

# Ashley DeBoyd 13049

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2022



ABOVE: Ashley DeBoyd & John Diehl (left photo © J. Buck).

**Ashley DeBoyd 13049** (Edward Ash 10660 x Tarrla 09253) • 1960–2003 • Dark chestnut, star, left hind fetlock white, light mane and tail, 15.1 hands • **Foaled:** May 10, 1960, Huntington, West Virginia • **Bred by:** Beamer V. Donahoe • **Owners:** Dwight Plymale, Slate Run Farm, West Virginia; Tom & Charlene Hilgenberg, Newnan, Georgia • One-quarter Lippitt; Three-quarter Brunk  
24 crosses to Daisy 0479; 24 to Billy Bodette 814; 22 to Daniel Lambert 62; 19 to Ethan Allen 50; ten to General Gates 666, ten to Knox Morgan 4677; five to Jubilee King 7570 • **Eight Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding:** 11.3610684871674 percent  
**Registered Morgan progeny:** 23

Ashley DeBoyd was the most famous of all the DeBoyd Morgans, a family of hardy, outstanding performance horses known for their superb dispositions and longevity. A handsome, proud chestnut with the family trademark light mane and tail, he was virtually unbeatable in the show ring, winning the Georgia State Championship three times, and being named AHSA High-Point Morgan Pleasure Horse of the Year in 1972. He and his offspring upheld the family tradition of versatility, carrying on the legacy of Jubilee King and Knox Morgan.

In the June 1997 issue of *The Morgan Horse*, former owner Dwight Plymale published an essay of appreciation, “My Friend, Ashley DeBoyd,” writing, “Ashley was unique. He was extremely sure on his feet....the muscles of his inner thighs felt like oak boards....On a straightaway, Ashley was able to canter and change leads every stride....I would press my left heel into Ashley’s barrel and he would move his rear end to the left in a complete 360-degree circle. He never moved his front feet, but his legs would be crossed, then I would press my right heel into his barrel, and after a 360-degree turn his front legs would be uncrossed. He did

this with ease in either direction. We took Ashley to the Gold Cup Morgan Horse Show in Lebanon, Ohio, in 1966 and 1967. Ashley was first in English Pleasure Stallions both years, against horses from 15 states....I took Ashley to numerous shows in our tri-state area (Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky). Many times, he was pinned first place in Western pleasure; we would then change tack to English and get first place in that division too. These were open shows. Some judges couldn’t take their eyes off him. And people hanging on the rail would say, ‘Mister, what kind of horse is that?’”

Many of Ashley DeBoyd’s get did not breed on but lived as their owners’ using horses into their twenties. Those that did breed on contributed their blood to the Morgan sport horse disciplines. A son, Bennett DeBoyd, was driven in Washington, D.C.’s 1976 Bicentennial Parade. Winning descendants include Battersea Toulouse, who was AMHA 2015–16 Open Competition Reserve Champion in Combined Driving; Great Oaks Ashmon; and Touch Of Magic. Ashley DeBoyd was a breed ambassador who publicized the Morgan breed throughout the southeastern United States, as did his descendants. ■