

LEADERS. INNOVATORS.  
MENTORS. ADVOCATES.  
EDUCATORS. PIONEERS.  
COUNSELORS. ADJUDICATORS.

# The Women In Our Industry HONOR ROLL

The idea of exploring a “Women In Our Industry” theme in this issue is not employed to be topical or controversial. Most accurately it is, as it should be, a theme without restriction or confinement (like the contributions women have made to most equine endeavors).

*The Morgan Horse* chose this theme to celebrate the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have had on our relatively small in size but huge in passion industry.

We also recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

Hence, for us, women’s names have become household terms. Mrs. Powers and Ma Greenwalt advanced the breed. Morgans visited Europe under the aegis of Margaret and Lisa and Mimi. Miss Judy is our leading show ring trainer. Morgan history has not been, with any sort of exclusivity, a man’s world.

Mentors. Educators. Leaders. Innovators. Adjudicators. Pioneers. Counselors. Advocates.

Here, in year one of this theme, we commence an honor roll, a hall of fame, an academy. Should there be more? You bet. It is our hope, at *The Morgan Horse*, to supplement this list on an annual basis.

We’ve invited tributes from protégés, peers, best friends, members of the Morgan community whose names will mean as much as their words. Read the roll call and you will find profiles of women who have been present for the march of the Morgan breed.

We are all inspired.

SLK



Helen Greenwalt, above, on the farm with the seminal Senator Graham and in civilian garb, right.



## Helen Greenwalt THE DYNASTY BUILDER

Her father, J.C. “Joe” Brunk passed the torch to his daughter Helen, who then became the custodian of the Brunk Dynasty into subsequent generations, especially through her daughter Doris Ryan. The Brunk genes are proliferated through Morgan pedigrees. One rarely breeds a great Morgan without paying at least indirect tribute to this dynastic Morgan breeder.

I want to honor Helen Brunk Greenwalt. To my view, no single person has done more to shape the Morgan breed and community than Helen Greenwalt. Without her love, vision and dedication to the Morgan and fostering that love and dedication in so many other people, we wouldn’t have the breed we have today. By conventional standards, she was a small breeder, but her impact lives on in most Morgans today. She was careful and studied in what she did believing strongly in the fundamental value of the mare lines, that a horse was first and foremost an athlete, only as good as its ability to “wear leather,” and that a careful breeder only breeds with an eye to what the

effect will be on the next generation. Beyond that, she was a woman of strong personal standards about life and taught those values to kids like me. Yes, she made me a better person not just a better Morgan breeder. And that is why she is truly special.

Mark Staehnke

# Judy Whitney Harris

## THE RECORD BREAKER

The little lady from Cox's Creek, Kentucky has won more than 200 World Championships, many times with horses she bred. In the show ring and to her adoring Morgan public, she has become an American icon.

What accolades can be added to Judy Whitney Harris' resume that have not been said a hundred fold over? She is the winningest trainer in Morgan show horse history: five wins of the Morgan Park Saddle World Championship and associations with horses such as UVM Promise, Wynne Command, Van Lu Love Story, and Nobility, whom she bred. Indeed, she has bred legendary horses that over and over have triumphed in the ring and in the breeding shed, most recently JW That Special Flaire, with whom she broke another record when he won the Park Harness World Championship as a two-year-old in 2005. She has inspired countless young people who had dreams of becoming accomplished equestrians. I do not think that Judy would mind it being said that she has been obsessed with horses. From an early age showing on the Ohio circuit to the world stage she has dedicated her life and superb talents to this animal that has captured all of our hearts. She is fiercely competitive; a mentor to many; a lady always; and above all, a consummate horsewoman. She continues to inspire us with her courage. I know it is an overused word, but if you look up "legend" in the dictionary you just might see her picture.

Larry Bolen



Judy Whitney posing on Nobility and taking a signature victory pass.



Mary Woolverton in a presentation with Britain's Princess Anne and driving Victory Air Born.

# Mary Woolverton

## THE GLOBALIST

In addition to breeding horses to her strict standards of conformation and soundness, Mary Woolverton has competed in the many specialties of the Morgan horse, championed the breed internationally and been a driving force for youth in our community. She's an unsung hero.

I can not think of a more worthy addition to the list of Women In Our Industry than Mary Woolverton, Victory Morgan Horse Farm, Elizabeth, Colorado. Mary has been an AMHA Director, a Morgan breeder for more than 50 years, and judged Morgans all around the world. She represented the USA in international disabled driving in Scotland. She broke the 'Bay Bias' color barrier by competing the great palomino Morgan, Prince Of Pride, at the Eastern National in Northampton. She has won many Grand National titles with her horses and mentored her Morgan Youth Groups to several Grand National awards. AMHA's Woman of the Year in 1970, AMHA Hall of Fame inductee in 1993, Mary earned the AMHA Golden Reins Award in 1995. But most of all, I honor her for her unshakable belief in the value of preserving and improving the essential qualities of the Morgan breed: its soundness, versatility, beauty, and sanity as reflected in her breeding, judging, teaching and promotion of the breed.

Jeff Morse



(Photos © Avis Girdler, Howard Schatzberg, Tom Massie)



Anita Hoitsma driving and grooming a horse in the aisle at home.

## Anita Hoitsma THE AMBASSADOR

She is a fixture on the rail at many Northeastern shows today. Part of the reason is that she supports her family's Morgan endeavors. The other is that she can claim to be mentor to a generation of horse trainers to whom she imparted dedication and enthusiasm.

I wish to honor Anita Hoitsma for the number of people that she not only exposed to the Morgan, but for the number of them that became lifelong Morgan people. While already a rider and from a horse family, at eight years old I was fortunate enough to start my association with "Aunt Nita" at Bridle Vale Farm. When I was there, both Kathy Walsh (now Peeples) and Rob Marsh were trainers there. All three of us grew up riding Morgans at "BVE." All three of us went on to become Morgan professionals based on a love that was inspired in us through Anita. But that is just one piece of time. Before we were there, Bridle Vale was the start for Carolyn Dillon (Sebring), Ann Hutcheson (Scussell), Kim Cramer (Germ), Eleanor Hutcheson, Cathy Brittain (now Altomare), as well as a stepping-stone for Barbara Irvine, Harry Sebring, and Brad Scussell. Bridle Vale was actually where Harry and Carolyn Sebring met, Brad and Ann Scussell met, and Lynn and Kathy Peeples met during Kathy's training career at BVE. Anita provided memories that will last forever, a place for kids to grow up and learn about Morgans, work, reward, and fun, and mostly she supplied undying support. Her love of the breed, on the whole, was infectious from the breeding to the showing to the annual Easter trail ride. It was an experience that changed many lives, mine included.

Stacy Hennessy

## Sid Spencer THE RANCHER

In the book *Horses Of The West* author Jeanne Thwaites features pioneer California rancher and Morgan breeder Sid Spencer. Sheila Varian who, as a youngster, would be included in the "All Girl Cattle Roundup" at Spencer Ranch is today's recognized practitioner of Vaquero or Spade Bit training, learning many the "old ways" from Sid. Sheila, a Cowgirl Hall Of Fame inductee, generously contributed the following tribute to our Honor Roll:

Mary "Sid" Forsyth Spencer was the most capable person, man or woman, I have known in my lifetime. Luck was certainly with me when I had the opportunity to spend time with her on her ranch as a teenager. Sid was truly a woman of the old school. She plowed, planted and harvested the ranch, halter broke, gelded, shod and broke her own Morgan horses, she could repair any truck and then win prizes at the county fair for the quality of her Morgans. Sid never put a horse away without brushing it clean and making sure it had good feed and water, she built her own large and sturdy barns and then, trained the best ranch horses in the country. Sid never used profanity, did her own canning, put in a garden every year, had her 12 foot by 14 foot house immaculate and took care of her husband, the veterinarian Frances Hume Spencer, who was older than her father, Dr. Forsyth, until his death in 1955. Sid did all of this alone, she didn't ever complain, loved her horses and her dogs and put more into life than she received. I truly don't know if there is another Sid Spencer in life but, at least, I met her and she was hugely influential to me. I am forever grateful.

Sheila Varian



Sid Spencer at an All Girl Cattle Roundup and on Antman, her finished bridle horse (inset).



Fran Pugh, driving Tara's War Eagle and sharing a moment at Oklahoma.



(Top) Betty Greene riding Ann Taylor's Morgan mare Wintergreen Treasure. (Bottom) Betty riding Marion Butt's Morgan mare Pickagin. Decades apart, the photos show notable consistency.

(Photos © Howard Schatzberg, AMHA by Abbie Felton-Trexler, John O'Hara, June Fallaw)

## Frances Pugh THE DRIVING FORCE

The lady behind Tara Farm is many things to many Morgan people. She has generously shared Southern hospitality at her hometown Southern States Regional. Hers was the smiling face driving her much-loved Tara's War Eagle. She is a quiet, but consistent benefactor of many activities involving the Morgan breed.

I will always see Mrs. Pugh through the eyes of a Morgan breeder. I have followed her Tara Farm Morgans for as long as I have been involved with the breed. I have photo albums created through the years of the Tara Farm advertisements—pictures of Catskill Senator Lad, Empyrean Apollo, Tara's Schechinah, Tara's Phaedra, Southerly Maria, Southerly Capella, all are in the repository. I have photos of the farm, photos from the weanling sales, photos of the horses that are being shown by Tara Farm today. It's a 25-year collection reflecting admiration for the woman behind Tara.

Before I could afford to own a mare, I was a student of her program. I watched as she carefully crossed the blood of Trophy and Waseeka's In Command to produce a product of consistent quality and excellence: beautiful, talented, competitive, tractable. Fran created the Tara look. I imitated her philosophies in the Ridgewood breeding program culminating in the 2000 World Champion Mare, RWF Noelle-by Tara's Cherokee and out of a Trophy/In Command mare. Mrs. Pugh taught me how to breed Morgan horses.

Jay Kleiber

## Betty Greene THE TRAILBLAZER

Betty Greene has mastered the art of arena trail with Morgans on the West coast. She generously gives her knowledge to those who seek it, and has played an influential role in the careers of such successful Morgan arena trail trainers as Ron Smith and Sherrill Tompkins. She is nominated by two of her students, each of whom won World Championships in the division under her tutelage.

We honor Betty F. Greene (1-19-1921) of Loomis, California for her contribution to the Morgan world in Arena Trail. A 1996 AMHA Golden Reins Award recipient, she has been, and still is, the architect of Morgan Arena Trail on the West Coast. Betty is a successful open horse trainer, judge and instructor with an untarnished reputation who is characterized by integrity. Marion Butts, AMHA life member, met Betty in 1964 launching her involvement with the Morgan breed and shows. This relationship exposed the Morgan breed to the Open Trail Competition arena. From 1985 to 1998, Betty conducted monthly trail clinics for amateur Morgan riders. She expects her winners to be modest and work harder and her non-winners to be gracious and work harder. Betty competitively showed Connie Barker's gelding, Aranaway Toranado, at the Mother Lode Morgan show in 2008 (first place) and will be showing him at the Morgan Sport Horse Classic in May 2009. She continues to give private lessons to half a dozen Morgan amateur riders. Betty conducted a Trail Clinic at the 2009 AMHA convention riding Ann Taylor's Morgan mare, Wintergreen Treasure (2008 World Champion Western Trail). She was also a featured speaker at the con-



Pat Tataronis with Vigilendon and participating in a 100 mile endurance ride on Burkland Sharalyn.



vention. Betty recently relocated her training operation to NVS Morgans in Lincoln where she will be sharing her knowledge and experience with younger, upcoming trainers. She instills love, knowledge, discipline and respect bringing out the best in each horse and amateur rider. Her students are the champions!

*Ann Taylor and Constance Barker*

## *Pat Tataronis Orcutt* **THE COMMANDERETTE**

*Pat Tataronis Orcutt could outride and outwork most men. Working from Burkland Farm she was an unstoppable competitor in her heyday, continued to bring champions to the New England Futurity to the very end and was an exacting role model for every aspiring horseman who had the good fortune to know her.*

I can say for sure that Pat Tataronis changed my life, and maybe the lives of a number of other women in the horse business, without ever knowing. I first knew Pat when I was in high school, and she was a young assistant for Dr. Bob Orcutt. The pair had the best horses around and for years could not lose in the Morgan show ring. They created legends together and at the same time Pat became a legend herself. She was the original female professional Morgan horse trainer and a role model for those brave ladies who followed. I was one of those, and her success was fodder for me. Pat made it look easy and taught us we could do as we pleased. Pat's horsemanship was paramount, and her early rides on Vigilendon gave us a standard of perfection that never let up through decades of winners. Who can forget Command Performance, Westwold Dona Resa (my all time favorite mare) and Gay Cavalier, a horse only Pat could tame? Her toughness and resolve were tested during her illness, and Pat's response was a typical blend of stubborn Yankee indignation, grit, humor and pragmatism. She fought the battle to its fullest and in doing so became an inspiration. I am honored to have known her, will always be in her debt, and miss her terribly. Pat Tataronis left the Morgan breed a legacy for the ages.

*Bonnie Sogoloff*



*Martha Dupont taking a turn in a surrey from her husband's famous carriage collection and with a Nemours broodmare.*

## *Martha V. Dupont* **THE PHILANTHROPIST**

*It's been some time since Martha Dupont dispersed her significant herd at Nemours Morgan Farm. Still, the prefix is coveted on both sides of pedigrees by astute breeders. And she has never withdrawn from her continued watchfulness over breed activities and her generosity when she perceives her support can advance a cause.*

For nearly 40 years Martha V. Dupont has been breeder, exhibitor, benefactor and friend to the Morgan horse. In 1976, when the AMHA decided to move to Vermont, she and husband Henry, donated the money to build the museum wing onto the new headquarters. In 1988, the Duponts donated a life sized Morgan statue by Gwen Reardon to the Kentucky Horse Park so that millions of visitors would know the beauty of a Morgan. She never passes up an opportunity to promote the breed. She has served on the Board of Directors, was trustee to the AMHI, served on countless commit-



(Photo © Marsha McCormick)



Mary Jean Vasiloff with Whippoorwill Melody and her foal, Whippoorwill Melanie and standing in the background at one of her open barn events.

tees and is currently chairman in charge of funding for the museum renovations. If ever the Morgan breed has had a good will ambassador, it is Martha V. Dupont. I believe she is an influential woman in our industry and that this honor roll would be incomplete without her name.

Thomas Caisse

## Mary Jean Vasiloff THE IMPRESARIO

If you collected McCulloch Farm's ads from over the decades they would read like a wish book for Morgan lovers. This combined with her famous Open Barn and Versatility events and her constant advocacy, has quite likely led thousands of newcomers to our breed. Her balancing act is that, simultaneously, she has changed the Morgan and kept it the same.

I wish to honor Mary Jean Vasiloff of McCulloch Farms and the grand Whippoorwill Morgans. Mary Jean has bred more than 350 foals including the grand man himself, Whippoorwill Duke. Mary Jean's commitment to the Morgan horse and its promotion is second to none. A consistent advertiser in *The Morgan Horse* her ads made me know that when I started my breeding program it would be with the wonderful Whippoorwill Morgan. Mary Jean has bred some of the finest sport Morgans including the great Whippoorwill Ebony (aka "Black Tie" the Grand Prix Morgan) as well as the reining champion Whippoorwill Newmoon. She breeds Morgans with correct conformation to stay sound for years to come and wonderful tem-

It's IN the WHIPPOORWILL Genes

**Spring Lake Thistle**  
(Yankee's Anhingo x Southbrook Trophys Summer)  
2004 Chestnut Stallion

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(Spring Lakes Peter D x Dulcie Lenda)  
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**MtnTop Whippoorwill Tanek**  
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2005 Homozygous for Black Stallion

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[www.mntntopmorgans.com](http://www.mntntopmorgans.com)

Spring Lake Farm  
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(863) 676-7476



Gloria Jones, who influenced the carriage driving scene in California, is shown driving Summer Sundance and, at right, receiving AMHA recognition.



Marilyn Childs riding her beloved Lippitt Mandate and working the infield at Northampton.



(Photo © Budd)

peraments suitable for children and adults and professionals. Twice a year for 30 years she has conducted open barns showcasing Morgans to thousands of people at each event. She served as a member of the AMHA Board of Directors to make her region's voice heard. Her tireless promotion of the Morgan is to be admired. Mary Jean Vasiloff is no barn blind breeder. She is honest to a fault about her horses—both good and bad. She is incredibly giving of her time, counsel and advice on breeding the best Morgans one can.

Tonya Farina

## *Gloria Jones* THE VISIONARY

As English pleasure became an increasingly high trotting sport, Gloria Jones perceived a need for amateurs to compete on a more level playing field. She traveled to regional meetings and worked tenaciously in committees, thereby becoming the architect of today's classic pleasure division. It was an effort on the national stage that mirrored her lifelong combination of organizational skills and dedication to the Morgan.

In the State of California, Gloria Jones has truly been one of the Golden Ladies of the Morgan breed. From the 1960s to her passing in 2008, Gloria was a tireless proponent of the advancement of the Morgan breed. Most of the West Coast shows advanced as the result of her participation. Her interest in carriage driving helped make California a leading venue as she skillfully organized driving events where all breeds, especially the Morgan, could excel. As chairwoman of the Grand National she brought innovative changes to the running of the show through a procedural manual still in use today. It is unlikely we would have gotten the classic pleasure division in the 1990s had it not been through the impetus of Gloria Jones. The Classic Pleasure Saddle World Championship won by Summerhill Maximum Effort and Gloria's daughter Terry Jones Brennan, was a crowning achievement as breeder, parent and organizer. She brought this same zeal to all her endeavors. With Spanish influences all round her in California, she made a quest to learn the Spanish language and culture, which took her many times to Spain where she would live, learn and understand. It has been a privilege to have known Gloria and to have benefited from her quiet, determined leadership.

Arthur Perry

## *Marilyn Childs* THE HISTORIAN

You can be for Marilyn Childs. You can be against Marilyn Childs. But you can't do Morgan horses without Marilyn Childs. No history of the breed would ever be complete without her. Of course, she's written much of that history. She's opinionated, even controversial, tough and tender at the same time. Characteristics she shares with the breed she so clearly loves.

Recently, my friend and mentor (and one of the breed's most tireless promoters) Marilyn Childs was given an honor by RUPHA Chapter 14. When she rose to take the microphone someone said, "Mrs. Childs sure can silence a room." It has always been so. While her husband Harold trained horses, she taught English and French and ran the Debating Society. While he was



Bob Moseder



(Photo © Bob Moseder)

Sisters Anna and Ruth in their most recent appearance in the ring at Northampton for an impromptu family class. (Top, left to right) Mark Caisse, Anna Ela's grandson, rides Al-Bar's Attention; Anna's daughter, Nancy, rides Townshend Sweet Remark; the sisters are in the pleasure cart behind UC Cover Girl; and Ruth's granddaughter, Chris Orcutt Carlson, rides Orcland Bold Silk. All horses trace back to the Orcland and Townshend prefixes in their pedigrees.

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meeek and mild she was not. Not ever. If she had an opinion she stuck by it and she stuck with it until the job got done. In her 80s, perceiving a movement that might take AMHA to the Kentucky Horse Park, she started The Morgan Horse Heritage Foundation and involved the Governor of Vermont. I'm not saying Marilyn gets all the credit, but we're still in Vermont. Her titles *Mandate For A Morgan Horse*, *Riding Show Horses*, *Training Your Colt to Ride and Drive* and *Men Behind the Morgan Horse* are staples on our breed and laid the groundwork for much that we still practice in our sport. She loved Lippitt Mandate like no other horse and with him relentlessly promoted Morgan versatility. It says everything about this larger than life lady that not only is Lippitt Mandate buried on her farm, so is Justin Morgan!

Richard Boule

## *Anna Ela & Ruth Orcutt* THE SISTERS

*They have lived through nearly half of the history of the Morgan breed. It is not just that their Orcland and Townshend Farms were seminal breeding programs, it is just as much that the Dickson sisters were influential in the culture of our industry. They put the family in "family breed."*

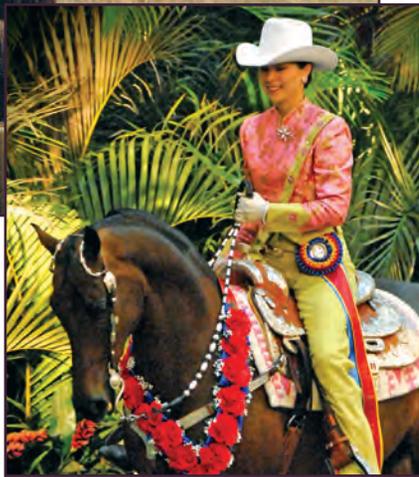
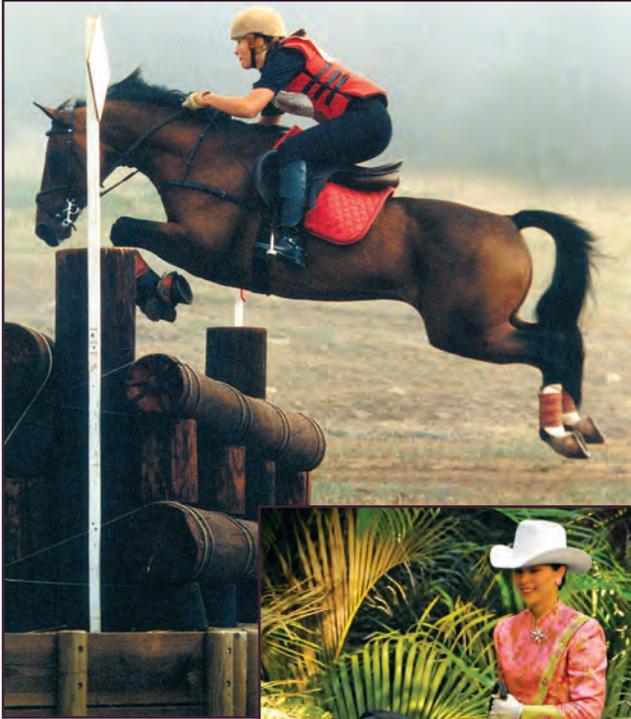
When I attended the Northampton "National" for the first time in the early 60s it was the Sire And Get class that absolutely took my breath away! It was won by Orcland Vigildon, a brilliant black chestnut who trotted up with his four black chestnut proteges. That started my "crush" on Vigildon, as well as a lifelong admiration for his owner, Anna Dickson Ela, and his breeder, Ruth Dickson Orcutt. One of the running stories between the sisters, was that he may have been senior stallion at Townshend, but he bore the Orcland prefix!

Several years ago, I asked Mrs. Ela how many Northampton horse shows she had attended. Without missing a beat, she retorted, "Well, how many have there been?" The next day I asked Mrs. Orcutt the same question and she answered with her own question, "Well, how many of them have there been?"

As is well-known the Orcland and Townshend prefixes are foundation Morgan breeding. Anna and Ruth should be equally esteemed, however, for their lifelong promotion of the Morgan as the perfect family horse. For decades Morgan youth (myself included) were encouraged to get an up close and personal look at some of the most famous Morgans of the day: Vigildon, Townshend Vigit, Townshend Debadonna, Townshend Melinda, Townshend Meloise, Townshend My Debra and, Mrs. Ela's favorite, Townshend Vigilass at Townshend Farm, while a trip to Orcland Farm included visits with the immortals Ulendon and Anna Darling, Orcland Don Darling, Orcland Supreme, Mrs. Orcutt's favorite show horse Orcland Donanna, and Orcland Gaystar. Some of the "kids" who had their lives impacted by these two ladies include Richard Boule, Jim Anderson, Karen Homer Brown, Glenn Bouvier, Bobbi Gynan, Suzy Lucine, Judy Nason, Mark Kimbal and Susan Babcock Therrien as well as many, many others who can look back and remember the everlasting lessons in horsemanship and the lessons in life that came in the indisputable style of Mrs. Ela and Mrs. O.

Susan Colleton n





LEADERS INNOVATORS  
 MENTORS ADVOCATES  
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2010

# The Women In Our Industry HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year two, celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have had on our industry.

We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather, women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors and advocates.

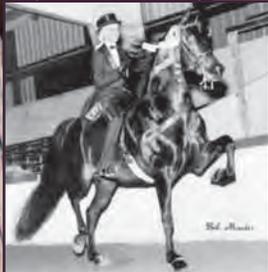
The staff of *The Morgan Horse*, has for the second year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list, and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue annually, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse and colorful as the breed itself.

This year we have added one new aspect. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2010 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.



(Photos © Bob Moseder)



Left, top to bottom: *Van Lu Love Story* and *Van Lu Jolie*, both ridden by Judy Whitney; *Van Lu Starbuck*.

## Simy Corbin

### A WOMAN AND A MARE

*It's rare that a mare comes along that produces world champion foals with this regularity. It happened to Simy Corbin and her Van Lu prefix is legendary because of it.*

As is so true in many cases good things come in small packages and this applies to Simone "Simy" Corbin. This petite lady, her three daughters and the unfailing support of her husband, Dr. George Corbin, created a dynasty of World Champions through the produce of one special mare, Westwold Dona Resa (Orcland Dondarling x Rena) who she acquired in 1972. Although she also owned Coralee, whom she purchased in 1971 from Fran Pugh, and produced some notable foals, the brightest star on her farm was Dona Resa. Dona Resa's outstanding foals were Van Lu Love Story (by Emyrean Apollo) 1980 World Champion Mare, and 1979 and 1980 World Champion Ladies Park Saddle and Park Harness; Van Lu Jolie (by Beamington), 1985 World Champion Mare and 1986 Park Harness World Champion, and Van Lu Starbuck (by Apollo's Merry Don), 1984 World Champion Stallion. They were all shown and trained by the Whitney Stables. Cindy Noble took me to Van Lu Farm to meet her one day and there was Simy meticulously cleaning the stalls of her beautiful horses making sure everything was just right!

Gael Jaeger

## Carol Simpson BEHOLD A HORSE OF GOLD

Raised on cattle and stock horses in the Sutter Buttes area of Northern California, Carol Simpson went to a horse sale in 1982 intent on buying a Quarter Horse...until her eyes beheld Primavera Valdez, a golden buckskin Morgan stallion bred by Dick and Phyllis Nelsen.

Over the course of the next two decades, Carol Simpson brought many converts to the Morgan breed, first by campaigning her exceptional stallion in West Coast, open stock horse classes. Once Valdez's striking color and talent had turned their heads, Carol, by her unrivaled enthusiasm and advocacy for the Morgan breed, won their hearts. At this time, stock horse classes were not a popular venue for Morgans. Carol, singlehandedly, set out to do something about that with "her horse" and her own unique one-on-one style of marketing. She was a principal founder of the Morgan International Cow Horse Association (MICA), and Carol and Valdez became the centerpiece of articles from our breed journal to the local West Coast papers.

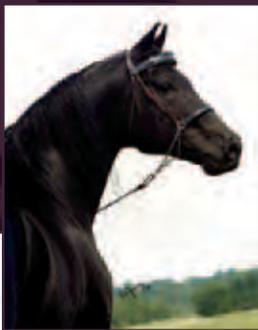
Carol, using Valdez as a poster boy, regenerated an interest in the Western working bloodlines and the colorful horses that carried those lines. Valdez traced directly to Justin Morgan on every single line of his pedigree, most within 12 or 13 generations, and Carol was instrumental in preserving these rare lines through the many get of Valdez.

Carol Simpson, in the '80s and '90s, was the catalyst for a renewed national interest in Morgan stock horse competition and colorful Morgans.

John Hutcheson



Above: Carol Simpson with Primavera Valdez in 2005.



Right: Beth Benard's foundation sire, Equinox Locomotion. Below: Beth and Canequin's Look Out.



## Beth Benard MAVEN OF VERSATILITY

In an era of specialty breeding programs, Beth Benard has bred Morgans with the breed's most often lauded specialty, versatility. Results show she has been successful at this goal.

Beth Benard's Canequin Morgan Farm epitomizes what Sport Morgans are all about. With a careful selection of Government/Ben Don crosses beginning with her foundation sire, Equinox Locomotion, Beth began breeding sport Morgans before the phrase was even coined. Peruse the list of AMHA Open Competition and Medallion winners each year and you are sure to find at least one Canequin Morgan—and in 2009 there were six different horses among the recipients, in as many divisions, one of them winning his Bronze Trail Medallion at the age of 25. Canequin Morgans have also garnered many USEF Horse of the Year awards and USDF medals, been the mounts of Pony Clubbers at Nationals, and have been purchased for breeding programs outside the U.S. They truly are a great representative of Morgan soundness, stamina and beauty! These versatile animals compete in combined driving (at the international level, amongst Beth's crew is a two-time USET Singles Driving Team Member), eventing (competing through Preliminary/CCI\*), dressage (through 4th level), competitive trail champions, and hunter jumper champions. There is even an AMHA Sport Horse Award Winner and several more who are close to achieving that goal. Beth Benard and her

## The Women In Our Industry



UVM Valcour (above) and Beam's Nighthawk (right) have both been inducted into CT Hall of Fame.



Canequin horses are truly ambassadors for the breed—showing the horse world what a wonderfully talented package is contained in the powerful, versatile Morgan horse.

Nancy Johnson & Liz Gesler

## Chris Cassenti MORGAN CEO

When Lady's Enticement died just a few weeks ago, Chris Cassenti set up a shrine to the mare at April's UPHA Chapter 14 Spring Premiere. It gave generations who loved the mare a chance to share and to grieve. This gesture is typical of Chris who has a nurturing and caring bond with our community.

Chris Cassenti should be honored just because she thinks right. She didn't need a market survey to make a business out of introducing new people to Morgans through a lesson program. It just made sense and she has been a leader and a role model in this area. She has ridden every horse in her care as a champion, which is what every trainer should do. It has never mattered to Chris whether she was passed a hunter, a road hack or an equitation horse, they all had a right to succeed. Witness her titles with UVM Valcour and Beam's Nighthawk. When fate handed her the great park mare Lady's Enticement, Chris rode her like a lady. From Chris every young trainer receives a word of encouragement to further their success, and every peer will get a phone call if an urgent need is perceived. Chris has given more of her time to organizing than many professional trainers can afford. She does not think a Morgan show is too small for her to attend; she thinks if they are small, she had better attend. She was a leader with academy programs and she keeps in touch with her roots at the Rowley Riding and Driving Club. That's where people start and she's all about getting them started! Her single peculiarity is that she keeps her important files in her kitchen oven. They'll never be destroyed. She'd have to turn the oven on for that to happen! According to Chris, I look too serious, so she nicknamed me "Smiling Steve." Now I smile when I see her coming. Everybody should!

Stephen Kinney

## Elberta Honstein DOYENNE OF THE DESERT

Matriarch of three generations of women who breed, train, show and promote the Morgan horse. Their horses, like their ranch buildings in New Mexico, demonstrate that you do not have to sacrifice beauty for function, rather one drives the other.

Elberta Honstein is the mast of Roy-El Morgans. Business woman, Morgan horse breeder and enthusiast, youth supporter, Elberta or "Mrs. Espanola" as she is well-known in her community of Espanola, NM, is involved in many of the city's events. She is greatly loved and admired by the 4H'ers in her hometown; for years she has been a resource for their activities. As a consummate hostess at the farm, she shares information about the beautiful and steadfast Roy-El Morgans and her deep knowledge of the Native American art from her area. Occasionally, one can catch her riding or driving one of the Roy-El Morgans! This gracious, warm lady is a friend to all she



Above: "Mrs. Espanola" as the 2009 Española Fiesta parade marshal.

(Photos © Howard Schatzberg and Casey McBride)

## Congratulations Grandma!

We would be nothing without  
your love and support.  
You are a woman with true class  
and unparalleled grace.

**We love you so much!**

### STANDING AT STUD

#### Roy-El's Grand Opening (Grandiose x Roy-El's Countess)



#### Roy-El's Grand Slam

(Eethree Supreme x Porvenir Honey B)



### PROSPECTS AND FINISHED STOCK FOR SALE



#### Roy-El Morgan Farm

Erlene Seybold,  
Manager/Trainer/Instructor/Breeding  
Manager

Elberta Honstein, Owner  
Debbie Seybold, Consultant  
1302 N. McCurdy Road  
Española, NM 87532

(505) 753-3696 or (505) 603-6016

E-mail: [elberta@roy-elmorgans.com](mailto:elberta@roy-elmorgans.com)

Website: [www.roy-elmorgans.com](http://www.roy-elmorgans.com)

meets. A supporter of local, regional and national competitions such as the New Mexico State Fair, the Kachina Morgan Horse Show and the Grand National, she gives generously of her time and energy. The Morgan horse is fortunate to have Elberta Honstein as a fan.

*Georgie Green*



Left: Ling Fu Wylie, Susan Fu, and Iann Fu Longenecker. Right, top: Iann and Dragonsmeade Icon in 2009; Right, bottom: Ling and HVK Obsidian in 2007.



Photos © Howard Schatzberg

## Susan, Ling & Iann Fu FAMILY OF SAMARITANS

*These women are a one-family support system for the Morgan breed, for their horses, for equine professionals and for their friends, but they will be the first to tell you that the Morgan breed has done more for them. It is characteristic of the way they think.*

Susan Fu, Ling Fu Wylie and Iann Fu Longenecker, along with Kee Fu (affectionately referred to as Father Fu) compose the amazing family that is Dragonsmeade. Let me say first and foremost that all three of these women would tell you that Kee is the one responsible for all of their successes, but since this issue is about women in our industry we will focus on them. Both of the girls love of horses was nurtured and encouraged early on by Susan, who had ridden as a child. Growing up in New Mexico both Ling and Iann were able to enjoy riding the alfalfa fields and irrigation ditches on their Morgan mounts and if you happened to pass the local drugstore you just might see Bantry Bay (AKA Dudu Fu) tied to the railing outside while the girls were inside getting ice cream. Trail rides lead to horse shows, instructors and trainers, and soon Susan was driving the dually cross country with trailer, horses and daughters in tow. Morgans now became an overwhelming passion and the family was hooked. Ling and Iann worked hard and soon were a force to be reckoned with. Ling's love of equitation was highlighted by winning the Saddle Seat Gold Medal on Amarillo Liberty and Iann's bent to the hot performance horses earned her the Junior Exhibitor Park Saddle World Championship with Java's Charmer. With Susan cheering them on there was no stopping this family act and the awards and accolades that followed. A few horses eventually lead to many and the Dragonsmeade prefix started to appear on registration papers and show ring performers. When the equine numbers reached too many to comfortably "board," the decision was made to purchase a farm in Kentucky and the rest is history. It is truly a family operation with everyone contributing their special talents to make everything run smoothly. All this being said, it would not be enough to just raise nice horses and have a beautiful farm.



*Georgie Green  
with husband  
John.*

*Below: Travis Filipek  
with Triple S Nugget.*



These three women have always, without exception, believed in paying it forward. They give back tenfold what they have received from this industry. Whether it is mentoring a young rider, helping someone to obtain a horse, or supporting their wide group of friends, these ladies give back. Susan has served on the AMHI board as vice-president, Ling is a regional director with AMHA and Iann works on the Grand National show committee. More recently the Fu family (with Kee Fu as architect) has been heavily involved with the Morgan Pavilion project at the Kentucky Horse Park and ensuring that Morgans will hold a prestigious place at that facility. These three gracious women have taken sportsmanship, dedication and devotion to our breed to a whole other level. We are fortunate to have them as friends.

Larry Bolen

## *Georgie Green* **AMHA'S FIRST LADY**

*Georgie Green was the first female president of the AMHA, from 1985-1989 and again from 1993-1996. In addition to her time in office, she selflessly served on the AMHA Board Of Directors for 27 years. But when it's all said and done, those were just a few of her too many to mention contributions to the breed. She does it all with enthusiasm, authority, and style that are unmistakably Georgie.*

I first met Georgie Green more than 35 years ago. She was standing on the rail at a horse show holding a grooming bucket, her daughters' show coats, an extra number or two, cheering on her husband and daughters. I watched Georgie Green at the Red River Horse Show last year still doing all of the above, and also acting as the paddock master. I can't figure out if this was a promotion or not!

For all the years that I have had the joy and privilege of knowing her, Georgie has worked on show committees, boards, on taskforces, putting on horse shows, and organizing clinics, all so that her family and our families can enjoy their Morgan horses. Several years ago, USEF recognized Georgie Green's dedication to the horse industry by awarding her their coveted Sportsmanship Trophy; no one was ever more deserving. Her energy, her generosity, her sense of humor and her kindness have served as an example to me and to many others. No matter how complex the problem, Georgie looks for a solution; no matter how difficult it might be, Georgie makes the right choice, not the easy one. I am honored to call Georgie Green my mentor and my friend.

Ellen DiBella

## *Travis Filipek* **REINING GRANDE DAME**

*From her assiduous promotion of the Morgan reiner to her enthusiastic encouragement of today's Morgan youth, Travis' unwavering work ethic is inspirational. She's been on the AMHA's Working Western Committee for years, is an AMHA Youth Person Of The Year, has won several World Championships on her Morgan reiners, and is an integral organizer of the Grand National Reining demonstrations.*

When someone asks you to think of a person that does a lot for the working western disciplines within the Morgan horse breed, Travis Filipek immediately comes to mind. I don't know how she does it, but to watch her at a show is truly amazing. She never appears to tire from all the responsibilities

of being a show manager. She always remains helpful, positive and encouraging to those that are both showing and those who are helping with the show. She treats everyone as being important to the success of the show. Travis works hard to get as many people involved as she can. She comes up with innovative ways to grow the events and keep people enthused and interested. Travis is a great representative and asset to the Morgan horse industry.

*George Arnold & Jane Pietenpol*



*Above: Margaret Gardiner and Larry Poulin with Kennebec Count and Kennebec Russel. Right: "Peggy" with her first Morgan, Carita, in 1936.*

## Margaret Gardiner HARNESSESSING A VISION

Margaret Gardiner's singular gift to the Morgan breed—outfitting and competing internationally with her homebred Morgan pair trained by Larry Poulin—has been historic. Like Batell and other Morgan founders, she not only had vision but she backed it up with persistence and personal resources. That the Morgan enjoys its place today in the world of combined driving is in no small part the result of her important effort.

Margaret was introduced to Morgans at the age of 12 when she purchased her first mare, Carita. In the years since then she's spent time fostering her Kennebec breeding program, adding an impressive list of mares to her herd.

Margaret Gardiner has spent a lifetime breeding Morgan horses that compete successfully in open competition both nationally and worldwide. Her careful and well researched breeding program has produced horses that are as well known for their soundness and good temperament as they are for their versatility and athletic ability.

She enhanced the Kennebec Morgan reputation and that of the Morgan horse when a pair of her Morgans, Kennebec Count and Kennebec Russell, took the international driving world by storm finishing first in dressage and 6<sup>th</sup> overall at the 1985 World Combined Driving Competition in England with Larry Poulin. They also won the National Pairs Championships three times. The quintessential versatile horse, Kennebec Morgans have won national acclaim for carriage driving, dressage, eventing, working western, endurance riding and open showing. She has possessed a vision not only of how Morgans should be bred, but also how they should be utilized.

*Mary Small*



### *In Loving Memory of "Benny" Kennebec Mark*

*April 12, 1977—June 29, 2009*

*Benny was the epitome of a Morgan horse: Beauty, Brains, Bold Spirit, a Kind Soul, a Big Heart and an Even Bigger Trot, all in a 14.3 hand bay! Benny was my best friend for 21 years and saw me through many of life's trials. He taught me patience and how to become a better horsewoman. I hold tight to my memories of our rides and drives together.*

*Dearest Benny,  
I long to hear your soft nickers. May  
God keep you safe, now and always.  
Love, Kim*



**DOUBLE K FARM**

*Kimberly Kochis*

*2032 Herbert Akins Road  
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526*

# Nancy Eidam CROWN JEWEL OF THE NORTHWEST

Hardworking, honest, generous. Nancy Eidam is a great promoter of the Morgan horse in the Pacific Northwest. She's constantly at the forefront of the youth scene in her area, organizing Youth Of The Year contests and introducing children to the Morgan breed.

For the past 20 years, I have been blessed with the opportunity to be mentored by a woman who should be *summa cum laude* in *The Morgan Horse Women's Honor Roll*. Nancy Eidam's first horses were Saddlebreds and Arabians, but she chose the Morgan as her life's work and the whole breed has benefited.

Breeding has always been Nancy's passion, and with her degree in architecture from the University of Oregon, she applied that attention to detail to create each of over 125 Morgans who carry her "Crown" prefix. Every day in her barn is a lesson in Morgan history, as well as type and conformation. I am continually astonished as to how she can look at a horse and tell you its pedigree based on how they look and, many times, by how they act! She tirelessly promotes the Morgan, volunteering immense amounts of time and talent to projects such as the Oregon Horse A-Fair, Northwest Horse Expo, and the Hermiston Horse A-Fair. She has touched countless lives through lessons, youth programs, being on the AMHA Board for almost a quarter century, judging, educating, and entertaining. She believes that the wonderful Morgan horse can be the best vehicle to create and develop a young person's character and talents. Nancy has received every honor AMHA can bestow, and being added to this Honor Roll is well-deserved. I am proud to be among those who benefit from her fount of knowledge and generosity of spirit. Thanks, Nancy!

Dallas McLarney Bolen



Above: Funquest Monarch, Nancy and Funquest Roadmaster.

Right: The inscription on Jane's tombstone captures her irreverent sense of humor. Below: Jane with one of her favorite dogs.



# Jane Steffenhagen SHE DID IT HER WAY

Jane Steffenhagen was an animal person. She loved her Morgans and her German Shepherds and she really loved them if they had character, expression and not just a little spunk! Her sometimes stern MidWestern exterior belied the actress and story teller behind the facade. She was as colorful as the animals she bred, showed and loved, as you will see in this tribute from one of her best sparring buddies.

Jane Steffenhagen, of HyLee Farm, was one of the most competitive, hard-nosed business women with whom I have ever had the privilege to be associated. Whether show horses or German Shepherd dogs, she saw what she wanted, went after it with relentless zeal and took it to the top. The Schutzhund world was dominated by German men until Jane became involved. She established a kennel in Germany so she could compete on an even playing field. She fought her way to the top to become the first woman to win the world Sieger Trials. That, coupled with being from the USA, made her well-respected and, I expect, feared in Europe. She once called us and said she finally found the ideal dog. She had just come back from the emergency room where she had a number of stitches put in her arm from a bite from the 10-week-old puppy. In Jane's true character, she laughed it off. Her daughter Jackie Sweeney says, "Mom always loved the horse with attitude. Trainable, but with enough self-worth not to let someone change who they were." She lived & competed on the edge. Expected perfection and would settle for nothing less. No challenge was too rough. When she passed away last year we lost one of a kind.

Thomas Caisse



(Photos © J. Goss and Carl Farasy)

## CHOSEN BY OUR READERS

# Jeanne Mellin Herrick THE HORSE'S ARTIST

Whether it be via print, art or through her extensive knowledge of Morgan bloodlines, Jeanne is an educator. A well-respected author, she wrote the book on Morgans, literally, in *The Complete Morgan Horse*. She is beloved in our breed for the beauty she creates on the canvas, in the breeding shed, and with her pen.

The list of Jeanne Mellin Herrick's accomplishments is only equaled by that of her contributions. When it comes to caring about the Morgan horse, it would be hard to surpass her devotion. An exceptional horsewoman, writer, artist and breeder, Jeanne is an internationally recognized expert on the Morgan horse.

A little know fact—Jeanne was a member of Margaret Cabel Self's (another well know author) "Junior Cavalry of America" and spent her youth "jumping anything she could find" on her first horse Bonny. It was Bonny that led her to write an article for *The Morgan Horse* in 1953 and many more articles followed. Jeanne's first book on the breed, *The Morgan Horse* was published in 1961, followed by *The Morgan Horse Handbook* in 1973. Finally, *The Complete Morgan Horse*, which was derived from her two earlier books, was published in 1986 and is still sold by the AMHA. Most consider this an invaluable addition to a complete library on the Morgan horse.

With her husband Fred, Jeanne was behind the planning of the Empyrean, Applevale, Saddleback and Aquarian breeding programs and the subsequent Morgan blood that has found its way into the background of many of today's exceptional stock. Certainly her special stallion Elm Hill Charter Oak made his mark with 156 fine offspring to his credit, and it was Jeanne's belief in this stallion that brought him to our attention.

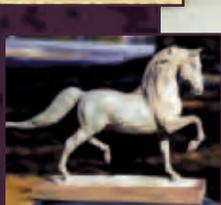
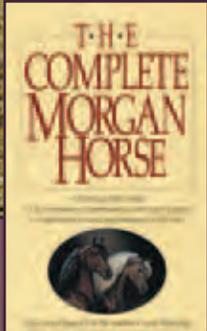
Equally important is Jeanne's generosity. Over the years whenever the request has been made to help with a contribution that will benefit a club or event, Jeanne has been there to willingly support with a donation. Certainly our New York State Morgan Horse Society has benefited more times than we can count, and she's shared her talents well beyond our region as her special logos and artwork can be recognized across the country.

And who hasn't been touched by her friendly nature? If you've ever run into Jeanne at a show, you'll find her most willing to say hello and if asked she'll provide whatever background she can to help you understand the blood in your pedigree.

Finally, how many of us are lucky enough to have one of her paintings or sketches on our wall? If you do, I bet that you, like me, smile each time you look at it, as Jeanne has a rare talent for bringing a Morgan to life with all of the expression and beauty that connects us to this breed. Part of this is our affection for the horse, but in equal part it is that it's a "Jeanne Mellin," and her love for the Morgan horse is in every stroke of the brush. ■



(Photo © Shane Shiflet)



Top: Fred and Jeanne Herrick were inducted into the New England Morgan Horse Association Hall of Fame in 2009. Second from top, left to right: Jeanne published *The Complete Morgan Horse* in 1986; Jeanne and Saddleback Supreme. Third from top, left to right: A sculpture of Elm Hill Charter Oak; Elm Hill Charter Oak and Jeanne. Bottom: "The Herd Sire" painting.

LEADERS INNOVATORS  
MENTORS ADVOCATES  
EDUCATORS PIONEERS  
COUNSELORS JUDICATORS

# 2011 *The Women In Our Industry* HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year three, celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather, women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse*, has for the third year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list, and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue annually, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse and colorful as the breed itself.

For the second year we have invited nominations from the floor, so to speak. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2011 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.



Above: Lynne Shpak with Chief Of State and (right) riding The Statesman.



## *Lynne Shpak* STATESMANSHIP

*The bloodline she has championed has become synonymous with Morgan sport horses.*

It all began with a colt named The Statesman. His legacy has touched many and continues to this day. The Statesman, called “Mandy” by Lynne, was one of the last offspring of the very famous Morgan stallion Lippitt Mandate. Mandy became a very prominent figure in not just the Morgan world, but in the horse world in general.

Lynne Shpak is known for her beautiful and distinctive handmade jewelry. Lynne has spent her lifetime breeding, raising and training Morgan horses. Her horses, Statesman Morgans, have set the standard for the sport horse type Morgan. They are known worldwide for their exceptional temperament, beautiful eye, long floating stride, balanced canter and cadenced walk. The consistency with which Statesman horses pass on these attributes is astounding, even when bred to mares of a different type and breeding. The Statesman was hunted and shown successfully by Lynne in dressage (through 4<sup>th</sup> level), pleasure classes, carriage obstacle and marathon, remaining undefeated for most of his career. Using Mandy as her model, Lynne has continued to produce champions for the past 30 years. A judge once commented to Lynne that he could tell a Statesman horse from a distance just by it's



Above:  
Barbara Irvine.  
Right: Bonnie  
Sogoloff with  
Longview  
Sundance and  
(below) with  
MEM Bailamos.



(Photos © Howard Schatzberg)

silhouette and way of going. One of The Statesman's sons, Chief Of State, has continued his father's legacy and still stands at Statesman Farm with many other descendants that have already proven their excellence, or are just waiting for the right person to lead them to greatness.

*Elizabeth Westbank*

## *Barbara Irvine* **TEACHER**

*She provides a touchstone for good thinking about good horsemanship.*

In our Morgan world, it only takes two words to perfectly capture the essence of Morgan "womanhood": Barbara Irvine. For almost five decades Barbara's journey through the wonderful world of Morgan horses has been defined by her personification of Morgan promotion and sportsmanship both in her individual endeavors and in the wisdom she imparts to her students. Throughout her distinguished career, Barbara has consistently modeled the importance of sportsmanship as an integral component of horsemanship in promoting Morgan horses through both her words and her actions. Barbara is the ultimate team player, always striving to achieve group goals rather than individual recognition and is tireless in Morgan promotion at the local, state, regional and national levels, all of which she does with quintessential "Barbara-ism." At the multi-breed extravaganza, Equine Affaire, Barbara's dynamic activities make getting hooked on Morgans a snap! She is at her best surrounded by an eager group of youngsters (as well as their parents) who can't wait for their next lesson with Barbara. In addition to her role as Morgan instructor, trainer, writer and all-round equine supporter, Barbara graciously extends the true gift of friendship to those in her very extended Morgan family. She embodies the concept of the true Morgan horsewoman in every aspect of her life, but you would need to hear about her many accolades from someone else: self-promotion is definitely not part of being Barbara. She was awarded the AMHA Golden Reins award in the first year it was offered, is featured in Helen Crabtree's celebrated book on saddle seat equitation, is a member of the New England Morgan Horse Association's Board of Directors, and is a strong Morgan voice in UPHA Chapter 14.

If, as the AMHA logo celebrates, the Morgan is the horse that chooses you, the Morgan horse has chosen quite well in bringing Barbara Irvine into its fold. She is quite simply the epitome of everything Morgan!

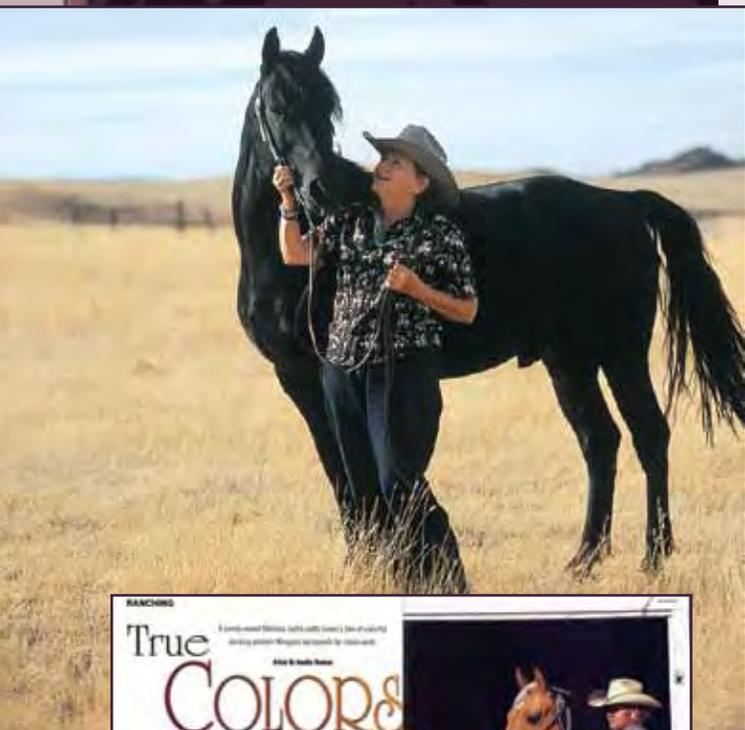
*Susan Colleton*

## *Bonnie Sogoloff* **RECORD MAKER**

*She invented modern day English pleasure and established a record that took nearly three decades to topple.*

A trainer is often defined by one horse. When that special combination of horse, rider and time in history occurs the result is a lifetime memory.

Such was the allurements of a young Vermont Morgan trainer wearing her trademark blue plaid coat and a dark bay Morgan stallion.



Above: Bobbi Blankenship with Tru West Pure Prairie Smoke and (below) The Western Horseman article featuring Bobbi Blankenship and her Morgans.

(Photos © Jennifer Denison. Article printed with permission of Western Horseman)

**Congratulations Bobbi Blankenship**  
on your honor...and thanks for letting us purchase

**TruWest Silver Suede**  
(S Bar B Pierre Noire x TruWest Adobe Rose)

Now standing at:  
Bar None Morgans \* Harvey and Lois Seidel \* Thermopolis, WY \* (307) 921-1013 \* www.barnonemorgans.com  
Finished and young stock for sale.

Vermonters Bonnie Sogoloff and Longview Sundance set the standard for the Morgan English pleasure division in the early 1980s. This winning combination won an unprecedented three consecutive world championship titles in that highly competitive division.

I first was introduced to Bonnie and her family by Poppy Sogoloff. While setting up my stalls at the Mid-A horse show, Poppy came bounding down to say hi to her stall neighbor, Mattel Barber. Poppy and Mattel formed a lasting puppy friendship at that first show. And I also found a lifetime friend.

Although originally recognized for her skill with an English pleasure horse, Bonnie is equally qualified with both park horses and Western pleasure horses. Her balanced proficiency in the range of divisions is one of the attributes which sets Bonnie apart. Add to her abilities, her professionalism and candor and you have one of the leading trainers in our industry.

One of the classic New England moments was in 2007 when Bonnie and Sundance made one last appearance in front of the Northampton grandstand. The audience was once again electrified by the duo's charisma. The only thing missing was that blue plaid coat!

*Cheri Barber*

## *Bobbi Blankenship* **THE RANCHER**

*Because, among other things, she got Morgans into the pages of Western Horseman.*

**B**obbi Blankenship raises her beloved Morgan horses on the family ranch located in the beautiful but often harsh environment of the Montana plains. Long winters, hot summers, beautiful sunsets, sagebrush and rolling grasslands, ask her and she will tell you there is no place else she would rather be.

Bobbi's passion for the Western working Morgan runs deep. Since the time she acquired her first mare Flee Powderwing from John and Selma Blankenship in the mid 1970s, she was hooked on the breed. With attention to usability and conformation, as well as Western

pizzazz, she has built a breeding program with excellent versatile Morgans that are used successfully in many disciplines.

As any good horse breeder knows, breeding and promotion of the breed go hand in hand. To this end, Bobbi has spent much time promoting the Morgan cow horse. She has written many articles for Western publications and has been a key supporter of Western working organizations including the Morgan International Cowhorse Association, the Morgan National Reining Horse Association, and the Western Working Morgan Association. Through breeding donations and countless hours helping to organize and finance Western working competitions, she has been on hand with unfailing support.

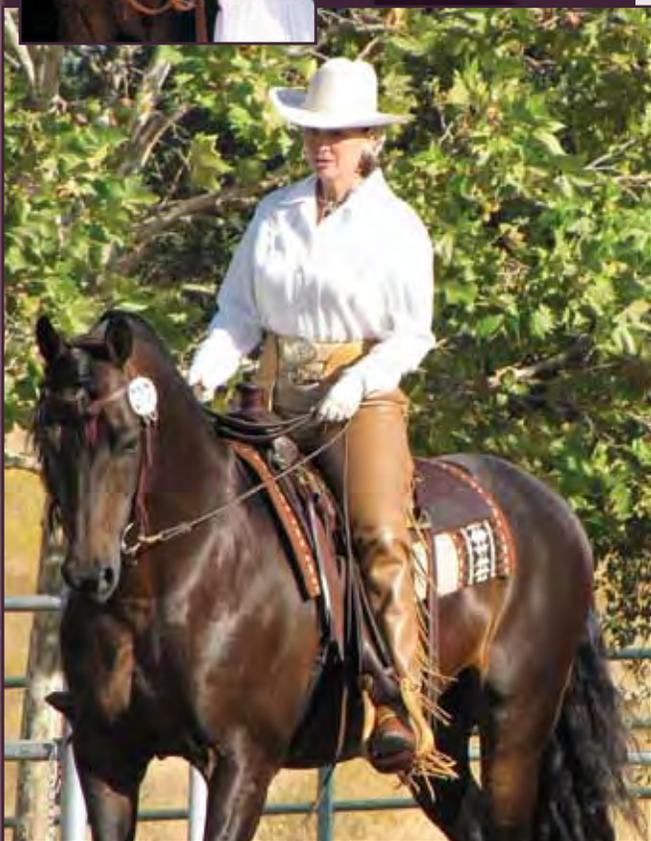
As much as she enjoys being on the ranch, perhaps her greatest love is being



Right: Elizabeth Power, and (above) with Waseeka's Nocturne and Johnny



Left: Debbie Beth Halachmy, and (below) riding Santa Fe Renegade.



on the road with her black stallion TruWest Pure PrairieSmoke better known as "Smokey." At no time did I see more sparkle in her eye than when Smokey was being shown in reining or working cow horse competitions, though I have a suspicion that just spending time on the ranch with her favorite horse is just about as good as it gets for Bobbi Blankenship.

*Willow Brown*

## *Elizabeth Power* **POWER OF WASEEKA**

*Her breeding program set an example and compounded her influence into future generations.*

Elizabeth Power, (Mrs. D. D. Power) was born in 1903 to a prominent Boston family. She was encouraged by parents Homer and May Loring to breed the best quality animals that could be acquired. She successfully bred both Newfoundlands (1920s) and Pembroke Welsh Corgis (1930s), promoting and showing both breeds to numerous AKC championships. Her knowledge of quality and her high standards made her a sought after judge, breeder and advisor.

After a 1952 visit to the National Morgan Show, Elizabeth was inspired to turn her breeding experience to the Morgan horse. After seeing the qualities and attributes of the Morgan she began to gather the nucleus of the Waseeka show & breeding program. Assisted by daughter Sue and son-in-law Keene Annis, as well as highly regarded trainer John Lydon, she set out to collect the highest quality Morgans of that era.

They acquired such notable show horses as Waseeka's Nocturne, Deerfield Leading Lady, Upwey Benn Quietude, Windcrest Sentimental Lady and Sweet Pepper. The colt Waseeka's Nocturne was one of the first to receive the Waseeka prefix and would become one of the most influential Morgan horses of the 20th century.

Elizabeth Power made her mark within the Morgan breed, and would be proud to know the impact her horses continue to make to this day.

*Nicky Caruso and Sue Annis*

## *Debbie Beth Halachmy* **DRESSAGE COWGIRL**

*The woman behind both cowboy dressage and the dressage cowboy.*

It is said that behind every great man there's a great woman. Such is the case for horseman Eitan Beth Halachmy, for behind him stands a woman of equal conviction and dedication to the Morgan horse.

Debbie Beth Halachmy first met Eitan through a mutual friend at a horse show. It was then she began a journey that is continued today as a determined promoter, marketer and passionate supporter of both her husband and the Morgan breed.

Side by side with her husband, Debbie has worked tirelessly to develop and create "Western Dressage" a division that is becoming increasingly popular at horse shows across the country. Debbie has been instrumental in the development of the Western Dressage

## The Women In Our Industry



Photo © Casey McBride

Above: Elaine with daughter Leesa and grandson Ryan and (below) driving Queen's Guardian.

Association of America, an organization formed to combine and promote the Western traditions with classical dressage.

Debbie has spearheaded the creation of Light Hands Horsemanship, a collaboration of several nationally ranked clinicians with attendees from all across the United States as well as several other countries.

A breeder, owner, and all-round horse devotee, Debbie Beth Halachamy has channeled her passion of the Morgan horse with a zest and vigor that cannot be denied. Congratulations on her induction into the AMHA Woman's Honor Roll.

Daryl Hopson

## Elaine Galatz THE CHAIRWOMAN

*From high energy organizer to show ring champion to horse show grandma.*

Where does one start when talking about our Elaine Galatz? She is one of the amazing and accomplished women, not only in the Morgan world but throughout the spectrum. Her contributions to the Morgan horse and to their owners is absolutely awe inspiring. She has served as the Show Chairwoman of the Grand National, is a member of the Grand National Executive Show Committee, currently Chairwoman of the Kentucky Horse Pavilion Project, a member of the Hall of Fame, 2001 Chairwoman of the AHMA Convention and the list goes on and on and on.

Elaine and I first met when her two girls were junior exhibitors at the NorCal show in Monterey, CA. She and her husband of 50 years, Neil Galatz, were rather quiet and totally involved with their family

and showing her nationally known show horses. It wasn't until Elaine joined the Grand National Show Committee that I really had the opportunity to get to know her. Under that sophisticated exterior there lives a very funny lady who is ready for just about anything including a few stints at being campaign treasurer for some very prominent politicians, who remain in office today. She is extremely civic minded and active in Las Vegas, collects art, loves entertaining and is a fabulous wife, mother and grandmother. And, as we all know, one of the most astute and competitive exhibitors in the Morgan world. She has owned some of the most exceptional show horses in the business such as Aboria's Landmark, Equinox Duplikate, VVM Dreamkeeper, VVM Sunburst, VVM Wrapped In Roses, Simple Dreams and Brief Encounter. With the input of her trainer of 28 years, Harold Angell, she will continue to lighten up the show ring and contribute to our lives for years to come. We toast you Elaine Galatz, here's to a warm, wonderful and great friend!

Mona Skager

## Statesmans Eclipse

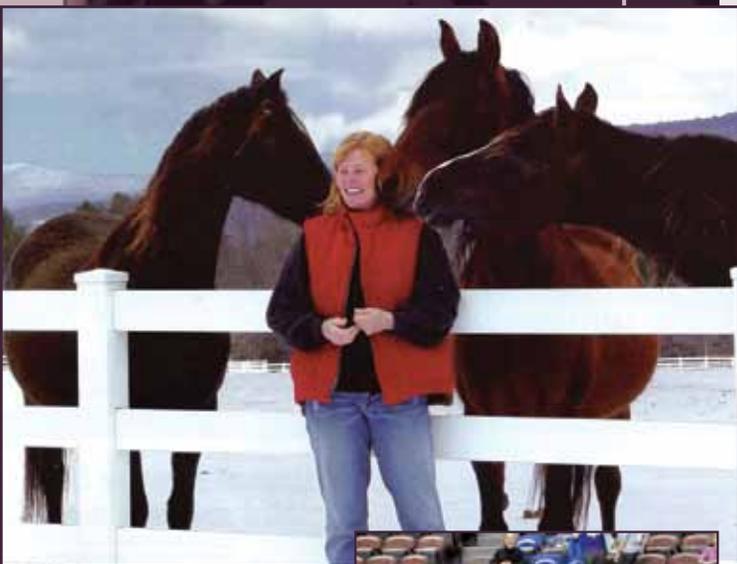
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2009 END OF THE YEAR AWARD  
USEF Region Horse of the Year  
USEF Reserve Champion, 3rd Level  
AMHA Open Competition  
AMHA Reserve Champion, 3rd Level  
Bronze Medallion Winner, 3rd Level

*Of all the Statesmans horses known throughout the U.S. for their dressage achievements, Eclipse is the only one to have reached Prix St. George level, accomplished in 2011 with trainer Ange Bean. He is the best of elite Morgan lines. Thank you Statesman Farm for this incredible horse.*

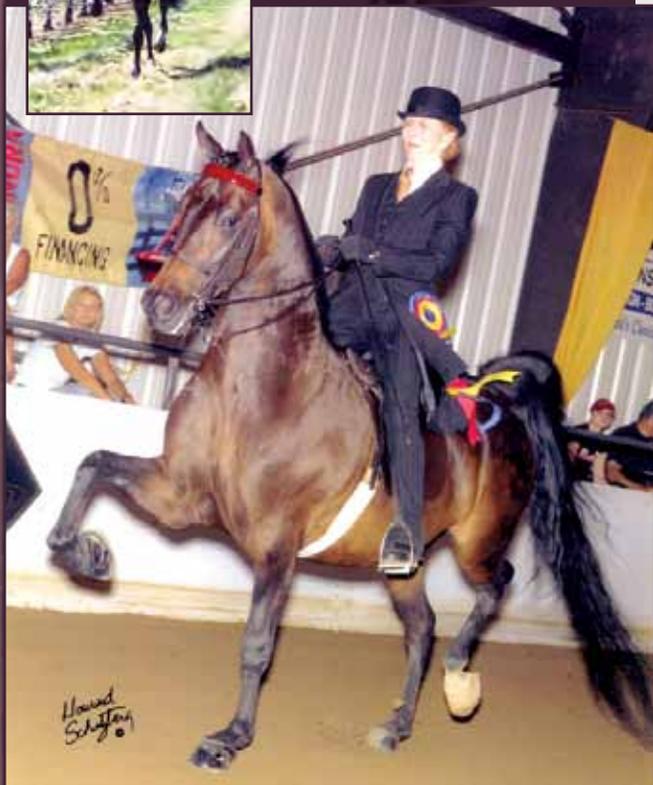
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Above: Peggy with AFF Savannah, Trade Secrets and On Center Stage and (right) with Bada Bing, whom she bred.



Left: Angela riding at home in England and (below) riding Versace.



(Photos © Dawn Fire & Howard Schatzberg)

## Peggy Alderman THE RECORD BREAKER

*As colorful as she is classy, Peggy Alderman has paved a path to which other professionals aspire.*

Peggy Alderman has carved out a place in the record books. The English Pleasure World Championship is among our most elusive to win. Defending it is an even greater challenge. Bonnie Sogoloff did this three times in the 1980s and, so demanding is the task, that no one successfully challenged that record until Peggy's recent successful four wins, three of them consecutive, with Bada Bing. Added to her 1989 win of the title with Equinox Tempo, a horse that could bring down the house with his extreme suspended, high schooled trot, she is the all time winningest trainer of this title. Her record will be the one that other trainers hold to measure for years to come. That of course is just a part of Peggy's professional legacy. She was an instrumental force in the early years of the United Professional Horsemen's Association, when she was Chapter 14 Chairman and she has been a great voice for Morgan breed influence within that organization. She has been a leader in the marketing of high end Morgan horses whether you refer to the syndication, in the 1980s, of the stallion The Entertainer, Salem Farm's sophisticated advertising or her involvement with fellow horsemen in record making sales like the Prospects 2001 Sale and The Remember November Sale (these two entities together donated \$30,000 in prize money to the New England Morgan Regional, so were very industry minded events). Peggy has never let her professionalism compromise her signature personal style. From being the least boring girl in the Morgan world in her youth to exemplary mother to Kate and Spencer, she is a person who is as colorful as she is classy. All of which makes her one of the women we love in the Morgan horse world.

*Stephen Kinney*

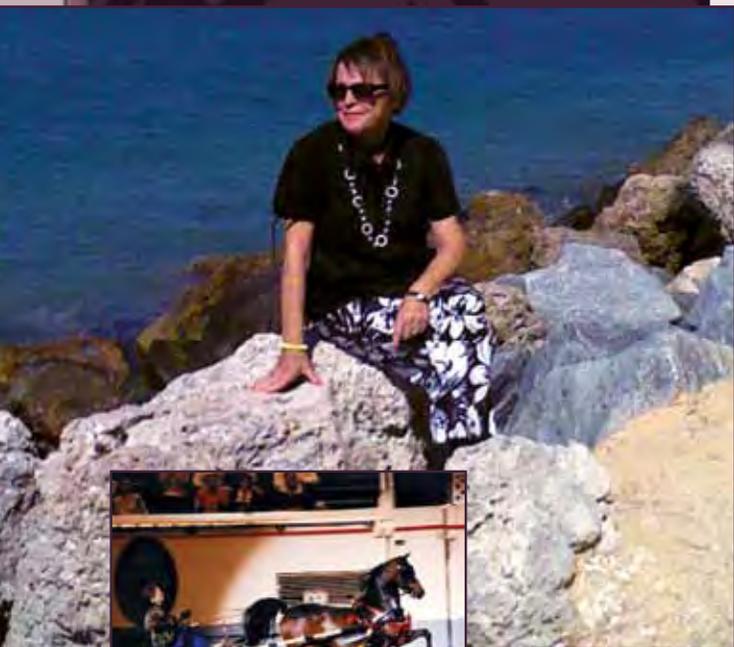
## Angela Conner Bulmer THE BRITISH INVASION

*She has championed the Morgan in Britain and she has treated the American show ring with her distinctive British character.*

My mother, Angela Conner Bulmer's passion for the Morgan horse is simply remarkable. She has spent the last 35 years dedicated to the promotion, enhancement and continuation of the Morgan breed in England and worked tirelessly to remain true to their strengths.

Angela, along with her husband John Bulmer, brought the first Morgan horses into England in 1975 and from that small start the breed has increased to more than 500 registered Morgans in England. As Monnington Morgans has grown over the years, she has promoted the show horse and has worked hard to ensure that the breed has a strong show scene, that horses are presented in a cut back saddle and saddlesuits (native to America, but still new in Great Britain). She has maintained that Morgans should be show horses as well as family horses for people to enjoy but to be presented in the way that you would see at Morgan shows in America. In 2007, a long held dream of Angela's was achieved when she won the English Pleasure Amateur Masters World Championship aboard Versace.

As an artist herself, I think she has been drawn to the unique qualities of the Morgan breed. She has enjoyed many wonderful



Above: Cindy enjoys a quiet moment and (left) driving Opie's Boy.

(Photo © Suzy Lucine)



(Photo © Yoakum)

Above: Jennifer with husband Earl McFall and (below) on course with Dragonfire Kublakhan.

friendships that have been a result of the Morgans on both sides of the Atlantic. Over the years a number of wonderful people have visited Monnington Morgans in England and seen the great improvements that have been made to the Morgan breed and Society.

*Georgia Bulmer-Ferreira*

## *Cindy Nord* A CHAMPION OF DIVERSITY

*A philanthropist in her private life and a champion in the show ring and as a breeder of Morgans in many disciplines.*

Cindy has been a major supporter of diversity through different disciplines for her lifetime in the Morgan world. She bred and owned the first two Morgan Gold Medal Reining Champions in the NRHA (CN Petty Cash and CN Pocket Change), and she bred an incredibly successful dressage champion, as well as multiple world champion performance horses that both she and other people have shown. The list of champions that she's owned over the years is vast, perhaps the most notable have been The Master's Touch, Opie's Boy, HVK Frango, HVK Flaire Rose, Royal Oak Annton, ER Hope Diamond, Love Her Madly, and CN The Master's Flyte. Cindy drove Opie's Boy to every one of his record-setting four consecutive wins of the Amateur Pleasure Driving World Championship, and owned The Master's Touch through his record-setting four wins of the Park Saddle World Championship.

Cindy also fostered the love of Morgans in her daughters Allyson Nord-Wandtke and Katie Nord-Peterson. She is the founder and major benefactor of The Nurturing Center in Columbia, SC, a facility that helps families in crisis, has her doctorate, and is a published author. Cindy's contributions to the world around her are notable and admirable, and she makes me proud to call her a friend.

*Mike Goebig*

## *Jennifer McFall* EVENTER

*Because she fearlessly introduced the Morgan breed to the sport of open three-day eventing*

The very beginning of my journey with Jenny began when she was eleven years old. I didn't, and still don't, teach children. But they told me that she was thirteen, and snuck her in! She paid attention and, as an eleven-year-old, had the poise of a sixteen- or eighteen-year-old. She wanted to learn, and listened to my every instruction. My role with Jenny was just dressage; I gave her monthly lessons at Dragonfire, and trained her to an incredibly high level. Eventing was her passion. I was so proud to watch Jenny progress throughout her career.

I had great fun as Jenny's teacher and as her friend. As a child, she was an incredible rider with phenomenal feel and talent, and rode very difficult horses that people would send her from all over the country. I believe that she became the best dressage rider in the Morgan industry. We did have great fun together—I remember fondly the time that she tricked me (again) into riding with her in the pro/am Western pleasure in Santa Barbara! Dragonfire became a very important part of my life, and Jenny was a very important child to me. I loved watching that wonderful young woman grow up.

*Lynn Roberts-Johnson, Canadian Olympic Team*

# Barbara Beaumont Cole A LEADER AND COLLECTOR

Each year we ask the public to submit names for "The Honor Roll." Barbara Beaumont Cole was nominated in a persuasive presentation by the Virginia Carolinas Morgan Horse Club for her work as club founder, local breeder and Morgan archivist.

Barbara grew up in New York loving horses and riding at a local stable. Her introduction to the Morgan horse came in 1953 when she purchased her first Morgan, Katie Twilight (Lippitt Sam Twilight x Conniedale) a full sister to Easter Twilight. Katie Twilight produced Carolina (by Lippitt Mandate) in 1957, becoming the first Morgan to be born in the state of North Carolina in several decades. Carolina's produce created the foundation of the October Farm breeding program which produced typey, kind Morgans with many going on to be National Champions.

Barbara was instrumental in helping to create what is now an extremely active Morgan community and horse show scene in North Carolina. The first meeting of the Virginia Carolinas Morgan Club (VCMHC) was held in November 1966 in Barbara Cole's living room. Thirty-seven Morgan enthusiasts attended.

In the years that followed, Barbara worked tirelessly to promote the Morgan horse, AMHA and the VCMHC. She served as an officer and a board member and newsletter editor of the VCMHC. She chaired the popular Field Day held in 1969 which drew about 300 horse lovers to Tara Farm to hear the comments of Marilyn Childs. In November, 2001 this club honored Barbara with a "Toast" to recognize our appreciation of her service to our wonderful breed. Barbara's husband, James, was also actively involved in the Virginia Carolinas club, serving as chairman of the first Southeastern Morgan Horse Show in 1970 and as club president in 1976.

In addition, her sons Thomas and Matthew were actively involved with Morgans and VCMHC with Thomas serving several times as announcer at Southern States Morgan Horse Show and Matthew showing, training and breeding Morgans under the October Farm banner.

Barbara enjoyed judging at Morgan and all breed shows around the country including being the judge at the first Lippitt Country Show. She also was a horse show steward and officiated several times as steward at the New England Morgan Horse Show. She also served as editor of *The Morgan Horse* magazine in the 1960s.

She was instrumental in helping many Morgan enthusiasts in the area by sharing her knowledge of the breed—including the Champions, the Pughs of Tara Farm, the Hewitts of Sweet Promise Farm and many others.

Over the years Barbara collected an extensive library of Morgan books, ephemera and art. This led her to start October Farm Horse Books, which was, in its heyday, the largest out-of-print horse book business in the country. Barbara and her husband James traveled to Oklahoma City several times to set up shop with books and art at the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Show®. The core of her library is still intact and enjoyed by her son Matthew.

In 2000, Barbara Beaumont Cole was honored posthumously by AMHA for her service to the national Morgan organization. ■

*The Virginia Carolinas Morgan Horse Club and Matthew Cole*



**Top to bottom:**  
*Barbara Cole aboard Carolina at the 1962 North Carolina State Championship Horse Show; Barbara with Carolina and James Cole with Clement; Barbara in her October Farm Horse Books booth in OKC; Barbara at the 1991 AMHA Convention with Art Perry and Polly Quinn; Barbara with the first foal she raised: Doctor Faustus, 1955.*

LEADERS INNOVATORS  
MENTORS ADVOCATES  
EDUCATORS PIONEERS  
COUNSELORS JUDICATORS

2012

# *The Women In Our Industry* HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year four, celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

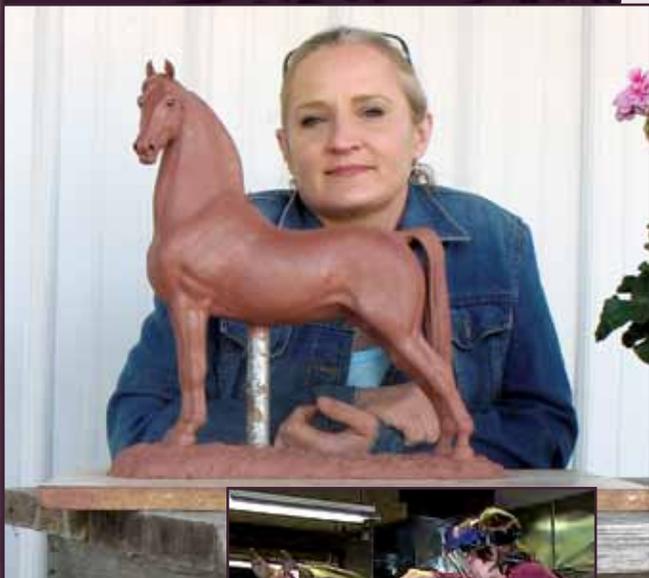
We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse* has, for the fourth year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue each year, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse and colorful as the breed itself.

For the third year we have invited nominations from the floor, so to speak. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2012 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.



*Maretta Kennedy poses with a clay casting of Fleetwing and at work in her studio on a lifesize bronze.*



## *Maretta Kennedy* CAST IN BRONZE

*The Morgan breed speaks to artists and, over the decades, artists have done much to influence how we see the Morgan. In her generation, Maretta Kennedy's bronzes have spoken to how we feel about our horses and preserved the images of many important Morgans for posterity*

It was a fortunate day for the Morgan industry when Maretta Kennedy happened upon Wil-O-Mor Spitfire. Maretta was studying under the direction of Lyle Wick at the University of Minnesota when she laid eyes upon the beautiful stallion that instantly captured her heart. Thus began Maretta's undying love of the Morgan horse, which later became an incredible gift to others who share her passion for this magnificent breed.

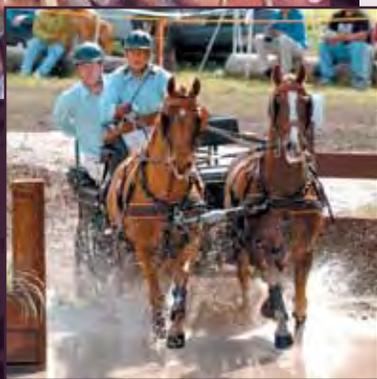
As Maretta's affinity to Morgans grew, so did her affection for art. It is the crossroads of these two passions that has led her to become the person we think of whenever we envision a bronze statue of our treasured four-legged friends.

It's impossible to love Morgans without carrying a deep appreciation for their beauty, and no one can capture that beauty better than Maretta Kennedy. Her impressive pieces now grace many homes and farms across the country, as there is no better gift than a permanent cast of one's beloved horse.

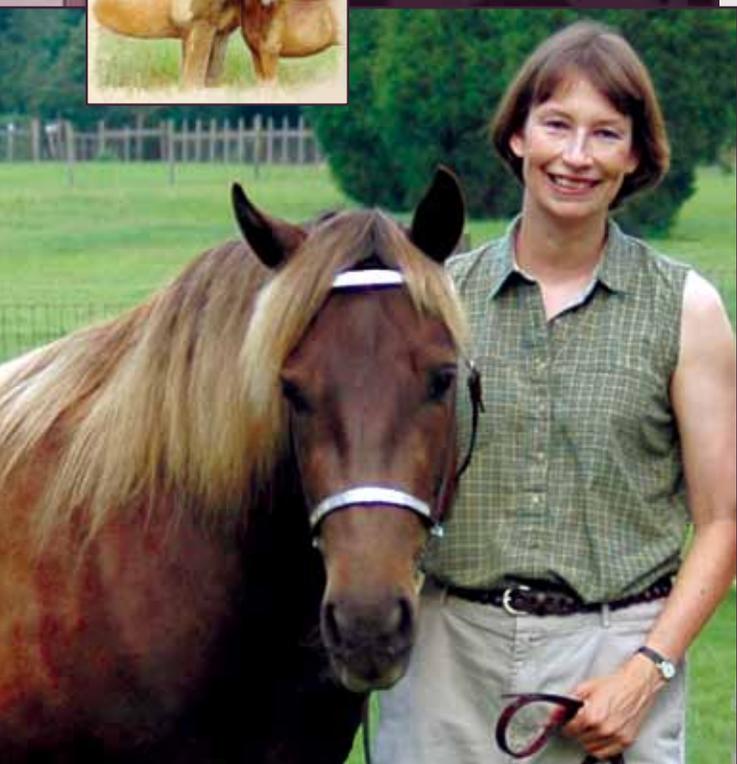
On behalf of the Morgan community, I would like to thank



*Lisa Singer close up and on the course.*  
(Top photo © Paige DD Singer)



*Left & below: Laura Behning has expressed her love of Morgan colors in both art and in the breeding shed.*



Maretta for her years of devotion to our breed. She has graciously donated sculptures numerous occasions, raising thousands of dollars for our community. She has shared her immeasurable talent by creating replicas of our most treasured horses and, above all, she is a Morgan horse lover to the core of her being. Congratulations Maretta on this well deserved honor.

*Dawn Fire*

## *Lisa Singer* DRIVING FORCE

*The prominence that Morgans enjoy in the world of Carriage Driving and Combined Driving Events owes much to the visionaries who saw the potential and drove the breed to the fore. Lisa Singer is one of the most competitive and articulate of these visionaries.*

**N**ine time National Pair Champion, eight time member of the US Team at the World Pair Driving Championship, coach of the US Team at the World Singles Championship and World Pony Championship are just a few of driver Lisa Singer's impressive accomplishments. But they don't begin to describe the contributions to the driving world, combined driving and to Morgan Horses in driving that she has made.

Lisa, from Chadds Ford, PA, is an energetic, down to earth person with a fascination with horses and a gift for working with horses and with drivers. She has instructed some of the best drivers in America, but takes as much pleasure from helping a beginner figure out how to be safe and get the most from their horse. Lisa has organized many driving events and clinics, such as the Elk Creek CDE and the Salute to Driving, as well as working behind the scenes at the Laurels at Landhope for many years. She serves as an ADS judge as well as being part of USEF and ADS committees that govern the driving sport in this country, along with being a busy horse trainer, instructor and clinician.

Lisa has been a huge promoter of the Morgan horse in driving her entire career. Starting with her first pair, Meadowgreen Molly, Meadowgreen Treasure and Battersea Chancellor (owned by long-time supporter Mimi Thorington), Lisa and the 'Beasties' (her nickname for the Morgans) took the combined driving world by storm and became the first woman to win the National Pair Championship. Her careful training made her Morgans strong, brave and responsive. Her quick mind and knack for strategy made her a fierce competitor. Her love for the sport and for Morgans allowed her to share her skills with others. Lisa has always been generous with her time, knowledge and energy.

Lisa has made a considerable contribution to the popularity of Morgan horses in combined driving. She is widely admired in this country as well as overseas. Not bad for a grandmother of four!

*Shelly Temple*

## *Laura Behning* COLORFUL TORCHBEARER

*The subject of colorful Morgans is a complicated one—genetically and politically. Its advocate is this erudite writer, breeder and artist from Georgia (whose writings on Morgan colors are archived at [www.morganhorse.com/breed\\_journal/achives/](http://www.morganhorse.com/breed_journal/achives/)).*

**I** first became acquainted with Laura while I was giving a "color" presentation in Georgia many years ago. Since then I have had the pleasure of many interactions with Laura and am privileged to call her a friend.

*Laura Behning continued*

Laura's knowledge, artistic abilities and contributions as a breeder have proven to be extremely valuable to the Morgan community.

Laura acquired her first Morgan in 1984, sometime later her interests also turned to colorful Morgans. Laura has written many articles on Morgan color. They have appeared in *The Morgan Horse* magazine, *Simply Morgan*, *Classic Morgan Admirers*, the *Rainbow Morgan Horse Association Newsletter*, *Just About Horses*, and many other equine publications over the years. In *The Morgan Horse* she has had many articles highlighting various colorful Morgans and helped us all understand the colors we have in the Morgan today. One of the marvelous things about some of Laura's educational articles is the fabulous artwork she has included to help us visualize and understand this subject. Laura is also an accomplished editor—having edited the *Rainbow Morgan Horse Association Newsletter* for many years. You may have heard of this newsletter at AMHA conventions, as it has won many awards there.

Laura is truly a very gifted artist. Her marvelous Morgan drawings, sculptures and resins are beautiful and show just

a small part of this young lady's talents. Laura also uses her artistic abilities to design websites, design ads for publication and produce many beautiful gifts. Some of her websites include the *Morgan Colors* website and the *Silver Dapple Morgans Project*. Both of these sites provide us with a tremendous amount of historical and photographic information, as well as education.

Laura has also contributed to the Morgan with her breeding program. She has bred classic Morgans, many of color. Perhaps she will be most remembered for her breeding of those with the silver dapple gene. Laura had long suspected that this gene was present in the Morgan, but it was not until the 21<sup>st</sup> century that it was proven. Laura's breeding program was instrumental in helping to save this colorful segment of the Morgan population, most notably with the birth of the beautiful bay silver dapple stallion, *Unconventional*, in 2006.

So, we honor Laura here and are extremely thankful for her extra-ordinary contributions to the Morgan in education, art and breeding.

*Loretta Brown*



*Judy Nason*  
**A PRACTICAL HORSEWOMAN**

*Judy Nason is an iconic figure, especially in the discipline of Western pleasure where she has set a style in more ways than one. She is an example of a talent mentored by the Morgan breed who has gone on in turn to mentor many more.*

One time I was trying to mount a horse that was acting up and really making a fool of me. Judy Nason stepped in, took the reins of the double bridle in hand and pinned the reins at a spot around the withers, much like a set of tightened side reins. She did this with enough force to knock the horse off balance if he had continued acting up. Instead, the horse planted all four feet solidly on the ground. Judy looked at me and said "This horse is not willing to hurt himself, he is not going to hurt you." Hanging out with Judy Nason you get many lessons in good, old-fashioned sensible horsemanship like this. Many people think Judy is exceedingly quiet, but I've traveled across country with her and, if you keep the topic on Morgan horses, there is a steady stream of conversation. And she was there for so much interesting history, going to shows as kids with Mike Goebig and his father, working summers at Orland Farm, learning from her teacher Orland Bellendon, her close friendship with the publicist Rodney Gould, her stints at the White family's Green Acres and the Kay family's Birchwood Farm. Many familiar Morgan horsemen got their early lessons from her: Rick Lane, Jeff White and his wife Darlene Kay White, David Sproul, She's also credited with being one of the winningest trainers in the history of Morgan Western horses which, long before it was common-place, she called "dressage horses ridden one handed." The style in which Western Morgans show today owes much to her

*Two iconic moments with Judy Nason. A victory pass on Treble's Tanageray and aboard her "teacher" Orland Bellendon.*



(Photos © Saddle Horse Report, Freudy Photos [inset])

*Judy Nason continued*

influence on horses like Pondview Portrait, Corrick, Burkland Nicholas, FCF Montego Bay and Treble's Tanageray. Many trainers and instructors would be happy to rest on such laurels. Instead, a couple of years ago, Judy turned her mind over to natural horseman Chris Cox giving an entirely new complexion to her already practical approach to training her four-legged companions. How many senior horsemen send themselves out for continuing education?

It is not coincidental that Judy has interpreted the Morgan through art in many logos and in needlepoint patterns that are available commercially. She sews and makes the identifiable jackets and chaps worn by herself and her students.

Judy is the ultimate good sense horsewoman. The Morgan breed should give itself high marks for having mentored talent such as hers in our midst.

*Stephen Kinney*



## *Carol Hudson* **THE ARTIST AS BREEDER**

*Carol Hudson didn't just breed Morgans, she bred a look.*

*Say the word "Treble's" and an instantly identifiable silhouette comes to mind. Many breeders strive toward this, Carol truly accomplished it.*

**A**n artist's eye and a passion for the Morgan horse is the foundation of the Treble's breeding program. That eye and that passion is Carol Hudson.

By using her degree in art, Carol has always conceptualized her image of the ideal Morgan horse. With this picture in mind, she has built her breeding program one layer at a time.

The base for her portrait began with her first Morgan purchase, Quaker Acre Treble, thus the "Treble's" prefix. This high stepping Trophy bred stallion put Carol on the Morgan map.

The next layer for her idealized picture introduced the wildly famous Treble's Willy Wild. By crossing this Nocturne bred phenomena with the powerful Treble, Carol created the second generation in her breeding program.

And then came the special Waseeka's In Command son, Tug Hill Commando. In 1982 Carol selected Commando from a small photo that had been sent to her from breeder Ann Hastings in upstate New York. That sight unseen purchase solidified Carol's place in Morgan chronicles.

The Commando—Willy Wild cross has been extraordinarily successful in both the show ring and in breeding operations throughout the United States and Canada. This bloodline is continually sought after by serious breeders today.

After establishing the foundation for her ideal Morgan portrait, Carol has continued to update this masterpiece with breedings to highly sought after outcrosses. She has recently blended her patented Treble's line with such stallions as Serenity Masterpiece, Liberation First Star, Hollybrook Stage Rage, Centerpiece and Mizrahi, with her typically definitive results.

With her artist's flair and her Morgan ardor Carol has created a tour de force with her picture perfect Morgan horses.

Congratulations, my friend, on this honor.

*Cheri Barber*

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*Above left: Carol Hudson in the stands with her husband Chuck and at home with Tug Hill Commando. (Inset photo © H. R. Hoover)*



## Karen Myers THE REINING QUEEN

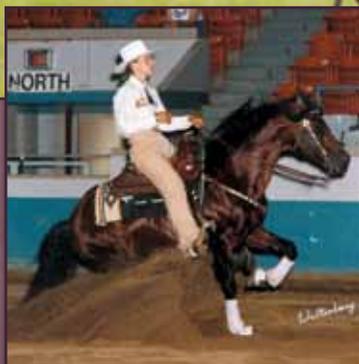
*One Morgan stallion made the difference persuading this reiner of the breed's viability for her discipline. Together they made reining and Morgan history.*

**K**aren's involvement in the Morgan horse industry began when she met Twin Pond Disco Kid in 1991. Prior to finding the Morgan horse, Karen had been involved in the Quarter Horse industry for many years. It is safe to say when Karen met "Bucky" (Twin Pond Disco Kid) she was hooked! She immediately saw the potential in this talented stallion and retrained this one time show horse to be one of the premier Morgan reiners of his time. Before Bucky retired at the age of 18, he and Karen garnered numerous national and world titles and enjoyed success in open competition NRHA reining events. Karen's love for the Morgan horse grew out of the love she had for this special stallion. She became a tireless promoter of the Morgan breed. She has made appearances with her Morgan reiners at Equine Affaire, Quarter Horse Congress and numerous clinics and demonstrations across the country. Karen's willingness to share her expertise as both a longtime reining exhibitor and an NRHA judge has been invaluable in promoting the Morgan as a reining horse.

Karen has also made a significant contribution as a breeder of quality performance Morgans. With Twin Pond Disco Kid as a foundation sire, Karen has gathered a small band of good broodmares (most notably the World Champion Open Morgan Reining mare More Apples Please). Her focus on type, correct conformation, good minds and athleticism has made the horses that wear the "Disco" prefix a force to be reckoned with in the show pen. The list of successful Morgan reiners that she has bred includes such standouts as Disco Fever, Disco Kid and Disco Patricia, all of whom hold Morgan world reining titles and are NRHA money earners.

Karen's success as a breeder and exhibitor of Morgan performance horses, and her generosity in sharing her reining expertise with a wider audience of equine enthusiasts gives her a well deserved spot on this year's honor roll of influential women.

*Ellen Palillo*



*Karen Myers during Twin Pond Disco Kid's final show ring appearance and making one of the most definitive stops ever captured on film. (Photos © Debbie Uecker-Keough, Waltenberry [inset])*



## Frieda Datte Waer A PIONEER

*Her devotion to the Morgan helped establish the breed in California and her prefix has been a valuable foundation for many other breeders.*

**A**s a breeder of Morgan horses, there is no greater tribute than to be remembered for the horses you have bred and for the genetic contribution you have made to the future of the breed. Frieda D. Waer is certainly owing of such a tribute for being one of California's leading breeders of Morgan's from the 1940s until 1987.

Frieda's lifelong love for the Morgan horse became a dream come true when she married her first husband Thomas Ruben Rex in 1944. Together they traveled across the country visiting Morgan breeders and selecting young Morgans that would make up the nucleus of their breeding program. From Gerald F. Taft came Lana, a Goldfield



*The pioneering Frieda Waer and, inset, with the mare Lana and Rex's Major Monte as a foal.*

*Frieda Datte Waer continued*

daughter and Ruthven's Kathryn Ann, by Lippitt Moro Ash. From Roy Brunk, Gontola, a Flyhawk daughter and from the J. C. Jackson Ranch in Montana they bought Monte L a son of Major R M.

By any standards this would be considered a very strong beginning. Rex's Major Monte was one of the first offspring of Monte L and Lana. He was an impressive stallion who would become the major force in their breeding program and Mr. Rex's personal mount.

After Mr Rex's untimely death from a heart attack in 1948, Frieda married Frank Waer and they established the Double F. Ranch in Santiago Canyon north of San Diego, California.

Frieda's talent for breeding conformationally correct, balanced moving and genetically contributory Morgans blossomed. The years from 1950 to 1987 would produce approximately 137 registered Morgans with the Waer prefix. Many of these would become family mounts participating in the many disciplines within the Morgan breed. Others would become foundation stock for Morgan breeders such as Waer's Mar Lisa for Intrepid Farms.

Frieda was also a very active organizer of the Southern California Morgan Horse Club and the Morgan Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association of California. She will long be remembered for the many contributions she made to the Morgan breed.

*Arthur L. Perry Jr.*

*Ellen DiBella*  
**THE PLANNER**

*Serving the Morgan breed for decades now, Ellen DiBella has developed fantastic organizational skills. Today she turns those skills toward promoting what is perhaps the breed's newest claim to fame, as president of the Western Dressage Association of America.*

Ellen, who is a fourth generation Californian raised in Salinas, never did outgrow the "horse crazy phase" as her father had expected she would. Ellen met Mary Woolverton when her husband, Nick, was chief of Hematology Oncology at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center. The first time Nick heard the question, "what horse is that?" was in 1972 when Ellen saw a palomino Morgan gelding ride into Mary's barnyard. Over the next years, he learned that those words meant Ellen was going to buy the horse in question! Ellen has added to her herd over the years going first to Funquest Farms. On one trip to see Stuart Hazard, Ellen had a yearling filly named Funquest Coed choose her. She bought Serendipity Lyric B as an embryo and for the past 20 years has focused on Holiday Compadre and his get. Being in the barn is Ellen's "happy place" where she cites many examples of her horses owning her. Her mantra is to do the best for the horses at all times. One story that she shared was when she was faced with the loss of a mare during foaling: Ellen said, "raising an orphan foal taught me a lot about myself." Ellen is what is called a "servant leader"; she serves because it needs to be done, never hesitating to give of herself. Currently she presides as the president of the Western Dressage Association of America, serves on the USEF Morgan committee, the board of USEF and on the AMHA Educational Charitable Trust. Ellen's list of mentors is a long one with Mary Woolverton and Georgie Green at the top of the list. These days, one can find Ellen either in the barn talking to her horses, spoiling Holiday Compadre or on the phone/internet working on projects that support the breed that has chosen her.

*Linnea Sidi*

*Above left: Ellen DiBella the organizer and aboard Holiday Compadre.*



# Ann Hailey INTO THE FIELDS

Walk the pastures of mares and sucklings with Ann Hailey and you get a lesson in breeding insights and experience a profound example of her love of the breed. She owns a large herd, she is a prolific breeder and, at the base of it all, she is a tender-hearted animal lover.

As I begin to write a tribute to Ann Hailey I am reminded that, first and foremost, she is a mother. Her devotion to her son, Chris Duggan, her passion for his happiness and well-being, shape every moment of her life. It has been a joy for me to get to know Ann and Patrick, and through them, Chris, over the last five years. As Chris graduates NYU in May, it will be a blessing to watch him continue his success as a musician with the love and support he gets from home. Ann is invested in her son in every way, and it is with a similar sense of passion and involvement that she has shaped the Copper Beech breeding program over the last two decades.

While Oklahoma is the gallery whereby we showcase our work for others to see, you really get to know Ann Hailey, and the depth of the Copper Beech program, when you walk the fields with her back at the farms. It is there you will experience Ann's keen awareness of bloodlines and the disciplined selection process she utilizes to purchase bloodstock and produce every foal with the CBMF prefix. It is astounding, and sometimes overwhelming, to see the quality stallions, mares and resulting offspring side-by-side. Ann freely and willingly shares insights and knowledge and imparts a sense of confidence in visitors that, regardless of financial means, there is always the right Morgan horse for you. She is invested not only in the success of Copper Beech, but in each of the horses she produces as well as the success of new owners of a CBMF Morgan.

Visit the Copper Beech website and you will read: "We breed with an objective of producing show horses primarily for the pleasure and park divisions. We strive for Morgans that have it all—athletic ability, beautiful heads, long legs and necks, laid-back shoulders and that important Morgan intangible known as heart." Teamed with Harry and Carolyn Sebring, Dr. Rick Lesser, and countless others through the years, Ann has met her objective, repeatedly. The show ring accomplishments are widely known and well-respected. The continuous quality improvement and never-ending quest for excellence are evident year after year in each of the foals that are produced.

Ann, I am proud to have you as my mentor and friend. You have helped shape the lives and programs of so many Morgan owners through the years. You have worked tirelessly with dedication and passion and I have learned so much from you. I am grateful you are invested in the success of not only Copper Beech but as well of the Morgan horse and those who love the breed. I have little doubt that the CBMF program will serve as a cornerstone for future generations of the Morgan horse.

Until we meet in the fields once again, I send you my heartfelt congratulations.

Jay Kleiber



## Past Honor Roll Honorees

### 2009

Marilyn Childs  
Martha V. Dupont  
Anna Ela & Ruth Orcutt  
Betty Greene  
Helen Greenwalt  
Anita Hoitsma  
Gloria Jones  
Frances Pugh  
Sid Spencer  
Pat Tataronis Orcutt  
Mary Jean Vasiloff  
Judy Whitney Harris  
Mary Woolverton

Susan, Ling and Iann Fu  
Margaret Gardiner  
Georgie Green  
Elberta Honstein  
Jeanne Mellin Herrick  
Carol Simpson  
Jane Steffenhagen

### 2011

Peggy Alderman  
Barbara Beaumont Cole  
Debbie Beth Halachmy  
Bobbi Blankenship  
Angela Conner Bulmer  
Elaine Galatz  
Barbara Irvine  
Jennifer McFall  
Cindy Nord  
Elizabeth Power  
Lynne Shpak  
Bonnie Sogoloff

### 2010

Beth Benard  
Chris Cassenti  
Simy Corbin  
Nancy Eidam  
Travis Filipek

Above left: Ann Hailey together at a Copper Dragon Sale with Harry Sebring and after a winning drive. (Top photo © Bob Klein)



Above: Suzy Lucine at her wedding to Jeff Koller and inset, her artistic rendering of Longview Sundance and Bonnie Sogoloff.  
(Inset photo © Suzy Lucine)



Left & below: The multi-talented Mary Cockriel with partner Bob Kellert.

(Photos © Casey McBride)

## Suzy Lucine THE CHEERLEADER

*She comes from a Morgan community and she has helped to build the larger Morgan family as a freelance writer, a magazine editor, an artistic photographer and a most loyal friend to the people she loves: the Morgan family.*

**B**loodlines are important to just about everyone in the Morgan world and Suzy Lucine has very strong lines on both the top and bottom of her pedigree. Her family has long been dedicated to the Morgan breed. Al Lucine has been an AMHA President, served long term as our Registry Committee Chairman, along with chairing many other committees too numerous to mention here. Jane Lucine has worked as show secretary for the Mid-A Morgan Show for more years than it is even fair to think about and she always had German Shepherds with her. But this is not their story, this is about their eldest daughter, Suzanne, or Suzy as she is known. Suzy has long been a fixture in the Morgan world. I do not remember a time when Suzy was not there. Suzy worked as an Editor for the breed publication, *The Morgan Horse*. She was with the magazine when the association made the move to Vermont from Utica, New York. I remember her being so excited about the move. Suzy always has had the attitude that “life is an adventure.”

Suzy discovered that she had an artistic eye for photography and I know that just looking around my house, I have been the fortunate recipient of her talents. She has documented my son growing up. Early on, she always just gave to you her pictures from the shows. It has always been a treat to get some of Suzy’s candid shots. If you were lucky enough to have her take pictures at your training barn she would always get the shot that was artistic. Suzy is also willing to get some pictures for a laugh. I am sure she has many that could be used for blackmail—but of course she would never do that!

If you are lucky enough to be a friend of Suzy’s, you know that not a milestone in your life goes by without a card or some sort of acknowledgement from her. Suzy is almost always the first person to mention congratulations on your successes or hugs for your failures. This is just what Suzy does.

The Morgan horse family is lucky to have Suzy as its friend. She has always been its biggest cheerleader.

Ling Fu Wylie

## Mary Cockriel THE FORCE

*She may be the hardest working woman in show business! With partner Bob Kellert, she manages a huge string near Denver, shows weekend after weekend, and inspires superlative horsemanship throughout her stable. She’s exemplary as a horsewoman and as a businesswoman.*

**M**ary is always sure she can make things work. Whether it be a difficult horse, a difficult situation with a client, or just plain chaos, Mary dives in—and most of the time—it’s “mission accomplished.”

I actually didn’t know Mary before we became her clients, and truthfully, didn’t know much about Morgans. However, unbeknown to Mary, and based on my experience in breeding and showing dogs,



*Mary Cockriel continued*

I had made my choice of trainer carefully after observing her caring, but firm manner with both horses and people. More than 20 years later, I can say without hesitation that my first instincts were spot-on. With boundless energy and determination, Mary puts her whole self into whatever she does. Coupled with enormous talent and impeccable work ethic, Mary is truly a leader in the Morgan horse industry, and an unwavering supporter of our breed.

Mary has an uncanny ability to size up both horses and people. She's extremely practical and resolutely passionate. Passion sometimes makes her vulnerable, but that, too, is one of Mary's admirable qualities. She gives her all, and sets the bar high for others. Sometimes, that leads to disappointment, but those moments are fleeting, as she always rebounds with resolve.

A second generation horse trainer, Mary learned her horse

lessons well from her legendary father, Martin and her warmth and caring ways from her wonderful mother, Barbara. The Cockriels are a tight-knit family, and Mary's devotion to them is always in evidence.

Soon after we put our horses in training with Mary, she and Bob Kellert joined forces and established The River's Edge. They are an inseparable and formidable team, meshing their equine skills and personalities with enormous success. Their talent, professionalism, and spirit make The River's Edge an ideal, fun place to train. We "locals" are so grateful to have this calibre of trainers available in Denver.

With her infectious laugh, indomitable spirit, and passionate devotion to Morgans, Mary Cockriel is one special lady—and destined to become a legend of the Morgan horse world.

*Cindy Vogels*



## *Crescent Peirce* LIPPITT LEGEND

*Although she died too young, with the Randallane prefix she carried the historic Lippitt bloodline another generation into the future.*

*She has left her mark on the breed.*

The visionary and heart behind the Randallane breeding program was Crescent J. Peirce. With the love and support from her husband Todd and her three sons Ross, Trey and Chase she carried out her lifetime goal of having a Morgan farm. But it was a family within the Morgan breed that stole her heart. Crescent spent the majority of her breeding career focused on the Lippitt Morgan. She especially focused on a foundation mare named Lippitt Trixie whose legacy almost came to a halt if it wasn't for her. Crescent spent countless hours tracking down current descendants of this mare that were still sound for breeding. Thanks to her there are even more out there!

She was much more than a breeder to many people. She shared her knowledge with many girls throughout the years. Crescent knew that the future was through the kids. So she encouraged not just her girls but any child that showed enthusiasm towards these wonderful horses. She was a big supporter of any event that could get the Lippitt out there for people to see. Such events as the Equine Affaire, Bolton Fair, The Big E and of course the Lippitt Country Show. Crescent truly shined when in the ring with these horses that were her life. An endless smile whether she won or not.

On June 1, 2011 Crescent passed away. This wonderful woman has definitely left her mark on this small community. She was truly an inspiration and will be greatly missed by all.

*Stefanie Sibley*

*Above left: The late Crescent Peirce and her signature Lippitt Morgan Randallance Genesis. (Photos © Donna Sullivan)*

## *Polly Quinn* **THE STALWART**

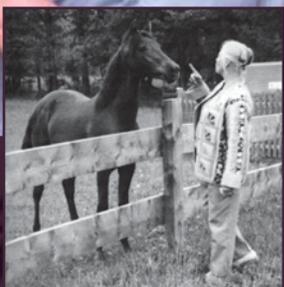
*She shares a lot in common with the Morgan horse. She boasts heart, performance values, diligence and longevity. Whether striving to further the goals of the National Museum of the Morgan Horse or breeding enduring individuals, she does it all on behalf of the breed she loves.*

I have known Polly Quinn for as long as I can remember, although I lost contact with her as I was growing up. We reconnected when I was in college where her husband Paul, surprisingly, was a member of my freshman calculus class. The Quinn family members were staunch Morgan fanatics and supporters of the UVM Morgan Farm where I worked during my college years. We saw each other often. Fast forward a lot of years to find Polly and her daughter Nina in need of a trainer for the really nice horses they were raising. I got really lucky when they started to send some to me. Better than 25 years later, we are still partners and I am still a lucky horse trainer. Polly and I have had many adventures, I know we could fill pages recounting them. Here are a few things I have learned. First of all, it's a very good idea to have Polly as a friend because you don't want her unhappy with you. She has a very clear idea about what is right and what is wrong, period! When the phrase "strong woman" was coined, it was about Polly Quinn. She is smart, loyal, and visionary, especially where the Morgan horse is concerned. The Heyday breeding program attests to that loyalty and vision. Polly insists that her horses be strong trotting and long lived. Two of my all time favorites: Heyday Independence showed until the age of 16, and came back at the age of



*Polly Quinn with Heyday Molly Stark and giving some advice to a youngster.*

(Photos © Howard Stump, James Munch, Jr. [inset])



**"Every great work, every great accomplishment, has been brought into manifestation through holding to the vision..."**

~Florence Scovel Shinn

*Polly,  
Congratulations on your induction  
into The Morgan Horse's Women's  
Honor Roll.*

*~With love from your family.*

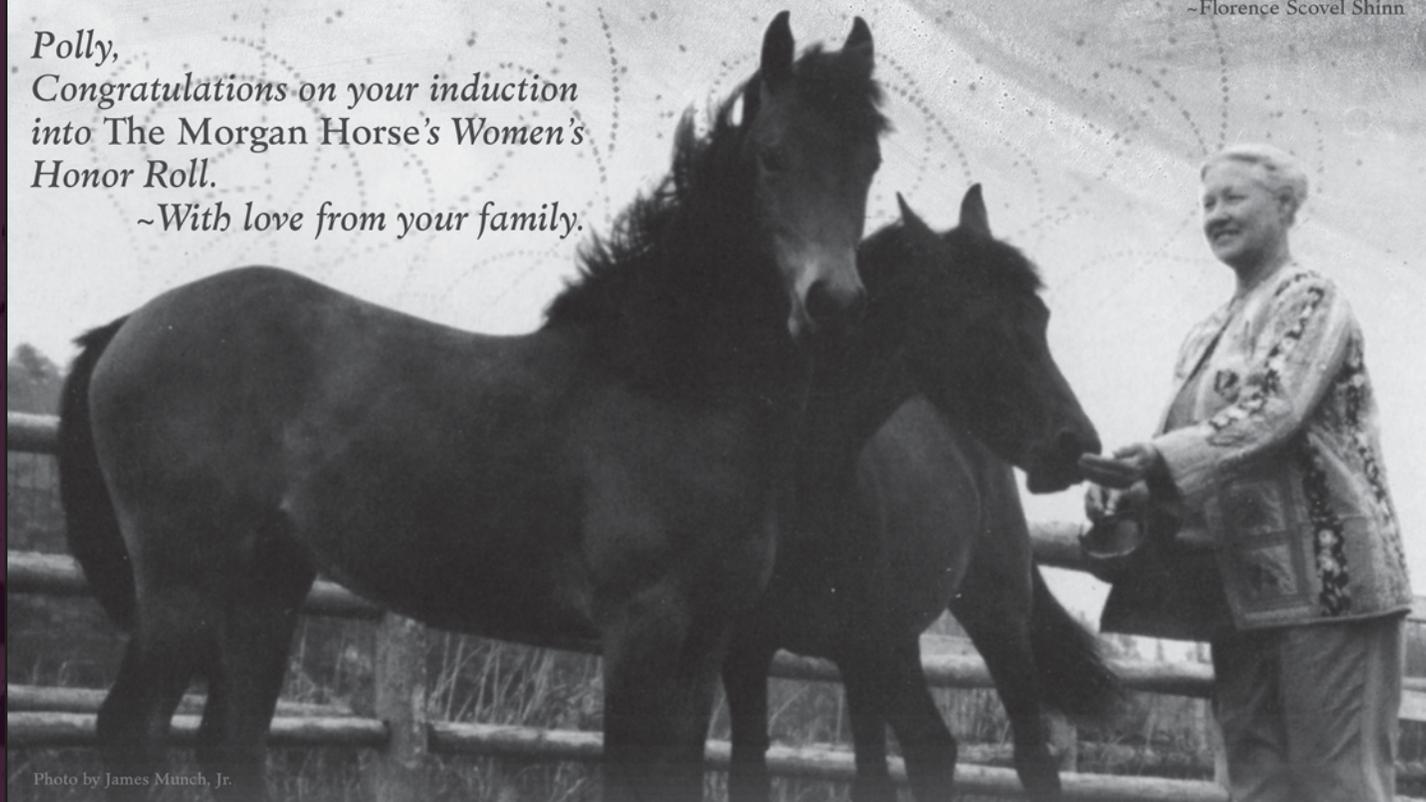


Photo by James Munch, Jr.

*Polly Quinn continued*

22 for a hall of fame award with a remarkable performance, a ride I won't forget. Heyday Molly Stark showed with the same verve and longevity, a mare in love with life. I can tell you for a fact that the Morgans Polly raises share her qualities—they are of a strong mind, talented, true blue and smarter than me.

True blue also describes Polly's devotion to the Morgan museum. A tireless volunteer (a poor word which cannot account

for hours of indefatigable fundraising that spanned the whole country), Polly willed the museum into life. Our breed owes her such a debt!

To me, Polly Quinn is a treasure, a support, and my wonderful friend. I am proud to have her in my life and grateful for a chance to honor her. Congratulations Polly!

*Bonnie Sogoloff*

## CHOSEN BY OUR READERS

### *Barb Rudicel* MORGAN CFO

*In 1988, a dedicated and determined owner, breeder and exhibitor took over what is now the World Morgan Futurity, reorganized the structure and made it the success it is today. And what a success it is! In the past ten years alone the futurity has raised approximately \$2,250,000!*

A warm, friendly and gracious smile is one of the trademarks of this exceptional lady. She has so many well-earned honors it is impossible to name them all—but AMHA Woman of the Year, AMHA Hall of Fame, AMHA Master Certificate and the AMHA Breeders Hall of Fame, awarded this year, are but a few of the well-deserved honors bestowed upon her. She spends tireless hours serving as an AMHI Trustee, a member of the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® Committee, as well as having served on board of directors for the Indiana Classic and Gold Cup. At the Grand National Horse Show she has been and continues to be the face of hospitality, working all day of the horse show making sure everyone feels welcome and a part of the show.

Over 40 years of breeding and raising Morgans with the Raintree prefix has resulted in more than 50 Grand National and World Champions as well as the Breeders Sweepstakes Champion, Raintree Celine, a beautiful chestnut filly. She continues to participate with these champions in promotional events such as parades and presentations at Equitana.

Foaling time is Barb's favorite time of the year! She has actively foaled out mares for clients, many of them now champions in their own right—she beams with pride when one excels for their owner. Retired from delivering foals for clients, she just recently tended to one of her own and within hours assisted her friend and neighbor, Lyn Estell of Meadowmist Morgans, foaling out a mare who produced a bay colt!

She is encouraged by her physician husband, Max, in her horse endeavors. While she seemingly has worked full-time for the Morgan world, she and Max have found time to raise two sons and recently serve as hosts for four foreign exchange students.

Barb is one of the hardest working members of our Morgan community. She continues to enthusiastically promote the World Morgan Futurity, determined to reward the efforts of her fellow breeders in the breed she loves. I am delighted to be one among the legion of her friends. ■

*Sally Plumley*



*Above: Barb Rudicel, in her office and enjoying the Morgan horse.*

LEADERS INNOVATORS  
MENTORS ADVOCATES  
EDUCATORS PIONEERS  
COUNSELORS JUDICATORS

2013

# *The Women In Our Industry* HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year five, celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse* has, for the fifth year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue each year, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse and colorful as the breed itself.

For the fourth year we have invited nominations from the floor, so to speak. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2013 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.



(Photo © Jack Schatzberg)

*Renee Page driving  
Forevermore  
(above) and being  
inducted into  
Jubilee Regional's  
Hall of Fame.*



(Photo © Howard Schatzberg)

## *Renee Page* HISTORY'S MAID

**R**enee is an important part of the heritage of the Morgan horse and, above all, a close personal friend for the last fifty years.

Renee is a breeder, an exhibitor, a volunteer, a judge and, perhaps most important to us, a true historian of where this breed came from and where it's going. As a breeder and exhibitor, she produces quality not quantity with a long string of horses like Beamine, Forevermore and Thunder Bay and, of course, one of her own personal favorites—Funquest Pukiza. As a volunteer, she has been an active participant of and a member of the board of the Jubilee Regional Morgan Show from the start.

Renee shines as the keeper of our breed's history and that is a heritage that we should never forget. She was fortunate to have been able to gain so much insight from two of the greats—Doris Ryan and her mother Helen Greenwalt. But we are really the fortunate ones that Renee has so diligently kept their memory and the great foundation horses they produced alive for all of us. There always will be people who “talk the talk,” but Renee is one of the very few who has “walked the walk.”

If this was all there was to Renee Page, it would be more than enough reason to honor her, but she is also a very special and loyal



friend. I met Renee 50 years ago during the Illinois State Fair—introduced by Ma Greenwalt and through all those years we’ve remained friends to the point of being “family.”

We have a lot of memories, but I’ll pick just one. Renee had a young stallion that she sent to Merriehill some years ago. Both Renee and Stan Bodnar showed him successfully for two years. Renee then decided to sell him. One weekend when both Renee and I were at the farm, and Stan worked the horse, we thought it would be kind of neat to see a young guy get up on him. All it took was two passes and we knew that they belonged together. That horse was Medomak King Cobra. That young guy was Mark Bodnar. And, yes, they did belong together!

So, Renee thanks to you for everything you are and everything you’ve done and for being my second sister.

*Mark Staehnke*

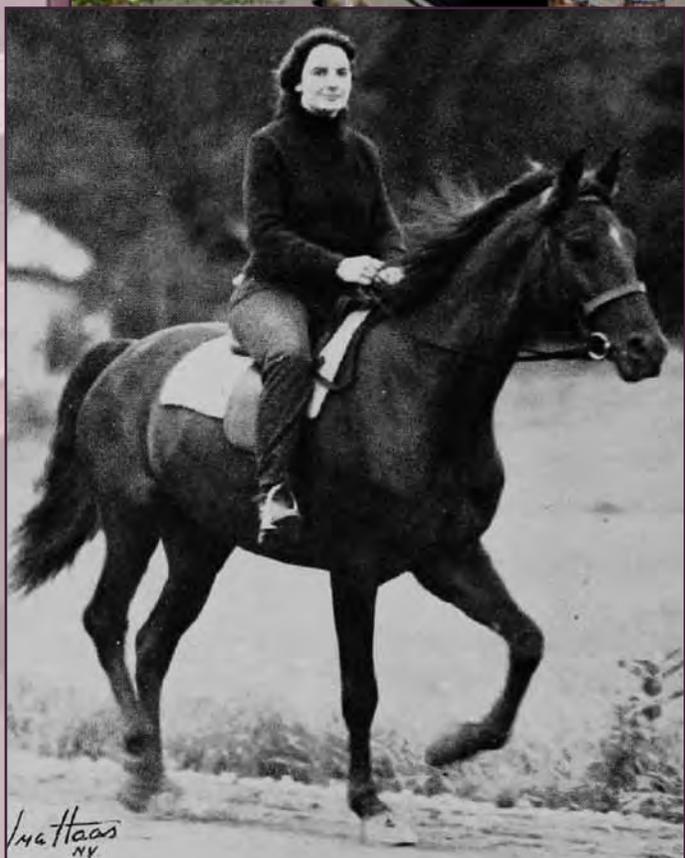
## *Susan Hanley* **KEEPER OF THE LAMBERTS**

Susan Johns Hanley, born to Richard and Mildred Johns in Hartfield, Connecticut, became interested in Morgans as a young girl, witnessing C.D. Parks winning the 1942 100 mile Vermont ride on the famous mare Lippitt Miss Nekomia. Inspired, she acquired the Government bred Morgan Angus, and as a teenager, rode him to 4th place in the Lightweight Division of the 1947 100 mile ride. Susan also actively participated with Angus as a member of the Groton, Massachusetts Fox Hunt Club. She recalled the master of the hunt declaring, “Were I a whipper-in and could choose only one horse to ride, I would choose Angus.”

Susan graduated from the Boston School of the Museum of Fine Arts, in 1950, majoring in Graphic Arts, later studying lithography, painting, and life-drawing on a scholarship with noted artists at the Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado. She also did photographing in Korea and freelance photography and filmstrips for McGraw-Hill. She has had numerous photos published in different publications.

Susan found her life’s passion for the expression of her artistic talents and love of horses when she and her husband Shannon Hanley established “The Quietude Stud” in 1973 to perpetuate the historic Lambert Morgan family line with the beautiful foundation stallion Criterion, purchased from Fran Bryant. The solid Morgan type, exceptional beauty and athletic ability of the Lambert Morgan family have delighted her ever since. Thanks to Susan’s enthusiasm and dedication for preserving the Lamberts, they are represented in more than 34 states and seven foreign countries among nearly 150 different owners, including several dedicated Lambert breeders, with a grand total of 308 Lamberts living as of 2012. Susan’s days are jam-packed with daily farm chores, helping Shannon care for Quietude’s herd of more than 50 Lambert Morgans and plan the breedings for next season. Somehow she still finds time to ride her beloved 32-year-old Caress Of Quietude (Criterion x Caven-Glo Ballerina), share her vast knowledge of Morgan history with friends and new Morgan owners, and regularly update her phenomenal website, [www.lambertmorgans.com](http://www.lambertmorgans.com) with spectacular new photos and videos. Thank you Susan, and congratulations on this honor!

*Brenda Tippin*



(Photo © Ira Haas)

**Top:** Susan Hanley with Quietude Sahara (Courage of Quietude x Quietude Cascade), owned by Carol Miller;  
**Bottom:** Susan Hanley with Angus (Goldfield x Urnice) at the 1947 Vermont ride.



Cheri Barber with Gradell Ring My Bell (above) and at New England Regional.

(Top photo © Shane Shiflet)

## Cheri Barber MASTERY OF THE LOOK

“A pretty horse never gets discarded” is a cornerstone of Cheri Barber’s philosophy about Morgan horses. If they have specifically Morgan beauty, they will also have the talent needed to have a career, all of which awards them with value, which in turn assures them of care and love and long lives. Cheri’s vision is unique. As a trainer of countless world, regional and also Breeder Sweepstakes champions she is as kind as the breed in which she specializes. She is also, however, a breeder. And you can be assured that when she makes the limited crosses of horses that carry her Grand Cru prefix she is considering beauty, soundness, usefulness and good minds miles ahead of all else. Over decades, first in establishing the “Treble’s look,” based on the cross of Tug Hill Commando and the daughters of Treble’s Willy Wild, with her business partner Carol Hudson, and now using her own prefix, a proven product has come out of Cheri’s Ocala, Florida barn. The glamorous full brothers Grand Cru Beaujolais and Chase Manhattan come to mind. Partnering with John Scheidt in breeding to Stonecroft Trilogy, the likes of Stonecroft Flammable has come along. Flammable is now the foundation mare for a new generation of breeding stock at the historic Burkland Farm. In her barn you will find the “safest things” are the stallions who stand at stud, because they have learned the kind of manners, in daily life and while breeding, that make them good citizens. All of this can be attributed to the fact, simply put, that Cheri puts horses first. Which in great part accounts for her many long-term and unbreakable associations over her decades as a Morgan trainer, breeder, judge and friend to many, myself included.

Stephen Kinney

Nancy Plimpton with her beloved Lippitts. (Bottom photo © Denlore)



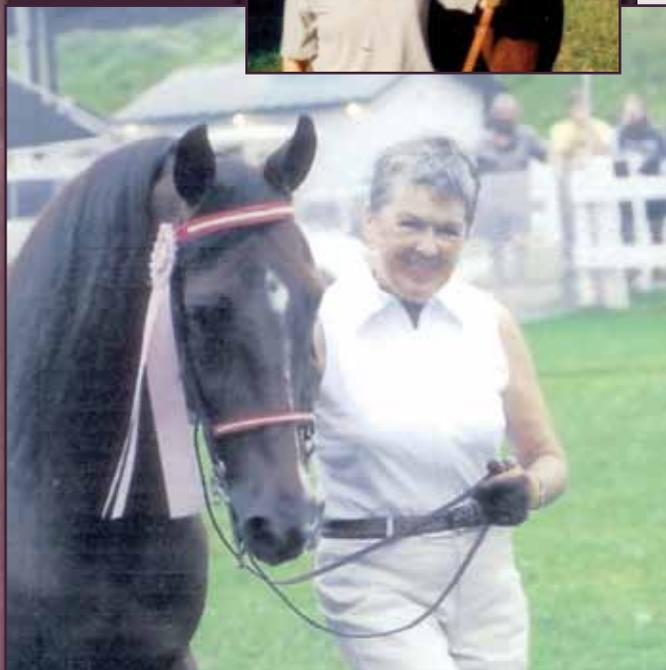
## Nancy Plimpton LIPPITT LOVE

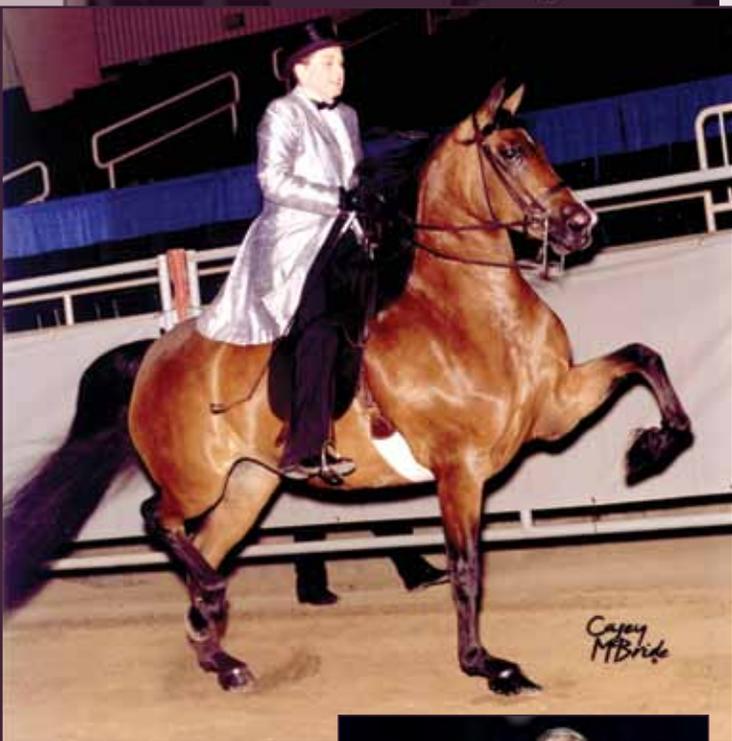
Nancy Plimpton has been horse crazy since she was a young girl. Her love for horses only grew as she became an adult. Nancy started out with grade horses, but in the 1968 she bought an unborn foal from Joyce Searles. The filly was named Jesta Carla Jane, and was Nancy’s first full Lippitt Morgan.

Nancy was one of the founding members of the Lippitt Club and has stayed very involved in various roles, including president, director, show manager, and member of the pedigree screening committee throughout the years. Today, she still answers many inquiries every month from Lippitt fans wondering about the percentage of Lippitt blood in their Morgan.

Nancy was one of the charter members in the creation of the Morgan Horse Heritage Foundation, whose goal is to support the history of the Morgan horse, and continues to serve as the secretary. She has also been a long time member of the Vermont Morgan Horse Association and has been an active volunteer in many of the VMHA’s activities, such as Vermont Morgan Heritage Days, Morgan Mile races, Equine Affair, and clinics.

In 2012, Nancy was the recipient of the VMHA’s Governor Dean Davis award for her life work with Morgans. Nancy’s prefix is Nabub and several of her foals were sold as foundation horses for other breeding programs. Nancy now owns a gelding, Old Vermont Chancellor, for her enjoyment and plans to ride as long as she can walk. Her attitude: “What is life without a horse?” Some well-known





**Top:** Joan Bowers and Mantic Diva;

**Right:** Joan and Rollie Bowers at

Farwest 2007.

(Top photo © Casey McBride)



**Bottom:**

Ann Anderson

(Photo © Susan Colleton)



horses that Nancy owned or bred were Royalton Noelle Ash (Grand Champion Mare at 1st Lippitt Country Show), Nabub's Donnie Moro (breeding stallion owned by Peter Caradonna), and Nabub's Belnora (foundation mare for Misty Mountains breeding program).

Joy Smith

## Joan Bowers MANTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Joan Bowers was one of California and Oregon's truly outstanding Morgan horse breeders, trainers, and personalities.

Joan's journey with the Morgan horse began, when at a young age, she became the owner of a young half-Morgan gelding named "Topper." Topper learned to count, bow, do patterns with no saddle or bridle, and provided Joan with constant companionship. Her skill with horses was an innate, natural ability.

While skiing the slopes of Squaw Valley she met Dr. Rollie Bowers. And after 43 days of courtship, they were engaged. They married soon after and enjoyed a wonderful 40 years together raising one daughter, Tami.

Joan's love for horses was overwhelming and they soon established Morgan Manor, a full-service Morgan breeding and training facility in San Jose, later moving to Philomath, Oregon. The "Mantic" prefix would soon become well known throughout the Morgan community. Joan was responsible for breeding, raising or training more than 500 Morgan horses. Heading the list was their foundation stallion, Waseeka Peter Piper, whose natural park motion and endless energy took Joan to countless championships where ever he was shown. There is a long list of Mantic bred Morgans who have filled show records and breeding sheds.

Joan's success and her life with Morgan horses is well documented by the trophies and accolades that adorned the walls and shelves of her home and trophy room. The most coveted are the Golden Reins Award, The Master's Certificate, the Morgan Horse Promotional Award, and the Morgan Horse Breeder's Hall of Fame—all bestowed on her by the American Morgan Horse Association.

Joan's presence in the show arena thrilled many who were used to seeing her big happy smile, and her Morgans adorned with championship ribbons, as she made hundreds of victory passes. She was a mentor to old and young alike and provided an ever-lasting impact on the lives of many.

Joan had an eight-year battle against metastatic breast cancer which she faced with courage and optimism. On February 3, 2007 her life ended peacefully at Morgan Manor with her family at her side.

Arthur Perry

## Ann Anderson A QUIET LEGACY

Ann. Isn't it amazing how a single word can connote such a tapestry of images that so perfectly epitomize one of the Morgan world's most highly esteemed icons? Multi-titled world champion, gifted and talented horsewoman, understated, gracious, industrious, sensitive, detail-oriented, and loyal, she is beloved and respected by a diverse group of clients, friends, and fans who span the almost five decades that have marked her stellar career. The meticulous, precise presentations that characterize each of her show ring appearances have been obvious since her earliest days in 4-H and have defined the subsequent course of her career, placing her on the "short list" of most celebrated Morgan trainers.



Above: Ann Anderson and Tedwin Tango.

Ann Clark Anderson has been a horsewoman forever, forging a life-long work ethic early on at the family's farm in Duxbury, Massachusetts where she raised sheep to help finance her "horse hobby." It was clear from those early years in 4-H (she was unbeatable in Fitting & Showmanship) that Ann's future would always include horses. Her first Morgan, Bay State Hannibal, was a great representative of the breed. A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, her love of Morgan horses transformed the family farm into what would become one of country's leading training facilities, Hobby Knoll Stable. Although Ann is sometimes quiet and often self-effacing, the art work, trophies, and bands of ribbons in her home and stable chronicle her amazing journey in the world of the magnificent Morgan horse. Quiet hands and subtle cues, coupled with an intuitive understanding and natural bonding with each of her horses, define the style that has been quintessentially Ann. She's had special associations with some of the breed's legendary mares: Topside Firefly, Topfield's Janet, Tedwin Tango, Tedwin In Tempo, Ladys Enticement, Lady Hot Topic, HVK Crystal Bay, Tughill Slight Indulgence, UVM Christine, and Minion Starlette. A natural to be honored in The Morgan Horse magazine's tribute to Women in the Industry, Ann personifies her own brand of inner strength and quiet dignity, and has also been honored by AMHA and UPHA Chapter 14 for her many contributions to the breed she loves. She is quite simply, Annie of Hobby Knoll.

*Susan Colleton*

## *Anne Mears* PIONEER OF THE PLAINS

Anne C. Mears, of Laramie, Wyoming, is about to celebrate her 87th birthday! Her secret to a long healthy life: to enjoy every single moment. And this is what Anne has done so well through her horses, her travels and her collection of dolls. Much has changed in the past year for this grand lady. The Mears Morgans ranch is on the market and the core of her breeding herd has transferred to their new home at Chasseur Farm in Texas. She has accepted it with great pride. Many of you know this bubbly personality of many hats, whether she presented you with a winning ribbon at Grand National or Circle J Regional, or crossed your path at another Morgan venue. But I have had the chance to share a very special relationship with her and it is an honor to write a few words in tribute to her. The trust and respect we have for each other has helped shape our lives these past 10 years since I moved from France and fell in love with Morgans at her ranch. I never felt I worked for Anne, I worked with her and with our mutual love for the Morgan horse. We have rebuilt the Mears Morgans breeding program together. We started with her homebred stock as rugged as the Mid-Western Plains, with especially strong hind ends. Ann, in her 80s, embraced with joy and faith the addition of new blood, adding refinement and athleticism, to the Mears Morgans herd. The result has been, among other things, a win of the Morgan World Championship for Jumpers in 2008 and 2010 with Flintwood Starlet (by Pot Of Gold) and in 2012 with CBMF Follow Your Heart (by GLB Bell Pepper). Anne is particularly proud that Morgans with her LR Ami prefix now compete in combined driving at the highest levels with reinsmen Lisa Singer (LR Ami Bengali) and Shelly Temple (LR Ami B-Line).

Happy Birthday my dear friend! I look forward to many more times together filled with laughter. You inspire us all to accept who we are and live our lives in the fullest way.

*Mallory Mignot*



Above: Anne Mears and Mallory Mignot;  
Right: Anne Mears



# Past Honor Roll Inductees



## 2009

Marilyn Childs  
 Martha V. Dupont  
 Anna Ela & Ruth Orcutt  
 Betty Greene  
 Helen Greenwalt  
 Anita Hoitsma  
 Gloria Jones  
 Frances Pugh  
 Sid Spencer  
 Pat Tataronis Orcutt  
 Mary Jean Vasiloff  
 Judy Whitney Harris  
 Mary Woolverton

## 2010

Beth Benard  
 Chris Cassenti  
 Simy Corbin  
 Nancy Eidam  
 Travis Filipek  
 Susan, Ling and Iann Fu  
 Margaret Gardiner  
 Georgie Green  
 Elberta Honstein  
 Jeanne Mellin Herrick  
 Carol Simpson  
 Jane Steffenhagen

## 2011

Peggy Alderman  
 Barbara Beaumont Cole  
 Debbie Beth Halachmy  
 Bobbi Blankenship  
 Angela Conner Bulmer  
 Elaine Galatz  
 Barbara Irvine  
 Jennifer McFall  
 Cindy Nord  
 Elizabeth Power  
 Lynne Shpak  
 Bonnie Sogoloff

## 2012

Laura Behning  
 Mary Cockriel  
 Frieda Datte Waer  
 Ellen DiBella  
 Ann Hailey  
 Carol Hudson  
 Maretta Kennedy  
 Suzy Lucine  
 Karen Myers  
 Judy Nason  
 Crescent Peirce  
 Polly Quinn  
 Barb Rudicel  
 Lisa Singer

## Ann Taylor BLAZING TRAILS

Ann Taylor is a fourth generation Morgan breeder. In 1973 she started her Wintergreen prefix, and in 1983 founded Woodland Stallion Station. She bought her foundation sire, HVK Santana, in 1990. She has been honored with the USEF Morgan Breeder of the Year in 2007 and 2010. She was also USEF Morgan Horse Owner of the Year in 2010. Ann's contributions as a breeder, owner, judge, exhibitor, and philanthropist have enhanced the Morgan industry and continue to do so as she contributes countless hours to the promotion of our breed. Ann has garnered many Grand National and World Championships, many with horses that she bred. Most recently, and in her mid 70s, atop her beloved Wintergreen Treasure she won the title of Western Trail World Champion.

Ann has actively been involved in the Sacramento Valley Morgan Horse Club and in the Mother Lode Morgan Horse Show for decades. She has served as the show chair and faithfully supports this local breed show. Additionally she supports the club by letting us use her facility free of charge for our annual trail ride and potluck. Ann was involved with the Western States Horse Expo since its beginning in Sacramento. She wrote the script for the Morgan breed demo and supplied superior quality Morgans for the demonstration at her own expense. The Morgan breed was always well represented thanks to Ann's involvement. Ann chaired the 2009 AMHA convention in Sacramento and sponsored an all day clinic at her facility.

We recognize Ann Taylor for her relentless efforts and contributions. She creates a setting within her facility that teaches boarders and riders to be responsible horse owners. She teaches young riders sportsmanship and respect.

We love you, Ann!

Kelly Dennison, Susan Garmier & Connie Barker



Above: Ann Taylor and Wintergreen Treasure, 2010 Western Trail World Champion (Photo © Howard Schatzberg)



Suzy Stafford (right) and at the reins of TTE Tea Time (below).



## Suzy Stafford DRIVING THE BREED

Suzy Stafford has been a champion driver and a champion of the Morgan breed since the beginning of her driving career. Suzy has always been a hard worker, and so she appreciates the work ethic of the Morgan horse. That work ethic is put to good use in the exciting and tough sport of Combined Driving.

Suzy had a long, successful career with Bev Leshner's Courage To Lead, winning several USEF National Championships in the Single Pony division, as well as an individual Bronze medal at the 2009 World Pony Driving Championships. "Katy" was recently inducted into the Equus Foundation Horse Stars Of Fame.

Suzy is currently competing two Morgans. TTE Tea Time, owned by Wendy O'Brien of Trout Walk Farm, is competing successfully in the Advanced level. Suzy is aiming "Trae" at the World Pony Driving Championships to be held this November in Pau, France.

PVF Peace Of Mind, otherwise known as "Hunny", has carefully been brought along since the age of three by owner Suzy, and is competing at Intermediate in the Single Horse Division. A big, elastic mover, Hunny will compete in the Advanced division when Suzy feels





Above: *Josette Conti on the 2010 World Champion Reiner, Disco Fever CH*  
(Photo © Howard Schatzberg)

Left: *Josette Conti*  
(Photo © Suzy Lucine)



Above: *Jane Elliott used to train and show German sherpherds and Cocker Spaniels. In the past few months she added a German shepherd puppy to her home, and is training her as well.*

she is ready. With a World Championship planned for Single Horses next year, their timing looks good!

*Shelly Temple*

## *Josette Conti* IT'S RAINING REINERS

Josette Conti has reintroduced the world of reining to the Morgan breed. Her openmindedness to train the Morgans in this Quarter Horse dominated division is a testament to her to belief in the Morgan as a reining horse.

Josette's introduction to the Morgan horse began when she took over the reins of the highly competitive rail horse, Three C Shoofly and began training him to rein in 1992. Since then, Josette has trained, or coached her riders, to more than 50 Morgan World or National Titles in the reining division.

Josette is a trainer who truly loves her horses, and is passionate about the sport of reining. Her passion reflects in the quality of work she puts into her horses' daily training and care. Josette is the kind of trainer that spends time developing a horse's mind along with its body. This key component in her program is what the Morgans thrive on, and she capitalizes on it. Her finished horses are physically strong, quick and responsive, yet perform with a relaxed mental attitude. Her style of training also promotes longevity in the horses' careers.

Josette has been a huge promoter of the Morgan reining horse outside of the breed. She has taken many of her clients and their Morgans to the highly competitive NRHA (National Reining Horse Association) sanctioned shows, and done well with them. This in turn has introduced the Morgan breed to a whole new group of horse enthusiasts. A few of them sold their Quarter Horses and bought Morgans for reining.

Josette I am proud to have you as my mentor and friend. I am grateful for your dedication to the Morgan breed. You have helped shape the lives and programs of many Morgan owners through the years. Your skill and passion have been instrumental in the development of the highly competitive Morgan reining horse. Congratulations on this honor.

*Karen L. Myers*

## CHOSEN BY OUR READERS

### *Jane Elliott* A NEW ENGLAND CHARACTER

*Each year we reach out to the public through our Facebook page for a people's choice nominee. This year there was a veritable campaign to recognize the irrepressible and independent Jane Elliott of Newport, New Hampshire, a lady who is as characteristic a New Englander as the breed she loves.*

Jane Raschauer Elliott is the quintessential Morgan horse person; tough as the rocky New England soil she calls home—energetic, feisty, opinionated, caring, talented, intelligent, in short, a horseman's horseman. She is loved by two sons, four grandchildren, countless students whose lives she's touched, and many in the Morgan

## The Women In Our Industry



**Above:** Jane Elliott and JRE Prime Time Rose (Photo by Gael Jaeger).



**Left:** Jane and Catch A Cloud (Photo by Tami Johnson).

**Below:** Jane enjoys trail riding MLF Tiger Lilly around her New Hampshire farm.



horse world from coast to coast.

Jane grew up in northern New Jersey, and attended school at Kent Place. She went on to get both her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts. After college, she lived on a small farm in Massachusetts, and taught elementary school.

In addition to her teacher's salary, Jane helped fund her horse showing expenses by boarding and training dogs. She also showed German Shepherds and Cocker Spaniels, as well as tending to the demands of her farm.

Jane became friends with the Henry family of Bobbin Hollow Farm, and was a bridesmaid in Marsha Henry's (Marsha Henry Sheperd) wedding. She purchased her first Morgan from the Henrys, a two-year-old named Lady Roxanne. Jane trained and showed "Roxie," and they went on to excel in whatever division they entered, both at all-Morgan and open shows. In 1967, they won the Amateur English Pleasure Championship at New England, then the National Morgan Horse Show. Whenever Jane got bored in the show ring, she would train Roxie to do something else. So they competed on trail rides and in three-phase events. They were great ambassadors for the breed with enthusiasm and versatility.

In her later years, Jane showed Charlestown Jennifer Ann successfully in the classic pleasure driving division under the direction of Luman Wadhams. Both Jane and Luman showed Stone's Throw Contessa. In 2008, Jane purchased MLF Tiger Lilly in foal. The resulting filly was named Catch A Cloud, who is being shown for Jane by Alicia Owens. Jane rides Tiger Lilly at home whenever possible, keeping this octogenarian forever young.

Jane continues to live on an 11-acre farm on a back road on the outskirts of a small New England village. She stacks nine cords of wood in the summer, to keep her home heated with a fireplace in the winter. When the snowfall is deep or the ice is slippery, she uses her old four-wheel drive Jeep to climb the long hill to the barn for daily chores and to feed whatever horses are in residence. She also maintains her property by mowing pastures, grading the farm road, and repairing her tractor.

Jane is a known character on the New England show circuit, and loves to tell stories of her participation in midnight golf cart races with Nancy Caisse (and others) at the Morgan show in Northampton. She also adopted a local farm's injured chicken. Named Peggy, this chicken rode in the car with Jane, stayed in her laundry room on winter nights, and roosted in the barn near the horses in warmer weather.

In her spare time, Jane also enjoys pursuing her other passion—art. Many are lucky to receive a Christmas card from Jane that depicts one of her recent watercolor paintings. She is also a devout Boston Red Sox fan.

Jane is not one to let anyone tell her how to live her life. Her "Yankee" independence also enabled her to train, show and do it all with her own horse at a time that training and showing was still a "man's game." Jane was a strong force, along with people like Doris Ryan and Nancy Caisse, in giving women the foothold they would enjoy in the Morgan community.

Congratulations, Jane, for your overwhelmingly supported nomination to the Women's Honor Roll. You are the epitome of a mother, grandmother, friend, teacher, artist, and a character in every sense of the word. ■

Suzy Lucine

LEADERS INNOVATORS  
~ 2014 ~

# The Women In Our Industry HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year six celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

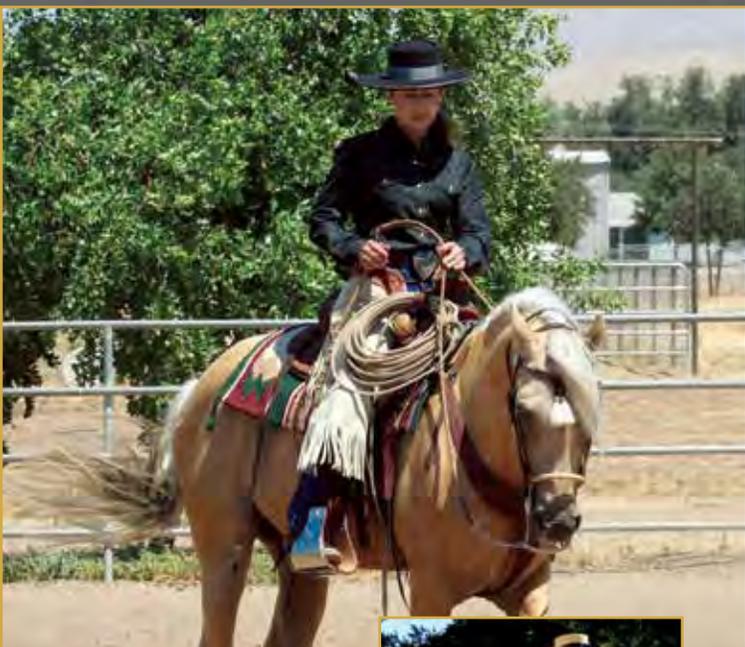
We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse* has, for the sixth year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue each year, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse and colorful as the breed itself.

For the fifth year we have invited nominations from the floor, so to speak. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2014 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.



Jo Johnson with Can Don Joshua Danny (above) and JaF Sunrise Surfer Dude (right).



(Photo by Lynn Brown)

## Jo Johnson VAQUERO HORSEWOMAN

*A long time advocate of the Morgan stock horse, Jo Johnson has thrown a big loop with her life around some really good Morgans and in the process has taught many young riders to appreciate the breed and was instrumental in their development as horsemen.*

Jo Johnson has done it all with the Morgan stock horse. From raising many good foals, to training good using horses, to contract packing for the U.S. Forest Service, to raising several dozen apprentices, to making California-style bridle horses from the best that she bred, to teaching clinics on training and packing, to giving demonstrations at state fairs, Jo has done it all—and to the highest standard possible. Jo's unrivaled enthusiasm and advocacy for the Morgan breed has won the hearts of many.

To see Jo ride Can Don Joshua Danny, one of the few Morgans that I knew to be straight up in the bridle, was something we will all remember. Jo and Joshua were living proof that the Morgan, by his anatomy and disposition, is a natural candidate for the elaborate and time-honored process of bridling in the Vaquero tradition.

Those of us who really know Jo will tell you that she does not talk a good game—she lives it. We say that she “whispers commands and shouts example.” Our lives are richer from knowing Jo and from her example of love and dedication to the breed.

*Col (Ret) John M. Hutcheson, Gab Creek Farm*

# Heidi Kunkel

## CARETAKER & COMPETITOR

*She has overcome more obstacles than most people ever endure to remain a kind and thoughtful caretaker of everything four legged—from the finest horseflesh in show biz to the most needy creatures fate has placed in harm’s way.*

“I am woman hear me roar”—I have never met a stronger woman, or person for that fact, as my dear friend Heidi Kunkel. The road she has traveled and the obstacles she has overcome are phenomenal. In fact, she is nothing short of amazing. From her career in real estate to her success in Morgans she demands and strives for the best. To say she has a good eye for a horse is putting it mildly. With the likes of Elm Hill Bay Leader, HVK Courageous Flaire, Stonecroft Byzantine, KD Hot To Trot, SYP High Definition, JW Standing Tall and Stonecroft Triumphant, I’d say her eye is spot on. Not only has Heidi shown some of these wonderful horses to world titles herself but two of these she hand picked as yearlings and watched as they went on to be crowned Park Harness World Champions with her dear friend, the late Rick Stevens, on the line. Great eye indeed.

When it comes to showing Heidi is a fierce competitor who demands perfection. Heidi has amassed tricolors from New England to Oklahoma, too numerous to mention. Some great highlights would be winning the Amateur Park Saddle World Championship with Courageous as she had years prior with Bay Leader. Heidi is equally talented behind a horse as well having won World and Reserve World Amateur Park Harness titles with Courageous and Byzantine, respectively. Who could forget the Ken and Barbie rivalry between Heidi and Courageous and Tony Lee and Queen’s Vanity Flair? The amateur park harness division has never seen the likes of the sportsmanship and camaraderie as was between these two friends. Currently, Heidi is showing the talented Stonecroft Triumphant in ladies park harness and they are a force to reckon with. Aside from the show ring Heidi has been very generous with her time having worked on various committees in the industry always trying to better the breed she so dearly loves.

Personally one could not ask for a better friend. Heidi has a big heart and many are not aware that Morgans are not the only breed that command her attention. Among her equine collection are approximately 20 miniature horses that she has rescued from the horrors of the New Holland auctions and each one is a big part of her family. Owner, exhibitor and breeder Heidi has a big heart indeed and I am honored to call her friend.

*Roxanne Sardelli, Sarde Morgans*

# Sherry Cole

## INDUSTRY LEADER

*From the family that made Tedwin Topic famous, Sherry Cole saw the transition from breeder and exhibitor to organizer and leader as natural and seamless. She’s set the bar very high for those who serve in our business.*

It is such an honor for me to be asked to write a few words about my friend Sherry Cole.

There are few women in the Morgan world that have made a



*Heidi Kunkel with her good friend, the late Rick Stevens and at a show in 2013.*



*(Photo © Mike Galletta)*

*Sherry Cole at the 2011 AMHA Convention (right) and at home in 2004 (below).*



greater impact on our breed and on many of the members of the Morgan family. Sherry has a lifelong history of loving and supporting all things Morgan. She has been a noted breeder, owner, exhibitor and volunteer. She has served AMHA as a Regional Director, President of the Board of Directors and now as an Emeritus. She is a member of the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show® Committee and was the chair of the 2013 show. She is a member of the USEF Morgan Rules Committee and was a board member of AMHI. Her dedication, integrity, common sense and ability to answer just about any question dealing with Morgan horses, board history or the best way to do anything better are legendary. I swear she throws nothing away and she knows just where she can find the answer to anything! I have been in awe of her for many years.

Sherry is a leader, a mentor and one of the kindest, most genuine individuals I have ever had the privilege of knowing. She has made a lasting mark on the Morgan community, truly deserving of her spot in the Women In Our Industry Honor Roll.

*Cindy Mugnier, Former AMHA President*



*Carol and Ray Potts, manning The Lippitt Club, Inc. booth at the 2012 AMHA Convention (top), and at home (bottom).*

## → *Carol Potts* **THE LIPPIITT ADVOCATE**

*The Lippitt Morgan seems to attract enthusiasts who are as avid as the bloodline is unique. Carol Potts bring the full force of her personality to bear in the promotion of the breed and of her beloved Lippitts.*

**C**arol Potts has dedicated her life to a single purpose: to promote the Morgan horse. Carol's focus on our horses and ability to spread the love of Morgans, especially Lippitt Morgans, is uncanny. Bold Venture Morgan Farm, with its Venturous prefix, in Eva, Alabama is Carol's home. There she breeds the wonderful Lippitt Morgans she so adores. Her love for Morgans is contagious and other farms have begun with Venturous bloodlines.

Carol always looks for ways and places in which to promote Morgans. She and her husband Ray (now deceased) would pack their car to the hilt with all sorts of information about Morgans, especially Lippitts, and would drive anywhere there was a Morgan or all-breed event. Some of the venues attended were the Lippitt Country Show, the Central Region Lippitt Show, Equine Affaire in Massachusetts, the Grand Nationals, and the AMHA Convention, just to name a few. Wherever horses convened, Carol could be found along with all of her promotional information and Morgan sales items.

She can "talk Morgan" (or "Lippitt Morgan") to anyone with any degree of horse knowledge leaving them all wanting more. Her's is a wealth of information, always disseminated in a very matter-of-fact manner and in no way ever pushy. She exudes passion for Morgan horses. Her home is filled not only with horse paraphernalia, but with totally organized files of many types of information regarding the Morgan horse. This serves to give her the ability to have an answer to any question just at her fingertips. She is forever educating herself so that she may educate others.

Carol and Ray were honored by the AMHA which inducted them into their Hall of Fame in 2005. Carol is just as deserving now, as she and Ray were then, to claim her place on *The Morgan Horse's* Women's Honor Roll.

*Margo Gelber Ciano*

*On behalf of The Lippitt Club, Inc.*

# Muriel Burnheimer

## A BREEDER OF INFLUENCE

*Medomak (ma•DOM•ack) is the name of the river that runs past Muriel Burnheimer's family farm. Often mispronounced, Muriel's breeding prefix is always recognized for highest quality and beautiful Morgan horses.*

Being named one of the most influential women in our breed is an honor for which Muriel may have been the model though she will undoubtedly argue that she is worthy. She was born with an eye for bloodlines that yielded some of the breed's most beautiful, athletic and memorable Medomak Morgans.

The records indicate Muriel bought her first Morgan mare in 1948 and registered her last foal in 2005. Fifty-seven years, 95 Morgan horses and the influence of one dedicated and determined woman. Sixty-four carry the Medomak prefix, Morgan horses that individually made an impact in every arena where horses compete—from the World and Grand National Championship Show to the World Pairs Driving Championships, from every New England state's own Morgan show to regional championships across America and Canada, from 4-H programs and Pony Club to Tri-County Horseman shows on the coast of Maine.

Look to the registry history and you'll be in awe of just how many of the largest (Big Oak, Merriehill & Silver Maple) to the smallest (Come Spring, Justanotha, Maine-Lee, Med-E-Oka and Sea-Vu) breeding programs have produced world, international and national champions who originated from Muriel's influence.

Look to the local coastal Maine horse community and you'll find a long list of individuals who will tell you that Muriel Burnheimer made a significant influence on them. She taught us bloodlines and more importantly she taught us about being very responsible Morgan owners. Muriel worked hard every single day that those beautiful horses were part of her life (not only does she still live on the farm, her residence is an apartment in the barn where all this equine activity took place).

She is a gem in the crown of Morgan history and a friend who deserves this recognition.

*Holly Butterman, Snowview Farm Morgans*

# Shelly Temple

## OFF AND RUNNING

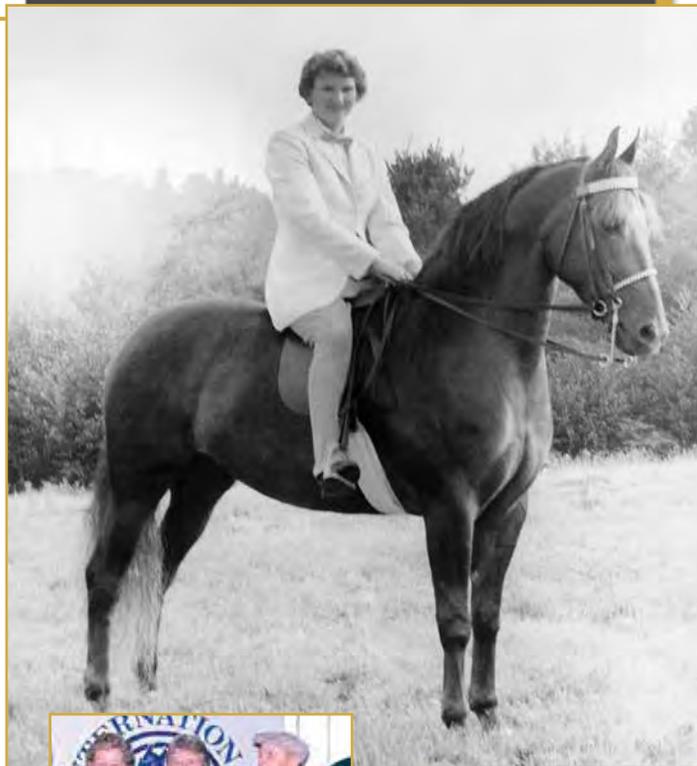
*Shelly Temple, at the reins of LR Ami B-Line, has continued to prove the adage that "the pony is the Morgan breed's secret weapon," with their many forays into the deepest competition Combined Driving has to offer.*

First met Shelly watching a combined driving event held at my house many years ago. She approached me and said, "where do I start learning about this sport?" Off and running!!

She bought the Morgan Whippoorwill Laertes, aka "Zipper," and she was off and running. When Shelly puts her mind to something she put her whole effort into it. Zipper was the perfect horse to learn the procedure for combined driving. And Shelly's attitude to progress was just awesome.

One day I said, "Shelly do you want to go advanced?" Her answer was "Yes, what do I do next?" and she was off and running again!! And she went on and on.

Shelly has a great way of communicating with people about how

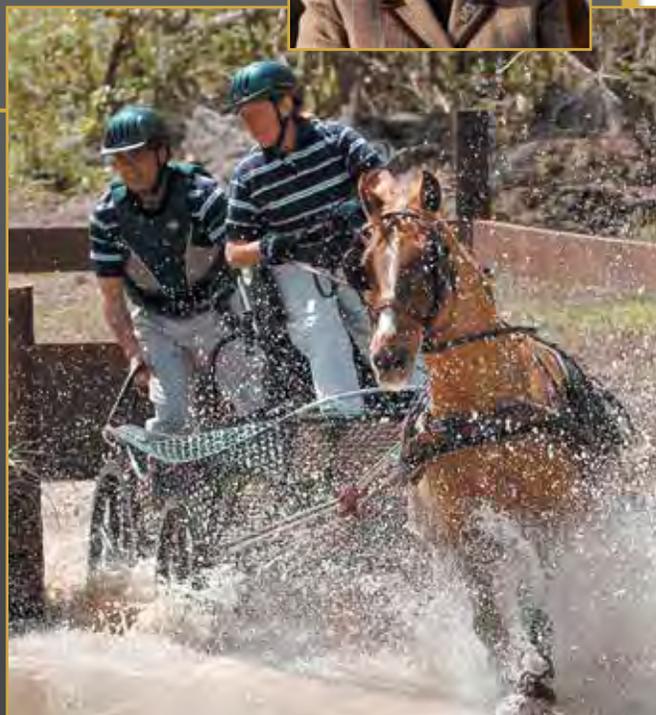


*Muriel Burnheimer with Poppy Cock, circa 1960 (top) and being honored at the 2005 Maine Morgan Horse Show (left).*



*Rochelle "Shelly" Temple was named the 2011 America's Favorite Equestrian in Driving.*

*(Photo by Bettina Ruckelshaus)*





(Photo © Howard Schatzberg)

*Helen Crawford with HVK Ancient Cry at the 2006 Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® (above) and with Tug Hill Whamunion (right).*



(Photo © Avis)



*Brenda Tippin at home and with Snake River Firefly.*



to connect with their horse and how to start people the smart way in getting into combined driving. Shelly took LR Ami B-Line from the beginning to the top competing at the World Pony Championships and now to ridden dressage. Not only does she drive, judges and trains horses for driving, but she has made some great jewelry pieces for driving ladies. I am very pleased that Shelly is being presented this tribute to be on the *The Morgan Horse's* Women's Honor Roll.

*Lisa Singer, Chateau Log*

## *Helen Crawford* THE CONSUMMATE LADY

*It's simple: Helen Crawford is revered, loved and respected as one of the leading amateur horsewomen in Morgandom.*

**H**elen's champions include Tug Hill Whamunion, with whom she became the second amateur to win the coveted Open Park Saddle World Championship; HVK Ancient Cry, who became the most titled Ladies Park Harness World Champion in history; and Ancient Cry's daughter, Cry Baby, who followed her dam's path to the same world title.

I first met Helen through her husband Bill Crawford, as owners of Boston Morgan Farm—I referred to him as the "Admiral." We sat on the Morgan Grand National Show Committee together for 12 years. We all became great friends.

One evening, Bill, Helen and I were having dinner and they told me they had the horse for me, and they were right. A product of their breeding program, Miss Voodoo (Tug Hill Whamunion x Boston Abracadabra) became my forever horse. They encouraged me from the beginning and continued to encourage me even when we competed against each other. That is the kind of people they were.

Helen and Bill moved from their Wilsonville, Oregon Farm to Murrieta, California and continued to win countless titles for their Boston Morgan Farm. After her husband's unfortunate and untimely demise, Helen moved back to Oregon where she now resides and is establishing a new barn with her daughter, Carolyn Crawford Dillion. The "babies" travelled with them and are now in Oregon and are going to compete in the Pacific Northwest circuit and, we hope, onto Grand National!

Along with being the most amazing challenge in the show ring with her fabulous park horses, Helen is also the most caring and loving friend. She's a bit shy, but for those of us who've become part of her circle she's amazing!

*Mona Skager*

## *Brenda Tippin* THE CHRONICLER

*Brenda Tippin is an historian on everything Morgan, cataloguing the history of the breed for this, the official breed journal.*

**B**renda has become our go-to gal for in-depth, historical research projects at *The Morgan Horse*. We'll have editorial meetings where we come up with obscure references to Morgans from the past, and Brenda will turn our one-sentence thought into a 7,000-word essay. Last year, we asked her to research William Randolph Hearst, and she delivered a vibrant and masterfully woven story on the Morgan breeding program of one of the most colorful personalities of the 20th century. Fast forward to two months ago, when we asked her if she knew anything about the Morgans of author Laura Ingalls Wilder—that article is slated to be published in our

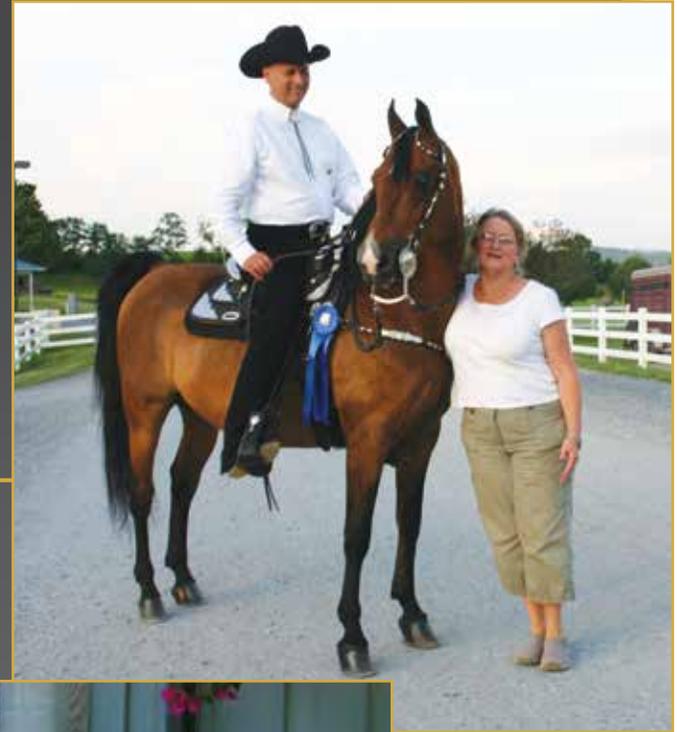
upcoming July issue, which celebrates Morgan Americana.

Brenda is also the best kind of ally the working Western and ranching Morgans could ask for—armed with thorough knowledge, a researcher’s zeal and a mighty pen (OK, laptop). She has chronicled the life of Mortana Pat, written accurately on General Custer’s Morgan and highlighted the horsemanship of Bab Verdugo.

Vintage breeding is another favorite subject for this author’s definitive examinations. Witness her stories on the Lamberts of the Quietude Stud and the famous road trotting bloodlines of yesteryear.

Brenda’s contributions go back decades and span scores of articles. If we can dream it, Brenda can write it. She is thorough, curious, and a masterful storyteller. We are able to boast that we are “everything Morgan” in no small part thanks to her!

Stephen Kinney and Abbie Trexler



## Joyce Metters THE ARTIST OF HOLLYBROOK

From foundation stock that is uniformly beautiful and characteristically Morgan, she has contributed a long line of stock that is revered in the show ring and beloved by their owners.

It’s no accident that our friend, noted North Carolina horsewoman Joyce Metters, is an artist and educator as well as an accomplished Morgan trainer and breeder. With the artist’s keen eye for beauty and the educator’s focus on function and outcomes, Joyce has built a reputation for producing beautiful, talented Hollybrook-prefixed Morgan horses with the regularity of the trains that pass by the picturesque Lexington, North Carolina farm she and husband John Copley call home. Names like Hollybrook Wham Bam, Hollybrook Stage Rage and Hollybrook Headliner have made their marks as sires. Show horses like Hollybrook Touché, Hollybrook Van Gogh, Hollybrook Romeo, Hollybrook Independence and, our own horse of a lifetime, Hollybrook Star Connection have made countless victory passes while setting standards with their stylish good looks. Like the artist layering on carefully chosen colors, this astute horsewoman has developed a knack for layering on just the right combination of bloodlines to achieve, time and again, that rare combination of great beauty, athleticism and true Morgan type. And, ever the teacher, Joyce shares—her horses, her knowledge, and her friendship. Combine artistry, teaching, integrity, Southern charm and great personal warmth, and you have the complete picture of Joyce Metters, a horsewoman to be admired and emulated.

Sandy and Todd Trushel, Corinthian Stables



Joyce with Todd Trushel and Hollybrook Star Connection (above) and at home (left).

The beautiful June Brockett Wright at an awards banquet in the 1960s (right) and in 1958 with the yearling, Vigilmarch, whom she bred (below).



(Photo © W. Patriquin)

## June Brockett Wright THE CALL OF THE BREEDING SHED

Insufficiently remembered, the late June Brockett Wright has been a major player in both the Morgan show ring and breeding sheds.

She simply had a love of animals (I’ve always thought it was the result of being an only child who had animals as best friends). She showed sheep, she showed cattle and she showed draft horses.

Then she met the Morgan.

She owned the great Mayphil (Magellan x Phillipa) and, finding her too hot to show, bred her, most notably twice to Orcland Vigildon (Ulendon x Vigilda Burkland)—June loved the strong trotting ability of the Ulendon lines. Their son was Vigilmarch and June followed this great stallion to Kohler Stables. There June did something she could do like no other; she organized the broodmares that would carry on the HVK prefix and she would fit and prepare the babies for everything from clipping to modeling. I would go up there in the evening to assist her. To this day, with every baby I show I think of June. She earned their respect and made them love her, all at the same time.

June carried over her skills from Kohler to her new job at Triple Creek when Larry Sparks jumped in with both feet to own the likes of Tedwin Topic and Applevale Boy King. June was instrumental in choosing the mares that would make the careers of these stallions.

June made people pay attention when she came to the show ring. She did anything she could for friends in need—both two-legged and four-legged. She bred great horses on her own and in the employment of others. Our breed is richer for her contribution and her example.

*Mike Carpenter, Mike Carpenter Stables*

## Mary Carlton SHE DARED TO DREAM

*Her remarkable adult career, which includes five wins of the Hunter Pleasure World Championship at a relatively young age, has about it the hallmark of determination that characterized her junior exhibitor journey, according to her coach from those formative years!*

When Mary Carlton was fourteen years old, and had not yet won the Triple Crown of Morgan saddle seat equitation, she already knew what her future held. Mary rode with me back then, and she was very matter of fact, telling me about how her barn was going to be set up and how things were going to run. Although she knew she had a lot to learn, what she envisioned was set in stone.

Lest you think that Mary was a cocky kid who got lucky, here's the rest of the story. During the next year, Mary and I had a goal. We were going after the equitation triple crown. An equitation instructor's dream, Mary was a dedicated, passionate partner in achieving this goal. She was fiercely competitive, hard-working, willing to learn and naturally talented. When the time came, she could not be denied, winning the triple-crown that launched her into stardom and ultimately into a career for the history books.

To have dreams, you must also plan. For Mary, the plan was to do the hard work it would take to realize her goals. Winning the Hunter Pleasure World Championship five times was not an accident. Instructing World Champion equitation riders in every seat has taken a conscious effort. Inspiring her winning riders to do what it takes is a product of Mary's own ambition. More than 100 World Championships have accrued to the students and horses of Crystal Farms as well as to Mary herself...to be continued.

*Sandy Sessink, Clayhill Farm*



(Photo © Howard Schatzberg)

*Mary Carlton with Indian Creek Bali Ha'i (above) and relaxing at home (right).*



(Photo © Ken Martin)

## PAST INDUCTEES

2009: Marilyn Childs • Martha V. Dupont • Anna Ela & Ruth Orcutt • Betty Greene • Helen Greenwalt • Anita Hoitsma • Gloria Jones • Cassenti • Simy Corbin • Nancy Eidam • Travis Filipek • Susan, Ling and Iann Fu • Margaret Gardiner • Georgie Green • Elberta Honstein • Bobbi Blankenship • Angela Conner Bulmer • Elaine Galatz • Barbara Irvine • Jennifer McFall • Cindy Nord • Elizabeth Power • Lynne Shpak • Suzy Lucine • Karen Myers • Judy Nason • Crescent Peirce • Polly Quinn • Barb Rudicel • Lisa Singer 2013: Renee Page • Susan Hanley •

## CHOSEN BY OUR READERS

# Paulette Bodnar

## DEEP MORGAN ROOTS

Every year we reach out to the public, via Facebook and through AMHA's website, for a "people's choice" inductee. This year, there was overwhelming support for the candidacy of Paulette Bodnar, doyenne of the Merriehill family, a veteran breeder and a consummate organizer.

Her journey with Morgan horses began more than fifty years ago and in that time Paulette has become a life force in our breed and the future of her family. Her parents, Martin and Donna Staehnke, established Merriehill Farm, Inc. in 1960 in northern Illinois and then put down roots in Marengo in 1971. Paulette, along with her brother, Mark Staehnke, enjoyed showing, training and breeding their own horses at a very early age, and the cornerstones of the Merriehill Farm breeding program were put into place.

Management of the farm was soon Paulette's responsibility and she made it her life's work to see it succeed. It was always a collaborative family effort, but Paulette's keen eye and horse sense led to many wise and respected decisions that have made Merriehill what it is today. It goes without question that her breeding program has had a historical impact on the Morgan breed. She has been masterful at combining their "Brunk" based pedigrees to the popular bloodlines of each decade, always evolving, growing and producing quality horses that are sought after for a multitude of divisions and interests. Brother, Mark said, "While she may be my sister, I can think of few others more deserving of this recognition. Throughout her time in Morgans, she has been an exhibitor, trainer, breeder and aggressive promoter of our breed."

In addition to her breeding insight, Paulette has been a wonderful teacher to many of today's recognized trainers and breeders. When her husband Stan came to the US, his background was in Quarter Horses, Paulette was his catalyst and leader into training Morgans. She is also responsible in teaching her own children, Mark and Whitney Bodnar, and myself, Shanna Gish, all about the horse industry from breeding, to training, instructing and showing. There are countless others who have benefitted from their time spent under Paulette's wing and several have gone on to open their own successful training and breeding farms. We will all be forever in her debt for all that she has taught us about every aspect of the horse industry.

The Mid-States Morgan Horse Club, The Prairie State Morgan Classic, and the Morgan Weanling Gala are only a few of the organizations to which Paulette has given her time and energy in an effort to promote and perpetuate the breed.

Paulette has made a remarkable impact on our lives in so many ways. She prefers to do all of this in the background and is not one to take credit publicly for anything. She gives everyone around her all of the tools and knowledge they need to succeed and then pushes them to go out and do something with that knowledge. Achievement that inspires others is the distinction of greatness and there is no finer way to describe, recognize and congratulate Paulette Bodnar for all of her contributions. ■

*Shanna Gish, Indian Creek*

*The Women In Our Industry*



(Photo © Jack Schatzberg)



*Curtain Call, dam of Merriehill Hooligan, with Paulette Bodnar at the 1981 Jubilee (top); Paulette and her brother, Mark Staehnke, on familiar turf at the Illinois State Fair Grounds (left); The Bodnar/Staehnke family gathers in honor of Merriehill Hooligan at the 2012 Jubilee (bottom).*



(Photo © Howard Schatzberg)

Frances Pugh • Sid Spencer • Pat Tataronis Orcutt • Mary Jean Vasiloff • Judy Whitney Harris • Mary Woolverton **2010:** Beth Benard • Chris • Jeanne Mellin Herrick • Carol Simpson • Jane Steffenhagen **2011:** Peggy Alderman • Barbara Beaumont Cole • Debbie Beth Halachmy • • Bonnie Sogoloff **2012:** Laura Behning • Mary Cockriel • Frieda Datte Waer • Ellen DiBella • Ann Hailey • Carol Hudson • Maretta Kennedy Cheri Barber • Nancy Plimpton • Joan Bowers • Ann Anderson • Anne Mears • Ann Taylor • Suzy Stafford • Josette Conti • Jane Elliot

~ 2015 ~

# The Women In Our Industry HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year seven celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment, and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors, and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse* has, for the sixth year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue each year, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse, and colorful as the breed itself.

For the sixth year we have invited nominations from the floor, so to speak. Through communication with the AMHA membership, via email, our website, and Facebook, we have invited the public to nominate one person to the list. That nominee appears as the final honoree on the 2015 Honor Roll.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.

## Beverley Olson EYE FOR A CHAMPION

1945 was the year that Franklin Roosevelt was sworn in for an unprecedented and unequalled fourth term as President of the United States. It was also the year a 14-year-old girl from the Midwest bought her first registered Morgan horse, a yearling filly named Red Feather.

Beverley Olson kept Red Feather until after she became married and her husband needed to finish college. Being an astute business person even at that age, Beverley sold her beloved mare but retained a foal, which she then exercised after her husband finished college.

That foal, and the young married couple, packed up their belongings and moved to Washington in 1952 to raise their family and continued what has been a more than 65 year love affair with Morgan horses.

The entire family got involved with riding, training, showing, and eventually breeding Morgan horses. With this came the family's homebred stallion, Flight Commander, the product of a Funquest bred stallion to a Morgan mare from the Chillico Indian school in the Midwest, whom the Olsons brought with them in their move from the Midwest. That stallion went on to produce more than 100 foals, a sizable number prior to the days of shipped semen.

After about 30 years in the Morgan breed, the Olsons registered the Shiloh prefix and had several foals under this name.

As life continued, Beverley had many horses along the way. Always having a soft spot for a pretty headed mare, Beverley spotted a two-year-

Beverley receiving her 2010 induction into the AMHA Hall Of Fame (right) and (bottom) with Daryl Hopson and Tracemark Touch Of Gold. (Bottom photo © Howard Schatzberg)





Terry Jones Brennan with Peggy Alderman (top) and (bottom) Roy El's Amadeus in 1992. (Bottom photo © Howard Schatzberg)

old filly by Pot Of Gold. She purchased the pretty filly named Tracemark Touch Of Gold. Beverley drove the pretty mare herself for many years before turning over the reins to begin a new career as a Western pleasure horse. Beverley's beloved "Gabrielle" would go on to be crowned World Champion Western Pleasure horse in 2011.

Finding a new interest in the carriage world, Gabrielle and Beverley alongside trainer Daryl Hopson have garnered a reserve world carriage title and are the current Salute to America Grand National Champions.

Beverley currently maintains a small string of horses, some retirees and some young prospects with an eye for a pretty horse and the knowledge to assess six generations of Morgan pedigree—it's been more than 65 wonderful years for a dedicated Morgan horse lover. We salute Beverley for doing what she loves and loving what she does. A very big congratulations on this recognition so very much deserved.

*Daryl Hopson, Trafalgar*

## → *Terry Jones Brennan* **MASTERFUL RIDER, AUTHORITATIVE JUDGE**

I first met Terry Jones in the early '70s in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania when she was working for Mike Goebig and I was working some shows for Mike. She was a nice girl, but a little reserved as she stayed home instead of hitting the bars with "Tim O" (O'Gorman) and me. She was organized and mature and we weren't. Terry eventually moved back to the West Coast, where she worked horses at her Mom's and also worked full time as a clothing buyer in San Francisco. She also found time to get married and have children.

Fast forward 20 years and I signed on to judge a show with Terry in Shelbyville, Tennessee. I hadn't really spoken with her since the Coopersburg days except for a quick hello at Grand National in Oklahoma. When we met up in Shelbyville, we had the best time together. We had been married about the same length of time, our kids were the same age, and we were even reading the same book! We went for Bar-B-Que and visited a local Walking Horse stable where the trainer invited us to ride one of his horses. We were both wearing skirts, so we had to pass. Best of all, I got to watch Terry judge. I had always considered her a good judge, but working with her made me realize she is a great judge. She brings her "A game" to every class and is certainly the most professional of any judge I have worked with.

The great thing about Terry is she has worked all types of horses and appreciates a good park horse as well as a good carriage horse and everything in between. She helped Doris Ryan work and put Beamington in the ring at the first Grand National in Detroit (1973) where he was World Park Harness Champion. She campaigned the finest hunter in the land when she owned Roy-El's Amadeus. He was the hunter of his era and won the Open, Ladies, and Amateur World Championships at one Grand National in 1992. In 2003 she showed another great one as Maximum Effort won the Open and Ladies Classic Pleasure Saddle Championships.

Terry comes by all this talent honestly, as her mom, Gloria Jones, was a giant in our industry. She chaired Morgan Grand National several times, and literally wrote the manual on how to run the show. Gloria also championed the classic pleasure division, literally traveling the country to drum up support. Most importantly, of course, she had Terry!

*Peggy Alderman, Salem Farm*

## Anne Wyland A COLORFUL LEADER

I first met Anne Wyland online, and then in person at the 2000 AMHA Convention in Atlanta. I marveled then, as I continue to do, at the sheer amount of energy and enthusiasm she exudes. These traits come in handy as she pretty much singlehandedly runs her Ancan Morgans, located on ten acres in Davison Michigan, with some assistance from the “barn girls” she has recruited over the years and her husband, Rob. Anne’s herd generally consists of more than 25 Morgan horses at any given time, and when you consider what all else this remarkable woman accomplishes daily—which includes raising her five-year-old grand-daughter, Sophie—you can’t help but be amazed.

As a youngster Anne rode ponies and showed in 4-H until being introduced to the Morgan breed in 1979 with the purchase of Pinehaven Suprem from the legendary Pinehaven Morgan farm in Saginaw, Michigan. The first Ancan prefixed foal arrived in 1992 and there have been nearly 100 registered since. In 1996 Anne inadvertently ventured into colorful Morgans when she bought the brown buckskin mare, Aquila’s Miss Bee Haven, who was registered as, and thought to be, a bay. Of Bee’s nine offspring, all but two were colorfults, and today her son, the palomino Ancan True Colors (“Blitz”), is senior stallion at Ancan with an enviable record of producing quality, excellent dispositions, and color.

With a breeding program founded on the bloodlines of Waseeka’s Nocturne and Upwey Ben Don, the Ancan Morgans are pretty, typey, and have excellent dispositions. Anne feels that good hocks and correct hind end movement are important and something that we don’t see enough of in the breed, so that is a trait she values in her breeding stock. While she has shown her Morgans very successfully, Anne’s true love is trail riding. And the Ancan Morgans are the fanciest horses on the trails—with Anne on her stallion, Blitz, leading the way!

Anne shares her love of Morgans in many ways, bringing new people into the breed. She places a special emphasis on encouraging young people, several of whom work on her farm and have purchased a Morgan from Anne. She gives presentations on Morgans at local schools, and many 4-H and Girl Scout groups have visited Ancan Morgans over the years. Anne has hosted a regular open barn event at her farm, inviting the public in to learn more about Morgans.

Anne also works hard in support of various endeavors within the breed. For many years she organized and published the Fall Morgan Showcase, an advertising magazine that was distributed free at the Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show®, as well as being mailed to any interested parties. She was the newsletter editor for the Michigan Justin Morgan Horse Association for four-and-a-half years, was on the show committee for their All Breed Open Fun Show for five years, and hosts trail rides for the club. She has rescued and rehabbed Morgans and helped people in desperate situations find new homes for their Morgans. A long-time member of Rainbow Morgan Horse Association, Anne currently serves on their board of directors. Her enthusiastic online promotion of Rainbow and its various projects has helped to draw in new members, a valuable asset in a time when many clubs are suffering from dwindling numbers and lack of participation. The Morgan breed is fortunate indeed to have Anne Wyland in its cheering section!

*Laura Hornick Behning, Brookridge Morgans*



Anne Wyland (top) and with her stylish trail horse, the stallion Ancan True Colors (bottom).



Kathy Newcomb, 2012 AMHA Woman Of The Year (top) and (left) with her carriage driving Morgan Jubal Ashmore.



Dorothy and Charles White driving Wind Crest Showgirl and Windcrest Benn Beau at 1967 World's Fair in Montreal, Canada (right), and showing Windcrest Benn Beau in Ladies Park Harness. (bottom).



## *Kathy Newcomb* COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

**K**athy Newcomb, a woman with many hats, is definitely worthy of being included in the Women In Our Industry Honor Roll. Kathy grew up in Vermont and had the distinct opportunity of being introduced to the Morgan breed through Dana Wingate Kelly. She is one of the few that can claim to have ridden Royalton Ashbrook Darling and to have driven Royalton Elnora. Kathy spent many hours after school and on weekends working for Mr. Kelly and grew to love the Morgan horse. As time passed, she moved around through New York and finally settled with her late husband Stu and her son Ian in New Jersey where Blythewood Farm was established in the mid 1990s. Kathy became a respected carriage driver and competed heavily in the circuit on the East Coast. Her special driving horse that has brought her so much pleasure over the years, Jubal Ashmore, is nearing 30 years of age and is still ridden by granddaughter Abigail Newcomb on their Virginia farm. Kathy has raised Morgans primarily for sport; Blythewood is a prefix well known in the carriage driving world. For years Kathy worked for various medical/pharmaceutical companies where she honed her editorial/proofreading skills. During her tenure as Region 2 Director, Kathy could be counted on to be an active participant and we always knew we could ask her to help format and proofread documents. In 2012 Kathy was selected as the AMHA Woman of the Year. Kathy served as the chair of Registry for AMHA for a number of years and now is still called upon to lend a hand as a Director Emeritus. Congratulations Kathy for an honor well deserved and we hope to see you driving again soon!

*Linnea Sidi, Meadowlark Morgans*

## *Dorothy White* ELEGANCE IN HORSEMANSHIP

**I**f ever anyone defined show ring sophistication and elegance, it was Dorothy Simpson White.

Serendipity played a huge role in Dot's love of Morgan horses as her association with Dr. Robert Orcutt of Burkland Farm catapulted her into the limelight of center ring celebrity. However, it was Dot and Windcrest Benn Beau, the charismatic son of Upwey Ben Don, who personified the versatility of the great gelding and the woman who loved him. For years they ruled! In park harness classes, in Cavalcade Americana where they exemplified the elegance of a time gone by, and in exhibitions throughout the Northeast and into Canada, Dot and Benn Beau (often teamed as a pair with his sister, the equally gorgeous Wind Crest Showgirl) garnered friends and fans for the Morgan breed.

A "dollhouse" barn at her home overlooking the Piscataqua River further increased her dedication to the breed and Bayview Morgans was born. Dot's intuitive sense of what she loved about Morgans, as well as the wisdom of Dr. Bob, guided her in her breeding decisions and Bayview Stormy Night and Bayview Starlight were two of her favorites. Dot shared her love of Morgans with her son Jeff and the family soon outgrew their barn at home. With the purchase of the farm at Green Acres, Dot became owner, manager, and promoter of a first class stable. Over the years, trainers at the farm included Gerry Nelson, Kathryn Schwartz, and Judy

Nason along with a growing lesson program that gave youngsters an up close experience with Morgan horses. An astute business woman, Dot also was a hands on horsewoman who cleaned stalls, polished tack and groomed horses on a daily basis (who else could wear white pants while blacking hooves and not end up with a speck on them?).

Dot White was the essence of a talented horsewoman, stylish competitor, gracious hostess, and promoter of all things Morgan. She was involved in starting the Granite State Morgan Horse Association, active in the New England Morgan Horse Association, and competed at local, regional, and national Morgan shows (including the first Grand National in Detroit), as well as trail riding throughout New England, organizing clinics, and always sharing her love of the great Morgan horse. Her welcoming smile and twinkling eyes made her a natural teacher and educator of her favorite breed.

Her legacy lives on through Jeff and his family whose own home and barn are just minutes from where Bayview Morgans began all those years ago.

Dorothy Simpson White. Dot to those of us who loved and admired her. The beauty of her gift to the Morgan world is everlasting.

*Susan Colleton*

## *Mona Sansoucy* WHERE DRESSAGE MET THE MORGAN

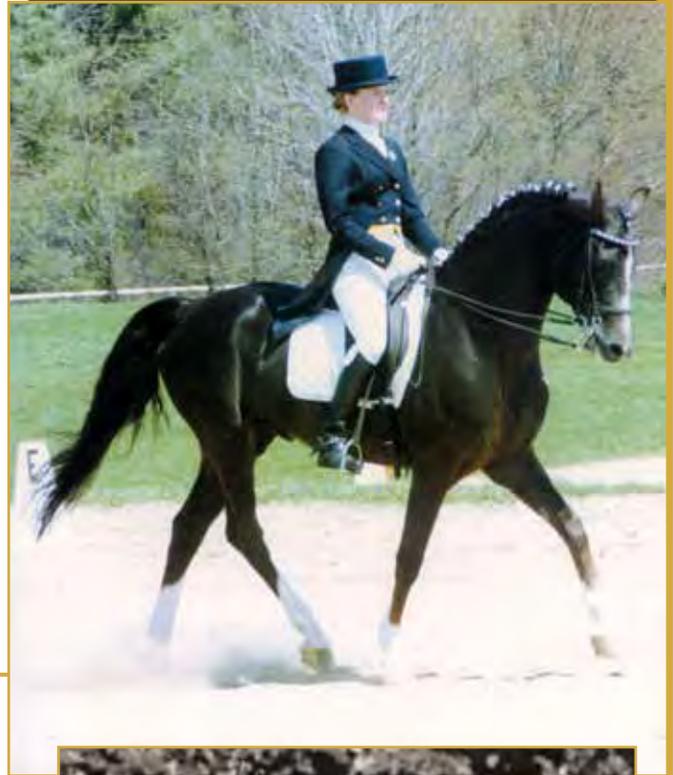
**A**lthough many individuals have capably trained and exhibited Morgans in dressage, one woman stands out. In the 1980s Mona Sansoucy showed the dressage community that Morgans could compete at the highest level, and she demonstrated to the Morgan show world that dressage could be an exciting discipline.

Until Sansoucy changed their attitudes, Morgan exhibitors and trainers frequently considered dressage to be a boring sport with horse after horse doing the same low-level tests. However, when Sansoucy and her Big Bend Doc Davis performed exhibitions at all-Morgan shows in New England, the Morgan show world saw something wonderful. With every footfall precisely timed to music, the pair's demonstration of 20-meter circles with flying changes at every stride, canter pirouettes, and huge extensions brought cheering spectators to their feet.

Sansoucy has said she was a "typical horse-crazy kid," but there was nothing typical about her talent, ambition, and determination to be the best rider possible. She worked hard at her lessons and as a young teenager convinced her parents that she was ready for a Morgan of her own. They bought "Davey" for her in 1975, when he was just a yearling. Young Mona was an insatiable student who took lessons from experts when she could, but she also read everything she could find about dressage training and spent every possible hour at the barn, patiently working and learning, always striving to overcome every setback.

She had much success through the levels, and her years of effort paid off big time as Sansoucy took second place in her first Grand Prix test in a very large class on her talented Morgan, the only American-bred horse at the entire show.

After retiring Davey in a memorable exhibition at the 1991 New England Morgan Horse Show, Sansoucy continued training and showing other Morgans successfully in open dressage competition until family obligations ended her show career. However, she has continued in dressage as an instructor, and she promotes Morgans at every opportunity.



Mona Sansoucy and Big Bend Doc Davis (top and bottom).  
(Photos © Carole MacDonald)



This high achieving horsewoman has inspired countless riders to spend the time and effort necessary to train and show their Morgans in open competition. Because of her efforts they know that they don't need to buy an expensive Warmblood from Europe, because Mona Sansoucy and has paved the way, proving that a Morgan can go all the way to the top.

*Karin Weight, West Mountain Morgan Farm*

## Cindy Mugnier LEADER OF THE PACK

It is hard to know where to start when honoring Cindy Mugnier. She is so accomplished in so many areas of not only the Morgan world, but the equine world in general. She is a professional horsewoman, judge, instructor, coach of the World Cup team, past president of AMHA and active board member, Chairman of the USEF Saddle Seat committee, head of the Morgan judging program, show chairman, university equine business professor, trainer, and mentor to many. She has produced World Champion Morgans in many divisions and coached riders to world titles. And now, after a few years of cheering on her nephew, Nick Roberts, has made a very successful return to the show ring competing with her new English pleasure horse. And she does all this before breakfast!

Cindy is one of the most active and successful women in the horse industry. She gives tirelessly of her time and extensive knowledge. Whether flying cross country to give a clinic or judging a horse show, to early morning lessons, she is a consummate professional. She keeps a schedule that would make a marathon runner weep, constantly moving from one project to the next with unruffled efficiency.

All of her accolades are impressive but the most important thing that can be said of Cindy is that she has an indomitable spirit, a huge heart, a generous nature, and a killer sense of humor. Her friends number in the hundreds and she is highly respected by her peers. I don't know of anyone more deserving to be inducted into the Women's Honor Roll. Her family, friends, and associates congratulate Cindy for not only this honor but for being the person we all love. You are the best!

*Larry Bolen, Cedar Creek Farm*



Cindy Mugnier (above) and (left) with student Mattie Francis Willard and Roadshow Step-in' Out GCH. (Left photo © Howard Schatzberg)



Ruth Towne with Mike Goebig and Vermont Commissioner of Tourism and Marketing, Bruce Hyde, at AMHA headquarters in 2006 (right) and showing at "The Nationals" 1974 (below). (Bottom photo © Freudy)

## Ruth Towne PRESERVING A HERITAGE

Morgan horse world lost one of its greatest benefactors in May, 2007. Her funeral was conducted at the Statehouse in Montpelier where she was one of the most influential legislators.

Her longtime friendship with Deane Davis helped in getting the Morgan horse designated as the Vermont State Animal during Governor Davis' reign as governor.

When Kentucky became a focus for potential breed headquarters, a group of Vermonters formed the Morgan Horse Heritage Foundation to preserve the breed in the state. Ruth Towne became the first president and, with her influence, Governor Tim Douglas directed his Director of Tourism to support MHHF in its efforts.

Over the years Ruth Towne developed the Town-Ayr family of Morgan horses. Consistent winners for new owners, they brought Ruth herself to the show rings. Her most coveted wins included the Amateur Pleasure Driving Championship at the first Grand National in Detroit



with Soliloque Coachman and her win of the Robert Lippitt Knight Trophy in the Justin Morgan Performance competition at the National Morgan Show in Northampton with Towne-Ayr Carillion.

To Ruth Towne must go much credit for our state animal and the continued foundation of the breed in Vermont.

Marilyn Childs

## Kathleen Peeples SETTING STANDARDS

If you have been or are currently involved with Morgan horses, especially in the Mid-Atlantic region, there is a woman you have heard of and probably had some sort of interaction with. A woman who has dedicated most of her life to the Morgan horse and the people who love it—Kathy Peeples.

Kathy's lifelong involvement with the Morgan horse has touched each and every aspect of the industry. From a world-class competitor in her youth she became an equine professional without compare. Teaching, training, breeding, showing, judging, and promoting the Morgan horse—she has done it all. As an instructor she has taught countless lessons to people of all ages and abilities. Whether these students wanted to achieve show ring success or just develop their skills and appreciation for equestrian sports each of them benefited from her patience, dedication, and abilities. Her students have become world champion competitors, equine professionals, and influential supporters of the breed.

As a trainers and breeders Kathy and Lynn Peeples have teamed up to make their Waterford Farm a producer of world champion horses for decades. Regardless of the age or the discipline, horses bred and shown by Waterford have consistently portrayed the best attributes of the Morgan horse.

Kathy helped set the standard for the Morgan hunter pleasure horse and continues to be at the top of the division creating a legacy few will ever match. Her honesty and integrity make her a very popular judge and allow her to continue to influence the breed through that as well.

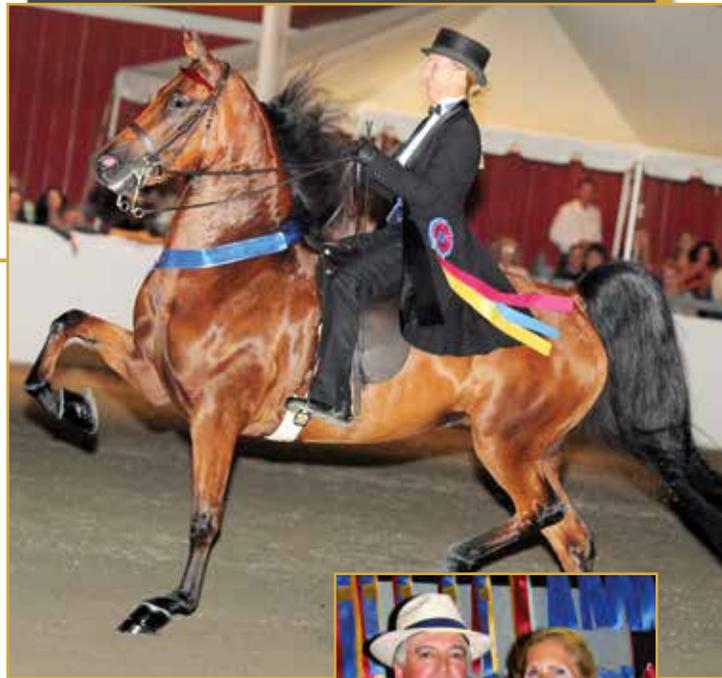
But to me, Kathy's most important contributions to the Morgan horse come from her interactions with people. Not only has she helped raise a beautiful, talented daughter, she has helped so many others in our industry. A helping hand in a time of need, a word of advice or encouragement, a shoulder to cry on or praise for a job well done, Kathy has always been there. Her understanding and devotion to the people has been as influential as her work with the horses.

As we make our way through life it is inevitable that we will meet people who will inspire and motivate us. We meet people who show us who we want to be and help define what we want to accomplish in our lives. They are our heroes, mentors, idols, peers and, if we are lucky enough, they are our friends. One of those very special people decided to dedicate her life to the Morgan breed. Thank you Kathy!

Amanda DuPont

## Mona Skager CLASS ACT

We are so happy that Mona is being honored. She has been a part of the West Coast Morgan scene for a long time. Showing or not, Mona is at her home regional, the Morgan



Kathleen Peeples with City Kitty GCH (above) and with husband Lynn (right).  
(Photos © Andy Illes, Abbie Trexler)



Mona Skager and Miss Voodoo (below) and with Linda Hall (left).  
(Bottom photo © Philip Green)





Medallion in California, and the Grand National every year watching, cheering, and supporting the breed. She led the show committee for many years at the Morgan Classic Royale, and has also served on the Grand National show committee. She's always one to jump in and help a show committee out with any detail. With her experiences from movie making (she was part of the production team of many of Francis Ford Coppola's films, including *The Godfather* and *Apocalypse Now*) to her gourmet chef classes in Europe, Mona does everything she does well and with gusto!

Mona is someone who supports our breed with passion and with her actions. She's always there to watch and congratulate her friends, always eager to show, and excited about the future. Mona is a stellar example of someone who truly loves this breed and the Morgan show world. She set a standard of style in the classic pleasure division with the feminine Miss Voodoo, one of Tug Hill Whamunion's most titled get. Miss Voodoo is being bred this year, and Mona is eagerly awaiting a foal in 2016. We can't wait to find her next Morgan partner and get her back to doing what she loves, showing a Morgan horse. Mona, you define style and class and dedication. Congratulations on your nomination to this impressive list.

Stacy Hennessy

Diane Conrady at the reins of the late SpiceOLife Present Tense GCH (above) and (right) receiving AMHA's Golden Reins from Carol Fletcher. (Photos © Howard Schatzberg, Steven Handy)



## Diane Conrady STAYING THE COURSE

**M**y favorite personal Diane Conrady story was at the Illinois State Fair. I was maybe nine or ten years old and I was hand walking a horse after a class in the old pony aisles at the fairgrounds while mom and dad were showing another. Well, that night the fireworks went off earlier than expected and this normally calm horse was starting to take me for a ride when Diane comes around the corner and saves the day and takes over the horse for me. She may not remember this story but I sure do.

Diane has been a force to be reckoned with in the horse business as long as I can remember. From when I can first recall being at shows she had horses like Brentwood Lady Magic, Brentwood Bacardi, Arboria Satori, and Arboria Noble Victor. If you could beat Diane you had really accomplished something. Both my brother Whitney and myself have been fortunate to have been asked to catch ride, drive, or lead horses for Diane over the years. Diane has lasted the test of time having won world titles everywhere she's been and turning out nice horses year after year. When I think of Diane's training I think methodical is a good word to use. She has a way and an order she likes to prepare her horses for work and show and she's going to do it her way. Also the word loyalty comes to mind. She is very loyal to her horses and believes in them wholeheartedly. She is also very loyal to her clients as many have been with her for decades. She stayed the course with SpiceOLife Present Tense GCH and her belief in this mighty horse was finally rewarded last October in winning the World Park Harness Championship. The atmosphere at Oklahoma was emotional that Friday night when this classy Morgan horse with his light in the bridle frame and text book movement achieved Diane's dream for him. It was a great night for Diane and it was a great night for the breed.

Mark Bodnar

## PAST INDUCTEES

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## CHOSEN BY OUR READERS

### *Colleen Bernaby Saint Loup* A VOICE FOR MORGANS AT RISK

Every year we reach out to our readers through the magazine's Facebook page. This year Holly Butterman posted a thoughtful nomination for Colleen Saint Loup, which received a bounty of support through posts from others. Colleen's work rescuing, repurposing, and rehoming Morgans at risk, however unassuming she may be about it, has made her the voice of common sense and good will at a difficult moment in the life of many Morgan horses.

According to Colleen's dad, she began riding Morgans at Orcland Farm at age seven. She went on to be an assistant trainer to Richard Boulé, Dr. Bob Orcutt, Judy Nason, John McDonald, and other New England notables in the following years. Colleen took time off from Morgans to marry, have two beautiful daughters, and a successful graphic design career. Three years ago, the family moved to Texas and Colleen began her own training business with two Morgans adopted directly from the kill pen. She never doubted that these discarded Morgans could be useful again. Useful turned out to be an underestimation: Colleen's girls, Emilia and Chloe, have successfully shown these two rescues at Grand National for the last three years. Colleen's faith in the ability of the Morgan heart to recover became the rally cry of Morgan Safenet Foundation Inc. (MSN), a breed organization she founded with two friends, that is dedicated to optimizing the existing Morgan population through recovery, retraining, and rehoming horses as risk.

Colleen's work seems to truly never be done. After a weekend of riding lessons, training, barn chores, and a family to care for, Colleen has on her MSN hat and is closing the loop on the weekend's activity. There are recovered horses from the specialty sale on Friday, the pre-buys from the upcoming Monday New Holland auction, and responding to the MSN email, which is filled with requests for private placement, owner surrenders, Craigslist postings, and information on Morgans at risk from her networks across the country. All of these contacts are an opportunity to make the whole difference for one Morgan, and responding to each inquiry is a responsibility Colleen takes very seriously. Although she would tell you that MSN is far from a one woman show and that is true—those of us who work with her would tell you that she is the "lead by example" leader who inspires not only us, but also a growing band of donors, fosters, and adopters.

Colleen has really never taken that hat off in the year and a half since MSN was founded. As Holly put it in her nomination of Colleen on *The Morgan Horse* magazine's Facebook page, "She is an amazing spirit and advocate for the ones who cannot speak for themselves. She works endlessly, diligently, and very successfully to give these horses the chance they need, even if it is to die with dignity and not on the floors of the horrible kill pens she visits."

Early on, Colleen realized that she needed to go to the ugly places and understand the process to better help the Morgans. Always connecting and always learning, it was at these auctions that Colleen realized that more could be done than just recovering Morgans from the end of the line. That was the beginning of Direct Amish Sales. It was here that she began to form relationships within the Amish community, working to keep our Morgans from going to auction in the first place.

Far from being uncaring owners, the Amish are horsemen caught in the closed circle of their culture. When you bring a Morgan that can't do the road work to a sale where only other Amish go to look for road horses, the only other buyers present are kill buyers. Colleen realized that if she could provide a way to be their sales and promotion arm, the Amish could market these horses to the whole Morgan community. With her promotion of the program at the Grand National, Mid-A, and Buckeye sale, the program is growing every week.

Colleen never bred a Morgan but as of today 125 Morgans are alive and 24 have been reunited with their identities because of her faith in the worth of every Morgan. ■

Lisa Isaacson & Vicki Bennett



Colleen Saint Loup carriage driving and jumping with the repurposed, now 24-year-old, SpringMill Aire Apparent; and with her daughters, Chloe and Emilia, during a demonstration at Circle J Regional. (Photos © Howard Schatzberg, Casey McBride)

~ 2016 ~

# The Women In Our Industry HONOR ROLL

This theme, now in year eight, celebrates the enormous, indeed disproportionate, influence women have on our industry.

We recognize that the Morgan community, throughout its history, has not merely provided acceptance. Rather women have proven that they are more than equal in the areas of vision, direction, accomplishment, and utilization of the breed.

The Morgan industry has not been male-centric. Women have been leaders, mentors, educators, innovators, adjudicators, pioneers, counselors, and advocates.

The staff of *The Morgan Horse* has, for the eighth year, searched our archives, asked our advisors and brainstormed in meetings to generate a long list and then the short list that appears here. The Honor Roll is never intended to be complete. We will add names to it annually. We strive, in one issue each year, to be sure the list is as varied, diverse, and colorful as the breed itself.

Ladies, you continue to inspire us.

Connie at Motherlode Show with Aranaway Toranado in 2014 (right) and (bottom) with Shirley Kock, Betty Green, and Aranaway Toranado in 2009 (Right photo © McCool).



## Connie Barker HOT ON THE TRAIL

Constance "Connie" Barker deserves this peer recognition for her innumerable efforts to promote and foster the Morgan breed, to lead and educate, and to participate in everything Morgan on the local, state (California), and national levels.

Locally, the Sacramento Valley Morgan Horse Club (SVMHC), has benefited from her tireless energy; with the production of the Mother Lode Morgan and Open Breed horse show; the Morgan Exhibit Booth at the Western States Horse EXPO attracting 50,000 horse lovers to Sacramento; managing the SVMHC newsletter, *Hoof Beats*; and much more.

Connie, near retirement age, entered the Morgan milieu about 1990 learning horsemanship, pleasure horse riding, and trail obstacle training from Betty Greene, a popular and accomplished trainer who was located near Connie's Ebony Acres in Carmichael, California. Their friendship continues to this day. Betty helped Connie find and purchase her first Morgan mare, Black Velvet Justina (Windswept Ramon x Impala Ebony Princess) and piloted the pair to an incredible number of blues and tricolors over many years. They showed Class A Morgan Trail classes and honed their skills at open breed shows in Northern California. They won the coveted Gold-N-Grand Trail Horse Championship Trophy, leaving no doubt Morgans are contenders in high stakes trail horse competition. Connie realized a dream by capturing the Reserve World Champion Trail Horse title at the Grand National in 1998 and the Grand National



Champion Western Trail Amateur in 1999. Today, though competing less, Connie keeps her newest trail horse, Aranaway Toranado (The Millionaire x Mandarin Rose), a.k.a Zorro, primed to continue the path of excellence in trail horse competition.

AMHA awarded her the title of 2009 Woman of the Year. The Morgan world has benefitted greatly from instructive articles (published in *The Morgan Horse*) authored by Connie on the art of training and negotiating obstacles confronted in arena trail competition. Most recently, she has taken an interest in the preservation of the Point Reyes National Seashore Morgan Horse Ranch, located in Marin County, north of San Francisco (see separate article on the Point Reyes Morgans in this issue). Connie is collaborating with AMHA, the Morgan historian, Brenda Tippin, and contacting California state and federal agencies to plead the case to keep the small seacoast ranch as a viable Living History Museum and Morgan Horse Farm.

Hat's off to Connie Barker!

Phyllis Shopbell



## Ellen Feld STORYTELLER

Chances are if you have children, Ellen Feld's books are in your home. Her best selling series for nine-to-13-year-olds features real Morgans as the pivotal characters. As a young teen, Ellen was actually in the stall when her first Morgan, Don Lee Rusty, took his first breath. Rusty's heritage made it possible for the gelding to tackle the dozens of adventures Ellen shared with him. The pair competed in everything from classic pleasure to barrel racing at shows in Northampton, Massachusetts.

In 1994, after completing her education, marrying Michael Feld, and settling into a career at Amherst College, Ellen and husband set out to choose a stallion to cross with their mare. At Rum Brook Farm in New Hampshire, they looked at Immortal Command. Instead a cute four-month old black colt barged in and it was Rum Brook Immortal Star (a.k.a Blackjack) that Ellen brought home. With Blackjack as her muse, Ellen published *Blackjack: Dreaming of a Morgan Horse*, which went on to win the International Children's Book Council's coveted Children's Choice Award. This paved the way for Blackjack, the horse—and the book—to become the 2007 Breyer Animal Creation. The young woman and her Morgan set out on tour to meet their fans.

Nine books later (plus capturing another Children's Choice Award) it is estimated that something in the area of 200,000 young readers have read the Morgan horse adventures. If a horse is in their future, you can bet they'll want it to be Morgan. Ellen Feld's far-reaching promotion through her books makes her a worthy inductee.

Patti Brooks

Ellen Feld with Rum Brook Immortal Star, star of the Blackjack novels and his Breyer model (above) and with Don Lee Rusty winning a 1970s Trail Class after walking seven miles to the show (right) (Photos © Andy Illes, Phaneuf).



Kay Thompson at the 2015 Granite State show (below) and with Highover Lady Oaklyn (left) (Bottom photo © Amy Bean).

## Kay Thompson POWER TO WOMEN

Katharine "Kay" Thompson is one of the original purveyors of "Girl Power." Kay has always believed in the power and abilities of women in the Morgan breed. She has mentored many young



women and girls and has set a firm precedent for them to follow. She has always been determined in the belief that women can run a farm, breed for quality, and train horses. Kay has been a force in her support of AMHA youth programs and has served as a horsemaster examiner and mentor to Youth of the Year contestants. Her students have won local, regional, and national Youth of the Year contests. She has seen students rise to the Justin Morgan and Blackhawk horsemastership badge levels.

Kay has been a stalwart when it comes to the Morgan horse. She has bred Morgans with the Highover prefix for the last 60 plus years. She has been responsible for some very important breeding stock. Many will find her influences in the bloodlines of their horses. Kay brought Donlyn Of Windcrest out of obscurity and he became a dominant sire in the Northeast during his life. Her savvy in the breeding of Morgans has produced a long line of champions.

Kay has been honored as a member of the Northampton Hall of Fame. She was inducted into AMHA Hall of Fame in 2000 and was the winner of the 2010 AMHA Youth Person of the Year Award. She has also been honored with The Maine Morgan, Granite State Morgan, and New England Morgan horse shows dedications. She has been in leadership positions throughout her life in the Granite State Morgan Horse Society and New England Morgan Horse Association, holding the position of president in both.

Today it is safe to say that generations of Morgan horse enthusiasts have gotten their start and inspiration from Kay Thompson. She is a Morgan breed icon!

*Selina Cloutier*



## *Valerie Low* **HISTORY'S KEEPER**

I met Valerie over 30 years ago and we've become lifelong friends which has been a blessing. She was new to the Morgan breed then, but has had a passion for horses since childhood. Valerie has owned several Morgans throughout her life. One of her favorites, Scotch On The Rocks, won many championships, both under saddle and in pleasure driving, and, later in life, carriage driving. Valerie and her girls spent many years enjoying him.

Valerie first served the New York State Morgan Horse Society as a correspondent, and Western New York Show Secretary, but her calling came when the New York Club needed a historian. In search of a volunteer, up went Valerie's hand. She was excited. Her love for history and the importance of sharing it with future generations was the beginning of a new era for both the NYSMHS and the AMHA.

It was not enough that she was the brainchild to set up a website for the club, one of the first! With so many older club members still alive why not visit them and do taped interviews? I was fortunate enough to help with some of the early interviews. I quickly realized that Valerie has a way of making people comfortable enough to talk about themselves and forget they are on camera, which is a real talent. By the time Valerie left their home, she had a new friend and an invite to come back anytime. People trusted her professionalism and honesty.

Some of her interviews include Fred and Jeanne Herrick, Mary Jean Vasiloff, Bob Brooks, Claire Murphy, Hal Hoover, and many others. All of these tapes are copied to the families first for approval, and then the NYSMHS and AMHA.



Valerie Low and Nancy Vidler with Scotch On The Rocks (top) and at the 2010 New York Regional Barn Sale (bottom)

(Top photo © Sharon Skelly).

Valerie's love for people goes beyond the Morgan world. She has two therapy dogs she takes to nursing homes on weekends. She has volunteered at a local hospice home to bring comfort to the dying. Valerie still works a full time job, has raised two beautiful daughters, and loves hunting for and refurbishing antiques.

Nancy Vidler

## Jackie Sweeney KEEPING THE FAITH

I would like to nominate Jackie Sweeney of HyLee Farm in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin. She has been a longtime breeder who always has her door open to any and all who are interested in the Morgan horse. She would spend the time talking to you about breeding, the Morgan horse, horse shows, futurities, the past and the present, or whatever your interest. Jackie has been a wonderful source of information on our breed to all who know her. She and her mother (the late Jane Steffenhagen) have had many stallions on their farm that have produced very nice offspring in all divisions. She has had a close relationship with Kohler Stables over the years, and some of her breedings show these wonderful bloodlines. Her mom was a longtime breeder, as well, meaning Jackie has been involved since she was young. She has hosted many clinics over the years with various topics covered. She has hosted the HyLee Auction, allowing people who needed to sell their horses a venue to get this done. I purchased my first Morgan show horse, HyLee's La Fenice, a beautiful hunt horse, from her 15 years ago. She has sold so many horses over the years to people in the upper Midwest region and nationally. She has also spearheaded the Morgan Masterpiece Horse Show every July in OshKosh, Wisconsin. Jackie has been a board member for North Central Morgan Horse Association for many years and she has been a strong force on our NCMA Futurity for all the breeders in our North Central region.

Sadly, she just lost her wonderful husband, Doc Sweeney, about a month ago. He was a leading veterinarian in our area, a character for sure, beloved by all of us as a wonderful vet, but also as a super person. He was a show vet for many of the shows in our area, and just like Jackie, willing to talk to anyone, definitely as sweet as they come.

Jackie has slowed down her breeding, but is still active and has many Morgans on her farm. She teaches lessons at her farm, as well. She has promoted her Morgans at the Wisconsin Horse Expo, and won the Farm & Fleet 2011 most beautiful horse contest with her beautiful Western horse, HyLee Galaxy's Wild Irish (HyLee's Galaxy Seven x HVK Irish Wild Rose). Keep in mind this contest started with more than 80 breeds presenting! She is a stellar horsewoman, a great promoter, and a good friend to many. Jackie is a great example of what a lifetime of quiet leadership can do to engage people in the Morgan breed, and the equine industry at large.

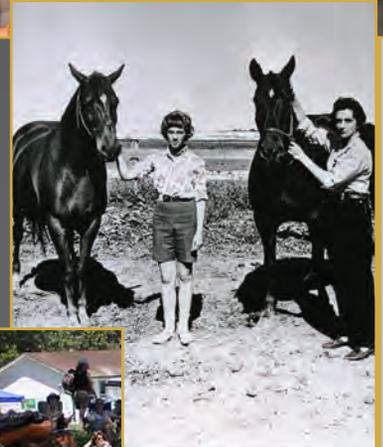
Kirsten Johnson

## Jo Rench AMBASSADOR

Now 73, Jo is starting her thirteenth year of promoting the Morgan breed to literally hundreds of thousands of people. Jo and Grandlee High And Mighty, "Snapper" (who she bought as a three-year-old and trained herself), have crisscrossed the country



Jackie Sweeney accepting the 2014 AMHA Club of the Year Contest Award from Jeff Gove (above) and with HyLee's Lady Justin, Dolly Mae, and Jane Steffenhagen (right).



Jo Rench and Grandlee High And Mighty (left) and with Presley Stroud (below) (Bottom photo © Howard Schatzberg).





Karen Homer Brown judging a class at the 2012 Granite State show (above) and at the 2013 Mother Lode show (right).



Dorothea Hildreth and Sharthunder (below).



countless times; driving her own truck and trailer; performing at a long list of venues from Kentucky Horse Park at Rolex (by invitation), the Kentucky Derby Parade, the Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade, Equifests, and many other all breed exhibitions where she has done solo performances and flag presentations. Their first flag presentation saw her riding sidesaddle, dressed in a 1790s period costume, the same time period that the Morgan breed began.

At the same time they were performing, she trained and competed Snapper in dressage, hunter/jumper, endurance, trail, and eventing. He was the High Point Reserve Champion Open Jumper at Grand National in 2014. She has also been AMHA's Open Competition Champion High Point Hunter/Jumper in 2014, and in the same year, Reserve Champion In Hand and third in Trail. She has many other awards for all those open shows, and also awards from the International and National Sidesaddle Associations.

She grew up riding Thoroughbreds in Virginia, showing hunters and foxhunting. When she bought Snapper, it was because she wanted a horse that could do everything and she knew a Morgan could. They have certainly proven that. Many have probably seen her at Nationals, but do not know who she is. For the past six or so years, she has been the woman at the outgate in the Show Arena. We all need to know her for the heroine she is.

Vicki Bennett

## Karen Homer Brown DIVERSE AS THE BREED SHE SERVES

**K**aren Homer Brown is the consummate horsewoman. Not only does she handle reins well and is an avid whip, she also has judging cards for many breeds and disciplines. Karen's willingness to serve has proven to be a path to involvement; she judges, and ringmasters, and is active with USEF committees as well as breed and discipline organizations; as an early supporter of Western Dressage, Karen served on the board of that association during its formative years. In addition to all this, Karen lends her expertise to the Judges' Education Committee.

Karen's parents, Lore and Bernie Homer, are also involved in equine activity and passed the gene on to their daughter. (Lore is a notable whip and Bernie is a full supporter.) She is married to Guy Brown, of Brown's Hoss-pitality, and together they officiate, compete, share their extensive knowledge, and volunteer in the carriage division.

Karen is a dedicated and loyal friend to the Morgan horse. We welcome her to the Women's Honor Roll.

Georgie Green

## Dorothea Hildreth ON THE RANCH WITH MORGANS

**D**orothea Hildreth was first introduced to using ranch Morgans by George and Estella Shaffner, who began raising Morgans in the 1940s, on their ranch west of Dillon, Montana, with stock from the Jackson Ranch. Dorothea recalls the Shaffner stallion and mares ran free in the Rockies, and colts would be brought in to

break for ranch use when they were four or five years old. Dorothea and her husband purchased two Shaffner Morgans to use on their ranch. Dorothea's horse was a chestnut gelding named Splash, so named because his face mark looked like milk running down his nose. Although he had a habit of spooking at other things, he loved working cattle and was steady as a rock. Splash was gored by a longhorn bull, tearing the muscles in his chest and could not be ridden after that, but Dorothea never forgot the Morgans of those early days. Later, when Dorothea moved to a smaller ranch near Lima, Montana, she was determined to breed Morgans for ranch work and began her program in 1980, starting with foundation stock from Myrtle Neeley. In 1990, she purchased her foundation stallion, Sharthunder (Wyoming Flyhawk x Triple S Ebonella), who was both a working ranch horse and champion Morgan International Cowhorse Association stallion. Dorothea strives to produce Morgans with excellent conformation, good feet and legs, intelligence, friendliness, stamina, and natural using ranch ability. Altogether she has produced more than 80 Morgans and is one of the few remaining resources of true old time working ranch Morgans.

Brenda Tippin

## Gay Adams DEDICATED ORGANIZER

In 1981, Gay, who had ridden in her teens, convinced her husband John that they needed a horse for her to ride. Looking for a five-to-eight-year-old mare, they, of course, lost their hearts to a darling new-born Morgan colt, thus beginning Sunstone Morgans in Oregon City, Oregon!

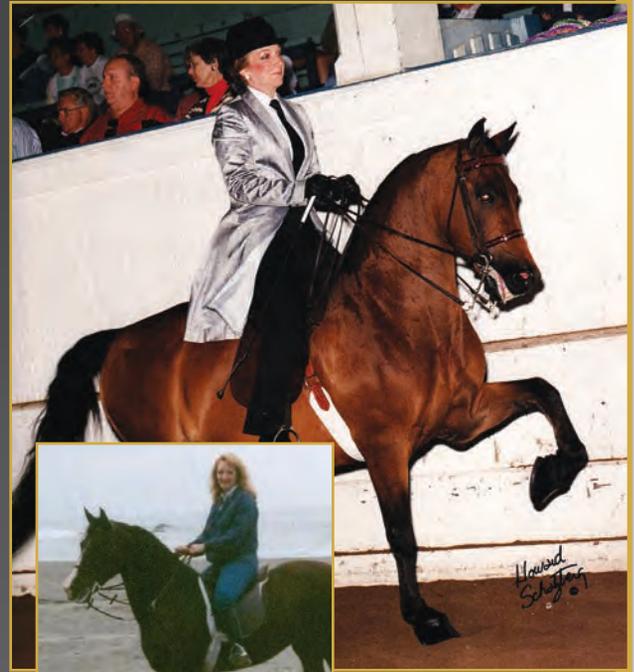
For years, DJP Cassanova, with husband John, was a crowd favorite winning team at the shows. Gay had acquired Funquest Dolly and was showing in the ladies classes. In 2000, their daughter graduated high school leading them to retire from the show circuit to trail ride and enjoy horses at home. Deciding to raise a foal, they purchased Scandias Springtyme Lady, who was in foal to UVM Coming Attraction.

The new foal in 2008 gave Gay the incentive to rejoin the Morgan Horse Association of Oregon (MHAO) and return to the show circuit. She was shocked how the horse community had shrunk in her absence. Gay remembered the shows with more than 250 horses and the MHAO with 350 members.

Since then Gay has immersed herself into the Morgan mainstream to promote and advance the breed in the Northwest. She is the current president of the MHAO. She is chairman of the nationally recognized MHAO Stallion Service Auction and the growing MHAO Breeders Cup Futurity. She publishes annually the *Breeders Cup Magazine* and this year a color SSA Calendar. Gay serves on the Board of the Oregon Horse Council and is the Far West Regional Show board secretary. She is also the founding force of the Northwest Morgan Horse Promotional Task Force creating a networking system of Morgan people for resources and promotion.

Gay Adams's effort in the Northwest to unite individuals and clubs on behalf of the Morgan breed is amazing. Her dedication and achievements are an inspiration to us all! She truly deserves to be on the Honor Roll for Women in the Morgan horse breed. ■

Nancy Eidam



Gay Adams with DJP Cassanova (above) and (left) with Funquest Dolly (show photo © Howard Schatzberg).

## PAST INDUCTEES

**2009:** Marilyn Childs • Martha V. Dupont • Anna Ela & Ruth Orcutt • Betty Greene • Helen Greenwalt • Anita Hoitsma • Gloria Jones • Frances Pugh • Sid Spencer • Pat Tataronis Orcutt • Mary Jean Vasiloff • Judy Whitney Harris • Mary Woolverton **2010:** Beth Benard • Chris Cassenti • Simy Corbin • Nancy Eidam • Travis Filipek • Susan, Ling and Iann Fu • Margaret Gardiner • Georgie Green • Elberta Honstein • Jeanne Mellin Herrick • Carol Simpson • Jane Steffenhagen **2011:** Peggy Alderman • Barbara Beaumont Cole • Debbie Beth Halachmy • Bobbi Blankenship • Angela Conner Bulmer • Elaine Galatz • Barbara Irvine • Jennifer McFall • Cindy Nord • Elizabeth Power • Lynne Shpak • Bonnie Sogoloff **2012:** Laura Behning • Mary Cockriel • Frieda Datte Waer • Ellen DiBella • Ann Hailey • Carol Hudson • Maretta Kennedy • Suzy Lucine • Karen Myers • Judy Nason • Crescent Peirce • Polly Quinn • Barb Rudicel • Lisa Singer **2013:** Ann Anderson • Cheri Barber • Joan Bowers • Josette Conti • Jane Elliot • Susan Hanley • Anne Mears • Renee Page • Nancy Plimpton • Suzy Stafford • Ann Taylor **2014:** Paulette Bodnar • Muriel Burnheimer • Mary Carlton • Helen Crawford • Sherry Cole • Jo Johnson • Heidi Kunkel • Joyce Metters • Carol Potts • Shelly Temple • Brenda Tippin • June Brockett Wright **2015:** Terry Jones Brennan • Diane Conrady • Cindy Mugnier • Kathy Newcomb • Beverley Olson • Kathleen Peeples • Colleen Bernaby Saint Loup • Mona Sansoucy • Mona Skager • Ruth Towne • Dorothy White • Anne Wyland