

(Photo by Launspach)



(Photo courtesy of Renée Page)

**Main photo:** Cotton Candy winning Reserve Champion Mare at the 1958 Illinois State Fair. **Inset (top):** Foxfire, foaled in 1951, sired eight of Cotton Candy's 11 foals. **Inset (bottom):** The colorful family of Cotton Candy traces their cream dilute gene back to the smoky black Brunk-bred stallion Night Tide (Tiffany x Glenalla), foaled in 1934.

# Legacy Mares COTTON CANDY: LET HER COLORS SHOW

**B**red of sturdy western stock, Cotton Candy is perhaps unique among colorful Morgans. At a time when color preferences were more staid, many of her colorful get succeeded in the saddle seat show ring. Today her descendants are splashing color around the English pleasure, pleasure driving and in-hand classes at major Morgan shows, as well as accompanying their owners on the trails and competing in sport horse arenas both here and abroad.

We are truly fortunate that so many color lines in the Morgan breed have survived through the years, because color was not always accepted as it is today. Much of the early prejudice against

**By Laura Behning**

color was based on fears that colorfules were the result of outcrosses or "impure" blood. With the advent of DNA parentage testing combined with modern knowledge of color genetics, we now know this isn't true. Justin Morgan himself was bred to mares of many different colors, so colorfules have a long history in our breed, from Justin's grandson Buckskin Wheeler Horse right on down to the present day.

Many of today's cream dilute Morgans get their color genes from horses bred on the LU Sheep Ranch. The LU, a vast estate encompassing more than 150,000 acres in Worland, Wyoming, was established by David Dickie in the 1920s. David's brother, Bob, was the ranch's head horseman. He established a working



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## COTTON CANDY, THE DAM

**Top left:** *Evenmist Phoenix* (*Evenmist Topfire* x *Cotton Candy*), 1976 palomino gelding, with Sally Hajek at the Civil War Days event at Lake County Museum, Wauconda, IL; **Bottom left and middle:** *Foxy's Cotton Queen* (*Foxfire* x *Cotton Candy*) and Lois Magisano in 1972. *Foxy's Cotton Queen* with Lois Magisano on a trail ride around the property at Mirror Lake Farm; **Far right (top and bottom):** *Evenmist MagicMoment* with Judy Nason, up. *Evenmist MagicMoment* with Melanie Bailey at Connecticut Morgan in 1990.



relationship with the great breeder Helen Brunk Greenwalt, and horses were exchanged between the two programs. Over the next 40-odd years the LU produced more than 550 registered Morgans which were some of the finest working ranch and show stock of their day. Many knowledgeable breeders, to this day, value LU blood in a pedigree for its qualities of soundness, good disposition and bone.

The LU used the Brunk-bred stallion Night Tide (Tiffany x Glenalla) until his untimely death in 1944 at the age of ten. Night Tide, registered as black, may have actually been a smoky black, which is a black horse that carries a cream gene. Cream is a dilution gene that is incompletely dominant, meaning there is more of an effect when there are two copies of the gene present (homozygous). The heterozygous cream dilutions include palomino (one cream gene on chestnut), buckskin (one cream gene on bay or brown), and smoky black (one cream gene on black). When one copy of the cream dilution gene is present on a black horse, it has no outwardly visual effect (though some of them can be more chocolate colored than truly black). The homozygous cream dilutions are cremello (two cream genes on chestnut), perlino (two cream genes on bay or brown) and smoky cream (two cream genes on black).

What makes us think Night Tide may have been a smoky black? Several of our modern day cream dilute bloodlines originate from four colorful daughters of Night Tide, all foaled in 1939. They include Carmel Snow (palomino, comes down to us through Pineland breeding); Dawnglo (palomino, found in Californio, San Willidust, and Tio Lalo descendants); Luellen (smoky black, found in horses of Morgan Gold, Nugget Hanneman, and Rusty Walker breeding); and the buckskin (registered as dun) mare Luxury, who is found behind descendants of Dickie's Pride, Desert Sands, Yellow Bird, and Cotton Candy.

Cotton Candy (Townshend Gaymeade x Arvada, out of Luxury), foaled in 1956, was bred by the LU. Registered as a chestnut, she appears palomino in the well-known photo of her as a two-year-old. She inherited her cream gene from her dam Arvada, who was actually registered palomino. Many of the LU horses were registered correctly as palomino despite this being an unpopular designation in those days. Arvada most likely received her color through her dam Luxury who was sired by Night Tide. Cotton Candy was a successful show mare as a youngster, including first place in two-year-old mares and Reserve Champion Mare—to the great Jenny Lake—at the Illinois State Fair in 1958. Judy Nason remembers Candy as “a very kind mare, a great moth-



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er, yet quite hot. I only knew her in her senior years after she had lost an eye, and was quite bothered with heaves. I could see and feel the spirit in her though. Judy Whitney had told me once that she was a very hot horse to ride."

Cotton Candy's descendants come down to us in a unique way, as none of the people who owned her or her offspring were actively breeding for color. In fact, many of these Morgans, like Cotton Candy herself, were registered as non-colorful. Since Morgans from this family often ran towards the darker end of the spectrum of cream dilutes—palominos so dark they appeared chestnut or flaxen chestnut, and buckskins so dark they could be mistaken for brown or dark bay—this is understandable. It does make tracking down colorfules of this family more difficult, unless one has seen the horses in the flesh or at least good photos of them, to discover that they were actually cream dilutes. Of Cotton Candy's 11 foals, one in particular—a palomino—would leave her mark on future generations of colorfules who would also follow in their ancestor's show ring hoofprints.

### THE BEGINNING OF A COLORFUL DYNASTY: FOXY'S COTTON QUEEN

In 1969, Lois and Jim Magisano established Mirror Lake Farm just outside of

Cleveland, Ohio, and began breeding Morgans under their Aquila's prefix. The Magisanos spent many hours researching bloodlines, and learned that Foxfire daughters were highly prized as broodmares. Lois was attracted to the flaxen color of Foxfire and his offspring, so the couple set about adding this blood to their growing herd of Morgans. Their first attempt to purchase a Foxfire daughter at a sale was unsuccessful, so the Magisanos visited the farm of Paul Rumbaugh, Foxfire's owner. There they were shown a pale-colored filly by Foxfire and out of Cotton Candy (who Lois recalls as "a typey mare, attractive even in her still-shedding winter coat"). Though they were unsure about the filly's color, as it was not what they had in mind, Mr. Rumbaugh assured them that she would indeed be a flaxen, just as her full sisters Foxy's Candy Queen and Foxy's Candy Doll had been. So the couple purchased the filly, who they named Foxy's Cotton Queen. They also added Fire Belle, Foxy Fantasia and Foxy's Music Girl, all Foxfire daughters, to their herd. With these four mares the foundation of the Aquila breeding program was solidly in place.

Foxy's Cotton Queen became a successful show mare, a particularly notable achievement given that she was shown by her amateur owners, who did all their own

training. Her color did not seem to hamper her either; in fact, it might have helped! At the Ohio Morgan Horse Association's Fall Show (now called the Buckeye Morgan Challenge) Queen was Junior *and* Open English Pleasure Champion. Lois recalls that there were 23 horses in Queen's preliminary Open English Pleasure class at that show. "She had a road trot that was unbeatable and of course, the judge had no trouble picking her out in the large classes at that show. Queen was a great mare for us. She was safe for anyone to ride and had proven to be successful in the show ring. She produced many outstanding foals for us. I just loved that mare!"

But Foxy's Cotton Queen was not the flaxen chestnut Lois had hoped for, though the Magisanos weren't certain what color she really was at first. When Queen began producing colorful foals, the couple realized they had a palomino. Color was not popular at the time and the Magisanos did not particularly want it. But they got it any way! Lois says a lot of breeders felt the palomino line came from Foxfire. She didn't agree, as the only colorfules their program ever produced came from Foxy's Cotton Queen. This is correct since Foxfire was flaxen chestnut, not palomino. Cotton Queen's cream gene came from her dam, Cotton Candy, straight down the generations from the LU Sheep Ranch and the stallion Night Tide.

### DESCENDANTS OF FOXY'S COTTON QUEEN

Foxy's Cotton Queen produced many fine foals—eleven in all—seven mares, two geldings, and two stallions. None of her colorful foals were originally registered as their proper cream dilute color. Queen's 1975 daughter, Aquila's Night Lace (by the Kingston son Applevale Nightwatch), was registered chestnut although in fact was a very dark palomino. This mare was the dam of Lacy Lady Lee (by Aquila's Royal Lea) in 1982, who was also a palomino and one of the very few from her family who was actually registered as such. Night Lace was also the dam of Aquila's Dream Maker (by Aquila's Royal Lea), a beautiful dappled palomino (registered as chestnut) gelding owned and loved by Nancy Paschall.



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## COTTON CANDY *Legacy Mares*

The 1976 stallion Aquila's Night Pride (Applevale Nightwatch x Foxy's Cotton Queen) was registered as a brown but was a brown-based buckskin or a smoky black, as he sired a palomino stallion, Audron Pal, from the black mare Sprite Hawk. This was quite a surprise to his owner Ronald Brietkrenz, who thought he had two black horses!

Queen's 1979 foal Aquila's Night Delight, also by Applevale Nightwatch, was registered as a bay, but many thought her a buckskin. Lois showed this mare extensively when she was a junior horse and the Magisano's daughter Gina showed her extensively in the junior exhibitor division later. Lois recalls with a chuckle, "She always elicited the question 'What color is she?' where ever she went. Tom Butler, who was helping me train at that time, called her '...one of those orange-bay horses.'"

Foxy's Cotton Queen's 1983 filly was a palomino, Aquila's Queen Bee (by Paramount Nominee). She also was thought to be a flaxen chestnut and registered as such. She produced a smoky black—Amandarose—and three buckskins—Aquila's Crossfire, Valdirose, and Aquila's Miss Bee Haven. Aquila's Miss Bee Haven (by Futurity Command), foaled in 1992, a very dark buckskin mare, was thought to be bay and registered as such. "Bee" would write a whole chapter of her own as she became the foundation of breeder Anne Wyland's colorful program at Ancan Morgans in Davison, MI.

### COTTON CANDY, THE GRANDDAM



Top photo by Suzy Lucine,  
right photo courtesy of Lois Magisano



**Left:** The late Aquila's Top Command (Futurity Command x Foxy's Cotton Queen) survived two colic surgeries to sire 22 offspring;  
**Bottom:** Aquila's Grand Prize (Aquila's Grand Slam x Foxy's Cotton Queen), palomino mare foaled in 1987, was a successful park show horse. Owned by Mirror Lake Farm;







Pictured, left: ANCAN KODACHROME (Ancan True Colors x Nocturnal Melody), 2005 palomino splash stallion. Above, left to right: EXPAT'S CASSANDRA (Ancan Kodachrome x RHIB Gemini), 2008 buckskin filly; EXPAT'S SANDSTORM (Ancan Kodachrome x SIB Angelina), 2009 buckskin colt; EXPAT'S COMMODORE JP JONIS (IIVK Navigator x Legacy's Sea Star), 2007 bay stallion; EXPAT'S REGIMENTAL COLORS (Ancan True Colors x RHIB Gemini), 2006 buckskin stallion; EXPAT'S PATRIOT (Ancan Kodachrome x Legacy's Sea Star), 2008 chestnut splash colt.

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# Legacy Mares COTTON CANDY

## COTTON CANDY, THE GRANDDAM

Two offspring of Evenmist MagicMoment show that he threw his "honey" color: (top) Spencer For Hire (x Lyonhil Quiet Brass) and (bottom) Simply Magic (x Carlyle LaMae).



(Photo by Dodo Knight)



Anne did not set out to breed colorfults. As with many things in life, it just sort of happened. She and her husband Rob were attending a Morgan sale in the fall of 1996. Anne remembers, "as I browsed the numerous beautiful Morgans there, I was excited to find Aquila's Miss Bee Haven in one of the stalls. Her big expressive eyes and beautiful face appealed to me. I liked her bloodlines. Her unique coloring made my heart skip a beat! Her catalog information stated she was a 'bay,' yet she sure looked like a dark golden buckskin to me. My husband bought her for me even though she sold for more than we had agreed to spend. I was thrilled! I was uneducated about the color genes and how they worked, and I didn't really care. All I cared about was that I now had perhaps the only pleasure/park buckskin in the breed. Bee was beautiful, athletically talented, show-bred, and she was all mine."

Bee has produced nine foals for Ancan, seven of which are palomino or buckskin. Some have been western pleasure champions, some are pleasure driving champions, and several have in hand titles. Not only have they excelled in show rings across the nation, but they are also fun, safe, and reliable trail horses. From Anne's late stallion, Fiddler's Blackriver, crossed with Bee came eight full siblings, all but one of which was colorful. This "golden cross" (literally!) created the colorful breeding horses present in Anne's program today, includ-



### CELEBRATING COTTON CANDY AND HER COLORFUL ANCAN DESCENDANTS

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(Ancon True Colors x Devonwood Decadence)




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## COTTON CANDY *Legacy Mares*

ing the palomino mare Ancan Destined To Bee, buckskin mare Ancan UnBeelievable, and the farm's head stallion Ancan True Colors, a palomino. Ancan True Colors, or "Blitz" as he is fondly known, is a champion in hand and pleasure driving horse. He is also regularly trail ridden with mares. Year after year he produces colorful foals with classic Morgan type, easy-to-work-with dispositions and people-oriented attitudes. Blitz is the sire of the very first palomino to show in hand at the Grand National and World Championships in 2009, Ancan Color Scheme, owned by Bruce and Jean Beckman of Mountain Aspen Morgans in Colorado. Color Scheme made quite a splash at Nationals, showing that there are indeed colorful Morgans worthy of competing against the world's best.

Anne says "I am beyond grateful to have these unplanned fantasy Morgans of color carrying my prefix. They turn heads and hush crowds everywhere they go and there isn't a better feeling in the world than having such an enormous crowd of admirers, of all ages, across the United States and Europe, too."

Yes, *Europe*—there are descendants of Cotton Candy overseas, too! Anne and Scott Mayden of Expat Morgans in Belgium have imported several Morgans from Ancan, including their young stallions Ancan Kodachrome (Ancan True Colors x Nocturnal Melody), a palomino, and Expat's

### COTTON CANDY, THE GRANDDAM

*The matriarch of the colorful breeding program at Ancan Morgans is the dark buckskin mare Aquila's Miss Bee Haven (Futurity Command x Aquila's Queen Bee). Photo by Anne Wyland.*



## CELEBRATING COTTON CANDY AND HER COLORFUL ANCAN DESCENDANTS



### *Our Colorful Beginnings*



### *Ancan Trend Setter*

*(Ancan True Colors x Old Creek Darling by Wayne Connors)*

*Yearling Buckskin Colt*

*Shown in the photo that won reserve in The Morgan Connection Fabulous Foal Contest. We look forward to his future in the show ring and our breeding program.*

*Gail Latief  
Ocala, FL*



# Legacy Mares COTTON CANDY

## COTTON CANDY, FURTHER GENERATIONS

**Right:** *Aquila's Dreammaker* (*Aquila's Royal Lea* x *Aquila's Night Lace*). You can see why we might register these foals as chestnuts rather than palominos, when you look, not only at him as a foal, but at his dam's color. **Bottom:** *MLB The Madame* (*Aquila's Top Command* x *Boogie Wild*) with Mary Brannon in a pleasure driving class at Mid A.



(Photo by Shane Shiflet)

*Regimental Colors* (*Ancan True Colors* x *RHB Gemini*), a buckskin. Both are headed towards careers as sport horses.


Foxy's Cotton Queen's 1987 foal was *Aquila's Grand Prize* (by *Aquila's Grand Slam*), a palomino mare who won numerous park saddle classes throughout the Mid-West. She commanded the judges' attention, and this in a day when colorful horses were not very popular, especially in the show ring. *Prize* retired to the broodmare band when an unfortunate fracture of a small bone in her foot ended her showing career. Her colorful offspring include the buckskin mare *Aquila's Grand Vanessa* (by *Futurity Command*), the palomino gelding *PL Good As Gold* (by *K-Wood's Golden Eagle*), and *Aquila's Sure Prize* (by *Futurity Command*), a buckskin mare. *Sure Prize* has in turn produced three foals—all colorful—including *Laurie Faust's* successful show stallion *MLB Capo di' Capo* (by *The Last Don*), a buckskin, and *Skyland Epiphany* (by *Fiddler's Blackriver*), a buckskin broodmare for *Shades of Morgans* in NY.

Rounding out Foxy's Cotton Queen's colorful producing offspring is her last foal, the late *Aquila's Top Command* (by *Futurity Command*). Foaled in 1988, the palomino stallion became a part of breeder *Laurie Faust's* life in 1999. *Laurie* remembers "I had spent the better part of four years on a quest trying to locate the type of colorful that also carried the bloodlines I desired. A beautiful, refined, long




## CELEBRATING COTTON CANDY AND HER COLORFUL ANCAN DESCENDANTS

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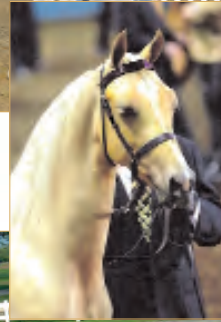


## COTTON CANDY *Legacy Mares*

necked, big eyed, beauty with the bloodlines that included Waseeka's In Command, Nocturne, Upwey Ben Don, Senator Graham and Flyhawk to name a few." One day she was stunned to see an ad for Aquila's Top Command in her Florida Morgan Horse Association's membership directory. Coincidentally, the ad was located just above her farm listing. "Topper" was exactly what Laurie was looking for—and he was right there in her home state! "I immediately arranged to visit the farm where the stallion was standing and was even more impressed with him in person," Laurie says. Unfortunately it took another three years and a series of very sad events in this stallion's life before Laurie's dream of owning him became a reality. Laurie continues, "In September 1999 Aquila's Top Command was purchased. Topper had already suffered through two colic surgeries in the 24 months prior to our purchase, and was extremely debilitated." The strong spirit of the stallion, combined with Laurie's TLC, pulled him through.

In his lifetime Topper sired 22 foals, 14 of which were colorfult. Laurie has one of his palomino daughters, the beautiful and typy Glyndan Melodious Joy (x Arista's Snappy Tune) in her current broodmare band. Topper's most successful show horse offspring was the Pleasure Driving and in hand star, MLB The Madame (out of Boogie Wild). Sadly, Laurie lost this incredible mare last fall.

### COTTON CANDY, FURTHER GENERATIONS



(Photo courtesy of Anne Wyland)

**Top:** The palomino Ancan Kodachrome (Ancan True Colors x Nocturnal Melody), one of two Ancan imports heading the stallion lineup at Expat Morgans in Belgium, is shown here in a jumping competition at Welkenraedt, Belgium in October of 2009; **Middle:** It has been rare to see colorful Morgans showing in-hand at the Grand National level. Last year the Beckman's Ancan Color Scheme helped to break this barrier, in Grand National Yearling Stallions handled by Bob Kellert; **Bottom:** Shown here after winning Champion Pleasure Driving horse at the MJMHA Showtime Horse Show in 2005, the palomino stallion Ancan True Colors (Fiddler's Blackriver x Aquila's Miss Bee Haven) does triple duty as a breeding and trail horse for his owner/breeder Anne Wyland.

## CELEBRATING COTTON CANDY AND HER COLORFUL ANCAN DESCENDANTS



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## Legacy Mares COTTON CANDY

Topper also has offspring that are producing color for other owners, such as Belfair Krugerrand, a palomino stallion (out of Belfair Scarlet Ride), proudly owned by Alene Evans in Washington. He in turn has sired several colorful offspring.

### OTHER BRANCHES OF THE COTTON CANDY FAMILY TREE

Cotton Candy's 1976 foal was the palomi-

no (registered chestnut) gelding, Evenmist Phoenix (by Evenmist Topfire). At age 10 Phoenix was acquired by Sally Hajek for the price of his unpaid board bill. Phoenix and Sally participated in a number of parades (often as the riderless horse for Veterans parades), reenactments, competitive trail rides, pleasure rides and historical displays. He was true to his show horse ancestors, too. Kris Breyer, who boarded Phoenix for Sally, says "He loved to park walk down the streets in parades."

While Foxy's Candy Queen was the most prolific colorful daughter of Cotton Candy, the mare also had a buckskin son who bred on. Evenmist Magicmoment was Cotton Candy's final foal, born in 1978. Cotton Candy was then owned by Carl Schmelzer of Concord, NH, for whom she produced five foals. Trainer Judy Nason had Mr. Schmelzer's horses at her barn at the time, and they bred Candy to Carl's handsome bay stallion, Highover Patriot. The result was "Danny," who Judy owned from the day he was born. "He was registered bay, and was what I called a 'honey bay,' as he had no dorsal stripe down his back," Judy remembers. "He was well received by most judges, despite his color, and was grand champion stallion a number of times here in New England. That says a lot about his conformation, as the New Englanders love their bays and chestnuts. He was a great show horse, but hated the lesson part of things, so as he got into his high teens, I placed him with a wonderful owner and caretaker. She enjoyed every day with him until his death a few years ago."

Danny was, like so many others of his family, a colorful who could pass as a non colorful. He had 8 foals before being gelded and several of them were the same "honey bay" color of their sire. His 1981 buckskin daughter Lady Evenmist (out of Skyfield Maranda) has produced three foals including the buckskin stallion Lakewind Augustus (by Lakewind Maximillian).


### THE LEGACY OF COTTON CANDY

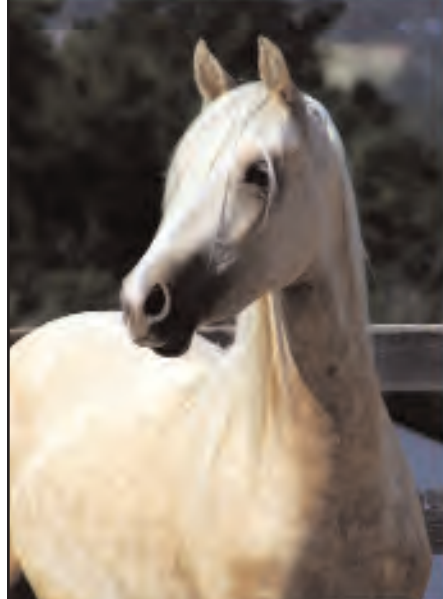
This one little yellow mare from the LU has made an indelible impact on today's colorful Morgan. Her influence has even spread overseas. Once living in a time when their color was considered a liability, today Cotton Candy's descendants are glittering gold as the popularity of color continues to increase. They make up the highly prized foundation of several major colorful breeding programs, and we will see that influence continue into the future. As Anne Wyland says "Cotton Candy definitely put the 'sweet' in my breeding program, and I salute her for that." n

## We're Proud of Our Cotton Candy Descendants

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