

THOSE AMAZING Morgan Foals

Photos of these Morgan foals, taken by amateur photographers and submitted by our readers, were published in our October issue. Results of the contest follow:

MORGAN CHARACTER ~ Judged by Jay Kleiber

Jay, with his longtime friend and business partner Julie Ouska, breeds Morgans at Ridgewood Farm in Colorado. RWF is one of those small but mighty prefixes—the program has produced two World Champion Mares, RWF Noelle and RWF Over The Rainbow, not to mention winners across the disciplines. If you’ve ever seen Jay casing the young horses during in-hand classes at Morgan shows, you know he’s a student of the breed.

Whenever I am at a horse show, I watch the classes without a program in front of me. I want to ensure what I am evaluating is not influenced by bloodlines or breeding or anything else to which I may be partial. It keeps me honest. Any one of us may have, say, a bloodline bias or a foundation percentage bias as we look at and consider our Morgan horses. I was reminded of this personal rule

when 37 pictures arrived in my inbox from TMH editor Stephen Kinney for the 2019 “Those Amazing Morgan Foals” photo contest. I took a quick look at the photos and immediately sent off a private message to Stephen—“This is not going to be easy!”

FIRST PLACE ≈ 28

There is one foal who stood out among the many wonderful photos. I liked her—or him—instantly. Despite the fact the foal is lying down, it exudes quality, style, elegance. The small tippy ears are set high and close on its head, the eyes are set wide and positioned perfectly, and even in a relaxed position, the foal appears to have an exceptional shoulder. From the angle, you can see a nice arch to its neck, and it is evident this foal thinks very highly of itself. I picked Number 28 because even to an untrained eye, this foal would be strikingly impressive, and that is very important when showcasing our Morgan horses. I enjoy when people new to our breed can look at a foal, or a picture of a foal, and their first response is “Wow!”

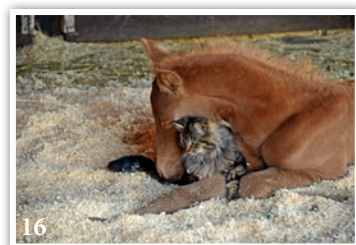
Foal Number 28 has the wow factor.

SECOND PLACE ≈ 25

Though the photo was taken in somewhat of a mist, it was easy to see the conformation on this foal. Long forearm, great shoulder, beautiful head, and a high-set tail were all factors toward a solid contender. I also like the drive off the rear end on this foal and predict he or she will one day be a solid Morgan athlete.

THIRD PLACE ≈ 16

I am a Morgan breeder, a lover of Morgan foals. I picked this breed as my own back in the early ’70s because of their beauty, their tractability, and their personalities. Photo number 16 speaks to everything I believe to be true of Morgan horses. If this photo were mine, it would be framed and hanging in my home.



ARTISTIC COMPOSITION ~ Judged by Dawn Montgomery

She breeds Morgans. Rides Morgans. Photographs Morgans.

Dawn has ridden the likes of Erotic Dancer GCH, Graycliff Tony GCH and their son Jake Ryan CH to world championship titles.

These days, however, she is just as frequently seen at Morgan shows with a long lens posed in front of her face.

Her joyous photos of our breed can be seen from the very pages of this magazine to many happy posts on social media.

FIRST PLACE ≈ 25

I selected this photo as the first place winner for a couple of reasons. The fog in the background adds a lot of character to the photo. I love how the subject is offset to the right (this only works in a photo when the extra space is in front of the subject). The excitement and playfulness of the foal make it the perfect focal point! You can't help but feel joyous when you see the foal being playful on a foggy morning.



SECOND PLACE ≈ 14

This photo has an excellent composition. The grassy field is a beautiful backdrop for this adorable foal. The sunlight creates some interesting shadows and the light in the sky adds nice color. The foal is nicely centered with just a little more space in front of the subject.



HONORABLE MENTION ≈ 36

Not only is this a heart-warming moment, but the light on the foal is also beautiful

HONORABLE MENTION ≈ 27

It's hard not to give a nod to this fancy foal. The shadow adds an extra pop to this already interesting subject.

HONORABLE MENTION ≈ 16

This is such a precious moment to capture! The unlikely connection between a horse and a cat, the foal's eye closed, all of it! Just precious!

HONORABLE MENTION ≈ 10

Great capture of action on this one!



THE PEOPLE'S CHOICES

Voted on by Friends of *The Morgan Horse* on Facebook. We posted the foal photos to Facebook and asked the public to vote—every “like” being a vote for that photo. Here are the results:

Placing	Number	Votes
1st Place	1	389
2nd Place	16	189
3rd Place	15	115



2019 ENTRIES (all winners in boxes, un-registered, non-raf Morgans are in quotes):

1 & 2. Gladheart Shaniko
(Gladheart Black Harris x Whippoorwill Oakesia)
Breeder: Bernadette & Jack Stang • Owner: Emmalie Hatch • Photographer: B. Stang

3 & 4. “Treasured Morgans Adamus”
(Mt Tawonga Timbre x Indigo Roc-A Belle)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Terri Bryant

5. Okan Empress
(Okan Count On Me x Okan Sarah)
Breeder/Owner: Donald & Mary Curtis, Okan Morgans • Photographer: M. Curtis

6 & 7. Rement Rebel Yell
(Divine Cool Hand Luke x AmberfieldsImaVelvetStone)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Linda Sherrill

8 & 9. “Foal”
(Merriehill After Hours GCH x Equinox Ophelia)
Breeder/Owner: Sam Stanley
Photographer: Connie Boutin

10. “Foal”
(No Contest GCH x Treble’s She’s MizBehavin GCH)
Owner: Linda Hawkins, Mountain Hawk Farm, Ltd. • Breeder: Sally Longenecker
Photographer: Lucio

11 & 12. Scandias Ballerina Girl
(Scandias Trademark x Scandias Private Dancer)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Kathleen L. DeFazio

13. “Dakota’s Prairie Angel”
(Privilege x Dakota’s Prairie Rose)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Sabrina Jenema

14. “Dakota’s Prairie Premier”
(DBJ’s First Premier x Mireva Maitreya)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Sabrina Jenema

15. MtnTop General Jackson
(MtnTop Whippoorwill Tanek x Coulee Bend Silver N Gold)
Breeder/Photographer: Kristal Homoki
Owner: Milt & Karen Whitmer

16. MtnTop Captain Morgan
(Spring Lake Thistle x Universal Selection)
Breeder/Photographer: Kristal Homoki, MtnTop Morgans • Owner: Chuck & Candy McCrary

17 & 18. GR Moonlight Dancer
(M River Baron x SFFM Escada)
Breeder/Owner: Genetic Resources, LLC
Photographer: Kim Viker

19. Brook Hill Revelation
(River Riders Rich x Thankful Farms Nite Angel)

Breeder/Owner: Heather Smith, Brook Hill Classic Morgans • Photographer: Brittany Pinet

20. Brook Hill True Ambition
(Brook Hill Constellation x Mint Kiya)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Heather Smith, Brook Hill Classic Morgans

21. Brook Hill Revelation
(River Riders Rich x Thankful Farms Nite Angel)
Breeder/Owner: Heather Smith, Brook Hill Classic Morgans • Photographer: Paula J. Mears

22. Saralin Northern Lights
(SLB Valedictorian GCH x Saralin Style)
Breeder/Owner: Stan, Susan & Sally Longenecker • Photographer: Lucio

23 & 24. “Cockatopark SonicSilver”
(Wilga Park Silver Sabre x Fernleigh Creek Scarlett)
Breeder/Owner: Ruth McGill, Cockatoo Park Morgans • Photographer: Kathy Lyons

25 & 26. Cosmos Ringmaster
(Minion Millennium x Cosmos Arbor Mist)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Susie Weiss, Cosmos Morgan

27. “Wicklow Way Kiltegan”
(Whistler’s Royal Vintage x Joland Remarkable Bay)
Breeder/Owner: Steve & Lisa Ross, Wicklow Way Morgans • Photographer: L. Ross

28 & 29. Ava Marie
(LPS True Believer x Cabot Lynn Marie)
Breeder/Owner: Lynn Peeples
Photographer: Cindy Braham

30 & 31. JoGlenn A Corona
(Harwich Attila x Kandle’s Carrie A Tune)
Breeder/Owner: Kerry & Ken Estes, JoGlenn Farms • Photographer: K. Estes

32 & 33. “Goldstar’s Liberty”
(Boxford Machiavelli x OGO Waers Goldstar)
Breeder/Owner: Lee & Sunny Vandenburg
Photographer: S. Vandenburg

34. “Autumn Mst Genesis”
(Maple Spring Jesse x MapleSpring AutumnMist)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Melissa Vrobel

35. “Autumn Mst Apiya”
(Maple Spring Jesse x MapleSpring Mtn Meadow)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Melissa Vrobel

36. Arcola’s Amaretti (raf)
(No Contest GCH x Arcola’s Cyd Charisse)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Kirsten Johnson, Arcola Farm

37. Arcola’s Cardamom Girl
(Ingate’s Eye Of The Tiger x Arcola’s Ambrosia)
Breeder/Owner/Photographer: Kirsten Johnson, Arcola Farm