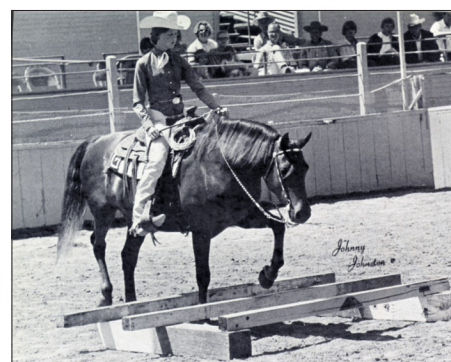
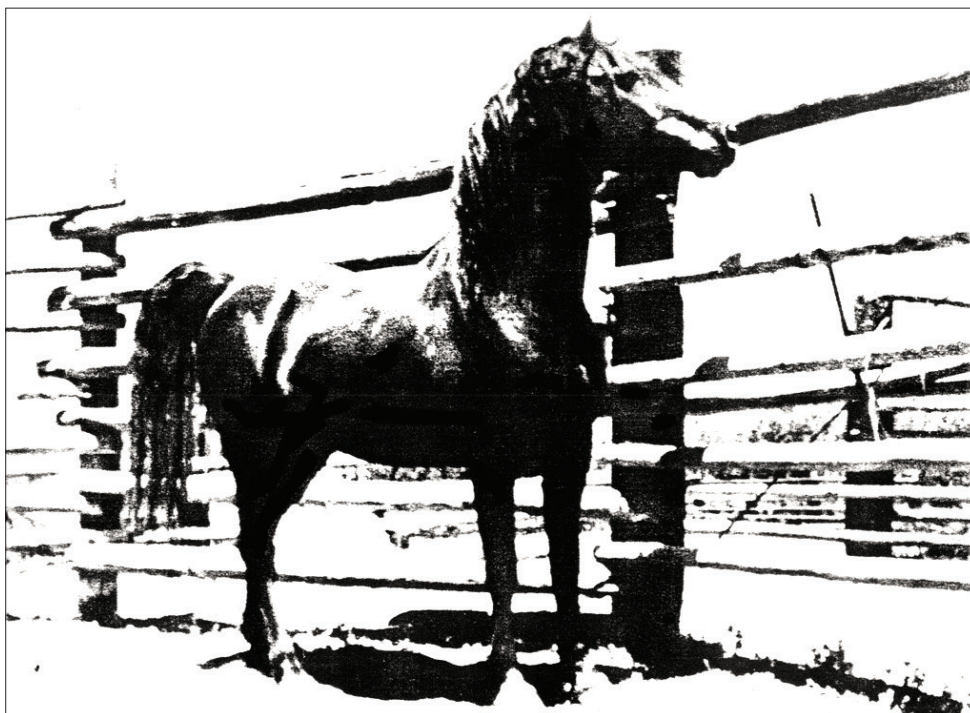


# Chief Justin Morgan 9329

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2023



**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** Chief Justin Morgan; The stallion War Paint (photo courtesy of Lowell Rott); Pickagin 012671 (Chief Justin Morgan x Twin Creek Beauty) doing the trail obstacle with Valerie Butts in 1967 (photo © Johnny Johnston).

**Chief Justin Morgan 9329** (Brunkey x Mylynda) • Dark chestnut, prolonged star, left hind sock white; branded “109” on left neck  
**Foaled:** April 24, 1945, Fort Washakie, Wyoming • **Deceased:** circa 1967 • **Bred by:** Wind River Indian Agency • **Owned by:** Johnnie D. Lee, Lander, Wyoming • Two close crosses to Jubilee King 7570; 25 percent of his blood. Five crosses to Knox Morgan 4677; 17 crosses to Daniel Lambert 62. 100 percent Brunk breeding • **Eight Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding:** 9.59320068359375 percent • **Registered Morgan Progeny:** 53

Although best remembered today as the sire of the chestnut overo stallion War Paint 12641 (x Painted Girl), Chief Justin Morgan was a linebred Lambert, a double great-grandson of Jubilee King, who played a significant part in the development of the Western Working Family.

Chief Justin Morgan “was owned by Indians on the Crow Reservation in Wyoming. He was used for roping and bulldogging by the Indians in rodeos. As he was good he was used hard and had poor care and he was in poor flesh and his ankles were swollen to twice their size. Ab Cross tried to buy him but the Indians refused to sell to him. Ab arranged for Johnnie Lee, a good friend, to buy the horse and then the two men exchanged stallions for breeding purposes every few years. Chief Justin Morgan had good conformation and temperament and passed it on. He sired many good Morgans in Wyoming.”—Bob Riley, *Hawkeye Morgan Horse Club Newsletter*, Spring 2001.

In a letter in the August 1965 issue of *The Morgan Horse*, Johnnie Lee states he purchased “this wonderful stallion” in 1953, and that he’d leased him to Ab Cross for just two years. Otherwise, Chief Justin Morgan stood at Lee’s G Lazy T Ranch on Twin Creek, just south of Lander, Wyoming.

However another report states, “Chief Justin Morgan... spent most of his productive years on the Cross Ranch in Dubois, Wyoming, where his get have made excellent ranch and mountain horses. They are good-bodied, good-legged animals with a remarkable amount of sense. Though raised wholly on the range, and handled virtually not at all as colts, they break easily, and most importantly, stay that way.”—Mabel Owen, “The Principal Sire Lines of the Morgan Breed,” *The Morgan Horse*, June 1965, p95.

Today Chief Justin Morgan’s descendants may be found in CDEs and USDF-sanctioned competitions across the globe in Canada, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden, and the United States. ■