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VOLUME XXXV 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

Donald & Rolanda
Eadie and their 3 boys
of Rimbey, AB
are pictured at
Blue Rock, west of
Turner Valley, AB.
They were on a
family horseback
riding weekend
on their Walkers.
Mountain riding
is a great family
adventure.

*Thank you
to Rolanda Eadie
for sending in
this photo.*

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JULY 7**

for Sept/Oct issue
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Volume XXXV, # 3 May/June, 2011

Dear Subscribers,

The news has spread like wildfire, while the outbreak itself of EHV-1 (neurologic equine herpesvirus) continues. New cases were confirmed over the week-end of May 21-22. The source of the outbreak is believed to be the April 29-May 8 National Cutting Horse Association's (NCHA) Western National Championships. This outbreak has prompted many events scheduled within the next month to be CANCELLED to stop the spread of this disease.

Our Walking Horse events are not immune. As of May 23, the Wild Rose Versatility Show (June 10-12) at Thorsby, AB, and the Trail Plus Event (June 25-26) near Water Valley, AB have been cancelled. The Sparks Clinic at Rimbey, AB currently plans to go ahead, but it would be prudent to check on any other horse events you are thinking of attending.

Now that the weather seems to have changed for the better there are lots of new foals arriving. (Smart little rascals!) See page 4 for a preview of the future.

The Dusty Files of January/February 2011 showed Wainwright's Prince on the cover of the 1991 Jan/Feb *WHN*. He was shown with his High Point Award at the BC Celebration, along with rider Cindy Botkin and Judge Ann Kuykendall. Wainwright's Prince died this winter shortly after that picture appeared, and Sue Lellman has sent in a story about him. See page 3.

Also I'm reprinting the article mentioned last month in Dusty Files - 'On Natural Gaited Walkers, Pacers and Trotters' by Cristine Holt from April, 1991. It is on pages 9 & 10, and it's worth reading again.

Thank you to Rachel Hill for her story about campaigning her Heritage Walker in endurance riding. It is on pages 17 & 18. We'll look forward to hearing more!

Thank you to all contributors. I hope you readers enjoy the issue and I wish you all time to get out and enjoy your horses.

Let's hear from YOU for next time,

Marjorie

WHN makes a
great gift!

June, 2011

Walking Horse News

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

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CANADIAN TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

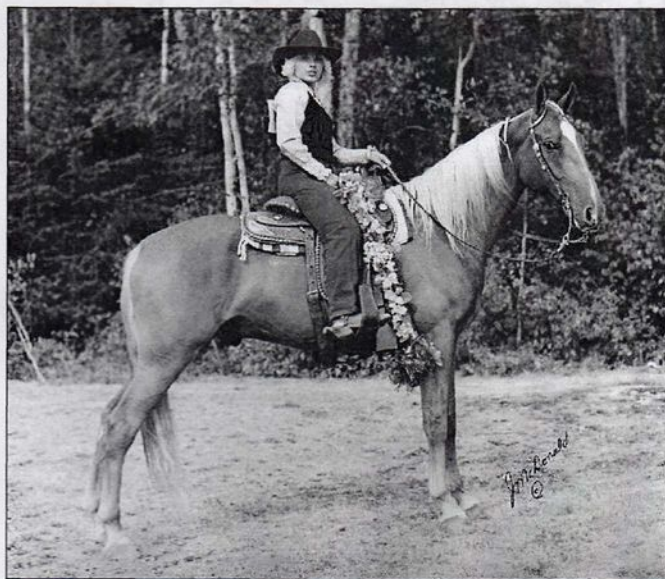
HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

“CANADIAN TIMES OF THE TWH”

‘COPPER’ WAS A GREAT HORSE by Sue Lellman

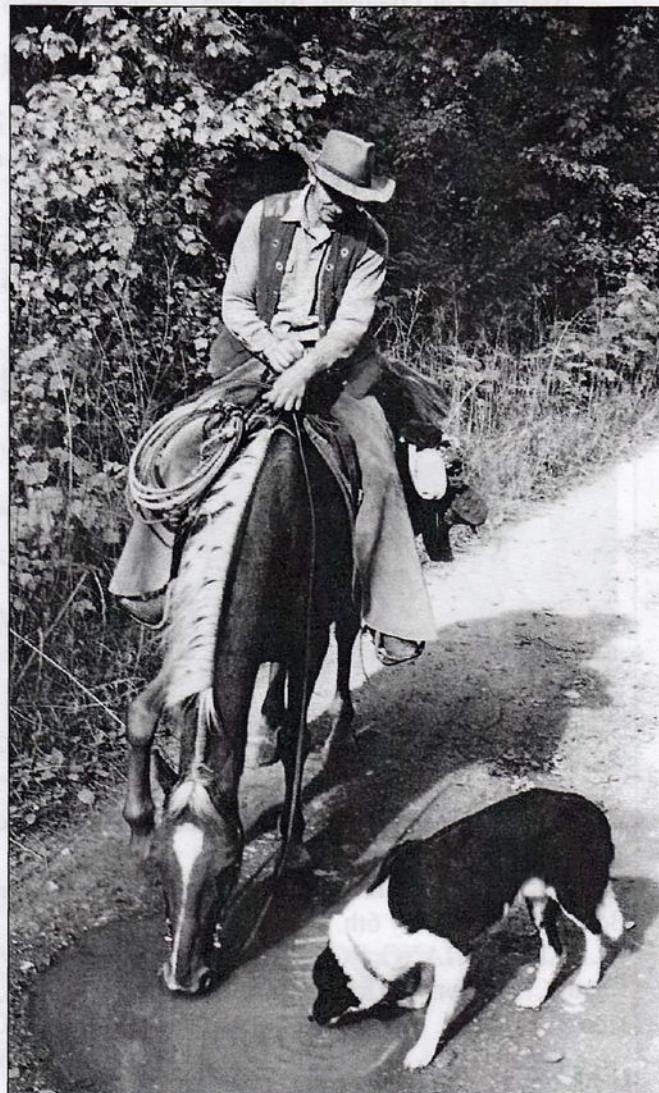
WAINWRIGHT’S PRINCE, #843132 aka ‘Copper’, was a great horse. This spring he passed away in his 27th year from old age.

Copper was bred by Butch Friis of Wainwright, Alberta. He was sired by Shadow’s Big Red (Shadow’s Brantley x Merry B. Ann) out of Pride of Thompson (Sun’s Shakedown M.L.R. x Hart’s Wonder Girl). He came into Bill’s life after a winning show career. Bill did some winning with him as well. Copper had been owned and shown by Sandra Karl and trained, ridden and shown by Cindy Botkin. (See them below. Photo courtesy J. McDonald.) There was a time when most Walking Horse people knew the name ‘Wainwright’s Prince’.



These days Bill Roy spends most of his time caring for horses, training horses, talking about horses and helping people with their horses. It’s what he loves and most of the time it loves him back. Copper was part of Bill’s journey to Horseman. Everyones life has turning points. Copper was one of Bill’s; one of those AH HA! moments when the sum of a lot of disconnected points come together in a flash that is greater than all of them separately.

Diane Sept and Dianne Little were both here and Bill got a quick lesson. It was the first time Bill got the running walk, that he knew he had it, and he had someone he believed to tell him he’d hit a lick. The feel of that big boy lifting in the front as he powered ahead into a running walk was IT.



Bill had always enjoyed his horses and been good with them. They’d go anywhere and do anything for him. They just can’t resist the love and the focus. The power and smoothness of that lick was extra - the extra that holds you and keeps you riding a Walking Horse. Copper gave Bill many years, riding the trails, helping with the young ones, the grandkids and three year olds. Copper did it all. He spent the last couple years living with Bill’s nephew down south.

We have some really good memories. Thank You, Copper.

JO-ANNE McDONALD who took the photo above left, writes, “He was one of the most natural walkers that I have ever seen. Sad to hear of his passing.

FOAL CALL

BLACK COLT, white on 3 feet and a star, born March 17.
(Cherokee's Dark Knight x Bee Boppin Angel's Dream).
Karla & Pat Freeman, Ride Easy Ranch, Bentley, AB
(Photo right.)



PALOMINO COLT
(Deal With The Devil x N-Mile Angels Halo) Born April 20.
Pride's Noble Walkers, Perryvale, AB (Below.)



BAY TOBIANO FILLY (Below)
(Toddys Royal Image x Chief's Paint Brush)

SORREL COLT
(Toddys Royal Image x Shadow's Fly By Night)
Both born April 20. Germscheids, Magnolia Meadows,
Evansburg, AB



BLACK FILLY, star (Canadian Shaker x High Hopes 'N Dreams DFS). Born May 3, 2011 (Photo below.)

BLACK COLT (Canadian Shaker x Sage King's Black Beauty) Foaled May 6th.

BLACK TOBIANO COLT (Dressed For Success x Royal Class Double Delite) Born May 12th
Don & Jo-Anne, McDonald Farms, Pouce Coupe, BC



PALOMINO COLT
(Champion's Gold x Golden Dreams Delight)
(Photo right.)
Foaled May 7th.
Lesa Luchak,
Maple Lane Acres, Two Hills, AB



NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

ALBERTA NEWS



GERTY KURE, INNISFAIL, writes on April 16, "We are slogging thru a foot of snow here. Three days ago we had hardly any snow, except the drifts that still had to melt. But we live in Alberta; this is Alberta weather. Drummer is still looking good and even though he will be 20 this year he still plays with the Haflingers. Winter has been cold and we haven't rode at all this winter. (Where is global warming when we need it?) Before this last snow we did ride the Haflingers down the road. I also rode Tsar a few weeks ago, just around the pasture. Here's a photo of Tsar, me and my "pack string"... the Haflingers, and Drummer, bringing up the rear. "

From MAUREEN GERMSCHIED, MAGNOLIA MEADOWS, EVANSBURG, "My new additions this week were both born on David's birthday - April 20. The paint filly came in the am and the sorrel colt in the evening. Nice way to *start and finish* foaling!"

SHANNON MCNEILL EDMONTON, writes, "I'm just starting to get back into it with the mare. Not many TWH people or events around Edmonton . I did a few trail rides with the regular horses but that's a bit difficult as I'm always holding back or falling behind so THEY can keep up . If you know any nice people that have Walkers please do pass my email along."

"Also I work with a girl whose family has Walkers in Ontario. Their farm name is or was Tenkula Farms. (I don't know them; just the lady related to them that I work with.) I give her the

magazine when I'm done to give to her dad. He's always excited to get them. If I can get his address I will gift a subscription to him."

From KARLA FREEMAN, RIDE EASY RANCH, BENTLEY, "Hello, fellow Walking Horse lovers. It certainly seems to have been a long and arduous winter! I did get away to a warm spot for a week, and of course, with the 60 degree in temperature changes, I wasn't sure I wanted to come back to the frozen tundra!"

"The horses all fared well here. I did have an early surprise. That stallion must have been on hyper alert last year, as I was surprised to see Dream developing a large bag on the 15th of March! Sure enough on the 17th, she had a strapping smokey black colt, with small white on his fetlocks. Friendly as can be! He is a charmer. Dream is a great mom, nickering at him , but not overly concerned about his brash and independent behavior. I am also eagerly anticipating a foal from my Elegant Melody mare. She is in foal to the palomino stallion, Uphill Heir Trigger. She isn't due until later. Anyone up for betting on the color? She is a smokey black, so who wants to guess? I always say that no good moving, friendly foal is ever a bad color!"

"I sure liked the picture on the *Walking Horse News* last issue, and I wholeheartedly agree - Walkers ARE talented!"

"I haven't ridden nearly as much as I thought I would in the cold this winter, but I did manage to get some good cat-riding videos of the pets (pests?) around here. If you're interested in seeing them, you can google YouTube, and then type in 'karlas walkers', and you can choose the video you would like. I have some cute ones!"

"I had the pleasure of attending the Mane Event in Red Deer. It was Karlas Black Raven's debut into the city lights. She had never been in the arena or a stall either, so I was very proud of her, for her well-mannered behaviour, and how well she got along with the other horses. There were quite a number of horses, and it was nice to meet some new people, and show the great variety in the Walking Horses off to the general public."

"Sure is a nice day out, so I'd better get in the saddle. I hope to see you at the Annual General Meeting, and the Gait From the Ground Up clinic! Happy trails to all!"

ALBERTA NEWS

GRANT KIHN, HINTON, writes, "Just got back yesterday from the US and brought back a gaited mule from Tennessee. His gait is not pure; however he is gaited very nicely and should make a great riding mule. He's just a youngster so hopefully his gait will improve with training. (At the rate I'm going I will be out of horses and into mules. I now have a team of small QH mules that I have been driving, my new saddle mule, and 2 horses (a Morgan & my old TWH, Kihn's Ace, who I'm planning to sell).

"Looks like spring is finally going to arrive and I'm looking forward to more time to ride this summer, IF we get a summer. Have several trips in planning stages. I've been off work since Jan. 1st - retired or between jobs; not sure what to call it. Built a wagon (for the team) and am getting caught up on backlogged projects."

From LISA LAMBERT, PRIDE'S NOBLE WALKERS, PERRYVALE, "On April 16 our daughter gave birth to our lil "Goddess", Anna- Marie Lynn. She is perfect. We couldn't have asked for anything better."

"It has been very busy here. On April 20th N-Mile Angels Halo gave us a gorgeous tall palomino colt. We have two mares left to foal. We will have one foal from each of my stallions this year. We're not breeding for quantity, especially with the market the way it is. Quality is what we strive for, and so far we are thrilled with what has come out of our stock!"

ARLENE BOLES, THREE HILLS, writes, "Hello, Walking Horse people. I hope everyone can ride or drive their horses by now. It's been a long, cold, 'lots-of-snow' winter."

I enjoy the magazine - lots of good photos and articles about our TWH. I read it cover to cover."

"Maybe this summer will be better for working with my horses. I have down-sized to two. My husband wants me to slow down. We are still busy with the farm crop life, and age seems to make a difference. But horses have been my interest all my life."

"Keep up the good work on the magazine. Hope everyone has a good summer with their horses."

Riding allows me to distance myself from life's daily occurrences. When I am on a horse I forget everything else. I am absorbed by what I do. It is a certain escapism. When sitting on a horse my mind reaches a higher plane, especially when walking on a loose rein!

Jean-Louis Guntz



A sad FAREWELL to a very special Trail-Companion.

JUST A MAJOR

passed away suddenly on April 28th 2011 at the age of only 15.

Thank you Major for the many Miles of Trails we travelled together. You will be missed by everyone at the K4-Ranch.

Alf Kessler, Cochrane AB

AWHA CLINICS

Hello to all. It seems that spring has finally arrived! Just thought I would tell you about the very successful 4 week clinic that we held on four consecutive Monday evenings from March 14th to April 4th. Even tho' the weather was still being 'difficult', we managed to attend. We rented the Cochrane Ag Society arena, which was very nice, as it is a large venue and heated to 0 degrees as well.

Much appreciation and thanks goes out to our 2 clinicians: Dianne Little coached us on our riding positions and techniques, and Keith Oberle coached us on gaits, how to recognize those gaits, and various exercises to help your horse develop true gait and self carriage. We had a full house with eleven attending, and others joined us to watch the proceedings.

Also enjoyed the 'social' aspect of the get together, as we are all eager to see a new riding season get going.

Wishing all you riding folks a wonderful summer of 2011.

by Lissa Townsend

NEWS FROM OUR U.S. SUBSCRIBERS

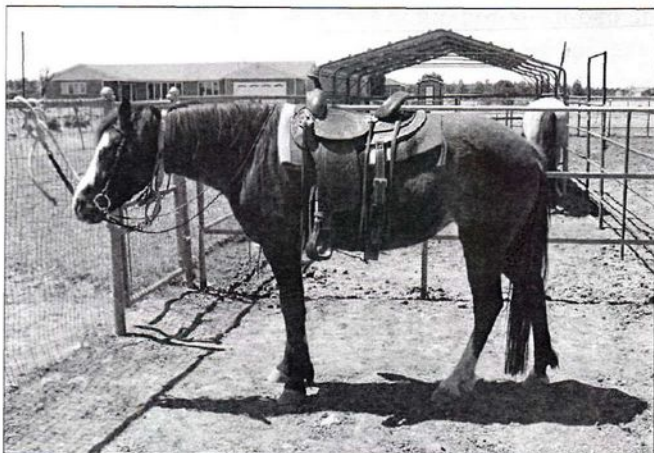
GRACE LARSON, HIGH PLAINS WALKERS, FORSYTH, MONTANA writes on March 26, "We have had a busy winter with illness, etc. And I have been trying to get my family history written down. I have 20 pages now but will have over a hundred when it is complete. Now Spring is here so lots of outside work is coming soon. We are down to two old mares: Tegun's Mt. Fawn and Sundance's Marigold. Fawn is 26 and Marigold is 21 now. We lost GLL's Sun Chief to a heart attack last June. Our last two geldings were sold to people near Great Falls."

"This has been a long winter although our snow is all gone now. It stayed all winter which is unusual. Usually chinook winds come through and our snow is gone during the winter."

"Can you put on our business card that our Web Domain is for sale? (See last page.) We'd like to get the appraised price for it."

I enjoy the *Walking Horse News* a lot! I also wonder if anyone is interested in past issues or in the Walking Horse Calendars? None of my children are into horses so Lyle and I are the end of the line. I will be getting some more of Mom's (Marie McBroom's) old bloodlines sent in when I have some extra time. I have lots of photos."

From ALLANNA JACKSON, LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, "Hi, Here's a picture of Cinnamon's new saddle. It's a Haflinger draft horse saddle! Dakota Saddlery model 2214 with a 15" seat. I ordered it from horsesaddleshop.com in Bremen, Indiana, through their web site. I'm very pleased with the horsesaddleshop customer service and the quality of the saddle. I'm still not 100% certain of the fit on Cinnamon, but it's better than the Tennessean. She accepted the back cinch easier than I expected."



SABINOS

Above: NORTHFORK BLUE CHIP, a classic sabino TWH, bred by Jack Gurnett of Bluffton, AB and now owned by Angie Jansen of Zephyr, ON.

We didn't learn the correct name for these 'lit-up' horses with lots of white marking and white ticking in their coats until the late eighties or early nineties. We all called them "roans" – as in ROAN ALLEN. I guess we were looking in the wrong books!

See below, a quotation from a Western novel by J.T. Edson, published in 1970.

"Does the Mex ride a fancy light red roan with a white belly?" asked the old man. "What they call a sabino or some such?"

"That's what they call 'em," agreed the Kid.

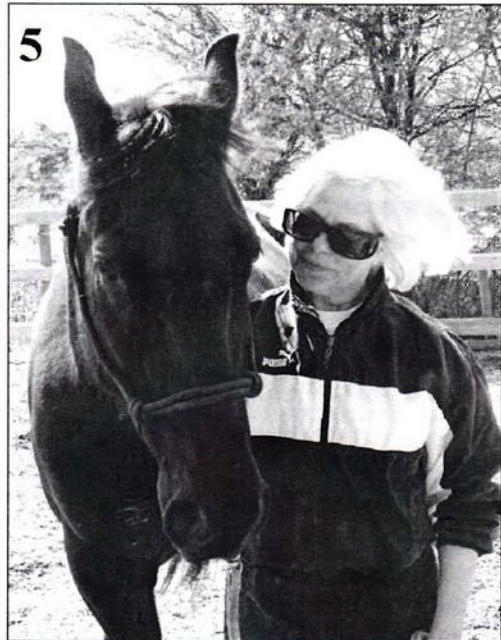
'Sabino' is not actually a colour but a pattern. Sabinos may come in nearly any horse colour, but they have either white patches or white hair sprinkled through their coats (or both).

Some 'minimal sabinos' have one or more white foot markings, often with jagged edges where it meets the coloured hair, and / or they may have an uneven blaze.

Maximal sabinos are nearly pure white, often with some coloured hair on ears & foretop. The rest of them have markings that fall somewhere in between. Sabinos seem to be more common in sorrel, but black and bay are also seen, and I recently saw a gray sabino.

This is one of those genes that can "hide" and suddenly show up in a foal when you least expect it. And it can do the opposite. Our mare, Uphill Arnica, had three out of four sabino grandparents; one being a maximal (white) sabino. But none of her foals showed any trace of the sabino pattern! *MCL*

What do You



do

with
your
HORSES
?



Laurie Joslin, Victoria, BC writes, "This is my friend, Sandy McMahon from Vancouver Island, BC. While I take photos, she is training "Tosh" (Karla's Black Magic Shadow) to learn to step up onto this podium. Sandy is very gentle and patient and Tosh learns very quickly; he had it figured out in less than one hour. Tosh will turn 5 years old at the end of May and I will start riding him. He has had extensive groundwork and is a pretty quick study. He actually had his first ride today too, with Sandy on board. He was very calm and we didn't have one speck of trouble with him despite the scary excavator and big dump trucks working next door. I am so pleased with Tosh. If he is an example of the breed I will soon be on the look out for my second TWH!"

"I have spent the last year doing ground work with Tosh and look forward to training him for riding. Much of the groundwork will transfer over to the saddle and it was so much fun training him. Hopefully my next TWH will be of riding age and a bit taller at 15.2 hh plus ... so keep your eyes peeled for me."

[Editor's Note: Quite a while ago I asked Cristine Holt, Dubuque, Iowa, this question: "Are there honest-to-goodness, true natural run-walkers out there that will run walk without a whole lot of help from rider, shoes, bit, etc.?" Here is her reply.]

PART I: **ON NATURAL GAITED WALKERS, PACERS & TROTTERS**

by Cristine Holt

Yes, there are, but most of them are mature horses, not the youngsters that aren't set in their gaits yet. I've seen nice two year olds, brought along slowly and easily, that were almost faultless in their gaits when they were seven years old. But I've also seen even the best, most natural two year olds you could ever hope to find ruined by the time they were four because they were tampered with in one way or another.

I would like to draw special attention to the word slow, because even the best, most natural walking horse should not be rushed for speed, form, marketability or showability. No matter how you do it, I believe that when you rush a horse, the horse is unable to achieve its fullest potential and you're lucky if you don't sacrifice part of its disposition, confidence, and soundness, let alone its gait.

I feel that those horses that are not as naturally gaited have a harder time holding their gait. Even good riders will sometimes have to struggle with them if there is a certain road surface, a certain bit or saddle, or a certain day or weather, etc.

PACEY TYPE

Let me tell you about two horses we had. About eight years ago we had a very pretty sorrel colt born at our stable. His momma was quite pacey, but we didn't know if it was a natural condition or the result of big lick training in her past. The sire of this colt (we named him Sandman) was a very natural stallion named Blue Gunsmoke (who lives in Canada now, by the way). Blue Gunsmoke had almost been ruined by incorrect riding as a two and three year old. We sent him away for specific gait training. When he came back three months later, he was faultless in his running walk, even with bare feet. If we had categorized this stallion as a

poorly gaited horse because he'd been incorrectly ridden, we would have dismissed a beautifully gaited horse as junk.


Anyway, back to his son. Sandman was very pacey. He was so pacey that he couldn't even flat walk without pacing, and even preferred a fast pace to a canter. He literally could not perform a four beat gait when left to his own devices. We gelded Sandman, trained him to basic saddle skills and turned him out to pasture because I really didn't know what to do with him after that.

Well, one day the herd was coming in from the pasture and I saw Sandman do about five steps of a trot. I told one of my best apprentices, named Thor, to pull him out of the pasture. We were going to work on him. Thor refreshed Sandman's saddle training memory with a western saddle and a medium port curb bit with about a three inch shank. Thor was instructed to take Sandman out on the trails and just flat walk him. And that's what she did, mile after mile, day after day, week after week. Thor worked strictly on his flat walk on a loose rein. We didn't worry about setting his head because that would have meant distracting his attention from that four beat gait we were trying to solidify. We didn't worry about speed except to move him up a notch, a little at a time, when Thor felt he could handle it. If Sandman broke his

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March - April 1991

Cristine Holt cont'd ...

cadence in the flat walk, Thor slowed him down a little and then gradually worked up to it again if she could that day. Thor was aiming at an evenly timed, four beat flat walk with a relaxed head nod on a loose rein (the more relaxed and balanced Sandman was, the deeper his head nod). This didn't mean that his reins were always hanging loose. Sometimes, as pacey as Sandman was, his weight had to be balanced between his front and hind legs, which meant that some rein pressure came into play. But the goal was a loose rein. When Sandman performed a four beat, relaxed flat walk on a loose rein, he was asked for just a little bit more speed. Sometimes he was able to provide that speed without any discomfort or hesitation, and the loose rein remained. Other times Sandman needed to be rebalanced.

While Thor was putting on the miles at the flat walk, she was also practising flexing to the right and left through exercises in our arena, backing up without raising his head or opening his mouth, and cantering on a loose rein. Thor did a lot of cantering uphill and only after many miles of flat walking, until Sandman realized that a slow canter was what we wanted. We discovered that, again, when Sandman was properly balanced, light on the bit, and responding to leg aids, his

canter was beautiful! And from a pacey horse. Both Thor and I had thought that a pacey horse simply wasn't capable of performing a balanced, athletic canter, especially on a loose rein. Sandman taught us differently. All of this work took about 60 to 70 days. The highlight of the year was when we took him to his first and only horse show that had TWH classes. Thor showed him in an optional tack, (we used Western, of course) three gait class. That day Sandman was not taking his left lead, no matter what we did. In our intensity we were probably doing all the wrong things, but that's a whole 'nother story.

Thor showed Sandman the best she could while he went all the way through the left lead on his right lead. But his canter was balanced, on a nice loose rein, and his running walk was perfect, both ways of the ring. There were two heavy shod plantation horses that racked both ways of the ring and two heavy shod horses performing a hard pace. In all there were seven in the class. Our boy took fourth, even with the wrong lead, and we felt that he had made a good show. Sandman never lost his gait. So now Thor and I are not nearly as despondent over a pacey horse as we used to be. But we've never had any as pacey since, either. Whew!

Next Issue: Part II the "TROTTY TYPE"

Bucky Sparks Returns to Canada in June!

CENTRAL ALBERTA TENNESSEE WALKERS

is sponsoring a two day B.L.E.S.S Your Walking Horse clinic with Bucky Sparks of Cortez, CO.

WHEN? The dates are June 18 & 19, 2011

WHERE? The Rimbey Arena at the Rimbey, Alberta Fair Grounds

WHO? We have openings for 8 horses and riders. Number of auditors is unlimited.

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Contact Norm **403-788-2046** or Jack **403-843-6124**

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ALBERTA CELEBRATION

August 5th, 6th, 7th, 2011

JUDGE: The Honorable Diane Sept of Denver, Pennsylvania

A FOSH certified IJA Judge

Location - Anchor R Ranch, Lacombe, Alberta

There are Peruvian classes with Peruvian Championships. We'll again be offering Open Gaited Classes which are 'come as you are'; show clothes are not required for Open Gaited Classes, only safe tack.

We're also offering lots of gymkhana events and fun classes.

For more information and to request an entry form please contact

Blair - 780-352-3531 or Rhonda - 403-782-3118

or via email at yonafeda@gmail.com

Volunteers needed. Also please consider sponsoring a class for \$25.

Your name/farm name will appear in the program, on the AWhA website & be announced throughout the show.

PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A VALID A.E.F CARD.



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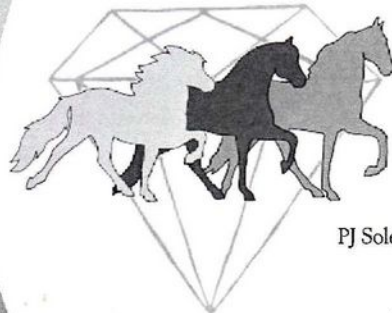
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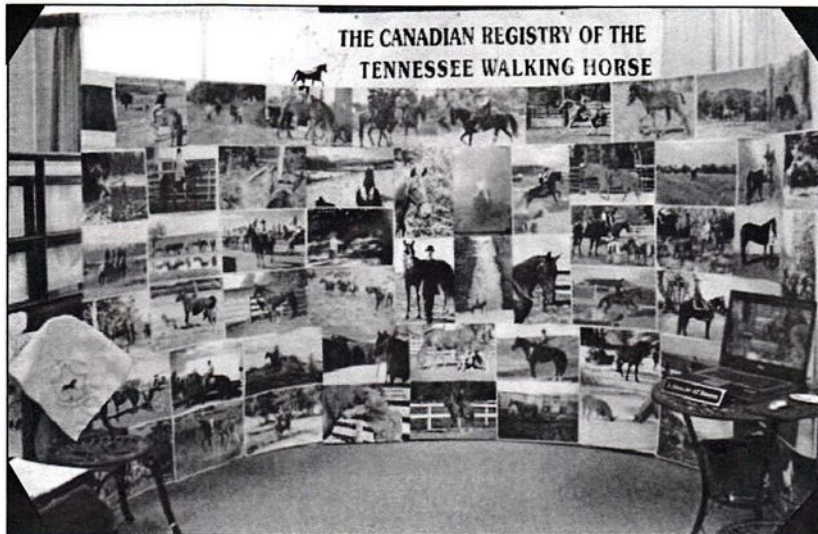
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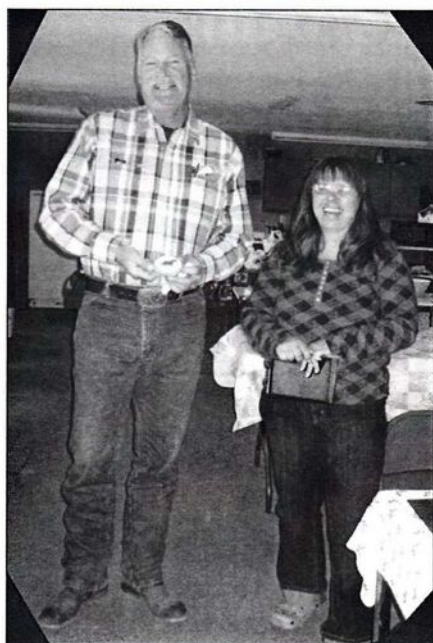
Or you can check out our website at www.saskperuvians.net
or look us up on facebook as The Diamond Classic Horse Show

CRTWH PHOTO ALBUM

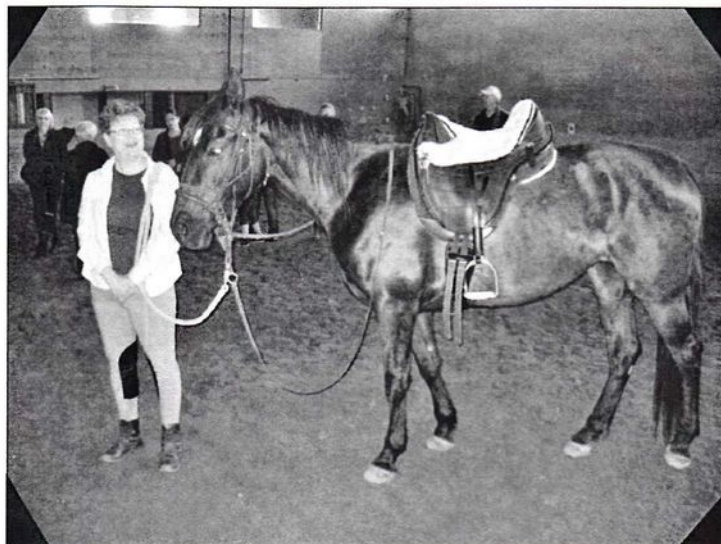
Spring, 2011



Above: The CRTWH Booth at Mane Event, April 29 - May 1, 2011



Left: Ralph Livingston accepts the Ride Your Walker Top Hours Award from Fran Kerik, 'Ride' Director.



Above: Debra Blower at the clinic with her TWH, 'Billy'.

Below: Trooper, Bill Roy & Penny take a break on the way home to BC.



Right: Bill Roy & Troop the first Ultimate CDN TWH, with Marj Lacy.





The Canadian Walker

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June, 2011

CRTWH EXECUTIVE

• **President: Marjorie Lacy**

780-723-2547

president@crtwh.ca

• **Vice-President:**

Bill Roy

250-838-2066

vice-president@crtwh.ca

• **Recording Secretary:**

Maureen Hummel

250-827-3386

Corresponding Secretary:

Leslie Hunchuk

403-931-2105

secretary@crtwh.ca

• **Treasurer: Dianne Little**

403-271-7391

treasurer@crtwh.ca

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Fran Kerik

780-768-2250

BC Ralph Livingston

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ON Sue Gamble

705-642-3746

The **CANADIAN REGISTRY** of the **TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE** has been busy. On April 29 to May 1 we had a booth and breed demonstration at The Mane Event in Red Deer, AB.

A big "Thank you" to the riders who participated: Samantha Johnson, Rhonda Lemmon, Lori Dyberg, Karla Freeman, Keith Oberle and Greg Germsheid, as well as their support teams. The demos were well received.

Special thanks to Leslie Hunchuk who coordinated it & kudos to Dianne Little who designed the booth. Thanks to all the members who helped set up, & put in time over the weekend greeting visitors. It was a popular spot. Many people stopped to ask questions, talk about their own Walkers or inquire about TWH.



THE CRTWH ANNUAL

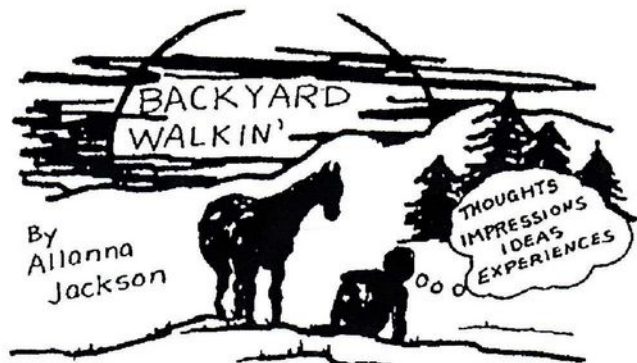
GENERAL MEETING was held at Klondike Victory Farm west of Red Deer on May 14/11. We had a good turn-out of around 25 members, with Directors Hunchuk, Kerik, Lacy, Little, Livingston and Roy in attendance.

Registrations and transfers were up over the previous year, which is always good news for any registry. The 2010 Canadian Triple Challenge Awards were presented and this year the very first ever Ultimate Canadian Horse Award was given to Woodhill's

TS Trooper for satisfying all the criteria in the Training Levels plus achieving the Gold Award in the Program For Excellence. Ralph Livingston and KC's Koko Cowboy took the Ride / Drive Your Walker award for the greatest number of hours ridden in 2010 with Allanna Jackson and Back Yard Cinnamon close behind. We will feature Troop and all the other award winners in an up-coming issue. In the meantime, go to our website for photos of all the Triple Challenge winners for 2010 and earlier. *Above Bill Roy, Trooper's trainer and owner, accepts the Ultimate Canadian Horse Award. L-R are Dianne Little, Marjorie Lacy, Bill Roy and Leslie Hunchuk.* Supper and visiting after the meeting rounded off the evening.

The 'GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP' Clinic

was held in conjunction with the AGM the weekend of May 14 & 15. Bill Roy of Grindrod, BC and Dianne Little of Calgary, AB were the clinicians and it was well attended, despite the gale-force winds we had that weekend. Eleven horses and riders took part and there were seven auditors. This is the third year that the clinic has been combined with the AGM, and from the positive feedback, it appears that we will have a clinic combined with the AGM again next year!



IDENTIFYING EVEN GAIT FROM PHOTOS

by Allanna Jackson © February 2011

“The flat-foot walk should be identical to the running walk... but at a speed of about 3 to 4 miles per hour, square from all four corners...” TWH judge Henry S. Alexander, Clinton, Kentucky.

“The flat-foot walk should be bold, square and straight, above all it should stay flat and loose like a horse going after the cows.” TWH judge Reverend N.B. Hardeman, Henderson, Tennessee, one of the judges of the first TWH Celebration in 1939 when *Strolling Jim 410315* won his World’s Grand Championship.

“He should have a free and natural flat walk just as if he were going across the pasture.” TWH judge Jack Slayden, Holly Springs, Mississippi, one of the judges of the 1941 TWH Celebration when *Haynes’ Peacock 401185* won his second World’s Grand Championship.

“The running walk should be bold and square with good action yet relaxed... the flat-foot walk should be flat, square and bold with head motion in time with leg speed.” Fred Walker, trainer of *Hunter’s Allen F-10*, one of the judges of the 1943 Celebration when *Black Angel 391118* won her World’s Grand Championship, and exhibitor of *Midnight Sun 410751* when he won his two World’s Grand Championships.

These are just a few of many statements in the book *Biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse* that very plainly describe both flat-foot walk and running walk as square gaits.

Those who are interested in gait identification have become used to the image at top overleaf as the position of evenness. As noted in previous articles timing is more than just the set down of the hooves. When the early Walking Horse judges spoke of “square” movement as the ideal they were looking for something more than the sound of four hoof beats. A square walk is perfectly even at the lift off of the hooves. A square walk has four even flight intervals, one for each hoof. A square walk has hock action the same height as knee action. A square walk is perfectly even at all phases of the stride, not just one.

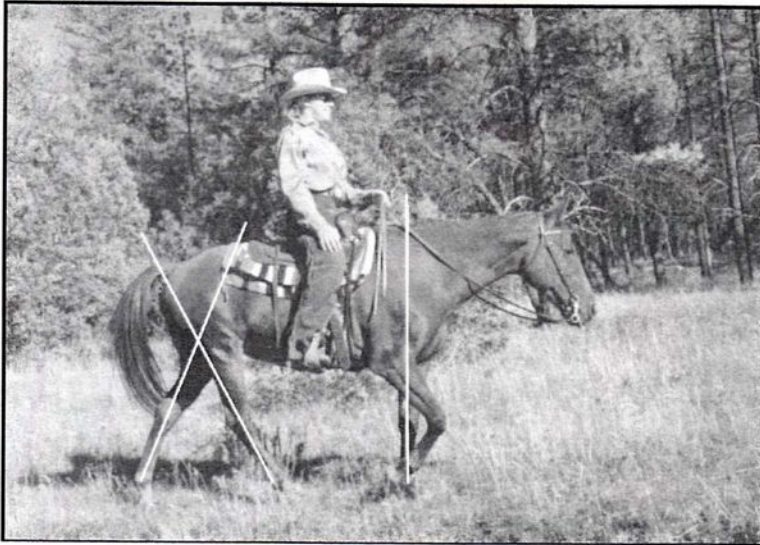
The photo at the bottom on the next page shows another position of evenness that proves this is a square walk.

In the top photo the rear legs are at full stride. The left foreleg is directly under the mare fully supporting weight. Her right foreleg is exactly half-way through its forward flight. The three hooves that are supporting weight are fully flat on the ground, which tells us this is a flat-foot walk.

In the bottom photo on the next page the front legs are at full stride. The right hind leg is directly under the mare fully supporting her weight. Her left hind leg is exactly half-way through its forward flight, where it can barely be seen behind the right hind leg. A very careful look at what can be seen of the right hind leg indicates the hock action is no lower than the knee action in the top photo. The mare’s knees are straight which tells us her front hooves are both flat on the ground, indicating this is a flat-foot walk. The consistency of the timing and support of the front phase of the stride compared to the rear phase of the stride tells us this walk is “square from all four corners,” not merely even in the sound of the hoof beats.

The photo at the top on the next page is the phase of the stride that many people rely on to identify an even four-beat gait. The mare’s rear legs are at full stride, her left foreleg is vertical, directly underneath her fully supporting weight. Her right foreleg is half-way through its forward flight.

Identifying Even Gait from Photos



The photo below is another position of evenness but this one is not so well known. This time it is the front legs that are at full stride while the right hind is in the middle of its stance phase fully supporting the mare's weight. Her left hind leg is half-way through its forward flight with the hock visible just above the right hind hock. Comparing the height of the hock action to the matching height of the mare's knee action in the top photo is additional evidence that this walk is truly square, not merely even in sound.



Reprinted with Allanna's permission
from *The Walking Horse Journal*, March, 2011.
The models are Allanna and Sacia's Pride (Sassy).

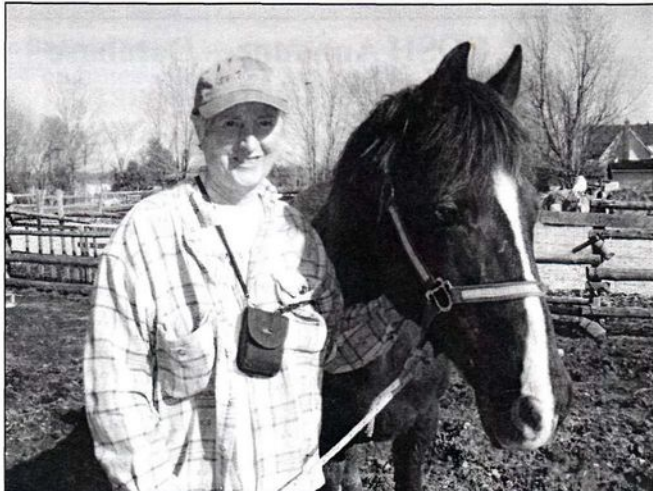
FOSH Announces Database of HPA Court Rulings

Friends of Sound Horses (FOSH) announces that it has compiled a database of over 400 court and administrative cases, including over 700 case dispositions, that interpret and enforce the Horse Protection Act (HPA). The HPA was enacted in 1970 to eliminate soring in the horse show ring. Soring is the abusive practice of creating pain as a means of achieving a flashy gait in the Tennessee Walking Horse and other gaited horse breeds. Despite soring being illegal, it continues to be a common practice in some barns and showing venues.

FOSH President, Lori Northrup, said "We are extremely grateful to the attorneys and volunteers who have donated hundreds of hours of legal research to compile this catalog of HPA cases. This listing and the analysis done on each case will be invaluable for attorneys, humane animal organizations, the United States Department of Agriculture or the Justice Department when seeking stronger enforcement of the HPA, either through litigation or rulemaking."

Summary information has been collected for each case, with detailed quotations and source information to the case citations. Sample quotes from the database include testimony from veterinarians and other expert witnesses: "Such severe pain was elicited that the mare would practically go to the ground, and "Two year old grey mare (was) leaning over . . . to the point that the horse looked as if it might fall over at any time. . . (Veterinarian testified that this horse) was one of the sorest horses that he has seen . . ." The decisions were issued during a 38 year time period from 1972 through 2010, and more records are added each week from ongoing research.

FOSH is a national leader in the promotion of natural, sound gaited horses and in the fight against abuse and soring of Tennessee Walking Horses. For more information about FOSH or to become a member, please visit www.fosh.info or e-mail data@fosh.info.



ONTARIO NEWS

From KATHY MINOR, KARS, *above*, with Flicka, "I didn't think I had anything more to report, as my mare is now in a retirement home, but I do want to share the following story."

My TWH is Rock's Flicka. She was sired by Rockette's Rocket out of Midnight Star FF, and was foaled in 1989. The breeder was Betty Motherwell. Flicka was bought by Kim Pringle and brought to Ontario. She had a few foals and then I bought her in 2005. She was my first TWH and we had six wonderful years together in which I learned so much about the breed. Sadly she developed a lot of back pain which meant I couldn't ride her, so two years ago I found a retirement home for her in Alexandria, Ontario."

"The retirement home had a 'vet day' yesterday and a volunteer team came from the vet college at the University of Montreal. I had been to visit Flicka a few times but hadn't seen her since last summer. I joined a team of volunteers to help out with the vetting, and was delighted to have the opportunity to walk my dear Flicka through her procedures. She remembered me and immediately responded to directions to quietly lead, halt, stand, and especially was quiet for the dental exam as well. Since most of the other horses did not have her background of training and good care, she was noticed by everyone. I had so many positive comments about her good nature and responsiveness."

"We were even interviewed by a woman who does audiovisual presentations for TV programs. She is from Montreal and speaks mostly French so I didn't quite understand everything, but I was pleased to be interviewed. (In English!) I told all about the TWH breed, how I got my horse, and why I retired her to this facility. The woman took some excellent

pictures of Flicka and I was amazed to see how well Flicka looks. She still has a lovely head and eye, and from the front looks the same as always. The body is less youthful, with saggy topline and typical elderly broodmare outline, but her vet check showed she is healthy and doing well as a pasture horse."

"I am presently the owner of a nice little Quarter Horse with a slow, easy quarter horse jog, but believe me, it *does not compare* to a running walk!"

THE SEVEN STAGES OF AGING... ON HORSEBACK

STAGE 1: Fall off pony. Bounce. Laugh. Climb back on. Repeat.

STAGE 2: Fall off horse. Run after horse, cussing. Climb back on by shimmying up horse's neck. Ride until sundown.

STAGE 3: Fall off horse. Use sleeve of shirt to stanch bleeding. Have friend help you get back on horse. Take two Advil and apply ice packs when you get home. Ride next day.

STAGE 4: Fall off horse. Refuse advice to call ambulance; drive self to urgent care clinic. Entertain nursing staff with tales of previous daredevil stunts on horseback. Back to riding before cast comes off.

STAGE 5: Fall off horse. Temporarily forget name of horse and name of husband. Flirt shamelessly with paramedics when they arrive. Spend week in hospital while titanium pins are screwed in place. Start riding again before doctor gives official okay.

STAGE 6: Fall off horse. Fail to see any humor when hunky paramedic says, 'You again?' Gain first-hand knowledge of advances in medical technology thanks to stint in ICU. Convince self that permanent limp isn't that noticeable. Promise husband you'll give up riding. One week later purchase older, slower, shorter horse.

STAGE 7: Slip off horse. Relieved when artificial joints and implanted medical devices seem unaffected. Tell husband that scrapes and bruises are due to gardening accident. Pretend you don't see husband roll his eyes and mutter as he walks away. Give apple to horse.

Submitted by Natalie Speckmaier
& several other readers!

MY BUDDY, BEAMER by Rachel Hill, Fort Frances, Ontario

When I bought Sunbeam (Beamer), a Heritage gelding from Nancy Bergman two years ago, I had no idea what a great bond I would have with this horse, and just how much fun I would have with him in the sport of endurance. But I have found a once-in-a-lifetime friend that has been a wonderful partner in the sport I love so much.

I found out about Beamer through Diane Sczepanski. Diane had brought him back with her from Billy Taylor's farm in Winchester Tennessee as a nicely trained trail gelding for Nancy. Nancy confirmed he was just that, a horse that had a great walk, a great mind and gave you a great ride.

Beamer is out of Billy's mare, Echo's Lady Bug, by the stallion Chance's Goldust Dictator. When I spoke with Billy, he talked highly of his Lady Bug mare, and I could tell he believed in his Echo horses. When I brought Beamer to my home in Fort Frances, Ontario I had no intentions of his becoming an endurance horse. Yes, I had heard all about the endurance these Heritage horses have, but the sport of endurance is very competitive and it's the skinny, small framed Arabs that are the breed of choice for the sport. Their small builds and thin skin allow them to cool fast, and when it's a race to the finish, it's all about the lowest heart rate.

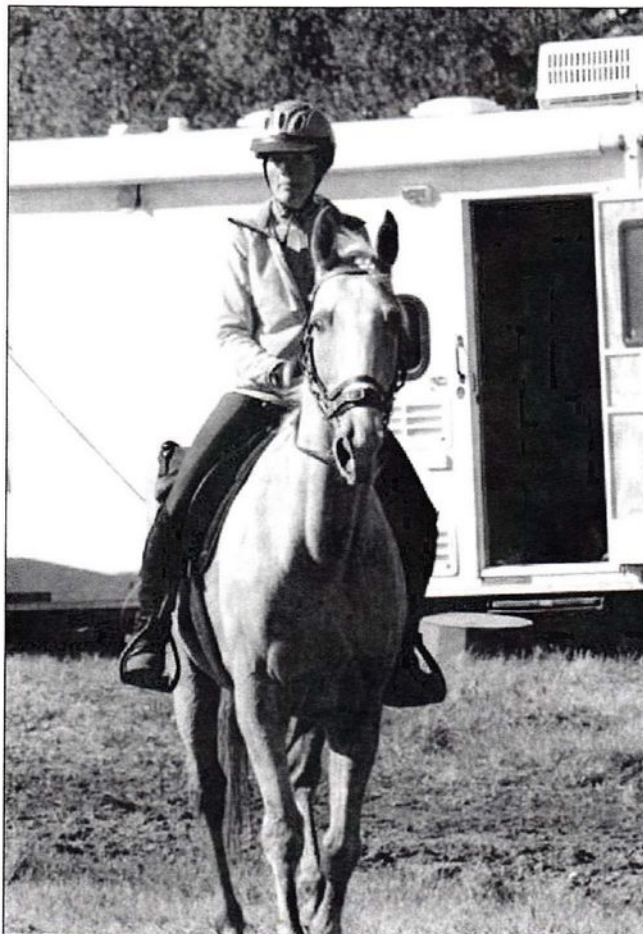
Don't get me wrong, I believe in my Walkers and know they can do this sport too, but the bigger builds do become a bit of a handicap on those hot, humid days. Any good horse with the right rider and gear can do distance and carry his rider all day. But the sport of endurance is about distance at *speed*. Arabs were bred for racing. Our horses were bred for utility, which is why they have a brain, and also why no heart rate in the world would have me switching. Beamer is a strapping 16 hh plus horse. He is long in the body, long neck and head, with big feet and legs. Quite frankly, he is huge!

At the time I got Beamer I was competing with my lovely Walker gelding, Ransom. Ransom is a Heritage outcross and I had been doing very well with him. I had started him at the shorter distances (25 and 30 miles) and he was doing pretty good finishing them at an average speed of 10 mph and he added lots of ribbons to my collection. But on one ride I ran him too fast in some deep soft sand and he came up with a bowed tendon. It set us back for a bit and I learned the hard way that tendons take a long time to heal.

Endurance is a lot about learning. And I have learned so much. Once I got Ransom back on track I

wanted to move up to the longer distances. In 2008 I completed my first 50 mile ride with him. I took a nice easy pace and Ransom finished fresh and healthy and did the 'trot out' with lots of gas still in the tank. I learned that day that I had far more horse left doing a slow 50 than a fast 25. I wanted to do more 50's. To do that meant more training time, and more miles on the trail. It can get lonely doing it yourself, but I have found that as long as you have good horses, you can get good riders to ride with. So, I bought Beamer to be my companion horse, a guest horse that anyone could ride and that would help me put the miles on Ransom to get me ready for the 50's.

It takes three years to make an endurance horse. You need to gradually build up the muscle, bones and tendons. It takes dedication and time to do this. After a few training rides, it soon became clear that Beamer already had a lot of this hard work done. So I made a call to Billy to find out just what kind of training Beamer had. Billy confirmed that he rode him hard in the Tennessee hills, sometimes for long hours. This explained that Beamer had a good



foundation of training and gave me the comfort of knowing that he was ready to try out at the limited distances. When you introduce a horse to distance riding, you do it gradually. So in 2009 that is what we did. I just took in a few rides with him, but I could see he liked it.

In 2010, I completed a total of 13 rides, most of them with Beamer. I rode ten 25 mile rides, a 40 and two 50's. As I had planned, I started most of the rides with the goal to finish, but not to place. This meant starting at the back of the pack and many times, well after everyone else had left. Throughout the season I noticed that Beamer was finding a pace that worked for him, always finishing strong and coming in with good pulse rates. I was getting more and more impressed with his ability to do this sport, despite his big size. I got used to the funny looks from people and the odd comment they would make. Not only do I stand out at these events with a horse of this size, but his colour draws a lot of attention too. Most endurance events are dominated by greys, chestnuts and bays; the most common Arab colours.

Like people, horses have good days and bad days, and sometimes when they are *on*, you get the feeling they can go forever. That happened this summer on the August Bel Air ride in Manitoba. It was a hot, humid weekend, the hottest we had last year. It was a small group of riders that attended, only a couple of 50 milers and only eight 25 milers. Being as hot and humid as it was, I planned to ride 25 miles both days instead of a 50. The group of eight was small but experienced and had good horses. I knew what they were capable of. I decided to start the race with everyone else and see how long Beamer could keep up. We started off setting the pace. When I ride in front, I try not to look over my shoulder; I just look straight ahead and focus on my horse and my strategy. Beamer was striding out good and got into a rhythm. I got my weight out of the saddle and got into a rhythm with him. It felt good, we were perfectly in sync and though I didn't know it, we were flying. After about 5 miles, I was still setting the pace of the pack that had dwindled to three horses, so I took a quick look to my left. A little Arab mare was cantering to keep up and was white with sweat. I took a look to my right and another little horse was also cantering to keep up. Beamer was cruising effortlessly and not even breaking a sweat. One of the riders behind had a GPS and said we were holding a speed of 13 MPH. Not only was Beamer easily keeping this speed, but he kept it weaving in and out of obstacles as well. To my amazement, he held this pace for 16 miles straight. We came into camp and

quickly pulsed down at the vet check. The other riders commented on just how this big guy could move. We finished the second loop with a continued good pace and finished in first place. The second day was almost a repeat of the first, and I just could not believe how this big horse performed in the heat.

It is one thing to finish a ride first, but I have learned it is just as important how your horse appears after the ride. The 'trot out' is where the vet judges your horse for lameness, fatigue and heart rate recovery. You are asked to 'trot' your horse in hand either in a straight line or a circle for the vet to assess your horse, it's your 'exam'. A horse can finish a fast ride, and meet all the finishing criteria, but I believe it's the trot out that tells you how much heart the horse has left. I have often seen riders pulling their horses along in the trot out, the horse's head carried low and it appears just plain tired. A horse like this may get a pass from the vet, but he is really not fit to continue. Beamer ran a perfect trot out every time and always did it with spring in his steps. He scored A's for gut sounds, legs, muscles, back, capillary refill and hydration; and continued to have an enormous appetite afterward, another good indicator.

It is clear to me that Beamer can do the job of endurance. Plain and simple, he rocks! Billy sure knows what he is doing as a breeder. He bred and trained an awesome horse that I am proud to own. I just can't wait to see what Beamer can do for me next year. Guess these Heritage horses really are what they say they are.

Rachel Hill lives in Fort Frances, Ontario. She is a member of the Distance Riders of Manitoba, the Manitoba Trail Riders Club and American Endurance Riders Conference. She & 'Beamer' are the 2010 recipients of the TWH Heritage Society's Performance Award, for demonstrating exceptional talent in one or more performance venues.

RACHEL & BEAMER'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Sandilands 25 miles - 3rd place

Sandilands 40 miles - 4th place

Run for the Border - 50 miles - 14th place

Maplewood West -50 miles - RO (rider option; I pulled him at mile 40 after he was kicked.)

Thistle Down Run - 25 miles - 10th place

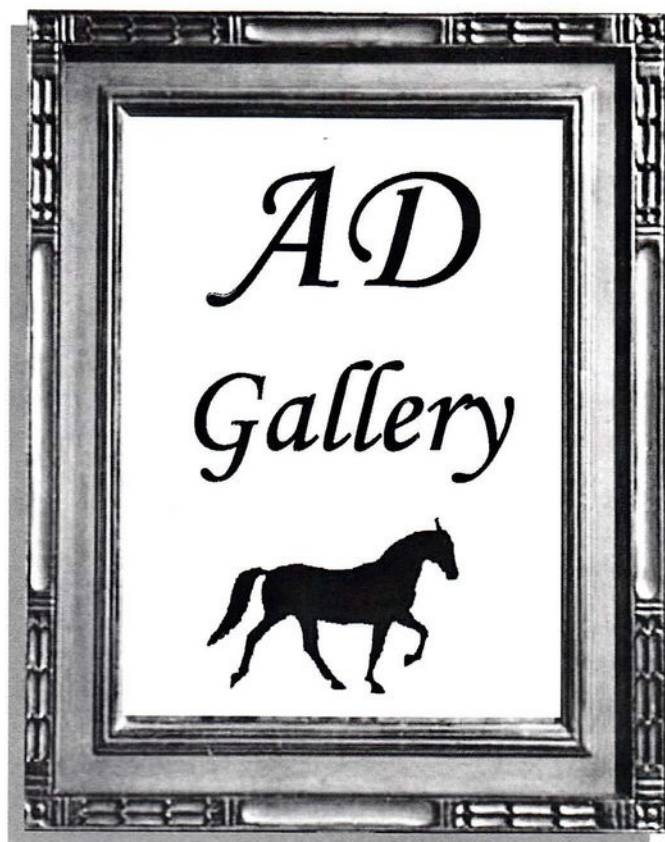
Thistle Down Run - 25 miles - 13th place

Bel Air - 25 miles - 1st place

Bel Air - 25 miles - 4th place

Black Fly Express - 25 miles - 2nd place

Black Fly Express - 25 miles - 2nd place



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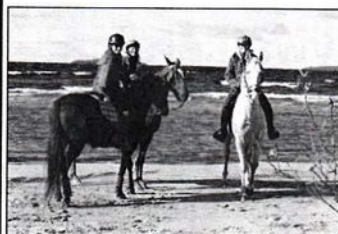
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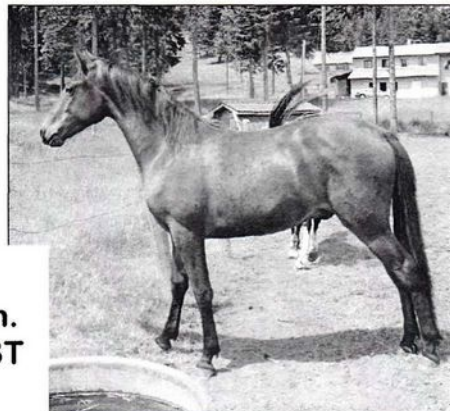
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Very gentle and willing. Well gaited.
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(photo at right)

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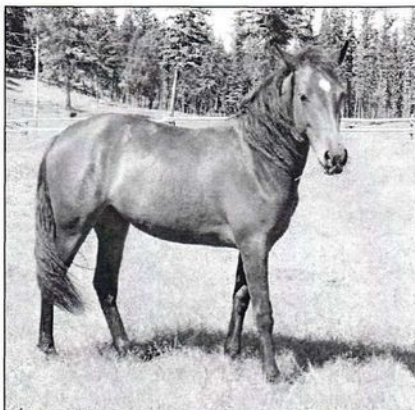
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(Photo left)

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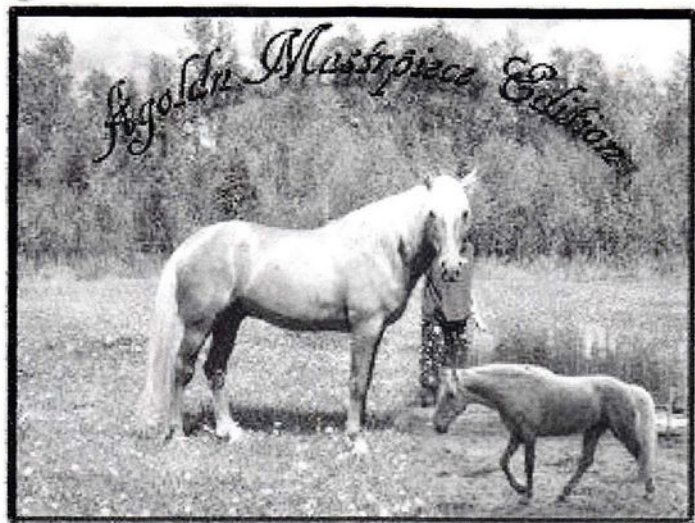
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Congratulations to Penny (*shown right*),
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HORSES FOR SALE

In compliance with the
CANADIAN ANIMAL PEDIGREE ACT,
the seller of an animal that is represented as purebred
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RAINDROPS ON ROSES (Black Rain x Coin's Jewel) - US reg. mare. Pure black, 15:1 hh, good feet. Easy to catch, good to handle & with farrier. Trailers well. Well trained and quiet. I've used her in parades and for trail riding. Has had two foals. Call Joan Penner, WILDWOOD, AB 1-780-325-2288

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STORM'S MIDNIGHT THUNDER - 2003 black gelding, 15:2 hh & **CHANCE'S RED SUN**, 2002 sorrel gelding, 16 hh. Bred by JRJ Walkers. Big, strong-boned boys, people-friendly, great under saddle, willing, flexible, good feet. Asking \$6500.00 each including their tack. Email horizonequine@shaw.ca. Cindy or Tanya at 250-426-7981 See www.horizonequine.com. **CRANBROOK, BC.**

GINGER 'N' SPICE #2684 (Black Kat's Smoke 'N' Fire x Dakota Dusty Doll) - Pretty 9 year old sorrel mare, star & hind fetlocks. About 15:2 hh. 5 weeks professional training & going very well under saddle. Other gentle, friendly horses, with current shots, deworming, & hoof trimming. See list on www.walkinghorsenews.ca. Keith, DOUGLAS, MB. 204-725-3740.

GREAT SELECTION OF REGISTERED WALKERS: All ages, colours, sizes, & stages of training. Phone evenings, or leave a message & I'll call you. Shirley Wesslen BLACKFALDS, AB 403-885-5290 j-f/12

REGISTERED TWH - variety of colors, sizes, ages. They move well and have great conformation. People friendly, vaccinated, dewormed, with regular farrier visits. Sire of some was Reserve Grand Champion, both Canadian and U.S. Futurities. This palomino stallion is also available at stud. Call Sharon at sharwill@sasktel.net or 306-253-4449, ABERDEEN, SK m-a/11

CHESTNUT GELDING - "DIESEL POWER" U.S. 20403575 (Oreos Rocky Road x Coin's High Fashion), born 2004. 15:2 hh. Good natured, friendly, easy to work with. 250-770-8861, PEN-TICTON, BC. m-j/11

GOOD NATURED YOUNG TWH - If you are an experienced horse person, we probably have a few you'll appreciate! Call us at 403-931-3575 or go to www.triangleb.com, CALGARY, AB n-d/11

DAKOTA'S MIDNIGHT JEWEL - 15:2 hh Sorrel Gelding, born March, 1990. A retired show horse, he is very well broke and reliable. Can purchase with treeless saddle & bridle. **MUST SELL** - I'm moving July 1. All offers considered. Cindy 1-780-354-8945 or 780-814-4375. HYTHE, AB

RIDING HORSES FOR SALE. Raised and trained on cattle ranch in Western Manitoba. Used for working with cattle, trail riding, pleasure rides. Multiple riders. Natural Horsemanship (Parelli) methods used. Check websites at www.twranch.ca and www.twhorse.com; also sales listings at www.twhheritagesociety.com. Trinder's Tennessee Walking Horses, (204) 773-2711. RUSSELL, MB m-j/11

DOUBLE REG'D MARES, black & bay, 7 & 10 years old. Good sized horses. One has been ridden; other's untrained. **MOVING** by end of June - will sell very reasonably to a good home. Saddle, stand & bridle included. Call 780-921-3211 BON ACCORD, AB or 701-580-0682 N.Dakota. Email shanewhite69@hotmail.com.

REG'D TWO YR OLDS - 2 red, 1 black. 2 geldings & filly. Well grown, loose gaited, quality TWH. Jo-Anne or Don, McDonald Farms, POUCE COUPE, BC. 1-250-782-7962, mcedeio@pris.ca.

GOOD SELECTION OF TWH - Various colours, ages, sizes & levels of training. Email woodhill@hotmail.ca or call Bill or Sue at 250-838-2066 GRINDROD, BC

VARIETY OF REGISTERED TWH for sale, including a very nice four year old gelding going nicely under saddle. Standing at stud for 2011: BLACK TOBIANO TWHBEA colt, Miracle's Painted Warrior. For details please visit <http://rafterdiamondl.tripod.com>. Lesa at lguchak@hotmail.com. or 780-768-2014 TWO HILLS, AB.

KARLAS SUPER TROOPER Big, Black, Easy going, 15+ hh. Lots of ground work, & first rides have been excellent! Karla @ 403-748-2005 or rideeasy@albertahighspeed.net BENTLEY, AB

2 PALOMINO MARES, 15:1 hh. Mother & daughter, Shadow's Brantley & Handshaker breeding. Have been ridden, plus are proven broodmares. RED CHESTNUT mare - gentle, friendly, started. 14:1 hh. A great prospect for a small rider. **MUST SELL** - I'm moving July 1. All offers considered. Cindy 1-780-354-8945 or 780-814-4375. HYTHE, AB

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POWER HOOF TRIMMER - Revolutionary new hoof trimmer! A miniature angle grinder with very specialized cutting head. 4 tooth head offers exceptional control, unit weighs only 1.5 lbs, use with one hand. Check the website at www.rlscanada.ca for information and pictures or call Heather Rominick, Certified Farrier, Rominick Livestock Services, Alder Flats, AB 780-388-2222

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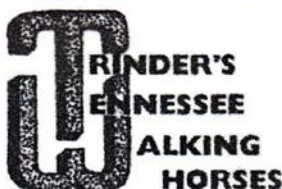
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COMING EVENTS

BUCKY SPARKS 'BLESS YOUR HORSE' CLINIC - June 18 & 19 at RIMBEY AB Arena. For more info contact Norm 403-788-2046 or Jack 403-843-6124. See the ad on page 10 for more info.

"TRAIL PLUS" event, sponsored by AWhA Easy Riders & CRTWH, Saturday June 25, & Sunday, June 26, has been **CANCELLED** due to the EHV-1 outbreak. Contact: keith@skylinewalkers.com or phone 403-932-5501

ALBERTA CELEBRATION - August 5, 6 & 7th at Anchor R Ranch, Lacombe, AB. Diane Sept, Denver, PA, is the FOSH certified judge. Contact Rhonda Lemmon at 403-782-3118 or yonafeda@gmail.com; or Blair Dyberg at 780-352-3531. See p.11.

DIAMOND CLASSIC ALL BREED GAITED HORSE DOUBLE SHOW - September 2 - 4, SASKATOON, SK. Judges: The Honorable Keith Dane (carded IJA / FOSH / NAPHA) for Sask Peruvian Horse Club (SPHC) & The Honorable Juan Sandigo (Carded NAPHA & Guest-carded for IJA/FOSH) for Peruvian Enthusiasts (PERRU). For info call 306-929-2350; 306-3294477 or 306-931-7633. See the show ad on page 11.

ALBERTA WILD PINK YONDER RIDE - Aug 12 to Sept 3, from Coleman in Crownsnest Pass to the Fultonvale Arena (east of Sherwood Park). In support of breast cancer research. Rusty Hurl - (780) 761-2404 or (780) 993-8404; rusty@wildpinkyonder.com or Jane Hurl (780) 363-0003 or (780) 975-4429 jane@wildpinkyonder.com www.wildpinkyonder.com

MANITOBA WILD PINK YONDER RIDE - Sept 9 to Oct 1. It starts in Morden and ends in Birds Hill Park. Contact Pam Glover Box 6, Grp 27, RR2, STE. ANNE, MB R5H 1R2 (204) 422-8076 pam@wildpinkyonder.com www.wildpinkyonder.com

NEXT DEADLINE

JULY 7, 2011

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