



Walking

Horse News

FEBRUARY 2022
VOLUME XLVI, No. 1



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On Our Cover

Bill & Kim Pielak and their Walkers are shown with Brewsters Wall in the background.

This is in Alberta's Willmore Wilderness Area in August of 2020.

Photos courtesy of Kim Pielak

NEXT DEADLINE
MARCH 7, 2022

2022-02
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Volume XLVI #1 January/February, 2022

Dear Subscribers,

Here we are with a brand new year that's also the 40th anniversary of CRTWH! I am so grateful to the people back in the early eighties who saw the need for a Canadian Registry for our breed and did the work to make it happen.

I'd also like to thank Frankie Forster, Jo Kingsland's sister, who has made a very generous bequest to *Walking Horse News* and to CRTWH in Jo's memory. See pages 10 & 11 for more on this.

There is a Ride/Drive report on pages 12 & 13, news from our readers, plus seven stories from the final contest sponsored by CRTWH. It's been fun!

We hope the contests have helped raise awareness of our history and pedigrees. Thank you to all who took part in it. We've enjoyed all your stories and photos. And we'd love to hear more - send *WHN* stories of *your* Walkers and how you became involved with them. You don't need to win a contest to do that!

There's an interesting article from Franne Brandon entitled "Read the Pedigree, Please!" and Allanna Jackson has the first part of a discussion on Walking Horse gaits. Windi Scott reveals what sort of horse she'd choose for her 'Home Corral', and there's an article about how horses are equipped by nature to cope with cold weather. Dianne Little is still looking for photos - see a list of the 'Wanted' on page 4.

The very best to you all in the year ahead,

Marjorie



Kim Pielak & Gunner (Hillbilly Mtn Man) at Blue Grouse cabin in the Willmore Wilderness Area in AB.

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*Thank you for
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Walking Horse News*

February, 2021

Walking Horse News -

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

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NEWS - NEWS - NEWS



KARLA HANSEN, RIDE EASY RANCH, PONOKA, AB, as she rode over to her country mailboxes, “Yay, *WHN* is here! This is how I like to get my *Walking Horse News!* I made it to the mail box without any problems. Colt (the buckskin) is a real good pony horse, and Merlin (black horse) is showing him how to be calm.”

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, BC, “I can't believe that I haven't yet commented on the amazing copy in living colour! It's been sitting in my in basket for that reason and to remind me to send Trigger's photo to Dianne Little. And now the latest issue is also in living colour and this is to be continued. What wonderful news. It's such a treat to see the true colours of all the horses featured in each issue. Greyscale just doesn't do them justice.”

“Now for some Trigger news: she had her semi-annual medical checkup end of October and I was again told that she was healthy as a horse. She got a Legend shot in the hopes that it will help with the arthritis pain. That and daily doses of Prevequine seem to keep her more or less comfortable. Her weight is good even though she only has one tooth on each side of her jaw. She enjoys her soaked alfalfa cubes and the senior feed but not much hay as she balls it up, much to the delight of the resident sheep that clean up after her. She loves her microwaved carrots and attempts to raid my pockets to see if there are any leftovers in there once she's done savouring all the treats.”

“Here's to a Happy New Year, and Happy Trails to all from Natalie & Trigger. Let's hope that 2022 will leave previous years behind in our memories. And again, what a joy it is to see *WHN* in living colour!”

From ANNA LANGLOIS, VALLEYVIEW, AB, “The days are getting shorter and I am forced to stay inside more, so here at last is the foal report from Wildrose Walkers. We had 4 foals in 2021.

Wildrose Kentucky Blondie (Kentucky Hummer x Martin's Maugray Glory), April 22.

Wildrose Kentucky Pancho ((Kentucky Hummer x Intrigues Elegant Sparkle) May 1.

Wildrose Royal Kahlua (Wildrose Jove's Bojangles x Royal Spice Mocha) Filly, May 3.

Wildrose Silver Sweet Marie (Wildrose Jove's Bojangles x Pals Silver Moonglow) . Silver dapple filly May 4.

We love the *WHN* . Thank you so much for your time.”



From IAN GREEN, BOWMANVILLE, ON, “I've enclosed a couple of pics with comments you may find interesting. The photo of Jazz and myself was taken in my eighties. I find it interesting as it shows the 2 leg weight bearing phase of the running walk. The picture of the black horse, Herbie, shows the 3 legged support. (Lucky chance photos!)”

“I enjoy the *Walking Horse News* so very much. Thank you for all your dedicated work.”





THIS N' THAT
 from the
ALBERTA WALKING
HORSE ASSOCIATION

2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE!

Please renew as soon as possible. There is a membership form on the website or you can contact **secretary@awha.ca**

or

send your fees to Treasurer

Les Zaharichuk at **treasurer@awha.ca**

Single member - \$20.00

Family - \$30.00

Youth - \$10.00

THE AWAH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

is set for

February 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm by Zoom.

Please let our secretary, Karen Sollid, know for an invitation to the Zoom meeting

secretary@awha.ca.

Four positions - President, Treasurer, Events Director and Communications Director are up for election for two year terms: If you or someone you know would be a good fit for one of these positions, please confirm it with them, and submit the name to **president@awha.ca.**

The vote will be held at the AGM on February 26, 2022.

A reminder - you must own a CRTWH registered horse to be a member of the AWAH Board.

Anyone considering hosting an AWAH event check the events form on the AWAH website or contact **events@awha.ca.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR IN 2022!

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Check out our website: www.awha.ca

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PICTURES I STILL NEED TO FIND!

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|------------------------|----------------------|
| Rays Tennessee Waltz | |
| Anadores Sue | Misty's Wilson's Ace |
| Wyecotts Selma Belle | Smooth Walking |
| Hi-Pine Traveler | Lady |
| Anadores Nita | M C's Baldie |
| Wyecotts Waltztime | Little Breese |
| Wyecotts Tennessee | Bell's Little Beauty |
| Allen | Sunday Breeze |
| Little Wonder | Dakota Maud Star |
| Wonsue | Dorn's Hi Echo |
| Zepthers Sunset Girl H | Peace River Star |
| Wilson's Dixie Stone | My Touch of Pride |
| Sizzling Sixty Six | Koko's Smokey |
| Whirlpool Dixie Jo | Chief of Chiefs |
| Whirlpool Red Flyer | Big Sky Golden Bell |
| Queen's Pride | Big Sky Trouble Boy |
| Alberta Maybelle S | Midnight Jester E. |
| Chapman's Waltztime | Comet's Streak |
| Dakota Jennie | Fairy Breese |



CRTWH

'THE CANADIAN' 40th FINAL CONTEST



CRTWH

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE 8 WINNERS

randomly picked from the entrants of ALL the previous contests.

Brenda Baker
Foothill, AB

Jo-Anne McDonald
Pouce Coupe, BC

Cindy Laschowski
Two Hill, AB

Sue Adrain
Christina Lake, BC

Arna Erhart
Ardrossan, AB

Marion Taylor
Victoria, BC

Shellie Pacovsky
Bainville, MT

Fred Delf &
Lissa Townsend
Cochrane, AB



Image &
Marion

My name is MARIAN TAYLOR, and I live in Victoria BC. I am the proud owner of Snip's Delightful Image, the first horse sold on the Walking Horse website. I liked Image so much that I bought Successful Jester, another McDonald bred horse

I had Peruvian Paso horses for decades, and they left pretty big boots to fill. I did *Every - thing* with my Peruvians, but unfortunately they weren't sturdy enough to keep it up, and I have 4 buried in the back yard.

Image is now 22 years young and still going, and Jester is not far behind at 19. I am so glad I found this wonderful breed, and all the nice people associated with them.

Happy trails, *Marion*

From CINDY LASCHOWSKI, TWO HILLS, AB, "This is myself and my granddaughter Aleigha riding Penny (CSR Money's Gold Penny).

I purchased Penny from Fran Kerik so that I could keep up with her when we ride together.

As she is my first gaited horse, it has taken awhile to learn how to ride her and understand the gaits but I am now having more success and fun learning with her."





THE CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

CONTEST WINNER - SUE ADRAIN, CHRISTINA LAKE, BC

Horses have always played a huge role in my life. Growing up, my favorite horse was a mare named Pepper, a red roan TWH. She belonged to my best friend's dad. I was allowed to ride her in exchange for helping out with their trail-riding business. Pepper was sold one day and shortly after, my friend's family moved away. I always remembered this horse fondly and vowed that one day that I would have my own TWH. And so, life went on. Marriage, children, years of involvement with quarter horses, 4-H, gymkhanas. Thirty years later, with kids all grown and gone, that dream of owning a TWH never left me.

Trinder's Dreamer came into my life at a time when I sure needed him more than he needed me. We had lost our family home of 47 years to fire. The lost memories, mementos, family heirlooms, pets, just all your stuff - it takes a lot from you emotionally. Somewhere along the way, it seems that I had lost that joie de vivre.

One day I casually mentioned to my husband that I had been looking on the internet at some Tennessee Walkers out in Manitoba. They were rough and ready, a herd of about 250. Being from a mountainous region of B.C., I thought one might 'fit right in' at our place. An innocent inquiry turned into a trip to Manitoba, which turned into finding a little black TWH gelding, barely started. He had cute little ears and mischievous eyes. I went home with only a few photos and a promise that 'we would think about it'.

Many sleepless nights passed. I finally announced that the little black horse was 'the one'. A plan was quickly devised, vet check ordered, new winter tires put on the truck, and trailer checked out. Weather in Manitoba was sub-zero but the mission was already in motion. My husband and oldest daughter headed out on a 3,000 km round trip to pick up mom's new horse. I really don't know how I ever thought this was okay!

I'll never forget the feeling when they opened the trailer door... and there he was. I felt something that I hadn't for such a long time. The tears flowed. The joie de vivre had returned!

Trinder's Dreamer 2009-[Can]3994, [USA]20903570, was bred by Ranch in Russell, Manitoba. Of Heritage breeding, he wears the brand TW often mistaken for a mustang or a Canadian. Trail riding, liberty, mountain working equitation are among activities we enjoy together. Still sporting that mischievous look in his eye, Dreamer decided quite some time ago that motorbikes and sheep are *not* his friends. He has also learned that when mom's hooking up the horse trailer, it's in his best interest to head off in the opposite direction as quickly and quietly as he can.

Cliff Trinder of TW and number 221 and is trail, cattle work and



Although we haven't had much of a chance to ride this past year with the unbearable heat and devastating fires in B.C., we are optimistic that 2022 will bring more favorable conditions - we could all use it.

Thank you for the opportunity to share the story of my TWH.

Respectfully yours,



Dreamer

Sue Adrain

Left: Sue and Dreamer at Jim Anderson clinic



THE CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE CONTEST WINNERS

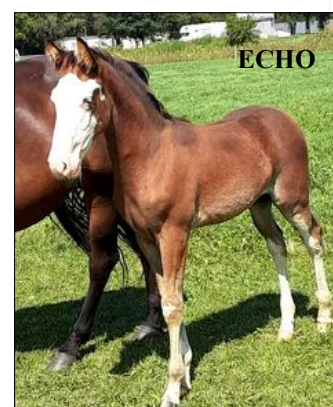


ARNA ERHART, ARDROSSAN, AB writes,

I was excited to be one of the final winners of the CRTWH contest. Thank you for the CRTWH notebook and pen.

It was an eventful year for us here. We got a farm name - we are now known as Walk The Walk. We had two fillies born this year. The sorrel was out of Willow's Flaxen Queen by FF-16 He'za Cruzin Legacy. The palomino was out of Walkien Grand Finale by Uphill Heir Trigger. To top it all off, we purchased a colt, NFF Night Ryder's Echo from Diane Sczpanski at Northern Foundations Farm in Wisconsin. All of our horse are registered with CRTWH and IHWHA, and some will also be TWHBEA.

Walk The Walk would like to wish everyone a very safe, healthy and prosperous New Year.



From **JO-ANNE McDONALD, POUCE COUPE, BC**

I have just been notified that I was a winner in the CRTWH draw. I am surprised, as usually the only time my name is drawn for anything it is for Jury Duty!

We have had Tennessee Walkers since 1975.

Our first was a yearling gelding named Bit O' Sage. My last riding horse is pictured here with me, *right*. Her name was Monteray Snip. Both Snip and Sage were from our 'Broodmare Supreme', Little Toot Wilson (Thunder Bird 431141 x May Bee Wilson 561679). Sage was sired by Beauty's Sage King and Snip's sire was Laddie's Monte Ray. Snip was the dam of another winner's horse... Snip's Delightful Image. Snip crossed the Rainbow Bridge in 2020 at age 35.





THE CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE



I WON! by Brenda Baker

I won! Don't know how I won. Also don't know what I won... but I won!

To those who do not know me, I have been a CRTWH member for about 35 years; about the same number of years that my family has owned and ridden Tennessee Walking Horses. My husband, Dave & I have ridden our TWH many miles on the trails, both marked and unmarked, along the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains of Alberta, starting with our first TWH, Jester's Snappy Lil and her sidekicks from other breeds for a few years until I decided that no matter how well I loved my "other" horses, I was tired of trotting to keep up. I was also hooked on getting out to Kananaskis Country every chance I had. We even moved closer to Mesa Butte and Sandy McNabb within a couple of years to pursue this wonderful hobby.

We usually rode mares as we had a modest breeding program going on at home. The best way for us to manage this was to breed our riding horses every other year, and to have a few other mares taking their turns at being a broodmare or a riding horse. Our mares stayed in nice physical and mental shape that way and they were good for more than just raising babies.

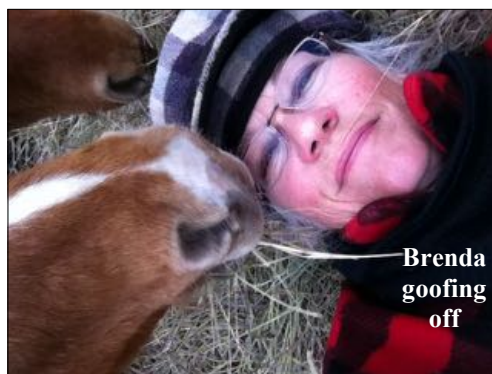
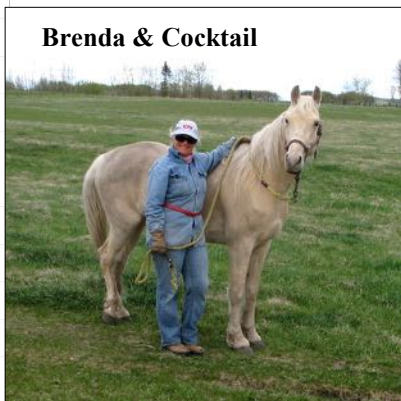
The CRTWH Futurity was a great venue for us to get to know our fellow CRTWH members. Our first TWH filly, Chicklette, was the first of our TWH to head to the futurity. No ribbon that year, but I valued the experience. I had already learned to train, groom, show and win a class, (in 4H and local shows), in my teen years. I had also learned how to lose; a valuable asset. I always had goals at the futurity. Sometimes it was to figure out a strategy to help my young horses behave better; sometimes it was a wardrobe experiment, (eek!).

Watching other people and their horses was an important part of the futurity. Selling horses was the last thing on my mind although I know many people valued the opportunity to expose their horses to potential buyers. My own education about TWH was accelerated with my attendance at the futurity. As a breeder I developed a preference for a certain type of horse by looking closely at other people's horses and paying attention to the results of the classes they entered. My own horses' written evaluations, (by the judge), were helpful to me as well.

As time went by my summer days of trail riding increased to 2 to 3 days a week to trailer out to ride, mostly with Charis Cooper who took me for many adventures with her own TWH. Although she was a senior citizen by the time we started to ride together, she practically grew up on horseback and knew how to make the most of a day's riding. I soon learned to bring a hearty lunch on any of these rides. Although working for a living sometimes interfered with a long day of riding, I was often able to squeeze in an early morning ride up on the hill behind our barn before blasting off to work. Often I was, "alone", with the dogs and my horse. Together we had many beautiful encounters with wildlife.

For the last few years my mountain riding has been curtailed by surgeries caused by the wear and tear of an active life, but there is always next year and I am always scouting for riding partners.

Brenda & Cocktail



**Brenda
goofing
off**

Brenda, Snappy



**&
Jeff**



THE CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

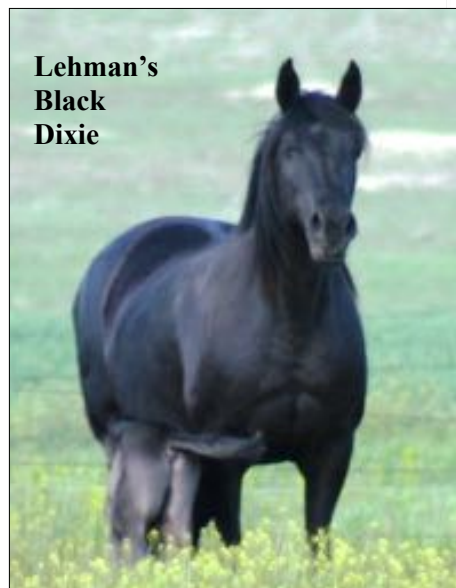


CONTEST WINNER - SHELLIE PACOVSKY

My name is Shellie Pacovsky and along with my Montana cowboy, Mark, we live in Bainville, MT. Bainville is a very small town in the Northeast corner of MT, about 60 miles from the Canadian border and only 6 miles from the North Dakota border. I have always loved horses and even when I was young people would ask me what I was going to do when I grew up. I told them I was going to raise horses in the mountains of Montana. Now I say “2 out of 3 ain’t bad”...no mountains in Eastern Montana you know!

In 1990 Mark and I had been looking for a horse that could be used for pleasure riding BUT it also would have to do some ranch work – the type of horse folks around these parts call a “using horse”. It had to be something with a great disposition, calm and sane because we had six young children. One day a man called and said he heard we were looking for a horse and thought he might have what we were looking for. We drove over to look at her and I was immediately in love! Here was this little solid black TWH mare, not yet three years old. Her name was Lehman’s Black Dixie and he had purchased her at the North Dakota State Fair. After looking at her and checking her over, Mark and I huddled in a corner to make our decision...it was a short huddle. Mark said “If you don’t want her, I do!” We didn’t know anything about Tennessee Walking Horses but we took her home.

It was not until a visit sometime later with Mrs. Maxine Miller that we found out she had Allen’s Gold Zephyr AKA Roy Rogers Trigger Jr. on her papers. In a very short time we were hooked. It wasn’t long and Mark decided he needed “one of those.” We decided we wanted to breed Dixie and after some searching we found Calvin Miller’s Double Diamond Ranch in Rhame, ND. We took Dixie down to “visit” Miller’s Super Man and when Mark went to pick her up he brought home a black yearling stud colt as a present for me for quitting smoking. That colt was Slush Creeks Jubal S. And...Slush Creek Walkers was born.



**Lehman’s
Black
Dixie**



Jubal & Mark

It didn’t make much sense to have a stallion and one mare so we began a search for a couple of suitable brood mares. A short while later we saw an ad for a “1976 model” TWH mare. I wasn’t really interested but thought I would get some information and maybe an idea on prices. I called the woman and after a short conversation, she asked me the name of Dixie’s dam. When I told her, she started to laugh and said “that 1976 model mare I have is Dixie’s dam!” Well, that cut it...we made the trip to Green Zephyr Stables in New Rockford, North Dakota just to get a look at Dakota Dixie Flash. I still didn’t want to buy her because I thought she was too old but after meeting her, she and 3 others came home to Montana.

We were again looking for a couple more mares to breed to Jubal. Once again we contacted Wade Miller, hoping he could point us in the right direction and give us some pointers on what to look for. Wade had an idea...Jubal was the last stallion to come from his dad's breeding program, Super Man was gone and he still had eight mares left. These eight mares were the cream of the crop and Wade wanted to see his father's bloodlines continue! He wanted the good, naturally gaited, using horses that his father had been breeding for over 30 years, to survive. After some negotiating, we ended up with those last eight mares and Wade would always have horses from his father's bloodlines on the Double Diamond. Those 13 mares and Slush Creeks Jubal S became the foundation of our breeding program.

Over the last 30 years we have stayed with the tried and true, thicker and heavier "using horse" lines, while still insisting on excellent gait, calm gentle disposition and sane mind to do many of the ranch/ trail tasks that we require of our horses. Our horses have excelled at many different disciplines including pleasure/trail, ranch work, endurance riding, therapeutic riding programs, 3-day eventing, hunter over fences, in harness and in the show ring.

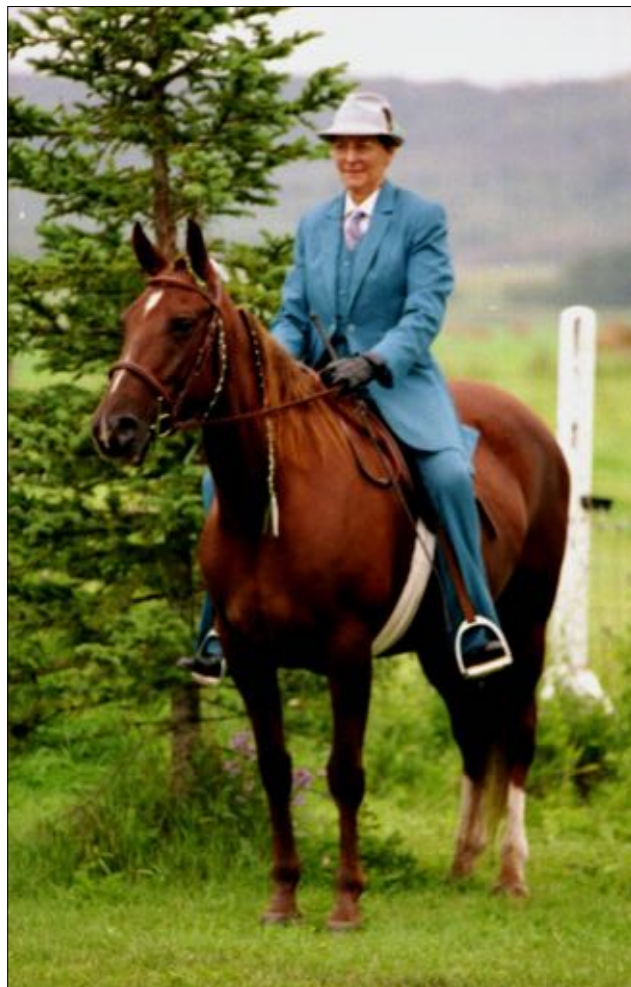
We have sold horses to France and The Dominican Republic, from coast to coast in the United States and Alaska, and all over in Canada. While the majority of our herd brags Reyclif Mid-Merry (Hill's Perfection) bloodlines, over the last 30 years we have added some Sun's Delight D., The Allen Black Gold, King Pin, Go Boy's Crown Royal and Williams King. We have 23 mares and just bought a 4th stallion.

All the mares are registered with the CRTWH and all the stallions with the exception of the new one are registered CRTWH. It is our intent to also register the new stallion with CRTWH.



Herd raising dust.

REMEMBERING JO KINGSLAND



Jo with her mare, Uphill Twilight at the Millarville show



CRTWH Presidents, current and past, at CRTWH's 25th anniversary AGM. From left, Jo, Hilton Hack, Marjorie Lacy, Jean Rempel, our Guest speaker Franne Brandon, and Jack Gurnett.



The Canadian Walker

Volume 21, Issue 1

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February, 2022

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JO KINGSLAND LEGACY



Frankie Forster, Jo's sister in England, has made very generous donations to the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse and to *Walking Horse News* in Jo's memory.

Frankie writes, "It is over four years now since we lost Jo. It has given me time to think about her life and how she fell in love with those special horses and spent the latter part of her life breeding them and working with them and for them through the CRTWH. I would like to make a donation to the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse & Walking Horse News in Jo's name".

Jo was a dedicated believer in a Canadian Registry for purebred Tennessee Walkers as bred in Canada for Canadian conditions and ideals. She served as CRTWH President and was a fixture at 'The Canadian' Futurity as photographer for many years. She & her first TWH Candy's Bay Lady were 'Century Partners'.

Jo also became part of *Walking Horse News*, urging me to aim higher than a newsletter, try for a professional breed magazine. She worked hard in many capacities on the magazine and is truly missed.

Thank you, Frankie. We will all remember Jo.

CRTWH DIRECTORS

LESLIE HUNCHUK, Millarville, AB has been re-elected by acclamation for the three years 2022 to 2024 as a Director for Alberta.

Leslie is currently the secretary for CRTWH. Thank you, Leslie.

JO-ANNE McDONALD, Pouce Coupe, BC has also been re-elected by acclamation for the three years 2022 to 2024 as Director for British Columbia.

She serves on the Registrations Committee that deals with queries about registration problems.

Thank you, Jo-Anne.

2022 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE

All CRTWH annual memberships are due on January 1 each year. If you haven't renewed yet, better hurry up! You'll especially want to be a member this year - our 40th Anniversary!

Annual memberships are \$30.00 for an individual, family, corporation or partnership; \$10.00 for a youth under 18.

Life memberships are \$300.00 for individuals only.

You can pay by cheque made out to CLRC at 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7 or by credit card or e-transfer. Call for details.

1-877-833-7110 or 613-731-7110.



THE CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE



RIDE / DRIVE / A.L.T. AWARDS 2021!

Allanna
Jackson p.19

Alynn Ward

Kristy
Coulter

Bobbie
Buck

Brenda
Woodall

Cheryl
Peressini

Cindy
Laschowski p. 7

Danielle Johnston

Dianna Taplin p.15

Fran Kerik

Josie Coulter



Krystal Tuftin

Kim Pielak
p.1

Les
Zaharichuk
p.15

Leslie
Hunchuk

Luke Woodall

Lisa Parrish

Melissa
Coggins
Deveau p.15

Sue Adrain p.8

Stephen Woodall

Tanya Johnston

Tina Barrett-
Hamilton



CRTWH

Have *you* heard about the CRTWH Ride / Drive / ALT program?

This program encourages you to track your hours of riding each year. You earn badges and certificates of recognition for the hours you log with your beautiful TWH.

Come ride with us! If you have any questions and would like to join us, please contact Bobbie Buck at bobbiebuck7@gmail.com



DIANNA TAPLIN of SOLDOTNA, ALASKA sent this photo (*above*) of the Tennessee Walker gelding she rides for the CRTWH Ride/Drive Program. Here Image's Tuff Stuff (aka ROMEO) is "taste testing" the clover.



LES ZAHARICHUK, CALGARY, AB and Toddy have ridden many miles in a host of beautiful places.

MELISSA COGGINS DEVEAU, CALMAR, AB writes, "Please find attached my pictures for the the Ride/Drive Program. There were so many to choose from but I found these show the hard work we have done together."

"This is of CSR Alegra (aka "Ally") and I competing at a Canadian Cowboy Challenge At Pine Rock Ventures. We worked so hard together the past few years to reach this goal of competing. What an amazing first year it was at this sport. Ally loves obstacles, be it competing or just playing around in the backyard. We even won the Reserve Champion Rookie Division!"



"She will be taking a well deserved summer off as she is in foal for an April baby."

READ THE PEDIGREE, PLEASE! by Franne Brandon

The breed known as the Tennessee Walking Horse can be registered with the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association, the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse, or both. In addition, some individual horses can be registered with the Spotted Saddle Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association, the International Heritage Walking Horse Association, the Missouri Foxtrotting Horse Association, the Racking Horse Breeders Association of America, the Palomino Horse Breeders Association, or The Champagne Horse Association, to name several others. The common thread that runs through all these registration bodies is the pedigree.

Breeders of horses that are registered with a breeders' association receive registration papers with the foals or older horses that they record with the association. These registration papers list the name of the horse, the registration number, the breeder or breeders, the owner at time of registration, often also the breeder, and the foaling date. These papers are part of the legacy of the horse, since they record what bloodlines produced this individual and offer generalized hints as to the horse's potential in the breeding shed and /or under saddle. Buyers of foals or older horses should take the time and expense to transfer the certificates into their names. Otherwise, this legacy could be lost with an unexpected or unplanned change of ownership.

Owners should make the effort to memorize their animals' registered names. "The dark bay one is Chip and the chestnut is Rosie, but I never can remember what is says on their papers" should not be heard from owners of registered walking horse stock. If the papers are lost (it happens!) or accidentally destroyed, and the horse has an unusual name, it can take time or maybe not even be possible to obtain a duplicate certificate with the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors' Association, not to mention other groups with which the horse could also be registered.

Horse owners should also be aware of the parents of their horses. Many buyers want horses by World Grand Champions out of mares sired by World Grand Champions. But these horses, in recent years, are just show horses that have done nothing to earn their feed other than circle the show ring, and not many times per year, either. Buyers would be more likely to find the sire of a suitable flat shod show prospect or trail companion by seeking out horses that have achieved the various levels of the CRTWH Program for Excellence.

These individuals have proven their true

walking gaits to licensed pleasure judges plus a number of other skills as well. TWHBEA Versatility champions have proven their athletic abilities, but the way that program is set up, a horse can earn the gait requirements slowly, one point at a time, without ever demonstrating the correct walking gaits, simply by winning lower ribbons at shows with little strong walking competition.

The pedigree found on CRTWH and TWHBEA registration certificates records ancestors going back four generations. Grandparents are important; the ancestors farther back probably have less influence on a foal than the more immediate ancestors, although certain traits, like fiery dispositions, or the quirk of being uncatchable in pasture, can often be traced to one particular horse back a bit in the pedigree. Often, whether or not these appear in a descendant depends on how many times the new foal traces to that animal. If a large number of the horse's descendants have the undesirable trait, like refusing to be caught in pasture, and a grand-get traces to this stallion several times, it is quite likely that this youngster's refusal to learn to be caught can be traced to the horse that repeats in the pedigree.

Ancestors that repeat multiple times in the first three generations of a horse's pedigree is common in the Tennessee Walking Horse breed today. If a breeder lives far from the breed mainstream, this may be necessary in order to keep the herd reproducing. Many walking horse breeders have multiple options for their mares, yet choose to repeat the same stallion over and over. This may work very well, or this may lead to problems as the gene pool of the resulting offspring narrows.

Repeating a common ancestor in the pedigree, usually a stallion, falls into two categories. If the animal is far enough back, this is called linebreeding. Ideally, linebreeding fixes the desirable traits that the ancestor had within the genes of the linebred offspring. Besides strong walking gait, traits like intelligence, willingness, and gentle disposition can be fixed in a herd. Should the stallion have genes for unwanted traits, perhaps not so apparent in his offspring due to their dams' influence, these could also become apparent with linebreeding. It would be up to the stallion owner and other mare owners to determine if the undesirable traits offset obtaining the good genes from these crosses.

Linebreeding could involve crossing double first cousins, more distant cousins, grandsire to

granddaughter, or even half brother to half sister. This last cross is intensely linebred, requiring crossing out to different lines when these foals carrying 50% of a given ancestor's genes are ready for the breeding shed. Usually, the half sibling cross is done with stallions and mares that share the same sire.

Linebreeding to the distaff involves repeating the same mare several times in a pedigree not via the same son. While this may work well for creating outstanding mares, it can fix feminine traits in the colts that result. This could be as simple as stallions that lack masculinity to as complicated as cryptorchid stallions. An old saying that advises against this practice – “Never out of the same womb”- is well-known to a number of breeders.

There is an old joke that goes - “If it turns out great, it's linebreeding. If it does not work out, it's inbreeding.” Inbreeding, sometimes called close breeding, involves breeding a sire to his daughter, a dam to her son, or full brother to full sister. Often, inbreeding is the result of a pasture accident in which a stallion escapes his stall or paddock to link up with a daughter that is still on the breeding farm. Since aborting foals in mares often produces long-term problems, these pregnancies go to term and the resulting foals are registered.

In today's color-focused markets, however, inbreeding has been used to double up color genes that have been rare overall and produce horses homozygous for that color. This works in terms of the color gene, but does it work in terms of the overall horses from these crosses? Only time will tell, but mare owners would be advised to investigate stallions from inbred color crosses closely to be sure that they produce foals with good conformation, sunny dispositions, and those naturally acquired running walks.

Registered horses come with certificates providing pedigrees. Learn or write down the registered names of these horses, know their parents and grandparents and their bloodlines, and pay attention to the amount of linebreeding each horse may have. When buying or breeding, try to avoid inbreeding or close breeding as this narrows the gene pool, which can result in an upswing of undesirable traits rather than what the breeder hopes to achieve. Finally, though color often drives today's pleasure walking horse market, remember that people don't ride the color, and it's all about improving the breed, not creating dazzling visuals that can't perform the running walk gait.

For more on systems of breeding, see <https://www.acsedu.com/info/pets/equine/inbreeding-horses.aspx> which provided some definitions for this article.

CRTWH GOLD AWARD STALLIONS



**Dude's
Ragtime Man**

Allen's Midnight Rascal

Ari's Park Avenue Design



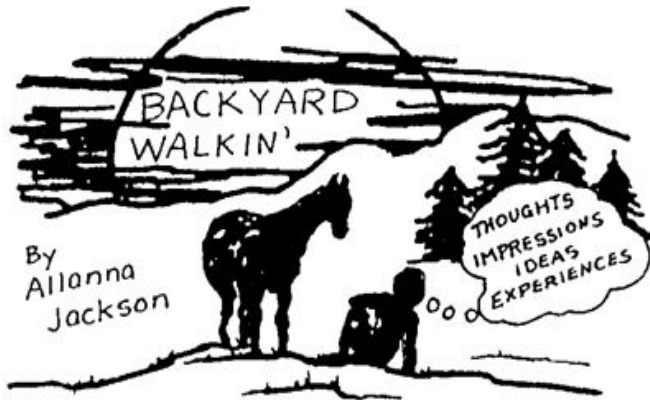
**Skyline's
Dark
Storm**

Summer Design One 0 One

Toddy's Apollo



**Uphill
Heir
Trigger**



Back Yard Walkin'

THE UNASKED QUESTIONS

By Allanna Lea Jackson © Dec 31, 2021

In the mid-1970s encyclopedias said TWH had three gaits: flat-walk, running walk, and canter. I assumed this meant the running walk replaced the trot. They also said Saddlebreds had five gaits: walk, trot, canter plus two man-made gaits, slow-gait and rack. I heard about American Walking Ponies from a family friend but her grade ponies that I rode were trotters. Their Galiceno mare allegedly inherited running walk, but she trotted. I'd heard of Pasos but never seen one. That was what I knew about gaited horses when I bought my first horse in October 1981.

Sassy was a registered TWH who really *did* inherit running walk but in my novice ignorance I expected too much difference between flat walk and running walk, and pushed her into a 4-beat trot. It was the smoothest trot I'd ever ridden so I didn't realize what I was doing until my grandmother Jackson commented on it.

The man I'd bought Sassy from gave me the same advice he'd been given – change her gait. He loaned me a pair of home-made lead pastern weights, the only TWH training book in print at the time, a few TWH magazines, and the phone number of a local farrier. The book was about training big-lick show horses with one chapter for pleasure horses which said do less of the same things. That professional TWH trainer assumed the horse's gait should be changed. The equipment forced Sassy into a stepping pace that was worse than her 4-beat trot. We were both so totally confused and unhappy I began my own research on the gaits of horses.

The farrier, Rick Harvey, very reluctantly applied toe-weighted shoes to Sassy's front feet only once, warning me that it might be okay for the show ring but was quite dangerous for trail riding. He began educating

me about anatomically correct hoof trimming and the three reasons for shoeing horses. Changing gait was not one of them. Rick told me that running walk is just like race walking. I eventually figured out he was right. One day the man I'd bought Sassy from asked me for Rick's phone number, and later reported he wasn't the shoer he'd thought he was recommending!

Meanwhile, I'd subscribed to *The Walking Horse Times*, a newspaper published and edited by Bob Cherry. In an editorial he asked if the TWH industry would be willing to settle for 10% less lick to end soring. *The Walking Horse Times* lasted only a couple of years, but it published interesting articles about the origins of the breed and the gaits of the earliest Walking horses. It also had an ad for Cristine Holt's *Walking Way* magazine. I subscribed to *Walking Way*, joined the international conversation about natural, flat-shod pleasure TWH and quickly became involved in the discussions about running walk.

I expanded my research to include all the gaits of horses. Several sources asserted the natural gaits of horses were walk, trot, gallop, and pace and everything else was man-made while also including information about easy-gaited breeds that asserted their gaits were inherited. This inconsistency raised several questions in my mind. What is an artificial gait? Can horses really be trained to do gaits they have no natural aptitude for? Were slow gait and rack really man-made gaits? Is there a difference between an acquired gait and an artificial gait? What is a natural gait? Where is the line between natural gaits and artificial gaits? I knew that Sassy inherited running walk and trot. She acquired the stepping pace as a result of the gait modification training methods I was already rejecting.

Discussions in the magazines and private correspondence centered around how to identify running walk, along with debates about shoeing and biting. Most people took it for granted that a horse's gaits should be changed. Yet there were people who insisted a TWH should be so natural it needed no gait training. Many of them opposed the use of horseshoes. I was riding Sassy so much we wore out a set of plain steel shoes every 8 weeks so going barefoot was not an option. As I pondered all this I wondered, where is the line between gait enhancement that helps the horse perform its best, and gait modification that assumes there is something wrong with the horse's inherited movement? Can inherited movement be wrong?

Lee Ziegler, author of the book *Easy Gaited Horses*, introduced herself to me by letter in late 1986

and we corresponded for the rest of Lee's life. She taught me how the horse's posture influences which gait the horse does. Lee was educated in classical dressage which emphasizes respecting the horse. Lee applied dressage methods to her Foxtrotters. Yet she too assumed that we should change the horse's gaits if the horse was pacing or racking, to protect the horse's back. I wondered, can there be bad inherited gaits? Do we really need to protect the horse from its own natural movement? Is changing the horse's inherited movement trespassing against the nature of the horse?

By the late 1980s it was evident there were competing ideals for the TWH that fell on opposite sides of these questions. One side asserts soring is the only thing wrong with the US show standards. The horse's inherited movement is merely "potential" to do man-made gaits so changing the gait is required because no horse can perform adequately doing its inherited gait. On the opposite side are the natural gait purists who believe running walk should be 100% inherited with no training needed at all. Most people expressed viewpoints in between with differing ideas about acceptable training methods and equipment. The arguments about shoes and training devices distracted everyone from a more fundamental question: Is it ethical to change a horse's gait?

I now know I should have been told the running walk is like race walking, and only 6-8 mph, so slow down, sit in a balanced seat, relax, leave Sassy's head and feet alone and let her walk. Recovering Sassy's running walk was easy when I embraced the performance standard of the foundation TWH, respected her inherited movement, and improved my riding. As I did more research and acquired more TWH I learned that most easy-gaited horses inherit the ability to do several gaits which demonstrated the importance of my questions about gait modification and made the answers more complicated. *(To be continued.)*

Allanna, Cinnamon & Velvet adding to their Ride/Drive hours.



Photo taken May 2021 by my brother Ian Allan Jackson



THE HOME CORRAL by Windi Scott

If you use horses every day on the ranch, you always keep a few in the home corral. The well trained horse for working with cattle, the trusted old mount for the grandkids, and the up and coming prospect of greatness that needs daily lessons. The special ones.

Not all of us, however, have a ranch situation that allows us to keep a selection of horses on hand. We may be boarding at a facility that costs as much as half a mortgage every month. We can only afford to keep one really good horse. A versatile one, comfortable, sound, healthy, trained, and naturally talented.

This is where I would choose wisely. I'd spend the money. I'd search far and wide. I'd consider carefully. What kind of horse do I want in my 'home corral'?

After years of handling and riding many Tennessee Walking Horses, I know exactly what I'd settle on. Naturally gaited. Sensible, nimble, strong, and pretty. That would be *my* home corral horse.

Naturally gaited means no pace or trot under saddle. Doesn't matter which way I hold my mouth, the horse will walk all the time. A nice forward, relaxed, balanced, effortless running walk. Not a rack. Grace under power. A good Canadian bred, Canadian registered, Tennessee Walking Horse in my Home Corral.

Above photo is of 'Brick', my 'Home Corral' horse, heading up a herd of cattle. I really like this because it shows just one of the many things he can do. He also drives single, double, packs, is a kid's horse, suffers any kind of costume, and has achieved Ultimate Canadian Horse.

KEEPING WARM IN WINTER

I was reading a very good article by Carol Shwetz, DVM in the Dec 27, 2021 issue of The Alberta Farmer Express. Very appropriately it was about how horses cope with very cold weather. She writes, "Horses ... begin preparations for the cold weather as early as the summer solstice when their winter coat begins its growth and development."

She goes on to say that while the horse's winter coat with its increased length and thickness has great insulating properties, it is the ability to raise or lower the hair that is the horse's 'secret weapon' against the cold. The tiny 'piloerector' muscles associated with each hair allow the horse to 'fluff up' its coat to trap a layer of warm air when needed. A horse (unlike donkeys and mules) also has natural oils in its coat which allow it to shed moisture.

Horses with a layer of fat under the skin withstand the cold better. Losing some of this fat over the winter is "part of a healthy seasonal body rhythm". It is important to keep checking your horses over the winter though, not just looking at them but running your hands over them to feel how fat or thin they are.

Movement is really important for horses, but especially in winter when it also generates body heat. You've all likely seen horses start flying around, bucking and kicking on a cold day when they see you coming with their hay. Being in a herd environment with lots of area to move around is important. And another way to warm up!



Feeding hay out in a field where they can paw as well is healthy for horses. It keeps them active and moving around. The author writes, "The hindgut is the horse's internal furnace, and a constant and steady flow of forages or hay keeps the internal fires stoked. The greatest amount of long-lasting internal heat available to the horse to maintain its core body temperature is released when the microbes in the hindgut (cecum and large colon) digest and ferment large amounts of long stemmed plant fibre." So when it is very cold, especially with temperatures below -20 C, an increase in hay, not grain, is indicated.

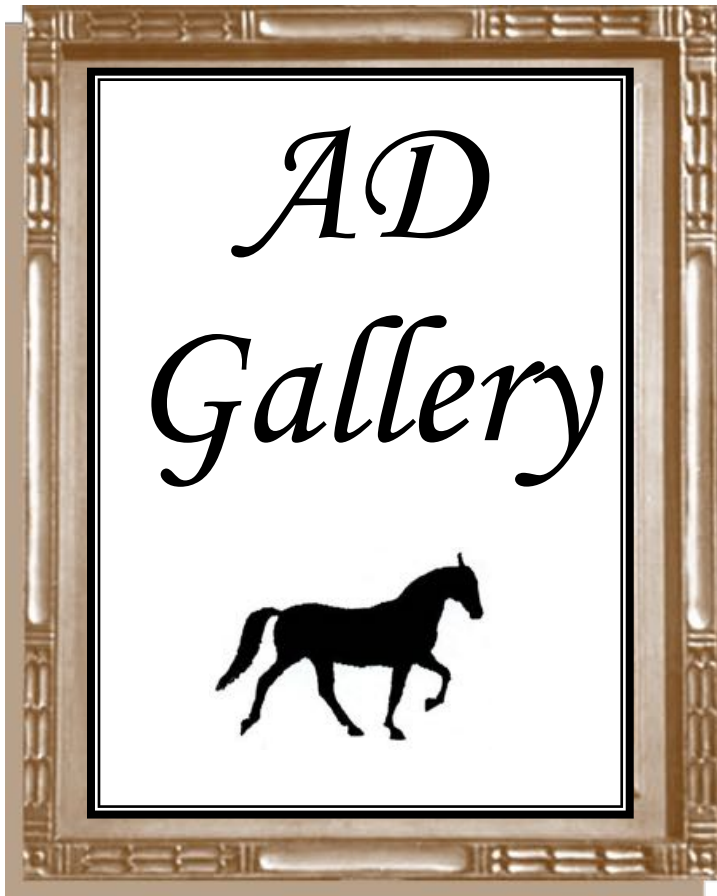


Have you noticed what the horses often do on a cold but sunny day? The author writes, "It is not uncommon to find a herd of horses become quiet, cease all activity and line up like a series of solar panels to absorb and rest in the radiant heat of a sunny winter's afternoon." I've certainly seen mine doing this, positioned to make the most of the sunshine.



May you & your horses stay warm. stay well, & have plenty of hay to keep well 'stoked up' until spring!

M. C. L




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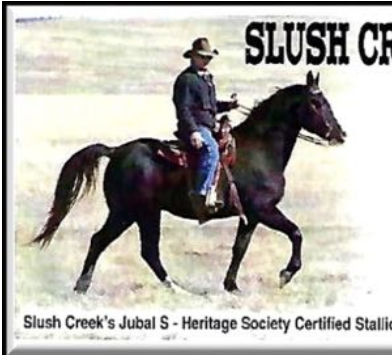


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THE ECHO OF HOOFBEATS -Dr. Bob Womack published by Dabora Inc, Shelbyville, TN. Traces the history & development of the TWH breed.

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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.

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April, 1993 - October, 2021

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PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE**

***Above 'Betty
Buckskin'
in 2021.***

***Right,
Betty with her
daughters
Heiress & Star.***

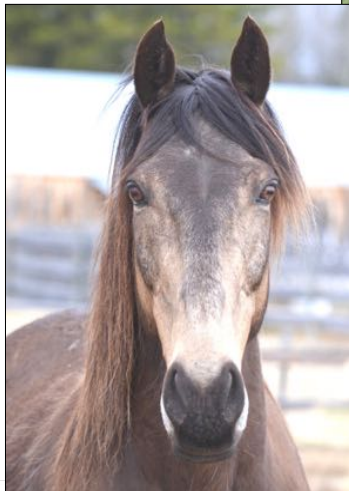
***Below her
daughters,
Ace's Meg***



***Below - son Buccaneer.
Right with her dam
Arnica & son Chasing
Gold. Below right
daughter Ms Starbuck.***



& Lady By Chance.

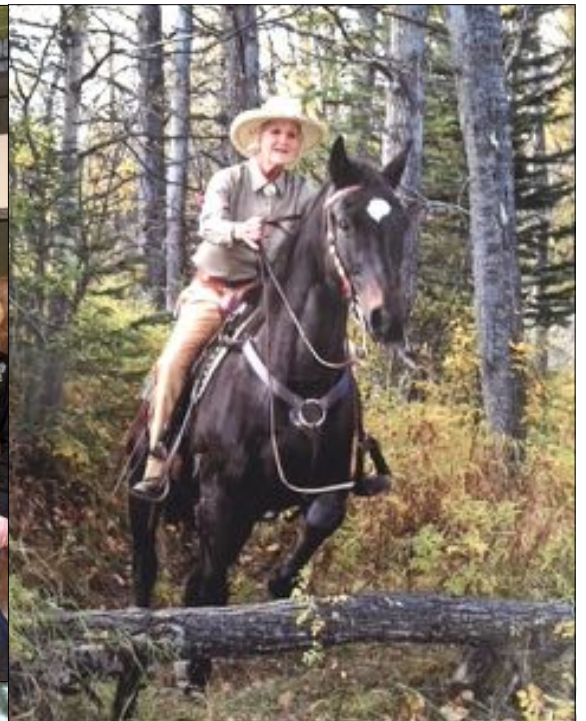




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