



APRIL 2014  
VOLUME XXXVIII No. 2

# Walking Horse News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977



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## On Our Cover

This month's  
cover photo  
includes one of my  
parishioners  
with her grandson.  
He may never  
have even *seen* a horse,  
never mind  
enjoyed a cart ride  
with one!

The horse is  
Dusty's Touch'N'Go  
(aka Moses)  
and the driver is  
Trish McCarthy  
See page 8 for her story.

Photo courtesy of  
Trish McCarthy  
Regina, SK

## Deadline Dates

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

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Volume XXXVIII, # 2 March/April, 2014

Dear Subscribers,

I hope that Spring really *will* have come by the time this magazine arrives in your mail. So far the only sign of it that I've seen is the notice on the calendar. Here, on the first official day of spring, March 20, it snowed another four inches to mark the occasion!

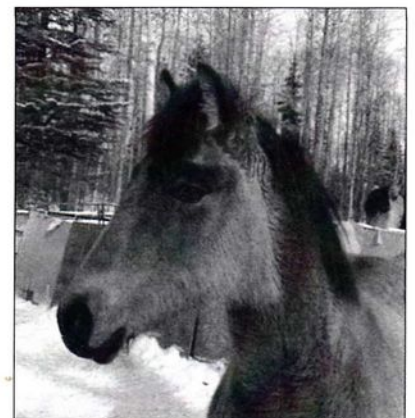
It's probably still too early, but no new foals have been reported for Foal Call yet. We'll look forward to hearing about the new babies and seeing their photos. I think there is some resurgence of interest in breeding, and in Walkers in general. There certainly seem to be more inquiries lately.

What have you been doing with your Walkers lately? What would you like to do with them? See the photos on page 17 and then write in and tell us what *you* dream of doing. The breed is a versatile one, and most of them are smart enough to learn just about anything we are smart enough to teach them!

Though I can't say I've been smart enough to get Betty's baby weaned. I've had them in the corral, separated first by metal panels, since early December. Of course just panels didn't work, so then I blocked them with plywood and cardboard. But it's just a game to Baby. If she can't figure out how to get her head over, under or around the sheets of cardboard, she simply chews through it. (I am thinking her name will have to include 'Beaver'.) At one point I thought I had won, but no - she then began studying how to undo the chain that keeps the gate between them locked, and now I often find them in together again.

Thank you to all who contributed to this issue. And Readers, I hope you will send in *your* stories and photos for next time. There's no *News* without you!

*Marjorie*



WHN makes a great gift!

# Walking Horse News

April, 2014

**“DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977”**

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

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## IN THIS ISSUE – March/April, 2014

### LIST OF CONTENTS

History and Heritage - Tribute to Trigger 1984.....	3
Alberta News .....	4
Rhonda's Story by Rhonda Lemmon.....	5,6
Readers Write.....	6
British Columbia & Ontario News .....	7
A Parish Visit With Moses by Trish McCarthy .....	8
Manitoba News.....	8
Our Driving Journal, Entry 2 by B.& S. Woodall.....	9
From the Dusty Files.....	10
Longeing Your Horse with Diane Sept.....	11
The 50th Big Country Trials.....	12
The Canadian Walker.....	13
CRTWH Schedule of Fees.....	14
Back Yard Walkin' - by Allanna Jackson.....	15, 16
The CRTWH Triple Challenge.....	16
What Would YOU Like To Do with Your Walkers?.....	14
Ask A Trainer with Bill Roy.....	18
Horses As 'Personal Trainers'.....	18
Foundations: Society's Dan Allen Part 2 by F. Brandon.....	19,20
Name Your Baby.....	20
Ad Gallery starts on page .....	21
Classified ads.....	23
Ads, Business Cards & Coming Events.....	24

### ADVERTISER'S INDEX

Happy Horseback Saddles .....	Inside Back Cover
Calta Stables.....	21
Chrystal Star Ranch TWH.....	Inside Back Cover
CRTWH.....	13, 14, Back Cover
El Ranchito TWH for Sale.....	22, 24
Lazy T Stables.....	Inside Front Cover
Maple Lane Acres.....	Inside Front Cover
McDonald Farms.....	Inside Back Cover
Misty River Ranch Dispersal Sale.....	22
Northfork Farm.....	21
Trinders Tennessee Walking Horses.....	Inside Front Cover
TWH Heritage Society.....	Inside Front Cover
Uphill Farm.....	22, 24
V4 Stables.....	24
Woodhill Walkers.....	Inside Back Cover

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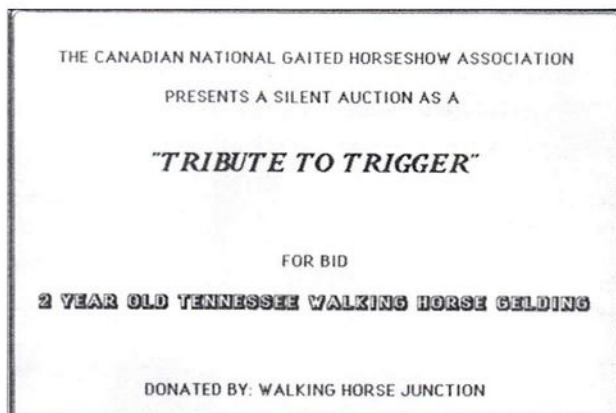


*Advertise your good stallion  
in the May/June issue!*

# HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

## A TRIBUTE TO TRIGGER by Bill Howes, Stony Plain, AB

*Recently I came across a poster for a "Tribute to Trigger" that was held at Amberlea Meadows, Nisku, AB during one of our shows. I was away working in the Beaufort then, I believe.*



At that time, around 1984, I was involved in The Canadian Gaited Horse Association with Jon & Leslie Cox and others. We were working with The Icelandics (Robin Hood and group) and the Saddlebreds, mostly Archie Hurst's people, and the Peruvian Paso people. A group of us within the club got the notion that we should try to show our gaited horses to the public at West Edmonton Mall (WEM). A cattle show had been held there on the ice arena surface, and we thought it might work for us.

Keith Richardson, his wife Bert, and I went to meet with the manager of the Fantasy Land section of WEM, the person in charge of ice arena rentals. He was definitely interested in having us, especially when we told him of our hopes of having Roy Rogers come to the show. We hoped to have Roy present a two-year-old TWH descendant of Trigger Jr. to the winner of the silent auction.

Walking Horse Junction was proudly donating this colt for the silent auction. Gate 42, as I recall, was to be our entrance to the mall. Horse pens were to be set up under the over-head parking surface outside. The ice could not be removed, but would be covered with sheets of 3/4 plywood and sawdust as the cattle people had done. The manager told us that the ice was invaluable to skating clubs who used it on a continual basis year-round so it could only be out of service to them for a very short period of time. The cost to our club would be in the area of \$10,000.00.

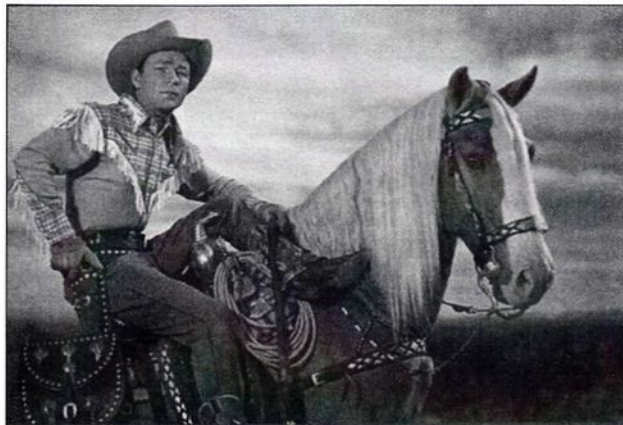
At that point we should have given up. Undaunted I called Roy Rogers, then home in Apple Valley, California, but was directed to his son, Dusty. I told him of our request and that I owned Luckys Koko Prince, a fourth generation descendant of Allen's Gold Zepher 431975, aka "Trigger Jr.". Koko, our stallion at Walking Horse Junction, Ardrossan, AB, was throwing some very nice foals and our gaited horse club was financially "unstable". My then wife, Janet, and I had decided we would donate a two-year-old colt by Koko.

Dusty told me his father was very busy with engagements but he would inform him of our request. At that time we had our new stallion, 'Jackson' (Shadows Jack Diamond) in training in Wilsonville, Oregon. The trainer, Jake Price, as well as another trainer in Eugene, Frank White, became all excited about bringing horses to the show. They planned to bring a whole load of their customers' horses, including Saddlebreds. West Edmonton Mall, then the largest mall ever built, was in the news all over North America and these Americans were keen to come have a look and show some horses.

However, subsequent calls to Apple Valley resulted in Roy's decision that "His Bowling Ball is Getting too Heavy" and "His Horse is Getting Too Tall", as Dusty relayed to me. So the dream died with the challenge of no Roy Rogers, finding \$10,000 for renting WEM, and bringing big lick horses to Canada.

In the end, Amberlea Meadows became the scene of the silent auction of the colt, where approximately \$900.00 was raised. The money was quickly consumed by the club, and life in the Walking Horse world went on

*Below: Roy Rogers and Trigger Jr.*



# NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

## ALBERTA NEWS

MAUREEN GERMSCHIED, EVANSBURG, writes, "The sleigh riding has been awesome this year although the wind has often filled in the trails and the horses certainly have to work if you ever get off the trails. The training has been fun although sporadic due to some very cold weather. I thought I would send a picture of my little trainer, Jade, below, who was working Peso one day before the snow came. I think we are all looking forward to spring this year - soon we will be complaining about the mud."



KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, writes, "Here is Alanza (Cherokee's Dark Knight x Thunder's Last



Stand) under some plastic. I was hoping it would keep her entertained while I'm working in the yard. She always wants to 'help' me, sticking her nose into whatever I am doing!"

"Glad we have finally had a break in the weather, and are able to get outside and do something with the horses! I am looking forward to the CRTWH Annual General Meeting and the clinic in May, as well as the Mane Event in Red Deer the end of April. Hoping to see fellow Walking Horse enthusiasts - See you there!"

ARIANNE BAKER, MEDICINE HAT, writes, "I just wanted to say that the letter you had in the last issue from the folks moving to Mexico certainly helped me feel less alone. I know exactly how they feel. Sometimes you get to the point where you just want to throw in the towel."

"I was in a traffic accident about seven years ago and was misdiagnosed. As a result I ended up with four pinched nerves and two bad discs. They can't be fixed and have left me with only limited use of my arms and hands. That is ok for normal life - you *can* retrain yourself to do things differently. However, when it comes to training horses it's a different story. Every year I hope that *this year* I'll be able to master it, but every year I end up turning the horses out on pasture again because it doesn't work out."

"Consequently I have four really nice, well bred registered TWH, all of them halter broke and broke to lead... but that's it. I also have three older brood mares born in the early 90's, two of which were broke when they were young but never really used as riding horses. So I think the only thing to do is offer them for sale and hope someone else has the time for them."

I (MARJORIE LACY) had a nice visit from Karla Freeman of Ponoka in March. While she was here we met her cousin, Connie, who lives only a few miles up the highway from my place west of Edson. Karla says that her "horse addiction" is all Connie's fault! Connie was the 'big cousin' who first put Karla on a horse when she was just a little girl - and Karla's life has never been the same after that...

Connie said she used to own a TWH gelding named Arthur's Prince who was branded Rafter A L. Does anyone know the horse or the brand? Connie told us about a youngster who came up to her on a ride one day, and said, "I know your horse's name." Connie asked him how he knie and the boy said, "It's AL - it's right there on him!"

JACK GURNETT, NORTHFORK FARM, BLUFTON, is pleased to congratulate Lori Dyberg of Wetaskiwin on her purchase of a second youngster, Northfork Cotton Trim. She is a half sister to Lori's gelding, Northfork Cheerful Chipper. Both these coming two-year-olds were sired by Uphill Heir Trigger. Chipper is a sorrel out of Neitak's Golden Stardust and Cotton Trim is a palomino out of Dark Summer Chapel Belle. All the best with these two nice young Walkers, Lori!

## RHONDA'S STORY - How Melody Saved her Dad's Life by Rhonda Lemmon

Words can't express how I am feeling right now. At the moment the most prevailing feeling would likely be relief, followed closely by pride and awe! Last night our mare, "Ragtime N' Melody" saved her father's, Dude's Ragtime Man's, life.

Now, I can say that GOD was on our side, although, for a number of hours it certainly didn't appear that way. You see, generally when I get home from work, I don't go out and do chores. I start working on my university courses and Dave does them when he gets home around 6:30 pm. Yesterday though, Dave asked that I just swing down with the car to see which pens needed bales of hay put out. I didn't. Instead, I thought I would get all dressed up for the crazy cold weather and go and do the chores to give Dave a break.

As I walked down the drive at around 3:45 pm, I saw that Ragtime had cast himself. He was lying between a very large tree and a deep snow bank. I could see that he had been there awhile as there was blood running from his bum from the exertion of repeatedly trying to get up. The snow was melted underneath him and his mane and side of his face looked frozen. He was shaking and exhausted and going into shock, and all he could do was lay there. I tried to pull him around by a hind foot to no avail as he was wedged in deep. I ran and grabbed some slings and thought I could use our side by side machine and maybe winch him out. The machine started but when I got to get out to open Ragtime's gate it died from the cold and wouldn't start again. I ran to the shop to get the bobcat thinking that I could drag him back or even lift him with the forks but the snow was so deep and he was so far away from the gate that I was losing precious time trying to push my way in backwards with the forks. I ended up stuck 12 feet into the pasture.

I then ran back to the shop, grabbed a thick winter blanket and went to cover Ragtime up as this was now close to an hour later and he was shaking so badly I didn't know how much longer he could hold on. Back at the shop, I grabbed the phone and called Dave - although there wasn't much he could do as he works 45 minutes away. I called our vet and left a message to come quickly as I needed help. I didn't realize at the time that the message was garbled and hard to make out. I put the phone in my pocket in case the vet called back and ran back to Ragtime trying to think of who else I could call. I lifted Ragtime's head onto my lap and tried to reassure both of us that this would end okay. While I sat there I called some friends who live in Wetaskiwin and board their horses in Eckville hoping that maybe they had been riding that day and were on their way home past our place. They were in Sylvan Lake just sitting down to eat supper but said they would

come as quickly as they could. At least that is what I thought I heard because at that moment the phone battery died and a cell phone is of no use at our place due to poor reception.

So there we were, Ragtime and I, lying in the snow not sure whether there was any help on the way or not. A while later a car pulled in. It was Lorine, a new boarder who had just brought her horse in last week. I flagged her down and the two of us together tried to pull him out, but again no luck. She grabbed a shovel and started to dig away at the snow bank underneath him to see if we could spin him around, while I went to get a truck and see if we could attach a number of ropes to try to pull him back that way. I could not believe it ... two trucks on the place and with the cold weather neither one would start. Ughh.

I was getting very concerned. Ragtime was convulsing worse at this point and his gums had gone to a grayish purple color. I knew we didn't have long - it was now hours since I'd got to him. The only thing that I had left to try was to use another horse to try to pull him out. I caught up Melody as I had been working with her on some of the training level challenges for the CRTWH's Triple Challenge program, and thought if any horse could help, she could. I saddled her up and led her into Ragtime's field. At this time Dave pulled up. Before using Melody the three of us tried again to pull Ragtime, because Dave was worried we might hurt her or have a wreck. I had never pulled anything with her, only ponied other horses off her now and again. We couldn't budge him.

While I had gone to get Melody, Lorine had wrapped slings around Ragtime's hips. I attached the other end to the horn and asked her to pull forward. The minute she felt the weight she stopped, as it caught her off guard. The snow was up past her knees and I just wasn't sure, but Dave and I clucked to her and asked her to pull again. This time she dug her hind end in and lurched forward with everything she had and pulled him out. Ragtime shot up instantly but was extremely shaky. We got him to the barn and layered fleece blankets and winter blankets over him in order to warm him up and get him out of shock. It was now after 6 PM.

Dave went out to call the vet again at the very same time as Ken pulled up. He said that all he could hear from my garbled message was what he thought was my name and the word stallion. He and his wife tried to call me, but I had no phone so he took a chance on what little he heard and headed out our way, telling his wife that he was heading west and if the person called back and it wasn't me and they lived east then he'd guessed wrong. Ragtime was very colicky so Ken gave him a shot of Banamine to help alleviate some

pain. We withheld food and left him in the round pen in the arena in order for him to have room to roll if he wanted to help relieve some of his discomfort. I checked him throughout the night and this morning he seems to be back to his old self. He was pretty hungry and went at his hay with gusto. I am confident he will be okay although we'll monitor him over the next few days. Fingers crossed!

THANK YOU! Thank you! to Lorine for helping me and just being there with me. Thank you to Dave for leaving work (without even telling his boss) driving home faster than he ever has... Thank you to our vet, Ken of Stone Willow Veterinary, for taking a chance and coming out rather than sitting there waiting for a call back. That's a great vet and friend! Thank you to the Dybergs for rushing through supper and stopping by to help. And thank you to CRTWH for developing a program that focuses on training for agility, mind and confidence, not just training to go round and round in a show ring (like I used to do). But most of all THANK YOU, Melody, for saving your dad's life. You make my heart burst with pride and just melt. I love you! And thank You, Ragtime, for holding in there and not giving up while we fought to free you.

*Postscript:* Yes, Ragtime is doing fine. I had a therapist out last night to check him over and surprisingly, nothing was out of place, just muscle tension and knots that needed to be worked out. I was happy to hear that, as I forgot this part in recounting the events. I had used a 2 x 4 and a block and had tried to pry him up by his back hip. I could only get him up a few inches and he was so tired he couldn't help get himself up the rest of the way. I thought for sure that would have done some damage.

What makes this more amazing though is that Melody has not yet been taught to drive. She has never pulled anything before. I think she just knew that I needed her help. You would have to know this mare to really gain the full appreciation for what she did, and that is the main reason I wrote this. She stunned me. She is a very unique soul - the big joke around our place is that this is Melody's world, she just allows me to live in it with her. She is a non conformist and her motto is that if I can't figure out how to work *with her* the way she wants then she won't work. Quite the challenging pony but I wouldn't have traded her for the world before, and it would take more than a universe to pull her away from me now! Not to say that I hadn't been working with her on the Training Level Challenges. I certainly have. She hated the show ring, as she is a real thinker and got very bored and agitated. She loves to work on mentally stimulating things, so introducing new concepts and getting ready to be able to video her for the training levels has helped her to become a more rounded horse.

## READERS WRITE

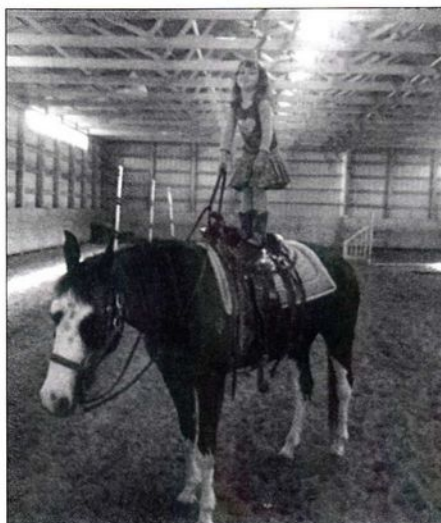
From KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, AB:  
Last summer I noticed horses with blankets on all the time. Then one day when I was browsing on the computer I saw an article on blanketing. I was quite surprised to learn that blankets actually can make the horse *colder*, by restricting the horse's natural ability to fluff up its hair.

I had never given it much thought, knowing that of course it's not a good idea to leave a blanket on a horse for extended periods of time. Never having had a barn to raise my horses in, I used a blanket only for a sick horse, or to keep them clean, or for cooling/drying them off after a work out, or for transport. (Of course they always had windbreaks, and places to get out of the rain.)

There are many pros and cons about blanketing, but using something just because everyone else does isn't a good reason. I looked up many blogs, and realized there are different cases where it could be a good idea to coat up your horse. When horses have been clipped for showing, or in extreme weather for sick or frail older horses are examples. But I urge people to educate themselves and consider the horse: does a blanket really make their life better, or is it a fashion statement, based on smart marketers making us feel warm and fuzzy, while the horse shivers under cover?

TIM WARD, UPPER STEWIACKE, NOVA SCOTIA, answered my question about TWH in N.S. saying, Yes, there are a few TWH in Nova Scotia, but not many. I love the breed. I did sell Ali to Yvette Hyam but kept her foal, Pipa, a Canadian/TWH cross. I sold Ali but I still love her.

MAUREEN GERMSCHIED, EVANSBURG,



writes,  
"Just another picture of my granddaughter Zia, riding my old girl, Splash. Zia is always looking for new things to try."

## BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS

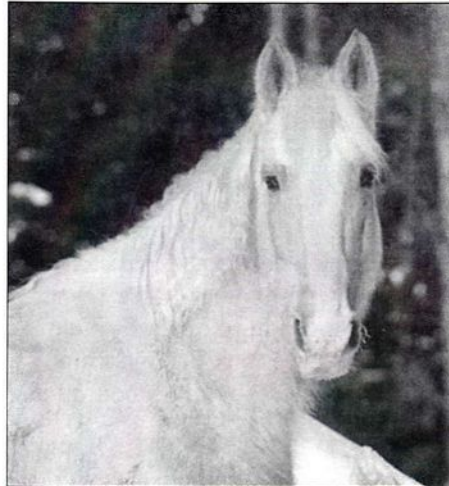
DALE BENKE, CHETWYND, wrote inquiring about how to get a *WHN* subscription, and said, "I really like my Tennessee Walker, the first horse I trained from scratch. I will start another soon. I purposely looked for a TWH after reading the book titled, *The Complete Trail Horse*, by Dan Aadland of Montana. I bought mine, a black gelding, from Karla Freeman in Alberta. So far we have been limited only by my lack of training experience, but the process has been very rewarding! Our best trip was 62 miles in three days. *Below is a photo of him.*"



CHARLIE BATEMAN, KAMLOOPS, writes, "Do you remember many years ago when I stopped in at your place west of Edson? I was returning from the Astill's in Bonnyville with my wife's new horse, Bandit. He died a few years ago but I give thanks every day that I still have his older brother, Chief; still sound at twenty-nine. We visit daily of course, and he is very much into the Olympics and waiting, with me, for spring and riding weather. We suspended our winter trips to Palm Springs so we can help Chief through the winters, but really he needs no help so far. I could not tolerate basking in the sun down there and then getting a phone call that he was sick... or worse. I know that if our positions were reversed he would not leave me."

"Last year we tried to find a safe and well broke horse so our children and friends can race along the spring trails with Madeline as she prepares her horse for the early endurance rides. No luck, but we are still looking. (As an aside, I must tell you that Mad has crossed over to the dark side and has an Arabian gelding about half as large and one quarter as smart as Chief, but for the fact he can run seemingly forever.)"

## ONTARIO NEWS



RACHEL HILL, FORT FRANCES, writes, "I hope you're doing well and getting a bit of relief from this horrid winter we have all had. It seems to have broken today - we actually got up to 0 degrees. Finally a seasonal weather day!"

"A friend of mine took this great shot of Beamer (*above*) last weekend, and I thought I would share it. He looks to be saying: "Are we *ever* going to ride again, Mum?" Well, yes! I have a big year planned, with lots of rides scheduled. I'll keep you posted on how we do."

From  
KATHY

MINOR, KARS, "Flicka's young friend, Grace, got her *Walking Horse News* magazines, and is very happy. Here they are, from last summer, *left.*"



"When going through my picture file recently, I came across this one (*below*) of our then 3-year-old grandson on Flicka, taken last summer. The look on his face says it all. Boy style, he puts Flicka in the same category as trucks, tractors, 4-wheelers and snowmobiles. All are fun and great to ride on, but



only horses can nuzzle your face with whiskers and make you laugh."



## A PARISH VISIT WITH MOSES

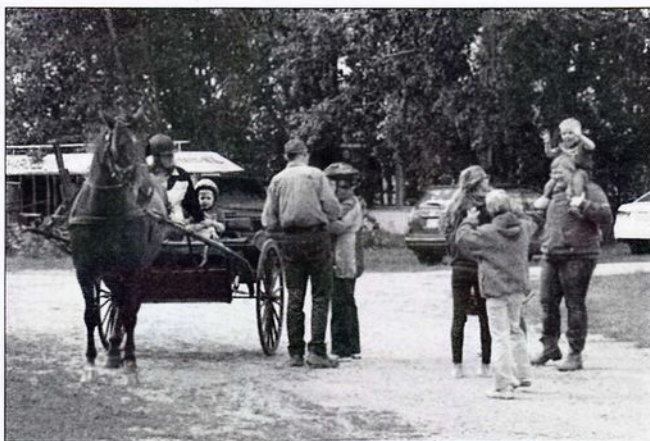
by Trish McCarthy, Regina, SK

Having read the February *Walking Horse News* magazine, I thought it might be interesting to share what my husband, Art, and I have done with our horse, Moses. In the summer we get out once or twice a week to spend some time grooming, checking his feet, giving him carrots, hand grazing him and going for a drive with him in our two wheeled cart. If I go alone, I ride him and maybe connect with another horse owner or two for an hour or two long ride in a nearby field. As things evolved last summer, we took the opportunity to share our enjoyment of the horse with a good number of others.

Last July we had an "All Saints Visit with Moses" afternoon. I invited parishioners to come and enjoy some snacks, tea and juice in the outdoors, and have the option of a cart ride with Moses and myself. There were eighteen of us. The weather was warm and the horse seemed happy to be useful and shown off. Some folks sat in the shade enjoying tea, cookies and muffins while some visitors, including a few seniors, took a turn to be drawn by a horse.

While taking people on the rides, I drove Moses by the patio for observers to get a closer view of this age-old activity. I am sure that for some of the young people, this step into an older world was brand new and mesmerizing. The picture (*below*) is of me driving with several of the folks standing by waiting for a ride. Art marshaled the troops on the ground and a young woman connected with the parish helped entertain the young people, and assist them to get on the cart when it was their turn. This month's cover photo includes a parishioner with her grandson, who may never have even *seen* a horse, never mind enjoyed a cart ride with one!

A good time was had by all. We enjoyed an afternoon out in God's creation, and who knows? Maybe after this exposure to a gentle, energetic horse, some of the young people might catch the horse fever!



## MANITOBA NEWS

'Moses' was bred by KEITH DOLL of DOUGLAS, Manitoba. His registered name is DUSTY'S TOUCH'N'GO 2874 and he was sired by Keith's old stallion, Black Kat's Smoke'N Fire out of Dakota Dusty Doll. She is still going strong at 25 years this spring and Keith hitches her up and goes for a drive every now and then. As Keith said "Just think - if we both survive another couple of years we could be Century Partners!"



Keith has the last sons and daughters of Honey Boy's Rebel at his farm north of Brandon, as well as several full siblings to Moses, such as Ginger 'N' Spice, seen above with Cole.

BARB FENWICK, CARBERRY, writes, "Thank you for putting Spirit's tribute in the last issue of *Walking Horse News*."

And thanks too for all you

continue to do to keep us informed."

"Wishing you all a smooth and fun year with your Walkers!"



## OUR DRIVING JOURNAL, ENTRY 2 by Brenda and Stephen Woodall

In the last issue we left off with completing the requirements for the Level 1 Driving Challenge with all 3 of our horses. We had not run into any major snags in that process and we were eager to continue on to the next steps.

We had read that the next step was to progress to a stone boat after ground driving. This requires a harness and a stone boat, both of which we were able to borrow from a friend. We did a number of things to get ready to hook to the stone boat. The harness had to be properly fitted, the stone boat required a safe "break away" system, and horses needed to be used to the noise it made sliding across the snow before being hooked to it. After that we put each horse through the process of hooking to the stone boat and having a handler lead them while the driver walked behind and reinforced guidance through the driving lines. This process went well for all 3 horses.

The next step was to remove the handler and here is where problems arose for us. The first horse we worked with was Grace, our oldest horse. It took Grace only minutes to figure out that since the stone boat was only hooked up to her by traces that she could take a few steps backwards to loosen the traces then step sideways and be out of at least one of the traces. And our reaction to that was to quickly release her from the stone boat in order to avoid a complete wreck. Since we had no training on how to correct this problem we were then at a standstill in our training plan.

That is when we called in some professional help. We are very blessed to have Bill Fraess, an experienced horse driving trainer in our community and he enjoys helping others wherever he can. Bill came to our place and gave us the training tools required to correct all the issues we had encountered with Grace and the stone boat. Bill does not encourage using a stone boat as there are no brakes on it so the chance of it running into the back of a horse makes it an unpopular training tool in his mind. I'm

sure that every trainer does things a little differently but this is our interpretation on what Bill was trying to teach us. It came down to retraining *ourselves* in these 4 areas of ground driving before moving on:

- stay closer behind the horse,
- use a driving whip with purpose and control,
- train with voice commands, and
- keep more contact on the driving lines.

These changes all needed to take place in order to maintain control in a larger variety of circumstances.

The whip becomes an extension of your arm to restrict unwanted side to side movement or restrict

unasked for backing up. To use the whip effectively for that purpose requires you to walk closer in behind the horse.

For voice commands Bill gave us examples of a panicked horse listening to voice commands over driving lines in many situations and I'm sure we

will find other uses for voice commands as we progress in training. And our biggest change was learning to drive "with contact". We ride our horses with halter hackamores and like to keep a keep a loose rein but that does not work for driving. All our horses needed to change over to bits for driving and we needed to learn the correct amount of pressure to maintain on the lines. As simple as those changes sound, it has actually taken a long time to learn and we are still working on it.

So that is where we will leave you for this issue. We are heading into warmer weather finally and with that will come better footing and more time outside to work on our driving. A recent phone conversation with another one of our Alberta driving experts, Windi Derman, has given us a number of exercises to do to get our horses used to the cart shafts, and we will tell you all about that in the next segment of our driving journal.

This is Tucker in a bit, with contact on the driving lines. I (Brenda) have a driving whip in my right hand, and I am standing fairly close behind him

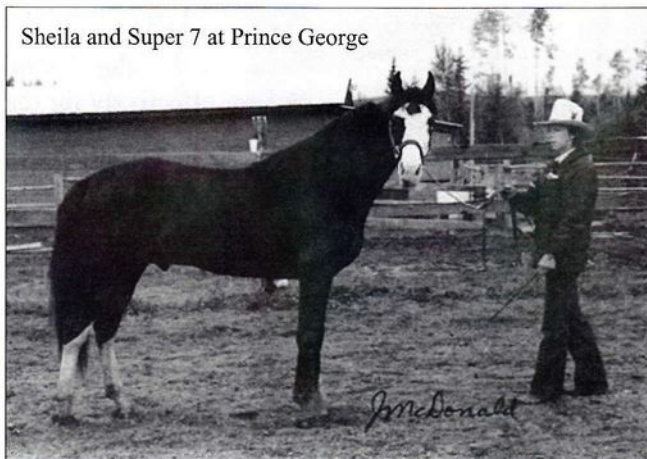


## FROM THE DUSTY FILES of *WHN*

### 30 YEARS AGO

The March/April 1984 *Walking Horse News* was 20 pages, printed by Gestetner on buff paper. The eighth Annual Stallion Issue, it advertised 22 stallions from B.C. across AB, SK, MB and ON, as well as a couple from MT. It also carried 25 TWH for sale ads!

The Alberta Walking Horse Association was advertising their Futurity, with three divisions in 1984, and an entry form. They also had a full page for the Third Annual AWA Spring clinic – “Hands On Training with Debbie Garfield Kincaid” along with a Training show to be held May 19 & 20 at Charlton Stables, Cochrane, AB.



Sheila and Super 7 at Prince George

A clinic at Prince George, BC on June 2-3 was to feature Lane Curry of Maple Valley, WA as clinician. *Above is Sheila Coburn showing their stallion, Shadow's Super Seven at that clinic. The photo was taken by Jo-Anne McDonald.*

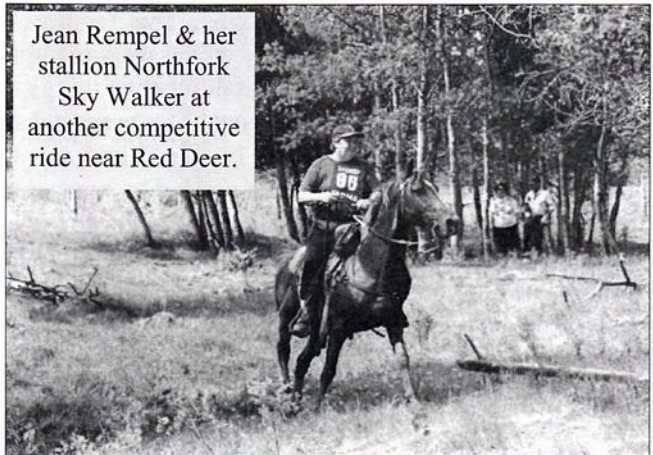
The AB Horse Improvement Program was offering two classes for Walking Horses for the first time, and the Yellowhead Walking Horse Assoc. had held their FUZZY Show and Clinic with Dale Huber on April 1, and included a parade of stallions.

### 20 YEARS AGO

The March/April 1994 issue was 40 photocopied pages inside a blue front cover and 3 pages of black and white cover ads. The front photo showed the eight TWH owner/riders who had won ribbons at the 1993 Tees, AB Competitive Trail Ride. They were Jo Kingsland, Ron Bannister, Norm Levangie, Ken Douglas, Jean Rempel and her daughters Mary and Diane, and Chelsah Sigurdson.

On the cover were Jean Rempel's Rocky Slopes Farm advertising her stallions, Northfork Sky

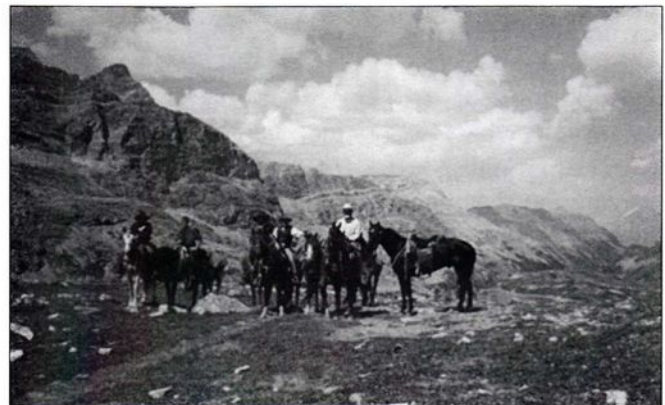
Walker and CR Sweetwater Sundance; Cole Farms Williams Kodiak; Snowbird Stables Midnight Toddy; Westridge Farms Go Shadow Go and Shaker's Royal Heir; Calta Stables Calta Caligula; McDonald Farms Dressed For Success and Tenkula Farm's Nugget's Summer Sun and Can-Am's Pride.



Jean Rempel & her stallion Northfork Sky Walker at another competitive ride near Red Deer.

### 10 YEARS AGO

The March/April 2004 issue cover looked very much like the current ones except all photos were in black and white. Pictured on the cover was Keith Oberle and friends on their TWH high in the mountains in Deception Pass, *below*.



There were 48 inside pages of which 20 were display and classified ads.

The 'centrefold' was the four page insert of the top scoring horses from 'The Canadian' Tennessee Walking Horse Futurity of 2003. A few of the TWH pictured were Caltas Miss Maya, top scoring weanling filly and Caltas Commander General, top scoring yearling gelding. Karla's Brave Heart was the overall top score entry, while Ridgewalker Diamond was the top scoring two year old colt. The horse with Driving Performance and the highest score over 5 years was Power's Canadian Copy.

## TRAINING YOUR WALKER WITH DIANE MEIS SEPT

**QUESTION:** Do you longe a young horse?

If so, do you aim to get a running walk;  
should they do this naturally at this stage  
without a rider;

do you stop them if they break into a trot?

Do you allow them to canter on a longe?

**ANSWER:** By 'young', I am going to take the liberty of thinking you mean two to three years of age.

Yes, I do longe my young horses. As a matter of fact I longe all my horses, no matter what age.

This form of schooling is an excellent way of allowing a horse to relax. And, as we have learned, there is no way our horses will perform well if not relaxed. Also we can take this opportunity to see what our horses' tendencies are in their movement.

I'm a firm believer in voice communication with a horse. Especially with pleasure horses or horses that more than one or two people are going to ride.

The longe line is a great means of this communication becoming understood. You must be very consistent with your commands, praises and reprimands. Tone of voice is extremely important. Praise must be praise. Criticism must be just that.

Don't expect the running walk out of the horse unless she is very natural or very schooled. This will come eventually but 'eventually' may be years. And that's okay, it's not important. This is not the benefit or importance of the longe line work.

The benefit is allowing a loose, relaxed flat walk. The horse isn't having to worry about the weight or movement of a rider on her back. This is why you must be consistent and quiet on the end of the line. Don't be bothering the horse with your 'nonsense'. Certainly the horse must be very aware of you as leader but not as agitator.

If you note that your horse takes even a hair longer stride, praise her. Then lay off the praise until she does something better again. She'll soon pick up on what she's doing that pleases you. Remember, most Walkers really enjoy pleasing.

Definitely disallow trotting on the longe line, especially if this is what the horse prefers to do in place of the running walk. If your horse breaks or begins to break into the trot, use your decided-on reprimand and bring her immediately back to a walk. But, the key here is not to allow her to die into a 'dog walk'. Insist on a walk with impulsion. You may find

this is when she achieves the best stride. Praise her and keep working toward extension.

You bet – canter on the longe. Age and body structure has to be a determinant here. I won't canter a two-year-old very long on the line because of the pressure and trauma allowed the inside legs. But, it's a great way to teach the transition into the canter with many strides to follow. Once again, the horse isn't having to contend with lifting herself *and* your weight into this gait. Relaxation is as great a benefit of the longe line for the canter as it is for the walk.

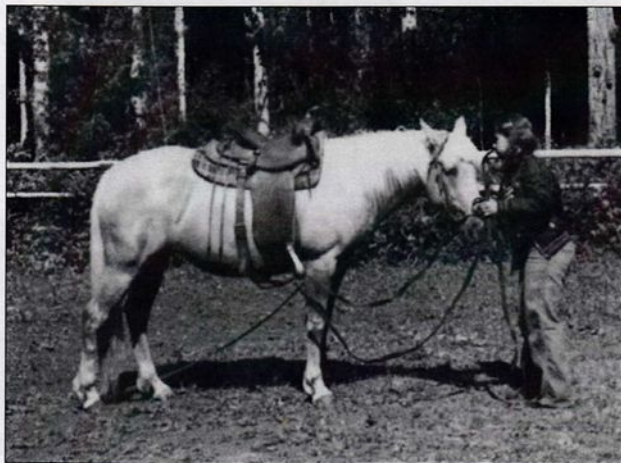
You're much better off if you have an enclosed round or square pen. Ideal size would be 50 – 60 feet in diameter. If you're not fortunate enough to have this arrangement, any kind of enclosure is better than none. Such as a regular riding ring where you have three sides enclosed when longeing, or even one or two walls is better than none.

The more enclosed your work area, the more balanced the horse will remain. This is because the horse is not trying to pull away from you toward the open space, and likewise you are not having to pull the horse toward you at the open parts of the circle. If either of these occur, this section of the circle is more detrimental than educational.

If you have an enclosed structure, you may find that once your horse understands your commands it is better to yet to longe without the line. Or, maybe alternate between free and line longeing. Once again, the benefit of free longeing is that there is no one-sided pull being put on the horse so she is better able to be balanced, and that is one of our main goals: balance. Please, any of you who decide to longe your horse, remember: These lessons don't begin on the end of a 20 – 30 foot line but on the halter rope with the horse at your side, until she understands your voice communication tools.

*Reprinted from Walking Horse News, Mar/April, 1984*

*Below: Diane Sept adjusts long lines on Uphill Arnica at a Walking Horse Field Day in Edson, AB in 1981.*



# BIG COUNTRY FIELD TRIALS 50TH ANNIVERSARY



The 50th Anniversary of the Big Country Trials was celebrated in Southern Alberta last August, 2013.

GAR BEACOM, CALGARY, sent a selection of photos from it, taken by Arnie Brown. He wrote, "You might be interested to know that after all that time we still run out of the yard where Larry Hauk lived. There have been various owners of the land but the current owners have cleaned up the yard, still welcome us, and are avid supporters of the trial. Larry was gone before I got involved with the trial but I continue to hear stories about him."

Long time subscribers will remember Larry Hauk. He was interested in TWH from the point of view of a dog trialer, and had a special fondness for the spotted ones. He wrote for *Walking Horse News* for several years until his death, and enjoyed stirring things up, as you might guess from the name of his column - "Horse Feathers"!



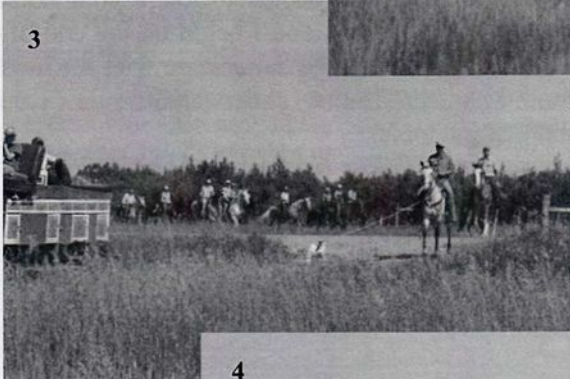
1

1. Cast off of next brace.

2. Handler and Judge out front, gallery following.

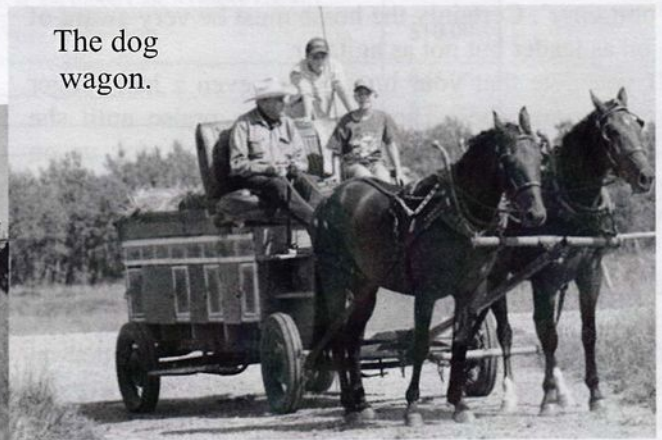


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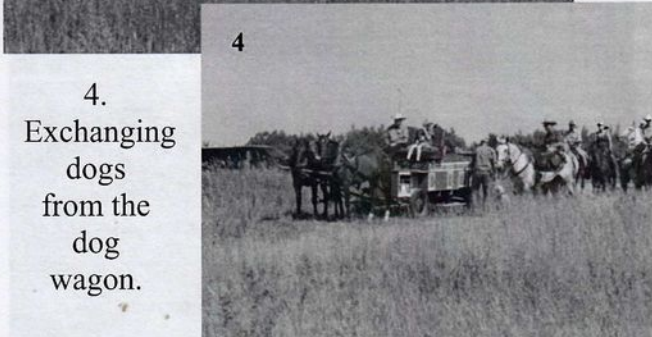


3

3. End of a brace - handler with dog, Judge and gallery.



The dog wagon.



4

4. Exchanging dogs from the dog wagon.



# The Canadian Walker

Volume 13, Issue 2

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

[www.facebook.com/crtwh](http://www.facebook.com/crtwh)

April, 2014

## CRTWH EXECUTIVE

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1-780-603-3391  
[president@crtwh.ca](mailto:president@crtwh.ca)

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[vice-president@crtwh.ca](mailto:vice-president@crtwh.ca)

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### Secretary: Leslie Hunchuk AB

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### Treasurer: Dianne Little, AB

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## BOARD MEMBERS

**AB Hilton Hack**  
403-826-0308

**AB Marjorie Lacy**  
780-723-2547

**BC Ralph Livingston**  
250-764-4482



## The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse will hold its 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on **May 10** at **Klondike Victory Farm** west of Red Deer, Alberta.  
*Members, mark your calendars! Official notices will be mailed in April.*

**THERE WILL BE A GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP Clinic WITH  
BILL ROY**, with individual attention for the new or experienced horse.

**May 10-11** *Space is limited to 8 participants. Book early.*

Please phone Dianne at **1-403-271-7391** or email [treasurer@crtwh.ca](mailto:treasurer@crtwh.ca)

NOMINATIONS in November resulted in the acclamation of Fran Kerik as Alberta Director and of Sue Gamble as Ontario Director. Maureen Hummel, BC Director, has resigned from the Board. Thank you, Maureen, for being Recording Secretary over the past several years. We'll miss you.

## CRTWH at Mane Event, Red Deer, AB - April 25 - 27, 2014

Once again CRTWH will have a booth at the Red Deer, AB Mane Event.

Members who would like to help promote our horses at the booth may volunteer by contacting Dianne Little, CALGARY, AB at **403-271-7391** or [ddlittle@telus.net](mailto:ddlittle@telus.net).

The Gaited Horse clinician at Mane Event will be Jennifer Bauer. Organizers say, "We are pleased to bring Jennifer Bauer to the Red Deer Mane Event, April 25 - 27, 2014 as our Gaited Horse clinician. Jennifer Bauer is an internationally known gaited horse clinician. She apprenticed with Larry Whitesell of Whitesell Gaited Horsemanship for five years before starting her own business and she continues to work with Larry conducting clinics and events. Jennifer conducts clinics around the USA and Canada. She also conducts private clinics for people with gaited horses, focusing on equitation and gaited horse problems and issues."

To participate in these sessions contact [riders@maneeventexpo.com](mailto:riders@maneeventexpo.com) for an application or call **(250) 578-7518**.

## ASK REGIE

Dear Regie,

When is the best time to register my foal? She is about nine months old now.

*Proud Owner*

Dear Owner,

The cheapest rate for registering your foal is anytime from birth up to a year of age. It will cost \$40 if you are a member, \$80 for a non member. After one year, the registration fees keep increasing the longer you leave it.

It is a good idea to wait until the foal is close to a year old, because baby hair is so fine that it can be hard to get the root bulbs on the mane hairs. You'll need these for the DNA analysis for parentage verification.

Another reason to wait until Baby is nearly a year is to be sure of her colour. Foals can be like chameleons for changing colour - but usually you'll be sure by one year of age!

Be Proud - Register your filly! *Regie*

Join up with us on

**([www.facebook.com/crtwh](http://www.facebook.com/crtwh))**

More than 350 others already have.

*Sue Gamble*



## CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SCHEDULE OF FEES 2014

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 ( <b>PLUS</b> add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$40.00	\$80.00
b. After 12 but less than 18 months of foaling ( <b>PLUS</b> add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$60.00	\$120.00
c. After 18 but less than 24 months of foaling ( <b>PLUS</b> add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$125.00	\$250.00
d. After 24 months of foaling: ( <b>PLUS</b> add DNA fee - see 6a below) <i>Non-refundable fee of \$125.00 if application is rejected.</i>	\$300.00	\$500.00
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	\$40.00
b. After 1, but before 3 months of date of sale	\$30.00	\$60.00
c. After 3 months of date of sale	\$50.00	\$100.00
5. ALTERATION OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Change of colour	\$20.00	\$40.00
b. Change of gender (gelded) <i>No charge if requested at same time as paid transfer to a new owner.</i>	\$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 DNA profiled, & 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 Statutory Declaration.</i>	\$40.00	\$80.00

*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.)

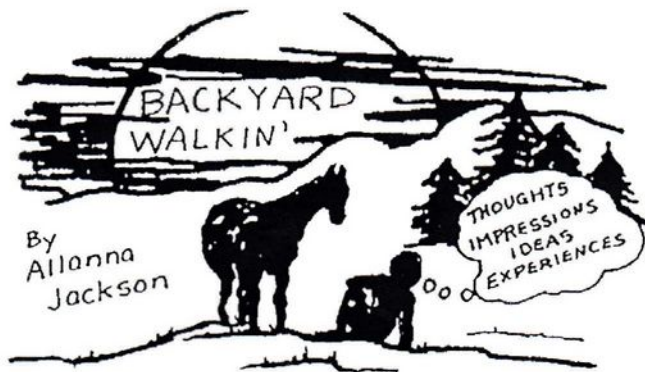
*Please submit to:*

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.

Both parents must have blood, or both must have DNA records on file for the foal to be parentage verified.

CLRC [www.clrc.ca](http://www.clrc.ca) CRTWH Home Page: <http://www.crtwh.ca> e-mail: [secretary@crtwh.ca](mailto:secretary@crtwh.ca)



## Natural Gait Control, Part 1

### WHY IT WORKS

by Allanna Lea Jackson ©June 2008

(adapted from "Riding By The Seat Of Your Pants"  
July 2008 Walking Horse Journal)

When you ride a horse you are sitting on the power control center of the horse's movement. The horse's response to the rider's seat is instinctive. This makes your seat the purest, most natural, and most direct communication you have with the horse. To understand why this is so, let's start with an oversimplified look at the physics of equine anatomy.

Starting with the horse's 'engine' (hindquarters) we see that the hind legs are angled in several directions and change angles at every joint. The hind legs act as levers that multiply and direct the power supplied by the horse's muscles. The tendons and ligaments act as the pulleys that apply the muscle power to the bone levers to move the horse. The horse's hind legs are attached to its spine with a direct bone-to-bone connection at the pelvis.

The front legs are straight, except at the pasterns, acting as support pillars for the horse's body. The front legs are attached to the body only by muscles, tendons and ligaments, with no bone to bone connection. The horse's body is suspended between the forelegs by the muscles, tendons and ligaments, an arrangement called the thoracic sling. Because muscles, tendons, and ligaments are soft tissue they are flexible and can stretch or contract. The horse can move its body forward and back, side to side, or very slightly up and down within the thoracic sling, all without moving its front feet.

The head is approximately 5% of the horse's weight. The horse's neck puts this weight at the

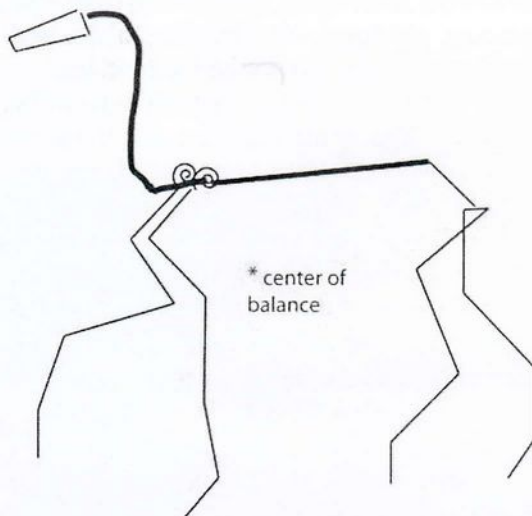
end of a lever, making the head a very effective counter weight for the levers of the hind legs. Because the head and neck are extended in front of the legs the horse's center of balance is in the middle of its body just above and slightly behind the horse's elbows at the heart girth. The thoracic sling makes it possible for the horse to move its center of balance a little bit, but not very far. When we talk about shifting the horse's weight on to his hindquarters, the horse actually moves the hind legs forward under the center of balance, more than the center of balance moves backwards. The horse does this by rounding its loins, tipping its pelvis and stepping further under itself with the hind legs.

The horse's spine is somewhat flexible, like a cable. The spine can flex all along its length and in different directions and places, but the neck is more flexible than the back. The vertical position of the spine at the rear, where the horse's spine and pelvis meet, can be changed only by flexing or compressing the hind legs. The spine is attached in the middle to the forelegs but the thoracic sling makes this attachment somewhat flexible so the spine can arch or sag, within a narrow range. The front end of the spine (neck) with the counterweight of the horse's head, is loose and very flexible. The counter weight (head) can push the cable (spine) down to the bottom of its range of travel within the pillars (thoracic sling) which puts a sag in the cable. Or the counterweight can lift the cable to the top of the pillar, putting an arch in the cable. Moving the levers closer to the pillars also puts an arch in the cable, but at a different place in the cable.

In trotting horses, letting the spine sag or putting an arch in the back merely changes the style and quality of the trot. In multi-gaited horses sagging or arching the spine completely changes which gait the horse does. When the horse's spine is arched to the top of the thoracic sling the horse's movement becomes more diagonal, with the maximum arch resulting in trot. When the horse's spine sags to the bottom of the thoracic sling the horse's gait becomes more lateral. If the horse is homozygous for the amble/pace/rack gait gene mutation its most sagging spine position will result in a 2-beat pace.



If the horse has inherited only one copy of the amble/pace/rack gene mutation, its most lateral movement may be one of the four beat gaits. Because the horse's head is a counterweight, a high head position tends to push the cable down the pillar, while lowering the head and arching the neck tends to lift and arch the spine. However, the horse's spine is flexible all along its length so it is possible for the horse to lift its back with the head up. It is also possible for the horse's back to sag with the head low and extended. The horse's spine may also sag at the loins, which also encourages lateral movement.



The significance of all this is that when we ride a horse we are sitting directly above the horse's center of balance, just behind the support column of the front legs. We are sitting on top of the mid-point of the spine where the body moves within the thoracic sling with that free-swinging head and neck counterweight in front of us. An adult rider, without a saddle, puts a load of 15% - 25% of the horse's body weight on top of his power control center so everything that you do with your body will influence the horse. The horse can't ignore the rider's body position. The laws of physics won't let him.

This is such a purely natural communication that horses respond to the rider's seat instinctively the very first time they are ridden. We don't have to teach this. All we do is refine it with training. It is we, the riders, who need schooling to learn the most effective use of the power control panel in our seat to help our horses do their inherited gait(s) when we want them to.



## What Is THE CANADIAN TRIPLE CHALLENGE?



The CRTWH Triple Challenge is comprised of three Programs: the Training Levels (TLC), the Program For Excellence (PFE) and the Ride, Drive, ALT Program. Each section is a Voluntary, Permanent and Public Record of Achievement for horses registered in the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse. Each section of 'The Canadian Triple Challenge' is directly related to and designed in accordance with the Mission, Values, and Vision of the CRTWH. All three programs may be carried out on your own or with a group, at your own speed, wherever you live.

Here is how it works. The Training Levels is a program that will give you a structure for training and working with your horse. It starts with Basic Skills, such as catching, leading, loading, etc. - skills that must be mastered first before going on to any further Levels. Then you may choose the Driving Levels, Horsemanship Levels, and/or Trail Riding. If you decide to take your horse beyond any one of these, your mastery of three or more may lead to the Ultimate Canadian Horse Award. Reach your training goals for your horse in a fun, incremental and rewarding way, and have your achievements recognized.

The Program For Excellence is one that breeders, especially, will appreciate. This is an evaluation of your horse against a standard by an Independent Judges Association certified judge - but you don't have to take the horse to the judge! You send a DVD of the horse, its movement, conformation and attitude, to the judge through the Challenge administrator. By taking your horse through the Program For Excellence you can have your horse professionally evaluated according to its age and training. The level achieved, whether GOLD, SILVER, or BRONZE, will be proudly displayed as a public record of achievement entered on your horse's CRTWH registration papers, and will follow the horse through its registered offspring forever.

We'll explain the third program of the Triple Challenge, the Ride, Drive, ALT, in a future issue.

Full information on the Triple Challenge can be found on [www.crtwh.ca](http://www.crtwh.ca) or phone one of the CRTWH Directors for more information.

# What Would You Like to Do with Your Walker?



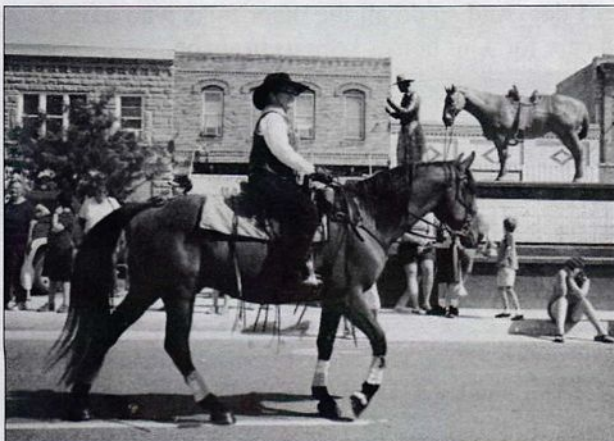
*We all have dreams of what we'd like to do with our horses...  
 Pack into the mountains or gallop across the prairie?  
 Ride in a parade? Drive a team of shiny black horses?  
 Win your class at a horse show?  
 Train your Walker to do tricks or work at liberty?  
 Maybe even gallop bareback through the surf?  
 Whatever your dream, Now is the time to start realizing it.  
 Participating in the CRTWH Triple Challenge can help you reach your goals. The CRTWH Training Levels offer a fun, incremental and rewarding way to achieve success.  
 Have your horse evaluated by taking him through the Program For Excellence.*



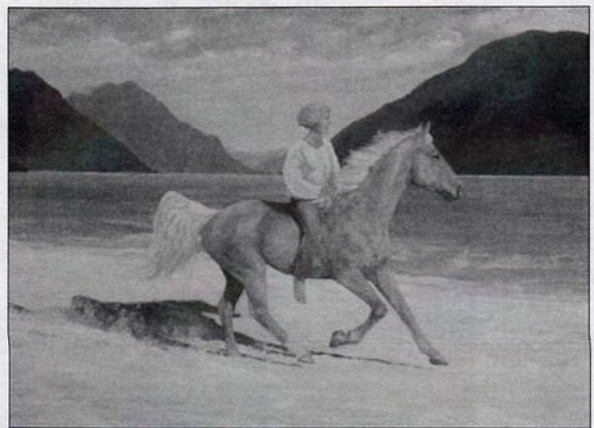
Thank you to all who helped illustrate our dreams:



Glenn Robinson & his team of 4 matched black TWH, Bill Howes & Koko, Danielle & Diamond Lil, T'Lara & Spook, Natalie & Trigger, Sue, Koki & Fixie.



*What dreams do You have for your TWH ?*



## ASK A TRAINER with **BILL ROY**

### BACK TO BASICS

I have had a lot of people come to me for help over the years. Almost always, part of the problem goes back to the basics. Just as we have trouble in life without our ABC's, a horse doesn't have much hope in his relationship with people if he hasn't learnt his basics. I don't mean memorizing the alphabet song, I mean *knowing* it.

The basics for the horse begin with yielding to pressure. A foal begins this at his dam's side when she moves him from one side to the other to nurse. We build on the dam's training by teaching the horse to give to pressure from the ground. Using energy with pressure and release for reward, we teach the horse until he KNOWS (and has wrapped his mind around it) - that yielding, responding to different pressure in different places, results in a release or reward.

When the horse knows and calmly accepts cues...

- to lead and back up,
- to move to the side from both sides,
- to move forehand or haunches to the left or right when asked,
- understands that increased energy means *more* movement and
- no energy means none,
- accepts your lead,

Then he has the basics and you can build from there.

A lot of Walking Horses are easy to just get on and ride. This is great if you have a one person horse. But if you should want to sell, have someone else ride, or try something new, your horse needs to know the basics.

As a trainer, I find that telling people to go back to some groundwork seems to feel to them like I'm giving them a demotion. But it's not. It's just good horsemanship. If I start a horse young I may have to go back to ground work again when the horse is older because even though it responded the way I wanted at the time, it may not completely know. Part of the focus, clarity or softness may be missing, because the horse's mind was too immature learn it back then.

I have learnt over the years that whenever I run into a problem, the best thing to do is to go back until I find steps the horse knows, then move on from

there. A horse that knows hasn't skipped any steps. Pushing a horse through resistance doesn't equal knowing. All equitation is just refinement of the basics

Start with groundwork, then do the ground work with the saddle, then do the ground work again in the saddle, etc. You have to build up to everything with horses. Without the basics of knowing, you can't build sound horse relationships. With a lot of missing steps, the staircase is shaky and hard to use. It's just as the alphabet would be for us with letters missing.

*Bill*

### HORSES AS 'PERSONAL TRAINERS'

We usually think of horses as "being trained" while we humans are the trainers. Well, there is another side to that picture, as I discovered very clearly this winter. The horses are MY 'personal trainers'.

They make sure that I get out and walk every day, no matter how cold the temperature, how rough the wind or how deep the snow. Strength training too? Absolutely! Carry those buckets of water, and don't forget the pellets or oats. Haul out the bales of hay and spread it on nice clean places for them to eat. (They will be sure to mess up those spots for tomorrow - after all, they expect you to walk a bit farther every day as you get in better condition.)

Do they allow you any time off this regimen? Perhaps exercise five days with weekends off? Or go through your routine every second day? No way! Not a single day off, do it morning and evening, and no sick days either!

Now I know that if I were to sign up for an aerobics class or a gym membership, decided to try my luck with Spa Lady or began a course in yoga, my resolve would fail. On the minus 30 days, the snow storm days, the "I just don't feel up to it" days, I simply wouldn't show up. But how can a person fail to get out to feed and water the horses that depend on you? And so I do. And so do all the other folks who have horses to care for. Our horses keep us in shape.



## **SOCIETY'S DAN ALLEN** Part Two by Franne Brandon

The initial foals sired by Society's Dan Allen were raised by his owner/breeder Billy Taylor at Confederate Hills Farm. The first one to arrive was the black sabino Echo's Duke, out of the black Midnight Sun granddaughter Sun's Midnight Myriah. He was sold in the spring of 2000 to Mary Ann Funk of Casey, Illinois. She gave him the barn name of Charley and was delighted with the youngster. The second was a filly that Billy registered as Echo's Bon Bon, a classic black sabino out of the bay Midnight Sun granddaughter, Sun's Midnight Bonnie. Bon Bon went to Mary Ann's sister Connie Sullivan, who rode her the summer that the filly was two, but had to sell her the next year. Billy got her back, and began using her for his own trail mare. He remembers that "she was well-gaited, no pace or trot, just a nice running walk. I had more horses than I needed at the time and sold her to Angelo Guerci from Crema, Italy. Angelo still has her." In fact, Angelo was so impressed by Echo's Bon Bon that he bought another Dan Allen filly from Billy. As a gesture of appreciation, Billy says, "I gave him Taylor's June Girl (Dolly) in foal to Dan Allen. She had a filly that Angelo is keeping for a broodmare. He says that she is one of his best horses. Angelo also bought a stud colt from Danny Taylor; he is by Society's Dan Allen and out of Echo's Merry Co-Ed. His name is Dan's Matt Dillon. Angelo has four mares and one stallion by Dan Allen; he is linebreeding back to Paige's Echo through these mares and stallion."

Because Dan Allen's first foals had arrived in 1999, currently, they range in age from teen-aged horses to youngsters, but many are old enough to find their lifetime niches. Billy reports that "Most everyone that has offspring of Dan Allen won't sell them because of how well they like them. After Dan Allen's death, I have been looking for a mare by him; I haven't located one for sale yet. Most of the Dan Allen get make good pleasure horses because of their good, willing minds and smooth gaits. That's the kind of horse most people are interested in for trail riding." Billy goes on to say that Dan Allen offspring, along with the other horses he raised by old Paige's Echo, "...are horses with quiet and willing minds, they have the ability and desire to learn new things; they seem to want to please their owners. Also, they typically have an excellent natural four beat gait with good stride. Echo-bred horses are making a name for

themselves as excellent pleasure horses in several states, also in Italy, Israel, and Belgium. They are typically good using horses similar to the horses bred and raised by our forefathers prior to the breeding trends to produce big lick show horses."



*A sabino filly, approximately twenty months old, by Society's Dan Allen and out of Echo's Merry Co-Ed, a full sister to Gen Jeb Stuart, below.*

With Dan Allen gone at an unexpectedly early age, Billy does not, of course, have a mature son to replace his sire in the stud. Foaled in June of 2013 was a chestnut colt by Dan and out of Echo's Merry Co-Ed, a daughter of Paige's Echo, making this colt linebred to Paige's Echo. Billy thinks, "He reminds me of Dan Allen when he was a foal, has the same attitude as Dan and has an excellent gait. He gaits almost all the time at liberty. I will keep him as a breeding prospect." In addition to this chestnut, named GEN JEB STUART CSA, his dam is hopefully back in foal to Dan Allen for a 2014 baby. Billy is keeping his fingers crossed that this upcoming foal will be another nice colt.

The only other stallion by Society's Dan Allen, at least in North America, is a maximum sabino son out of Chance's Society Paige, a daughter of Paige's Echo out of Chance's Sally Allen T by Chance's Gold Dust H. The young stallion is owned by Greg McGinnis of Washburn, in East Tennessee. This colt, Echo's Society Sam Allen, is a well-gaited youngster, which is evidenced by his YouTube video

filmed when he was still in basic training. Sam Allen has been bred to McGinnis' black mare by Dan Allen and out of Sun's Midnight Rena, for a spring, 2014, foal, which will be the first for both parents.

Billy owns four Paige's Echo daughters, the older pair turning eighteen in the spring of 2014 and the younger pair turning seventeen. Billy notes "I plan to breed some of these mares to Society's Lee Allen and breed some to Sun's Smokey Midnight. I will keep fillies by these two stallions and continue to line breed back to Paige's Echo through Society's Lee Allen and maybe a son of Dan Allen. Also, I will line breed back to Midnight Sun thru Smokey and his sons and daughters. I will also cross breed these two bloodlines; by doing this, I am line breeding back to Wilson's Allen."

Billy finishes his thoughts on his late, much loved stallion by saying "I always gave Dan Allen credit for being very intelligent and willing to do what was asked of him, but I think his best attribute was the fact that he liked people; he never looked at us as predators. He liked everyone that came in contact with him, and he passed this on to his get. That's what makes the Echo-bred horses different from a lot of other horses."

Society's Dan Allen leaves behind a blooded legacy from his sire's grandsire Wilson's Allen, from Red Bud's Rascal, who was his dam's sire, from Merry Boy, and from twelve lines to Boone's Grey John, the mystery stallion foaled from a Union officer's abandoned mare. Bramlett F-9 and Buford F -11 both stood in Franklin County while their owner held teaching posts there. This blend of Allen and non-Allen lines will be greatly missed when breeding season, 2014, begins in Middle Tennessee, but hopefully, Dan Allen's sons and daughters will carry forward this inheritance of gaits, intelligence, willingness, and love of people as they begin their journeys at their new zip codes.



## NAME YOUR BABY by Marjorie Lacy

I've been trying to think of a good name for Betty's 2013 buckskin baby so I was looking through the 1935 TWHBAA Stud Book the other day. There are a wealth of names there. There were all the Allen horses of course – Allen's Ace, Allen's Prince, Allen's Buttercup as well as those with the Allen 'surname' – Flash Allen, Kate Allen, Lindy Ann Allen. Naming horses after a predominant family line is a common theme in the Studbook. It still is. The previous story tells us of Society's Dan Allen, named for Allen and a prominent sire of the past, Society Man. We don't see the name 'Allen' as much these days, but it still crops up occasionally. (I named one of our foals Uphill Christy Allen, but that's another story...)

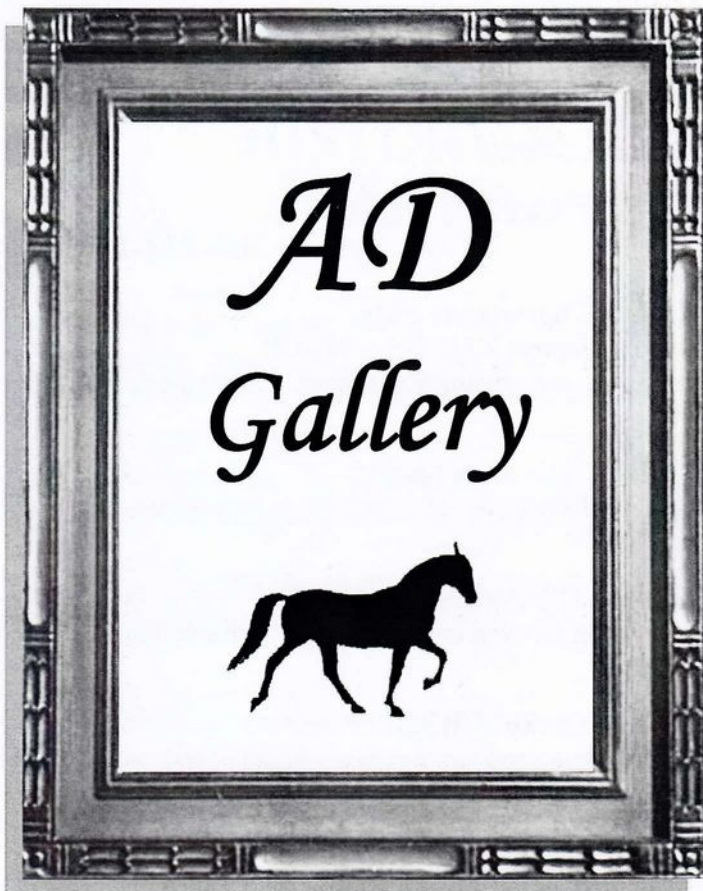
There were also many folks at the start of the TWH registry whose horses had regular short, easy horse names. So when the opportunity to enter them in the newly opened registry came along, they simply added their own surname. Thus W.B. Garrett's mares, Bess and Mabel, became Mabel Garrett 360163 and Bess Garrett 360164. Others did it the other way around – Mr. Adcock of Unionville, TN owned Adcock's Silver King 370397 and Curlee's Spotted Allen was the property of Dave Curlee of Woodbury, TN. Do you know of any current examples? Lots of people nowadays name their horses with their farm name, but that didn't seem as common back then.

There were those who picked their horses' names for colour or markings. Examples I saw in Volume I were Star, Boots, and Brownie. Sorrel Allen 360188 was a mare owned by W.S. Joplin, Petersburg, TN. Some people were a little more creative - Silver King 360182 was a grey horse, Cream Puff 350174, a 'yellow' mare. Can't you just see Bald Stockings 370396? What colour and marking would you guess for Lemon Star 360231? And we'll never know if Silver Slippers 360157 came by her name because of her matched hind socks.

Others named horses by their movement, so there was Frisky 380047, Flitter Foot 370514, Blaze of Motion 370493, Stepping Sally 370409 and Nodding Bob 370411. Some people picked names of famous folk of the day, so there was a Shirley Temple 350169, Ginger Rogers 370458, May West 360167, and even a Fibber McGee 370488!

There were poetic names too, like Maytime 370337, Desert-Gold 360016, Flowing Stream 360172 and Cherry Blossom 350107. Others, like Bubbling Over 380003, and Boo Hoo 370503 were just strange – there must be a story behind them!

When it comes time to register *your* foal, what sort of name will *you* choose?



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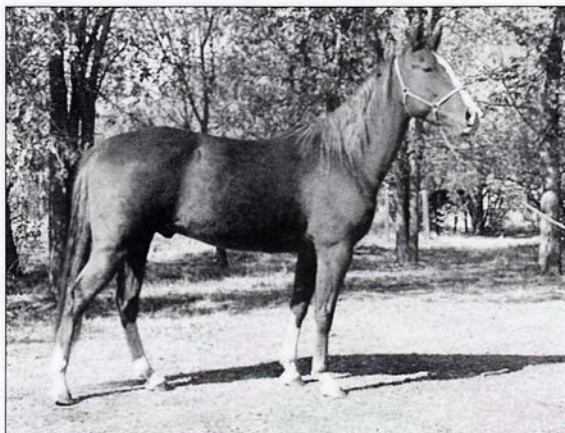
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## TUFFI'S FANCY - 2012 Black Filly with blaze.

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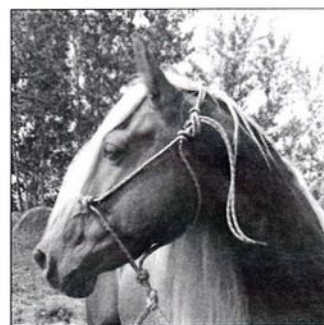
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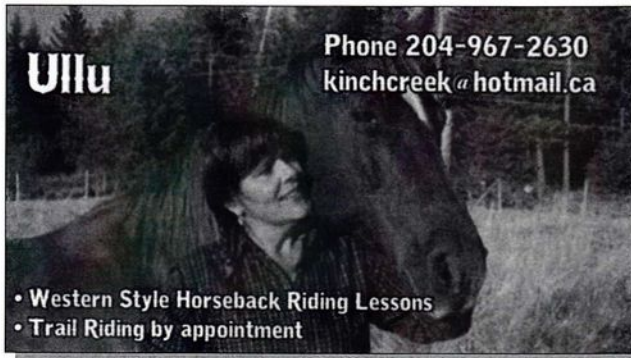


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**THE ECHO OF HOOFBEATS** - The History of the Tennessee Walking Horse by Bob Womack. Published by Dabora, Inc., Shelbyville, TN. Available on-line.

**FOSH'S COLLECTION of TRAINING ARTICLES** - 23 of the best articles written on training Tennessee Walkers. Available for \$20 (US) including shipping from [www.fosh.info](http://www.fosh.info) or phone 1-800-651-7993 or from Friends Of Sound Horses, Inc., 6614 Clayton Rd. #105, St. Louis, MO 63117.

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