

OCTOBER 2006
VOLUME XXX No. 5



Walking Horse

NEWS



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

Laurindale Stables

Bringing The Best To Canada



THE POWER BROKER

Beautiful 15.1 hh son of Generator's Fame.
Huge driving backend, perfect conformation
& superb temperament.



GENUINE SILVER DOLLAR

A direct son of WC Generator's Silver Dollar.
A better moving light shod stallion would be hard to find.

Laurindale Stables has been breeding, showing, training and selling Tennessee Walking Horses for ten years. In that time our knowledge of the walker has grown and developed. I feel we have a good understanding of what constitutes a great walking horse. We have been very aggressive in culling any mares or stallions that do not meet our stringent breeding requirements. We breed for three main attributes: temperament, correct gait and pedigree. With that in mind we have developed a band of top broodmares and stand three World Grand Champion bred stallions. We breed each mare to the stallion we feel will best complement the wonderful qualities she already has.

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free to stop in. The coffee is always on !*

*Dale & Laurie Innocent,
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780-375-3742*

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Our website has Canada's largest selection of
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Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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□□□□

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On Our Cover

Alexandra Freeman crosses
the Panther River on her
TWH, Blaze, while riding in
the mountains in 2005.
Alexandra & Blaze were
also at the 4-H Clinic at
Olds, AB this summer and
she was the youngest rider of
the Spruce Meadows Demo
team in Sept. Way to go!

Photo by Karla Freeman

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for July/Aug issue
JULY 7

for Sept/Oct issue
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WALKING HORSE NEWS
BOX 7326,

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Dear Subscribers,

We'll have to hope for Indian Summer here now,
after a big dump of snow came down on us September 15
- 17. It's still lying on the fields and broken trees - quite a
shock after all the unseasonably *HOT* temperatures we
had been experiencing. Must be a wake-up call to have
things ship-shape before winter comes for good.

The Canadian Tennessee Walking Horse world is
humming, with the first CRTWH 'Gathering' set to take
place at Strathmore, AB, hosted and organized by Bill &
Deloris Salt and Keith Oberle. 'The Canadian' Program
For Excellence is officially launched! See page 15.

The US TWH world is also abuzz with the news
that 6 of the 9 World Grand Champion contenders at the
Celebration in Shelbyville, TN did not pass inspection.
See the report on page 11.

Just a reminder that if you'd like to advertise on the
covers of *WHN* for next year, I am putting out the call
with this issue. See the details on the back page, and let
me know as soon as you can. There are only the three
cover pages, so space is limited, and it will be first come,
first served. Also I will need your photos and text no later
than November 15, which (sadly) isn't that far ahead!

In case you think I *NEVER* get on a horse, here is
proof that it does happen - once in a blue moon! Here I
am on my 15 year old colt, Drummer, with Bill Roy, as



the one who
made it happen,
taking a bow on
Penny.

Thank-
you to all the
contributors and
advertisers.
There would be
no magazine
without you!

Marjorie

Walking Horse News

“DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA”
 A One Year (6 issue) Subscription costs \$18 in Canada. To the U.S.A it's \$36 CDN or \$32 in US Funds .

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IN THIS ISSUE – September / October, 2006

LIST OF CONTENTS

History & Heritage - Topaz Merry Go – Bill Howes.....	3
Alberta News.....	4,5,6,7
Business Cards.....	8
Manitoba News.....	9
British Columbia News.....	10, 11
No WGC in 2006.....	11
Ontario News	12
In My Opinion - Brenda Baker.....	13
The Canadian Walker - CRTWH Newsletter	14
Inaugural 'Gathering' for Program For Excellence.....	15
Backyard Walkin' - Colic! by Allanna Jackson.....	16
The Training Tree: Suppleness by R. Meredith.....	17 & 18
DVD Review by Franne Brandon: Canterng	19
What Do YOU Do With Your Walkers?.....	20
Bear Aware! by Fran Thomas.....	21
Foal Call.....	22
Do You Really Need a Gaited Trainer? by Anita Howe.....	23
Ad Gallery starts on page.....	24
Classified ads are on pages.....	27-28

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Big Rock Walkers TWH Auction.....	26
CR Walkers.....	24
Canadian Registry of the TWH.....	14, 15
Champion Rainbow Walkers.....	8
Chrystal Star Ranch Tennessee Walking Horses.....	22
Cloudwalker Stables.....	25
Cole Farms	8
Ethical Breeders Group.....	Inside back cover
Fabro's Tennessee Walking Horses.....	8
JRJ Walkers	10
Karla's Klassy Walkers.....	Back cover
Keith Anderson - Gelding for Sale.....	26
Larson's Hi Plains Walkers.....	8
Laurindale Stables.....	Inside front cover
McDonald Farms.....	Back cover
Northfork Farm.....	8
Part Walking Horse Registry.....	8
Peebles Ranch - Stallion for Sale.....	26
Pride's Noble Walkers.....	24
Pringle Farms.....	Inside back cover
Skyline Ranch.....	Back cover
Triangle B Tennessee Walkers.....	Back cover
Trinders Tennessee Walking Horses.....	8
V4 Stables.....	8
Westridge Farms.....	Inside back cover
Winding Creek Ranch.....	Inside back cover



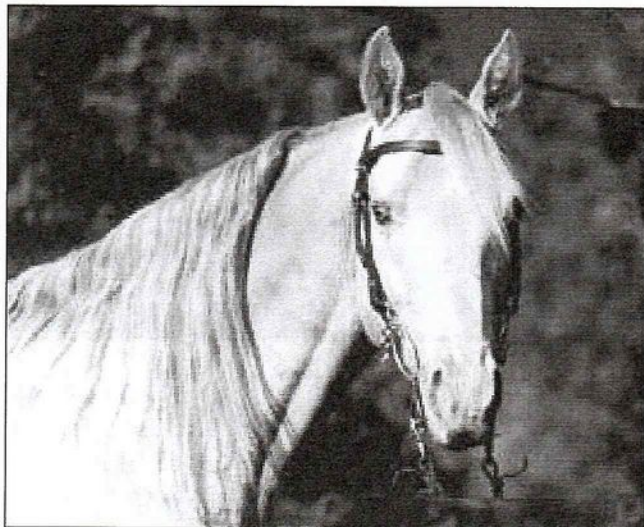
Thank you for advertising in Walking Horse News



HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT 2000

“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

RUN WALKING ON WITH TOPAZ MERRY GO by Bill Howes



On June 16, 1993, near Wildwood Alberta, a foal was born on the farm of Dr. David Schindler and Dr. Suzanne Bayley. The dam was Chiffon's Amber Dream, an amber? champagne TWH, and the sire was McLaren's Robert, a buckskin TWH. This colt, although he was perfectly made, was quite an unusual color. His coat was golden, but his mane and tail were a mix of white, gold and black. His skin was pink and his eyes were blue at birth but slowly became a golden amber, or topaz by the time he was a long yearling.

Bill Howes of Ardrossan, AB, was interested in a 'horse of a different color'. He liked what he saw when he first met the odd colored colt, and bought him on the spot. Weaning and halter breaking occurred the same frosty January day that Bill brought the colt home.

At the time Alberta Agriculture held a Horse Improvement Show for Alberta bred horses in Red Deer each September. Each breed that participated had classes including Yearling Halter, Two Year Old Halter, and Performance Classes for 3 to 5 year olds, in this two day event. All the classes were assessed by three judges, one of whom was a veterinarian.

Bill traveled with his yearling, Topaz Merry Go, to compete in the Yearling TWH class and

placed on top of 21 other entries! Returning the following year he once again came home with the top score over a smaller class of 7 or 8 two year olds! The Horse Improvement Program also awarded Topaz Merry Go the distinction of a SUPREME classification.

Topaz went for some training in BC and stood at stud at various AB farms, including Laurindale Stables at Rosalind and Shady Lane Stables of Ardrossan.

Meanwhile Winston and Donna Curtis of Winfield, AB were bitten by the 'champagne bug'. They already owned Cee Dee Canadian Topaz, an ivory champagne TWH son of Topaz, and liked the excitement of the unusual coloring that he was siring on some of their TWH mares.

In 1999, Winston & Donna Curtis and Bill came to an agreement to have Topaz pasture breed their 16 registered TWH mares and some others. Bill had decided this was the best opportunity to show Topaz's potential as a stallion worthy of some recognition in the future of the Tennessee Walking Horse breed in Canada and at the same time to add a little color. That first breeding season, after some hasty "come-uppence" by some 20 pasture mares, Topaz showed his utter happiness at being there by settling 19 of the 20. Nine foals from that first foal crop proved to be champagnes! Winston & Donna sold the offspring of Topaz and their other stallions through their annual production sales. Their marketing efforts have shown success in placing Topaz's thirty-five known offspring all across Canada as far away as Nova Scotia.

This year Topaz moved east to stand at stud near Regina, Saskatchewan.

As the interest in champagne horses grows we can find many examples of TWH horses showing their gaited abilities with the added feature of unique colors.

For further info on Champagnes
see www.champagnehorses.net/index.html
or www.chboa.com.

NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

ALBERTA NEWS

I had a phone call from JOAN PENNER, EVANSBURG, the other evening. She is now the owner of Santarra, the three year old buckskin filly by Dixie's Hot Chocolate out of Golden Dream's Delight. Joan has also purchased the palomino mare, Gold Star's Secret (Goldstar's Keyla x Mack's May Baby) from Marianne Wray of Caroline.

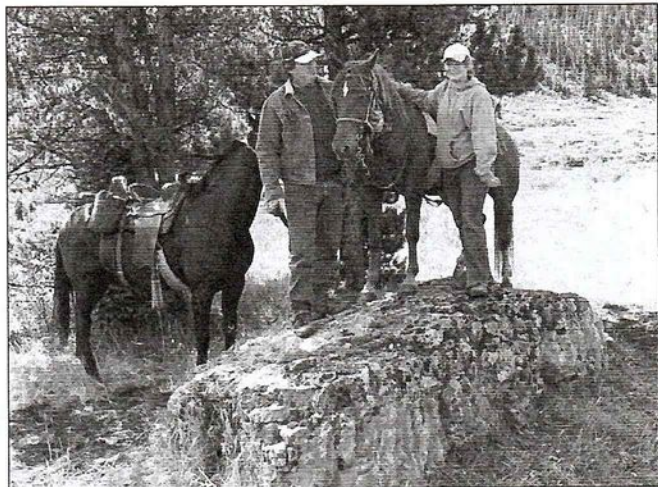
BRENDA BAKER writes, "We've sold Jester's Snappy Lil (26 years young) to Lisa and Lena Ebl. The girls were looking for a horse to share and old Snappy was looking for a home with experienced horse people who could appreciate her talents! Their mom, Sonia, got some great pix of them." (*Below*)

"Becky Secord, one of our new neighbors, has purchased Hot Rod, our beautiful 6 year old chestnut gelding. Becky is a very experienced rider who knew what she wanted - and it was Hot Rod!"

"We managed to get a decent hay crop once again. It couldn't be perfect, of course. No hay crop seems to come off in the foothills without a couple of nuisance showers on it."

"Rick Bates will once again be coming in September to start my 3 year olds. He did a great job on the young mares last year so I invited him back. My time is divided between just two riding horses at the moment. They are ready for someone else to take over as they are ready to use in the mountains. One of them, Trinkette, goes through water like a black Lab and loads herself in the trailer much like a dog will hop into the back of a truck. Hmmm, maybe I should think about keeping that one!"

Sonia Ebl writes, "As you can tell the girls had a blast and so did we as parents, watching them riding their first horse, Snappy."



From KARLA FREEMAN, RIDE EASY RANCH, BENTLEY, "We are just back from the Ram River area. *Above*, Alexandra and Blaze and Pat are up on the big rock on the way down the Canary trail. We camped at the junction where the Canary and Hummingbird Creeks meet. It was great riding. I took Karlas Special Knight, aka Ken, the one I had down at the BLESS clinic- the big black 16.1 hh and a little bit. Well, it was his first time, and he did great. Then the next day, we were just going to go a little way up the creek, so Patrick Jr. decided to come along. He had to jump on behind me, to get across the river. (It was Patrick Jr.'s first time out too, due to allergies.) Then somehow we just kept going... We ended up going up the trail for about 35 minutes - doubling on Ken. Ken had been introduced to saddlebags the day before, so today it was saddle bags *and* an extra person. Well, he sure got extra oats when we got back! Anyway, we had a fabulous couple of rides, and it just makes me want more!"

CAROL HALL, WESTRIDGE FARMS, CALGARY, writes, "I will pop a cheque for a 2 year subscription in the mail to you today. Thanks again for the reminder. Hope your summer is going well. My niece Ellie is off in Germany riding horses for the month of July. I leave with my children mid August to go to the World Equestrian Games in Aachen. We have not been doing a lot of riding, but still managing a few competitive trail rides."

From LAURIE REID, EDSON, "Our filly by Darkie's Last Chance, now a yearling, is doing great. We called her 'Tippy' because her ears tipped in when she was born."

From CHARIS COOPER, TURNER VALLEY, "It's been another wet year here, with lots of mud and the grass is as high as the horses' shoulders in lots of places. The second hay field is still too wet to cut. I've been able to ride at home most days, and have been to the mountains a few times."

LISA LAMBERT, PRIDES NOBLE WALKERS, PERRYVALE, writes, "Well, it certainly has been an interesting, busy year for us. First I had a young mare named Faith bow her tendon. She is just now starting to walk without favoring it much, and this wasn't even healed when our baby Ivory was kicked by a big black mare we have. That caused her to get a cyst the size of a watermelon on her side and under that was a hematoma. Again, almost two months later, she is still healing though her 'watermelon' has shrunk amazingly so you now have to be close to her to see it. Now I am dealing with a mare with heaves. She doesn't cough during the day but I hear her at night. I didn't notice for some time due to her lack of coughing. I thought her heavy breathing was from the tremendous heat we had. So now she is on medication twice a day, and getting special feed three times a day due to the amount of weight she lost."

"Though it's not all bad luck - with me bad luck just comes with the good luck! I sold 5 of my horses to Bud Massy, Fort Saskatchewan and therefore I would love to have you send him a complimentary copy.

"I have just received my August *WHN* issue and have only read the first few pages. Wow is what I have to say! I love the search and rescue articles; those are amazing. And the Foal Call - Wow-wee! Some real nice foals this year."

"Unfortunately with all the injuries and all the babies (which includes kittens, puppies and horses) I have been so busy I've not had time to go for a ride. I do hope to visit Fort Assiniboine again this fall, though I'd love to go earlier than October this year."

"We have Johnny and Spirit in training at Calta Stables and we are really pleased with how nicely the horses are coming and the training they are receiving. Hilton is amazing with the updates, and the girls are awesome with the horses, very gentle. I am very happy this year with the training."

"Our newest stallion prospect, Tango, just amazes me with his way of going; this is one colt to watch for! As well we have bought some new horses. One of them is a beautiful black stallion named The Royal Dumas, a direct son of I'm Dumas Walker, out

of a direct daughter of Prides Royal Master. His dam is also a proven show mare winning several blues for her owner. We are hoping this fine fella is here in time to show in halter classes."

"I also purchased for myself a blue roan mare who is a granddaughter of Sun's Delight D. She also has several other big names on her papers; a real nice lil find for me. She won't be shown but will be my trail mount. A real beauty she is."

"I have also been busy making my rope halters and now lead ropes. They are very popular on the other side of the border, especially with the endurance folks. I have sold so many down there, and currently have a small order of 10 to do and then she wants 20 leads, so the order in total is not so small."

"Well I am going to read the *WHN* some more. I was just so thrilled with what I read so far, I had to sit and type. You may need to start a column named LISA'S EXPERIENCES! I have dealt with so much these past two years, things I've never had to even think of before. They range from my filly being hit in the eye with a tree branch and vet saying she felt we would have to have it amputated (filly has perfect sight now) to puncture wounds to this year's problems... but I wouldn't trade it for anything. I love my life just how it is!"

"I'd like to thank Hugh Ashwell for his kind words. I still cry for my filly. I never got into breeding for the money. That's just silly. I got into it because I love horses. I have 14 now and my husband asked me last year, "How many horses do you want? Are we done buying now?" I'm thinking to myself, "Are you crazy? I'm not done. I still want a spotted, a buckskin, and a blue roan." Ha ha, I got my blue roan, but I'm not ready to have a new buckskin yet; my heart is still weak from losing my Shyanne; and the spotted mare - well, she will come. When I helped Bud buy some horses he brought up a spotted mare. She is a bay by Paint the Town, and you can't get any more foundation than that in a breeding age horse, so perhaps one day I will get a spotted horse out of her and by Dumas, our new black stallion."

"I had to laugh when I read Joyce Patterson mention that Laddie's Monte Ray passed on his hate for needles to his kids. I tell you, it went well beyond his kids! I had Blazin Socks, a great granddaughter, who hated them and I still have her first foal and *she* hates them just as much. They were both hard to worm also. But guess of all the bad traits, I will take this one!"

Oh my! It's 2:17 am and I've not even finished reading the *WHN*. Seems not so many Walkers for sale right now. I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer."

ALBERTA HORSE OWNERS - Important information for traveling within Alberta, and crossing provincial and national borders:

There are three types of transportation documents. All horses, branded or not, which are moved for any reason (recreation, show, sale, and slaughter) must be identified on one of these forms. In summary they are:

MANIFEST – filled out and signed by the owner, for every individual trip or same-day round-trip, one for each owner of the horses in the load. Manifests must be completed, dated and signed – an open manifest is unacceptable and may incur a large fine. Books of manifests are available free of charge from your local Livestock Inspector.

TRANSPORTATION PERMIT ('A' FORM) – filled out by an Alberta Livestock Inspector for a single or group of animals, to be transported to one specified destination, (i.e. rodeo, show, or sale), valid for 4 days.

HORSE PERMIT – filled out by an Alberta Livestock Inspector and valid for multiple trips to December 31 of the current year. (Replaces manifests and can be used repeatedly throughout the year).

Horses traveling within Alberta:

- Require a manifest, Horse Permit, or 'A' Form for every trip, unless going directly to or from the veterinarian.

Horses crossing provincial borders:

- Require a Horse Permit or 'A' Form, and must be inspected by an Alberta Livestock Inspector.
- Alberta and BC have a reciprocal agreement, allowing for example - traveling to a show or rodeo, and returning within a few days – the home province Horse Permit or 'A' Form is all that is required.
- If the trip includes multiple destinations in the other province, then an inspection in that province is also required.

Horses crossing into the US:

- Require a Horse Permit or 'A' Form, and must be inspected by an Alberta Livestock Inspector.
- Require mandatory blood tests and a veterinary inspection (see contact information for current regulations).
- Prior to the trip, contact the Livestock Inspection Service in every state you plan to enter or cross – each state has its own regulations and restrictions – and in some cases, you will not be allowed to go through some states.
- Prior to leaving Canada, contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for re-entry requirements and restrictions.

For all horses being transported:

In addition to carrying the manifest, Horse Permit, or 'A' Form, the transporter must carry proof of ownership. If a horse is branded with a brand that horse owner has registered in his name, this is considered proof of ownership. If the horses have no brand, or a brand not owned by the horse owner, then a bill of sale or registration papers in the name of the current owner are acceptable proof of ownership, and must accompany the horses.

There are substantial fines for not following the regulations, for instance:

- incomplete manifest, or false information, or incorrect description, up to \$1000.00 fine
- an altered manifest, without consent of the owner, up to \$1000.00 fine
- buying, selling or shipping in a name other than the owner, up to \$1000.00
- transporting without inspection where inspection is required, up to \$5000.00

For further information, please contact:

Livestock Identification Services **403-509-2088** website: <http://www.lis-alberta.com>
Calgary, AB

OII Ownership Identification Inc. **250-314-9686** website: <http://www.ownership-id.com>
Kamloops, BC

Inspection and Regulatory Management Branch, Saskatchewan Agriculture & Food
306-784-4264 website: <http://www.agr.gov.sk.ca>

CFIA **(403) 292-5828** website: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/toc/exporte.shtml>

ALBERTA NEWS

From MADELEINE CHAPMAN, STETTLER, "Hope all is well with you. We're fine and seem to be as busy as ever. We still have our cattle and a down-sized herd of horses. Jack still rides when we move them, which is pretty good at 86."

"Enclosed is a cheque for our subscription renewal, and also a new subscription for Gail & Walter Loov of Rimbey. They are new Walker owners as they have just purchased three registered horses from us: a two year old, a three year old and a five year old."

CINDY TROTTIER, HYTHE, writes, "Please renew my subscription and my ad is coming, with pictures. Just need some help putting it together... I've just spent three weeks in BC with family being sick, and am back now, trying to get caught up. And I thought my list was long when I left!"

From ERNIE JENSEN & SHIRLEY KOSKI, LIMBERLOST RANCH, TOMAHAWK, "We are enclosing a photo of our latest colt. (See Foal Call). He is out of Zepher's Canadian Beauty by Bold Victory. We were in BC on holidays when he was born July 4/06, and our good friend Hilda was minding the ranch."

"While we were in BC Ernie had a severe heart attack (one block from the hospital). He is doing very well due to the excellent care in Quesnel and Vancouver."

"Our 63 acres of alfalfa produced very well this year, so we have plenty of feed for our 14 horses. We even sold some hay!"

"We bought Beauty back from Austin Penner two years ago. She was bred to Darkie's Last Chance, so we now have the nicest two year old filly we've ever seen. (Eat your heart out, Austin!) We named her Tomahawk Princess. She has a wonderful temperament and is truly a 'people horse'. If we ever decide which horses to keep and which to sell, we'll be sending in an ad to your wonderful magazine. Keep up the good work!"

PAT KUPER, SHERWOOD PARK, writes "Please send a year's subscription to *WHN* to Jody and Rory McLean of Valleyview, AB. My mare and foal have found a wonderful home!"

From MARK STEENBERGEN, GRANDE CACHE, "Could you please set me up with a *WHN* subscription? It's been a few years! In the last couple of days, searching for a horse for a friend, I've managed to talk to a lot of old acquaintances. Quite nice! Thanks a bunch."

From ROLANDA EADIE, RIMBEY, "Please send a subscription to Jane Griffin of Millarville with our compliments. She has purchased Spirit, a three year old buckskin filly from us. Best wishes, Jane!"

MURRAY McCARGAR, CALGARY, writes, "Enclosed is a cheque for two years of subscription to *WHN*. You've done a marvellous job over the past 29? Years. I was browsing through some of the 'old' copies from the mid eighties that are pages of faded blue ink. They sure brought back some fond memories!"

"An update: I officially retired January 1, 2003. We bought a place in the Crowsnest pass. I brought the horses down in 2004 and have spent three wonderful summers of trail-riding in the mountains. My old horse Ranger still likes getting all shone up for parades. On July 1 we captured first in the Crowsnest Pass parade. I had several requests to put him in the Rum Runner Days Parade this past weekend (July 15). Once again he got to show off, looking like a stallion, arching his neck and swishing his tail for the 'ladies'."

"My young horse, the black and white tobiano that we raised, is now six. Last year, while riding him alone in the mountains, we had an encounter with a grizzly. We got through that okay. About two days later we had an old tom cougar chase a doe and her fawn right in front of us, and a couple of days after that we had a young cougar cross the trail quite close to us. However, he has lived with bears, cougar, moose, deer, elk, wild turkeys and various other wildlife since I moved him down to the CNP, so he has become quite accustomed to life in the mountains."

"Once again, keep up the good work with *WHN*; it is a real pleasure to read all the news and articles about our favorite subject."

Best wishes for a continuing good recovery to GAR BEACOM of CALGARY. Gar is home now after bypass surgery, and doing very well, from all reports. Best wishes from all the Walking Horse folks, Gar!

KEITH OBERLE, SKYLINE WALKERS, COCHRANE, writes, "When you have a few minutes, look up www.naturalwalkinghorses.eu. Several of my friends are founding members. They just had the European championships (August), and this organization grew out of contacts made there. Didn't take long to get the website going!"

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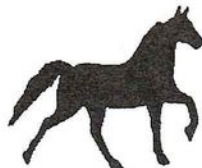
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MANITOBA NEWS

From MARSHA TRINDER, T W RANCH, RUSSELL, "Just thought I'd give you an update as to activities on T W Ranch this summer. We've had a busy year as usual with all the routine things to be done, like silaging, haying, baling straw at the neighbor's, actually combining a few acres of oats right here at home for the horses, calving out a couple hundred cows, foaling out our mare herd, and of course, training and riding a variety of horses."

"Foaling went very well and this year's crop is one of the biggest (in size) ever, I think. Our palomino stallion, Kodiak's Klondike CF passed on those creme genes to several of his babies so we have two buckskins and five palomino foals this year. I'm afraid we're not going to be building our palomino dynasty on them though, as there's only one filly in the whole bunch!"



"Above is a picture of Trinder's Turbo (1 day old) with his mom, Trinder's Dazzle. His dad is Kodiak's Klondike CF."

"Our number of good solid riding horses has increased quite a bit this year, with lots of good miles and training being put on them. We also participated in a wagon ride that went through this area in July. We rode with them for four days at the beginning of the ride and then rode the last day of the ride, also riding in the Swan River Rodeo parade with the wagon train. We used the opportunity to take a greener horse every day with two of our solid horses, and expose them to the sights and sounds of the ride. It was a great experience. Susan Flynn from Nelson, B.C. visited here in July for a week and took in the first two days of the ride with us. We really enjoyed her company and she and Ryley (a 7 year old TWH gelding) seemed to get along very well."



Susan Flynn from Nelson, B.C., above, with Ryley, a 7 year old TWH gelding, looking over the hay and canola crops.

"I'm quite pleased that the local 4-H Horse Club has asked us to put on a demonstration of the Parelli games for their kids. We're the only ones in this area involved in PNH and this is a great thing to be able to influence some of the youth."

"Our riding horses available for sale are now going to start to include mares. We have made a decision to retire sound mares from our breeding herd probably when they are 10 years old. We have an 11 year old mare that I am riding now that was a good riding horse as a young mare and now she's been retired she's proving to be a good reliable mount. She's spent the past several years raising babies so she seems to know how to take care of you! We have three more this year that we have retired and as soon as their babies are weaned we shall be getting them back into the riding program."

"Although I love autumn, I hate the fact that it means winter is coming in behind it. However, it shall give me a chance to work on those things that keep getting pushed to the back burner, like the website, newsletters I would like to do, account books, reading horsy material, and of course just some plain ol' rest! Hoping everyone has a wonderful fall."

DARLENE MOORE, BOISSEVAIN, writes, "Not too much news this time. Manitoba continues to be hot and dry. My cattle and horses are fine. I have enclosed a cheque for a one year subscription to the *Walking Horse News*, plus a classified ad for my BIG 5 year old mare!"

J.R. Smylie, Onoway, AB has sent a gift sub to KATIE STANLEY, BOGGY CREEK. MB. Welcome to *WHN*, Katie! Thanks, John.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

From DENNIS & FRANCES EIKANGER, "Here is our change of address information. We are moving from Abbotsford to BRIDESVILLE, BC, as of August 25. We enjoy your friendly and informative magazine very much!"

SHEILA COBURN, PRINCE GEORGE, writes, "We've been keeping busy. Sun (Tsuniah's Sunny Delight) had 3 mares to breed this year. Lea Berge's Ginger (Barker's Greater Glory DFS) was one. She produced a beautiful stud colt two years ago, Sunny's Greatest Glory, and we hope to get another just as good."

"He's *so* good that when Don and Jo-Anne McDonald went to visit Lea they ended up buying him! That makes four stallions of their own in their stable. We were going up to Dawson for a visit, so said we'd haul him up at the same time. He stayed here for three days, and we wanted to keep him, he's so beautiful, and with a quiet and easy to handle disposition. Lea said when she was ground working him he did nothing but walk - no trot, no pace, wonderful. He had never been hauled a long distance before, only from Lea's to here. I always wonder if they'll load the second time as now they know about the rattley thing we want them to get into. But he loaded like a pro. We have a feed bag, bright blue for hay, which he'd never seen before, but he never gave it a second look, ate quietly and when we stopped for lunch I reloaded the bag and he stood and munched hay from my hand as I reloaded it. He arrived at McDonalds, dry and content. I think he'll make a great addition to their already great line-up of stallions. As usual we had a wonderful visit at Don and Jo-Anne's, lots of laughs and horse talk."

"Roberta Brebner also brought two mares, Ultra and Jesse, for breeding. All are now home and hope they also produce as good a foal as Ginger did."

"Our weather had been *hot hot* or raining, which makes it hard to get any riding in as the heat makes me wilt and I melt in the rain. Sure hope it settles down. Would love to send some of this rain up Dawson Creek way as they are *soooo* dry. We needed it too but have to have something to complain about."

PAT EWART, VALEMOUNT, writes, "Hi, just wanted to say how much I enjoy the *Walking Horse News*. It's the highlight of my day when I get it. Keep up the great work."

"I did get my gelding - he's 16 hands, a little taller than I'd planned - but very nice *and so smooth*... It's true what they say - I'll never go back."



From JO-ANNE McDONALD, McDONALD FARMS, POUCE COUPE, "Just a note to let you know that we have sold the four year old black gelding "Shaker's Ebony" (*above*) to Kelly Thompson, Dawson Creek, B.C. He is out of Sage King's Black Beauty by Canadian Shaker. Please send Kelly a subscription with our compliments. She is a first time Walker owner, although she had a half Walker previously. She is so enthused! She keeps saying, "He is perfect"! I am sure they will get along famously and she will do just fine with this beautiful horse. Congratulations, Kelly, and we wish you the best."

From GENEVIEVE AMY, PORT COQUITLAM, "I just started riding gaited horses in March of this year, returning to riding after a *loong* absence. I am totally in love with Walking Horses, and the people who ride them are pretty nice too. So, please sign me up for a subscription, starting with the June, 2006 issue. After all, I'm in it!"

BILL ROY, TWH trainer from ENDERBY, made a swing through Alberta recently. He took part in the Spruce Meadows Breed Demos riding Leslie Hunchuk's beautiful big bay gelding, Trinity.

JRJ Walkers

Jana & Roger Jacobsen, Cranbrook, B.C.
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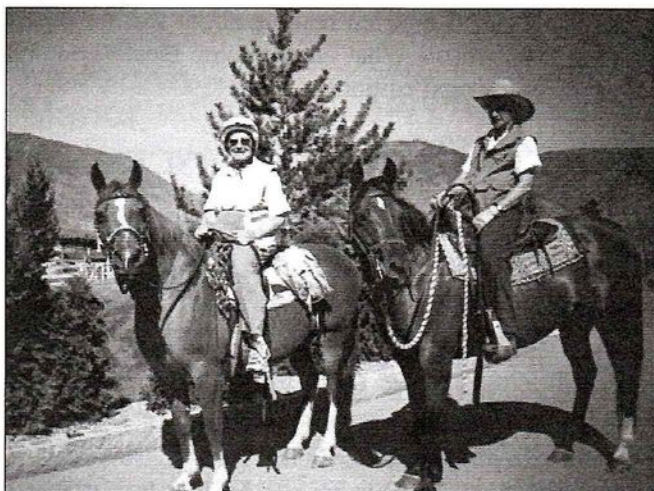
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April's Artic Storm

True Black, 16 hh, 1997 Stallion, U.S. & Canadian Registered.
We have solid colours plus different pinto patterns.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY,



Joyce!

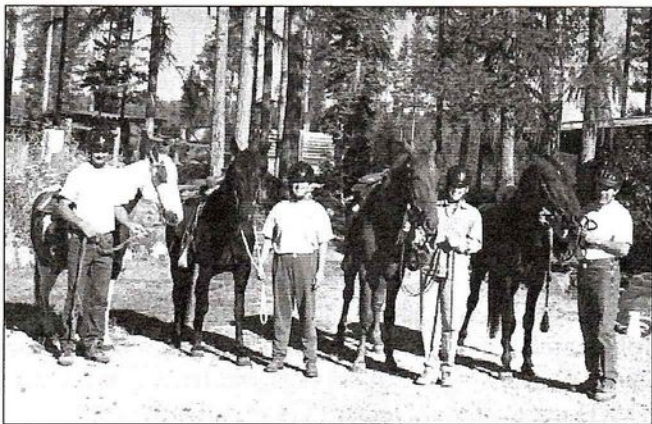
From JOYCE PATTERSON, CAWSTON, "Above is a snap of my birthday ride. That's all I wanted for my birthday on June 24. Easy to please, don't you think?!"

(Left to right: Joyce on Sierra, sorrel Paso mare, 17 years; Charlotte, Joyce's daughter, on Star, her 8 year old bay half TWH mare.)

"Tomorrow is September and it feels like fall already. All those pesky fall flies have been here early. All our humming birds left weeks ago. Even the geese pulled a Hank Snow a good three weeks early."

"Oh well, we've got all our hay in for the winter. I'm hoping to let two head go for the winter, the young one and the Paso. I don't ride much any more and it's just extra work."

"The wee garden produced well. I've had quite a lot of tomatoes, Swiss chard, etc. The one cucumber bush keeps me in fresh cukes, and the sunflowers we planted in the manure pile (to make it pretty) look lovely - 18 feet or more high!"



JANA JACOBSEN, JRJ WALKERS, CRANBROOK, writes, "I have attached a photo, *below left*, of Ken & Jamie Wright and Roger & I. In the photo from left to right are Roger and Ms. Funny, Jana and mare Storm's Ebony Miss, Jamie Wright with Chance's Red Sun and last but certainly not least is Ken Wright and Storm's Midnight Thunder. The only horse in the picture not bred by us is Ms Funny. They are all maturing so nicely I thought that I would show them off."

"Ken and Jamie have been very diligent in working with their young horses. They took them to Kananaskis for 5 days of camping and riding and they had a blast. Both horses were great ambassadors of the breed. They crossed water and stayed overnight in the standing stalls like they had been doing it all their lives. Thunder is 3 and Red is 4 but they both act like they are 15. It is always a thrill to see the horses that you have raised being enjoyed and most importantly used. Ms Funny and Storm's Ebony Miss just completed a full weekend of rounding up cattle in Creston. They sure seem to get the hang of putting their ears back and chasing the cows. They really seem to enjoy it."

"Thanks again for all the hard work. Happy trails!"

NO WORLD GRAND CHAMPION IN 2006

The culminating class of the 2006 Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration in Shelbyville, TN, the much sought after World Grand Championship, did not run as usual on the Saturday night of Sept. 2. Instead of crowning a World Grand Champion, show officials cancelled the class after all but three of the nine horses eligible to compete did not pass inspection.

However, the three horses that were cleared to show did not get the opportunity to do so. A crowd of upset fans prompted Celebration organizers not to continue with the class due to safety concerns.

U.S. Dept of Agriculture Veterinary Medical Officers (USDA VMOs) as well as Designated Qualified Persons (DQPs) were on hand during the Celebration to inspect the horses for possible instances of soring or use of banned substances. At the 2005 Celebration, swabs taken from entries were analyzed and over half of them tested positive for chemicals known to cause soring or numbing.

Soring has been illegal since 1970 when the US Congress passed the Horse Protection Act which outlaws all soring, including burns, cuts, chemicals and applications of caustic or blistering substances.

ONTARIO NEWS



LORRAINE SCHAAF, S&S RANCH, THUNDER BAY writes, "Congratulations to Brian and Joyce Lyytinen of Kaministiquia, Ont. Joyce bought Prizes' Spitten Image from me, a two-year-old bay stud colt out of Sun Kiss by Sask Kat's Springs Sirprize. *Above is a photo of Joyce & Image.*"

TRACY YOUNG AND DANE DIPASQUALE, PEMBROKE write, "It took us seven days to travel from Alberta to Ontario, with only a few minor problems along the way, most having to do with the horse trailer windows. Overall it was not a bad trip at all. The people who opened their homes/barns for us were wonderful, and we can't thank them enough: Sharon McFadden of Aberdeen, Saskatchewan; Leslie & Ian Wishert, Agassiz Farms, Portage La Prairie, Manitoba; The Dryden Saddle Club and Dryden and District Agricultural Society, Dryden Ontario, Daren & Lise Fellner, Tenkula Farm, Thunder Bay, Ontario; Teri Philips & Family, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario; Mike & Adele Brush, Brush's Equine Services, North Bay, Ontario; and Joe & Carol Van Massenhoven, Twin Wheels Bed and Breakfast, Killaloe, Ontario. Thank You all!"

From LEAH WIEBE, THUNDER BAY, "Hi there, I just wanted to add my 2 cents worth on the June cover also... I agree with Jean Rempel from Rocky Slopes Walkers in Winfield, Alberta. Seeing that picture of Laddie's Monte Ray was so cool as he is also my horse's great-grand sire. I enjoyed the history on him too. My horse also has Kary's Jeepers on his papers, as my horse's sire's sire was Kary's Jeepers. Wow! How confusing! The sire of my horse, now deceased due to Hurricane Katrina, was Nugget's Summer Sun, a beautiful palomino. My boy is also

palomino, but the picture of Laddie reminds me of him, with that striking blaze down his face! Thanks for the article. I enjoyed reading about the horseback rescue teams also. What an awesome idea! Looking forward to the next edition!"

NEWS from OUR U.S. SUBSCRIBERS

From GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MT, "We have 3 fillies this year: a black by GLL's Sun Chief and out of Goldust Golden Lace, a palomino Goldust Royal Trigger daughter; a cream sabino by GLL's Sun Chief and out of our palomino mare, Sundance's Marigold. She looks like she will darken to a chocolate palomino color; and a dark palomino by Goldust Royal Trigger and out of the chestnut mare, Owyhee Belle who goes back to Yellow Jacket. Linda Morgan of Volberg, MT got a palomino filly from Nite Storm's Lady Kate by Goldust Royal Trigger."

"Not much other news here except it is *so* hot and dry and lots of fires."

From ALLANNA JACKSON, LAKESIDE, AZ, "The *WHN* must have taken the scenic route this time. It finally landed yesterday, August 9. Enjoyed the articles about search and rescue. I always get sort of choked up and teary about that sort of thing, probably because I've been involved in emergency medicine. Or maybe it's the other way around. Anyway, to me search and rescue is one of the best and highest uses there could ever be for a TWH. That's the type of horse I've wanted and been trying to breed for 20+ years now."

FRANNE BRANDON, PETERSBURG, TN writes, "Tardy Slip has a Daddy! With a name, a pedigree, and an owner willing to sign papers to that effect. The son of the man who officially owned her before us called yesterday evening. After he introduced himself, he said, "Your filly's sire is Bionic Delight"."

"Now I knew that this farm had two stallions, one by Pride himself that the mare had raised foals by, named Bionic Man, and another by the Pushover. I didn't think this filly looked like a Pusher, moved like a Pusher, or acted like a Pusher."

"As it turned out, her sire, Bionic Delight, is a young son of Bionic Man, the Pride stallion, out of a Bum great-granddaughter that goes back on the bottom to the Jake Reese mare, Della Reese. Last year the son of the owner turned Bionic Delight out with several old mares and forgot the Stallion Report, so didn't send it in. So now, if all goes well, we have a nice little TWH mare after all, rather than a grade filly puzzle."

IN MY OPINION by Brenda L. Baker

IT'S HORSE I.D. - WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

Horse identification, livestock identification in general, has been practiced as long as man has owned livestock. Those owners whose livestock do not carry a brand or some other visible means of identification always run a risk of having an animal stolen. Once an easily identified animal is gone the task of finding it can be difficult. To find and to prove ownership of an unmarked animal can be complicated and sometimes even hopeless.

Although most horse owners understand the difficulty encountered in locating a missing unmarked horse, many are reluctant to hot or freeze brand their equines, as they consider brands to be offensive to look at. Having heard that microchips are not consistently scanned for at slaughter facilities, they do nothing to identify their animals.

Most registered horses born in Canada today are either blood typed or DNA profiled to confirm parentage before the registration certificate is released to the owner. Photos are required to assure that the correct color and markings are recorded; some breeds even record hair whorls and cowlicks. We, the breeders, agree with the necessity of these extra expenses. It adds credibility to our registries and to our breeding programs. Buyers can be confident that the horse they think they are buying IS the horse they are buying.

With the introduction of the Livestock Identification Project all breeders of registered horses have become acutely aware that horse identification will eventually become mandatory. Being recorded owners of registered horses we will have no choice but to comply with whatever becomes law.

I'm told that blood typing and DNA profiling take too much time to be practical for the type of ID that our government has in mind. Science can send a man to the moon every few years but it cannot accelerate these tests for the more practical use of confirming the identity of those registered horses already identified by DNA or blood typing. Theoretically, by the time we discover who the horse is and where it has been, it is too late. It may have picked up some horrible disease by then and its travels cannot be traced back far enough.

"Some horrible disease", for example, BSE, is a result of mankind's tinkering with nature: feeding animal by-products (normally eaten only by carnivorous animals), to herbivorous animals in order to get faster weight gain to get meat on the table faster and with less expense. This practice has backfired in the form of BSE. May I point out that BSE cases were

on the rise during times of extreme drought in western Canada? At that time I saw cattle on pasture come running from a hill a half mile away to CHASE the truck that delivered wheat straw, and ravenously eat that straw in the middle of July. The beef producers who normally wouldn't find it necessary to feed commercially processed feed had to keep their animals alive. Unfortunately the standards of safety for processed cattle feed were not as high as they should have been. Who sets and enforces the standards? What has been done to ensure that cattle feeds are no longer a threat to our beef industry in this manner? We all know who is taking the loss.

Our government is insisting that the livestock identification project is not "just another gun registry". So let's just consider the hated Gun Registry in Canada for a minute. It was designed to prevent gun-related crime and deaths. The people who were hunters or gun club members, being aware that they were on record as being gun owners, registered their guns. Because it was the law and because these people were law-abiding citizens, they complied. They agreed with the new safety regulations for the storage of their guns and made changes that were suggested. Grudgingly they also obeyed the new laws involved in the purchase and the transportation of guns. Certainly the new storage regulations have prevented some gun-related accidents. Unfortunately the gun users on the other side of the law have not concerned themselves with any of these changes; therefore gun related crime has not decreased. The gun registry failed, in part, because it targeted the wrong group of gun users. Likewise, livestock identification will fail if the standards for livestock feeds are not met. This applies to every aspect of the agricultural industry.

I am not opposed to the Livestock Identification Project. All of my horses are already registered with the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation with coloring, markings, blood typing and/or DNA. I also have a registered freeze brand for the left front shoulder of my horses. How much more identification do my horses need? Regardless of the fact that the horse ID project is primarily designed to support and ensure the safety of the meat horse aspect of the horse industry, breeders of pleasure horses like myself are going to be forced to comply with whatever regulations become law, as we are "on the list".

I would like to think that the Livestock Identification Project is only a small part of a well thought out, scientifically sound plan to ensure the safety and health of our livestock and ultimately our agricultural products in Canada. I'd like to know what the rest of the plan is before I am forced to comply with something that at first glance does indeed look and smell very much like another gun registry.



The Canadian Walker

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WALKERS TAKE PART IN 4-H JUDGING CLINIC

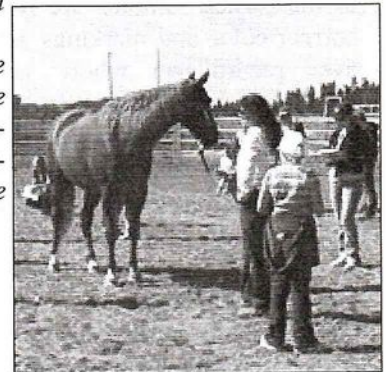
Lynda Hand, a TWH owner herself, contacted CRTWH about finding some volunteers to take Walkers to the 4-H Provincial Horse Classic competition in Olds on August 3rd. Karla Freeman & Keith Oberle stepped forward to help, and brought 5 horses between them. Karla's daughter, Alexandra, and Albert Heizing, along with Lynda, helped out with the riding and showing of the Walkers. There was a halter class of four horses for the 4-H members to judge, and a Western Pleasure class. Breed literature was available at the booth, which was identified by a CRTWH banner. A big 'Thank-you' to all who made this display of TWH possible.

Here is what Lynda wrote to Keith & Karla following the demo:

I wanted to thank you for taking the time to bring your horses to the 4-H Provincial Horse Classic competition in Olds on the 3rd of August. I also want to thank you for allowing me to present and handle your wonderful horses."

"Featuring a gaited breed is very new to the many 4-H members, leaders & volunteers in attendance and I have had many positive responses since. I commend you for having horses with such nice ground manners – an excellent representation of the breed. There may be additional opportunities if you are interested."

"Please pass onto Albert and Alexandra my thanks for their willingness to help show the horses. I hope they enjoyed the opportunity to educate another group of horse lovers about Walkers."



CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!

'The Canadian' Program For Excellence is up on the crtwh.ca website for you to see, and also is available in printed form from Dianne Little, 619 Lake Linnet Crescent S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3 for those without access to 'the web'.

Also on the website, we now have lists of CRTWH members by province who welcome visitors to come and meet their TWH horses. If you missed out on being included in this, contact Marjorie Lacy, Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5

Coming soon! A photo review of 'The Canadian' Futurity, covering the over 2000 entries during its twenty plus years!



DNA CERTIFICATES

If you have wondered why you have not received a DNA certificate from Maxxam for your newly registered foal, here is the answer. **You now get the DNA form from CLRC.** It will be sent to you automatically once the animal is registered, and should be carefully stored with the animal's registration papers.

CRTWH BANNERS AVAILABLE

We now have two banners available. CRTWH members who may need a banner for a breed demonstration or 'do' such as the 4-H Clinic above, or a display at a fair or show can contact us to have it sent out to them. One is in British Columbia with Maureen Hummel (who very generously donated it to CRTWH) and the other is at Cochrane, Alberta with Keith Oberle.

Letting people know that Walkers are alive and thriving right here in Canada is the challenge! The horses will sell themselves once people have a chance to meet them.

ANNOUNCING...

THE INAUGURAL 'GATHERING'
of Canadian Tennessee Walking Horse owners



who wish to join with other TWH owners
in an attempt to become the first claimants
of the Gold, Silver or Bronze Awards,
as recently announced by the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse.

Be a part of history! Have your horse evaluated at the **FIRST EVER GATHERING**
of the Program For Excellence! Be the first to *GO for the GOLD!*

WHAT: A gathering of interested TWH owners who wish to participate in the Program For Excellence.

WHEN: Saturday, October 21, 2006, 1:00 pm. (The deadline has been extended for this year.)
Plan on staying for supper for a social time. (Supper will be ordered in at cost).

WHERE: Cloudwalker Stables, Strathmore, Alberta

WHO: Any CRTWH member who wishes to have one or more Canadian registered TWH evaluated as part of the Program For Excellence

WHY: Have your TWH evaluated against the standards (both conformation and movement) set for the Program For Excellence. Have the awards received added to your horse's registration papers. Personal pride of achievement. More value if you decide to sell the successful horse.

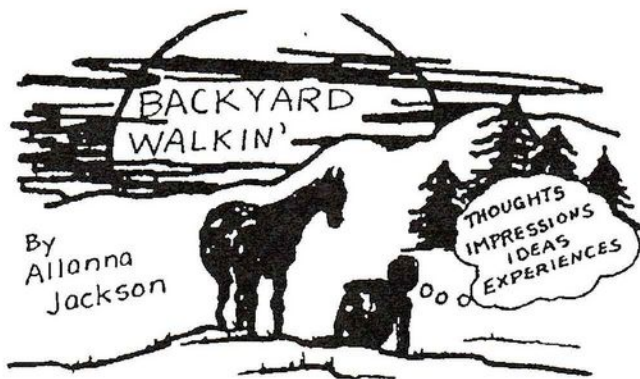
*This is the first of what, over the years, will be many such Gatherings.
Join us with or without a horse. Just come and see how it works,
visit with other TWH owners, or organize a Gathering in your own area.*

**NOTE: It is not necessary to join a Gathering to enter this program.
You can make your own video at home and submit it.
The deadline has been extended (for this year) until October 31/06.**



For details of the PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE,
Entry information and video instructions,
or suggestions for hosting your own Gathering,
go to **www.crtwh.ca** or phone Dianne Little at **403-271-7391**.

For the STRATHMORE GATHERING contact Keith Oberle
at **403-932-5501**, email **keith@skylinewalkers.com**



COLIC!

by Allanna Jackson

My sorrel gelding, Sunny, died last night. He seemed perfectly fine when I fed the horses their supper at about 6 p.m. About 6:45 p.m. I noticed he was lying down but had not finished his hay. After several minutes of watching it became evident he was colicky so at about 7 p.m. I gave him a dose of banamine paste and walked him down the road and back. He passed manure and some gas but it seemed to be getting more painful, not less, so at 7:25 p.m. I called the horse specialist vet. Dr. White was with another client but promised to come out as soon as he could. He told me the banamine would not have taken effect yet and to try to keep Sunny from rolling. So Sunny and I walked up and down Parkinson Road while dusk turned to dark. He seemed to have gas so we tried climbing a hill to see if that would relieve it. It didn't. We tried trotting (in-hand) to see if that would help. It didn't. Sunny kept getting worse so we returned home.

Sunny was down in the corral rolling despite my best efforts to discourage it when Dr. White arrived at 8:45 p.m. He gave Sunny the maximum dose of IV banamine. We were able to get Sunny up so Dr. White could tube him with a couple of gallons of oil and water. Sunny fussed and jerked his head, still very much in pain despite 3 doses of banamine. He went down rolling again immediately after the tubing. Dr. White noted the he was starting to bloat and his membranes looked bad so he didn't think Sunny would make it because there were no gut sounds at all. By 10 p.m. Dr. White had done all he could so he left. I took a quick break.

My Dad arrived at about 10:15 p.m. to see if he could be any help. Sunny was again down and thrashing. We again got him up and walking, but his condition was deteriorating. Sunny went down again several more times. By 11:00 p.m. Sunny was down again and it was evident we'd done all we could for

him. Dad advised that we leave Sunny in God's hands and took me to their house for a very delayed supper. Sunny was standing up at the back of his corral when we left.

When I got back home at 11:30 p.m. Sunny was down on his side in the front of his corral - dead. He was only 17 years old and had seemed perfectly sound and healthy so nobody knows what caused it. The colic came on so suddenly and his condition deteriorated so fast I doubt that he could have been saved even if we'd been next door to a university vet hospital set up for colic surgeries. The three mares held a wake for Sunny the rest of the night.

This morning I contacted the local general practice vet for help with disposing of Sunny's body since I'm out of horse-sized burial spaces in my yard and there were no backhoes in the neighborhood today. After being referred to an employee of a different small animal vet practice I was contacted by the only people in the region who do pick-ups and burials of horses. They live in Concho, an hour's drive away but came out very promptly. When they arrived they recognized me; it turns out we'd met before at various local feed stores and they knew about my 4-H ventures. They were able to pull their truck and trailer into Sunny's corral and winch his body directly into the trailer. By 10:20 this morning and \$175 later, Sunny's body was on its way to its final resting place on an 80 acre ranch in Concho.

Losing Sunny this way is a shock. I'd expected him to be good for another 8-10 years of riding. I bought Sunny to restore my confidence and pleasure in riding and to help educate Cinnamon. Sunny had fulfilled that purpose before he died.

I've now got only three horses and it looks like I may be down to just two (Velvet and Cinnamon) within a week or so. The last 24 hours have been an emotional yo-yo for me!





THE TRAINING TREE: 8. Suppleness

by Ron Meredith, President, Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre

Suppleness
is another mythunderstood word in the horse industry.

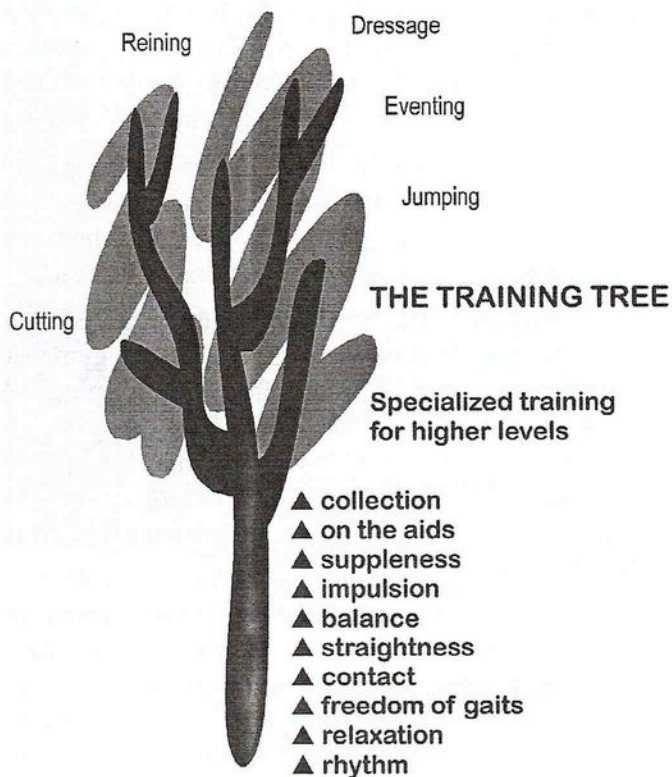
Suppleness simply means the ability to bend without stiffness. We want the horse to have loose, pliable joints: his hocks, his hips, his knees, his shoulders, his poll and his jaw. There are other joints that must be flexible, too, but generally when we talk about a horse's ability to bend, we're talking about one or another of those major joints.

If a horse stiffens any of these joints, that stiffness goes through his whole body. If the horse braces in his poll or jaw, for example, nothing else is going to be loose because he is locked against the rider's hand and that stiffness is going to affect all his other joints to some degree. Stiffness or resistance in any joint causes a disruption of the energy flow throughout the horse. Smooth transitions are a sign of a supple horse and, vice versa, jerky, jumpy or jarring transitions signal resistance somewhere.

Just as some people are suppler or stiffer by nature, horses are individuals. Some have short bunched muscles, short necks, straight pasterns, or other conformation traits that make flexibility more difficult to achieve. Others have long, lean muscles, long necks, and perfect shoulder and hip angles that make bending their joints very easy for them. There are a lot of different exercises trainers can use to help any horse become looser and suppler in his joints. The key is that these exercises need to be done while the horse is moving in order for him to become truly supple.

There's a lot of mythunderstanding in the horse industry about this. Stretching and bending the horse while he is standing still will not make a horse supple. Some trainers think stretching is the way to supple a horse so they tie a horse's head around to his side while he's standing in a stall in order to "supple" his neck.

First of all, you're not going to loosen and



supple a horse without motion. Maybe there's a little stretching going on here. And you can stretch a horse's front leg and sometimes the horse will reach out and stretch his back down. You can do a little stretching with the horse standing still but you're not doing anything to strengthen the muscles around his joints so you can't make him suppler.

Second, tying a horse in a position for any period of time is going to make him uncomfortable. So instead of giving to the pressure, he's going to brace against it. Imagine if you slouched and a physical therapist decided the way to fix that was to tie your arms behind your head in some strange way and make you stand that way for several hours. You probably aren't going to stand any straighter or get any looser. Instead, you're probably going to tense your muscles and have muscles resisting and working against each other. There's no logic to tying a horse into a pretzel with the idea of suppling him somehow.

Finally, I don't think I've ever known any horse, unless it had some sort of severe physical problem, that couldn't bend its neck. Horses can reach around and bite our feet when we're riding them and reach around and scratch their bellies. Most horses are pretty loose in their neck vertebrae. So the idea that tying their head around loosens anything and makes them suppler doesn't make a lot of sense.

So when you're thinking about suppling a horse, you need to use common sense. The muscles around his joints have to be stretched *and* strengthened and he has to be moving to do that.

You also can't work on suppling the horse until he has achieved a certain level of gymnastic conditioning that comes from developing the muscles equally on both sides of his body so he's straight, learning how to bring his hindquarters underneath himself to become balanced, and building the muscular strength in his hindquarters that allows him to move with impulsion.

Trainers have to be aware of everything that can be affecting a horse. If a horse stays stiff or resistant despite gymnastic exercises, he may need to go back down the training tree a level or two to correct the problem. But sometimes there can be a physical problem causing his stiffness and it's always going to be your job to figure out what is going on. We have a chiropractor visit regularly because we have some horses that need adjustments to help them stay loose and avoid stiffness. Until the horse achieves suppleness, he can't attain the highest levels of training.

It takes a baby green horse an average of 18 months to get to this point. When people take a horse to a trainer and expect to have a finished horse in 30 or 60 days they're not playing fair with the horse or the trainer. That encourages short cuts that leave big holes in the horse's foundation. Going back to plug those holes and unlearn bad habits can take a lot longer than taking the horse through the full training sequence in the first place. There are no short cuts if you want to play the upper level games 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,
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DVD Review by Franne Brandon

CANTERING: GAITED HORSES, *NATURALLY!* Part Two, with David Lichman

In 2002, David Lichman, Parelli Professional and 5 Star Instructor, produced Gaited Horses, Naturally! a two video set with booklet that offers techniques for obtaining comfortable four beat gaits from horses of gaited horse breeding that preferred the trot, the pace, or something not truly qualifying as an easy gait. On page 42 of the booklet, Lichman writes "One day I hope to make a video of teaching a horse that is not naturally inclined to canter to do so." In 2006, "one day" is here, in DVD format, with the publication of CANTERING: GAITED HORSES, NATURALLY! Part Two.

'Cantering' is a DVD with a total run time of one hour, forty-five minutes. The DVD format allows the images to flow easily from one segment to the next. It also permits the viewer to skip a segment, or return to the beginning of the material, without the need for cumbersome rewinding. The DVD is about "helping horses without a canter find one naturally."

The introductory segment begins with four horses demonstrating fluid, rhythmical canters in an arena. Lichman's voice-over explains that none of the four had a natural cantering tendency before training. After this introduction, the viewer meets Smokey, a Tennessee Walking Horse/ Peruvian Paso cross. Lichman has met and talked with the trainer who started Smokey some five years ago, and he tells viewers she had not felt secure in teaching him to canter, due to his varied repertoire of inherited gaits. Lichman says that he has had Smokey for about five weeks, but has not attempted to canter the gelding.

In the section of the DVD titled Day 1, Lichman sends Smokey out at liberty in the arena to see if he will canter. The horse demonstrates a preference for the trot, yet Lichman quickly assesses that the gelding's canter is "not that pure." Teaching the trot, one of the techniques that helps with cantering in the original video set, will not work with Smokey. Other techniques will be necessary.

Still in Day 1 of canter work, Lichman moves with Smokey to the round pen, where several geldings move in to observe. He explains that some horses learn to canter better in the curve of the round pen, while others need a straightaway. When sent out to the rail, Smokey demonstrates "seven different gaits right away," by Lichman's count, as well as "a lot of pace-galop." The pace-galop is a term coined by German gaited horse owners for a four-beat gait presented when a canter is requested. A full explanation is found in Gaited Horses, Naturally! Part One.

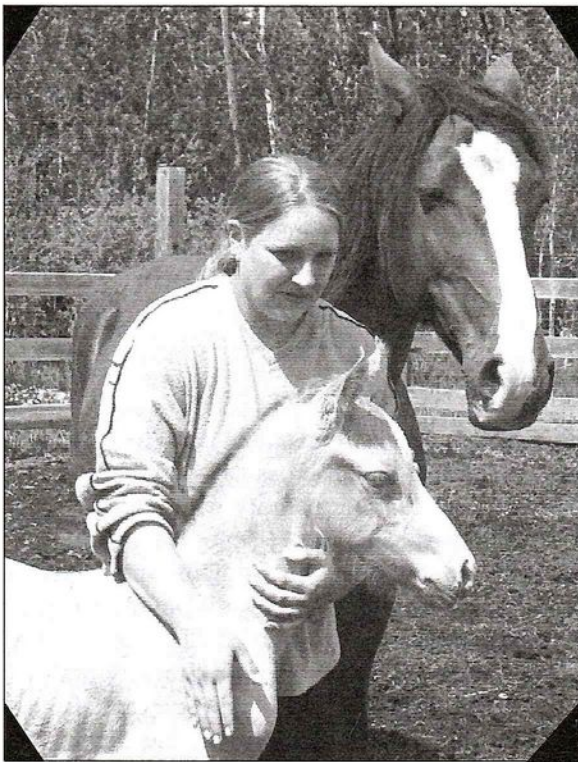
More work on the rail in the round pen proves that Smokey is very confused about what is expected of him. He shifts leads behind, and is far from relaxed. Lichman emphasizes that relaxation of the horse is essential to teaching the canter. He also comments about "how flat the darn horse is." Smokey has no elevation in front, he seems unable to get the initial lift required for a successful canter depart.

Smokey has demonstrated that he is a canter trainer's nightmare. The cross of a breed once noted for its excellent cantering ability with a Spanish breed that is seldom ridden in the canter has resulted in a horse with no favorite gait or gaits and a seeming inability to canter. For the rest of Day 1, and in the following video segment entitled "Day 2", Lichman patiently and lovingly works with Smokey both from the ground at liberty, on a longe line, and from the saddle, in both the round pen and the arena, trying various techniques designed to aid the big gelding in getting enough elevation to be able to find a canter rhythm and hold it for more than a stride or two. The fact that this DVD is now available for purchase provides the proof that the very difficult task has been accomplished.

During the introductory segment, Lichman explains that the techniques in the DVD are designed to be used with horses schooled in the Pat Parelli Savvy System. Lichman insists that the Savvy System is the "best program you can follow...to get great results with your gaited horse." During his under saddle time on Smokey, Lichman does not use a bit, relying on leg aids and carrot stick, with some reining, to direct the gelding. He also encourages viewers of this DVD to read the section on cantering in the booklet that accompanies the first set. The booklet does provide some excellent explanation and tips which should work well in tandem with the training techniques provided in the DVD.

Lichman also makes an important point in both booklet and DVD. Riders who have little or no experience in riding the canter **cannot** use this system to teach the gait to a horse with little natural cantering ability. This is not a training video for neophyte riders dealing with horses with gait issues. Cantering: Gaited Horses, Naturally! Part Two is, however, an instructional yet entertaining DVD. It is an excellent companion piece to the first video set, and can also stand on its own merits in presenting training strategies for horses resistant to learning the canter.

What do YOU do with your Walkers?

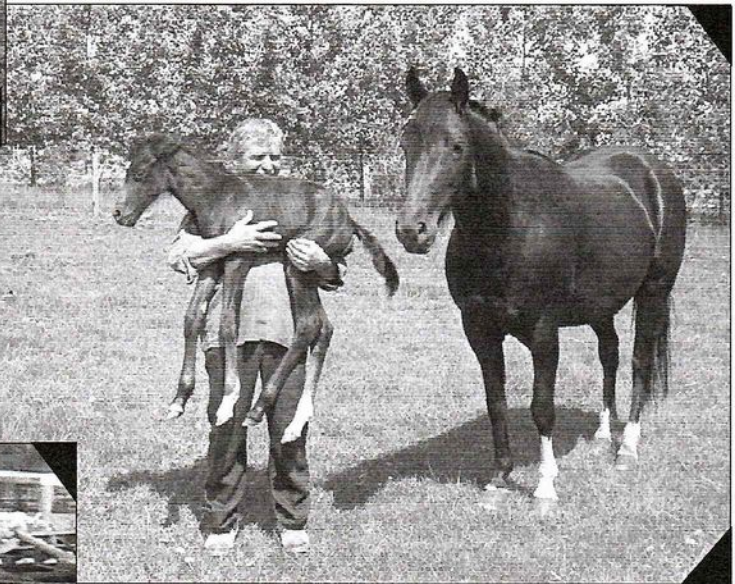


(Photo above)

Delores Boeyenga, Gunn, AB says,

*"This is Nikki with Thunder
and her new colt.*

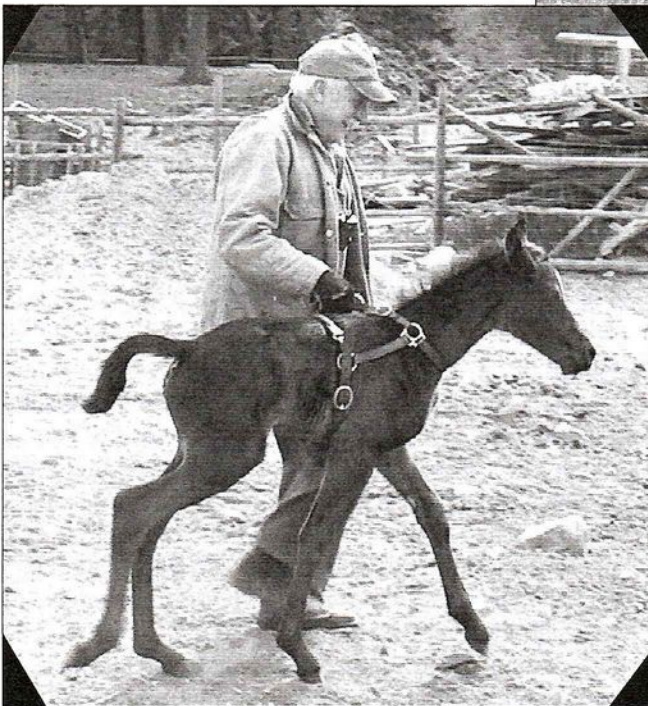
*Don't you just love his red hair?
Nikki is calling him 'Archie' at this point.
It seems to fit him."*



(Photo above)

Charlene Ruttan, Olds, AB says,

*"This is the quietest foal we have ever had.
She didn't even struggle when Robert picked her up."
(Cherub's Dark Shadow x Cherub's Black Angel)*



(Photo left)

Pat Loewen, Kelowna, BC says,

*"This is the picture we call "Dad with his purse",
taken when Juno's Grand Legacy (field name JJ) was
three days old and we were taking her and her mom to
the field for the first time.*

*We used a horse-sized leather halter as a harness -
and we laugh every time we see this picture."*

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR WALKERS?

BEAR AWARE! by Fran Thomas

In June of my first year of Search and Rescue training, I took my Bear Aware course. At the end of June a friend called and asked if I wanted to go for a ride with her out at her place. I had never ridden in her area before and wanted to check out the pretty country there, so I loaded my oldest horse, Sage, and thought I was off for a relaxing ride on a beautiful sunny day.

When I arrived at my friend's place she was ready and waiting. She asked if Sage was usually the lead horse and I said she was, but as this was her area I told her she should lead. She was riding a Walker mare she had bought from me a few weeks earlier. Not having ridden together before, she asked me if I got off for trail hazards, crossed creeks or bridges on my horse or got off and lead her. I said, "No way, when I get on for a ride I stay on 'til I get back from my ride." Famous last words...

So, we were off, crossing a creek at the beginning of the ride and on into the trees. It was a hot day, with a deep blue sky. The trees covered us though and we could see the blue above the foliage. The trail was wide enough for four wheelers and well maintained, so I sat back and relaxed, enjoying the scenery and conversation.

We crossed a couple of bridges with no problem; they were well built, and on we went. I made a comment that it had been a while since I had relaxed and totally enjoyed a ride this much. Riding is my stress relief. Oh boy!

We carried on for about forty-five minutes. We were due to come out into a large hay field shortly, when we began smelling something rotten. I said, "Something sure stinks!"

Then, Cindy said, "I can't go through here. Ali is acting strange." We turned around and cut through a small clearing. Cindy said Ali was still not acting right. Well, my sons had ridden this mare in the bush for years and never had this mare trembled or shown any fear. My horse Sage was fine, so I said, not liking to back track on a ride, that we should go back and find another trail.

Just then I heard an awful growling noise, Ali began to spin around in a circle. She spun about three times and I could see Cindy as if in slow motion slide sideways and fall to the ground. Ali then spun around and raced off down the trail from where we had come.

I looked down at Cindy. She was lying in the grass, not moving. Then I heard that growl again and turned around. I saw the top of a brown head and the back of a grizzly bear. She charged out at me from the underbrush, only about three feet from my horse when she emerged. I looked back and then at Cindy who was still lying and not moving.

I clapped my legs against Sage and she came to life and bolted forward around Cindy, with the bear right behind us. It all happened so fast it was hard to know what to do.

On reaching the main trail I decided as I didn't know if Cindy was injured or not I couldn't leave her there. And if I rode back down the trail my horse would never want to come back. And if I tied her down the trail she would probably break loose to go with Ali.

So, I bailed off as Sage turned left on the trail. I jumped as far into the bush as I could, hoping the bear wouldn't see me. I crouched there totally quiet and not moving, listening to Sage running back down the trail screaming and the bear's fierce growling.

I lay there for a few minutes 'til I couldn't hear any sounds. Then I called Cindy to see if she answered. She did. She said the bear was right behind her and she had two babies. She said she was going to crawl like a snake through the grass and meet me on the down side of the trail.

I headed to the spot and when I saw her I was so relieved. She ran over and we hugged. Well, I didn't know I was hurt 'til Cindy looked at my arm. I had hit some saplings when I bailed off and my arm was all swollen and scraped. Cindy was sure it was broken. I said I didn't think so, it just really burned.

We started walking down the trail picking up broken reins (I used one for a sling), stirrups, and fenders off her saddle. I was worried about my horse by this time and watched the ground for blood spots.

As we walked out we kept talking and I kept looking back. The bear did not come.

As we got to one of the bridges we had crossed we noticed about four planks broken. Now, these were 2 X 4 planks so I figured those horses must have been pretty scared. We just hoped they went home and didn't run out on the road.

We walked up a steep hill and half way up I saw a dead mouse. It was still fresh. No blood, not crushed, nothing. I said to Cindy, "I bet the mouse was just crossing the trail when the horses came and ran right over it and it died of a heart attack." Cindy laughed.

Well, finally, after a long walk we got back to Cindy's. There were the horses standing there all crusty from their hard run. Poor Ali was standing there with the saddle under her belly. Cindy's neighbour said he would watch the horses while we went to town to get my arm X-rayed. Luckily for me it was not broken, but the muscles and tendons were damaged and I had a wicked road rash down my forearm. It was about seven-thirty when we finally got back and I couldn't wait to load up my horse and get home.

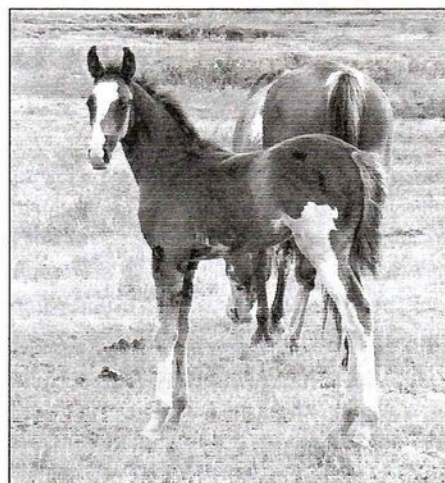
I learned a good lesson that day. My cell phone, water and necessities were in my horn bags and when the horse went, they went. Cindy's stuff fell off her saddle and was back with the bear. NOW I always keep my necessary stuff in a fanny pack on me so if I ever get separated from my horse I can call for help.

FOAL CALL

Gale Allan reports the following foals, all sired by D.P. Genius Edition:

CHESTNUT COLT, white feet. (x Quest)
 SORREL COLT (x Cara)
 CHESTNUT COLT (x Kirby)
 SORREL COLT (x Coin's Dark Lady)
 SABINO COLT (x Canadian Babe)
 PALOMINO FILLY (x S.S. Gold Vision)
 A&B FARMS, STOUGHTON, SK

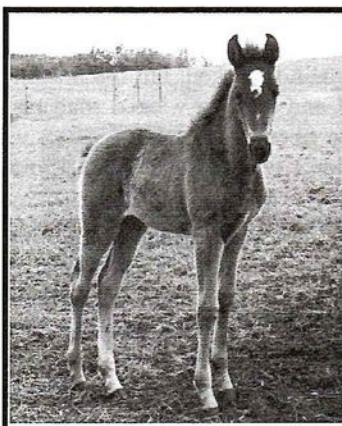
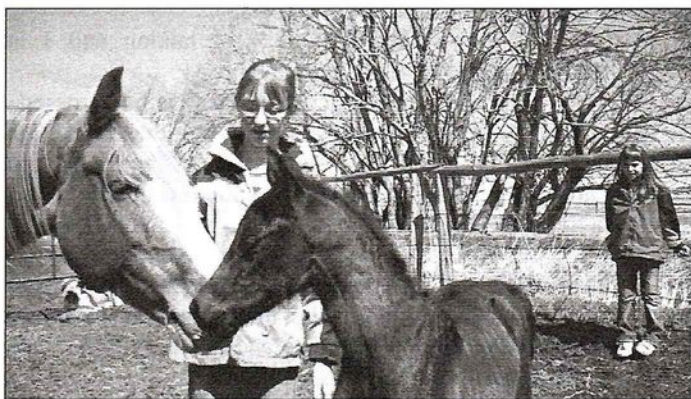
Shirley Koski & Ernie Jensen sent in their foal call, *shown below right*:
 BLACK COLT (Bold Victory x Zepher's Canadian Beauty) Born July 4.
 LIMBERLOST RANCH, TOMAHAWK, AB



Bill & Susan Roy report a ...
 BLACK FILLY (Tsuniah's Dark Delight x a Dixie's Hot Chocolate mare)
 WOODHILL WALKERS, GRINDROD, B.C.

Marsha Trinder sent the following sampling of three of their twenty four 2006 foals:
 BLACK FILLY, *Trinder's Sock*, (Trinder's Levi x Trinder's Boot)
 PALOMINO COLT, *Trinder's Turbo* (Kodiak's Klondike CF x Trinder's Dazzle)
 BAY SABINO COLT, *Trinder's Opie* (Sundust Fantasy x Trinder's Angel) (*Above right*)
 TRINDER'S TENNESSEE WALKING HORSES, RUSSELL, MB

John & Christine Kobza say, "Hurray! A filly." Admirers are nieces Caylee & Shaylin Vogel, and Bouvier, Kalani.
 BLACK FILLY *Major's Mys'y Baby* (Ultra's Major Threat x Sun's Blue Eyed Mystery) April 17, *below left, 2 days*.
 KOBZA RANCH, PINCHER CREEK, AB



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Do You *Really* Need a Gaited Trainer?

by Anita Howe

People often email or phone me for training advice for their gaited horses. Upon extensive query, I often discover that many of their issues are not truly gait related but simply because their horse has never been trained with good, solid horsemanship basics. I tend to find they are often making some fundamental errors like over-biting the horse, or trying to use weighted shoes.

I will watch video they send me and commonly see them pulling the horse's head up, having been told their gaited horse should be high-headed and "framed up." I will see horses that move extremely hollow with no bend or give and in very poor balance. Given just one these circumstances, it is impressive if *any* horse can gait correctly. Often horses are plagued by all of these problems.

Although there is a vast need out there for sound, gimmick-free gait correction help and advice, there are very few trainers who truly understand how to help people who are seeking to school their horses in natural gait correction without the use of harsh, mechanical "aids." So great is this need, and so few and spread out are those to fill it, that there is very little hope of making even a small dent in that need.

Therefore, I want to advise as many of you as I can to make this very honest determination: do you really need gait correction advice, or might you be in need of a good natural horsemanship trainer *first*?

After all, gaited horses are not a different species, as many gaited trainers seem to want you to believe. They are first and foremost horses and should be trained first *as a horse!* It is only after you have a good, solid foundation of softly giving to the bit, bending and balance, flexing and moving

laterally off your legs, willingly stopping and moving out, that you can even begin to determine if your horse "just might" have a real gait issue.

I have often advised people to find a good natural horsemanship trainer close enough for them to work with on a regular basis. It is amazing the number of "gait issues" that miraculously disappear after the horse learns to give, to bend, to flex, to move, and to respond to the rider in a soft and willing manor. I also highly recommend RFD-TV and the many natural horsemanship trainers offering their advice free of charge on their programming every week if you are fortunate enough to have it available on your television service.

I also advocate that everyone train their gaited horses just like any other horse for the first 6-12 months under saddle, with the only exception being that they keep their horses at the flatwalk (or the equivalent) during that time. The focus should be on the basics of bit training, bending, balance and lateral movements. This is so very important and probably the single biggest payoff for every gaited horse.

It is also invariably where I have to start with horses brought to me with gait problems because in order to correct the problem I must be able to influence their balance. In order to influence their balance, I must have the cooperation of "willing" and fluid head and neck carriage as well as body posture and position. And you can do this yourself with the aid of natural horsemanship before you even contact a "gaited" trainer.

The above article is reprinted with permission from *The Sound Advocate*, with thanks to the author, and *Sound Advocate* editor, Elizabeth Jones.

OTHER FACTORS IN GAIT PROBLEMS

There are several other things that can mask themselves as gait problems:

Horses with dental problems will be uncomfortable with the bit and will hold themselves awkwardly, often fearfully. This creates posture abnormalities, which then result in off-gaits. Getting a good dental float can reduce a number of current and future problems with horses working comfortably on and with the bit.

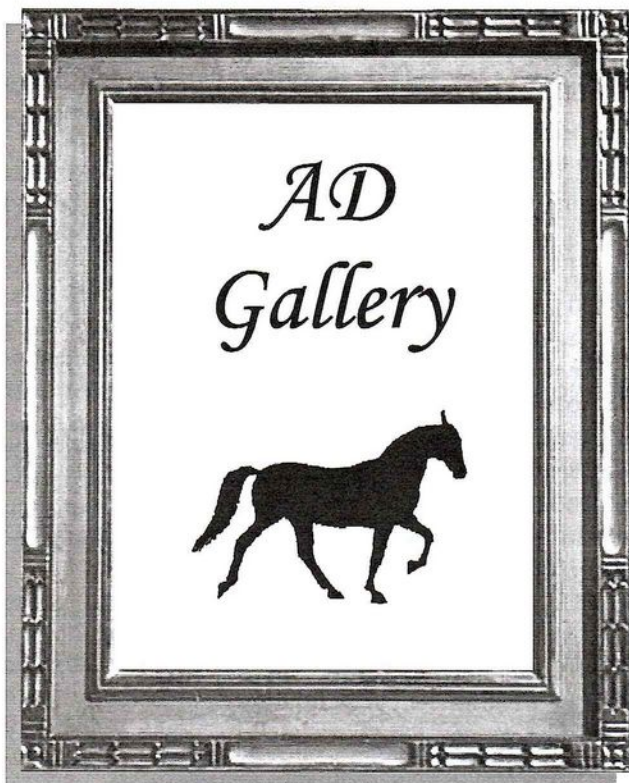
Severe and badly fitting bits cause these same reactions and postures. When horses are afraid of the bit, you have lost a crucial method of communication with them.

Poorly fitting saddles create pressure points and posture issues, causing a horse to hollow or brace in carrying the rider's weight. Shoving a pad under a badly fitting saddle will not necessarily help and can often actually make the problem worse.

This is just part of the initial checklist of things I run through with each horse and rider before we can even begin to look at gait. These issues must be ruled out first and will often resolve many issues that owners had previously felt certain were gaiting troubles. It is amazing the number of times that people will email me weeks later and say their horse is moving better once they found a milder bit, got that dental float, or found a saddle that actually fit the horse.

It is difficult to work with a horse's mind when their body is in discomfort, so take care of the body first. Then you can reach your horse's mind much easier, and have a much more willing horse to work with. When their bodies get comfortable, many off-gaited horses suddenly find a natural gait their owners had no idea they had.

** Anita Howe offers training and horses for sale in Greenwood, MO. & stands Papa's Royal Delight, two-time English Pleasure Grand Champion at the North American Pleasure Walking Horse Championship. She's a regular contributor of training articles for the Sound Advocate and is a past member of the FOSH Board of Directors. Many of her articles focus on the importance of the horse's posture in achieving a correct gait, and these articles are available at www.howethewalk.com.*



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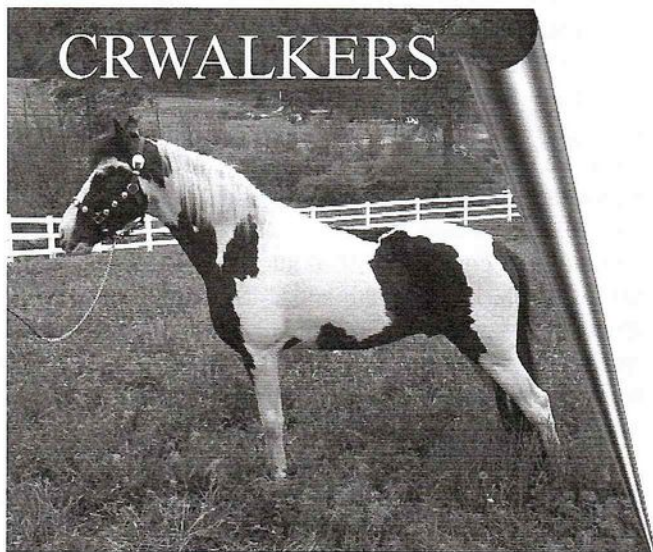
*A Compilation Of 23 Articles With Tips, Exercises And
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Walking Horse News readers will remember the series of question and answer articles that Diane Sept wrote for us back in the eighties. Here they are again, updated and dove-tailed with those of two other trainers. You can read a sample article on p. 23 in this issue: Anita Howe's *Do You Really Need a Gaited Trainer?*

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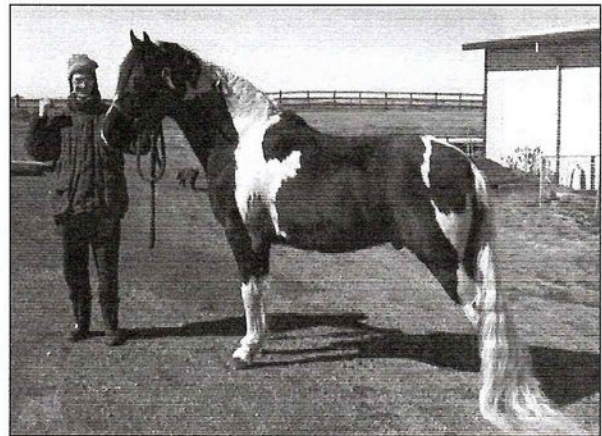
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Best Wishes to
NUBIAN BEAUTY!

‘Nubie’
is off to be a
‘California Horse’,
taking up residency
in Loma Linda.



Photo by Arto

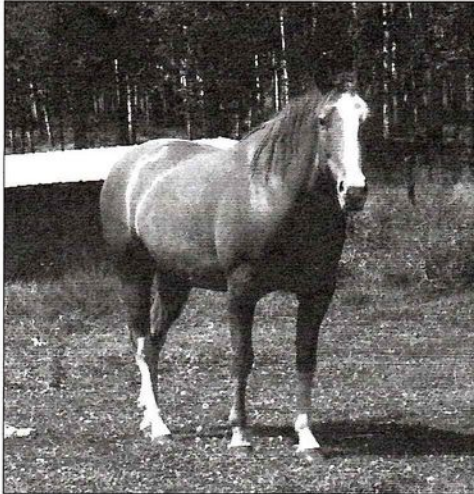
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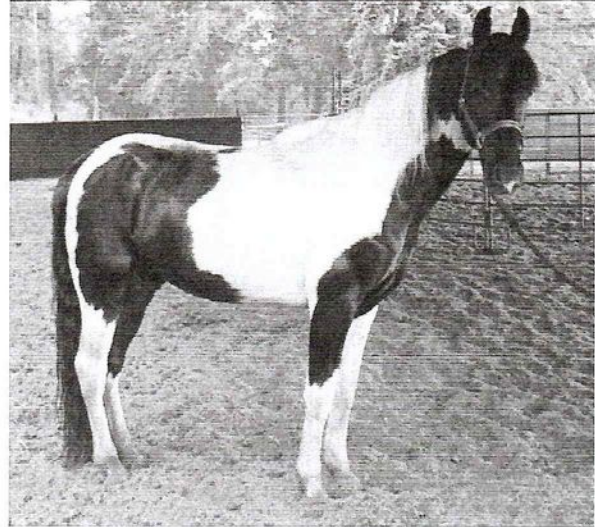


'Fella' is a 16 hh, eleven year old red roan. He's well broke and has been ridden in the mountains but requires an experienced rider. He's well-mannered and has a very nice gait. Fella is Canadian registered. Sire: North Fork Flicka Fella Dam: Chapie's Flicka. *We have too many horses and not enough time. Fella is too good a horse to leave standing in the pasture.* Asking \$3000 O.B.O. to a good home.

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(Eagle Boy's Prime Time x Pride's Pretty Penny). US reg'd. 1994 black/white tobiano, 16 hh. Gentle nature, great bone & beautiful fine head which he passes on to his foals. Extremely smooth gait, making wonderful trail horses. \$4500.00. Trade for a well broke gelding considered.

Pictures and pedigree may be viewed at

www.peeblesranch.ca

250-379-2373 FALKLAND, BC

Big Rock Walkers Herd Dispersal

We are moving

and are not able to take all the horses we would like to with us.

**There will be an AUCTION SALE
of approximately 25 to 30 horses
at Randy & Rosina Widmer's Big Rock Walker Ranch
just outside of Okotoks, Alberta
on Saturday, October 14th, 2006 at 1 PM.**

Horses of all ages will be for sale, pleasure riding & show horses, including mares with foals.

As many of you know Randy and Rosina have been raising Walkers for over 30 years and have a breeding program with some of the best Stallions and Brood Mares in the industry.

For more information on the sale and the horses in the sale, go to the web site

www.tennesseewalkers.ca

Phone us: **403-938-5489** at home; **403-254-5228** at work.

Our email is randy@goodforyou.ca or rosina@goodforyou.ca

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HORSES FOR SALE

MATURE GELDINGS; VARIETY OF SIZES AND COLORS.

Well trained for trail; used daily on a large ranch. High mileage with multiple riders. Trained under natural horsemanship. T W RANCH, Cliff & Marsha Trinder, RUSSELL, MB Website <http://www.twhorse.com> email twhorse@mts.com 1-204-773-2711

TWH FOR SALE at A & B Farm: 2006 palomino filly (D.P. Genius Edition x S.S. Gold Vision) Canadian reg'd. \$1000 + GST. 2006 Sorrel colt (D.P. Genius Edition x A&B Coin's Dark Lady by Coin's Dark Knight). US reg'd. \$1200 + GST. 2001 palomino mare, S.S. Gold Vision (Shelen Dark Shadow x Cherokee's Vision O' Red). Quiet, friendly, broke to ride, bred to Topaz Merry Go, classic champagne. \$4000 + GST Also yearlings to six year olds. Will look at trades. Gale Allan, STOUGHTON, SK 306-457-2922 m/a 06

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

LIBERTY STABLES, ROCK CREEK, BC offers a great selection of reg'd TWH for sale. We have mature mares & geldings, and youngsters, in a variety of colours, sizes & stages of training. Click on our sales list at www.walkinghorsesnews.ca. Cathy Martinoff, 250-446-2836 or email martinoff@direct.ca

CAN DELIVER TO ALBERTA FOR \$300: Beautiful 5 year old chestnut TWH mare. Bold mover, 17 hh, with NO pacing. Powerful, correct stride. Alberta born in Edmonton. Breeding is from top dams and sires. \$1800.00. Box 132, BOISSEVAIN, MB 204-534-6185

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY - top quality TWHBEA horses available, reasonable prices. Stunning palomino stallion by DP's Big Shiny Tunes x Pride's Brilliant Coin. \$6000 + GST. (Click on New photo on www.walkinghorsesnews.ca). Promising yearlings & 2006 foals. Bloodlines include: Coin's Double Play, Final's Goldwell, Pride's Gold Coin, Sun's Delight D, Delight of Pride, Pride of Midnight, Genuine Silver Dollar, Midnight Sun, Ebony's Masterpiece. All are gentle, friendly horses with great potential. 403-722-3544 CAROLINE, AB

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DOWNSIZING - Choice of foals to trained adults in variety of ages and colors, world champions on pedigrees, people friendly, vaccinated, dewormed and regular farrier visits. They move well and conformations are good. Can e-mail pictures. Please call 306-270-1833 or 306-253-4449, ABERDEEN, SK for more details.

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THE WALKING HORSE JOURNAL - 6 issues per year, \$20 per year US, \$30 foreign. Also BIOGRAPHY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE, the history of the breed, authorized, revised edition. P. O. Box 177, Lakeside, AZ 85929-0177, 928-367-2076 www.fourcraftsmen.com info@fourcraftsmen.com

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REGISTRY

**CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE
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Secretary: Joyce Rogers 780-363-2470 secretary@crtwh.ca

CLUBS & ASSOCIATIONS

CENTRAL ALBERTA TENNESSEE WALKERS - AWhA
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

STRATHMORE GATHERING - - at Strathmore, AB on
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Oberle** at 403-932-5501, keith@skylinewalkers.com

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kimstwh@can.rogers.com

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DEADLINE

FOR the NEXT ISSUE

November 7, 2006

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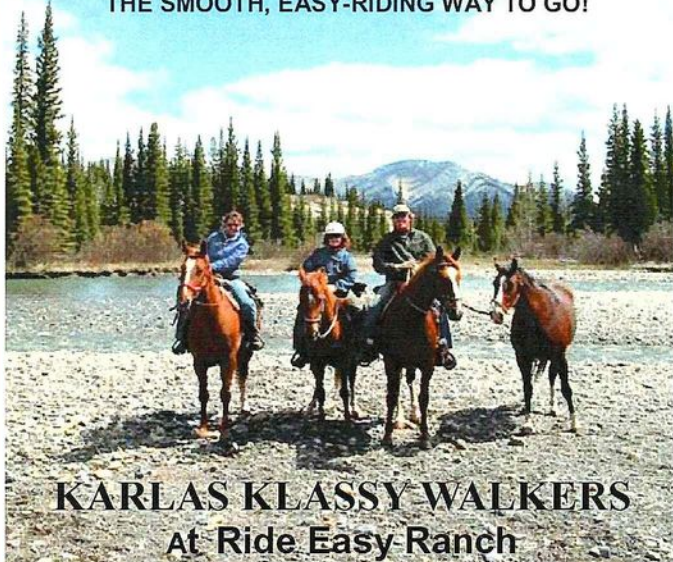
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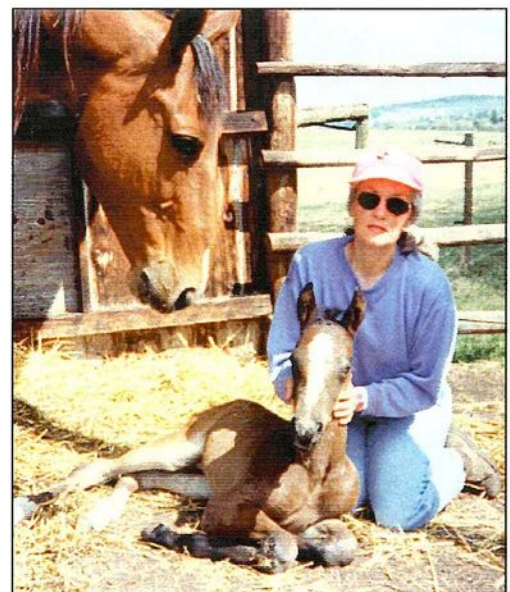
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