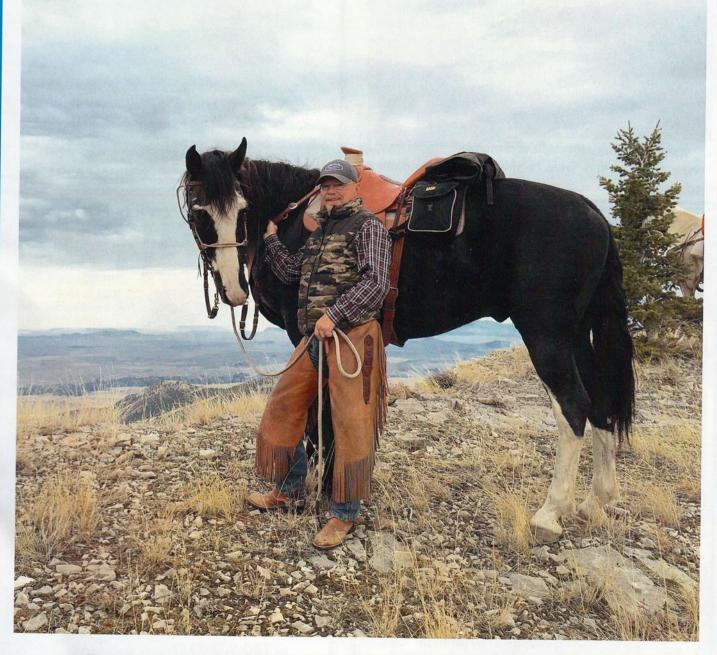
APRIL 2016



Walking Horse News



DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN - SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977

Walking Horse News

DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977

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On Our Cover

Barry Barager Waterton Park, AB, and his TWH. Smokey are shown up on the Continental Divide in Montana. west of Choteau. See page 6 for more.

Photo courtesy of Barry Barager

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for Jan/Feb issue JANUARY 7

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for May/June issue MAY 7

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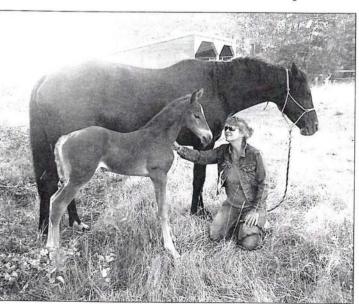
Spring must have sprung, despite the snow we had here last week, just before Easter. There's news of the arrival of the first little Walker of 2016, a baby colt at Shirley Wesslen's farm near Blackfalds, AB. How many of you are expecting foals this year? I'm looking forward to your notes and photos for Foal Call. Below is Karla Hansen with Gypsy and her pretty filly from last year.

I hope anyone buying or selling a TWH will read with care the article on transferring horses, pages 15-16. If owning a registered horse matters to you at all, be sure to check the papers on any horse you inquire about. Don't 'fall in love' with the horse first and then find out there are no papers or they are not in the seller's name.

There's quite a varied menu for you in this issue, from Franne Brandon's article on the importance of the female lines in breeding to Allanna Jackson's discussion of 'training terms'. Bill Howes talks about the early days of "Champagne" and there is news, both sad and happy.

If you are looking for a TWH there are interesting 'for sale' ads, and if you have a horse for sale, do send WHN an ad. I often get calls or emails asking about horses for sale and if I don't know you have one, I can't tell anyone! Thank you to all contributors,

Marjorie



WHN makes a great gift!

Walking Horse News

April, 2016

"DEDICATED TO THE PLAIN-SHOD TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE SINCE 1977"

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HISTORY & HERITAGE PROJECT

TOPAZ MERRY GO 1993 to 2014 by Bill Howes

Topaz was brought to Walking Horse Junction from the Wildwood, AB home of Dr. Suzanne Bayley and Dr. David Schindler in 1994. At the age of eight months he was still on the mare, running free in a pasture. He was weaned that same January day and almost halter broke. After some escapades thru out the winter and spring he finally succumbed to being tied, even while standing on sheets of polythene and covered in more of the same

with a five gallon pail balanced on his back. He became a very obedient youngster with the best of manners. He went almost everywhere our horse trailer went and learned to load very well. He developed a huge over-stride at halter and appeared to have very good conformation. At the time of his purchase thought he was perhaps albino cremello, out of what we thought was a palomino mare.

As Walking Horse Junction had participated in the Alberta Horse Improvement Program at Red Deer almost yearly since 1982, Topaz was entered in the yearling class. In a class of 21 entries, judged by a three judge system, he placed first. Upon his return in a two year old class of only 7 or 8, he was designated as 'Supreme' with a combined total of points from the previous year. No other Walking Horse, to my knowledge, had to that point or since, achieved such a high level. (Above at the Horse Improvement Program.)

In the summer of his third year, arrangements were made for him to stand at Laurindale Stables at Rosalind, AB. There he bred a few mares, one being owned by Winston & Donna Curtis of Winfield, west of Ponoka. From there Topaz travelled to Quesnel, B.C. to the training barn of Cindy Botkin, where he remained for almost three months. After test riding him and watching him being ridden, I was informed by Cindy that she felt he would never 'gait' well and should not

remain a stallion.

Due to my out of town work commitments. Topaz was leased to Bev Skowronski at Sherwood Park in 1997, the spring of his fourth year. That year the Curtis mare he'd bred while at Laurindale Stables produced 'Cee Dee's Canadian Topaz', likeness of himself, cream colored with mixed mane & tail. Another coloured like himself, Topaz Vintage Stardust, was born at Bev's Shady Lane Acres. That

> foal's color was so unique that I purchased him for Walking Horse Junction.

In 1999 at the University in California a new dilution gene involved with horse colors was discovered. Soon a new Registry was formed for horses

carrying this dilution gene and named the Champagne

Registry. Suddenly, all those horses that just didn't look quite right to be true light sorrels or palominos or creams had a designation that fit their characteristics. Born with darker hair but pink skin and blue eyes, they would change eye and skin color early in their first years. The blue eyes they were usually born with turned amber or hazel and the hair coat generally became lighter. Skin colour went from pink to mottled or 'pumpkin' coloured. Champagne dilutes black to a pale chocolate brown colour, and lightens red to yellow. Finally we knew what to call them: Topaz had sired a CHAMPAGNE for Donna and Winston Curtis and one for Bev Skowronski.

Upon checking the details of his birth and the characteristics required for champagne coloration, The Champagne Horse Association of California subsequently registered Topaz as the first champagne stallion in Canada in 2000. He was designated as 'Ivory Champagne', based on then current knowledge of the Champagne gene at that time - and pending the development of the DNA test. With this new

knowledge of the Champagne gene and the emergence of a Registry, plus the new and different characteristics of these foals, I was intrigued and wanted to know more. My semi-adopted daughter at that time, Christa, was quite knowledgeable about color genetics, and with what I could learn from old friend Marjorie at *Walking Horse News*, I wondered if I could produce a 'horse of a different color' that people might be interested in buying. I no longer had my beloved Walking Horse Junction so what to do? Upon checking in with Donna and Winston Curtis, I learned that they had 16 pure-bred TWH mares on their PMU farm at Winfield. They too were curious about this new breed of horse.

In 2001, the first year Topaz was there, he bred 16 purebred TWHs and four grades. 19 had foals, of which nine were considered Champagne in colour. A local breeder at the time claimed, "There's no such thing as Champagne". He was later to own and sell three champagne Topaz sons for a total of \$18,000 at public auction.



Later Topaz moved from the Curtis farm to one near Regina, Sask. Several of his offspring were sold overseas to Europe while there. Later in life, it seems he was bred mostly to Curly mares to improve that breed's conformation and gait and add some unique new colors. My inability to provide a good new home for this fine horse resulted in his death at 21. A sad ending to a great horse. My plans for us to retire to Mexico and get to know one another again ended. He was put to rest on October 17, 2014. The blue and silver chariot specially made for him, and my visions of runs along the Gulf of Mexico, faded off into the sunset.

One of the judges at the Horse Improvement Program back in 1994 – 95 was Mr. Les Burwash, a strong builder of that program. In a conversation about 2004, he asked if I still owned that 'cream colored stallion'. When I asked why he remembered him, he said, "Because he was so exceptional!"

Topaz has 50 foals registered on CLRC. 50% are Champagne

THE EXCELLENT PROGRAM FOR EXCELLENCE

As a breeder of Canadian registered Walking Horses, I knew I wanted certain attributes in my stock: good temperament, correct conformation, and smooth movement were what I thought important. I also wanted a good looking horse that was willing to do what I asked, that had the ability to do a plethora of tasks.

I wasn't one for showing. (I just didn't see how the hat I was or was not wearing had any effect on the way the horse moved, or its conformation!)

Then in 2005, the Canadian Registry introduced the Program for Excellence! What a fantastic tool for me as a breeder to have. It gives a set of criteria to measure your breeding stock against, and actually lists what is acceptable in the conformation of the Walking Horse. It assesses the animal's movement – is it actually able to perform a flat walk, running walk, a canter? It also pinpoints unacceptable faults that may be overlooked all too easily by the barn blind creator. The temperament of the horse is also taken into consideration. Naturally this promotes good breeding stock, and helps people to see what qualities are desired.

I really liked not having to haul my horse to shows to compare it with others to prove its quality. For the Program For Excellence I could do the videoing at home when it was convenient for me, and both my horse and I felt good when doing it. And the assessment would be made by unbiased certified judges knowledgeable about the breed and familiar with it.

Another important and great aspect of the Program For Excellence is that if the horse is videoed and passed the requirements, then sold, there is a record of the particulars. You have both the video and you can photocopy the results of the evaluation, and give them to the buyer of the horse. But best of all, it goes on the horse's papers, and becomes a part of the animal's permanent record.

The Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse has always had the horse in mind, and the Program For Excellence is another valued service that promotes the betterment of the breed. I will be forever proud and appreciative to be a member and supporter of this wonderful Registry that, in my opinion, is unequalled anywhere.

by Karla Hansen

NEWS - NEWS - NEWS

From 'FRED LLOYD-SMITH, VANESSA, ON, "I actually have some news so thought I would share it with you. Ace and I finished Level 3 in the Parelli program last fall, doing our freestyle audition without bridle or halter and carrying one carrot stick. We did a liberty come to the mounting block, get into position to be mounted, stand still after mounting, go over and open the paddock gate, walk, gait, trot, canter, simple lead changes and jump over two obstacles, push our favourite ball, etc. It is a fine feeling to be finally able to move on to Level 4!"

"We are taking lessons from a dressage instructor, Elaine Ward who is also spearheading the development of Western Dressage in Canada so Ace and I are gently aiming in that direction. I get pretty good stage fright so this will be a challenge for me certainly. We are developing his canter which is still impulsive and not very balanced but already is improving."

"In a couple of weeks we are going to an Xtreme Cowboy clinic to have some fun and play with skills, not to mention getting practice going to other sites. I am very much looking forward to this. There is a Mountain Trail clinic in June I am about to sign us up for too, so the year is starting off with lots of fun."

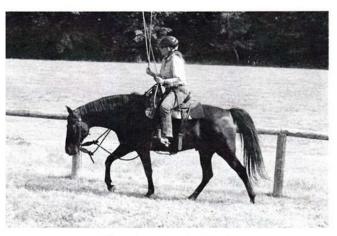


Photo by Wendy Webb.

"I've included a couple of photos taken by professional photographer and friend Wendy Webb. The one *above* shows us doing 'carrot stick riding' ie: using body and reinforcing gently with a stick and not using the reins."

KARLA HANSEN. RIDEEASY RANCH, PONOKA, AB writes, "Hello fellow Tennessee Walking Horse lovers. It has been a fantastic winter. I have been really enjoying playing with the horses. Although a lot of ice has accumulated in the past couple of weeks, I've still been able to go into the trees and ride in the snow. It not only has been an incredibly mild winter here, but the most beautiful as well. The frost has been beautifying the forests often, not to mention the brilliant blue skies. I hope everyone is enjoying their Walkers, and having a safe and fun winter."



"I must congratulate Norma Jean Lovell from Saskatchewan on her purchase of Karlas Gypsy Charm (*above*). I always find it hard to part with a horse I've raised, but I am sure Gypsy will appreciate an experienced horsewoman and Norma will appreciate Gypsy for the smart and athletic but kind horse she is. Many happy trails to you both."

"I am looking forward to the Canadian Registry AGM, and hope to see you there. I will also be at the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse booth this year at Mane Event in Red Deer, so if you would like to stop in the booth, I will be there. It's a big four day event this year. Happy trails!"

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The Making Of A Con
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From BARRY BARAGER WATERTON PARK, AB, "Yes, I found a Walking Horse... but I'm always looking for more! My horse, Smokey, is 16.3 hands. (ORAS SMOKEY FANCY GEN.) His average walk is 5-7 mph and he has a beautiful rocking chair lope. The picture of us *(above)* was taken in Montana, up on the Continental Divide west of Choteau."

KATE CARSON, VERNON, BC, writes, "Love the magazine and 'All that is Walker.' My beautiful palomino mare is just under 15 hands, so, she's kind of small when riding with the big Thoroughbreds next door. However when she hits her big walk, those boys are near to cantering to keep up with her. The grin on her face and the look of disbelief on those big boys is really heartwarming."

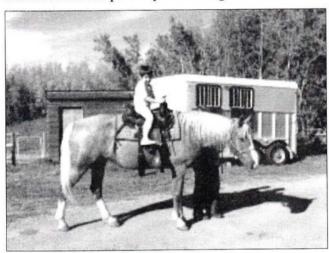
"Hope all is well in your corner, spring is on the way. Thanks again for a wonderful read!"

MARSHA TRINDER, T W RANCH, RUSSELL, MB, writes, "Weather here in our part of the woods has been erratic to say the least. We would have a day or two of warm weather, just enough to start melting, and then a few days of cold weather so everything turned to ice, and this happened a few times. The past two days have felt like spring! Horses and cattle are all looking good. I have been spending a fair bit of time in the pasture with the weanlings, and enjoying it immensely."

"Spring is starting to move along quickly and looks like it's going to be a busy one. We are starting our spring training right away, our Opening Day for 2016 (the first day we have horses available for showing and selling) has not been set for sure yet but I am hoping April 20th or earlier (check our Facebook Fan Page). Liz Graves will be here to visit us near the end of May and we will be holding a Gaited Horse Clinic on May 21-22 while she is here (rider openings available). New members of my Ranch Team start coming at the end of March (from France, Germany, United States and Canada). I will

be attending an Equi-Health Canada Convention in Okotoks in July, as well as an Equine Assisted Learning Course the same week. I am hoping to complete my certification as a Masterson Method Integrated Equine Performance Bodywork practitioner later this year. Whew, I feel busy and exhilarated all at the same time."

"Our ranch has predator problems ongoing with coyotes, bears, the occasional cougar, and now wolves are becoming more common. We lost a foal last summer and a mare last autumn to bears, and a cow and a young mare to wolves this winter. It sounds like we should be 'way out in the wilderness somewhere - but we are only twenty minutes from the nearest town! I hope everyone has a great 2016."



From ARNA ERHRT, ARDROSSAN, AB, "My mare's name is Walkaway Golden Honey (Nugget's Summer Sun x Chapie's Summer) above. She is an awesome mare but we have been fighting laminitis with her for the last three years and she's now been diagnosed with Cushings disease. I have a half acre pen that has no grass for her and a little mini, and feed them straight Timothy hay. With the Cushings treatment she seems a lot better. She is actually doing really well right now. Her cresty neck is almost gone and the fat bubbles by her tail are gone. She was even loping and bucking around her pen the other day."

NORTHFORK FARM

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LORI DYBERG, WETASKIWIN, AB and her TWH, ROME, (above) will be representing the non-traditional breed/non-pro rider at the Canadian Cowboy Challenge demo this year at Mane Event in Red Deer, AB. Exciting! Rome is only the second horse to have achieved the title of Ultimate Canadian Horse in the CRTWH Triple Challenge. His registered name is Rag's Fantasy Romance. Lori will be competing on either Saturday, April 23 or Sunday, April 24, so Good Luck, Lori and Rome, and TWH fans, be there to cheer her on!

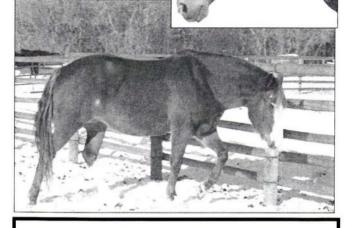
Best wishes to SHIRLEY WESSLEN of BLACKFALDS, AB for a fast recovery from a broken hip. Shirley was closing a gate after a big round hay bale had been taken in for the horses when she slipped on some ice and fell. She underwent surgery on Feb 14 and is now back at home recuperating. As she said, it was not the Valentine's Day gift she'd hoped for. Get better soon, Shirley!

STAN POTTER, HAPPY TRAILS WALKING HORSES, FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA, writes, "Since I can't ride for a couple of weeks because I rode so much I had to have a hemorrhoid removed, I'm catching up on office work. Last year we took out over 4000 riders for beach rides and this year we are headed towards over 5000, so it's okay to take a couple of weeks off. I am happy to have two great cowgirls to do the guiding for me now as my joints are getting tired and sore."

"People here love riding these beautiful Tennessee Walking Horses that I brought from Alberta. They also love that most of them descend from Roy Roger's Trigger Jr.! I miss those outings in the mountains that many of you enjoy. Is there anyone who takes people on day trips with TWH? I do get back to Alberta every couple of years and I love the mountain scenery."

From ULLU VELEZ, aka BOOT SCOOTIN' BOOGIE STABLES, RIDING MOUNTAIN, MB, "Congratulation to the new owners of these fine horses. Bionda's Glory Z is going to Germany to her new home with Nina Karbach. V Pet's Tuff Fancy went to Tara Body in Luseland, SK. Arian's Jack Daniel's Z and V Argot's Silver Splash Z have moved to the Blacks in Kingman, AZ. Whistle's Blue Bell went to her forever home with Tamar Weigl in Athabasca, AB. Below right is V Pet's Tuff Fancy, the four year

old black mare going to Tara Body, and directly below is Bionda's Glory Z who is going to Nina Karbach. I wish all of you the best with your new Tennessee Walking Horses."



DARLENE MOORE, BOISSEVAIN, MB 1954 - 2016

DARLENE MOORE of BOISSEVAIN, MB passed away in February, 2016. Keith Doll, Douglas, MB phoned with the sad news.

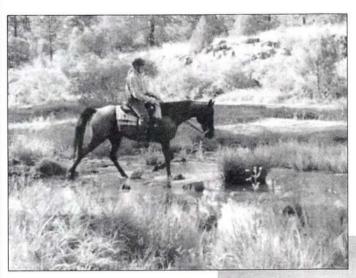
Darlene was 17 when she bought her first Tennessee Walking Horses, the mare Ace's Gentle Miss 650161 and her foal. Missy's grandsires were Wilson's American Ace 411277 and Grey John Allen 380051. The foal she had at side by Sun's Merry Man became Darlene's first stallion, Sun's Ray Honor Ace U.S.702398, Cdn 113. Darlene also owned the black sabino stallion, Majestic's Streaker U.S.762648; Cdn 168.

For years Darlene's Walkers were often the sole representatives of the breed at the Manitoba All-Breed Show in Brandon. For the last decade or so ill health prevented Darlene from raising and showing her beloved Walking Horses. Her last TWH died last year at age 33.

What Do You Do With Your Walkers?

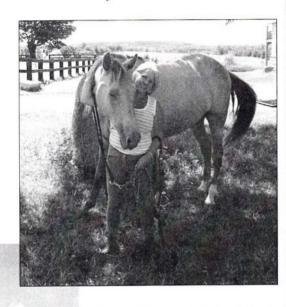
These folks participated in the 2015 CRTWH RIDE/DRIVE/ALT PROGRAM!





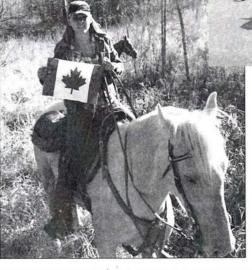
Above: Allanna Jackson of Lakeside, AZ riding April Velvet across a stream.

Below: Tina Barrett-Hamilton of Niton Junction, AB and 'Tucker' (Tucker's Cruzin' Tunes) on the trail on Canada Day.



Above: Sharon Turkovich of Zephyr, ON and 'Ice' (Cee Dee Sadie's Hobo) share a hug.

Below: Fran Kerik
of Two Hills, AB
and 'Penny'
(CSR's Money's Gold Penny)
go through some mud.



Kim Pielak
of Niton Junction
and
Panola Rose in
Wildwood, AB at the
Wild Pink Yonder
Cancer research fundraiser last August.

Above:



LADIES SPEAK OUT ON "THE LADIES":

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MARES IN THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE BREED

The Tennessee Walking Horse had its origins in the Central Basin and surrounding areas of Middle Tennessee, an area influenced by a number of different breeds during the years that the walking horses were being developed as an unique country saddle horse. When concerned gentlemen met in Lewisburg, Tennessee to organize a breeders association to record the pedigrees and promote the development of this type of horse, they followed their own instincts rather than the pattern of other equine breeders' associations in that they designated not only foundation sires, but also foundation dams, for their new association. This group at its onset recognized the influence and the power of the distaff side in producing the horse that they wished to have recognized as a distinct breed.

No records of the initial meetings have ever been published, but one would think that Albert Dement of Normandy, Tennessee, was most influential in insisting on the power of the mares. Biography of the Tennessee Walking Horse records a summary of his early efforts. "Mr. Dement, as early as 1905, envisioned the development of a breed of horses that would produce and reproduce, by proper mating, the true gaits of the Tennessee Walking Horse breed as they are known today. In 1905 he (Dement) showed a three-year-old mare (Nell) at the Tennessee State Fair in Nashville, and was offered \$950 for her after she won every class in which she was entered. "I was dreaming of the future and refused to sell this mare," he later recalled. "I had in mind a registered plantation stallion, and I felt that I had a foundation start with this mare." (pp. 46-47). Dement mated the mare to Saddlebred stallion Phil Beard to get a filly known as Flax, which he kept, then after several poor crosses, to the Standardbred stallion Black Allen to get a bay filly which he named Merry Legs. Nell Dement and Merry Legs became the anchors of his extensive linebreeding program.

Dement was distinctive in his approach in that he utilized the best of both paternal linebreeding and also linebreeding to the distaff. Perhaps the most outstanding example of this was the many-time World Champion Mare Merry Wilson. One other gentleman who appreciated the talent of Albert Dement was the Christiana breeder W.S. Dean. Echo of Hoofbeats, second edition, in its fifth chapter entitled "The Nucleus Takes Form", records Dean's efforts. Dr. Bob Womack writes "On at least one occasion MERRY

LEGS was bred to Grey Lad, whose sire was BRAMBLETT, by BUFORD L, by BOONE'S GREY JOHN. From this cross MERRY LEGS foaled a filly colt named Snip. Snip was later bred to LAST CHANCE, and the resulting foal was named SNIP'S CHANCE. After Albert Dement's death, SNIP'S CHANCE was purchased by W.S. "Audie" Dean of Rutherford County, Tennessee. Dean bred this mare to MIDNIGHT SUN on several occasions but was not pleased with the results, therefore he decided to breed her to his own stallion, WILSON DEAN. From this cross came the famous "four sisters", whose offspring made Walking Horse history. From these four mares came SUN'S HERO, **JOHNNY** MIDNIGHT. **MIDNIGHT** IKE, MACK K'S TRIGGER, DELIGHT'S CHANCE, DELIGHTS SUNBEAM, DEAN'S BOSS MAN, and the incomparable SUN'S DELIGHT D., the World Grand Champion Walking Horse in 1963. SUN'S DELIGHT and BUMIN AROUND are the only World Grand Champions to trace to MERRY LEGS through GREY JOHN blood." (page 79).

Although both Dement and Dean are regarded as Master Breeders of their day, their ideas are not imitated by most of today's breeders. Mares are selected not due to the excellence of their dams and second dams, or their strong gaits under saddle, but their choice is generally based on sire's pedigrees or conformation and size or color. Auction sales in Middle Tennessee have been regarded as supermarkets for broodmares, where buyers can go down the stalls and the consignment sheets until they find the bloodlines, size, and color that they are searching for. Perhaps not surprisingly, it is women breeders who look for traits in mares besides pedigree, color, and fertility. These women are quick to speak out and express their views on what are important traits for mares to have.

Viv Graves of Franklinton, North Carolina, is a trail rider, but has pointers based on her work experience. She says, "I don't consider myself a broodmare owner at all but did volunteer on a breeding farm. I think temperament can be greatly influenced by the dam, especially if the foal isn't taken away too early, and of course the dam has a good temperament. I have seen cantankerous mares who beget nice foals but more often they are like their dams, much harder to handle than the sweet ones."

Sharon Corr of Syracuse, New York, former President of the International Plantation Walking Horse Association, has been involved with Tennessee Walkers since the fifties, thanks to the influence of her mom, Dorothy Case of Marcellus, New York and her uncle and aunt, Art and Eleanor Hulbert, all highly successful on the New York state plantation circuit. The Hulberts had four stallions, King of Melody, Melody Meadows Ace, Melody Meadows Rex, and Sun's Peter Piper. They also owned a number of mares over the years, and some of the descendants of the four stallions and these mares are still present on the pedigrees of horses living today. Sharon states, "I'm not knowledgeable about genetics but am fascinated by them just the same. I have never been interested in breeding for myself but I do like to examine bloodlines and certain characteristics that are prevalent in some lines."

"Eleanor wasn't into that much. If she had a mare, it got bred. She looked for gait and conformation but trying to get her to explain what was important was difficult. Mom bought King when I was in Spain. Eleanor showed him and then bought him later. Mom liked show lines and pretty and color... she loved palominos and blacks. She really didn't understand the gait mechanics, but she was able to choose some really nice mares. They came from people we knew who were Walking Horse people."

"In my own mares, I look for temperament, gait, conformation. Color is secondary, although I seem quite consistent with deep color sorrels and chestnuts."

Pam Fowler of Denver, Colorado is a former Texas gal who grew up with pleasure walkers. She admits that "I know little about genetics. I do know what I see with my eyes, and while not a scientific study, haven't you seen human families where the majority of the children have a stronger resemblance towards one parent over the other? What does that mean? Could it be the same for horses? One horse, mare or stallion, has a stronger trait for gait...for example? I do understand that the get receives 50/50. It does seem, though, that certain traits are stronger than others?"

"Although I have owned almost exclusively mares, except for one gelding and that was officially David's horse, I've never raised a baby. Still, I personally think the mare is more important than the stallion as the foal will spend the first months of its life with the mare and whatever in nurtured behavior is gained, it will gain from the mare."

"As far as genetics, the foal receives half of its genes from her and they better be the best."

Breeder Diane Szcepanski of Whitehall, Wisconsin, spent many years on the trails and assisting her children through the 4-H Horse Project before she began seriously breeding pleasure walking horses. She says "I hear breeders talk about the foals their stallions throw as being this or that and I'm guilty of doing that, too, but what we don't hear is much about the mares and they are half of the equation in the creation of that foal. They also are the caretaker of that foal so the foal will learn a lot of his or her behavior from the dam. For that reason, I think it's important to have the best broodmares you can possibly have. I don't want horses who cause problems in the herd - kicking at the other mares, biting the other mares, chasing the other mares, or spooky mares behaving like the boogie man is just around the corner, and just not getting along with the herd. That upsets the whole equilibrium of the pasture and that kind of horse likely will teach their offspring that same cranky behavior."

"I want mares that are gentle and easy to work around with excellent dispositions. Gait is very important, too, but at my age, disposition of a horse is very high on my list. When I am looking for prospective broodmares, I like to meet the horse in her natural environment and see how she reacts to me, how she reacts around the other horses in her pasture, and whether or not she is approachable in the pasture. I have to judge whether or not I think she will fit in with the other mares on my farm. Comfort of my herd and their peace of mind is important to me, and if a new horse fails to assimilate, it does not stay here. Oftentimes, it's a gut feeling I get about a particular horse that will lead me to purchase her. All that being said, bloodlines make a difference in the temperament of the horses. My personal experience with horses that come from show lines (popular bloodlines that dominated the show ring) is those horses tend to be hotter, more reactive, flighty, and sometimes more nasty in disposition than the old bloodline horses. I can see why a lot of people get turned off on this breed if they start out with that type of horse rather than a nice, settled, easy going, old bloodline horse."

"Color and size are not important to me and visitors to my farm will find everything from black to white to red and bay, solid colors and sabinos, but I will admit to being a sucker for "chrome" on a horse! Substance to the horse's build is important to me, and good legs, feet, good bone."

Mary Ann Funk lives in Southeast Illinois. She started out as a rider, initially of stock horses, then segued into gaited horses for the trails. She summarizes, "I have owned Tennessee Walking Horses for thirty years, although I have ridden since

childhood and my family had stock horses or Quarter Horses. My love is trail riding and going to different areas to trail ride. I have shown in the past, but that is not something I really enjoyed doing. "

"My first Heritage horse was bought in the year 2000. I had been searching for a good natural trail mount since I had lost mine in 1990. After finding the heritage horse, I was very impressed. I could not believe the mind and gait of these horses, and they were just what I had been searching for. My first was a gelding, Echo's Duke, raised by Billy Taylor, and was found for me by Franne Brandon. Then in two years, I purchased his full sister Myriah's Belle Starr.

"I started breeding them around 2009, as I think they are a wonderful testimony to the Tennessee Walking Horse. I had never owned horses before that I wanted to raise and pass on their genetics. I have raised very few colts, but what I have raised have been sound minded and with good gait."

"My mares, of which I own three, are of the Paige's Echo line. They must have good strong minds, good gait, and good conformation and bone. Color is not a factor for me, but a nice marked filly or colt is icing on the cake. The Echo line, I believe, is very special, and that is the line I am trying to carry on with. They are truly born ready to mold and very people-oriented."

"I purchased a stallion last year, Echo's Society Sam Allen. He is a Society's Dan Allen and Chance's Society Page cross. I am expecting three foals from him this year. I have two solid color mares and another sabino mare bred to him. They will be line bred and should make wonderful breeding stock. I want my mares to be solid color as he is maximum sabino, which, in other words, he is big, white, and beautiful. He carries the gentle disposition and a wonderful gait. He has strong bone and good conformation. His mind impresses me every day."

"So, hopefully, I will help carry these wonderful heritage horses into the future."

Here in Middle Tennessee, where the show walker has reigned supreme for decades, I grew up with a grade gaited mare, but dreamed of a registered lady in one of my favorite colors. When I got married, I began horse-keeping with a huge sorrel stallion line bred to Miller's Wilson Allen, although a grandson of Midnight Sun on the top line. Wilson's Allen horses remain my favorite of bloodlines, although they are increasingly hard to find. In 1987, we met Leon Oliver and were introduced to the Clark's Red Allen bloodline that his family had preserved and promoted for over 60 years, since before TWHBEA was organized. Today, our pair of very red mares are daughter and granddaughter to Leon's late Red Bud's Rascal.

At Pinefolly Farms, we have not bred a mare in 10 years, following the tragic loss of our entire foal crop in 2005. This year, I am hoping to end that dry spell by getting Walk the Edge of Good-bye in foal to Red Bud's Rambling Slim, hopefully to produce a filly as nice as Clark's Red Bud All Over. Our goal is foals with strong bone, functional conformation, good looks, and natural running walk gait, along with balanced canter. Disposition is important, 'smart and willing' being our bywords, and we are pretty sure Redbird will pass this along, as she is a gentle mare out of a very gentle mare that was also out of a gentle mare. We have been dedicated to preserving older, unique bloodlines for about forty years, and are pleased when we hear from people who purchased our horses years ago and are still enjoying them today.



Above: Red Bud Lady Scarlet, sired by Red Bud's Rascal and out of Brooke Marchele, a gentle and sensible mare with true walking gait, proved herself as a trail mare and a youth horse before she began having foals. This filly is Sterling's Jolie Allure, by Buds Sterling Bullet, a mare that as an adult has done it all.

The walking horse world will probably always revel in stallion promotion, crediting the male half of the equine equation as the one responsible for all the breed's improvements. Without a good court of mares, however, a stallion can't reach his full potential, and as each lady has attested, good mares with good attitudes are essential in raising the foals that will one day contribute to the walking horse's return to its niche as the world's greatest pleasure horse, the niche that it had achieved in the thirties and forties. "If you ride one today, you'll own one tomorrow" was not just a slogan, but an apt appraisal for what the walking horse once was when breeders and trainers concentrated on breeding fine saddle stock. With attention to good bloodlines on both sides of the pedigree, and mating horses that complement each other for the tasks that the foals will be expected to do, that day can come again.



CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE CURRENT SCHEDULE OF FEES

1. MEMBERSHIP		Fees
a. Full Membership (Individual, Family, Corporation, Partnership - Canadian residents.) Voting, membe	r 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-me	ember fees	\$15.00/yr.
e. Non-Canadian Resident Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$35.00/yr.
f. Non-Canadian Resident Lifetime Membership. Non-voting, member fee schedule applies		\$250.00
2. REGISTRATION OF FOALS or HORSES NOT ALREADY REGISTERED	Member Fees	Non-Member Fees
a. Within 12 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$40.00	\$80.00
b. After 12 but less than 18 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$60.00	\$120.00
c. After 18 but less than 24 months of foaling (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below)	\$125.00	\$250.00
d. After 24 months of foaling: (PLUS add DNA fee - see 6a below) Non-refundable fee of \$125.00 if application is rejected.	\$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
Applications must be accompanied by a photocopy of both sides of the U.S. certificate	\$45.00	\$90.00
4. TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP	Member	Non-Member
	Fees	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)	\$15.00	\$15.00
c. Death of a registered horse (certificate will be returned)	\$5.00 credit	No charge
d. Change of Name: 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.	\$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
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
in regionation of Bease	000.00	\$40.00
	\$20.00	
g. List of Progeny of Individual Breeding Stock h. Surcharge on incomplete or incorrect applications	\$20.00	\$40.00

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





The Canadian Walker

Volume 15, Issue 2

www.crtwh.ca

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PLEASE HELP KEEP THE CRTWH RECORDS CURRENT!

How can YOU help keep the CRTWH Registry current and accurate? There are several ways members can help:

TRANSFER the papers on any registered Walker that you sell to the new owner. CHANGE THE GENDER on geldings still registered as stallions. You can do this at no charge if you request the change at the same time as you transfer the animal.

CANCEL the registration papers on any of your Walkers that have died. You can do this by sending in the original certificate to CLRC with a note requesting that they cancel them. This is free if you are not a member, but if you are a member you can request a \$5.00 credit for each set of papers. If you'd like to have the papers sent back to you, say so in your note and they will be returned to you, stamped "Deceased".

There seems to be a lot of confusion about transfers, so please refer to pages 15 & 16 for more information on this. To check if YOUR list of registered stock is up to date go to clrc.ca, find your name, and click on 'View Animals' at the bottom of the entry.

If you are not a member, you can look up your horse by its registered name or number to see if it is properly recorded in your name.

CRTWH EVENTS

CRTWH BOOTH at MANE EVENT,

Red Deer, AB, April 21 to 24.

We need help both for shifts n the booth & for setting it up (21st) and taking it down (24th).

Contact Karla - 403-597-7991 rideeasy@hotmail.ca

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CRTWH

will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at Klondike Victory Farm. Mark your calendars - Hope to see you there!

'GAIT FROM THE GROUND UP' CLINIC

Bill Roy, Clinician May 7 & 8, 2016 at Klondike Victory Farm. The clinic is full but you can have your name put on the waiting list in case of cancellations.

Contact

Dianne Little at ddlittle@telus.net

403-271-7391

Bill Roy at woodhill@telus.net 250-379-2022

A TRAIL CLINIC -

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

A member has suggested that we offer another clinic with Bill Roy, focusing on Trail Riding and the skills needed for a horse to be a safe and pleasant ride in the mountains and on the trails.

If enough people are interested in such a clinic, to be held at the member's farm northwest of Edmonton, in the Westlock, AB area, we need to hear from you. A minimum number of eight would be required, with a maximum of 12. Two people have expressed interest depending on the date.

If you're interested, please contact Dianne Little at

ddlittle@telus.net 403-271-7391

Bill Roy at woodhill@telus.net

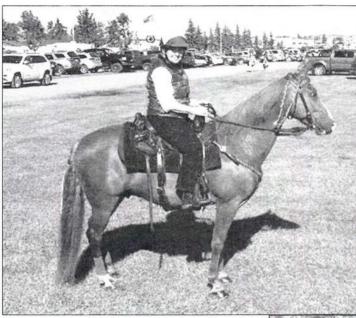
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If there is enough interest a date, fees, etc. can be worked out with the people participating.

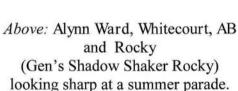
What Do You Do With Your Walkers?

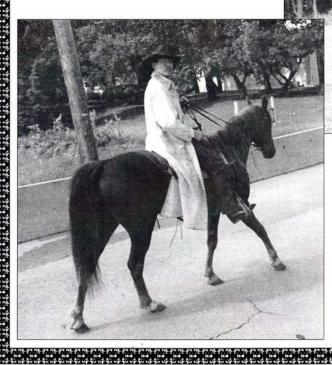


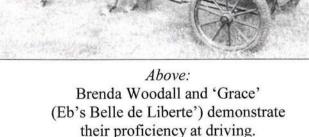




Loren Lewis of Hinton, AB and Image's Black Pearl exploring in the Cypress Hills, AB.







Left:

Stephen Woodall and Cisco (Cisco's Liberty General) are at home on pavement or prairie.

"TRANSFERRING" YOUR TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

What does it mean to "transfer" your registered horse when you sell it?

Does handing the registration certificate to the new owner equal transferring the papers? **No.**Does filling out the transfer section on the back of the papers, putting in the name of the new owner, the date, signing your name, and then handing them to the new owner count as transferring? **No.**So legally, what IS required to transfer ownership of a purebred registered horse

THE SELLER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Once the buyer has fully paid for the horse, the seller must give him or her a bill of sale to keep. Make sure it identifies the horse, with full registered name and number, gender, colour, age and all the other details usually associated with a bill of sale. This protects the buyer, giving him proof of the sale, and will identify the animal as his should the registration papers become lost in the mail, etc. The seller should keep a copy of the bill of sale as well.

Then get out the horse's registration certificate. The transfer will be on the back of it, as seen below. Fill it out, sign and date it. Ask the buyer to tell you exactly how he wants his name to appear on the certificate, for example - John Doe, J.E. Doe, Jane & John Doe. Put it in an envelope addressed to Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC),

the body that keep all the records for the Canadian Registry of the Tennessee Walking Horse (CRTWH).

Now for the crunch — Yes, you the seller are required to pay to have this information updated and a new certificate created showing the new buyer as owner. It will be mailed back to you to hand to your buyer, or be mailed directly to him, depending on what you ask CLRC to do in the note you send.

If you are a CRTWH member, the cost is only \$20 to transfer your horse to the new owner if you do it within one month of the sale. If you are not a member, it will cost you \$40. The cost goes up if you let time pass and don't get it done. Payment may be by cheque, money order, or credit card.

With all that taken care of, you or the new owner must mail the package to CLRC and your horse should have its new registration certificate within two months or so.

I/We do hereby certi		described on th		N . 2417 Holly Lar s been sold or give				
To			purchaser's ID. No., if known					
Address		Town or City	Town or City			Prov		
Postal code	Country				On	Day	Month	Year
and delivered on	Day	Month	Ye ar	X				
					Seller or authorized representative sign he			
Address of seller Box 7326	Town or City Edson			Province AB			Postal Code T7E 1V5	
Box 7326	Check if	sold as an ur		nimal. Transfer	r will not		rded by CLF	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

- . The seller's ownership must appear on this certificate before it may be transferred to the purchaser's ownership.
- · Application to be fully completed by the seller or authorized representative, in ink, or typewritten.
- Application must be signed by the <u>seller or authorized representative</u> and all signatures must be in ink. Printed signatures are not acceptable. In
 the case of partnerships, each partner shall sign with his/her individual signature.
- This certificate must be presented by the seller to the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, Ont. CANADA K1V 0M7
- A remittance made payable to the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation covering the transfer fee as prescribed in the current Schedule of Fees must accompany this certificate. DO NOT REMIT CASH.

THE ANIMAL PEDIGREE ACT REQUIRES THAT ALL ANIMALS SOLD AS REGISTERED STOCK MUST BE OFFICIALLY TRANSFERRED BY THE SELLER AND THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION PRESENTED TO THE PURCHASER WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF THE DATE OF SALE.

CRTWH REGISTRATIONS & TRANSFERS COMMITTEE

As committee members we often hear from people who have problems getting the papers for a TWH they've bought. Sometimes the seller doesn't give them any papers at all, sometimes won't transfer the horse into their name, and sometimes the seller does not *have* papers for the animal. We hear many sad cases. Sometimes we are able to help, sometimes not. So what should the buyer be aware of?

BUYER'S RESPONSIBILITY

If you want a purebred registered horse, be sure you look at the papers of the horse you are interested in <u>before</u> you complete the deal. Check that the horse is actually registered and is in the name of the person you are dealing with. You can also check on the clrc.ca website by looking up the horse.

The horse may still be shown in the name of the breeder or a previous owner. If the horse has just been passed along from one owner to another and no transfers have been made, the person selling you the horse cannot transfer it into your name since he's not the legal owner of record. It's a long complicated trail to trace back through several owners if they have all been entered on the papers but the transfers were never completed through the Registry. It's frustrating, often expensive, and sometimes impossible.

If the seller can't show you the papers, don't accept excuses. You'd be amazed at the ones we hear, like "we moved and can't find them - but we'll send them on as soon as we do" or "I didn't want the papers but you can get them from the breeder" or "I can't remember the name of the people I got him from but he is a registered purebred."

Responsible breeders and sellers do not use such excuses. Below is a section from the Animal Pedigree Act that outlines the law with regard to selling purebred or pedigreed livestock.

From Section 64 of the Animal Pedigree Act under Prohibitions

j) without an express statement that the animal's registration, identification or status as a purebred is from a jurisdiction other than Canada and that the animal will not be registered or identified in Canada by the person, sell, as registered or identified, or as eligible to be registered or identified, or as a purebred, any animal without providing to the buyer thereof within six months after the sale the animal's duly transferred certificate of registration or certificate of identification.

TRANSFERRING U.S. REGISTERED TWH

Many TWH in Canada are only U.S. registered. What should buyers (and sellers) do about transfers of ownership in that case? There are two options.

Currently the cost of a transfer for a U.S. registered (TWHBEA) Walker is \$40 U.S. for a member. So it would cost an owner who is already a TWHBEA member \$40 US or approximately \$50 Canadian to transfer the papers to the new owner.

If the owner is not a TWHBEA member, the membership fee of \$60 U.S. plus transfer for the animal (\$40) would be \$100 U.S. or in the neighborhood of \$125 Canadian (with our dollar currently around 75 cents to the U.S. dollar).

The second option is if the owner of the TWHBEA horse were to register it with CRTWH first, then transfer it to the new owner. This could save some money. To register an already U.S. registered horse costs a CRTWH member \$45. A transfer within one month costs a member \$20. So it will come to \$65 Canadian.

If the seller is not a CRTWH member, becoming one will add another \$25 to the cost, for a total of \$90 Cdn to register the horse with CRTWH and transfer it to the new owner.

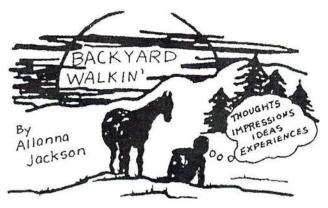
So buyers should pay attention to what registry the horse they are considering is registered with.

Whether you are selling, buying or transferring, you should be informed not only of the law but also of your responsibilities. Make every sale or purchase of a registered horse a pleasant and successful one for everyone by always following a best practices code of conduct.

M.C. Lacy

LAMINITIS OR FOUNDER

We are heading into the months of new lush green grass when founder is an ever present danger to pastured horses. Most commonly it is caused by a metabolic disorder. High sugar levels in the grass cause the horse's system to produce high levels of insulin. When a horse's insulin levels stay high for long periods, cell receptors are activated in the foot that cause the cells to divide uncontrollably, weakening connective tissue between hoof and bone until they start to separate. So Queensland University of Technology equine physiologist Martin Sillence and his team have developed a diagnostic blood test that can catch horses with elevated insulin levels before outward symptoms start to show. "We can actually prevent the disease with very good success when we can get insulin levels down." Using this blood test owners can identify horses at high risk and manage them accordingly. MCL



"Emerald Green Broke"

Other Training Descriptions

By Allanna Lea Jackson © March, 2016

Back in 1993, I visited a Paso Fino farm's Open House where the horses were sold as "emerald green broke". These horses had been handled from birth and were easy to catch, shoe, doctor, clip, groom, lead, and load into a trailer. They had received years of ground work, ponying, and handling. They were not started under saddle until age three. They could be ridden with any saddle, or no saddle at all. They could be mounted or dismounted from either side. They had been trained with a simple leather or rope bosal and were extremely responsive to leg aids and weight shifts. They would walk, corto, canter, and stop faster than you can from any gait. They stood perfectly still until told to move. They backed in a straight line, sidepassed both directions, turned on the forehand and the hindquarters, opened gates, went over obstacles, out on the trail, or in to town. Some of them had worked cattle, some had been in parades. These were mares or geldings with excellent conformation, gentle dispositions, and the correct natural gait(s) of their breed.

Six years later I bought a then 8-year-old, pregnant, "well-broke", double registered, TWH and Racking, mare. She turned out to be minimally halter broke with no other ground training. Her only saddle gait was an adrenaline-fueled speed rack. She knew nothing about backing, or turning on forehand or hindquarters. She paced sideways as an evasion but did not sidepass when asked. Worst of all, she had an incurable case of post-traumatic stress about being ridden!

Which of the above horses was the better value for the buyer? How does a horse buyer figure out which they are getting?

More recently I've seen for sale ads for horses with descriptions such as: in training, started, halter-broke, well-started. Some of the ads for halter-broke horses include things like: stands tied, picks up feet, trailer loads, imprinted at birth, hobble broke, loads, bathes, trimmed, dewormed, trailered, stalled.

Ground training descriptions include: lunged, saddled, intensive ground work. Descriptions of saddle training might add: ridden around farm, road riding, pasture riding, mountain riding, helped move bulls, has been in a parade. Descriptions like these are informative but still leave questions about the performance level and consistency, which training method was used, how well the horse did those things, and how many times the horse did them.

There are multiple disciplines and multiple methods of teaching a horse the same types of skills. A horse that has been trained by one method may seem untrained to someone who uses a different method. This is one of the reasons for having a few conventions about how we communicate with horses, such as saying "whoa" to mean stop. A trainer could just as easily teach a horse to stop when they say "apples" but that would be confusing to other people.

Lunging offers examples of the potential for miscommunication among honest people. horse lunged in a round pen, a square pen, in an arena, in a pasture, indoors, outdoors, alone, near other horses? What does "free lunging" mean? Was the horse heeding the handler at three gaits with only body language and verbal communication? Was the horse chased with a rope or whip at a gallop around a circle until the horse was exhausted? Was the horse lunged at flat walk only, or maybe at flat walk and canter only? Was it lunged at the trot until it "loosened up" and switched to pacing? Was it lunged at a pace over ground poles until it switched to trotting? Was it lunged with a bit, with or without side reins, with a halter, with a lunge cavesson, or ? Did the horse perform consistently and calmly? Was the horse tense? Was it allowed to hopscotch randomly among several gaits?

Training a horse is not like programming a Horse are live animals and unique computer. individuals. People are unique individuals. The nature of the interaction between horse and trainer is a factor in the quality of the horse's training. Good horse training takes time because good training involves building a positive, trusting relationship with the horse along with teaching the skills and signals the horse needs to know to cope with our human activities. Relationships are not transferable so there are no "push button" horses. Even the most thoroughly trained horse may not perform the same way for a different rider because the new rider doesn't ride exactly the same way the familiar rider did. Most TWH inherit several gaits and do many of them quite easily which means the way the horse is trained and ridden heavily influences which gait(s) the horse does. This is one reason a TWH might do a different gait after the buyer has taken the horse home than it did on a video or during a test ride.

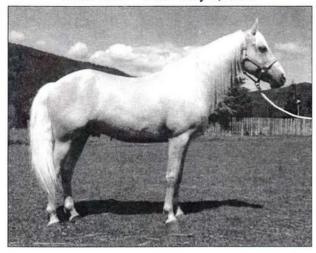


The Canadian Training Levels Challenge tests include specific skills that the horse must pass to attain the award for that level. The awards are posted on the CRTWH web site and provide independent evidence that the horse demonstrated the minimum level of proficiency at the skills listed on the test. This makes the TLC a useful tool for both buyer and seller. The TLC requires humane, safe training but does not specify a particular method so the buyer will need to find out what signals the horse was taught.

Horses look for and respond to the signals they know. Other people who know the signals that the well-trained horse knows can ride that horse safely and get reliable performance. Nevertheless, the horse is still an individual, the person is still an individual. Relationships are not transferable. No matter which training method was used and no matter what level the horse has been trained to, a buyer needs to personally invest the time and effort to build a positive relationship with a new horse to attain the best performance.

THE GOOD OLD BOYS

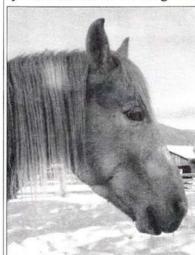
ARROW'S BOY TRIGGER #1251, US 929546 (Shadow's North Sage x Dorn's Merry Arrow) Palomino Born May 9, 1992



This 'yellow' colt was bred by Jean Philpott, Vanderhoof, BC and has been owned by Ullu Velez, Riding Mountain, MB all his life. Ullu says, "Trigger was 6 months old when I bought him. We connected, and to this day he is *my* horse. I never "formally" trained him. I'd watch him graze for a time, and then sit on him without bridle or halter, then I'd ride him around in the pasture."

"Eventually he was saddled and bridled and we went for trail rides. He never hesitated to cross a creek and was always ready to go. Riding him in parades, even with another stallion by his side, he was cool."

"Trigger sired Trigger's Dorado Z which was purchased by Marsha Trinder but I believe he died in an accident. So there is no son to continue his legacy so far. I do have frozen semen from him, and presently there are two of his daughters still here."



"A few years ago he fell and hit his head. He lost a lot of weight, and for a long while he was not doing well.

However he recovered and is doing fine now. He does enjoy sleeping in his shed during the cold windy weather."

READERS WRITE

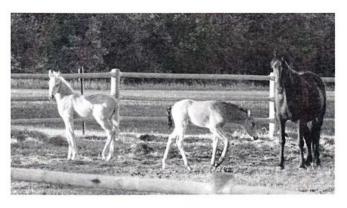
IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE we asked readers if they knew of any Dixie's Hot Chocolate offspring, in particular a mare named YELLOW STONE. No one sent information about her, but we did hear back from a few folks about other of his offspring..

SUE GAMBLE, SWASTIKA, ON wrote: You were looking for offspring of Dixie's Hot Chocolate. Well I have one here in Northern Ontario! She is very intelligent, easy to teach, has a great mind and disposition, and loves people, but can also be a challenging mare and she has a dominant streak. She is just fine as long as you show her kind, firm, and consistent leadership but if you don't she will gladly take the lead role! We have often said that she does not have a mean bone in her body (at least to humans). She loves liberty work and trick training and loves to show off how smart she is! I'm sending along photos of Dixie's Chocolate Fix (Fixie) taken a few years ago. Here she is below, having a walk around the paddock in the spring time.



DIANNE LITTLE of CALGARY, AB told us that Dixie's Hot Lazer Express is coming 17 and living with Jane and Mike Mueller on Salt Spring Island with their 31 year old mare, Calypso.

I am surprised that there has been so little response to the query about DIXIE'S HOT CHOCOLATE considering he has 41 offspring registered with CRTWH. Bred by Dixie Ball, he was an October, 1991 colt by Lucky's Koko Prince out of Canadian Flicka. Dixie trained, rode and showed him very successfully over the years. This big dark bay horse stood at stud at their Blackfalds, AB farm. His first foal was born in 1994 and the last ones were registered as of 2004. At right is his first foal, Flicka's Puppet 1492, with her colt by a draft stallion.



BRUCE DESERRE, STETTLER, AB, wrote, "I just sold Santarra, a buckskin daughter of Dixie's Hot Chocolate and Golden Dreams Delight. Over the next few years, I will have five to six horses broke and ready for sale." Bruce has raised some foals from Santarra and the black mare, Skyline's Bellatrix. Shown *above* is Bella, with her 2013 foal, with Santarra's foal, far left.

Then CARLA DICKHAUT, BASHAW, AB wrote to say, "Kim Pielak sent me an article from WHN asking about offspring of Dixies Hot Chocolate. In it Santarra was featured. I would like to let you know we have Santarra if you would like to update your article. She is a lovely mare."

Also in the Feb issue, BILL HOWES, AB asked if anyone had any info or history on ZEPHER'S KOKO SUN. *WHN* had no replies.

The U.S. registry iPeds shows that he was sold as a two year old by his breeder Bill Howes to Andrew and Charlene Vargas. I believe they moved to Ontario so perhaps Koko Sun moved there with them. There are no other owners listed, and since he was only U.S. registered there is no information in the CRTWH records.



GOODBYE, FLICKA



Well to be brief, Flicka has left us. It happened the third week of November and I have tried to send you a message, but every time I start one I can't finish it. I keep thinking that if I wait a little longer it will be easier. Well it isn't getting a whole lot easier but anyway, here it is. As the ending of a horse's life goes it was one of the most comforting I have ever witnessed. She had been off her feed a little for a few days or so before, but didn't seem to be in any distress as we still has grass and she was continuing to graze. Then two days before, she was reluctant to eat or drink. We kept a close eye on her and the next day I had an anxious call from the farm owner who is a very concerned and caring lady, so I went over.

Things definitely didn't seem right so I called my vet clinic and one of the vets came. It was a bit of a puzzle. Flicka didn't have a temperature, she didn't have colic as her gut sounds were normal, but she did have an elevated heart rate so had pain somewhere. We were concerned about dehydration as she wasn't drinking. The vet took a blood sample and before she left, gave her a shot of Banamine. This seemed to help and shortly after she was drinking and eating some hay. I got a call from the vet a little while later to say that she didn't have a bacterial infection so it indicated a viral infection in her gut. Evidently this type of infection can be overcome by a healthy younger horse. Sadly Flicka was rising 27, not in best physical shape and probably had a very limited immune system.

The apparent recovery didn't last. She went down overnight and in the morning I had to call the clinic for her to be euthanized. They were run off their feet at the clinic that morning and it was going to be noon before a vet could come. One of the vets dropped by on her way to another appointment and gave Flicka a large dose of Banamine which eased the pain but she still couldn't stand.

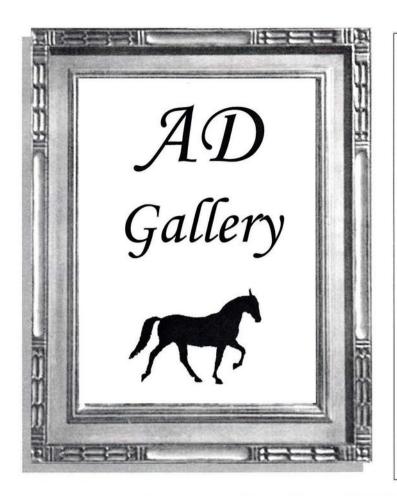
I called Grace's mum, explained the situation and her mum decided that Grace should decide if she wanted to be there. Grace most definitely did, so the three of us sat with the mare all morning until the vet came. Flicka was lying on a dry sandy surface inside a very large shelter and the day was mild. She alternated between lying flat and then sitting up doggy style. Grace tried to hold back her tears and sat with her, stroking and rubbing her. She sat beside her back, then moved in front and rubbed her head and neck and face, and it was obvious that the mare knew she was there and was glad of it.

When the vet came she decided to give the mare the shots as she lay there as it wasn't going to be possible to get her on her feet. At this point Grace was sitting facing Flicka and rubbing her face. The vet explained exactly what was going to happen and asked Grace to let her know when she (Grace) was ready. Then the vet administered the first shot, and when Flicka got sleepy, she told Grace to cradle the mare's head in her hands. Grace did, and the final injection was administered, and Flicka went to sleep in Grace's arms.

We all miss her terribly. It is a testament to a wonderful horse that she left such memories to all those of us who loved her.

I was encouraged to write about Flicka's departure from us by reading two entries in the WHN. Rachel Hill in December's issue lost two horses and her dog. Such a great loss; much more so than mine. I was interested in reading that she has added an Arab to her little herd so that she can pursue her interest in endurance. Then I got my Feb. issue and read that very uplifting story about John Reimer. I really enjoyed reading about John and his long history with horses and his continuing as an active rider.

These two stories have encouraged me: Rachel because she has included an Arab in her riding life, and John because he is only eight years older than me and still riding regularly, and obviously intends to keep on doing just that. I plan to do the same thing. I have my little QH who is a very good friend and as we do things together there is a bond there that is getting stronger with time. He has just turned 16 and I hope he has at least 10 more years and hopefully more, so that he and I can continue our relationship into my mid 80s. No, he isn't a TWH, but he is a very good boy and takes good care of me. I will keep up my subscription to the NEWS as I have enjoyed all the stories and information from everyone, and in spite of ending my riding life on a QH, the Walker is the best! by KATHY MINOR



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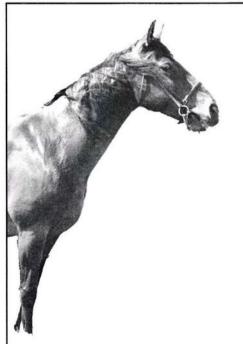
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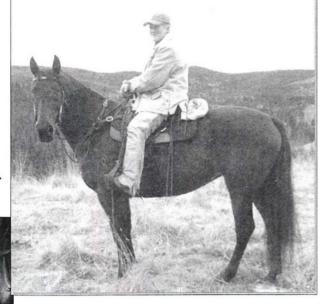
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PUBLICATIONS

BACK YARD WALKIN' TRAINING TIPS by Allanna Jackson, and BIOGRAPHY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE by Ben A. Green. The authorized revised edition of the original published in 1960. Available from www.walkinghorsejournal.com. Phone 928-367-2076, email info@fourcraftsmen.com. or mail to BYW, PO Box U, LAKESIDE, AZ 85929-0585 USA.

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 or phone 1-800-788-4437. Contact Friends Of Sound Horses, Inc. at 6614 Clayton Rd. #105, ST. LOUIS, MO 63117.

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

TRAIL RIDING, Train, Prepare, Pack Up and Hit the Trail by Rhonda Hart Poe. No one who trail rides on a Walker or other easy gaited horse should be without it! Published in 2005 by Storey Books, it is widely available in bookstores and on-line

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MANE EVENT - Red Deer, AB, April 21 to 24. CRTWH will have a booth again and if you can help out for a couple of hours on one of the 4 days, please call Karla at 403-597-7991 or email rideeasy@hotmail.ca

CRTWH ANNUAL MEETING - Saturday, May 7, 2016. Klondike Victory Farm. Mark your calendars and reserve the date. Watch for more information!

MAY CLINIC WITH BILL ROY - May 7 & 8th, 2016 at Klondike Victory Farm. For more information please contact Dianne Little at ddlittle@telus.net or 403-271-7391; Bill Roy at woodhill@telus.net or 250-379-2022

INTRODUCTION TO GAITED DRESSAGE, June 4 and 5, 2016. Clinician: Dianne Little. Noisy Hollow Acres, Lacombe, AB. Contact Rhonda at 403 786 2702

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