

DECEMBER 2019
VOLUME XLIII, No. 6



Walking Horse News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977

WALKING HORSE NEWS, BOX 7326, EDSON, ALBERTA T7E 1V5

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TENNESSEE WALKING HORSES

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&

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Don & Jo-Anne

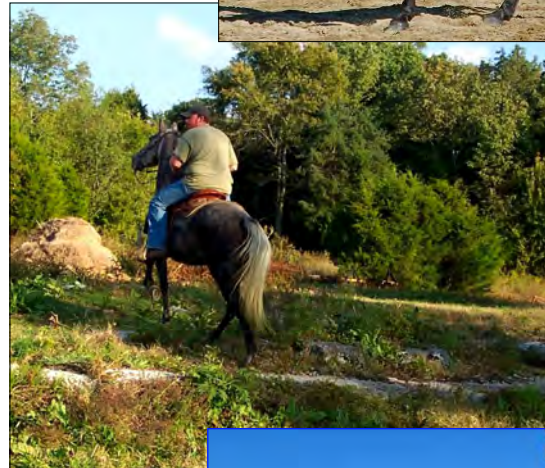


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Walking Horse News

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Print subscriptions are

\$24/yr in Canada

\$32 US Funds to U.S.A.,

*Please send Subscriptions,
Classified Ads, Display Ads
and Editorial Material to*

Editor/Publisher Marjorie Lacy
Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5
(780) 723-2547

Email - whn@telus.net

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Website:

Anna Sawicki at
Internet WebDeZines

Printed by

Trail Printing, Edson, AB

On Our Cover

Lori Dyberg
and 'Dusty', aka
Northfork Cotton Trim.

Lori writes,
"I am going for an
interview with a
dressage coach
to see if she will train me
to advance up a level in
Western Dressage
next year!

I think Dusty & I
would REALLY enjoy
the challenge.

If you don't risk trying
you never find out how
far you can go!"

2019-12

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Volume XLIII, # 6 November/December, 2019

Dear Subscribers

The Canadian Registry is launching a party to welcome its upcoming 40th anniversary. All sorts of exciting initiatives are being planned. See the CRTWH back page and page 15, then join in! All are invited.

Sadly this fall we have lost two great supporters of the breed, see pages 7 & 10. You will find Allanna's thoughts on dressage, pages 21 & 22, and next issue I hope to have stories from Lori Dyberg and Roberta Brebner on their 2019 experiences with TWH in Western Dressage. We have the last article on horse colour, what happened to Dusty, plus news, hints, reports, and more. Thank you to all who sent articles and news.

Once again it's the last *WHN* issue of the year and time to remind you that cover advertisers are needed. There are two pages available. You won't find better print exposure for your farm and horses anywhere else or for a better price. Check page 24, then call so we can set up an appealing ad for you. Your support is needed.

WHN also needs more inside advertising and more subscribers! See the ads on pages 23 and 24. Make a New Year's resolution to support your breed magazine. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Merry Christmas, and all the best to you and your Walkers as we enter a new decade!

Marjorie



IN THIS ISSUE – November/December, 2019

LIST OF CONTENTS

Looking Back -	3
News	4, 5, 6, 18
Passing Hands.....	7
J.Glenn Robinson by Dianne Little.....	8
This N’ That from AWhA.....	9
Colour in Horses - Dilutions by M. Lacy.....	10
The Canadian Walker.....	11
CRTWH Announcements.....	12, 13
Hints for the Horse Photographer by Jo-Anne McDonald.....	14
2019 Border Coulee CTR by Ron Smith.....	15
Dusty’s Mystery Lameness by Terry Kinch.....	15
Driving the Levels by Kristy Coulter.....	16
Giles County, Tennessee by F. Brandon.....	17, 18
Backyard Walkin’-Gaited Dressage Thoughts A. Jackson..	19, 20
In My Opinion by Brenda Baker	20
Gallery ads.....	21-22
Classified Ads.....	23
Business Cards, Ads, Coming Events	24

ADVERTISER’S INDEX

A.W.H.A. This ‘N That.....	9
Calta Stables.....	24
CRTWH	11 to 13, Back Cover
Double J Training Services.....	21
McDonald Farms.....	Inside Front Cover
Northfork Farm	24
Ride Easy Ranch.....	24
Slush Creek Walkers.....	24
TWH Heritage Society.....	Inside Front Cover
Uphill Farm.....	Inside Back Cover
WHN Ads.....	21, 22
Classified Ads	23
Business Cards.....	24

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Walking Horse News -

“DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977”

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LOOKING BACK...



Left:
Louise McLaren presents an award to Marlin & Henry Matechuk, as Clare Knight, AWhA Queen for the year, looks on. Who remembers the year?

Right:
Ted Smith showing Pride's Dominator at Claresholm, AB. Dominator was a top show horse and sire of many Alberta Tennessee Walking Horses. He excelled under saddle and in harness.



Ted has no horses now due to health issues but cherishes memories of showing successfully across Western North America.

Left:
Ron Smith, Welling, AB presents an award to Shirley Ann Clarkson. When was the occasion?



NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

LARRY JANZEN, GLENBUSH, SK writes, "I know the email version of *WHN* works and is less money; however, it is so nice to look forward to the magazine. Sit down and put your feet up and enjoy reading, wherever you are. Keep up the excellent job."

From CHARIS COOPER, TURNER VALLEY, AB, "Hello, Everyone. I'm still hanging in there, although my mount these days is a big quad. Not as nice as my horses but at this age this mode of transport is best."

"I always enjoy reading of everyone's adventures in the magazine. You are amazing to still be putting out this great publication." Charis's card featured this *Advice from a Horse:*

*Take life's hurdles in stride, Loosen the reins,
Be free spirited,
Keep the burrs from under your saddle,
Carry your friends when they need it,
Keep stable, Gallop to greatness!*



GEORGE PROKOP, DEVON, AB is working near Edson this fall, and stopped in at Uphill Farm for a quick visit and to renew his subscription. After vowing to cut back on owning horses (like many of the rest of us!), George is now back up to four. He has three TWH and one MFT. His three Walkers are all half siblings by Dude's Ragtime Man. He owns the bay mare Ragtime's Major Obsession (*above*), the sorrel gelding Ragtime N'Ritz, and the chestnut mare NHA's Crimson Frost. Congratulations, George on all your Walkers achieving Silver in the CRTWH PFE!

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, BC writes, "It turned from summer to winter almost overnight last month so it was snow tires on and winter clothes out of storage closets. The good news for Trigger is that she and her two friends go out to pasture every sunny day, or at least one free of pouring rain. That and her rations of soaked alfalfa cubes and flakes of hay are keeping her in good condition. Her semi-annual checkup once again had her "healthy as a horse" and the vet was pleased at her good health and condition."

"Of course, the arthritis is still a worry but her daily dose of Previcox and the injections of Legend are hopefully helping her to be a bit more comfortable. We're just a couple of old arthritic gals getting around as best we can. She's always happiest when she's out on grass. Aren't we all? Unfortunately she lost yet another tooth and there are a couple more loose ones that the vet left alone as she's getting close to being toothless. Trigger's alfalfa cubes were increased as they're easier to gum than hay and I asked her vet what the going rate was for the tooth fairy - possibly up to \$100!"

"My husband was quite taken by the cover of the October issue of *WHN* as was I. So romantic, even under a lowering sky. Happy trails indeed to Paige and Jamin on the journey of their lives."

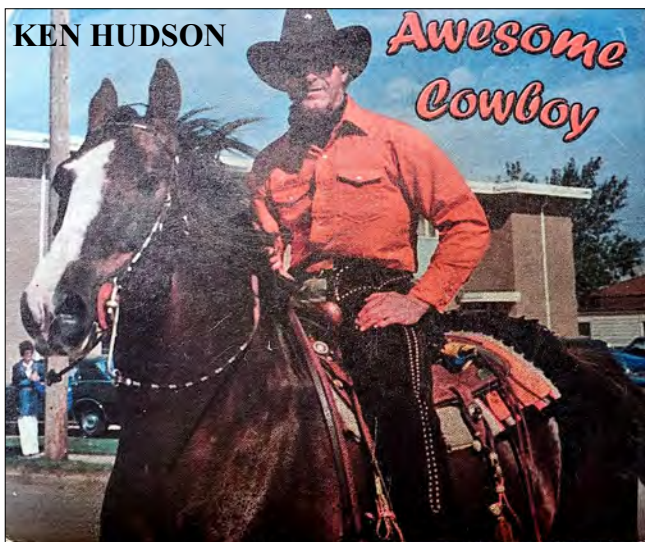
"Speaking of journeys, kudos to Allanna Jackson on the next leg of hers, leading to publishing even more of her thoughts, impressions, ideas and experiences."

"Terry Kinch's experience with Dusty's mystery lameness is a story that many of us can relate to and is what horse people are all about. We make a commitment for life when we involve an animal in our lives and do what we can to enrich their lives as they enrich ours. We're rooting for Dusty, Terry, to continue making those trails happy for you."

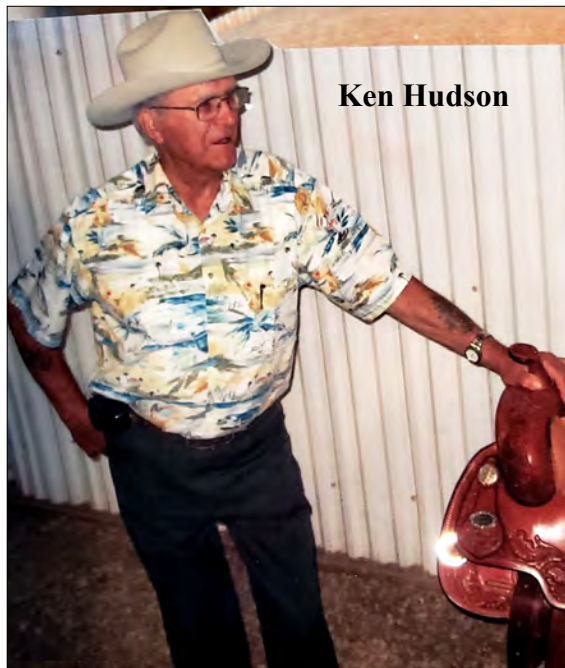
"Thanks again, Marjorie, for continuing your dedication to *WHN* which keeps us so well informed with what is going on with those of us who are involved with these wonderful horses. Happy trails to you and all your readers!"

*Natalie
and
Trigger,
back
in
the
days
when
we
rode
winter
and
summer!*





I am so sad to report that Ken Hudson passed away September 13, 2019 at age 96. He was a great promoter and breeder of Tennessee Walking Horses in Alberta. When my dad, Frank Smith, was about to pass he told Ken he would be holding Old Joe's reins for him when he finally came through the veil. It has been a thirty year wait but I am sure they are glide-riding down happy trails. Above is a photo of Ken and Joe.
 Ron Smith, Welling, AB

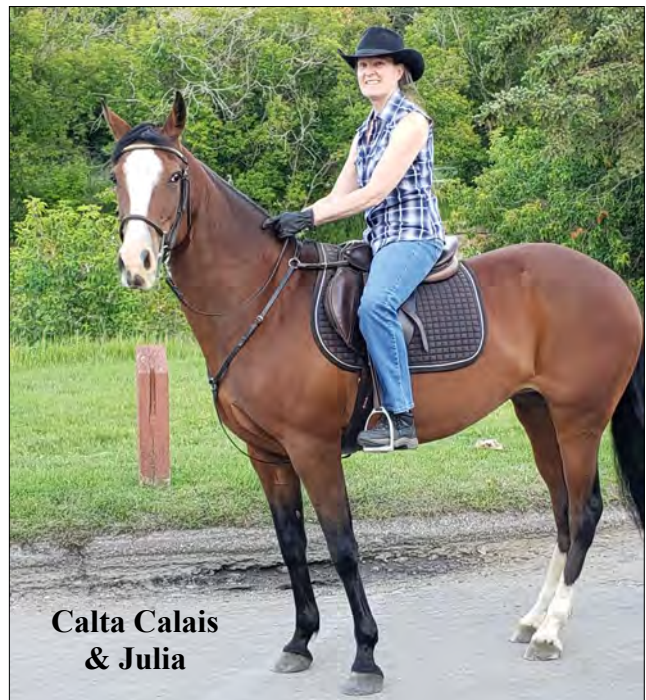


Ron Smith wrote about Ken and Ruth Hudson and Queen's Lil Joe and their other Walkers in Alberta Heritage Walkers, June 2019 *WHN*, pages 3,4,5.

At the end of that article I invited readers to send their stories and photos of Queen's Lil Joe descendants and here is one from Julia Henderson.

JULIA HENDERSON, CALGARY, AB writes, "I have been meaning to send in a picture of my mare since the June magazine, but time goes by so fast in the summer. I'm sending a picture of Calta Calais, a grand-daughter of Queen's Lil Joe out of Hilton Hack's mare, Miss Big Stuff (by Calta Caligula)."

"Also I would like to thank Hilton Hack for introducing me to the Walker breed over 25 years ago and allowing me to purchase two of his wonderful horses, Calta's Camelot and this beautiful mare.



From MADELEINE CHAPMAN, STETTLER, AB, "I haven't much news. It was generally a poor summer weather wise but I tried to ride a couple of times a week. I am enjoying my new horse "Phoenix". She reminds me a lot of her great grandmother "Shadow's Lyrical", a mare that we had for so many years. I hope to take Phoenix on lots of trail rides next year."

I (Marjorie) had a phone call from TARA BODY. She and Brad used to live in Saskatchewan and have owned Walkers for years. They have now moved to LITTLE FORT, B.C. and were looking for a TWH saddle horse around 15 hh, They were also interested in young stock.

MAUREEN GERMSCHIED, EVANSBURG, AB writes, "Fredie and Mirium were thrilled to be included in the last issue. Thanks for that! Fredie was so tempted to take our mare Dolly home with her. She is a dressage rider in Germany but fell in love with the Walkers."



From 'FRED LLOYD-SMITH, "Ace and I did a mounted archery course this past May. This photo is at a canter, heading down the chute and firing at targets. Look Ma, No hands! (Well, hands on the bow and arrow.) Obviously we don't start this way - it was the final effort and yes, I did hit a target! I also missed several. Great fun and a fine break from medical and other duties!"

"I have had hardly any time at all to do equine things, just this course and a four day clinic with Don Halladay (Parelli 5 star instructor and rancher) in September. I plan to go back to semi-retirement next June so hope to be more active with respect to equine activities. Cheers and thanks for WHN!"



(Ivy)

Greg Wiebe

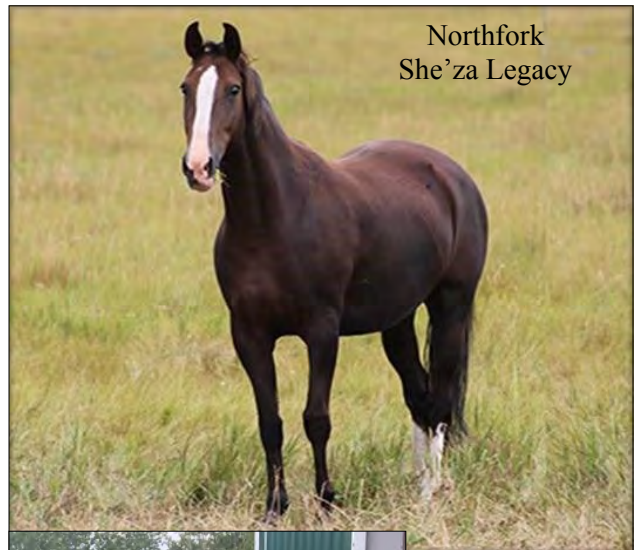
ASHLEY STROUD, ONOWAY AB, "Ivy is doing wonderful. She's very intelligent and has learned everything

we have been teaching her. I think she will be golden palomino. She is just about 4 months in this photo."

From SHELLIE PACOVSKY, SLUSH CREEK WALKERS, BAINVILLE, "Hello from North East Montana. Enclosed is my subscription renewal. I always look forward to the magazine. It really is a great resource for the sound, natural TWH."

"What a year! We had plenty of moisture. Don't know if I can remember a fall so wet. I feel bad for the farmers who still have crops to harvest. All the rain made for lots of hay - the problem was getting it put up. We finally just quit cutting as we had two years-worth of hay on hand. That sure is a nice feeling!"

"We had five foals this spring and one last October. We are holding back two fillies for our own use and three of the remaining are sold. We have nine mares in foal for spring 2020. Kodiak's Bella C.F., Northfork She'za Legacy, SCW The Princess Stride and Zephyr's Chance Aponi are all in foal to SCW Counting Cadence. Red Bud's Bullet Serenade, SC Just Ducky, SC She's Simply Stunning and SCW Red Headed Lil are in foal to Red Zeppelin. SCW Jubal's Pixie Stick is in foal to SCW He's A Midnight Legend. We are really looking forward to spring and these foals!"



Northfork She'za Legacy



From M. LACY, "Left is Legacy's first offspring, 'Teardrop' (Uphill She'za Legacy Too) by Uphill Heir Trigger, at 4. She's been in training with Paige Sargeant this summer."

Shiver, Leslie, & Sapphire



PASSING HANDS

From PAIGE STERN, BLUFFTON, AB "Congratulations to Leslie Hunchuk, Millerville, AB on her purchase of my two 2019 fillies; PS Luna's Spring Shiver and PS Silky's Golden Sapphire, *above!* I can't wait to watch them grow through your wonderful photos, and I hope you enjoy them as much as we did here!"

Heartbreaker & Rhonda



WINDI SCOTT of MAYERTHORPE, AB is pleased to congratulate Ashley Stroud and Greg Wiebe on their purchase of GAM's Sunbeam, a 2007 chestnut mare. Best wishes and many happy trails with Sunny Beam!

From SHELLIE PACOVSKY, SLUSH CREEK WALKERS, BAINVILLE, MT "Our congratulations to Connie Kissell on the purchase of the fine colt, SCW Midnight Dapper Dan. He left last night for the warmer climate of California... kind of wish I was going with him! Congratulations also to Matt and Chriss Cheff on the purchase of the black colt, SCW Long Lean Lanky Jones. And finally, congratulations to Amy Lauzon of Mane Gait Walkers, Cayley, AB on the purchase of this exceptional filly, SCW Ravishing Ruby!"



Photo Left: RHONDA GOEHRING, PONOKA, AB is the proud new owner of Karla's Heartbreaker (Karlas Hustler x Pride of Gen's Terminator). This tall boy was the only Ride Easy Ranch baby for 2019. Wishing you all the best with this nice black colt, Rhonda!

JOYCE DASSONVILLE, CHILLIWACK BC, writes, "I have put my 'horse shopping' for a horse for my daughter on hold until the spring. I just decided that winter was not a good time to bring a horse to a new barn, where it would not get the same attention that it would have in the spring, summer and fall. But I will be ready to look again in March."

J. Glenn Robinson



Yesterday I attended a memorial for J. Glenn Robinson. The majority of the people in attendance knew Glenn through business. As I listened to the heartfelt memories of those with whom he had a professional relationship in addition to a friendship, I realized that I only knew Glenn in a limited way - through his involvement with the TWH. I also realized that the qualities that people admired about Glenn were the same qualities I recognized and appreciated about him - values, ethics, loyalty, empathy and passion. What Glenn learned from the past, he used to make the future better in many ways.

Those who remember “The Canadian Futurity” may not recognize Glenn by name, but will remember the quiet man with the black cowboy hat who watched every class. You may remember the man who only showed the black horses – black horses with the G2 brand. Glenn and his wife Gerda lived on a rural property at Millarville, AB - G2 Ranch for Glenn and Garda. Glenn was a staunch supporter of “The Canadian” and Glenn and the G2 prefix horses were on many trophies from 1991 to 2002. It has been a long time since I checked

the history of “The Canadian”, but I was not surprised to discover G2 in front of many winners. G2 was always followed by Rena or Misty, to recognize the mares of Glenn’s breeding program, followed by Master, Molly, Annie, Rainy, Sir Prize, Stormy. The Finished Horse or The 5 Year Award is for the horse that has entered and competed in “The Canadian” as a weanling, yearling, two year old, three year old and four or five year old *and* won the five year old (canter) class. Horses with the G2 prefix won this prestigious award in 1994, 1995, 1998, 2000, and 2002. If Glenn had a passion, it was driving. Horses bred and owned by Glenn won 4 of the 9 times the Driving Performance class was offered (Misty, Stormy, Annie, Molly).

I first met Glenn at a clinic hosted by Marlin and Henry Matechuk. Glenn had just purchased a TWH mare, Eb’s Jet Stream. I thought Glenn’s primary interest was trail riding and that was correct, but he was also interested in breeding. He then purchased Da Jo Misty’s Rena and Glenn had the mares he wanted for his breeding program. In addition to being black, they were mares with good dispositions, good bone and strong hindquarters. Glenn chose Midnight Toddy, owned by Grethe and Viggo Sorenson of Strathmore, as the sire. Glenn was pleased with the resulting offspring and continued to breed to Toddy. I did not know it at the time, but Glenn had a goal – to breed a matched black four horse team of Tennessee Walking Horse geldings. In addition, the team had to be between 16 - 17 hands. Glenn did achieve this goal. Glenn in a yellow wagon driving a team of four big black TWH was often seen driving in the area around Millarville. Glenn and his horses were also frequently in the Calgary Stampede Parade.

I often hear the expression “From the Rail to the Trail” to indicate that the TWH can be a show horse as well as a trail horse and be good at both activities. Glenn’s horses did that and more. The same horses Glenn entered in the show ring were used on the trail as riding horses, pack horses and driving horses. Glenn achieved his goal but on the way to achieving that goal he touched the lives of many horse enthusiasts and

promoted the TWH. It was fitting that Johnny Cash singing ‘The Tennessee Stud’ was the first song played at the memorial.

Dianne Little





THIS N' THAT from the ALBERTA WALKING HORSE ASSOCIATION

The AWhA Board of Directors is busy making plans for 2020. The new year will be started off with the Annual General Meeting & mini clinic, tentatively set for Feb 29, 2020. Details and location in mid Alberta to follow.

The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse is planning on sharing the date and location for their AGM. Hope to see you at both these meetings.

The AWhA has a number of Director positions to be voted on at the AGM. Positions include: President, Treasurer, Events Director and Communications Director. If you are willing to let your name stand for any of these positions, let Alynn Ward know.

As you keep warm this winter, let us know what events you would like the AWhA to host in 2020.

Check the website: www.awha.ca or

Find us on 

Alberta Walking Horse Association

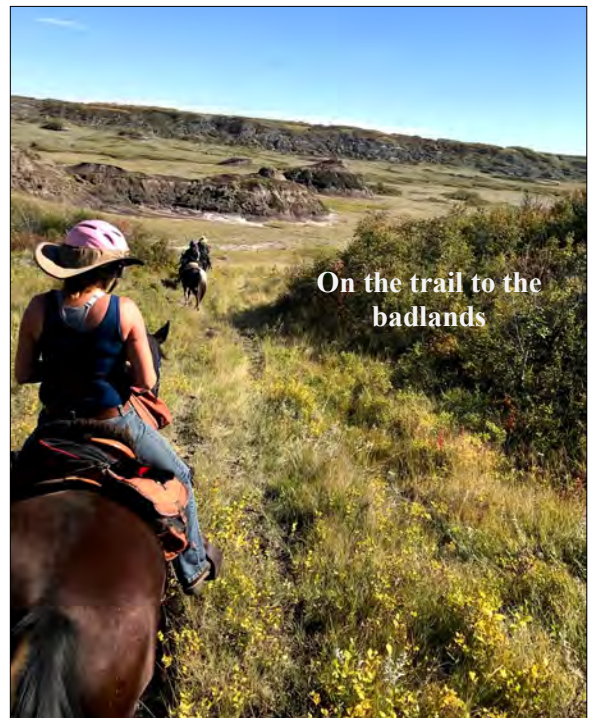
HAVE A GREAT DAY & WALK ON!

.....

At the AWhA Wind-Up Ride near Donalda, AB



Mounting up,
ready to go



On the trail to the
badlands



Last are three kinds of horse colour dilutions –

CRÈME, CHAMPAGNE & SILVER

The most common and best known dilution is CRÈME. If a horse inherits a single copy of this gene, it dilutes its basic colour to a lighter version, like adding cream to your coffee. But the creme gene shows a really noticeable effect only on red. Thus a basic red horse becomes one of the yellow shades with a white mane & tail that we call PALOMINO. A bay horse inheriting a single crème gene becomes a BUCKSKIN; the red body colour diluting to yellowish but the black mane, tail, lower legs and points remaining black.

What about a ‘SMOKY BLACK’- an all-black horse that inherits a single copy of the crème gene? Here there are many variations, but mostly it is hard to tell just by observation. Some are jet black and show no signs of their hidden crème gene. Others may appear the colour of dark chocolate. Occasionally lighter eyes may indicate that the gene is present.

Maybe you’ve noticed that the above talks only about a “single copy of the crème gene”? What happens if the horse receives two, one from each parent? A ‘double dilute’, a horse with two creme genes, appears to have almost all the colour bleached out of its hair and skin. A double dilute red horse, called a CREMELLO, will be lightest, while a double dilute bay, called PERLINO, may show some grayish colour in mane and tail, while a double dilute black, a SMOKY CREME, will also appear a ‘washed out’ whitish cream colour with ashy grayish mane & tail. All three of these crème double dilutes will have pink skin and blue eyes.

Another dilution gene is known as CHAMPAGNE. It seems to dilute the horse’s colour the same whether the horse has one or two of these genes. The body colour is lightened, and champagne horses often have lighter eyes – amber, greenish, light brown – and pinkish or mottled skin. A champagne diluted red horse is called a GOLD CHAMPAGNE, a champagne diluted bay horse an AMBER CHAMPAGNE, and a champagne diluted black horse a CLASSIC CHAMPAGNE.

The last kind of dilution, SILVER, works only on black pigment and appears to have no effect on red. Thus a black horse with the silver gene has its coat lightened to a chocolatey brown with mane and tail often much lighter in colour. It’s called a BLACK SILVER; originally called chocolate chestnuts in the Mountain Horse breeds where they are prevalent. A BAY SILVER horse will have the black mane, tail, lower legs and points lightened, but the red body colour will be unchanged. They may be mistaken for flax sorrels by some. And what happens with a red horse that inherits the silver gene? It will show no outward sign of having it, but can carry it hidden within and pass it on to its offspring.

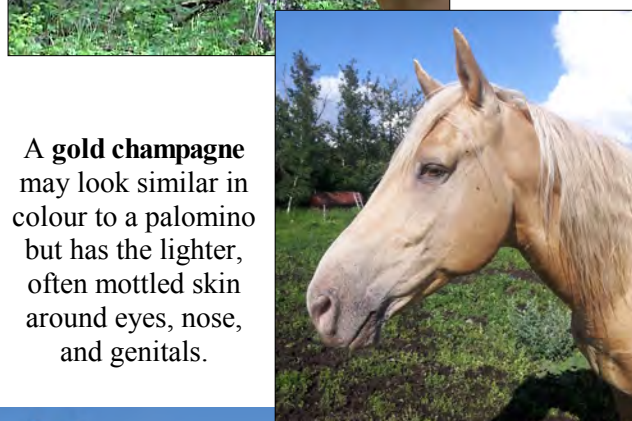
M. Lacy



The above photo demonstrates the difference between champagne and creme dilution both in skin and eye colour. Champagne foals’ are born with blue eyes which change colour as they reach adulthood.



A **buckskin** clearly shows that it is a crème dilute bay, with its dark skin & eyes and black points.



A **gold champagne** may look similar in colour to a palomino but has the lighter, often mottled skin around eyes, nose, and genitals.



An example of a **black silver** with body colour a rich brown and mane & tail almost flaxen.



The Canadian Walker

Volume 18, Issue 6

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December, 2019

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**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS,
TO ALL OUR MEMBERS,**



AND A HAPPY, HEALTHY, NEW YEAR IN 2020!



FROM YOUR CRTWH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NEWS FLASHES

- **NOMINATIONS** are called for Directors from Alberta and Ontario. Emails &/or letters were sent Nov 8.
- **MEMBERSHIP** renewals for 2020 are due for all annual members by Jan 1, 2020. Cost is \$30 for the year or \$300 for a lifetime membership, sent to CLRC, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7
- **CANADIAN TRIPLE CHALLENGE** Program for Excellence – 4 horses entered in a total of 8 categories. All are new entries to the PFE. Training Levels - 7 horses entered in 17 categories. 5 are new entries to TLC. Entries were due by October 31.

OCTOBER ON-LINE AUCTION

The on-line auction was very well received and many interesting items were featured... and sold! Thank you to everyone who generously donated items, and thanks to all of you who bid on them.

Bobbie and Chloe Buck did a wonderful job of organizing and administering the auction. Your hard work was very much appreciated! Quite a lot of money was raised to support our CRTWH educational programs such as The Canadian Triple Challenge.

UNIQUE Christmas Gift!

You can give a permanent tribute to a friend's special horse on crtwh.ca For a \$50 donation its story and photos will live on in 'A Horse to Remember'. ddlittle@telus.net



Great Christmas Gifts!



High Quality hoodies with the CRTWH logo and
**'PROUDLY CANADIAN REGISTERED
TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE'**

Logo also on front pocket

Grey, zipper front, Size S

Black, zipper front, Sizes S, M,
L & XL

Black pullover, Sizes S, M, L, & XL

\$65.00

including shipping and handling.

Order soon, supply is limited!

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CANADIAN, EH?



Did you Know

1940's - first TWH's crossed the border into Canada

1982 - Canadian General Stud and Herd book included 125 TWH's

1982 - CRTWH established under Canadian Department of Agriculture



'The Canadian' 40th 2022

Help Plan the Party

Share memories, pictures, videos

Contests and Exclusive Canadian Prizes

Kick Start 'The Canadian' 40th

If you own a CRTWH registered horse in your name, come join the party!
(Virtually)

Send your name & the registered name and number of your horse to

ancestrycontest@crtwh.ca

by January 7, 2020 for a Random Draw for a Hoodie (see opposite page)

Winner announced and highlighted in next issue

Watch for new contests in every issue of WHN and Canadian Walker

Bob Womack's ECHO OF HOOFBEATS 2nd edition 1984, page 272:

'There is quite an irony in the fact that pleasure Walking Horses are beginning to make an impact on Canadian horse stock, since it was from that country that the breed received its major thrust. Without exception authorities on Walking Horses have attributed their eventual development to the Canadian Pacer. It is almost as if the Canadians are saying, "We appreciate you Americans taking care of our horse, but we are now ready to reclaim and improve upon what you have done."

HINTS FOR THE HORSE PHOTOGRAPHER by Jo-Anne McDonald

What makes a GOOD horse photo?

I like to see a side view of the horse with good contrast in the background and no distractions such as fences, trees and so on interfering with the view of horse. The side view without distracting details will tell the best possible story of the horse's conformation. The clearer the picture, the better the



Good contrast; horse standing up; good foot placement.

story.

Take note of the background. Dark green trees do not show well if your subject is a black horse whereas a lighter horse will look wonderful with this background. A photo of a dark horse taken against the sky will show it up to best advantage. Try for a clear grassy area for these shots if possible. I realize that we cannot always have a clear shot but do try to select a background with the least clutter possible.

The photographer should make sure the sun is behind his back for most shots. I know that sometimes this presents a shadow of said photographer in the picture - but it gives the best light to the subject. Please do not take a picture into the sun! Our auto focus cameras will adjust accordingly and it will be a poor picture.

When you are ready, have your handler stand the horse up and have a 'secret incentive' to get its ears up and expression alert. (Some folks have a whinny ring tone on their phone and that will certainly do it!) I also want to see the horse's legs and how they are positioned. The photographer must be careful to fill the frame with the horse standing

square, but don't cut off its feet... or its ears!

Now I would like to see a head shot. That should include a clean, well fitted halter... no ratty halter shanks for me as this is a distraction and tells me the owner does not care how he presents his horse. The side profile should show a clean line from nose, throat and muzzle.

When I first started photographing horses it was with film so we strove to get the best picture with the fewest number of tries. Now with digital technology it is a lot easier (and less expensive!). Do not be afraid to delete any pictures showing the horse with an ear back, a foot cocked, an eye half closed... **Just get rid of them.** It's human nature to remember the one *bad* picture that you put out there, never mind all the good ones! I have seen many pictures that, in my opinion, should have been deleted - out of focus, bad angles with much distortion (and many of those are head-on shots which make the horse look like he has a block of wood for a head). Always keep in mind - would you purchase the horse from these pictures if that's all you knew about it?

If there are photos of the horse being ridden, these too are desirable, but I always want to see some without tack so I can assess its conformation. *Anything wrong with this photo ?*



Taking better pictures of our horses is not rocket science, just common sense.

Before putting out a picture for the public, think "Is this photo really appealing? Does it show the horse at its best?" Would I want to buy this horse from the picture? That's the acid test!

Competitive Trail Ride 2019

BORDER COULEE CTR by Ron Smith

In my books, the competitive trail ride is the ultimate event for our Tennessee Walking Horse. We often brag about the ability of our Walkers to go all day at a smooth flat walk or running walk. Well, here is the chance to put the money where the mouth is.

Dale Russell from Diamond City and I attended the Border Coulee CTR at Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park on September 20 to September 22. The remote wide-open range and eerie coulees set a nostalgic backdrop for an event that makes you feel you could be chasing whisky traders 150 years ago.

Friday night there were at least 50 minicamps set up in the bush around the rodeo grounds. People were friendly, enjoying good conversation and gourmet camp meals. Dale and I fried up a couple of steaks with roasted potatoes and the last of the corn from my garden. Everyone was vetted in by eight when we had the orientation. The trail was to be 23 miles for novices in two loops timed at 4.5 miles per hour – perfect for a nice fast flat walk. The open group were to do both loops twice and had nine hours to complete. The trail would wind around the hoodoos and coulees and up on the grass flats and included a couple of river crossings.

Sleep was punctuated with two old men snoring and distant coyotes howling.

The open riders left at seven A.M so the camp was abuzz by six. There were 75 horses; the vast majority in the novice division.

To make a long story short, a great ride and potluck was enjoyed by all... except me. I fell out of the camper in the dark and injured my back so headed home early. Not so for Mr. Russell. When prizes were announced Sunday morning Dale was pleased and surprised to take home first place! Maverick is a real mover. He was always having to wait for riding partners picking their way through the rough going. Maverick could easily have done the intermediate ride which is timed at 5 ½ miles per hour.

Maverick came from Neitak Equestrian in Spruce Grove. Below is Dale on Encore's Maverick.



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DUSTY'S MYSTERY LAMENESS

PART 2

Breezes Dust Storm 968260

by Terry Kinch, Errington, B.C.

October 4th was a great day! First, my September/October issue of *WHN* arrived, then Dr. Colin Scruton came to do a post-surgical check on Dusty after his two month confinement. It was a long time to be cooped up, for both Dusty and me, but we survived.

Colin had me halter Dusty and walk him around my 100 x 50 foot riding ring. I use the word "walk" loosely. I was almost jogging to keep up with his huge stride. I had to keep any bounce out of my stride or Dusty would have moved into a run/walk. So my short legs were really pumping and I was stretching out as far and fast as I could go!

Colin was so impressed with the way Dusty was moving out that he decided NOT to give him the shot of cortisone for swelling that he had planned on. We got the all-clear to open up his small 30 x 30 foot paddock to his regular 100 x 100 foot paddock. And lastly we were given instructions to start Dusty on a rehab regime, starting with hand walking on flat, level, smooth surfaces for 20 minutes/day. Not a lot of places to go around here for that type of landscape, so there has been a lot of walking the same local roads around here, over and over and over again. You can only go so far in 10 minutes.

I also found out about the "foreign body" found within the cyst. It was a smooth, firm, white, cylindrical piece of tissue, not foreign at all, and best news yet, BENIGN! I have sent a message to Dr. Scruton to see if he still has the photos he took during the surgery, and am hoping he will email them to me so I can share them with you. Still have no idea why or how it came to be in there, but it is out now and Dusty is walking pain-free.

It will be a few more months before I know whether or not he will be able to hit the trails again. On our walks, I have noticed he stumbles a little when there is a dip or rough spots in the road, but that could be because he is shoeless at the moment. Fingers crossed!

Thanks for letting me share my news and for the good luck wishes. I'll contact you in the future with photos of me in the saddle again in the spring. (Power of positive thinking!)

Still keeping my fingers crossed...

Terry

DRIVING THE LEVELS by Kristy Coulter

Winter is upon us and it's time to get out and enjoy the snow and our Tennessee Walkers. The Canadian Tennessee Walker is very versatile and many of our members enjoy the winters driving their horses. There is nothing like a sleigh ride on a sunny winter day!

These sleigh rides are a great time to start training your Canadian Tennessee Walker for the Training Levels driving. Level 1 is nice and easy and you don't need to invest in harness to do it. You can use a surcingle, a saddle with the lines through the stirrups, or just long lines attached to the bit.

For **Driving Level One**, the flat walk is the only gait asked for. You will need to ground drive your Canadian Tennessee Walker through obstacles such as upright poles, do several changes of direction, maneuver through 10 poles on the ground, be able to halt for 30 seconds and do a 20 meter circle in both directions.

Driving Level Two is done with the horse hitched to the sleigh or buggy. A pleasure pattern is requested and must contain certain elements. Some of these elements are: changes of direction, 20 meter circles, halts and backing up. These can easily be videoed in a field at home or in an arena.

Driving Level Three is a combined obstacle driving course with the horse hitched to a sleigh or buggy. The Programs give several obstacles that could be used, but your course only needs to contain 10. Some of the suggestions are cones, a bridge, water and backing up 20 feet. Again this could be done at home or you could try entering a driving competition and have a friend video it for you.

If you are interested in doing the Driving Levels with your Canadian Tennessee Walker, you can check out our website at crtwh.ca. There is a lot of support for anyone wanting to do any of our Canadian Triple Challenge Programs, which include the Program For Excellence and the Ride/Drive/ALT Program as well as the part of the Training Levels Challenge described above. If you are not sure where to start, follow us on Facebook and reach out to our members. We are always ready to give you a helping hand.

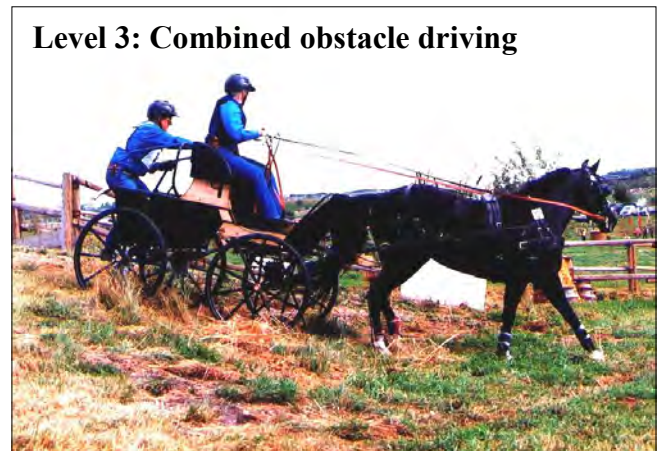
Our Driving Journal by Brenda & Stephen Woodall chronicles how they, as driving novices, took their 3 never-before-driven Walkers through the TLC Driving Levels. See the 2014 WHN issues for the series.



Level 1: Ground driving (with a surcingle)



Level 2: Driving to a cart or sleigh



Level 3: Combined obstacle driving



Driving just for fun!

From Foundations to the Future

GILES COUNTY, TENNESSEE by Franne Brandon

Giles County, Tennessee, in the early twentieth century, was as it is now, beautiful, hilly country with fertile valleys between the hilltops. Limestone outcroppings in the hills can shelter springs that bubble up, while small caves exist on some wooded hillsides. A border county with the state of Alabama, it has never developed any major metropolitan areas. In the 1930's, it was a very rural area, the county seat of Pulaski being a small town, and the other towns, among them Lynnville and Waco, small villages with very few amenities. The entire area was feeling the first effects of the Great Depression when one man fell in love with the area and brought a project to it that would have a major impact on the residents of the county, and later on the breed of horses that was yet to be recorded and promoted.

Franklin C. Mars was the son of a farmer. His father, Luther Mars, raised cattle in addition to owning a flour mill and a sawmill. Frank decided that he needed a college education in order to reach his full potential in life. After completing his degree, he went into the field of candy manufacturing. He gained experience in various parts of the United States.

After that, he moved back to his home state of Minnesota, to St. Paul, and developed a new candy which he named Patrician in honor of his daughter. The Patrician candies were highly successful, providing the funds necessary for Mars to establish the Mars Bar Company. Originally incorporated in Minnesota, Mars moved the company to Chicago to be convenient to its railway lines. Mars' Milky Way candy bar, delicious as well as affordable, became the most popular candy in the United States, and later, the world.

A very wealthy Frank Mars, still with a love of farming and the country, decided that he wanted to establish a showplace farm. A lady he had met in Chicago who once lived in Giles County, Tennessee, told him about a suitable property for sale there. Mars took the train to Tennessee, purchased the property, and bought quite a few others. In total, he purchased varying size farms for a combination of 2005 acres, buying smaller properties to combine into one large estate. Work to develop this farm began in 1930. The scope of the original Milky Way Farm was breathtaking. The farm featured show barns for registered Hereford cattle, a world famous "crooked sheep barn" for the farm's Hampshire sheep, an equine show barn for Mars' American Saddlebred show horses, barns for the mules that did the heavy farm

work. Middle Tennessee would not see mechanized agriculture for another twenty years. The horses that were ridden for everyday work on the farm were not of any registered breed. But in the early thirties, both the Tennessee Walking Horse and the American Quarter Horse associations were a few years in the future. Some of the photos of the farm's everyday saddle horses reveal animals that appear to be the native saddle horses, sturdy, calm, hardworking, that would later be registered as Tennessee Walking Horses.

The farm's native limestone was quarried by Mars' army of workers for some of the buildings. To assure that his workers had secure home bases, his crews also constructed sixty cottages where the farm workers lived. It was a beautiful agricultural showpiece, helping the area to survive the Great Depression as well as fulfilling Frank Mars' passionate dream.

The dream ended when Mr. Mars died in 1934. His wife, Ethel, took over the running of the farm for a number of years. Ethel Mars did not, however, favor the American Saddlebred show horses that had been her husband's love. Instead, her interest lay in the sport of kings, in the Thoroughbred race horses. Mars had financed the construction of a training race track in his original plans. In 1940, a horse racing under the green and white silks of Milky Way Farm crossed the finish line first in the Kentucky Derby. Gallahadion reminds horse racing fans that champion Thoroughbreds were once trained in the hills of Middle Tennessee.

Ethel Mars continued the management of Milky Way Farm for eleven years following the death of her husband. Then, in April of 1945, she sold the entire establishment for \$575,000. The farm would eventually be split into sections, sold and resold. The show horse barn remained in good working order, however, and approximately twenty years after its sale, the registered Tennessee Walking Horse made its way into what had started as the domain of championship quality American Saddlebreds.

M.L. Magnusson opened a walking horse stables at the Old Milky Way Farms. In the sixties, the breed was undergoing an upswing in popularity. The show horse was the focus of this, most horses professionally trained but some showing and competing with amateur trainers working their own stock.

An ad in the January, 1967, stallion issue of the Voice of the Tennessee Walking Horse magazine (p. 33) for Magnusson's operation shows that he was standing Sun's Rocket Go Boy, a black son of Midnight Sun out of the old show mare Go Boy's Rocket. Other stallions at stud were Go Boy's Magic Man, a bay son of Merry Go Boy, Midnight Perfection M., and Mighty Masterpiece, a bay roan (sabino) full brother to the recent World Grand Champion Ebony Masterpiece. The following January, 1968, Magnusson's stables had expanded to offer a spring sale on February 22 & 23, in addition to the services of trainer Kenneth Womble. Sun's Rocket Go Boy continued as the feature stallion, with a stud fee of \$150, and two new stallions had joined the ranks of stallions at the Milky Way Farm, Stars of the Shadow and Julian's Go Boy. (Voice of the Tennessee Walking Horse, January, 1968, page 29).

Sun's Rocket Go Boy was a very influential stallion during this period when World's Grand Champion stallions were limited in number. He drew a large court of mares and was a popular sire.

It would be another twenty years before the world of the pleasure Tennessee Walking Horse would reopen in Middle Tennessee. Trail riding began a resurgence in the late seventies. The organization of the Pleasure Walking Horse Association of Tennessee in 1984 helped to promote not only organized trail riding but also classes for the flat shod walking horse at the Saturday night shows as well as major multi-night venues in the state.

By the time both were flourishing, the Milky Way Farm had been sold and resold, carved into sections. Today, most of the wooden buildings have fallen down, and only the main residence, as well as the buildings constructed with the quarried native limestone, still stand. One can only wonder if, had Franklin Mars lived longer, he would have made some space in his fine show horse barn for the Tennessee Walking Horse show champions of the thirties and forties.

Sources : Phelps, Johnny. Milky Way Farms : A History. Pulaski Publishing, Inc. Holley's Printing, c 1991

Voice of the Tennessee Walking Horse, January 1967 and January 1968.

Thank you to Betty Sain of Lynchburg, TN for suggesting this story and lending me the book on Milky Way Farms.
F. Brandon



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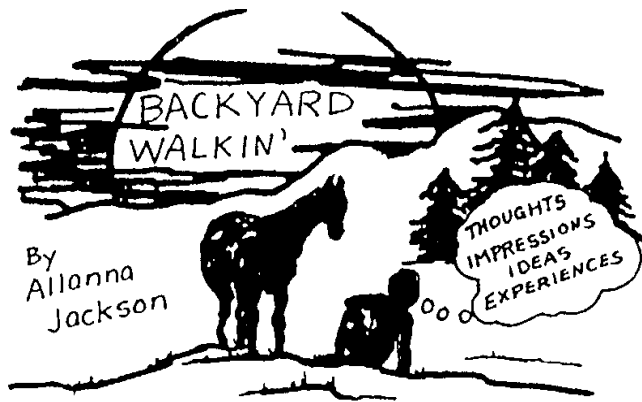
News from TRANQUILITY FARM, SOUTHBANK, B C

Koko's Princess (aka Annie) our only TWH left on the place is all but retired. She struggled a lot this summer with some sort of lung infection. The vet thought was related to grass allergy (clover??) and she was taken off grass in early August. She seems a lot better this fall but I have not attempted to ride her.

I think she is loving retirement although our farm has taken on a few more equine companions along with the sport of combined driving. I am not sure if she is looks longingly to join the fun or is laughing and pointing at the ponies pulling carriages past her. I know that I look longingly at her for another of the best rides I will ever have. Annie is ONLY 21 years young so I have not ruled out future rides.

Louise Anderson
Louise and Annie
a few years ago.





A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT GAITED DRESSAGE

by Allanna Lea Jackson © Oct 2019

My first exposure to dressage was around 1975 when my family and I went to see the American Lipizzaners from Pennsylvania perform in Pasadena, California. The following summer I read the book *Complete Training of Horse and Rider in the Principles of Classical Horsemanship*, by Alois Podhajsky, though I probably understood only 10% of it at the time.

I got my first Walking Horse in 1981. I began writing my Back Yard Walkin' column for *Walking Way* magazine in 1984 and for *Walking Horse News* in 1988. Lee Ziegler introduced herself to me by letter in 1987 and began explaining the connection between posture and gait. Our communication on the subject of gaits and dressage-based training methods continued for the rest of Lee's life. I have continued to explore the connection between posture and gait, gimmick-free, communication based training, and classical dressage principles on my own with my own horses.

My first exposure to competitive dressage for Walking Horses was in the pages of *Walking Horse News* with stories and photos of the CRTWH dressage tests and classes developed and promoted by Helen Williamson, Jo Kingsland and Diane Sept.* In the early 1990's I had private correspondence about gaited dressage with several people in various places, including Helen Williamson. Since then I have observed the progress FOSH has made in developing competitive dressage for gaited horses. My primary equine interest has always been trail riding. Nevertheless, over the years I have made some observations about dressage for Walking Horses:

The classical principles of dressage, as summarized in the Pyramid of Training, do apply to all breeds and all disciplines. The term dressage simply means schooling or education of both horse and rider. While there are many equine sports and activities where the horse's ability to get the job done is more important than

the quality of the horse's movement, dressage is all about the purity and correctness of the gaits, the movements, and the training. This makes dressage a very challenging sport that no one ever fully masters.

I'm encouraged by the progress that has been made in the development of gaited dressage. I'm also concerned by some instances in which scores for gaited dressage appear to be inflated because impure gaits and training errors were seemingly not penalized as severely in gaited horses as they usually are in trotting horses that exhibit the same performance deficiencies. This inconsistency is not merely unfair to the riders; it is detrimental to the welfare of the horses. If rewarding impure gaits and training errors becomes an entrenched practice it will lead gaited dressage astray and will prevent us from attaining the full benefits the best dressage has to offer our gaited horses. It will also reduce the credibility of gaited dressage in the international dressage community.

The interaction between gaitedness and dressage principles is too broad a subject to cover in a single article. Here are a few points that we need to keep in mind. ONE, the basic principles of rhythm, suppleness, contact, impulsion, engagement, straightness, and collection are the same for all horses regardless of gait. These are summarized in the dressage Pyramid of Training. TWO, we need to be very, very careful that the differences between four-beat gaits and trot do not become excuses for impure gaits or rationalizations for using training methods that dressage has rejected. Dressage, as a judged sport, is focused on the biomechanical purity of the gaits as dressage has defined them and the correctness of the exercises and movements. Those who do not want to apply the dressage definitions of pure walk and pure canter to gaited horses are perverting dressage, not complying with its fundamental principles. Here are some things in dressage that are the same for all breeds, regardless of which intermediate gait the horse does:

Halts should be straight with the horse standing square on all four feet. This requirement reflects the straightness and correct balance of both horse and rider. Gaitedness is not an excuse for sloppy halts.

The requirements for correct contact, defined as the connection and acceptance of the bit through acceptance of the aids, are the same for gaited horses as for trotting horses. A horse that is above the bit, against the bit, behind the bit, behind the vertical, blocked, constricted, or inconsistent in the contact is not supple, engaged, collected, or accepting the aids in the way dressage defines these terms.

Purity of gaits is central to dressage, yet gaited dressage is tempted to use gaitedness as an excuse for

impure gaits. This is especially true for Walking Horses because we have so many competing and conflicting definitions of flat-walk and running walk. The dressage standards for pure walk and pure canter are very beneficial to Walking Horses if we admit that flat-walk equals walk and canter equals canter. The dressage standard of purity for the extended walk is applicable to the running walk. Telling ourselves that flat-walk is a different gait from the walk that is universal to all horses is a lie that perpetuates impossible performance expectations. Telling ourselves that the rocking chair canter is different from the canter of other breeds endorses gait defects that are physically harmful to the horse.

Dressage considers a pacey walk and a rocking canter to be impure gaits that should be penalized in the scoring. I don't have space to go into all the details of why, but the objections to pacey walk and rocking canter are centered in the basic dressage definitions of rhythm, regularity, tempo, engagement, impulsion, straightness, and collection.

If we're going to do dressage with Walking Horses the walk and canter should be judged by dressage standards, not by performance traditions that are incompatible with dressage principles. Dressage is not easy. Dressage takes time. There are no short cuts in correct dressage training. Dressage is a journey that takes a life-time to learn and no one ever fully masters it.



*The first official Dressage competition for Tennessee Walking Horses was held in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada in June of 1986. The tests used were developed by a committee of members of the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse and included Jo Kingsland, Helen Williamson and Diane Sept. To the best of our knowledge, this was the first Dressage competition using tests designed for Tennessee Walking Horses.

IN MY OPINION

From BRENDA BAKER, CALGARY, AB,
 “I’d like to voice my opinion on pictures that are out of focus and more: please send in your best photos. I want to read your news and see your pictures but nowadays there should be very few out of focus.”

“Maybe there have been some printing issues that I am not aware of. Be warned that when your gelding stretches out when you are on him, he is likely peeing. You are not fooling anyone.”

Editor’s Note: Yes! Any time you show your horse to the rest of the world, it’s important to present it to best advantage. That means cleaned up, with mane and tail brushed out and feet neat and trimmed. It also means standing up squarely, with ears up and interested, against a plain background that won’t detract from the horse.

Beyond that, note the direction of the light, and check that the horse is in focus before snapping your photo.

Before you send a picture to be published, whether it’s for news or for sale, look at it critically and say to yourself ‘Would this picture interest me in this horse? If I were looking, would I consider buying this one?’ Simply put, if it doesn’t make your horse look good, don’t send the picture.

Another pitfall is sending photos taken off face book. They have been reduced in size, so when printed they don’t have enough definition and often come out looking ‘fuzzy’. And finally, I’m sorry but no photo looks as good when changed from colour to grayscale, but that costs more than *WHN* can manage.

The bottom line is still - *we really want to hear from you all and see your pictures too.*

THIS APPLIES TO PHOTOS TOO!

From TALES OF A WILDERNESS WANDERER
 True Stories from the Western Frontier by Andy Russell

“There have been those who have accused us people of the mountain country of being prone to exaggerate the stories we tell around the evening fires. They have neither appreciation or understanding, for if they did they would know that telling a story is like selling a horse – the appreciation of a good animal is likely to be much higher if one takes the time and trouble to do a bit of currying and brushing. *It doesn’t matter how good the basic article may be if it is displayed in mediocrity*, a fact of life that all good horse-traders and storytellers are aware of.”

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BOOKS & VIDEOS



THE ECHO OF HOOFBEATS – by Dr. Bob Womack published by Dabora Inc, Shelbyville, TN. Traces the history & development of the TWH breed.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE by Ben Green. The history & background of the TWH. Available from Four Craftsmen Publishing, PO Box U, Lakeside, AZ 85929-0585. 1-928-367-2076. Payments accepted by check or money order.

EASY GAITED HORSES by Lee Ziegler, Storey Publishing. 247 pages, Paperback. www.storey.com.

BACK YARD WALKIN' Training Tips by Allanna Jackson. Available from Four Craftsmen Publishing, P.O. Box U, Lakeside AZ 85929-0585 1(928) 367-2076. Payments accepted by check or money order.

FOSH'S COLLECTION OF TWH TRAINING ARTICLES - 23 articles on training Tennessee Walkers using common sense, good horsemanship, and empathy with the horse. www.fosh.info

TRAIL RIDING, Train, Prepare, Pack Up and Hit the Trail by Rhonda Hart Poe. No one who trail rides on a Walker or other easy gaited horse should be without it! Storey Books 2005, available in bookstores and on-line.

GAITED HORSES, NATURALLY & CANTERING THE WALKING HORSE Videos with David Lichman, a Parelli 5 star Premier Instructor. Go to www.DavidLichman.com

COMING EVENTS

2019 CRTWH PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE & TRAINING LEVELS VIDEOS

If you missed the deadline,
you can still submit your videos for 2019
until March 31, 2020
with an additional \$15.00 late fee.

Contact Dianne Little at 403-271-7391
or email ddlittle@telus.net.

Mail to:
619 Lake Linnet Cres. S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3.

THE NEXT WHN DEADLINE IS

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*Submit news, opinions, photos
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