

≈ HISTORY LESSON ≈

# THE BRUNK DYNASTY, PART I:

## *Jubilee King*

By Brenda L. Tippin



**T**he legacy of the Brunk family is far too large a story to be told in a single article. Morgans were owned and bred by members of the Brunk family for nearly 200 years, spanning multiple generations and operations by different branches of the family, making it the oldest, and for now, the longest running of any program or group of programs passed down through a single family in the history of the breed. The various branches of the Brunk program have also probably had more widespread influence upon the breed as a whole than any other, and includes many of the best loved Morgans from foundation, classic, and modern show bloodlines, impacting every discipline of the breed. In this article, we will take a brief look at some of the early history of the Brunk family, and focus on just one of the most dynamic stallions produced by Brunk breeding—the great Jubilee King.

### GEORGE BRUNK

The Brunk story begins with George Brunk, born in Miami County, Ohio, in 1804 to George Brunk Sr. and Eleanor “Nelly” McCue, who were married in Rockingham, Virginia, in 1797. The Brunks were of Dutch descent, with roots originally tracing to Pennsylvania and New York. The McCues were Scotch-Irish, an ethnic group of Scotch descent from the Province of Ulster, Ireland, who immigrated to America in the early 1700s.

George Brunk Sr. was born in Rockingham, Virginia, November 9, 1773. He was married to Nelly McCue on his 24<sup>th</sup> birthday in

1797 by the Rev. John Walsh. With the Harrison Land Act which passed on April 15, 1800, settlers could purchase lands in the Northwest territories directly from the federal government. The required purchase was 320 acres at a minimum of \$2 per acre. The buyer was required to pay one half the cost plus a small administrative fee at the time of purchase, which amounted to a down payment of \$330 for 320 acres of land and allowed the remaining \$320 to be paid in four equal installments.

The young Brunks were among the settlers who came to Ohio sometime during this timeframe, most likely following the

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**ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT:** Jubilee King (Penrod x Daisette) (*The Morgan Horse*, September 2015); The J. C. Brunk Family. Bottom row, left to right: Helen, J. C., J. C.’s wife Minnie, Grace. Top, left to right: J. Roy, John T., Thomas T. (*The Morgan Connection*).



**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** Wilderness Road, route of early immigrants to Northwest Territories; Smelting Furnace, Galena lead mines; Cotton Hill in 1953 (courtesy of Renee Page); Barns at Cotton Hill (courtesy of Renee Page).

Great Valley Road which ran southwest to the Wilderness Road at Roanoke, a trail blazed by Daniel Boone in 1775. At Roanoke, the Wilderness road continued westward, crossing the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky, and then northwards into Ohio. George and Nelly's first child, Hannah, was born around 1798, followed by Elizabeth, who was born in Franklin, Ohio, in October of 1800. They moved a little farther north to settle in Miami County. George was born in 1804, Mary in 1806, and another son, David, in 1809. George Sr. died in 1814, when young George was just 10 years old. His mother then married Thomas Royal, an Englishman and a widower who came to America as a young man near the beginning of the Revolutionary War and volunteered for the colonists. Nelly McCue Brunk was his third wife, and one more child was born to this union, Joseph Brunk Royal, in 1816.

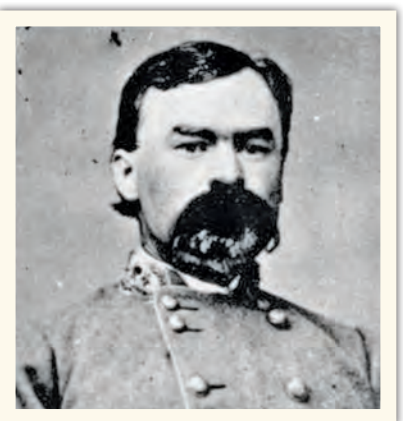
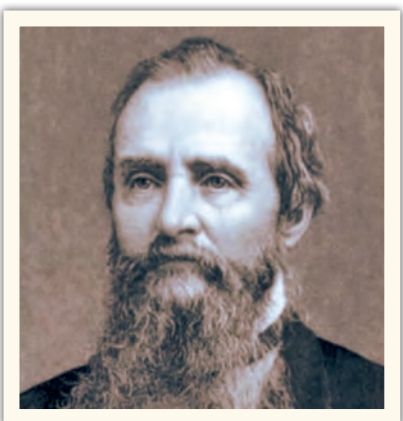
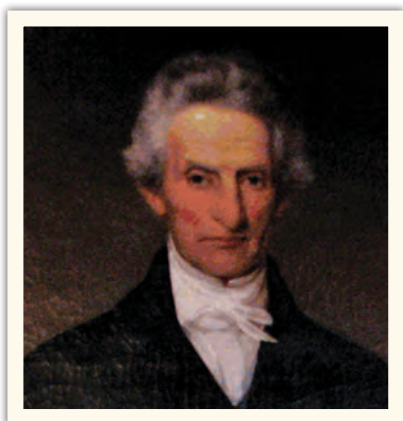
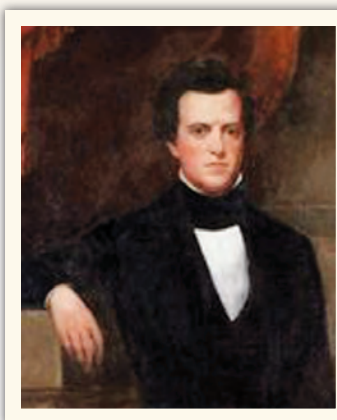
In 1821, the very year of the death of the original Justin Morgan horse, George left Ohio with a couple of neighbor boys near his age. The boys traveled on foot through the rugged wilderness, blazing a trail from Miami County to Fort Dearborn, and were the first white men to follow the Fort Dearborn route into central Illinois. From there they followed the Illinois River into Sangamon County, which was established that same year.

George Brunk wrote, "The first cabin I saw was where the village of Rochester now stands. There were no settlers on the north fork of the St. Gamee, except a few in and about Mechanicsburg." (*George Brunk, 1859 contribution to The Old Settlers Association*).

George then went to the northwest corner of the state to work in the mines near Galena, which was then part of the Upper Mississippi Lead Mine District established by Congress. Now the county seat of Joe Daviess County, the town was named for the mineral galena, which is the natural mineral form of lead sulfide, and primary source of lead ore. Ice age glaciers had not encroached Northwestern Illinois, and the rich lead deposits were also left intact, and had been mined by Native Americans for more than a thousand years. Galena was also the site of the first mineral rush in the United States. George worked in the Galena mines at \$4 per day (the average daily wage for a timber man at that time was fifty cents, and work was scarce) for several years to earn money to buy land. He selected his first eighty acres near Edwardsville, just south of Springfield in Sangamon County, and built a log cabin. He then returned to Ohio in 1824 to bring back his family and three Morgan horses—two Morgan mares and a gelding his family owned, and who had come from Vermont. This party included his mother, stepfather, brothers and sisters; his older sister Hannah who had married Peter Deardorff, and several neighbors, about sixty-three persons in all. The Brunk-Royal family came in a covered wagon drawn by the Morgan horses.

George continued to return to Galena each winter for several more years to earn additional funds for more land and, in 1827 married his first wife, Mary Boyd. He ultimately acquired 696 acres of prime farm land in all, and bred Morgan horses from his origi-





**LEFT TO RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM:** Joseph Chase Brunk (courtesy of Renee Page); Minnie Alice Husband Brunk, wife of Joseph Chase Brunk (courtesy of Renee Page); David McGavock, grandson of John Harding, nephew of General William Giles Harding, cousin-in-law of General William Hicks Jackson. Married his cousin Willie Elizabeth Harding (findagrave); Willie Elizabeth Harding McGavock, daughter of William Harding, married David McGavock, grandson of her uncle John Harding. On her marriage to David McGavock, inherited the property on which they built the Two Rivers Stock Farm (findagrave); John Harding, grandfather of David McGavock, and founder of Belle Meade. Painting by Washington Bogart Cooper (Wikimedia Commons); General William Giles Harding, uncle of David McGavock and owner of Belle Meade, who first bought Morgan foundation stock, passed away shortly after in 1886 (Wikimedia Commons); General William Hicks Jackson, cousin-in-law of David McGavock, son-in-law of William Giles Harding. Helped his father-in-law operate Belle Meade and purchase the first Morgan foundation stock. After his father-in-law's death in 1886, he turned the Morgan foundation stock over to David McGavock and continued to operate Belle Meade until his own death in 1903 (Wikimedia Commons).

nal mares for many years. Many carried the color and markings of the family favorite, a buckskin mare with a black list down her back, known as "Old Mouse." While he is credited as the first to bring Morgan horses into Illinois, the implication is that when he brought them from Ohio in 1824, these were mature horses his family had owned for at least a few years. Thus, they must also have been among the first Morgans in the state of Ohio, and very probably were either offspring of the original Justin Morgan, who died in 1821, or at least of his sons or daughters. George's first wife Mary died in 1847. He married Eliza Armstrong in 1849, and she died in 1860. Finally, he married Emily Talbott in 1861, and from these three wives, there were thirteen children.

## J. C. BRUNK

Joseph Chase Brunk, often referred to simply as "J. C.," was the youngest of George Brunk's thirteen children, and born to George's third wife, Emily Talbott. He was born in July 19, 1864 at Cotton Hill in Sangamon County, Illinois, when his father was 60 years old. In 1889, he married Minnie Alice Husband, and had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The surviving children

were Joseph Royal Brunk, Grace Husband Brunk, John Talbot Brunk, Helen Gertrude Brunk, and Thomas Talbot Brunk, all of whom would share the family love of Morgan horses.

In his 1929 catalog, he recalled how his father had built the famous Brunk farm at Cotton Hill:

"In 1829 he went with team and wagon to St. Louis (near 100 miles) and procuring workmen, built a house from stone quarried on the farm and finished in heavy walnut inside (photo of which is given in this our 1929 catalog of Morgan horses). This house is in good repair and now in its one hundredth anniversary year. Sometime in the earlier and again in the later 'thirties' he built two barns—the first of massive hewn oak timbers; Some of these 12x16 inches, some fifty feet long without a splice or break. These timbers are now but slightly time worn, sound, hard, and slick as ivory—the later built barn was of sawed white oak frame—from the first saw mill of this section—an up and down saw run by water power."

"J. C. continued the tradition of breeding Morgan horses, joining the earliest breeders of registered stock, and serving as a



**CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT:** Two Rivers Mansion, Nashville, Tennessee, remained in the McGavock family for three generations, named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. It is now preserved as a historic site for community and social events (Wikimedia Commons); Morgan horses, Two Rivers Stock Farm, Tennessee. Originally purchased by General Harding and General Jackson for Belle Meade, and then passed to David McGavock. After McGavock's death his son Frank dispersed the horses and J. C. Brunk acquired for \$1,000 (Morgan Horse Registry, Volume I); Belle Meade, view from northwest, Historic American Buildings Survey, Lester Jones Photographer, August 17, 1940.

charter member and director of The Morgan Horse Club. He used the Morgans for farming, with sometimes as many as 25 horses working the fields at Cotton Hill. Then he would take the same Morgans he had working the farm and exhibit them at major shows from coast to coast in order to promote the breed, winning many ribbons and trophies for Cotton Hill. He also sold many of his horses every year, as he felt sharing these valuable bloodlines was an important way to build the Morgan breed.”

**FOUNDATION STOCK—  
TWO RIVERS STOCK FARM AND BELLE MEADE**  
Many of J. C.’s early Morgans, which were the foundation of the

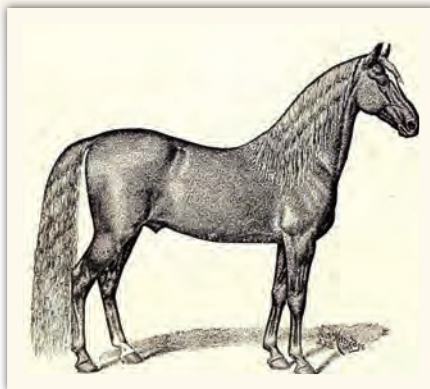
famous Brunk pedigrees so widespread in their influence, were obtained at the McGavock dispersal sale.

Recent research further into the background of this history provides new, interesting details which clarify J. C.’s original account.

The Two Rivers Stock Farm was built in 1859 for David Harding McGavock and his bride, William (“Willie”) Elizabeth Harding, who was his cousin. Willie was named after both her parents, William Harding, and Elizabeth Clopton. William Harding was a brother of David McGavock’s grandfather, John Harding. William died in 1832, shortly before his daughter Willie was born.

In 1807, John Harding, a Virginian, purchased 250 acres on the ancient Native American path, Natchez Trace. He began to build a plantation which he named Belle Meade, which was French





**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Ben Franklin (Daniel Lambert by Black Kate) at Two Rivers Stock Farm, Tennessee. Purchased by David McGavock for \$8,000 to breed to the foundation Morgan mares acquired from his uncle, General William Giles Harding, and cousin-in-law, General William Hicks Jackson. Ben Franklin is the sire of Jasper Franklin and Ben's Daisy (*Morgan Horse Register*, Vol. 1); Daniel Lambert (Ethan Allen x Fanny Cook), drawing from life by Henry S. Kittredge. Jubilee King carried five close crosses to Daniel Lambert; Allen Franklin (Jasper Franklin x Daisy) in 1909.

for “beautiful meadow.” He bred and raced fine thoroughbreds. In 1839, management of Belle Meade passed to his son, General William Giles Harding (uncle of David McGavock, the brother of his mother, Amanda P. Harding). General Harding focused even more on breeding high quality thoroughbreds. He added on to the original home to build the present Grecian style Belle Meade Mansion in 1853, which was named to the National Register of Historic Places during the 1970s and now serves as a museum.

Upon her marriage in 1850, Willie inherited 1,100 acres her father had acquired before his own marriage, and it was upon this land the Two Rivers Stock Farm was built. Meanwhile, in 1868, General Harding's oldest daughter Selene married a widower, General William Hicks Jackson, who co-managed Belle Meade with his father-in-law. The two men developed the Belle Meade Stud into one of the most famous thoroughbred farms in the nation at the time. Among horses bred by Belle Meade at the time was Iroquois, foaled in 1878, who became the first US bred horse to win the Epsom Derby in England. The estate was nationally known for other high-quality livestock as well, including fine ponies, Alderney cattle, Cashmere Goats, Cotswold Sheep, and also boasted a 600-acre deer park.

During the 1880s, the Two Rivers Stock Farm was also at the height of its glory, with lavish gardens, an orchard, a variety of livestock, a dairy operation, and fox hunting. The Two Rivers Mansion was an example of Italianate architecture, and was lived in by the McGavock family for three generations, until 1965. It was then purchased by the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, and was converted into Two Rivers Park and Golf Course. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and is now a popular place for weddings and other events.

By the mid-1880s, David had begun working on the horse breeding operations with his uncle, General Harding, and his cousin-in-law, General Jackson. In 1886, they selected a group of the finest purebred young Morgan fillies from several respected breeders in Vermont. These were brought to Belle Meade, with the intent of breeding them to thoroughbred stallions. However, General Harding, who was then 78, passed away in December of

that year. General Jackson continued to operate Belle Meade, and the Morgan mares passed to David, who then selected several of the best Morgan stallions and began to breed purebred Morgan horses until his death in March 1896, just three months after his wife Willie passed away. His son Frank had also taken a hand in the breeding as his father's health began to fail. By that time, Two Rivers was struggling and near bankruptcy, due to the panic of 1893 and the depression that followed. To save the property, Frank was forced to disperse his father's cherished Morgans. J. C. heard of the sale, and wasted no time in boarding a train for Nashville, nearly 400 miles away, and was fortunate to secure the entire lot of horses for \$1,000. Following is a brief overview of this and some other foundation stock J. C. was able to obtain, who were particularly important in the pedigree of Jubilee King:

## BEN FRANKLIN

Ben Franklin was a son of Daniel Lambert and was out of the mare Black Kate by Addison, a son of Black Hawk. Addison's dam, Ruby, traced her female line to Brutus by Justin Morgan. Black Kate's second dam was Poll, the dam of Ethan Allen. Appearing as great-great grandsire in Jubilee King's direct sireline, Ben Franklin also appears as sire of Ben's Daisy, the third dam. A striking and powerfully built black chestnut, standing 16 hands tall, Ben Franklin, foaled in 1873, was among the Morgans J. C. obtained at the 1896 dispersal sale of Frank McGavock's Two Rivers Stock Farm in Nashville, Tennessee. Frank's father, who controlled a livestock company, had paid \$8,000 for Ben Franklin. He had a record of 2:29, made when he trotted four races in the Eastern circuit, winning first money over a large field each time. Ben Franklin had also won many premiums at state and county fairs, and also won first premium as the best Morgan stallion at the 1887 meeting of the Vermont Breeder's Association in Rutland. Although several of Ben Franklin's offspring were included in the dispersal, J. C. did not use the old stallion for further breeding. He sired 89 registered offspring in all.

## JASPER FRANKLIN

Bred by George D. Wells of Fair Haven, Vermont, and foaled in



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Jubilee De Jarnette, foaled 1883 in Kentucky. Used by J. C. Brunk and C. X. Larrabee (*Morgan Horse Register, Vol II*); Colby's Young Green Mountain (Turner's Sir William by Green Mountain Morgan x Dolly by Colby's Young Morrill), Sire of Tom Corwin who was sire of Penrod's 2d dam (AMHA Archives); Lady de Jarnette (Indian Chief x Belle) (*Morgan Horse Register, Vol I*).

1887, Jasper Franklin was a red chestnut marked with a star, and was double-gaited, able to both trot and pace. He was a son of Ben Franklin and out of Twilight by Daniel Lambert. Twilight's dam was a daughter of Ti Boy by Black Hawk, and out of a daughter of the Coburn Horse (by the Saddlebred Post Boy, and out of a daughter of Revenge by Justin Morgan); 2d dam of Ti Boy a daughter of Justin Morgan. He was sold to the Morgan Horse Farm of J. J. Lynes in Iowa, then to South Dakota, and eventually Minnesota. J. C. had heard of him and wanted to add these lines but was unable to locate him. Finally, M. T. Grattan found the horse and brought him to Cotton Hill. Jasper Franklin only sired six registered offspring, the most important of which was his son, Allen Franklin.

## ALLEN FRANKLIN

Out of the old foundation mare Daisy, Allen Franklin sired only three registered offspring, but they were all extremely important in many Brunk pedigrees. These were the full brothers Allen King and Penrod, and the good mare Double Daisy. He was a smooth, well-proportioned horse with excellent feet and legs, short back with long hip and powerful sloping shoulder, all of which combined to give him great action. He also had a good neck and beautiful expressive head. Allen Franklin brought home many ribbons and trophies for the Brunk show string, including winning the Morgan Championship and coveted Morgan Horse Club Trophy at both the Iowa and Minnesota State Fairs in 1914.

## PENROD

Out of the mare Black Bess by Jubilee de Jarnette, Penrod was a beautiful and well-balanced black stallion of 15¼ hands. He was very versatile, with an exceptionally kind and tractable disposition. Penrod was sold as a two-year-old, but J. C. and his son Roy later went to see him, and found he was being kept tied in a stall in very poor conditions. J. C. traded for him and brought him home. Penrod only sired 12 registered offspring and was best known as the sire of Jubilee King and his full sister Sentola (x Daisette). His daughters Penala (x Galva) and Betty Barr (x Daisy Knox) also appear in many pedigrees tracing to Brunk breeding.

## JUBILEE DE JARNETTE

A son of Jubilee Lambert, and out of the greatest show mare that ever lived, Lady De Jarnette, Jubilee De Jarnette appears twice in Jubilee King's pedigree—as the sire of his sire's dam, Black Bess (x daughter of Tom Corwin by Colby's Young Green Mountain) and as the sire of his second dam, Daisy De Jarnette (x Ben's Daisy). He was a handsome, dark bay in color, smoothly turned and muscular, with Morgan proportions despite his 16-hand size. He was bred by W. H. Wilson who owned his dam, and foaled in 1883 in Cynthiana, Kentucky. His dam, Lady De Jarnette, was a daughter of Indian Chief, and tracing through her second dam to Blackburn's Davy Crockett, and back to Tom Hal by Justin Morgan. Wilson also often showed Jubilee De Jarnette with his mother as a pair, winning at many noted shows. Jubilee De Jarnette himself won championships at Madison Square Garden twice. It was said that he loved racing in the snow with a cutter and enjoyed hearing the sleigh bells.

Lady De Jarnette was so unbeatable in single harness, she was barred from competing in the show ring, and commanded a salary of \$500 per week just to make a brief appearance at shows and fairs. This was a tremendous sum in those days, and she was later sold for \$5,000. J. C. had heard of Lady De Jarnette and very much wanted to incorporate that blood into his program, and set out to locate Jubilee De Jarnette. He found the aging horse in Indiana, in a poorly kept barn and standing in manure up to his knees. J. C. purchased him for \$250 and shipped him home in a boxcar where he was restored to health, and sired a fine crop of foals for the 1903 season, the best known of these being Daisy De Jarnette, who won the two-year-old championship at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis. Another Brunk bred daughter from the 1903 crop was Ruperta (x Ruby by Gideon) who later won Grand Champion Morgan Mare at the 1915 World's Fair in San Francisco and was champion at the Iowa State Fair the same year. J. C. also purchased Black Bess, bred by John Hoover of Indiana and foaled in 1902, and through these two mares, the blood of Jubilee De Jarnette played an important role in the pedigree of Jubilee King. J. C. later sold him with reluctance to C. X. Larrabee, but could not turn down the price of \$2,250, which was a great return on his original investment of \$250 for the now 21-year-old horse. Jubilee de Jarnette sired a total of 105 registered foals.





**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Knox Morgan ad from *Livestock Journal*; Mountaineer Morgan (Vincent Horse x mare by General Sherman), sire of Knox Morgan; Senator (Morgan Rupert x Lucy), bred by Frank McGavock, son of David McGavock. Part of the Two Rivers dispersal purchased by J. C. Brunk, sire of his prize mare Senata (courtesy of Renee Page); Senata and colt Sangamo, by Dr. Strawn, 1909 Vermont State Fair Champion Mare & Foal (AMHA Archives); Billy Bodette, sire of two of the important foundation mares J. C. Brunk obtained from the Two Rivers Dispersal. These were Daisy and Lucy (courtesy of Renee Page); Jubilee King (Penrod x Daisette) (*The Morgan Horse*, September 2015).

## KNOX MORGAN

Bred by Augustus Dunlap and foaled in May, 1891 in Brunswick, Maine, Knox Morgan was a powerfully built, muscular, dark bay or seal brown, standing 15½ hands, yet with strong old Morgan type. He was sired by Mountaineer Morgan, tracing his sireline through the Sherman Morgan son Vermont Morgan Champion. His dam was a daughter of Sagadhoc by General Knox, and second dam a daughter of Ethan Allen. J. C. first saw him at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, where he won Grand Champion Stallion. At that time, he was owned by F. G. Chandler, who was not ready to sell, but he and J. C. became friends. Years later, after F. G. Chandler passed away, his wishes were that his grand stallion should go to J. C. By this time, Knox Morgan was twenty-five years old, but nevertheless, went on to sire several important offspring for the Brunk program. It was natural that one of the first mares J. C. chose to breed to Knox Morgan was his prize mare Senata (Senator x Daisy) who was Grand Champion Mare at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis—the same year Knox Morgan was Grand Champion Stallion. The result was Senator Knox, foaled in 1916, who in turn, when bred to Daisy De Jarnette, sired Daisette, the dam of Jubilee King. Knox Morgan sired a total of 53 foals, and J. C.'s masterful interweaving of the Knox Morgan line with the Lambert lines through Ben Franklin

and Jubilee De Jarnette and his foundation mare, Daisy and her daughter Senata was to have a far-reaching influence.

## SENATOR

Foaled in 1895 and bred by Frank McGavock, Senator was a typey chestnut horse with a stripe in the face, standing 15½ hands tall. He was among the horses J. C. had acquired at the Two Rivers dispersal. He was sired by Morgan Rupert (Ethan Allen 3d x Nell by Cushing's Green Mountain, 2d dam by Wood's Comet) and out of Lucy (Billy Bodette x mare by Streeter Horse, 2d dam by Sherman Morgan). He sired only two foals for J. C., and then was sold to Missouri as a four-year-old. In Jubilee King's pedigree, he appears as the sire of Senata, who in turn produced Senator Knox.

## SENATA

A dark chestnut mare with stripe in face foaled in 1898, and sired by Senator out of Daisy, Senata represented the second foal crop J. C. bred from the Two Rivers foundation stock. She proved to be one of his greatest show mares, and won more than \$400 in prizes at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, besides taking home the trophy for Grand Champion Mare. She was the dam of nine foals including Senator Knox and Florence Chandler by Knox Morgan

## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Jubilee King*

and Double Daisy by Allen Franklin. Senata also won many shows at the Illinois State Fair, both in harness, and when shown as mare with produce. She also won easily when shown with her colt Sangamo by Dr. Strawn at the 1909 Vermont State Fair. Senata also won at the 1909 Indiana State Fair competing against all breeds, including Saddlebreds and Standardbreds, in the American Carriage and In-Hand classes. J. C. called her “Queen of the Show Ring.”

### DAISY

A chestnut mare with a stripe in the face and foaled in 1884, Daisy was bred by Lemuel Hunt of East Haven, Vermont. She was a daughter of Billy Bodette and out of a daughter of Billy Folsom. Billy Bodette (Black Morgan 2d x mare by Wood's Comet) was foaled in 1871, and had five crosses to Justin Morgan in five generations, and one more in four. Both his dam and his sire's dam were daughters of Woods Comet (Billy Root x mare by Royal Morgan, 2d dam Reuben Crane mare, sire and dam both by Gifford Morgan). Billy Root and Royal Morgan were both sons of Sherman Morgan and out of daughters of Justin Morgan. The second dam of Black Morgan 2d was by Royal Morgan, dam a daughter of the Batchelder Horse by Sherman Morgan, and second dam the Old Charley Watson mare by Justin Morgan. The second dam of Billy Bodette was a daughter of Royal Morgan and out of the Old Charley Watson mare. Daisy's dam was the Al Hastings mare (Billy Folsom x mare by Prince Albert, son of Hale's Green Mountain Morgan; 2d dam by Sherman Morgan). Daisy was the dam of eleven foals, three of which appear in the pedigree of Jubilee King, which are Ben's Daisy, Senata, and Allen King.

### BEN'S DAISY

Bred by Frank McGavock and foaled in 1892, Ben's Daisy (Ben Franklin x Daisy) was a chestnut mare, marked with a white spot on her face and white hind foot. She also was a source of the rabi-cano gene, which is expressed as a sprinkling of white hairs, similar to roaning, but generally covers less area than true roan. Typically, the white ticking is seen predominantly over the flanks and barrel, but does seem to increase as the horse ages. This pattern is often found in Morgans with crosses to Brunk breeding, and tracing to old Ben's Daisy, who lived to the age of 30. According to Grace Brunk Woods, Ben's Daisy was taken when 10 years old to the track in Springfield after 90 days of work and trotted a mile in 2:23 (*The Brunks of Illinois CD by Renee Page*). In 1910, J. C. Brunk took Ben's Daisy to the Vermont State Fair and entered her in the 15-mile endurance race hitched to a speed wagon. Although she was 19 years old at the time, she won easily, leading the field by a mile and a quarter, in well under an hour, and increased J. C.'s winnings by \$100. Ben's Daisy was also the first in the United States to trot 20 miles in less than an hour and she did so while pulling two men in a four-wheeled cart. J. C. noted that Ben's Daisy was not only an exceptional trotter, but a gaited saddle mare.

### JUBILEE KING

Jubilee King (Penrod x Daisette) was foaled June 29, 1927. J. C. considered him to be the finest horse he ever bred, and the culmination of his breeding efforts. He represented four generations of J. C.'s own

careful breeding program, and analysis of his pedigree provides a fascinating study as many of his ancestors were keystones to Brunk breeding. His sireline traced directly to Daniel Lambert, who appeared in his pedigree five times in five generations. These crosses were twice through Ben Franklin, twice through Jubilee Lambert (x mare by Taft Horse), sire of Jubilee De Jarnette, and once through the Daniel Lambert daughter Twilight (x Hannah by Ti Boy). As a two-year-old, J. C. described Jubilee King as “Real quality, and a true Morgan—agile, sure-footed, muscular...quick to learn and no horse with a finer disposition” (*Catalog of Cotton Hill Stock Farm, 1929*).

### OFFSPRING

It would be impossible to cover all of Jubilee King's offspring and their widespread influence in a single article. Here we will give a brief overview of a few of the key examples of Brunk breeding often found in today's pedigrees. Some others will be mentioned in a separate article on Frances Bryant, which will include Jubilee King's final years, and also his Brunk-bred daughter Paragraph who was a foundation mare for Frances.

### RARAGRAPH

Foaled in 1931 out of Nella (Allen King x Liza Jane), Raragraph was a chestnut stallion with an elongated star and silver mane and tail. He sired just five registered offspring, including the mares Ann Royal (x Sentola) and Jane Abbey (x Betty Barr). Ann Royal was used by Ramul Dvarishkis and produced five foals, including the mare Glogold (x Prince Dandy). Jane Abbey was the dam of eight foals, including Oh-Cee's Gift (x Montabell), who produced 11 foals. Among the offspring of Oh-Cee's Gift was Tia Isabella (x Californio), a palomino who was a foundation mare for Roy and Patsy Foote's Treasure Morgans in Montana, for whom she produced ten foals. One of her daughters, Treasure Golddust (x Primavera Bravado), went to Sweden. Oh-Cee's Gift also produced Vaquero Mac (x Ro Mac), who sired Gay Vaquero (x Gay Berta), foundation stallion for Polly Smith's Little Brook Farm in Vermont, specializing in sport Morgans. Vaquero Mac also sired Primavera Vaquero (x Panazarita Ro), sire of champion buckskin reining stallion Primavera Valdez (x Tia Margarita). This line is also the foundation for Colonel John Hutcheson's Gab Creek Farms, as he founded his program with PKR Primavera Brio (Primavera Valdez x Rose Hill Lapapillon). Most recently Gerry Paiva's Hijo De Valdez (Primavera Valdez x Kizan's Sonita) won World Champion Western Trail Horse at the 2018 Grand National, as well as several National titles in Western Dressage Level 3. Hijo De Valdez, who is the last son of Primavera Valdez, carries additional crosses to Brunk breeding through his dam.

### JUMINA

Out of Allana (Allen King x Ruby Reade) and also foaled in 1931, Jumina, a chestnut mare, was the dam of 16 foals. Among her offspring was Monte L (x Major R M), a beautiful copper chestnut marked with star and left hind sock. He was owned by Frieda Rex Waer, who purchased him from J. C. Jackson. Monte L was Champion Morgan Stallion of both the Indio County Fair in Imperial, California, and the San Diego County Fair in Del Mar, California. He had an excellent reputation as a true stock horse. He was the





**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Monte L (Major R.M. x Jumina by Jubilee King) (AMHA Archives); Rex's Major Monte (Monte L. by Major R. M. x Lana by Goldfield) (AMHA Archives); Rosilee (Jubilee King x Allana), foundation mare for Dr. Alexander Ruthven; Patrick Geddes (Lippitt Moro Ash x Rosilee) (AllBreedPedigree); King de Jarnette (Jubilee King x Duera) (AMHA Archives); Ken Carmen (Jubilee King x Heroda) (courtesy of Renee Page).

sire of 48 registered offspring including the beautiful Rex's Major Monte (x Lana by Goldfield, 2d dam Fawn by Mansfield; 3d dam Florette by Allen King; 4<sup>th</sup> dam Florence Chandler by Knox Morgan; 5<sup>th</sup> dam Senata by Senator), bred by Frieda and her first husband, T. R. Rex. Rex's Major Monte was known for his startling likeness to the original Justin Morgan horse, and won numerous Champion Morgan Stallion titles, and was a favorite parade horse. He was the sire of 88 registered offspring.

## ROSILEE

A flaxen chestnut mare foaled in 1932 out of Allana, was a foundation mare for Dr. Alexander Ruthven, and was the dam of eight foals, all full siblings by Lippitt Moro Ash (Lippitt Moro x Lippitt Sally Ash). Among these were Patrick Geddes, sire of Hy-Crest's Tommy and Golden River Dona, both out of Lippitt Polly Moro. Golden River Dona was the dam of Little Miss Pepper and Dona Mae Pepper, both by Brown Pepper.

## KING DE JARNETTE

Dark chestnut and marked with a star, King De Jarnette was foaled in 1932 out of the mare Duera (Senator Knox x Penala). In 1939, King De Jarnette was Champion Stallion at the Champaign County Fair in Illinois, and Senior Champion Stallion at the Iowa State Fair. King De Jarnette was also an excellent roadster, winning against some of the top Standardbreds he competed against. He

was owned by the Antlers Ranch in Worland, Wyoming, where he was killed by lightning in 1946. He was the sire of 17 foals, the best-known being Highview King (x Sentola).

## KATETTE

Foaled in 1932 out of Katie Hughes by Knox Morgan, Katette was a brown mare marked with a small star. She was the dam of just three foals, the best-known being Polly Forrest by the Saddlebred stallion Forest Whirlwind. Polly Forrest was the dam of 11 foals, including the mares Reata Goddess (x Mango) and Lovely Melody (x Trinango). Lovely Melody was the dam of 12 foals, seven of whom were by Fleetwing (Captor x Gorgeous). These included the popular sire Black River Major; Black River Dandy 1969 Eastern National Grand Champion Stallion who was undefeated in-hand during his lifetime; and Reata's Encore, 1971 Western National Grand Champion Stallion, all by Fleetwing.

## KEN CARMEN

Out of the mare Heroda and foaled in 1932, Ken Carmen was powerfully built at 16 hands. He was a dark chestnut marked with an irregular blaze and both hind socks. Ken Carmen was owned by the Mosher Brothers of Utah who used him on their working cattle ranch. Later he was owned by J. C. Jackson. He sired 54 registered offspring. Triple S Nugget (Triple S Gold Eagle x Triple S Carmenita), who was National Champion in Non-Pro Freestyle Reining for



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Juban (Jubilee King x Jeanne) (AMHA Archives); Juzan (Jubilee King x Liza Jane) (AllBreedPedigree); Red Vermont (Jubilee King x Daisy Knox) (*The Morgan Horse*, December 1950); Charles Reade (Woodward's Ethan Allen x Princess Dagmar by Daniel Lambert) (courtesy of Renee Page); Sealect Of Windcrest (Pecos x Janee by Jubilee King) with Jeanne Melling Herrick, (photo © Fred J. Sass AMHA Archives); Ledgewood Pecora & Applevale Boy King, 1965 Eastern Nationals (photo © W. Patriquin).

1998, 1999, and 2001, traces through this line. Triple S Nugget was also the sire of W Nugget's Rebels Are We (x W's Tupelo Honey), who won World Champion Reining Snaffle/Hackamore in 2006, World Champion Reining Non-Pro in 2009, and World Champion Reining in 2013, along with multiple other National Reining titles through the years.

## JUBAN

Another beautiful flaxen chestnut, Juban was foaled in 1933, out of the mare Jeanne by Knox Reade. Juban only had eight registered offspring and according to *Morgan Horse Register, Volume V* was sold to the Sawyer Cattle Company in San Angelo, Texas, to be used for the Quarter Horse breed. He sired at least four offspring known to be registered as Quarter Horses. His registered offspring included Cotton Hill's Choice (x Junita by Jubilee King), and Captain Red (x Gizea) who was Champion Morgan Stallion at the 1939 Iowa State Fair.

## JUZAN

A liver chestnut with flaxen mane and tail and small star, Juzan was foaled in 1934. His dam was Liza Jane (x Knox Morgan); 2d dam Double Daisy (x Allen Franklin); 3d dam Senata (x Senator); 4th dam Daisy (x Billy Bodette). He was owned for a time by the Quitaque Cattle Company in Quitaque, Texas, and was used to breed Quarter Horses. He was the sire of 99 registered foals. These

included Mabel Owen's foundation stallion, Squire Burger (x Nella). Squire Burger, foaled in 1938, won quarter mile races against the newly developing Quarter Horse breed and had a record of 22 seconds. He was Arizona State Roping Horse Champion, and in New England, was used for fox-hunting under sidesaddle, and won classes at the National Shows in-hand, under saddle, and in jumping. He was the sire of 31 offspring including Mary Jean Vasiloff's foundation stallion Whippoorwill Duke (x Diana-Mansfield). Other offspring of Juzan included Agazizz (x Gizea), Lamont (x Nella), Brunkey (x Fanita), and Bubbles (x Aleada by Jubilee King). Bubbles was dam of the famous endurance Morgan Suds (x Antman), who was 1962 NATRC (North American Trail Ride Conference) Champion of the lightweight division, owned and ridden by Maxi Dickinson. Maxi rode Suds over 35,000 miles in all and later wrote about her experiences in a book titled *Suds: Around the World on a Horse*. Juzan was also used by the Jackson Ranch in Harrison, Montana, during his later years.

## RED VERMONT

Foaled in 1934, and out of the mare Daisy Knox (Knox Morgan x Daisy De Jarnette) and was the sire of 67 registered offspring. Owned by Jack Davis of California, he was a stunning dark chestnut with light mane and tail, and a favorite parade horse. He won the Gold Medal at the Brattleboro, Vermont Show in 1939, in honor of the 150th anniversary of Justin Morgan. Red Vermont sired over





**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** McAllister (Jubilee King x Mrs Lewis) (AllBreedPedigree); Jubilee Rhythm (Jubilee Jazz x Dinah Vermont) (AllBreedPedigree); Jubilee Queen (Ulendon by Ulysses x Jubilee Kay by Jubilee King) (*The Morgan Horse* February 1950); Easter Maid (Jubilee King x Allana) (AllBreedPedigree); Neliza (Jubilee King x Nella) (courtesy of Renee Page).

1,500 foals in all, which were sent all over the world, but only 67 off his get were registered. He was shown in halter, three-gaited, and driving classes. In 1945, he won the Equestrian Award for Most Outstanding Stallion in Southern California. Among his offspring, besides his daughter Dina Vermont already mentioned, were the stallions Sireson (x Birdie Kellogg C K) and Easter Vermont (x Nona); and Ginger Vermont (x Dawnglo), foundation mare for Beckridge Morgans. Sireson was bred by O. J. Neeley and used by he and Myrtle Neeley as early foundation stock for their Tetonia Morgans in Rexburg, Idaho, while Easter Vermont was used as a sire by the Horseshoe Cattle Company after the death of Roland Hill.

### JANEE

A bay mare foaled in 1933, Janee was out of Golite, a daughter of Go Hawk and out of Senorita (Charles Reade x Senata). Charles Reade (see Juvina below for more on pedigree) was triple registered in the Morgan, Saddlebred, and American Trotting Registries. He had a trotting record of 2:14½. Janee was the dam of twelve foals including Sealect Of Windcrest, sire of 72 offspring, and his full sister AMHA Hall of Fame Ledgewood Pecora, dam of seven foals. Both were by Pecos (Cornwallis x Hepatica).

### MCALLISTER

Foaled in 1934, his dam was the powerfully bred mare Mrs Lewis. McAllister, who was the most intensely inbred to Daniel Lambert

of all Jubilee King's offspring, was a striking dark chestnut with stripe in face and white mane and tail. He was owned by La Loma Feliz Academy, a private ranch school in Santa Barbara, California, operated by Dr. Ina Richter to help children with conditions such as heart trouble, asthma, diabetes, or nephritis. McAllister was the sire of 21 offspring, including the stallion King Mick (x Jeanne). This line is responsible for many of the surviving gray Morgans through the mare Saycrest Frosty Miss (Sherman L x Frosty's Blue Bonnet). McAllister also sired the mare McDonna (x Madonna by Go Hawk). Her daughter Dina Vermont (x Red Vermont by Jubilee King) was the dam of Joanne Curtis's stallion Jubilee Rhythm (x Jubilee Jazz), also the mare Delilah Vermont (x Legend Of Caven-Glo) who appears in a number of Quietude Lambert Morgan pedigrees.

### JUBILEE KAY

A gray mare foaled in 1934, Jubilee Kay was X-registered, out of the Saddlebred mare Melody Queen. She was bred to Ulendon, producing the lovely gray show mare Jubilee Queen, foaled in 1944. Unfortunately, the gray color did not breed on through this line.

### EASTER MAID

Foaled in 1934 out of Allana (Allen King x Ruby Reade), Easter Maid was a chestnut mare marked with a star, strip, and both hind socks. Ruby Reade was a daughter of Charles Reade and out of

## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Jubilee King*

Ruby (Jubilee De Jarnette x Bess Franklin). Easter Maid was a foundation mare for Mabel Owen, and the dam of nine foals, including the mare April Showers (x Squire Burger), dam of 13 foals, including Merry Knox (x Meade).

### JUVINA

A lovely chestnut mare out of Jeanne by Knox Reade (Knox Morgan x Mrs Lewis), Juvina was foaled in 1935. Mrs Lewis was a daughter of Charles Reade (Woodward's Ethan Allen x Princess Dagmar) and out of Bess Franklin by Chetco (Ben Franklin x Nelly B by Harry Allen Jr). Woodward's Ethan Allen was a full brother of Daniel Lambert, and Princess Dagmar was a daughter of Daniel Lambert, out of a daughter of Ethan Allen. Harry Allen Jr. was by Harry Allen, a son of Daniel Lambert, and out of a daughter of Royal Morgan. The dam of Bess Franklin was Bessie, a daughter of Chase's Mountaineer, and second dam a daughter of Billy Folsom. Jeanne's second dam was Jean Ann (Sentiment x Neoshia). Sentiment was a son of Major Reade (Charles Reade x Black Bess by Jubilee De Jarnette) and out of J. C.'s champion mare Senata. Juvina was marked with a stripe in the face and flaxen mane and tail. She was part of the 1935 foal crop, the last bred by J. C. that he would see before his death on August 1 of that year. Juvina was later sold and won first place in the 100-mile ride held in Decatur, Illinois. She was the dam of six foals, including the famous stallion Flying Jubilee (x Flyhawk), owned by beloved Morgan author Ern Pedler.

### GLIDER

Also part of the 1935 foal crop, and out of the mare Gizea (Go Hawk x Liza Jane), Glider was a chestnut stallion with small star and flaxen mane and tail. He was the sire of fifteen foals, and best known for his contribution to the colorful Cross Ranch program in Wyoming. He appears twice in the pedigree of the famous smoky cream stallion Chingadero ("Chingadero, the Cream of the Crop," by Laura Behning, *The Morgan Horse*, August 2016).

### NELIZA

Another flaxen chestnut mare from the 1935 foal crop out of Nella (Allen King x Liza Jane), Neliza was a foundation mare for the Funquest breeding program and was the dam of ten foals. These included the stallion Chief Red Hawk (x Flyhawk), sire of 69 foals, and Pukwana (x Senator Graham), sire of 71 foals.

### TOYIA

Foaled in January 1936, a chestnut mare out of Fanita (Tiffany x Benita) Toyia was the last foal of Jubilee King bred by J. C., and the only foal in 1936. She left no registered offspring. J. C. passed away on August 1, 1935.

### GOLDEN JUBILEE

Tom Burnett saw Jubilee King at the 1934 Illinois State Fair, after the stallion had sired many foals for the Brunk program. Jubilee was sold for \$1,200 sometime in 1935, and kept for seven years on Tom Burnett's Triangle Ranch in Ft. Worth, Texas, where many of his get were absorbed into the Quarter Horse breed. Only one foal was registered during this time, a palomino son, Golden Jubilee,

out of Gold Bug, a daughter of the Sellman bred stallion Redolent (Red Oak x Minnie K. by Headlight Morgan) found his way into the Morgan registry, but others from that period were lost. Golden Jubilee sired 11 registered foals, including the palomino mare Gwenie (x Gwenalan), who was bred by O. J. Neeley and used for the Tetonia Morgans program in Rexburg, Idaho.

While at the Triangle Ranch, Jubilee King was the sire of at least two registered Quarter Horses, the mare Mc's Rat, and the Skeeter Mare.

After the death of Tom Burnett, Jubilee King was returned to the Brunk heirs, and was sent to Grace Brunk Woods in New York in 1941. He was purchased by Frances Bryant in 1942, and the rest of his story will be told with a later article on her program.

The tremendous influence of the Brunk program and of Jubilee King is still strong today in all disciplines of the Morgan breed. ■

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Further information on the Brunk program will also be covered in later articles on Flyhawk and Senator Graham.