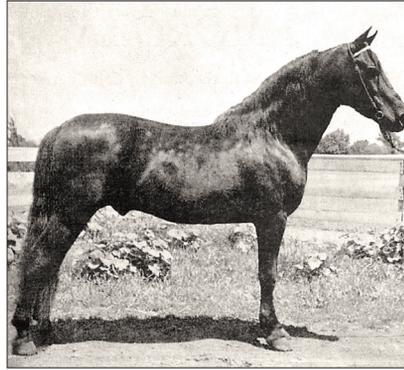


Go Hawk 7457

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2020



LEFT TO RIGHT: Go Hawk and his important son Flyhawk.

Go Hawk 7457 (Sunny Hawk 7456 x Bombo 04379) • Solid black, 15.3 hands, 1,100 lbs. • **Foaled:** June 5, 1923, Dixon, Iowa • **Bred by:** Henry Schlotfeldt • **Sold to:** August 8, 1925 to Joseph C. Brunk, Springfield, Illinois; April 12, 1929 to Mrs. Carl Stoeckel, Norfolk, Connecticut • 28 crosses to Black Hawk 20; 35 crosses to Sherman Morgan; six crosses to Woodbury Morgan; three crosses to Bulrush Morgan; three crosses to American Eclipse (TB); one cross to Red Robin • **Eight generation coefficient of Inbreeding:** 5.29136657714844 percent • **Registered Morgan progeny:** five colts, 19 fillies

Go Hawk's pedigree is an interesting example of the Morgan influence on American trotting. Beginning in the 1840s, Black Hawk 20 and his sons (among them Benedict's Pathfinder 185 [Time: 2:40]; Sherman Black Hawk 51; Hayden's Black Hawk (unregistered); Flying Cloud 95; Tom Hyer 109 [Time: 2:28]; Green Mountain Boy 1417; Black Flying Cloud 168; and Leach's Black Hawk 1284 [all in Go Hawk's pedigree]) were bred to fast-trotting mares (including thoroughbred mares from American Eclipse and Sir Archy, standardbred mares from Rysdyk's Hambletonian and Messenger, and Arabian mares of Zilcaadi and Dey of Algiers blood). Their offspring were taken West just as enthusiasm for trotting races spread. In fact, an old Iowa history text told of pioneers crossing the Mississippi with their Conestogas drawn by teams of "Morgans and Blackhawks."

On page eight of his 1929 Cotton Hill Morgan Stock Farm Catalog, Joseph Chase Brunk described Go Hawk as a "true type of the beauty, form and finish of the stock descended from the noted Black Hawk ... he shows high quality, action, style and speed—is perfectly mannered to double and single harness and to saddle... his power is so great he can easily start a freight car alone. His disposition is so kind that anyone can control and handle him." Go Hawk "mostly traces to Sherman Black Hawk 51, a good son of Black Hawk 20. (Good stock with speed and trotters with records.) From an old-fashioned fast trotting strain of Morgans—good cross on Jubilee King mares." (Helen Brunk Greenwalt). "According to Mrs. Greenwalt and Grace Brunk Woods, whom I personally spoke to about Go Hawk, he was a big, elegant, short backed, high headed, very good legged horse." (Joanne Curtis, *Morganhorsehistory list*, n.d.)

Go Hawk was the only registered foal from both his sire Sunny Hawk and his dam Bombo. Sunny Hawk himself was the only registered son of Morgan Star A 6891 and the only foal from Whitefoot X-04377 (Hercules 4166 x Topsey Schlotfeldt by Major Despot). Bombo was one of two registered fillies by Hawkins 6893 and the only foal to breed on from Goldie X-03156 (Hero of Manilla 4521 x Lill [part-bred Arab] by Paw Paw Chief). Go Hawk was a fascinating example of rare Old Midwest (rural Illinois and Iowa) breeding.

Go Hawk's first foal was his most famous: Flyhawk 7526, foaled in August 1926. It is through Flyhawk that the only sireline left to Go Hawk comes down today. All of Go Hawk's 24 foals were bred by Joseph Chase Brunk. "I saw a lot of horses out in the Far West that were grandget of Go Hawk, mostly out of Go Hawk mares, and they were wonderful examples of big, elegant, upstanding, athletic Morgans while still having a lot of type.... They were mostly from sires and dams of early Brunk and Sellman breeding. One of them was Gojea who was the dam of the famous and influential Blackman. Gojea was also the dam of Gojean by Red Gates who was the dam of the national open endurance winner Mariner Topsail K R by Kings River Morgan. Another influential daughter of Go Hawk in the West was Gizea, the dam of the first registered Morgan stallion used at the Cross Ranch, Glider by Jubilee King. Also, out of Gizea were Captain Red by Juban in the Midwest and Agazizz who was the sire of important sires and dams at the LU Sheep Ranch, Funquest, and many others." (Joanne Curtis, email to Marsha Valance, July 2019).

His descendents are show horses and sport horses, working horses and family pets, in Canada, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands, and the USA. ■