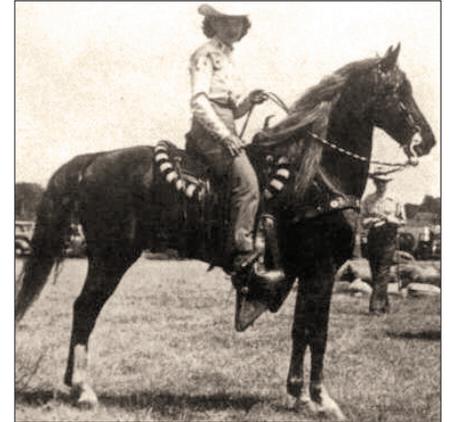




Nugget 8637

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2015



Nugget 8637 (Captor x Gleneida) • Dark chestnut, star, strip, snip, right front pastern and right hind stocking white, light mane and red tail, 14.1 hands, 950 lbs

Bred by: Merle D. Evans • **Foaled:** May 18, 1939, Crabapple Farm, Massillon, Ohio

Owned by: John W. King, 1943-1944; Robert Crowl, 1944-1945; Forest Calterhead, 1945; Janice & Raymond Bechtol, 1945-1954; Mrs. Mildred Junk, 1954-1969

Died: November 25, 1969, Sugar Run Farm, Mt. Sterling, Ohio • Sprightly, athletic, went level barefoot • Double grandson of Mansfield; 10 crosses to Jowett's Copperbottom 66; 13 crosses to Billy Root 9; 14 crosses each to Ethan Allen 50, Gifford Morgan 30 & Hale's Green Mountain Morgan 42; 20 crosses to Black Hawk 20 • 100 percent Old Government breeding • **8 Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding:** 17.670726776123 percent

Registered Morgan progeny: 14 colts, 18 fillies.

Nugget is another outstanding example of the legacy Merle D. Evans made to Midwest Morgan breeders when he established his government-based stud at Crabapple Farm.

Nugget was shown in open competition as a Western show horse throughout Southeastern Ohio. Sometimes he was shown paired with his three-quarter brother Fleetwing or full brother Wingfoot. In 1955 he was Reserve Champion Morgan at the Mid-Western Show in Columbus, Ohio, where his son, Big Bill B, was champion. This little stallion had a wonderful disposition coupled with high natural action. Because of his popularity, Nugget sired many half-Morgans. Owner Janice Bechtol wrote, in the May/June 1947 issue of *Western Horseman*, "My little Morgan stud, Nugget, is doing his share to make us Easterners horse raisers on a larger scale. He is the sire of twin filly colts born last June to a spotted mare owned by Joe McLaughlin of Newcomerstown, Ohio."

His son Sugar Run King (x Jane Allen), great-great-grandsire of World Champion Mares Heart To Heart and Montbelle Rosalie, was widely shown. In the 1940s-1950s, prior to the Morgan Gold Cup starting in 1961, there were no Morgan classes in Ohio shows. Nugget's son Big Bill B (x Valentine) was a noted parade horse that

won 85 championships in four years showing in open competition, was Ohio Champion Morgan 1954-57, and was still settling mares at 21. Sons Captain McCutchen (x Valentine), Nugget's Moonmist (x Green Meads Moonbeam), Grand Champion Mare at the 1965 Ohio Fall Round-Up, and Nugget's Val Hawk (x Valentine) also were widely shown in pleasure, park, and Western classes respectively. Nugget's daughters, Nuggetta (x Carolyn S Sentney) and Nugget's Pride (x Polly Primm), have descendents in Great Britain and Sweden.

In her obituary for Nugget in *The Morgan Horse*, March 1970, Dot Bukey wrote: "the grand old man of Sugar Run Farm has gone to greener pastures.... [Nugget] just laid down in his favorite corner of his paddock and went to sleep for the last time, very quietly." She continued: "Nugget was a great 'talker' always ready with a greeting both morning and evening for his keepers. He had a special call all his own for the mares in the bottom pasture and even though more than 30 years old when he died, he still had that proud way of carrying himself when coming up the lane from one paddock to another.... Always a healthy horse, always happy and well cared for; he was the kind of horse one truly respects. He will not be forgotten." ■