed his name to Koko. Donna quickly discovered that Koko disliked men and jangling spurs, but as Donna was neither a man or wore spurs, they got along. Donna accepted Koko and Koko accepted Donna.

It was not long before the Edwards family moved exclusively to gaited horses. At the same time Donna bought Koko, Frank bought a paint. He rode the paint for 2 months until he got "ticked off" as he could not keep up to Donna on Koko. He then searched for a TWH for himself.



*Koko being trained Donna's way.*

Bought as a trail or pleasure horse, Koko showed he could handle mountain trails, pack deer and bear and had enough stamina for the longest or most difficult trails.



*Koko poses before a trail ride.*

Looking for further experiences, the Edwards turned to the show ring. Donna rode Koko in both English and Western classes. Neither Donna or Koko were satisfied with two gait classes, but entered all the three gait classes they were eligible for. Koko had a lovely canter – the true Rocking Horse canter with no pulling or pushing by Donna. When Frank became interested in driving, Donna and Koko joined right in. Koko and Donna experienced a jump course more than once. They competed in gymkhana where Donna showed her fearlessness as well as her connection with Koko. Donna and Koko were tough competitors in the show ring. Although they excelled in most events, they could claim bragging rights in Trail Competition. They were seldom beaten and especially remembered for the manner in which they backed through a narrow “L”. “Koko picked his way through barely touching the sides of the narrowest L”.





*Donna and Koko prepare to finish a side pass to the narrow "L"*

There was a strong bond between Donna and Koko. Frank explained it this way, "He took care of her and she took care of him. The first parade they rode in was at Edmonton Klondike Days. The weather was bad and neither Koko or Donna had been in that type of situation previously. At the end of the parade back in the staging grounds, Donna turned him loose and Koko went through mud and rain to wait for his family at the trailer." There were times that he was not timed properly at the trailer. Koko never left and was always waiting for Donna.

Koko was the chosen mount when granddaughter Addie wanted to ride. Addie and Koko joined the show circuit with Donna and Frank and Koko did double duty carrying both Addie and Donna to memorable rides and awards.



*Donna and Addie with many awards*

Donna and Frank and their gaited horses were a frequent presence at parades in the area. Because of his disposition and calm manner, Koko was chosen as the vehicle of choice for the RCMP.. Donna and Koko were always flag bearers at horse ceremonies and shows as they were dependable.



*Ponoka Parade 1995*



Donna was never one to let an opportunity or challenge go by. Although they never took their horses to the US, Donna and Frank spent a number of winters in the US primarily Nevada. They drove longhorns from NC to CA and then back again with a Dude setup for a documentary video with 20 longhorns, and 8 videographers. The headline in the paper was Canadians show how to drive cattle from Nevada to the Heart Ranch in California.

The love affair began in 1991 with the TWH that continues to this day. The Edwards have owned a number of TWH and MFT, but the horse that stole Donna's heart still resides at their home. He is ridden for short distances now, but continues to be a wonderful example of the TWH in disposition and movement. He is always ready to introduce people to the TWH.

The Old Boy will spend the remainder of his life with Donna, Frank, Rocky, a MFT, 2 donkeys and 2 dogs in the familiar pastures of their home in Carnwood.



*Koko in September at age 28*



Koko and Donna are wonderful examples of the special connection between horse and human.