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VOLUME XXXVII No. 5



Walking Horse

News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA SINCE 1977



Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE IN CANADA

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On Our Cover

This is the picture
that inspired the
“Through the Ears”
displays at Mane Event and
Spruce Meadows.
See pages 3 & 12.

Leslie Hunchuk,
Millarville, AB writes,
“This is west of the Mesa
Butte Equestrian
Campground in the
Millarville area.
overlooking

Three Point Creek Gorge
at the junction of
Wildhorse Trail,
Volcano Ridge Trail &
Three Point Creek Trail.

The ears belong to Trinity,
my 13 year old gelding.”

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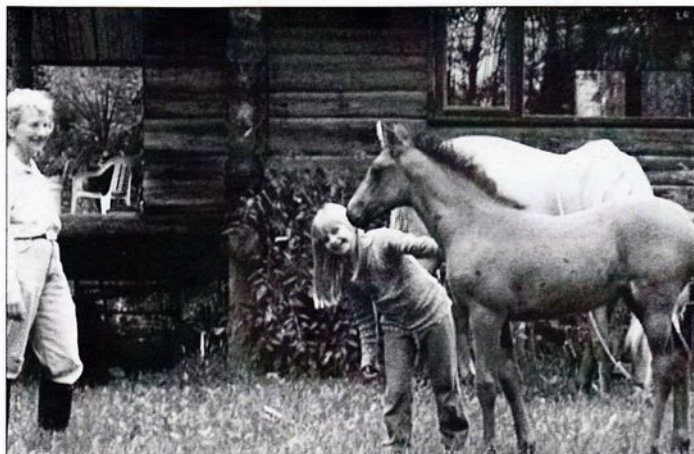
Where did the summer go? I can't believe that
next Sunday is the first day of fall - but there it is. After a
nearly hopeless mid-summer for haying, we suddenly got
unseasonably hot, dry weather at the end of August and
into September. Everyone with standing hay was out in
full force, so the feed situation doesn't look so bad now.

It is also time to ask you to consider advertising
on the 2014 covers. We sell these glossy full colour ads,
unchanged for a year, at very reasonable cost. They also
include an ad on the website, and a basic classified ad
that you can change each issue. If you take out a quarter
page cover ad, it will cost you only \$55 an issue - a real
bargain! See the ad form on the back page and reserve
your space right away.

This issue has thought-provoking articles, fun
pictures, stories and news for you. I also thought it would
be interesting to ask for your opinions on what *IS* a Ten-
nessee Walking Horse. (See page 7.) Let's hear your
thoughts and opinions. And of course we want your
news, ads, and stories for next time!

I appreciated your phone calls, e-mails, notes,
and cards expressing your sympathy when you read of
Charles' death. It was a comfort to hear from you, and
know that the *Walking Horse News* subscribers are more
than subscribers - we have become a community who
care about each other. My thanks to you all,

Marjorie



WHN makes a
great gift!

Walking Horse News

October, 2013

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

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IN THIS ISSUE – September/October, 2013

LIST OF CONTENTS

History and Heritage - 'Through the Ears' by D. Little.....	3
British Columbia News.....	4
Alberta News	5, 6
Readers Write	7
What IS A TWH? by Marjorie Lacy.....	7
MB, SK, ON News.....	8
Backyard Walkin' - Identity Crisis by Allanna Jackson....	9, 10
U.S. News.....	10
Writing-On-Stone Adventure by Bobbie Terry.....	11
What Did YOU See 'Through the Ears'?.....	12
The Canadian Walker.....	13
Gene Autry's 'Champion' by Grace Larson.....	14
New HSUS Program for TWH.....	15, 16
Pat & Blaze Win Gold! by Pat Twemlow Johansson.....	16
Book Review by Franne Brandon.....	17-18
Kootenay Plains Trail Ride by Bill Howes.....	19
Breeding Trotters to Pacers by Eldon Eadie.....	20,21
Gaited Horses - More on the Research.....	21
Ad Gallery on page.....	22
Classified ads.....	23
WHN Cover Ads, Coming Events, TWH Publications.....	24

ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Barefoot Treeless Saddles	Inside Front Cover
Calta Stables.....	22
Chrystal Star Ranch TWH.....	Inside Back Cover
CRTWH.....	13, Back Cover
Legacy Walkers - Shirley Wesslen.....	Inside Back Cover
McDonald Farms.....	22, Inside Front Cover
Starmyri Appaloosas.....	Inside Back Cover
Trinders Tennessee Walking Horses.....	Inside Back Cover
TWH Heritage Society.....	Inside Front Cover
V4 Stables - Valentinis	24
Woodhill Walkers.....	Inside Front Cover

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HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

“THROUGH THE EARS” - It All Began with One Picture... by Dianne Little

Three years ago Leslie Hunchuk forwarded a picture to me for consideration for our Tennessee Walking Horse Booth at the Spruce Meadows Masters. For a number of years, the focus of the booth, both at Spruce Meadows and The Mane Event, had been “the reason most people purchase and love the TWH – their proficiency at a variety of tasks outside the show ring”. In addition to pleasure riding, we’d included pictures of TWH on the trail, in gymkhana, packing in the mountains, working with cattle, driving, competitive trail and endurance.

This picture was different - an exceptional view of the scenery, but clearly showing the landscape from the perspective of the horse – through his ears. There have been many pictures that included the tips of the horses’ ears, but for some reason this picture resonated with me. The resolution of the picture was high enough that it could be made into a poster to be used as a promotional piece with either of these titles “The World of the TWH” or “Through the Ears of the TWH”.

The picture was hung at the 2010 Spruce Meadows TWH booth and attracted attention. The more attention it received, the more apparent it became that the concept resonated with other people too. We realized that “Through the Ears” pictures depicted a different way of showing what you could do and where you could go on a TWH, and so it became a possible theme for future promotion.

We reached out to the TWH community in Canada and asked for pictures taken through the ears of your horse – show what your horse sees but the ears must be in the picture. The concept struck a chord and we received many picture including mountain scenery, a group of elk, a swimming pool, just to name a few. Each picture was unique and clearly depicted the abilities of the TWH.

At the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse booth at the 2011 Mane Event, every picture in the 10 by 6 foot backdrop was “Through the Ears”. The concept was extended in 2013 to include video taken “Through the Ears”. This video not only depicted what the horse saw,

but the ground covering ability and the smooth ride of the TWH. In effect, the video was one of virtual reality, where one could experience the ride without being in the saddle. This addition to the booth was well received - as who can resist the smooth ride?

In 2012, the Alberta Walking Horse Association and the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse joined resources to promote the TWH. The promotional booth at Spruce Meadows that year depicted the Through the Ears theme.

Unfortunately, change is inevitable. After 28 years, both the breed booths and demonstrations have been dropped from the Spruce Meadows venue. The TWH was represented by the Alberta Walking Horse Association, Easy Riders and the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse throughout those 28 years. It is perhaps fitting that the last year of representation was inspired by a single picture - Through the Ears of the TWH, as shown on the cover. The focus was clearly from the perspective of the horse. We were fortunate that so many others provided the photographic evidence of our wonderful breed of choice.



*Here's Trinity again, checking the map.
Which trail should we take next?*

NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

TERRY KINCH, ERRINGTON, "I saw the tag on my June issue the other day and thought, "I should check and see if I have sent a cheque already", then got sidetracked and forgot. Please add my name to the list and as soon as I send this email to you I will go and write a cheque and mail to you tomorrow. I know it is extra work for you to keep reminding people!"

"Have to tell you, it has been really hot (for us) lately, and after the rainy June we had, we are enjoying it. The first cut hay is really coarse and stemmy; it took so long to get a stretch of five days of decent weather. We are hoping to get some nice second cut. In the meantime we ran out of last year's hay and had to scrounge around with friends to keep us going. Then, wonder of wonders, a neighbor down the road asked if we could bring our horses down to graze on his five acres of pasture. (He no longer has horses on it and was worried about the possibility of dry standing hay being a fire hazard). Well, we were down in a flash! We put up temporary fencing to keep them out of possible danger areas, and they have been enjoying themselves down there daily, getting fat and sassy. Thank goodness for good neighbors."

From GENEVIEVE AMY, LONE BUTTE, "Wendy-Lou Harding of Williams Lake now has Boomer (Dark Tom's Strutter). Would you please send her a complimentary copy of the magazine? If you have a back issue of the one in which I told Boomer's story, that would be great, too. She loves old Boomer. He now has 40 acres to roam in, and has taken her grandchildren for some rides this summer.

RALPH LIVINGSTON, KELOWNA, "Just finished reading the latest *Walking Horse News!* Summer has been warm here, and I've been tuning up a Walker for a friend. Now I'm about to start with five TB babies; they start them so young. They are a high strung bunch, so it's very rewarding getting them to settle down a bit."

"Our "Big Horse"- last year's Queen's Plate winner - got colic and had to be put down. We were all very saddened. It was "the chance of a lifetime in a lifetime of chance" to be part of his story. But I think I prefer having a long-term relationship with my good ol' TWH, "Hank". I've owned him since he was 5 and he is 13 now."



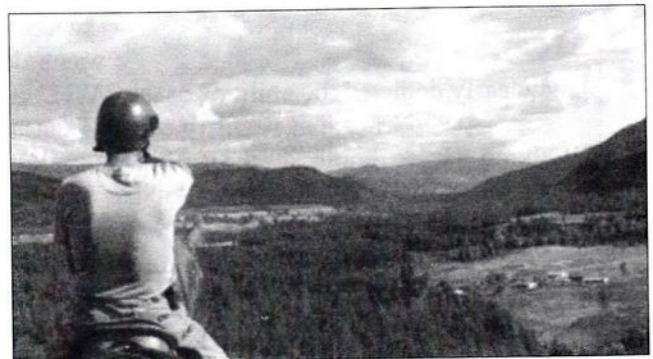
JO - ANNE McDONALD, P O U C E CO U P E , "Royal Reward Kit, a 3 year old chestnut gelding (Sunny's Greatest Glory x Shaker's Kitty McD) above,

has been sold to Rick Giesbrecht of Cecil Lake, B.C. I am sure Rick and Kit will have many happy trails together. Please send Rick a gift subscription with our compliments."

"We also have another foal here - to our surprise. Keltie finally foaled today. We went to town this morning and she was foaling when we returned. The foal was born at 12 months, one week gestation! Baby and Mom are doing fine. I'd given up - I thought Keltie wasn't in foal at all! The filly is a silver dapple sabino like her daddy, Sure Silver."

From FAY ZILKOWSKY, 100 MILE HOUSE, "I haven't done a lot with my horses this year. We took two of them to Empire Valley for a week, then to Fishtrap Camp and Rendezvous in Barriere. The grandkids rode them while they were visiting. Next we will go to the Empire Valley for another week at the end of September. Other than that, all we do is try to keep the flies off them!"

From SUSAN LELLMAN, GRINDROD, "We've moved to Falkland. There's crown land on two sides and all the riding we could ever want, right off our door step. The horses all have bigger pastures with shelters and a bigger barn. Bill and the grandsons are riding most every day. Bran took the picture, below, of Bill and Ben above our new place."



ALBERTA NEWS



CHARIS COOPER, TURNER VALLEY, writes, "We were high and dry during the great flood, but lower Turner Valley and Black Diamond were not so lucky. Things are much better now but there's still a lot of cleaning up to do."

"Lissa Townsend and I went in the Black Diamond Parade on June 4, on a beautiful day before the flood. Then we went in the Longview Parade in July after the flood and had another beautiful day. I was riding Peppi and Lissa was on Apollo, *above*. I've not been trail riding in Kananaskis Country as the trails are terrible, but I ride most days here, checking cows and fences. So Peppi and Trinkette stay in shape. Well, this IS next year country."

From SHEILA RODNEY, PONOKA, "I'm still riding my Walker gelding, Karla's Braveheart. What a sweet horse. Mom and my friends are riding Peruvians. You can get to the YaHaTinda but the road is rough. We stayed at Eagle Lake. The river is down and it's still nice riding up there."

"I took Snip's baby, Pearl, to a trainer in Sundre. Pearl is one quarter Peruvian, three quarters TWH, and registered American Spotted Horse. She's a very nice filly. I need to find a good home for her."

From MADELEINE CHAPMAN, STETTLER, "I am enclosing my cheque for a two year renewal. I hope you continue the good work with *WHN*. I'm afraid Kijiji has given lots of competition – I see lots of horses listed there. I'm sure all the papers and magazines are suffering for that reason."

"On another note, I am doing well. I have only three horses but have done a little trail riding. I went to the YaHaTinda in July and really enjoyed that. I hope to go again next year. My mare behaved very well for a "Prairie Girl"!

From ELAINE LIPKA, ECKVILLE, "What am I doing with my horses these days? Not very much! Of course, they eat hay and grass wonderfully well. My knees and balance are bad, so I feel too clumsy and slow, and also undereducated to work with my three year old gelding. I have asked my farrier to train him. I am hoping to get back to geldings after the "runaway locomotive ride" I experienced two years ago on the Cancer ride at Innisfail. That was one super fast running walk, passing everyone on the trail, with intermittent abrupt stops, stalls and whirls, until we arrived back at the trailer. There she became the same quiet horse she always is. We didn't have any of her pasture mates along of course."

"My faithful old mare is 27 years old and foundered, but still mobile enough to pony "Miss Runaway" with my six and seven year old granddaughters up. My nine year old granddaughter rides the 23 year old mare, doing quite well."

"Then there is the other mare, the 21 year old, who has been very evasive and unfriendly. I could tell that her shoulder was "ouchy", so only put children on her and ponied her. On a recommendation from the farrier I called a gal who had worked for a veterinarian several years ago and currently has worked on some horses with success. She checked the horse, popped a vertebra in the neck back in place, worked on the sore shoulder and exercised with rope slings. Within an hour this mare became pleasant and approachable, and now comes for loving like the rest of the herd. So please, riders and handlers, do not be quick to punish a horse for misbehaving. Consider if anything could be making it uncomfortable, sore or afraid, and realize that YOU could have caused the problem – perhaps with ill fitting tack, for example."

"I am hoping to enter the poker rallies in September, if I can round up some buddies whose dates are compatible. So Happy Trails to everyone!"

ELDON EADIE, TURNER VALLEY, wrote, "You may have heard that Bob Lamport passed away in August. He was a great friend of mine."

I am very sorry to hear it. Bob and Edna Lamport of Vermillion, AB owned one of the early TWH stallions in Alberta, a sorrel sabino named Prince Radar. Lamports bought him from Ethna Friesen, Montana, as a two-year-old, I believe. Radar, US #602068, Canadian #37, was by Snow Prince Allen x Chilowee No II. His dam was line-bred to Silvertip-Rickey; his sire was by King Longstep Allen out of Roan Merrie Maid. Radar is the maternal grandsire of the first Gold Award Stallion in the Canadian Registry's PFE, Uphill Heir Trigger.



ALBERTA NEWS

BRENDA BAKER, CALGARY, writes, "Above is a picture of Only the Lonely, (Kit's Royal Pride x She's Got the Rhythm Dec), and Chic Magnet, (Kit's Royal Pride x Chicklette) with their owner, Barb Sheperd near Toronto. Barb bought Only the Lonely (Archer) about a year and a half ago, but soon realized she couldn't just have *one* TWH. When I told her that Chic Magnet (Kit) was for sale, she jumped at the chance to own him. After being separated for almost five years, the two half brothers knew each other on sight. Barb tells me that their reunion was quite moving with all the nuzzling and whickering."

"Barb rides Archer and her friend Allana rides Kit on trail rides. Barb says that the two horses are very different in movement. Archer goes, "like a rocket" and Kit takes his time, making her think a bit more about what his feet are doing. Sounds to me that they are their mommas' children alright."

"Below is a picture of our German Shepherd, Kate, meeting an hours old black colt by Toddy's Royal Bonanza and out of Starlette. This dog greets all the horses with a long lick from the nostril to the



eye. It got started about 18 months ago when she was wearing a cone after being spayed and the horses were investigating what looked like a bucket on a dog's body!"

KIM PIELAK, NITON JUNCTION, writes, "We are doing well here. Love the colors that fall brings. Been riding like crazy. Got some real good rides on some of my young horses. Haven't been able to get as many rides on my Walkers as I would like. I have been starting young horses for other people this year. But my friends that come over for some trail riding have been enjoying riding my Walkers. They are the type of horse you can put anyone on and don't have to worry what kind of a rider they are."

From KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, "My stallion, Hustler, is learning to lie down on command. He was pretty relaxed once he was down. While I was teaching him this, Alanza, the two year old filly, taught herself to climb up on the flat deck trailer I had in the yard at the time. She did it all on her own the first time, and the second time she got up on it when she saw me up on the platform. They are both showing good potential for joining the circus!"

LUIGI VALENTINI 1929 - 2013



JULIE VALENTINI, V4 STABLES, EN-TWISTLE phoned. She said, "It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Luigi passed away on September 1. He was very fond of his Tennessee Walking Horses. We've owned, raised and trained them for 40 years. Riding his Walkers in the mountains was Luigi's greatest pleasure."

READERS WRITE

LISA LAMBERT, PERRYVALE, AB writes: "I found the AI topic in the last magazine interesting, Last May I took a course that was held in Drayton Valley. This course was on Breeding. I didn't take all the ones offered but among them were Embryo Transplants, Ultra Sound Follicles and Embryos, Frozen and Cooled Semen, AI and Uterine Flush."

"Of these courses I took Ultra Sound, Cooled Semen, AI, and Uterine flush. After the course I came home and bought an ultra sound machine from ebay, and started ultra sounding some of my and my sister's mares. We were successful in breeding three of her mares via ultra sound. Unfortunately one foal was aborted, one mare had to be euthanized and one foaled successfully. This year I have started again, though I wanted to wait a bit later this year, and so far I have Ultra's Violet Velvet in foal to Watch Out Jose', and SCW Beam on Ice in foal to Generators Got Color. I am waiting for my smoky black mare to come in heat and I will be breeding her to Im Dunbelievable. We also AI'd Blue For You to Watch Out Jose' but she has not yet been confirmed in foal. I have also bred Prides Jazzy Baybe Delight to Agoldn Mastropiece Edition, and Devil was bred to one of Nicole's mares. I am excited to see the foals of 2014!"

"I was also looking at Art's Synchrogait certificate (page 17, August WHN). He said that Eldon Eadie had suggested that you should ask for this certificate or don't breed to that stallion. It is my opinion that just because the horse has this certificate does not make him stallion material. I look at what a stallion has sired. With careful breeding you will get foals that are proven. The certificate doesn't automatically give you a nice moving horse. Select breeding has been proven for many, many years and I trust this far more than a piece of paper that says this horse can gait. He might gait but he might not cross well with my horse... just my opinion."

FRANNE BRANDON, PETERSBURG, TN wrote, "I only had three photos for the article about Amie Boyd Marks and the very first Celebration (page 18-19, August WHN). The one with the original Celebration board gentlemen standing around the rail at an early Celebration is really not that interesting. I sent that parade picture, and Mrs. Olive Carothers Diekroger had also mentioned the parade when I did a piece about her and Strolling Jim for the PWHAT News in 1985. It must have been a really big deal. Miss Amie said that she was also in the parade picture used in the article, but she was riding in front of her parents on her tobiano pony, and for some reason the photographer did not get her in the shot."

WHAT IS A TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE?

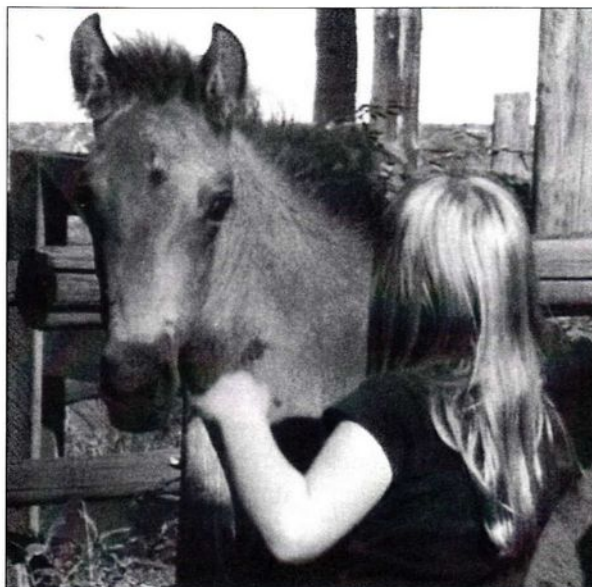
by Marjorie Lacy



Karla's TWH line up to greet her.

What IS a Tennessee Walking Horse? How do we define it as a breed? Do we go back to its origins and describe how it was developed and from which earlier strains it was derived? Or do we define it as "the world's greatest show horse". Do we say it is a certain "type" of horse with readily distinguishable conformation? Or do we define it by its middle gait - the running walk? And IS the running walk the signature gait of the breed nowadays?

In my opinion there are many characteristics that define a good TWH; you can't reduce it to a single trait. It must be able to do a running walk, not just any smooth saddling gait. It must also have strong, correct conformation that makes it easy for the horse to walk. It needs adequate bone to carry weight without breaking down. And to me, one of the most important characteristics of a good TWH is a calm, friendly disposition that makes it a pleasure to handle and use, and allows it to relax and walk. What do YOU think?



A six week old foal is curious about this small size human. My great-niece Robin meets the new filly at Uphill Farm.

ONTARIO NEWS



'FRED LLOYD-SMITH, VANESSA, writes, "Above is Black Mack's Ace, the colt (now a gelding) that we raised out of Hallelujah's Doll by Trackin On Heir. The photo was taken by Wendy Webb at the Parelli Natural Horsemanship clinic that I attended, showing the natural walk with good extension and head nod."

"In terms of news, with two kids (now teenagers), Bob and I are run off our feet... or maybe 'driven' is a better word. Amazing how much time we spend as taxis - the joys of being in the country."

"We have a total of six TWH and I finally bought two trotting horses to play with because of gait issues as I attempt to progress through my Natural Horsemanship studies. Part of my frustration/angst was brought on by injuring Queen's tendons trying to canter in my arena where the footing must have been too soft or too inconsistent. I have huge guilt about this even though it was obviously unintentional. She is mostly okay now, two years later, and I had the arena footing completely re-done, but I began to wonder about how much easier this might all be if I had a 3-gaited horse!"

"Bob has picked up two TWH that were begging for homes; one too hot for the green rider, the other with some pretty significant issues with the bit and moving in general. Amazing what some people buy or what they end up coming home with that is just so unsuitable for their needs and desires and then are stuck with a challenging horse. Sad. Bob continues to go to Field Trials where possible but again, family demands are pretty big right now."

"Still very much enjoying the *Walking Horse News* even if we remain in the background mostly, so many thanks for your efforts and articles."

'Fred sent some more photos that I'll use in future issues.

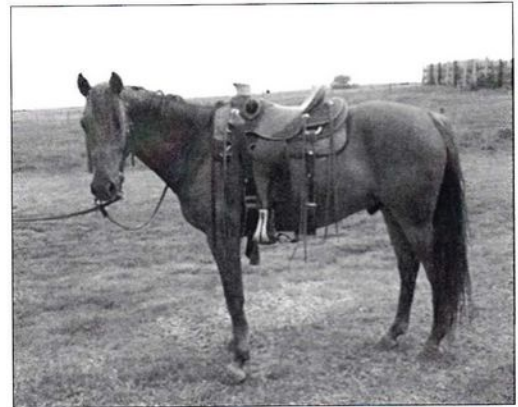
SASKATCHEWAN NEWS

NICOLE JAMIESON, CABRI, writes, "I want to thank *Walking Horse News* for helping me to sell my great horse, Tracker (aka Kodiak's Yogi Bear, below). Congratulations to Wally from the Red Deer, AB area - thanks for appreciating him! I know that Tracker has gone to a great home."

"I am now down to three Walkers. I have a half sister to Tracker and a couple of two year old Heritage bred Walkers that I brought up from Wisconsin. I am ground driving them both right now to prepare for the single cart. They are both under saddle and going good as well."

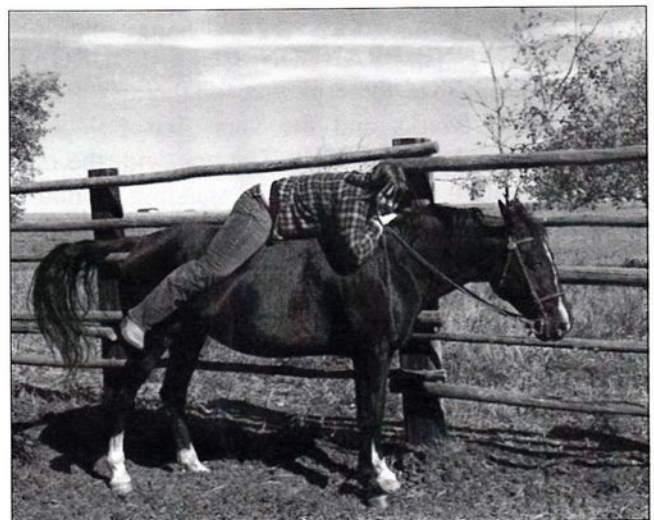
"I will be sending a cheque for renewing my subscription to *WHN*; thanks for your great work."

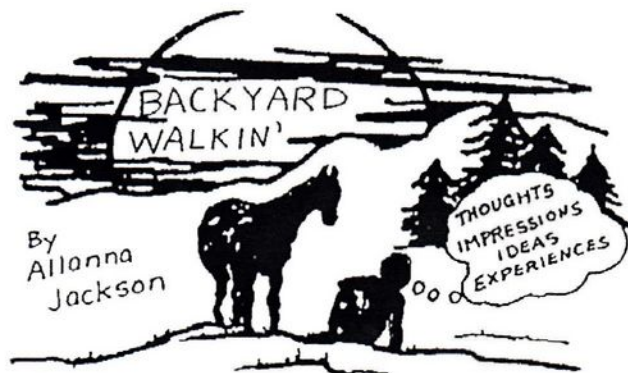
Here's Tracker, all tacked up and ready to go to work.



MANITOBA NEWS

KEITH DOLL, DOUGLAS, asked his step-daughter, Celine, to email me some photos of his horses. So below is a picture of Celine "taking a break" on Doll's Honeydew, the little black sabino Keith raised from Honey Boy's Rebel and China Doll. Looks like Honeydew is saying, "Now what??"





I IDENTITY CRISIS OF GAIT NAMES

By Allanna Lea Jackson © Sept 9, 2013

We all know that words have meaning. There are national and regional differences in vocabulary and the meanings of some words even among places that speak the same language. The meanings of some words change over time. We invent and add new words to communicate about changes in technology and society. Some words fall out of use. The definitions and usage of English language names for the gaits of horses have changed significantly within the 140 year history of the Walking Horse. The gait name “amble” is found in historical records about easy-gaited horses. The term “amble” had fallen out of usage in North America, though the gait itself remains prevalent among easy-gaited horses. The research on the horse genome and the inheritance of gait has brought the term “amble” back into currency in the descriptive name of the genetic mutation that allows horses to do lateral gaits.

The third edition of the American Heritage Dictionary defines amble as: “2. *To move along at an easy gait by using both legs on one side alternately with both on the other, used of a horse. 1 An unhurried or leisurely walk.*”

This indicates that the amble closely resembles the pace, which is defined as: “6. *A gait of a horse in which both feet on one side leave and return to the ground together.*”

At first glance these may look like synonyms. A more careful reading hints at the physical differences between amble and pace. Though both are defined as lateral movement the amble is slow and leisurely. The definition of amble leaves open the possibility of splitting the set-down of lateral legs into a 4-beat gait. The terms stepping pace and broken pace can be considered synonyms for amble, though the emphasis on slowness suggests amble is a timing variant of the flat-foot walk rather than an

intermediate gait. The definition of pace makes it a two-beat lateral gait.

Rack is the third gait name used in the descriptive name of the lateral gait genetic mutation in horses. American Heritage Dictionary defines “rack” as: “A fast, flashy four-beat gait of a horse in which each hoof touches the ground separately and at equal intervals.” This dictionary defines “Singlefoot” as a synonym for “rack”.

What does all this have to do with the running walk? In the book *Biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse*, Ben A. Green quotes his sources as saying, “Bald Stockings was the first horse in history to call attention to the running walk.” Bald Stockings was sired by Tom Hal, a Canadian Pacer. His dam is unnamed, but her sire is listed as Isaac Johnson’s Copperbottom. The Copperbottoms were another family of Canadian Pacers. Bald Stockings’ maternal grandmother was a daughter of a Thoroughbred named Tarquin.

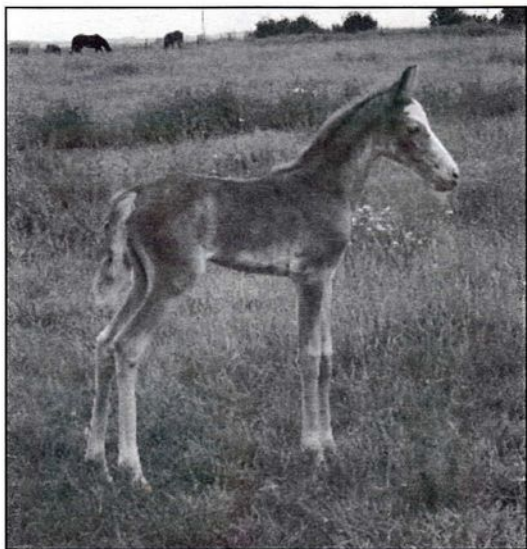
The terms “amble” and “pace” were used to describe the gaits of the Canadian Pacers, with amble being their saddle gait and pace being their racing gait. This same gait behavior was transmitted to the Tennessee Pacers that were developed from crossing the Canadian Pacers with Thoroughbreds. When Bald Stockings was bred, amble and pace were the easy gaits everyone was used to seeing and riding. His pedigree reads the same as many other Pacers, yet something about the gait that Bald Stockings inherited was so distinctive it attracted attention and acquired its own name: running walk.

It was this distinctive running walk, not amble, pace or rack, that prompted breeders to develop the Walking Horse as a distinct breed and establish a registry in 1935, but the running walk name soon lost its distinctiveness. In the mid 1940’s Midnight Sun and Merry Go Boy were awarded World Grand Championships for show gaits that resembled the rack. In 1950-1953 rewarding The Talk of The Town for an extreme overstride started the ongoing quest for the big back end, despite the fact that it was known in the 1920’s that maximum overstride equals pace. The stepping pace was re-named running walk. The development of the big-lick during the 1950’s, with its quest to extend and speed up the running walk resulted in applying the running walk name to a long striding rack. Yet the distinctive running walk gait that Bald Stockings inherited persisted.

(Continued on next page)

Applying the running walk name to amble, stepping pace, and rack in addition to running walk has created a great deal of confusion and controversy not only within the TWH breed, but in other easy-gaited breeds as well. Numerous efforts to define the various easy gaits have yielded multiple competing and conflicting definitions. We still do not have standardized definitions of the easy gaits. Each easy-gaited breed organization has its own definitions that are the standard only within the scope of the activities of that particular organization. This inconsistency in the use of gait names is an obstacle to identifying the genetics of the running walk, or any other easy four-beat gait.

Scientists who have been studying equine movement have developed objective standards for differentiating among 4-beat gaits, but given the current state of confusion about which gait name applies to which gait, we can be certain that somebody will object to whatever definition the geneticists apply to every gait name. The solution to this dilemma is to side-step the gait names. Scientists can classify gaits based on standardized definitions of objectively measurable physical differences between them and assign each one a unique alpha-numeric identification code that has no connection with the common gait names. Research into the genetic differences between gaits and development of genetic tests for these differences can continue unhindered by the confusion of gait names. The labs selling DNA gait-testing services could then provide the standardized scientific definition and code for each test they offer. It would be the responsibility of the individuals and organizations who used the testing services to decide for themselves whether gait QHX323, or whatever the genetic designation might be, is the gait they want.



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Farms,
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News,
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NEWS from our US SUBSCRIBERS

DAVID HARLEY, BAKER, NV writes, "I look forward to receiving the *WHN* with its articles and photos - as a relatively new subscriber I relish hearing about natural horse care and training. My wife and I purchased a TWH and MFT last December as we planned to move to a ranch in eastern NV, completing our move in late May."

"Both of us proceeded to have accidents and health issues that have prevented our training and riding, though I hope to get up on these two this week as I'm nearly recovered from surgery. We enjoy spending time with them anyway! We have a grandson and his girlfriend training them now so that they will be ready for us, as at our ages (72 and 70), we don't want to meet the ground unexpectedly. I hope to send you some photos later. We have a Parelli training planned for later this month. I will be sending under separate cover a check for another year of the *WHN*. Many thanks for your dedication to the Tennessee Walking Horse in all of its glory."

From ALLANNA JACKSON, LAKESIDE, AZ, "The library finally got the book Little Horse of Iron by Lawrence Scanlan on Friday, so I picked it up and read it in two days. I did enjoy it! Quite interesting that the question TWH historians couldn't answer in Biography of the TWH about the origins of Kittrell's Tom Hal are evidently quite clear in Canadian Horse records. Little Horse of Iron plainly states Kittrell's Tom Hal was a Canadian Pacer exported to the USA."

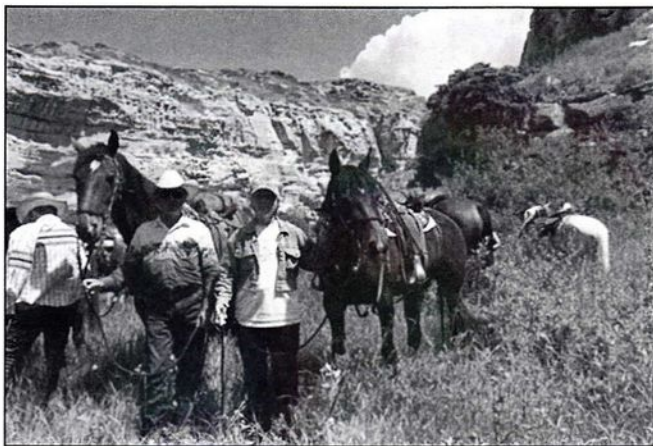
"The description of the 1907 standard for Canadian Horses sounds like maybe my Cinnamon's conformation and temperament show the Canadian Horse genetic influence on the TWH."

"Lawrence Scanlan mentioned the Canadian Pacers in his discussions of the history of the Canadian Horse, but doesn't say anything about whether gaitedness still exists in the Canadian gene pool or not. I'd think somebody that's interested in preserving the historical type of the breed would want to recover the Canadian Pacer, but no mention of that in the book. Testing Canadian Horses for the Synchronait gene might be worthwhile if someone were pursuing that objective."

GRACE LARSON, FORSYTH, MT writes, "I go to the Mayo Clinic again on Oct. 31st. This will be my 7th trip and I hope my last.."

"It is becoming more fall-like every day now. Yellowstone Park had snow yesterday. Our mornings are cool and the horses are growing longer coats. We had Fawn trimmed yesterday. Our farrier is moving to Wickenburg, AZ for the winter but he will trim Fawn again before he leaves."

WRITING-ON-STONE ADVENTURE



by Bobbie Terry, Bassano, Alberta

Just a few lines to brag about our two precious TWH! I signed us up for a two day trail ride last Saturday and Sunday. It was organized by Sagebrush Trail Rides of Medicine Hat, AB and Writing on Stone area. Mel and I are back, feeling like survivors and nursing our aches and pains. We are seriously in awe of our horses - the abusive trails they have just endured and carried us through. Don, Jo-Anne, I am not kidding. The trails were maybe 18 inches wide... and down was 400 feet or more! Our guide made many new trails and just traversed the hillside. I have asked Earl Westergreen, the ride coordinator, to send me documentation that Count and Sham actually went over these terrible trails! We crossed the Milk River (belly deep and stirrup high) six (6) times, creeks 54 times (not an exaggeration) and a deep ditch (with water about 4 feet deep) six times. Count and Sham started the river with real high front feet - they looked like they were trying to climb over it, but adjusted their steps on the next trip across really good!

Those hills - up, down and traversed - were killers, with loose rock and silted prairie dirt. I gave Sham her head and completely trusted her and she never once let me down. She crawled those hills like a goat - I was nearly vertical many times. She never tried to jump a creek but would nose right at the surface and then step across. I always grabbed her mane to keep me from sliding back. I completely lost my saddle pads on the last leg of the second day trip and held them behind me until I got back to the trailer. Sham was spraddle-legged with a bare back and saddle, soaking wet with sweat and water from the river - and saying "get the rest of this stuff off me, please!" The saddle had slid over her shoulders on one down trip and I just had to hope it would slide back!

Mel had a very different trip. He tried going downhill, giving Count his head, but found he was doing the Man from Snowy River downhill run! Count is so sure footed! Sham always had a fit and spent most of her time trying to "ugly face" the horse behind her, so I tried to keep Count behind her. Count never bothered with anyone behind him, and in one instance had an extra rider on his ass. The guy's horse made a sudden stop at a creek crossing and the guy (Chris) kept going - right onto Count. Mel said that Count never budged! Everyone noticed our horses were different even without the running walk gait. I think we can call them broke now! They traveled well, did not seem upset with anything, and adapted really well with whatever (as long as they were together).

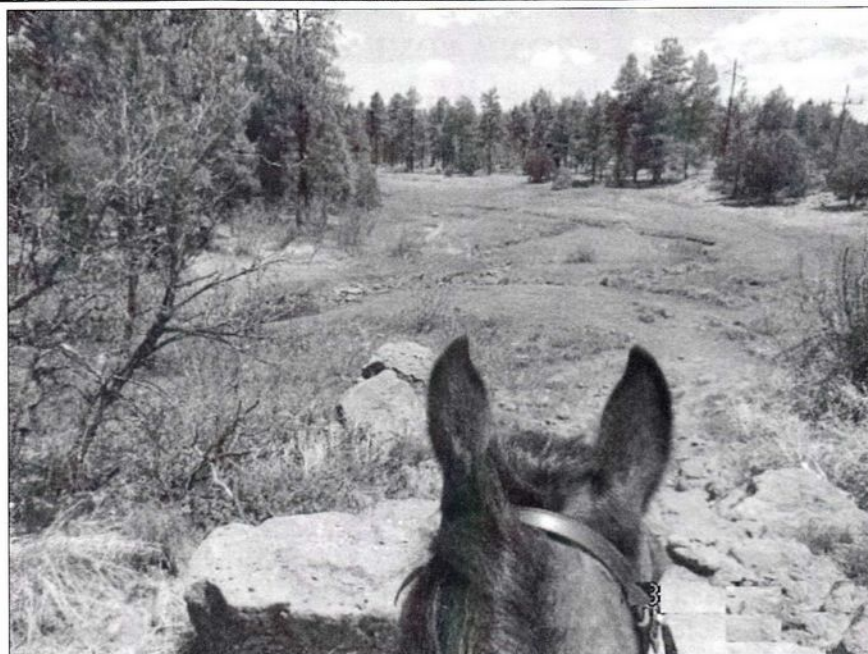
There were 53 riders to start and 51 on the second day. A couple on a pair of Morgans were in over their heads and got the shit scared out of them (like the rest of us), but each of them got dumped off their horses as well at different times. The guy's horse slipped in the first deep ditch with water and went head first into the bank on the other side - and off came the guy over the horse's shoulder. The woman got dumped after crossing the river just outside of camp and she walked the rest of the way, refusing to get back on her horse.

The problem was that once you started the ride, there was an early "point of no return" where you had to finish to get back home - there was nowhere to turn around! We all had to travel single file most of the time. All the horses made it but some not without incident. I took pictures without looking down several times (I did suffer vertigo a few times) and it was 38 degrees both days. I guess the area people do not have their rodeo until mid-August because it is too hot! I have to confess that I would not have taken this ride had I known what the trails were like. These two anyway. Four hours the first day and seven hours the second day and that was because the guide could not find gates at the top on the prairie or field and we had to cross another deep gorge to get to another fence - this happened a few times. We could actually see across to Montana and the U.S. border road. The gorges are like another world and I am glad we saw them, because you would never see what we saw unless you were on horseback on the trails.

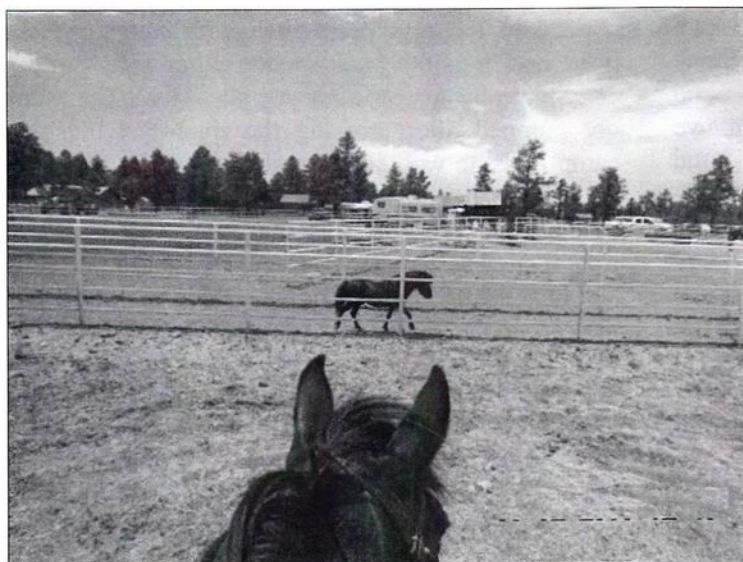
This ride was advertised in *Horses All* as Alberta's best kept secret! I would recommend the adventure... but with caution. And we're happy with our horses. (I bet you got that, huh?!)

'Sham' is Shamrock Shaker and 'Count' is Countin' Shakes, full siblings by Canadian Shaker, bred by McDonald Farms in BC.

What Did *YOU* See Through the Ears of Your Walker?

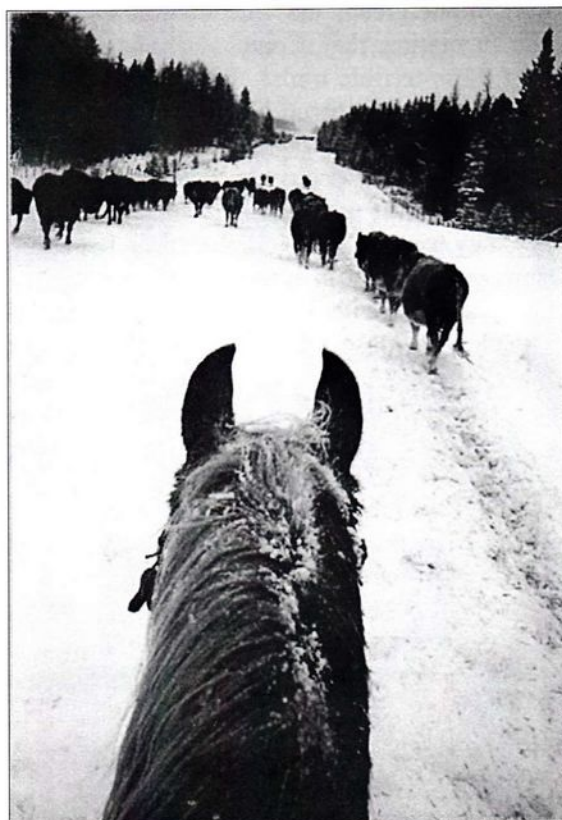


From a sunny trail ride in Arizona to a snowy cattle drive in Alberta, there's no limit to what you can experience "Through the Ears" of your Tennessee Walker. Above: Backyard Cinnamon & Allanna Jackson and below Northfork Sundancer & Jack Gurnett.



Above: Sometimes the horses themselves have adventures...

Cinnamon and I had an encounter with the riding stable's miniature stallion who decided to challenge Cinnamon and drive her out of his territory as if she were rival. He'd gotten out of the corral and was wandering around looking for trouble. Cinnamon spooked when this 8 hand horse marched up assertively as if he were as big as she was, so he tried to kick her with both hind heels. She got indignant at this rudeness, spun around and returned the double barrel kick. The two of them continued dueling while I tried to guide Cinnamon around the stallion. When I tried to herd him back toward his barn he ducked out the gate into the Forest instead so then I had to figure out how to use Cinnamon to herd him back to his side of the fence while he was still trying attack her. We got him back to his side of the fence and the gate closed with no real damage done to anybody. Cinnamon was remarkably calm and mellow after the stallion encounter and except for stealing mouthfuls of all the fresh greenery she could snatch, strolled along as if her last ride had been yesterday, not six weeks ago, before my surgery. *Allanna Jackson*





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ASK REGIE...

Dear Regie,

I am selling my gelding, who was registered as a colt. So of course his registration papers state that he is a stallion.

I really hate to pay just to have his gender changed on the papers, but I do think it's important for them to be accurate. Is there any way I can get out of paying but still have correct registration papers? *Signed,*

Cheapskate

Dear Cheapskate,

You are in luck! If you include a note to CLRC **at the time of transfer to a new owner**, stating that your colt has been gelded, the change will be done at that time at no charge. The papers are being re-issued anyway, so there is no additional handling involved.

You can maintain your good reputation for accurate registrations *and* save your money! *Signed,*

Regie

Our FaceBook Page

(www.facebook.com/crtwh)

has over 300 'likes'.

Join up with us on Face book if you haven't already.

See terrific pictures of our horses in the Stallion Albums, our 2013 Foal Book, the many Timeline Photos, and other fun albums.

And did you know about the CRTWH Sales Album?

Do you have a CRTWH Walker for sale?

Are you a CRTWH member?

If so, there's a Sales Album just for you!

CRTWH has created a special spot to list horses for sale on the facebook site.

Email Director Sue Gamble at

sgamble70@gmail.com

to request a form, then send her the completed form and the very best photo you

have to make your horse available to anyone in the facebook world. It's free!

Another benefit of CRTWH membership.

GENE AUTRY'S CHAMPIONS

by Grace Larson

(Excerpted from her 1999 article in WHN)

The very first, original "Champion" that Gene Autry used in movies, beginning in 1934 until after World War II in the '40's, was a half Morgan/half Quarter Horse sorrel with three stockings and a blaze. According to Jay Berry, horse manager and trainer for Gene Autry from 1939 to 1962, the first "Champion", also known as Tony, was probably purchased from horse trainer, John Agee, who worked with Tom Mix and for Gene Autry.

The next "Champion", a registered Tennessee Walking Horse named Stonewall Allen TWHBAA #360159, was purchased in about 1937 as a three year old from Grainger Williams who owned a loose-leaf notebook company. Stonewall Allen, a chestnut with four stockings and a blaze, was trained by John Agee. Stonewall Allen became the famous "Champion" that performed over twenty tricks at liberty on stage while on tour with Gene Autry and Jay Berry. Mr. Berry traveled over 8000 miles with Stonewall Allen while on tour to all the major cities in the U.S., and to England and Cuba.

Stonewall Allen was never in any movies; he was only seen in personal appearances and photographs. Gene Autry did not want to chance him being injured filming movies. His beauty and gentle, dependable disposition made him a real crowd pleaser, performing live on stage before an audience.

Stonewall Allen, "Champion", often performed tricks with a small, perfect little horse called "Little Champ", a Spanish Galiceno found in Van Nuys, CA and purchased from Fess Reynolds, a clown, as recalled by Jay Berry. "Little Champ" looked like "Champion" with his chestnut color, four stockings and blaze.

There were several "Champion Jr's", most with Morgan, Quarter Horse, or some Arabian blood that were featured in movies, but no Tennessee Walkers. For example, the horse starring in "The Strawberry Roan" movie was a half Arabian and half plain horse called "Boots".

Other Tennessee Walkers that Gene Autry owned on record at the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association were:

Stonewall's Storm # 390455 by Stonewall Allen.

Lady Byrd Donald # 390495 by Big Tom.

Jack's Captain #410927 by Best Chance

Christie Elaine #443298

*Red Cloud V #653075

Stonewall Allen died in his late twenties of peritonitis and was buried at Gene Autry's Melody Ranch by Jay Berry. The last "Champion Jr." that passed away at Melody Ranch in 1990, estimated to be over 40 years old, was half Morgan and half Quarter Horse.

Grace writes, "Judith Westall sent me the photos and information. Please list all the credits for the people who made this article possible. Acknowledgements and thanks to

Jerry Berry, Horse Manager, retired. Richmond, OR

Sharon Brandon, Sec'ty, TWHBEA

Pat Buttram, Movie Actor

Alex Gordon, Personal Sec'ty, Gene Autry Golden West Broadcasters

Alf Hill, President, Gene Autry International Fan Club, Bristol, England

Stanley Martin, Member, Gene Autry International Fan Club

*Red Cloud V #653075 was owned by Gene Autry, and bred by Calvin Miller of the Double Diamond Ranch, Rhame, N.D. Red Cloud V was sired by Liberace's Playboy. His dam, Col.'s Princess Pat, came from Grace Larson's mother's ranch in Montana. Col.'s Princess Pat was by Colonel D. out of Patty La Marr, both familiar names to Montana and Alberta TWH folks.

Does anyone have any more information about Red Cloud V #653075?

The photo below is titled "Gene and Champion at the Hermitage". You can see the black dot on the horse's nose, so this must be the same horse known as Lindy Champion. See Natalie Speckmaier's notes and photo in 'Reader's Write'. You can see the black dot in one of those photos too.



New Program Recognizes Humanely Trained Tennessee Walking Horses

With an eye toward a sound and versatile future for competitive Tennessee Walking Horses, The Humane Society of the United States announced the "**Now That's a Walking Horse!**" grant and recognition program. The HSUS and Marty Irby, immediate past president of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association, also called on Congress to pass the Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act, H.R. 1518/S.1406, to strengthen the existing federal law to end soring. These announcements were made at a press conference during the final days of the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.

The award program and support for the bill are part of The HSUS' ongoing commitment to end the practice of horse "soring," which is the deliberate infliction of pain to Tennessee Walking Horses' legs and hooves to force them to perform an artificially high-stepping gait that is rewarded at the Celebration. Individual awards up to \$500 and program grants up to \$1,000 are available to those who promote flat-shod registered Tennessee Walking Horses in venues other than traditional show ring rail classes. The program encourages improvement of horses' and riders' skills, recognizes participation and achievement in multi-breed events, and enables equipment purchases and rider sponsorships in therapeutic horsemanship programs and natural horsemanship clinics intended to introduce more walking horse enthusiasts to humane approaches to training.

(Canadians and Canadian Registered TWH are eligible to apply for these grants.)

Applicants for these grants must have no history of Horse Protection Act violations received from the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any of its certified horse industry inspection programs within the past five years in order to participate in this program. "We believe the Tennessee Walking Horse industry can realize a sound future by recognizing some of its new leaders: owners and riders who appreciate the versatility, temperament and athleticism of this magnificent breed," said Keith Dane, director of equine protection for The HSUS. "The PAST Act will be an integral part of this sound revolution - when every aspect of soring abuse is eradicated by this important federal legislation, the horses and their caring owners will truly be able to shine."

"I fully support the PAST Act and believe that our United States Senators and Congressmen can virtually eliminate the cruel practice of soring and utilizing pads and chains, which is nothing short of slavery, by passing this amendment," said Irby. "To compromise would not free the Tennessee Walking Horse from this bondage forever. I stand firm and strong

in my conviction, and I believe this is what it will take for the Tennessee Walking Horse to become the largest equine breed on Earth."

Although the federal Horse Protection Act was enacted in 1970, it has been difficult to enforce and persistently flouted by a small but determined faction of the horse industry - and as a result, soring has continued unabated. The PAST Act, sponsored in the House of Representatives by Reps. Ed Whitfield, R-Ky., and Steve Cohen, D-Tenn. and in the Senate by Sens. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., and Mark Warner, D-Va., will end the failed system of walking horse industry self-policing, ban the use of certain devices associated with soring, strengthen penalties, and hold accountable all those involved in this cruel practice. The measure has broad bipartisan support, with 140 co-sponsors in the House. The Senate bill was introduced just before the August recess.

Key reforms in the PAST Act:

Prohibits the use in the Tennessee Walking Horse, Racking horse and Spotted Saddle horse breeds of "action devices" - chains strapped to a horse's lower front legs, which agitate and strike the flesh already injured by caustic chemicals, causing the horse to lift his/her front legs higher off the ground in reaction to the pain.

Prohibits the use in the same three named breeds of "stacks" or "performance packages" - tall, heavy stacks of material nailed to a horse's hoof to lift his/her feet higher and strike the ground hard at an abnormal angle. The stacks are also often used to hide hard sharp objects inserted into the tender part of a horse's hoof to increase the pressure and pain, creating the desired gait.

Prohibits the actual soring of a horse for the purpose of showing or selling the horse, as well as the act of directing another to sore a horse for these purposes.

Strengthens penalties to establish a more meaningful deterrent. The current Horse Protection Act's misdemeanor criminal penalties would be raised to felony-level, providing up to three years' jail time for each violation, and potential fines would be doubled. A third violation could trigger permanent disqualification from participating in any horse show, exhibition, sale or auction.

Mandates that USDA, rather than industry organizations, assign licensed inspectors to horse shows when requested by show management - a reform that will create consistent, rigorous inspections and enforcement of penalties for violations.

Background: As part of its efforts to end the abuse of Tennessee Walking Horses and encourage humane and sound competition within the breed, The HSUS recently sponsored the World Versatility Show,

operated by the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association. In addition to offering this new incentive program to recognize those who promote their Tennessee Walking Horses humanely, The HSUS also offers a reward of up to \$10,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any violator of the Horse Protection Act or any state law which prohibits soring, and up to \$5,000 for information leading to disclosure of provable corruption of industry inspectors or officials in the enforcement of the Act.

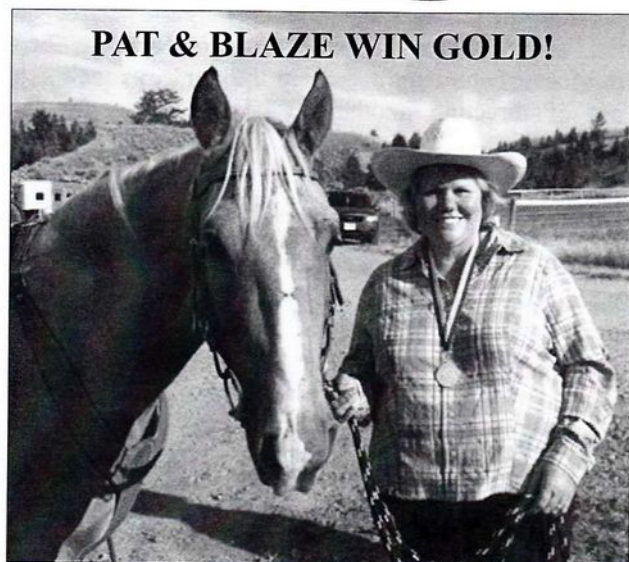
Anyone with information on this cruel practice or associated corruption should call 855-NO-SORING (855-667-6746) or email

equineprotection@humanesociety.org.

Media Contact: Stephanie Twining, 240-751-3943, or email stwining@humanesociety.org.

Subscribe to Wayne Pacelle's blog, A Humane Nation. Follow The HSUS PR department on Twitter for the latest animal welfare news. See our work for animals on your Apple or Android device by searching for our "Humane TV" app. The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest animal protection organization, rated the most effective by its peers. Since 1954, The HSUS has been fighting for the protection of all animals through advocacy, education and hands-on programs. We rescue and care for tens of thousands of animals each year, but our primary mission is to prevent cruelty before it occurs. We're there for all animals, across America and around the world. Celebrating animals and confronting cruelty – The Humane Society of the United States 2100 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037. On the Web at humanesociety.org.

Celebrating Animals, Confronting Cruelty



Three year old 'Blaze', (Liberty's Blazing Spirit) a palomino Tennessee Walker, *above*, found his way into my heart in October, 2012. I consulted

with Dianne Little, TWH owner and Bill Roy, Tennessee Walker owner and trainer to learn more about the breed, so thank you, Dianne and Bill!

I purchased Blaze from Marion Weisskopf who lives in Princeton, BC. He has proven to be friendly, sensible, willing and eager to please. I was advised to "walk the first 100 miles", which proved to be exactly what Blaze and I needed to bond and learn together.

My husband Jim was registering to compete in Cribbage in the BC Seniors Games, so I decided to have a go at the Equestrian events, in particular, the Mountain Trail class. The Equestrian events were being held at the Circle Creek Ranch in Kamloops, BC over two days, August 22 and 23. Blaze and I were entered in the Novice Mountain Trail class. Blaze and I spent many hours working with trainer Bill Roy to prepare. We rode the trails with the Back Country Horsemen of BC (Kamloops Chapter) through creeks, over bridges and among the wildlife and natural obstacles in the great outdoors. My husband gave me good advice: "KEEP CALM" and "HAVE FUN!"

On the first day we had an orientation meeting, which focused on safety and horsemanship. We then had one hour to walk the course with the judges to ask questions and memorize the course layout.

The competitors were divided into Novice, Intermediate and Senior classes. On the first day there were nine obstacles, which included stairs, balance beam, back up through an "L", teeter-totter, step-up boxes, step-overs, log scrambles, and a water crossing, which was swarming with wasps! Each obstacle was scored out of 10 points by the judges. I was pretty nervous about the course, as Blaze had never been near a teeter-totter.

On the second day there were three new and more difficult obstacles, including mounting and dismounting, turning 360 degrees on the second step, and a rock and bridge obstacle. Blaze was calm even in the new setting, with other driving events near by. I knew he trusted me to be the leader and I trusted his sensible personality. We struggled a bit with the balance beam and backing up on the first day, but were given points for our attempts. Blaze was one of few horses to successfully conquer the water obstacle and he was a star going over stairs and the teeter-totter. On the second day Blaze and I did well. We were both relaxed and it was a wonderful feeling of trust and loyalty.

When all the scores were tabulated we were delighted to receive a Gold Medal for Novice Mountain Trail In-Hand class. All-in-all it was an amazing experience! I met many new friends from all over BC, and enjoyed such a positive experience from a well organized 2013 BC Seniors Games in Kamloops BC. I look forward to the Games next year in Langley BC. Happy Trails! *by Pat Twemlow Johansson*

MIDDLE TENNESSEE HORSE BREEDING by Perky Beisel and Rob DeHart

Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina

www.arcadiapublishing.comc. 2007

A Review by Franne Brandon

Middle Tennessee Horse Breeding is part of Arcadia Publishing's IMAGES OF AMERICA series, which "celebrates the history of neighborhoods, towns, and cities across the country." Using archival photos, each title presents "the distinctive stories from that past that shape the character of the community today." (back cover, Middle Tennessee Horse Breeding)

Author Perky Beisel is an assistant professor of history at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas, while co-author Rob DeHart is director for collections and programs at Travellers Rest Plantation and Museum in Nashville, Tennessee. Working together with materials from several different collections, they have created a photographic summary of the impact of breeding and using fine horses – and even some work animals – on the lives of people who made their homes in Middle Tennessee.

The book is organized into seven chapters following an introduction. A short bibliography follows. Each of the seven chapters has a one page summary of events, followed by page after page of portraits, paintings, or actual photographs of the people, animals, and places so important to the equine progress of the era.

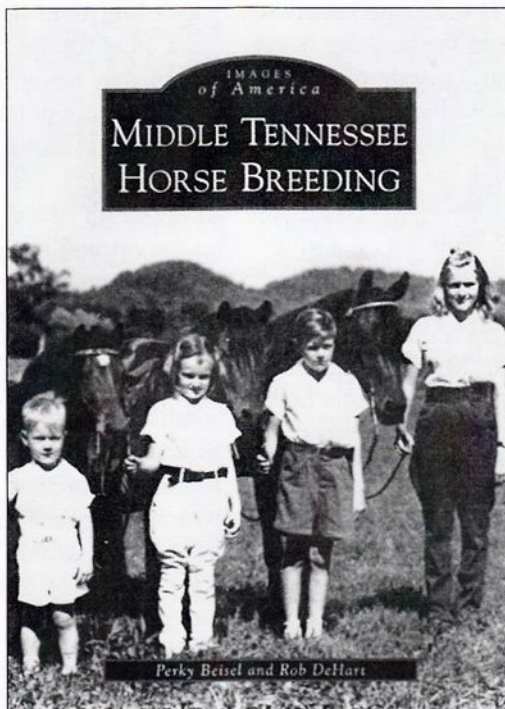
Following the Introduction, which first mentions the Tennessee Walking Horse (p.8), chapters one and two establish the historical importance of horses in the Middle Tennessee area.

Chapter One, 1780-1865, focuses on the prevalence of the Thoroughbred throughout the mid-state area. The photo pages feature famous breeders with captions that summarize their activities and the importance of their stables. In addition to the Thoroughbred nurseries, the authors also feature a gentleman who introduced and promoted Morgans in the region, along with a broadside for a saddle horse stallion named Young Tom Hal.

Chapter Two, 1866-1905, records the reemergence of Thoroughbred breeding farms as well as the growing strength of Standardbred stud farms as Tennessee recovered from the equine ravages of the Civil War. Photos of the race tracks that sprang up in major cities join those of breeders, their showplace estates, and the famed stallions that brought income to both the owners and others involved in the racing world of that time. Among the stallions featured is a classic shot of Echo, great-great-grandson of Hambletonian and also foundation sire number 18 in the Tennessee Walking Horse registry. The authors attribute the financial panic of 1893, loss of farm land to the growth of the cities and towns, and a lack of heirs interested in continuing the racing tradition for the demise of these racing establishments. As a final blow to racing, but an incentive to other interests, Tennessee passed an anti-gambling law in 1906.

The anti-gambling law had a direct influence on the growth and development of other breed interests in Middle Tennessee. Following Chapter 3, "Workhorses and Mules", the book devotes an entire chapter to the Tennessee Walking Horse and its formative years. The twenty-seven photos which are laid out on seventeen pages of

the text provide a wide range of rare shots from the Tennessee State Library and Archives and The Gore Center. While many of these are photographs of groups on Ride-A-thons or teams appearing in one of the early Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration parades, others offer unique glimpses of famous horses like Strolling Jim, his strongest competitor in 1939, Lillie White, who was crowned World Champion mare that year, Chief's Allen (grandsire of Thunder's War Eagle), and the famous sires Hall Allen and Miller's Wilson Allen. Because the book is intended for general as well as horse-oriented audiences, readers will have to overlook some of the definitions provided within the captions which are totally unnecessary for anyone with any sort of equine vocabulary. (Continued next page.)



Following its digression to focus on "the first horse breed named after a state" (p. 57), Chapter 5 continues the patterns of chapters one and two in tracing the development of other breeds within Middle Tennessee following the decline of the racing establishments.

Even this chapter holds items of interest for the Tennessee Walking Horse lover, however, as its photo selections feature beautiful Bazleyd, the purebred Arabian stallion that once won a plantation championship at the Tennessee State Fair. As well he was double registered as a Tennessee Walking Horse sire. From Arabians the chapter photos progress to American Saddlebreds, with many of those chosen exhibiting more sabino characteristics than the walkers in the previous chapter. Shots of two Standardbred pacing stallions, one of them a TWH foundation stallion, Walter Direct F-68, are of interest to the walking horse reader. The chapter ends with a photo puzzle of a horse listed as a Saddlebred, but which looks like a walker and is working in the standard S-curb used on show walkers of that era. The gait captured through the photographers lens is a four beat paused in one of the universal phases which are found across the gait spectrum.

A sixth chapter on "Ponies and Kids" offers a diversified view of ponies in the past before the seventh and final chapter "1945-2005" offers a quick review of the trends in horse ownership in Middle Tennessee during the most recent period of time. This chapter notes when Quarter Horses entered the state horse scene, as well as the continued success of hunters, jumpers, children's riding programs, and the Tennessee Walker. None of the walking horse photographs feature any show horses exhibited after the sixties.

Middle Tennessee Horse Breeding was published as part of a series designed to illustrate with pictorial evidence the lifestyles found in different parts of the United States. It is not a substitute for the two major histories of the Tennessee Walking Horse breed, Biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse, by Ben A. Green, and the various editions of The Echo of Hoofbeats, by Dr. Bob Womack. While the brief bibliography is useful in obtaining more information, the lack of an index prohibits the book from becoming a true reference resource. Serious breed aficionados will have to overlook some of the simplified definitions found in the captions about breeding animals and show animals as well. Overall, however, the book is a treasure trove of photographic history, with those shots chosen for Tennessee Walking Horses and their ancestors not readily available in print anywhere else. Whether as a starter volume to introduce newcomers to what the Walking Horse breed was like in its early years as a breed or a photographic supplement to a collection that already has the longer histories, this book should be a welcome addition to any TWH lover's home library.

ABOUT APOLLO'S OFFSPRING...

Lissa Townsend, Cochrane, AB asked in the June issue of WHN: 'Where are the offspring of Toddy's Apollo?' Following is a letter from Christine Kobza, who bred him.

I've had the magazine open to the page you are on since the beginning of summer holidays. We still have MYSTER BOJANGLES, and love everything about him. We did geld him 3 years ago, though. I still have regrets.

MYSTER COOL was absolutely beautiful and truly cool in attitude, gait, conformation, trainability, etc. I had just gotten his third gait down to a big, bold rocking chair canter, and was about to list him for sale (his proceeds were to go toward a barn that never materialized in the original five year plan of this place). One evening we saw the herd of horses goofing around in the pasture, and the next day we noticed he was sore in the stifle. We did everything we could, but those stifle injuries are bad. Our vet had been guarded about his prognosis. After about two weeks, Myster Cool gave up. I could see from the road, as I was coming home after work, that he was lying down - that lie down was the end. We had to put him down that night. I'm sure he's putting a smile on someone's face in heaven. He was majestic.

EVENING STAR is being loaned out to John's sister and brother-in-law as one of their main ranch horses. They enjoy her very much.

I would love to know what happened to HYACINTH BAY, as I was very reluctant to part with her.

ANDANTE was sold to our neighbour just days before Erika was born. That sale gave us great peace of mind, since we knew he would be adored. He was also very beautiful, tall and all black - nicely naturally gaited.

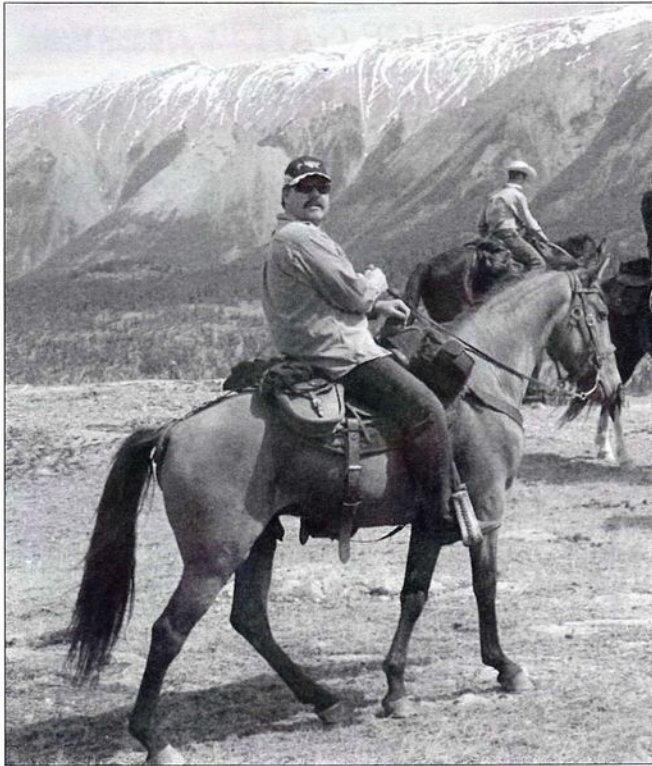
ALTAIR was sold to someone in the Yukon or Alaska, I believe. Lake and Anita Duncan might know more exactly.

Do you know where THREAT'S SMOKY is?

We were so tickled to see you and APOLLO in the last WHN. He is still gorgeous! He did pass that on to his offspring. We are so pleased that he is your 'heart horse'. You both deserve it! Keep on enjoying him. Hugs to you and Apollo from us.

Sincerely,

Christine, John, Erika, & Daniel Kobza,
Glenwood, AB



KOOTENAY PLAINS TRAIL RIDE

Kootenay Plains is an open area within an ecological reserve extending eastward from Thompson Creek near Saskatchewan River Crossing along highway # 11 to a point south of Cline River west of Nordegg, Alberta, surrounded by scenic mountains on all sides.

The North Saskatchewan River cuts through these plains and has its origins in the surrounding mountains to the west in Banff National Park. Although this area is traditionally 'owned' by the native Big Horn people, they have allowed its use to the general public since at least the early 1980's for camping and trail riding.

It has been a favorite area for Tennessee Walking Horse people and their horses since Neale Hubbard and Kelly Teague made their first forays into the surrounding mountains early in the 80's.

The unpredictability of the North Saskatchewan River makes our annual first ride of the year on Victoria Day weekend more of a re-joining of old friends and the welcoming of new Walking Horse owners and friends to the Walking Horse circle, than a real good trail ride experience.

The trails on the highway side of the river are mostly short three to four hour day rides. The river-side ride to the Siffleur Falls swinging bridge and on to Whirlpool Point is very scenic and beautiful, and it's about two to three hours back to camp.

The ride across the highway and up beyond the back of Two O'clock Creek campground, across the very scenic ridge and back across the highway to the swinging bridge, then back to camp along the river is a great leisurely, three to four hour ride.

Another nice ride is to follow the basic same route behind Two O'clock Creek but continue along the base of the mountains to the frozen falls. It's advisable to leave the horses below as you must climb (nearly on hands and knees!) to reach the base of the falls.

Also a more open ride but still always surrounded by that beautiful mountain scenery is to head down-river on the Abraham Lake flats to a trail which leads up through the woods towards the highway and back to camp either via the highway allowance or on an old road running parallel to the highway back to Preacher's Point.

For the brave and adventuresome there is always the North Saskatchewan River and all the great riding in the mountains across it and to the south east. Siffleur Falls is a great day trip and there are plenty of areas to explore along the White Rabbit and Siffleur Rivers. A tough trip for the brave and experienced rider is to climb the 6200 feet to Mud Lake. This should only be attempted with a good experienced 'trail boss' willing to act as guide.

The North Saskatchewan River itself has provided its own share of horse related adventures and it's not for beginners in those years where there has been considerable snow fall. On past Victoria Day weekends the river has been known to rise 12"- 18" overnight when the days are hot. Approach it prepared and with caution and respect.

The Kootenay Plains spring ride is a great occasion for the 'old' crowd to gather and catch up on life's stories. The sounds of new young riders and their friends in camp has been steadily growing in the past years and brings joy to an old trail rider's heart.

See you in the spring.

Bill Howes

"This year, 2013, the Kootenay Plains ride was great as usual. Not many 'old timers' showed other than the McKenzie, Mankow, and Howes crews. We had a morning's rain on Sunday which was an unusual event. Some new riders, the Townsends from Cochrane, showed up for part of the weekend. We had some nice rides."

"Sounds like July 1 will be Panther River west of Sundre Anyone interested can email me at jackspad@shaw.ca."

Above photo shows Sheldon Schroeder riding Billy Buckskin (aka Uphill Chasing Gold) on one of the spring Kootenay Plains rides.

BREEDING TROTTERS TO PACERS TO PRODUCE GAIT by Eldon Eadie

In the early days, breeding horses of trotting lines to pacers was considered the best way to produce a gaited horse. Many of the foundation horses of the TWH proved this to be true. One (CC) parent and one (AA) parent will always produce a (CA) offspring, without exception. The problem with this type of breeding in later years has been in identifying the genotype of the breeding stock. Many people have tried to repeat this cross but have selected the wrong horses. A horse that paces at liberty and prefers to pace under saddle is almost certainly an (AA) horse. But just because a horse trots does not mean that it is a (CC) or even a (CA). Some (AA) horses are capable of doing a spectacular trot while others cannot trot at all. A lot of the people who thought they were breeding trotters to pacers have been breeding (AA) to (AA) or (C/A) to (A/A). In fact we may not even have many (CC) or (CA) horses left in the breed. We have bred for (AA) show horses for so long that the wildtype C may have been lost. If it exists at all it is certainly a very small minority. We now have a genetic test that can tell us without question what we are breeding.

As Allanna Jackson and many others have correctly observed, there is a wide variation among gaited horses. This is proof that there are other modifying genes involved in producing gait. If there were no modifiers involved, gait would be as simple as black and sorrel. You would either have it or you would not, and it would always be the same. The modifiers that act on black and sorrel give us a huge variation in color. I believe that there are more gait modifiers than color modifiers.

The recent research into the DMRT3 gene that causes gait gives us a profile of gaited horses that can be applied to any breed. Some breeds have eliminated the trot gene and some still have both the trot and the pace, but it is the same gene that produces gait in all breeds. The profiles of the three genetic combinations are as follows:

HOMOZYGOUS FOR DMRT3 (A/A)

These are the multigaited horses, five gaited in most breeds, that sometimes can do everything but prefer to pace. Some breeds such as Peruvian Pasos have lost the ability to trot or canter and can only do a middle gait and a pace. Other (A/A) breeds such as the American Standardbred can both trot and pace and can sometimes do a middle gait and usually a canter as well. Often an (A/A) horse will trot and gait well as a youngster but when mature will only pace.

Most (if not all) TWH show horses are (A/A) even though some have an excellent canter and a trot. All horses trot when they back up so a horse without a trot cannot backup. As the canter is a three beat diagonal gait it also requires the ability to trot. The canter of the Peruvian is a leap from forward to rear and does not have any diagonal action. Most of us will never see it. The middle gait of an A/A horse is usually a stepping pace. Once in a while you will find an (A/A) horse that can do a good running walk as a youngster but you will never (or maybe almost never) find an older (A/A) horse that is still walking at speed.

HETEROZYGOUS WILDTYPE/DMRT3 (C/A)

This is the product of breeding a true trotting horse (C/C) to a pacer (A/A). These horses are four gaited and rarely show any pace. They can be made to pace with action devices but will not normally pace under saddle or at liberty. They may show lots of gait at birth but will soon learn to trot. As yearlings you will likely not see any evidence of gait. When you start gait training you will have a bit of trouble with the trot but once you have them in gait they will stay in gait for life. The middle gait of the (C/A) horse is an even four beat gait that can be racky and tight or loose and articulated depending on the conformation of the individual.

One of the best historical examples of a (C/A) horse in the TWH is Merry Legs F-4. Ben Green said of her in Biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse "Merry Legs was a straight going mare with no amble (pace) whatsoever. She had lots of head motion, a good long neck, perfect ears and large eyes. Her canter was perfect, and her flatwalk and running walk were truly as great as any ever displayed by Tennessee Walking Horses". When Dr. Bob Womack was in Calgary back in the 80's he said of Merry Legs that she had thirteen foals in her lifetime. Three were pacers, three were ungaited and seven were among the best running walk horses that had ever been produced. That is exactly what you would expect from a (C/A) horse bred to a (C/A) horse. One quarter of the offspring would be (C/C), one quarter would be (A/A) and one half would be (C/A)

HOMOZYGOUS WILDTYPE (C/C)

These are the trotting breeds that are ungaited. A curious thing is that even in these breeds, such as the Arab and others, once in a long while you will find a horse that is gaited. Are there some very rare

Gaited Horses

DMRT3 genes in these breeds or is it something else? The modifiers that act on the DMRT3 may also act on the wildtype when the modifiers are very strong. I believe that there is a gene that modifies the DMRT3 very easily and also has a weak effect on the wildtype. I used to think that the modifier was the genes that produce the walk in all horses but I am not so sure now. That would be too simple. There are probably many modifiers and when they are all (or some combination) present in a (C/C) horse you have some semblance of gait. Is this the Batida of the Mangalarga Marchador? The breed does have some DMRT3 genes in some individuals but the main gait is the Batida and it is (almost but not quite) a trot. Genetic research into the Marchador would be the most fascinating study possible in the gaited horse world. If these are truly (C/C) horses it would be possible to identify the modifiers that affect gait in all breeds by finding which genes Marchadors have and which genes Quarter Horses don't have.

The most obvious group of modifiers that affect gait are the genes that produce the various types of conformation. For example, the long femur and long reach in the hind leg of the TWH are the factors that produce the lift in the canter that we call the rocking chair canter, and the overstride and the head nod that makes the difference between the running walk and the rack. A tighter moving horse with less reach will always be racky. I believe that there is another group of modifiers that are not so obvious. These are the modifiers that change the timing of the hoofbeats and restrict the abilities of the horse in various gaits.

As breeders we don't need to identify the modifiers that affect gait. We can observe them. When you have a quality running walk, assume that the right modifiers are present and go with it. The geneticists can catch up with us later. In the meantime we can just produce good running walk horses by selecting the right breeding stock and crossing (C/C) with (A/A). Start with (C/A) horses that walk and keep the (C/C) and the (A/A) offspring for your second generation breeding stock. Your third generation will be one hundred percent running walk horses.

Author's Note: I have updated the article "Shooting Fish In A Rain Barrel", above. I have sent some of my horses' hair out for testing with SyncroGait. I have about 35 Walking horses at the present so can only afford to test some key individuals. I will let you know how it goes.

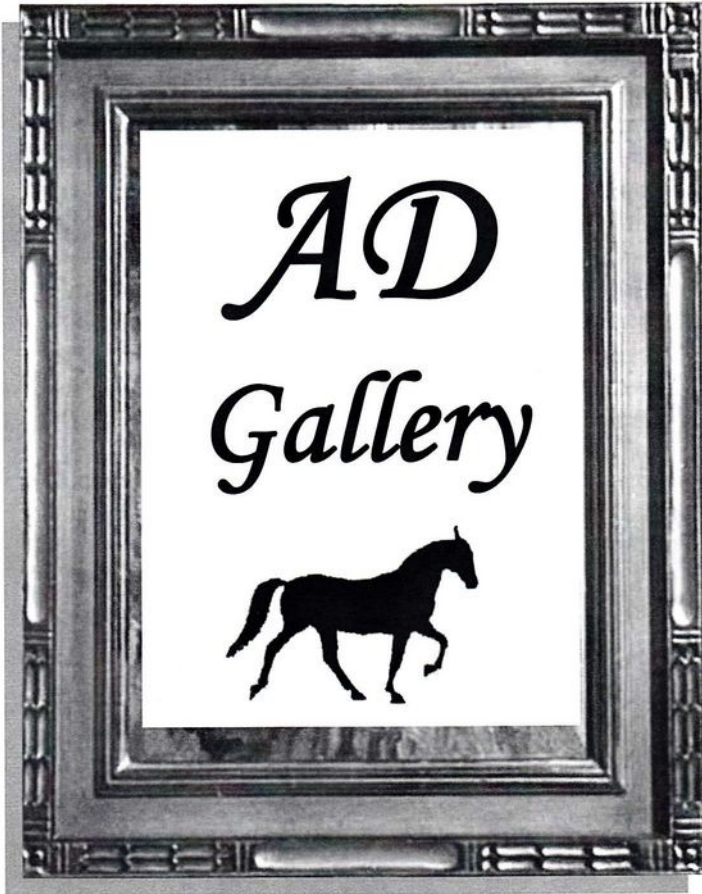
The *DMRT3* gene variant we have identified is permissive for alternative gaits in horses. Traditional three-gaited horses such as most dressage and show jumping horses, draft horses and Thoroughbreds are homozygous for the C-variant (CC). Horses that can perform alternative gaits have the A-variant. Most Icelandic Horses with two copies of the A variant (AA) can perform both pace and the ambling gait tölt while horses with one copy (CA) can only perform tölt.

In several of the other gaited breeds we have tested, most individuals are AA. However, unlike the five-gaited AA Icelandic horses, many of these other breeds are described to only perform an ambling gait. Both training and the genetic background may cause the differences observed in the pattern of locomotion between the different gaited horse breeds.

We will continue our research project on the horse breeds that have both the C and A variants in their population and try to establish the differences in gait among AA, CA and CC (if present) individuals. Such information may be useful for riders and breeders in their choice of horses, as is now possible for Icelandic horse riders through the SyncroGait test. Some Icelandic Horse riders prefer CA horses because there is no pace to "disturb" the training of the basic gaits or the tölt.

It is likely that the A variant is present in all gaited breeds, where it is highly favorable. It is worth noting that pacing is not a desired trait in some horse breeds used for disciplines such as dressage, and SyncroGait can thus also be used to eliminate the pacing variant (A) in breeds where the variant does not have a favourable effect.

Breed	CC	CA	AA
<u>Gaited</u>			
Icelandic Horse	3	105	149
Rocky Mountain Horse	0	0	17
Kentucky Mountain Saddle Horse	0	2	20
Missouri Fox Trotters	0	0	40
Peruvian Paso	0	0	19
Paso Fino	0	0	45
Standardbred Pacers	0	0	37
Tennessee Walkers	0	1	32
<u>Non-Gaited</u>			
Gotland Pony	28	0	0
Swedish Ardenne	22	0	0
Swedish Warmblood	35	0	0
Arabian	29	0	0
Thoroughbred	35	0	0
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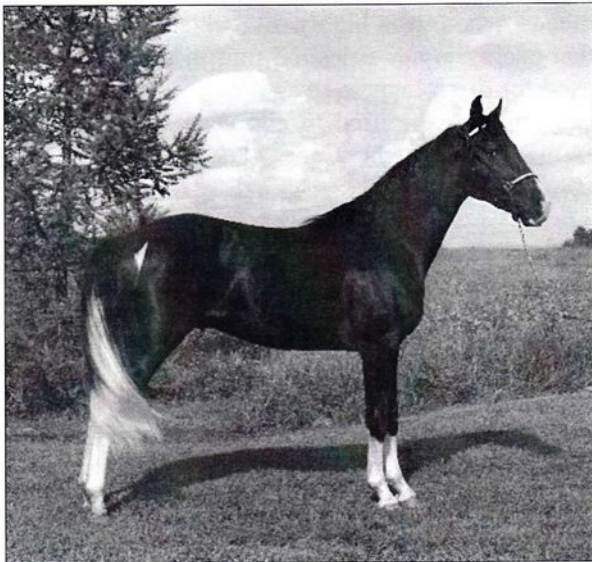
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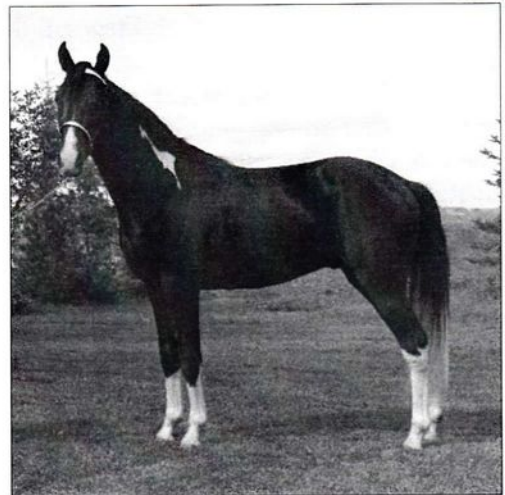
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