

# CORNERSTONE NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CORNERSTONE MORGAN HORSE



Summer 2017

# ***LITTLE BROOK FARM***

***Foundation Sport Morgans***

***DO IT ALL!***



**LBF China Town Doll**

( Triple S Wings Of Wind x LBF Gay Isabella )

taken this year at the GMHA Western Dressage Clinic

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**POLLY SMITH \* Brownsville, VT \* 802-674-2944**

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## On the Cover



Harris & Joanie Grunden son, Jace Harris rides gelding RG Denmark's Black Festus. The team earned Grand Champion in both Trail and in Horsemanship 2017 at the Frontier County Fair in Stockville Nebraska.

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## What is the Cornerstone Morgan Horse, Inc?

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The Cornerstone Morgan Horse, Inc is a fully accredited AMHA National Service Organization. We are here for the following reasons:

- A. To promote, preserve, and honor the history, image, and progeny of the Foundation Morgan Horse, as defined at [FoundationMorganHorse.com](http://FoundationMorganHorse.com), with the goal of increasing the breeding, use, showing, and enjoyment of these unique and special horses.
- B. To improve, promote and perpetuate the genetic purity of Foundation Morgan horses.
- C. To cooperate with the AMHA Inc. in promoting the Morgan Horse.
- D. To provide a united voice and effort in support of the Foundation Morgan Horse.
- E. To promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among Cornerstone Morgan members.

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## Mission Statement

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To promote and encourage the continued genetic purity of Foundation bred Morgan Horse as defined by the foundation guidelines originally published at [foundationmorganhorse.com](http://foundationmorganhorse.com)".

Cornerstone has determined the following goals as essential to this mission:

1. Increase the breeding, use, showing, and enjoyment of these unique and special horses.
2. Promote all families of Foundation bred Morgans without prejudice nor judgment regarding color, gait, or Foundation bloodline, as a celebration of the Foundation Morgan s versatility and diversity .
3. Raise the profile of Foundation bred Morgans within the AMHA and its publications, other horse-related publications, and in both open and breed competitions.

The Cornerstone Morgan Horse, Inc. will be open to anyone who is interested in breeding, training, showing, or owning and/or promoting Foundation bred Morgans. Owners and breeders of horses with a high percentage of Foundation breeding are also encouraged to join and participate.

Cornerstone is so very grateful to those who have dedicated their lives and resources to the Foundation Morgan Horse.

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## Good Statement of Purpose

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The purpose of The Cornerstone Morgan Horse, Inc is to allow people who breed, own, or are interested in Morgan horses of Foundation breeding, as defined by the [FoundationMorganHorse.com](http://FoundationMorganHorse.com), to work together to promote, preserve, and honor the history, image, and progeny of the Foundation Morgan Horse.



## 2017 Open Barn Day Promotional Materials

AMHA's 2017 Open Barn Day is right around the corner! Participants from around the country are signing up for the October 28 and November 4 days to promote the Morgan to local enthusiasts in their neighborhood!

If you are participating, order your promotional items now! You can see all that is available at AMHA by clicking <https://www.morganhorse.com/forms/promo-materials/>. The deadline for shipping is Friday, October 20, to ensure delivery in time for your event.

Items in stock are limited, so it's best to order today! Call AMHA at (802) 985-4944 ext. 203. Additional shipping fees may be required for orders received after October 20.

## AMHA Award Nominations Due Nov. 1

Nominations are now open for AMHA members to nominate a Morgan person who has helped to make the breed great and are due November 1. AMHA members can nominate their Morgan hero or heroine for a number of special year-end awards. All AMHA awards are based on nominations made by AMHA members.

The 2018 AMHA Convention will take place February 15-17 in Lexington, Kentucky. Awards to be presented at the annual awards banquet include:

- "Person of the Year." This award recognizes the individual(s) who, in the past five years, have made particularly exceptional contributions to the support and preservation of the Morgan breed and/or AMHA.
- The "AMHA Young Person Award" honors one young person (under 40 years of age) who has demonstrated breed promotion and outreach through participation in events, committees, or clubs, and has noted achievements with Morgans in or out of the show ring. The nominee will also have exhibited positive personal characteristics and sportsmanship and inspired others. Nominees must be a current AMHA member.

- The Promoter of the Year award has been renamed the "Dr. Albert Lucine Promoter Award." Given to an individual, group, or farm that goes above and beyond to promote the Morgan breed, this award recognizes an individual who exemplifies volunteerism throughout the Morgan horse world. It is an individual who volunteers his or her time on a local or regional level, as well as stepping up on the national level. This is an individual who has shown a penchant for volunteering, and will do anything to promote and support activities involving Morgan horses and their people.

Other awards include the AMHA Hall of Fame, AMHA Breeders' Hall of Fame, Cecil R. Brown Memorial Sportsmanship Award, and Show Horse Hall of Fame, among others. Go to AMHA Honors to see the various awards that are offered and to download a nomination form. Nominations must include a summary of the nominee's accomplishments relevant to the type of award.

## FREE Live Streaming at 2017 Morgan Grand National

The Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® is happy to announce this year's live feed will be brought to you FREE at [www.MGNLive.com](http://www.MGNLive.com).

With the help of the expert production team at Richfield Video, every minute of this magnificent Morgan event will be brought to you live from start to finish beginning Saturday, October 7.

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There is still time to become an advertiser and reach thousands of viewers live throughout the week and on our website into the future! Contact C. A. "Tony" Lee at [tony@caliii.com](mailto:tony@caliii.com) for more details.

Competition for this year's show begins Saturday, October 7 with three shows daily through Saturday, October 14. Show times will be at 9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. each day. For more information on the 2017

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are well into summer and the horses are all shined up from competitions and daily riding. Life is good and it is truly busy!

Watching the Morgan-loving youth in our own lives and hearing all the activities of other Cornerstone youth brings us great hope of a future with many Morgan enthusiasts, competitors, breeders, and trail riders. Our future depends on them but also upon us. We are the enthusiasts and mentors and opportunity-givers to inspire the next generations. We must teach our skills and inspire with our example and passion. We are all vital to this mission. Don't ever hide your skills or experiences, taking them for granted.. Share stories of lessons learned, teachers in your life, successes, failures, anything that could broaden their base of knowledge. You are important!

### Cornerstone Newsletter Advertising, Deadline and Membership Fees

The Cornerstone newsletter is published four times year. Deadline for our members, Farm news (free), classifieds (free), Ads and any additional information are due on the follow dates:

**Winter** issue - January 1 /**Spring** issue - April 1  
**Summer** issue - July 1 /**Fall** issue - October 1

**Newsletter guidelines:** First and foremost keeping with Cornerstone Mission statement.

All ads and members only classifieds will be uploaded to the [Cornerstone Morgan Horse website Market place](#) page until the next newsletter issue comes out. All paid ads are also posted and shared on the groups [Facebook page](#) to be viewed or shared with the entire Facebook world.

**Newsletter ad rates:** Full page color \$60.00 / full page B/W \$40.00 / ½ page color \$35.00 / ½ page B/W 30.00.

We are continuing to welcome new members. Since our last newsletter we have quite a few. We welcome Pat Thrasher, Linda Wright, Lisa Friesen, Carol Prindle, Kate Cabot and Eli Troyer. A belated welcome, and apology, to Pearl Heater. We had such a nice conversation and I hope to hear more adventures from you, Pearl.

Next we look forward to the Old Threshers' Reunion in Iowa and the wonderful Morgan participation there by the Wistroms.

Keep on, keep sharing your news and keep sending photos for us all to enjoy. You are the Best!

Pam McDermott  
President

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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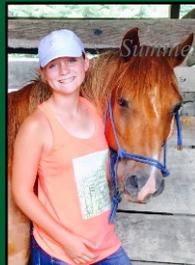
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Director————Linda Sewall

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*Check out the Cornerstone Youth! On Page 14!*



*Remember to send in your youth photos!*

## Member Activity

Vintage Morgans: Nora Knight shared: "So proud of Abby Knight and Vintage Indigo (Sumrsnow Majestic x Dean Mt Nikkoletta) HPF gelding. Last year she did a couple 25 mile endurance rides and completed them. This year there are a few more rides in our area. She has been to two rides so far this year and placed 3rd in both of them. At one ride she also won Best Condition! When she began, people said she would finish with a Morgan, but not place well. I'm sure "Best Condition" wasn't even a topic of conversation. She just smiles and let's the Morgan show them what he is made of.



Abby Knight & Vintage Indigo

From Susan Motter of Prairie Hill Morgans: The very lovely 6 yr. Morgan gelding, Fortunes Fiero (Funquest Roadmaster x Fortunes Juliette), competed with Megan Motter at the 2017 Kandi Classic Morgan Show in Sauk Centre Minnesota over Memorial Day Weekend. Fiero was undefeated winning all 5 of their Western pleasure classes (including Wesyern pleasure championship plus in –hand trail. Following the show Fiero was purchased by Kay and Chloe Sanders of Nebraska.

Megan also competed their 2014 splash/ch Morgan filly, Prairie Hill Grace (FCR Magic Act x Sweets Living Doll), at the 2017 North Dakota State Fair Morgan Show in Minot, late July. What a real joy it is to watch them perform together.



Megan Motter & Prairie Hill Grace

Photo caption: Megan Motter and Prarie Hill Grace expertly executing a turn on the haunches to the left while warming up for a class at the North Dakota State Fair Morgan Show.

Kennebec Morgans have been busy this season: Kathleen Bailey and Kennebec

Jester started off his show season by winning High Point Second Level of the day, with a 71.667%, Reserve high point of the show, and got his first qualifying score at 1st level at Longfellow USDF Show. Kathleen Bailey and Kennebec Rubgy have competed at GMHA, Groton House Farm and Millbrook Horse Trials, as well as other smaller events this season.

Harris Grunden's son Jace had the only Morgan at the County Fair. Jace brought home Grand Champion Horsemanship and Grand Champion Trail in the Intermediate Division with his horse Festus. Great job young man!

Lucy Ray took LER Charli's Angel to the Spalding County GA "First Grade Farm Day". Angel never gave up home that at least one of the 840 kids that came to see her would have a treat.

## Member Activity



Jess Belair Campmans and Buttes Sedona Sunrise

Jess Belair Campmans of Butte Morgans participated in the Morgan horse demo at the Calgary Stampede in July with Buttes Sedona Sunrise and her 2017 filly Buttes Sunset Stormcloud. What a pair doing some great promotion of the Morgan Horse!

Meadow Creek Morgans: Jude Spors-Murphy drove home bred Morgan pair Dolly and Turbo by Black Hat Knight Raven x Triton JW Ladyhawke. At the Equestrian's Institute CDE in Ethol, WA. This was a really fabulous show for the team and really something to be proud of!

## Looking for your next equine partner?



### OSTARA SILVERDAWN ARISTOS

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Consider 2016 colt Ostara Silverdawn Aristos.

Ari is smart, gentle, sweet and a fast learner. He is homozygous for gait and is 99.8% Foundation bred with a strong influence of Jubilee King, Red Correl, Flyhawk and Whippoorwill Duke. He should mature approx. 15 hands. He would make an excellent trail horse, endurance, liberty, gaited stud prospect or all around family horse. He is in your pocket friendly and willing to please. He has been handled extensively and is progressing with groundwork exercises. Pedigree can be seen on Allbreed. For sale by private treaty.

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OSTARA MORGANS

## Member Activity

Caylyn Walker of Blitzen Estate has been busy promoting Morgans: “Smoke was such a star for Ottawa Horse days! This was his first public outing and he conquered balloons, strollers, golf carts, wagons and so much more. So proud of this guy, he has come such a long ways and is a true testament to just how awesome the Morgan breed is. “ Caylyn also took a mare and foal to the Ferguson Forest Center

Cheryl Yelle and her home bred Hillrose Taconic Major (Jack) competed at the Walnut Hill Carriage Driving Show in New York in August. Way to get those Morgan Stallions out there and show the horse world some great Morgans!

Thanks for all the members using their Morgans and showing the world what a great and versatile horse they are!



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## “Remembering the Magic” Mother Earth News Fair - Asheville, NC May 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

I didn't know what to expect that Friday in May when I loaded up Poppy for the six-hour drive to Fletcher, North Carolina. Poppy is my high percentage foundation Morgan horse, whose registered name is Glick's Regent. We were headed to the mountains to represent Cornerstone Morgan Horse, Inc., at the Mother Earth News Fair.

During the long, rainy drive I had plenty of time to wonder what folks at the fair wanted to know about Morgans. Would they care that traditional Morgans, like Poppy, are designated as a breed at risk of extinction? Should I tell them that the breed originated in the United States and were used extensively on early American farms? I don't think Poppy cared about any of these things. She just concentrated on keeping her



balance in the bumpy horse trailer.

When we finally got to the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, I was relieved that my friends Sue and Steve Suber and Ashley Kessinger had arrived early and set up our stabling area. Their Foundation Morgan, Sugar Shack Mythos Clarity (Claire) looked up

from her hay long enough to welcome Poppy. We both felt right at home even though we were surrounded by other heritage farm animals including cows, pigs and poultry.

By the time everything was unloaded and both horses were settled into their stalls, it was getting dark. Time for the people to set up camp. We were all camping in our horse trailers, so we parked side-by-side in the parking lot, set out our lawn chairs and chatted about the weekend ahead.

“Will people ask lots of questions?” I asked. “Or will they just stroll by and glance at the horses?”



**Photos: Ashley Kessinger and Glick's  
Regent (Poppy)**

“Some of both,” Sue answered. “We've come the past three years. Sometimes it's really busy. But we can take turns visiting the rest of the fair.”

“Henry Fleming will be joining us tomorrow morning,” said Steve. “He and his mare, Pisgah Melody, put on a great dressage demonstration

## “Remembering the Magic”, continued Mother Earth News Fair - Asheville, NC May 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

I needn't have worried. There was something about our horses that drew folks over to reminisce about other Morgans they have known.

An elderly gentleman told of the team of Morgans that worked his grandfather's farm. The memory brought tears to his eyes.

A middle aged couple who had Morgans as young adults but sold them when family obligations got in the way, came to visit both days. They told us about their past horses but mostly just wanted to hang out with kindred spirits and soak in the horsey atmosphere.

Numerous women recalled their introduction to Morgans through reading and re-reading Marguerite Henry's classic book Justin Morgan had a Horse. I had to admit, that book was all I knew about Morgans when I got my first one twenty five years ago.

But best of all were the children and the new memories Poppy, Claire and Melody made. Poppy, and Claire, stood for hours while little girls stroked their sleek shoulders and kissed their noses. Henry Fleming and his elegant Pisgah Melody made a lasting impression with their dressage moves.

There was one tiny girl, a blond in a sundress and sandals, who stood on the bottom rail of Poppy's pen with her elbows locked over the second rail. She sighed with pleasure and just enjoyed being that close to a horse. Her parents called, "Come on, let's go see the baby goats." But she didn't move, just stood, feeling the magic that horse-crazy girls feel when they are around horses. Watching that child reminded me of myself at her age. Just being around a horse was enough. Not fretting about missed leads or tossing heads. Not even caring if I got to ride.

Thank you, Mother Earth News Fair, for helping me remember the magic.

Linda Sewall



**Top & Bottom: Ashley Kessinger and  
Sugar Shack Mythos Clarity  
Middle: Henry Fleming and Pisgah Melody**



"Bonnie"

Shenango Tara Bonfire  
FULL SISTER TO FOR MAGIC ACT

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FASTRACK  
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Crux Heart of the Matter  
STANDING AT STUD

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BRANDIES SWEET SARA & "KARA"



PRAIRIE RUN FANTASY GIRL & "SENSATION"



"GOLDIE"

SHENANGO JOY GOLD

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 2017 CASH FOALS WITH GOLDIE & TARA



WHIPPOORWILL GAIIETY

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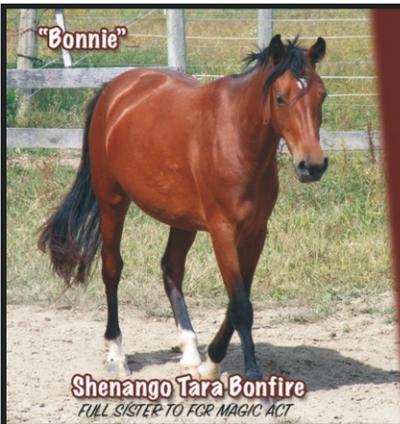
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"TARA"

MIST CHIEF MISTARA



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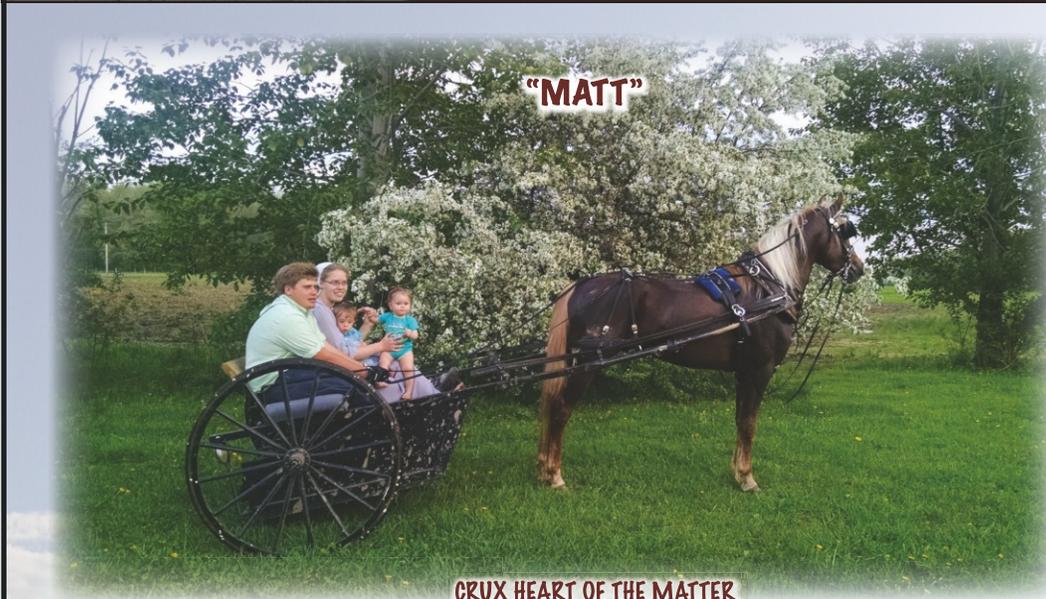
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"Matt"

Crux Heart of the Matter  
STANDING AT STUD



"MATT"

CRUX HEART OF THE MATTER



"LASS"

MATT X SHENANGO JOY GOLD

2015



2016

WHIPPOORWILL JUBILANT LARK & "GLASSY"



WHOLESALE pricing available!!  
Overall improved Digestive health,  
boosts immune & body condition.  
Enhance body condition on same  
(or less) intake. Potentially reduce  
health issue's, including colic.

**MATT & HIS GET**  
- this page -



2016

CRUX NICHOLETTE & "CHEY" (RETAINED)



"RASCAL"

2015

CRUX HEART OF THE MATTER X CABALLOS LOOK AT ME

# Cornerstone Youth!



Gary Napier's children competed at the Wayne Co. 4-H Fun Show in West Virginia on their Lambert Morgans. Left Bekah Napier (12) on Times Past Georgia Rose getting ready for the costume class. Bekah and Georgia rode in 12 classes and placed in every class! Below is Levi Napier (17) riding Maple Spring Marquis in the Flag Race. Levi and Marquis competed in 5 classes bringing home 4 first place ribbons and 1 third. Bekah and Levi enjoy local fun shows and trail rides. This past summers busy schedule hasn't let them ride much but the Morgans were ready and willing when needed to shine at the show!



Above, below, and right: Lucy Ray took LER Charli's Angel to the Spalding County GA "First Grade Farm Day". All of Lucy's horses are used to being put on show as ambassadors of the breed!





*Christina Friedkin-Piecuch daughter, Madeline (6), and mare Spring Rain. Madeline's favorite event is the Putnam Horse Council Poker Ride. Photo credit Margaret Stahl/Dark Tempo Photography.*



*Mary Kate McGoff (2) with Springlake Pallidin. Mary Kate enjoys sitting on horses and nostril poking*



*Patrick McGoff (4) with Primus Epona Jazz. Patrick loves hanging out with the horses*



*Kalie Morgan Lysic (16) on Quietude Windward Passage after a 4 hour trail ride. Kalie's passion is trail riding and with her gentle hand has developed an incredible bond with Windward*

# Cornerstone Youth!



*Don Bahr Grandchildren - Josh Carwright (14) on Do More Arrow. Mathew Carwright (12) on Do More Chocolate Honey. Nehemiah Carwright (10) on Do More Fancy Free. Eden Bahr (13) on Do More Black Velvet.*



*Josh Carwright (14) with Do More Dancin Princess and colt Do More Paladin. Josh enjoys helping Don train the horses and is becoming quite the hand!*



*Josiah Carwright (1) and Nehemiah Carwright on Do More Black Velvet*



*Don Bahr grandson Nehemiah Carwright (10) on Do More Black Velvet competing at the Gymkhana*



*Don Bahr grand children, Joseph and Emily Witenwyler on Do More Black Velvet*

# Cornerstone Youth!



Above:  
Bridlesweet Duffy  
hosts McGoff  
cousins



Below & Left:  
Kalyn Davis and  
Eagle Feather of  
Times Past  
ready for the 4th  
of July Parade.



Ashley Kessinger (16) on Sugarshack  
Mythos Clarity. Ashley started Clarity  
under saddle last year and they are  
doing great! They enjoy trail riding and  
just started barrels.



Above: Dallas Harris (9) showed for her  
first time in 2017! Dallas is crazy about  
Morgans!

Left: Harris and Joanie Grunden's son,  
Jace (14) on RG Denmark's Black Festus  
competing at the Fontier County fair.  
Jace brought home Grand Champion  
Horsemanship and Grand Champion  
Trail in the Intermediate Division. Jace's  
favorite part of the year is round-up time  
of the year is partnering with Festus at  
round up.

## The Late Well Known and Beloved Stallion, WAR Jedero

As told by his last owner, Alvin Mast

I was looking for a black foundation Morgan stallion and had put the word out. One day I got word that somebody out of the area would be bringing one to a designated place for me to see him.



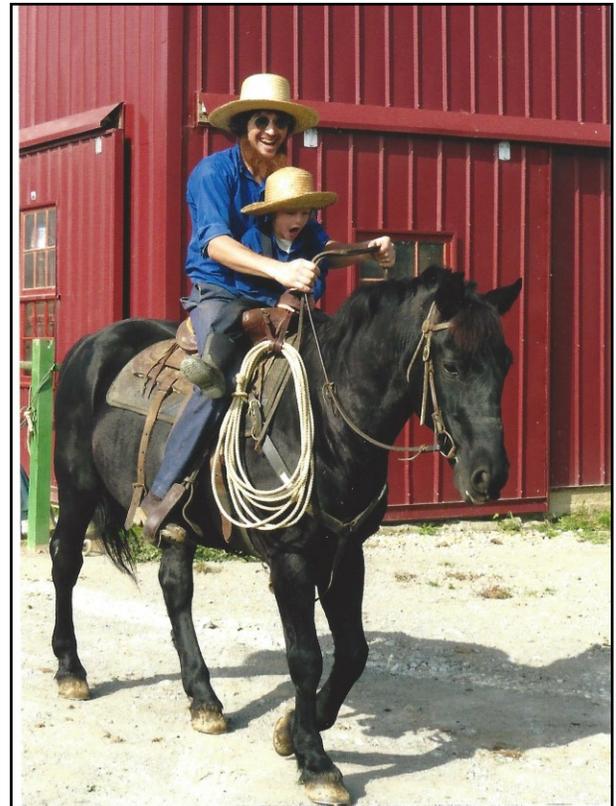
So ya, I went out to that place to look him over. I told them to unload him so I could see him. I could guess that he was black. His face was black but the rest of him was covered in manure. He was very, very fat and "happy" though.

It was said that they had to fork away manure to get him out of the stall. And, also, he hadn't serviced a

mare in two years. So, I looked him over. I looked at his bones and thought, "Oh my, all those tough bones."

So we kept him here for a time and cleaned him up, which took some time. But he was black, and jet black he was. He was a nice horse. We didn't know he drove until I talked to a friend of mine about him. We started driving him. And yes, he was a super good woman's horse.

We loved him very very much. Over the years we drove him on the road and around home, doing chores like plowing the garden to get it ready for planting. We used him to cultivate the garden after things were planted. We used him in the hay mower to mow pastures.



Jedero was also our church horse. My wife drove him to town for groceries. This was a wife job. My wife loved him. Jedero was my saddle horse to give kids rides.

In harness I hitched him with a black mare. They were hitched to a horse drawn dirt bucket to fill in dirt around the buildings. I was impressed with those two. Mostly, we used a team of black geldings for the dirt bucket work though. I also hooked the stallion to a little stoneboat with my fencing tools on board to put up fence. We have a lot of things that need to be done on the farm but we had a lot of fun with him also.

In 2015 we had Jedero in the Buckeye Morgan Horse Sale to show him to people. Some people asked if that was really him. They had not known that he was still around. We had him at the Buckeye Sale in 2016 as well.

This particular stallion and mare team were backups for me if needed. The mare had a foal almost every year. We stood the stallion to the public. We do farrier work at barn calls so I need fat horses to pull

## The Late Well Known and Beloved Stallion, WAR Jedero

my farrier buggy. We had 3 geldings to switch off and then Jedero and the mare for backup.

On a Sunday morning in 2016 we had a good ice storm and we were off to church. I hooked Jedero up as usual and we hit the road. It was all ice, clear to the place where church was held that day. We stopped in front of the house and Wife and girls got off. No problem so far. There was a short steep hill in front of the barn where the men stood before church had started. Most of the men put their buggies up there, if they could. That day, the other horses couldn't make it. I did not think about this hill.



I clucked at Jedero to get up. He started. A lot of the men said to each other that Little Mast is not going to make it up there.. Well, this stallion, slow and easy, walked up that hill and did not slip around. I found a suitable place to unhitch. More were trying to make it. One was leading the horse and the horse went down a few times. I thought, "Is it that

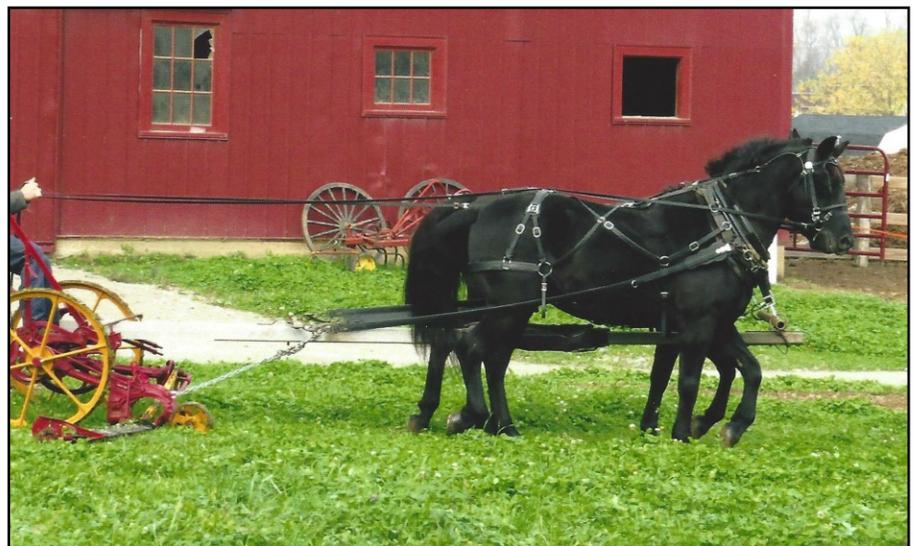
I still had to get down hill with Jedero. He was now unhooked. I led him down to the barn. Quickly I had to get hold of his harness to keep me from slipping. I ended up sliding down, holding on to his harness as he steadily moved to the barn.

My son lost his balance and came down on his bottom. As he slid close toward the stallion's hind legs, I said, "Whoa... easy." Then Jedero stopped and let it happen. The boy got up and we walked on into the barn. Very nice. Very cool, I thought.

I tied Jedero up and stood with the rest of the men. Most of them had made a run up that icy hill and still didn't make it. Those ones stayed down below and unhooked wherever there was room.

Some of the men said to me that they didn't think we would make it up that ornery hill at a walk. I told them that I didn't want to say too much but that he is a Morgan and that he is sure-footed. I added that it is what they say about Morgans; sure-footed!

Then in 2017, we had but a short time to see that something was not right with him. Then he was dead. The vet said it was bone cancer. Jedero was very gaited, black and a laid-back stallion. He was fun to have around. We thank the guy who trained Jedero. We loved him a lot. This was our WAR Jedero, #136824, 22 year old 100% foundation Morgan stallion!





## *RG Denmark's Justa Farmer*

*(RG Black Dandy x Coal Creek Lara)*

*16 Hands, Homozygous Black, 100% Foundation*

*While losing Dandy was an unexpected blow to our hearts and our program, we won't skip a hoof-beat. We still have his son producing in our herd and a few daughters to carry on his legacy. Farmer is powerful, beautiful, kind and gentle. He's an easy mover with lots of action, a solid work ethic and stamina. He's got all the attributes and qualities we admired in his sire. We are also standing our other homozygous black, 99.5%, 16.0 hand stallion, MUR Royal's Joyride.*

*We'll continue producing these old style Morgans with quiet dispositions, beauty, work ethic & loving hearts. Thanks for all your support!*

*We have an exciting crop of percentage and high percentage foals for sale. And a couple surprise offerings, too. If you're interested, please give us a call! We'd love a chance to visit.*

*RG Morgans/Denmark Ranch*

*Harris & Joanie Grunden family  
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*home: 308-367-4214  
cell: 308-367-7225  
[www.rgmorgans.com](http://www.rgmorgans.com)*

RG Black Dandy  
2001-2015



*“Mom, will we ever smile again?”*

*“Someday, Honey, someday. “ “But when?”*

*Tomorrow? A week? What amount of time does it take to smile again, after losing a horse as special as Dandy? Maybe when his last foals hit the ground. When they untangle their new, long legs and try out a few kicks and turns and run races along the canyons under the white fluffy clouds that grace these Nebraska skies. Maybe then, when we once again see a glimpse of old Dandy himself, with their broad chest, round hip and familiar crested neck, and that beautiful face with their loving, kind eyes looking back at us over their smooth shoulder... maybe then will we feel a tug of a smile on our face and in our hearts.*

*We are humbled by the generous offers of help from folks we've never met! To those who've offered to lease us one of Dandy's daughters or sons... your gestures have touched our hearts more than you'll ever know. It's impossible to thank everyone who has had a hand in helping RG Black Dandy reach his potential. Thanks to all who purchased his foals, bred a mare, or simply adored & loved him and told us so. But we'd especially like to thank Bert, Elizabeth & Ben Schmucker and Adam & Kassy Miller for always presenting him so beautifully for us over the years. Thanks for helping us share him with others. Special thanks to Adam & Kassy for the love & care you gave Dandy and also the thoughtfulness & kindness you've given to our family. We are forever grateful. ~Harris, Joanie, Jace & Dallas*

# GELDINGS IN HISTORY, PART 2 by Brenda

## Dandy

Dandy was a Morgan gelding owned by General Custer, and was also present at the Battle of Little Big Horn, although he did not fight in the Last Stand. In the late fall of 1868, the Quartermaster sent 500 horses to replenish the mounts for the Seventh Cavalry as they prepared for a winter campaign. The horses were led past Custer's tent, and his attention was caught by a spirited, compact and muscular horse whose dancing elastic step made him stand out from the others. The horse was a Morgan, about 15 1/2 hands, dark bay in color, with a white nose and elongated star, and he reminded Custer at once of many of the best mounts he had ridden during the war. Custer ordered him detained, and on trying him out, decided he would take advantage of the privilege granted to officers, and purchase him from the government for his personal mount.

His wife Libbie wrote, "His fire, promising powers of endurance, his sound condition, made General Custer think he would prove equal to the terrible marches, the exposure and insufficient forage to which a cavalry horse had to submit. He was given the name of "Dandy" on the spot because of his spirited manner, and the little proud peacock airs he never forgot except when he slept.... Dandy enjoyed a hunt above everything. The General could run down a deer with Vic, and for a spirited, quick dash the thoroughbred was best but Dandy was the old love, and he made such demonstrations of delight over the preparations for the chase that he grew to seem almost human.

The leader would extricate himself from the wild tangle of dogs, men, and horses, and Dandy proudly took the advance, curvetting, dancing sidewise, tossing his head and mane, evincing by every motion that he was born to lead. When the real work began he fell to the duty of the hour with a skill and determination that made his master, each time he returned from the chase, pat his neck as he leaped to the ground, and say "There never was such another horse created." (Following the Guidon, by Elizabeth Bacon Custer).

Hunting buffalo was one of General Custer's favorite pastimes. Dandy loved these chases as much as Custer did and was especially skilled at it. The buffalo trails to water were hard deep ruts baked in the sun, with four or more parallel lines. These he would leap with a bound, as well as the occasional prickly cactus beds. Dandy could

pick his way through a prairie dog village unguided, rarely sinking or stumbling in these dangerous holes. When he came on a buffalo wallow at a dead run with no time to veer aside, he learned to leap in and out like a cat. Dandy loved hunting above all else and Custer was very proud of his ability as a buffalo-horse. Libbie wrote, "One day General Custer, returning from a hunt, called me to the tent-fly to see his favorite horse Dandy. He was so quick, strong, and intelligent that he was accounted as good a buffalo-horse as there was in the regiment. General Custer said that he was so ambitious that as soon as he saw which animal was singled out for pursuit he bent every nerve to the work. When the game became angry Dandy grew more wary and leaping to the right and left to escape the butting horns, he carried his master so near that the side of the buffalo was almost rubbed in passing. Dandy knew that the only way to bring an animal down was by sending the fatal shot behind the fore-shoulder, so he darted for the side, plunged off at a tangent when the animal wheeled, gathered and sprang for the unguarded quarter.... The bridle did not need to be touched, so clever was the horse in getting into favorable position for firing." (Following the Guidon, by Elizabeth Bacon Custer).

On this day, when Custer called his wife to come and see the horse, Dandy had chased a buffalo down a steep ravine when the enraged animal suddenly wheeled, lifting both man and horse on his huge horns before they could escape. As Custer felt himself poised in midair, somehow Dandy was able to leap aside and safely carry his rider out of reach of the vicious horns. Custer showed Libbie where one horn had gored a hole in Dandy's side and the other had torn through the thick felt saddle cloth. Yet the narrow escape had no effect on Dandy's nerves for the very next hunt, he pursued the buffalo with as much enthusiasm and skill as ever.

Custer rode Dandy in the Battle of the Washita. The regiment was ordered to move out on November 23, 1868 against the remainder of Black Kettle's people who were camped on the Washita River. A snowstorm had set in the night before and when the bugle sounded at 4:00 a.m., the snow was a foot deep and still falling. While many of the horses died from exhaustion and scant forage in the bitterly cold conditions, Dandy's nerve carried him through. He learned to paw through the snow to find little

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## GELDINGS IN HISTORY Cont.

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tufts of dried grass, and gnaw the bark of cottonwood trees when there was nothing else. For a marching horse, his gait was considered by many to be difficult, as he never would come down to a walk, but continued to curvet and prance, never showing any weariness no matter how long the day.

Custer greatly admired this in him, for it seemed not to matter if they had spent the whole day marching through blinding snow, toiling through huge drifts, or scrambling up sheer icy slopes to meet the full blast of a bitter wind sweeping unchecked over hundreds of miles of prairie. None of this would quell his cheerful disposition. In March 1873, the whole Seventh Cavalry was ordered to the plains of Dakota, in spite of the Indian Treaty of 1868 which had promised the Sioux inviolable rights to their territory. The government was now chafing as they wanted the Northern Pacific Railroad to go through the middle of the Sioux lands and the Seventh Cavalry was expected to provide protection while the railroad was being built.

Custer wrote in a letter to Libbie, "Much of our journey was necessarily made on foot, our horses being led in single file, except my own noble "Dandy." He seemed to realize the difficulties of the route, and although permitted to run untethered, he followed me as closely and carefully as a well-trained dog. Sometimes we found ourselves on the summit of a high peak to ascend which we had to risk both life and limb and particularly imperil the safety of the horses. Once we came to a steep declivity which neither man nor horse could descend. It was impossible to retrace our steps, as the sides of the peak were so steep our horses could not turn about without great danger of tumbling hundreds of feet. Asking the rest to wait a moment, I looked about and discovered a possible way out to our left, provided a huge rock which lay in the path could be removed. ....Uttering a few words of caution to Dandy, who seemed to comprehend our situation and say, "All right, don't mind me," I left him clinging to the soft and yielding soil of the mountain. I succeeded in dislodging the rock after some work, and sent it leaping down the rocky side leading to the valley, sometimes taking hundreds of feet at one plunge. The way being clear, a simple "Come on, Dandy," and we took the advance, followed by the rest. We were well repaid for our risk and trouble by the grandeur of the scenery that lay



General Custer's famous gelding Dandy, from *Following the Guidon*, 1890. His bloodlines were unknown, but given the markings on his face and the descriptions of his temperament, it is likely he carried the blood of Woodbury Morgan

spread out beneath us." (Letter from Custer, Yellowstone River, July 19, 1873 - Boots and Saddles by Elizabeth Custer).

Custer also rode Dandy on the famous Black Hills Expedition of 1874. The Black Hills, lying about 60 to 70 miles north of Fort Laramie, were out of the regular line of travel, and had as yet never really been visited or explored to any degree by white men. The Sioux considered these lands sacred and were very mysterious about the area, which was also supposed to be exclusively protected by the treaty of 1868. One day, some of the Sioux brought some gold nuggets in to the trading post, and admitting they came from the Black Hills, word spread like wild fire, and the government began to receive a great deal of pressure from miners wanting to go in there. Thus it was decided the area needed to be surveyed for the presence of minerals, and Custer, with the Seventh Cavalry, was again called upon to lead the expedition.

Custer wrote, "In no public or private park have I ever seen such a profuse display of flowers. Every step of our march that day was amidst flowers of the most exquisite colors and perfume. So luxuriant in growth were they that men plucked them without dismounting from the saddle. Some belonged to new or unclassified species. It was a strange sight to glance back at the advancing column of cavalry, and behold the men with beautiful bouquets in their hands, while the head gear of their horses was decorated with wreaths of flowers fit to crown a queen of May. Deeming it a most fitting

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## GELDINGS IN HISTORY Cont.

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appellation, I named this Floral Valley.” (A Complete Life of Gen George A Custer, by Frederick Whittaker).

The expedition consisted of ten companies of the Seventh Cavalry, plus two of infantry, along with sixty scouts from friendly plains tribes, over 1200 in all with a huge wagon train. For all, it seemed a romantic and mysterious adventure as they explored the beautiful country relatively unmolested with Custer on Dandy prancing at the head of the column.

Two years later at the Battle of Little Big Horn, June 25th, 1876, Dandy was the first horse Custer rode that day. They had already made twenty-eight miles through the rugged country on the 24th before stopping to camp and wait for information from the scouts. However, at 9:25 that evening, Custer called the officers together to deliver the news that the village was in the valley of the Little Big Horn and they would have to cross the divide between the Rosebud and the Little Big Horn, which could not be done without being discovered, so they would move out again at 11 p.m. They marched for another three hours, covering ten more miles, and stopping at 2 a.m. to rest until daylight.

Custer, however, wanting to see things for himself, rested but a short time, and mounted on Dandy, was up before dawn, to ride up a steep and difficult trail to meet his Crow scouts at an overlook called the Crow’s Nest. Dandy was exceedingly sure-footed and Custer could rely on him to climb up steep places that no other horse would attempt. It must be remembered that this was very near the longest day of the year and dawn came before 5:30 a.m. From Custer’s view, the teepees of the village were twelve miles distant. Smoke from the cooking fires of the village mingled with the mist rising from the river in a general haze. The trained eyes of the scouts could make out the herds of ponies grazing, which they told Custer looked like “worms in the grass”, but these were difficult to see, and the bend in the river obscured the fact that more villages were encamped farther up the river for miles. The opinion of the government and intelligence related to Custer by Terry was that no more than 500 to 800 hostiles were likely to be ready to meet them. What Custer and his scouts observed seemed to corroborate this, and he estimated at most that they might meet 1000 to 1200, which all his past experiences led him to believe his troops could easily handle, as the Plains Indians were well known to prefer flight to pitched battles with armed soldiers. The

greatest concern of everyone was that they would escape before they could be intercepted. They were also unaware of General Crook’s recent defeat on the 17th of June when he had been attacked by the Sioux and the Cheyenne under Crazy Horse, and forced to withdraw after a six-hour battle, while the triumphant warriors went to join Sitting Bull. In fact, nearly 10,000 from the various tribes altogether were camped along the river, with somewhere between 2500 to 5000 warriors among them. Custer continued to lead on Dandy until about 10:30 that morning when he stopped to divide his troops, having already been more than six hours in the saddle. He gave Dandy into the care of Private John Burkman, and mounted his thoroughbred Vic for what he was expecting to be primarily a chase.

After Major Reno and his men had retreated to a position on the bluffs, Custer was heard to fire two successive volleys in quick succession, which several interpreted as a distress call, intended to alert his men of his location and tell them to come on. At that point some of the troops tried to start in his direction. Burkman recalled that so many of the horses had been killed or stampeded that another soldier had taken Dandy, and he saw that in the ensuing fight to try and get through the lines of shrieking warriors to reach Custer, Dandy – who could never brook any horse in front of him, and was leading the charge - was shot in the neck and fell. Burkman supposed he had been killed, but found the wounded horse after the battle. Dandy recovered and was taken back to Custer’s wife Libbie, who in turn gave him to Custer’s father.

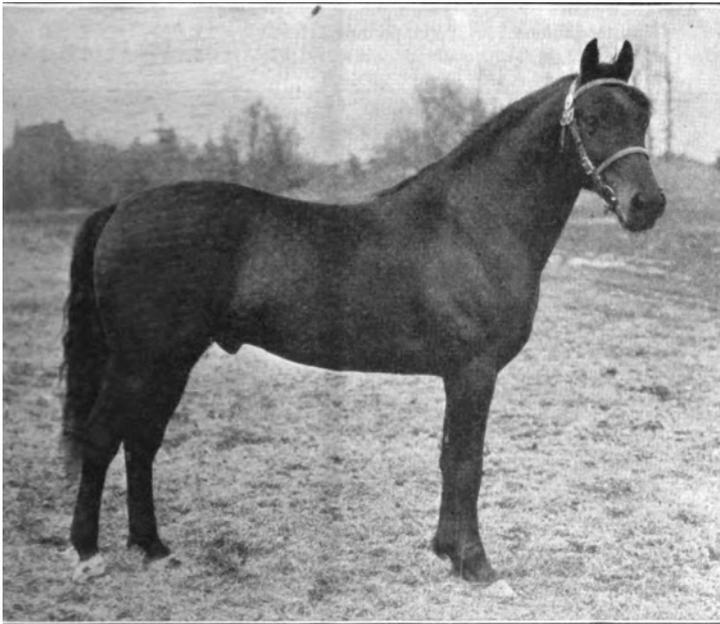
Somehow, Dandy knew he had lost his beloved master, but recognized something familiar in the old man that was as much perhaps a comfort to him as it was for the old man to have his son’s horse and that last living connection with the three sons he had lost. (Two of Custer’s brothers were also killed in the battle.) Emmanuel Custer was then over 70 years old and Libbie was somewhat worried for Dandy had always required an expert rider. The old gentleman assured her there was nothing vicious about the horse and, though bent and stooped in walking, sat straight and splendid in the saddle. Dandy promptly suited himself to the needs of his elderly master and became a steady going family horse, although he never forgot his part when they were frequently invited to lead parades. They received an invitation to be the guests of Michigan at the State Fair, inscribed “For Father Custer and His Horse

## GELDINGS IN HISTORY Cont.

Dandy”, and led the procession with Dandy prancing and curveting with all his old fire, seeming proud that everyone should know he was General Custer’s horse.

Even when the horse was 26 years old and the old man past 80, they would often drive 30 miles to the home of one of General Custer’s staff for a visit, returning by a longer forty-mile route. Dandy would stand patiently beside the street to allow his white headed owner to carry on hot-political discussions. But one morning no whinny greeted the old gentleman when he went to the stable.

Every remedy was tried and two veterinarians were called, but nothing more could be done. Standing bravely until the last, Dandy finally slipped away. He was buried beneath the apple tree where every year a shower of blossoms would cover his grave and old Emmanuel at 83, bowed his head lower that day, remembering the three sons he had lost and the cheerful Morgan who had brought him comfort for 13 long years.



Castor (General Gates x Babe) U.S. Department of Agriculture Circular 199, 1921.

### Castor

Castor (General Gates x Babe) was a bay bred by the U.S. Government Morgan Horse farm and foaled in 1909. He performed especially well in the 300 mile rides. He had been used as a stallion for Remount work for a brief time, but due to the carelessness of a groom and poor feeding at a station too remote for frequent inspections, finished the breeding season in bad condition, and was gelded.

He recovered however, and was afterwards used for work on the farm and for a variety of duties from working as a Forest Ranger’s mount to being one of the carriage pair used by the Secretary of Agriculture in Washington D.C. He performed three times in the 300 mile ride, in 1919 carrying 200 pounds, finished in 51 hours and 18 minutes, the second best time made. This was in spite of the fact that on the last day, due to fatigue of his rider on a steep hill, suffered a bad fall and serious cut on his knee, so that he was not given a prize. In 1920, carrying 245 pounds he finished 7th, with a time of 58 hours and 40 minutes. For 1921, he was one of only six horses to finish the test out of 17 starters, coming in fourth although he was the smallest and oldest horse in the race. He was the only Morgan to complete three rides.

These are just a few examples of the many brave geldings who have been the backbone through the years of winning admiration for the Morgan breed. Their unfailing courage, endurance and willingness to do whatever was asked of them, have helped to make the Morgan horse the most useful and versatile breed in America.

*Much thanks to Brenda Tippin for this article. To read more of Brenda’s work, visit her blog at*

*<https://morganhorsehistory.wordpress.com/>*

## Farm News

### White Pine Morgans - Dave & Judy Atchison - Idaho

Here at White Pine Morgans we were blessed with a beautiful foal on May 15<sup>th</sup>. This little fellow is out of our best mare, Whippoorwill Lady Jubilee, and by our stallion Easthill Legacy. He has Jubilee King in abundance. We will be offering him for sale to a breeding home. He has type, movement, and brains. What more could we ask for? We have had fun with him this summer. We sold his full brother, White Pine Diamond Jubilee, to a good friend of mine. Thank you Terry! He has a marvelous home. We have bred two of our mares, Foxtail's Misstinda and Whippoorwill Goldusty in hopes of 2018 foals. After completing her maternity leave, Whippoorwill Lady Jubilee will resume her regular job of taking good care of my son Joel. Joel was riding Misstinda in 4-H this year and they were starting to become a team by the 4-H show. However, Joel really prefers Julie so next year she will be back on the job. It is amazing how many people recognize and like Julie. It is promoting the breed the easy way! We have had quite a few people out to trail ride this year and we tell them they are riding Morgans! I feel blessed that we have such wonderful Morgans that total beginners can ride and enjoy.



**Ostara Morgans** is proud to present 2017 foals. We are blessed that all four are healthy and amazing examples of Foundation Morgans.

**Ostara XB Windflower**- "Windy" (Kells Above R Xpectations X Bird Flirt GD) 100% foundation black filly, Retaining

**Ostara Silverdawn Adagio**-"Dodge" (Triple S Silver Dollar X Do More Shawna Dawn) 99.8% foundation, liver chestnut colt, For Sale

**Ostara Silverbeau Regard**-"Beau" (Triple S Silver Dollar x RRMBD Miss Independence) 100% foundation buckskin colt , Retaining

**Ostara Silvjenwood Reine**-"Wren" (Triple S Silver Dollar X Westwind Jennifer) August, chestnut filly 100% foundation, for sale.

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**OSTARA MORGANS**

## Farm News

### Hillair Morgans - Christina Friedkin Picuch - New York

The wet spring has followed us into summer, but we are making the best of the good weather when we can get it. The horses have been enjoying trail rides at the nearby Rockefeller Preserve, a 1400 acre oasis in suburbia. With over 55 miles of carriage trails there is a lot to explore and runners and walkers -no bikes allowed-must all yield to equestrians!

This summer we are also trying to achieve some long standing training goals with our now 12 year old "foal". Hillair's Mohican Son (Slate Run RK Ladd X Spring Rain), HPF gelding, is starting work over fences. And his dam is continuing her career as a trusty lesson mount for our 6 year old daughter Maddie. We trailer both horses for once a week lessons with a trainer who focuses on eventing and understands Morgans, not always the easiest to find. All four of us are having a lot of fun. The best quote from Maddie while riding at home after having a lesson a few days before, "I want to ride every day!"

Photo is our annual "Mother's Day Ride" at Rockefeller- Maddie on Spring Rain (Primavera Valdez X Windswept Rain) and Me on Hillair's Mohican Son (aka Mosey).



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## Farm News

### Ostara Morgans - Noel Radcliffe - Wisconsin

Ostara Morgans is proud to present 2017 foals. We are blessed that all three are healthy and amazing examples of Foundation Morgans. Each has their own unique qualities.



Ostara XB Windflower- Windy (Kells Above R Xpectations X Bird Flirt GD) 100% foundation black filly, Retaining.

Ostara Silverdawn Adagio-Dodge (Triple S Silver Dollar X Do More Shawna Dawn) 99.8% foundation, liver chestnut colt, For Sale.

Ostara Silverbeau Regard-Beau (Triple S Silver Dollar x RRMBD Miss Independence) 100% foundation buckskin colt , Retaining.

Still expected: Triple S Silver Dollar X Westwind Jennifer.

August 2017

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### Primus Morgans - Rory McGoff - Michigan

We have two colts on the ground this year by Springlake Pallidin so far. A black colt out of SC Island Iris and a chestnut by Stella Fallingstar. Another foal is due any day out of Flirt Blackbird GD. The



foals have been excellent but wouldn't mind if a filly got thrown in the mix next. We aren't pushing the sale of any young stock right now as everything is being evaluated a future breeding stock. Breeding season is coming to a close and right now we hope for at least 4 foals in 2018.

We have made a lot of progress on the farm since we moved last spring but we still have a lot more to do. Time is very short between farming pigs, chickens, bees, horses, rabbits, vegetables, hay, etc but we wouldn't have it any other way.

## Farm News

### **Nora Knight - Vintage Morgans - Washington**

It has been a busy summer so far at Vintage Morgans. I participated in a Cowboy Dressage Clinic in May. Then the first Cowboy Dressage Show in the area was held in Spokane, WA in June. While I did not compete, I went to observe and take pictures of some of my friends who were competing. I was nice to see several Morgans competing at this show. The atmosphere of encouragement and horsemanship at these events is truly refreshing.

In June, Rob and Jamie Zimmerman came to visit and see the horses. Rob and Jamie are promoting Working Equitation in the U.S., including sponsoring clinics with Nuno Matos of Portugal. The Zimmermans already have three Morgans: Lisa's Captain Jack (Liz's Blackjack x PRM Rosalita) 100% Foundation gelding, Vintage Bella Rose (Sumrsnow Majestic x Vintage Ruby Spar) 100% Foundation mare, and Vintage Kobalt (Sumrsnow Majestic x Dean Mt Nikkoletta) HPF gelding. We



were honored to have them also choose Vintage Fleetwood (Sumrsnow Majestic x Vintage Kitty Spar) 100% Foundation colt to join their stable. We have been very blessed to have owners like the Zimmermans buy our horses. The attached picture is of Rob Zimmerman on Vintage Bella Rose at a Nuno Matos clinic in 2017.

We also sold Vintage Ladyhawke to Diana Leonard of Vashon, WA as a trail horse.

Diana is a devoted trail rider. We wish her many enjoyable miles on Ladyhawke.

We have two three-year old fillies sired by the full-Lippitt stallion Good News Joshua. It is time for them to have more structured training, so they are going to visit Abby Knight for ground work and the beginning of saddle training. Every time I work with the

young horses, I am amazed at how quickly they learn and how much they seem to enjoy the work. As a breeder, it is very rewarding to see the fruits of our program be these smart, sound individuals that want to partner with people.

Abby Knight is competing in a couple endurance rides this summer on Vintage Indigo (Sumrsnow Majestic x Dean Mt Nikkoletta) HPF gelding. She is starting out with 25 mile rides. Indigo seems to enjoy the rides and his recovery statistics are good so far.

### **Bill Logsdon - Can-Do Morgans - Ohio**

He offers to any youth, under the age of 18, a free breeding to one of his stallions if they have a registered Morgan mare. He is doing his part to promote the foundation Morgan.

He just had the arrival of his new stallion, the 17 year old Blackhats Royal Prince. Royal had just finished a lease by Bryan Blatt for 2 years so it was not a long trip from MT to OH. The sellers, the McDermott family of Dawn Wind Morgans, are very happy for both Bill and Royal.

Bill is teaming up with his friend, Alvin Mast, to give Royal a farm career. First he will be trained to harness and they will go from there. Bill and Alvin are looking forward to breeding Royal to Amish-owned Morgans to get more good foundation blood in the Amish community. Both know the value of each animal having registration papers so they will expect that.

## Farm News

### DJJJ Morgans - Dan & Jacky Wisrom - Iowa

It's been a great spring and a plenty busy one. My part time job at the farm store was pretty much almost full time due to help issues, and this person was really out of shape for all the hours! Was able to make it to the Ashland Sale and watch our stallion DM Black Bravado in the stallion presentation which was very exciting. Got to meet many Cornerstone members and visit with many other friends who make it to the sale every year. Getting things lined up now for our County Fair followed by State Fair and Old Thresher's then Haunted Rails, with the Headless Horseman. So from the last week in July to Halloween it is a very busy time around here. Hope we have a cooling trend for all this as right now we are having extremely hot and dry weather. We had two  $\frac{3}{4}$  Morgan and  $\frac{1}{4}$  Percheron crossbred fillies, and one Registered Morgan filly this spring. Dan has refurbished a # 9 horse drawn mower and went and helped a friend do some mowing. For such a pile of junk when we got it, mowed great! That's about all that is happening around here for now. Hoping everyone has a great summer, all the foals have arrived, and everyone is enjoying their FOUNDATION MORGANS!



### Joyce Napotnik - Maple Spring Morgans - Pennsylvania

Thinking we only had 2 mares bred for this spring, we were very surprised when our Honor Jubilee blessed us with the most beautiful boy "Kingdom of Maple Spring". She was bred only ONCE one day but obviously it took. He will be chestnut with white mane/tail and sabino markings. Sure wish we could keep him but we have his mom and dad here and could get another breeding so he will be for sale, hopefully to a breeding home. Almost too striking to geld but then again....I'm very partial to stallions.

Before the summer is over we hope to use some "kid" power and replace all the boards on the round pen and anywhere else where we have board fencing. Also time to use those grand kids to help clean out the old barn and come to realize if it's been there for years we're never going to use it. Time to go!!! All pastures need cleaned up from fallen trees during the winter months and some old pastures replanted, foals to train and friends to visit. Isn't it wonderful there's no time to grow old and be bored. God Bless the Farmer!



## Farm News

### Dawn Wind Morgans - McDermott - Oregon

Summer here has been very busy. It continues that theme with me getting a hip replacement, with the second one coming this fall. Next year I plan to be riding my gentle Morgan mare, Triple S Berry Knox, once again.

A filly we sold 2 years ago, Dawn Winds Clarity, is bringing smiles to her 4-H family. With 15 rides so far, trained by her young rider under expert instruction, she is competing in 4-H shows this summer. It starts with July 5, a big show where she will compete in trail courses and other fun saddle events. She is doing well and they adore her. They call her the 'lil horse'.

We just sent Blackhats Royal Prince to new owner, Can-do Morgans, Bill Logsdon, in Ohio. Bill has been an unfaltering promoter of the foundation Morgan. He is teaming up with Alvin Mast, both Cornerstone members, to promote Royal among the Amish. Royal should be a good representative to help entice the Amish back to the old-style Morgan.

We had film-makers come to interview us for a heritage breed documentary. It will take close to a year to complete as they travel the U.S. to visit each endangered livestock breed. It should benefit Cornerstone a lot. They were professional and oriented to helping the breeds rather than just making money. I was impressed. Have a wonderful rest of the summer, everyone!

### Hillside Farm – Alvin Mast - Ohio

We have the privilege to write in the Cornerstone newsletter what we do with our Morgans. We mostly do light farm chores with Morgans, which we use to plow our garden and later harrow it. We also mow pastures and move round bales on a little stone boat. That is to feed the Morgans in pastures.

This last summer we put 24 round bales in the upper level of the barn, using one Morgan and a 3 pulley rope and tackle. We do not have a bank barn so every bale goes up through a 6x6 hole from the lower to upper level. We roll the bale on a heavy chain and hook to the pulley system. At that point we hook a Morgan gelding at the end of the rope to pull it up.

Since we are under the name of Amish we are not allowed to have a skid-steer so we look to smart ways to get help from our Morgans. One of the neighbors had brought a wagon load of small bales and unhooked beside the driveway. From there we had to pull it to where we needed it, using our main team of Morgan geldings.

Another exciting story was that a neighbor had his team of Percherons down here to be shod. We got to talking about plowing. He offered his team of two Percherons to plow or we could just use 6 Morgans. [smile...] We did plow but only needed our two Morgan geldings. That same evening that neighbor is plowing his field, using three horses! He told me that he had to look twice at my small horses who were plowing also. He kept an eye on me as he continued to plow. So maybe he was surprised just how Morgans can work, if you get the old time Morgans. We once hitched these Morgans to a tractor truck that was stuck here. They kept trying until the chain broke. They had not



given up. Our neighbor finally came over with his pickup truck. Some time ago we had two Morgans hitched to a large stone to move it around.. They did the job not too bad. We got it where we wanted it. The photos are two colts by WAR Jedero. We are keeping Hillside Shy Boy, the older one. He is from Drumlin Lyn. The younger colt is also by Jedero and from BN Lucy Lynn. His papers are on the way. He is for sale, as well as a filly we have by Jedero. Well, my news is getting empty so will let someone else do it now.  
~ Alvin Mast

## Junk Pile Tack & Supply: Tall Boot Care

If you show in hunter classes or ride in the English disciplines of eventing, dressage, jumping, etc. you'll want a pair of tall boots. A comfortable pair is nice for endurance and recreational trail. Used ones can often be found at a very reasonable price. There are plenty for sale on e-bay. It's best to try them on before investing since there are so many variables in fit but if the brand and size are given, you could look up the sizing chart in a catalog or on line. Store your boots with shoe trees and shaft shapers. Stuff snugly with news papers if nothing else. Rolled news papers or magazines and empty (mine are 2 liter) soda bottles all work well for the shafts. Get 2 pairs of old socks (one can be crew or ankle and one should be knee high) to make your own custom boot-trees. For each foot, stuff some crumpled newspaper in the toe of the low sock and slip the sock into the boot as if your foot was in it. Finish stuffing the foot of sock while it's in the boot. Check to see if it will slip in and out OK before fastening it shut by tying a knot in the sock or use a bread-bag tie, string etc. Roll up a magazine or two (or more newspaper) and slip into the leg of your knee-socks. Tuck the foot up inside the center of the roll for the shaft holder. Or skip the socks and tape the roll at the correct size. Two liter soda bottles fit perfectly in my boot shafts. They are much lighter weight than the paper but I let the boots dry before storing with the bottle-boot-trees. The super-snug ones I



insert bottle top up so I can pull them out. The looser ones I put in top down because it protects the shape of the boot tops better.

Once you get your boots all polished up, storing them in a boot bag will help keep them nice. Get an old pair of sweat pants, stretch pants

or lounge/pajama pants. You'll want a drawstring waist or a casing to run a drawstring through. Slip your pants "upside down" over your boots with each top in it's own leg. Tie your drawstring snug so the boots can't fall out of the waist. Mark the top of the boots on each leg. Be generous and leave an extra 2 or 3 inches so the tops are not going to get scrunched up tight. The last step is to fasten the legs shut. Easiest is tie a knot in each leg or knot both legs together if you have enough length. If you don't have much extra fabric or you want a neater look, sew the legs. If you fasten the legs together, you can hang or carry the bag right side up (or upside down which helps keep the ankles from slouching).

-Jenny Blanchett-Morse



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## Morgans In Montana, by Dorothea Hildreth

In the 1940's, George and Estella Shaffner started raising Morgans at their ranch west of Dillon Montana. Those Morgans were used as stock horses on the ranch. The mares and stallion ran free in the Rockies, when the colts were four or five years old, they were brought into the ranch corrals, and the likely ones were broke for ranch use. A few were sold now and then. Shaffners did not often register any of their Morgans.

Those Shaffner Morgans were excellent stock horses; they had cow sense, were intelligent and possessed remarkable endurance. No one was ever out of horse when riding a Shaffner Morgan.

Some of their Morgans had attitude. George saddled, rode, and worked cattle on Morgans that some of us might not want to get into the corral with, but those were the kind of horses that he liked best.

However, not all of them were that way. Estella rode one of their stallions, and he was always mannerly and obedient with her.

My husband, Bill Crampton, purchased two Shaffner Morgans to use on our ranch. They were beautiful, stout, hard working geldings, pretty gentle, but not horses to go to sleep on.

Bill rode Guy, a bay. Guy had a trick he saved for folks who did not know him well. As the rider stepped into the stirrup and threw his leg over, and just before he found his seat, Guy would buck, and it was serious bucking. Bill told me later, after his first ride on Guy, that he took quite a flight, landing flat on his back, caught his breath, and looked up to see Guy standing over him, watching him with interest. This only happened once; Bill pulled the horse around as he swung into the saddle, so no more wild flights.

My Morgan was Splash, a chestnut. Estella said she named him that because his face mark looked like milk running down his nose.

Splash did not buck, but he spooked at everything he passed, and often at things only he could see. Except when trailing cows, then he was steady as a rock. He really loved working cattle. As time went by, though, we had more relaxed rides. I don't know if Splash mellowed out or if we just got used to one another.

One summer, Bill was up at our summer pasture in Small Horn Canyon putting out salt, riding Guy, and packing the salt on Splash. After a day of checking cattle and distributing the salt, he was riding back down the canyon near dark. He

came across a long horned bull belonging to our neighbor, which had crept through the fence into our field. Bill had the bull moving ahead of him and the horses down the trail, intending to put the bull through the gate at the bottom of the field. As they were tiredly trailing down country, the bull, without warning, turned and plunged a long horn directly into the middle of Splash's broad chest.

The horse stayed on his feet, legs braced as Bill shouted and slashed at the bull with his rope. The bull disappeared into the darkness. Bill dismounted, and in the little light left saw the great gapping wound in Splash's chest cavity. Bill pulled the packsaddle and halter from Splash, remounted Guy, galloped down to camp, and headed the truck toward Dillon down the long rutted lane.

It appeared that the long sharp horn had slid cleanly between the vitals, but had cruelly torn the flesh. Bill said that he could have put his arm to the shoulder into that terrible wound. Had Bill had his saddle gun with him, he probably would have put the horse down, although Splash still stood.

Bill picked up the vet in Dillon and drove back to Small Horn and up the trail to where Splash still stood, legs braced, head low, but still upright.

While Bill held the light, the vet cleaned the wound and sewed the poor mangled flesh together and then the ragged hide. They had done all they could for the horse. Bill took the vet back to town, called me about the accident, and returned to Splash to do what he could for the horse through the night.

Splash lived, though he was unrideable because the torn muscles caused him to drag his left leg a bit, but we turned him out with the loose horses and he took care of himself very well.

This tragedy could have been much worse if the bull had lunged at Guy, so we were thankful that it turned out as it did.

George and Estella Shaffner are both gone now, their Morgans long ago dispersed. I think now and again of those two good Morgans we had, and of the pleasure they gave us, and of the work they did cheerfully, and of their intelligence and beauty.

George Shaffner stallions bred from the Jackson Morgans in Montana Montana Major 16398 (Rosefield [Sonfield] X Sheretta) f/5/22/67, Plummer 13162 (Fleetfield X Valarie) f/5/13/58, and Major Posy 10123 (Ken Carmen X Rosy Posy {Chief Bugler}) f/5/6/48.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### **FOR SALE:**

**White Pine Riverstone-Pending** Rocky is a 2017 colt with a high percentage of Jubilee King. He is out of Whippoorwill Lady Jubilee by Easthill Legacy. He has lovely conformation and a beautiful, floaty way of going in all three gaits. He is friendly and personable. We are offering him to a breeding home. This colt is truly special. 3,000. Contact White Pine Morgans, Dave and Judy Atchison at [ja@whitepinemorgans.com](mailto:ja@whitepinemorgans.com) or (208)245-9043.

**Quietude Solo** (Quietude Barcelona X Araby Ashmore), 2003 Lambert Gelding 14.2, Chsnt with orange flaxen mane and tail, connected star-stripe-snip. Handsome guy (photos available); good ground manners; Professionally trained but not being used (trainer said he would be a great competitive trail or endurance horse). Patti Keeler, 815-568-8924, [nsfancyfarms@foxvalley.net](mailto:nsfancyfarms@foxvalley.net) (Illinois)

**Vintage Riviera** - (Good News Joshua x Vintage Bella Rose) 2014 bay filly, 100% Foundation, half Lippitt. She is already 15 hands, will mature at 15.1 or 15.2. This is an elegant, athletic filly with three nice gaits. She is well-suited for dressage, Cowboy Dressage, and trail riding. Currently in training to be lightly started under saddle.

**Vintage Sapphire** - (Good News Joshua x Dean Mt Nikkoletta) 2014 bay filly, HPF, half Lippitt. Stout, pretty filly. Should mature about 14.2. I see her excelling in Cowboy Dressage and competitive trail. She will go for training in August.

**Vintage China Doll** - (Sir Danes Sire Storm x Dean Mt Nikkoletta) 2004 dark chestnut with lighter mane and tail, HPF. 14.3 hands and substantially built. Well broke and has trail experience. Very sensitive, so needs a confident, compassionate rider. Has natural horsemanship and Cowboy Dressage training. Has had one foal and was easy to breed and a good mother.

**Contact Nora Knight, [vintagemorgans@yahoo.com](mailto:vintagemorgans@yahoo.com) or (509) 590-5785. Located near Spokane, WA**

**Mtn Maple Chace** (Randallane Oasis x Mtn Maple Charm) 2013, 99.2% Foundation, 1/2 Lippitt chestnut gelding. Chace is that classic Morgan build in about 15 hand size. he is progressing very well both under saddle and in harness with potential for anything you want to try. Most fun horse I've trained since his mom. Contact Jenny at [mtnmaplemorgans@yahoo.com](mailto:mtnmaplemorgans@yahoo.com). \$4500 negotiable to the right home.

**Mtn Maple Lace** (Randallane Oasis x Mtn Maple Holiday Lily) 2013, 98.8 % foundation, 1/2 Lippitt, bay filly. This solid-built 14.1 H powerhouse is coming along well in harness and under saddle. Lacy is energetic, athletic, sensible and a very easy keeper. \$3500 negotiable to the right home.

**Randallane Oasis** (Randallane Genesis x Madrona April Twilight) 2004 bay full Lippitt. Ace has been successful in endurance, hunter/jumper, dressage, reining and games competition besides recreational carriage and trail use. With his fantastic work ethic, athletic talent and easy trainability, he is Mr. Versatility. Available for lease or sale to the right home.

**Contact Jenny, Mountain Maple Morgans, Afton WY, [mtnmaplemorgans@yahoo.com](mailto:mtnmaplemorgans@yahoo.com)**

Want to list something for sale in future Newsletters? It is free to members! Just send to [advertising@cornerstonemorganhorse.com](mailto:advertising@cornerstonemorganhorse.com) or call Pam McDermott at 541-860-7273.

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## COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue will feature the 2017 foals! Send in you foal photos for the foal pictorial. Please include registered name, sire, dam, color, sex, and owner.

Remember classified listings are free so send that information over.

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## DETERMINING FOUNDATION PERCENTAGE

To determine what percentage of your horse's lineage is Foundation, you must subtract out the outcrosses, which will primarily be Saddlebred. On the Allbreed site, the horse's breed is listed under its name. The most common saddlebred ancestor for today's Morgans is Upwey King Peavine. He was registered as a Morgan, but his parents were both registered Saddlebreds, and so we count him as a Saddlebred outcross. He is behind some very widely used horses, including Upwey Ben Don and Waseeka's Nocturne, so if you are familiar with Morgan bloodlines, you will know which lines in your horse's pedigree to look most closely at. [Other names to watch for are Hudson, Admiral Denmark, Polly Forrest, Forest Whirlwind, Barrymore McDonald, Rex McDonald, and Rex Peavine. Remember, the first registered non-Morgan you encounter is the "Marker" for where the outcrossing began. So to discover the outcrosses, you follow each line of your horse's pedigree back to 1930. When you find a non-Morgan ancestor, note in which generation the outcross occurs. Do this for each line of your horse's pedigree.

When you have your totals, use the following chart to figure out what percentages to subtract. I have rounded them to the nearest tenth, for the sake of making them easier to use:

Generations Back Percentage Multiplier

1	50%
2	25%
3	12.5%
4	6.3%
5	3.1%
6	1.6%
7	0.8%
8	0.4%
9	.2%
10	.1%
11	.05%



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