

June 2006
VOLUME XXX No. 3



Walking

Horse

NEWS



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

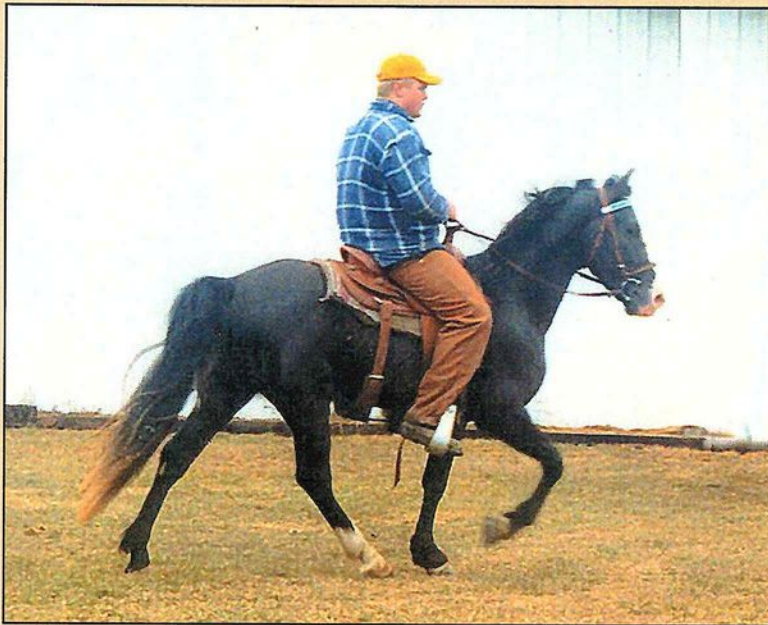
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Walking Horse News

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The opinions expressed in the
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On Our Cover

Laddie's Monte Ray,
one of the few
TWH stallions in Alberta
(or in Canada!)
back in the early '70s.
See his story in
History & Heritage
on page 3.

*Photo submitted by
Jo-Anne McDonald*

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**

for Sept/Oct issue
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for Nov/Dec issue
NOVEMBER 7

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Volume XXX, # 3 May/June, 2006

Dear Subscribers,

It was one of *those weeks* here... Between the bears in the basement stairwell, a horse with a mystery illness and the 29 year old mare who got bogged down in a collapsed muskrat run, I am almost ready to retire to a quiet apartment in the city! I had planned to have this magazine in at the printers by now, but here I am instead, just writing this first page. So we'll just hope that everything else goes quickly and smoothly, and the *WHN* makes it out on time.

I lost a large amount of e-mail just around deadline time when the computer threw a fit. If you sent me a news item or ad that you don't see in this issue, that may be why. Sorry about that. Please re-send it.

This issue we are going back in time with our cover photo and History & Heritage story on Laddie's Monte Ray. When the very first three page *WHN* newsletter was mailed in June, 1977, there were few Walker stallions in Canada. The newsletter listed six in Alberta that were included in Alberta Agriculture's Stallion Directory. The horses were Centennial Copper #67, Pearl's Night Shadow US 752499, Koko's Blazing Star US 755813, Wycott's Tennessee Allen #43, Lucky's Koko Prince #713971, and Mack's Shadow US #753546. There were 33 Alberta owners listed, along with six 'TWH For Sale' ads and one "TWH Wanted".

The last page of that newsletter had a request for \$2.00 to cover the annual cost of postage, paper and rental of the duplicator! plus a section for readers to fill out and return. The questions asked were: New foals? New stock? Activities? Sales? Advertisements? Items of interest? Things haven't changed much there, anyway!

Do you think we can get good photos of our Walkers? Good pictures of TWH posed *and* in motion are difficult to take, but it's worth a try. Let's see if we can take pictures that clearly show the horses' substance, depth of body, angle of shoulder, strong loin & hindquarters, and head carriage, as well as movement. Working on taking good photos of your horses can only be a plus anyway, even if you don't send them in. But we look forward to seeing them.

Enjoy the issue, and thank you to all contributors,

Marjorie



“DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA”

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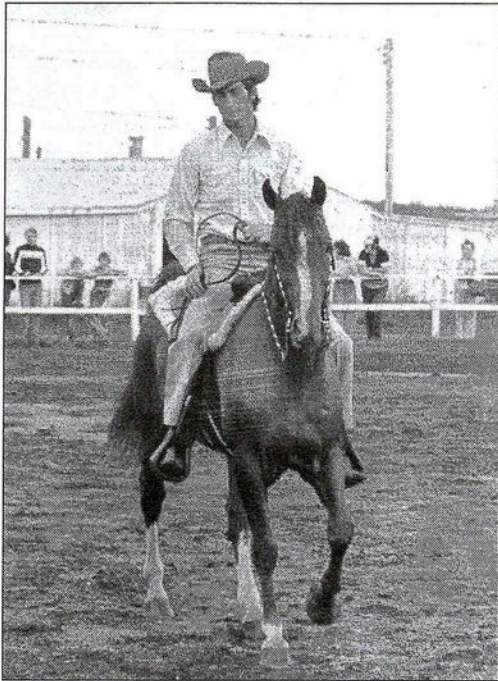


Thank you for advertising in Walking Horse News

HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT 2000

“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

Laddie's Monte Ray by Jo-Anne McDonald, Pouce Coupe, B.C.



'RAY' was foaled at Elmo, Montana on May 22, 1968, the property of Pearl Tompkins. Ray's dam was the pretty yellow mare, Golden Gold Glory and his sire was Pearl's stallion, Montana Laddie. Ray was his first foal. Ray was named for the two veterinarians who cared for Pearl's horses, Dr. Ray Read and Dr. Ray Keyser.

Pearl sold Ray as a yearling to Allan and Shirley Ball of Kindersley, Saskatchewan. It was while he lived there that Brenda Baker made his acquaintance, taking her mare to Ray for breeding. He also sired a number of Walking Ponies while in Saskatchewan, and the TWH stallion, Prairie Breeze, who would work so well for Jack Chapman of Stettler, Alberta. Prairie Breeze (aka Chinook) was out of the great brood mare, Shadow's Lyrical, also from Pearl's ranch.

Ellwood Smith of Donalda, Alberta bought Ray from the Balls on December 24, 1973. It was quite a Christmas gift! Ray sired most of his foals at this time in Alberta. It was during this period that he sired Jack Gurnett's handsome stallion, Kary's Jeepers and his sister, many times Alberta

Produce of Dam winner, Sunday Breeze. These horses became well known in their own right.

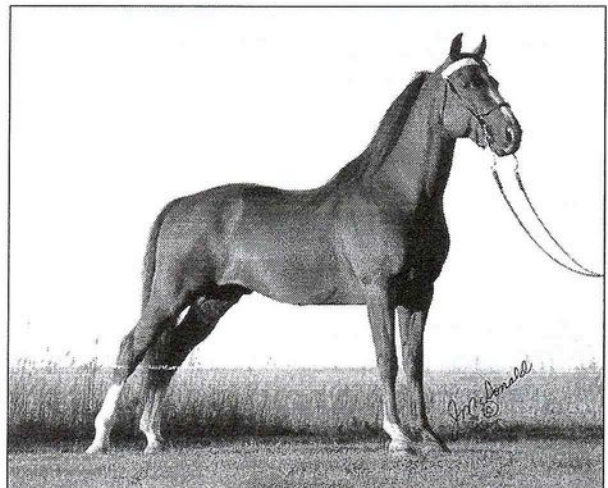
Ray made one more move – that being to our farm (McDonald Farms near Pouce Coupe) in June of 1977. The first few years we had him we did everything with him. He was shown some, and in the process was named Grand Champion Tennessee Walker at the 1980 Lloydminster show. We were certainly proud of this beautiful horse.

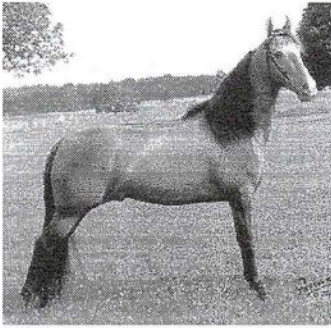
Ray was beautiful in every sense – he had a really gentle nature and would do anything you asked. His biggest phobia was needles. He hated getting his shots!

Ray was retired from showing and used extensively for breeding. He would occasionally be brought out, curried and saddled up to give someone a taste of the “Glide Ride” – and he could do it in style. A kind and willing stallion that anyone could ride any time.

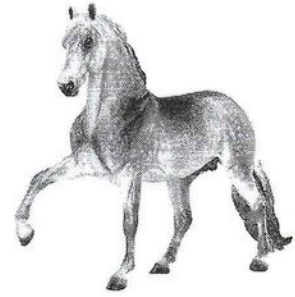
In his last years Ray gave us some extraordinary foals, fillies mostly. We have a daughter of Ray and Little Toot Wilson that we wouldn't part with for anything. Ray also gave us a spotted palomino, Monterey Gold, who became a noted broodmare in her time.

Ray was fat and sassy when he took sick and died in 1989, at the relatively young age of 21. Horses come and go, but in our hearts there will never be another Laddie's Monte Ray.





KNEEHILL CHAMPIONSHIP PERUVIAN, TWH



&

ALL-GAITED HORSE SHOW

Sat & Sun, JUNE 24 & 25, 2006

Wet Creek Stables, Balzac, Alberta

**Benefit for Kneehill Ambulance
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Entry Fee: \$80 Unlimited Classes!

Full Championship Divisions

for Peruvian and Tennessee Walking Horses

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contact Mimi Busk-Downey (403) 546-4331

The Kneehill Show welcomes ALL in its Versatility classes - all gaited breeds and crosses - any horse that does a four-beat intermediate gait. Peruvians, Tennessee Walkers, Rocky Mountain Horses, Fox Trotters, Icelandics, Paso Finos, Single-Footing Horses and Racking Horses to name a few!
9 Fun Versatility classes including Trail, Egg Stomp, Water Glass, Performance Pairs!

FOR SPECTATORS – ADMISSION IS FREE BOTH DAYS!

Directions to Wet Creek Stables: Exit Highway 2 at Balzac, go 6 kms west on #566, then turn north on Range Road 14, go one km, right side of road.

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NEWS - NEWS - NEWS



ALBERTA NEWS

From LISA LAMBERT, PERRYVILLE, "I have some very sad news, and it's very hard to write. On March 23rd I had to euthanize the filly in this picture. She'd broken her neck. I can't stop crying; she was my dream filly and I miss her so much. Her registered name was Catch Me In Ur Dreams - and now dreams all I have. She was only 5 months old, born October 7, 2005."

HELEN PAWLUK, CHAMPION RAINBOW WALKERS, ATHABASCA, writes, "I know it's been a long time since you've heard from me, but as I was watching my new foals run and play, I thought of *WHN* and wondered when the deadline for the next issue is. Surprise! It's today. I thought I would send a note and let you know who's new here, so that you could include them in your foal call. They are all by my buckskin stallion, and all will be offered for sale later this summer, along with two or three mares. I would like to keep *all* my mares, but I find I have more things to do than I can comfortably handle. If I sell off a few, then maybe I'll be able to do what I originally started out to do and that was to get out, go riding, attend a few shows, meet some new people, and have fun!"

"I read all the notes in *WHN* from other owners and I have wanted from time to time send in my comments about horses with color or their gaiting ability, but then either something else needs doing, or time passes and it slips my mind. I would also like to renew my subscription as I see it runs out soon and even though I don't write often, I like to read what others with Walkers are doing."

"I would also like to send a gift subscription

to Carol Shortt of Burlington Ontario with her purchase of my buckskin tobiano colt "CG's Drego". She fell in love with him at first sight, so if she gets *WHN* then maybe she'll write in and let us know what's happening in Ontario, when she gets that good looking boy trained to saddle!"

"Anyway, the new babies from Champion's Gold for 2006 are 4 fillies and a colt. (see foal call.) I will be mailing a check tomorrow for a two year subscription for myself and a one year subscription for Carol, along with Carol's full address."

BOB & SHEILA HAINES, STONY PLAIN have sold their acreage and horses, and moved into town. The Haines are pleased to congratulate two new Walker owners, Greg Boughn of Carvel, AB and Miss Hoslin of Winfield, now owners of Motion Devotion by Hot Chocolate, and Golden Dream's Delight by Answer to Prayer, respectively.

MARIANNE WRAY, CAROLINE, writes, "As usual, I am two months behind and a few thousand short - not like the good ol' days when it was 'a day late and a dollar short'. I've already sent off my renewal to the *WHN* - look forward to reading it every time. Love to see who's doing what and read the ads and articles. Thank you so much for the time and effort you spend putting it together."

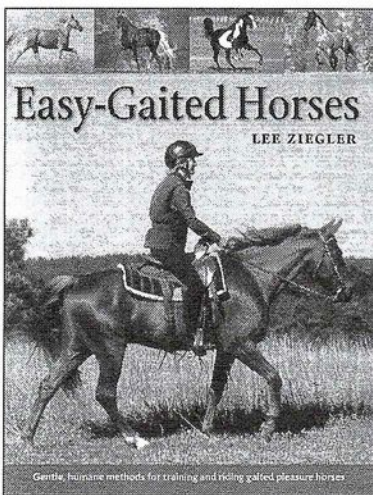
"Had to send you a picture of me on our palomino mare, "Molly" (*below*). She is a dream to ride. It's wonderful being able to ride again. Between my health and fixing up the farm we bought, I had only ridden once in the past three years. I miss it so much! Now that I am feeling a bit better, I hope to get Molly out into the crown land on these gorgeous days. I think she loves it as much as I do."



ALBERTA NEWS

DON & SHIRLEY CAMPBELL, PONOKA e-mailed, "We would like to congratulate Hugh and Barb Ashwell from Edson on their recent purchase of "Believe in Miracles", a lovely 2 year old grey filly. We wish them lots of pleasurable riding, and maybe, someday, some foals from this beautiful filly."

"We'd like to thank WHN for the good work you do. We have sold everything that we had for sale at this time. We look forward to getting every new issue, as there's always lots to read, interesting photos, and new folks advertising. *High-five* to all who work so hard to give us this wonderful magazine!"



NEWS FROM THE U.S.

From JUDY RYDER, "As you may be aware, Lee Ziegler passed away in March of this year. Before her death, she agreed to allow me to compile some videos of her clinics for a DVD product. In addition to her book, *The Easy Gaited Horse*, the DVDs will be part of her legacy."

"I have heard that she wrote some articles for your magazine, and wondered if these articles were available anywhere? Thanks!"

Readers, do any of you remember when WHN published Lee Ziegler's articles? I think they were mainly about how to ride your pacy horse into a walk, and I also think they were reprinted from another magazine. If any of you have that information I'd appreciate hearing from you. Otherwise I'll have to go back and re-read all those issues myself!

*It is very sad that the gaited horse world has lost Lee Ziegler at far too young an age. Her recent book, *The Easy Gaited Horse*, was reviewed by Allanna Jackson in the February 2006 issue of WHN.*

APRIL 1ST & 2ND, 2006

EASY RIDERS 'FOOL'S CLINIC' with Clinicians D. Little & K. Oberle

Easy Riders recently sponsored a hugely successful clinic at Cloudwalker Stables, with hosts Bill and Dolores Salt. 15 horses attended with their riders. Horses varied from young, green broke (few rides) to well trained ones. Riders showed the same range of experience. It provided quite an interesting and challenging two days for the clinicians, Dianne Little and Keith Oberle. The main message of the weekend was that pleasure horses should be a pleasure to have around.

Keith opened the event with a handout and discussion of "horse sense". This was then followed by a period in the arena where the horses and handlers were helped practice and hopefully retain some of the practical management procedures that are "good horse keeping". Keith demonstrated a respectful and responsive horse, Jewel's Foxy Lady (Foxy). Dianne and Keith worked with the handlers to help them teach the horse to respect the wishes and space of the handler, to lead without bumping into or running over the handler or refusing to come along, to pay attention to the handler rather than all of the other things around in the environment, among other things.

Participants then saddled their horses and Dianne took them in small groups and worked on rider balance and feeling the horse's movement as a precursor to improving the performance of the horse. While Dianne worked with some, Keith took others outside and continued the groundwork in a different, more challenging environment.

On the second day, everyone enthusiastically returned for more. After a short period of feedback from the participants, Keith demonstrated on Foxy some of the exercises that he uses to get his horses to gait better. He and Dianne followed this with some horse stretching exercises and physiotherapy. The rest of the day featured Dianne focusing on small groups of riders. By the end of the day, everyone who wanted it had at least three sessions with Dianne. Keith worked with individual riders or horses that had "issues", for example, standing still for mounting, or passing through a door safely. The progress of the horses and riders was amazing. From all reports, participants were extremely satisfied and we now have some new Easy Riders members.

Report submitted by Jude Churchill

Alberta Celebration!



**Sanctioned by the Alberta Walking Horse Association
&
FOSH (Friends of Sound Horses)**

August 12th & 13th, 2006
Wet Creek Stables, Balzac, Alberta

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Read all about it!

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Whether you are a newcomer to the show scene
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- First time to show classes (Self explanatory)
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- Youth classes (because we can't have the kids making the adults look bad)
- Trail Class (Show off your mounted gate opening and bridge crossing.)
- Gymkhana (for the thrill seekers)
- Water Glass Class (Is your horse the smoothest in the region?)
- Equi-theater (For the theatrical souls. And the people don't do too bad either)
- Driving (Maybe you prefer not to ride...)
- NEW!** Trail Pleasure Classes (For the not-so-animated equine.)
- Lite Shod (For the more animated equine.)
- Stake Classes (\$Money, \$Money, \$Money)
- Championship Classes
- Champion of Champion Classes (The best of the best)

You must attend The Alberta Celebration to qualify for AWhA year end awards!

For more information or a prize list either call or email:

Rhonda Lemmon

Phone (403) 782-3118 or E-mail yonafeda@xplornet.com

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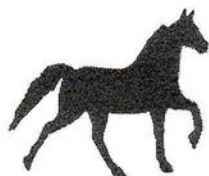
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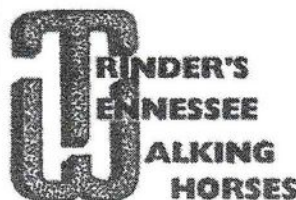
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BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

JANA JACOBSEN JRJ WALKERS, CRANBROOK, writes, "I just wanted to drop you an update on things at JRJ walkers. We spent the early part of the year calving out 210 black Angus cows on my uncle's ranch. We use our walkers for ranch work. I even have my uncle (who is a staunch 1/4 horse man) considering a Walker. He doesn't ride enough to be in shape for the occasional nine hour ride so he thinks the Walker's smooth ride might be better for his back. Sometimes you just have to wait until people see the light... We have been bragging about the smooth ride for years."

"We had two fantastic foals this spring by our stallion, April's Artic Storm. We didn't breed much last year as we have been swamped with our fencing and farm maintenance business. Mz. Funny, our tovero Walking Horse mare, had a beautiful black and white colt right on time. (Right on time for Frizz is 2-3 weeks early.) Major's Whispering Willow, my favorite mare, had her first foal right on time as well. Willow was 2-3 weeks late but that was ok as I was away delivering horses. I told her that she had to wait for me to get back and she did."

"Despite a tanker crash on the pass and two tired Jersey heifers in the trailer I managed to get home 15 minutes after she had foaled. My friend Ginger was kind enough to be playing mid wife while I was away so I didn't have to be worried. Ginger and her daughter were there to help if there was a problem and they got to enjoy the experience as a bonus. Willow had a gorgeous solid black filly for us. This is only the second filly that our stallion has sired so she is extra special. We call her Storm's Whispering Gypsy."

"I would like to congratulate Karin Bauer on the purchase of Storm's Miss'n Link a 2.5 year old gelding by our stallion. They are already progressing well in his training in the few short weeks he has been in Kelowna. Also Congratulations to Gina Myhill-Jones on the purchase of Designs Northern Light. Dixie was a great broodmare and trail partner for my husband. We were sad to see her go but she is much loved in her new home and will be treated to only the best. We also congratulate Dave and Debbie Smith on the purchase of Storm's Flashy Design, a 2 year old bay tobiano gelding by our stallion. We know that he will do well in his new home with Dave's tutoring. Dave may require a step ladder to get on him (he should finish 16-17 hh) but I am sure the view from up there will be great. Thank you to everyone for giving them all wonderful new homes. That's the

most you can hope for when you send them on their way."

"We are finally getting the good weather and the grass is starting to grow. Yippee! On that note - chores await. Happy trails to everyone."

CHARLIE BATEMAN, KAMLOOPS, writes, "The horse I wrote about in the August 2001 copy of *WHN* has finally retired. He remains sound but can only work hard for an hour or so, and last year he fell twice with me on him which had never happened before. His heart rate was going up a bit each year over our training trails but he carried me for fifteen great years and for that I am very grateful. Hopefully he will have a good long retirement. His understudy, purchased 4 years ago through the good offices of Dave and Debbie Smith, is named "Hurricane Hanna" (Kit's Royal Pride x Son's Touch of Pride) and a less hurricane-like horse you could not find. She is big, black, very calm, gentle and by my lights, well gaited."

"My wife Madeline has a Walker but for endurance purposes has crossed over to the dark side and rides an Arab. Or should I say 'hangs onto' an Arab - in any event we are on the trails together and Hanna is finally able to keep up unless we get up over twenty miles, which is really not TWH territory .When going too fast for the running walk and too slow to canter, Hanna paces - which I find truly miserable, especially when going down hill. However she is starting to trot a bit which I am encouraging."

"I ride a lot but don't know much and this brings me to the articles by Ron Smith and Eldon Eadie that you publish sporadically. I wish you could get these two gents to write more as their comments are very helpful. I spent a day with Ron four years ago when I was looking for my new horse and it was a real learning experience for me. Where the TWH is concerned, what I *don't know* is a lot bigger than what I *do* know."

"Thanks for the subscription notice and the great magazine; I will send along the cheque."

BRENDA BETTLES, ARMSTRONG, writes, "Thanks for the extra reminder that I've 'expired'. I've been so busy I haven't even finished reading the February issue! I've been trying to keep out of trouble with organizing shows, fun events, poker rides, and overnight riding weekends for a ladies' group, plus acting as president for the local riding club. Thank goodness I go to work three days a week to get some rest."

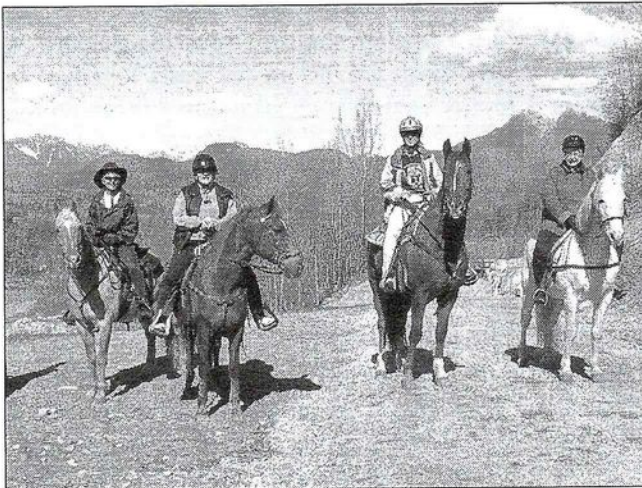
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BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

BRENDA BETTLES continues, "I am riding my mare's 'baby', Rebel, who is now four. He's a big liver chestnut boy with the stockier body, standing about 15:2 hh. He is great in the bush and awesome with traffic after only about 12 rides. His gait is improving vastly as he gets in condition. I'm still putting plenty of hours on his mom, Shaker's Silene, and have another TW horse I'm putting miles on."

"I tried out the new Easy Boa Boots this past winter. With the removable studs installed, they were awesome for traction and fit very well. Easy to get on and did not affect her gait. Sure saves dollars on shoeing, pads and borium. I'm using them year round on my mare to give them a good test of torture. Some people remove the studs but I left them in for traction in mud, steep terrain and they also don't slip on pavement."

"I will try to make it out to Spruce Meadows in September to spend some of my hard-earned money."



NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, writes, "Above are 'The Fabulous Four' on a trail ride with Golden Ears mountains in the background: Natalie on Trigger; Debbie on Peruvian Paso, Ernie; Nicole on TWH, Koko; and Genevieve on Missouri Foxtrotter, Smokee. And, yes, I AM wearing a helmet, albeit too far back on my head. It's a custom helmet made by one of our friends who has a leather business, whose wife gets the safety shells from Switzerland."

"We've had sporadic riding weather but get out as often as we can and have had some terrific rides. This being Easter Monday, each horse in the Tower Ridge barn got an Easter egg with his or her name on it. This was delivered by an Easter bunny with fluffy pink ears and very large teeth. I'd send a

picture of the critter (a.k.a. Debbie Smith) but she might object. We all had a good laugh. Never a dull moment at that barn, which is why so many of us hang about swilling coffee and scarfing whatever goodies anyone brings."

"Before I forget, I had a fun letter from a fellow in West Virginia. He addressed me as Nancy, so I assume he saw my picture in a back issue of *The Gaited Horse*. The letter I wrote to them was signed "Natalie" but the caption under the picture of Trigger and me on the trail had me as "Nancy". In any case, the man wanted to breed his Pride mare to a Roy Rogers' Trigger and did I ship semen? I replied that I hated to disappoint him in his quest, but that would be a bit difficult as my Trigger was also a mare! I'm sure he got a kick out of that, but I did direct him to the *WHN* website so he could search there, or even place an ad with his request. So if you hear from Gerald Epling, of WVA, you'll be one step ahead of him."

"Trigger gets new dancing shoes on Wednesday and I'm hoping for *no rain* so we can start wearing them out. Happy trails!"

TRAIL RIDING

Train, Prepare, Pack Up and Hit the Trail

(The Complete Guide for You and Your Horse)

by Rhonda Hart Poe

Storey Publishing 2005

325 pages including references and index

\$28.95 Canada / \$19.95 US

This large paperback (8 1/2 x 11") has a tremendous amount of information packed between its covers. If your passion is trail riding, don't miss this book. Chapters include Get Ready to Ride, Trail Traits, Trail Tack & Gear, Conditioning, Trail Training, Pleasure Trail Riding, Trail Vices and more. Those who say "Only a trail horse" have always aggravated me, so the author had my attention right away in her preface which starts, *Every time someone says, "Aw, he's just a trail horse," I want to scream. The best horses I have ever known have been trail horses. They have been sound, smart, and willing. Luckily for me they have also been forgiving. They have been my friends and confidants ... and have ... managed to carry me safely out of every bit of trouble I have ever encountered.*

Written by the editor of *The Gaited Horse*, it includes the gaited breeds as trail horse choices. It is a treat to see gaited horses discussed so positively! Her section on conditioning gaited horses should be *required reading* for all those who ride one. *M.. Lacy*

MANITOBA NEWS

From MARSHA & CLIFF TRINDER, TRINDER'S TENNESSEE WALKING HORSES, RUSSELL, "Hello from Manitoba! Cliff and I have been so busy with the livestock that I did not work off the ranch during the winter doing income tax at the local CA's office. Cliff seems to be able to find enough things to keep me out of trouble."

"We are in the middle of calving season right now with about 120 calves on the ground. Our mares should start foaling about the middle of May. We had what seemed to be a terribly long winter and are currently being flooded along the Assiniboine River south of the Shellmouth Dam. We have about sixteen miles of river frontage on the ranch so needless to say we have several acres under water. We had several mishaps due to this flooding. A newborn calf drowned when it walked into the water and got hypothermia. Bank slumping and damage to fields we won't even discuss."

"Kristine King (from Roblin, MB) and Liane Slater (from Stonewall, MB) have been working with me since March 13th. Both girls are really good with the horses and cattle, with a strong interest in natural horsemanship (which we use as the basis of the training of our horses). We are looking for a third girl to work through to the end of October, assisting in the training of horses, herd management and riding lots of miles. We do all our own farrier work as well. Our nice early start in March has enabled us to get lots of miles on our horses already this year, several of whom are available for sale. Using the horses with the cattle is a nice fit and really gives our horses lots of valuable experience and helps make them good dependable trail horses."

"We have several events planned, with demos being offered showing the training we do here, some natural horsemanship clinics, not to mention taking part in a Wagon Journey and Trail Ride from historic Fort Ellice, MB to Swan River, MB, organized by the Red River Metis Heritage Group. Anyone interested can contact me and I will forward the information on. The ride is camping overnight July 11th in Millwood, which a small hamlet near where our ranch headquarters are situated."

"Hoping everyone has a great 2006!"

HELEN HOWE, ALTONA, writes, "Your February cover reminded me of my Selwood Farm days, near Lloydminster. However, back then we never trusted ourselves to a one horse cutter, which would be unsafe in the usual depth of snow we had.

We always kept a two horse team in the stable for pulling a wagon on double sleighs, which could not tip over as a cutter would."

"It was a pretty picture, and I did notice the heart on the mail box for Valentine's Day – a nice touch!"

ONTARIO NEWS

DARLENE SHANTZ, MILFORD, writes, "Thank you for the notice that my renewal is due. I would not want to miss a copy of *WHN* and enjoy every issue."

"It is nice to finally have winter behind us; however, it was a very easy winter here in Southern Ontario. Lots of mud and no snow, but we did get to enjoy riding a little more throughout the winter. Last summer was so dry, and hay was very hard to find in this area. With no snow this past winter it is already a dry spring, so we may be in for another difficult year for hay."

"My horses are all doing well. I have two TWH mares coming 7 this spring, and my coming 3 year old filly. It will keep me busy to keep them all ridden. My daughter has two horses of her own to ride as well. Last year we concentrated on getting the mares out with other horses and did a CTR mileage ride in June, along with a couple of other trail rides including one last fall with 230 riders!"

"I was pleased to audit a Lee Ziegler clinic last June, and was very sorry to hear of her passing this year."

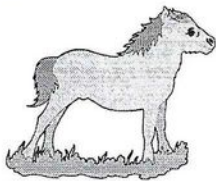
"We purchased a cabin about 100 miles north of us last winter, and I hope to get it set up for riding the horses. There are thousands of acres of Crown land to explore."

"It is great to see the gaited horse breeds gaining in popularity and as always, it is a pleasure to keep connected through *WHN* with other TWH owners in Canada. Thank-you, Marjorie, for producing the *WHN*, and all the best for a successful year."

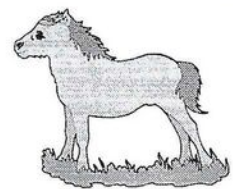
"Happy riding, Everyone!"

LORRAINE SCHAAF, THUNDER BAY, sent along a poster and entry form for the Gaited Horse Clinic being held at Murillo, Ontario on June 3 and 4. It is being sponsored by the Ontario Tennessee Walker and Gaited Horse Club and TWHBEA. The clinician is Nicole Carswell.

Unfortunately the date is such that this issue won't be out in time to be of any help in publicizing it. Guess we'll have to wait and hear about it after the fact.



FOAL CALL



The First Foal of the season reported to WHN was this bay colt!
BAY COLT (Prides Undertaker x Faith A Legend Genius) April 15/06
Lisa Lambert, Prides Noble Walkers, Perryvale, AB

2006 babies by Champion's Gold
PALOMINO FILLY out of Dictator's Dream Catcher
GRAY COLT out of Design's Black Pearl
BUCKSKIN FILLY out of Dictator's Golden Echo
CHESTNUT FILLY out of Wind At My Back
All owned by Helen Pawluk, Champions Rainbow Walkers, Athabasca, AB

BAY TOBIANO FILLY (Champion's Gold x Successful Signature)
(now in Switzerland at Sam's Heaven Ranch.)

BLACK FILLY *Born on the Queen's 80th B'Day* (Allen's Midnight Rascal x Willow)
Marlene Fairbrother, Winding Creek Ranch, Myrnum, AB

BLACK FILLY (Misty Dark Delight x Threat's Magic Genie) McDonalds Farm, Pouce Coupe, BC

BLACK AND WHITE COLT (April's Artic Storm x Mz. Funny)
BLACK FILLY *Storm's Whispering Gypsy* (April's Artic Storm x Major's Whispering Willow)
Jana & Roger Jacobsen, JRJ Walkers, Cranbrook, BC

AMBER CHAMPAGNE COLT *Frontiers Jonny Walker Z* (Canadian Frontier Z x 5 J's Doodle Bug) April 28
BAY TOBIANO COLT *Frontier's Cover Chigolo Z* (Canadian Frontier Z x Coumselors Cover Girl Z) Ap.30
Boot Scoot'n Boogie Stables, Ullu & Felix Zurbriggen, Mara, BC

BLACK COLT, 2 white socks, blaze & snip *D'Little Escalade, aka Leroy*
(Tsuniah's Dark Delight x Cadillac Calais) April 21. Owned by Bill Roy, Grindrod, BC



Stables
Breeding, Training, Sales

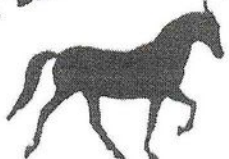


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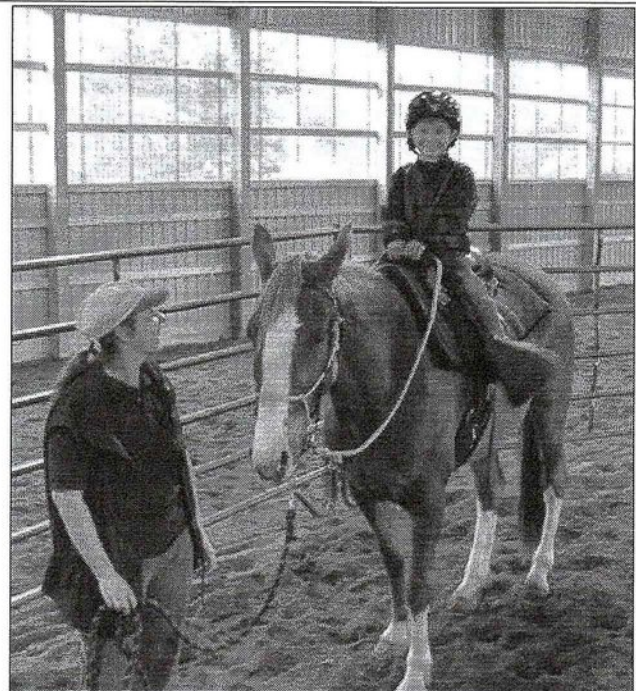
Home of the
Tennessee
Walking Horse

C. & M. Lacy (780) 723-2547

UPHILL FARM



Registered Walking Horses
Home of the Trigger Jr. palomino line
Box 7326, EDSON, AB T7E 1V5



'Fred Lloyd-Smith of Vanessa, ON gives a young visitor to their open house last year the thrill of a ride on Prairie Chief. This year Canada Ride & Drive Week is May 29 to June 4.



CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

SCHEDULE OF FEES Effective April 16, 2006

| 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 FOALS or HORSES NOT ALREADY REGISTERED | Member Fees | Non-Member Fees |
| a. Within 12 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below) | \$40.00 | \$80.00 |
| b. After 12 but less than 18 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below) | \$60.00 | \$120.00 |
| c. After 18 but less than 24 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below) | \$125.00 | \$250.00 |
| d. After 24 months of foaling: (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below) <i>Non-refundable fee of \$125.00 if application is rejected.</i> | \$300.00 | \$500.00 |
| If the sire and/or dam of the unregistered foal (or horse) is not registered with CRTWH, submit a photocopy of both sides of the parent's TWHBEA registration certificate along with the foal's registration application. | | |
| 3. REGISTRATION OF HORSES ALREADY REGISTERED with TWHBEA | Member Fees | Non-Member Fees |
| <i>Applications must be accompanied by a photocopy of both sides of the TWHBEA 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 for DNA kit when registration application is submitted. | \$75.00 | \$100.00 |
| b. DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for a Registered animal: CLRC Request form for DNA kit is required. Pay CLRC when application for DNA kit is submitted to CLRC. | \$75.00 | \$100.00 |
| 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. (Visa is accepted.)

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

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

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



The Canadian Walker

Volume 5, Issue 3

www.crtwh.ca

June, 2006

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'The Canadian' Program For Excellence

We unveiled 'The Canadian' Program For Excellence, at the AGM. This will take the place of the Futurity and we hope it will extend the benefits of the Futurity to a much wider group, as well as provide other advantages to supporters of the Canadian bred Walker. CRTWH is already making plans for the introduction of 'The Canadian' Challenge, a program comprising tasks and achievements for horses in hand and under saddle.

The Canadian' Program For Excellence will be available to all horses registered in the Canadian Registry of the TWH but it is voluntary. There will be no change in current registration requirements. It's based on evaluation against a standard, to be done by qualified persons, from video which may be produced at home or at a gathering. CRTWH will recognize horses that meet the established standards through evaluating conformation and gaits, and will award: **BRONZE** - which is evaluation of conformation & flat walk, at halter; **SILVER** - which is evaluation of flat walk & runwalk under saddle, & conformation, with horses required to be of a minimum age; and **GOLD** - which is evaluation of conformation, plus flat walk, runwalk & canter under saddle, with horses required to be of a minimum age or older. The **PLATINUM** standard will be for superior sires and dams. These achievements will be recorded on their CRTWH registration papers.

The standards and video directions will be available by June 30. If you would like copies of these or of 'The Canadian' Program For Excellence, please write Dianne Little at 619 Lake Linnet Crescent S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3 or e-mail ddlittle@telusplanet.net

We look forward to your participation!

Marjorie Lacy, President

CRTWH BOARD

The Board meeting after the AGM saw Jean Rempel retire as president after two full terms in that position. Thank you, Jean, for your commitment over the past six years. Marjorie Lacy will take over the reins as president, while Joyce Rogers and Dianne Little will continue as secretary and treasurer, respectively. Maureen Hummel and Jean Rempel will act as first and second vice presidents.

Jane Mueller has resigned from the Board after over ten years of service. Thank you, Jane, for all your contributions to CRTWH over the years.



CLRC CREDITS

It was noted at the AGM that quite a number of people have a credit with CLRC. If you have business with CLRC, you must *request* that they use your credit toward the transaction. Otherwise it continues to sit there, doing nobody any good! You can check for a credit balance on your receipts from CLRC, or phone them at 613-731-7110, Extensions 311 (Mavis) or 313 (Dianne).

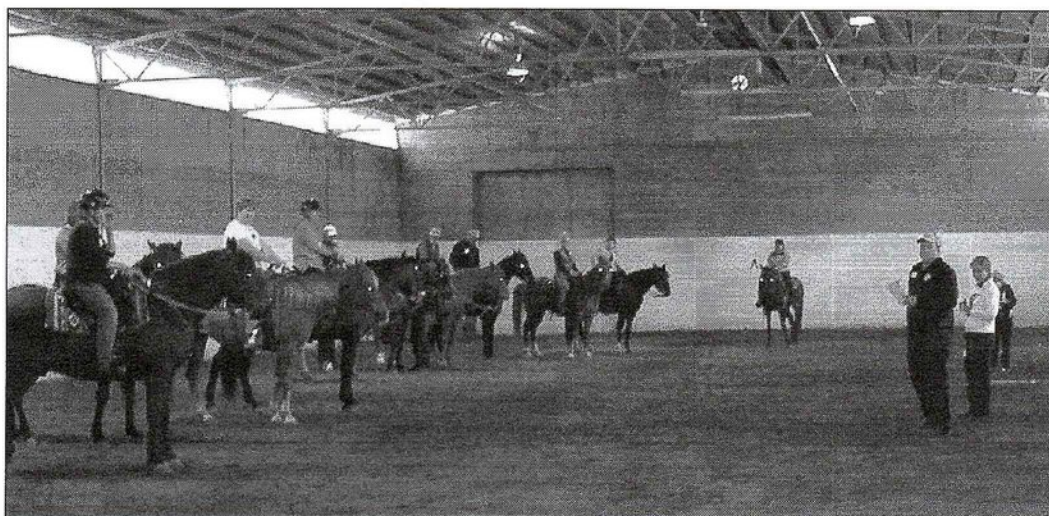
AGM & B.L.E.S.S. CLINIC

We had a successful Annual General Meeting on April 29. Many who attended also either participated in or audited the B.L.E.S.S. Your Horse clinic given by Bucky and Nancy Sparks of Cortez, Colorado, held the same weekend. The information and techniques imparted were useful to the riders right away, leading to more relaxed horses and better gaits without gimmicks. It certainly won't be the last Canadian B.L.E.S.S. clinic!

A big 'Thank you' to Dianne Little who did all the work of organizing the clinic and AGM. We appreciate it!

B.L.E.S.S. CLINIC

WITH
NANCY
&
BUCKY
SPARKS



On April 29 and 30 Nancy and Bucky Sparks presented the first international BLESS clinic in Strathmore, Alberta, Canada. BLESS stands for "Balance, Looseness, Engagement, Softness and Soundness." Sponsored by the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse, the clinic was held in conjunction with the CRTWH Annual General Meeting of members. Nancy and Bucky are members of the Canadian Registry and this was the first AGM with other than Canadian members in attendance.

In order to provide the personal attention that Nancy and Bucky feel is essential to learning, the number of horse / rider combinations at a BLESS clinic is limited to 12. The Canadian clinic was sold out within 5 days. Over the next month the number of requests for horse & rider slots could have filled 3 clinics. The Canadian Registry believes the positive response was because the Sparks are ordinary people who enjoy their horses. They school horses, show at

FOSH shows, ride in the desert and mountains around their home and do not use gimmicks to train their horses. Their horses are pleasure horses as well as using horses.

Their unique combination - of Nancy assisting people with exercises, prior to Bucky's focused work with gait - struck a positive chord with the lucky riders. The Sparks' personality is such that they communicate effectively and personally with all riders and auditors. They subscribe to the philosophy of constant learning and are interested in feedback regarding what works for people and what doesn't. The only negative comment received at the clinic referred to the fact that not everyone could bring their horses! Heard from one of the auditors, "I learned more in one day at this clinic than I've learned in all the other clinics I've attended put together!" Canadians eagerly await their return.

Submitted by Dianne Little; photos by Jean Rempel



FROM FOUNDATIONS TO THE FUTURE by Franne Brandon

VIDEO VISIONS: FROM PHOTO TO VIDEO SCREEN

"A picture is worth 1,000 words."

This well-known adage has sold many products over the decades, from automobiles to ladies' fashions to saddles. Until it was applied to Internet promotions, however, few horse advertisers were able to market the results of their breeding or training programs with photo ads. In the current market, though, an eye catching print photo in a magazine along with a web address for further information is often the key to successful promotion and multiple sales.

As spring advanced past those chill earliest days to bring warmer weeks, I scanned the websites again, anxious to note any new additions to the ranks of trail mares. Since I no longer had the neophyte rider criterion, the range of acceptable mares broadened. I could also narrow the scope of bloodlines to those appealing to my personal tastes. By the time I'd completed my website checks and compiled my list, I had fewer than a dozen candidates for a dream mare. Although I have been fascinated since childhood by unique colors, only one, a gray mare, was on the list.

While under-twelve is not a large list, most sellers understandably do not want to absorb the expenses of sending out tapes. With the charge for a video ranging from \$12-\$15, obtaining tapes for even ten trail mares would cost \$100 or more! Ouch! That bit of math convinced me to narrow my search for the initial tape requests.

Rechecking the sites, I focused on two mares with pedigree and eye appeal. The older one was a half sister to a stallion I had admired for years. I wondered if I would click as readily with the sister as I had with him? The mare's sire was a Supreme Versatility champion that I had seen once in hand, and under saddle on tape. Like her sire, the mare was three gaited. She also had extensive trail experience with her current owner.

When I emailed the owner of the bay mare, she already had some footage of her which, while not showing every point on my list, was ready to mail. Because it was a small disk, there would be no charge! She promised to drop it in the mail in a few days!

For my tastes, the younger mare had less pedigree appeal but more pizzazz.

Her sire was from the breed's more popular show lines. The dam's sire had initially attracted me to this five year old, along with her gorgeous flax sorrel coloring. Clicking on the ad, however, I discovered a second photo, an action shot in classic walking form rather than the hollow, high headed frame so prevalent in local show rings. The more times I returned to this ad, the more she appealed to me. Finally, I emailed the owners, and after a couple of messages, I mailed a check for a video.

Since I had requested tapes at different times, I spent almost two weeks scanning the mail for packages. Finally, the tape on the sorrel arrived. As soon as the remote was mine, I popped the tape in to watch it. The screen revealed a beautiful individual, one with excellent conformation, good bone, and a pretty head, accented by a bright sorrel coat and golden mane and tail. She stood quietly in the crosstie area for saddling. The bridle also went on smoothly, although the long shank bit was not one I like to use. The rider mounted in the barn, not a practice that I like. I wondered how the mare would behave if she had to be mounted in an open area.

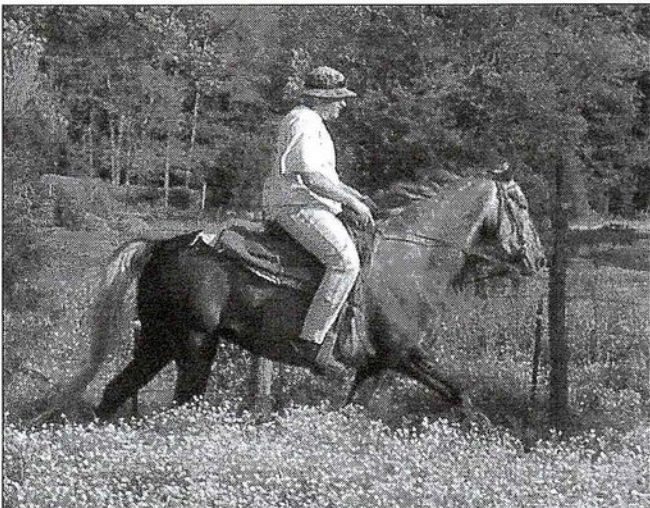
Due to recent heavy rains, the demonstration of the mare's gaits was on a gravel roadway. Although she offered plenty of head motion along with a big backend, something wasn't what I had expected from the online action shot. My ears provided the first clue. My husband, watching the tape under duress, caught it too. The evenly timed walking gait suggested by the photo was not the cadence echoing on the gravel road. The rhythm told us that the mare was edging into a foxtrot. The ride was quite smooth, but the rider was obviously much taller and heavier than me. I've had mares before that were trained by heavier riders. While they walked fine for them, under my slighter weight and shorter legs, they would drift diagonally. This beautiful mare was already drifting. Would she show even more trot with me? I have never been a foxtrot fancier. She was also quite energetic, never dropping back to show than she would calmly perform an ordinary walk on a relaxed rein.

Perhaps it was my fault. Perhaps I did not explain plainly enough that I wanted to see what we call a "dog walk" in Middle Tennessee. The mare did go down the road for one pass at a nice flatwalk. At five hours away, though, and the current price of gas, the distance is too great to travel based only on what the flatwalk suggested.

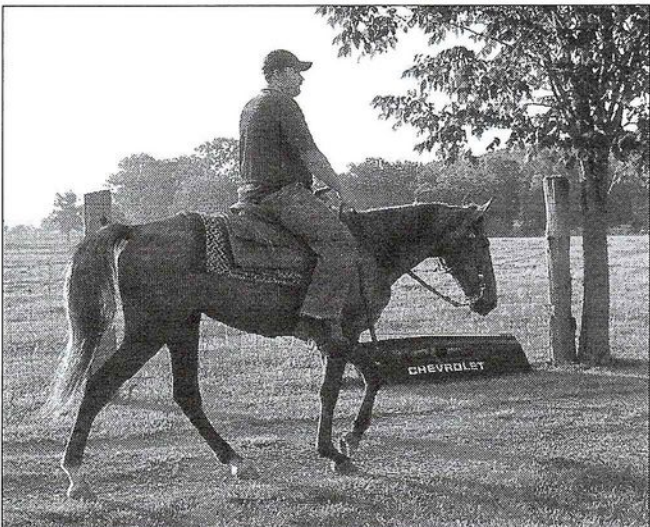
The disk of the bay mare never did arrive. After watching the tape of the sorrel, I decided that I would not contact the owner of the bay again. Gas prices continue to rise, and she is much farther from us than the brightly colored mare.

Videos are useful tools which can provide an important link in the selection of a new horse. In my case, however, the video visions are waning. A dream mare is not to be for me in the near future. At least this experience has brought me valuable lessons that I can perhaps use one day – when I win the lottery!

"While the color version of this photo (below) is very attractive, with the stylish gray mare in a field of spring blooms, the high head, hollow back, and big front indicate that she is not walking. This photo advertised the four year old mare on the Internet for months, but it took an action shot of her doing a job to sell her."



"Same bloodlines, same rider, but the young filly (below) is more relaxed, looser, and demonstrates true walking form."



ALERT: ADMINISTERING PENICILLIN TO HORSES

by Anita Howe

I learned a hard lesson first-hand this week. My mare went into labor unexpectedly with a mal-presentation foal that we lost in a horrible ordeal this week. I say unexpectedly because when I checked her at bedtime the night before, she showed none of her normal signs of labor and imminent delivery...her bag was not even completely filled. So I was stunned to find her the next morning straining to deliver a foal that was completely in the wrong position and which she had no hope of delivering on her own. It was the scariest thing to reach in and feel ears first, nose turned back and no legs whatsoever. I knew the foal was gone then, and we would be lucky to save the mare.

Our vet was a trooper and worked long and hard over the next 3 hours to extricate this very large lost foal. The mare survived the initial ordeal thanks to a lot of heavy sedation and eventually regained her feet. We put her on a regimen of oxytocin, gentecin and penicillin injections. The oxytocin and penicillin were administered IM while the gentecin was being given through an IV stint she still has.

I don't know if any of you have ever been warned about the dangers of administering penicillin. I had previously been warned by our local vet hospital when they sent one of my horses home on this regimen, that you must be very careful to aspirate the needle and wait to see if any blood seeps into the syringe, and only when there is no sign of blood is it safe to go ahead and inject up to 12 cc of the penicillin in that site, then you should move the needle to another location, repeat the procedure until the full dose is administered (which is usually 35 cc for an adult horse). The danger you are trying to avoid is the penicillin getting into the blood stream of the horse. I was told at that time that it causes a violent seizure reaction that often is fatal and extremely ugly to see. Consequently, giving these injections has always scared me silly.

On the second day the vet was back out. He knew the pain would be substantial because of her condition, so he administered a heavy dose of Rompun sedation (which in hindsight was what I believe ended up saving her life). After attending to her other needs I requested he go ahead and give her the penicillin shot while he was here, because of my fear of administering them. He understood, and seeking to show me a new area to give these shots in the chest muscle went through all the "correct steps" and did everything just the way you're supposed to. But somewhere this needle must have nicked a vein that didn't show in the aspiration of the syringe because within 10 seconds of finishing the injection this mare exploded. I don't know how else to describe it. It started with a quick startle, then immediately she went ballistic.

(Concluded on page 19)

THE TRAINING TREE: 6. BALANCE

by Ron Meredith, President, Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre

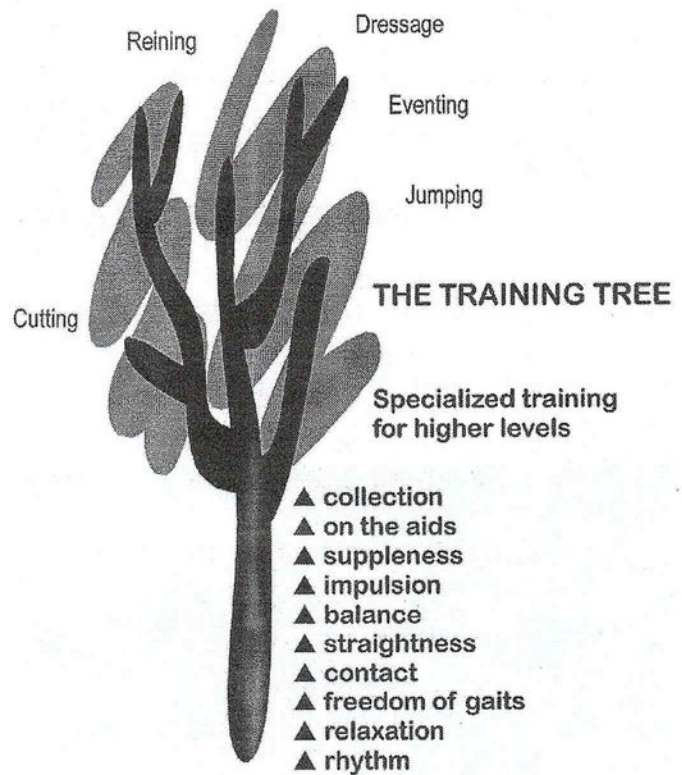
Balance is one of those terms in the horse industry that is so misused that it's become mythunderstood. All it really means is that the horse is distributing his weight equally on all four feet. We want him carrying as much of his weight on the right side of his body as on the left side. We want him to carry as much weight on his two front feet as he does on his two back feet.

That seems pretty simple. But there's a catch. A horse has this long neck with a big heavy head hanging out there at the end of it which naturally has a tendency to shift a little more of his weight onto his front feet. When he's just hanging around being himself, a horse typically carries about 60 percent of his weight on his front feet.

This natural balance is going to vary quite a bit from horse to horse. One young horse may look like he's carrying about equal weight on all four feet when he's standing there. You can look at another horse and it looks like 90 percent of her weight is on her front feet. As horses grow and develop, their hind end grows first and pretty soon they're standing downhill. Then you've got to wait for the front end to catch up. Some horses never completely catch up and stay built downhill, or what we call on their forehead, their whole lives. Because one side of his body is stronger or more dominant than the other, a horse also tends to carry a little more weight on one front foot than on the other. When you're training a horse, it's your job to get him carrying his weight more or less equally on all four feet.

When we're working on straightness, the previous level on our training tree, we start helping the horse develop the muscles and strength he needs to adjust his balance laterally so that he's carrying an equal amount of his weight on his two front feet. Until the horse becomes straight, becomes equally comfortable using the muscles on both sides of his body, he is going to be carrying more weight on one shoulder or the other. He will feel "stiffer" and less accepting of the rein on one side compared to the other. Once he's straight, once he's accepting the rein on both sides, we move to the next level and start asking him to shift some of his weight from his front feet to his back feet to balance longitudinally.

As we're developing the horse's muscles and his ability to carry himself in longitudinal balance,



remember that horses have rear wheel drive. All of their power comes from their hind end. They don't have front wheel drive that's pulling them along. Their engine is in the rear. So we've got to build up their engine muscles to play the games they'll eventually play whether it's to get over a bigger jump, to get a longer slide, or to do a better canter pirouette.

Developing balance means that we are asking the horse to bring his hindquarters more under his center. If his back feet tend to trail out behind him and we use our aids properly to ask him to step more under the center of his belly, he'll lift his back and start carrying more weight on his hind feet and less weight on his front feet. So his hindquarters need to move up under his center of gravity in order for him to be more balanced. Cavaletti work and transitions are some of the exercises you can use to help a horse develop longitudinal balance.

Training means systematic mental and physical development of the horse. The training tree gives you a sequence of concepts that you can picture step by step. This is very important because it gives you something to go back to when things aren't working.

That's a big hole in a lot of trainer's programs. They don't have a step-by-step system that, if something goes wrong, allows them to go back through the sequence to find the source of the problem.

Take a spin, for example. Some trainers just put the horse in the shape of a spin, reinforce with leg to get him to speed up and hope that the horse will figure out how to do it. A really athletic horse will, which is why so many trainers get away with doing things this way. But then they get horses that don't have natural athletic talent. Something is wrong in the spin. Maybe the horse is crossing his outside front leg behind his inside front instead of in front of it. Or when he pivots he puts his weight on his outside hind leg instead of on his pivot leg. If you have a horse logical sequence like the training tree to develop the horse's mind and his body, you'll always have a place to go back to in order to fix something. You can fix the problem within the problem and then, when you ask the horse to spin the next time, he'll get it right.

Instructor & trainer Ron Meredith has refined his "horse logical" methods for communicating with equines over 30 years as president of Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre, (Route 1, Box 66, Waverly, WV 26184; 1-304-679-3128; <http://www.meredithmanor.com>), an ACCET accredited equestrian educational institution.



SHAKER'S SILENE Canadian #787. Owned and photographed by Brenda Bettles, Armstrong, BC. See BC News.

ADMINISTERING PENICILLIN... continued

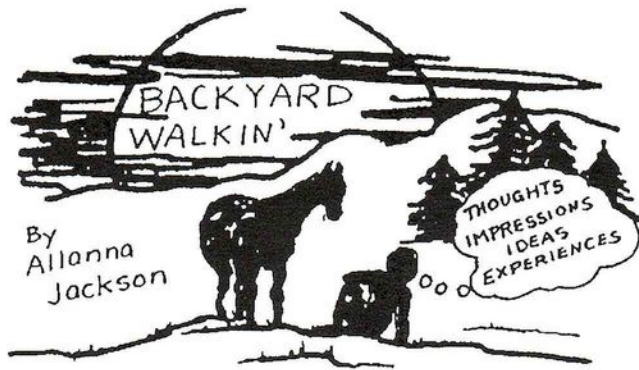
The vet acted quickly to get her out of the cross ties and into a stall and thankfully was able to direct her into that safe area. This is why I believe that the Rompun played a part in this, because from what I've been able to research since, these horses are normally uncontrollable in any way and seizure so violently that they throw themselves over backward and often damage their skulls or spine to the extent that it is fatal. Over the next 6-7 minutes we were convinced we were going to lose this mare, after everything she had struggled to survive already. But tough old bird that she is, within another 10 minutes she was eating hay and acting as if nothing had happened. All I know is that I NEVER want to see that happen to another horse. I know it's rare if you follow all the proper steps... but this vet did that. He did everything correctly, and still things went bad.

From my research online since, I have found out it's not really the penicillin the horses react to, but the procaine G mixed with the penicillin suspension. It gets into the blood stream and goes directly to the brain and reacts on the nervous system with this violent seizure. This is not an allergic reaction...all horses will react this way. Talk to your vet if he prescribes penicillin for you to give your horses. I know there is one veterinary group in St. Louis that will no longer use this penicillin procaine g suspension on horses. Simply won't do it. I know that I have told my vet that I will no longer have it in my barn, and will not allow it to be administered to any of my horses.

Below is a brief piece from a website called "When Good Drugs Do Bad Things".

"Penicillin is very commonly administered to horses in a formulation known as penicillin procaine G. The procaine is a local anesthetic, related to lidocaine, novacaine and cocaine! It helps to give the formulation a long-acting effect, so that it can be administered less frequently. When correctly injected into the horse's muscle, it causes no problem. However, if the formulation is accidentally injected into the horse's bloodstream, the procaine goes to the horse's brain and triggers a spectacular reaction (imagine a horse getting a "hit" of cocaine). Most horses begin to tremble violently and throw themselves over backwards. There is no antidote when this occurs and an affected horse will recover in just a few minutes as long as it doesn't damage its skull or spine. Obviously, this reaction can be very dangerous for bystanders. This is why when injecting penicillin into a horse's neck or hindquarters, you should always place the needle first, and watch for blood to fill the hub of the needle. If you see blood, remove the needle and place a clean needle in another site. When you attach the syringe full of penicillin, pull back and again watch for blood to appear in the syringe. Never continue with the injection if you see blood.

Also, the procaine in the formulation becomes more soluble at higher temperatures, increasing the risk of it entering a blood vessel. Therefore, penicillin procaine G should always be refrigerated until just before injecting."



WALK DEFINITIONS

c 1991, 1995, 2006 by
Allanna Lea Jackson

In past issues we've looked at the historical records about the gaits of the earliest working Walkers. The history has quite a lot to say about style; that is, *how much* the horse is doing. Style and speed are easy to see and easy to judge, but they do not really tell us what gait the horse is doing.

Notions about what is optimal style vary greatly depending on the kind of work the horse is expected to do, the riding discipline for which it is trained, and deeply felt but trivial personal preferences. The style of a saddle seat or fine harness champion is exciting and spectacular to watch, yet totally useless for a cross-country trail ride and outright dangerous in the mountains. The perfect ranch horse may have a shorter stride and be shorter but stouter than the perfect hunter. All of these things and more can be done by horses that have inherited the running walk, though no one horse can excel at all of it. It is absurdly arrogant to claim that one riding discipline or type of work is superior to another; thus speed and style cannot be used to define gait. Evaluations of speed and style apply only within the context of a specific riding discipline or type of work. Applying the style standards of one riding discipline to all other disciplines and uses is destructive to the quality, integrity and versatility of the breed.

A truly scientific definition of each gait tells us exactly what the horse is doing and only what the horse is doing. Scientific gait definitions identify the true differences between gaits while allowing for all possible style variations within each gait. Scientific gait definitions can also expose man-made deviations in gait. Some gait deviations present a very stylish performance that is harmful to the horse and the integrity of the breed. Scientific definitions are the

most accurate way to evaluate the gait of breeding stock since even the most perfectly stylish form of any gait other than running walk is detrimental to the breeding of natural running walkers.

It is worth noting that there are physically only two walks: Flat-foot walk and running walk. The differences between ordinary walk and flat walk are only varying degrees of impulsion, collection, speed and style within the flat-foot walk. Here are scientific definitions of the flat-foot walk and running walk:

FLAT-FOOT WALK DEFINITION

SEQUENCE: Left hind leg, left foreleg, right hind leg, right foreleg.

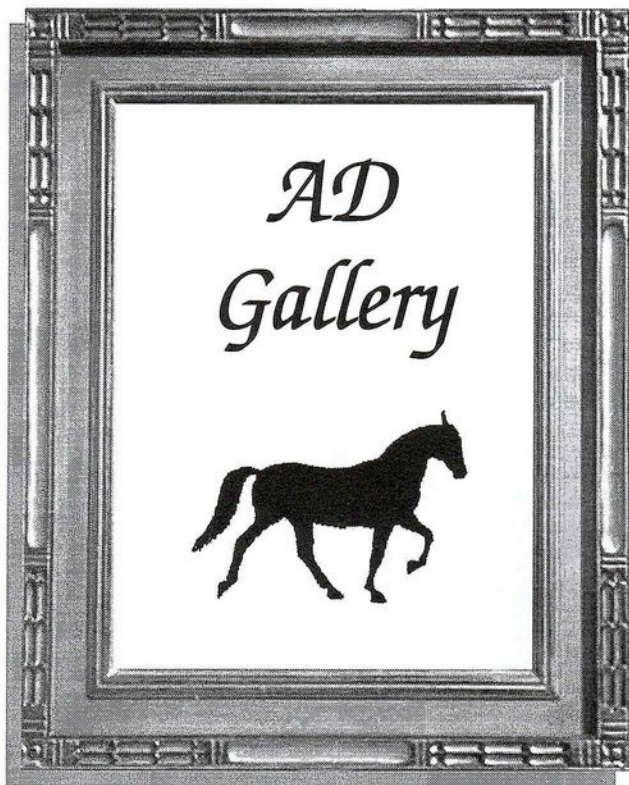
TIMING: Four precisely even hoof beats per stride (square four beat) with a distinct pause between each hoof beat. pock, pock, pock, pock

WEIGHT SUPPORT: The horse is supported by two or three legs at all times during the stride. When only two legs support, it is always one foreleg and one hind leg. The support pattern is 3,2,3,2,3,2,3.


BALANCE/COUNTERBALANCE: The head and neck move in a vertical nod which flows out of the shoulders. The head is down when both hind legs and one foreleg are fully supporting weight. The head is up when both forelegs and one hind leg are fully supporting weight. The horse nods "yes" twice per stride. The nod moves up and down the center line of the body, but variations in conformation and/or timing may create an 'A' frame nod in which the head nods down to the left when the left foreleg is supporting weight, up to the center, down to the right when the right foreleg is supporting weight and up to the center. The head nod coordinates with the support pattern of the legs thus: 3 (head down), 2, 3 (head up), 2, 3, (head down), 2, 3 (head up).

WEIGHT TRANSFER: The horse steps from hoof to hoof so that each hoof is flat on the ground and fully supporting weight before the next hoof in sequence touches the ground and remains flat on the ground until the next hoof is also flat on the ground. This may be referred to as a flat-footed, walking or marching transfer.

Next issue: Allanna gives her definition of the *running walk*.




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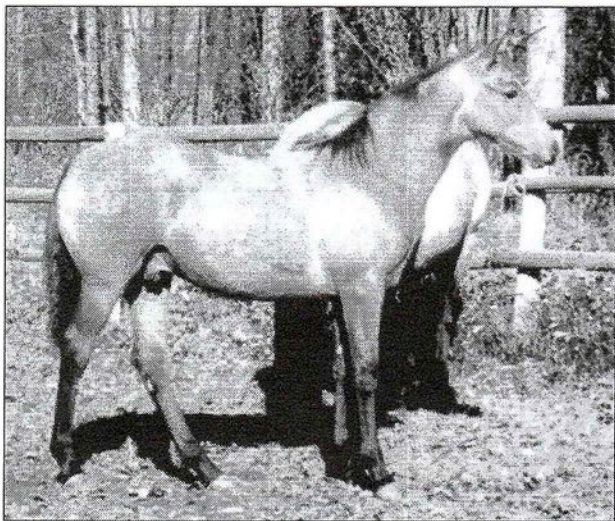
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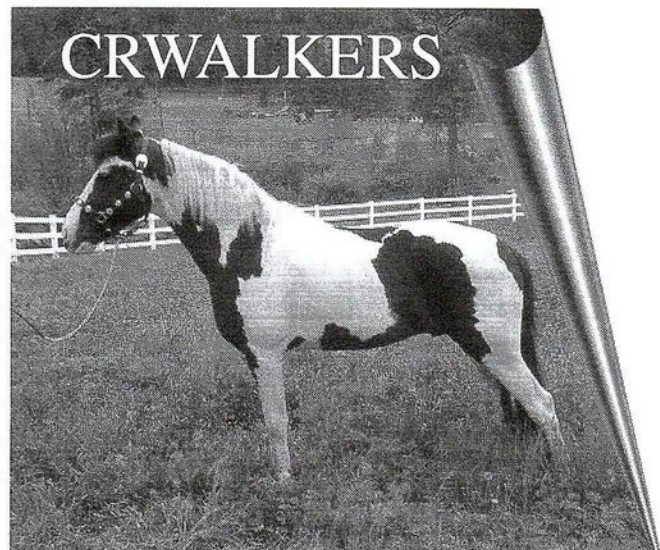
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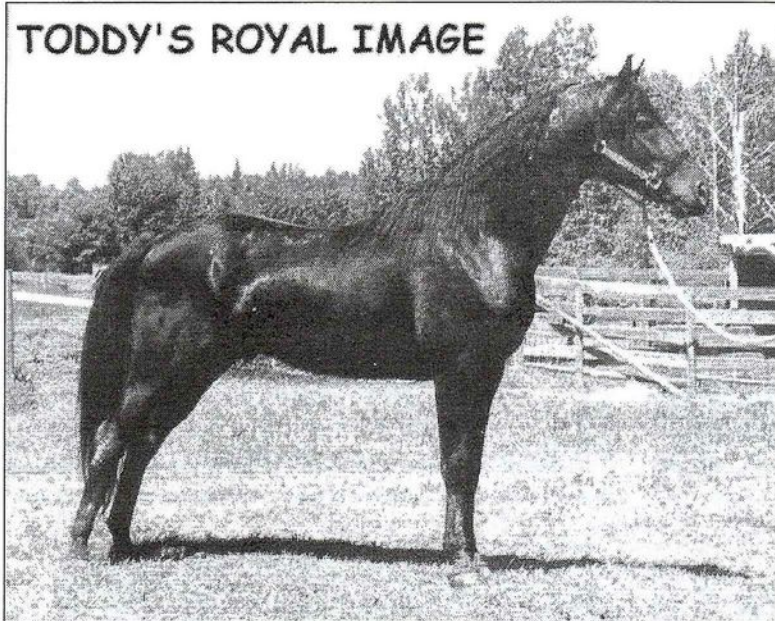
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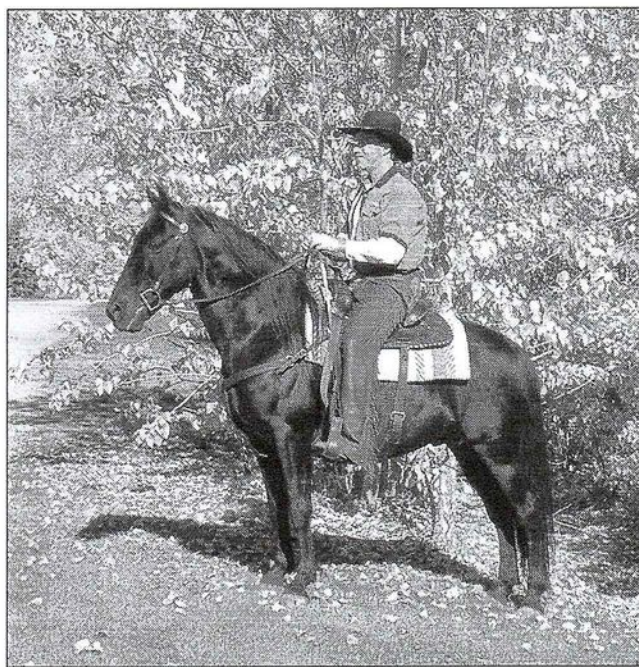


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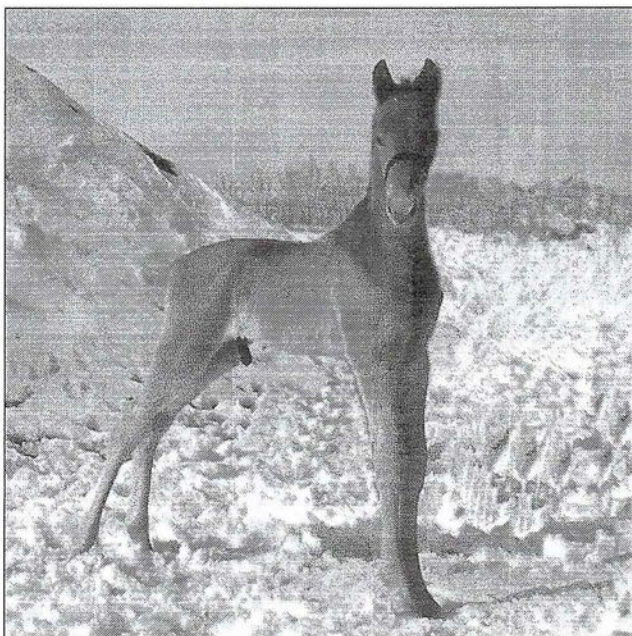
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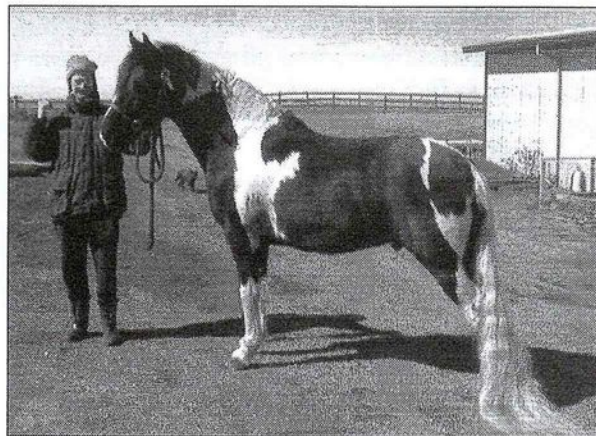
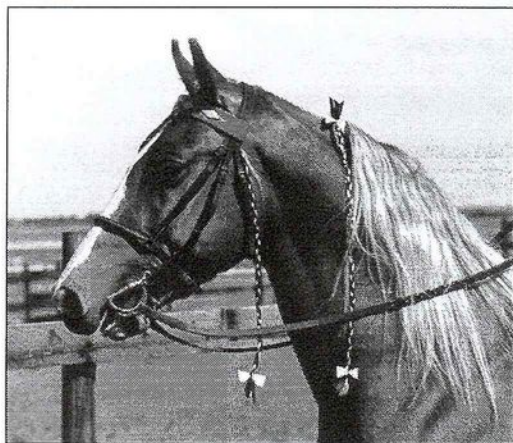
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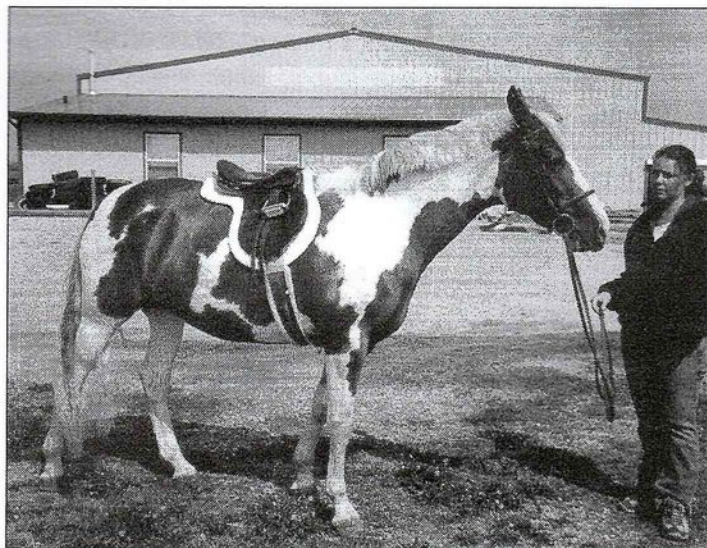
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Above: VISION
as a 2 year old



Left: BOOGIE
as a 3 year old

Below:
GENERATES
CASH
as a 2 year old



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SOLD THE FARM - MUST SELL SOME HORSES! 10 year old black mare, Canadian registered. US registered pinto mare and chestnut mare, both born Oct. 2000. US registered black gelding. From \$800.00. Two unregistered 3 year olds, pinto gelding, chestnut mare. 250-379-2635 VERNON, BC j/a

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DOLL'S TENNESSEE WALKERS -11 registered Walkers, 2 to 9 years old. All are gentle, friendly horses, with current sleeping sickness & tetanus shots, regular deworming, and hoof trimming. Various levels of training from halter broke to well trained for saddle & cart. Click on list & photos at www.walkinghorsenews.ca Keith at 204-725-3740 DOUGLAS, MB

WANTED: RUN WALKER, 15 to 15:2 hh. Preferably colored up with socks and blaze. Must be sound and *NO Buck*. Please call Patty, PEERS, AB at 780-693-3920

HORSES FOR SALE

WANTED: GOOD HOME for 9-year-old black TWH mare, 15: 1 hh. By Shadow's Jack Diamond out of Summer Solstice. Double registered Canadian & US. Ridden down trails, in the mountains and in shows. Easy to catch, load, and shoe. Not for beginners. \$2700.00 obo. PONOKA, AB 1-403-638-4260

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CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS

CENTRAL ALBERTA TENNESSEE WALKERS - AWAH
Norm Levangie, Box 58. Mirror, AB T0B 3C0 1-403- 788-2046

EASY RIDERS CLUB OF CALGARY (AWHA) Jude Churchill
403 803-7767 Email judith@cdisolutions.ca

WILD ROSE CLUB - EDMONTON AREA (AWHA) Lorrie
Black E-mail walkers1@airsurfer.ca (780) 929-2151

UPCOMING EVENTS

FESTIVAL OF THE GAITS is June 24 this year. It is potluck again with the club providing the chili. Start time will probably be 10:00 a.m. Contact Levangies 1-403- 788-2046

KNEEHILLS SHOW, Wet Creek Stables, Balzac, AB
June 24 & 25. Contact Mimi Busk-Downey (403) 546-4331

CALGARY STAMPEDE TWH breed display & demonstrations for ten days, July 7-16/06. To volunteer, contact Kristin at KHack@aol.com or Lara at lschuelke@shaw.ca or leave a message at (403)293-7578.

DAYS OF OLD July 22, 23 Cloudwalker Stables, Strathmore, AB Lorraine Adams twheeasriders@yahoo.ca.

AWHA Celebration at Balzac. Aug. 12th & 13th, 2006
Rhonda Lemmon (403) 782-3118; yonafeda@xplornet.com

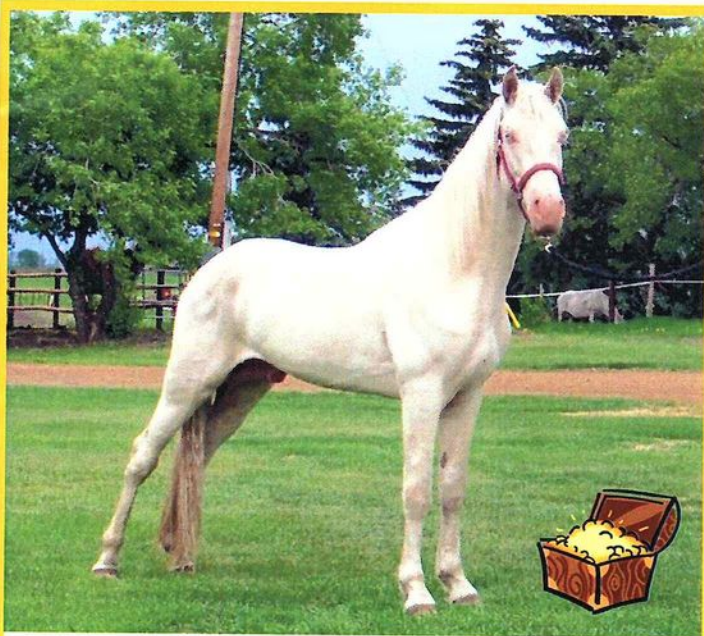
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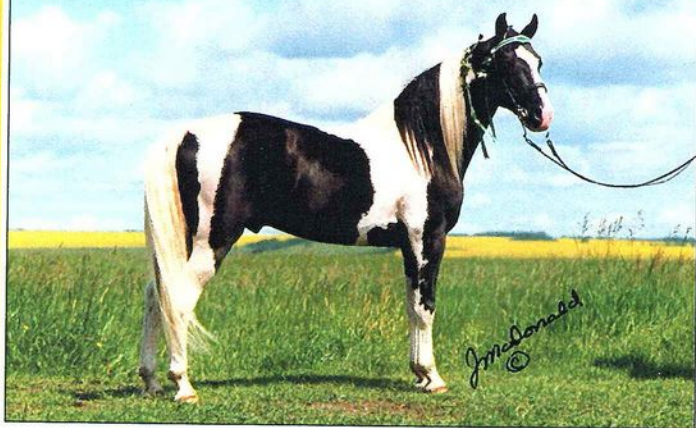
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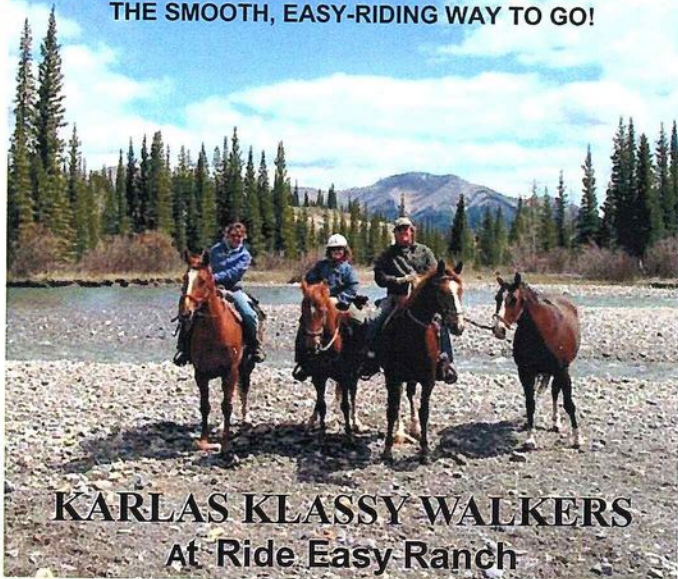
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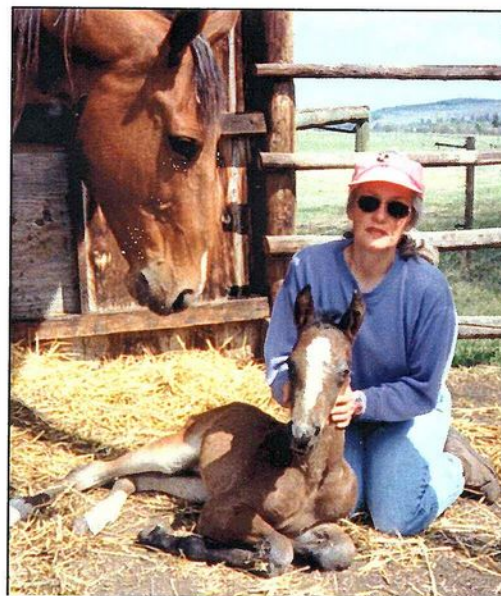
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