

OCTOBER 2010  
VOLUME XXXIV No. 5



# 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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*Walking Horse News* is  
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Annual subscriptions are  
**\$21 in Canada**  
\$32 US Funds in U.S.A.,  
\$52.00 CDN - Overseas.

*Please send Subscriptions,  
Classified Ads, Display Ads  
and Editorial Material to*  
Editor/Publisher Marjorie Lacy  
Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5  
**(780) 723-2547**

Email - [whn@telus.net](mailto:whn@telus.net)

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Website; Computer Consultant:  
Shirley Bossert, Edson, AB  
Subs list, CP Presort & Mailing  
Jo Kingsland, Alix, AB

Printed by Trail Printing, Edson, AB

## On Our Cover

Members of  
the Gurnett  
family enjoy a mountain  
trail ride in the YaHa Tinda  
area of Alberta in 2009.  
Congratulations to  
Jack & Margaret  
on a very special  
Wedding Anniversary  
this September -  
Happy 60th!

See page 3 for photos of  
Jack and his daughter,  
Joanne and her husband  
Miles, on an August  
packtrip they took into  
the mountain country of  
Western Alberta.

*Photo by Joanne Stern*

## Deadline Dates

for Jan/Feb issue  
JANUARY 7

for Mar/Apr issue  
MARCH 7

for May/June issue  
MAY 7

for July/Aug issue  
JULY 7

for Sept/Oct issue  
SEPTEMBER 7

for Nov/Dec issue  
NOVEMBER 7

TO POSTMASTER:  
Publications Mail  
Agreement No.40050207

If undeliverable please notify

WALKING HORSE  
NEWS,  
BOX 7326,  
EDSON, AB T7E 1V5

Volume XXXIV, # 5 Sept/October, 2010

Dear Subscribers,

This summer has just raced by. Where did it go? However, that 'hours old' colt that I showed you in the June issue has grown into the big boy below, and is enjoying being 'the stallion of the herd'. (The girls are tolerant.)

The dry, dry conditions we experienced in June and July gave way to showers throughout August just as we were trying to cut what little hay there was, and so, in between showers, we got about one fifth the hay we normally do. Now in September we can't turn off the rain. And worse - today (Sept. 19) it began to *snow!* I can't wait for the long warm Indian Summer that surely must follow...

A reminder to everyone that the *WHN* cover ads for 2011 go on sale at this time. See page 17 for details and prices. The magazine needs advertisers to pay for the colour covers, and breeders, trainers and stallion owners need to keep their contact information out in the public eye where folks interested in Walkers will see it. So, consider advertising in *WHN* - it's a win-win situation!

I'd also appreciate it if those of you with ads within the magazine would let me know if you have sold the horses listed. That way I can adjust the ad or tell people who phone looking for a horse what is still available.

Enjoy the issue, and here's hoping you all get a chance to get out and spend time with your Walkers in the beautiful autumn weather we are all looking forward to.

Thank you to all contributors,

*Marjorie*



WHN makes a  
great gift!

October, 2010

# Walking Horse News

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

A One Year (6 issue) Subscription is \$21 in Canada. To the U.S.A it's \$32 in US Funds.

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## IN THIS ISSUE – September/October, 2010

### LIST OF CONTENTS

Pack Trip in the Rockies.....	3
What Do You Do with Your Walkers?.....	4
Alberta News.....	5 & 6
Manitoba News.....	6
British Columbia News.....	7 & 8
What Do You Do with Your Walkers?.....	9
Wild Rose Versatility Show Results by Lori Dyberg.....	10
Growing Up with Walkers by Lori Dyberg.....	11
Foal Call.....	12
Equine Information Documents.....	12
Whatever Became Of... Sundown Barker.....	12
The Canadian Walker.....	13
A Visit to Brazil by Eldon Eadie.....	14-15
Gaited Horse Show in Armstrong, BC.....	15
Back Yard Walkin' by Allanna Jackson.....	16 & 17
2011 Covers Ad.....	17
Display Ads begin on page.....	18
Classified ads.....	23, 24
Business Cards.....	24
Coming Events.....	24

### ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Boot Scoot`N Boogie Stables.....	24
Champion Rainbow Walkers.....	22
Cloudwalker Stables.....	21
CRTWH.....	13, Inside front cover
Image's Black Pearl for sale.....	18
Larson's High Plains Walkers.....	24
Laurindale Stables.....	20
Liberty Stables TWH Sale.....	19
McDonald Farms.....	22, Back cover
Northfork Farm.....	24
Paddocks & Pillows.....	6
Rafternines Walkers.....	Inside back cover
Ride Easy Ranch.....	Back cover
Ryalls & Oslund TWH Dispersal Sale.....	22
Skyline Ranch.....	Back cover
Tennessee Walking Horse Heritage Society.....	18
Trinders Tennessee Walking Horses.....	24
Uphill Farm.....	Inside back cover
V4 Stables.....	18
Woodhill Walkers.....	Inside back cover

*Thank you for advertising in Walking Horse News!*

# Pack Trip in the Rockies - Photos courtesy Joanne Stern



Northfork Sundancer & Jack



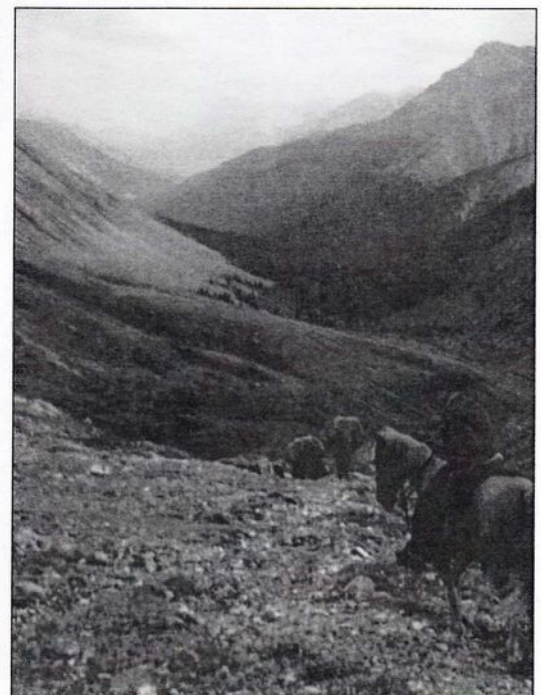
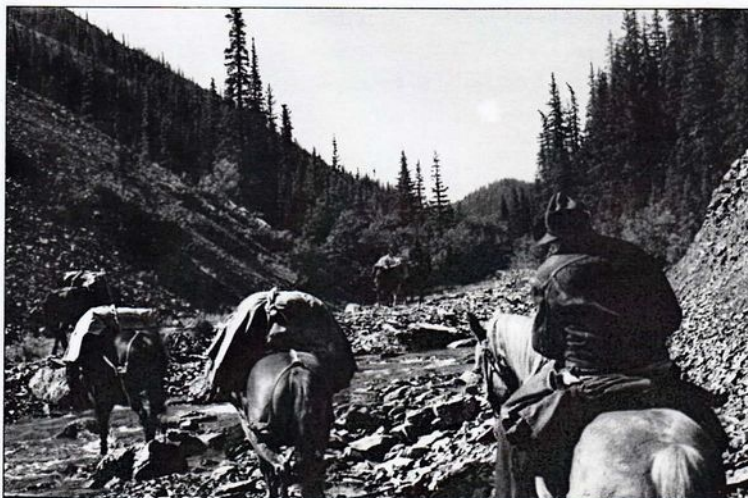
Jack Gurnett and his daughter & son-in-law, Joanne & Miles Stern, went on a TWH pack trip in August . They went in at Chungo Creek.



Crossing Whiskey Creek.



Overlooking Job Lake & Job Pass.

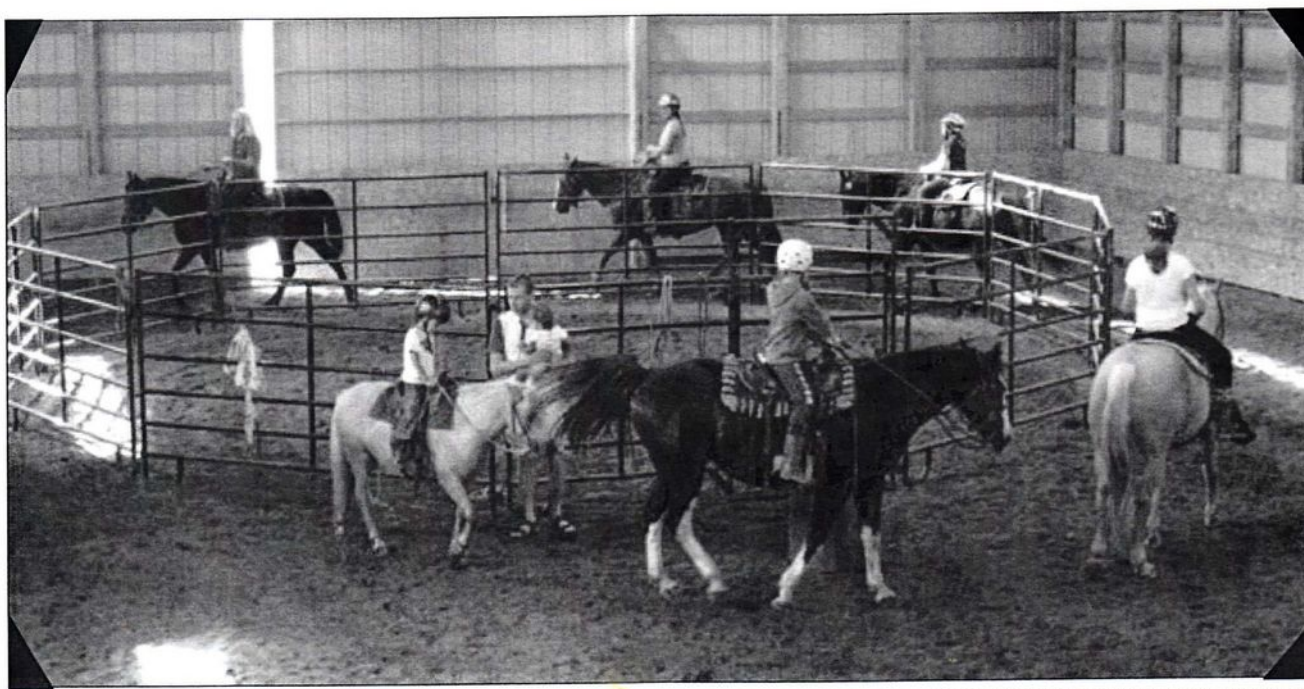
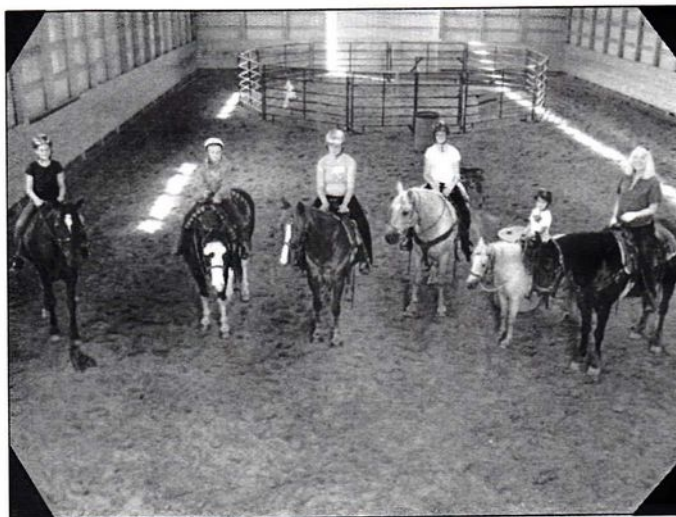
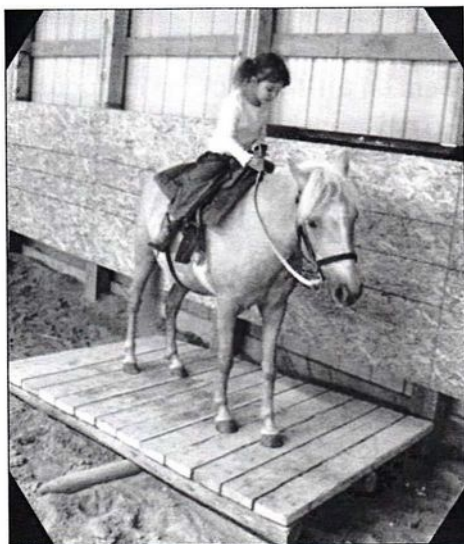


# What do YOU do with your Walkers?

MAUREEN GERMSCHIED, EVANSBURG, writes, "These pictures are from a TWH horse camp that we held at Magnolia Meadows from July 31 to Aug 8. We used all Tennessee Walking Horses except for the pony. We had five girls here for nine days and spent most of each day playing with horses. (We did take a break one hot day and tried water skiing for an afternoon.) The girls progressed very well."

"We culminated the week by entering a float in the Evansburg parade with the girls dressed in period costumes. They were Kayla and Sarah Barry, Shayne Pohl, Tsalem Hamar, and Mika Germscheid. (Our sixth participant ended up in Calgary hospital and was unable to attend.)"

"There was no charge for the camp and I have had several calls from kids who want to be included next year. One Mom even said she'd come and cook. *Yesss!*"



# NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

## ALBERTA NEWS

LISA LAMBERT, PRIDE'S NOBLE WALKERS, PERRYVALE, writes, "Well, this year has been... interesting. We lost our sweet mare, Mega Threat. I first thought it was EPM but after I joined many groups and learned more about this disease I felt this was the wrong diagnosis. In February she was fine and looking healthy; then one day I went out to see the horses and found her down. She had gone down the evening before, we think. She had some terrible sores, was heavy in foal when she went down, but even though she was stressed, she never lost her foal and delivered her full term on May 5<sup>th</sup>, a gorgeous solid black filly. Meg had no milk, so we were hand feeding but left Meg with her foal that night. Between midnight and 1 am Meg lay on the foal, killing her. Meg lost an incredible amount of weight after her foal died, and soon her back end gave out so we let her go. We still do not know what caused her death. She was only seven years old. She gave me a black filly three years ago that I still have. She is a monster of a thing; hoping to get her to a trainer next spring."

"We were blessed this year with a gorgeous red filly born to our amazing blue roan mare, Blue For You, and by our stunning black beauty, Prides Undertaker. Yep, he still has it! This little red filly has since roaned out, and by golly, she is a pretty little thing."

"We have one foal yet to come. Like Karla, I'm not sure if the mare was playing hard to get or if the stallion was just weighing the odds..."

"It's nice to hear from Glenn Robinson in the *WHN*. Glenn was a huge help to us when we first started to show. A great man, with more knowledge and help that he realizes, I'm sure."

"I am also saddened to read that Jean Rempel has passed away. Our first horse, Blazin' Socks (C.R. Sweetwater Sundance x Bush Baby's Beauty) came from her breeding program. We don't have that mare any more but do still have her daughter. Some of you may remember Dancer (Pride's Skydancer), our first ever show mare."

From MARLENE FAIRBROTHER, MYRNAM, "Hi there! Busy summer. I've been travelling a lot lately, and next is a Mexico cruise in October. I'm still working at Myrnam Lodge in the Alzheimer's Unit."

"Treasure (The Ivory Treasure) was busy this year at stud. I had a palomino stud colt born on June 18. Also sold a two year old, Treasure's Golden Trigger, to Donna Homer at Walsh. Please send her a *WHN* subscription with my compliments."

"Treasure is such a joy to have. He greets me as I come home from work; comes from the far end of the pasture for a hug!"

KARLA FREEMAN, BENTLEY writes, "Hello All, It sure seems that those four days we had for summer went by quick. I was glad the mosquitoes didn't last too long. I guess that's the good part of having a wet/cool summer as we had here in the Forshee, area of Alberta."

"Here at Ride Easy Ranch, we have been blessed this year. After 45 or so offspring from my stallion, Cherokee's Dark Knight, we *finally* got a BAY!"

"He has sired palominos, various shades of buckskin, chestnuts, flaxen sorrels, smokey blacks, blacks, and even a colt with pinto splashes. But I think I have figured out how to get the color you want and that is - NOT TO WANT IT! Although we knew that a bay should be possible, we have had to wait since 1999 when we first started breeding with him, and over 45 foals later, we finally can announce the birth of King George, The Bold And Beautiful Bay Boy! King George will be Pat's horse, since Pat had to give up his gorgeous bay QH gelding, George, when I started riding Walkers in 1993. George was trained by Pat, and performed perfectly for him."

"However, I did order a palomino filly from Karlas Fancy Shadow, and she showed up, as ordered, just a week after George, so there goes my theory! I must always keep in mind what an old cowboy told me when I was younger, and remember, "There is no bad color for a good horse!"

"I am looking forward to seeing folks at Spruce Meadows, and plan on participating in the demos. I remain hopeful for an extended riding season, enjoying the beautiful fall colors. Happy trails!"

From LILLIAN BURCHILL, SPRUCE GROVE, "Thanks for putting my ad in your paper. We sold Chase in just days to a wonderful lady from Sherwood Park area. Your advertisements work!" (Thanks for letting me know your horse sold, Lillian. I'd appreciate hearing the results from all with ads.)

## WINTERS IN MEXICO?



*Hi Trail-riders,  
Have you  
ever wished the  
summers were  
longer... and the  
trails could go  
on forever?*

*Join us in  
our venture and  
we'll provide you with  
experienced*

*'charros' - Mexican trail guides - and  
others to make your stay at  
**PADDOCKS & PILLOWS**  
both an enjoyable & unforgettable  
adventure.*

### TOPAZ MERRY GO

*Invites you to join him in  
Mexico for trail rides,  
ocean splashing and just  
plain old 'talk around  
the campfire'  
(may substitute a  
pool!).*

*Stay a month, stay  
a year... but do consider  
sharing winter holiday time with us  
doing the things horse people love:  
riding your horses, while  
watching your investment grow!*

A ranch style setting with  
Tennessee Walking Horses (preferably!).  
House lots will be made available  
thru-out the pastures  
to retiring horse people and their families.

Interested persons can obtain a  
complete and comprehensive Business  
Plan; but first email us to request a copy  
of the Financials so as to assure yourself  
of the complete safety of your investment  
in the house lot of your choice.

Ten – Twelve lots only,  
will be developed.

E-mail Bill Howes at  
[jackspad@shaw.ca](mailto:jackspad@shaw.ca)



## ALBERTA NEWS

ROBERT & LORRIE BLACK, UNICORN FARMS, LEDUC, write, "We would like to gift a year's *Walking Horse News* subscription to Johann and Sabine Scherer-Brown and thank them for purchasing two beautiful Walking Horses, N-Mile Golden Dream & Warm-N-Up Diesel, from us."

"Johann and Sabine are originally from Germany and are more acquainted with Hanoverians - another beautiful breed. We could not be happier to see Goldie and Diesel go to such a great home. This young couple are new to our breed, but they love the smooth gait, the calm willing dispositions and the gentleness they possess. They are looking forward to learning more and eventually hope to own more. (We know exactly how that happens...)"

"Their interests right now are more trail riding and exploring their new property out by Jackfish lake. It's the most beautiful piece of land with a creek running through and a lake, with lots of rolling hills. It's just perfect for riding."

"Thank you, Johann and Sabine, and many happy trails."

## MANITOBA NEWS

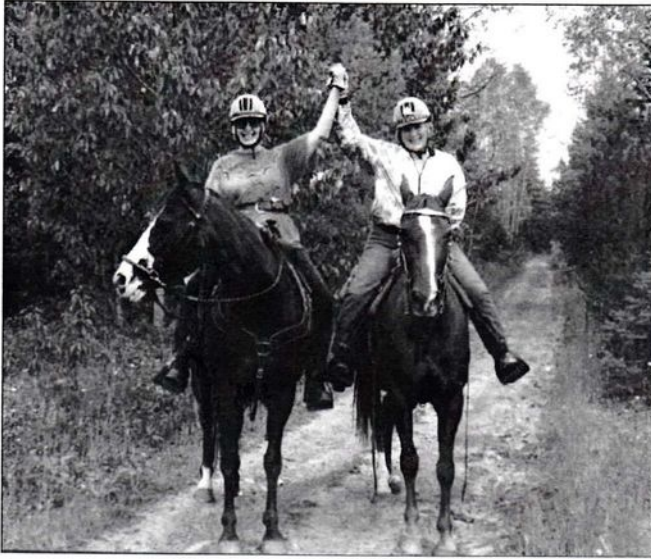
From KEITH DOLL, DOUGLAS, "This has been a hectic spring and summer. With all the moisture we got, everything went berserk, and I almost had to drive the mosquitoes off with a shotgun! The lawns were either too wet or too advanced to mow. The burdock got so big that I couldn't cut it with the hand pruners so I took out my chainsaw to cut it down."

"My old Smokey stallion (Black Kat's Smoke 'N' Fire), got a snoot full of something causing bad breathing problems. In medical terms it's called 'respiratory distress'. In horseman's language it's simply 'heaves'. Some heavy duty medicine (and expensive vet bills) have brought him back to normal."

"The weather finally straightened out some. Got my hay stacked and tarped and there's still about 12 acres of oats/grass to greenfeed, but that won't be until later. So with things finally caught up and still two weeks of holiday, I found time to ride and drive a bit. China Doll is coming along well on the single cart. With a little experience she'll make a fine harness horse. Also started riding Cody (Dakota Hitman) again. He hadn't been ridden in a couple of years. It's amazing what a soft cultivated field did for his memory."

"I was just on the phone with Sharon McFadden from Aberdeen, SK. I'm going to Saskatoon this weekend so hope to get over to visit and see her horses."

## BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS



*Above: Genevieve Amy and Debbie Smith complete the picturesque Deka Lake Cariboo Trail Ride. Good friends, great horses, wonderful scenery make for many, many happy trails.*

From GENEVIEVE AMY, SKYKEEP IN THE CARIBOO, "To say the summer has been interesting would be an understatement. From floods to fires in the space of days. From not being able to ride because the ground was too greasy to not being able to ride because the air is unbreathable... There have been a few smoke-free days, and during one of those breaks, Deb Smith and friend Lynn came up to visit SkyKeep. We had so much fun. We saw quite a bit of country as she is looking at property up here, and enjoyed our little ride down the mountain and beside Deka Lake. Deb and Lynn are great guests - they bring food and do dishes!"

"I am down to five horses; my big pinto gelding went to the ranch where I boarded before I was set up here, and they love him. I am going to help them learn about gaited horses (talk about the blind leading the blind). I have my other unstarted gelding for sale, as well. I painfully acknowledge my age - I can still ask my body to do things, it still knows how, but it just can't quite move as fast or as smooth as it once did. (Oh, does it hurt to admit that! But it might hurt more if I didn't.)"

"The bugs were terrible earlier this summer, and guess what? Boomer has a reaction to the bites. Not *quite* sweet itch - he hasn't rubbed his mane off - but he got horrible welts and swelling. After trying several insect potions, the best one I came up with (actually kept the flies and whatnots off for several

hours at a time) was Watkins Insect repellent for humans. It's a thick white cream/lotion that the Canadian Military buys for the troops. I mixed it with some kind of oil and applied it with a cloth. For oils I used variously, Avon's Skinsosoft, Skintastic, and MTG (ManeTailGroom) which is sold in feed and tack stores. It has mineral oil and sulfur, and a whole bunch of caveats, which I didn't read until after I had used a whole bottle, Boomer's skin had healed up, and everybody's coat was glossy. Apparently, daily use is not recommended - it's supposed to be a weekly thing. But it didn't hurt my guys. Yes, the insect repellent has DEET in it, which is why it works. I only put it *very carefully* on the ears, under the eyes, on the chest and under the elbows, and the genital area, as those are what those evil little flecks of fire with wings go for. On cooler (?) days, the herd gets fly sheets and masks, and so far, nobody has caught anything on a tree. I am actually looking forward to winter! (Bet I will eat those words in four months!) Enjoy what we have - compared to most of the rest of the world, we are in heaven!"

DEBBIE AND DAVE SMITH, TOWER RIDGE FARM, MAPLE RIDGE, "What with the baking hot weather, people on holidays, and injuries to riders or horses, our riding during the summer is down from other years. We've had numerous work parties trying to keep those blasted blackberry bushes from taking over our lovely trails. We've also been rebuilding and repairing bridges, years old, and now time to replace them. This year we've had more bears than expected in the area, coming into our yard, too close to the house and the barn. We leave the radio blasting outside to keep them in the bush were they belong!" *Below: Pauline Clark celebrates her 98th*



*birthday with Deb Smith & Hanna. Pauline owned and rode TWH until she was 90!*



"After riding my lovely Standardbred mare all summer, (she replaced my Peruvian after I had to put him down), I have decided to start shopping for another gaited horse. This Standardbred mare is gaited but not what I am used to, and after having a chance to ride our old Tennessee Walker mare, "Dark Star Delite", my mind was made up. (Dark Star Delite was bred by McDonald Farms, and is by their 28 year old stallion, Misty Dark Delite.) She's now owned by Genevieve and Sandy Amy of Skykeep Ranch in the Cariboo of BC."

"I got a chance to visit Genevieve in the sunny (or *smoky*) Cariboo. The forest fires this year were so bad. But we had a gorgeous Cariboo trail ride; the days we were there were sunny, clear and beautiful. It was not so the week before or the week after we were there. The smoke was almost unbearable; hard to do chores or any kind of activity outdoors. Just think of the wildlife and the livestock that can't get out of the smoke. Now with fall around the corner, all is clear again. I heard the smoke made it all the way into Alberta. Unbelievable!"

"We are all set for winter with a hay shed full of beautiful hay and a barn full of great boarders. I hope all is well with everyone. Have a great fall from all the folks at STARBARN!"

PETER SYMONS RAFTER NINES, DAWSON CREEK, emailed, "We sold our 5 year old sorrel mare, Summer's Susie, to some very nice folks, Tawnie & John Fehr of Charlie Lake, BC. We wish them many smooth trails with their first Walker."

*(See a photo of Susie on the opposite page being ridden by Peter's grandson, Ethan.)*

From FRAN THOMAS, PRINCE GEORGE, "I tragically and mysteriously lost Dakota's sister, Montana, last Saturday. (Dakota Spirit Wind is the big black mare that Fran advertised in the August *WHN*.) I am devastated at her loss. She was my Search & Rescue horse and my HEART horse as I put so much training and work into her. She was so sweet and faithful. However I still plan to sell Dakota, my son's SAR horse, as she is much taller than my Tana. The only time the two were apart in 14 years was when we did our 24 hour survival for the SAR certification, and my Tana whinnied every 15 seconds all night long. She was only ten feet away so we didn't sleep much...."

*Right: Tana at a 2006 Poker Ride.*

"I have a mare here that was bred by McDonald Farms in Pouce Coupe. Sage King's Gypsy Bay will be turning 30 years on May 8 of next year. She is in

very good shape and I still go for rides around the block with her, and she also did search training and did the first BC mounted search with Dan and myself."

I had a phone call from MARJORIE FABRO, KIMBERLEY, a few weeks ago. She says that she and Don are still riding regularly. They retired their grand old show stallion, Ultra's Major Threat, at the show and futurity last fall at the age of 20 years - and he still looks in his prime. I see that two of his offspring did well in the AWA Awards for 2009. Major's Made Ya Look is a 2004 black gelding out of Pride's Blue Frost, owned by Verna Sprague and I'm Pretty Major is a 2006 black mare out of Pretty In Platinum, owned by Julie Woollam.

KARIN BAUER, KELOWNA, writes, "After sending in the picture and blurb about Link ("Storm's Missn' Link") "reading" the *Walking Horse News* magazine and being a model walker, I got some pouting from his half-brother, Rollie ("Storm's Midnight Roller"). He would like everyone to know that he, too, is a model walker. Rollie likes to learn new tricks - he just learned to walk beside me riding my bicycle. He likes to stand on pedestals (or rocks on the trail). He also takes the riding whip in his mouth, points it at me, and follows me to "round pen me". We've been taking some riding lessons and turns out Rollie LOVES to jump. All the Dressage coaches just love his floating trot - and have told me they wish their Dressage horses had a trot like Rollie's. (He gaits and trots on command)."

"Anyway, this is only a bit of an update; the farrier is coming by and then we're heading up the mountain with the boys."



# What do YOU do with your Walkers?

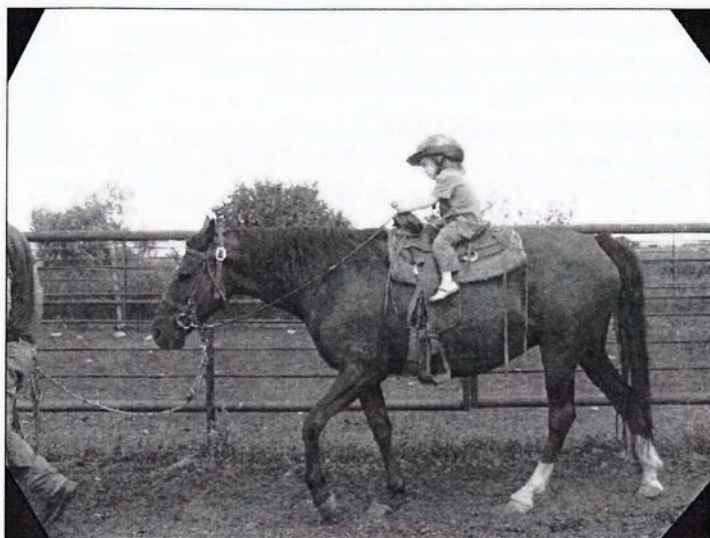


Here are some more folks who are helping to start the next generation of horse lovers off on the right foot.

*Above:* Peter Symons, Dawson Creek, BC writes, "This is Summer's Susie (Wainwright's Rainbow x Chapie's Summer) with rider Ethan Symons Ferraro, my grandson. I was giving Ethan a riding lesson."

*Left:* Fred Lloyd-Smith, Vanessa, ON leads her mare, Raining Gold Queen, around the ring with her daughter experiencing her first fun horse show.

*Below:* Don & Jo-Anne McDonald, Pouce Coupe, BC spent a summer afternoon with their granddaughters and Maybee's Memory. Right is Amelia's first ride with Grandpa leading Maybee, and left is big sister Hannah proudly riding solo. (Grandma Jo-Anne says she wishes Maybee was as quiet when SHE rides her!)



# WILD ROSE VERSATILITY SHOW Judge: Alece Ellis, Greenback, TN

June 22, 2010 Thorsby, AB Haymaker Arena

## MODEL:

1<sup>st</sup> - Jus' One Step Ahead Exhibitor- Farell Albert-Puurveen Owners- Greg and Terry Czech  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Ragtime N' Melody Exhibitor- Rhonda Lemmon Owners- Noisy Hollow Acres

## HALTER:

1<sup>st</sup> - Encore's Baby Girl Ex.- Marg Kovaluk Owners - Marg & Perry Kovaluk  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Ragtime N' Melody Ex.- Rhonda Lemmon Owners - Noisy Hollow Acres

## EQUITATION 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> Marg Kovaluk on Encore's Baby Girl Owners- Marg & Perry Kovaluk  
2<sup>nd</sup> Loretta Borden on Fancy's Little Power Play Owner- Loretta Borden

## EQUITATION 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> Hailey Durocher on Melting Point Owners Nicole & Sande Hirsekorn

## CHAMPIONSHIP PL./ENG. PLEASURE 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Get It On's Dollar Ex.- Greg Czech Owner- Irene Zimmerman  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Design's Moonstone 101 Ex.- Terry Czech Owner- Greg & Terry Czech

## CHAMPIONSHIP PL./ENG. PLEASURE 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Rag's Fantasy Romance Ex. Lori Dyberg Owner- Lori Dyberg  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Jus' A Touch of the Blues Ex.- Greg Czech Owner Jim & Chris Haeberle

## CHAMPIONSHIP TRAIL PLEASURE 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Ragtime N' Melody Ex. Rhonda Lemmon Owner- Noisy Hollow Acres  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Rag's Razamataz Ex.- Blair Dyberg Owner- Blair Dyberg

## CHAMPIONSHIP TRAIL PLEASURE 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Rag's Fantasy Romance Ex.- Lori Dyberg Owner - Lori Dyberg  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Melting Point Ex.- Hailey Durocher Owners - Nicole & Sande Hirsekorn

## DRESSAGE

1<sup>st</sup> - Encore's Baby Girl Ex.- Marg Kovaluk Owners- Marg & Perry Kovaluk  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Thunder's Footprints Ex.- Rebecca Witty Owner- Elizabeth Chivers

## WESTERN EQUITATION 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - What An Encore Ex. Robert Black Owner- Robert Black  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Encore's Baby Girl Ex. Marg Kovaluk Owner- Marg & Perry Kovaluk

## WESTERN EQUITATION 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Melting Point Ex. Karen Levoir Owner- Nicole & Sande Hirsekorn

## WESTERN PLANTATION CHAMPIONSHIP 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Get It On's Dollar Ex. Greg Czech Owner- Irene Zimmerman  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Design's Moonstone 101 Ex. Terry Czech Owner- Greg & Terry Czech

## WESTERN PLEASURE CHAMPIONSHIP 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Rag's Fantasy Romance Ex.- Lori Dyberg Owner - Lori Dyberg  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Jus' A Touch of the Blues Ex. Greg Czech Owner - Jim & Chris Haeberle

## TRAIL PLEASURE WESTERN 2 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Jus' One Step Ahead Ex.- Farell Albert-Puurveen Owner Greg & Terry Czech  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Ragtime N' Melody Ex. Rhonda Lemmon Owner- Noisy Hollow Acres

## TRAIL PLEASURE WESTERN 3 GAIT

1<sup>st</sup> - Melting Point Ex. Koren Levoir Owner- Nicole & Sande Hirsekorn  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Rag's Fantasy Romance Ex. Lori Dyberg Owner- Lori Dyberg

## WATER GLASS

1<sup>st</sup> - Rag's Razamataz Ex. Blair Dyberg Owner Blair Dyberg  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Shakers Ebony Cupcake Ex. Nicole Hirsekorn Owner- Nicole & Sande Hirsekorn

## TROPHY WINNERS WERE:

HIGH POINT HORSE, 2 GAIT, YOUTH - Farell Albert-Puurveen  
HIGH POINT HORSE, 3 GAIT, YOUTH - Hailey Durocher  
HIGH POINT HORSE, 2 GAIT, ADULT - Greg Czech  
HIGH POINT HORSE, 3 GAIT, ADULT - Lori Dyberg  
TRAIL PLEASURE, 2 GAIT, ADULT - Rhonda Lemmon  
TRAIL PLEASURE, 3 GAIT, ADULT - Lori Dyberg

*As always,  
without our volunteers and  
committee people,  
there would be no show.*

THANK YOU to:

Show Manager - Frank Edwards

Barn Manager & Show Judge -  
Frank Edwards

Ring Steward - Marlene Fairbrother

Announcer & Ribbons -  
Jeff Entwistle

Secretary & Programs -  
Candice Dyberg

Treasurer & Score Keeper -  
Glen Chivers

Gate Attendant &  
Ribbon Presenter -  
Sande Hirsekorn

Show Committee -

Randy Johnson,

Candice Dyberg,

Glen & Jean Chivers,

Frank & Donna Edwards,

Lorrie & Robert Black,

Jeff Entwistle,

Blair & Lori Dyberg,

Nicole Hirsekorn

Dave and Rhonda Lemmon.

*Report submitted by Lori Dyberg*

## NICOLE HIRSEKORN:

### Growing Up with Walkers

by Lori Dyberg

With a mission statement of "Wanting to Introduce Youth to the Tennessee Walking Horse", Nicole Hirsekorn has a large VISION and plenty of enthusiasm!

Some of you may remember her as the little blond girl in her blue saddle suit, fearlessly giving the adults some serious competition... myself included! (Photo below, right.) It wasn't until I saw her arrive at the Wild Rose Versatility Show this spring, with her students in tow, that I recognized how much the Tennessee Walking Horse had helped mold her into the professional young horsewoman that I saw before me. But, as with most success stories, this one didn't start out without incident.



After a bad tumble from her horse when she was just seven years old, Nicole didn't ride again for almost two years. But then it was back to Rosemary Jordan's (where she had purchased her first two horses - Merry and Thunder in 1997) for more riding lessons and she hasn't looked back since.

*Nicole, Merry & Rosemary in 1997 (above).*

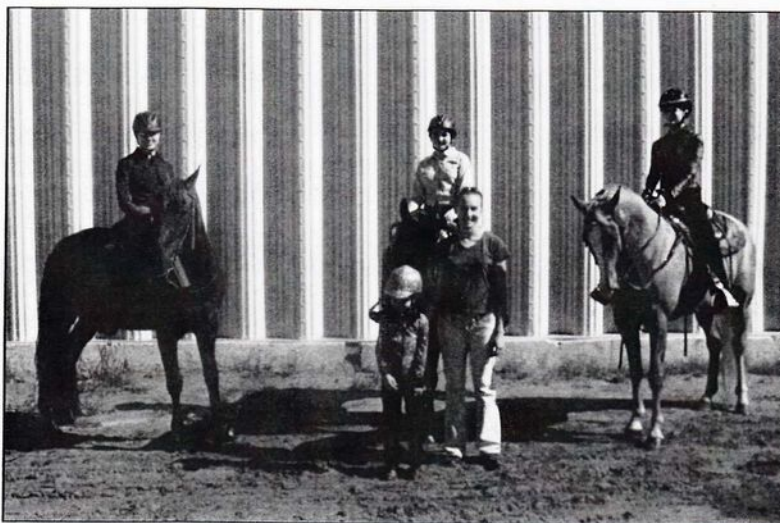
I think the horse most of her competitors associate with Nicole, is of course, her gelding, Melting Point. (Nicole & Mel, left).



After receiving the TWHBEA Youth Versatility Title with "Mel" in 2006 (Rose's Merry Spirit got hers in 2007) it was only natural for Nicole to stay with the bloodline she loves, and purchase a little stud colt, "The Final Legacy". And so began her breeding program with Final Star Debut (2008) and Finally Busting Out (2010), the first foals from her own stallion and mares.

Then in 2009, she was off to Olds College to pursue a Coaching License (Equine Canada Saddle Seat Instructor of Beginners (IOB), and the girls I witnessed following Nicole to the barn that morning were, of course, her students!

Nicole has taken on the role of coach, breeder and promoter of the TWH in Alberta. All the best, Nicole, with all of your future endeavours.

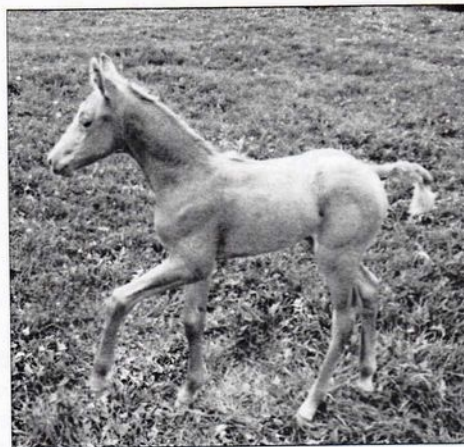


*Above: Nicole's students at the Wild Rose Versatility Show. Back, left to right are Gabby on Melting Point; Elizabeth on Jen's Lil Escapade & Camilla on Riley. In front is Nicole with Amelia who rides Merry.*

# FOAL CALL

**PALOMINO FILLY** (Cherokee's Dark Knight x  
Karla's Fancy Shadow) *Photo right*

**BAY COLT** (Cherokee's Dark Knight x Thunder's Last Stand)  
*Photo below with Karla and big brother Playboy who was born April 1st.*  
Karla & Pat Freeman, Ride Easy Ranch, Bentley, AB



**CHESTNUT ROAN FILLY**  
(Prides Undertaker x Blue For You)  
Lisa Lambert,  
Pride's Noble Walkers,  
Perryvale, AB

## EQUINE INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

HELEN PAWLUK, ATHABASCA, sent me this information, as did Jo-Anne McDonald and Karla Freeman. If you are thinking of taking any horses to an auction, be sure to check out these websites or stop in at the Auction barn beforehand to pick up the forms. You must also have a complete record of any medications given to the animal over the past 180 days when presenting it at auction.

Helen writes, "Here is the Government web address where a person can down load a copy of the official equine information document (EID). EVERYONE taking a horse to the auction market must have it."

[www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/meavia/man/ch17/equi-infe.pdf](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/fssa/meavia/man/ch17/equi-infe.pdf) .

"There is another shortened one from Boverly Exports that I think most will use, as Boverly are the horse meat buyers here."

[www.lmaweb.com/MemberArea/IndustryIssues/HorseSlaughter/20100824EIDinstructions&Form.pdf](http://www.lmaweb.com/MemberArea/IndustryIssues/HorseSlaughter/20100824EIDinstructions&Form.pdf)

## WHATEVER BECAME OF... SUNDOWN BARKER?

JO-ANNE MCDONALD of POUCE COUPE, BC replied to Keith Doll's query in the last issue of *WHN*. She writes, "SUNDOWN BARKER, a black colt sired by Randy's Mr. Barker out of Midnight Star FF, was foaled the property of Keith & Marge Doll and sold as a weanling or coming yearling to Bill & Cheryl Fletcher in Alberta. I remember we stopped and had a look at him near Darwell, AB when he was owned by Fletchers."

"He sired one foal out of Zepher's Third Lady S. This sorrel filly, Alta Sundown Walker, was foaled at Fletchers and was registered in 1981. She is the only offspring registered to him."

"He was then sold in 1982 to Colleen Ashbury of Warburg who owned him for about two years, and resold him to Marlene Harrison in 1984. By this time he was recorded as a gelding. After that I can find no further information on him."

*If anyone has more information about this horse, please send it along. And if YOU ever wonder about what became of a particular horse, send your queries to WHN and we'll put out the call for any info about it.*



# The Canadian Walker

Volume 9, Issue 5

www.crtwh.ca

October, 2010

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## "SAFETY ON THE TRAIL" Clinic

*Report by Ralph Livingston*

Dianne Little and Bill Roy didn't let a little rain stop them from putting on a very successful "Safety on the Trail" Clinic Sept. 18 and 19th. The clinic was hosted by Claire Christensen at her ranch in the hills above

Vernon, BC.

Dianne covered some key fundamentals of riding theory while Bill led the group on a merry chase - literally, up hill and down dale, in places where one would not think a horse could go.

Both Dianne and Bill stressed that in order to learn new things, we must expand our comfort zones, in a way that is safe for both horse and rider. Participant reaction was very enthusiastic; one person saying, "I'm something of a 'clinic junkie' and I've never seen practical application of riding theory like this offered anywhere before." The CRTWH can be very proud of providing such a rich learning opportunity for its members & others.



## DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PFE & TRAINING LEVELS

October 31 is the deadline to submit your tapes or DVDs for these two Canadian Challenge Programs for 2010.

The Canadian Triple Challenge is intended to help owners and breeders select and train the best TWH possible.

The PFE evaluates a horse's conformation and gaits; the Training Levels allow owners to develop a horse's manners and ability both on the ground and under saddle in a systematic way

You'll find the particulars of each program and training level on our website - crtwh.ca.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

If CRTWH does not have your email address, would you please send it to our secretary at secretary@crtwh.ca?

We will be sending out membership renewals and election notices in late October and we are still missing many electronic addresses. Thank you!



## THE RUNNING WALK OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

By Eldon Eadie

Reproduced 2009 by CRTWH

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includes shipping and handling.

Contact [treasurer@crtwh.ca](mailto:treasurer@crtwh.ca)

or **403-271-7391**

## A VISIT TO BRAZIL

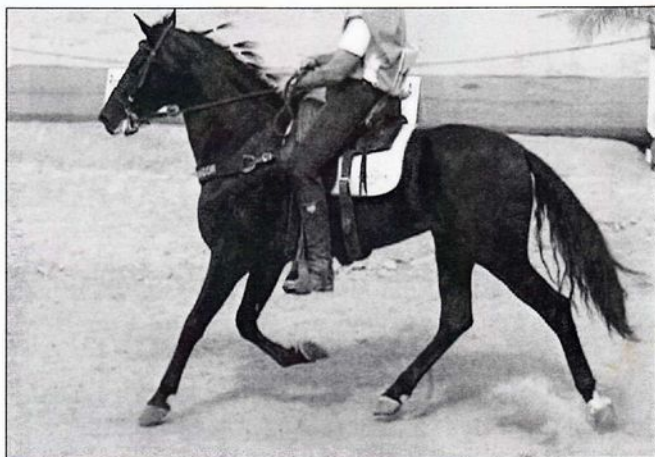
by Eldon Eadie

Last spring CRTWH Secretary Jean Rempel received an email from Brazil asking how they could get in touch with Eldon Eadie. They had seen the ad on the CRTWH website for his video 'The Running Walk of the Tennessee Walking Horse' newly re-issued on DVD, and wanted to invite him to come and speak at their big annual "Horse Party" in Brazil.

Jean wasted no time in passing this message on to Eldon, and the trip he writes about below was the result.

I have been back from South America now for two weeks. It was a very interesting trip and was a total success. I gave my presentation to about 150 people: judges, politicians, university professors, veterinarians, breeders, trainers, and everyone else who is involved with the Mangalarga Marchador, Brazil's breed of gaited horse.

These people have some misconceptions about gait. They think that the even gaited horse is the opposite of the trot, not the middle gait as we understand it. The pace, to them, is the worst form of garbage on the planet and does not fit into the scale anywhere. They have a gait that they call *Marcha Centro* (middle gait) that is what we would call a Fox Trot, and the *Marcha Batida* and the *Marcha Picada*. Their ideal gait is the *Marcha Batida*, which is a four beat trot that is so close to the trot that it is impossible to tell the difference unless you look at the movement in slow motion. Most of the horses in the *Batida* classes were just doing a two beat trot. The ones doing the four beat trot were noticeably smoother but the judges did not seem to differentiate.



Above: The *Marcha Batida* - the Brazilians' ideal gait of the *Mangalarga Marchador*.



Above: The *Marcha Picada* is the even timed gait that conforms to our running walk without the head nod. I showed them an old video of Merry Boys Spirit, which I consider to be a very tight moving, even gaited horse with very little head nod and one guy said, "Look at the head. Can't the rider hold the horse's head still?" They are trying to increase the stride length but they want a perfectly still head carriage. That cannot be done. You either have a long stride with head nod, or a short stride and a stiff body and head position. I measured the speed that the horses were shown at by measuring the distance between two lamp posts and then taking the time from the video. The *Batida* horses were shown at 16 to 18 km/h and the *Picada* horses were shown at 14 to 16 km/h. The sight of a beautiful horse doing a perfectly even gait at that speed almost took my breath away. Speed to me is the acid test of gait. Almost any horse can gait properly if you slow it down enough, but only the very best can gait properly at speed. These *Picada* horses would easily reach 20 km/h if the riders would let them stride longer and nod more.

Back to my presentation. I told them that I didn't come there to tell them any lies. If I didn't speak the truth the whole exercise was going to be a waste. I spoke for about two hours and at the end everyone was still stuck to every word like glue. I did offend some of the *Batida* people, but I know that I made them think and maybe in the future some of them will come around.

The system of judging that they have is very good and it is the judging that is producing the quality that they have in the horses. There are three judges and each judge has to ride every horse during the class. All saddle classes include a trail section where the horse and rider do backing, pole bending, barrel racing, jumping and reining, ending with a sliding stop within a circle. After the winners are announced, the seven top horses are evaluated by one of the judges. This part alone can take more time than one of our entire classes. Most of the classes took well

over an hour with some of the championship classes taking almost two hours. And all under a hot sun! They start about 9 am and don't stop until well into the evening except to put water on the track a couple of times.

In the four days of the show I never saw a bad horse in the top three spots. In my opinion if our judges here were actually looking for a strong gaited natural running walk and could give us twenty years of consistent judging, we would have just as many good horses in the TWH.

The general quality of the horses was superb. I have never seen entire classes of absolutely beautiful horses like they have. They are very consistent in type and style. The Mangalarga Marchador has been bred for about 200 years from the horses of the Spanish and Portuguese. The result of many generations of consistent selection is that there is very little variation in size and type. About 90 percent of the breeders are trying to produce Batida horses and about 10 percent are interested in the Picada. The Picada breeders were the most knowledgeable about gait. I found them to be very focused on producing that perfect even gait, and the best of their horses were spectacular. The most advanced breeder that I met was Mr Pio Guerre. He has about 300 horses and has excellent facilities for producing and showing horses. I was very impressed with his breeding program and his stock.



*Above: The general quality of the horses was superb.*

The only thing that I could criticize the judging on is in the Batida classes. There is a very important difference between the Batida and the Trot but it is so small that it is very hard to see. The judges did not always pick it up. But in the Picada classes there was never a mistake. The Batida horse has to be weak gaited or else it becomes a Picada horse.

In my opinion, the highest ideal in a gaited breed should be the strongest gaited individuals. These horses should bring the highest prices and win the top spots at the shows. This is true in the Picada horses but not in the Batida classes and the Batida horse is considered by most Brazilians to be the best of the breed.

It is a very similar situation to what we have in the TWH. The pacing big lick performance horse is considered to be superior to the natural gaited smooth moving back yard riding horse. Can you imagine what would happen if someone entered a strong gaited, long striding, articulated horse that could travel at 15 kph in a perfect running walk, barefoot and without any special training or shoeing, in a competition for the 2011 World Grand Championship at the Celebration? The horse and its owner would be the subject of ridicule for years to come. The other side of the coin is the poor sucker that buys one of the offspring of these pacing big lick performance horses and tries to make a trail horse out of it.

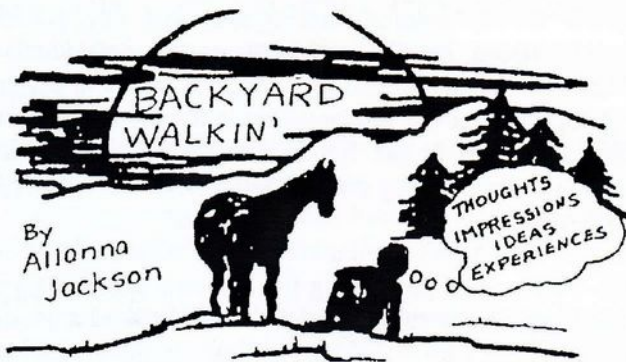


*The above reflects Eldon's observations and opinions. He says, "I realize that my opinion is not shared by many other people and I know that this will offend some, but time is running out. I am getting old and I am finished with telling lies to my friends."*

## GAITED HORSE SHOW IN ARMSTRONG

KARIN BAUER, KELOWNA, writes, "This summer I took both Link (7 years old) and Rollie (6 years old) to the Gaited Horse Show in Armstrong. It was Rollie's first time in a show. In our first class titled "First Time Horse Showing" Rollie was very nervous and his inexperience riding amongst other horses and spectators showed. I actually got a bit worried whether he was ready for this. After the first class the judge commented to me that he's a lovely horse, and if I can calm him down, he'll have a chance. So the next class I took him in was "2 Gait TWH Maiden" and I did all the "breathing" and "relaxing" possible. Rollie really tried and gave a nice running walk. I was amazed to hear that we won 1st place in that class. The next day we also won 1st place in the "TWH - 2 Gait Easy Rider" class. Turns out the more I rode Rollie, the better he got. Link in the meantime was ridden by Lisa - it was only his second Gaited Horse Show and Lisa's first ever show. Lisa and Link won 2nd prize for "First Time Rider Showing". I was so proud of them! I highly recommend participating in the Gaited Horse Show; it's a good learning experience for horses *and* riders."





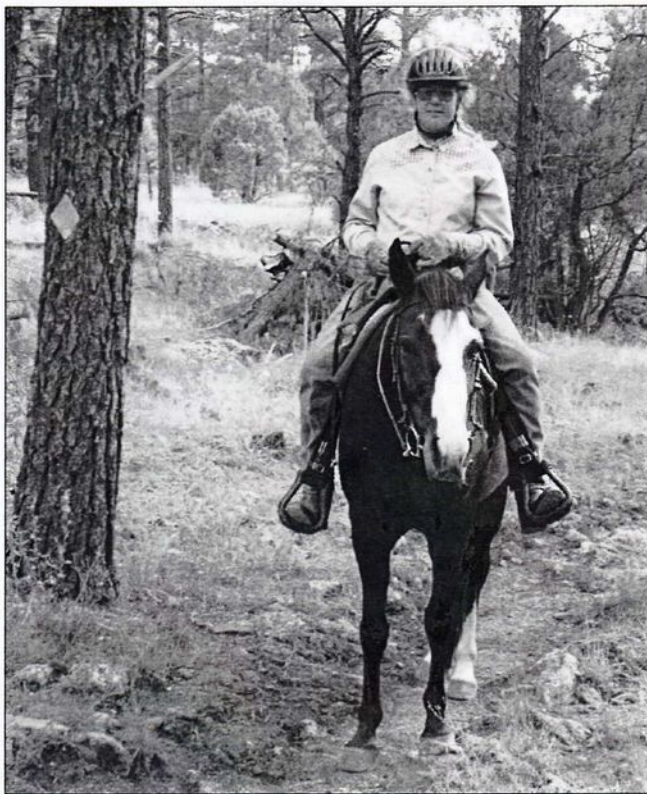
## We Never Ride the Same Trail Twice

Copyright August 2010 by Allanna Lea Jackson

One of the fun things about trail riding is that every ride is different, even on the same trail.

**July 12, 2010** was warm with a comfortable breeze. Thunderheads to the east were building slowly enough to ride before lightning started. I saddled Cinnamon and we rode out my back gate along the public road, which had no traffic this time. We'd met ATVs on our previous ride.

In the National Forest we picked up the Ice Cave Trail and followed it to the creek then turned on an elk trail. We immediately met the Porter Mountain Stable dude string coming down another elk trail so we took a third elk trail. We came out on the Ice Cave Trail on the shore of Scott Reservoir. I put Cinnamon into an amble, then slowed to a walk as the trail ducked into the pines.



Somebody had left the gate in the east fence open in a way that blocked the trail so I dismounted, led Cinnamon around and through it, then closed the gate. We practiced standing still after I mounted, then resumed walking.

As we approached the junction of the Ice Cave and Osprey Connector trails two women hiking with a dog were coming toward us. We stopped and I greeted them. They returned my greeting. The dog was leashed and sat nicely just off the trail while we passed. Trail sharing among non-motorized users works when everybody assumes responsibility for their own animals and is considerate of other trail users.

On the Osprey Connector Trail Cinnamon stopped to study something in front of us. I was expecting elk or deer, but didn't see anything so we continued. In the next few minutes Cinnamon alerted twice more at what was in front of us. Whatever it was, we were gaining on it. It turned out to be two lady riders, one on a sorrel mule talking on a cell phone and the other riding a small, stocky, chocolate colored horse, with a white standard poodle walking at the horse's heels.

Five minutes later we got close enough so the rider on the chocolate horse noticed us. We exchanged greetings. She introduced herself and her friend. It was their first time on this trail.

Cinnamon peaceably stayed a couple of lengths behind the mule. When they invited us to go around them we did. I advised them to keep the horses off the wood bridge across the irrigation ditch up ahead. They caught up with us at the ditch and inquired as to whether there was a loop trail back to the Ice Cave Trailhead. There isn't, but I was planning to make a loop back to where they wanted to go so they accepted my invitation to follow me. Our newly acquired companions stayed back while Cinnamon jumped the ditch beside the bridge, after threatening to kick the poodle - who'd forgotten he was supposed to be heeling behind the chocolate horse. His owner called the poodle back before anybody got hurt. After some coaxing, the mule jumped the ditch on the other side of the bridge. Chocolate horse calmly walked through the ditch, showing the rest of us how to do it.

We followed the trail a short distance before turning south on an old roadway/powerline. Cinnamon spooked but straightened up when I told her "Quit!" and distracted her with some leg-yielding.

Their GPS didn't tell my companions about the fences, locked gates and campground so they were surprised when we went diagonally across the field toward a fence that stops in the middle of a Juniper tree only 50 feet from its starting point at a cattle guard. After crossing Scott Reservoir entrance road Cinnamon helped me open the horse gate in the fence. We held the gate open for the mule but had to let the chocolate horse and rider close it because he turned out to be a Haflinger stallion!

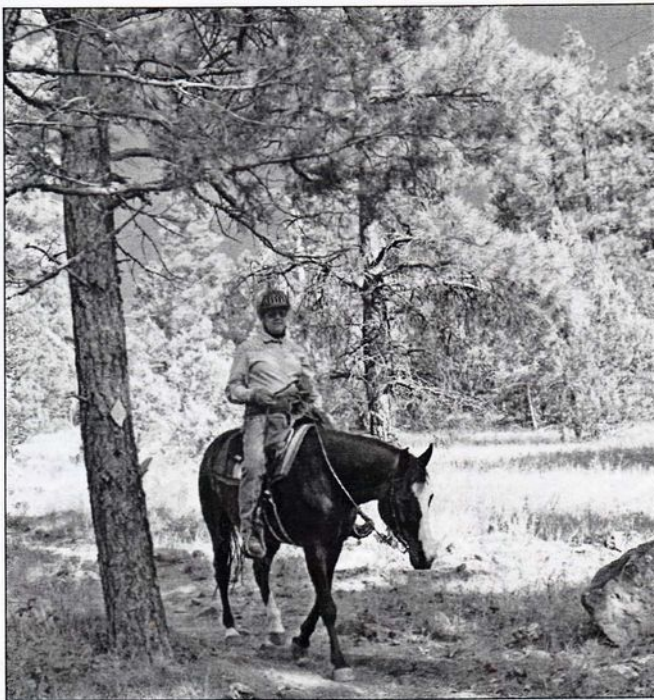
They wanted to go below the Scott Reservoir dam so we led the way down the only trail through the canyon. Cinnamon crossed Porter Creek without hesitation. The mule didn't trust Cinnamon's lead but willingly followed her friend the Haflinger while Poodle bounded across the creek in three splashes where we flushed a Great Blue Heron.

My companions recognized the trail they'd come in on, thanked me and went their way. Cinnamon calmly left the company we'd acquired and strolled home alone.

**August 25, 2010** - Cinnamon and I rode the same trail but in the opposite direction. This time I asked Cinnamon to gallop on the left lead along the roadway up the slope toward Porter Mountain Road. She picked up the right lead instead so I stopped her, circled her left, got the left lead and let her gallop a short distance, then put her back into a walk.

She jumped the irrigation ditch, again, but crossed the creek nicely as usual. I saw an Osprey flying overhead as we went along the Osprey Connector trail. We had the trail to ourselves the whole trip. Cinnamon alerted to a couple of trucks parked (or maybe stuck) in the middle of the forest. That area has springs and can be muddy. Cinnamon raked nicely along the lake shore, then we walked home. I'd just finished grooming Cinnamon when a thunder and rain storm started.

The ever-changing trail constantly challenges the horse's temperament, athletic ability, and training. The more I learn, the more convinced I am that a good trail horse must be born with the mental and physical attributes to be a trail horse, because some of the most essential traits cannot be trained.



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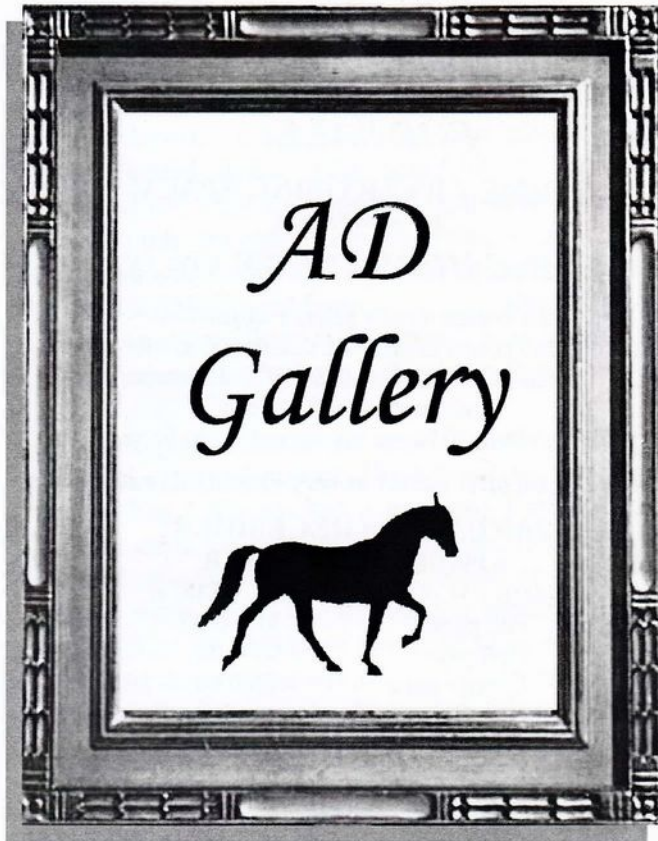
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Gentle stallions: Ravi, above,

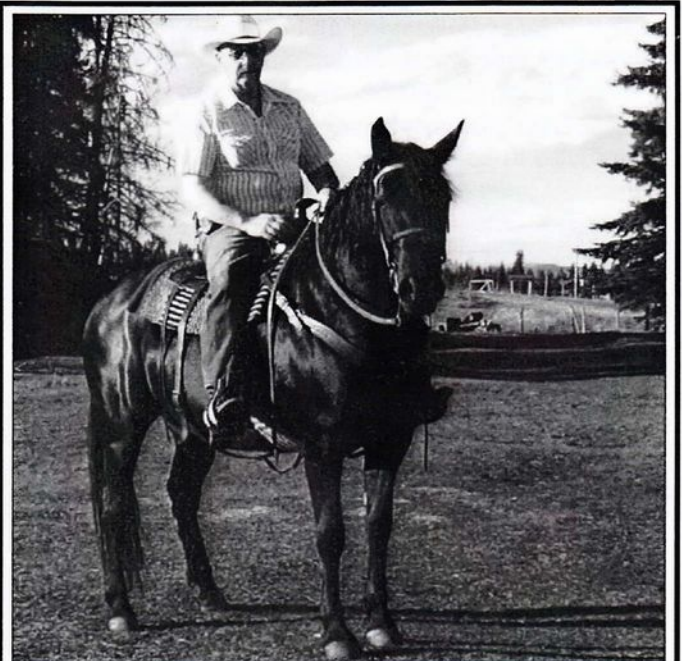


Bullet, above & Moon, below.

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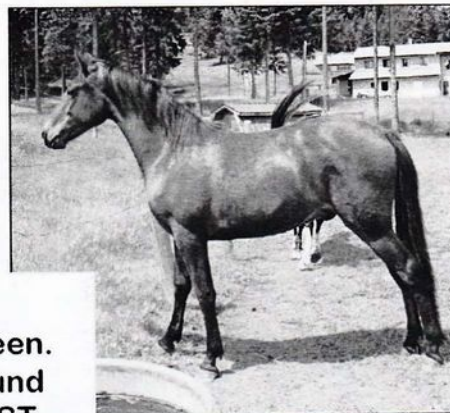
**LIBERTY'S BLACK FLAG**

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Very gentle and willing. Well gaited.

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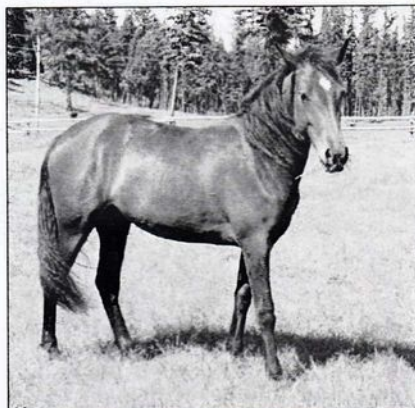
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(*photo at right*) \$1000.00 + HST

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All horses registered.

Most have had some ground work but due to an  
injury in 2005. I am *'way* behind in training.

Training will commence  
on three of these horses in early October.

Prices to increase with training.

*Additional photos  
on our website:*

[www.libertywalkers.ca](http://www.libertywalkers.ca)

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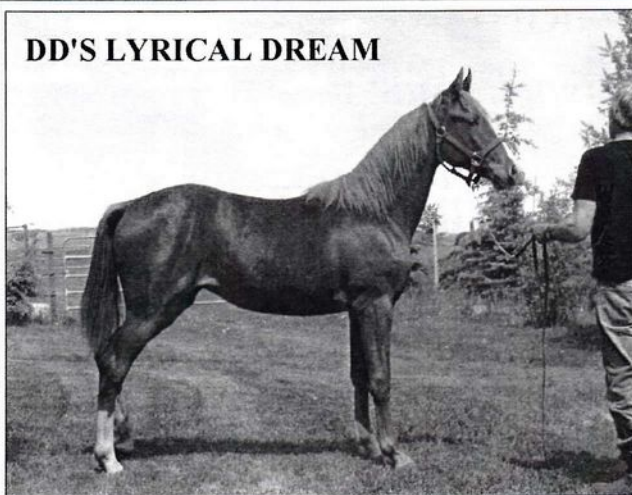
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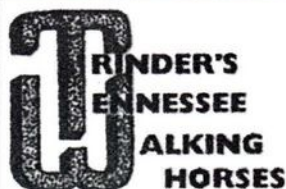
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Website is [www.awha-easyriders.com](http://www.awha-easyriders.com).

**WILD ROSE CLUB - EDMONTON AREA -** Contact is Candice  
Dyberg, Secretary at [cdd57@telus.net](mailto:cdd57@telus.net).

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