

APRIL 2012
VOLUME XXXVI No. 2



Walking Horse

NEWS



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA for 35 YEARS



Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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On Our Cover

Rachel Hill
of Fort Frances, Ontario
and her TWH,
"Beamer" (Sunbeam)
are ready for one
of the endurance rides
that the pair enjoy
and do so well at.

She writes,
"I am looking forward
to another great
endurance year
with Beamer."
See Rachel's news
on page 6.

Photo courtesy Rachel Hill.

Deadline Dates

for Jan/Feb issue
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for Mar/Apr issue
MARCH 7

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Dear Subscribers,

When the deadline for this issue rolled around on March 7, guess what we were doing? Digging ourselves out of 40 cm (16 inches) of snow! Thank goodness for the tractor and snowblower! *See photo below.* It was all I could do to struggle out through the deep stuff to the field where I've been feeding the horses. They had snowballs in their manes and tails, but seemed quite pleased with the new white tablecloth Mother Nature had laid out for them - just as long as I served out lots of hay!

There were many comments about the stories last issue regarding the registration problems some folks have experienced. I hope everyone heeds the advice given: "Caveat Emptor" - Let the buyer beware. *And* be informed. See page 11 for comments about a transfer.

People are always looking for information on training their Walkers, and there are many of you out there with years of experience at it. How about sharing some of your good training tips through *Walking Horse News*? We would love to hear from you.

There is a lot of good reading in this issue. Don't miss the question of retirement - of horses, that is, on pages 3 & 4. Note the advice on the dangers of spring grass (page 4), plus Franne Brandon's story and interview with Betty Sain, page 15. And thank you to all the contributors, as well as the advertisers and subscribers who keep *WHN* alive.

I'd like to thank long time subscriber Grant Kihn



for reminding me that this magazine completes a full 35 years of my publishing *Walking Horse News*! Where did all those years go? It's been quite an adventure with you all!

Marjorie

WHN makes a
great gift!

Walking Horse News

April, 2012

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

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IN THIS ISSUE – March/April, 2012

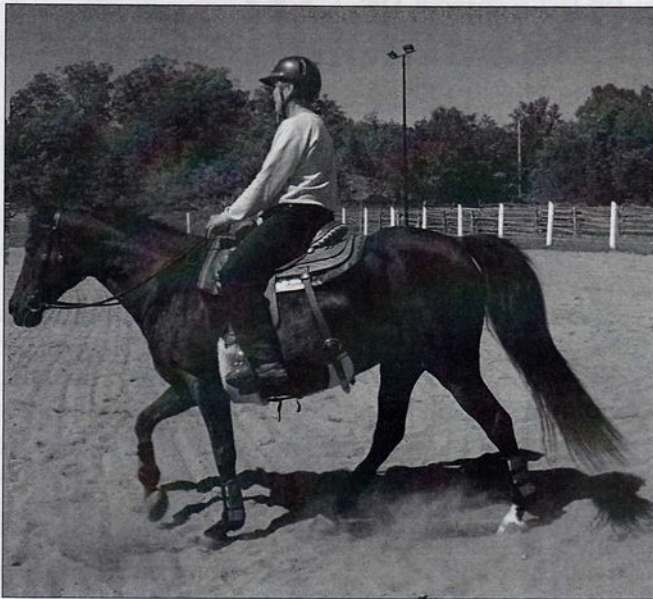
LIST OF CONTENTS

A Retirement Story by Kathy Minor.....	3
Equine Exit Strategies.....	3 & 4
That Tender Spring Grass by Juliet Getty, Ph.D.....	4
British Columbia News.....	5
Saskatchewan News.....	5
Ontario News.....	6
Manitoba News.....	6
Alberta News.....	7
Steele's Scouts by Keith Oberle.....	8 & 9
Little Things Do Mean A Lot by R. Meredith.....	10-11
Transfer of Registration.....	11
Interior Gaited Horse Show, Armstrong, BC.....	11
The Canadian Walker.....	12
Gait From The Ground Up Clinic	13
Wild Rose Versatility Show.....	13
What Do You Do with Your Walkers?.....	14
Shocker of a Lifetime by Franne Brandon	15, 16
News from Our U.S. Readers.....	17,18
Ad Gallery begins on page.....	19
Classified ads.....	23
Coming Events.....	24

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

AWHA - Wild Rose Versatility Show.....	13
Barefoot Treeless Saddles.....	Back Cover
Betkals Rocky Mountain Horses.....	Inside Back cover
Chrystal Star Ranch.....	20
CMEGO Stables.....	20
CRTWH.....	12,13, Inside Front Cover
HorseSense HorseManShip - Dennis Quilliams.....	24
Larson's High Plains Walkers.....	18
Magnolia Meadows.....	22
Maple Lane Acres.....	20
McDonald Farms.....	Back cover
Noisy Hollow Acres.....	21
Northfork Farm.....	6, 19
Ride Easy Ranch.....	Inside Back cover
Tennessee Walking Horse Heritage Society.....	19
Trinders Tennessee Walking Horses.....	Back cover
Uphill Farm.....	22
V4 Stables.....	19
Woodhill Walkers	Back Cover

*Thank you for Advertising in
Walking Horse News!*



A RETIREMENT STORY by Kathy Minor

Here is the story of Flicka: how I lost her and how I am getting her back in my life.

Three years ago I wrote to the *Walking Horse News* and told the story of how I had to take my aging TWH mare, Flicka, to a retirement farm 60 miles away because I couldn't ride her any more. She had developed some kind of unidentifiable back problem which sent her into a bucking frenzy every time I tried to ride her. When there was no one on her, she was her sweet and gentle self - but I was afraid to ride her.

I live in a village and board my horse. I can only afford to board one horse at a time. Sadly, I couldn't keep her so I found a place for her to retire. She went to the retirement farm where I pay for her hay, and I bought a Quarter horse and learned to post all over again.

Fast forward to winter of 2012. This winter I am boarding my QH at a farm that has been allowed to grow in with trees and bushes, and the whole place is spider webbed with riding trails. It is a beautiful place for horses, and a friend and I, both retired, keep our horses here and ride almost every day.

There is a lovely, kind hearted young woman who works here helping with the stable chores. She lives a mile away and has five horses. Four of them are rescues and she has had them for a very long time. They were getting quite old, and two of them died recently. Now she has only three horses; two of the old ones and her riding horse.

We talk a lot in the mornings and when the subject turns to rescued horses I talk about Flicka and how I miss her. Recently this young woman

suggested that if I would like to have Flicka close by, I could bring her to her place. All I would have to do is pay for her hay... and I could see her any time I want!

I contacted the retirement farm and asked if I could adopt my mare back. The answer was 'Yes, of course'! The only stipulation is that if ever I cannot keep her, she must go back to them!

I can't wait until spring comes. As soon as the grass comes in I am bringing her here. My friend treats all her horses with amazing love and care, so Flicka will be happy - and so am I.

I am getting my Flicka back!

EQUINE EXIT STRATEGIES

Kathy's story above is a happy one. But all too many don't turn out that way. In the last few weeks I've had many notes and queries about retirement homes or other possible solutions for the care of aging or unsound TWH. Then there are a number of cases of unwanted and abandoned horses, or ones their owner cannot care for any longer, whether due to death, disability, divorce, or other life changing situation.

It is a sobering thought that our horses could outlive us, or perhaps we too might find ourselves not able to look after them any more. Then what? Here are a few of those queries. Readers, do you have any answers?

From NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, BC, "What do people do to provide for their equine partners should they get to that big corral in the sky before the horses do? If that should happen, Trigger is to go to my daughter, Nicole, but if Nicole is no longer willing, or able, to take on the responsibility; if she, for instance, is in a condo at the time, then what? Is there a rest home for horses that are retired for one reason or another? I know I've read about them in horse magazines, but haven't made a web search yet. I want to ensure that Trigger has the same level of care, if at all possible, as she has at Debbie & Dave's. It just couldn't be any better and I worry that it may not be the case to the end of her days if I'm not there for her."

"Her dam, Uphill Arnica, made it to over 30, so I could possibly have another 10 years to worry myself over the problem. If we go together, or separately, I already have plans to have our ashes scattered on the trails we both love."

"Sorry to sound so morbid, but I'm sure I'm not the only one who thinks about this. We are not immortal, after all. Easy enough to deal physically with our horse's eventual death, but not if we hit the finish line first!"

EQUINE EXIT STRATEGIES continued

RACHEL HILL, FORT FRANCES, ON writes, "I have a number of friends who have some aged Walkers that still have years of light riding days left in them. One is a rescue that was ridden hard in her working life and is currently not arthritic, but likely will be in a few years."

"One is a horse that foundered. He is a nice boy; just can't do the hard riding we like to do and can't be on pasture. He would make a great therapeutic horse, and was used as one for a time. Do you know of any retirement farms for Tennessee Walking Horses where these horses can be appreciated?"

From JUDI NEWMAN, VILNA, AB "My Paso, Tazz, is not doing well, even with the mild winter. He is 23. I was ready to have him put down last summer but the vet said he still has good quality of life so we didn't. But this winter he has lost so much weight and is not his super friendly self. Maybe the sunshine will help him. But probably by next fall, his time will have come to cross the rainbow bridge."

Do you have plans in place to provide for your horses? I must admit that I don't. Will family members continue to care for them? Have you made arrangements with a 'Rescue' group to take them? Have you left them to someone you trust to care for them? Can you leave a bequest to cover the costs of caring for them? Have you left instructions that they be put down? What do you think, Readers? Let's hear your ideas or suggestions. MCL.

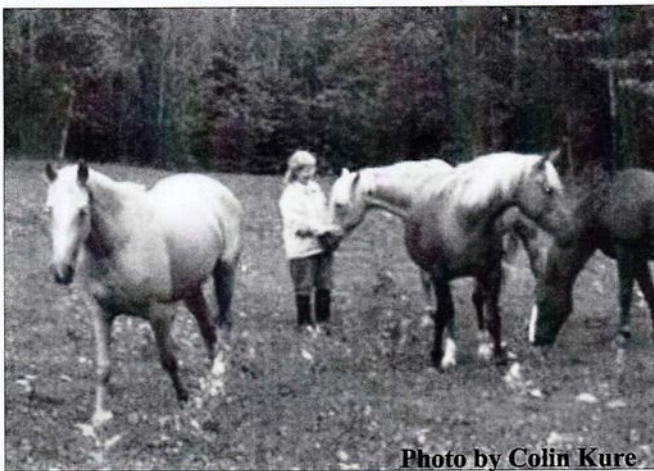


Photo by Colin Kure

Above are our TWH at Uphill Farm in 2007. In the center is Uphill Arnica (aka Sawdust) with me, Marjorie. She was just over 30 years of age. She was happy, healthy, and still the matriarch of the herd. We found her dead about two weeks later. It looked like a sudden heart attack. A good way to go when it's time.

Dr. Getty's March Tip:

Add a Serving of Caution to that Tender Spring Grass

Spring is almost upon us in most of the country, so it's time to revisit that critical topic: **spring grazing.**

Transitioning a horse from hay to pasture must be handled with care; this point is non-negotiable. For every horse, a gradual change from hay to grass is required to allow the digestive system to adapt, but for the insulin-resistant horse, grazing time and duration can make the difference between soundness and a disabling condition like laminitis. This time of year can be a test of patience for horse and owner. The horse may be pawing at the gate to get to the first taste of tender spring grass, yet the owner must pay close attention to making the transition safe and healthful.

The first spring sprouts are actually lower in sugars and starch (non-structural carbohydrates - NSC) because they use all that energy to promote their own rapid growth. As the leaves form, the overall sugar and starch content increases, making it especially tempting. Regardless of the growth stage, quantities should be monitored because horses crave fresh grass and will eat volumes of it, making their overall NSC consumption really high - dangerously high for horses who are overweight, cushingoid, or who have experienced insulin-related laminitis.

Temperature and sunlight play a major role in the amount of NSC accumulation. To be safe, here are the rules:

- * When the night temperature is below 40 degrees F, the grass is too high in NSC.
- * Once it gets above 40 degrees F at night, the lowest NSC level is before the sun rises.
- * The NSC level is highest in late afternoon, after a sunny day.

There is no exact 'best time' to turn out your horses on pasture. Generally speaking in moderate climates, it's safest before dawn, until approximately 10:00 am, and then again at night, starting at around 11:00 pm. Start slowly, offering hay when horses are not on fresh grass.

Finally, test your pasture! Yes, testing is not only for hay. It will take the guesswork out of knowing which times are best.

Juliet M. Getty, Ph.D.

Dr. Juliet Getty has taught and consulted on equine nutrition for more than 20 years. Her website offers helpful articles, a nutrition forum and a calendar of her events. Her comprehensive reference book, *Feed Your Horse Like A Horse*, is available through her website or at Amazon.com.

www.GettyEquineNutrition.com

www.FeedYourHorseLikeAHorse.com

NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS



From NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, "I rode with Debbie and Chris (she of the fearless Smoke Party TWH) on Monday. I believe it was hovering around zero, but we were cooking once we finished grooming and

tacking up. The sunshine helped to keep it that way on the ride. Today was snow (not a whole lot in our area) and tomorrow sunshine is promised. Yahoo! Cowboy-up time! I had an email from Bill Roy and he says it's been *cold* there. Here, too."

(Natalie & Trigger ride in the snow, above.)

JO-ANNE MCDONALD, POUCE COUPE, writes, "No real news here yet. We've had a very mild winter and now are just patiently waiting for the seven new foals. We sure are wondering what the two silver dapples are going to give us. The young stallion, Sure Silver, was bred to two of our black mares, Shaker's Kitty & Yankee's Melody Maid. His half sister, Blue & Blonde, a true black roan with the silver gene, was bred to our black stallion, Canadian Shaker. So there are interesting possibilities for colour ahead! It seems there is always something to look forward to." *(Blue & Blonde, below.)*



SASKATCHEWAN NEWS

PARELLI NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP CLINIC -
June 12-14, 2012 at Gallagher Centre, YORKTON, SK.

Don Halladay instructing. Contact: Marsha Trinder
at **(204)773-2711** or trinder@xplornet.ca

Like 'Friends of Parelli' on Facebook!

From TRISH MCCARTHY and ART HOWELL, REGINA, "With a busy life in parish ministry, having our TWH horse, Moses, to enjoy is a real blessing. We have continued to drive Moses in the arena during the winter so that he will not need to be retrained in the spring, and for another reason too. Being able to connect with this large and soft-hearted animal is therapeutic for me as I ponder pastoral visits I have had, plan my week and consider what I will share in the pulpit the following Sunday. It is also such a pleasure to spend valuable couple time with my husband, Art Howell, as we handle and drive the horse. Moses has been with us for three years and has bonded well with his new family."

"We are looking forward to driving him in the field again. There is a vast field over which we guide the horse. Last summer, Art decided that we should drive Moses into a new area of the property. That was not such a good idea as the ground was hummocky and big crevasses had been made by the water run-off. Since the ground had hardened, the grooves in the ground were very firm. Moses was not impressed but he persevered patiently as I drove him out of the troublesome area."

"I would really like to take four days in late June to travel with my horse to help raise awareness on the Trail of Tears, which is the road between Prince Rupert and Prince George. Many aboriginal women who have hitch-hiked on this road have been abducted and killed. There are a number of trail rides that are fund-raisers for breast cancer and other needy causes which I will consider taking in, depending on the day of the week: of course, for this preacher, Sundays before 1 p.m. are not possible."

"We will be hooking up a small battery to the front and rear lights of our two wheel cart so that we can travel on the secondary roads and still be clearly seen by motorists. We send our best wishes to all you horse lovers as you prepare for a new season of horse riding and driving enjoyment. Take good care on or near the country roads, because many venturing urban motorists are not careful or conscious of the vehicle dangers to horse and rider and horsecart-driver."

ONTARIO NEWS



RACHEL HILL, FORT FRANCES, ON, writes, "My boys are doing well, all four of them - Ebony, Ransom, Traveler and Sunbeam (aka 'Beamer'). I am looking forward to another great endurance year with Beamer. He did quite well for me last year, taking the reserve in the Open (40 mile) division of the Manitoba Competitive Trail club."

"It has been such a great winter this year that I have made every effort I can to get out. Of course time is always limited. If there is one thing I want more than anything it is more time!"

"I am sending along two pics from this winter. The first picture is of NFF Society's Noble Traveler and my riding buddy, Bev Rinke (above). Bev rides Ransom and keeps me company on those conditioning rides which are essential in getting ready for endurance. Traveler is a real nice Heritage colt I bought from Diane Sczepanski in the fall of 2010. He will turn 2 in June and is already a big boy. Can't wait



to see what he can do."

The second one (*left*) is Ebony (Midnight's Merry Dan) with my young friend Tanner Neilson after a trail ride.

Ebony turns 25 in May, still a great horse and going strong.

SUE GAMBLE, SWASTIKA, writes, "I just bought a book from Amazon.ca titled An Illustrated History of Trigger, The Lives and Legends of Roy Rogers' Palomino by Leo Pando. There is a chapter on Trigger Jr. and the other doubles for Trigger. And what a gorgeous picture of Trigger Jr. on the ramp of a trailer with Roy Rogers! All dapples! Unfortunately the book doesn't have enough on Trigger Jr for my liking, but lovely pictures of all the Triggers - all black and white, which is probably the way they were originally taken. I haven't read the book yet but there are lots of pictures. Of course I had to order that book seeing as Trigger was my first love affair with a horse at less than age five! And now I *have* two Walkers that trace back to Trigger Jr."

MANITOBA NEWS

From MARSHA TRINDER, TW RANCH, RUSSELL, "It's been a pretty decent winter with not a lot of snow and fairly nice temps; however lots of ice here in the valley. Then we had a blast from Mother Nature on March 6th, with 7 inches of snow and blowing!"

"Livestock is doing good and I am eagerly awaiting spring as I'm sure we all are. A young woman named Katharina from Bavaria is assisting me with horse training and we have been working on a 'kindergarten program' for our weanling horses. As soon as the ice goes our priority will be riding and freshening up our sales horses for showing to prospective buyers after May 1st. Calving will start in April and foaling in mid-May. A Gaited Horse Clinic with Liz Graves here on the ranch May 29-30 and hosting a Parelli Natural Horsemanship Clinic in Yorkton SK on June 12-14 will keep us busy!"

"If anyone is passing by Russell or would like to come to see the ranch and/or look at our horses, just contact us. A call beforehand is a necessity; if we are out and about on the ranch you will probably not be able to find us! Wishing everyone a nice spring and summer."

NORTHFORK FARM



*Ride with Comfort and Pride
on a Tennessee Walking Horse*

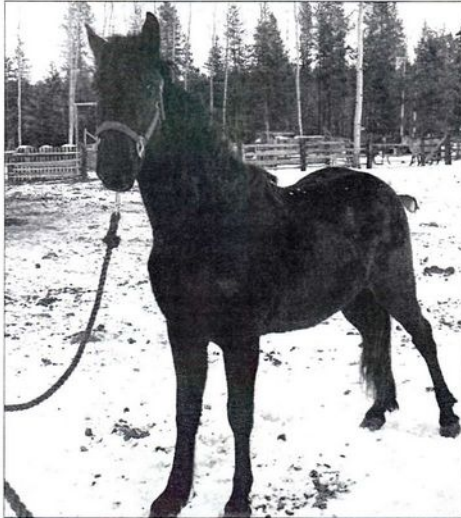
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ALBERTA NEWS

BILL & KIM PIELAK, NITON JUNCTION, write, "We would like congratulate Lisa Amyot of Whitecourt on her purchase of Hillbilly Biscuit, a six year old chestnut mare. Please send Lisa a one year subscription to the *Walking Horse News* with our compliments."

"Also I did get one of those horses from Evansburg



but not from the person advertising them in the last *WHN*. I bought him from a young girl from Stony Plain. He is an all black stud colt, just what I have been looking for. (Left) He

has four grand champions in his lineage. I'm thinking he will make a stallion prospect; he'll be two the end of May and is 14.2 hh already. He is a little shy but with some patience he's coming along. We'd like to thank Lisa Lambert of Prides Noble Walkers for her help in getting him registered. It is costing me lots of money to register and DNA him with TWHBEA, but then we'll get him registered Canadian too."

GRANT KIHN, HINTON, writes, "Not much new here. Nice winter weather, but too icy to do much with the mules. I built a fore cart for the mule team and skidded some firewood with it and did some sleigh rides when we had enough snow around Christmas. My Tennessee Walking Mule is big alright and still growing - unfortunately. He was just three last summer so I only did short rides on him, but I did ride him in Fort Assiniboine Sand Hills Park, Willmore Wilderness Park and around home. This year he will be put to some serious work as he will be my only real mount."

"I'm down to only one horse now - my old TWH, Ace (Kihn's Ace) who will be 21 in spring. He is pretty much retired now as he is getting pretty stiff. I think he has done his share of work in his day, so I don't begrudge him his retirement. My Morgan went to Fort St. John last week for a lady's saddle horse,

and will be driven as well. Funny, because when I got him it was from a lady who said he was too much horse for her. I guess a little bit of work and consistent handling got him to a very manageable state."

From ALLEN MCKENZIE, STONY PLAIN, "Connie and I just returned from five weeks in Arizona, where we enjoyed 65 - 80 F temperatures. We took two horses down with us. One was broke and one was not. I spent a few days ground driving West-hill's Annabella 1770, [2008 - 3443], then got on and rode. I rode out on trails in the mountains on West-hill's Ebony Sue [2005 - 3141], ponying Annie, then returned on Annie, ponying Sue. The riding around Arlington is very rocky and dry, with lots of saguaro cactus, lots of coyotes, rabbits, quail, buzzards and ravens. (The snakes were still sleeping.)"



(Above: Sue, Annie & Allan in AZ.)

"It is good to get home to the rest of the herd now. We have six of Go Shaker Go's [1990 - 1346] offspring - three geldings and three fillies plus one granddaughter by Northfork Top Traveler [2613]. Shaker has 63 Canadian registered offspring, many US registered and many partbreds."

"Well, we hope to see more Walking Horse people out on the Alberta mountain trails this year. We are out every long weekend, plus a day or two, at the Panther River, Yaha Tinda, Kooteney Plains, Cline River or any other place we can get to. Also would like to do a pack trip this year. If anyone is interested, just let me know."

DENNIS NIEDERMOSER, ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, writes, "Please send a one year *Walking Horse News* subscription to Peter Oja of Rocky Mtn House with my compliments. He is the new owner of Ora's Toby Dancer Gen. Peter is a junior and a first-time Tennessee Walker owner; in fact, this is his first horse of any breed."

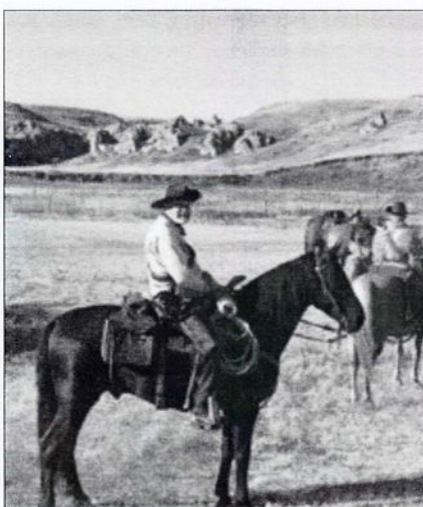
STEELE'S SCOUTS

by Keith Oberle

For several years I had an excellent riding partner, Albert Heinzig. We rode together almost weekly year round. In the early spring of 2010, at age 81, Albert decided to "hang up his spurs". I needed something else to capture my interest and to motivate me to use my fine Canadian-bred TWH.

When I first moved to the Cochrane area in 1993, I had picked up a brochure about the Steele's Scouts Commemorative Militia Cavalry. I was so busy then building my house, looking after a herd of cattle, etc. that I put it aside. After Albert informed me that he would ride no more, I found that brochure. It

took another year before I finally decided to join. I have been a member for just over one year now. There are approximately 30 active members, each with his own horse. Most light breeds are represented. There are currently five



Tennessee Walking Horses. *(Above Keith & his TWH.)*

Sam Steele is an icon in the history of Canada. As is typical of Canadians and our history, most have never heard of him. This article is not intended to resolve that, however. Interested readers are directed to numerous books or the internet for further reading about this great Canadian. His artifacts were recently acquired by the University of Alberta for a few dollars over two million! The U of A will have a four-month display of Sir Samuel Steele's artifacts in 2012. However, I believe that a few comments are necessary to give the background to the formation of the Steele's Scouts Commemorative Militia Cavalry.

In 1873 Sam Steele came to western Canada for the second time as a senior officer of the Northwest Mounted Police. He had already established his reputation in the Red River Expedition, the first time that Louis Riel led an uprising. When, in 1885, the second revolt began, Steele was seconded to the Alberta Field Force, given the rank of Major and the task of establishing a squad of cavalry to act as scouts

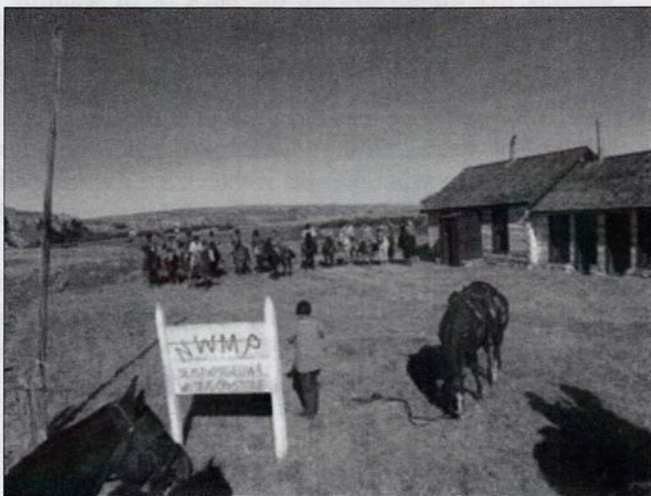
for the military force that was being gathered for the march to Edmonton. Steele was stationed in BC at the time. On his way back to Calgary, he collected some members of the NWMP to be part of this group of scouts. He added cowboys and ranchers from the Calgary area. After only a couple of weeks of training, the militia marched toward Edmonton, accompanied by the Steele's Scouts. Once there, it was discovered that Riel and the natives who had joined the revolt had not advanced as far west as the Alberta border, so the militia continued to march east. The rebels were encountered in northern Saskatchewan near the communities of Frenchman Butte and Loon Lake. The resulting skirmishes, where a lot of ammunition was discharged but not many casualties occurred, is the last armed military action on Canadian soil. No members of the Steele's Scouts were killed.

In 1977, a group of horse owners, some with military backgrounds, felt that the history of the Steele's Scouts should not be forgotten and the commemorative troop was formed. 2012 will be our 35th anniversary. The original force was dubbed the Buckskin Cavalry, since the majority of the Scouts were cowboys and ranchers who had to provide their own equipment and clothing. The uniform of the Scouts today has been judged historically correct by the RCMP and the Glenbow Museum historians. The Steele's Scouts, in addition to keeping a little bit of history alive, also acknowledge the great contribution to the peaceful settlement of Western Canada made by the First Nations in their pledge of loyalty to Queen Victoria. The Steele's Scouts observe and honor this signing by participating in ceremonial smokes with the First Nations, and with the hope that future years will be more bountiful for the First Nations. In keeping with this endeavour, the Scouts have smoked with representatives of at least 9 First Nations in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Two Metis riders are on our membership roll. *(Below are 3 of the TWH & riders.)*



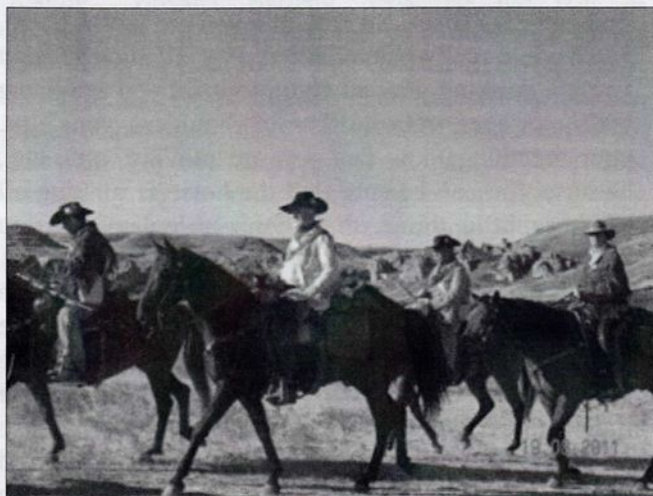
The troop is headquartered at Spruce Meadows. Activities begin in March when we begin riding in a Spruce Meadows arena. There we do some formation riding drills, some fun drills (gymkhana type), some Skills-at-arms (lance charges at targets and pistol firing blanks at balloons with horse at the canter). Parade season begins in May, after which the Saturday rides end. Most parades in the Calgary region are entered. Honor guards are provided for the three major events at Spruce Meadows. Most members camp at Spruce Meadows for the duration of each event. Honor guards are often provided for Loops for Troops (walk-run fundraiser for military families). The military Museum has an annual event and the Scouts appear in uniform and do some skill-at-arms demos. Skill-at-arms demos are sometimes done after a parade if requested by the parade organizers. A large contingent of Scouts usually joins the STARS ride for south Calgary and collects money for STARS. Any historical event or pageant that is deemed relevant to us will be attended. While the calendar is full every year, no member is expected to attend all. (Some are not retired and still have to work, poor souls.)

Every year there is a major troop event. Some years it consists of a "march" along some historically significant trail, such as from Fort Macleod to Fort Steele in BC, from Calgary to Loon Lake, or the "Whoop-Up Trail" to Fort Benton, Montana, to name a few. Other years it is a family camp-out. In 2011 the camp was held at Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park where horses are only permitted when accompanied by a park-approved guide.



Ten years ago the Scouts were the first such party to be permitted. This year we rode the badlands of the Milk River for five days. Included was a visit to the NWMP outpost museum, in uniform. (Photo above.) A very interesting time was had by all. Some of the trails are not for the faint-of-heart! I should

point out that our "camps" consist mostly of motor homes and campers now. The "marches" consist of a ride from point to point while those who do not ride ferry the camper units to the next campsite so that a cold adult beverage awaits the riders after a long day in the saddle. The Fort Benton march lasts almost two weeks. Some members do not do an entire ride but join in or leave where their situation demands. Many family members accompany the troopers on these marches. The Fort Benton march may be repeated in 2012.



On the way to the NWMP outpost museum at Writing-on-Stone; the person behind me is a wife of a Scout - not in uniform but still welcome!

The Scouts are always looking for new members. Any man over 18 (firearms laws) who has the time and interest and a reasonably well-trained horse is welcome. As the Troop is historically correct, there are no women members, but women are welcome at all activities including the Saturday morning rides in March and April.

The Troop will assist with the acquisition of the uniform components where possible. If you are looking for an opportunity to have interesting experiences with your Walker (or other breed) and to help keep a little bit of history alive, please join us.

*If you are interested contact me
Keith Oberle at 403-932- 5501 or
Cyrille Chabot at 403-938-2014,
or visit our website: www.steelescouts.ca
for more information and some photos.*





Meredith Manor

careers in horsemanship

Little Things Do Mean a Lot

By Ron Meredith, President, Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre

Every movement you make, everything you do in his presence, has meaning to the horse. The horse is a master at reading your body language and knowing just where you're at and what you're about when you first enter his space. So any time you are with a horse, you have to really pay attention. Pay attention to what you are thinking. Pay attention to what you are doing with your eyes, your head, your shoulders, your hips, your breathing, how fast you are moving, etc., etc., because you can be sure that the horse is running all of those little things through his calculator as you approach.

When you first approach a baby green horse in training, everything about your body language should be emphasizing that you are a non-threatening presence that can be trusted. Here are some of the little things about training that, from the horse's standpoint, can make a big difference in building and keeping the horse's trust as the training program progresses:

- It's all about attention. If you want the horse to pay full attention to you, you need to pay full attention to the horse. That means you're always thinking about what's going on between you now, and now, and now. If your mind drifts back to what happened yesterday or to what you hope the horse knows by the end of the month, you've mentally left the arena. The horse will know it and he may decide to leave, too.
- Horses are not all alike in how they learn. The same pressure will affect different horses different ways. The time frame for understanding something new you are showing the horse will vary from animal to animal. It's fine to go into the arena with an idea of what you want to accomplish that day. But be ready to change your agenda depending on where that particular horse is on that particular day.
- Train one step at a time so that eventually you can control every step. Teaching a progression of horse-logical pressures that build on one another ultimately gives you and your horse a shared vocabulary that can be combined to create very sophisticated sentences at the upper levels of whatever sport you like. Horse-logical means the mental or physical pressure is only one tiny step away from something he already understands and that it goes away if he does what you are showing him. Training the horse this way allows you to communicate with the horse very intimately, very precisely, stride by stride.
- Pressures are suggestions that should create a feel in the horse of a shape you want him to take. They are not "orders" and they are never consequences or punishments for failure to understand. If a pressure startles a horse or raises the excitement level or makes him anxious in any way, it either was too "loud" or it was more than one or two steps away from something he already understands or for some other reason it was the wrong pressure altogether for the response you were trying to show the horse.
- Remember not to get greedy when you are applying any pressure. Reward any try, no matter how small. Backing is a good example of this. If you ask the green horse to back for the first time with a little push on the shoulder of the foot you'd like him to move and nothing happens, don't insist. Go back to doing something the horse does understand and try again later. If the green horse showed any sign of shifting his weight toward the back or of wanting to move the foot we were indicating, we'd call that a try and reward him by taking the pressure off his shoulder.
- The best training system is one where you teach to horse what TO do rather than teaching him what NOT to do. Discipline has nothing to do with correction or punishment. It means to be a disciple, to develop a relationship between you and the horse that makes the horse feel like following your lead and mirroring whatever you show him. The power you use to get that discipleship is the power of camaraderie.
- Rhythm and relaxation are the basis of everything. Watch the horse's breathing and muscle tension. If he's holding his breath or holding tension in any of his muscles, he's lost relaxation. Stop what you're doing and use something rhythmical that he already understands to get him back to relaxation before you try to show, ask or tell him to do anything else.

- Horse memories are memories of feelings they associate with things or people or circumstances. They have a huge capacity for this. So you have to work at never raising his excitement level with any pressure you use. You also have to work at controlling your own emotions. When the horse gets startled by something in his environment during a training session, you just act as though nothing at all happened. You quietly bring the horse's attention back to you and just keep going about whatever you were doing when things got interrupted. The horse eventually learns to check back with you to gauge how to react to something new and different. Control the horse's mind and his body will follow.

- It goes without saying that you never, never, never lose your temper with a horse. That's a sure way to destroy any trust you've built between you and your horse. If you feel that starting to happen, it's time to put the horse away, spend the evening thinking through why you were unable to show the horse whatever it was you wanted in a horse-logical way that he could understand, and try again tomorrow.

- Think "trust me" rather than "obey me". You have to get your ego out of the training process. Focus on the horse's success in understanding what a particular pressure suggest he do, rather than on your own success or failure at showing him something you want. Focus on helping him out rather than proving your own skills. If you're thinking about the opinion of someone who's watching, if you're focused on who you are trying to beat in the class, if you're hitching your self esteem to whether or not you can get the horse to DO something, you're working out of your ego. And your horse is going to know that you've left him.

Pay as much attention
to every movement the horse makes
as he pays to every movement you make,
and his feedback will help you refine
your horse logical communications.

You may start to wonder who is training who.

Instructor and trainer Ron Meredith has refined his "horse logical" methods for communicating with equines over thirty years as president of Meredith Manor International Equestrian Centre (1-304-679-3128, Rte 1, Box 66, Waverly, WV 26184; an ACCET accredited equestrian educational institution.

<http://www.meredithmanor.com>

TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION

I received this note from a TWH owner who bought her Walker a couple of years ago. She had heard about the CRTWH Amnesty on late transfers, and writes,

"I would love to proceed with the transfer. I have paperwork all signed by the previous owner. One is the application for transfer of ownership for the Canadian Registry of the TWH (Canadian Livestock Records Corp) and I also have a TWHBEA Certificate of Registration and Transfer Report/Bill of Sale for the TWHBEA."

"I wish horses were done like dogs, in that the owner at the time of sale was responsible for the transfers but I guess the horse world does it differently."

"OH, MY! I have just read the back of the registration certificate and apparently it IS the responsibility of the seller! I'm a bit disappointed in that area now, I guess, but I didn't know any better! We would be fined and removed from the CKC if we did that in the dog world!"

Yes, in Canada under the Canadian Animal Pedigree Act, it is the responsibility of the seller to transfer the papers for any registered animal or one "represented as purebred". If all buyers were aware of that fact, and all sellers did the right thing, there would be no need to have an amnesty! *MCL.*



Calling all Tennessee Walkers! Please come to our 15th Annual All Gaited Show June 9 & 10 in Armstrong BC that is having no problem maintaining its reputation of being rated #1 For Fun! We usually have Walkers, Peruvians, Icelandics, Kentucky & Rocky Mountain, Missouri Foxtrotters (and even a gaited mule once in a while)! There are 43 classes over two days, from equitation and gait to 'well-seasoned but alive' and 'ring-a-ding-a-ling' fun classes. New riders? Horse never been shown before? We have classes for you. It's also a great way to prepare green horses for later breed shows. If you have always been thinking of coming to the beautiful (and green) north Okanagan, the time has never been better. Our show fees are unbelievable! Check this out - \$60/horse for entire weekend, unlimited classes. \$60 stabling/horse for Fri, Sat, Sun. Camping on site, hotel nearby. The weather will likely be warm and sunny and the folks are friendly. We'd love to have you come and show off your beautiful horses! For info: John McMillan jdhmcmillan@telus.net 250-546-6621. Premium List Brenda Mason bbttles@hotmail.com



The Canadian Walker

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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

BOARD MEMBERS

AB Hilton Hack

NEW # 403-826-0308

Fran Kerik

780-768-2250

BC Ralph Livingston

250-764-4482

ON Sue Gamble

705-642-3746

THE 30th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

will be held at Klondike Victory Farm, west of Red Deer, AB.

When: Saturday, May 12, 2012

What Time: 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Who: All CRTWH members

Awards of Excellence

will be presented for those horses that achieved the Bronze, Silver or Gold Level in the Program For Excellence, 2011.

We'll also present Certificates of Achievement to those who participated in the Training Levels Challenge and the Ride/Drive Your Walker Program.

You are invited to come early to watch the 'Gait From the Ground Up' clinic and a video taping of one of the Triple Challenge tests.

Stay for supper and visit with fellow TWH owners after the meeting!

Attend the AGM and support your association.

Mane Event 2012

The Mane Event will be held at Red Deer, AB from **April 27-29, 2012**. CRTWH will again have a booth this year.

Members - volunteers are needed to help at the booth. Please contact Dianne Little at **403-271-7391**

if you can help out on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

And don't miss the Liz Graves clinics!

MAP List Program

Check out the 'Where Can I Find A Walker' list of members by province (the Map List) on www.crtwh.ca. A live link to members' websites as well as direct e-mail links have been added to our website to enable folks who are looking for a TWH to get in touch with someone close to them to view or buy a Walker. Another perk of membership!

**DON'T FORGET... JOIN
RIDE / DRIVE YOUR WALKER**
Fran at fkerik@DigitalWeb.net

&
'Like' us at www.facebook.com/crtwh

Spruce Meadows

After a year's hiatus, Spruce Meadows will be bringing back the horse breed displays 'by popular demand' during the Masters competitions September 5 -9.

CRTWH will partner with AWhA to sponsor a booth for the Tennessee Walking Horse breed. The format will be different, but we'll be there to show off our Walkers!

'GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP' CLINIC

This highly popular CRTWH Clinic returns to Klondike Victory Farms **May 12 and 13, 2012**. Clinicians are **Bill Roy of Grindrod, BC** assisted by **Dianne Little of Calgary, AB**. Bill specializes in training the Tennessee Walking Horse and the rider *naturally*.

The clinic will focus on the whole horse – emotionally, mentally and physically. To get the best from your horse there must be communication between horse and handler, so you can move along on the journey with your horse, from establishing a foundation on the ground to riding. Wherever you are on that continuum, this clinic will help you move to the next step.

The clinic will be tailored to the needs of the individuals attending. The following topics may be covered: the importance of groundwork, trailer loading, standing still for mounting, the importance of tack, recognizing gait, achieving your horse's best gait, improving focus, the importance of relaxation, and cantering. If you have a particular concern, let us know in writing when you send in your registration, and it will be addressed.

On Saturday, we will start at 9 and finish at 4:15. At 4:30 taping for the Program for Excellence will be available. Here's your chance to start out the spring riding season on the right foot. It promises to be a fun, enlightening weekend. Hope to see you there!

Stabling is limited so if you want to bring your horse for overnight, book your spot right away!

FEES: \$160 for Non-members, \$60 for Auditors for the weekend.

A 25% discount for members of CRTWH.

\$25 per night for stabling.

PLACE: Klondike Victory Farms (west of Red Deer, Alberta) **TIME:** May 12 and 13, 2012.

Registration forms and a map sent upon request.

Make your cheque payable to **CRTWH**, & send payment to book YOUR spot to: **Dianne Little**, 619 Lake Linnet Cres. S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3 or email treasurer@crtwh.ca. Phone **403-271-7391**

Wild Rose Versatility Show

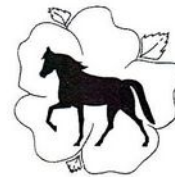
A Division of Alberta Walking Horse Association



June 8th, 9th and 10th, 2012

Anchor R Ranch Lacombe, Alberta

Judge is The Honorable Alece Ellis, Greenback, TN
A FOSH certified judge.



Open Gaited Classes. Any type of gaited horse is welcome and you can come as you are; no show clothes required for these classes, only safe tack.

For more information or a prize list either call or e-mail:

Rhonda Lemmon at 403-782-3118 or yonafeda@gmail.com or

Blair Dyberg at 780-352-3531.

EVERY PARTICIPANT MUST HAVE VALID A.E.F (ALBERTA EQUINE FEDERATION) INSURANCE.

This can be purchased at the show for about \$30.00 individual or \$60.00 family

What Do YOU Do With Your Walkers ?

CRTWH CENTURY PARTNERS ...



Jack Gurnett & Sundancer

Packed into the mountains, *above*, & drove his 1/2 TWH team in a recent cutter parade.

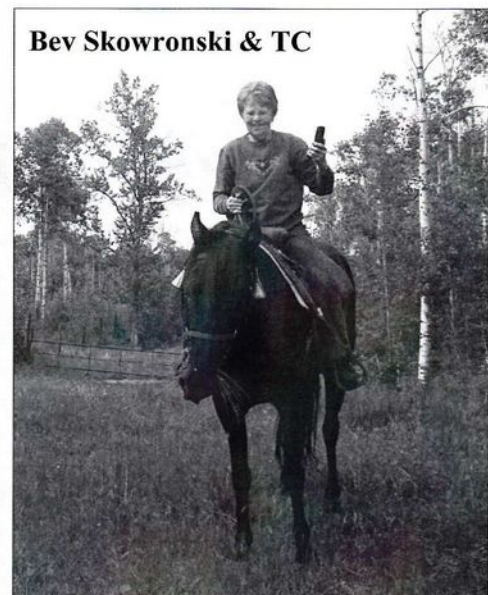


Jo Kingsland
& Candy

Raised beautiful TWH like Belindi-Go, *above*.



Drove cattle to auction - Jack Chapman & Tony, *above*.



Bev Skowronski & TC

Spent many happy hours out on the trails.



Took part in many driving exhibits and competitions - Charis Cooper and Peppi, *above*.

Send your photos of **What YOU Do...**
to **WHN**,
Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5
Or (as a small jpg file) to whn@telus.net

SHOCKER OF A LIFETIME by Franne Brandon

It was September 3, 1966, and the darkened arena at the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee, heralded the moment when the judges' cards would reveal the new World Grand Champion. As the spotlights flashed on, announcer Emmett Guy's voice reverberated with the traditional monologue "And the 1966 Grand Champion of the World is number 35..." The roar that went up from the crowd drowned out the rest of the announcement, words that marked the culmination of a feat not duplicated within competition in the Tennessee Walking Horse breed from the 1939 blue ribbon win by Strolling Jim to 2011.

The story began almost twenty-three years before the championship competition. On November 20, 1942, in Manchester, Tennessee, a baby girl was born to Henry Pearl and Virginia Wright Sain. The Sains named their new daughter Elizabeth Faye. Three years later, the family moved from Manchester to Bell Buckle, a small town in a rural area of Bedford County, Tennessee. Having grown up in a small town in the forties, Elizabeth Faye, now known as Betty, recorded her memories in a hand-written, as yet unpublished, journal. She writes "Growing up in the 1940's was a lot different than the life of today. Radio was your source of news, and word of mouth, and newspapers. We had an eight party telephone line, and each had their own number of rings. It was before TV."

She also writes, "The big Saturday night treat was to go to Manchester, to see Gene Autry and Roy Rogers movies, while the parents visited with Grandmother Sain. My brother and I would fuss and fight over who was King of the Cowboys. I was Gene Autry and Champion, Gal – even named my special filly of Polly, a black and white pony, Champion. However, Brother insisted that Roy and Dale and Trigger were the best – so many debates which did not ever get a compromise from either of us. Riding all over the farm, and creeks, and hills were the greatest way to grow and dream. Riding on the backs of my steeds gave great learning and confidence. Each and every animal taught you some things to remember. You could ride the roads to neighbors, or town, or kinfolks, and the people in the vehicles respected animals on the road." (*Journal, "Forward"*)

In that much simpler time, Betty recalls that "Fairs and horse shows were real social events all over our areas", and that "People would go on a Ride-a-Thon and prided their horse, and dress, and picnicked." The times changed, however, and by the late fifties, the main avenue of use for the Tennessee Walker was the show

ring. The Sain family had a select group of walking horses at this time. In the spring of 1962, Pearl Sain and Betty learned that Tom Barham of Lewisburg, Tennessee, had bred his Hunter's Allen linebred mare named My Darling to Mack K's Handshaker. They greatly admired Handshaker as an individual, and so My Darling's foal was "spoken for well in advance to his foaling." Breeder Barham registered the colt as Handshaker's Nodder, and the youngster went to his new home in Bell Buckle in October of 1962. Betty, however, did not particularly like the colt's name. She states emphatically that "Handshaker's Nodder did not suit him. He was too regal. And he did it." – that exemplary loose and flashy movement that people looked for in a show prospect in that era. Betty changed the colt's official name in the TWHBEA records from Handshaker's Nodder 621314 to Shaker's Shocker.

Many fine youngsters by Mack's K's Handshaker, the 1960 World Grand Champion, were successful in the show ring in the sixties. What set Shaker's Shocker in a class by himself was his lifestyle. When Shocker was coming two, he was not sent to any of the trainers in the area in preparation for two-year-old competition. Betty Sain herself started Shocker under saddle, and trained the colt for two-year-old classes. He had a successful show season as a two-year-old. On June 6, 1964, he placed third at the Baxter Show in Cookeville, Tennessee. Although he failed to earn a ribbon at the Goodlettsville show on June 19th, he took first at the prestigious Wartrace show on August 1, and a week later, earned another blue in Geraldine, Alabama.

In 1965, when Shocker was three, all three-year-old horses were still considered Junior Horses in the show ring. They were required to canter, but not compete with the Aged Horses that were four and over. Shocker also had a very bright junior season in 1965.

Starting on May 21st, he received first place at Lewisburg,. On June 29, at Lafayette, he got fifth. On August 6, at the highly regarded Belfast show, he earned another blue ribbon. After placing fifth in the junior stallion preliminary, his Celebration competition culminated in winning the Reserve World Championship at the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, with owner-trainer Betty in the irons for this significant victory. In the past, holding the title of Junior World Champion or Reserve Junior World Champion walking horse marked these youngsters as major figures to be watched in competition the following spring when the first gates opened for Aged Walking Horse competition.

The rules changed before the first shows of 1966, however. For the first time, in 1966, all four-year-

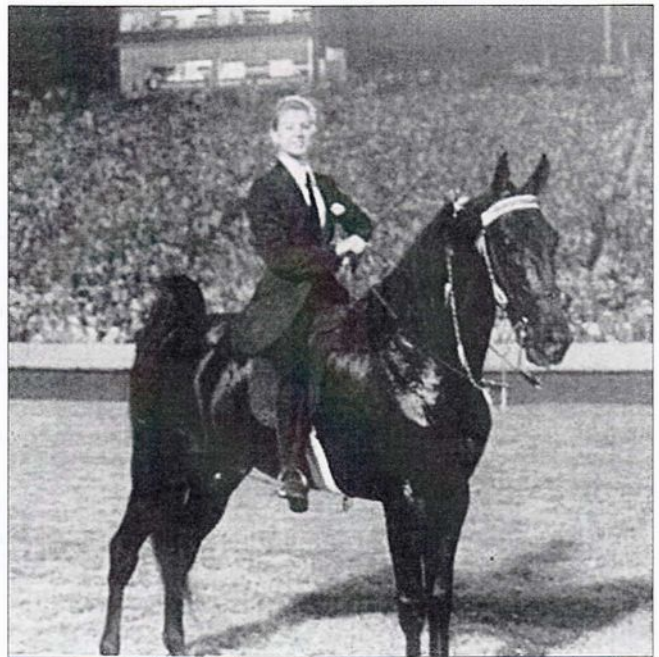
old horses were considered "Junior Horses". Shocker and his foaling year crop would compete yet another year as junior horses, and not be required to compete with the older, more experienced animals. The former junior horses would now be exhibited in classes for three year olds, and not required to canter. Instead of being an important contender for World Grand Championship honors, Shocker became a leader in the race to be crowned the first Four Year Old Junior World Champion.

Whatever the goal, however, Betty Sain approached his training in the same way. She explains that to train a champion, one must "start with a good horse. Then it is patience and common sense. He was a big, powerful horse." Even as a four-year-old, Shocker had height, size, and bone. Betty took advantage of his strength and determination to fully condition the big stallion with workouts six days a week. She recalls "our workouts were an hour and a half, at least, ...in a great, big, open field." Since the show shoeing for the sixties was much smaller and tidier than the stacks worn by show walkers in the 21st century, Shaker's Shocker could readily travel through weeds and over small rocks while maintaining balance and that wonderful four beat rhythm. Sain emphasizes "He was never in a ring except at a horse show." Over time, the black stallion developed a powerful way of going and the stamina to produce this show gait far longer than other contenders whose shorter workout times generally involved circles of a practice ring or trips up and down a barn aisle.

As the Celebration competition began on Friday, August 26, 1966, the shock of the show proved to be not only the horse's name but his management as well. Betty Sain had elected not to exhibit Shaker's Shocker at any of the one-night shows that served as precursors to the Celebration. She realized as others also did that one judge's opinion at a show in May or June could adversely affect the big horse's status when he was entering the ring in August. When the class for Junior Stallions was announced on Wednesday night, August 31st, an untested Shaker's Shocker entered the ring with the other four-year-old stallions, and emerged with the blue (1st place) ribbon and the silver. He became the favorite horse to win the Junior World Championship, to be held two nights later, on Friday, September 2nd. That was when owner/trainer Sain made a second "shocking" decision. She decided to withhold her big black from the junior championship and to pay the larger entry fee for the World Grand Championship on Saturday night, for which they had qualified, according to Celebration rules, by winning the Junior Stallion blue ribbon.

It was standing room only, all boxes, reserved seats and general admission seats filled, when the contenders for the 1966 World Grand Championship entered the Celebration arena on the night of September 3rd. Sain was competing against other well-known black

stallions: Johnny Midnight, winner of the Aged Stallion class and that class's reserve champion Go Boy's Royal Heir. Also in contention were Duke's Handyman, trained by Hershell Talley, and Go Boy's Sundust, shown by Bud Dunn. The bright bay Go Boy's Chatterbox was also among the horses that made the final cut to the workout. When the dust settled after three grueling workouts, and the roars of the crowd settled to the expectant silence preceding the announcer's change from conversation to class results, the lights darkened, the spotlights swept the ring, and it was Betty Sain and Shaker's Shocker, only a four year old but obviously in charge in terms of strength, stamina, and ability, who were announced as the winners. At the time, Betty was twenty three years old, the second youngest rider to win the World Grand Championship, and the first woman to ride for the roses. Only two other women, Judy Martin Wiser and Vicky Self, both professional trainers, have ever duplicated her success in the ensuing years. *Below: Betty & Shocker.*



Betty Sain chose not to retire Shaker's Shocker the year following his historic victory. She continued to campaign him throughout the Southeast until his formal retirement ceremony in Montgomery, Alabama, at the Southern Championships, in 1970. While his first foal crop had arrived in 1969, in 1971 Shocker was no longer in show training, but focused on a new career in the stud. The times in the seventies were changing, though, and unlike many of her contemporaries, Betty Sain, ever a woman of vision, recognized the importance of these changes and adapted her mission to embrace them and a new outlook for the Tennessee Walking Horse breed she loved so well.

To be continued...

Sources: Interview with Betty Sain, February 29, 2012, Sain, Betty Journal, and Celebration coverage from The Nashville Banner 1966 (Author's scrapbook).

NEWS from our U.S. READERS

From GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MT, "We just received the *Walking Horse News* and I have read it cover to cover. I am glad that Allanna is finding a lot of Walking Horse history in the box of pedigrees, etc. that I sent to her. I didn't want any of this to be lost but rather to add to the historical knowledge of the Western States and Canadian Tennessee Walking Horses, and some of the older breeders."

"Most of the TWH in this February issues of the *WHN* go back to Silvertip-Rickey, Buck LaMarr and others Mom had. To this day I have never ridden a horse to equal Silvertip-Rickey. He could turn on a dime, was a superior cutting horse, extremely smooth, and had a wonderful disposition. He had so much stamina, which was necessary because our Big Arm ranch covered two thousand acres. Tegun's Mt. Fawn, age 25 now, goes back to Rickey and Buck LaMarr. She is also very quick, smooth, and is an excellent cutting horse. Not Rickey, but she sure shone in her younger days. We won blues against AQHA and APHA in different events."

"I want to add that Mom was a big fan of Hunter's Allen, Last Chance, and Trouble. Ross Howell was our neighbor as was Pearl Tompkins. So many of the breeders in western Montana got their first stock from Mom, or from someone who had bought a Walker from her."

"I have to go to the Mayo Clinic for a procedure on my esophagus. The technique will be to freeze the cells that are turning cancerous. It is an outpatient surgery which is good. I will have to return to the Mayo in three or four months for either a check-up or more surgery. Thankfully, an excellent physician in Billings suggested I have an upper GI scan. That was at least ten years ago and he has been checking on it every year since. In December the scan showed that the cells were turning so he made arrangements for me to go to Mayo."

"So, if anyone who reads this is troubled with heart burn see your doctor and get on medication!"

"We have had a wonderful winter so far. Very little snow and not too cold. I think 12 below has been our coldest and that only lasted a couple of days. It has been in the 40's and 50's most days. Maybe we will get lots of rain this spring to make up for the lack of snow."

"I hope this finds all of you *WHN* people and equines in good health."

SCOTT ADCOCK, LANCASTER PA, emailed, "My father is Odie Adcock, owner and rider of the 1986 WGC Plantation Pleasure horse, Raven's Touch of Class. Most of our family live in the Shelbyville TN area but our immediate family lives near Lancaster, PA. In the 1930's my Grandfather, Robert Adcock of Unionville, Tennessee, owned a stallion named Colonel Allen. Grandfather owned the dam and bred her to Roan Allan F-38 and raised Colonel Allen. He sold him to Colonel Cheek, the founder of Maxwell House Coffee, some time during the depression but bought him back in the 1940's. I was told that maybe you could help me find some direct descendants of his bloodline in your area. It would be great to learn more about Grandfather's horse."

Ed. Note: The name Colonel Allen sounded familiar, so I checked. Sure enough, he is in the pedigree of the family of Walkers that we've owned since 1974. Our stallion, Uphill Heir Trigger, is 6 generations down from Colonel Allen! You can look it all up on www.clrc.ca in the TWH pedigrees there by searching Colonel Allen and then looking at his progeny, and following them down through each generation.

ALLANNA JACKSON, LAKESIDE, AZ did some research on the CRTWH connection above, and writes, "BLACK BEAUTY ALLEN 440890 was sired by COLONEL ALLEN 350021 (Roan Allen F-38 x Old Beauty 003401). She is listed in TWHBAA stud book volume I under the number X-56. She was registered by Thomas Jefferson Moss, St. Louis, Missouri, and yes, that is the same T. J. Moss who developed the La Marr line in Wyoming. Black Beauty Allen was out of the unregistered mare Kittie Jackson, who was by the unregistered stallion Lewis Marshall, 2nd dam is unknown. She was a black with the stocking, and belly spot, etc. of a sabino, though no roaning is reported in the listing. Grace Larson says she did show roaning at the time Marie McBroom owned her. Black Beauty Allen was blind and therefore used only as a brood mare, but lived in the herd with the other mares and produced foals with normal vision. Here is just a small part of her production and influence on the Western and Canadian TWH is as follows, (I'm sure you've heard of all of these horses)."

"Tom Moss bred Black Beauty Allen to Rose Bud Allen 350001 to produce the stallion Moss' Brownie 401371. iPEDs print-outs on La Marr horses that Grace sent me report two horses sired by Moss' Brownie, but today the descendants of Luckys Koko Prince 713971 -154- appear to be the only living descendants of Moss' Brownie."

"Marie McBroom bred Black Beauty Allen to Silvertip-Rickey 473752 to produce the mare Sago (Black Beauty II) 540714 whose foals: Chiquita Sago 550695, Shomee 591634, Beauty's Cheyenne 611488, Beauty's Shoshone 611667, Beauty's Barbaree 632509, Beauty's Sage King -99-, Beauty's Trail's End -195-, and Beauty's Black Beauty 733489 all have progeny in CRTWH."

"Rickey's Silver Star 591257 (Silvertip-Rickey x Black Beauty Allen) has descendants in Washington state and three listed in the CRTWH."

"Black Beauty Allen was then bred to the gaudily marked sorrel sabino stallion Lightfoot Rickey 501200 (Silvertip-Rickey x Richardson's Honey Chile) to produce the "white" (maximal sabino) stallion Colonel D 540856 who sired the mare Chilowee No II 560862, out of Cherokee Rose 2nd 550056, out of Dixie La Marr 474575, who is also descended from Black Beauty Allen. Cherokee Rose 2nd is dam of Miss Petunia 571156, one of the three foundation mares for Ethna M. "Blondy" Friesen's very unusual but highly successful program of linebreeding to mares. Progeny of Miss Petunia in the CRTWH include: Syringa Lady 612388 and Snow Bird F 623341 both by Snow Prince Allen 501452 and Rocky's Flying Angel 721787 by Gold Rush Rocky 664916 (Apple Jack 445283 x Sugartime's Pride 633085)"

Black Beauty Allen was later bred to her own son Colonel D to produce the mare Melody O Rollin' Hills 590245 -46- who was the dam of the CRTWH mare Dee Honor's Gypsy Rose 797004 -119- and the stallion Rythm O Rollin' Hills 658792 -57-.

"And *That's* just a fraction of what I've found after only 45 minutes of digging in envelopes I have for WHJ, and referring to CLRC while writing this!"

FRANNE BRANDON, PETERSBURG, TN writes, "Got my *WHN* the other day. I love the Runaway Bridesmaid photo on the cover. Typical bridesmaid's dress! I have a couple of those in my closet now, but neither is full enough in the skirt to ride a horse in. Not mine - Kaylee's. By the time she got married, she was tired of long skirts and chose street length for her dresses."

"Well, here we are in the middle of a four day winter holiday weekend, and the rains are falling as they have done all winter. There must be an El Niño in the Pacific to bring so much precipitation since November. Too wet to do anything equine around here, unless you are blessed with an indoor arena. The ground dries off for a day or two, then we get another rain, and it's a mud hole for another 2-3 days, then more rain comes to make it worse. I just hope we get some rain this summer, although a drought is actually better for that mare of mine!"

"I read Keith Doll's little article in *WHN*, and his Tillie mare is built somewhat like mine. No way Misti can ever leave the diet pasture at any time other than brown grass season, and in spring/summer, she has to stay in a stall even then. Those old Middle Tennessee farmers developed a product well-suited to their needs (they were all tightwads and didn't want to feed much), but it sure backfires with recreational horses."

STAN POTTER, AMELIA ISLAND, FLORIDA, writes, "If you go to www.HappyTrailsWalkers.com you'll see my new website and what I do now. Dave Korenman at Interlaken, NY will continue my trail riding business at the National Forest in NY. I moved my other eight walkers to Florida and am giving beach rides now."

"The Smokey (Uphill Heir Trigger) babies are doing great! I've had two short rides on both of the three year olds now. I sold Rocky, the gelding, along with three other horses, Shady, Jady and Gracie. Potters Shootin Star has also had two additional rides on the beach here at Amelia Island. Neither horse bucked at all yet! Star's first ride was used as part of a sermon for a Cowboy Church in NY."

"I'm keeping Potters Canadian Buckshot, (Gracie and Smokey's colt) as a stallion for at least this year. He's a very gentle two year old. He has Black Angel on his registration papers. She was only the second reproductive walker to win the WGC title back when it meant something to have it!"

"The Cornell group came out to do their study. I was disappointed in their process. The horses have never been led in a running walk so not many of them did it for them, although the boys both did as they were in a different pasture which had a hill. They did the running walk going uphill. The mares are in a flat pasture so many didn't do it but all of them do it under saddle. The group didn't have the time to wait for me to saddle them up so those were not credited as doing a running walk. It sounds like poor science to me. My horses are not trained to move fast when led in a halter so they just flat walked and received no credit."

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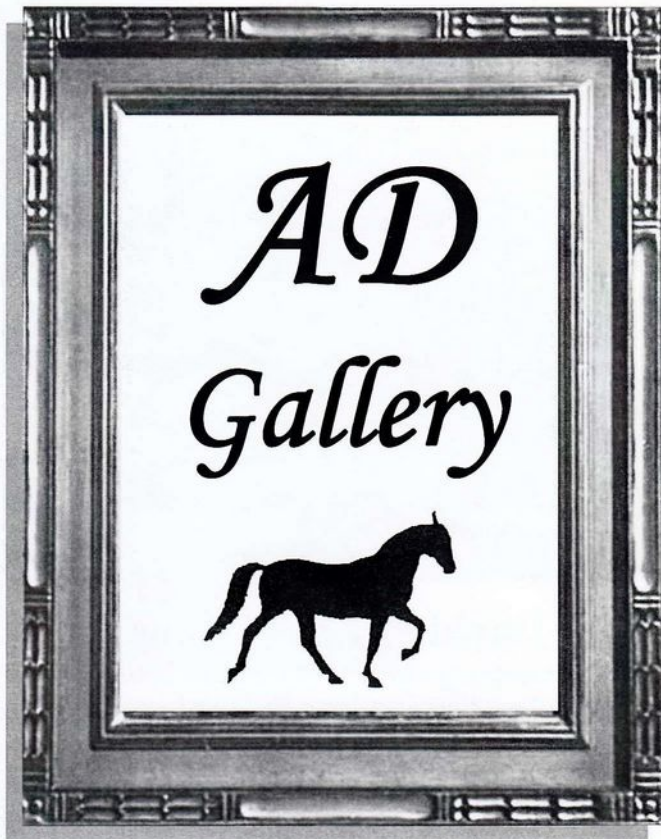
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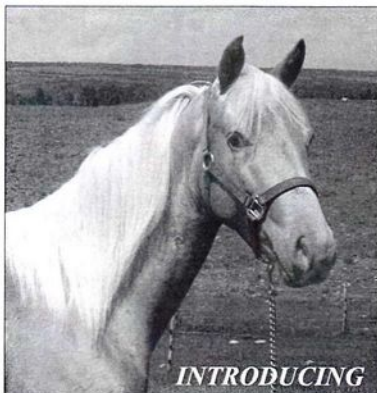
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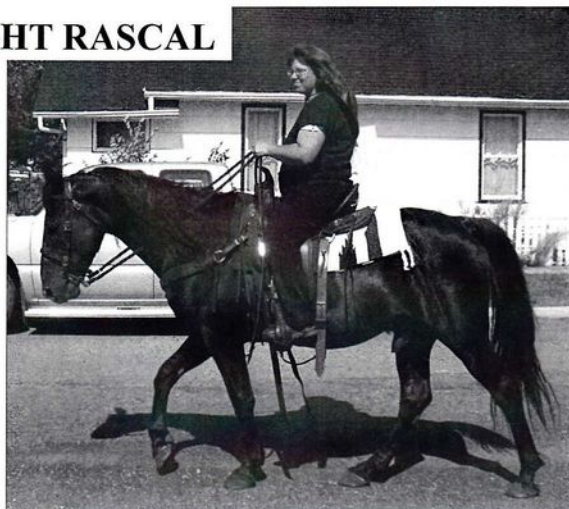
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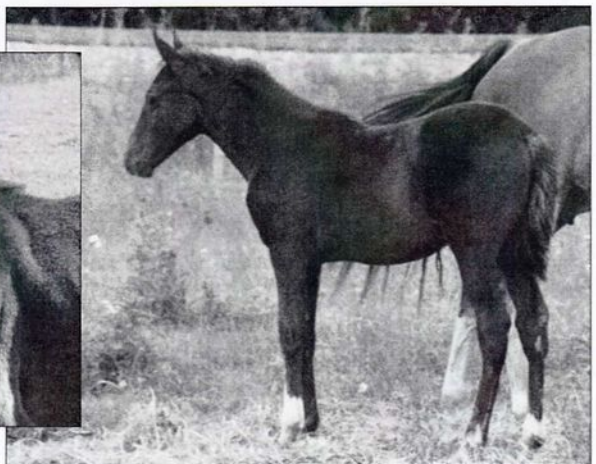
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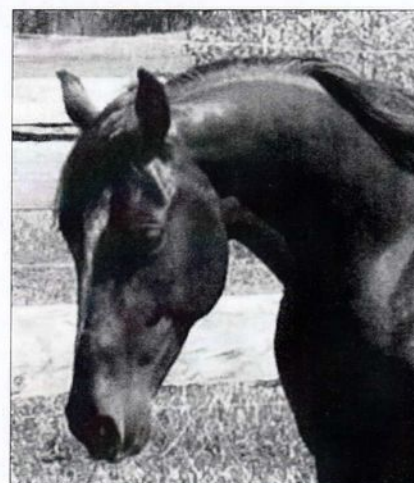
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MANE EVENT - April 27-29 at the Westerner in Red Deer, AB. Drop in for a visit or volunteer to help at the CRTWH booth. Liz Graves will be Gaited Horse Clinician this year. Call Dianne at 1-403-271-7391. See you there!

CANADIAN REGISTRY of the Tennessee Walking Horse Annual General Meeting will be held May 12 at Klondike Victory Farm, west of Red Deer. 780-723-2547; see page 12.

'GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP' CLINIC - May 12-13 with Bill Roy & Dianne Little. See clinic info on page 13.

GAITED HORSE CLINIC with Liz Graves, May 29-30 at TW Ranch, Russell, MB. Contact Marsha Trinder at (204) 773-2711 or trinder@xplornet.ca.

WILD ROSE SHOW - June 8th, 9th and 10th, 2012 at Anchor R Ranch, Lacombe, AB. FOSH certified Judge Alece Ellis of Greenback, TN. Contact Blair Dyberg at 780-352-3531 or Rhonda Lemmon at 403-782-3118 or yonafeda@gmail.com.

THE INTERIOR GAITED HORSE SHOW, Armstrong, BC is June 9 & 10. For premium list - Brenda at bbtles@hotmail.com; Info - John McMillan - jdhmcmillan@telus.net or 250-546-6621.

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