

AUGUST 2023
VOLUME XLVII, No. 4



Walking Horse News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977

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On Our Cover

“Umm, not sure if I like this taste...”

This little filly, foaled May 2, 2023, is shown with her dam, Kodiaks Golden Girl tasting her very first spring dandelion, hand-fed by Peter Szewczyk.

Photo courtesy of
Tanya Johnston

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DEADLINE**

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Volume XLVII #4

August, 2023

Dear Subscribers,

Summer is *speeding* along - we're nearly into August already! Weatherwise we've gone from record high temperatures in the 30's to lows in the single digits with intermittent strong rainstorms. It certainly hasn't been ideal growing weather. So hay crops are ranging from almost nothing to average in many areas of Alberta. Most of our hay is still standing. Fingers crossed for some dry weather now! I wish you all good luck finding enough winter feed.

There are quite a few foals again in this issue, so that bodes well for riders of the future. And there seems to be a demand for well trained Walkers. It makes such a difference in the adult when foals are handled from birth and learn to trust. It takes away so much of their instinctive fearfulness. It's well worth taking the time with the babies.

We have information on the Equine Foundation of Canada on page 6, a request for Good Fellow Award nominations from AWhA members on page 13, a note on the new Liberty Training Level on page 12, plus news, ads and interesting Foundations and Back Yard Walkin' articles from Franne Brandon & Allanna Jackson.

Enjoy!

Marjorie



SORREL or RED CHESTNUT with self-colored mane & tail. For more on favorite horse colours see pages 14 & 15.

RED FILLY (Uphill Heir Trigger x Kodiak's Dyna C.F.)

Owned by Marjorie Lacy, Uphill Farm, EDSON, AB.

See Foal Call on pages 7 & 11.

IN THIS ISSUE – August, 2023

LIST OF CONTENTS

News.....	3,4
Central Alberta Walker Horse Tour.....	5
Foal Call.....	4,8
Readers Write.....	5
Backyard Walkin': Canadian Adventures by A. Jackson.....	6, 7
Passing Hands.....	7
The Canadian Walker.....	9
People Helping People Helping Horses.....	10
AWHA News.....	11
Foundations: Carefree & Colorful by Franne Brandon	12, 13
AD Gallery.....	14,15
Ads, business cards & classifieds.....	16

ADVERTISERS

A.W.H.A.	11
Calta Stables.....	16
CRTWH	page 9, Back Cover
McDonald Farms.....	Inside Front Cover
My Dream Ride - J. Johanson.....	14
Northfork Starlite Gold - Susan Banks.....	15
Ride Easy Ranch - Karla Hansen.....	Inside Front Cover
School of Equine Massage & Rehabilitation Therapies.....	16
Shakin' the Blues - Rob McKenzie,.....	Inside Front Cover
Slush Creek Walkers.....	16
IHWHA.....	Inside Back Cover
Uphill Farm.....	Inside Back Cover
Wildrose Walkers.....	14
Woodalls FF-16 He'za Cruzin Legacy	Inside Back Cover



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August, 2023

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NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

From SUSAN BANKS, NORTHFORK FARM, RIMBEY, AB, “Good morning Marjorie...with receiving your email and the TWH news it reminded me to send you this e-mail.”

“With all the fires we were wondering how you are doing as we heard Edson was evacuated a couple weeks back. Hope all is well It’s so far, so good here at the farm. We are down to eight horses and thinking we would like to get down to four riding geldings. We have a couple of old girls that have retired and are living the life of roaming the pastures.”

“Also thanks for all your work on the TWH news - always enjoyed by both Dad (Jack Gurnett) and myself! I am going to try to get an ad together for a filly that we have here as I’m pretty sure we are not going to be raising any foals. She is beautiful, now five years old, and we would like to see her move forward.”

Jack celebrated his 96th birthday in June. All the best to you, Jack, from all your TWH friends!

From DIANNA TAPLIN, SOLDOTNA, ALASKA, “Dusty (Northfork Cotton Trim) arrived May third.. She is an absolute doll. Everyone adores her. She had some new spooky things to learn about, like moose, cranes, and rabbits. Also Lori told me only grass, no other feed. She has Romeo, CRTWH, in her pasture and four other horses in adjoining fields. She gets along with everyone.”

“In a separate note I will send a picture showing her coloring. Her color, sooty on palomino is new to me but I really love it. Lori was quite surprised, but said every year she is different.”



DUSTY—SPRING 2023



Bob & Cec on Pine Ridge Trail

BOB WATSON, DUCHESS AB wrote to say, “Sorry for the delay in renewing – misplaced the reminder! We don’t own a Walker anymore, and Cec hasn’t trained or shown any for many years, but we do enjoy keeping in touch and reading about what the people and horses are doing.”

“We are heading to Kananaskis to trail ride leaving today, returning Friday evening. Attaching a picture of what we will be enjoying for the next five days. Hope the smoke is clearing there; we have little if any here, but B.C. has over 400 fires burning! Quite a few Walkers in Kananaskis”.

Bob continues, “I am the President of the Equine Foundation of Canada which is a charitable entity registered with CRA over 40 years ago. Our board of directors considers various requests for funding and approve those that meet the parameters of our policies and the regulations of CRA. We are strictly volunteer and until a few years ago all solicitation was done in person. The board decided to do some limited magazine advertising and informing the public of our work about 4 or 5 years ago. We have no trouble finding places to donate funds to - our problem is getting donations to fund our work. ALL donations (over \$10) to the EFC receive a tax deductible receipt from our treasurer.”

See next page for more info on EFC.

BILL ROY, 3370A, HWY 97, FALKLAND, BC V0E 1W1 had a serious accident while out riding in early July. He is recovering at home from concussion, broken ribs, broken bones in his shoulder and more. *Your TWH friends wish you a speedy recovery, Bill. Bill’s phone #1-250-379-2022.*



People Helping People Helping Horses

The Equine Foundation of Canada is a registered charity for the Health and Welfare of the Horse which has been operating in Canada for 40 years. The foundation is operated by a volunteer board of directors and money raised is used to support many different equine causes. Most of the money raised has come as small donations of \$10, \$25, \$50 or \$100, but there have been a few large donations of \$100,000 and upward. Some of the larger donations have come from the estates of deceased horse lovers who willed funds to the equine foundation.

Funds have been approved and granted for a variety of purposes including:

- * Endowments to provide scholarships to Vet students in equine studies.
- * Simulator horses to Canadian universities for students to study on.
- * Rescue trailers to fire departments to attend highway collisions.
- * Simulator rescue horse for firemen to practice rescues with.
- * Venture capital to a new company start up manufacturing simulators.
- * A simulator horse for students to learn massage/chiropractic treatment

All money raised is deposited into a general fund and grants approved by the board are done so within the rules approved for charities by Canada Revenue Agency. Many of the smaller donations are from people wishing to remember friends or animals through the Book of Memory. The donors receive a tax deductible receipt for all donations over \$10.

To carry on with our work of People Helping People Helping Horses we need donations, large or small.

Contact and inquiries can be made through The Equine Foundation Facebook Page equinefoundation@outlook.com, or president Bob Watson by phone at (403) 378 – 4323, email at cbwatson@cciwireless.ca or text at (403) 793 – 1571.

NEWS

From ANNA LANGLOIS, WILDROSE WALKERS, VALLEYVIEW, AB, "It has been a pretty busy summer with lots of challenges. We are trying our best to get good hay in ourselves, but the crop is poor and the weather is typical Alberta - you never know!"

"At the end of June we took my parents to Cut Off Creek for a camping trip with the horse wagon. We had a great time."

"We had nine foals this year, eight registered Walkers (applications pending) and one Singlefooter foal."



"We've sold Dillon's All Blue (bred by McDonald Farms) to Lisa Terrie-Parrish, Redwater AB. Looking forward to seeing Lisa on the trails with this handsome Walker. We had lots of interest in Blue. He shows so much talent and willingness under saddle, and his first drive with the wagon was like hitching up a broke horse. Congratulations Lisa! You'll love this fella!"

An owner of a Tennessee Walking Horse once said that his horse reminded him of a lightning rod, for, as he rode, all the sorrows of his heart flowed down through the splendid muscles of his horse and were grounded in the earth.

Marguerite Henry, Album of Horses

FOAL CALL



WILDROSE KENTUCKY PETE - Black (possibly smoky black) Sabino stud colt (Kentucky Hummer x Wildrose Hat N HiHeels) May 25/23 (*above*)

WILDROSE KENTUCKY SKY Double dilute Colt (Kentucky Hummer x Wildrose Velvet's Honey) May 23/23

WILDROSE KENTUCKY CHICA LINDEE - Palomino filly (Kentucky Hummer x Royal Spice Mocha aka Brownie) June 26/23 (*below*)

Above three & 5 more owned by Wildrose Walkers, Anna & Terry Langlois, VALLEYVIEW, AB



SILVER TOBIANO FILLY - May 24 (Success Marshall Dillion x Blue and Blonde)

SILVER COLT - July 7th. Blaze and ?? white feet. (Shaker's Silver Smoke x Celtic Silver Sundust)

SILVER FILLY - July 20th. Star and ?? white feet. (Sure Silver x Shaker's Candy Kisses)

Above three owned by McDonald Farm, Don & Jo-Anne McDonald, POUCE COUPE, BC

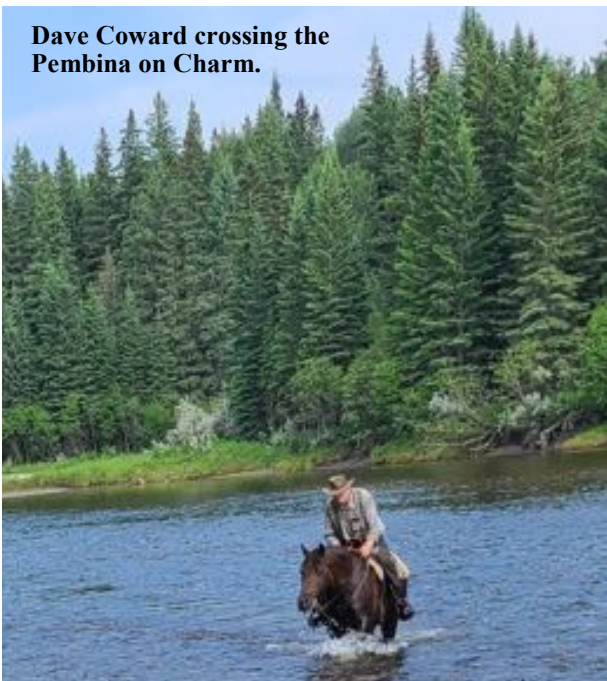


From KARLA HANSEN, RIDE EASY RANCH, PONOKA, AB, "Above, I had a wonderful ride down the Pembina River on Colt 45 on a hot July weekend. He was amazing and didn't hesitate going down the steep bank to the water. He is becoming my 'steady Eddy', forward and smooth."

"I could not believe how warm the river was, Maybe it was mussels or clams I found in the water, the large number of them was surprising."

"Such an awesome summer for riding."

Dave Coward crossing the Pembina on Charm.



READERS WRITE

GRACE LARSON, KALISPELL, MT writes, "Just a note to let you know how much I enjoy the *Walking Horse News* - Taegan Bradshaw's story about life & death; a passing & a birth on her shift, and the loss of her mare, Echo. I loved her Horseradish idea. My Grandmother always ground horseradish for my Grandfather."

"Also The Foothills Therapeutic Riding Association story was interesting. Those that are fortunate enough to ride a TWH for therapy are truly blessed. Walkers are smooth, gentle, and people friendly."

"I Love all the new foals. I live in Kalispell, MT now. Have a huge yard and a nice garden, and also five hens and a rabbit! But I miss the foals; always a surprise. Nowadays Doctors can tell parents if they will have a girl or a boy; but no such skill yet with horses, so that a foal is always a surprise."

BILL HOWES, JALISCO, MEXICO, wrote, "I just finished reading the April *WHN*. I was 'starving' for Walker news! I'd like to comment on some articles in this issue."

"First, Jennifer Hughes, a brand-new convert, piqued my interest with the bloodlines of her mare, 'Dixie's Hot Morning Mist', sired by 'Dixie's Hot Chocolate', a son of our old Lucky's Koko Prince horse. It always feels great to experience pride in being a part of the formulation and promotion of our Tennessee Walking Horses in Canada."

"That was followed by Trisha Newby's story of her mom Donna Rowand and her very informative and honest assessment of abusive practices within our breed in the States. At the time of her mother's activities, one small boy in Saskatchewan was learning to drive his father's work-team and an old '41 Chev pickup, riding his Welsh/Arab cross pony chasing cows morning and night to the town-barn for milking, and all the while dreaming of the next Roy Rogers movie that might come to town."

"Somewhere in there was mention of the Winnipeg Free Press from which I first ordered my Professor Jesse Beery's horse training books from Pleasant Hill, Ohio, in 1952. I was to inherit my grandfather's identical set some thirty years later. (* My grandfather John Shore Howes, was the first 'Sheriff' of Tisdale, Saskatchewan in 1913.) I believe I met Trisha at Windi's old 'Whisper Holler' while boarding there at a time of my first bachelor days."

"Also of note was Franne Brandon's story of the Oliver family and their horses. Here again I found mention of a horse 'Rose Bud Allen' # 35001 who is listed on Koko's registration as being owned by one of the Oliver family. Koko had six Allen's on his pedigree, along with 'Last Chance', a very popular stud at the time."



Back Yard Walkin'

by Allanna Lea Jackson, © July 2023

CANADIAN ADVENTURES

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who so graciously and generously indulged my Alberta vacation in May! Thanks to Karla and Pat, Marjorie, and Windi and Dale for hosting me. Thanks to Brian, Joyce, Paige, Jesseca and Steeve, Lesa, Rob and Jo, Ashley and Greg, Terry and Anna for showing us so many lovely Canadian bred Walking Horses. Thanks to Bobbie, Windi, Marjorie, Alynn and Kristy and Leslie for the nice party and CRTWH for the 3,000-hour award. It was great to chat briefly with Sue Gamble and Bill Roy on the phone on the trip to Tofield, though the purpose of the call was to check on Marjorie's welfare.

Thanks also to Karla's horses Raven and Colt 45 for giving me trail rides with only a little mischief. I never did see the llama that galloped over the hill in the pasture on the other side of the road, but the horses sure did! Colt's one-rein stop is as good as his acceleration. Karla did an excellent job of turning that unpleasant surprise into a positive, productive lesson for the horses.

This was my third Canadian Walking Horse tour. The first one was the Great Southern Alberta Walking Horse tour of October 1990, with Marjorie Lacy and Jo Kingsland. That tour included seeing Kentucky Rainbow, Honey Boy's Rebel, and Midnight Toddy. I rode Uphill Arnica, the dam of both of Marjorie's Platinum award winners in the Program for Excellence. I also rode Shaker's Royal Heir, two young horses by Go Shadow Go, Candy's Bay Lady 2, Uphill Twilight, Luckys Koko Prince, and Kary's Jeppers.

My second tour was in May and June 1992, when my Sacia's Pride and I spent two months with Jo Kingsland in Alix. That trip included seeing Thunder's War Eagle, Northfork Sky Walker, Canadian Crown Royal, Honey Boy's Rebel, Luckys Koko Prince, Answer to Prayer, Maple Leaf Paint, Ringside Gossip, and many more. I rode Jo's mare Candy's Bay Lady 2 in the TRAC ride at Tees. We attended a couple of shows where we saw Tsuniah's Sunday in person two months before he won his Worlds' Championships at the International and Celebration shows in Tennessee.

1992 was also the year Answer to Prayer won the award for the stallion whose progeny scored the most points in The Canadian Futurity. Marjorie and I met Hilton Hack at the schooling show where Dianne Little judged me and my Sacia's Pride in several classes. I met more people and saw more horses than I can list here.

Also in 1992, Sassy and I spent a weekend with Rosemary Jordan where I met her stallion Answer to Prayer. After a ride with Rosemary on Answer in Blue and me on Sassy, she asked me if I wanted to go to Edmonton Mall or go look at another stallion. What a question! We went to meet Stan Martin and He'za Summer Star. My first impression of Star was, "That must be why they called them Copperbottoms!" Remembering the Copperbottom family of Canadian Pacers in TWH pre-history. He'za Summer Star's color reminded me of the solid copper bowl I used for cooking custard at the commercial bakery where I worked. Stan slipped a bridle on He'za Summer Star and rode him bareback up and down the driveway in a perfectly square running walk. Was that 30 years ago already?

It was time for another trip to Alberta! When I made plans to go to the CRTWH 40th Event in 2022 I contacted my cell phone provider to ask if I would have service in Alberta and was assured I would. A vaccine-dodging variant of COVID canceled my trip to the 40th Event so the Great Central Alberta Walking Horse Tour of 2023 was plan B... with a few surprises.

Friday May 5, 2023, 7:39 AM Marjorie left a message on my answering machine, "Wish you Godspeed on your journey, but you've probably already left. I hope you have a good journey. Take care. We'll see you tomorrow." I called her back about noon and got no answer, but assumed she was outside tending her horses or garden. That evening I took the commuter flight from Show Low to Sky Harbor airport in Phoenix, AZ, then took the airport shuttle to a hotel. At the hotel I checked my texts and found a message from Karla saying she was picking me up at Edmonton Airport. I was expecting that because the plan was for Marjorie and Karla to meet me at the airport so we could all go to Karla's for the weekend. I answered Karla's text and she replied promptly. Everything seemed to be going according to plan.

Saturday, May 6, 2023, I took the airport shuttle back to Sky Harbor and waited in the long lines through security. The flight to Edmonton went smoothly. After landing in Edmonton, the pilot told us we could turn on our electronic devices so I turned on my phone to text Karla and discovered I had no service! The automated customs system would not accept my pass port so I talked to a live person. I had no trouble getting in, though he did ask how recently I'd talked to Marjorie.

worked; it just couldn't connect to the outside world. I went out to the pick-up area and saw no sign of Marjorie or Karla. I did see dozens of white vehicles.

Back inside the terminal I found an information desk. The lady there directed me to a land-line phone that I used to call Karla. She answered on the first ring and told me she was driving a white Dodge truck. I told her I was wearing a bright yellow jacket. I went back outside and found Karla waving at me from the center lane. There was no sign of Marjorie. Karla explained that Edson and Yellowhead County had been evacuated due to wildfire! Karla and I stopped at a Subway on the way out of the airport.



Above: Allanna with one of Brian Martins' descendants of He'za Walker.

I've been telling friends in the US that the Canadians have preserved some of the best Walking Horse lineages that Tennessee discarded decades ago. Within two hours after landing in Edmonton, Karla and I were admiring Brian Martin's herd of stallions and geldings descended from He'za Summer Star, Answer to Prayer, Society Man, and the TWHBEA Supreme Versatility Champions The Good News and Gypsy Reflection. From there Karla took me to her Ride Easy Ranch in Ponoka where I met her herd that includes descendants of several Canadian horses I'd met in the 1990's, including Thunder's War Eagle.

And that was just within the first six hours of a tour scheduled to last 10 days!

To be continued

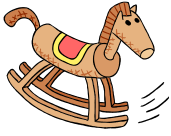
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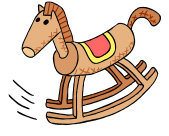
ASHLEY STROUD, ONOWAY, AB writes, "Congratulations to Brian and Yvonne McAlister of Sexsmith AB on their purchase of 'Ivy' (I've Gotta Hair Trigger by Uphill Heir Trigger x Kit's Gotta Be Fabulous) (*above*). Ivy is going to be Brian's mountain trail riding horse. We would like to gift them a subscription to the *Walking Horse News*. Happy trails!"

We also want to send congratulations to Kent Maerz of Beaumont, AB on his purchase of Gam's Sunbeam, *below*. Sunbeam is going to be his main riding horse, with plans of trails, obstacles and even showing. We would like to offer him a year's subscription to the *Walking Horse News* with our compliments. Enjoy your new Walker!"





FOAL CALL



BAY? COLT (Uphill Heir Trigger x Juno's Gold) *(left)*
 "Juno had a gorgeous colt foal on May 22. It was in a downpour. He had a hard time figuring out nursing for the first few hours, so I milked her out and bottle fed him till he latched on around 10 hours after he was foaled. He's been doing great ever since!! He has captivated our hearts. We anticipate he'll be a bay *but* I'm still holding out hope for buckskin with his legs being nice and light. We've picked Ackleys Heir Trigger for his top registered name."

TAEGAN BRADSHAW, BEAVERLODGE, AB



FILLY - May 6th. *(right)*

"**Ember** is her barn name. We are waiting to see if she will be black or blue roan before we decide on her registered name. She is out of our rescue mare, King's Keeper, by Rob McKenzie's Shakin the Blues stallion."

TRISH NEWBY, PARKLAND COUNTY, AB



SORREL COLT - *Left*, SCW Cruise With The Rolls - by Cruise With The Limo x Kodiak's Bella CF. Born June 1/23, he is eligible for registration with CRTWH & TWHBEA.

SLUSH CREEK WALKERS, MARK & SHELLIE PACOVSKY, BAINVILLE, MT

PALOMINO? FILLY

(Uphill Heir Trigger x SCW Jubals Chantilly Lace) *right*

LESA LUCHAK, TWO HILLS, AB





The Canadian Walker

Volume 22, Issue 4

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July/August 2023

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A SALUTE to the BREEDERS of 2022's GOLD AWARD Recipients

The 2022 Gold Award horses and their owners were all recognized last issue, but here's a shout-out to their breeders, who are not always the same as their owners:

CSR Blaise of Glory - Fran Kerik

Golden Dreams Delight - Sheila Haines

Northfork Micki's Mystery - Jack Gurnett

Champion's Gold General - Helen Pawluk

LL Chance's Red Rascal and

LL's Scarlet Sunset - Lesa Luchak

MGW Full Throttle Freda -

Amy Lauzon

Liberty Training Modules

The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse has many Training Level Programs. A new one that was added in 2022 is a Liberty Training Program. This is a great program for many different reasons. This training level is ideal for younger horses, people who do not ride, and anyone who wants to develop a closer relationship with their horse. It has been said that the Tennessee Walking Horse is a great breed for Liberty.

Level One is all done with a halter and lead. This covers all your basics such as backing up, side passing, and standing patiently. Much attention is given to the partnership with your Canadian Registered Tennessee Walking Horse. The horse needs to be a willing, happy partner.

Level Two Liberty has been added this year. You will want to be solid in your Level One of the Liberty Program. For Level Two - you guessed it - will be done at full liberty. This will cover all the tasks asked for in Level One, but without a halter or lead.

CRTWH is always adding to our Training Levels. Make sure you check them out on our website - www.crtwh.ca. There is a lot of support and a whole bunch of fun for anyone wanting to join our registry and participate in the Canadian Triple Challenge Programs. If you are not sure where to start, follow us on Facebook and reach out to our members.

by Kristy Coulter



A BRUSH WITH DEATH

Fortunately Bill Roy always wears his helmet when riding and working with horses. So on July 6, when he saddled one horse and prepared to pony the other, as he has done hundreds of times before, he automatically put on his helmet before riding up the mountain with his dogs. Only this time the dogs stirred up a bear. When they exploded from the woods, closely followed by the bear the ponied horse shied violently, banging into Bill's saddle horse. Bill only had time to kick his feet free of the stirrups before being flung to the ground. That's the last he remembers.

The photo above of his helmet is a stark reminder of what would have happened to his skull had he not been wearing it. After a week in hospital Bill is now recovering from his injuries and concussion at home. He feels fortunate to be alive. *MCL*



BLAIR DYBERG 'GOOD FELLOW' AWARD

Tanya Johnston writes, "We are looking for your nominations for the third, and final, Blair Dyberg Good Fellow Memorial Award. If you have someone you'd like to nominate, please submit their name to me at president@awha.ca and include a description of why they are a deserving nominee.

Blair was a past AWHHA president who was one of those rare and unforgettable characters that are larger than life, making an impression wherever he went.

Blair's booming voice was heard in numerous arenas and meeting spaces throughout Alberta. Everywhere he went, he tirelessly promoted the TWH, the AWHHA and CRTWH, and his lovely bride. He was a man of humility, constantly challenging himself to learn more, whether that be adding a new discipline or a new line of thought to his beliefs. He was capable of stating his opinion firmly but with respect, and willingly listened to other's thoughts and opinions, again with respect, whether he agreed or not. And he was never shy about stating why he might disagree!

In short, he was a tremendous man who left a lasting impression on all he met. If this sounds like anyone you know in the AWHHA, please nominate them for this award!

Nominations will be considered by the AWHHA board, and the award presented at our wind-up this fall. We present the award at our wrap-up ride in early October. (More information on that will follow.)

Gratefully,

Tanya Johnston, President, AWHHA

403-844-4020 president@awha.ca

Blair & Dodge (Northfork Cheerful Chipper)



Below; Two riders who participated in the AWHHA Fort Assiniboine ride on June 24 & 25.



Check out our website:
www.awha.ca

Find us on 

Alberta Walking Horse Association

CAREFREE AND COLORFUL by Franne Brandon

It's summer in the northern hemisphere. Foals are gamboling at their dams' sides. It's show season, with avid show folks competing whenever they have the opportunity. It is also trail riding season, as riders search for wooded, fly-less trails or mountain areas where the challenge appeals to them and their mounts. Especially among trail riders, color is often an exciting part of the trail scene. Riders want to be seen on mounts of their preferred colors. In fact, in the U.S.A., color has been a driving force in the breeding and marketing of trail stock for almost four decades.

Just for the fun of it, I posted on Facebook, asking owners and riders on the Heritage Facebook page to tell us what their favorite horse colors, patterns, modifiers, etc. are and why they have these preferences. The responses queued up, and they were quite varied.



Blood bay

The largest number of respondents expressed a preference for basic bay in all its variations. Dillon Thomas stated "bay, because there is nothing prettier than a bay." Barbara S. wrote that "I used to like paints, and still do; however, when I got my first horse in 1978, she was a bay. The next three horses I owned over the years were all bay. I like a bay with some head and leg markings; strip & snip, socks, blaze, etc."

Melissa Davis responded "Partial to bay!" Anne Lowatchie said "Bay with just a star." Alexis Coley prefers "Bay with obvious black points and minimal white (star/ small blaze, snip). They look elegant in the field, in tack (of any color or combo), in the ring or on the trail. They don't have visible stains, they have black skin so they don't sunburn so easily, and they're just *soo* pretty. No dilute colors, combos or whatever other complicated crap can compare to a classic old bay."



Dark bay

After that, Carrie N Miller replied "100%! Bays are the absolute easiest horses to keep clean."

Marian Taylor writes "I think bay is my favourite colour. We always called it "blood bay". Dappled and VERY shiny." Roxanne Malone said "I love a black bay!" Kathi Davis limited her bay preference to bay overo. Brenda Woodall stated "A rich blood bay always makes my heart flutter a wee bit. After that, any type of contrasting colors is very eye catching." And Martina Wassman, who has imported walking horses to Europe, says "I like my bay stud" which made the trip in utero.

Jodie Davis, whose first walker was a bay, says "Bay! I was in for a surprise when my bay Tennessee Walking Horse who made me fall in love with the breed died; I needed a companion for my Slush Creek Walkers TWH immediately, and a little silver bay Mustang appeared. Never heard of any such thing." Sue Gamble decided that her favorites are "Bay...black bay or dark bay, chestnut, and black." Like Sue, Elena Watson has more than one favorite. She stated "I love that dark red that's almost chocolate, bay, sorrel, black, any roan, and of course "a good horse is never a bad color."

Black horses were not as popular among those answering the query as they are in the show ring. Carissa M. Rissa acclaimed "My favorite is a solid black." In contrast, Leslie Janovec said "Black with chrome! There's just something about the dark body color contrasted with the pop of white. Striking! Love it!" Denise Sherwood offered a different perspective. "As someone who comes from a quarter horse background, my favorite color was always a beautiful black because we didn't see them very often in our breed, and then I learned about the walking horse and a beautiful chromed up deep blue black is probably my absolute favorite, then followed by palominos and

buckskins. I'm lucky to have both the palomino and the buckskin and one or two black and whites in the barn, so I get my best of all worlds."



The recessive red color lends itself to many variations. John Wallace Oliver said "I am partial to reds." The color has been in his family for 100 years. Suzanne agreed, saying "I like them, too. Especially when they have nice facial markings." Gail Frohnert got more specific, as she wrote "Copper red is my favorite coat color!" Dana Adams chose another shade, stating "I like liver chestnut, and blue roan. I also like those chestnuts with light mane and tails, not sure what they are called but I'm always drawn to them." Lykke Hansen said "Being a little "color nerdy" myself, I love this idea. My favorite is flaxen red (especially the liver nuance) and amber cream champagne. I love the reddish mane and tail against the light color coat. Grulla is also a favorite." Elena Watson also had red listed first, along with other colors. She says "I love that dark red that is almost chocolate, bay, sorrel, black, any roan, and of course "a good horse is never a bad color."



Alberta breeder Karla Hansen exclaims "I like the reds! Solid red is good, A blaze or star is accept-

able, but no polka dots. I love **SORREL!!** Red with red mane and tail, or **WITH** flaxen, or like my girl Acadienne Gypsy that has a grey/silver mixed mane, chestnutty with red. I like the red/orange/copper; when the sun shines on them you can see the sheen, all colors bounce off the hair."

"My next rave is the blood bay..., But I have always said "there is **NO** bad color for a good, well-trained horse!" I've never really thought about my favorite color because of that, but I'd have to say I like the reds."

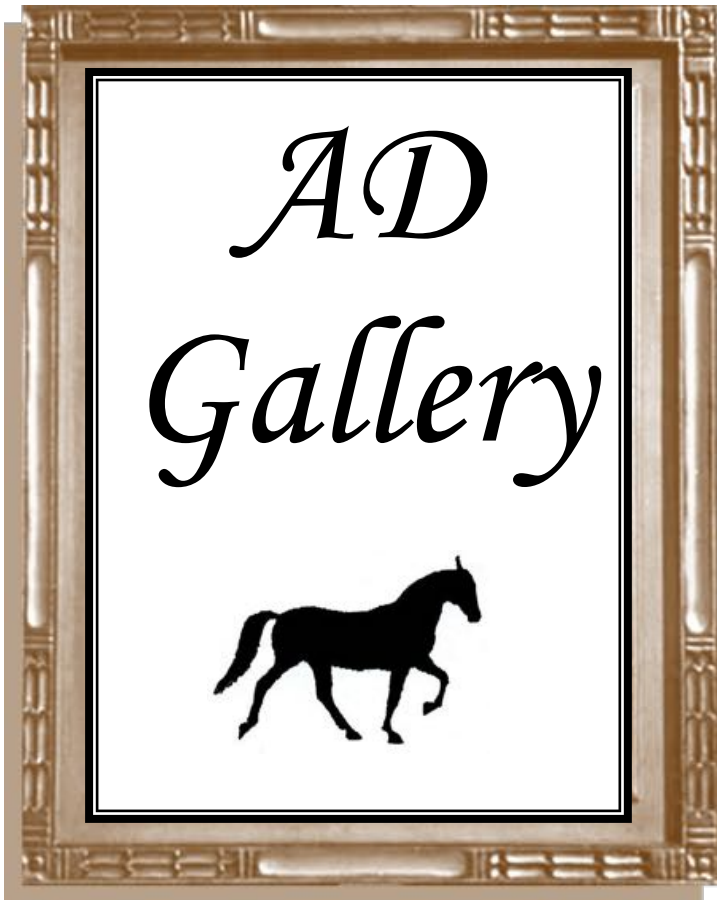


Walking Horse News editor Marjorie Lacy also contributed to this discussion, although not via Facebook. Marjorie writes "My favorite colours are dark chestnut or rich bay or a buckskin – with **no** white leg markings and no more than a nice star or neat strip on the face. Those look to me like quality classic animals. I appreciate the dark feet and limited white on the face because they are less likely to get sunburn, scratches & sore eyes. "

Finally, in case anyone wonders about the columnist's preferences, I will admit to being "color nerdy" since I watched my first black and white western in the living room of our childhood home. I found the many colors gleaming on the coats of the walking show horses of the sixties absolutely fascinating. I continue to be fascinated by most colors and patterns, but my dream horse would be a glistening blue black, ideally dappled, with a star and maybe two coronets behind. I have never owned one like this, but a gal can dream.

As several others mentioned, color should never take precedence over gaits, conformation, and good training. As one of the center ring secretaries at the old PWHAT Sale at MTSU in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, I saw color sell higher over plainly colored quality many, many times. This can't help the improvement and advancement of the breed!

Next issue: The Rest of The Color Preferences



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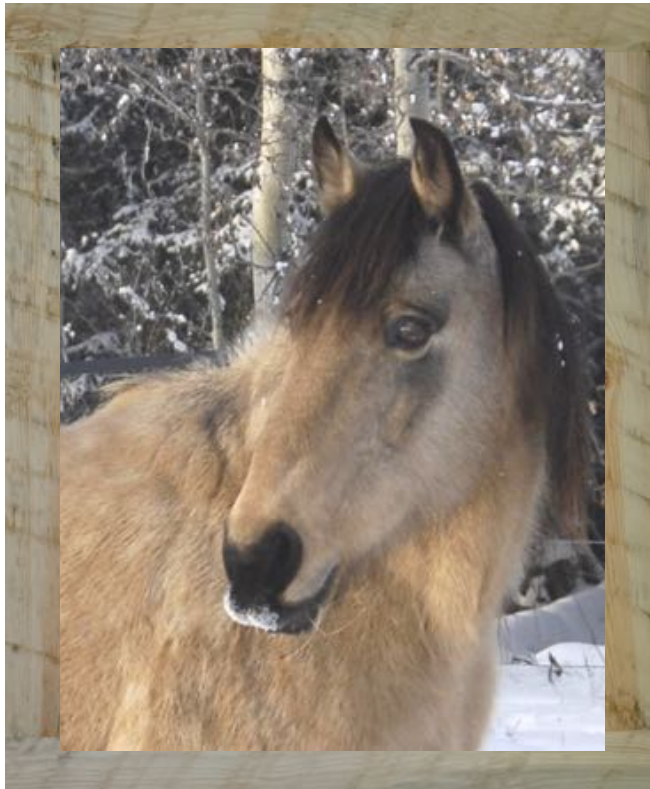


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