

VOLUME XXVII No. 6
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2003



Walking Horse News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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Walking Horse News

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A PERFECT PARADE
MORNING IN HIGH RIVER,
ALBERTA.

AWHA Easy Riders
Murray McCargar & Vera
Hari wave to the camera as
they pass by riding their
TWH geldings, Ranger and
Country Bo Boy.

The AWhA entry in the
Calgary Stampede Parade on
July 5/02 won 1st place as
Best Mounted Group.

Great Club, Great Horses,
Great People, Great Fun!

Submitted by Vera Hari.

Deadline Dates

for Jan/Feb issue

JANUARY 7

for Mar/Apr issue

MARCH 7

for May/June issue

MAY 7

for July/Aug issue

JULY 7

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Dear Subscribers,

Well, here I am, coming to the end of the 27th year
of *Walking Horse News*. I can't believe it's been that
long. And what a huge difference in the Canadian Walker
scene - and in *WHN* - since I began in 1977!

I would like to thank all the subscribers - because
without you there would be no magazine. (And a special
thanks to all who renew *right away* when you see your
renewal form on this page. You save me time and the
money it costs to send a letter.) I really appreciate your
notes and hearing what's happening at your place, too.

I am also grateful to those generous people who
give a gift subscription to folks new to the breed. That
helps the newcomers - and it also helps *Walking Horse
News*. There are still many who don't know where to find
information about this breed. Help promote! Spread the
word about our own Canadian magazine about TWH.

Thanks to all the advertisers, since without you the
paper couldn't survive financially. Our costs keep
growing, and there hasn't been a subscription increase
since December of 1995. The ads are what make the
difference. I know that times are tough, but support *WHN*
if you can. It's really appreciated. Speaking of ads, the
cost of a classified went to \$10 with the July/August
issue, since all these ads will appear on the website.
Please note the new rates before writing your cheque! The
rest of the ad rates are still the same for subscribers. You
can also get some real bargains on the website advertising
so check the ad form, page 28.

I can't neglect to thank some of the most important
people of all - those who send in the stories, columns,
news, opinions, questions - without you there really
wouldn't be any walking horse news!

Finally, thanks, Jo and Shirley, for all your work.

So, at this time of year, I want to say a special

Thank-you to everyone, and best wishes of the season.
May you and your horses enjoy good health, and may you
look forward to happiness in the New Year.

Merry Christmas,

Marjorie



N/D 03

Walking Horse News

"WHN makes a great gift!"



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HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT 2000

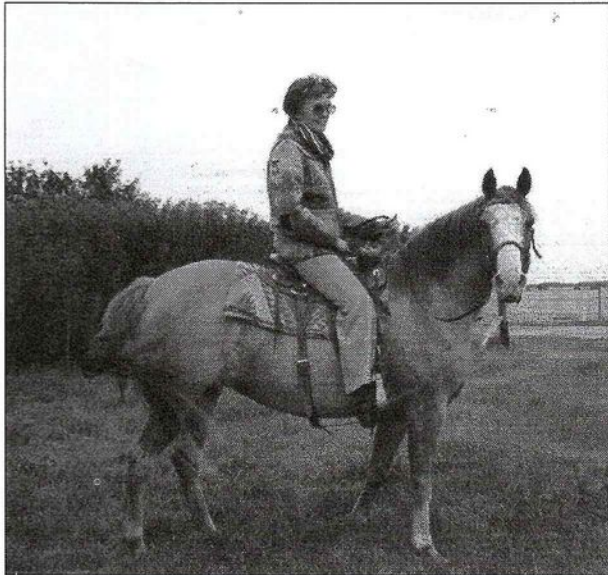
“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

HELLO AND GOOD-BYE TO WALKERS by J. Hazel Paton

“If only I’d had a Tennessee Walker to ride to school so many years ago!”

I had a good pony (not a Shetland) and her off-spring, plus retired farm horses to ride, but they were NOT Walkers...

After I married, I had a variety of Palominos and registered Arabians. In the ‘70s we traded an Arab yearling stallion for an Appy mare and colt. Those folks had neighbours who owned Walkers and lived near where John Gardner of Mississippi trained bird dogs every summer. So I found out about Tennessee Walkers. Soon a fine roan mare arrived from Calvin Miller’s Double Diamond Ranch in North Dakota.



SUN’S MISTY DEW #677162 (above) was by Sun’s Merry Man out of Playboy’s Baby Doll. She lived with us for 19 years. Two more, Reno and Sunni, came from the Double Diamond Ranch, followed by several others from various sources, both imported and Canadian born. Some of those I owned over the years were Magic Man’s Velvet #752619, Glory’s Black Queen #774530, Jeune Fille Dawn, Quest, Keen’s Blue Shadow, and more. Some walked, some paced - some bucked ! But all were smoother to ride than other horses I had ridden.

Then, in Saskatchewan, I found the mare that I’d looked for from the beginning - a well broke black roan with oodles of white, named SUNDAY’S PARTY DOLL #902334 (See right). She was by Sunday’s Topper out of My Duchess Delight. Unknown to me, she was in foal, and the next spring produced a fine colt, pure black with two rear socks. Then the saucy little guy turned out to be

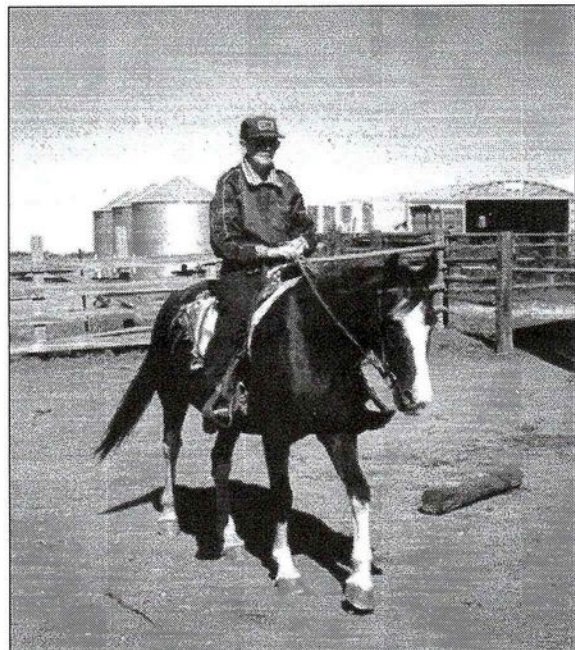
by a Quarter Horse! Needless to say, it was a shock but he entertained us well all summer and was sold back to the mare’s original owner.

But I had lost a year of riding (and some dollars) and as you all know, when one is no longer a spring chicken that does awful things to one’s riding ability. Living on a busy grain farm, near extremely busy roads, with men not very interested in moving objects (unless they have four wheels and a motor) cut me down to two short rides in two years. Finally the sad decision was made: I found a good home for my pretty mare and sold her. There she will be loved and ridden. And she is not that far away...

I still have a pretty white Arabian mare as a pet. She’s one I rescued six years ago from a not-too-happy home. She has been ridden but I won’t ride her - we’ll just be pals.

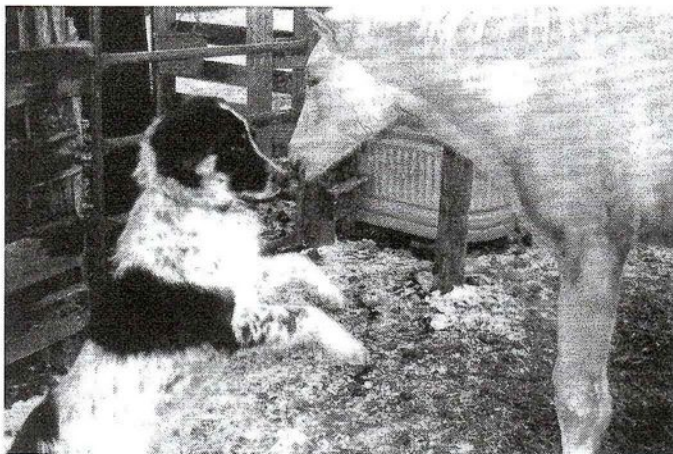
With no saddle horse I feel like a ‘duck out of water’, for riding was my mode of travel for fun and necessity for so many years. But those years, and the Walker registry’s latest rules and regulations have sealed my fate. Now the lawn mower is my ‘pleasure mount’ - or it was! Our very hot, dry summer put a damper on even that recreation.

My Walker mare is not too far away so just maybe I’ll go for a ride again someday. Through Tennessee Walkers I’ve met or become acquainted with so many fine, friendly people, and hopefully, a few will think of me sometimes in the future.



THE STORY OF LILY

by Bill Salt



I want to tell you a story. A story about a small foal and two devoted horse lovers. A story about courage overcoming adversity. A story about love defying all the odds of logic. A story that should be told as a tribute to all animal lovers.

Lily was born in the spring of 2002 to a large, older palomino Quarter Horse - Thoroughbred cross mare, fondly known as the Beast. For 12 years the Beast had been the faithful companion of her owner, Kim. Kim, knowing that the Beast was getting old, wanted her to have a foal before it was too late to do so. Not just any foal but one that would mature into a horse like the Beast; one that would continue the companionship that had started in Kim's teen years. Yes, she knew that at 22 years of age the Beast was probably too old for breeding but some instinct prodded her to go ahead with the breeding anyway.

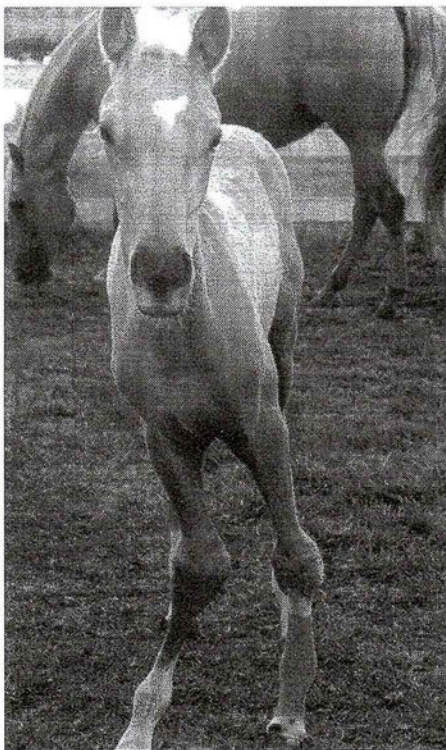
Kim really wanted this baby from Beast. In her subconscious she knew that she needed a baby from Beast, and if she could only have peeked into the future she would have understood why this desire was so strong. As it was she just knew she had to do what she could to have this foal.

Kim and the Beast arrived at our stable a few months prior to the big event. We kept Beast inside on the cold days, and let her run in a paddock when the weather was good. Finally the day of birth

arrived: a beautiful palomino filly that you just knew was going to look exactly like the Beast. But, as the filly struggled to stand and feed, it was obvious that her right leg was very crooked and weak. At the time it was thought that in a few days, as the filly strengthened, the leg would right itself. However, as the days passed, instead of improving, the young horse by compensating for her weak right leg, began to buckle her left leg. Kim and her close companion, Mike, tried several kinds of braces and bandages to strengthen the legs but they never seemed to improve no matter what devices were employed. *(Photo below shows Lily at a few weeks of age, with Beast in the background.)*

They consulted every veterinarian in the district for advice as to what should be done for Lily. Advice was plentiful and varied but the advice was always couched with the underlying theme that it would be for the best to put the foal down; that no matter what could be done, her legs would not improve greatly. Kim and Mike, who each day could see the beauty of the little horse, along with her liveliness and the will to live that she exhibited decided that they 'would do whatever was necessary' to give Lily the chance to be a normal foal. As far as they were concerned there would be no premature end to Lily's life no matter what the vets' advice was.

Two operations were performed on the right leg. The first was unsuccessful and was followed by a second that also did not appear to be very much



better. Kim and Mike applied splints, casts and bandages off and on, but the legs always seemed bent and weak. It was during these months of trial that success became more and more important to Kim. The Beast was diagnosed with cancer and given only a short time to live. Now, saving Lily became more important than ever, since she would be the only living relative to that old companion, the Beast.

While all of this was going on Lily became the pet of the stable. Her attitude never changed, she was always lively, never showing pain, and was friends with everyone who came to see her.

(Including her close friend, Serena the dog - see top of page.)

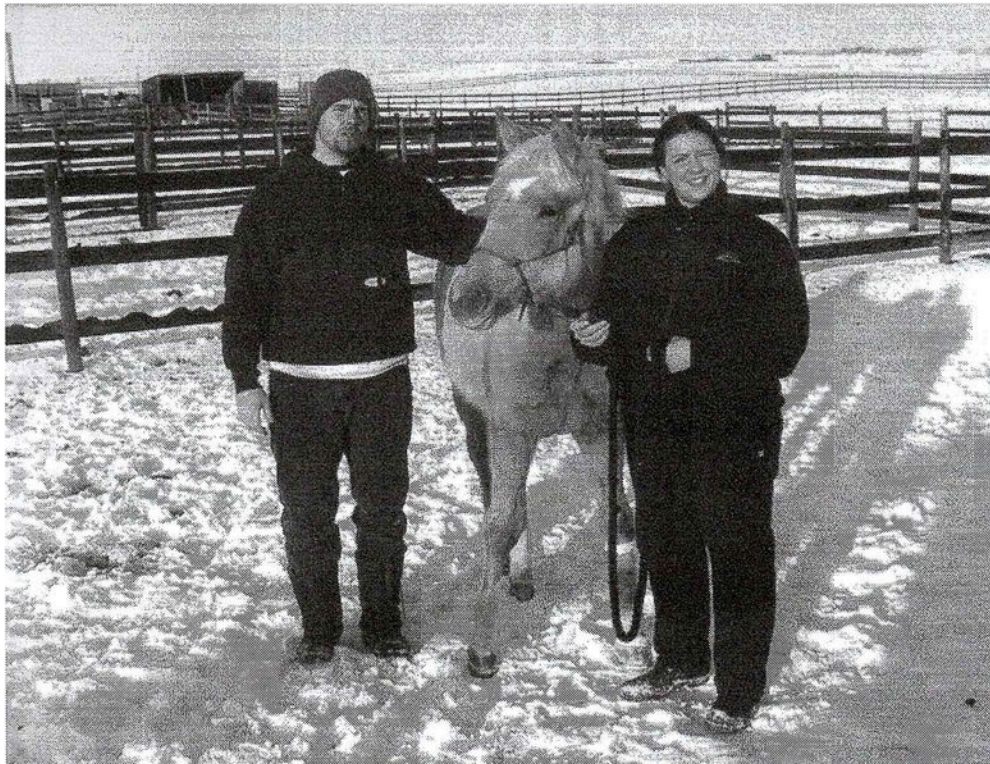
She would hobble over to the fence to visit, hopping on her bandaged legs. It became the habit with the boarders at the stable to stop on their way to the arena to see how Lily was doing. I believe that some of her courage and heart actually became part of those who followed her progress. One's own troubles always seemed a little less when compared to what Lily was able to go through with such good spirits and dignity.

Finally the day arrived when the Beast had to be put down. She was standing all day in one spot and was eating very little. Mind you, she fed Lily without complaint up to the final day. The Beast had started motherhood with little idea of what it was all about. However she learned fast, and was a caring mother to her final days. Some even thought that she had been able to delay the effects of her illness so she could live long enough to see Lily weaned.

With the Beast gone, Kim and Mike turned Lily out with an older Arab mare to be her companion and teacher. After all the conflicting advice was digested, the young owners decided to let nature take over. The move was possibly Lily's salvation. She had the freedom of a large paddock and used it well, trotting and even cantering like a normal foal. Apparently nature still seems to know what she is doing. The Arab mare taught Lily all about herd discipline, while at the same time protecting her. When Lily lay down to take a nap the old mare would go over to her and stand guard while she slept.

As so often happens, when you see something every day, you are inclined not to notice the subtle changes that are taking place. Such was the case with Lily. You forget how the legs looked two months ago, and now, when you appraise them, they are surprisingly straight. In fact, you begin to realize the legs are very straight and Lily looks great! Every morning when I am feeding the horses, Lily comes to me for her morning petting. After her ears have been scratched and her muzzle stroked, she trots in a circle with her tail up, showing anyone who cares to watch that she is well, her legs feel great, and that it's good to be alive. *(Photo below of Kim & Mike with Lily at nine months of age. Note the improvement!)*

At the beginning of this story I said that it was not just about a horse, but also a story about two devoted animal lovers, and so it is. My grandfather used to say that the best character builder available is to be able to love and care for an animal. Kim and Mike are living proof of this observation. Their love and commitment to this little horse has been nothing short of inspirational. Every day for nine months Kim or Mike or both have made the 75 mile round trip from Calgary to tend to Lily. Not a single day has been missed. Some of the vets that worked with Lily have intimated that it was their efforts that produced this miracle but we at the stable know differently. Undoubtedly the science of medicine contributed, but it was the will of the foal coupled with the faith and persistence of Kim and Mike that made it happen.



During the course of Lily's medical journey, there were those who questioned Kim and Mike making such large expenditures on a foal with such a sketchy future. They would say, "Why not put the money toward a house? A new car? (a car they really needed). Or something to improve their own lives?" Mike, having heard parts of these discussions, said to me one day while helping me move hay,

"Bill, there is nothing we could have used Lily's medical payments for that would have given us one half of the pleasure that Lily has given us. End of story!"

If Lily displays the courage and heart throughout her life that she has shown in her first few months she is destined to be a wonderful horse.

There is one small addendum to this story that should be told. It is one of those rare coincidences that border on the mystical. Right after the Beast was put down, Kim and Mike found an envelope on the seat of their car. It was dark so they decided to wait until they reached home in Calgary to open it. On the drive home they observed one of the most spectacular displays of Northern Lights of the year. Kim and Mike were fascinated by this unusually bright display, which lasted for the entire drive. When they went into their house and opened the envelope, they found it to be a gift from one of the concerned boarders at the stable. Accompanying the gift was a sympathy card expressing sorrow on the passing of Beast and saying that they should think of her now as having joined the Northern Lights.

A second addendum to this story has, I feel, some relevance to the events and should be told. When I was a young person in the 1930s, I attended a district exhibition of prize animals, crafts, baking and so on with my father and grandfather. In the evening there

was a community supper and some pundit asked my grandfather to say the blessing. Now it was quite well known in the district that my grandfather had never shown any allegiance to any form of organized religion, and I suggest that the request stemmed from some form of bucolic humor to put him on the spot.

However, the old gentleman, unabashed, stood and said,

"It is a blessing to be here among my neighbors and fellow animal owners, and I find it an appropriate time to ask God to protect all animals, and those that care for them. Amen".

I feel that blessing to be a fitting conclusion to The Story of Lily.



The Story of Lily previously appeared in the April, 2003 edition of *Horses All*. I felt that it was a particularly suitable story to feature in our Christmas issue of *WHN*. Thank you, Bill, for sharing it with us.

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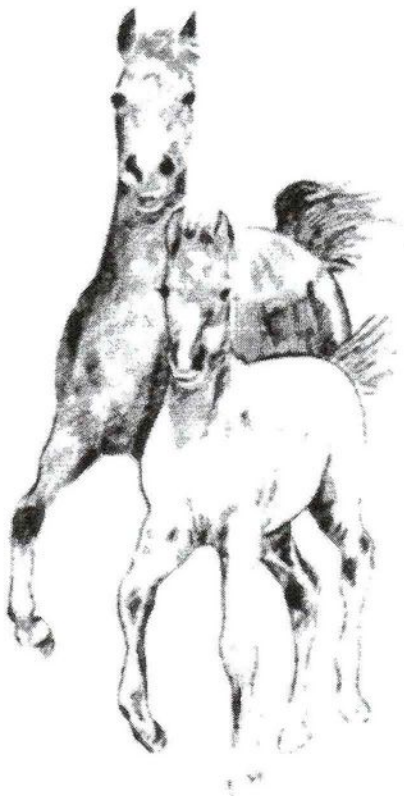
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NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

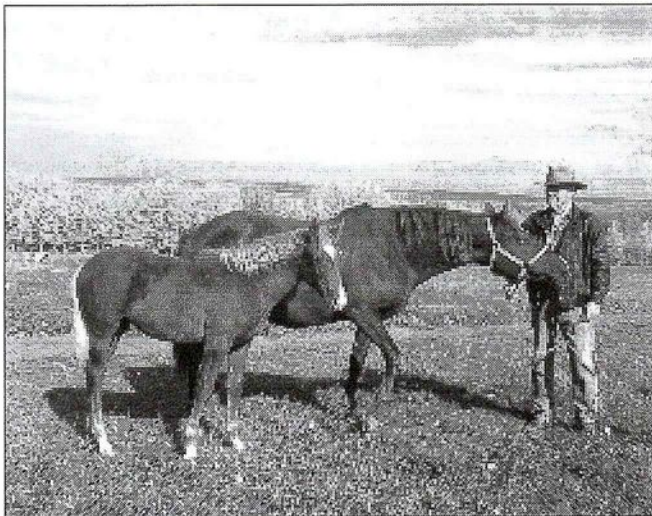
From BARRY LIPSETT, BLIND BAY, "Thanks for the reminder on my subscription. One of those things I kept saying I must do!"

"I was talking to Elsie Dee of Pritchard and we talked about Silver (Uphill Gold 'N Silver). Apparently he sired a mare for her. This horse was not registered. There was also the mare that Debbie Smith had. I will call Elsie's son, Reg, for further history and let you know."

"I keep threatening to have a 'herd dispersal' here but it just takes another trip up the hill to put it off. Besides, my 12 year old granddaughter would be unforgiving if her horse Silver was not around anymore."

A note from IAN ANDERSEN, DAWSON CREEK, "Enclosed is a cheque to renew our subscription for one year. We thoroughly enjoy the *Walking Horse News* as much as we enjoy our Tennessee Walkers. A great magazine."

From WAYNE & WILLA LAXDAL, QUESNEL, "Could you renew our subscription and also send one to Betty and Marlin Peters of Fraser Lake, B.C. They bought our two year old gelding, "Jim-Bob", which we bred from our mare and stallion. (Nahanni Pride, *below*, was bred by the Laxdals.)



PETER SYMONS, DAWSON CREEK, e-mailed, "The chestnut filly (*above*) with the star, strip and snip and both hind socks is Nahanni's Nancy, with dam Nahanni Pride (Barker's Gemini Sun X Jus' A

Lady's Pride). We also had an almost solid chestnut colt, Reggie's Rusty, from April Love's Regina (Wainwright's Shadow X Misty's April Love). You'll recognize Chapie's Summer and her colt, Summer's Sammy. All foals were sired by Mira's Montie Montana). Anne took these snaps last weekend. Great fall colours at Rafternines, eh?"

KIRK & SHEILA COBURN, PRINCE GEORGE, write, "I know my renewal is in August, but without your reminder sticker I never would have remembered - The extra effort is appreciated."

"We've had a spectacular summer. In the spring and early summer we had enough rain and heat to give us a good hay crop. August has been hot with very little rain. Last year we built a trail system around an inactive gravel pit but this year they brought in a crusher and now have 17,000 loads to take out! They are running approximately 17 double and belly dump gravel trucks twelve hours a day. It has cut into our access to the trail but we still managed to get some riding in."

"Hope everyone had a decent summer and has enough hay for the winter."



ALBERTA NEWS

From CHARIS COOPER, TURNER VALLEY, "The past year has been busy for Peppi and me, with driving and parades including Spruce Meadows. Also this summer I bought the mare "Go Baby Go" (aka Jewel) from Murray McCargar. She is a great trail horse so I have been enjoying the fall colors while riding with friends. This takes some of the pressure off Peppi, who has been my 'main ride' for the last ten years. Jewel is very striking - black, with two arrow-head-shaped white spots, on her right hip and on her left wither. She also has a white tail."

JEFF ENTWISTLE, SHERWOOD PARK, writes, "I have been subscribing to *WHN* for a few years now and have not taken the opportunity to tell you that I really do enjoy reading the 'News'. Keep up the good work."

"I am moving into Sherwood Park and am going to sell my horse. I'd like to place an ad for him in the November/December issue. 'ACE' is known to many of your subscribers and has been an excellent horse for me."

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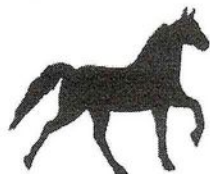
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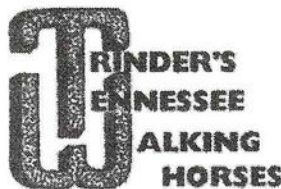
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'N' FIRE





ALBERTA NEWS

From CAROL HALL, WESTRIDGE FARMS, CALGARY, "We have had the *best* summer with the Walkers. This year we entered 3 competitive trail rides and an endurance ride. The horses did amazing. My daughter Sarah, my niece Ellie, and I competed in the novice division due to the ages of the horses. We did very well, placing in every competitive ride and completing the endurance ride. The last ride for us was down in Milk River. What a spectacular place. We rode amongst the Hoodoos and the rattlesnakes, from grasslands to coulees. This ride is on our list for next year. My little Walker "Zy" won the novice light weight and Sarah on "Myrica" won the junior novice division, while Ellie on her Walker "Scooby Do", came in second. It was a busy September as usual - Masters - Futurity - Milk River competitive trail ride... Now I am settling into the teaching and training routine for this winter."

FROM FRAN AND GORDON KERIK, CRYSTAL STAR RANCH, TWO HILLS, & MARLENE FAIRBROTHER, WINDING CREEK RANCH, MYRNAM, "We were invited to showcase our Tennessee Walkers at the Harvest Expo in St. Paul on October 25-26. It featured 20 different breeds of horses this year, as well as 15 different cattle breeds. There were also poultry (that I supplied), goats (that I supplied), ducks, alpacas, pony rides, a petting zoo, an Alberta Pork Producers baby pig mobile, commercial exhibits geared toward farm life, crafters and growers, plus free beef on a bun sponsored by the town and county of St. Paul."

"Saturday featured Gary Cooper, one of Western Canada's most renowned horse trainers. He was very entertaining, and a lot of what he said made sense, especially when talking about first time horse ownership. We also had the St. Paul Musical Riders. On Sunday the people with the heavy horses did some different demonstrations that were very entertaining and took up the rest of the afternoon."

"We had a complementary booth to go along with the two stalls that were sponsored by the AWHA Wild Rose Club. Our booth featured a video, picture board, brochures, and Marlene made sure that not one child left without a colouring picture of a Walker!"

"This year for our demonstrations, we brought F88's Whistle, Marlene's 13 year old gelding and Allen's Midnight Rascal, Fran's 5 year old stallion. On Sunday, Marlene's back was acting up, so our farrier agreed to ride Whistle. And did he put on a show! This horse was up-headed and

MOVING, to the appreciation of the crowd. Rascal did us proud. He was so quiet and calm while in his stall that people couldn't believe he was a stallion. In my warm up I rode with two Belgians that were being hand walked and a pair of Norwegian Fjords (one of whom was a stallion) pulling a flashy wagon. Rascal didn't blink an eye at his strange arena mates. We did demos on Saturday as well. I cantered Rascal in that nice walking chair canter that he's got, then we walked up a storm. Then the band played the Tennessee Waltz - very loudly."

"TIP: *Don't play three beat music when you are trying to demo a four beat gait. It doesn't work!* The next day I asked for fast, four beat music and what a difference it made. I think I may have found a new training technique! We had a blast, with over 5000 people going by our booth, with some from last year who remembered us and had more questions for us. I got to ride an Icelandic Pony; that was pretty neat. If anybody has a chance to do this, I really recommend it. I would also like to thank Ryan Innocent for the work he did with Rascal this summer, making it possible for me to take Rascal, with his impeccable manners, anywhere."

"News on the home front: Marlene has purchased herself a new stallion prospect. The Ivory Treasure is a cremello stud colt by DP's Big Shiney Tunes from Laurie Innocent. She also bought a little palomino filly named Goldust Mountain Pride, by Generatin' Future Goldust. She also purchased a three year old red roan sabino filly named Willow's Flaxen Queen by F88's Merry Minstrel this summer. I guess she's back in the game in a big way."

"I've been doing a lot of riding this fall, now that the bugs are all dead. I've taken Rascal trail riding, both by ourselves and with other horses and we've started working cattle. We rounded up the whole herd ourselves from one pasture (with the wind blowing 50 km), drove the cows to the corrals a few miles down the road and then separated calves. To use a phrase from the cutting horse folks, *this horse is really good minded and a pleasure to work with.*"

"We went to our first Futurity, and it was very educational. We had a lot of fun and were able to put faces to the names of people we've been reading about for years. Our babies didn't do too badly, a third and a sixth, considering I didn't know what I was doing. We will definitely be back! I would like to thank all the volunteers who made everything so easy for me, especially Dianne Little who took a lot of time to teach me what to do."

"Wishing all Walking Horse folks a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

KARLA FREEMAN, BENTLEY, WRITES, "Hope you enjoyed the summer. We had a nice fall here too. I have been so very busy with all my wonderful Walkers: six more foals this year, plus working on the six from last, the five from the year before and so on and so on... I am up to 35 you know - so it's a lot of feet to trim, and mouths to feed."

"I am very pleased with the three and four year olds I've been riding this summer. I do much ground work with them, so when it is time to ride them, they are easy going."

"I hope to get to more clinics next season. I did get away this summer to the Jenny Jackson Clinic... that was a good activity, and informative too. Jenny helped me to teach my horse (Roy) to kneel down, So I was very pleased to get Roy to lie down for me this summer. I haven't asked him to lie down in the snow yet, but it sure makes it easy to get on!"

"Keep Warm, & Seasons Greetings to All."



"Chief Justice Allen"

By Dianne Little

Sometimes things happen in unusual ways. For the past few years, I have been privileged to judge a number of shows sponsored by the Standardbred Association of Alberta. As is the case with many of the shows I judge, I see some faces returning time and time again. Ken McGuire was one of these. I judged him, and then have had the pleasure of working with him as my ringmaster at two shows. Ken is an avid horseman, interested not only in riding but the place the horse played in the history of Alberta. Over the past 18 months, he has been involved in research for a book he is writing about the impact of horses in the province of Alberta, and in particular how fashion has changed the type of horse people consider popular. While researching the popularity of colour, Ken discovered the following article published on the front page of the *Nanton News* on January 10, 1946. Knowing of my involvement with the Tennessee Walking Horse, Ken kindly copied the article and gave it to me. I think it provides another clue to the history of our breed, not only in Alberta but in Canada.

It is reproduced in the adjoining column:

WALKING HORSE COMES TO NANTON

**Cooper and Sears Buy Interest
in "Chief Justice Allen",
Imported in 1941**

Although the invention and development of the motor car, tractor and truck has displaced many horses from both the city and farm, there are still many who cling to the belief that the horse is here to stay, and that certain breeds will always be in demand and will command good prices.

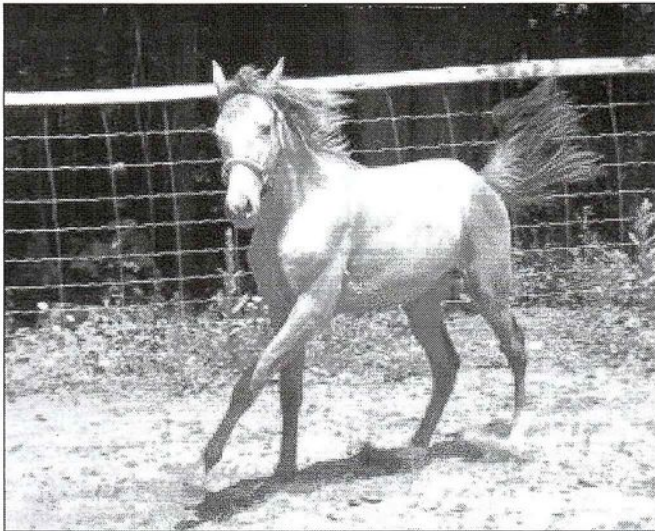
The Nanton district has already gained an enviable reputation for its palomino horses and last year staged the first palomino horse show ever held in the Dominion of Canada.

Through the enterprise of two local ranchers, Harold Sears and W.C. Cooper, and of H. Caven of Dunmore, a new type of horse will be introduced here. These three men have purchased the famous Tennessee Walking Horse, "Chief Justice Allen". He is the only one of his breed registered in the Dominion of Canada. He was born May 3, 1939, was imported into Canada by Gilchrist Brothers of Wildhorse, Alberta, on February 5, 1941, and was registered in Canada on April 16, 1941.

Dr. Hugh L. Dixon, S.S., who examined the stallion before admission to Canada, reported: "This chestnut stallion with light mane and tail is a Tennessee Walking Horse. He is only two years old in May but now stands 15.2 hands high so will make a good sized horse. He has the best withers and back of any horse I have ever seen. His registered name is Chief Justice Allen, sired by No Limit Allen out of Queen Mary. His hind legs toe out a little thus enabling him to take a long stride with his hind legs which are exceptionally well muscled. He over-reaches about twelve inches with his hind legs, this giving him speed in walking. He is well schooled and can now walk seven miles per hour."

The Tennessee Walking Horse is raised in the mountains of Tennessee and the breed has developed a mule-like foot; this importation, however, has plenty of width at the hoof head; he has an intelligent head, small ears, arched neck and carries his tail arched, this being natural.

ONTARIO NEWS



KIM PRINGLE, PRINGLE FARMS, ARDEN, writes, "THE ICEMAN COMETH! I have owned my champagne Tennessee Walking Horse stud colt (*above*) for one year now. I flew out to have a look at him last fall - and it was love at first sight. I purchased him and brought him home. He is one year old now. When I got him his name was HOBO. I hated it. He is too awesome to be called HOBO. So we decided it had to be changed. Here is the story of how ICE got his new name."

"Every year we take a Tennessee Walking Horse foal to Tim Horton's Camp Day in Kingston and do a 'name the TWH foal' contest. The money raised helps send underprivileged kids to camp. This year we decided to take my yearling champagne colt. It would be a good first "outing", get him some local exposure and let the City of Kingston see what they could come up with for a new name! We set up a small round pen right next to the drive through. We had a busy city street on one side of the pen and the drive through on the other. He stepped out of the trailer and just strolled over to the round pen like it was the most normal thing in the world. Unreal! The people coming through the drive through were simply amazed at how quiet he was - and "ohhhhhhhhhhh - WHAT COLOUR IS THAT?"

"Lots of names were entered - but the winning one was '**CHAMPAGNES CANADIAN ICE**'. Champagne - because of his color, Canadian - because he is, and Ice - because he is just *so cool*. I just love the name. His barn name is "**The Iceman**" - and that is how people remember him. These pics are of "ICE" taken in June. This summer he was shown at five events and just blew everyone away!"

"The biggest event we attended was the 2003 International Plowing Match (IPM) in Lanark County. Our senior stallion TRACKIN' ON HEIR and THE ICEMAN were both invited to attend this historic event. The Tented City was spread out over 1600 acres and a total of 95,000 people attended. I think every one of them came by to see the two Tennessee Walking Horse stallions."

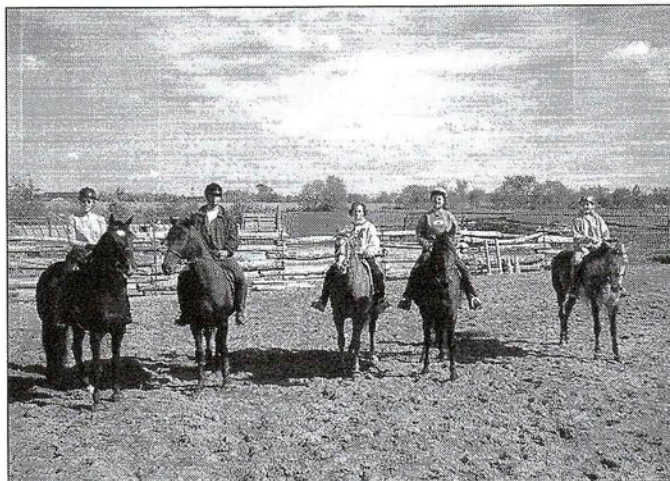
POSTSCRIPT: On Nov. 13, Kim wrote, "I have some bad news. My big stallion TRACKER was hurt this fall and is now in re-hab. He rolled under a steel panel and twisted his back and pulled muscles on his left side. I am very worried about him - he is my pride & joy. Thank God it was not worse and we did not lose him altogether. He will be off for 6-8 months (possibly longer). We are hopeful the chiropractor will be able to help him. I'm so disappointed and worried. But his spirits are good."

JULIE MURRAY, ARNPRIOR, writes, "I fell in love with the TWH less than a year before I knew I would be living in the heart of TWH country. When I found out my husband was taking a job in Nashville, TN, I was thrilled. The first thing I did when we got there was look for TWH stables to learn about the breed. I found myself working with one the best flat shod TWH trainers in the country, Marilynne Reed, now Marilynne MacLeod of Murfreesboro, TN, owner of WGC mare Generator's Sonata and her son, Our Star Spangled Banner, sire of my colt, Banner's Canadian Coin."

"I spent most of my 4 years working with Marilynne and assisting in the training and showing of her TWH show horses. I now own a wonderful mare named Money's Pretty Woman (Penny), her son, Banner's Canadian Coin (Rocky), and a new addition, Cee Dee Echo's Juanita, a 5 month old champagne filly."

"We hope to have a TWH class in the Carp Fair next fall and find more TWH lovers in our area to do group trail rides."

The photo below was taken Oct. 13th, Thanksgiving day, at Trudy Simpson's farm. It's the first all Walking Horse trail ride I have been on since I moved back to Ontario two years ago after living in Nashville, TN for 4 1/2 years. From left to right: Marlynn Rey, Stittsville on Shaker; Mike, Stittsville, on Bud; Charley Vargas, Dunrobin, on Georgie; Julie Murray, Arnprior, on Penny; and Trudy Simpson, Ottawa, on Keara.



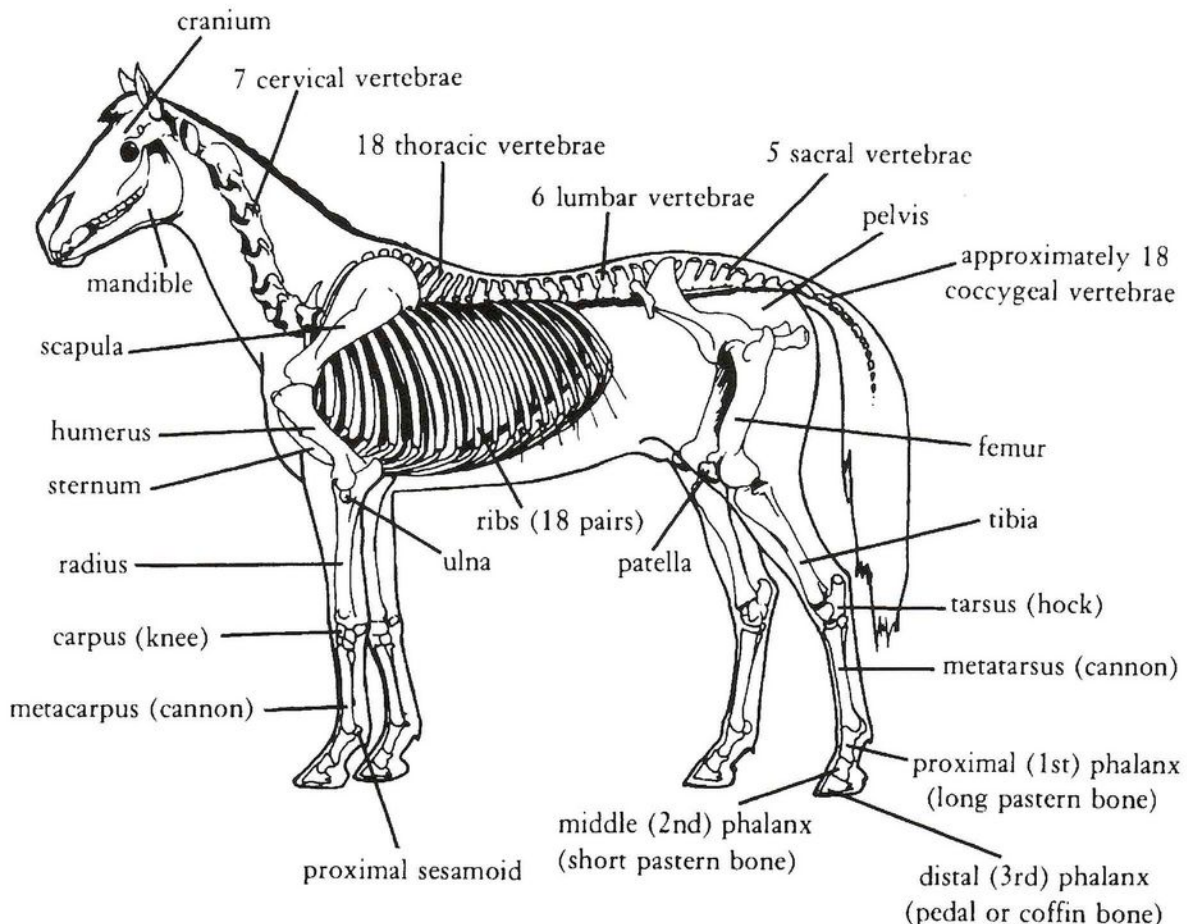
The Conformation of the Running Walk

by Eldon Eadie

The movement associated with the running walk of the TWH starts in the femur of the horse. More specifically, long femurs produce better moving horses than short femurs. It is a matter of the mechanical advantage of long levers. When you open a can of paint, you have better success with a screwdriver than a penny because of the mechanical advantage of the power that you can develop with a long lever. It is the same with the running walk. We all know that it takes a lot of power for a horse to walk right so why should we expect a short femur to do the job. Most of the muscle that produces power in the back end is attached to the femur. This combination of muscle and length of femur contributes most of the horse's ability to walk with

excellence.

A number of years ago I met an old gentleman who had perfected a series of measurements that could predict the ability of a young Thoroughbred to race with a high degree of accuracy. He would go around to the auctions in the eastern US and measure the size of the heart with ultrasound, and the depth and width of the chest cavity, and the various bones for proportion, etc. and he'd produce a list of potential winners. His reputation was such that people would pay him several thousand dollars for a copy of the list before the bidding started. Much of what he did was not applicable to the running walk, but the thing that sparked my interest was his insight on the femur of the horse. He had a way of just measuring the length of the femur without considering the muscle and he said that a short femur was only good for a sprinter. This horse can go like a bullet for a couple of hundred yards and then it loses speed. A moderate length of femur is good for a distance runner. This horse can't start off as fast but it can run for a half-mile or more and maintain its speed quite well. A long femur on a



horse is good only for a jumper. In jumping, speed is secondary to power. We have all heard stories of horses that couldn't race but became excellent jumpers. The long femur is the reason.

The femur is also most of the reason why some horses have a loose, long striding movement and some are tight moving. The deep head nod is the counter balance of the extra mechanical advantage of a long femur. Take a look at a good Quarter Horse sprinter. That little femur is moving so fast that it is just a blur. The power of the horse comes from the extra 400 pounds of muscle on the back end. And the movement is stiff from zero to fifty and back again, all in a couple hundred yards. You can't even see the stifle (patella). It is tucked up into the muscle out of sight. When you show off your walking horse you park him. Stretch him out so that people can see that big ugly stifle hanging down from his hip. It is the most important point to look for in a walking horse.

There are a number of other factors that contribute to a good moving walking horse. The hip needs to be in proportion. When you start looking at hips you soon realize that there are very few that are exactly the same. The distance from the stifle to the point of the hip and from there to the point of the butt and back to the stifle should be roughly equal. The width of the back end should be in proportion as well. If the femur is the motor of the horse then the gaskin and cannon are the transmission. If the distance from the stifle to the hock is not equal to the distance from the hock to the ground then you are shifting gears too many times before you get the power developed in the femur into the ground.

An extremely high hock and an extremely low hock are both unsound. The low hocked horse will tend to become curbed and may develop bog spavin. A good moving walking horse should be slightly turned out at the back end. If the hind leg is perfectly straight forward then the horse will kick himself in the belly every time that long femur moves forward. He will soon learn to shorten his stride to prevent a tummy ache. The longest stride is only possible when the stifle folds up outside the horse's belly. I had to put down a beautiful three year old palomino about a month ago because she banged her stifle on a gatepost and fractured the patella. That would never happen in any other breed.

A walking horse needs more angle at the hock so that the hoof can be picked up higher to clear the ground during that long stride. You can prove this to yourself by drawing a short arc and a long arc with the same radius on a piece of paper. Then draw the ground in between ends of the arc and you will realize

that the long striding horse has to be built differently in order to keep from digging into the ground at midpoint in the stride. This long stride is the main factor in producing the rocking chair canter. When the long striding horse reaches forward and begins to put the power into the stride, it lifts the body of the horse. The power stroke of the short striding sprinter all goes to driving the horse forward.

The narrow chested horse has the advantage over a wide chest because he gets better support closer to his center of gravity. The front legs on a wide chested horse act like the outriggers on a canoe. He has to take another quick jab with the leg in flight in order to keep from falling over sideways. You can have the best back end in the world but if your horse is three feet wide in the shoulder it will not move properly. A while ago a rancher who has 34,000 acres and runs 800 head of cattle stopped in to see my mustangs. When we got around to looking at the walkers, he commented on the fact that they were not three feet wide. He said that if you roped a bull from one of these, the bull would pull you over sideways by switching his tail. So I teased him about having to get off and walk between bulls. He said, "Are you kidding? We trailer the horses between bulls. Walking is too hard on the horse, let alone the rider." Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

On the other end of the spectrum, some walking horses have front legs that touch all the way down to the ground. My personal opinion is that sometimes we sacrifice too much of the good solid, sound structure of the horse for the sake of movement. I am not willing to go too far in some of these areas. And I don't think that anyone needs to unless you are trying to produce a world grand champion.

A good moving walking horse needs to be reasonably high headed. A low headed horse moves too heavy on his front end, whereas a high headed horse is able to shift some of the weight to the back where he can develop the muscle and power needed to move right.

A good slope to the shoulder with a funny bone (humerus) that is more vertical is important so that the horse can pick up his front feet and reach out a bit more. Low headed horses tend to have funny bones that are more horizontal and the front legs are back in under the horse's body a ways. This tends to restrict the movement of the front end. The shoulder is the second most important point in the conformation of the walking horse because the mechanics of the bones of the fore leg are such that when the fore hoof hits the ground it cannot be any farther forward than the

line of the scapula (shoulder). An upright shoulder limits the reach of the fore leg. There is another reason that the sloping shoulder is good for any horse and that is that the shoulder is not attached to the body by bone. It is suspended by muscles, ligaments, and cartilage from the thorax. A long sloping shoulder spreads this attachment over a greater area and prevents stiffening and soreness of the front end of the horse

I like a reasonably short back. A short back places the rider a little further back on the horse for better distribution of weight. A long back tends to be weak even though it gives a little more room for the stifle to fold. Most stifles don't need the extra room.

I also like a medium to small refined head and a reasonably long neck. Some people have stated that the reason that some of the old timers nodded well was because of the extra 40 pounds of bone in their heads. The mechanics of movement dictate that the heavier heads would be less likely to nod, not more likely. Horses nod well because of the counterbalance required by the extra length of the femur. As the femur is pushed down under power the head is moved up. Towards the end of the power stroke the head is brought down to be ready for the other hind leg. A horse nods exactly twice in four hoof beats.

In the breed that we all affectionately call the Tennessee Walking Horse, only about half of the individuals have good enough conformation to do a minimal running walk. Of that group, only one or two per hundred have strong enough gait to be able to walk without benefit of special training, shoeing, and other gait modification techniques. Of the half of the breed that doesn't have the conformation to do a running walk, possibly fifteen out of a hundred are strong gaited. These are the even gaited, stiff moving, racky type of horse. They make great riding horses because they are as smooth as glass and fast. But they are not running walk horses. The job of any breeder who is trying to produce natural gaited running walk horses is to roll all of these characteristics into one individual. That individual has to have the ability to hold the running walk with speed, and without benefit of any special training or shoeing and have good enough conformation to be able to nod and stride in a loose articulated manner. When you get a horse like this he is worth his weight in gold. This is the true pleasure horse; a pleasure to own, a pleasure to ride and a pleasure to show.

Of the ninety five percent of the breed that is not able to do a running walk without some intervention, it is surprising how much improvement

you can make with a little change of hoof angle or a heavy shoe or an itty bitty logging chain. And when you do that you create a billion dollar industry that puts a lot of bread on the table for a lot of young families. I don't want to be misunderstood as trying to discredit any aspect of this industry or the wonderful people who are involved in it. It is just that a long time ago I was considering my own options and since I didn't have a billion dollars to buy a perfect walking horse I decided that I was going to have to breed one. I am a lot closer now than I was twenty years ago but I am still not there. I suppose that when I get there I will lose interest in horses and start raising orchids. They are quite beautiful, you know.

Next Issue:

Measuring and Assessing Conformation & Gait

COME VISIT ONTARIO!

The e-mail for our new TWH group in Ontario is twhfo@msn.com

The Group-Web site is <http://msn.groups.com/TennesseeWalkingHorseFarmsofOntario>

Please take a look (it's a start !). I need to correct a couple of things after the Royal Winter Fair (which I am leaving to attend today). The site is for all TWH owners in Ontario and will represent all Ontario (Quebec to Manitoba).

It has been well received so far. Memberships are confirming. The site can be anyone's web-site, a member can access and post all kinds of messages. It is very interactive and members can decide themselves how often they want to be notified of new messages (immediately, daily, weekly, monthly.) And no meetings to go to!! That was a big issue, especially considering the distances involved. **Content Must Be TWH related!**

I hope it will generate some revenue to support some of the initiatives already under way.

by Ian Lockett

Adam, Wanda, Joice & Waylon Kaseltz	Box 21 Boggy Creek, MB R0L 0G0 (204) 937-3433 Cell: (204) 937-7414
Tennessee Walkers and other Gentle-Mannered Horses	
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FROM FOUNDATIONS TO THE FUTURE by Franne Brandon

Video Review: GAITED HORSES, NATURALLY!

How Parelli Natural Horse*Man*Ship Applies to Gaited Horses. With David Lichman.

The video training market abounds with tapes designed to teach the amateur or even the more experienced horseman how to improve his relationship with his horse or his skills in training his horse. Fewer offerings are available, however, specifically directed to the more limited gaited horse market. For those gaited horse enthusiasts seeking help in improving their mounts' gaits without resorting to heavy shoes, harsh bits, or other mechanical devices, Parelli Five Star Premier Instructor David Lichman has produced a two tape set with accompanying booklet designed, according to page 9 of the "Introduction", "to do two things for you :

- 1) Show you a better way to help your horse find his natural gait
- 2) Show you how you can help with the 'maintain gait' responsibility that may be frustrating you as a Parelli student."

The booklet consists of six sections: "Questions & Answers," "Charts and Lists from the Lecture", "Cantering the Gaited Horse", "Helpful Hints on Gaiting", an excellent "Glossary" and a list of "Resources". Although designed for use with the two videotapes, the booklet provides interesting reading on its own merits. Re-reading some sections turns up new ideas that the reader does not note on an initial perusal.

The first tape is entitled Knowledge. The beginning was recorded live at a Gaited Horses, Naturally! seminar near Philadelphia. The initial section records Lichman's lecture at this seminar. Delving into both biped and equine gaits, the tape then offers suggested techniques to overcome undesirable gaits and achieve a four-beat movement which the rider can use as a basis from which to develop the favored intermediate gait. Following the lecture, various horses present at the seminar demonstrate the gaits that had been discussed during the earlier lesson. A viewer with a keen appreciation for a true running walk could watch the short segments with totally natural walkers hitting the signature gait over and over.

The best section of the Knowledge tape consists of two animated clips. The first clip features

a horse performing what Lichman terms the "show gait."

Lichman plainly states "My contention is that this is not the same as the running walk, because although the feet are landing in a pretty even four beat sequence, the feet are taking off together in a pace rhythm." Slow motion of the clip in both forward and reverse movement illustrates this point quite succinctly. Following the first clip, a second animation, based on the video records of the WC Mare Merry Wilson, shows the difference in the two gaits. In this reviewer's opinion, this clip should be *required viewing* for anybody just getting into the breed, attending horse shows as a spectator, or getting involved in pleasure walking horse competition!

The second tape, Techniques, set in Sacramento, California, focuses on two horses, one pacey, the other trotty. Both are ridden in Parelli hackamores to demonstrate techniques to obtain a smooth gait while the horses remain on a loose rein. Before the first glimpse of each horse moving on a longe line, Lichman emphasizes the necessity of completing the requisite groundwork, in his case Parelli's Savvy System, before working on the gaits.

The Foxtrotter gelding, Baron, used in the demonstration is fairly trotty on a line, but shows flatwalking ability under saddle. Riding Baron, Lichman illustrates a technique that he developed in Austria which he calls "Mach schnell, aber nicht trauben", which roughly translates into English as "Go quickly, but not at a trot." For those horses which fail to respond to the oldtimers' technique of hours at the flatwalk to develop a running walk or other smooth intermediate gait, this "mach schnell" style of training offers a decidedly different approach.

The pacey horse that Lichman uses is his Tennessee Walking Horse gelding, Scotty, a pretty flax sorrel that is three and a half years old. Unlike the Foxtrotter gelding, this horse has completed his Parelli training and presents a relatively calm picture for the viewer. In his introduction, Lichman enumerates the variety of time-honored techniques traditionally employed to square up the pacey horse. After admitting their value, he demonstrates the technique that he considers to be foolproof. He also shows his viewers

the style of riding that he had used to teach the trot to Scotty. Following this, he does what is often mentioned but seldom seen. He rides Scotty in the Parelli hackamore in a plowed field, tall grass, and a very rough-turned field to show how each type of footing only helps the flashy sorrel to break up his pacing movement and begin to engage his hind end and reach up and out with his front legs.

Following the long sections featuring Baron and Scotty, horses in a Lichman clinic in Salt Lake City provide other glimpses of how these approaches to riding can help animals with ways of going that are somewhat different from Baron's and Scotty's to improve the quality of their gaits. Whether pacey or extremely trotty, each horse shows some beginnings of conversion from two beat to four beat. The slow motion segments help the viewer to see exactly where the changes occur and what causes them.

The "Epilogue" of the second tape presents a sixteen year old Tennessee Walker mare with a natural tendency to do a four beat pace. Using only the hackamore with some rein pressure, Lichman uses vertical flexion to achieve a very smooth, deeply nodding, teeth popping running walk. The transformation is amazing.

Throughout the tapes and in the booklet, Lichman stresses that his tapes are designed to be used in conjunction with the Parelli Savvy System of horse training. For those whose horses have already become "calmer, smarter, braver, and more athletic" due to their Parelli training, this set should prove a valuable tool for taking the results of the Savvy System and developing a wonderful, easy gaited partner for the show ring or the trails. Those owners who have horses whose gaits need improving, or young stock not yet started under saddle, but who have not been involved in Parelli's Savvy System, might want to consider this set as an addition to their equine video library simply on its own merits in that it presents ideas and alternatives to traditional Middle Tennessee training techniques.

Review by Franne Brandon, Petersburg, TN.

GAITED HORSES, NATURALLY!

How Parelli Natural Horse*Man*Ship Applies to Gaited Horses. With David Lichman.

Tapes may be ordered from David M. Lichman,
PO Box 340683, Sacramento, CA. 95834
for \$85 US plus shipping & handling.
Contact www.DavidLichman.com or phone
1-800-642-3335.

ARE YOU CONSIDERING EQUINE INSURANCE?

By Carla Dickhaut

Insurance coverage for your horse/s is a subject of considerable importance. To not insure just because you are undecided as to what to do can affect your finances considerably. If the task of researching your insurance needs feels overwhelming, maybe this article can help you formulate a plan.

Insuring your horses: This is an easy decision. All horses are a financial investment and, like your house or car, you should protect your investments. In the case of death, insurance coverage gives you a means to pay major medical expenses or the money to replace your animal. Coverage for your horse can be broken down into: Mortality, Major Medical & Surgical and Loss of use.

Mortality Coverage: This policy covers death as a result of accident, illness, injury, humane destruction, transportation or theft. You must ask your agent what types of risks your policy will cover as they can vary from company to company. To this policy you can add riders to cover major medical & surgical expenses and loss of use.

What you need to consider when insuring your horse is what types of risks your horse will encounter. If, for example, you have a breeding stallion, you are exposing him to outside horses and will want to cover him for illness and injury. This also applies to anyone showing a horse. Make a list of the risks you want covered. Decide on the horse's value. If you have just purchased your horse, the insurance company will want to see a copy of the bill of sale. This will generally be the maximum sum they are prepared to insure your horse for.

However, if you own a horse and need to qualify its value, as, for example, you wish to increase the amount of the insurance because your horse is now trained and showing well, you will probably have to have an accredited equine appraiser justify this increase. The appraiser will establish current "fair market value" based on a number of factors, which include physical traits such as age, health and conformation, breed, type, characteristics, pedigree and background. Other factors are disposition, accomplishments including training, show records, prizes and earnings. Progenitors and offspring are also taken into consideration when finding a value.

The factors that **don't** affect your horse's value are: emotional attachment, perceived value, and direct or indirect costs of ownership such as maintenance, veterinary bills and financial needs.

Losing a horse can be devastating emotionally. Having your investment covered will give you peace of mind.

Carla Dickhaut, Accredited Equine Appraiser

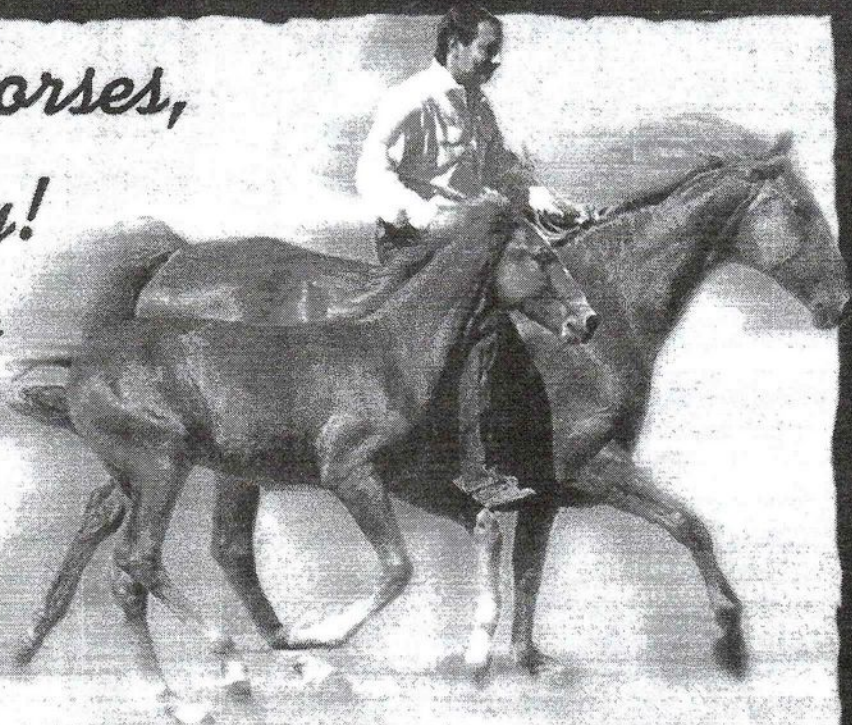
Gaited Horses, Naturally!

with
David Lichman

Parelli Natural HorseManShip



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- How to maintain gait on a loose rein
- How Parelli Natural HorseManShip applies to gaited horses

All without weighted shoes, tie downs, draw reins or severe bits.

Video 1: Knowledge (90 minutes)

Sit in on a live presentation by David - A fun and in depth look at understanding, identifying and influencing gaits without the use of chains, harsh bits, tie downs, tight reins or extreme shoeing. Pat Parelli says that in order to train horses you have to adjust to fit the situation, but you have to understand the situation first! This video will help you understand the situation with regards to gaits, preparing you to apply the natural techniques to your own horse.



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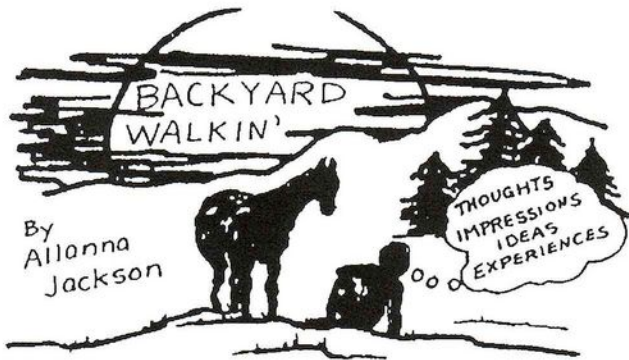
(916) 648-1092
www.DavidLichman.com

Video 2: Techniques (70 minutes)

Demonstrations by David on how to help trotty and pacey horses find a smooth gait to ride on a loose rein. Includes a segment on true collection and how to be in harmony with the horse when using it to influence gait. Examples of students using these techniques to get results the very first time they try them.

Booklet: Gaited Horses Naturally

All the questions David has received about gaited horses are answered here. Also includes all of the charts and diagrams from the live presentation, background information, a resource list, and definitions of terms and concepts.



GROUND DRIVING BLUE

By Allanna Lea Jackson © Oct. 2003

After successfully riding Blue in her corral for a week in July 2001, I went back to work on her ground schooling.

It was late August before we resumed ground driving. Blue hurried off at a fast walk the direction she wanted to go before I was ready. She did stop and stand when I told her "whoa," but she needed to wait for me.

Blue resisted the bit by throwing her head and yanking on the lines as she took her first step forward. This was yet another quirk Blue acquired before I got her. After several sessions Blue began to realize that if she waits for my signal to move and doesn't throw her head she won't hit herself in the mouth.

After Blue accepted contact with the snaffle bit we were able to work on driving in circles, figure 8's, and serpentines as well as changing direction across the diagonals.

On Sept. 1, 2001, I drove Blue around the outside of the corral then down my driveway. Blue zig-zagged a little but straightened out and walked down the street to the dead end. Coming back she got in a rush and tried to duck into the yard, so we went past the house. Blue again wanted to duck into the yard but straightened out when I told her to. We also practiced "whoa." I gave her a treat for obeying. Then we went back to the corral and quit for the day.

Through the month of September I ground drove Blue in the corral and in the yard over obstacles, mixed with reviews of halter work and lunging. As Blue grew calmer and less resistant we ventured further away from home, first in the subdivision and then in the forest. Blue still made hard work of waiting. Rushing, pulling on the bit, and occasionally dancing sideways continued to be problems. Blue's years in Tennessee had accustomed her to traffic.

On Sept. 21, 2001, I ground drove Blue over

to Scott's Reservoir. Blue started off calmly, but zig-zagged and snatched at tall grasses as we strolled beside Porter Mountain Road. Once into the Scott's Reservoir area she settled into walking purposefully along the trail. We practiced stopping and standing a few times. This good behavior continued until Blue realized we were heading toward home. She started pulling on the bit. I stopped her and had her stand until she settled. We stopped every time Blue pulled, which was every few feet. She crossed the creek eagerly because she was pulling again. We stopped yet again in the shadow of some trees and I asked Blue to stand and relax with the lines so slack they were lying on the ground.

Blue stood for a few seconds then charged forward so fast she pulled me off balance when she hit the end of the lines. She spun around a tree on the right side of the trail and stopped. I untangled her, backed her up to where we'd started and scolded her. Blue charged forward again, zig-zagged wildly, tried to spin, then backed into a pine tree on the left side of the trail and began rearing underneath a large branch! I was extremely glad to have both feet firmly on solid ground. Why was she suddenly so violently defiant about standing still and relaxing? There was nothing going on and absolutely no pressure on Blue when she started this!

When Blue quit rearing under the tree I disentangled her, regrouped and ground drove her back the way we'd come. We stopped and stood until Blue settled, then quietly circled, walked back up the trail and stopped the same place we had been when she exploded. This time Blue stood until I told her to move and we continued home without further incident.

I was alarmed and baffled by Blue's behavior. I discussed it with my parents and we prayed about it. On Sept 25 Blue was back to her acceptable behavior.

On Sept 26 the vet determined that Blue was pregnant. Though by then I was beginning to think I'd made a mistake breeding her... On the 29th the farrier trimmed Blue's feet so I asked him if he had any idea why Blue fell down when attempting to canter on the lunge line. She trotted sound both at liberty and on the lunge. He didn't know.

I called Gary Gang to ask his advice. Mr. Gang assured me that I had handled Blue's explosion correctly. He asked about Blue's teeth, and recommended changes in diet to calm her. He thought the saddle I was using fit her but suggested massage or chiropractic for her canter problems.

I called the vet out again to check Blue's

teeth. A quick exam revealed that Blue is one of the 30% of mares who have wolf teeth, though the Vet didn't think they conflicted with the full cheek snaffle bit I was using. Removing the wolf teeth would require drugging Blue. After losing all the foals I'd bred I was not willing to expose this last Koko foal to the risks of an optional medical procedure on the mare. I began massaging Blue when I groomed her and she seemed to enjoy it.

We had five or six satisfactory ground driving lessons with Blue again showing steady progress. Until Oct. 5, 2001. This time I had ground driven Blue through a different subdivision. Blue had her usual troubles with rushing and standing still, but seemed to be settling down as we worked. We were headed home and had to stop on the west side of Porter Mountain Road to wait for traffic. Blue started grazing so I bumped her head up with one rein, as I'd done before. Blue twirled, wrapping herself up in the lines. She did stand when she'd gotten tangled and seemed calm when I talked soothingly as I untangled her.

The instant I got the lines straightened out Blue bolted - galloping away from home!! Blue ran a hundred yards north up the road toward Porter Creek, then suddenly spun 90 degrees right, crossed the pavement at full run, made another 90 degree right turn and ran south on the east side of the road.

I looked both ways and scurried across the road myself, hoping to intercept Blue as she came by. She was still running full speed with the long lines flying behind her. Blue saw me and dodged left toward the barbed wire fence without slowing down. I didn't want to think about what would happen if those flying lines caught on something. Blue careered around the corner onto Flag Hollow Road going so fast the lines were four feet off the ground as they sailed between the fence corner and the street sign. I breathed a sigh of relief when Blue made the turn safely, then jogged after her to keep her in sight. I slowed to a walk when I saw Blue gallop down the Hi-Jo road easement toward home.

Blue was grazing behind my property and keeping a nervous eye out for me when I caught up with her several minutes later. I talked to her soothingly as I walked up and almost caught her before she threw her head up and trotted home, still dragging the lines. She stopped beside the corral at a place I had once tied her two years earlier. That was not where we had started the day's lesson so why did Blue stop there? I closed my front gate, then approached Blue. She let me catch her. She was a little winded but calm. I talked soothingly to her,

quietly gathered up the reins and drove her back out to Porter Mountain Road, past the place she'd cut across the road, then turned and drove her back. She behaved perfectly.

Blue had just demonstrated she was sound at walk, trot and gallop, not to mention the other high speed maneuvers, which made her canter problem even more mysterious. If her teeth were the problem we'd have to work around it until after her foal was weaned. If it lived.

We'd been working on ground driving for several months but was I progressing too fast? Over the next several months I did still more ground work with Blue.

Blue had one more episode of trying to rush home at a sideways pace, but quit when I punished her for it. Thereafter her ground driving improved steadily and uneventfully.

The saddle fit... Or did it? Closer inspection revealed that my western saddle is too narrow for Blue. I gambled on mail ordering an inexpensive dressage saddle. Surprise! It actually fit Blue.

Blue was much happier with the new saddle. I rode her in the corral a couple of times but by then she was too pregnant to ride.

U.S. NEWS



From DIANE SCZEPANSKI, NORTHERN FOUNDATIONS FARM, WHITEHALL, WI, "I had to write and tell you how much I like the Canadian *Walking Horse News* magazine. Because of connecting through your magazine, I was able to meet some nice ladies from Ontario, Rachel Hill and her mother."

"Rachel recently made a trip to Wisconsin to pick up the filly she purchased from me. It was hard to see Foxy leave WI but I know Rachel will love her as much as I do and give her a great home. The added bonus is I met a wonderful person and have a new friend. Thanks again!"

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CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

SCHEDULE OF FEES Effective March 1, 2003

1. MEMBERSHIP	Fees	
a. Full Membership (Individual, Family, Corporation, Partnership: All Canadian Resident). Voting, member fee schedule applies		\$25.00/yr
b. Individual Life Membership (Individual). Voting, member fee schedule applies		\$200.00
c. Youth Membership (Individual, under 18 years of age). Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$10.00/yr.
d. Associate Membership (individuals, organization, groups, All Canadian Resident). Non-voting, non-member fee schedule applies		\$15.00/yr.
e. Non-Canadian Resident Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$35.00/yr.
f. Non-Canadian Resident Lifetime Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$250.00
2. REGISTRATION OF HORSES NOT ALREADY REGISTERED WITH CRTWH	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
<i>Registration by TWHBEA is not required if sire and/or dam is not registered with CRTWH. Submit a photocopy of both sides of the TWHBEA certificate for the sire and/or dam with the application. Foals must be parent verified.</i>		
a. Within 12 months of foaling	\$40.00	\$80.00
b. After 12 but less than 18 months of foaling	\$60.00	\$120.00
c. After 18 but less than 24 months of foaling	\$125.00	\$250.00
d. After 24 months of foaling: <i>Non-refundable fee of \$125.00 if application is rejected.</i>	\$300.00	\$500.00
3. REGISTRATION OF HORSES Already Registered with TWHBEA or WHOA	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
<i>Applications must be accompanied by a photocopy of both sides of the TWHBEA or WHOA certificate</i>	\$45.00	\$90.00
4. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Within 1 month of date of sale	\$20.00	\$40.00
b. After 1, but before 3 months of date of sale	\$30.00	\$60.00
c. After 3 months of date of sale	\$50.00	\$100.00
5. ALTERATION OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Change of colour	\$20.00	\$40.00
b. Change of gender (gelded)	\$15.00	\$15.00
c. Death of a registered horse (<i>certificate will be returned</i>)	\$5.00 credit	No charge
d. Change of Name: <i>Provided animal is no more than five (5) years of age and has no registered offspring. Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Submitted fees are non refundable if application is rejected.</i>	\$50.00	\$100.00
6. OTHER SERVICES	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for an unregistered foal. DNA kits are available from CLRC. Pay CLRC at time of application for registration.	\$60.00	\$85.00
b. DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for a Registered animal: CLRC Request form required. See page 23.	\$50.00	\$85.00
c. Blood-typing/DNA updated certificate for mature horse.	\$10.00	\$25.00
d. Registration of Breeder's Prefix	\$45.00	\$90.00
e. Registration of Lease	\$20.00	\$40.00
f. List of Progeny of Individual Breeding Stock	\$20.00	\$40.00
g. Surcharge on incomplete or incorrect applications	\$20.00	\$40.00
h. Duplicate Certificate: <i>Shall be issued upon application by the registered owner accompanied by satisfactory proof of loss accompanied by a witnessed Statutory Declaration.</i>	\$40.00	\$80.00
i. Rush Fee	\$15.00	\$30.00

Fees are in Canadian currency, based upon postmark of the application and membership status of the applicant.

ALL remittances are payable to Canadian Livestock Records Corporation.

Please submit to: CLRC, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7 Telephone 613-731-7110, Fax 613-731-0704.

The CRTWH accepts Visa.

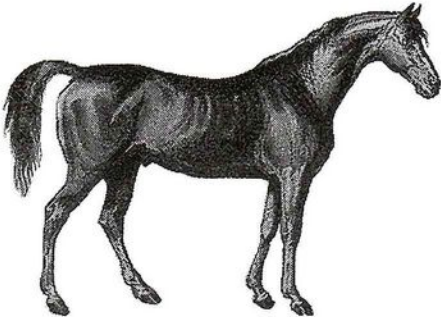
CRTWH Home Page: <http://www.crtwh.ca> e-mail secretary@crtwh.ca

The CRTWH accepts either Blood Typing or DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for parentage verification.

HORSE HEALTH HINTS

THE THIN HORSE

by Marjorie Lacy



This is not a problem I've had with many of my (overly) good keepers. But it can be a serious problem for many animals, and I've heard from several people who are very worried about their horses' failures to thrive. So what are the reasons why a horse gets thin?

I read a very good book entitled *Horsefeathers*, written by a veterinarian. He addressed this problem of thin horses by saying that a **thin horse was, nine times out of ten, simply not getting enough to eat.** And that is true, whatever the reason **WHY**. So the first thing to do when your horse is losing weight and looking poor is to assess just what it **IS** getting to eat and increase the total calories available to it.

Sometimes the cause is obvious. A mare nursing a foal needs an immense amount of feed to supply both her own needs and the foal's. When the grass in the pasture matures or becomes grazed down, the mare may not be able to eat enough to maintain her weight *and* feed the foal. The shortfall will come from her own body reserves and she will start losing weight. I found out how fast this can happen last fall, and it was a shock to me. One of my mares who has always been **TOO** good a keeper lost weight drastically over quite a short time. I couldn't believe how fast she'd gone down in condition and even feared that she was sick with some horrible wasting disease. I hadn't realized how thin she was partly because she'd put on her winter coat and I hadn't actually gone up to her and run my hand across her ribs for a couple of weeks.

So the first thing I did was wean her colt, then separated her from the rest of the herd. I started pouring the hay to her, pretty well free choice. Luckily I could put her where she was close enough

to the others not to fret, but where none of them could bully her away from her feed. She had been getting a mineral supplement so I continued that. Once her udder shrunk and her milk began drying up I also began giving her a small amount of oats with bran and cooking oil added. This was slowly increased until I felt she was getting the maximum I could safely allow her, given in two feedings per day, along with alfalfa pellets. I had the vet check her teeth and de-worm her.

Nevertheless, it was several months before she was back to normal body condition. So it can happen a lot faster than it can be repaired, and the lesson is to take action **before** your horse is in bad shape.

With foals and young horses, it is also a matter of *not enough feed*. These youngsters can go into a growth spurt and become thin seemingly within days. Here is where you really need to know the feed value of your hay. Mature grass hay is fine for grown horses but is a poor feed for growing foals. You can bring up the protein content of the forage if necessary with added alfalfa pellets or cubes. As for a supplement, Les Burwash of Alberta Agriculture suggests that you use a commercial ration for foals, such as Frisky Foal, instead of grain. These foal rations are balanced for the energy, minerals, protein and vitamins a youngster requires. Fed according to the directions on the label, along with good to excellent hay, your foals should show a nice even growth curve. Keep a close eye on your young horses, and if one isn't doing as well as the others, take steps right away to see that he gets more feed.

The October 2003 *Western Horseman* had a good article entitled 'Pack on the Pounds'. Author Holly Endersby listed seven common causes of thinness in horses which I'll enumerate here: (Comments after each cause are mine.)

- 1) '**INADEQUATE FEED**' – an 1100 lb horse needs roughly 1.5 to 2.3 percent of his body weight per day of total feed, depending on his condition & the work he is performing. Nursing mares may need as much as 3 percent. Horses also need more feed in cold weather, and if they are already thin going into the winter, they will need even more.
- 2) '**PARASITES**' – are a very common reason for thinness so remember to deworm regularly.
- 3) '**DENTAL PROBLEMS**' – Watch your horse eat. Dribbling or slobbering grain or quidding hay or grass can mean that her teeth need care.

4) **'SOCIAL FACTORS'** – This is often not recognized, but if one or two horses in the herd are doing poorly, it may be that they are being kept away from their share of the feed by more aggressive or dominant herd mates. Very old or young animals are particularly likely to be bullied.

5) **'STRESS'** – Horses kept in stalls or away from other horses may fret and weave, stall walk or pace up and down the enclosure, effectively burning off all the extra feed you can supply. This is particularly common in stallions kept alone during the breeding season. Trying to find a solution to his loneliness is a challenge. Even a non-horse friend may help.

6) **'BARN MANAGEMENT'** – Supplying the feed where it will be eaten, not fouled or trampled, can help both the horse's weight problem and save feed. Feeding in a trough or manger may avoid losses of up to 20 percent.

7) **'DISEASE'** – Many diseases will cause weight loss. Check with the vet if your horse's weight and appearance don't improve after you've taken the above steps.

"The eye of the master fattens the cattle".

Good luck with keeping your horses in trim,
not thin
condition.

For more on horse feeding & care, contact Alberta Agriculture at 310-0000, extension 403-948-8541 for information on their excellent horse care handbooks.

Also see the articles in the S/O 2002 and N/D 2001 *WHN*.

For more on body condition of horses, see Jan/Feb 2002 *WHN* p.13, Description of the Body Condition Score System.

Also check the articles by Dr. Ann Dick on

Equine Internal Parasites in Jan/Feb & Mar/April 2002 *WHN*.

Visit www.walkinghorenews.ca for more info.

MAINTENANCE HOOF TRIMMING

I apologize for the error in Maureen Hummel's article, MAINTENANCE HOOF TRIMMING page 24, Sept/October 2003.

The last part of the last sentence in #9 was omitted. It should have read:

9. After finishing - make a final check of all four feet. A good rule of thumb is that the angle of the hoof should be the same or as close as possible to the angle of the pastern.




CRTWH ANNOUNCES \$75 DNA FEE

The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse will be raising the fee for DNA profiling for all TWH to \$75.00 (for members) effective February 1, 2004.

CRTWH was notified by Maxxam Analytics that, as of November 1, 2003, Maxxam will be changing how they serve the registry. Maxxam will no longer deal with breed associations or individuals but will work solely through the Canadian Livestock Records Corp. (CLRC).

Due to this change, CRTWH will be forced to charge a higher fee for DNA effective February 1, 2004, since it raises the costs substantially. We have been able to keep the fee at fifty dollars for our members for the past few years because the Registry has charged a fee that only just recovered costs. The new members' fee of \$75.00 will go into effect on February 1, 2004. Until then, member fees for DNA profiling an already registered TWH remains at \$50.00; for foals at \$60.00; & for non-members at \$85.00.

However, beginning immediately YOU MUST USE THE FORM OPPOSITE  TO REQUEST A DNA KIT from CLRC to DNA profile an already registered horse. Failure to do so will result in a surcharge. You may photocopy the form here or get it from the CRTWH website. Send the request form along with the fee to CLRC.

The registration application will continue to serve as the DNA request form for unregistered foals.

For further information, contact me at 780-696-2105 or jlrempel@telusplanet.net.

Jean Rempel, CRTWH President

TWHBEA MEMOS

Charles Hulsey reported on the success of TWHBEA's participation in the prestigious Royal Dublin Horse Show. He also announced that funding had been secured through United States Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. for TWHBEA's participation in Equitana Asia-Pacific, an equine trade fair scheduled for November 16 - 24 in Melbourne, Australia, that attracts some 225,000 attendees. President Robert Thomas, Charles Hulsey, and Marketing Co-ordinator Jan Keyser will attend & assist in the TWHBEA breed promotion.

Nancy Lynn Beech, Vice president of the breeders' division said that the 3 year bloodtyping contract with Shelterwood Labs and the University of Kentucky is up for renewal. Charles Wharton asked how the contract dealt with transitioning to DNA testing if that opportunity were to present itself at some point during the term of contract. The committee asked Craig Evans and Sid Baucom, to review the contract and report back.

Jan. through Sept revenue was \$2.96 million compared to \$2.8 million for the same period last year.

From the TWHBEA Executive Committee's September meeting, News and Information release, October 1, 2003



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SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ENREGISTREMENT DES ANIMAUX



REQUEST FOR DNA GENETIC MARKER TEST KIT

Breed: Tennessee Walking Horse

Name of Horse: _____

Registration No: _____

Date of Birth: (day) _____ (month) _____ (year) _____

Sire's Name: _____

Sire's registration number: _____

Dam's Name: _____

Dam's registration number: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

ID NO: _____

Address: _____

**Please forward request with appropriate fee to CLRC,
2417 Holly Lane, OTTAWA, ON K1V 0M7 Canada**

FOR AN ALREADY REGISTERED TWH

The DNA profiling fee for CRTWH Members is \$50.00 until January 31, 2004.
For non-members the fee remains at \$85.00 until January 31, 2004.



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THE RIDING TREE:

Communicating Through the Aids

Faith Meredith, Director of Riding, Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre

Aids are physical pressures a rider uses to communicate with the horse. When the horse responds correctly to the pressure, the pressure goes away. So a correct response rewards the horse.

Think of individual aid pressures as “words” that have a specific meaning to the horse - change gait, go left, go right. As both horses and riders progress in their training, they begin combining several aids into “sentences” with greater nuances of meaning than a single word—get ready for an extended trot after we make this left turn, spin to the left when you come to the end of this slide.

Aids are not the same as cues. The horse that responds to voice commands or to a click that means trot, or a bump that means canter is responding to conditioned cues. This is a different communication system and there’s absolutely nothing wrong with it. The problem is that riders communicating with their horses via cues are working with a very limited vocabulary. Riders communicating via the aids have a full, rich vocabulary with many shades of meaning. In order to take a horse to the upper levels in any sport, you need this larger vocabulary.

The “natural aids” consist of the legs, the seat or weight aids, and the hands or rein aids. We put these aids together into corridors of pressures that the horse feels as a shape we want him to take. Because we can vary the pressure of any aid, good riders can apply them with great finesse or shades of meaning to communicate hundreds of variations of shape to the horse.

Leg aids are used primarily as driving aids that ask the horse to move a hind leg forward. A rider puts a leg aid on the horse by pressing with the inside of the lower leg (with the toe pointing forward, not out). Leg aids can be applied with varying degrees of pressure and in different sequences to ask for specific shapes. When both legs actively apply driving pressure, we call that a *bilateral* leg aid. Some examples would be asking the horse to move from a halt to a walk or from a walk to a trot.

When only one leg is actively pressing and

asking the horse to move the hind leg on that side forward while the other just softly holds and steadies, we call it a *unilateral* leg aid. Some examples would be asking the horse to turn while in motion or to pick up a canter depart.

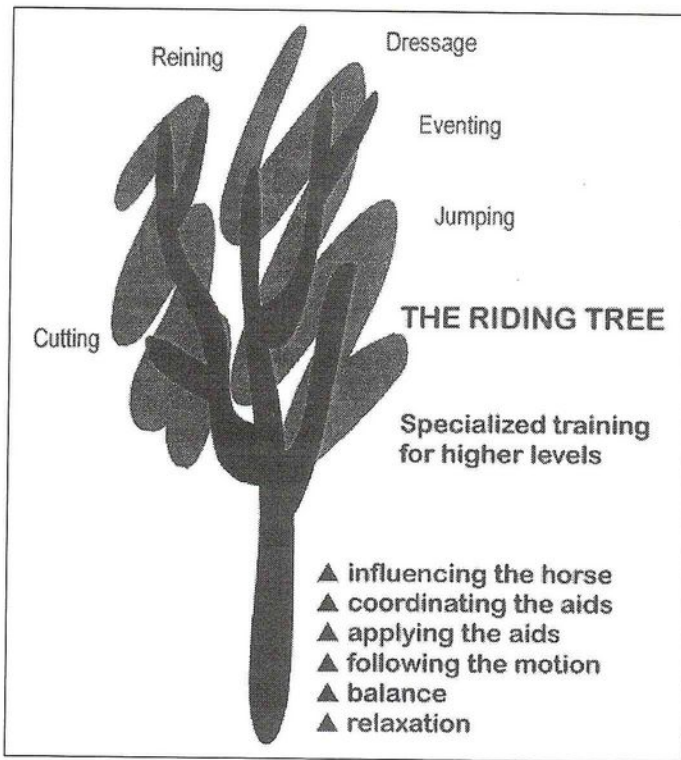
Weight aids are the second category of aids we have to use as communication tools. We talk about *burdening* weight aids where the rider drops more weight onto her seat bones and makes her seat feel heavier to the horse. The opposite of that is *unburdening* or decreasing the weight on your seat bones and making your weight lighter in the saddle. Like leg aids, weight aids can be applied bilaterally or unilaterally. It’s important to understand that when the amount of weight carried on a particular seat bone changes, the rider’s upper body position should not change. The upper body should not lean. The hip should not collapse. The rider simply drops a little more weight into one or both seat bones.

Weight aids are particularly effective because when you are balanced over the horse’s center of gravity and following its motion, any weight shift creates a physical pressure that causes a feeling in the horse that he needs to rebalance himself. They naturally influence the horse to take the shape you want. For example, to turn the horse to the left, you simply sit a little heavier on your left seat bone and the horse automatically feels like stepping to the left to keep you centered over his center of gravity.

Rein aids are applied to the bit through steady, quiet hands and an elastic wrist guided by loose, flexible elbow and shoulder joints. There are four ways we use them:

A *keeping rein* maintains steady, elastic contact with the bit while following the horse’s motion. Riders cannot effectively use a keeping rein until they are relaxed, balanced, and able to follow the horse’s motion with their seat.

A *taking rein* means that the little finger moves the rein slightly toward the body. Many riders incorrectly take rein by bending their wrists. However, if you bend at the wrist in order to “take rein”, you lose the elastic connection to elbow which



is the essential joint to absorb motion as your hands follow the horse's motion. A "take" is usually followed by a "give" or soft release. Examples of a bilateral taking rein include the rein back and the half halt.

A *giving rein* is applied by moving the little finger slightly away from the body. The giving rein aid always follows the taking rein aid. On a circle, for example, the rider rhythmically applies an inside taking rein followed by an inside giving rein to position the horse's head slightly to the inside of the circle. Meanwhile, a steady outside keeping rein follows the shape you want the horse to take and allows the degree of bend you want.

A *resisting rein* is a taking rein that is not followed by a give or release. A bilateral resisting rein applied for a few strides asks the horse to make a downward transition or to stop.

In addition to these three natural aids, we also have the artificial aids of the whip, spurs, and voice. The voice is often used more as a cue than as an aid with shades of meaning. Whips and spurs are very misunderstood inside and outside the horse industry. When they are used to reinforce the driving leg aids, there is nothing innately abusive about them. They simply become another shade of meaning.

In that regard, the timing of their use is critical. In training, we take a horse through the steps of

showing him what we want, then *asking him* for what we want. Once he has mastered those two phases, we can use our natural aids to *tell him* what we want. When we know that the horse understands what we are telling him but the horse chooses to ignore the request, this is the appropriate moment in time to reinforce your natural leg aid with a tap of the whip or a touch of the spur. Either should be applied with a degree of pressure that does not startle the horse or raise his excitement level. Used this way, whips or spurs are not seen by the horse as a punishment. They are simply another shade of meaning added to the pressures they already understand so they are going to be horse logical.

We use corridors of aid pressures to create the feeling of shapes we want our horse to take. However, it is important to understand that a constant pressure goes away. A good example is the pressure of the girth. Initially, a young horse may be very apprehensive about the pressure of the girth. However, because it never changes, he starts to ignore it.

The same can be true of any of our natural aids. If a rider inadvertently applies constant pressure with a leg or weight or rein aid because she is out of balance or unable to control her body's movement in some way, the horse soon learns to ignore the pressure. That is why development of an independent seat through relaxation, balance and an ability to follow the horse's motion is critical to proper application of the aids.

Faith Meredith coaches riders in dressage, reining, and eventing and has successfully trained and competed horses through FEI levels of dressage.

She is the Director of

Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre,

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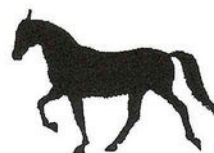
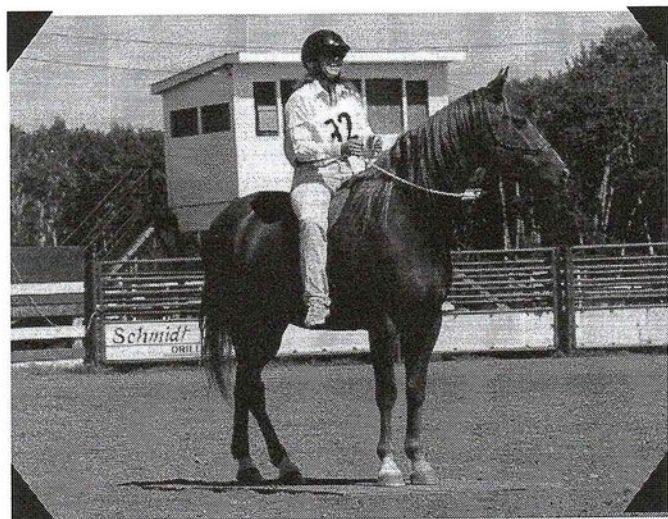
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cell: (780) 619 - 1004

What do YOU do with *your* Walkers?



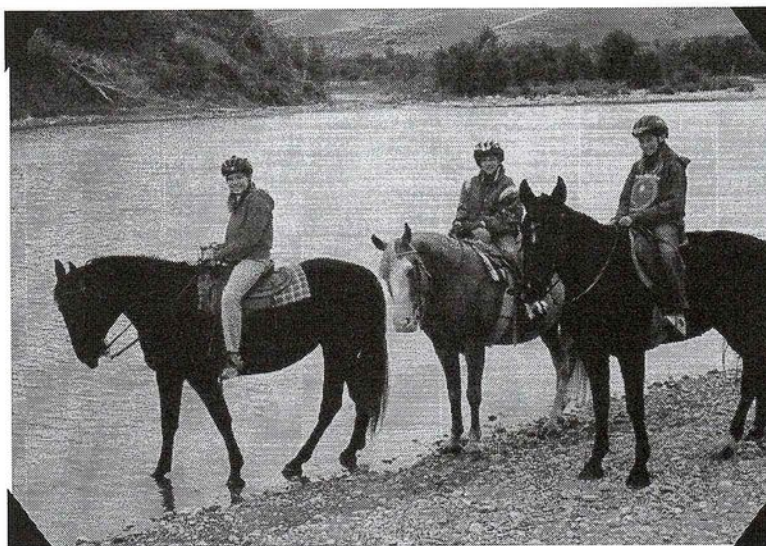
Aunty Christine (Kobza) and niece Brittney Vogel won some ribbons at the Early Bird Show with Major's Esperanza and Sun's Blue-Eyed Mystery.



Karla Hansen took her Tennessee Walker to the Festival in only a Parelli halter and bareback pad.

*Cooling their feet at the lake:
Major's Esperanza
with Sabine;
Sun's Blue-Eyed Mystery
and Caylee, and
Thing's Diamond Lil
with Brittany.
Christine Kobza's 3 eldest nieces.*

What do YOU do with your Walkers?
Mail your photos to *WHN*,
Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5



INDEPENDENT JUDGES ASSOCIATION

DISSECTED & EXAMINED

By Dianne Little Concluded from J/A 2003 WHN

The IJA program is restrictive. IJA judges may not hold a license with any other Tennessee Walking Horse licensing body, although IJA encourages judges to maintain licenses with other breed associations. IJA judges may not judge at any Tennessee Walking Horse show that offers classes using anything larger than the 1 inch shoe and where the IJA rule book is not the standard. IJA judges may not judge an exhibitor or horse where they have had a contractual relationship within 180 days of the event. IJA judges may not be a houseguest of any exhibitor or trainer who will participate in an event where the judge is scheduled to officiate for 60 days prior to the event. IJA judges may not participate in aisle parties or pre-event activities during a horse show. IJA judges may not take meals, receive gifts, or take part in any activity that would put the perception of their objectivity at risk. IJA judges must maintain written records for every class; must tie each class 2 places below the ribbons; must sign each card and initial changes; must mark each card with a pen rather than a pencil. An IJA license is granted for a period of one year, and the number of IJA judges is limited to 30. IJA does not set judging fees: each show committee and IJA judge enter into a mutually agreeable contract for judging services.

IJA is a disciplinary body as well as a licensing body. There is no inherent right to hold an IJA judge's license. IJA may remove licenses for: violations of the Horse Protection Act; the removal of judge's credentials by any other organization for incompetence, violations of drug policy or cruelty to animals, or ethical violations; conviction of a felony including misdemeanors for any form of inhumane treatment to animals of any kind; fraudulently representing personal qualifications or licenses held with other organizations; incompetence demonstrated by a pattern of supported complaints regarding the judge's ability or willingness to tie classes in accordance with the requirements of the IJA rule book and any show specific standards; violations of professional conduct; favoritism to competitors; the acceptance of money, remuneration or other gratuities from exhibitors or trainers 180 days prior to a show or 180 days after a show where the judge officiated; solicitation of business for training, selling or brokering a horse while an official at a show; failure to arrive at a show grounds at the appointed hour; and failure to abide by the terms of the contract entered into with show management.

Before being granted a license, IJA judges have been: invited to join the IJA program as a prospective judge; trained through professional training seminars; successfully passed a test on the IJA Rule Book; practiced judging through an apprentice judging program; and been evaluated by other judges and the Director of Judges. To

obtain an IJA judge's license, they have invested significant time, energy and money. They have agreed to adhere to personal and professional standards. Because the training process for IJA judges focuses on Tennessee Walking Horses and Gaited Breeds, not all IJA judges are comfortable with or qualified to judge open or saddle club shows, although there are a significant number of IJA judges who do hold licenses with a variety of breeds and disciplines. Ultimately all IJA judges are themselves judged by every show committee who hires them and every exhibitor they judge.

When judging Tennessee Walking Horses and other Gaited Horses, IJA Judges follow the IJA Rule Book. To quote from **Article 1.2 Purpose of the Rule Book**

"The IJA is a subset of FOSH. FOSH will issue a rule book, known as the IJA Rule Book, that is to be followed by all IJA judges hired by show managers. The Rule Book is more than a guideline. It provides the standard by which horses competing in a variety of disciplines, and exhibiting a variety of gaits, must be judged. The purpose of the rule book is to eliminate as much as possible the subjectivity too often found in horse shows and replace it with an objective and measurable standard common to all judges that can be depended upon by exhibitors, spectators and show management."


Any Rule Book is a complex and complete, although never static, document, outlining all parameters of the sport or competition. In the horse industry these rules range from allowable tack and attire to individual rules for each class. It is called a Rule Book because that is what it is and what it does – sets and explains the rules. The primary purpose of a Rule Book is to set the parameters for competition ensuring that each competitor and each judge knows how the competition is structured and how it will be judged. The Rule Book outlines what the judge will be looking for in each class. The Rule Book provides a level playing field for competition. It ensures that competition will be as fair as possible eliminating as much personal preference as is possible. It provides the basis for judging and ensures all competitors are playing the same game.

The IJA judge's sole purpose at a show is to judge the performance of horses and riders and to tie the winners in descending order.





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Walking Horse News on the Web:

READERS COMMENTS:

Maureen Hummel, Rose Prairie, BC

Ya dun good!! The website looks great and I think it will attract lots of interest in our wonderful Canadian Walkers
Looks like I'm the third person to sign the guestbook.

Brenda Baker, Calgary, AB

Great job, Marjorie!

Laurie Innocent, Laurindale Stables, Rosalind, AB

Hi, Just had a peek at the web site. It looks great!
Congratulations on a job well done.

Jo-Anne McDonald, McDonald Farms, Pouce Coupe, BC

Website looks really great.

Darlene Shantz, Milford, ON

LOVE the website. Looking forward to the next issue!

Dorothy Braun, Altona, MB

I just checked out your website. It is so professional looking and comprehensive - what a great job!

Allanna Jackson, Editor, Walking Horse Journal, Lakeside, Arizona

I'm impressed with your web site! Yes, you can put some of my articles on it.

Kim Pringle, Arden, ON

The web site looks great! Keep up the good work.

T'Lara Joy Freedom, Balzac, AB Canada

Received my July/August WHN yesterday, saw that there is a site, and had to visit. Looking good! I hope it catches on and people use it for advertising.

Joe & Terry Kinch, Errington, BC Canada

Love your magazine and glad to see you on the net. Keep up the good work.

Rolanda Eadie, Rimbey, AB

I am sooo impressed with the fabulous *WHN* internet site! Hats off to all the people involved in setting it up. You sure did an outstanding job on it!!

Stu Pritchard, Calgary, AB

The *WHN* site looks good and will advance the coverage and the penetration of the *WHN* outside the boundaries of Canada. It will grow in time. As I reviewed the Walking Horse News Web site, I found that under your "Interesting Archived Articles" you are missing a mention of Black Beard's Pirate Queen, the first Canadian bred TWH to win two North American Championships, in Denver in October 2001. Not that I have any slanted opinion that she is not a great horse. She is a fabulous horse!!!!

Helen Pawluk, Champion Rainbow Walkers, Athabasca, AB

Web site looks great! Hopefully being on the web will allow more people who are looking for walking horses, to be able to find Tennessee Walking Horse breeders and sellers. I know that when I was looking to buy, I did not know any one who had any, and could find no Canadian information on them.

Chris Zabala, Norristown, PA USA

Great web site, I'll keep in touch.

Randy Johnson, Sherwood Park, AB Canada

Nice to see you online.

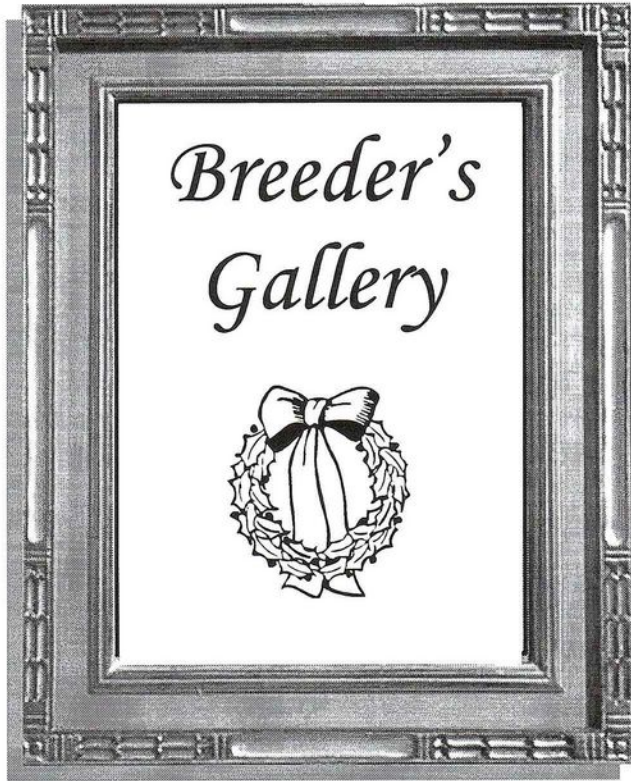


THANK YOU to Shirley Bossert, the person responsible for the appearance & design of the website.
We'd like to invite YOU to visit the website, check out what's there, and give your suggestions and comments.

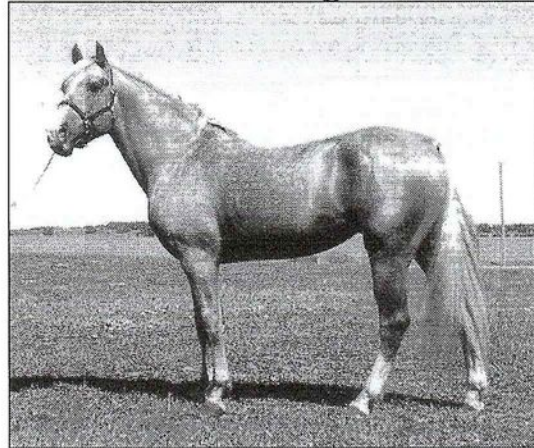
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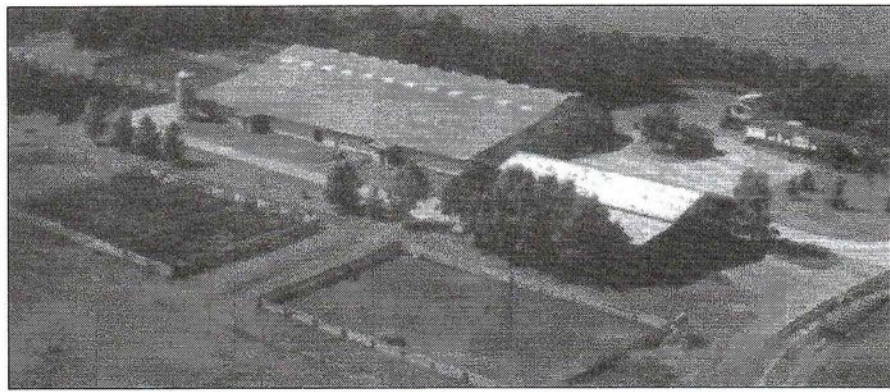
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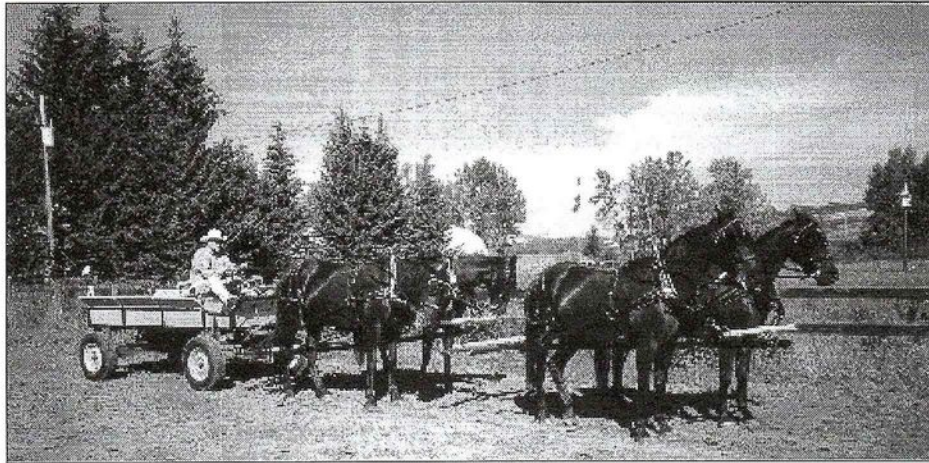
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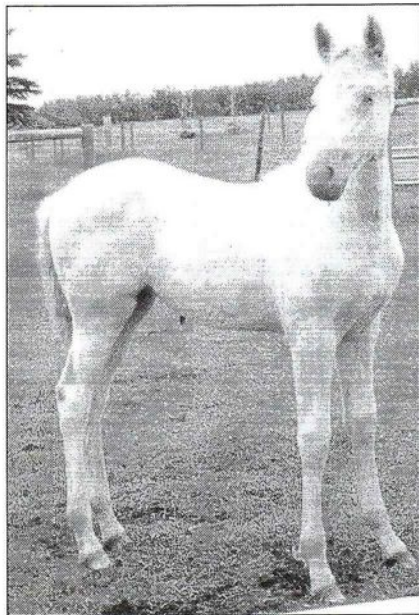
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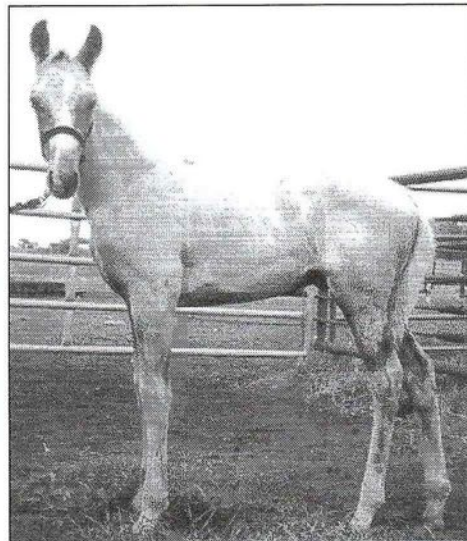
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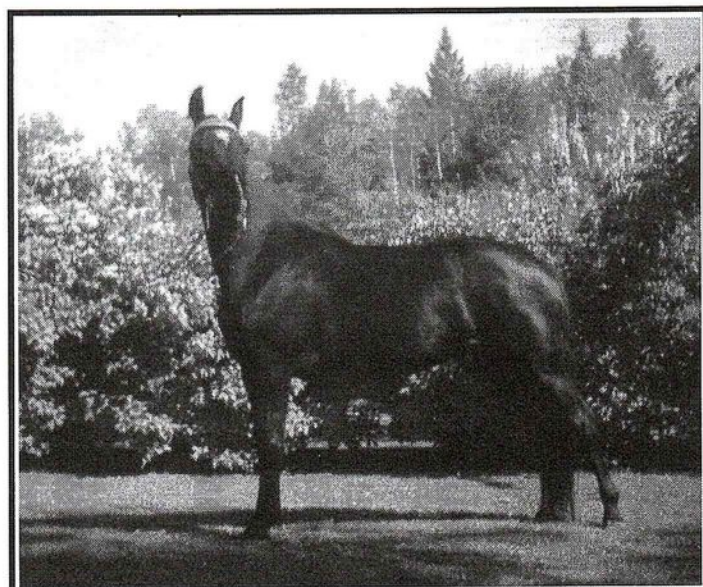
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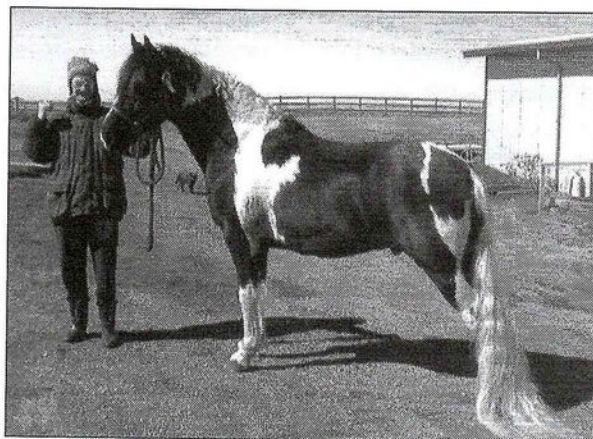
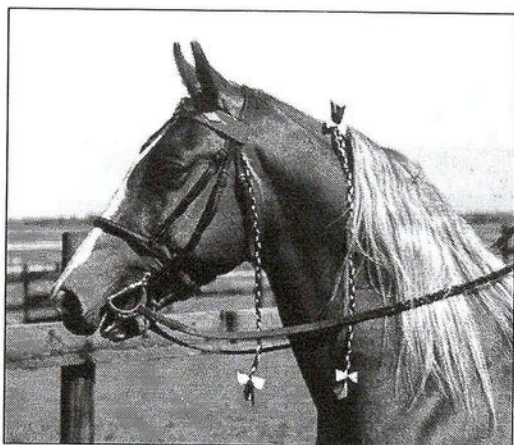
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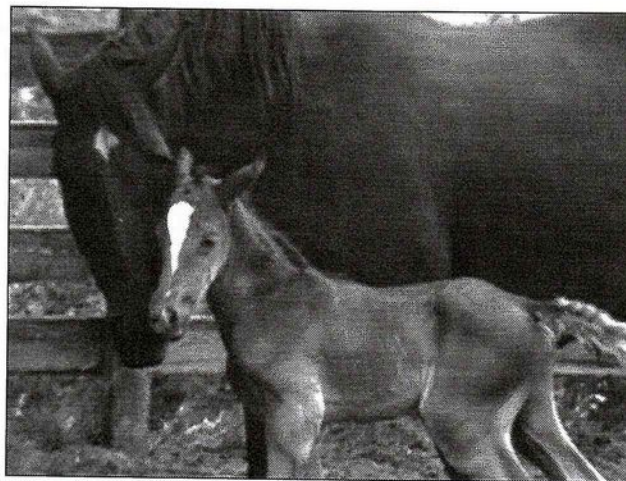
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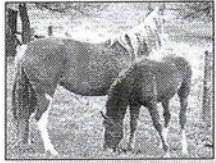
This colt embodies all of his sire's pedigree plus adds
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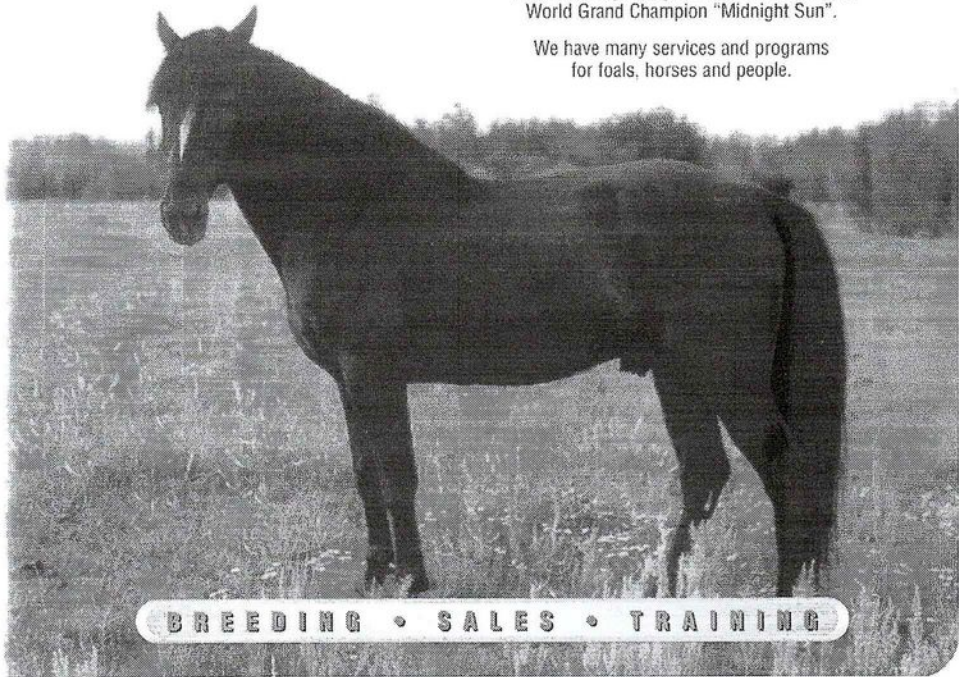
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WEANLING STUD COLT (A Natural Born Genius x Generator Mare) Black with Flash. Should Mature 15:2 hh Country pleasure or lite shod prospect.

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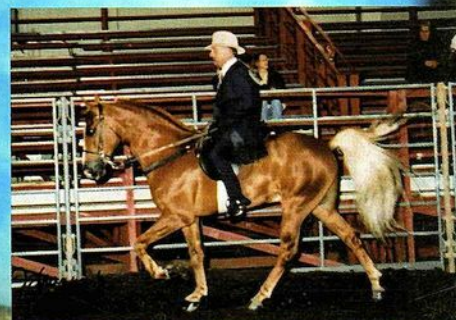
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