

EMERGING SIREs

Six young stallions ready for their closeups **BY CRISTINA DIGIOIA & STEPHEN KINNEY**

In January 2010 *The Morgan Horse* (with author Cristina DiGioia) did its most recent Morgan Sire Rating based on results from Regional Morgan Shows and the Morgan Grand National and World Championship, these show results representing the most accessible database on which to base such breed research.

That sire rating was dominated by Futurity French Command (Carlyle Command x Nobelle), HVK Bell Flaire (Noble Flaire x HVK Belleek) and his son Mizrahi (HVK Bell Flaire x Schiaparelli), in first through third places. In preparing articles for the 2012 stallion issue we at *TMH* agreed it was too early to return to a similar sire rating, that results would more than likely still favor the horses who dominated the rating two years ago. The use of frozen semen has extended the productivity of deceased sires like “French” and the reduced amount of breeding in the economy of the moment has created something of a stasis.

That being said, there’s activity worthy of chronicling. The question became how to quantify it. We set out to divine the names of “emerging sires,” to give some research and some ink to stallions who appear to be in the process of “popping” onto the scene. We wanted young sires, just coming into their prime, to be acknowledged, without waiting for their appearance on some future “Top Ten Sire Rating.”

It should be said, right up front, that there is a middle ground, between the established careers of the “2010 Top Ten Stallions” and the new age of “emerging sires.” In this “middle ground” are sires who have so obviously “arrived” already that terming them “emerging” would be to somehow lessen their achievements to date. These stallions have regular followings. They have acknowledged achievements in the breeding shed. Within this generation it is predictable they will “top the charts” within the next few years. They include: Minion Millennium (Minion Valentino x Pompp And Pazazz), ZZ Top (Cedar Creek Pazazz x AFF Obsession), Treble’s Tanqueray (Tug Hill Commando x Trebles Margarita), Stand And Deliver (Queens Vanity Flair x NBN At Your Command), MEM Bailamos (Futurity French Command x AFF Beulah), Man In Motion (Man About Town LPS x Devan Melmore) Stonecrock Trilogy (Stonecrock Masquerade x Ladybird Command) and many more:

MINION MILLENNIUM has been a force to be reckoned with in the breeding shed. Consistently passing on his handsomeness and

size to his foals, they have been knockouts in the ring. Just a few of his show ring successes include Cherrydale Casseopia, MSV Miss Judy, MSV Genuine Risk, Bri-B XTC, Harlan’s Dutch Fantasy, MSV Miss Belle, and Bri_B Lady Malicious;

ZZ TOP has given us JDS Paladin Pazazz, Thunder Alexander, Boxford Final Approach, HVK Brass Ring, CBMF Backstage Pass, and SYP Showstopper;

TREBLE’S TANQUERAY has many young stars in the ring today, particularly in the Western division: Partridge Hill Passport, Partridge Hill Prophet, Partridge Hill Tonic, and Pondview Park Avenue;

The talent of **STAND AND DELIVER** is difficult to match, but when it happens, it is often by one of his many spectacular offspring, such as Signed Sealed Delivered, Stiletto, Floored, Gordel’s Deliverance, Indian Creek Broadway Joe, and Indian Creek Cachet;

MEM BAILAMOS has had a huge impact on the hunter pleasure division (and other divisions as well) in recent years, through offspring such as MEM Triple Sec, MEM Sambuca, MEM Gentleman Jack, and MEM Mr Boston;

MAN IN MOTION, one of three great breeding sons of his sire, Man About Town LPS is producing horses that can wear a bridle and perform a square trot. These include the likes of City Kitty, ADC Last Man Standing, LBJ Toy Town, Gamepiece, Fair Catch, and LPS Out Of Bounds;

STONECROFT TRILOGY has the Park Saddle World Championship to his credit as well as a fan club that is unreserved in their praise of the horse’s quality and importance to the breed. Get such as Stonecrock Tribute and Stonecrock Flammable have distinguished him.

These stallions are not “up-and-coming.” They have, as we’ve said, already arrived. We look forward to them taking their rightful place the next time *TMH* commissions a rating of sires.

So we’ve discussed the senior officers and the middle management. What we went in search of was the rising talent. What stallions are deserving of breeders’ attention based on the production of multiple world-titled get in the past couple of show seasons. We came up with six stallions. And we thought we’d take the opportunity of the annual stallion issue to not only share their names but to obtain the thoughts of the owners, the breeders and the trainers who are closest to these animals:

THE BIG SIX LPS THE BOOGIE MAN

(Man About Town LPS x Honeytree's Simply Unique)

LPS The Boogie Man is the stallion with “all the type and quality in the world,” David Rand shares. “But most importantly, he has the ability to pass it to his offspring, even when bred to such a wide variety of mares. It is his ability to stamp his foals with his correct conformation, type, and superior quality that truly makes him a great breeding horse.” “Boogie” is one of the winningest stallions of all time. His wildly successful show career (which has included four World Champion Stallion titles, more than any other horse in history) has thus far included eight world championships, three reserve world championships, and five Grand National championships. Meanwhile, he has somehow had the time to be busy in the breeding shed.

Bursting onto the show scene last year, was one of the most exciting youngsters of late, Jungle Love. “Jane” is “a show horse all the time,” says her trainer, Tim Roesink. “[She] wants to be a show horse, is easy to work, and loves her job.” This stunning daughter of HVK Heartbeat (dam of Queen’s Johnny Angel, Queen’s Loverboy, Queen’s Proud Mary, and others) is a real looker! She took Oklahoma City by storm, leaving with two Grand National titles, two world championship titles, and a reserve world champion title. Her most notable title, was that of World Champion Mare as well as Reserve World Champion English Pleasure Three-Year-Old

Another Boogie daughter, TFF Selene, made her debut in the Western division last year, and made quite an impression. She left Oklahoma City with the Grand National Western Pleasure Three-Year-Old Mare title and two reserve world championships.

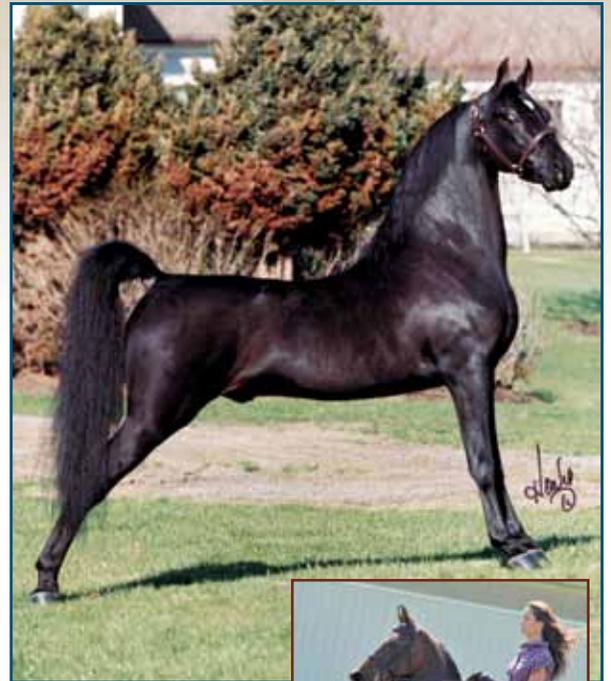
ECP Anchor Man has looks to spare. He won the Reserve World Champion Yearling Colt title. Other showy offspring include Firewind Dancing Queen, Captive Heart, AMHF She’s Got Boogie, Stoneleigh Time To Boogie, Three Fates Adonis, EQ The Boogie Monster, Night To Rock, and Leatherstocking Elvis. He is standing at RAND, where he is managed by David Rand. David praises his “ability bring back type and quality” in any cross.

TOWN ASSETS

(Man About Town LPS x Honeytree's Simply Unique)

“That energetic stallion has a look-at-me attitude,” Lynn Peeples tells of Town Assets, “He passes quite a bit of that on. His foals have a good work ethic, lots of go-forward, and are always willing to work.” After a brief and very successful stint in the show ring, Town Assets retired to the breeding shed. This decision to focus on breeding would prove to be very wise. “Patrick” is standing at Waterford Stables, where trainer Lynn Peeples manages his breeding career and has been working most of his foals. Patrick’s first foal, EKL Assets Vision, was born in the spring of 2006, and is a real looker! He debuted in his three-year-old year and proved unstoppable in the hunter pleasure division. After smashing success at Southern States and New England, he went on to Oklahoma City, where he claimed two world championship titles, including World Champion Three-Year-Old Hunter Pleasure. He returned the following year to claim the World Champion Hunter Pleasure Four-Year-Old title. He remains undefeated at Oklahoma, holding three world championship and two Grand National titles.

In 2007, the prodigious and sassy filly, CHMH Spice Town Girl, was born. A star from get-go, she took to the show ring right away, wrapping up her debut year with the World Champion Two-Year-Old Pleasure Driving title.



LPS THE BOOGIE MAN

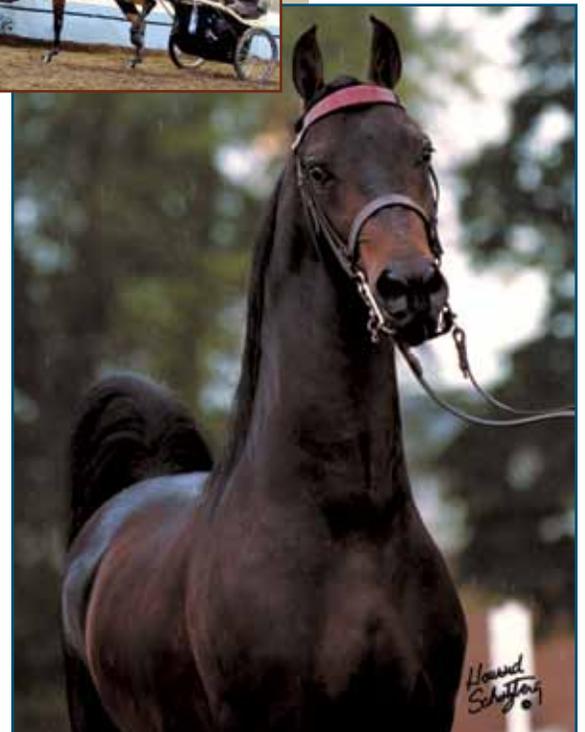


Jungle Love



CHMH Spice Town Girl

TOWN ASSETS





BOCELLI

**Dragonsmeade
Varvatos**



**Leonardo's
Cry**

SLB DA VINCI



She returned the next year to take on the big guns. At only three years old, she stepped into the amateur division, and won the Reserve World Champion Pleasure Driving Amateur title. She would repeat this title the next year, at just four years old.

Similarly successful in the pleasure driving division (as well as other divisions), is Man In Black. He began his career by winning the Grand Champion Stallion title at New York Regional as a yearling. The next year, he secured the Reserve World Champion Futurity Two-Year-Old Stallion title. He then enjoyed many accolades in the pleasure driving and English pleasure divisions. He is the reigning Grand National Three-Year-Old Stallion winner, and Reserve World Champion Futurity English Pleasure Three-Year-Old.

This year's World Champion Futurity Classic Pleasure Three-Year-Old, Town Affair, certainly owes a significant part of his charming good looks and natural talent to his sire as well. Representing Patrick's 2008 foal crop, he posed like a pro to capture the Reserve World Champion Junior Gelding title and World Champion Futurity Two-Year-Old Gelding title. Some other noteworthy foals include EKL I'm Smokey Too, EKL May Acclaim, Town Traveler, Cherrydale DaVinci Code, Seaway River Mist, and HRH Show And Tell.

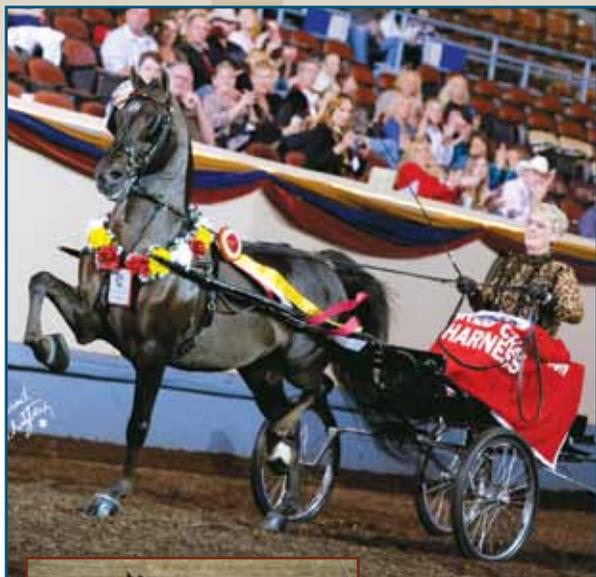
(Interesting to mention here that the two above stallions, both clearly "emerging" as sires, are full brothers from the breeding program of Lynn Peebles. And let's be clear about what's involved in this achievement. Man About Town LPS, bred by Lynn, was World Champion Stallion. He is the sire of world champions Man In Motion, LPS The Boogie Man and Town Assets. The mare Honeytree's Simply Unique has been invaluable in the breeding shed. She is the highly productive daughter of two In Hand World Champions, Born To Boogie and UVM Unity. The heritage of blood here is, excuse the pun, unique. The smarts to match it all up is classic Lynn Peebles.)

BOCELLI

(Beethoven x Sioux's Hot Tamale)

Bocelli is special for being a second breeding son of the great mare Sioux's Hot Tamale, the other, Bocelli's half-brother, being Simply Maserati sire of Lamborghini In Black and And The Beat Goes On. Bocelli is also a top producing son of Beethoven. Beethoven is one of two Noble Flaire sons (the other being HVK Bell Flaire) on the aforementioned 2010 Top Ten Sire Rating. Beethoven is the sire of the likes of Dragonsmeade Carnegiehall, Dragonsmeade Virtuoso, Mine, RWF Paganini and Merriehill Isa Diva, among others. This is a very productive line.

Bocelli's offspring have had a phenomenal year. Zanetti, the current World Champion Ladies English Pleasure and Grand National English Pleasure Ladies Gelding couldn't be nicer. This gelding is of the highest quality, with impeccable manners and collection. Cavalli is another tribute to his sire. He is this year's Reserve World Champion Western Pleasure Amateur winner as well as the recipient of two reserve Grand National titles for owner Ling Fu Wylie. Dragonsmeade Varvatos is a spectacular athlete. He won the highly competitive World Champion Park Saddle Four Year Old and Grand National Four-Year-Old Park Saddle Mare & Gelding. Some other Bocelli offspring making their marks on the ring include Queen's Cocoa Puff, Bora Bora, and Dragonsmeade Onegin. Bocelli had a limited, but very successful show career, himself. His beauty, length of neck, and strong bloodlines have made him a breeding success. He has been very consistently producing gorgeous offspring with long necks, refined features, smooth toplines, and unbeatable dispositions. Says Iann Fu, "We believe Bocelli (Dante) will leave a very important mark on the Morgan breed and have bred our best mares to him over the years. We are



**SPICEOLIFE
PRESENT TENSE**

Arboria Arion

Take Cover



**BKC VALIANT
STAR**



thrilled that Beethoven produced such a fine son, and his dam, Sioux's Hot Tamale, gives him some of our favorite blood. When people walk through the fields of our farm everyone always picks out the Bocelli foals as they have such a unique and wonderful look. He produces big foals that are extremely upheaded and have a beautiful length of leg and correct hip. The repeated cross with Mizrahi's full sister, Donatella, has proven to be very successful producing world champions Zanetti, Dragonsmeade Varvatos, and reserve world champion Cavalli. Bocelli sired regional winner Dragonsmeade Onegin; he is out of Carnegie Hall's dam Black Tie Debutante. We are planning on crossing his daughter, Dragonsmeade Ibarra, who is out of Simply Apropos to Icon. We feel blessed that Bocelli is part of our group of stallions."

Those trainers fortunate to have worked his offspring have nothing but positive things to say about them. "Very up-headed and good-minded," says Bob Hughes of Cavalli. "He wears the bridle very well and is just an outstanding horse" Tim Roesink says of Dragonsmeade Varvatos.

SLB DA VINCI

(HVK Bell Flaire x Dancity Gracious Remark)

HVK Bell Flaire is turning out to be a sire of sires as is proven by the likes of Mizrahi and SLB Da Vinci. A number of younger sons have high expectations awaiting them as well. Da Vinci is out of the lovely, balanced and symmetrical daughter of the broodmare sire Troutbrook Hallmark. There is little doubt that the stallion's extreme Morgan expression comes from a mixing of this legendary blood.

Owned throughout his life by breeder Sherry Bartolucci, World Champion SLB Da Vinci, or "Vinnie," is proving to be an outstanding producer. "All of his foals look like Morgans. Every single foal has those big, beautiful eyes that he has, as well as his willingness to work," Bob Hughes shares. Vinnie is a show ring favorite (and soon to become a breeding shed favorite as well). His laid-back shoulder, distinctly Morgan features, and balanced trot are enviable. His long-time trainer, Bob Hughes, shows him to his best to the delight of the audience. Bob now manages his breeding career at Playmor Farm.

Bob showed Vinnie's son, Leonardo's Cry, to the World Champion Futurity Park Harness Two-Year-Old title last year. Tomeri Symphony is the winner of the 2011 World Champion Park Harness Two-Year-Old and Reserve World Champion Futurity Park Harness Two-Year-Old.

Some of Vinnie's other show ring successes are Mona Lisa Smile, CBMF Who's That Girl, and Toscanini.

SPICEOLIFE PRESENT TENSE

(Arboria Noble Victor x SpiceOLife Allura B)

SpiceOLife Present Tense is sired by one of the truest trotting Morgans of all time and a sire of great trotting horses such as Arboria Top Gun, Arboria Perfection, Arboria Victorious and Arboria Victor's Pride. His dam, Allura B, is legendary for being one of the most breathtakingly gorgeous mares in the history of the breed.

SpiceOLife Present Tense could not have been more captivating in the ring, and now he is captivating audiences all over again through his progeny. His long-time trainer and breeding manager, Diane Conrady, is especially pleased with his foals' "stretchy, hooky necks, and their great ability to move off their hocks." Furthermore, she reveals that, "Bred to a variety of mares, he has consistently produced those qualities... along with beauty, refinement, and wonderful attitudes." In particular, Arboria Arion (x Arboria Victory Lane) has done much of the reputation of this outstanding sire, trotting his

2010 SIRE RATING TOP TEN STALLIONS



**1. FUTURITY FRENCH
COMMAND**
(Carlyle Command
x Nobelle)



2. HVK BELL FLAIRE
(Noble Flaire
x HVK Belleek)



3. MIZRAHI
(HVK Bell Flaire
x Schiaparelli)



**4. TUG HILL
WHAMUNION**
(Wham Bam Command
x Fiddler's Majesta)



**5. LIBERATION
FIRST STAR**
(Century Free Spirit
x Liberation Starbrite)



6. ASTRONOMICALLEE
(Futurity French Command
x Liberation First Star)



7. BEETHOVEN
(Noble Flaire
x MyBlue Heaven)



**8. STONECORT
MASQUERADE**
(Cedar CreekHarlequin
x Carillon Command)



**9. AND THE BEAT
GOES ON**
(Simply Maserati
x JLS Deer Sal)



**10. CEDAR
CREEKHARLEQUIN**
(I Will Command
x Serenity Anna Rose)



**10. STONECROFT
BYZANTINE** (tie)
(Stonecort Masquerade
x Century Enjolie)

way to the 2010 World Champion Two-Year-Old Park Harness (which his sire won in 2004) and 2011 World Champion Three-Year-Old Park Harness titles. Arboria Awesome Again (x UVM Faith) is a perfectly conformed youngster that definitely got his sire's good looks. He claimed the Reserve World Champion Junior Stallion, Reserve World Champion Futurity Yearling Colt, and Grand National Yearling Colt titles. Also making their way to the top are such youngsters as Unconditional, Circle Z Spicy Spirit, and LDF Perfect Tense. There are few horses in the show ring as naturally talented, dynamic, and accomplished (he has five world championships and five Grand National titles) as Present Tense. This dynamite stallion commands attention wherever he goes, excelling both under saddle and in harness. He has been wickedly talented from a very young age. He rounded out his debut year with two world titles (World Champion Two-Year-Old Park Harness and World Champion Futurity Park Harness Two-Year-Old). He returned the next year and the year after to take home a world championship each year. After his junior horse days were over, he won the coveted World Champion Park Saddle title. He appears to be passing along his exceptional talent, square trot, and willingness to work to his foals. Present Tense stands with Diane Conrady Stables.

BKC VALIANT STAR

(Liberation First Star x CN The Valiant Touch)

"We are so pleased with all of the foals we have seen from BKC Valiant Star," shares David Rand, speaking about one of his favorites. He is currently standing at RAND, where David is very excited about the foals that he has produced so far. "All of his babies are huge, necky, and long-legged," he boasts. "They all have great attitudes. They want to trot and they are built to do it easily." In his opinion, "Shabam" is a top choice for breeders looking to incorporate extreme athleticism into their programs, particularly for those looking to breed super-animated park horses. We think it's noteworthy that Shabam has sired the last two World Futurity Yearling Colt Champions. From his first foal crop, Take Cover was crowned the World Champion Futurity Yearling Colt and the Grand National Yearling Colt. Also born that year, was MLD Belle's Star, who is the reigning Reserve World Futurity Two-Year-Old Stallion. Ledgefield Leonidas was first in the Morgan All American Yearling Sweepstakes at New England Morgan and then took the World Champion Yearling Colt title.

As a performer, BKC Valiant Star, is unlike anyone else in the ring. "Shabam" stands over 16hh and takes a step as he powers around the arena. He is impossible to miss, with his commanding presence and extreme motion. His accomplishments include World Champion Park Saddle Amateur, Grand National Park Saddle Amateur Stallion, and Grand National Park Saddle Four-Year-Old Stallion. His impeccable bloodlines are like the icing on the cake. By the Park Saddle World Champion Liberation First Star, he may be that sire's most lookalike son. Daughters of Park Saddle World Champion The Master's Touch have proven particularly productive broodmares and Shabam's dam CN The Valiant Touch, was one of the sharpest trotting models. Shabam thus offers a unique combination of the best trotting blood in the Morgan breed and an outcross for many of today's fashionably bred mares.

It probably should be said that no such list can promise to be all-inclusive. Several prominent show horses have a reserve world champion offspring to their name or are having obvious success with Weanling Gala or other sweepstakes get. It was tempting to find a way to try to include them. We have, however, done our best to "quantify" inclusion in this list to those emerging sires with multiple world titled get among their results. Many other stallions came on our radar screens, but we await the proof of the pudding as their get rise to world championship acclaim.

We do, indeed, intend to return to the scientifically based methodology of an actual sire rating in a future stallion issue. It should be interesting to see if the "middle management" and the "emerging sires" take their place among the top rated stallions in the land. ■

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