



Walking Horse

News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977



Walking Horse News

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On Our Cover

“Give us a kiss, then...”

Images Rascal
and Zia Hull share
a tender moment at
Magnolia Meadows,
near Evansburg, AB.

Zia is Maureen and
Greg Germscheid's
granddaughter.

See page 9 for the
new foals
reported to date
in 2014.

Photo by Zia's mom,
Becky Hull

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for Mar/Apr issue
MARCH 7

for May/June issue
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Volume XXXVIII, # 3 May/June, 2014

Dear Subscribers,

Well, we had a thunderstorm today, the leaves are coming out on the aspens and there's *green grass*, so maybe winter has finally packed it in and gone. And good ride-dance. It felt like it would never end!

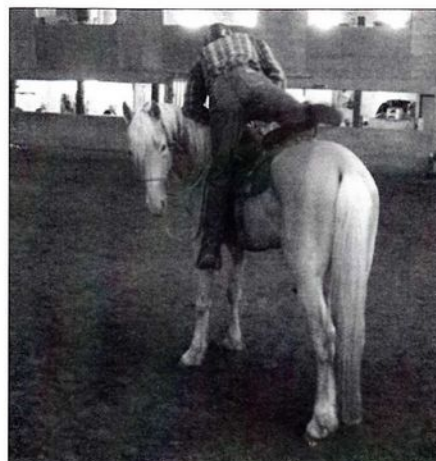
CRTWH held a very successful clinic at Klondike Victory Farm on May 10 and 11. Limited to eight participants, the clinic allowed each person approximately an hour of individualized instruction each day. Bill Roy, the clinician, started by asking each participant just what he or she wanted help with, and then they spent their time patiently working on it. The difference in some of the horses from day one to day two was quite amazing.

People also learned a lot just by watching and listening carefully during each session. The group was a very eager and diligent one, and all I spoke to felt that it had been a most worthwhile weekend. Several were already keen to sign up right away for the next "Gait From the Ground Up" Clinic with Bill. See a few photos on page 15.

I'd really like more news from you all! As you can see, it's pretty sparse this issue. Send a note in your renewal or email the happenings at your place. A new foal, a horse bought or sold, a training tip you'd like to pass along or a ride you went on, opinions on articles - it's of interest to the rest of us. We'd love to hear from you! (And please don't forget to renew your subscription - preferably as soon as you see the first reminder on this page!)

Have a great summer, Everyone,

Marjorie



Only one Tennessee Walking Horse qualified for an award in the CRTWH Program For Excellence in 2013. Fran Kerik's young homebred stallion, CSR Gold Fever, was awarded his Silver standing in the Program at the Annual Meeting on May 10.

Congratulations,
Fran and Mel!

WHN makes a
great gift!

Walking Horse News

June, 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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Thank You for Advertising in

Walking Horse News.

Thank you to all who supplied photos for this issue, especially those for the AGM, Triple Challenge Awards, and Clinic. Appreciate your help, Pat Chambers, Ralph Livingston, and Brenda Woodall!

HISTORY & HERITAGE

CENTURY PARTNERS 2014

The **CRTWH CENTURY PARTNERS** Program honours people who have owned their Walker for many years, and are members or supporters of CRTWH or have their horse registered with CRTWH. Their age plus that of their horse must total 100 years or more. A partnership totaling a century - this is amazing.

This year we have three more folks joining this select group. Here are the nominations and some of their stories.

Below, Jo-Anne McDonald nominated

JAYNE WALKER and NANCY'S SECRET PRIDE.

Nancy's Secret Pride, born in 1984, was sired by Secret's Upstart and out of Little Nancy Go Go. Jayne Walker of Dawson Creek, BC bought this big bay gelding when he was three years old. Jayne and Secret did lots of touring in his first few years with her. They enjoyed many trail rides together, some of them being the Cadomin Mountain trails in Alberta, The Cariboo Ride in central B.C., as well as many local trail rides.

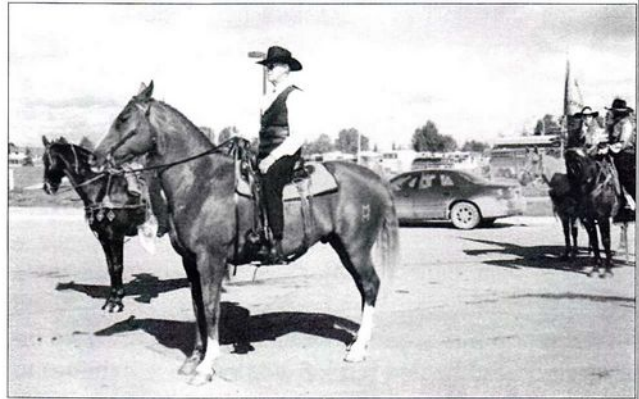
While they were on the Cariboo Ride, another lady on the ride fell in love with Secret. She just HAD to have him, so Jayne sold him to her. Some years later, when his new owner could no longer keep him, Jayne bought Secret back, and they have continued their partnership to this day.

Secret loves parades too, as you can see by the picture, below. Secret is a happy and healthy 30 years young in 2014 and he and Jayne (who makes up the rest of the 100) still go for rides around the farm. Secret has always been a willing, able partner.

How wonderful to have been associated with one horse that long! They are truly Century Partners.



MURRAY MCCARGAR and RANGER



On February 19, 2014 Murray McCargar and Ranger qualified as Century Partners. Murray was literally counting the days until he and Ranger could become Century Partners. He sent me the following as of February 19

- Murray 76 and 55 days
- Ranger 23 and 310 days
- TOTAL 99 years and 365 days.

I therefore nominate Murray McCargar and Ranger as Century Partners.

Dianne Little

As a young boy, Murray wanted his own horse, but got a bike instead. His friends had horses and wanted a bike, so Murray had a valuable trade – a ride on a bike for a ride on a horse.

Murray saw his first Walker in 1950 and bought his first one in 1977. Murray was very active in the sport of Field Trialing. Murray has continued his promotion of the Tennessee Walking Horse by participating in demonstrations, booth "duty" at the Calgary Stampede and parades throughout Alberta.

For the past number of years, Ranger has been Murray's partner at these events in addition to riding throughout Southern Alberta.

Canadian Choice – Ranger. Murray says, "I will never sell Ranger. He always does what I want. He is a good horse."

To see more photos and stories of the Century Partners, go to the website
www.CRTWH.CA.

DON McDONALD & MISTY DARK DELITE

Story by Jo-Anne McDonald

Don's and Darkie's collaboration began in 1981 when we purchased a stud fee at a local stallion auction. The breeding was to the Tennessee Walker stallion named LH Sur Me Big. We decided to take one of our good mares, Doll O' The Mist, to this local stallion.

On May 29, 1982 a bright eyed black colt was born to this union. We decided on the name Misty Dark Delite M. All things proceeded as usual for that first summer. Darkie was weaned in the fall with the rest of the foals. In the spring of 1983 we had someone who wanted to purchase Darkie for his future herd sire.

It was then that we noticed that Darkie had a coordination problem. We called the veterinarian for a diagnosis. He took one look and said he was a "wobbler". What was this all about? The vet examined Darkie and it was apparent that he had sustained an injury (which had healed but left white hair remaining) to the near side of his neck. Apparently this is where all the main nerve centers run to control his back end. Darkie appeared as a drunk would walk, he staggered and swayed and was not all that safe to be around as his stopping was quite uncoordinated and sometimes he would just fall down. As we searched for answers as to how he had been hurt we found pictures of Darkie before he was weaned and saw that he already had the white spot, so whatever happened to him must have happened as a baby. We speculated that he may have run into a stick while out at pasture.

Needless to say the sale was off, but Darkie blossomed into a beautiful stallion. We had not had him gelded as our vet said he would not likely survive coming out of the anaesthetic with his condition. We considered having him put down but the vet assured us his condition was not painful or hereditary but due to the injury on his neck. He was so beautiful that we decided to try him at stud. We bred a couple of our own mares before offering him at public stud, just to make sure he could not pass the problem on. He was also learning to cope with his disability as he matured and was moving in a much more normal manner, apparently common with this type of injury. The fact that Darkie was a horse of stallion quality and not a riding horse likely saved his life in this case.

Darkie sired those first two foals for us and they were just fine. One is Dark Star Delite owned by Sandy Amy of British Columbia. There was also a full brother to Delite who was known as Patience Delite. Since then Darkie has sired many foals over his 32 years and we still have three of his daughters here on the farm. In fact we had to buy two of them as Darkie was notorious for giving us the stud colts while everyone else got the fillies.



Darkie has a wonderful nature, very easy going and nice to handle, and a nice gait... when he finally got it together. His foals too are easy going and therefore they tend to be level headed and have that wonderful natural gait.

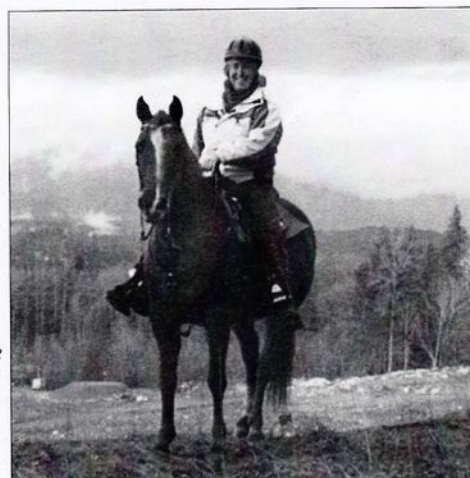
Just the other day as we were talking of Darkie, I reminded the vet of what he'd said to us 31 years ago. He had said that likely Darkie would not live too long and we would just find him gone one morning. The vet just grinned and said, "What can I say". We are so glad Darkie proved him wrong.

Darkie has been a joy to have around, only escaping once in 32 years. That time he collected two mares, Handshaker Candy and Sage King's Diamond and her twins. My, he was proud of himself! I thought I would just put him back in his corral but Darkie had other ideas now he had his own band of mares. I had to call Don home from work to assist with the separation.

We know that, at his age, he will be gone one day soon, and we do so dread that day.

*Nominated by
M. Lacy,
Edson, AB*

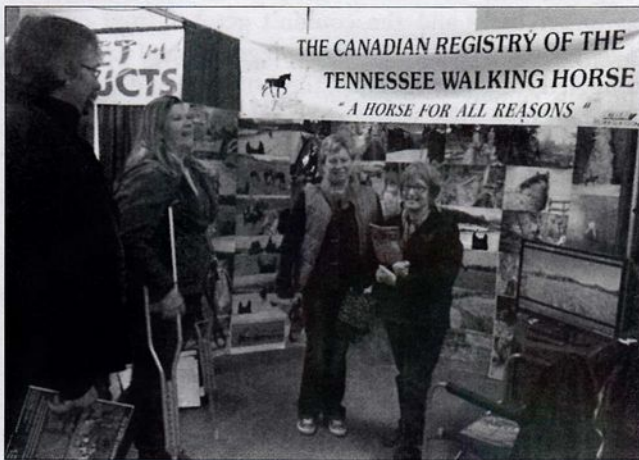
*One of
Darkie's
first 2 foals,
Dark Star Delite
(now owned by
Sandy Amy)
with Jana
Jacobson up.*



NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

From KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, AB, "Hello, Fellow TWH Enthusiasts. Dare I say 'Happy Spring'?" (Although I hear they are calling for snow yet again. I guess the adage "April Showers bring snow plowers" fits this year!")

"I have had a few rides now, so life is good. I'm glad to be out without the ice underfoot. I've started my three-year-olds on figuring out how to drive, so that's giving *me* some much-needed exercise after a long hibernation."



"I was impressed with the number of people who were at the Canadian Registry of the TWH booth at the Mane Event this year - *Photo above*. Great to see familiar faces, and meet some new people interested in the *Smooth* ride our horses provide."

"I look forward to the AGM and seeing you at the clinic."

BARRY WALL, DELISLE, SK wrote, "There's not much happening at our place other than starting a couple of colts. Dad and Mom (Ernie and Mavis Wall) have a foal coming from my mare this spring. Both the mare and foal will be for sale. The stallion has Generator 101 and Pusher blood lines and the mare has Tennessee Golddust bloodlines. I have had two colts from this stallion and mare combination. They are flashy and have great temperaments. I started the first colt last year and he is coming along really nicely and learning quickly."

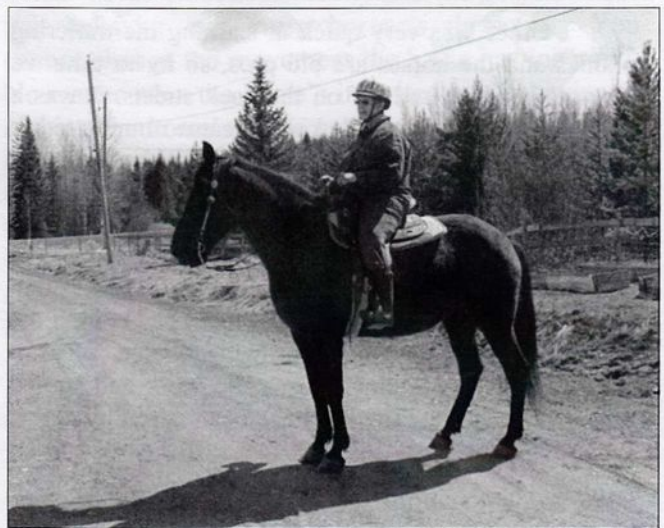
From FRAN KERIK, CHRYSAL STAR RANCH, TWO HILLS, AB, "Spring is *trying* to spring, but with all the new snow you would never know! I had just an awesome time at the Mane Event, got to see all my old Walking Horse friends, and made some new ones. It is a great way to start

the riding season! Our booth looked wonderful, thanks to Dianne Little and her Posse of helpers. It is certainly a meeting place for all the Walking Horse enthusiasts to meet. We posted lots of pictures to facebook - even some Selfies!"

"Here on the farm, we are just wrapping up kidding season, and are looking forward to one foal from Pixie. I have some terrific girls coming to work this summer. One is here already from Scotland, a young lady is returning from Quebec, and a third from the Netherlands. It promises to be a fun summer with lots of riding and events."

"CSR Her Presence Demands (Dee) and CSR Midnight Rose (Rosie) have gone off to start their new life with Shauna and Dave of Luseland, Saskatchewan. Congratulations on the start of your journey in the Walking Horse World."

GENEVIEVE AMY, LONE BUTTE, BC writes, "It's been a long time since we wrote, a long winter, but spring is here at last. I just sold my Standardbred mare a couple of days ago, so we are down to the three TWH mares. I rode Hurricane Hanna today - second time I have ridden her, and the first time she has been ridden since October, and she was so good. I do love my Walkers. Hope everyone has a great summer."

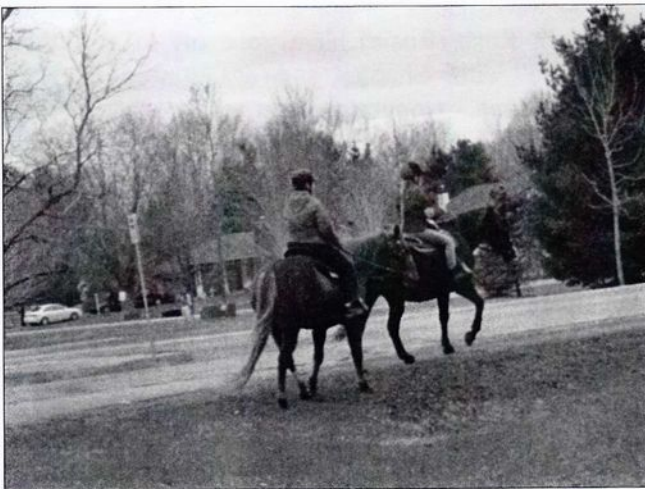


Many interesting people visit the CRTWH Mane Event booth. This year Gunther May's daughter, Kat, came to the booth asking if anyone there knew about offspring of her father's horse, Billy's Little Pal. This 1960 flaxen sorrel stallion, a grandson of Giovanni and Stonewall Allen, was #30 registered with CLRC. Readers, do you know of any offspring?

GRACE AND FLICKA'S BIG ADVENTURE by Kathy Minor, Kars, ON

In common with just about everyone this winter, the snow was deep and never-ending. Until very recently riding was almost impossible except on the roads. The off-road trails are still very soft so we are choosing some different options. Last Sunday I decided we would trailer the two horses into my village of Kars, and ride around the streets. I have done this many times and it would be an opportunity to introduce Grace to the process of loading and unloading horses from the trailer, plus have a very pleasant ride on dry streets.

We loaded the horses, already wearing their saddles, at the farm and drove the three miles to Kars and parked on the street at my house. The neighbours are used to this sort of thing and nobody minds.



Grace was very quick at learning the trailering routines and the horses are old pros, so in no time we were mounted up and off on the back streets. It was a lovely ride at first. The little kids all came running to see the horses as we wound our way around the back streets, then crossed the main street to a building site.

It had been an old fairly shallow, gravel pit, but had been abandoned for over 50 years. Trees had grown up and there were walking paths through it. I had often ridden through it. However, a developer had bought the site and it was in the process of being leveled, filled in and prepared for building houses. No work had started there yet this spring. The level had been raised by many, many huge loads of fill and the roadway had been developed.

We went in by an old lane, a very short distance no more than 50 feet, and came to a raised area of imported fill. It looked dry and cracked, the way clay is when it dries. This bit was short also, and was raised up about 20 feet ahead. Flicka and Grace were ahead so I told her to go on slowly and to stop if the footing wasn't good. The mare moved forward and all of a sudden she

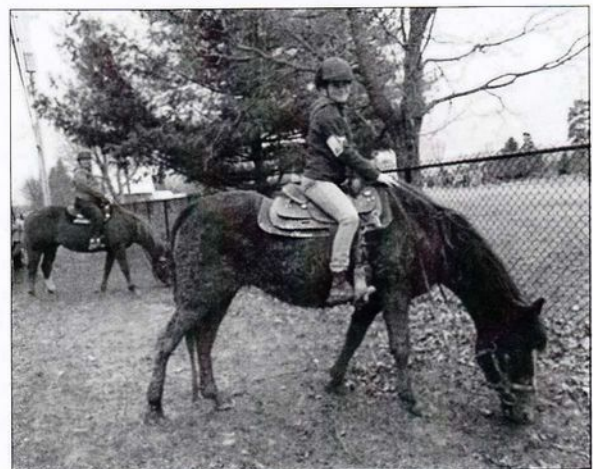
was into soft mushy footing. It was impossible to either back up or turn around so the mare powered her way through and came up out of it but by then her hind end was hock deep before she got free of it.

To make a long story shorter, the only way out was to return the same way. I tried walking in to get Flicka but sank the minute my foot hit the edge of the boggy stuff. Grace was scared but game. They turned around, and I told her to leave the reins free, hold the front of the saddle and ask Flicka to go.

Flicka made a strong effort forward but she bogged down in the middle of the muck. The mud was up to her belly and she couldn't get her front end up high enough to get the front legs up and over. She struggled for a few seconds, then stopped and sort of sat down, leaned over somewhat on her side and stayed there.

Grace was perched on top of the saddle, very anxious. I told her to get off and walk out. When she did her feet didn't even dent the surface. All the problem was underneath. I had Grace hold Bucky and let him graze. I had Flicka's reins, so I tried a little tug. She raised her head, looked at me and then laid it down on the surface and closed her eyes. I phoned my husband and asked him to come with the truck and a long rope. In the meantime Flicka raised her head twice more, looked at me and then put it down again. I was trying to stay calm but felt so helpless!

Then, all of a sudden, the mare raised her head, then her neck, shifted the shoulder that was down under the muck, heaved herself upright and simply powered herself straight out and up on solid ground. One side of her was completely plastered with gray clay. She then walked calmly over to Bucky and started eating grass! Grace and I felt overwhelming relief. We started walking them back and Flicka moved just fine. My husband, a non-horse guy, caught up with us in the truck and was **very** glad that we were out and okay!



The afternoon ended with us back at our street by the trailer, the horses having another bite of grass on the lawn, and the arrival of one of the biggest road sweeper machines I have ever seen ... with noise to match. We stood with the horses expecting a panic. They completely ignored it and didn't miss a bite of grass as it roared down the street and away.

I have never been in this kind of situation before. I told several people about it - how Flicka just lay there, gathering her strength and figuring out herself what to do. Their advice was that I did the right thing (Although by default) by leaving her alone. I was told that the horse will often do just that, rest, regroup, and figure how to get itself out. I have such a great appreciation of this old girl. The older she gets, the wiser she is. We are so proud of our brave and wise old horse!

The fill the trucks had been bringing into the building site was a mix of dirt, sand, some gravel, large boulders and the stuff we got stuck in which was leda clay. This is deposited in many sites in the glacial till in our area and it dissolves and becomes slick when wet. There have been situations where houses, built unknowingly on it along the Ottawa river, have slid downhill. It is very unstable stuff and should not be used in a building site. There was none of it there before! Also there were no barriers up and no 'Keep Out' signs. People still walk in there!

BACK AT LIBERTY TRAINING

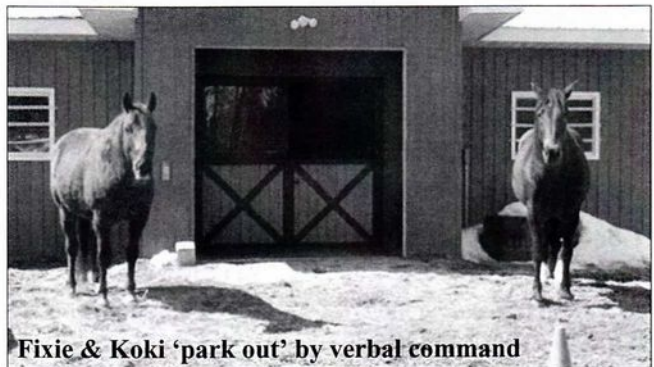
by Sue Gamble, Swastika, ON May 2014

The last week or so has been great for working with the horses, not too hot, not too cold, and no black flies or mosquitoes yet. I am back at my liberty training. I start my session with both horses standing parallel and facing me. We begin with some "friendly" rubbing all over with my hand or carrot stick as I walk around each one. We proceed to some "extreme friendly" where I slap the ground as hard as I can with a rope or the rope end of my carrot stick. I love the way the two of them have so much trust that that they don't move an inch or look bothered at all. I have yet to try this with a bull whip!

My current goal is simply to increase their fitness level after the winter layoff. I use circles to the left and to the right at a "w-a-a-a-lk" or a "walk up" to do this. Although I only want a walk they usually offer a canter (and some horse play at some point) before we settle back into some nice circles at a walk either way with "reverse" in between. The challenge is to keep our session interesting enough that they remain engaged with me and the activity. You don't

want either of them to decide that this is just too repetitive, too boring, or too ridiculous and then just walk off!

How to keep it interesting is limited only by your imagination! I use transitions between the "w-a-a-a-lk" and the "walk up" with "reverse" and "whoa" thrown in there to keep them guessing. Soon we will add in the canter. I use "whoa" frequently. On "whoa" they must turn and face me and stand still. I arrange and re-arrange cones and barrels to make them negotiate their circles around, through, and over obstacles. Soon my poles will melt out of the snow and I will add them to the mix. We end with a "whoa" and then a "park out" which they both do by the verbal command. There is so much to do with liberty that I would never come to the end of it! I have a long way to go but for the next little while we will work on fitness (for me *and* the horses) and have fun doing it!



EQUINE GUELPH RESEARCH RADIO

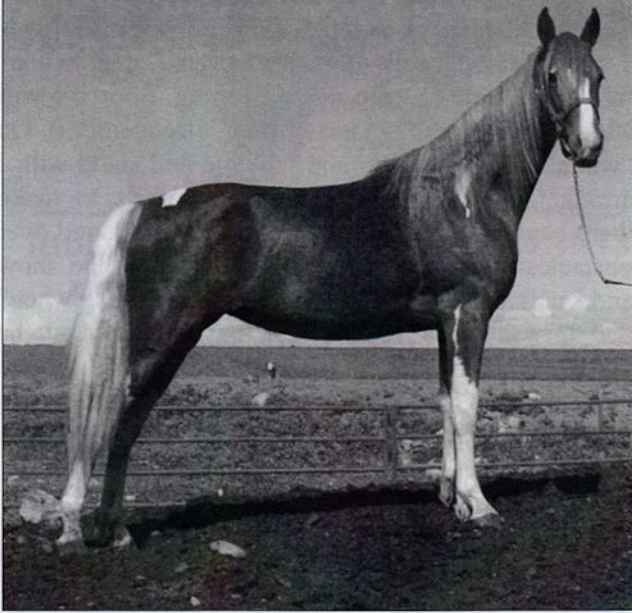
Equine Guelph is proud to announce the launch of a new audio podcast on their popular web site. They have teamed up with Trot Radio's Norm Borg and SSG Gloves to produce Research Radio, an online podcast updating you on the latest equine research by scientists at the Ontario Veterinary College and University of Guelph.

Equine Guelph director Gayle Ecker says, "Our partners at Ontario Veterinary College are producing ground breaking research designed to improve the health, welfare and safety of the equine athlete. The more widely we can publicize their findings the more likely their work will be put to use to find concrete solutions as a means to that end."

The first episode is already available featuring an interview with Dr. Jeff Thomason and his study of race track surfaces and their impact on the performance horse. To listen to the first podcast, simply log on to EquineGuelph.ca. Click on the Research tab at the top of the page, then click Research Radio. Web link for Research Radio: <http://equineguelph.ca/research/radio.php>

MORE NEWS

Success Mark The Dot



JO-ANNE & DON McDONALD, POUCE COUPE, BC emailed, "Just a note to say that Dot ('Success Mark The Dot'), a 2010 chestnut tobiano mare by Dressed For Success and out of Royal Class My Lacy Lady has been sold to Valerie Armstrong of Victoria, B.C. We would like to give her a year's gift subscription to the *Walking Horse News* and wish her all the best with her new mare."

From RHONDA LEMMON, LACOMBE, AB, "Things are good here at Noisy Hollow Acres. Ragtime has recovered wonderfully from when he was cast for so many hours this past winter. His first 2 foals of the year have hit the ground already with one still on the way. They are a jet black colt out of Legacy's Ritzy Lady and a roan colt with a perfect little star out of Fame's Fancy Lady. This was the easiest foaling year I've had, as the mares were leased out to Mikayla Howard, so she did all the work and foal watching. Now for the tough decision: which one is she going to choose to keep? Either way, I will certainly be happy!"

From STAN POTTER, FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA, "We too had a much colder winter this year than in previous years, which is great for making the gnats disappear. But it's nothing compared to the cold most of your readers in western Canada had. Here we got to see some frost and ice crystals on the puddles for quite a few days, but that

was the extent of it. Besides living in Alberta and raising my herd there, I also spent a few years in the Yukon. So it's just great to get out and ride these Alberta-bred Tennessee Walking Horses every month, all year long, here in Florida."

GREG & MAUREEN GERMSCHEID, MAGNOLIA MEADOWS, EVANSBURG, AB write, "We had a lovely new stud colt on May 1 (Toddy's Royal Image x Chief's Paint Brush), tentatively named Atlas, and the kids are having so much fun with him. Grandkids are Ty and Jonas and Zia and Pepper. It helps to have a sweet mare as the Momma. Greg just left on his first mountain trip and took a young mare as a packhorse. That is such a great training experience. I'm just holding down the fort waiting for my next babies. Spending lots of time training these days and we're currently working with 11 horses and young stock."

"The pasture is turning green and I'm sure summer is just around the corner. My friend had a good one the other day. She said, "I hope summer falls on a Saturday this year...and I hope I'm not working." With this weather, we might as well laugh!"

Below is Chief's Paintbrush proudly showing off her 2014 colt to the Germscheids' granddaughter.



I (Marjorie) hear that TOM BERGESEN and MERINDA REID, RIMBEY, AB were successful in their search for a palomino gelding. They found not one, not two ... but three! One came from Norm and Liz Levangie's Ridgewalker Walkers, Mirror, AB and the other two were purchased from Peter Symons at Rafter 9s near Dawson Creek, BC. Enjoy your new TWH. We'd love to see a photo of your matched team when you get them going.



FOAL CALL



BLACK/BAY COLT (Potters Canadian Buckshot x Potters Evenin Champagne)
owned by Stan Potter, Fernandina Beach, Florida. *(Photo right)*

PALOMINO FILLY, born April 26. (Uphill Heir Trigger x Cee Dee Flicka's Mocha), owned by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Buchberger, Grande Prairie, AB.



SORREL FILLY, born April 29.
(Northfork Top Traveler x Neitak's Golden Starlight).

PALOMINO COLT, born April 28.
(Uphill Heir Trigger x Shana's Cherokee Flair).

Both owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gurnett, Northfork Farm, Bluffton, AB.



BLACK COLT (Dude's Ragtime Man x Legacy's Ritzy Lady)
ROAN COLT, star (Dude's Ragtime Man x Fame's Fancy Lady).
Rhonda Lemmon, Lacombe, AB & Mikayla Howard, Red Deer, AB

Left **SORREL COLT** (Toddy's Royal Image x Chief's Paint Brush)
Maureen & Greg Germscheid, Magnolia Meadows, Evansburg, AB

MORE NEWS

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, BC writes, "It's the annual society bash of the season, the Golden Girl's birthday party, complete with cake and all the boyfriends dancing attendance. I won't tell her age - but she IS old enough to vote..." *(Photo below)*

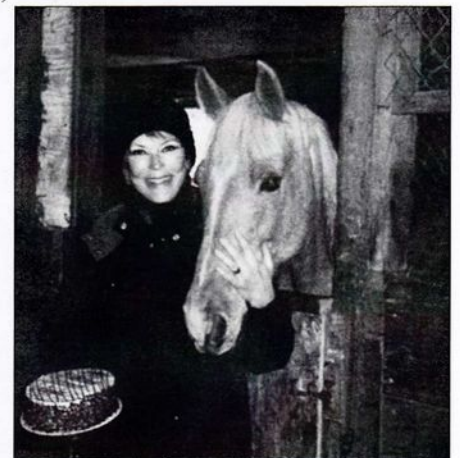
"Trigger had her semi annual check up this month and she and Dakota (Lynn's Appy) were teaching subjects for a student Dr. Brent brought. They are Brent's absolute favourite patients and they love him, too. You never saw such calm horses, no matter how much poking, prodding, shots and indignities are foisted upon them. Every so often Trigger would give me a little nudge as if to ask, "Aren't they done yet? I have hay waiting." You could almost expect her eyes to roll heavenward."

"I'm almost ready for riding again after the rear end I had three weeks ago. I seem to have a magnet on the back bumper of every car I've owned. If not, then explain three rear end accidents in 20 years. It's like that old George Carlin joke: "Don't you hate it when the guy in front of you decides not to run the red light?"

"Just when we started having a bit of decent weather where everything wasn't frozen, then this. Trigger had a rest from wearing shoes (she needed fur lined boots!) and will soon go back to ordering two pair at a time. As I wasn't riding, I had Emelie (her landlady)

lunge, and free lunge, her once a week so she wouldn't get all flabby like her mom. Also, a friend occasionally plays with her in the ring and has had a couple of short trail rides as well. Trigger loves the extra attention, and the workouts. I still see her once or twice a week and do as much grooming as I can manage. Our friend, Bev, does a superb job of that so that I have very little to do when I go there."

"Trigger's COPD hasn't reared its ugly head and I haven't had to dose her with Ventipulmin. Brent did find arthritis in her knee joints. When I went to get her for her physical, she wasn't all that eager to leave her paddock (VVS - Vet Visit Syndrome?) and I thought she was walking a bit gingerly. When she stood in the barn for her checkup, her left front leg was slightly bent at the knee and I just knew something wasn't right. Just two old gals with arthritic joints... we make a m a t c h e d pair."



READERS WRITE

BRENDA WOODALL, LINDEN, AB, "Now that I've received my April *Walking Horse News* I'm just dying to hear what name you did pick for Betty's baby?" (*I still haven't chosen one & time's running out!*)

"And I now know who Bill Fraess is talking about when he mentions a man named Gar. That's Bill driving the team pulling the dog wagon in those pictures of the dog trials (page 12, April). Bill is the man in my community who is teaching me to drive the horses."

Below: Bill Fraess driving the dog wagon team.



KARLA FREEMAN, PONOKA, AB: "It was interesting how many people inquired at the CRTWH booth at Mane Event about getting papers on their Walkers. Others wondered where their horses came from, or if indeed their super-duper fast Walking Horse was even registered. You may know that is one of my ponderings - WHY don't people think papers are good for anything...especially on a gelding? Why don't they transfer the papers? Would they sell or buy a car and not take care of the legal registration?"

"I think it is great to be proud of the animal you own, to have a pedigree for it, and know its family background, to say nothing of the proof of ownership."

"Nowadays, with legalities as they are, I would encourage people to make sure the proof of ownership is in the right name. What if the horse in question got out on the highway and caused an accident - but you'd sold it and never bothered to transfer those papers. After all, it just wasn't important to the new buyers, and hey, it saved you 20 or 40 bucks at the time. But now there's a law suit, and guess what? YOU are named as the legal owner of the horse. Just saying - crappy things can happen..."

"So why, even as an innocent 13 year old, when I was asked if I would like registration papers for my half Arabian colt, was I thrilled that it *could* be

papered and in my name! I guess it was a sense of pride. I certainly didn't think of any legal matters, or learning what the stud or mare was. I do recall wanting to know the history of the dam. She was just listed as a "riding type" when asked for type of mare. She was an incredibly smart, kind and wicked fast quarterhorse type, with the most excellent feet I have ever seen, but I didn't know that then, and there was no way to find out more about her, as she had been traded and traded. (She was very smart about not getting caught...)"

"I just don't understand how people can simply dismiss the thought and care that goes into some breeding programs and which are shown in the horse's pedigree. When you have an excellent horse, you can compare the genetic background and possibly buy another similar in style, attitude and ability - if no one has dropped the ball and the horse still has its papers."

SUE GAMBLE, SWASTIKA, ON, "Enjoyed the *WHN* last night. I liked the article on lunging by Diane Sept as I am always wondering if I am doing the right thing when I make mine "walk up" when we play at liberty. It looks like I am not too far off the mark. I still have some more to read and I will enjoy that for a few minutes with my decaf coffee before I make the trek to the barn. At - 23C (Ap 15), I want it to warm up, for a few more minutes anyway."

STAN POTTER, FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA: "It was interesting to read the article Bill Howes wrote in the last magazine, "A Tribute to Trigger". Presently half my herd descend from the same Trigger Jr he wrote about and whose registered name is Allen's Gold Zephyr (431975). Most people don't realize that Roy had different horses that were used as Trigger, but it was Jr. he used the most. "

"I just happen to have a foal due in ten days who also is a Trigger descendent. I bred my champagne mare Potters Evenin Champagne to my stallion Potters Canadian Buckshot who is by Uphill Heir Trigger and carries that Trigger line. This coming year I hope to breed my palomino mare Potters Brilliant Goldmine to Buckshot and get a double Trigger foal! The mare is by Trouble's Gold Sun so there won't be any inbreeding happening there."

"During the months of March and April I take more than 200 riders out for beach rides on Amelia Island, Florida. All the guests are very impressed that so many of the horses descend from Trigger. (At least those who are at least 30 or older. The younger generation doesn't have a clue what I'm referring to!)"



OUR DRIVING JOURNAL, ENTRY 3

by Brenda and Stephen Woodall

We left off in the last entry with improved ground driving skills for both horse and human, and we thank Bill Fraess for his help in this area.

For this journal entry we will focus on what we learned from Windi Derman, an Alberta CRTWH member who is a skilled horse trainer and driver. We sought out her advice for how to proceed with our driving training. Windi suggested that we work on stages of introduction to the shafts. We will touch on a few of the exercises she suggested we do. Please keep in mind that this is our interpretation of Windi's training techniques and they have been customized by us according to the supplies that we had available to use. It is also a very condensed description and not a complete training guideline. Due to time restraints we chose to focus on just one horse from this point and we chose Grace, our more experienced horse. At a later time we will go back and do the same process with our two other Walkers.



1. Choose a tie stall or another location where you can secure something to the rafters and feed can be provided. Select two wooden poles that will be put along either side of the tied horse, securing them at the front to the feeder/rail and suspending them at the back from the rafters. Allow the horse to stand tied and feed in this area. When the horse shifts and moves the poles will bump their sides and help desensitize them to this feeling of confinement. (picture 1 above)

2. Harness the horse and put 2 poles through the shaft loops and secure them there, allowing the tail end of the poles to drag. Lead the horse till they are comfortable with the noise and feeling, then progress to line driving or long-lining in a circle with this set up. (See picture 2, above right)

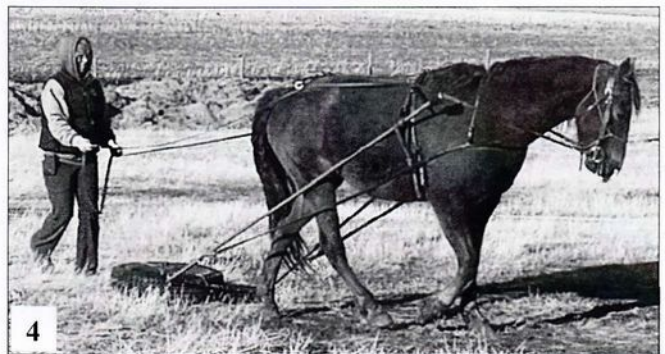
3. Add the chest strap or collar to the harness and either add resistance yourself while leading or long-lining or add a weight to the shafts. At this point we built a simple training device to simulate shafts and a



tree so that it was secure for pulling weight. Make sure you get the horse used to backing into the tire without being hooked to it to help avoid unpleasant surprises. Windi used a travois style system. (picture 3 below)



4. Progress to ground driving with this set up once the horse is comfortable. We had one person on the lead line and one person with the ground driving lines at first till we were confident. (picture 4 below)



5. Don't forget to get them used to having an object hit them on their bum or back legs. Many serious accidents occur in harness from a cart hitting a horse's legs/bum and the horse reacting badly to it. Windi suggests hanging a board off the bum and slowly lowering it to different levels and allowing the horse to get used to being bumped by it. We think Grace is almost ready to be introduced to the training cart!



The CANADIAN REGISTRY
OF THE
TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE



TRIPLE CHALLENGE ACHIEVEMENTS as of MAY 10, 2014
by Dianne Little, Program Director

PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE

We are pleased to present the **Silver Award in 2013** to
CSR GOLD FEVER owned by Fran Kerik

TRAINING LEVELS CHALLENGE

THE BASIC SKILLS IN HAND have been successfully completed by
CEE DEE SADIE'S HOBO owned by Sharon Turkovich

CISCO'S LIBERTY GENERAL owned by Brenda and Stephen Woodall
EBS BELLE DE LIBERTE owned by Brenda and Stephen Woodall
TUCKER'S CRUZIN' TUNES owned by Brenda and Stephen Woodall

TRAIL RIDING LEVEL 1, 2 AND 3 have been successfully completed by:

CISCO'S LIBERTY GENERAL owned by Brenda and Stephen Woodall
EBS BELLE DE LIBERTE owned by Brenda and Stephen Woodall

Congratulations to all these horses and their owners!

A Canadian Triple Challenge Group has been formed on Facebook under the creative leadership of Brenda Woodall. There is increased awareness of the Program and more entries are anticipated from their efforts. Thank you, Brenda.

RIDE/DRIVE/ALT PROGRAM by *Brenda Woodall, Co-ordinator*

For those of you who were not at the AGM I would like to share the report from the Ride/Drive/ALT program. Nine people submitted Riding hours for 2013 and one person submitted strictly ALT hours. We had a total of 829.8 riding hours and if you consider that most of our Walkers are traveling at an average of 4 miles per hour that means that as a group we rode 3,318 miles! That is the approximate distance across Canada from coast to coast. (Now if Bill Roy had submitted *his* hours we might have been able to ride all the way back again!)

In 2014 we have the potential for about 19 people submitting hours and it will be exciting to see where we can ride to as a group with next year's numbers. Excellent work, Everyone !

Our total ALT (Agility, Liberty, Trick horse) hours added up to 28.5 with Sue Gamble contributing most of those. Well done, Sue!

We did not have any Drive hours submitted for 2013 but I know that we will have some in 2014, as two new participants in the program are active Drivers.

Everyone who participates is a winner! Those who sent in their hours for 2013 were
Allanna Jackson, Brenda Woodall, Fran Kerik (more than one horse ridden), Irene Verbisky, Jami Morgan,
Kim Pielak, Ralph Livingstone, Sharon Turkovich, Stephen Woodall and Sue Gamble.

Congratulations to You All!

WHN will feature photos of the Training Levels and Ride/Drive/ALT horses and riders in an up-coming issue.



The Canadian Walker

Volume 13, Issue 3

www.crtwh.ca

www.facebook.com/crtwh

June, 2014

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The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse

held its 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on May 10,
at Klondike Victory Farm near Sylvan Lake, AB.

There was a good turn out of members, directors and officers. The business part of the meeting went briskly, and then the Canadian Triple Challenge Awards were presented. See page 15. Hilton Hack requested that members consider volunteering for one or more days at the ten day Horse Haven display at the Calgary Stampede, a venue that gives CRTWH the unparalleled opportunity to show off our Walkers to the over a million people who go through the barns. See Coming Events for details on signing up.

The meeting concluded at 6:15 and a chili supper, prepared by President Fran Kerik, was served, along with all the trimmings, and a wonderful array of desserts and fruit brought by those attending. It was good to visit with old friends and to meet new ones too. We had members attend from as far away as BC - new member Dale Benke from Chetwynd to the north and long time members, Carl & Charlotte Larson from Jaffray in the south.

A new director was added to the Board at the BOD meeting afterwards. Karla Freeman has accepted a one year appointment to fill the vacancy created when Maureen Hummel resigned. We welcome Karla's enthusiasm and commitment to the Canadian registered TWH. *MCL*



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

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who made the booth at Mane Event so successful. Special recognition goes to Dianne Little who organized and co-ordinated it and Leslie Hunchuk who stores the props and paraphernalia all year, then transports, helps set up and take down the booth, plus helps at the booth all weekend. Karla Freeman volunteered all four days and Lori and Blair Dyberg helped in between Lori's Extreme Cowboy Challenge competitions. T'Lara Freedom, Fran Kerik, Rhonda Lemmon, Norm & Liz Levangie, Jody Rawlyk, Shirley Wesslen and Brenda Woodall all spent time there answering questions and promoting our CRTWH. And thank you to Jo Kingsland for delivering the box of *Walking Horse News* magazines for hand-outs.

ASK REGIE

Dear Regie,

My old Walker, BB, died this spring at 30. What should I do about her registration papers?
Sad Owner

Dear Sad Owner,

I am sorry. It is hard to lose your horse, especially an old pal like BB.

As for her registration papers, you should send them in to Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC) to be cancelled. Just write a note telling CLRC when BB died. If you'd like to have her papers back, request that CLRC return them to you. If you are a member, you can also request that CLRC credit \$5.00 to your account for future transactions. (There is no fee for non-members.)

If you check the CLRC pedigree site you'll see that some horses have a date of death as well as a birth date. Their owners sent the Reg. Certificates in to be cancelled, and that helps keep our records current. *Regie*

Join up with us on
(www.facebook.com/crtwh)

Nearly 400 others already have.

Sue Gamble



Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse

NEW INFORMATION ON THE CLRC WEBSITE

April, 2014

Dear CRTWH Member,

As a member of the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse, your personal information has not been available on the CRTWH section of the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation website, but this has changed.

On April 13 the CRTWH Board approved the following motions:

- CRTWH Membership information will be available on the CLRC Website.
- A historical record of ownership for each registered horse will be available on the Canadian Livestock Records Website.

After much discussion and deliberation, both motions were carried. The Board deemed it important that those looking for a specific horse or particular breeding be able to locate the breeders or owners. CRTWH joins 52 other groups who share their membership information as well as pedigree info on the CLRC website. This leaves only one group that does not provide information on owners.

On the CLRC website, you can search for a member or breeder by name, by province or by ID number. You can search for a horse by name, by registration number or by tattoo or microchip number. Most people search by the name of the horse, but if you only know the horse's barn name, knowing the breeder or owner would be helpful. In the past it has only been possible to search for a CRTWH member or breeder through the horse. Even then, there was no way to determine the location of the owner/breeder. With the change, it will be possible to search for a CRTWH member or breeder by name, by province or by horse.

All horses bred by a member/breeder or registered in the name of a member/breeder will be listed. Also the historical record of ownership of a horse will be included on the same page as the pedigree, providing an accurate and complete record for the horse.

HOW DOES THE CHANGE AFFECT ME?

All CRTWH members will be listed by province and ID number. It is your choice whether any further information is posted on the CLRC site. **If you do NOT want any personal information listed other than your name and province**, you may contact CLRC at any time and request that your address, telephone number, e-mail, etc. be removed from the CLRC site.

You may contact CLRC

- by phone toll free at 1-877-833-7110
- by fax at 613-731-0704
- by mail at CLRC, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, ON K1V 0M7
- by e-mail at clrc@clrc.ca.

What Do You Do for Your Walkers?

These folks came to support their breed association at the CRTWH Annual Meeting, and some came to learn more about riding their TWH at the 'Gait from the Ground Up' Clinic.



Above: The CRTWH Board of Directors at the AGM, Sat, May 10/14.

Left to right - Fran Kerik, Marjorie Lacy, Ralph Livingston, Leslie Hunchuk, Bill Roy and Dianne Little.

Present but not pictured - Hilton Hack.

Ontario Director Sue Gamble was unable to attend.

The meeting was once again held at Klondike Victory Farm (logo at left). We are so fortunate to be welcomed at their wonderful facility.

A big 'Thank you' to the Jamieson family and all the helpful folks at Klondike Victory Farm.



AT THE CLINIC

Below left: Dale Benke of Chetwynd, BC and his gelding, Karlas Kahlua, with Karla Freeman, who bred and raised Kahlua.

Below, bottom left: Clinician Bill Roy, with Mikayla Howard, Red Deer, AB and Karlas Motion Potion.

Bottom, middle photo: Bill with Stephen Woodall, Linden, AB who rode Cisco in the clinic.

Bottom right: Bill Roy, Falkland, BC demonstrates a point for Carolyn Towle, Stony Plain, AB.

Opposite right: Participants and guests watch one of the individual sessions at the clinic.

Right, top: Dianne Little presents the TLC Awards to the Woodalls. See 12.



SOUND HORSE CONFERENCE 2014 by Franne Brandon

Tennessee Walking Horse lovers who live and ride and enjoy their horses in Canada are blessed to be able to show or trail ride or do endurance races in an area where the breed is accepted on its natural talents, or at least can prove to naysayers that the horse can do what most others do, except trot. Those of us who live in the Southeastern United States, however, where the breed had its origins over a hundred years ago as an easy-gaited and gentle utility horse, must contend with a stigma not so readily found north of the U.S. border. That stigma is called soring, and it has plagued the breed for many decades. Since 2008, FOSH (Friends of Sound Horses) has taken up the challenge of defending the health and soundness of the show and pleasure Tennessee Walking Horse by offering a series of Sound Horse Conferences open to the world.

In 2014, the Tennessee Walking Horse Heritage Society was honored to be asked to be a presence at the latest Sound Horse Conference, offered this year in the heart of Tennessee Walking Horse country in Brentwood, Tennessee. The Society was included as part of the opening morning panel entitled 'Enjoying a Good Career with Gaited Horses in the Future'. The Society member in Belgium, Sandra van den Hof, had obligations at the time, the Midwest founder, Diane Sczepanski, could not leave with a grueling winter being so slow to wind down, and the group's gentlemen from Tennessee simply do not give speeches. That left the job to me, retired educator and experienced columnist. Unfortunately, not an experienced speaker, unless one counts all those captive audiences who listened to my French lessons and science instructions over the many years that I was in a classroom or library.

The Sound Horse Conference was held Friday, March 28th through Sunday, March 30th, with the main venue being the FourPoints by Sheraton Nashville in Brentwood, Tennessee. The Friday evening event was a cocktail reception 'meet and greet' which allowed the conference attendees who arrived early to relax, unwind, and share their varied experiences with wonderful breeds of easy gaited horses. The Saturday morning events began at 8:30 with a welcome from Master of Ceremonies Marty Irby. The first panel of presentations, 'Enjoying a Good Career with Gaited Horses in the Future', began at 8:45, and The Heritage Society was

slated to speak first.

I have never enjoyed going first. First in line, first to try something new, I prefer to play Follow the Leader. I had no choice, however, so I walked to the podium to immediately get in an argument with the lightning-fast laser remote. What a confidence builder! Fortunately, my speech on 'Preserving the Past for Generations in the Future' did not fly out of my head in spite of my photos flying ahead on the big screen. The entire speech can be read or seen at the Sound Horse Conference 2014 website (link at end of article), but in essence, it offered a brief history of the reasons for the organization of the Tennessee Walking Horse Heritage Society and our current success in marketing our horses. My favorite part of the talk was not in the original speech, but added later as a result of a conversation with sounding board Diane Sczepanski. It goes:

"Heritage breeders and owners are now found in Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Texas, and Wisconsin. In Canada, Heritage Horses find their homes in Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, and Saskatchewan. Heritage Horses and Heritage-bred horses now live in Belgium, Austria, France Germany Italy, Israel, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, and Switzerland. If six people can start small with an idea and see their horses go to 25 states, Canada, Europe and the Middle East, then other people, working creatively, can develop their own markets, too."

Following the Heritage Society talk, professional trainer Nya Bates of Idaho talked about her own Heritage Horses and how her equine career had proven more lucrative than one in the nursing profession. Jan Sousa discussed the exciting and successful program at her Lazy Sousa Ranch in Montana, dynamic Cat Dye, the youngster on the panel, stressed the importance of involving young people in breed events, and clinician Gary Lane offered his thoughts on the future of the horse trained to meet its best potential by natural training techniques.

The next speaker, Keith Dane, offered a PAST Act update and explained the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) 'Now That's a Walking Horse' incentive program. After a break, Dr. John Haffner shared his experience that led to the sale of his Tennessee veterinary practice because of 'Soring: A Necessity for a Winning Gait.' Dr. Tracy Turner, Dr. Neal Valk, and Donna Benefield apprised the conference attendees of 'Current Soring Tactics', and Dr. Mike J. Blackwell offered concrete examples of 'What the Pain of Soring Really Feels Like'.

During lunch, Pastor Clay Harlin, of the famed Harlinsdale Farm family, offered his testimony with 'Break Every Chain: A Fresh Start.' The afternoon session on 'The Future of Walking Horse Competitions' featured speakers Linda Richwine discussing shows and rail classes, Julie Dillon with experiences in gaited dressage, Cindy King talking on gaited distance and endurance competitions, and Dee Hasler on Versatility. The afternoon program finished with 'The USDA Horse Protection Program' and Carl Bledsoe speaking on 'How My Life Changed Because of Soring'.

Sunday's program, held at Chris and Ida Marie Carlough's Rising Glory Farm near Lewisburg, was intended to showcase the talents of a group of rescued Tennessee Walking Horses and their riders from Horse Haven of Tennessee. Health problems cancelled their appearance, although clinician Gary Lane did have a smaller group of local horses and riders to fill the time segment. Last on the program, in 'A Flair for the Future', Cat Dye and the group from Black Anvil Equestrian demonstrated both finished rail stock and talented jumpers as Miss Dye once again emphasized how involving youth benefits both the breed and young riders in the present and future.

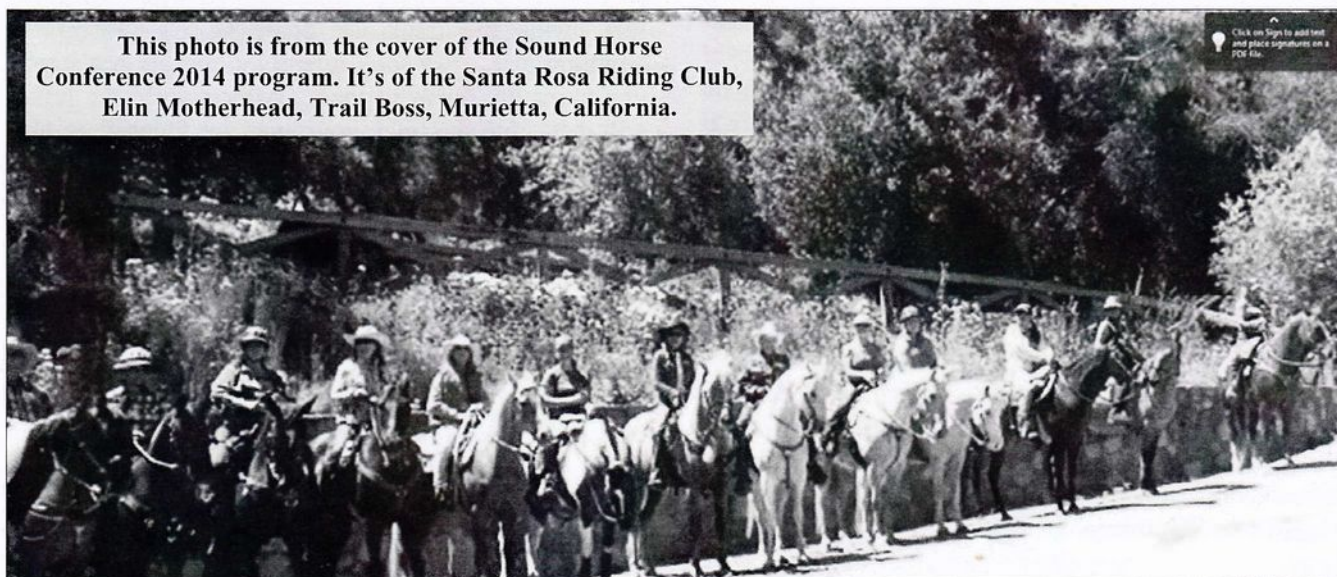
Appearing as part of the 2014 Sound Horse Conference was an experience for which I felt totally inadequate and quite overwhelmed. However, I was proud to be part of a panel with others who realized the value of the naturally trained and used walking horse. I also learned much from the other speakers on our panel and the panels presenting other topics as well.

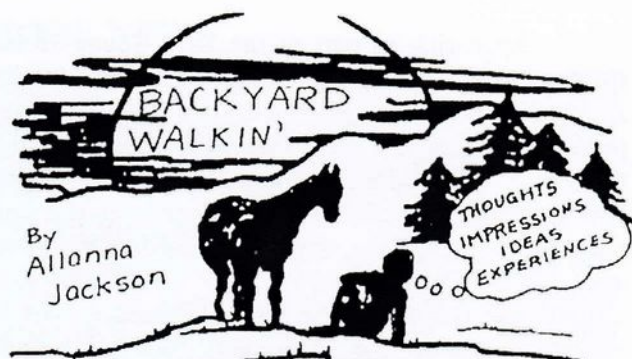
The 2014 Sound Horse Conference was a success that many have applauded, and joins three other solid endeavors in 2008, 2009, and 2010, determined to restore the Tennessee Walking Horse to its original status as part of the larger equine community. Sponsors of the conference included FOSH, NWA, and WHOA, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Humane Society of the United States, the ASPCA, Frank Neal, and David Pruett.

Great organization and attention to detail provided by the conference's volunteer committee members Nya Bates, Donna Benefield, Teresa Bippin, Lori Northrup, David Pruett, Clant Seay, and Lisa Harris of Horse Haven of Tennessee assured that the 2014 Sound Horse Conference fulfilled its purpose to educate those who attended as well as the thousands who would watch later via internet videos, which can be accessed at www.soundhorseconference.com/2014Conference.html and following the links to all the speakers of the day.

Dianne Little, Calgary, AB says, "I was fortunate to attend and can tell you that all the speakers were wonderful. If you are so inclined, please listen. While I found all sessions interesting, Dr. Blackwell on pain resonated most with me."

This photo is from the cover of the Sound Horse Conference 2014 program. It's of the Santa Rosa Riding Club, Elin Motherhead, Trail Boss, Murietta, California.





RIDING BY THE SEAT OF YOUR PANTS

By Allanna Lea Jackson Part 2

Last issue, in Part 1, I gave an oversimplified explanation of the power control center of the horse's gaits. 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 the 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.

If you've ever ridden a horse bareback you've experienced the natural balanced seat. If you've got a horse that's safe to ride bareback you can try this. Don't think about your position when riding bareback, just relax and enjoy the ride for a few minutes, then make a quiet, easy stop. Don't move! Before you do anything to change your position on the horse's back make note of where you are. You'll find yourself sitting directly behind the horse's withers where the shoulder and body meet. You'll be sitting on the 3-point support of your pubic bone and pelvis tipped very slightly onto your rear pockets, with your legs almost directly beneath you, hips open and relaxed, knees only slightly flexed, toes pointed slightly outward and down. If the horse suddenly disappeared you'd only have to raise your toes and straighten up your body to land upright on your feet. A good saddle, regardless of type, puts the rider as close to this natural balanced seat as possible. If it doesn't you'll always be fighting the saddle in some way.

Take your horse into a round pen or other safe, confined area, saddled with a good balanced seat saddle and his usual head gear and mount up. I do not condone riding without some kind of head gear on the horse. Whatever head gear you're using, give the horse a totally slack rein, keep your hands still and try not to do anything to the horse's head. Forget about the horse's head, let the horse show you what your seat is doing to his body and what this does to his gait.

Your natural balanced seat, with your thighs open, legs relaxed and draped quietly against the horse's sides, stirrups supporting the balls of your feet in a level position, is the walking seat.

Riders of trotting horses are frequently advised to note that their leg naturally swings into the horse's side as the horse walks and are told to lengthen the horse's stride by squeezing with the leg in time with the this natural motion. For gaited horses with any lateral tendencies at all, alternating leg squeezes may encourage pacing. Tension in the rider's lower back also encourages pacing. A horse that is tense or stiff in its loins is likely to pace.

We're looking at the rider's seat, so note that as your horse walks, your pelvis naturally moves with the horse. On a gaited horse, keeping your legs quiet and your upper body relaxed helps the horse stay square, while the movement of your pelvis can be used to set the horse in a steady tempo at the walk and adjust the length of your horse's stride within that tempo. Don't mistake this pelvic rhythm with a sloppy, belly-dancing movement at the waist.

Now try steering with your seat. As your horse walks along the rail turn your head just enough so your eyes can focus straight down a new track 10 feet inside the track the horse is on. Don't do anything else. Just look intently along the new track you want the horse to take. After awhile the horse will drift onto the track your eyes are focused on and begin following it. Magic? No. When you turn your head and focus your eyes you subconsciously shift your body toward where you are looking. This change in your balance on the horse's power control panel tells the horse to move over to the track you are looking at. When the horse gets there you align yourself with where your eyes are focused, which re-balances the horse's power control panel, telling the horse to travel straight along this track.

Now comes the fun part. You can slow and stop your horse just with your seat! How? By using

roll-up cue that mimics the natural stop signal horses give each other when playing. From your natural balanced seat straighten your lower back, roll your weight up onto your inner thighs and the front of your pubic bones, tip your pelvis as if you were trying to raise an imaginary tail and close your thighs but keep your seat deep on the horse. Leave your lower legs loose and away from the horse. Think of sinking your weight through the horse's withers into the ground in front of his front legs.

Your thighs mimic the pressure a dominant horse puts just in front of the withers to stop a subordinate horse. Your pelvis is pushing the horse's spine down in the thoracic sling, directing the flow of power from the hind legs into the ground in front of the horse. The horse will probably drift to a stop the way a car does without throttle or brake. Some horses stop rather abruptly. This roll-up cue also discourages bucking and rearing.

Sitting on the horse in a moderate form of this same roll-up seat, but with your thighs open and relaxed, can flatten out a horse that is too trotty. Be very careful with the roll-up seat because you are weighting the horse's front feet and putting him on his forehead. Too much roll-up seat can very easily turn the trot into a pace.

When the horse is standing still the roll-up cue suggests to the horse that he back up. The moment the horse shifts his balance backward you'll have to lighten the pressure on his withers and shift your own seat to something between the natural balanced seat and the roll-up seat. The horse has to round his back and lift his front end to move backward. He can't do that when your roll-up cue is gluing his front feet to the ground.

Return to your natural balanced seat and walk for awhile.

Next try a chair seat. Push yourself to the back of the saddle, sit heavily on your back pockets (the back of your pelvis) and round your lower back, push your legs forward with your feet braced against the stirrups. If your horse has any rack in him at all this position alone may be enough to put him into a rack. Horses that cannot rack will do some variant of a 4-beat pace when the rider is in this position. When you're through racking, simply straighten up into your natural balanced seat. You'll be surprised at how quickly the horse drops into a flat walk. Go back to walking in the balanced seat for awhile.

Next sit up a little so that your weight is exactly balanced between pelvis and pubic bone, sit taller, think of getting taller in your body, especially your lower back, keep your seat in the saddle, leave

your thighs open and relaxed and gently squeeze with your lower legs the way you'd squeeze a tube of toothpaste. You're now asking the horse to raise his spine to the top of the thoracic sling and trot. As soon as you feel the diagonal legs move together you can begin posting the trot, if you know how, or stand in the stirrups. Don't worry, the horse will not get stuck in the trot. Simply relax your legs, settle into the natural balance walking seat and the horse will immediately drop into a 4-beat gait.

If you're like most riders you did do something with your hands, probably without realizing you were doing it. The horse's head follows your hands. When your hands are high, the horse's head will be high. When your hands are low the horse's head will be low. A high head pushes the spine down in the thoracic sling, encouraging pace and rack. A low head makes it easier for the horse to arch the spine within the thoracic sling, encouraging the running walk, fox trot and trot.

Your hands adjusting the horse's head position puts the final nuances on what your seat is telling the horse to do. This works best on horses that have not had their head set. Horses that have had their head set have been taught to freeze their head, neck, and back in one position. This usually results in a pacey gait.

We can't tell you exactly which degree of which seat position will produce each gait in *your* horse. This is determined by the horse's inherited gait behavior and every horse is different. You cannot change the movement the horse has inherited. No matter what the horse's inherited gait behavior is, arching the horse's spine makes the movement more diagonal while allowing the horse's back to sag makes the movement more lateral. Very minor changes in your position will completely change which gait a gaited horse is doing, so the balance and consistency of the rider's position directly influences the consistency of the horse's gait.

Directing the horse with your seat is something you have to learn by feel for yourself. Your horse is your best teacher. Have fun playing with the horse's power control panel. You can't ruin or harm the horse with this. Influencing the horse with your seat is so gentle, so purely natural, so totally humane and so perfectly horse logical it's built into the horse.

This article has been adapted from "Riding By the Seat of Your Pants, first published in *Walking Horse Journal*, July, 2008.

NEWS DIGEST

NATALIE SPECKMAIER, VANCOUVER, BC sent a clipping from *The Vancouver Courier*, Feb, 2014. In it was the story of the re-opening of the Roof on the 15th floor of Fairmont Hotel Vancouver and an interview with Dal Richards. His 11-piece orchestra played there from 1940 to 1965. At the time the popular venue was called the Panorama Roof ballroom, and Mr. Richards, now 96, clearly recalls a night in the 1940's when a promotor managed to sneak Roy Rogers and Trigger up to the ballroom as a publicity stunt. And to prove it, there was an archival photo of the singer and his horse, up in the ballroom under a chandelier, surrounded by men in formal dress and a lady in an evening gown. Now *that's* a well-mannered horse!

THE SOUND ADVOCATE

The May/June 2014 Issue of *the Sound Advocate* is ready for your enjoyment. It has all the informative and entertaining articles you love. Feel free to forward this full color electronic version of the *Sound Advocate* to all your gaited horse friends!
<http://fosh.info/69634531/4564562/MAY2014W.pdf>

Those of you who also receive the B&W printed version will be happy to know it will arrive at your mailbox in roughly two weeks.

AHC 2014 ISSUES FORUM AND CONVENTION APPROACH

The American Horse Council's National Issues Forum on June 24 will feature this year a program on 'WHERE HAVE ALL THE HORSES GONE'.

"Every major equine breed registry has seen a dramatic drop in the number of registered horses over the last ten years. What are the reasons? Is this a function of the economy or a fundamental, permanent change in the industry? What will it mean for the industry, short and long-term? Are some breeds and activities affected more than others?" noted AHC president Jay Hickey.

The AHC's Forum will address these and other questions surrounding this critical issue. Tim Capps, Director of the Equine Industry Program at the University of Louisville, will be the keynote speaker and will try to put the situation in context. Have we been here before? Is this a result of the downturn in the economy or something different? Does the industry have the correct data to make such determinations and plan for the future? Mr. Capps has been involved with the horse industry through his professional life in various capacities and now brings his experience and academic background to the issue.

This year's National Issues Forum will be held on Tuesday, June 24, in Washington, DC during the AHC's annual convention.

More information on these Forums and the entire AHC annual meeting can be found on the AHC's website, <http://horsecouncil.org/events.php> or by contacting the AHC.

EIA in ALBERTA

The following reportable disease has been confirmed in animals in April, 2014: **Equine infectious anemia (EIA)** Check the link below: 3 new cases in the Yellowhead region of Alberta this year.

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/eng/1329499145620/1329499272021>

INFORMATION ON THE PAST ACT

(Prevent All Soring Tactics)

The PAST Act proposes to ban the use of pads and chains for showing Tennessee Walking Horses, Spotted Saddle Horses and Racking horses, the breeds mentioned in the United States Horse Protection Act of 42 years ago. While many people applaud this as the only way to stop soring, pressure shoeing, and other abuses in the show ring, there are still those who defend the practice. Thus there is a heated battle going on in U.S. government circles between these two groups.

A majority of the TWHBEA membership voted in favour of supporting this bill. The TWHBEA President and Executive Committee are not supporting it. It will soon come to a vote in the U.S. Senate and in the House of Representatives.

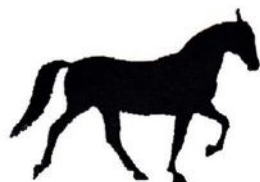
Here are the thoughts of one U.S. Walking Horse owner:

The PAST Act made it out of committee unanimously by a voice vote, Wednesday, April 09. This is not the end, but a great beginning. It will hit the Senate floor soon. Although there are 54 co-sponsors in the Senate, six more are needed to prevent a filibuster from a couple of southern states' Senators who have received large donations from the Walking Horse Industry.

Please recognize that time is running out. Without six more Senators to co-sponsor this bill, we may lose this chance. I know that the ND VMA has endorsed S1406, as has SD VMA. There is a like bill in the House (HR1518) and I am so hopeful for change, something that is right and is long overdue.

"I quit breeding horses because of soring. At first I was sad, then I was mad, and then I got busy and started working to see what I could do to fix this. Please help."
From a South Dakota TWH owner

AD Gallery



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Big Bay mare but not coarse. A reliable riding horse, she will carry any person anywhere with an even four-beat gait. Great Trail 'Caboose', she always brings the "Dudes" along. Loves people.

BIONDA'S GLORY Z US 20408575/HR.

This Red Roan with a blaze and white spot on belly, flaxen mane and tail is a saddle horse with many hours of training in the ring and also Trail Riding. Soft on the bit. She is quiet and loves attention.

TUMERIC - 2013 Gold/Amber Champagne Filly.

Sire: Arian's Jack Daniel's Z US 20205416/CP; Dam: Bionda's Empress Z US 20302098/CP.

Check out this filly's pedigree - Champagne top and bottom! She is outstandingly gorgeous. Superb gaits. Papers pending.

TUFFI'S FANCY - 2012 Black Filly with blaze.

Sire: Tsuniah's Dark Delight US 943897; Dam: Shakin's Pet US 20215824/CH. This Filly is very gaited and could mature around 15:3 HH. Papers are pending.

Ask for a more complete list of Horses for Sale, or

Go to Facebook El Ranchito Tennessee Walkers or El Ranchito Walkers for a list and photos.

We may have others for sale also. Please contact us for more information.

MISTY RIVER RANCH DISPERSAL SALE

RED BAY STALLION, mixed mane and tail, born 2003.
Shogun's Shiloh 20315242 (View Shogun x Ms Flying Allen).
Has never bred. He's flashy, sassy and smart.

TWO BLACK FULL SISTERS with lots of chrome and almost identical markings, born 2003 & 2001. **F-88's Caramia** 20114309 and **F-88's Conchita** 20315241 are both by F-88's Merry Minstrel x Story's Blue Mist Again.

BLACK MARE - A Blue Mist 20414862 Born 2004.
By View Shogun x F-88's Cloud Dancer.

All are halter broke and broke to lead. \$1000 each.

Also **3 BROOD MARES**, unique old time pedigrees.

Shogun's Kinjite: 920106 foaled 04/03/92

F-88's Cloud Dancer: 930227 foaled 05/15/93

F-88's Unchained Melody: 931395 foaled 07/31/93

Two were broke but never used as riding horses. Prices negotiable.

SADDLES AND TACK for sale: New black western saddle, never used, with headstall, breast strap and saddle bags; Australian; English; children's saddles; Harness, also new; two wheeled jog cart and two new riding helmets. Also **GUARDIAN/PREDATOR DOGS** born Oct/13. Both males and females left.

Call **Arienne Baker 403-502-9470** (leave a message)

Or email **mistryriv1@hotmail.com**

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TERMINATORS DANCER – standing May, 2014 at Lazy T Stables, SASKATOON, SK. Coal black stallion with star, 14:3 hh. CRTWH & TWHBEA registered, a great grandson of Pride's Generator. Stud fee \$450, discounts for multiple mares. Contact Bruce Taras, 306-384-1830 work; 306-384-1838 ranch; 306-229-6651 cell or email lazytstables@shaw.ca.

CHRYSTAL STAR RANCH offers ALLEN'S MIDNIGHT RASCAL and CSR GOLD FEVER at stud. Also youngsters and trained horses for sale. For more info call Fran & Gord Kerik at 780-603-3391, TWO HILLS, AB or go to our website, www.csrwalkers.com.

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VARIOUS SIZES, AGES, AND COLORS of Tennessee Walking Horses for sale. For more info or pictures visit Maple Lane Acres online at tennesseewalkinghorsesab.com or contact Lesa, TWO HILLS, AB at lgluchak@hotmail.com, or phone 780-768-2014.

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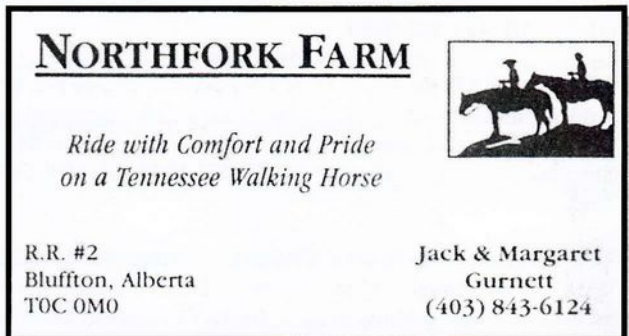
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COMING EVENTS

THE CALGARY STAMPEDE BREED PRESENTATION, July 4 -13, is fast approaching. So, we are once again looking for breeders and horse owners to be a part of this unparalleled promotion opportunity. Can you commit to bringing a horse down for the booth and possibly 10 minute demonstrations (riding or in hand) for one or more of the ten days? Over night stabling is available for your horse and off-site camping for you! If you are interested please contact Lara.s@shaw.ca. 403-703-8168 or Khack@aol.com 403-703-6802

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DIANE SEPT CLINIC August 23rd & 24th, 2014 is being held at Horse In Hand Ranch, Blackfalds, Alberta. Contact Rhonda Lemmon for more details. 403-782-3118 or yonafeda@gmail.com

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