

OCTOBER 2012
VOLUME XXXVI No. 5



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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Jo Kingsland, Alix, AB

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On Our Cover

Charis Cooper
and her
TWH mare,
Trinkette,
were photographed
during the
Canadian Cowboy
Challenge in 2011.
See the photo story
of some of the
activities of
Charis,
Trinkette and Peppi
on page 6.

*Thank you to
Joanna Lynn Photography
for the cover photo.
(Address on page 24.)*

Deadline Dates

for Jan/Feb issue
JANUARY 7

for Mar/Apr issue
MARCH 7

for May/June issue
MAY 7

for July/Aug issue
JULY 7

for Sept/Oct issue
SEPTEMBER 7

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Volume XXXVI, # 5 September/October, 2012

Dear Subscribers,

We've had gorgeous warm and sunny fall weather here. Hope all of you have been as lucky. These beautiful fall days make me long for the times when we packed into the mountains with the horses. We haven't done that now for years. And the other thing that always marked the coming of fall was 'The Canadian' Futurity. From the eighties until 2004, TWH owners and admirers gathered to see all the young horses and watch the judge assess them. It was a chance to see a variety of excellent horses of various bloodlines, and visit with old friends. While we don't have the Futurity anymore, we do have 'The Canadian' Triple Challenge, which, in the Program For Excellence, gives all owners the same opportunity to have their horse measured against a standard by a qualified, ethical, IJA judge. The deadline for sending a video of your horse is October 31. This is a great tool for breeders. October 31 is also the deadline for the Training Levels videos. See page 13.

And while on the subject of CRTWH programs, please note that the CRTWH amnesty ends this December 31. If you have an older, purebred but un-papered Walker, this is your chance to get it registered at a bargain price. Any horse over a year will be registered for \$50 plus the DNA charges until that time. Don't leave it too late!

In this issue I'm also asking for 2013 cover advertisers. *You* are the ones we rely on to make the colour covers possible. Please see page 24 for details, and contact me if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who renewed, advertised and sent articles, photos, news or notes about our 35 year anniversary. Without you there'd be no News! Without the support of TWH owners and friends, we wouldn't have our own Canadian paper, and no recorded history of the breed. So let's keep hearing from you, and if you know people interested in, or new to, Walkers, please send me names and addresses. We'll send a free, invitational copy of *WHN* and invite them to join us. The more the merrier - there's strength in numbers, and all that!

There are lots of interesting, thought-provoking items in this issue. Enjoy, and until next time, keep on walking.

Marjorie

WHN makes a
great gift!

October, 2012

Walking Horse News

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

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

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*Thank You
for Advertising
In
Walking Horse News!*

HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

MORE ON 35 YEARS OF *WALKING HORSE NEWS*

by Marjorie Lacy

WALKING HORSE NEWS

Vol. 1, # 3

October, 1977

Welcome to newsletter # 3. In 5 busy months, the News has grown from a mailing list of 17 to one of over 100, with 45 subscribers.

I'd like to thank all who wrote or phoned, sent in names, news and subscriptions, and generally encouraged me to carry on.

The newsletter is not sponsored by, or affiliated with, any club or organization. I'm putting it out on my own so subscriptions are the only source of revenue. Thus far, they have covered the costs of mailing the News to everyone on the list. However, this one will have to be the last to go to all on the mailing list, so send in your subscription (\$2.00) now!

With your co-operation, I plan on a Jan. "directory" issue and an April "stallion" issue, with lots of news, ads, opinions, etc. Let's hear from you!

Marjorie Lacy Box 2728 Edson Alta.

FOAL CALL

Colt, bay, April 15/77 "nice, big & well gaited". Fabros, Kimberley, B.C.
Colt, by King's Debonair Joyce Stanley, Tappen, B.C.
Colt, palomino, Aug. 77 (Prince Radar x Majors Gold Lady) Lacy's, Lamports
Filly, from Merry Robinette Linda Block, Breton, Alta.
2 fillies, 1 Arab, 1 Walker Beisels, Drayton Valley, Alta.
Wilbraham's 3 Amer. Walking Pony & 3 bred foals are showing the natural run walk already. Alameda, Sask.

George Curtis has 3 spring fillies by Radar Roy. Strome, Alta.

Marlene Sams has a palomino roan 2 filly & a black bred colt. Handsworth,

Ralph Morden has a purebred filly, a 2 grey filly & a black 1 colt. Sask.

SEARCHING...

Wanted: Any information on the Tenn. Walking stallion, Okanagan Roan Ace. Mrs. Joyce Stanley, 1207 Laurel Ave., Beaumont, Texas 77701

Wanted: A good horse trainer to work with young Tenn. Walkers. We are looking for someone who believes in gentling & training, not "breaking". Toni Sue Carter, Box 359, Ponoka, Alta, T0C 2H0

Thank you to all who wrote re WHN's 35th year. I truly appreciate your notes. Below are a few of them.

Marjorie

BARB FENWICK, CARBERRY, MB: Here is my renewal to *Walking Horse News* for two years. So nice to keep in touch with the 'walking bunch' and see it continue to remain natural in Canada. Your magazine is so instrumental in keeping us aware and united on this front.

GRANT KIHN, HINTON, AB: I must confess that I debated *not* renewing my subscription to *WHN* as I'm pretty much out of the horse business, but decided that I still would like to keep up on the goings-on with all the people I have come to know either personally or through articles and ads.

I really can't imagine where the Alberta Walking Horse Industry would be without your personal dedication to the *WHN* magazine for all those 35 years. I'm confident that your dedication and efforts have furthered the breed immensely in this province and throughout Canada. Personally I appreciate the training tips more than the folksy pieces. Keep up your hard work - it is appreciated.

IAN GREEN, BOWMANVILLE, ON: Please renew my subscription for another year. It is always a joy to receive the magazine each time. I'm in my eighties now and cannot ride because of knee problems, but am as interested as ever. Otherwise I am in very good health. Must try again to write something for the cause!

Again, my thanks for your efforts with the magazine. I appreciate the hard work it must be to provide an interesting and informative issue every time.

From ANNA GADICA, MELVILLE: I am enjoying the *Walking Horse News* immensely! Thank you for all your work in publishing it. Recently I ordered FOSH's Collection of Training Articles. I loved it! Unfortunately I left it on the trunk of my car while at the stable... and drove off. I haven't seen it since. I may order another one but I remembered Anita Howe's website and located it, so I will also be ordering her DVD. So thank you again for publishing *WHN*, for without it I would not have known about FOSH or Anita Howe. And I think they will be a great help to me and my TWH.

DEBBIE SMITH, MAPLE RIDGE, BC: I *do* remember when the *WHN* was a "news letter", folded in half and hand mailed. My, have times changed! Loved the article about Betty Sain. Dave and I had the pleasure of meeting Betty and her family while in Bell Buckle, Tennessee. (Did you know that Bell Buckle is the quilting capital of the world?) We got the grand tour of the stables and her pastures. It was very interesting - the big thing down south is to have a granite headstone for the great stallions that have passed on. We had a granddaughter of her famous Shaker's Shocker. I do think we may have contacted her from an ad or info from the *Walking Horse News* years back! Another article I found most interesting was about the horse boots. I have tried the Boa boots; rubbed my horse too much. I borrowed a pair of renegades and loved them; used the epic boots for years and they are really pretty good. (Now finding it hard to put them on though; the bending and squatting down to do them up is hard.) I am using the Cavallo boots now, but only if I know I will be riding in rocky areas. They are really easy to put on. I ride a Peruvian and there is so much action in the front end but they seem to stay on the horse good.

DIANNE LITTLE, CALGARY, AB: Received *WHN* yesterday - as always, a great read. Thanks for the 35 years.

ALBERTA CELEBRATION

Another Alberta Celebration has come and gone, and for me it will likely be my most enjoyable and memorable one. The show had a number of top quality horses from as far away as Taber, Alberta. There were new people, new horses, and everyone had so much fun that it brought back the camaraderie and fun that I used to feel back when I was 14 years old, showing Koko's Magic Shadow against David Armstrong on Trouble and Chris Ball on Gumby. (Rest in peace, Chris.) It seemed that somehow, over the years, the shows became more and more competitive and much less fun.

Every year the show committee for the Celebration has tried to think of new ways to try to encourage more participation and keep the atmosphere light and enjoyable. I would like to think that for the most part we succeeded in many aspects, but at the end of the day, I truly believe the major factor is the attendees at each individual show and the atmosphere created as a result of the different personalities. It was nice to see so many smiling faces, hear the words of encouragement for each other, and have some genuine discussion on our wonderful breed and the horse industry overall.

It was also nice to be able to enjoy one another's company around the campfire on Saturday evening and roast (well... TRY to roast) those big marshmallows that never get cooked in the center. Thanks, Dave for proving that one by stuffing the whole thing in your mouth! Pretty funny!

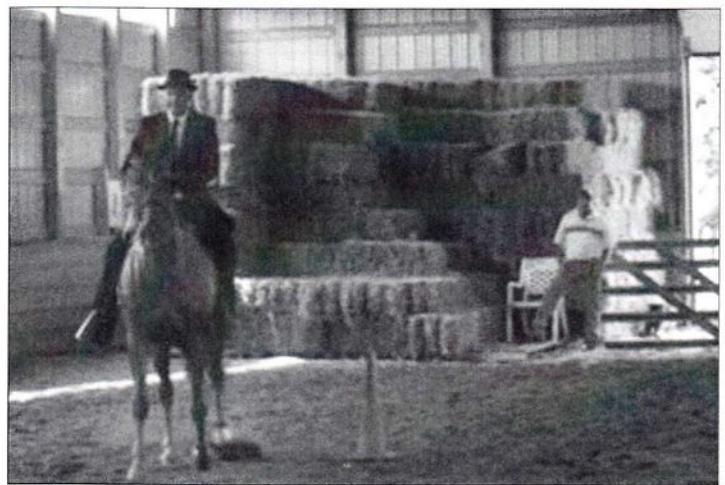
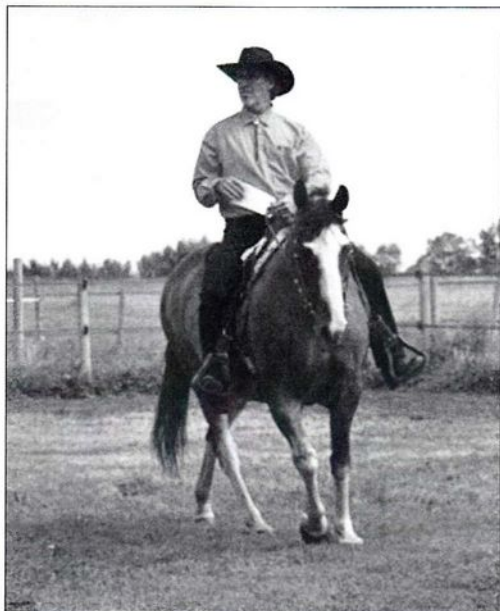
The judge, Gina Vehige, and her entourage were a delight as well as a lot of help with the show, and we truly appreciate her knowledge along with her kind words in regards to seeing so much talent at one show. A big 'Thank You' goes out to our volunteers. It takes a big heart to volunteer a whole weekend of ones life in order to allow others to do what they enjoy doing - show their horses. There are not enough words to express the gratitude felt. Thank you, Dianne Little, Leslie Hunchuk, Gina & Darryl Vehige, Mory Rawlings, Christine Beasley, Lloyd Blower, Steve & Brynn Reisz, Blair & Lori Dyberg, Dave Lemmon, and Margret and Samantha Johnson. If I missed anyone, I apologize... but please know that you were all very much appreciated.

A big 'Thank You' to our sponsors as well - The *Walking Horse News*, Jody Rawlyck, Blair & Lori Dyberg, Leslie Hunchuk (in memory of Chris Ball), Noisy Hollow Acres and Samson Line Drilling. Your support meant a lot to us.

Rhonda Lemmon, Show Chair



ALBERTA Celebration 2012



A few photos of some of the participants at the 2012 AB Celebration, August 10, 11, 12.

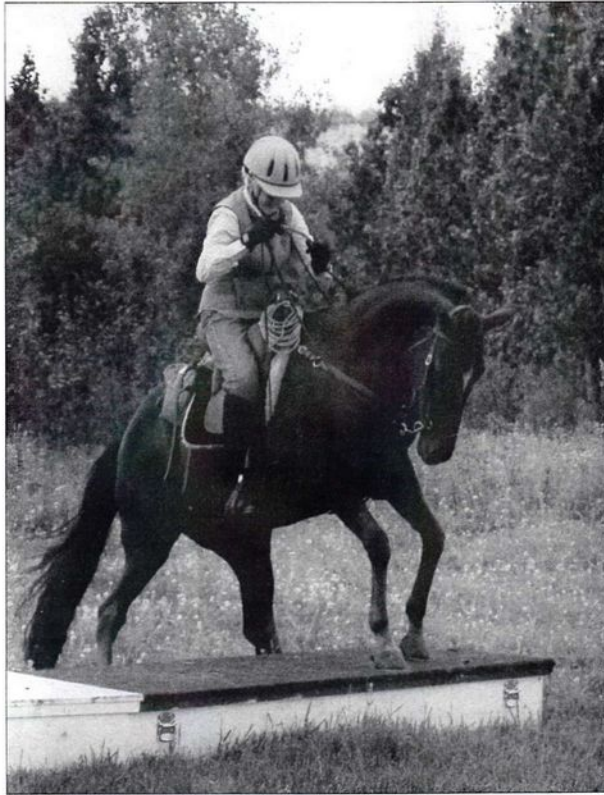
Clockwise - both top pics are of Samantha Johnson on Luke; next Lori Dyberg on Rome; then Ron Smith (right) on his brother Ted's TWH, Dominator's Star; and above, Dave Lemmon on Promise.

Thank you to Margret Johnson, Calgary, AB for the photos.

What Do I Do With My Walkers ? *by Charis Cooper*

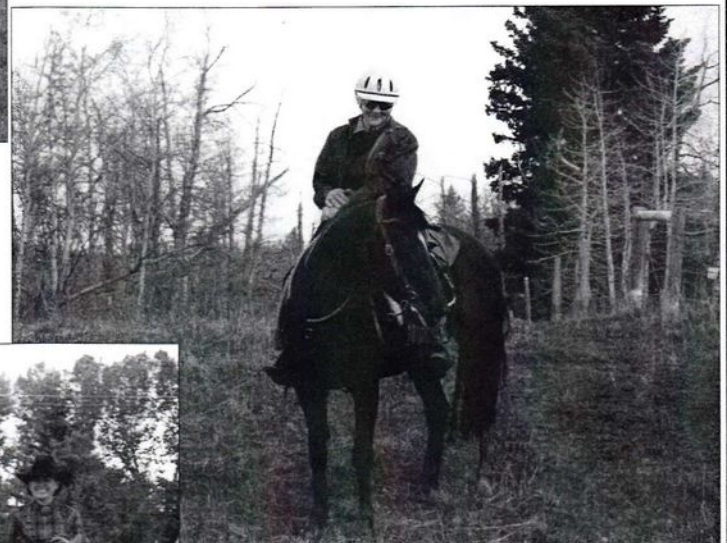
Here are some of the things that Peppi, Trinkette and I have been doing this summer and last.

Below, Trinkette and I at the Cowboy Challenge Race.



In 2011 we went down to the Bar U Ranch meeting with 6 other side saddle riders, and again in 2012 we went on the Bar U Trail Ride. Above, Charis 82 & Peppi 26 wait for others to catch up!

In July, 2011 Lissa Townsend and I entered a Cowboy Challenge Race with her horse Apollo and my mare, Trinkette. This was Trinkette's first competition and she was not impressed with the new lumber bridges. But we did get through most of the obstacles!



Above, Trinkette and I go on lots of mountain and foothills trail rides with Brenda Baker, Lissa Townsend and other friends, on TWH of course!



Left, on June 4, 2012 three side-saddle riders - Holly Hardman on Annie (TWH), Lee McLean on Cisco (QH) and I (Charis on Peppi - TWH) entered the Black Diamond Parade and won 2nd place after the Calgary Parade Show riders. I was dressed as Queen Elizabeth; they were dressed as old time cowgirls.

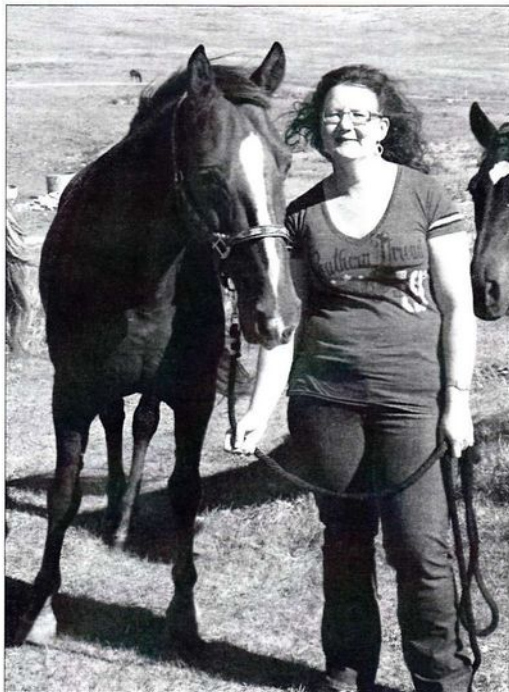
NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

ALBERTA NEWS

CHARIS COOPER, TURNER VALLEY, writes, "Peppi and I entered the sidesaddle race at the Millarville races with five other ladies this summer. It turned out to be a trotting race - and Peppi did the rocking chair canter instead, so we did not place. But we did garner plenty of attention due to our ages! Then Peppi and I rode in the Friends of the Bar U Ranch trail ride with 49 other riders and a wagon load of people. The wagon also carried a wonderful lunch, which we consumed halfway through the ride. Peppi at 26 was the second oldest horse and I was the oldest rider at 82." (See the photo on facing page of Charis and Peppi waiting for everyone to catch up.)

LISSA TOWNSEND, COCHRANE, writes, "It has been a great riding summer this year, rides and camp outs to the Whaleback, Ya Ha Tinda, Hummingbird and Mesa Butte. Also a lot of fun with the new baby filly. I am greedy, hoping we get a fall like last year so that there is a lot more outside enjoyment to be had."

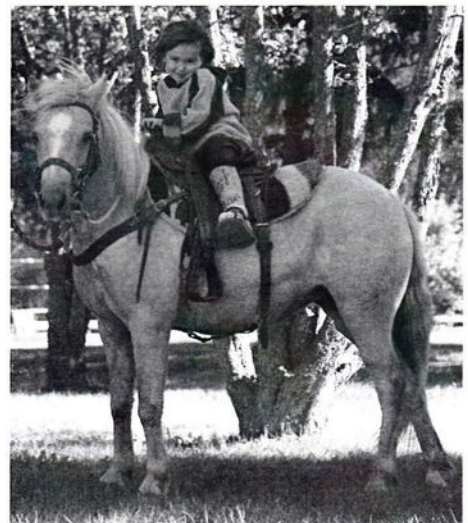
"On another note I would like to congratulate Kathy Terpstra of Calgary on her purchase of our lovely Gentleman, 'Dude' (Dominator's Grovie). (See photo below.) We wish them many happy miles together. It pleased me greatly to deliver Dude into such good hands. Please send Kathy a year's subscription to *Walking Horse News* from Fred and me."



From MAUREEN GERMSCHEID, EVANSBURG, "It has been a busy summer here but things are winding down now. We did one mountain trip with 13 people and it was a little western, a lot of fun (and a lot of cooking). We came home to a family gathering that had 43 of us staying at our place. Looking forward to a more relaxed fall with maybe some time for training. We have some very BIG black mares here if anyone needs one."

"We had two lovely foals this year by Toddys Royal Image. Image's Cherokee Maiden is a chestnut tobiano filly out of Chief's Paint Brush and Image's Red Ryder is a sorrel sabino colt out of Shadow's Fly By Night. (see Foal Call.)"

"I'm also sending a picture of our granddaughter, Zia who broke her leg six weeks ago and was finally allowed to get on a horse. We couldn't wipe the smile off her face."



ELLEN LEWIS, HINTON, writes, "It's been an interesting year. Due to unfortunate circumstances we had to relocate to new pasture, so have a new home and a 'herd'. To date it consists of our two TWH, three Canadians, one Peruvian and two QH Paints. The introduction was something else! My gelding even thought that I needed protection from the other "brutes". Glad that is all sorted out and settled now! We made it to the Mane Event, survived the June flood and even managed the odd ride."

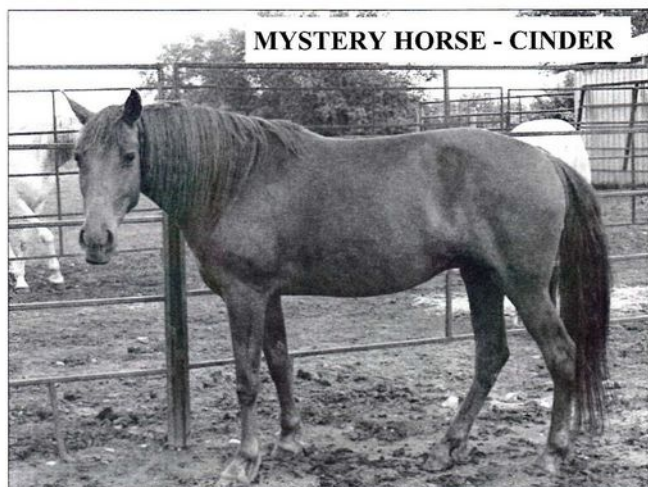
From KIM PIELAK, NITON JUNCTION, "Chance's Hillbilly Boy ('Ike') has been sold to Bucky Sprowl of Kinuso. Congratulations, Bucky."

"Been very busy with work and riding and breaking. I've been riding Thursdays at Goldings arena out here, starting a drill team and I love it. Lots of fun and a different discipline for the horses. Taking my Walkers for sure, and there are a couple of Walkers from the Apoll farm too."

ALBERTA NEWS

WE HAD NO REPLIES ABOUT 'CINDER',
below. If you have any idea of who she is and where she comes from, please email me at whn@telus.net or call 780-723-2547. You can also write me at *WHN*.

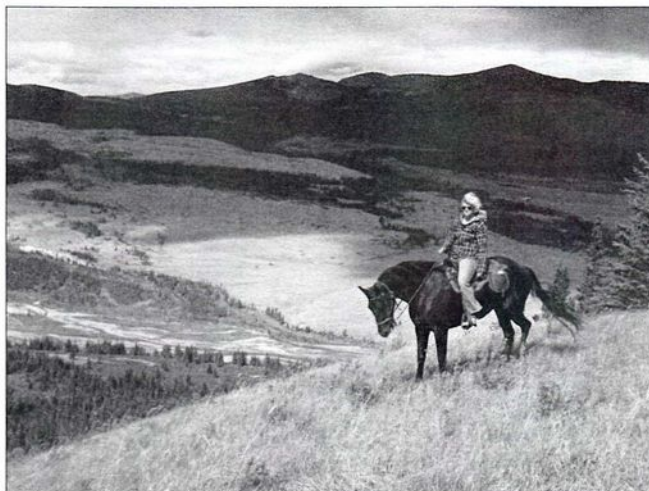
Think hard, Everyone! She is a sorrel mare about 15.2 hh, with a small crescent shaped star on her forehead. She is approximately six years old and was said to have been bought at an auction at Mayerthorpe about two years ago. Since then she has been living with a lady near Lacombe, and has now gone to a new home south of Calgary. *MCL*



Congratulations to all who purchased Tennessee Walking Horses from the estate of ERNIE JENSEN, TOMAHAWK, AB at the sale on June 28. Many of these horses were by BOLD VICTORY, a grandson of Betty Sain's other stallion, Black Dust, who was a son of old Merry Boy himself.

Rob & Linda Hoffarth are the new owners of the mares, sorrel King's Golden Mist and black Zepher's Canadian Beauty. Raymond Thebeau now owns three Bold Victory offspring, Bold Victory Jr, Bolds Black Shadow and Bolds Fancy Cinnamon. Two young black mares, Lady Victoria and Ko-Ko Sundown Zepher #2 have joined the herd at Germscheids' Magnolia Meadows farm. Greg Blahun now owns the chestnut mare Darkie's Tomahawk Princess by Darkie's Last Chance. Roy & Jan Leady purchased Bolds Copper Sun, a sorrel gelding, while Lawrence Lind is the new owner of the black mare, Aurora Dawn. The yearling black filly, Dawn's Angel Girl, went to Christine Laschuk, and the yearling sorrel colt, Tonquin's Koko Prince, went to Ernie Stoppler.

Best of luck to you all with your new Walkers.



From KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, "Hi All, I wonder if the summer went by as fast for the horses as it did for me? It was a busy summer, but good."

"I would like to say 'Congratulations' to Tammy Walker, who bought Karlas Karmel, my buckskin mare. Karmel was a very good ambassador for Walking Horses. Three days after Tammy bought her she rode her in the mountains with Quarter Horses. Tammy reported that the others were so impressed with Karmel's willingness, and levelheaded attitude. Add beauty and smoothness, and what more could you want?" (*See a photo of Karla's Karmel in the Ride Easy Ranch cover ad, top left corner.*)

"I had some really great rides out at the Ya Ha Tinda. Alexandra and I had a great time sliding down the slides at the Ya Ha on a Hot afternoon. The bugs were minimal, so it was great for both human and horse. *I've included a photo, above, of Alexandra on Gypsy, half way up to the sheep cliffs.* It was Gypsy's second time out in the mountains, and she was excellent."

"Well, I do have more youngsters to get wrangling, so will close for now. I hope everyone has a wonderful Fall, and Happy Trails to Y'all!"

NORTHFORK FARM

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ALBERTA NEWS

It was very sad to hear of the sudden death of CHRIS BALL this summer. Seen below on the March/April 1988 *Walking Horse News* cover, Chris was a well known, well liked youngster at shows and fun days in the Calgary and central Alberta area in the eighties.



In the photo here he is shown demonstrating that his TWH gelding, Gumby (Shadow's Excalibur) is the 'Most Gentle Horse' at the 1987 Festival of the Gaits.

SASKATCHEWAN NEWS

From ANNA GADICA, MELVILLE, "I am looking for a feeding program for the TWH that I am currently leasing, and am interested in the natural seaweed based supplement mentioned in the December 2011 issue, in the story of Jo Kingsland and Candy." (*We checked this out and unfortunately, it seems that 'Kelpmate' is no longer available. Does anyone have current information about it?*)

MANITOBA NEWS

BARB FENWICK, CARBERRY, writes, "Spirit, my TWH and I have qualified to teach Horse Agility through the International Horse Agility Club. It keeps us very busy. We have several clinics to teach a year, and August 11th was our first Manitoba Horse Agility Show. You can learn more about this sport on www.thehorseagilityclub.com. There are only two of us qualified to teach or judge horse agility in Canada so far, and isn't it nice to know that a TWH named Spirit is helping to spread the sport across Canada?"

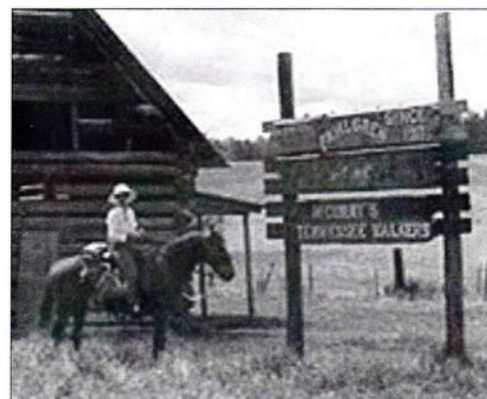
NEWS from our U.S SUBSCRIBERS

ALLANNA JACKSON, LAKESIDE, AZ writes, "Well, after 6 weeks interruption in riding due to rain, which we desperately needed, this afternoon Cinnamon and I were able to get back to our project of riding all the trails in the White Mountain Trail System by doing one of the trails I can ride to. The Osprey Connector trail is only 2.5 miles but starts at a junction with the Ice Cave Trail and ends at a junction on the Timber Mesa trail so it can be reached only by riding portions of both of those trails. We took an unofficial trail across the meadow and through Scott's reservoir areas to get home from the Timber Mesa trailhead, turning the 2.5 mile trail into a 7 mile 2 1/4 hour ride."

"The gator tore off one of her easy boot gloves on that ride. It was the left hind, which is the boot she keeps losing. The left hind foot did measure very slightly smaller than the other so I think she's almost, but not quite, between sizes on that one foot. It's still under warranty and they've said they'll send a new gator so I need to send the information to claim the warranty and may need to buy some power straps, at least for the one boot. Like my problem with the hardware, the torn gator is such a common problem that the lady at customer service was able to guess correctly what the problem was before I told her. Cinnamon's size 2 is on back order so they won't be able to ship it until mid September. So far EasyCare's service has been excellent."

From GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MT, "O.V. (Mac) McCurry passed away peacefully at his home in Trego, Montana on July 30, 2012 at the age of 93. Born on the family farm near Marion, N.C. he joined the Navy at age 17. After a lengthy world wide career he retired from the Navy in 1957, and he and his wife Evelyn and family moved to the ranch in Trego in 1960. I had written a bit of walking horse history about OV and Evelyn back in 1997. They raised walkers for over 50 years, with many of their bloodlines going back to Silvertip-Rickey and Buck LaMarr."

At right is a photo of the McCurry Ranch gate.



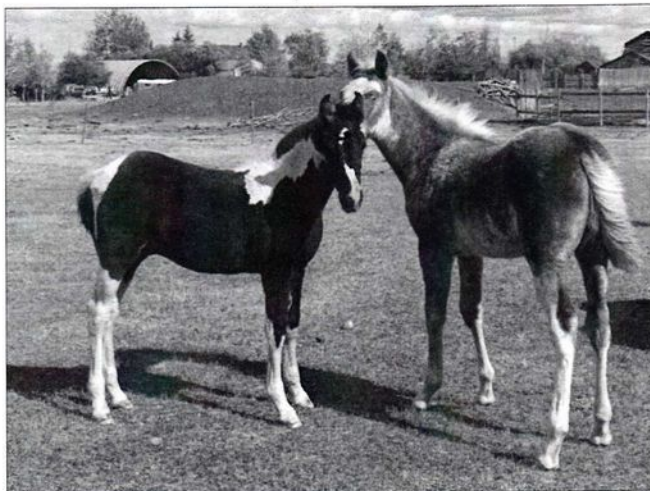
BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS



PAULA LOEWEN, K E L O W N A , writes, "I was up to ride our four year old gelding, Star, on Thursday for the second time. He is just Lovely! He keeps his head nice and level - both physically and emotionally. This is

his first time being ridden without a leader on the ground helping. Earlier this week he ventured out of the big outdoor arena for the first time, and was ridden in a big, hilly field with a small cross country course in it. He didn't jump, obviously, but he was by all accounts interested and paying lovely attention to his rider."

JANET CROCKETT, COURTENAY, writes, "Thanks for your email - I am putting the renewal in the mail today. Thank you for all your effort that you put into this great magazine. We are having beautiful sunny weather for the end of summer. It is very dry but I am sure our West Coast rains will start soon enough. We have to make the most of our days now."



From JO-ANNE McDONALD, POUCE COUPE, "I've been trying out my new camera (it's great!) and just thought this was a cute picture. Above are Victory's Reward (pending) and Splash of Silver (pending) who were having a good mutual scratch."

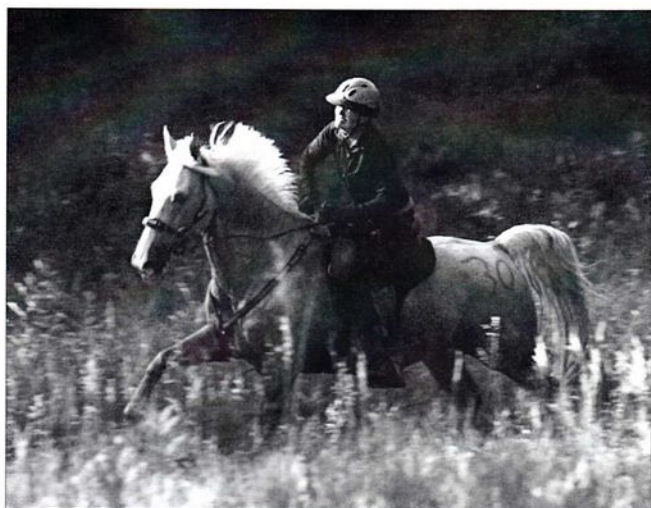
From DEBBIE SMITH, TOWER RIDGE FARM, MAPLE RIDGE, "I ran into Pat Warnock, past president of the West Coast Tennessee Walker Club. I saw her of all places at the North West Andalusian Regional Championship Show. We were talking about trying to get some of the members together for a little reunion in the near future. Also met up with a gal up country who knows Ann Tonn, another past president of our long ago club. Would be fun to get the old gang together again!"

"What a wonderful summer we've had, except our first camping trip in June, a total washout...On Friday we set up camp - dry and sunny. That night it started pouring and never did let up until until Sunday. Did I say how hard it was pouring?! We still had fun, huddled under our tarped cover, watching the campfire. Everyone was warm and dry but did feel sorry for the horses standing in the downpour under their winter blankets in the small corrals. Our next camp-out was warm, dry, sunny and wonderful! Oh what lovely trails we have - the scenery is absolutely spectacular."

Natalie and Trigger and my Peruvian, Platino, and I had the most excellent ride in Golden Ears Park. We started at Allco Park, crossed the Allouette River, and climbed up Allco Trail to the side entrance to Golden Ears Provincial Park. Trails were cool and gorgeous - it was a hot one that day. We run walked most of the top trail, had a short break at the main corral where we met Dave and the truck/trailer. We left the park and checked out the new Mill Creek Trail (an awesome ride), then went as far as the uncompleted new bridge. It was wonderful to ride in the park again and what a beautiful day we had. Felt wonderful to be flying through the trails; it's been awhile since we were riding up there."

"Our summer is not ending yet, so we'll keep enjoying our trails until the rain starts... and then we'll still enjoy our trails! Even while development is happening in our area, our trails are rebuilt or saved. Our HHA Trail Club has worked with the District for the last 30 plus years, preserving and maintaining our lovely Multi use/Equestrian Trail System that Maple Ridge is so well know for. Hopefully we'll still be enjoying them for many more years. Happy Trails to All!"

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, writes, "Fall is in the air but the long weekend is to be sunny and warm. No riding for us yesterday, as our trail was blocked with equipment. There's a large subdivision going in. On next week's ride I'll have a camera handy. Trigger is still gorgeously golden."



ONTARIO NEWS

RACHEL HILL, FORT FRANCES, "Well, I figured it was about time I sent a little update. Beamer and I have enjoyed 10 endurance rides so far this year. We have three more planned. We are having a great season, lots of great riding, and I am so enjoying the different trails as well as the different people I have met. *I am sending along a picture from our last ride, above.* This was the Thistle Down Ride in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. Beamer seems to really enjoy this sport and he is amazingly good at it. He is by far the biggest horse I see doing this sport and I get lots and lots of questions on what breed he is. I just love the big guy. He really is a special boy. I'll send an update in October after our last ride and will submit a summary of how well we did at the end of the year."

SUE GAMBLE SWASTIKA, writes, "I'm just getting back to our liberty sessions now after the 'too hot' summer. I finally wiped the serious look off my face (took me long enough to change that) and that one thing helped buoy the spirits and enthusiasm of the horses! Liberty - the ultimate test of body language!"

"I had the vet come up and give my horses West Nile vaccinations last Monday after she called to say there was a case in Field, Ontario, about 125 miles south of us. I'd asked her to keep me informed of the situation last May when they got their annual shots. This horse had been euthanized as they thought it was rabies but it turned out to be West Nile. Once the vet called I didn't like to say no, as then if they got a bad case I would be mad at myself. Apparently they can still get it but the case should be milder. And we'll still have six to eight weeks of mosquitoes. I used to have the horses vaccinated

for WN regularly but I quit about two years ago as there were no cases anywhere nearby."

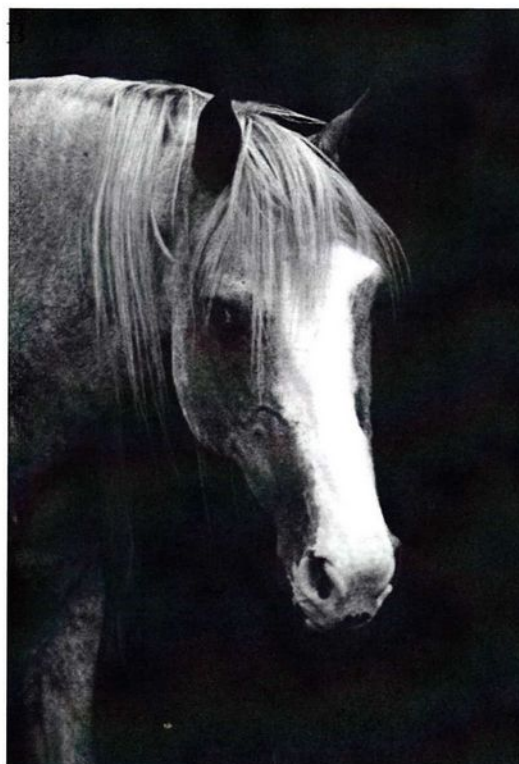
"I rode Koki last week! What a gentleman. He parked out at the mounting block without my even asking. I wasn't going to ask him to park out at all. He couldn't have been better, even after all the time off I tend to give him."

"Then I signed up to ride at a local stable for the next month with another horse friend, just to tune myself up. The horses there are not challenging but that is perfect for now. By then it will be winter and I don't want to tough it out in the cold any more!"

From DARLENE SHANTZ, MILFORD, "Had a good spring with lots of rain and a good early hay crop, then everything dried up and we are in a drought situation now...no second cut of hay and a lot of crops are suffering. Hoping for some rain soon!"

"I was playing with my new lens and took a couple of photos of my TWH mare, Sunny. She has Trigger in her bloodlines 'way back. Her registered name is Red Wing's Sun Showers #1999-2871. I do remember Uphill Golden Laddy being on her pedigree as her grandsire, I think, and Beauty's Sage King was also a grandsire. She came from Athabasca, Alberta when she was 3 and I've had her for 10 years now! I bought both my TWH sight unseen, just based on photos and trusting the people I was talking to...kind of scary to do that in the horse world but it worked out for me. *Red Wing's Sun Showers below.*

Both mares have the sweet, docile nature the Walkers are known for, so that makes it easy."





CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

SCHEDULE OF FEES during AMNESTY to end of DECEMBER 31, 2012



1. MEMBERSHIP	Fees	
a. Full Membership (Individual, Family, Corporation, Partnership - Canadian residents.) Voting, member fees apply		\$25.00/yr
b. Individual Life Membership (Individual). Voting, member fee schedule applies		\$200.00
c. Youth Membership (Individual, under 18 years of age). Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$10.00/yr.
d. Associate Membership (Individuals, organization, groups - Canadian Residents). Non-voting, non-member fees		\$15.00/yr.
e. Non-Canadian Resident Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$35.00/yr.
f. Non-Canadian Resident Lifetime Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$250.00
2. REGISTRATION OF FOALS or HORSES NOT ALREADY REGISTERED	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Within 12 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$40.00	\$80.00
b. After 12 but less than 18 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$50.00	\$80.00
c. After 18 but less than 24 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$50.00	\$80.00
d. After 24 months of foaling: (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$50.00	\$80.00
If the sire and/or dam of the unregistered foal (or horse) is not registered with CRTWH, submit a photocopy of both sides of the parent's U.S. registration certificate along with the foal's registration application.		
3. REGISTRATION OF HORSES ALREADY REGISTERED in U.S.	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
<i>Applications must be accompanied by a photocopy of both sides of the U.S. certificate</i>	\$45.00	\$90.00
4. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Within 1 month of date of sale	\$20.00	\$35.00
b. After 1, but before 3 months of date of sale (Members - First transfer \$25.00, second & subsequent \$10.00.)	\$25./\$10.	\$35.00/\$15.00
c. After 3 months of date of sale (Non Members - First transfer \$35.00, second & subsequent \$15.00 each.)	\$25./ \$10.	\$35.00/\$15.00
5. ALTERATION OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Change of colour	\$20.00	\$40.00
b. Change of gender (gelded)	\$15.00	\$15.00
c. Death of a registered horse (<i>certificate will be returned</i>)	\$5.00 credit	No charge
d. Change of Name: <i>Provided animal is no more than five (5) years of age and has no registered offspring. Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Submitted fees are non refundable if application is rejected.</i>	\$50.00	\$100.00
6. OTHER SERVICES	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for an unregistered foal. DNA kits are available from CLRC. Pay CLRC for DNA kit when registration application is submitted.	\$75.00	\$100.00
b. DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for a Registered animal: CLRC Request form for DNA kit is required. Pay CLRC when application for DNA kit is submitted to CLRC.	\$75.00	\$100.00
c. DNA Profiling for a Registered animal from blood stored at Maxxam Analytics. Submit fee with a letter of request stating the name & number of the animal to be DNAed, & the Blood Case # (where known).	\$57.00	\$57.00
d. Blood-typing/DNA updated certificate for mature horse.	\$10.00	\$25.00
e. Registration of Breeder's Prefix	\$45.00	\$90.00
f. Registration of Lease	\$20.00	\$40.00
g. List of Progeny of Individual Breeding Stock	\$20.00	\$40.00
h. Surcharge on incomplete or incorrect applications	\$20.00	\$40.00
i. Duplicate Certificate: <i>Shall be issued upon application by the registered owner accompanied by satisfactory proof of loss accompanied by a witnessed Statutory Declaration.</i>	\$40.00	\$80.00
j. Rush Fee	\$15.00	\$30.00

Fees are in Canadian currency, based upon postmark of the application and membership status of the applicant.

ALL REMITTANCES ARE PAYABLE TO CANADIAN LIVESTOCK RECORDS CORPORATION. (Visa & Master Card accepted.)

Please submit to:

CLRC, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7 Fax 613-731-0704, Telephone **613-731-7110** Toll free **1-877-833-7110**.

The CRTWH accepts either Blood Typing or DNA Hair Analysis Profiling for parentage verification.

CRTWH Home Page: <http://www.crtwh.ca> e-mail: secretary@crtwh.ca



The Canadian Walker

Volume 11, Issue 5

www.crtwh.ca

www.facebook.com/crtwh

October, 2012

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president@crtwh.ca

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• **Treasurer: Dianne Little**

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treasurer@crtwh.ca

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AB Marjorie Lacy

780-723-2547

BC Ralph Livingston

250-764-4482

AMNESTY - LAST CALL FOR

Late Registrations & Lapsed Transfers - from now until Dec. 31, 2012

REGISTRATIONS

This amnesty will apply to all unregistered animals over 1 year of age that are eligible for CRTWH registration but are not yet registered with CRTWH. (Includes those with U.S. reg'd parents. See the note in the Fee Schedule below #2d.)

All horses must parent verify through DNA or Blood Typing before registration is granted.

The cost of such 'catch-up' registration under the Amnesty is \$50 for members and \$80 for non members, no matter the age of the animal.

TRANSFERS

This amnesty will apply to all animals registered in the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse that have not been transferred to their current owner.

The cost of lapsed transfers will be \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

The fee of \$25 for members applies to the first transfer for the animal; for each transfer that is missing after that in the history of the horse the cost will be an additional \$10. (For example – no transfer through 2 owners - \$25 plus \$10, or \$35.00 in all; through 3 owners \$25 plus \$10 & \$10 = \$45.00)

The fee of \$35 for non-members applies to the first transfer; for each missing transfer after that in the history of the horse, the cost will be \$15.

Marjorie Lacy

THE MASTERS Spruce Meadows, Calgary, Alberta September 5 to 9, 2012

Another year at Spruce Meadows is over. Sorry I have no photos, but manning a booth all day until early evening leaves little time for anything else! Keith Oberle and his two CRTWH horses, Reggie and Sugar, demonstrated twice a day. As a member of the historic Steele's Scouts, Keith in full regalia, mounted and leading a packhorse, added a lasting impression. Bill Roy traveled from BC to help in the booth and his advice was appreciated by many owners with questions about their TWH. Members Jody Rawlyk and Debra Blower traveled from Lacombe to add smiling faces to the booth and Blane Charles put in a long afternoon stint. Don't know what we would do without Leslie Hunchuk and Dennis Little to set up the booth on Labour Day, as this seems to have become a tradition for at least 15 years. Thanks also to Cicily and Amy Little for being there to pack up. We were held up in the building at Spruce Meadows grounds for an hour because of a really bad storm while they were taking down the booth. Thought we'd all end up blowing away!

Without a team effort, CRTWH could not promote the horse. Thank you all for caring and sharing.

Dianne Little

CRTWH TRIPLE CHALLENGE -Training Levels & Program For Excellence

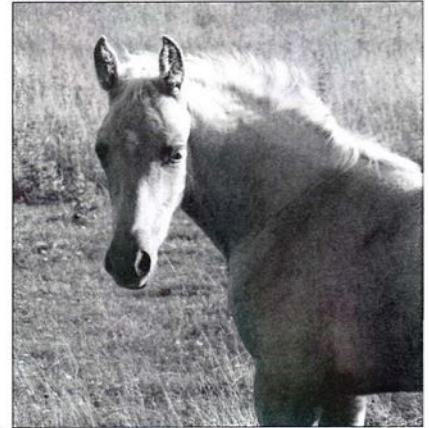
Deadline for entries is October 31/12. If you have video of your CRTWH for either the Bronze, Silver or Gold (or any two or three of the levels) of the Program For Excellence, OR for one or more of the Training Levels in The Canadian Triple Challenge, please send it to Dianne Little, 619 Lake Linnet Cres. S.E., Calgary, AB T2J 2J3. For more info check www.crtwh.ca or email treasurer@crtwh.ca or phone **403-271-7391**. The Canadian Triple Challenge replaced 'The Canadian' Futurity. The Program For Excellence gives you the opportunity to have a FOSH certified judge assess your horse for conformation, movement and temperament for only \$30 per level.



FOAL CALL



CHESTNUT COLT, "Viking"
(Toddy's Royal Bonanza X Victorian Ora Bella Z) born May 17th.
He is the size of most weanling Warmblood colts already and he is only 2 1/2 mos old! Yikes!
Photo left.



CHOCOLATE FILLY, "Skippy"
(Toddy's Royal Bonanza x Absaroka Dani) born May 31st.

PALOMINO FILLY, "Dolly",
(Toddy's Royal Bonanza x Blonde Jane Blonde) born May 18th. *Photo above.*

Above 3 owned by Brenda & Dave Baker, Triangle B Walkers, Calgary, AB

SORREL FILLY (Uphill Heir Trigger x Shana's Cherokee Flair)

PALOMINO FILLY (Uphill Heir Trigger x Dark Summer Chapel Belle)
Jack Gurnett, Northfork Farm, Bluffton, AB



PALOMINO COLT (Donny G. x April Love's Regina)
born June 28. Peter Symons, Rafter 9s, Dawson Creek, BC
(Photo left)

SORREL TOBIANO FILLY 'Image's Cherokee Maiden' (Toddys Royal Image x Chief's Paint Brush)
SORREL SABINO COLT 'Image's Red Ryder' (Toddys Royal Image x Shadow's Fly By Night)
Greg and Maureen Germscheid, Magnolia Meadows, Evansburg, AB *(Both foals shown below.)*



(Photo left) **CREMELLO COLT**
(Uphill Heir Trigger x Cherokee's Silver Mystery)
Judy Quinney, Grimshaw, AB

NOT A GOOD YEAR TO CELEBRATE by Franne Brandon

I attended my first Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration in 1968, traveling with my dad and sister the sixty miles to Shelbyville to attend on the very last night. Our reserved seats were horrible, but in the excitement of viewing the show in the famed Celebration arena, I did not care. Marti and I enjoyed every minute, from the perfectly presented white flag horse to the World Grand Championship Stake won by Go Boy's Royal Heir - although we didn't like Royal Heir so well. We were big fans of "The Mare", Go Boy's Black Angel, who received the yellow third place ribbon that night.

Over the next eight years, I attended the show faithfully, with my sisters, my dad, my mom, or various friends, then later with my new husband, also a Tennessee Walking Horse lover. The crowded, extremely uncomfortable seating in the reserved section, and the overall congestion in Shelbyville got to him, however, and 1975 was his final year to attend on the last Saturday night.

We did go to the daytime and rare night pleasure classes when these were added, beginning in the late seventies, but when I began teaching again after six years as an at-home mom, I could only attend the pleasure classes that were on the first Saturday morning. I would watch until I got tired of sitting, then go place my order for the famed Optimist Club doughnuts. (It was always a trial to drive the 15 miles back home with the car redolent with the scent of fresh, warm doughnuts.)

In 2006, the United States Department of Agriculture inspected the entries, and all but three of the contenders for the Big Stake were disqualified at the pre-class inspection. Rather than permit those three to enter the arena and compete, the Celebration cancelled the championship class that year. In spite of my personal opinion on this decision, I let my sister-in-law sweet talk me into attending the final Saturday night in 2009 and 2010, as a Girls' Night Out. I wasn't really happy about supporting the show with my presence and my money, but I went, not liking the horses that won, but hey! I didn't in 1968, either.

A previous commitment as part of my church musicians' team kept me from attending the show in 2011. By 2012, the appalling undercover video that had appeared on ABC's Nightline, then gone viral on the internet, had coalesced my decision that I would not attend the Celebration at all in 2012. I had recently retired, so all my evenings were "free", plus I

could trade off with the other musicians if I gave them prior notice. Those were moot points. I loved the walking show horses of the sixties and seventies. I love all flatshod walking pleasure horses, whether they are doing versatility runs, showing their stellar natural gaits in the ring, or walking and nodding or racking up a storm on the trails. Somewhere between the seventies and the 21st century, though the gait of the show horse got hijacked. The long overstride became a crawling back end, the head nod became a back-and-forth shake, the kind eye got wild... I knew what caused these issues in the horse shown in stacks and chains, and I was no longer going to be part of the crowd screaming for more of this on the final Saturday night in September.

It appeared that I was not alone in this decision. It seemed that others, both in the local community and elsewhere, had seen the video and were protesting with their absence. Internet videos of various major classes throughout the show showed very empty stands and partially empty box seats. Trainer Jennie Jackson reported that her daughters, there to support their mom in competition, still noticed an abundance of kids watching the show. Both Ronance Jackson, age 26, and Rebekah Jackson, aged 24, had been attending the Celebration since their teen years, Ronance since 1995 and Rebekah since 1996. They had never seen so many kids at the show. This was because many of the children in the Shelbyville schools were given two free reserved seat tickets for the 2012 show.

Sharon Corr of Syracuse, New York, former President of IPWHA and longtime walking horse owner, comes from a family steeped in the tradition of the breed. Her Aunt Eleanor Hulbert acquired her first walking mare, a palomino, in the early forties, and her first registered walking horse in 1955. Sharon's mother also owned and loved the breed. Sharon herself has exhibited both padded and most recently flatshod horses, and attended the Celebration in 1977 and 1987. Commenting on an opinion article, "Tennessee Walking Horse Industry's Words Do Not Match its Deeds", that appeared in the Nashville Tennessean on September 4, 2012, Sharon wrote, "Your opinion piece has reinforced my faith in the intelligence of the common citizen. The Walking Horse show industry has sold this horse short for over 50 years, and tried to make the shows an EXTREME event.

They succeeded well beyond their wildest dreams, but to the demise of the breed and the detriment of the horse. Thank you for helping to bring the truth to the public."

In contrast to the extreme gaits exhibited by the horses winning at this year's Celebration, the Tennessee State Fair, at one time the pinnacle of achievement for the old Plantation Walking Horse, once again had Tennessee Walkers competing as a major evening attraction for fair goers. These Tennessee Walkers were all flat shod, however. This show, an NWA affiliate that was organized long after the usually early winter show plans were finalized, featured no classes for built-up horses. Held on the evening of September 8, 2012, the State Fair show overcame the obstacle of heavy downpours that flooded the ring that morning. Show managers moved the show site to one that was dry but closer to the midway, and the horses accommodated to the extra noise and other distractions while also attracting a fine group of spectators. Hopefully, this return to the Tennessee State Fair was not a one-time occurrence but a return to the days when the State Fair represents a top win and an honor of which a walking horse's owner can be duly proud.

On the morning of the second Friday of the show, my husband and I drove over to the parking area by the Celebration grounds in order to make our annual pilgrimage to purchase the famed Optimist Club doughnuts. He had not been on the grounds during the show for over ten years, and he was shocked at the contrast. In times past, the barns were filled to capacity with horses. As we walked through the back of the barn area, we spotted at least four completely empty barns. The paved roadways that connect the barn area to the main arena and the Calsonic Arena were also empty. No one walking. No cars moving slowly. Most significantly, not a Tennessee Walking Horse in sight. As we rounded the corner to walk to the Optimist Club booth, the old warm-up ring came in sight. It was also empty. Not a human nor a horse there. In past years, that ring would always have at least a couple of horses, their handlers or riders, and a few railbirds, whether it was early morning, noon, or night. We had never seen it empty.

We walked back to the parking lot with a mixture of anticipation for our high calorie treats but also sadness.

They had a good thing, but they could not understand.



WHAT CAN WE DO?

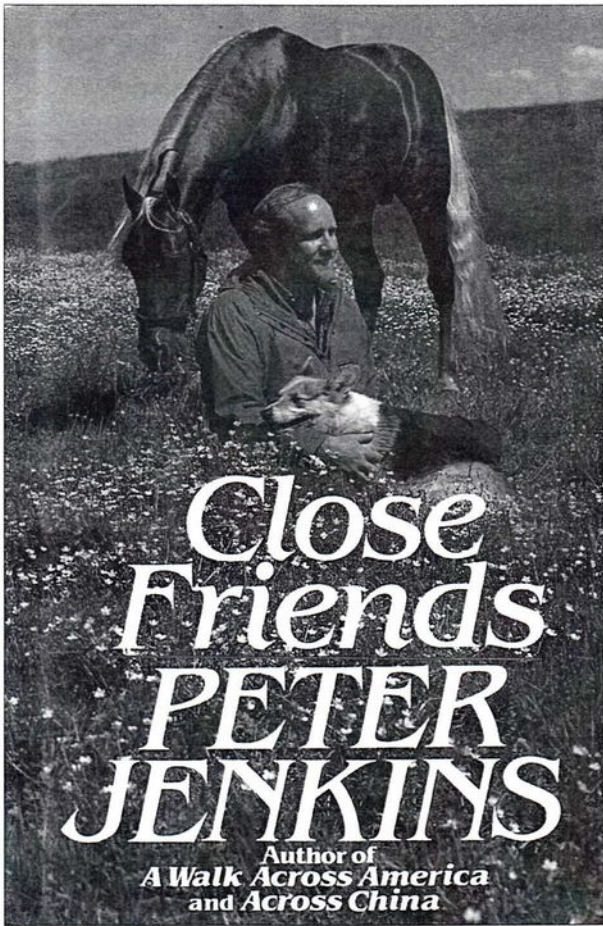
RACHEL HILL, FORT FRANCES, ON: I wanted to share with readers that in response to the latest coverage of the terrible abuse of show TWH's, some US breeders are no longer registering their foals with TWHBEA. They feel that TWHBEA should be stepping up and doing more to deal with this issue. In response, they are registering their foals with the CRTWH registry. Kudos to these breeders! This is a wonderful statement and they should be commended. The message needs to get out there, that this tolerance of abuse cannot continue. Too many horses are suffering because the people who should be not taking action. To everyone who registers their horses under CRTWH, good for you!

I wonder if Canadians, especially trail and pleasure riders, aren't really aware of what is going on in the US. I myself did not really know the extent of it, and just how bad and widespread it is. That McConnell video broke my heart. I understand a number of sponsors pulled out of the Celebration after it aired, and they should.

I have had several ride vets advise me that Walking horses are very tolerant to pain, much more so than other breeds, and as an endurance rider you have to be aware of that. This characteristic makes them the stoic heroes we love - but unfortunately, targets them for the awful practices of cheating in the show ring.

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER: I just now read several of Roy Exum's columns. He sure didn't pull any punches in telling the sordid stories of what goes on in the TWH show world. I was glad to read that people are reacting to the abuse problem, thanks to the McConnell video. It looks like the Big Lick people are on the run now that the public is vilifying them.

The first time I ever saw a Tennessee Walking Horse was at an event in the arena in my home town of Drumheller. I think I was in Grade 3 or 4 at the time, crazy about Trigger, and wanted to *BE* Roy Rogers. I believe the demo was part of a carnival in town. It was the horse had me enthralled as it went high stepping round and round in the arena. I now know that this was a demo of a big lick TWH as I'd never before seen a horse move in that way. For years I impressed my friends by bandying the words "Tennessee Walking Horse" (like I knew what I was talking about). Little did I know that one of my heroes (I'm talking about RR here) owned one! Thanks for the tip re Roy Exum's Chattanooga columns. Unfortunately, abuse seems to be in other disciplines as well, which certainly takes the joy out of watching these magnificent animals perform. If Trigger were here, I'd give her a hug. She's one lucky girl, as are all her buddies. They are all so loved & well looked after, they'll never have to worry about abuse.



CLOSE FRIENDS

by Peter Jenkins

I ran across this book in the library recently. It was quite a coincidence since Franne Brandon has been writing about Betty Sain and her big black stallion, Shaker's Shocker in the last three *WHN* magazines. And this 1989 book by Peter Jenkins includes a couple of chapters about Betty and Shocker, and how Peter came to buy Shocker's Buck, a son of Shaker's Shocker from her.

Later, Shocker's Buck was one of the two TWH sent to Inner Mongolia as a gift to improve the local stock. He and Cloud's Independence were the first horses imported into China in four decades. Included in the book are some fine photos - Betty and Shocker the night they won the Celebration in 1966, photos of Shocker's Buck, his Mongolian groom, and pictures of the country and an example of the mares he'd be mated with.

I wonder what has happened in the years since then?

You might enjoy reading it and looking at the photos. The cover (above) features Pride's Generator with Peter and one of his dogs.

MCL

IN MY OPINION:

TWH LOGOS: TRUTH IN ADVERTISING

by Marjorie C. Lacy

Have you noticed more and more extreme "pleasure horse" logos? Ones that exaggerate the stride and height of action of their TWH images to a point where the horses pictured could not possibly be doing a natural gait? It's an easy trap to fall into because, unfortunately, it's the man-made show horse with its high-stepping front action, set tail, and exaggerated rear stride that most people associate with Tennessee Walkers. It's a flamboyant, attention grabbing image BUT it's not even close to what our pleasure horses do naturally! And it's not what we are promoting, is it?

This stereotype is so ingrained that when I sent a story about our Canadian Futurity to the *Horses All* paper in Calgary they subtitled it, "High stepping action at the Canadian Tennessee Walking Horse Futurity"! Did anyone really see any of those young Walkers stepping particularly high? Of course not! But the image of what people think Walkers do got in their way.

Searching for clues about this, I looked through Joe Webb's book, *Care & Training of the Tennessee Walking Horse*. In it are four images illustrating the evolution of the show horse. The first example is similar to the illustration below. In the second the hind stride is greater and the upper front leg is horizontal. The third image has the toe of the hind hoof just even with the back of the diagonal front foot, and the front leg is coming up and reaching higher. In the fourth and last example the hind leg extends considerably farther forward with the hind hoof even with the diagonal front foot. The front leg reaches out and above the horizontal, while the rider appears to lean backwards on the horse. The caption on this fourth example reads, "Looky here now!!! This is the big lick."

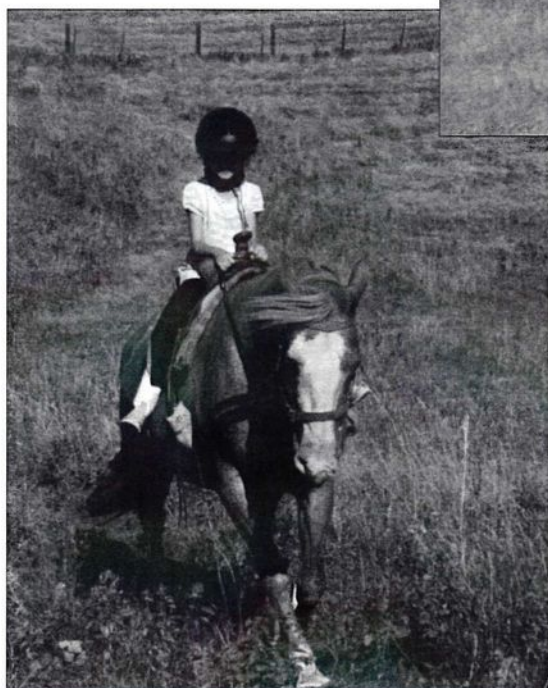
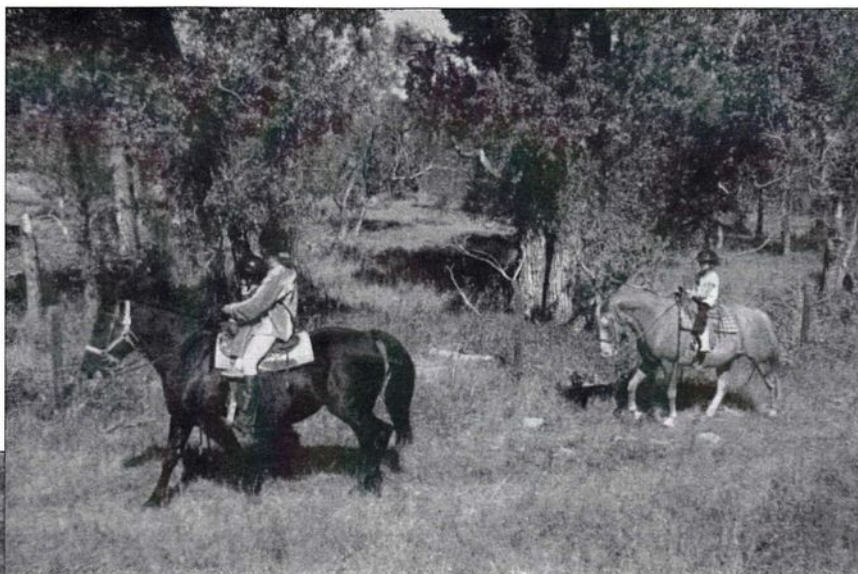
I think it's time for "truth in advertising". If we are pleasure horse people, let's use logos that truly show a pleasure Walker. Let's use TWH images that teach the public how our natural Tennessee Walkers move, the relaxed, gliding, long walking pleasure horses that most of us in Canada appreciate and aspire to ride and raise. A logo that represents the pleasure TWH won't be stepping too high, striding too deep or carrying a set tail. When the front leg is above horizontal, that's man made. When the hind foot appears to merge with the diagonal front foot, that's far too much stride for a plain shod mature horse. And a set tail looks quite different from the arched tail carriage of a "feeling good" horse on a windy day!



Walkers are great horses naturally. We don't need to ride on the coattails of the show horse people and exaggerate our pleasure horses' stride and action to win converts to the breed. Let's use logos that show naturally moving TWH - and advertise them with pride.



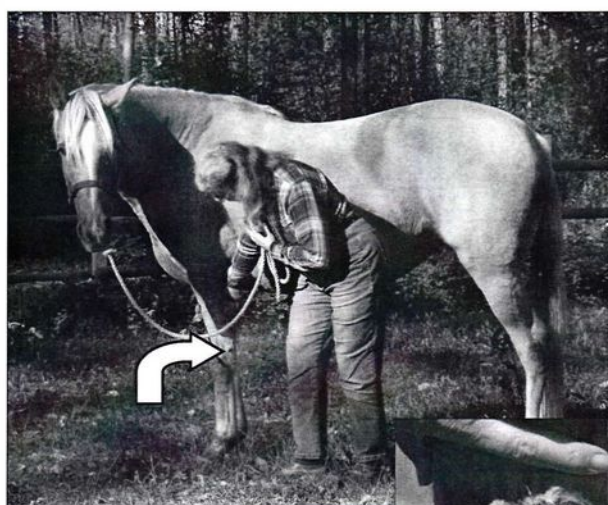
What Do YOU Do With Your Walkers ?



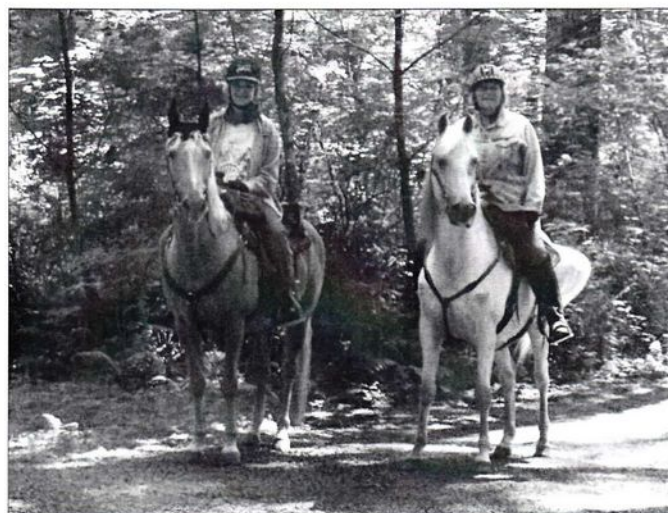
Left: Christine Kobza writes, "2011 was Erika's first year for riding out on her own horse, my dear Sun's Blue Eyed Mystery. Mystery's extra energy going up the hill caught her by surprise, resulting in a big grin."

Above, "Daniel and I doubled on Major's Esperanza. John was behind the camera on Major's Mys'y Baby on this particular day."

Below: Natalie Speckmaier of Vancouver, BC and her TWH Trigger (Uphill Dusty Gold) on the left, and Debbie Smith of Maple Ridge, BC and her Peruvian, Platino, enjoy their ride at Allco Park, in the campground... for horses!



Above: I (Marjorie) spent a lot of time with Veronica & her sarcoid, (above & right). Story next issue.



Send your photos to

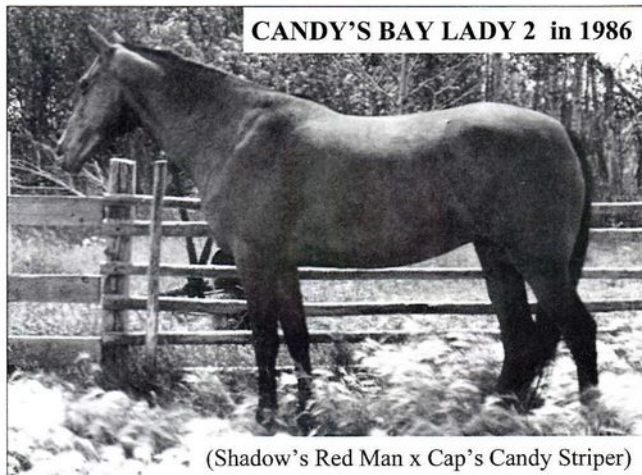
What Do You Do...

WHN, Box 7326, Edson, AB T7E 1V5

Or (as a small jpg file) to whn@telus.net

DIARY OF MY FIRST SEASON WITH A TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

By J.M. Kingsland



CANDY'S BAY LADY 2 in 1986

(Shadow's Red Man x Cap's Candy Striper)

JULY 1983: Purchased 6 year old mare with April filly at side. Seller's description: "Well-broke – kids can ride her. Never has carried a bit though."

FALL, 1983: Late weaning, got in a few short trail rides using a western saddle and hackamore – the way she was used to being ridden.

MY OWN APPRAISAL: Heavy on the forehead, tendency to overbend at the poll, no response to leg aids. Flatfoot walk seemed to be extraordinary (after riding hunters in England) – ground covering gait and a pleasure to ride. I had never before ENJOYED riding at a walk – this experience was something new. Encouraged to go faster, she seems to go into a trot, and yet it was hard to post to it and not uncomfortable to sit down and ride "glued" to the saddle. However, this was not the "GLIDE-RIDE" I had heard about. We tried a canter – she was willing enough but we had a 4-beat rhythm. Doubt started creeping in – maybe she was a poorly gaited Walking Horse; but – a horse that has been ridden for 4 years, often by untrained riders and always in a hackamore, could well have developed bad habits and just got careless. Plans made to start training her in English tack in spring. She was, an excellent trail horse, enjoyed being ridden, willing to tackle any country – banks, thick bush, water, you name it, traffic and dog proof, but wary of our pigs in the field.

FEBRUARY, 1984: Started lungeing – very stiff on one side to the extent of almost falling down on a circle to the right. Introduced snaffle bit and English saddle – fighting bit, throwing tongue over bit, tense back muscles.

COMMENTS: This didn't look like a "well-broke" horse. Decided to back up 4 years and start at the very beginning. Lungeing sessions were confined to a walk until she learned to balance and give to the circle. The bit was changed to one with a copper mouthpiece and a dropped noseband added. The saddle and girth was double checked for correct fit and placement. She was made to wear the basic bridle continuously for a while, forcing her to eat and drink over the bit.

MARCH 1984: Dr. Whitaker's Clinic: acted like a green horse in her English tack. Highly rated for her way of going, I was advised to work on her conditioning program – especially strengthening of hindquarters. Started serious conditioning program, through muddy fields, up and down hills, using western and English saddles alternately. Still throwing tongue over bit sometimes, some days she had a tense back, other days relaxed. When relaxed, and after a 5 mile ride, she could do a running walk for very short periods IF on level ground and only when headed towards home! For the next two months we did 4 to 5 mile rides, 6 days a week, always walking or trying a running walk. Now using English saddle all the time. If she tried to TROT she was stopped.

MAY 1984: Tried a canter – good 3 beat, and didn't hot up. Best of all she relaxed well after a short canter – was obviously feeling good and getting a lot stronger.

JUNE 1984: Started joining in Pony Club activities: "trotting" over poles on the ground (never mind the gait), escorting the kids on their cross-country practise (they jumped, we watched), and some arena work – suppling dressage exercises. Could now be guided by leg aids only, in serpentines and circles, and balance improving all the time.

JULY 1984: Pony Club Camp: (Instructors can bring their own horses and ride in the evenings under a B.H.S. Instructor). Finally achieved a running walk to order – for one complete circuit of the dressage ring. Introduced her to side-pass and more poles and low cavalletti. She just loved it! All work so far had been done barefoot; now I had plain trail shoes put on. Gained confidence noticeable on the trail rides, but didn't change her way of going in any way at all. She was now (flatfoot) walking faster than any other horse in the neighbourhood. Started two weeks serious training, trailered her to local arena every other day for dressage work, with cross country rides up to 7 miles on other days.

JULY 28 1984: Entered Gaited Horse Show for experience. Got very excited, forgot ALL her training, and only did the running walk when LEAVING the ring! Totally embarrassing!

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1984: Continued trail riding and Pony Clubbing – introduced more jumping. She could now complete a 5 jump course at 2 feet, smoothly and clean, but would try to run out at the last part of a triple combination.

OCTOBER 1984: Attended Part I of a Dressage Clinic under B.H.S. Instructor. Worked on

- 1) Maintaining a running walk, now doing several circuits.
- 2) Obtaining correct canter lead; left lead had always been hard to get using diagonal aids. Achieved a beautiful, collected – real Rocking Chair – canter.

Part II of this clinic was SNOWED OUT – End of season.

CONCLUSION: My experience with Candy has shown me that, given adequate conditioning, a relaxed and well-balanced Tennessee Walker is a truly versatile horse, with an added bonus of being a smooth ride. Candy had inherited the Running walk; she had simply forgotten it.

Jo's article, above, is reprinted from the Nov/Dec 1985 WHN. It is an excellent illustration of the fact that, much as we may wish that Walkers were "born broke" and don't need any training to run walk under saddle like pros, they DO need conditioning and training to reach their potential. This was one partnership that just became stronger over the years. Candy had all the talent required, and Jo had the riding skills and patience to develop her into a top notch horse.

CANDY'S BAY LADY 2

1977 - 2012

On August 4, 2012 Candy died so peacefully, in her sleep, lying in one of her favorite spots in the pasture. She was 35 years in May and still in good health. We had 29 years together as friends, companions and fellow adventurers.

Her story of those times was published in the December 2011 WHN issue.

She always talked to me when I went to feed them all [neigh-ne-ne-ne]. It's so quiet now...

Jo

BITS... OR NOT?

What's the best bit you can use on your horse?

A BIT OF KNOWLEDGE, OF COURSE...

Okay, But joking aside, what 'bit' *should* you choose to put in your horse's mouth to train and guide him? There are hundreds of different bits of every kind and design, most of metal, some of other materials. How do you decide what will work best for your horse?

An article in the September/October *Horse Canada* magazine is casting some doubt on whether we should be using *any bit at all*. Entitled 'Are Bits "Bronze Age" Technology', the article by Carley Sparks discusses the findings of Dr. Robert Cook, a Tufts University professor emeritus, who has been studying the horse's mouth, ear, nose and throat for nearly sixty years. Dr. Cook has concluded that all bits are impediments to the horse's performance, welfare and safety. If it weren't for all the work and study he has done on the subject, one might dismiss his opinions as far-fetched. But he is extremely serious about his findings and quite convincing.

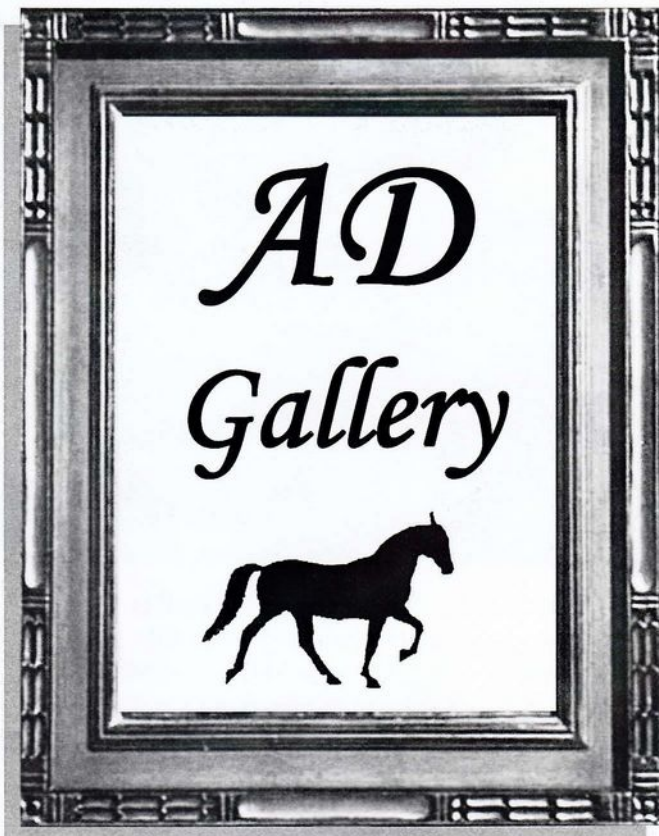
He is quoted as saying, "Prior to 1997 I might have listed 12 problems as 'aversions to the bit'. From research completed since then, I now list over 200 negative behaviors and 40 diseases."

We all know that bits can cause pain to the horse. Some bits are themselves very severe, and even so-called "mild" bits can be harsh in the hands of rough, thoughtless or unsteady riders. And the pain isn't only from metal on the tender flesh of the horse's mouth, but also from pressure on the teeth, tongue, bone of the jaw and on the sensory nerves of the face. Dr. Cook also feels that a bit in the mouth of a horse may impair its breathing, and thus restrict its movement. If a horse can't breathe freely it can't stride freely, something that any rider would want to avoid.

In a 2008 experiment at the Annual Conference of the Certified Horsemanship Association, Dr. Cook filmed four school horses wearing snaffle bits in a four minute dressage test. The same four horses were then filmed again doing the same tests but this time all were wearing the cross-under bitless bridle for the first time. They were ridden by CHA certified instructors and scored by an experienced, independent judge. The horses' average score with the snaffle bit was 37 percent. Their average score with the bitless bridle was 64 percent. With results like that, maybe it's time more of us tried out a bitless bridle!

Read the entire article with diagrams of the horse's head and of the cross-under bitless bridle in *Horse Canada*, Sept/October, 2012, pp 46 to 49.

It will certainly make you think. *MCL*



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CMEGO KALI'S WIZARD 2009-[CAN]3456 (Ebony's Big Easy X Coho's Calypso) born May 24, 2009. 15.1 hh. Well started. Two months training under Greg Czech last summer and has been continuously ridden since. Quiet, friendly, well-mannered black/white tobiano gelding. A pleasure to ride. UTD vaccine, dewormings, farrier.

CMEGO ACE OF DIAMONDS 2010-[CAN]3509 (Ebony's Big Easy X Coho's Calypso) born June 26, 2010. 14.1 hh at 19 months. Flashy black & white tobiano gelding. Ground work started. Good with farrier. UTD vaccine, dewormings, farrier.

GLORY TWH X QH (Ebony's Big Easy X Blaze) born June 12, 2009 14.2 hh. Well Started. One month training under Nicole Hirsekorn July 2011 and has been continuously ridden since. Quiet, friendly, well-mannered black/white tobiano filly. UTD vaccine, dewormings, farrier.

COHO'S CALYPSO 2004-[CAN]3113 (Thistledown Celtic Warrior x Walkien Fire Fly) born May 25, 2004.

15 hh. Chestnut. This mare has been to the Ya Ha Tinda, Blackfoot, Drayton Valley and numerous other trails so has been exposed to most trail situations. Has produced two very nice colts as well. UTD vaccines, dewormings, farrier.

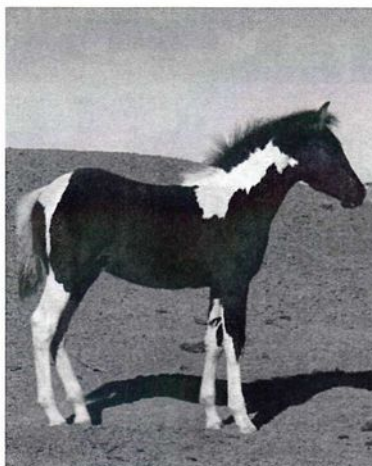
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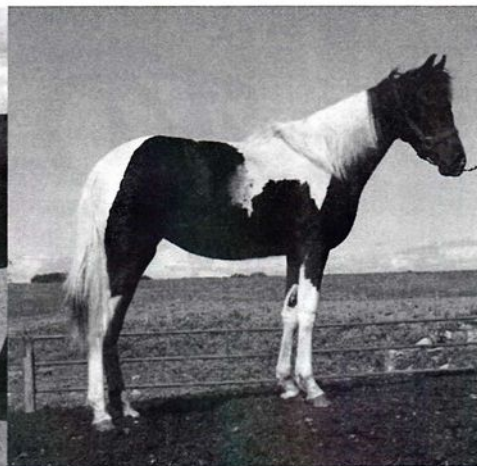
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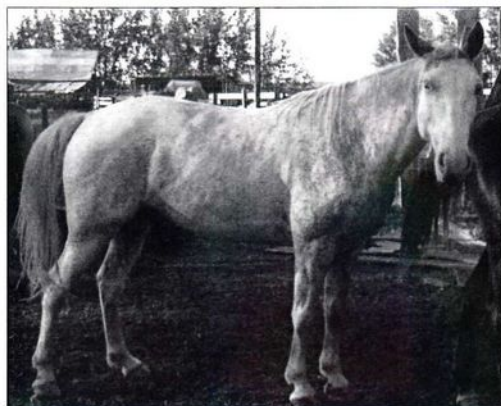
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GELDINGS:

NORTHFORK MORNIN RED CLOUD #3157 (Northfork Blue Chip x Northfork Successful Dollar). Sabino sorrel with blue eyes, approx. 15 hh. Foaled May 2005. *Photo left.*

TRAVELLER'S VELVET PATCH #3375 ((Northfork Top Traveller x Summer Velvet). Chestnut, approx. 14:3 hh. Foaled May 2007.

NORTHFORK TRAVELLING TOPAZ #3446 (Northfork Top Traveller x Northfork Sapphire) Sorrel. Approx. 14:3 hh. Foaled Ap/08.

The above geldings are halter trained and quiet. Training is on-going.

COLT: - NORTHFORK FLAIR FOR TRAVEL #3589

(Northfork Top Traveller x Shana's Cherokee Flair) Yearling chestnut, 14:2 hh and growing. Halter trained, quiet.

BROODMARE:

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Thank you!

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