



~ HISTORY LESSON ~

Drumming Hoof Beats THE STORY OF THE INDIAN RESERVATION MORGANS

By Gail Perlee

PART 4: THE DAKOTAS BEYOND PINE RIDGE

Although Pine Ridge was the largest and most influential Morgan breeding operation in the region, several other Indian tribes in the Dakotas benefited from the Horse Improvement program and acquired Morgan bloodstock of their own. Three of them,

Crow Creek, Fort Berthold, and Standing Rock, were short lived and registered only four Morgan foals between them, all of whose lines are now extinct. However, some of their foundation stock contributed to the Morgan gene pool either before or after they entered these programs. The other three Indian agencies, Fort

ABOVE: Horses were instrumental to the lives of Native American people. As our author documents, the Morgan played a role in reservation life in the early 20th century. (photo © Southern Ute Archives, www.southernute-nsn.gov/history).



LEFT TO RIGHT: Brown Mae and Wawayanda Maemorial. Brown Mae's dam, Silver Mae, was out of the only registered offspring of Crow Creek foundation mare, Bony L; Speedking (Speedramp Walker x Julie Bird), 1982 palomino stallion. Crow Creek foundation mare, Dark Orchid, appears twice in his dam's pedigree. He also carried reservation blood through his sire's dam, Nugget Ann, who was straight Pine Ridge breeding.

Totten, Cheyenne River, and the Rosebud, produced a total of 100 registered Morgans, many of which bred on and can be found in pedigrees today.

CROW CREEK AGENCY, FORT THOMPSON, SOUTH DAKOTA

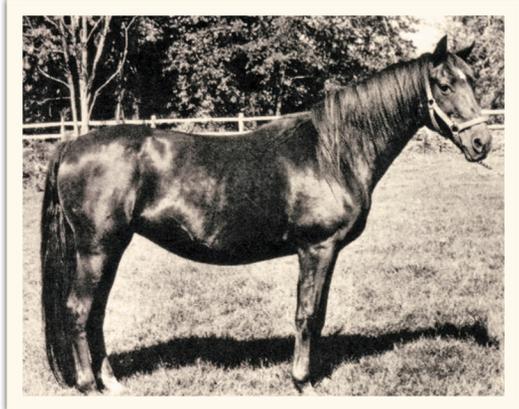
The Crow Creek Indian Reservation in south central South Dakota is home to the Lakota Sioux. In May of 1942, four Morgan mares, who had been purchased for the Horse Improvement program, were sent from Pine Ridge to Crow Creek. They were Boney L (Linsley x Jannace x Sparhawk), a 15-year-old, and Maud R (Rockwood x Linsley Belle), a 13-year-old, both from Kansas. The other two, Dark Orchid (King De Jarnette x Gizea), bred by Helen Brunk Greenwalt in Illinois and Shenandoah Dixie (King Shenandoah x Illawana Topsy), also from Illinois, were two-year-olds. No stallions went to Crow Creek and no registered Morgans were bred there.

Each of the older mares had produced one foal before they joined the Horse Improvement program. Maud R was the dam of Charlie Sentney (x Sir Linsley), a 1941 colt who sired 20 Morgan foals. His last two crops ended up in Rhode Island when Cecil Ferguson of Broadwall Farms purchased the Theis Ranch herd from Kansas in 1953. Included in the herd were the Government stallion, Panfield, and 20 Western working mares, many with reservation connections. Ferguson was president of the Morgan Horse Club in the 1950s and a prominent breeder. The Broadwall program was based largely on a stallion of his own breeding, Parade, and the Theis mares. Boney L's 1941 colt was Roscoe Sentney (x John Allen). He sired only one registered foal before he was gelded, but that was the filly Silver Mae (x Mae Morgan). She was an important broodmare for the Theis Ranch and Broadwall. She produced seven foals and three of them, Bonanya

and Brown Mae (both by Raymond S Sentney) and Broadwall Mayfield (x Panfield) went on to become exceptional broodmares themselves. It is a testament to the quality and breeding of Boney L and Maud R, that with only one registered offspring each, they established families that thrive to this day. Of the two younger mares, only Dark Orchid had registered progeny. In 1949, she was sold off the reservation and went on to produce nine foals. One of them was Shy Bird, who was the dam of Julie Bird, the dam of Speedking (x Speedramp Walker), herd sire for Liz and Pat McFall of High Valley Mountain Morgans in Montana. Dark Orchid was also the dam of Bay Bette Model, who was the dam of Petanio Arr Pride, foundation sire for DM Morgans in Alberta, Canada. The rest of the Crow Creek mares produced no more registered Morgans and were never again transferred. Probably they spent their lives in the Horse Improvement program producing good half Morgans.

FORT BERTHOLD AGENCY, ELBOWOODS, NORTH DAKOTA

The Fort Berthold Indian Reservation surrounds Lake Sakakawea in west central North Dakota. The agency headquarters, now located at New Town, serves the Three Affiliated Tribes, which include the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara tribes. In 1942, when the agency was located at Elbowoods, three Morgans arrived from Pine Ridge. Included were a five-year-old stallion, Linsley Jubilee Paul (Harris Linsley x Paula Clifford) originally from Illinois, and two young mares, Highland Peg (Sea Gull x Bonny Jean) and Highland Silhouette (Justin's Silhouette x Mountain Dawn), both bred by C. J. Stafford of Nye, Montana. In 1943, both mares had foals by Linsley's Jubilee Paul. Highland Peg's colt was named Naxbizi Dobash and Highland Silhouette's filly was named Naxbizi Wia. Both were soon sold off the reservation



TOP TO BOTTOM: Red May Walker (Dakota Thunder Cloud x May Dawn), 1955 mare, bred by Cheyenne River. Her filly is by Chief Wabaunsee; Dakota Dark Rose (Honor x Dakota Dawn by Chief Joseph), 1962 mare, one of the first of many crosses the Schwols made of Honor on reservation mares; Oak Acres Orchid (Honor x Dakota Dawn), 1963 dark chestnut mare; Dakota Hoksina (Dakota Thunder Cloud x Tude), 1947 stallion, bred by Fort Totten, sire for the Cross Ranch in Wyoming.

and neither had registered offspring. The two mares were sold to a local man in 1946. None of the foundation horses had other registered foals or were ever transferred again. Since the two Naxbizi foals were the only produce of the three foundation horses, this was a dead end for their bloodlines as well as for the Fort Berthold registered Morgan breeding program. There were possibly some unregistered purebreds left on the reservation, and the stallion probably continued to sire halfbreds after the mares were sold.

FORT TOTTEN AGENCY, FORT TOTTEN, NORTH DAKOTA

The Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in east central North Dakota serves the Spirit Lake Dakota Sioux. Their Community High School, located at Fort Totten, joined the Horse Improvement program in 1942 when they received three stallions and two mares from Pine Ridge. Iowa Boy (Successful x Malou), a six-year-old stallion of old Midwest breeding, was never used on Morgan mares while in the program. He was sold off the reservation in 1958 and later sired 13 registered foals, of which two, Thelben Penny and Thelben Easter Star, bred on.

Sir Linsley (Linsley x Sparta x Sparhawk) was purchased for the Horse Improvement program in March 1942 and shipped to Pine Ridge. In July of 1942 he was sent to Fort Totten and they kept him until 1946 when he was transferred to the Jicarilla tribe in New Mexico. Sir Linsley sired only two registered Morgans at Fort Totten, a colt and a filly, both foaled in 1944. The filly, Dakota Nellie (x Tude), was sold in 1956 and later purchased by the Schwols of Oak Acres Morgans in Devils Lake, North Dakota. Her daughters Oak Acre's Red Donna and Oak Acre's Flame, both by Honor, produced for Oak Acres and others and can be found in some palomino lines today. The colt, Dakota Thunder Cloud (x Allen Dawn) sired only seven

registered foals. However, one of his colts, Dakota Hoksina (x Tude) sired 28 Morgans mostly for the Cross Ranch in Wyoming, and his four fillies, Dakota Lassie, Dakota Dawn Mills, Dawn Schuhmacher, and Red May Walker, bred on and appear in working Western pedigrees today. Sir Linsley sired only 12 registered get, but most of them left a legacy to the breed. For more details about him see Part I of this series in the section on New Mexico.

The major herd sire at Fort Totten was Master R. M. (Romanesque x Lemax x Sparhawk). Bred in Kansas by Elmer Brown, he came to Pine Ridge as a five-year-old in 1942. Fort Totten bred all of his 13 registered offspring between 1943 and 1952. Unfortunately, none of his get left the reservation, and only one thin line, through his daughter Dakota Belle (x Allen Dawn), survives today. Master R. M. may have stayed on at Fort Totten, but he was never again transferred or sired registered foals.

The foundation mares were Allen Dawn (Tehachapi Allen x Sparbelle x Sparhawk) and Tude (Rosevelt x Miga x Winterset). Both were five-year-olds when they arrived at Fort Totten. Allen Dawn, mother of nine, had two foals for Pine Ridge, six for Fort Totten, and one for Standing Rock. Her most significant produce were Dakota Dawn (x Chief Joseph) and Dakota Thunder Cloud (x Sir Linsley). Tude, a mare of fine old Midwest breeding, was the dam of eight, one for Pine Ridge and seven for Fort Totten. Her offspring, which bred on, were Dakota Nellie (x Sir Linsley) and Dakota Hoksina, Dakota Lassie and Dakota Beauty, all by Dakota Thunder Cloud.

Fort Totten used the Dakota prefix for all 18 registered Morgans which they bred between 1942 and 1952. Very few of their Morgans ever left the reservation, but those that did mostly bred on and still influence bloodlines to this day. It is probable that the Morgans that stayed on the reservation continued to breed and thrive among the Spirit Lake Sioux long after the formal breeding program ended.

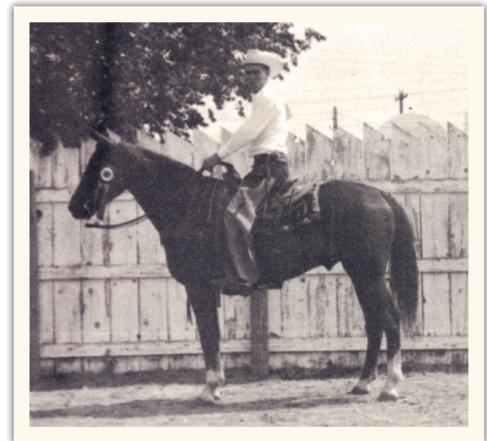
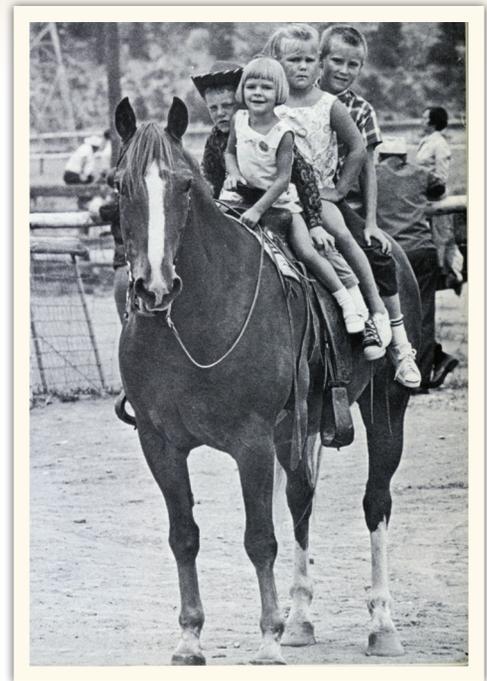
**CHEYENNE RIVER AGENCY,
EAGLE BUTTE,
SOUTH DAKOTA**

The Cheyenne River Reservation, in north central South Dakota, is located just south of the Standing Rock Reservation. The agency is located at Eagle Butte and serves the Cheyenne River Lakota Sioux. They began their Horse Improvement project in 1938 when they acquired a yearling stallion, King George R M (Romanesque x Jipsy L x Linsley) from the Chilocco Indian School in Oklahoma. He sired only two registered foals, both born in 1942, which did not breed on, before he vanished from Morgan history. In 1941, they purchased a two-year-old Vermont bred stallion, Lippitt Rookie (Ashbrook x Lippitt Sallie) from breeder Robert Lippitt Knight. In 1942, they got a four-year-old Brunk bred stallion, Blackstone (Night Tide x Gizea). Blackstone sired only four, all colts born in 1942 and 1943. None of them sired registered get. Much later the agency apparently borrowed Dakota Thunder Cloud (Sir Linsley x Allen Dawn) from Fort Totten. He sired three fillies for Cheyenne River in 1953, 1954, and 1955. Cheyenne River's foundation mares, all transferred from Pine Ridge in 1942, were Estrabel (Jubel x Allestra), Sandy (Linspar x Lucy), Junebug (Barberry x Misty R. M.), Ravalli Maid (Justin's Silhouette x Montana Maid), Sonda (Rosin x Glen Garry), Montana Maid (De Jarnette Jr x Alice Dean), and her yearling daughter May Dawn (x Adam's Black Oak).

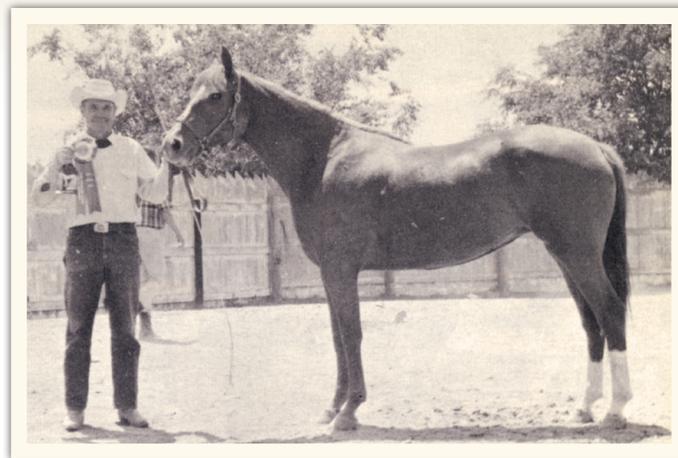
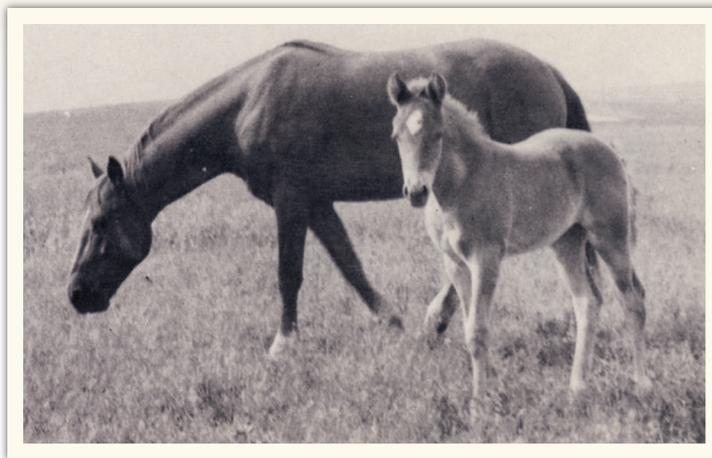
Some of the mares bred by Cheyenne River were great producers and their bloodlines can be found in the breed today. Rookie's Estrabel (Lippitt Rookie x Estrabel) produced eleven registered foals for several breeders, including Milaca and Kickapoo. Several of her fillies bred on and their descendants carry the only surviving lines to Lippitt Rookie. Dakota Dawn Mills (Dakota Thunder Cloud x May Dawn) was a broodmare for B. Wallace Mills and El-D Bars in Canada. Her full sister, Dawn Schuhmacher was the dam of seven registered foals, and

another full sister, Red May Walker, was a prolific producer for Stanley Walker in Nebraska. She produced ten registered foals. Although bred by Cheyenne River, it was the new owners who registered these mares after they were sold off the reservation. They went on to found strong families that thrive today, especially in the Western working family. Probably many other unregistered purebreds remained at Cheyenne River and lived out their lives in obscurity.

In 1956, Cheyenne River acquired an eight-year-old palomino stallion, Yellow Gold (Morgan Gold x Lulu Belle R M), bred by the Oglala Indian School at Pine Ridge. He sired 22 registered get while there, and eleven more at Cheyenne River. In 1961, when the last group of registered Morgans was rounded up and transferred from tribal ownership, Yellow Gold was sold to K. C. and Alice Schwols of Oak Acres Farm in Devils Lake, North Dakota. The Schwols were putting together a Morgan breeding program and had already purchased a two-year-old stallion, Honor (Triumph's Leader x Hondorine) from Illinois in 1959. Their foundation mares were all reservation bred. They were Dakota Dawn (Chief Joseph x Allen Dawn), Dakota Lassie (Dakota Thunder Cloud x Tude), and Dakota Nellie (Sir Linsley x Tude), all bred by Fort Totten. Also, Gold Bonnie (Dakota Gold x Bonnie Lass), R B Sioux (Senator Allen x R B Sophie), and Mission Bell (Yellow Cat x Betty Dean), all bred by the Rosebud Agency. The foundation stock was assembled between 1957 and 1961, and the first Morgans to carry the Oak Acres prefix were foaled in 1963. The program continued until Alice Schwols death in 1987. Although they bred about 35 palominos, the Schwols were interested in more than color. Mrs. Schwols is quoted in May 1988 *The Morgan Horse* as saying that they "tried to develop a horse that could be used—not just in the show ring but on the ranch and on the trail... a proud horse with head held high but with an eye to the ground to be sure footed and useful, a horse quiet to



TOP TO BOTTOM: Dakota Schuhmacher, 1961 gelding, bred by Cheyenne River Agency; White River Achilles (Yellow Gold x May Dawn), 1961 gelding, bred by Cheyenne River; Oak Acres Charm, 1964 chestnut mare, 100% Rosebud breeding.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Red Gold Walker (Yellow Gold x Red May Walker), 1961 mare, bred by Cheyenne River, with foal by Rusty Walker; Sharon Berlie (Yellow Gold x Dakota Dawn Mills), 1961 mare, bred by Cheyenne River.

handle but with lots of energy to get the job done.” In all, there were more than 130 Oak Acres Morgans, many of which bred on and preserved both the reservation bloodlines and the palomino color for future breeders.

Yellow Gold’s get for Cheyenne River that bred on were Dakota Lynn (x Dakota Lassie), dam of 15 for Merriehill, Woodwind, and Mt Hope; Linda Schuhmacher (x Dawn Schuhmacher), dam of six with the White River and Empire prefixes; Gold Dawn Mills (x Red May Walker), dam of 13, mostly for B. Wallace Mills; May Gold Berlie (x May Dawn), mother of nine including May Moon, grand dam of sport horse sire, Raynyday Finale; Red Gold Walker (x Red May Walker), who produced six foals for Stanley Walker; Sharon Berlie (x Dakota Dawn Mills), dam of nine for White River and others; and Red Dawn (x Dakota Dawn), sire of eleven, who appears in many Sidehill pedigrees.

Cheyenne River bred Morgans for 20 years. Many were never registered, although several of them were registered later by people who bought them. A goodly number of unregistered purebreds and a great many partbred Morgans must have roamed the reservation for years after the breeding program ended in 1962. In all, only 29 registered Morgans are recorded as being bred by Cheyenne River, and only 13 of those produced registered foals. If a few savvy Morgan breeders hadn’t discovered these horses and recognized their value, some of the breed’s most valuable Western working and palomino bloodlines would have been lost forever.

STANDING ROCK AGENCY, FORT YATES, NORTH DAKOTA

The Standing Rock Reservation, home of the Lakota and Nakota Sioux, straddles the South Dakota/North Dakota border west of the Missouri River, with headquarters at Fort Yates, North Dakota. No Morgans were ever officially transferred to Standing Rock, but in 1956 they bred two fillies, Rookie’s Girl (Lippitt Rookie x Allen Dawn) and Dakota Sue (Lippitt Rookie x Dakota Snowshoe). Lippitt Rookie (Ashbrook x Lippitt Sallie) was owned by the Cheyenne River Agency in South Dakota and had

sired seven registered foals for them in the 1940s. The Standing Rock fillies were his last registered get. Allen Dawn (Tehachapi Allen x Sparbelle) was owned by Fort Totten and produced six registered foals for them between 1943 and 1949. She was 19 years old when she produced Rookie’s Girl. Dakota Snowshoe (Dakota Thunder Cloud x Dakota Belle), foaled in 1949, was bred and owned by Fort Totten, but had no registered foals there. How and when they came to Standing Rock is not known. Both of the Standing Rock fillies, who were registered after they left the reservation, later produced registered Morgans. Rookie’s Girl had eight foals and Dakota Sue produced seven, but both their lines are extinct today. Nothing more is known of the fates of the two foundation mares and Lippitt Rookie after 1956.

The Morgans that went to Standing Rock are a good example of strong circumstantial evidence for the continued breeding of Morgans by the tribes, but with a pattern of not registering them. Where was Lippitt Rookie between 1947, when his last foals arrived at Cheyenne River, and 1956 when his last two fillies were born at Standing Rock? And where did he go after that? He was only 16 when he sired the Standing Rock fillies. Did Dakota Snowshoe have unregistered foals before coming to Standing Rock? And where was Allen Dawn between 1949 when she had her last registered foal for Fort Totten and 1956? Probably they were all producing, and may have continued to do so, but the foals were either unregistered purebreds or crosses. This evidence suggests that many more Morgans were born into the Horse Improvement than were ever registered.

ROSEBUD INDIAN SCHOOL, MISSION, SOUTH DAKOTA

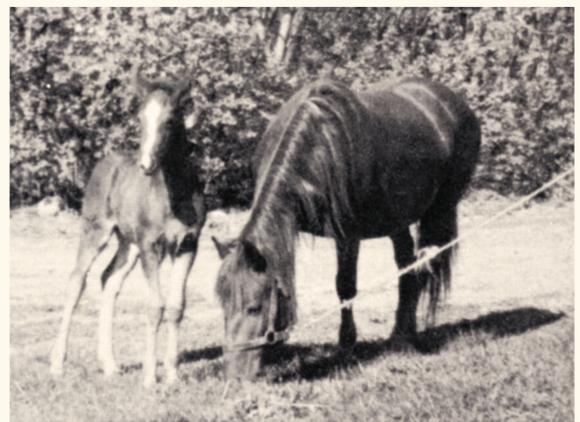
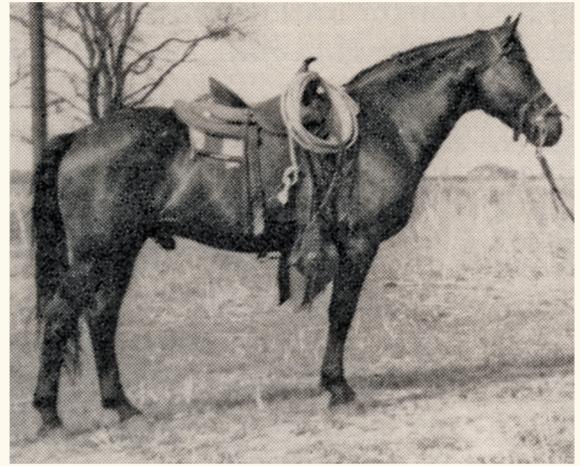
The Rosebud Sioux Indian reservation sits on the Nebraska/South Dakota border just east of the Pine Ridge reservation. Agency headquarters is at Mission, South Dakota, which was also the site of the Rosebud Indian Boarding School. In 1942, the school began an ambitious Morgan horse breeding program with the transfer of a yearling stallion, Chilocco Star (Silver Ranger x Racher) from the Chilocco Indian School in

Oklahoma. Although he sired only nine registered foals, four for the Rosebud and five with the Nespelem prefix for the Colville Agency in Washington State, Chilocco Star can still be found in pedigrees today. The rest of the foundation stock, two more stallions and nine mares, arrived from Pine Ridge in 1942. Powerful (Chocolate x Gold Pilot) was a three-year-old stallion bred by H. T. Hineman in Kansas. During his lifetime he sired 37 registered foals, including 17 for the Rosebud, and later, 20 for the Sutter Ranch in Kansas. Many of his get bred on. Silver Chief (Brunkey x Silver Babe) was a yearling stallion bred by W. P. Thornhill of Miami, Texas. He sired only two registered foals, both for the Rosebud in 1944 and then he dropped out of sight. His bloodlines live on in the descendants of his daughter, R B Joyce (x Lady Ester).

Thornhill was also the breeder of six of the foundation mares, all rich in Sellman blood, which came to the Rosebud. They were Baby Dix (Dixie x Dan's Baby), Betty Dean (Dixie x Dan's Bess), Brady (Dan x Bess' Ann), Cavey (Dan x Nellie Skinner), Dan's Baby (Dan x Betty Skinner), and Silver Babe (Silver Ranger x Baby Dix). The other three mares included a yearling, Pine Ridge Beauty (Brunkey x Jean Arthur) and the two-year-olds, Bar S Delight (Romanlight x Delightful) and Bonnie Lee (Barberry x Elberty Linsley). All of the mares produced foals for the Rosebud, and all but one of them bred on.

Dan's Baby, a ten-year-old, was in foal to Sir Linsley when she came to the Rosebud with her 1935 daughter, Baby Dix, also in foal to Sir Linsley, and her 1937 granddaughter, Silver Babe, who was in foal to Brunkey. Baby Dix produced five foals before coming to the Rosebud, two at Mission and five more after she was sold in 1945. She was the dam of the minor sire Sir Jonathan (x Sir Linsley) and the Sweets broodmare, Donaldeen (x Nebraska Dawn), who was the dam of Sweet's Dixie Donna (x Rhythm's Bimbo), the dam of sire Sweet's Classy Zip, who sired 19 for the Sweets, T-Bone, and Adiel programs. Another important Baby Dix offspring was Silver Babe. She was the dam of 10 including Silver's Gal (x Silver Ranger) an inbred mare who produced six including an even more inbred mare, Bobby Gal (x Silver Ranger), who was the dam of Baroosa (x Raymond S Sentney), who produced 15 for Broadwall, Camelot, and Quaker's Acre. Baroosa was the dam of sire Quakers Acre Treble (x Trophy's Award). Silver's Gal was also the dam of Silgal's Improver (x Charlie Sentney), sire of 28, and the Broadwall broodmares, Pattonesque (x Charlie Sentney) and Debutanesque (x Raymond S Sentney), dam of 16. Dan's Baby's bloodlines came east when the Theis Ranch herd moved from Kansas to Cecil Furguson's Broadwall Farm in Rhode Island. Her other significant produce were Dixie Bob (x Dixie), grand dam of Funquest broodmare Bobbie Jean; the Cross Ranch broodmare Easter Fine S (x Silver Ranger); and Baby Rosa (x Sir Linsley), dam of seven for the Rosebud, including producer R B Ruby (x Senator Allen).

Cavey, foaled in 1929, was the oldest of the foundation mares. When she arrived, she was in foal to Sir Linsley with Lady Ester, who went on to produce seven foals including the matrons R B Joyce (x Silver Chief) and Carolyn S Sentney (x Powerful). Cavey had already had six foals before she came to the Rosebud. Two of them, Bess' Ann (x Dixie Dan) and Zona Skinner (x Silver Ranger) established families of their own. Bess' Ann was the dam of Brady, who produced six foals including Monte Leon (x Silver Ranger) who was a sire for the Sutter Ranch (Dot S prefix) in Kansas. Zona Skinner eventually ended up in



TOP TO BOTTOM: Powerful (Chocolate x Gold Pilot), 1939 bay stallion, foundation sire for the Rosebud. He later stood at the Sutter Ranch in Kansas; R B Joyce (Silver Chief x Lady Ester), 1944 mare, bred by Rosebud, shown with filly by Elderlane Prince. One of the very few photos of an R B Morgan; Bonnie Lass (Chilocco Star x Bonnie Lee), 1945 mare bred by Rosebud. Photo at age 24.

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the East where she produced Paleface (x Squire Burger), who in turn was the dam of three with the Orcland prefix, all by Ulendon, all rare silver dapples. The best known was Orcland Youlenda. The silver dapple color was not well understood at the time, and she was mistakenly registered as a dark chestnut. Although she had seven foals, (five of them for Fiddlers Green Farm in New York state) of which two were silver dapples, her colorful line did not survive. Her brother, Orcland Silver Don, was gelded and although her sister, Orcland Queen Bess, bred on, her silver dapple line is also thought to be extinct today. Cavey was also the dam of R B Sophie (x Powerful) who can be found in Walker pedigrees through her daughter R B Lynda (x Senator Allen), and in the descendants of her son R B Colonel (x Loren Belle).

Betty Dean was the final Thornhill mare to come to the Rosebud. She had already produced two important daughters, Silver Dell and Mae Morgan, both by Silver Ranger. Silver Dell was the mother of broodmares, Red Feather and Orange Blossom, both by Chocolate. Orange Blossom had 15 foals for the Jackson Ranch in Montana, including Dean Montana (x Fleetfield) sire of 92 foals. Mae Morgan was the dam of Silver Mae (x Roscoe Sentney), whom along with her daughter, Bonanya (x Raymond S Sentney) went east with the Theis herd. Bonanya was the dam of Broadwall Brigadier (x Parade) who sired 68 foals, mostly for Cambridge Morgans in Colorado. His best-known get were the stallions Topside Eager Beaver, Topside Desert Rogue, and Senator Stennis, plus the matron Lady Brigadier, dam of 13, including the sire Greentree Brigadier (x Greentree BonnieJohn). Betty Dean had seven foals for the Rosebud, including R B Louise (x Powerful), the dam of R B Ann (x Senator Allen), a broodmare for T-Bone. Her daughter, T-Bone Buttons (x Classy's Pride) was a cutting horse and mother of six, including Primavera Rosalita (x Primavera Regalo), broodmare for Treasure Morgans in Montana. A full sibling to T-Bone Buttons, Sweet's Indian Rose, was the dam of 15 foals for Sweets and T-Bone. Another R B Ann daughter, T Bone Misty, produced 12 foals with the T-Bone prefix. As for the other foundation mares: Bonnie Lee was only at the Rosebud for three years before she was sold. Her daughter Bonnie Lass (x Chilocco Star) was the dam of Gold Bonnie (x Dakota Gold) who had 15 foals for Oak Acres, Still Water, and others. Unfortunately, that line has died out. Bonnie Lee lives on in T-Bone, RG, and Kansas Bluestem bloodlines through her daughter Betty Lu, born after she left the reservation. The legacy of Pine Ridge Beauty was carried on by her son Sir Chilocco R B (x Chilocco Star) and her daughter Dark Beauty (x Sir Jonathan), who appears in Bridlesweet and Debacon pedigrees. Bar S Delight was at the Rosebud for only one year. In all she produced three registered colts, none of which had registered get.

Later on, two more stallions came to the Rosebud. Senator Allen (Senator Graham x Rozel) was a three-year-old bred by Robert Tynan in Stella, Nebraska. He was purchased for the Horse Improvement program from R. S. Sentney in Kansas and sent to the Rosebud in 1946. He was transferred in 1950 to Standing Rock and, in 1952, to private ownership. He sired

17 registered foals, all for the Rosebud. His replacement, Loren Belle (Tehachapi Allan x Lisabelle x Linsley) an eight-year-old, arrived from Jones Indian Academy in Oklahoma in 1950. Bred by Elmer Brown in Kansas, he was sold to the Indian Service as a yearling. Loren Belle sired a total 26 registered Morgans between 1945 and 1952. The Rosebud School bred fourteen of them, all foaled in 1951 and 1952. Then Loren Belle disappeared from Morgan records.

In the last years of the Rosebud program, two palomino stallions were brought in from Pine Ridge, apparently to introduce color into the herd. In 1950, Sioux Gold (Morgan Gold x Illawana Topsy) sired three fillies out of R. B. mares. Two were palominos and one was black. Unfortunately, none of them produced registered stock. Sioux Gold was transferred to the Washington, DC Park Police in 1952. Yellow Cat (Morgan Gold x Shenandoah Queen) a two-year-old, arrived in 1951 and had two R.B get in 1952. One was a chestnut gelding and the other a palomino filly, R B Dixie (x R B Lynda). She was the dam of four registered foals, including Dixie Walker (x Chief Wabaunsee), who also produced four. Sadly, Dixie Walker's line did not survive. Another R B Dixie daughter, Dot Ethan Walker (x Merry Ethan), had only two but did breed on. Her palomino daughter Brooke Walker (x Rusty Walker), foaled in 1982, produced for T-Bone and Meadowlark. The final Rosebud crop of six, all sired by Yellow Cat, was dropped in 1953. None of them were palominos, and only one produced registered stock. His black filly, Mission Bell (x Betty Dean), was the dam of six after she was sold to Oak Acres. All were colts, and three sired registered offspring, but none bred on and her line is extinct today. Yellow Cat was sold off the reservation in 1954. He sired a total of 17 registered Morgans between 1952 and 1966. His 1963 daughter, June Dona, had 10 foals, all by Nugget Red Hanneman. Yellow Cat also sired the productive chestnut broodmares Full O Pep and Norma Dee (x R B Norma), and the palomino stallion, Gold King, who is in the tail male line of the palomino sire, Mac's LittleBritches.

Rosebud's Morgan breeding program was active between 1942 and 1953, and produced 67 registered Morgans, mostly with the R.B. prefix. Most of the foundation mares were sold in 1945 and 1946, but several of the younger R.B. mares, Loren Belle and many unregistered Morgans probably stayed on the reservation and continued to produce in obscurity. A surprising number of the Rosebud Morgans, both foundation stock and their produce, bred on and can be found in pedigrees today. Their blood went into several important Morgan breeding programs in the Northwest, Midwest, and the East, where many were prodigious producers who influenced Western working, colorful, and even modern show horse bloodlines. Today they are a small but significant part of the Morgan gene pool. Indeed, the Indian Horse Improvement programs in the Dakotas can be credited with preserving and passing on a genetic treasure trove for the breed. ■

Drumming Hoof Beats is an ongoing, five-part series in *The Morgan Horse*. This is part four.