



# The Canadian Walker

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## "A HORSE TO REMEMBER"



"A HORSE TO REMEMBER" is the name of an exciting new tribute page soon to take shape on the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse website. The tribute page will honour your special horse and celebrate the horse/human bond.

For a minimum contribution of \$50.00 to the CRTWH Education Fund, the story and pictures of your horse will be permanently displayed on the CRTWH website. You may honour your current equine partner, a special horse from your past, or a horse belonging to a person dear to you. What a unique gift for the horse person in your life - your wife, husband, mother or father!

Watch for details of this exciting new CRTWH initiative, coming soon.

## DNA IDENTIFICATION

It is possible to identify any horse recorded in the CRTWH Registry by its DNA. If an animal should be separated from its registration certificate after changing owners, a new owner who knows only that it is a Walker can have its DNA redone. Then that can be compared with the DNA records of all the horses in the CRTWH data base. If there is a match, you have identified your horse!

The same can be done with U.S. registered horses through TWHBEA.

I have no information on what this costs, other than the initial charge for running a DNA profile. However it gives owners of an "unknown" Tennessee Walking Horse the opportunity to identify their animal.

That's at least the first step in regaining its identity!

## CENTURY PARTNERS

CRTWH is very pleased to welcome our newest Century Partners, Jo-Anne McDonald and her mare, Monterey Snip. See their story in a future Canadian Walker. It was five years ago in the October, 2011 *WHN* that we announced this new program, below. Do you know someone you'd like to nominate?

*"Walking Horses tend to be long lived - and so do many Walking Horse owners. We have members, well up into their 70's, 80's and even 90's, who continue to ride and enjoy their special Walking Horses. We invite you to nominate CRTWH friends and mentors whose age combined with that of their horse adds up to 100 or more. Send the name of your nominee, a short write-up and a good photo if possible. We'll create a website display in their honour."*

## 2017 CRTWH MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership renewal forms will be in the mail to you by the end of October. Don't forget to send yours in to CLRC. Annual memberships are still only \$25/year.

Just ten years ago CRTWH announced the first of the Canadian Triple Challenge Programs, below.  
This is reprinted from the October, 2006 *Walking Horse News*. Were you there?

**ANNOUNCING...**

## **THE INAUGURAL 'GATHERING'** of Canadian Tennessee Walking Horse owners

who wish to join with other TWH owners

in an attempt to become the first claimants

of the Gold, Silver or Bronze Awards,

as recently announced by the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse.



Be a part of history! Have your horse evaluated at the **FIRST EVER GATHERING**  
of the **Program For Excellence!** Be the first to *GO for the GOLD!*

**WHAT:** A gathering of interested TWH owners who wish to participate in the Program For Excellence.

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 21, 2006, 1:00 pm. (October 15 deadline has been extended this year only.)

Plan on staying for supper for a social time. (Supper will be ordered in at cost).

**WHERE:** Cloudwalker Stables, Strathmore, Alberta

**WHO:** Any CRTWH member who wishes to have one or more Canadian registered TWH evaluated as part of the Program For Excellence

**WHY:** Have your TWH evaluated against the standards (both conformation and movement) set for the Program For Excellence. Have the awards received added to your horse's registration papers. Personal pride of achievement. More value if you decide to sell the successful horse.

*This is the first of what, over the years, will be many such Gatherings.  
Join us with or without a horse. Just come and see how it works,  
visit with other TWH owners, or organize a Gathering in your own area.*

NOTE: It is not necessary to join a Gathering to enter this program.

You can make your own video at home and submit it.

The deadline has been extended (for this year only) until October 31/06.

For details of the PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE,  
Entry information and video instructions,  
or suggestions for hosting your own Gathering,  
go to **www.crtwh.ca** or phone Dianne Little at **403-271-7391**.

For the STRATHMORE GATHERING contact Keith Oberle  
at **403-932-5501**, email **keith@skylinewalkers.com**



## THE GATHERING AT SAWHORSE RANCH

by Fran Kerik, CRTWH Director

Windi and Dale Derman hosted their second annual GATHERING at their Sawhorse Ranch near Mayerthorpe, AB on June 24 – 27. One word to describe it? AWESOME! The setting was perfect for this type of event. Windi had anticipated all our needs with pinpoint accuracy, even down to a sign on my horse pen big enough that I could find it at midnight when I finally pulled in. There was plenty of parking for the big rigs and pens for our horses. We met for meals in the cookhouse that Dale ran with the efficiency of a seasoned Ranch Cook. Everybody brought a wide variety of food that was served pot luck style for all three meals. It was a great time to go over what we planned on doing next and what we'd accomplished earlier. (And stuff ourselves!)

I shared a cottage (read cute old farm house) with three other ladies. Windi has such a flair for decorating it was like stepping back into the 40's with the antiques that were scattered through the house. In fact Windi's whole ranch is like that, with amazing art, antiques and western décor throughout the ranch, including the barn.

For our Gathering the Dermans had set up an obstacle course that included most of the necessary tasks for the CRTWH Basic Skills and Trail Level 1. We started off Saturday morning with a dice game. You rolled the dice, and the number you got is the obstacle you rode through. I thought the horses did great! There was a large bridge, a tipping bridge, a very large tarp and a smaller one, a big Canadian Flag flying on the fence, a gate, two small jumps and a jumble of "logs" to walk through, a tractor tire to step into and poles in an "L" shape to back or side pass through. You could also pick up that scary coat on the fence and move it to another post. We also tried using a Spanish pole; my horse wasn't too sure about that!

After lunch we headed to the dressage ring to practice our tests. The Independent Judges Association (IJA) in conjunction with Friends of Sound Horses has developed a comprehensive Manual for Dressage with Gaited Horses including tests for Classical and Western Dressage. These tests are specifically written for gaited horses. We were very honored to have Dianne Little join us for the weekend. She helped develop the tests and is an International Gaited Horse Judge for FOSH. Most of us were just at the very basic level, trying the two gait tests. Learning to 'call' the tests was an interesting experience. It is almost as hard as riding! After some practice we each took a turn before the judge. Following the dressage were some of our 'mini

clinics'. Several members of the group had volunteered to teach a skill that they were proficient in. We attended an excellent demonstration by Dianne Little on Body Work. Anybody who is looking to make their horse more comfortable and relaxed, and to really just connect with their horse, should look into this.

Dale fired up the Barbeque and cooked steak for supper. Then we gathered around the campfire for some entertainment. Windi is also a fantastic singer and poet, and she sang and read some original works as well as old time favorites until a huge downpour chased us to bed.

Sunday morning we were treated to a wonderful hoof trimming demonstration by Susan Jaeger. She is very skilled and demonstrated how to trim a foundered horse. Alynn Ward also gave a harness fitting demo. Just before lunch Norma Lovell demonstrated how to teach your horse to come to you for mounting ease from any available object or high spot on the ground. (Great for the short or stiff rider!) The rest of the day was dedicated to videoing our Basic Skills and Trail 1. We also had another session in the dressage ring. It was great to see everyone working so hard!

After another fantastic supper one group went on a trail ride and some of us stayed back to put our videos on Windows Movie Maker.

Monday was a longer trail ride. It was supposed to be 15 km... but somehow ended up to be 22 km! There are wonderful trails just off Sawhorse Ranch with hills, views, fields, bog and some bushwhacking. We had lunch by a small creek. Some of us continued with our videoing for Trail 1 with hills, mud and water, and six natural obstacles while others used the trail ride to complete their Level 3 in the Trail Challenge.

It was a most enjoyable weekend. A Gathering is a place for sharing information and experiences with other TWH owners. And it was. About 20 riders took part and several others came just to watch, learn and socialize. We met up with old friends and made many new friends. Windi and Dale were the perfect hosts and put an incredible amount of work into making our stay so enjoyable. We can't thank them enough! It was especially heartwarming just to see the comradeship and caring this wonderful group of CRTWH owners gave each other.

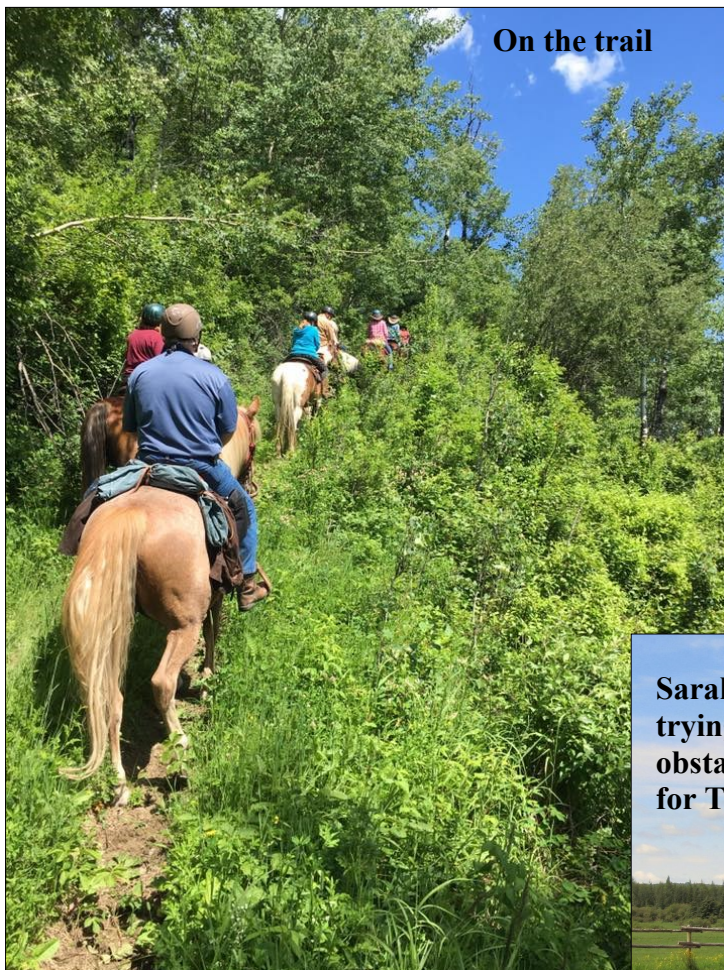
*If YOU are interested in the various Triple Challenge programs that CRTWH offers our members, be sure to check out the website at [crtwh.ca](http://crtwh.ca). All the info on the Training Levels, Ride/Drive/ALT and Program for Excellence are right there.*



## AT THE GATHERING



**Alynn Ward with her team, Rocky and Rose**



**On the trail**



**Lisa & Ticket in the dressage ring.**



**Sarah Torfs on Blaise trying out one of the obstacles in the ring for Trail Level 1.**

These photos illustrate only a few of the activities that went on at the Gathering.

Many of the videos to be entered in the Training Levels Challenge or Program for Excellence for 2016 were made here at this Gathering. Deadline for entries this year is Oct.31. Get yours done and submitted soon!

*The End*