

June 2010
VOLUME XXXIV No. 3



Walking

Horse

News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA



Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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On Our Cover

Larch Hills Lodge
near Salmon Arm, BC
where the

Walkers Rock! ride
was held on May 8-9.

TWH Riders shown

in the photo are,

from left to right,

Fay Zilkowsky, Bill Roy,

Claire Christensen,

Ralph Livingston,

Alan Galbraith,

and Shari Gurney.

See Ralph's write-up

on page 15.

Photo submitted by

Ralph Livingston

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for Jan/Feb issue

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for Mar/Apr issue

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for May/June issue

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for July/Aug issue

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NEWS,

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Volume XXXIV, # 3 May/June, 2010

Dear Subscribers,

If *WHN* is late this month, blame the two at the bottom of the page! Uphill Buccaneer arrived about two weeks early, on May 12, and here he is *below*. just hours old, stretching his legs and taking a look at the beautiful world around him. Mama Betty Buckskin is still pretty anxious about his every move... and I didn't get much done on the magazine for a few days, either.

Clinics - shows - rides - meetings - new foals - green grass ... Must be spring! I hope everyone is able to get out and enjoy their horses now that the snow is gone. There are many, many activities planned. Check Coming Events on the back page. And there's everything to recommend a ride with just you and your horse, too!

Thanks to all the contributors of news and photos, ads and announcements. It's wonderful to have so much material for an issue. If you weren't able to attend some of the activities just past, you can read about what you missed thanks to those who took time to send in a report and/or photos. There will be other reports and photo features in up-coming issues as well. Thank you so much for keeping *WHN* posted.

Enjoy the issue, and I'll look forward to hearing from you for next time.

Marjorie



WHN makes a
great gift!

June, 2010

Walking Horse News

"DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA"

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Thank you for advertising in Walking Horse News!

CANADIAN TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

OVER 30 YEARS AGO...

by Randy & Rosina Widmer, Big Rock Walker Ranch, Okotoks AB

It has been over 30 years since we purchased our first Walker. I have had a horse since I was six years old, and trained my first horse to ride when I was 12. One Christmas morning my dad sent me out to the barn to milk the cow. Instead I found a skinny palomino mare with a ribbon on her in the barn - my Christmas present. He had traded a tank of gas for her. She was skinny with her ribs showing but I knew I could fatten her up. And fatten her up I did, to the point that one spring morning I went out to feed her only to find a beautiful filly by her side. That's when I learned that a fat horse could mean more than just eating too much.

I was nine at the time, so for the next three years most of my time was spent playing and working with this filly that I called Sundance. She had come from the reservation and was a dark sorrel with pure white mane and tail - everybody's dream horse! I had read a few articles on training horses and had some tips from my dad, and with all the handling she had received on the ground, getting on and riding her was pretty natural.

During my high school and university years I didn't have any place to keep a horse so I was horseless for several years until I married Rosina and we lived in Sparwood, BC. We had a few horses and Rosina loved to go riding when I came home from work and gave her a break from the kids. She was a good rider. However one time, when she was pregnant, the horse she was riding ran away with her. She asked me to find her a nice quiet, gentle horse. A friend of mine knew a person who was selling a mare. He said this mare would be a perfect horse for Rosina, and that she was a Tennessee Walker. I knew nothing about Walkers but I ended up buying her from Lindsey Atwood in Cranbrook.

The mare was a roan called Drifter, and what a dream horse she was. I would sneak out and take Drifter for a ride once in a while just to figure out what Rosina was talking about when she would

say how smooth Drifter was to ride. I finally had to give in and buy *myself* a Walker after riding beside Rosina (who always had a smirk on her face as she glided along, watching me bounce around, posting, on my horses).

So the rest is history. I bought my first Walker, a stallion called Ebony Walking Eagle, from up by Dawson Creek. I would never have dreamed that a stallion could be such a gentle, well-behaved horse... and I was hooked.

Since then, Rosina and I have owned more than 150 Walkers. What a great ride it has been. I don't know why anyone would own anything other than a good Tennessee Walker. Anything else is just self-punishment.

As many of you know we have been in the process of moving to Armstrong, BC where we have bought another ranch. We have finally received subdivision approval for our ranch in Okotoks, AB and have sold most of the property. We have a few acres left to keep a few horses until we get our business moved over to BC. We have sold over half of our herd but still have about 30 horses we want to sell before moving

Then the story will continue in BC!

EBONY WALKING EAGLE #782; US 760557 was bred by Leta Kelly of Tappen, BC. He was sired by Red Eagle Mack K. whose pedigree goes back to Midnight Mack K. and Spiller's Gold Dust.

His dam was Shakedown's Bay Gem FF, bred by Friesen Farms of Spences Bridge, BC. The sire of Shakedown's Bay Gem FF was Sun's Shakedown MLR by Go Boy's Sun who was by Merry Go Boy out of a Midnight Sun dam.

Sun's Shakedown MLR's dam was Chance's Mary by Last Chance x Mary Puckett by the foundation horse, Ben Puckett.

The dam of Shakedown's Bay Gem FF was Grindl GW, also by Sun's Shakedown MLR, and her dam was Ester Lee by Red Bud Allen out of Clark's Mary Ann. Old time breeding indeed.

Ebony Walking Eagle sired seven registered female offspring before being gelded.

ALBERTA CELEBRATION



2010



August 6th, 7th & 8th

JUDGE: The Honorable Rick Evans (IJA Judge)

ENTRY DEADLINE: July 23, 2010

The AWHHA is pleased to offer a show for all **Gaited Breeds**.

The show will showcase the Tennessee Walking Horse and a number of classes have been added for the Peruvian Paso.

These include performance, gait and championship classes.

In addition there will be over a dozen versatility classes open to any gaited equine, along with many youth classes.

In an effort to go a little more green this year we will be giving out youth and championship ribbons, and a point system for the rest of the classes will be used that can be redeemed for cool prizes.

Versatility classes are "come as you are" as long as your tack is safe.

The arena we have rented this year is the most breathtaking facility I have ever seen. The stalls have air mattress flooring and just to step foot in this place will be an experience. It will be a "spa getaway" for your horse but book early as these stalls are limited. Check it out online at www.anchorranch.com.

NEW - A portion of any proceeds this year will be donated to either a local equine rescue or handicapped riding program. Come and support a great cause!

For more information and to request an entry form please contact

**Rhonda Lemmon at
403-782-3118**

or via email at yonafeda@gmail.com

NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

ALBERTA NEWS

STAN POTTER writes, "It's early April now in Rocky Mountain House, the snow has melted, and I noticed the grass in the muskeg to be coming out with large thick blades of bright green grass. Some of the non-muskeg grasses are also sending out their fine blades of grass and the horses are going after both. They would prefer the finer grasses but not enough is there to keep them searching for it and they're moving into the muskeg more now to capture anything green. It would appear the muskeg grass offers earlier green pasture and better nutrition for the first days of spring. Is it possible this is only a phenomenon this year because of the dry year last year and because the dryness is continuing so far this year into early April? I suppose that could be so but then again it's all the more reason to have some muskeg pasture available!"

"Another problem I ran into this year with the warmer weather is ice. The snow melted earlier than usual here so naturally I had to start riding. But only a thin film of surface soil was thawed out, and under it the mud was frozen. This can be a very dangerous hazard to beware of. I started riding along Hwy. 11 and you know how highways can have steep inclines rising to the shoulder and highway itself. My horse didn't want to go through the remains of a very deep drift and I allowed her to veer slightly up the incline when suddenly both feet on her right side slipped out from under her at the same time! We were down so fast I barely had time to pull my leg out of the way. We were both okay but very surprised. So I left the horses alone to give the ground more time to thaw deeper down."

"A week or so later someone asked to come and try out a mare I had for sale. Not thinking I said, "Sure," and thought by now it would be thawed deeper and be okay. Actually it still hadn't thawed enough. When demonstrating the mare and turning her sharply while in a running walk we went down, but this time my leg was caught underneath her. Worse yet after falling she started rolling upside down in my direction! Fearing the worst I placed my free foot on her shoulder and shoved her the other direction as fast as possible. A broken pelvis or worse was avoided, and I'm happy to say that we were both fine following that fall as well. It's been another week or two now since that fall and I still haven't ridden. Snow is predicted tomorrow night with a drop in temperature so it'll be quite awhile yet before I'm back riding again. I suppose if I had shoes on her this

early she'd have handled it much better, but without them, riding can be quite dangerous before the ground has thawed."

From RHONDA LEMMON, LACOMBE, "Figured I would take a few minutes to write an update on what we've been up to at Noisy Hollow Acres lately. By the time this is printed we will have hosted the AWhA Annual General Meeting along with a Gathering to video horses whose owners want them to be evaluated for the Program For Excellence or the Training Levels Challenge. We also will have held a dressage clinic for those interested with Dianne Little as the clinician. I am cautiously optimistic that the turn out will be good although the way attendance has been lately for these sorts of events, I am just not sure."

"Belonging to a club or registry has many things to offer but it does take some effort on the member's part. Research on what is available would be one and the other would be participation. Without knowing what is available to you it is easy to say you don't get anything for your membership. When that happens you end up not joining the clubs or not participating, and they eventually die. I am the show chair for the Alberta Celebration again this year (see ad in this edition) and as always we have many new ideas that we are launching in an effort to keep it fresh and appealing. I am still in need of some volunteers, so if you are interested in a weekend away from home to hang out with crazy horse people in an absolutely amazing facility, and perhaps want to learn a little more about gaited horses and what to do in case you ever may want to try your hand at showing, please, *please* call me. There is not much that can teach you faster than getting in there and helping out. Or even if you just want to get away from the wife/husband/work around home, by all means we would be happy to have you. I was proud to be able to take my fat broodmare/show horse 'Promise' to the Mane Event this year. For a horse that hasn't experienced much, being cooped up in a field for 7 years, she did really good. There was a lot of interest in Walking Horses from people and the best advertising was just riding around the grounds."

"This past fall we started to downsize our herd a bunch. I was commuting close to 2 hours to work and it was getting to be too much. We didn't breed any mares and had only horses that we wanted to keep left. Of course that never lasts long. I think I

may have a problem (does anyone know if there is a Horse-aholics Anonymous Chapter anywhere?). We ended up going to Randy Widmer's and came home with a trailer load. We now have two in the maternity ward that are due any day. I am again full with training horses and now have to decide which of my own I *won't* be training - because sleep should fall in the plan somewhere. Oh well, & I love it!"

Hi from FRAN KERIK, CRYSTAL STAR RANCH, TWO HILLS, "Spring has come to the farm. We have one foal (from a rescue - a real cute Walker/QH cross) and one of our own mares to foal. The goats are all done kidding, the baby chicks and turkeys are growing very fast and the grass is coming up nice and green. Although we didn't get the spring snowstorms that the rest of the province got, we did get one day of rain that should be a big help. Last year we were declared a disaster area and had to really scramble for hay."

"We are really excited to announce that Bill Roy is coming to the farm in the middle of June for two weeks to work some of our young horses and also some of our friends' Walkers."

"We are also hosting a 'GATHERING' on July 3. Everybody is welcome. I'll help with the videoing of your horse if you would like to try for the Program For Excellence Bronze/Silver/Gold Award or one or more of the Training Levels offered by the CRTWH. We will also go on a trail ride this day."

"I have several nice horses for sale too; you can check them out in the classified section."

JACK GURNETT, NORTHFORK FARM, BLUFFTON, reports that the black stallion, Shadows Jack Diamond (Ebonys Jack Daniels x Shadow of Riverview) died recently. He had just turned 26 years old. 'Jackson' left many offspring in Alberta.

Best wishes to BEV SKOWRONSKI, SHERWOOD PARK from all your Walking Horse friends. Bev writes, "I had surgery in December, then chemotherapy for 2 months, and then surgery again in April. It has been a long difficult winter. I am looking forward to going for a ride again. I will have to take it very slowly for awhile."

"I did sell two horses this spring. I sold Silver Dollars Fantasy to Bernd Jankowski, Tofield and Angelina Rain to Dennis Love, Stony Plain. I have five horses and may sell one more... but I hate to part with Goldwells Treasure. Black Beautys Beau Dee is really doing well at 32, and his daughter, Beau's Red Queen, is doing equally well at 27. Both have tooth problems but are eating lots of Golden Years feed!"

From KIM PIELAK, NITON JUNCTION, "I would just like to send my congratulations to Larry Sirr of Elnora, AB on the purchase of his first Walking Horse, A Walk-N-Dandy. I would like to pay for a year's subscription to the *Walking Horse News* for Larry. Many happy trails, Larry and Cindy."

"I'd also like to congratulate Brett Pielak Jr on his first purchase of a Walking Horse. Many Happy, smooth-riding trails to you, Brett, on Hillbilly Deluxe."

From KARLA FREEMAN, Ride Easy Ranch, Bentley, "It was so great to see familiar faces, and meet up with some new people at the CRTWH Spring Clinic and AGM. A great turn-out, and obvious successes achieved by both horses and riders. Thanks to Bill and Dianne for putting on a great clinic. I often find that it is afterwards, when you start using the Take Home tools you get from clinic, that you really see more results."

"What great Fun at the Mane Event! Many comments were made on all the nice pictures (thanks to all Jean Rempel's hard work collecting them last year.) It was great to have enthusiastic participants riding in the demos, and of course excellent and beautiful horses. (Of course, I am not biased in any way!) Thanks for the great camaraderie. Oh, I should announce that Cherokees Dark Knight and Bee Boppin Angels Dream had a strapping 10 hh Palomino Colt at 04:30 am, on April 1st. NO FOOLING!"

"Well, I look forward to getting out on the trails now that the snow has gone. Happy trails, All!"

NEW TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has established new regulations for horses being sold to processors for meat intended for human consumption. This change has been brought about by the European Union establishing a requirement for all countries exporting horse meat into the EU to implement a system of equine identification, traceability and the keeping of medication records.

The result of this directive means that effective at the end of July 2010, all horses being presented for processing **MUST** be accompanied by an Equine Information Document that includes a medication record for the previous 180 days.

Also, part of the directive is that within 3 years, Canada must have full traceability, including radio frequency identification, for all horses.

From Heather Mitchell-Matheson, Program Coordinator
Horse Industry Association of Alberta

AGM 'Gaits from the Ground Up' Clinic & Other Walking Horse Happenings

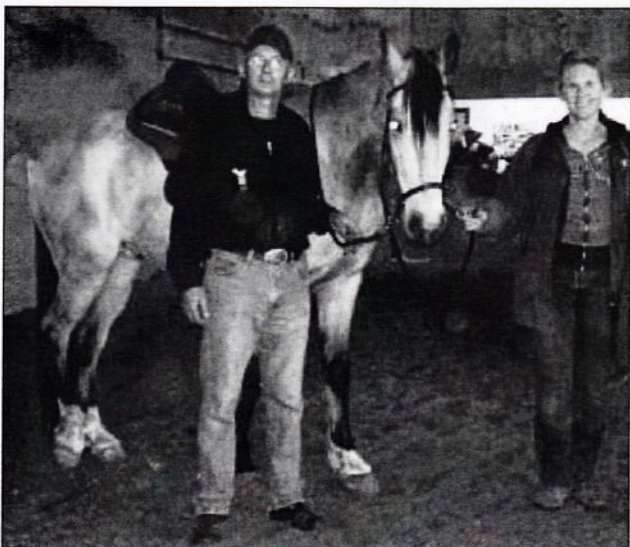
by Lori Dyberg

Klondike Victory Farm was again the location for the first 2010 Gaits from the Ground Up Clinic (April 17 & 18) sponsored by the Canadian Registry. The 2 day clinic offered two clinicians: Bill Roy (trainer of gaited and non gaited horses) of Armstrong, BC, and Dianne Little (I.J.A. Judge) of Calgary, AB. With a maximum of 10 horse/rider pairs, the student to clinician ratio allowed time for plenty of personal attention to each participant.

An 8:30 a.m. start-up seemed early as I walked down the length of the barn to enter the arena, but once we were under way, Bill Roy's enthusiasm grabbed our attention as he took a very green filly (gladly relinquished by Dave Lemmon) and demonstrated his method of gaining respect, trust and co-operation through ground work. I was amazed at the mental and physical difference in the little filly. She was quiet, respectful and confident in such a small amount of time!

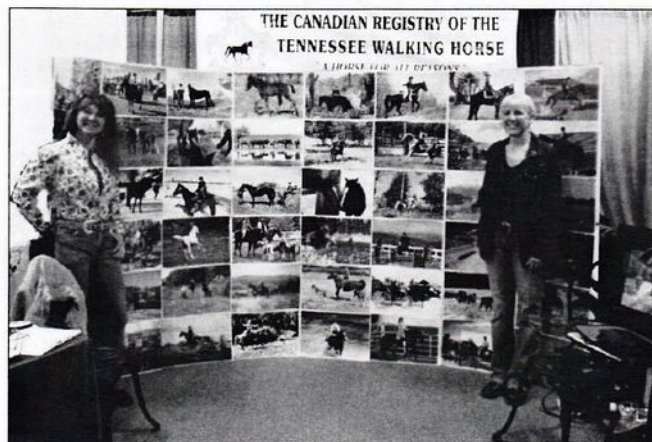
As Bill worked quietly and steadily, Dianne talked about what he was demonstrating and how it would be applied when it was our turn. When I attend a clinic I always wonder what new skill I will acquire, and it is almost always a complete surprise to me what the clinician sees in my ride. Once again Dianne did not disappoint. I have spent many hours practicing using my torso in the corners (as taught to me by Dianne) and the benefits of this one small correction have made many more positive changes in my ride since that day.

Below: Bill with Rolanda Eadie and her buckskin by Gold King x Panda Capri.



As with all good clinics we were all inspired to learn more after the clinic was over. During a B.B.Q. Saturday night, Dave & Rhonda Lemmon, my husband and I decided to have Bill come to Noisy Hollow Acres arena to help us work with our young two year olds!

And this brings us up to the Mane Event on April 23-25 where the Canadian Registry had a booth and Demo times. The Demo Team this year was: Keith Oberle showing the mountain horse, Jack Gurnett showing the ranch horse (the combined age of Jack and his horse was 102 years!) Susan Banks showing the pleasure mount, Karla Freeman showing the family horse, and Rhonda Lemmon and I showing the show horse.



Volunteers in the CRTWH booth this year were: Leslie Hunchuk (*above right*), Karla Freeman (*above left*) Dianne Little, Irene Verbisky, Candice Dyberg, Blair Dyberg, Bill Roy, Keith & Kathy Oberle, Dave and Rhonda Lemmon, Ralph Livingston and Liz & Norm Levangie.

Coming up on June 5 & 6 the Canadian Trail Challenge and Poker Rally is scheduled (with a rain date on June 19 and 20th). I also plan on attending the Wild Rose Versatility Show on June 19 and 20th. And, incidentally, this club has weekly trail rides at the Black Foot Game Reserve.

Over the years I have heard many times, people wondering what they "GET" for their membership fees. I simply don't understand this! You see, I have a husband who practically SHUDDERS every time I write another horsey activity on my calendar. There is a huge list of activities planned for the horse enthusiast this summer by various hard working club members, and I am going to as many as I possibly can – so hope to see you out there!

Photos courtesy Jo Kingsland & Karla Freeman.

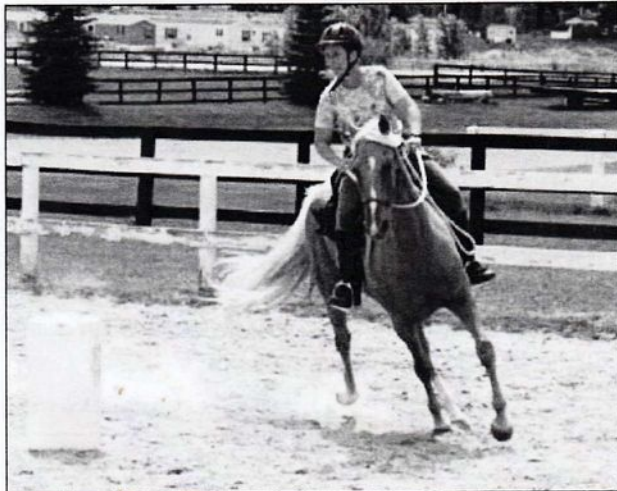
ONTARIO NEWS

SUE GAMBLE, SWASTIKA, writes, "I promised to write an article on how I got started with Walkers but believe it or not I am *still* trying to track down an early photo for such purposes."

"Any way, the picture is of a black bay sabino TWH gelding that I rode as a child in Minnesota. I didn't own him, (wish I had) and have been trying to find a picture but it seems the folks who used to take care of him whom I contacted through a mutual childhood friend, never took his picture. His name was Spook, and I do not know if he was registered or not but that wouldn't be his registered name. I really doubt if any one *could* find his picture since we do not have a registered name for him. I'll just have to trace subsequent owners through childhood friends and see if any one took his picture or knows more about him. Maybe this is a good weekend to get back on his trail."

"Guess what! Since I decided to get back on the trail of lost horses, I just finished talking to a childhood friend in Minnesota who *owned* Spook later (after I had moved to Canada - my dad was in the mining business.) I had her married name from a mutual friend. We had a great talk about Spook and other horses. She actually remembered me even though I told her to sit down before I told her who I was! It's been over forty-five years. I left Minnesota in 1961 at about 13 years old, so now you can figure out how old I am. She is going to look for a picture. His name was changed from Spook to Sputnik, and she changed it to Blaze. She did not have any registration papers for him when she had him, so who knows? Most of the kids wanted Quarter Horses and Spook was always thought to be kind of odd. Hopefully I will get a picture and then I will write that story. It's been a great day to re-unite with the past. Thanks for getting me going on that."

'Fred Lloyd-Smith & Raining Gold Queen cantering.



From DARLENE SHANTZ, MILFORD, "I've been slow to renew because I wanted to send along a note but I've just been so busy - so for now I will just send along the cheque. Still have my three Walkers and try to ride a couple times a week. We took them all camping last August to the Ganaraska and had a great time, especially the 6 year old mare that was on her first trailer ride and camping trip. She did amazing and was the best behaved in a group of experienced horses. She was the only one to stand quietly for her rider to read the flapping paper map. In fact one of the more inexperienced riders switched from her well trained trail horse to ride this green mare for the smoother ride and calm attitude. I'm planning another trip this summer back to the Ganaraska where we can enjoy 10,000 acres of forest trails without bugs!"

U. OF GUELPH EQUINE STUDIES PROGRAMS

KATHY MINOR, KARS writes, "I am sending the university's information material about the equine programs. The programs are completely online and for those not too computer literate there is an excellent help line where you can get assistance. Also the online classmates are an excellent source of information and they are usually very experienced with computer stuff too. I think I've learned more computer knowledge myself in the seven courses I have taken than horse knowledge! When I started all I could do was email."

"The educational level is regarded as first year university level although the work is not as difficult (and is a LOT more interesting). Much of it is based on the student's background in horses. If you are just learning, it is excellent education, and if you have had horses then you get to share that knowledge with your group. Either way it is most satisfying. The fees are university fees, and there is an educational tax credit for the full amount you spend, which is very nice at tax time. At least that is how it works in Ontario."

University of Guelph offers three courses through their Office of Open Learning - Equine Studies Diploma, Equine Science Certificate and Certificate in Equine Business Management. Their motto is "Stay at home with your horses. Study on-line." The equine studies email is info@openuoguelph.ca and phone # is 519-767-5000 Their web is <http://www.info@open.uoguelph.ca>.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

DEBBIE AND DAVE SMITH, TOWER RIDGE FARM, MAPLE RIDGE, write, "It's been a while since we sent in a note. All is well at Tower Ridge Farm but we do miss some of our boarders who have moved away. Gina and Ralph Myhill-Jones put their place up for sale and within a month were gone! Seems like people like the Cariboo and we wish them all well."

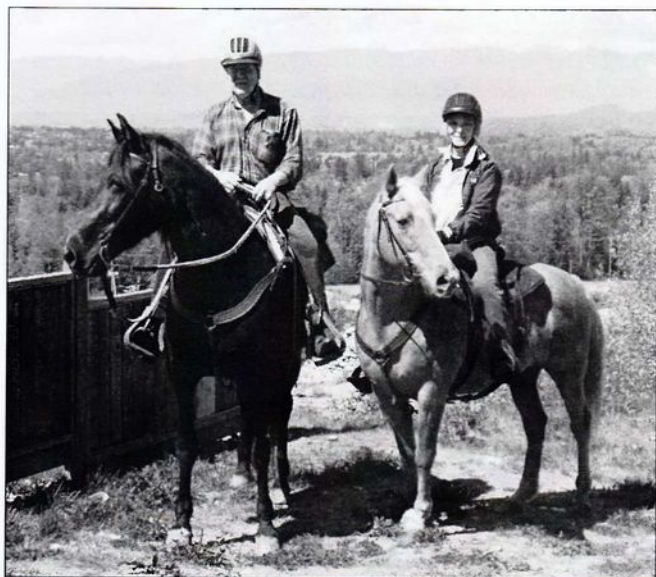
"In the beginning of the year I put down my beloved Peruvian. That horse was my best friend and I miss him so much. I am slowly looking to replace him but have not found anything that can compare to him. I have my boarders' horses to use and I am thankful for their generosity."

"The couple of wind storms we had brought down some trees but the trails are clear and all horse riders are back enjoying the many miles of scenic trails. The weather has been spectacular."

Dave has a new mare, a big black Walker named HURRICANE HANNA, just under 17 hh and 1400 lbs. She's BIG and oh so gentle! She has had lots of endurance miles but now has a leisurely trail ride regularly. So now we have Hanna the horse and Hannah the person who has her horse with us! Sometimes it's confusing - like "Hanna, don't roll in the mud," or "Quit begging for treats!"

"Hope everyone has a good summer and thanks for a great magazine. We look forward to getting it in the mail. I love to take it with me to read in some quiet out of the way place!"

Below: Dave Smith & Hanna; Natalie Speckmaier & Trigger, standing on the WEST VIEW Trail portion of the TRANS CANADA TRAIL - part of the trails network that we have worked on for 30 plus years.



From NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, writes, "Well, our golden girl 'Trigger' celebrated another birthday March 28 and we didn't have a birthday party for her. No wonder she showed her tush to me when I went to see her a few days later! We had the vet out to the barn last month for shots, everyone's annual teeth floating, (the horses, not the owners), etc. The vet said that if all his charges were as good as Trigger with all the procedures, he would be a happy man. Trigger had the full meal deal with the teeth floating: the heavy halter rig and at least 15 minutes of that lethal looking electric drill. She'd grown a couple of nasty points, so rasping was not an option. She stands still for that method as well. So she's good for another year and well protected against West Nile and all the other stuff."

"On March 27 Lisa Riedler and I audited a Jonathan Field "Inspired by Horses" Level 2 clinic. I picked Lisa up on the way to Abbotsford. We arrived at least an hour too early (eager?) even though we'd missed a freeway turnoff and had to double back.

After setting up our chairs, and protecting them from the resident cat, Waylon (Jennings?) and his dirty paws, we proceeded to munch our way through all the treats Lisa provided. Well, were we ever happy to be there early as who should walk into the arena on the end of a lead rope attached to a gorgeous black Andalusian stallion, but Jonathan. Were we in for a treat! He proceeded to work Camaron for half an hour, and it was fascinating to watch. Cam had been trained in the traditional Spanish method with a cruel Sereda noseband (which I wasn't familiar with). Jonathan showed us the dent in Cam's nose from that piece of torture. So big lick trainers aren't the only cruel horse trainers out there. Part of the training now involves attempting to eliminate Cam's biting habit."

Jonathan works at having Cam respect his space, and when he doesn't, and attempts to bite, he gets a light horse style back kick, as he would from another herd animal that he tried to bite. As a finale, Cam did a Spanish Walk and a couple of other fancy Andalusian type moves."

"When the clinic commenced, there were 11 women and 2 men with 13 great-looking horses, mostly Quarter Horses, but a couple of Arabs. The morning was for ground work and involved a lot of yielding, side passing, backing and generally obeying subtle commands. Most behaved beautifully - as did the horses!"

After having lunch outdoors in the sunshine, the afternoon was devoted to the same exercises on horseback. These tended to be a bit more challenging than the ground work, but with Jonathan's excellent

coaching, they all pretty well succeeded in getting their mounts to cooperate. The ground tying was impressive, with most of the horses rooted to their spot while their riders walked off. One smart alec (the horse, not the rider!) would take a step or two just to test his rider. And who was this rebel? Why, Jonathan Field's mount for the day, Jackson. Jack is a gorgeous dapple gray quarter horse with a tail down to the ground. (Was it real or a falsie?) This is a horse anyone can ride, as we saw when Jonathan traded mounts with participants."

"Lisa and I stayed until the very end and were happy to have had an opportunity to have several chats with Jonathan. Lisa and I have both been through Level 1 (I did two and I believe she did as well) when Jonathan was still part of Parelli Natural Horsemanship. In fact, all the participants in this clinic had been through Level 1 of "Inspired By Horses" at least once, and some twice. Lisa and I have vowed that we will go to another Level 1 clinic as soon as we can coordinate our time and find a weekend that works for us."

"If you're interested in watching some fabulous video clips of Jonathan Field and his horses, I recommend going to his website www.jonathanfield.net. The YouTube stuff is inspiring, to say the least."

"I'm looking forward to the next issue of *WHN*. If I can't ride, I can at least read about others who do. It seems that weather is my biggest enemy as it always seems to pour on my days (Monday & Thursday). It's raining again today and poured last Thursday. We seem to drink a lot of coffee at the barn and even went out for brunch one Thursday as Genevieve Amy was in town from upcountry."

"Have a happy spring. Our cherry blossoms are finished, but the daffs and tulips are still going strong. The magnolia trees were absolutely magnificent, and all the trees are leafing out. I loove spring. Happy trails!"

From GEN AMY, SKYKEEP IN THE CARIBOO, "Hi, I am back on the net but have been away so long I've lost the habit, not to mention that this computer and I have always shared a mutual antipathy. Just finished the move this week (finally sold our place on the Coast) and I have to build a corral in the next 3 days because my new 'free' horse has to come home. (She's a bay filly, three and half years old, about 15 hh, broke to ride and drive because she is a Standardbred. She'd pass for a Walker, she's pretty and very gaited although green. So we are back to six horses. Natalie's name for me is GennyTooManyHorses. Afraid it's pretty accurate.)"

"I bought the new sidepull from Bill Roy - it is a beautiful piece of tack - can hardly wait to try it out. Talked to Bill and Brenda Bettles recently. Glad to know the Gaited Horse Show in Armstrong is happening again this year. Maybe I'll bring a horse of my own this year instead of getting on somebody else's five minutes before the show starts."

"Summer Rain found a new home as a personal therapy horse for an autistic child, and fit right in almost immediately. I knew she was a special horse."

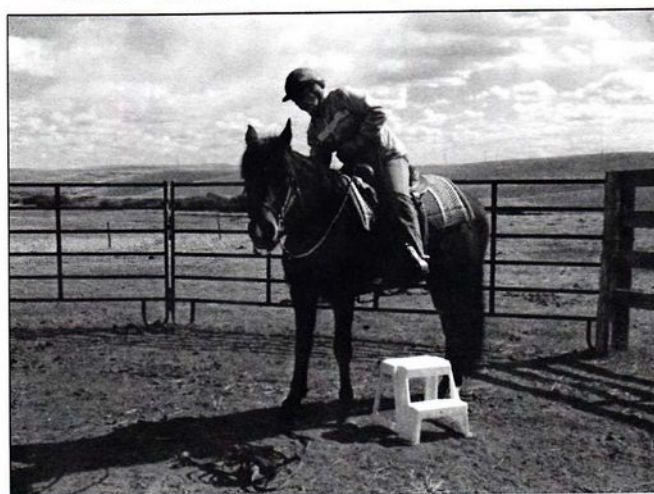
"Sandy and I actually got out to ride a couple of times when the ice was mushy. Boomer is MAGNIFICENT! What a great horse! After months in the field took him out on snowy trails and muddy roads and experienced the best rocking chair canter and running walk ever, even if it was just a few strides of each. And about that strange hoof - I humbly eat crow - it was/is off balance because of an old injury which also affected his shoulder muscles on one side. That's why he had to have a custom saddle!"

"Hope spring is bringing you all good things."

From JO-ANNE & DON MCDONALD, POUCE COUPE, "At McDonald Farms we are pleased to announce the sale of Shaker's Shamrock to Bobbie Terry of Bassano, Alberta. Bobbie and Mel made the trek north to have a look at Shamrock as a replacement for Bobbie's mare that she lost last fall. It is not often that you see a horse and rider "fit" immediately. In this case it was obvious from the first moment. We wish Bobbie and "Sham" many, many miles of happy trails."

"Mel owns Sham's full brother - Countin' Shakes. Both Count and Sham are bays by Canadian Shaker out of Shadow's Magic Maid. I am sure this family unit will get along famously. Please renew the Terrys' subscription with our compliments."

Below - Bobbie and Sham's first ride at home.



READERS WRITE

Karla Freeman, Bentley, writes, "In response to John Raymond's reference (page 11 in the April *WHN*) to the hoof trimming article on the web, I've always been comfortable trimming my horses, if no farrier was available. I believe "trimmed off rough" is better than broken, but the more I know, the more I realize there *is* to know. This article was useful to me, and I found it to be well researched."

"When I looked up the author, Henry Heymering, on the internet, I found many articles written by him. He started shoeing full time in 1973, and has been a Certified Journeyman Farrier since 1983. He is a well-known and respected authority in the farrier industry. In my opinion, it's good information, and Henry doesn't appear to have any agenda other than the well being of the horse and its hooves. That said, it doesn't make him the only authority, and in my mind, the proof is in the horses' soundness."

"Here is an excerpt from the article."

The Proper Hoof Angle

by Henry Heymering, RJF, CJF

There are 9 proven effects of hoof angles:

* Hoof angles influence the position of the hoof on landing - lower angles are a cause of toe first landing (Clayton 1987a, Clayton 1990a). Toe first landing is both unhealthy (Thompson, Rooney, and Petrites-Murphy 1991), and unnatural (Clayton 1990a).

* Hoof angles influence tension in the DDF tendon (deep digital flexor tendon) - the higher the angle, the less tension in the DDF: (Lochner et al a' 1980).

* Hoof angles influence tension in the SDF (superficial digital flexor) tendon at a trot though not in stance or at a walk - a higher angle increases tension in the SDF at a trot (Lochner et al 1980, Stephens, Nunamaker, and Butterweck 1989).

* Hoof angles influence the inclination of the pastern - lowering the hoof angle causes the pastern angle to rise (Lochner et al 1980, Rooney 1984).

* Hoof angles influence concussion of the leg - the higher the hoof angle, the less concussion to the leg (Frandsen, et al 1978).

* Hoof angles influence the ease of breakover, and the timing of breakover - higher angles make the breakover quicker and easier (Clayton 1987a, Clayton 1990b).

* Hoof angles less than 53-55 degrees contribute to run-under contracted heels (Dollar

1898, Reeks 1906, Lunqwitz 1913). This contraction occurs rapidly in hoofs with an angle of less than 45 degrees (Glade and Salzman 1985).

* Hoof angles influence the circulation - a low angle causing congestion of blood in the heels (Colles, Garner and Coffman 1979, Colles 1983b) and increased pressure in the navicular bone marrow (Svalastoga 1983).

- Hoof angles control the weight distribution between heel and toe of the hoof - lower angles cause the heel to bear more weight (Dollar 1898, Caldwell 1987, Barrey 1990).

The effects due to tension in the tendons (#1-5 above) may be influenced by other factors. Muscles adapt to changes in the length and tension of tendons. Tension on the DDF and SDF tendons may also be regulated by the amount of caudal support (length of heel extension on the shoe).

Similarly, the ease of breakover (#6 above) may also be regulated by adjusting the breakover point (such as rocker toes, or for the opposite effect, extended toe shoes).

The only functions of hoof angle that cannot be otherwise compensated for are its effects on the distribution of weight from heel to toe (#7-9 above). Therefore, the distribution of weight from heel to toe in a healthy manner is the most important factor in determining the proper hoof angle.

13th Annual Interior Gaited Horse Show June 12 & 13, Armstrong, BC (15 min N of Vernon)

This is a fun show for all gaited breeds of horses and their owners to come together, show off and have a great time. There are the serious gait and equitation classes, as well as those for pleasure and pure fun. Mixing breeds for team relays is encouraged. Typically, we have Walkers, Peruvians, Icelandics, Rockies, even a Missouri Fox Trotter, Paso Fino or Gaited Mule! Part-gaited horses are also welcome.

\$50 pre-June 1/\$60 post June 1 gives unlimited entry to 45 classes. Single class and day entry fees also available. Excellent stabling/camping on site.

For more info, contact Brenda Bettles Mason at bbettles@hotmail.com or 250-546-6048 or Christine Schwartz at valor70@hotmail.com.

Hope you can come!

SASKATCHEWAN NEWS



Above, TRISH McCARTHY, REGINA, on last month's cover, sent some photos of her horse, Moses (Dusty's Touch N' Go) in his new role as a driving horse. Here Trish takes husband, Art Howell, on a spin around the arena behind Moses.

SYLVIA BAYNTON, SASKATOON, writes, "We are organizing an All Breed Gaited Show in Saskatoon to take place on September 3-5, 2010. There will be classes for Tennessee Walkers, Peruvian Pasos and Icelandic horses. There will also be open classes for any gaited horse, including a 50-50 stakes class. A high point versatility award and cash prizes will be offered. A silent auction of horse art will also be conducted."

"The show is open to the public free of charge. We hope to see many Tennessee Walkers at the show."

MANITOBA NEWS

From MARSHA & CLIFF TRINDER, T W RANCH, RUSSELL, "We had a pleasant winter and now a beautiful spring. It's sweatshirt weather, and we have actually been riding for six weeks!"

"We are offering several of our trained trail and ranch horses for sale and we have been busy running them through our program to make certain they meet our standards after their winter holiday. I am enclosing an advertisement. Several of our horses have been certified as Heritage Horses with the TWH Heritage Society and we have a number of others pending."

"I have been busy working on our websites; the ranch website at www.twranch.ca and a complementary website for the horses at www.twhorse.com. I would love to have people inspect my work!"

"Our first calves were born on April 1st. It was a set of twins so they were a little early. Calving will start in earnest middle of April. It's always an exciting time as we calve in large pastures and check the cattle off horseback. It's the best way to check the cattle and it's great training for the horses! Foaling won't start until May."

"We love to have people stop in and visit at the ranch, but it's best if you call ahead. If we are out and about on the ranch when you come you will not be able to find us!"

BARB FENWICK, CARBERRY, writes, "All is well here at SEASONS RANCH. I am working at our local high school as a English Language Assistant, so it keeps me busy and I have less time for horsing around! My three horses are all fine. Spirit, my TWH is doing spectacular! He is 101% sound and with his diet & natural foot care having been on track now for a few years, he just keeps getting better. Having gone from the severely laminatic horse to super sound with what I learned over the last 5 years has been truly a miracle for him. He is SO much more gaited now... run walking like crazy down the gravel road with his Easy Boots on to cushion things a bit."

"Zoie my MFT mare is also 5 now and starting to get out on trails. She's a sweet, laid back girl. My Paso Serena (the wild rescue horse) is coming along slowly, but does nothing but gait, so it will be fun once I start riding her later in the year or next year."

"I am still teaching some hoof health in the summer, going up to Wawota, SK in July, and to a couple of kids' camps, but otherwise kicking back and taking my summer easier. I am a new "grandma" as our son Ray and his wife had a boy April 28th... so I am knitting "Cooper" a riding outfit already!"

Life is pretty good and I sure still enjoy getting the *WNH* and devouring its contents. It's fabulous. I write an online magazine as you know, called *Horses Naturally*, which keeps me busy on cold winter nights developing it. Life is busy...but full of wonder and joy. Hope all readers have a great year and ride a smooth horse!"

Speaking of Horses...

Old minds are like old horses; you must exercise them if you wish to keep them in working order.

John Adams

Sept. 3-5
Saskatoon, SK

The Diamond Classic Double Championship All Breed Gaited Horse Show



One Entry Fee!
Double the Points!
Double the Prizes!
Double the Fun!

The Sask Peruvian Horse Club has partnered with the Alberta PERRU Club, to put on this **DOUBLE SHOW**, sanctioned by the Alberta Walking Horse Association, Friends Of the Sound Horse and the Peruvian Horse Association of Canada.

This Double Show will have two Judges who will each make his/her own placings, in the ring, simultaneously. The prizes will be awarded separately, by each judge's placings, allowing you to win two ribbons in each class! It will be a unique opportunity to compete in two shows at once!!

TWH classes will include:

Western classes, English classes, 2gait, 3gait, Halter Classes & Multiple Championships

Plus:

Open Gaited Breed Classes for any naturally gaited horse, including a 50/50 stakes class, high point versatility award and some cash prizes!
Icelandic horse Classes and Championship
Full Peruvian Double Regional Championship Classes

For More Information Contact PJ Soles at 306 929 2350 or info@foxcreekhomestead.net



FOAL CALL

SORREL COLT, blaze & socks (Sunny's Greatest Glory x Threat's Magic Genie) (*Below*)

BLACK COLT, 3 socks, star & snip (Canadian Shaker x Yankee's Melody Maid). (*Below right*)

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

PALOMINO COLT, 2 socks & star, (Cherokee's Dark Knight x Bee Boppin Angel's Dream). (*Above*)
Karla & Pat Freeman, Ride Easy Ranch, Bentley, AB

BUCKSKIN COLT (Northfork Top Traveller x Uphill Sand'N Sable).
Charles & Marjorie Lacy,
Uphill Farm, Edson, AB (See page 1)





The Canadian Walker

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Photo by Jo Kingsland

CRTWH ANNUAL MEETING

The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse took place at Klondike Victory Farm on April 17. We had wonderful warm sunny weather and a very good turn out of

members. Annual reports from the president, secretary and treasurer were presented. After some debate, the proposed constitutional amendments were passed with the required majority, so they will now be sent on to Agriculture Canada for approval.

Many of these amendments to the constitution were put in place to allow CRTWH to use faster, more efficient means of communication with our members through electronic means.

Awards for the various programs of 'The Canadian' Triple Challenge were presented (a complete report to follow) and the meeting then adjourned for an evening of supper and socializing. It was great to see so many of you there! *MCL*

'GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP' Clinics

CRTWH sponsored two successful and well attended clinics, one on April 17 & 18 at Klondike Victory Farm, and the second on May 2 & 3 at Cloudwalker Stables. Bill Roy and Dianne Little were the clinicians at both.

If you would like to have a Gait From the Ground Up clinic in your area, please get in touch with us. The Registry has committed to support up to four clinics in 2010.

CRTWH TRIPLE CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all those who achieved awards in these Programs in 2009.

THOMAS KETELSEN of Rosburn, Manitoba won *both* the adult categories in the Ride Program with the most hours ridden in both the single horse and multiple horses.

We'll feature the Program For Excellence Awards, the Training Levels awards, and a story on Thomas in an up-coming issue. In the meantime, what about next year?

NEW on the WEB!

When the number of Bronze, Silver and Gold designations awarded to horses in the Program For Excellence reached 40, we planned to put up a feature on the web to celebrate their achievements.

Well, that time has come! You can go to www.crtwh.ca to click on the Canadian Triple Challenge - Awards, and there you'll find photos of the horses with the level each has achieved and a summary about each horse. For the Gold Award there is also a pedigree included.

REGISTRATIONS & TRANSFERS

If you own a TWH but do not have the registration in your name, and would like to up-date the ownership, please get in touch with us. There are many horses out there that have lost their papers, have not been transferred for several owners, etc. We can help with many of these problems, but we need to hear from you. Please contact me at 780-723-2547 or email me at the address to the left. *MCL*

WALKERS ROCK!

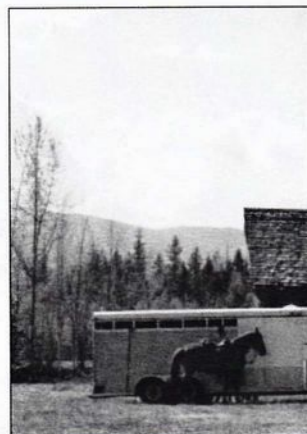
LARCH HILLS RIDE, B.C.



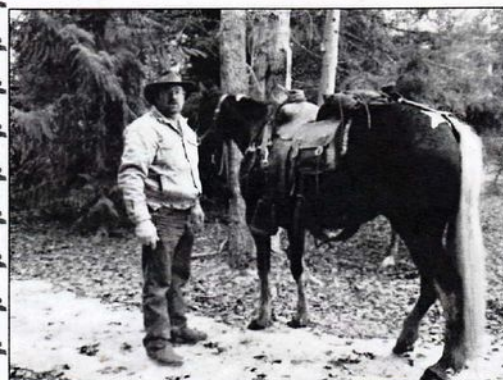
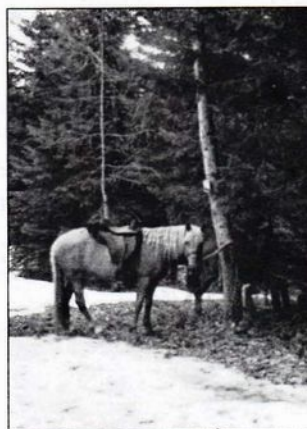
The inaugural "Tennessee Walkers Rock!" ride in the Larch Hills was a thrilling event. Last year, TWH owner Ron Nordby from Kamloops suggested that we hold a ride for 'TWH only' so we could let them really do their thing and not have to wait for the "other" breeds that must trot to keep up with the glide ride of the TWH.



Ron's idea came to life when Bill Roy, CRTWH Vice President, organized a ride May 8-9th at the Larch Hills Cross Country Ski Hills near Salmon Arm, BC. The Larch Hills X-C ski trails are well established and groomed, providing miles of broad and narrow trails to explore. There is ample room for camping, horse trailers and four individual corrals, donated by the EQ Trail Riders, and a rustic, heated chalet for accommodation.



Over the two days 10 riders went up hill and down dale, through the enchanting trails carpeted deep in larch duff. I can honestly say that I have never enjoyed trail riding more than being in company with gaited horses. The steeds all got in 'tune' and we rambled all over that mountain in perfect comfort. The ride did wonders to improve gaits and conditioning at the same time.



WHY
would you want to ride any other breed?
The weekend was such a success that we are already planning an autumn "Tennessee Walkers Rock!"
-Ralph Livingston,
CRTWH Director-BC



P.S. The mysterious white stuff in the pics is something prairie folk call "snow" ...?

*Photos courtesy
Shari Gurney and
Ralph Livingston.*

STILL WALKIN' ON LATER IN LIFE Part One by Franne Brandon



Above - Mike Davis holding his trail mare Ostella's Della Ann (Della), with his wife's mare Walk The Edge of Good-bye (Redbird) in the background.

Many trail riders who live in Tennessee Walking Horse country have never ridden trotting horses. In other areas of the United States, however, the Tennessee Walker, along with other gaited breeds, is still a novelty. Often, the price of a well-gaited and sensible Walking gelding is beyond the budget of the average youthful horse owner. Thanks to his even temperament and smooth gaits, though, the Walking Horse becomes the breed of choice when older riders decide that they prefer changing breeds to hanging up their spurs. For many people approaching retirement age, the breed's gaits and disposition represent the chance to fulfill dreams of horse ownership that would otherwise remain forever thwarted.

Mike Davis of Wabasha, Minnesota, rode a few times on his sister's Quarter Horse as a child, but he didn't really like riding. He remembers it was "because my sister's horse was mean, bit when cinched, and ran me under branches. Of course, I didn't know what I was doing either." It was not until his middle adult years, at the age of forty in 1989, when he bought his first horse. In the twenty years since then, he has continued to own and love horses. The first one, a small grade mare just over thirteen hands, was a Quarter Horse/Morgan cross. Mike remarked, "She had a two speed trot; the faster trot was a bit smoother than the standard trot". Seventeen years into trail riding, Mike purchased his first gaited horse. She was a registered Tennessee Walking Horse mare who was twenty years old at the time of sale in 2006. Mike had been intrigued by stories of the glide ride of the various gaited breeds. He admits that "I

heard about the smooth ride, and it sounded better for trail riding than the rough Quarter Horse gait."

Unlike some trail riders, Mike knows and is proud of the pedigree of his first Walking horse. He brags, "Emma has some very interesting bloodlines that go pretty far back. She has quite a few WGC from the early days of the breed and well-known sires like Merry Boy, Brantley's Roan Allen, Jr., Merry Go Boy, Midnight Sun two times, Midnight Mack K, Ebony Masterpiece, Rodgers' Perfection two times, Ebony's Senator, and GLL's Carbon Copy. Her dams include Yates Dream and Go Boy's Merry Bird."

Emma (23 year old Copy's Magic Hour) recently presented him with a fine minimal black sabino colt sired by Slush Creek's Jubal S, a stallion going back on the top line to Hill's Perfection. That brings the farm's total of Tennessee Walkers up to seven. *(Photo of the newcomer below.)*



Like many others who start on the trails in their middle adult years, Mike doesn't ride as often as he wants due his full time job. When time permits, he rides alone or with his wife Mary, still a novice rider, who started out on the trails about five years ago with their Quarter Horses (that are now deceased).

Mike's plans for future use of his leisure time definitely include the horses. Mike says that, "My plan is to retire and spend more time "horsing" around, and I would like to breed my Heritage Certified TWH mares to Certified stallions. I enjoy imprinting and training the foals to lead and load, pick up their feet, and follow behind me walking or when on-board a lead horse, showing good manners." Mike has found his niche in the world of gaited horse ownership, and he hopes it will continue to provide him with pleasure and relaxation for years to come.

(To be continued next issue.)

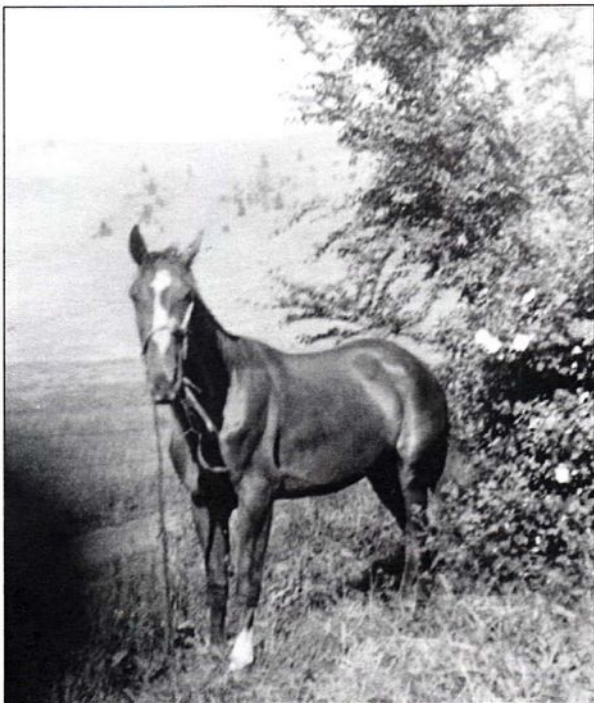
NEWS FROM OUR U.S. SUBSCRIBERS

GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MONTANA writes, "I am a great grandmother! Isabella Renee Czerwinski was born March 10th to our granddaughter, Amber, who is already 26 years old! Amber spent every summer with us when she was a girl, riding horses, camping, and enjoying our chickens. Time sure goes and the birth of Isabella helps make up for some very painful losses; my daughter and several of our horses."

"We spent Easter Sunday traveling to Big Arm, Polson, and Ronan, Montana. On the way, near Townsend, we drove out to my grandmother's homestead. She raised a five acre garden and built her own house so she could prove up the homestead. This was from 1910 - 1918. That was when women still rode side saddle and wore long dresses. I have been taping a lot of family history; started with Mom when she was here and this time taped Mom's brother, Bert, and her sister, Fay. Lots of horse, bear, and sheep stories; even some rattlesnake stories."

"Here are a couple more pictures from my mom's photo albums. Both of these geldings were sired by Buck La Marr # 450574. Early Bird La Marr # 501285 was born in 1950, a chestnut gelding out of Ruby Jones # 431032." (Photo below)

"When La Marr, as we called him, was foaled, we were pasturing Glacier Park Service mules and horses. A pair of jumping mules managed to get into the mare pasture and tried to kill La Marr. His legs were bruised up and his body had numerous places where they had stomped on him. Thankfully, Mom rescued him and she doctored him into a healthy gelding. He



was so gentle anyone could ride him. A more lovable horse would be hard to find."

"T.J. La Marr # 501283 was a bay gelding born in 1950, out of Margaret La Marr # 440480. TJ was a very laid back gelding with excellent gait, and so easy to train." (Photo above.)

HERITAGE HORSE SOCIETY PERFORMANCE AWARDS

The TWH Heritage Society firmly believes that the term "Performance Horse" should be reserved for animals that typify the original purpose of the breed, as using horses that can cover ground smoothly, work cattle, climb hills and mountains safely, and be enjoyable mounts. For this reason, in 2010 the Heritage Society is offering its first TWH Heritage Society Performance Achievement award to the Heritage Horse and the Heritage-Sired Horse that best exemplify these talents for which the breed was developed.

Horses must be enrolled in one of the following: FOSH, NWA, or TWHBEA distance riding programs, TWHBEA Versatility program, Canada's CRTWH Triple Challenge program or other state or regional programs, such as PWHAT or NATRC. Participants will need to provide the Society with a copy of their log book or whatever they turn in to their respective organizations. Participants will write a brief narrative as to why they feel their horse deserves this award. The winner will receive a prize and a page in Highlights. Winners in the Heritage and Heritage Outcross categories will be chosen and announced January 2011.

Contestants should email their materials to TWHHS@yahoo.com or mail to PO Box 124, Whitehall, Wisconsin 54773 by December 31, 2010.

Good Horse-keeping Hints



Here's a quick, slick way to untangle those 'fairy knots' in your horse's mane

1. As you can see, Soda has some real tangles in her mane.



2. Jayne sprays a liberal dose of WD 40 onto the tangles.

3. She works the WD 40 into the knots and they begin to slip apart.



4. She then gently runs the comb-out tool through the mane. Presto! No more tangles!

5. Picture five shows the WD 40 and two of the kind of longer toothed tools that work well for the job.

Thank you to Jo-Anne McDonald, Jayne Walker & Bill Taylor (camera man) for the idea & the photos. And thank-you to Soda, who modeled for them.



IJA JUDGES CLINIC IN SWITZERLAND 2010 by Dianne Little

The journey to Germany and Switzerland began in late 2007. I received the following message from the Executive Director of the European Tennessee Walking Horse Association (ETWHA): "We are planning an ETWHA European-Championships with sound horses and rules. Could it be possible to have a judge clinic before the Championship?"

This was an unique opportunity - an IJA clinic in Europe was positive for everyone. To the best of my knowledge, no other licensing organization had been asked to educate judges of gaited horses in Europe: FOSH/IJA would be the first. The FOSH Board approved the IJA clinic in Europe. The process of training judges to the IJA Standards began. FOSH Past President and IJA Judge Bill Coon accompanied me to Germany for the Clinic and as one of the judges for the European Tennessee Walking Horse Championship.

The focus of the clinic was judging sound and natural TWH with respect and according to the rules rather than personal preference. The attendees were mixed - some interested in learning how to judge TWH and obtain an IJA License and others interested in information. Language was a barrier, but not as much as I thought it might be - everyone was respectful of the challenges we all faced. Between the clinic and the show, Bill and I spent a lively afternoon in Kreuth discussing Rules with members of the Rules Commission. A focus of the discussion was that Rules for competition are not static, but a work in progress: things change as circumstances change; things are discovered that are not clear, not complete, or totally forgotten. Bill and I were joined by Sandra Van den Hof as the third judge for the European Championship. The entire experience was great.

Bill and I left Germany exhilarated, but not certain when we would proceed to the next step of the journey. In late December of 2009, the Executive Director of ETWHA contacted me asking if a second clinic was possible in 2010. The ETWHA Rules Commission remembered the afternoon in Kreuth and spent hours rewriting the ETWHA Rules for Showing Tennessee Walking Horses. The Rules would be presented to the ETWHA membership in late January. If approved, they felt the second clinic could occur with instruction and judging parameters based upon these Rules. "ETWHA was strongly influenced by you and Bill. People liked your way of judging and are looking forward to learning more", said Rainer Schwede, President of ETWHA and a member of the Rules Commission. I am honored that we influenced people. FOSH/IJA truly wants to reward the sound and natural horse. We believe that judges who follow the

rules that are written, and who judge on those rules are the judges that should be hired. Judges are not hired for their personal opinion, but for their professional opinion based on the rules that are already determined.

When I received an English translation of the ETWHA Rules, I had a few chuckles at words that did not translate well (mouthpiece became bit teeth), but was impressed at the massive effort. They wanted Rules applicable to the area in which they lived, not Rules from another country with a culture and traditions that were of little relevance in Europe. The ETWHA Rules are more restrictive than the IJA Rules; relate only to TWH; operate within the parameters of the German Animal Protection Regulations; focus on natural and humane. ETWHA had moved to take over the show scene of the Tennessee Walking Horse in Europe - they had taken control over their breed.

The path to becoming a TWH Judge under ETWHA Rules in Europe would not be the same as the path in North America. It was understood that I was to provide a framework for the licensing process that would be adapted to the European situation, a situation that is very different from that in North America. The program for Europe must respond to the specific circumstances of the area. The 2010 clinic must provide an opportunity to practice the "art of judging". Apprentices can never see too many horses to help develop their vision of the TWH. There is a huge difference between knowing the rules of competition - and judging horses. After much discussion, the date and the location of the clinic were set. It would be four days in Switzerland including a horse show on the third day. It was my intent to show lots of video, but sometimes the technical connections did not perform perfectly, providing an opportunity to practice the "art of adapting". It seemed rather strange, but I intended to show the German Video "If Horses Could Speak". The graphics and comments are important to ALL judges of horses whether gaited or not.

An IJA Judges Clinic does not just focus on the rules. It is an opportunity: to discuss the Philosophy, Values and Ethics of an organization and a person; to differentiate between Opinion and Educated Opinion; to investigate what it means to judge; to arrive at an understanding of the responsibility of a judge; to become aware of personal biases and motives; to develop strategies of logistics and organization; to develop an intimate relationship with the Rule Book; to learn to focus on all horses in a class; to develop memory for horses and classes; or to develop strategies to arrive at conclusion. There is equal focus on the art of judging as well as the science of judging.

IJA Clinics encourage discussion on topics and thoughts that becomes important at any time. I have a master plan, but that master plan is fluid. This clinic was no exception – there was a lot to discuss and many things to explore so that everyone understood how the rules applied to the Philosophy, Values and Ethics of ETWHA and each apprentice. The days were long, but the task was great. It is important that judges have the opportunity to judge and discuss how decisions are made. It is important to train the eye to watch all horses, and the mind to keep track of what every horse is doing in a positive sense before all the negative factors come into play.

There were 6 people at the clinic who wanted to obtain Judges licenses. They were required to prepare a number of assignments prior to the clinic, spend 10 hours a day in a classroom, apprentice-judge horses on video, complete assignments after the clinic and write an exam with a minimum pass mark of 90%. They also were required to apprentice- judge a horse show. These apprentice judges were not only required to judge the classes, but to set up any courses, explain the courses to the other judges and the exhibitors, and discuss the classes afterwards while defending their decisions.

The apprentices were keen and welcomed the challenge, but like most apprentices they did not really understand the depth of the challenge. The weather was not cooperative and the arena floor was cold. Handling papers and books when your hands are cold is not easy, and writing with gloves or mittens is always a juggling experience. In spite of everything, the apprentices all survived. After the first couple of classes settled into the routine without major glitches I even saw them smile at times – briefly, mind you, but it *was* a smile. I admit the show was much easier for me than for the apprentices. Difficult to admit, but I am pleased when an apprentice tells me they didn't believe judging could be so difficult.

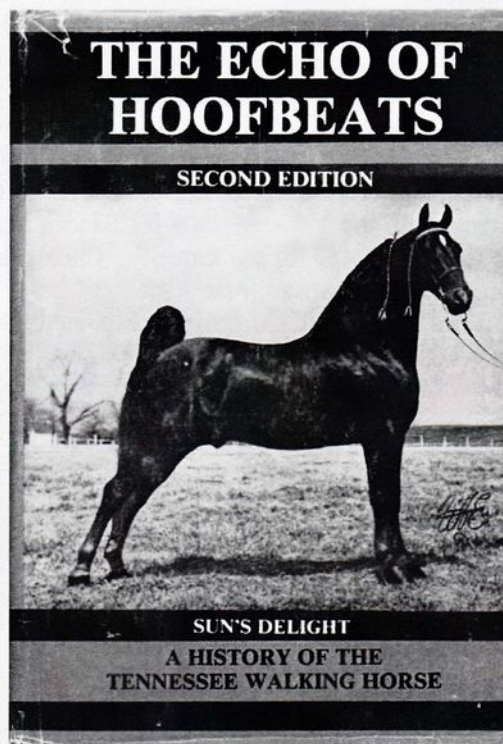
My second trip to Europe representing FOSH and IJA was another wonderful adventure. It is satisfying to work with people who want to learn and with people who have a similar philosophy. I am honored that Bill and I influenced people. FOSH/IJA wants to reward the sound and natural horse and help others do the same. We believe judges should judge according to the established rules. Judges are not hired for their personal opinion, but for their professional opinion based on the rules that are already determined.

I look forward to marking the exams and certifying those who have satisfied the conditions of attaining a TWH license in Europe. Look for the list of ETWHA judges on the FOSH website.

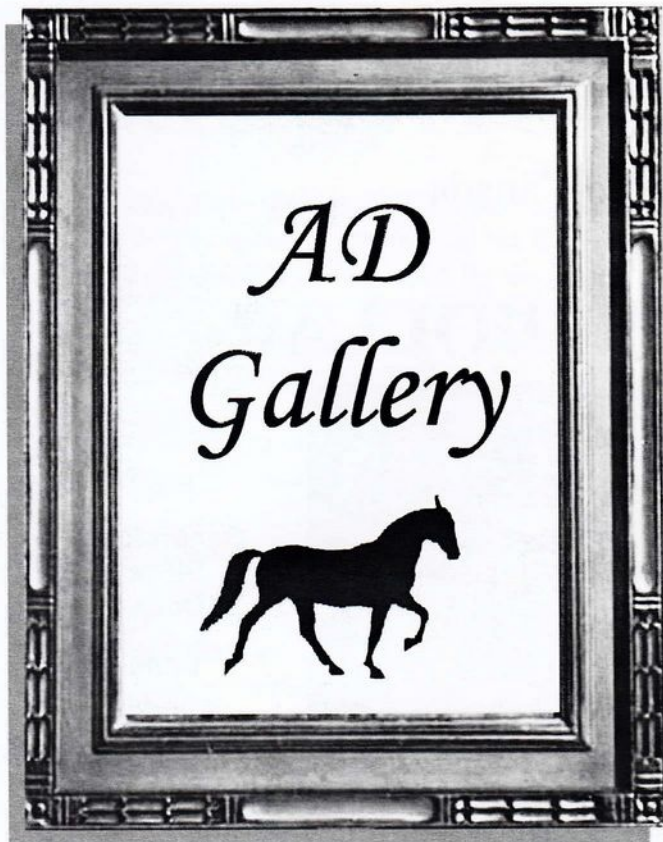
DR. BOB WOMACK PASSES

Beloved author, professor and Tennessee Walking Horse historian Dr. Bob Womack passed away on April 17, 2010 at Middle Tennessee Medical Center. He was a native of Bedford County and had lived in Rutherford County for the past 53 years. He served in the U.S. Navy during WW II. Throughout his life he was a noted leader in the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, serving on the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Board of Directors, instrumental in the development of the Walking Horse Owners Association, and one of the original investors in the Walking Horse Report. His book, *The Echo of Hoofbeats*, is noted as the authority on the history of the Tennessee Walking Horse, and it was reissued through three editions.

Dr. Womack was a Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Middle Tennessee State University, recently renamed the Womack Family Department of Educational Leadership. He had been inducted into both the Tennessee Teachers' Hall of Fame and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame. Besides *Echo of Hoofbeats*, he was the author of *Call Forth the Mighty Men*, *A History of Tennessee* and many other books.



This second edition of his book was written after his trip to Calgary, AB around 1983 and has a section about the development of the breed in Canada.



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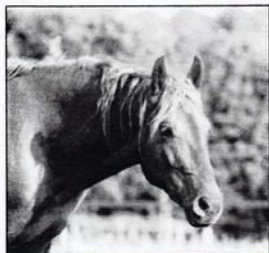
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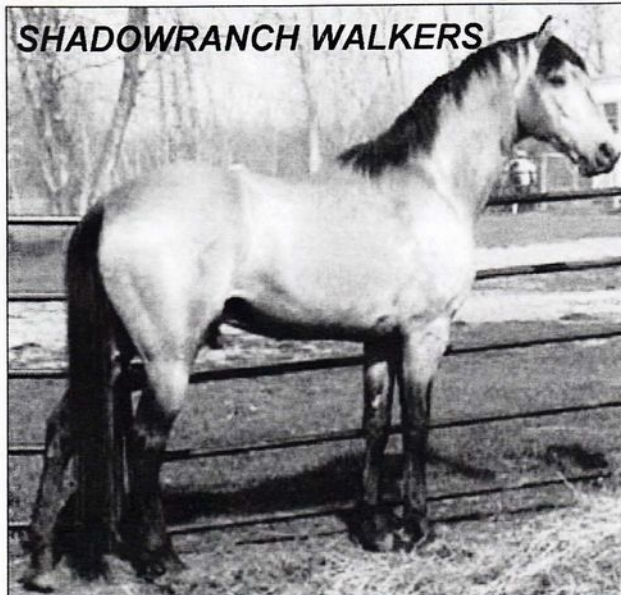
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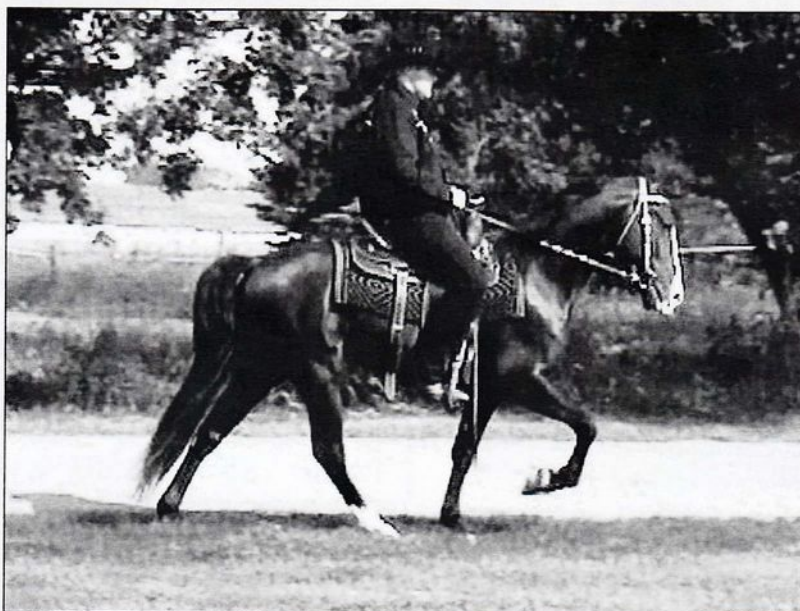
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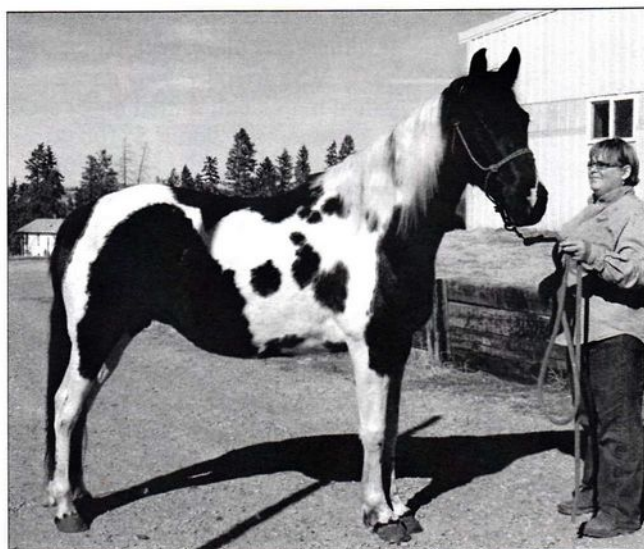
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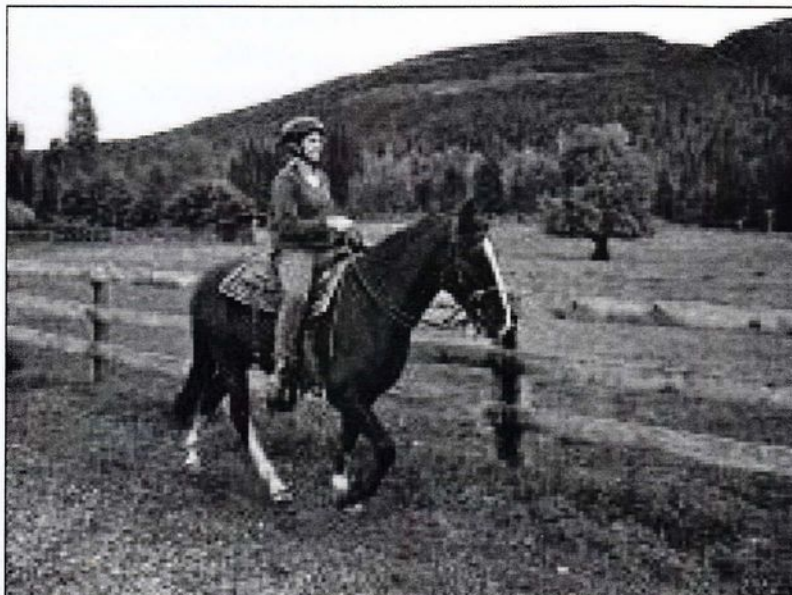
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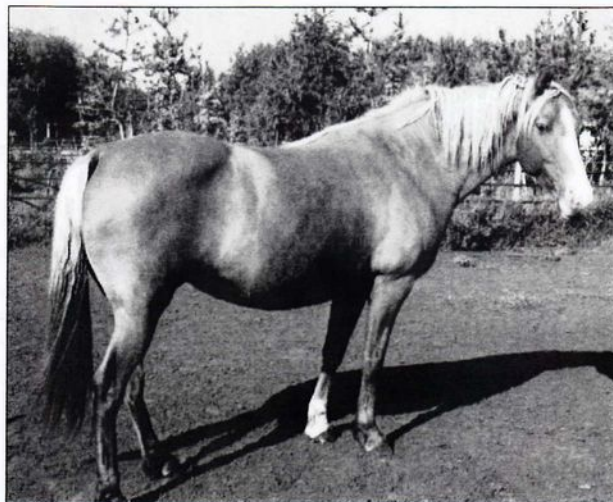
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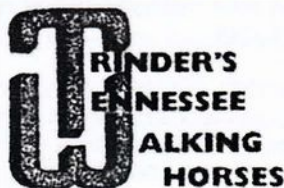
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INTERIOR GAITED HORSE SHOW - June 12 & 13, Armstrong, BC (15 min N of Vernon). A fun show for all gaited breeds of horses. \$50 pre-June 1/\$60 post June 1 gives unlimited entry to 45 classes. Single class and day entry fees also available. Excellent stabling/camping on site. For more info, contact Brenda Bettles Mason at bbettles@hotmail.com or 250-546-6048 or Christine Schwartz at valor70@hotmail.com.

CANADA DAY TRAIL RIDE - A 'SOLDIER ON' FUNDRAISER hosted by the Edmonton Garrison Saddle Club at CFB Edmonton. Wed 30 June - Camp Out; Thurs, 1 July- Final Registration. Only 100 rider spots avail! RSVP by 1 June 2010! For more info and a registration package, please contact DIANNE WEIR HOME # - 780-973-6503, CELL# - 780-893-5984 E-MAIL: diannebirt@hotmail.com OR MAUREEN DWYER CELL # 780-718-0561 E-MAIL: maureen.dwyer@forces.gc.ca

THE ALBERTA CELEBRATION - August 6th, 7th & 8th 2010. ENTRY DEADLINE is July 23. JUDGE is The Honorable Rick Evans (IJA Judge). The AWAHA is pleased to offer a show for all Gaited Breeds. The show will showcase the Tennessee Walking Horse and a number of classes have been added for the Peruvian Paso. Check out the venue at www.anchorranch.com. For more information and to request an entry form please contact Rhonda Lemmon at 403-782-3118 or via email at yonafeda@gmail.com.

ALL BREED GAITED SHOW, Saskatoon, SK on September 3-5, 2010. For more info contact P.J. Soles, phone 306-929-2350, email foxcreek@inet2000.com. The website is www.saskperuvians.net.

NEXT DEADLINE

July 7, 2010

to WHN, Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5