



## ≈ HISTORY LESSON ≈

# THE BRUNK DYNASTY, PART III: *Senator Graham*

**W**ith Senator Graham, the Brunk Dynasty took a turn that would forever change Morgan History. The breeding was masterminded and carefully planned by Helen Brunk Greenwalt, and today represents the only surviving sireline from Sherman Morgan that did not trace through Black Hawk. Senator Graham preserved solid old Morgan type while adding size and introducing an elegance and boldness of action that was unique to this family. The achievements of Senator Graham descendants are far too numerous for a single article, but those mentioned here will provide some idea of his far-reaching and lasting influence.

### SENATOR GRAHAM— BACKGROUND AND BREEDING

Senator Graham (Senator Knox x Fanita) was a handsome, smoothly made chestnut marked with a white blaze, and no white feet, foaled at the farm of Elmer Brown in 1940. While Elmer Brown is recorded as the breeder of Senator Graham, the credit actually goes to JC Brunk's daughter, Helen Brunk Greenwalt, who went to great lengths to locate his sire and arrange for the breeding. Like Flyhawk, Senator Graham spent his early years on the LU Ranch in Wyoming before going home to Highview Farm in Illinois where he would spend the remainder of his life until his death at 29 in 1969. Unlike Flyhawk, Helen never took him to shows, and he never entered a showing, was never polished for show, never taught to stretch, was never even shod.


By Brenda L. Tippin

As Helen's daughter Doris Ryan liked to point out in her favorite photo of Senator Graham, in which he appears to be groomed and posed for show, this was not the case—it was his natural stance. Really there was no need for him to show. Flyhawk, foaled in 1926, and Jubilee King in 1927 had already gone before him and paved the way

in helping to establish the bloodlines that would prove golden when crossed with Senator Graham. By the time Senator Graham reached the LU Ranch, Helen had a well-established breeding partnership with them, and a solid band of Flyhawk daughters and granddaughters awaited him. Several of Senator Graham's best offspring from these mares were taken back to Highview Farm each year, some to be kept for breeding and some to sell, but nearly all of them were shown at the Illinois State Fair. Senator Graham had already sired a great many champions long before he went home to Highview Farm himself. JC Brunk had passed away in 1935, and was gone before Helen began her involvement with the LU. All five of the Brunk children carried on with their own slightly different versions of their father's breeding program, with some overlap, and all of them were brilliant.

In a 1987 presentation on Senator Graham, Doris quoted her mother as stating, "We were trying to return to original foundation stock which was purchased by my father Joseph C. Brunk from Two Rivers Stock Farm, Nashville, Tennessee, and this stock originally came from Vermont." Looking back across the 80 years since Senator Graham was foaled, his continuing influence on the breed is remarkable.

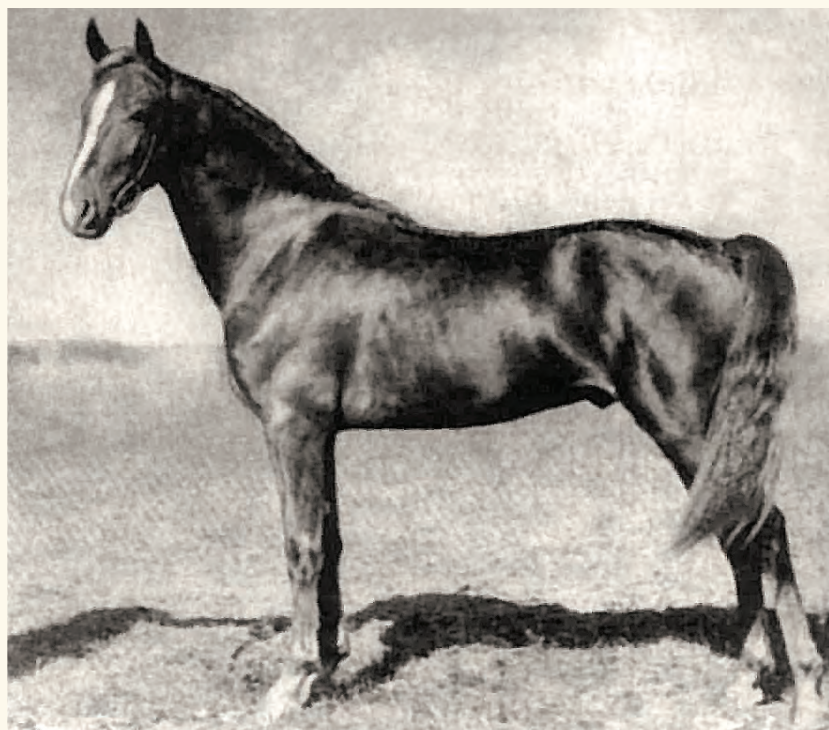
**ABOVE:** Photos taken at different ages of Senator Graham (Senator Knox x Fanita). Center photo with Helen Brunk Greenwalt (photo courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD).



**SENATOR GRAHAM 8361**

Sire: Senator Knox 6132    Dam: Fanita  
 Age: 11    Height: 15.1    Weight: 1230  
 Color and Markings: Dark chestnut; stripe.

**MRS. HELEN BRUNK GREENWALT**  
 Pawnee, Illinois  
 Standing at Highview Farm, Pawnee, Ill.



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** An ad for Senator Graham in *The Morgan Horse*, March 1952; Senator Knox (Knox Morgan x Senata by Senator).

### SENATOR KNOX

Senator Knox (Knox Morgan x Senata) was a chestnut stallion 15 hands tall with a white stripe in face and no white feet. He was bred by JC Brunk and foaled at Cotton Hill Farm in 1916. He was a full brother of Florence Chandler, the dam of Flyhawk and was the first of that remarkable cross. It must also be remembered that he was the sire of Daisette, dam of Jubilee King and his full sister Sentola, so these three influential lines of the Brunk dynasty were inextricably linked. As a two-year-old, Senator Knox was Grand Champion of the Minnesota State Fair and the Iowa State Fair.

The young stallion sired eight foals for the Brunks, including Daisette (x Daisy De Jarnette), the dam of Jubilee King (x Penrod), and Deura, dam of King De Jarnette (x Jubilee King) before being sold to the Remount Service in 1923. The Remount Service traced its beginnings back to the Civil War when the Quartermaster Corps of the Union Army created the Cavalry Bureau for the purpose of purchasing large numbers of horses needed to supply the army. High respect for Morgans as cavalry mounts dated to the 1837 Canadian Rebellion when the First Dragoon Guards were sent from England dismounted and carefully selected Morgans were purchased for them in Vermont. The officers maintained the Morgans were more than equal to the very best troop horses that could be found in England. In 1861, more than 1,200 Morgans were carefully selected for the First Vermont Cavalry which saw arduous service and maintained its reputation as the best mounted unit in the Union Army. The New York Fifth Cavalry, also mounted entirely on Morgans, was a close second, and in 1862 the War Department

ordered the purchase of more than 10,000 Morgans from Vermont and some from New Hampshire for outfitting the troops.

By the end of the war, the Quartermaster's Department went back to a contract system and handled the purchase of remounts directly until 1908 when the Remount Service was officially activated with eight Purchasing Boards set up across the country in Front Royal, Virginia; Lexington, Kentucky; San Angelo, Texas; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Boise, Idaho; and Sacramento, California. Although Thoroughbreds predominated, several other breeds were used including Arabians, Morgans, Standardbreds, and Saddlebreds. Many Morgans were used, especially as the US Government Morgan Horse Farm had recently been established in 1905. By 1918, a breeding plan for cavalry horses was approved through the joint efforts of the Bureau of Animal Industry and the Remount Service, with a concerted effort to engage professional horse breeders. The plan was authorized by Congress in 1920. JC Brunk chose to participate by selling Senator Knox to the Remount in 1923, when he was seven years old, and he was sent to Wyoming. After his final Brunk bred foal crop of 1924, nothing more was heard of him for many more years.

In an interview published in *The Morgan Connection*, Helen Greenwalt's daughter Doris Ryan recalled that they went as a family one day to visit their friend Elmer Brown and look over his Morgans. Elmer and Helen were sharing their ideas on breeding, and during the discussion, Senator Knox came up and they agreed it would be a wonderful idea for Helen to find him for a breeding she had in mind.



**MORGAN STALLION KNOX MORGAN**  
**Mahogany Bay: Stands 15 1-2 Hands High, and Weighs 1100 Lbs.**  
*Registered in the American Morgan Register, No. 4677, under Rule 1*

KNOX MORGAN was foaled May, 1891; sired by Mountaineer Morgan; by Vincent Horse; by Shed Horse; by Vermont Champion; by Sherman; by Justin Morgan.

Vincent Horse's dam by Norton Horse; by Bullrush Morgan; by Justin Morgan. Mountaineer's dam sired by General Sherman; by Rix Horse; by Hills Blackhawk; by Sherman Morgan; by Justin Morgan.

Second dam by Chamberlin Horse; by Gifford Morgan; by Woodbury Morgan; by Justin Morgan. Third dam by imported Arabian mare.

General Sherman's dam sired by True Horse; by Comet (Billy Root); by Sherman; by Justin Morgan. Comet's dam by Justin Morgan.

Knox Morgan's dam sired by Sagadahock; by General Knox; by Vermont Hero; by Sherman's Blackhawk; by Vermont Blackhawk.

Knox Morgan's second dam by Ethan Allen; by Vermont Blackhawk.

Gen. Knox's dam was a daughter of Searcher; by Barney Henry. Searcher's dam was a daughter of Gifford Morgan; by Woodbury Morgan; by Justin Morgan.

Vermont Hero's dam was a daughter of Liberty; by Bishop Hamiltonian.

Dam of Sherman's Blackhawk was a daughter of Liberty.

Dam of Sagadahock, a trotting mare, a descendant of Bush Messenger.

**KNOX MORGAN** is good disposition, intelligent, very stylish, and a great roadster. Just such a horse as the market is calling for for gentlemen's drivers, and all horse breeders and horse lovers are invited to call and see him, and to appreciate him he must be seen.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS CALL ON OR ADDRESS

**F. G. CHANDLER & SON, Proprietors,**  
**PEACHAM, VERMONT.**

P. O. Address, West Danville, Vt., R. F. D. Route No. 1.



**TOP ROW:** An advertisement for Knox Morgan in the *Livestock Journal*; Knox Morgan (Mountaineer Morgan x mare by Sagadahoc).

Determined to track him down, she found some clues to his whereabouts on one of her trips to the LU Ranch. Helen finally located Senator Knox on a ranch near Uva, Wyoming. He was then 23 years old, and in good health, but the rancher who had charge of him was reluctant to let him go. With the help of Major Graham, the Remount Agent in Kansas City, and a sheriff's posse, her friend Elmer Brown finally succeeded in having the horse released to him in 1939. Elmer bred three of his mares, and Helen sent the mare Fanita to be bred to Senator Knox. Senator Knox died later in 1939, so these four foals, born in 1940, were the last of his registered offspring.

Meanwhile, Helen transferred Fanita to Elmer for his help in the matter, with the understanding she wanted the colt. Unfortunately, it was simply a verbal agreement, and Elmer died suddenly of a heart attack in 1941 before Helen was able to get the yearling colt, and she had to wait another year while the estate was being settled. Then another friend, Robert Tynan, was able to buy Senator Graham from the estate and transfer him to Helen.

Of Senator Knox's earlier Brunk bred foals, only Daisette and Deura were used for breeding, and all the others were sold, and never produced any registered offspring. His other three 1940 foals were sold to Ernest Otto McClure at Elmer Brown's estate sale and taken to California to be resold. The colt Brown Knox (x Myrabelle R M) went to Roland Hill, and the two mares, Meta Knox (x Margett L by Linsley) and Neta Knox (x Viola Linsley by

Linsley) went to EW Roberts. All of these lines have a number of descendants today, and have been successful in all disciplines. The gelding Sheriff Morgan (Brown Knox x Anita Belle Gift) was a frequent winner in many Western classes with his young owner Danny Weinberger.

### KNOX MORGAN AND FG CHANDLER

Knox Morgan (Mountaineer Morgan #4469 x Mare by Sagadahoc) was a dark bay, 15½ hand tall, bred by Augustus Dunlap of Brunswick, Maine. What is less known is the role of the Chandler family. Frank Gilman Chandler was born at Waterford, Caledonia County Vermont, to George D. and Mary Gilman Chandler, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 1853. The Chandlers were descendants of William and Annis Chandler, who were among the early settlers of Massachusetts, arriving in Roxbury with four children in 1637. Their son John, settled in Connecticut, and in 1806, Samuel Chandler, descended from this branch, moved from Pomfret, Connecticut, and settled in Peacham, Vermont. The Justin Morgan horse was standing in St. Johnsbury at the farm of David Goss just 15 miles to the north, and spent the next several years of his life there, standing for service in many of the small villages of this area.

In 1808, Samuel married Mehitable Blake, the daughter of Major Henry Blake who had been a fifer during the Revolution, and afterwards settled in Peacham to farm. Samuel began the tradition



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Senata (Senator x Daisy) and Sangamo by Dr. Strawn; Fanita (Tiffany x Benita) (courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD); Nine-year-old Danny Weinberger and Sheriff Morgan (Brown Knox x Anita Belle Gift) winning the Western Pleasure Trophy, 1962 Morgan Breeders & Exhibitor's Association Show.

of breeding Morgan horses, which continued in the Chandler family for more than 100 years, carried on by his son George, and later his grandson, Frank, known as FG. George bred Mountaineer Morgan (Vincent Horse x daughter of General Sherman), the sire of Knox Morgan, and also Mountaineer Morgan's dam, who was out of a daughter of old Gifford. George and another son, John, were working in Maine when Augustus Dunlap bred to their stallion, and had an option on the colt, which they brought home to Peacham. Frank then became the owner of Knox Morgan, and owned him for most of his life until he decided to disperse his horses and sent the old horse to his friend, JC Brunk.

JC first saw Knox Morgan at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, where he was exhibiting his prized mare Senata (Senator x Daisy). Knox Morgan, shown by FG, won the Grand Champion Stallion Sweepstakes at this show and Senata won Grand Champion Mare. In addition to his strong Morgan type, Knox Morgan added size, substance, and a bold presence and spirited style of action which immediately captured the attention of the crowds. With his strong breeder's instinct, JC knew at once what a powerful addition Knox Morgan would be to his own bloodlines, but FG was not willing to part with him at that time.

However, FG, like JC, was also a charter member of the Morgan Horse Club, and he had a great deal of respect for the Brunk breeding. He promised his friend that if the old horse was still living when he decided to retire from his own breeding program, he would send him to the Brunk farm and no one else should have his prized horse. In 1915, the Chandlers decided to limit their focus to the dairy farm operation and maple sugar harvesting. Chandler Hill Farm is still owned by the Chandler family, and they still sell maple sugar and maple syrup, tapping the same trees that have been yielding since 1853. Meanwhile, by that time Knox was going on 25 years of age. Helen Brunk Greenwalt recalled riding him at that age, and noted he was still full of fire and would make you feel you were riding a show horse.

### **MOUNTAINEER MORGAN**

Mountaineer Morgan, the sire of Knox Morgan, was a son of the Vincent Horse (Shedd Horse x mare by Wilson Horse, son

of the Norton Horse of Chelsea). The Vincent Horse was 15½ hands tall, bay with a star and one white hind ankle, and weighed 1,165 pounds. He was bred by David Farrington as were his dam and granddam. The Shedd Horse was a son of Vermont Morgan Champion by Sherman Morgan, and out of a daughter of the Vance Horse. Vermont Morgan Champion was a well-muscled black horse, deep bodied with long barrel and well-sprung ribs, and beautiful style and action. He stood 15½ hands tall and weighed 1,150. His gait was said to be much like Billy Root, though he was a larger horse. He was considered one of the best sons of Sherman Morgan, and his stock brought high prices.

The Augustus Dunlap mare, dam of Knox Morgan, was a daughter of Sagadhoc, a son of the famous Morgan trotter General Knox #65 (Vermont Hero by Sherman Black Hawk x mare by Searcher), who was never beaten upon the turf. General Knox was known for his compact Morgan form as well as speed and unusual intelligence. He spent most of his life in Maine where he made a tremendous reputation as a sire, and his owner refused \$30,000 for him. The dam of the Augustus Dunlap mare was a daughter of Ethan Allen, whose third dam, the Dr. Chandler mare, a daughter of Justin Morgan, was owned by a distant relative of FG Chandler.


### **SENATA**

Senata, the dam of Senator Knox, was bred by JC Brunk and foaled in 1898. A daughter of Senator (Morgan Rupert by Ethan Allen 3d x Lucy by Billy Bodette) and out of Daisy by Billy Bodette, she was intensely bred with solid old Vermont lines. Senata carried more than 140 direct crosses to Justin Morgan, three of them in as little as six generations. Within five generations, she traced twice to Sherman Morgan, once to a daughter of Justin Morgan, twice to Hale's Green Mountain, three times to Billy Root, and once to Royal Morgan. She was a dark liver chestnut with white left hind coronet, and was a mare of exceptional beauty, smoothly finished with nearly perfect proportions. Her neck was long and elegant with a lovely head, deep-bodied with excellent loin and powerful hindquarters, and a sweet and gentle disposition. Senata was JC's greatest show mare, and besides winning Grand Champion Mare at





## HIGHVIEW FARM MORGANS



### SENATOR BAIN 6197

SIRE: SENATOR GRAHAM 8361  
DAM: MONTY  
by FLYHAWK 7526

Winner Yearling Stallion Class at  
the 1946 Illinois State Fair

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Senator (Morgan Rupert x Lucy by Billy Bodette) (courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD); Benita (Ben Franklin x Daisy) (courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD); Senator Bain ad from *The Morgan Horse*, August/September, 1946; LU Ranch (courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD).

the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis she won numerous competitions in Illinois, Indiana, and Vermont, competing both against Morgans and all breeds. She won Champion Mare at the 1909 Vermont State Fair in White River Junction, as well as the coveted Stillman Cup and a \$225 cash prize. Senata was the dam of ten foals.

## FANITA

Helen chose Fanita (Tiffany x Benita) as the mare she wanted to breed to Senator Knox. Bred by JC and foaled in 1931, Fanita was a pretty chestnut mare marked with a white strip in her face and left hind pastern. She was the dam of 11 foals, including Brunkey (x Juzan) who appears in many horses tracing to Cross Ranch breeding.

## TIFFANY

When JC sold Allen King and two of his daughters to the US Government Farm, he received the colt Tiffany (Mansfield x Klyona) as part of the deal in trade. JC rarely made outcrosses from his foundation lines but Go Hawk, the sire of Flyhawk, and Tiffany, were two exceptions. In his 1929 catalog, JC wrote, "He is a credit to their ability as breeders—a true Morgan of the 'Ethan Allen' type in action, gait, speed and style. Gentle and kind. No breaking needed—just get on and go." Bred by the US Government Farm and foaled in 1926, Tiffany was a son of Mansfield, then the government farm's leading sire, from the golden cross of Bennington x Artemisia. Tiffany's dam was Klyona (Dundee x Carrie Gates). Dundee traced

his sireline through Meteor 2d (Meteor x Lady Alice) to Black Hawk. This line also carried crosses to Sherman through Vermont Morgan Champion and Billy Root, as well as many crosses to the Justin Morgan sons Bulrush, Woodbury, Revenge, Hawkins Horse, and Copperbottom. Dundee's dam Carrie Gates was a daughter of government foundation stallion General Gates, and his second dam, Caroline, was a daughter of Daniel Lambert. Klyona's dam, Calve, was also a daughter of General Gates and out of government foundation mare Ellen, a daughter of Rocky Mountain, son of Motion by Daniel Lambert, tracing to Bulrush and old Gifford on her dam's side through Young Benedict Morrill (Benedict Morrill x mare by Gifford).

## BENITA

Benita (Knox Morgan x Ben's Daisy), the second dam of Senator Graham, was a chestnut mare bred by JC Brunk and foaled in 1917. She was a daughter of Knox Morgan out of the great mare Ben's Daisy (Ben Franklin x Daisy). In 1910, Ben's Daisy won the 15-mile endurance race at the Vermont State Fair held at White River Junction, pulling a four wheeled wagon. She was 19 years old, but her time was well under the hour allotted and she finished a full mile and a quarter ahead of the runner up. Out of old Daisy by Billy Bodette, one of the foundation mares registered in Volume I of the Morgan register, Ben's Daisy was also a half-sister of Senata, and Benita was a  $\frac{3}{4}$  sister of Senator Knox. In his



**TOP ROW:** Senatefield (Fleetfield x Parka by Senator Graham) with Dean Jackson, winner of the Triangle A Challenge Trophy, 1964 Western National; Jenney Lake (Senator Graham x Monty) and Jubilee Joy (Flyhawk x Sentola); Bonfire (Senator Graham x Luscious). **BOTTOM ROW:** Rocky Bon (Bonfire x Pikaki), Parade Champion, 1963 Western National; Rocky Bon, Champion Roadster, 1962 Northern California Show; Celebration (Bonfire x Jubilee Joy).

1929 catalog, JC wrote of Benita, "A choice mare under saddle, fine style and step under harness. Her produce always can show and they do, and have the finest, gentle disposition with saddle gaits naturally." Benita produced seven foals but is best known for her daughter Fanita.

### THE LU RANCH YEARS

After securing Senator Graham for Helen, Robert Tynan bred three foals from him. These were Knora Knox (x Velvet R M), Senator Allen (x Rozel), and Helen Herod (x Goldy Herod). All of these bred on and have descendants today. Senator Graham was then sent to the LU Ranch as they were in need of a young stallion to cross on daughters of Flyhawk, Linspar, and Plains King. He spent the next 11 years at the LU, siring 79 registered offspring from the LU mares. The accomplished Morgan descendants of these horses are so numerous they may be found literally around the world, crossing exceptionally well with most other Morgan families, and succeeding in a wide variety of disciplines. Just a few of Senator Graham's important get from the years he spent at the LU Ranch include:

#### AILS A (x Sox by Linspar), 1944

Chestnut mare, dam of nine foals, the most noted of which was Jubilee's Quicksilver by Flying Jubilee. Jubilee's Quicksilver was owned by Ramul Dvarishkis and sired 29 offspring before being

gelded. His daughter Miss Lightfoot (x Glogold) was the dam of the outstanding producer Sandy Lake (x Stetson) who produced 12 foals for Myrtle Neeley's Tetonia Morgans in Rexburg, Idaho. Others tracing through Jubilee's Quicksilver to Ailsa include the beautiful palomino Triggers Brigade (Vas Trigger ML x Lazy Heart D Nell), Champion Sport Horse at the 2004 Santa Barbara Morgan Horse Show.

#### CARRIE NATION (x Syble by Night Tide), 1944

Bay mare bred by the Antlers Ranch, a neighbor of the LU, Carrie Nation was bred to Antlers Black Hawk, another son of Senator Graham, and out of Fantan (Plains King x Monty). The resulting filly, Antlers Bonnie, a double granddaughter of Senator Graham, was owned by Ramul Dvarishkis. Bred to Stetson (Flyhawk x Sentola), she produced the mare Bonita Graham, dam of Greentree Ranch's popular stallion Greentree Bonniejohn (x Orcland John Darling). A winner of several national titles himself, Bonniejohn was the sire of 193 offspring including many national and world champions. Among these was the famous little roadster mare, Greentree Maryjane (x Ashland Dark Mist). Working with three different trainers over the eight-year period 1980-88, Maryjane won more than 20 national and world titles in roadster to bike and amateur roadster to bike classes. The little mare lived to be 35 years old.

Greentree Nightfall, a gelding by Greentree Bonniejohn out of Cree Charmer, won several world titles including the \$1,000





**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Higuera Bandido (Celebration x Countess of Copper) (courtesy AllbreedPedigree.com); Foxfire (Bonfire x Jubilee Joy) on the April 1957 cover of *The Morgan Horse* (photo © Launspach); Foxfire—A never before published photo of taken by Elizabeth Powers of Waseeka Farm.

World Championship for Combined Driving in 1990. His full brother, Greentree Zeus, also a gelding, won several national and world titles in carriage driving. Another daughter of Bonniejohn, Greentree Ever Reddi (x Reddy Ann Eager) won national and world titles in dressage musical freestyle and 1<sup>st</sup> Level. She also competed successfully at Prix St. Georges level, earning scores in the 60s in open dressage competitions. Bonniejohn was also the sire of BTMM Colonel's Lady (x Greentree Shady Lady), the only Morgan mare to reach Grand Prix level dressage. Bred back to his mother, Bonita Graham, Bonniejohn sired the mare Greentree Night Song, dam of nine foals, including Greentree Benjamin, 1992 World Champion Roadster.

Bonniejohn was also the sire of Greentree Brigadier, who won many national and world titles in carriage driving, as well as numerous championships at regional shows. Brigadier took over as leading sire for Greentree Ranch, siring 89 foals. His daughter, Greentree Nightjoy (x Greentree Nightengal by Greentree Bonniejohn), was also a top competitor in carriage driving, and the dam of three foals including Greentree Adobe Walls (x Adiel's Casino Gold), who also carried a line to the Senator Graham daughter Quanta through his sire. Adobe Walls was 2013 Competitive Trail Riding Champion. Another Brigadier daughter, Greentree Courtney (x Niobrara Mayfair) won the 2007 World Champion High Point FEI Level Dressage title.

## **SENATOR BAIN (x Monty), 1945**

Chestnut stallion, a full brother of the great mare Jenney Lake, was marked with a blaze and very much resembled his sire. He was named after George Bain, who was then the manager of the LU Ranch. He sired just three registered foals and was sold as a remount stallion to the Ministry of Defense in China. Senator Bain was stolen by Red China and never heard of again. The line is rare, but he does have a few descendants through his daughter Bain's Polly Primm (x Rhosen).

## **PARKA (x Lupine by Plains King), 1945**

Bay mare, sold to the Jackson Ranch, producing 13 foals for them, including the exceptional stallion Senatefield (x Fleetfield), sire

of 155. Senatefield was the sire of Ray Ellsworth's many times champion cutting stallion, Mortana Pat (x Lisa), the foundation stallion for his Ida-Ho Morgans breeding program. Mortana won many cutting championships both at the national cutting shows sponsored by the Morgan International Cowhorse Association, and in open competition against top Quarter Horses. Several of his offspring won cutting or reining championships as well. His daughter More Apples Please (x DJP Storm Princess) was World Champion Reining Horse at the 2003 Grand National, and her son Disco Kid (x Twin Ponds Disco Kid) won the same title in 2015. For more on Mortana Pat, see *The Morgan Horse*, May 2014.

## **BONFIRE (x Luscious by Plains King), 1946**

Chestnut stallion, gelded 1953, sire of 12 including Celebration, 1952 chestnut stallion, sire of 39; and Foxfire, sire of 113, both out of Jubilee Joy (Flyhawk x Sentola). Bonfire was a chestnut marked with a wide connecting star and strip, and right hind fetlock. In size, build, and type, as well as extreme prepotency, he strongly resembled his sire, standing 15.1 hands tall and weighing 1,100 pounds. Foaled at the LU Ranch, Helen sold him as a yearling to Noah Schrock of Arcola, Illinois, where he remained for several years, siring 12 registered foals. He was sold again in December 1952 to Leon Losey of New York and advertised for stud the next spring, but sired no more foals and was gelded later that year.

Bonfire's first colt was Rocky Bon (x Pikaki), bred by Noah Schrock and foaled in 1949. His dam was a daughter of Highview King, bred at the LU Ranch, and out of the Plains King daughter Targhee out of Sox (Linspar x Nancy by Flyhawk). A beautiful dark chestnut with a large connected star and strip, and heavy flaxen mane and tail, he won many championships, including Connecticut Grand Champion Morgan in 1957, and Champion Roadster in Harness, as well as Grand Champion Stallion at the Northern California Morgan Show in 1962. He was a wonderful parade horse, and won the Parade Class Championship at the 1963 Western National Morgan Show. He was the sire of 50 registered offspring, but his sireline seems to be no longer active.

Two of Bonfire's most noted offspring were the full brothers Foxfire and Celebration, bred by Helen when she sent her great



**TOP ROW:** Foxfire's Baby (Foxfire x Shoo Shoo Baby), Champion Three-Year-Old Mare and Reserve Champion Junior Mare, 1962 Morgan Gold Cup National Show; Foxy Sentora (Foxfire x Suzay), Junior Champion and Grand Champion Mare, 1961 Morgan Gold Cup National Show; Foxfire's Suzay (Foxfire x Suzay), Champion Yearling Filly, 1958 Michigan All Morgan Show. **BOTTOM ROW:** Foxy Jean (Foxfire x Patricia Gates), first place Broodmare and Grand Champion Mare, 1963 Michigan State Fair; Foxy Juanita (Foxfire x Suzay), Grand Champion Mare, 1963 National; Highland Gay Bonny (Gay Dancer x Bonny Ellen by Senator Graham), Grand Champion Mare, 1966 Circle J National Show.

mare Jubilee Joy to be bred to him. Foxfire, foaled in 1951, was a stunning dark chestnut with white flaxen mane and tail and a connected star, strip, and snip. Owned by Paul Rumbaugh, he won the Open Parade Championship at the Michigan State Fair in 1954. At the 1955 Illinois State Fair, he won the Saddle Performance Championship as well as Grand Champion Stallion. He was the sire of 113 registered offspring, including Foxy Sentora (x Suzay), a lovely dark chestnut flaxen mare who was Junior Champion and Grand Champion Mare at the 1961 Morgan Gold Cup, and her full sisters Foxy Juanita, Grand Champion Mare at the 1963 National Morgan Show; and Foxfire's Suzay, who was Grand Champion Mare of the 1962 Michigan State Fair; the 1963 Michigan All Morgan Show; the Morgan Gold Cup Show; the Justin Morgan Club Show; and the Ohio State Fair. Another daughter, Foxy Jean (x Patricia Gates) was Champion Broodmare and Grand Champion Mare of the 1963 Michigan State Fair. Foxy June, a full sister of Foxy Jean, was dam of Render's Hyjunet (x Hy Crest Tommy Hawk) Champion Yearling Filly at the 1963 Michigan All Morgan Show. Yet another daughter, Foxfire's Baby (x Shoo Shoo Baby) won Champion Three-Year-Old Mare and Reserve Junior Champion Mare at the 1962 Morgan Gold Cup.

Foxfire, coming back after a six-year break from showing, was Grand Champion Stallion of the 1962 Michigan State Fair and also. In 1963 he won the Get of Sire Championship and was Grand

Champion Stallion of the Morgan Gold Cup, the Michigan State Fair, and the Ohio State Fair. He was featured on the April 1957 cover of *The Morgan Horse*, and went on to become the sire of 113 registered offspring.

Celebration was a chestnut full brother of Foxfire marked with a large star and foaled in 1952. His dam, Jubilee Joy, won the Mare and Foal Championship for the fifth consecutive year at the 1952 Illinois State Fair with Celebration at her side. Celebration was Champion Two-Year-Old Stallion; Reserve Grand Champion Stallion; and also won the Fine Harness Futurity Championship at the Illinois State Fair in 1954. In 1957, he competed at the Mid-America Horse Show against all breeds, winning the Ladies Western Pleasure Championship in a class of 29 entries. In doing so, he also beat the famous Big Bill B (Nugget x Shoo Shoo Baby), winner of 187 firsts and 85 championships during a four-year period, who was the only other Morgan in the class, and who placed second. Celebration was later sold to California, and eventually owned by Roy and Janie Coats. His offspring included the elegant black mare Chualar Valentine, Carole Mercer's first Morgan, which she used for classical carriage driving and three-day driving events. He also sired the beautiful little chestnut stallion Higuera Bandido (x Countess of Copper), bred by Elizabeth and Catherine Richards of San Jose, California. Bandido was chosen as a weanling at a Red Fox Farm sale by Mary



## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Senator Graham.*

"Sid" Spencer to carry on the Morgan breeding program at her 1,900-acre Arroyo Grande ranch, located in Lopez Canyon among the rugged California Central Coast hills. Higuera Bandido also became her favorite personal mount for several years, and was sold to Ken Craig, Silver Spur Stables in 1982. His daughter, Ursula's Higuera Bandida (x Woodrose Katrina) is the dam of Jo Johnson's beautiful palomino stallion JAF Sunrise Surfer Dude, expertly trained by Jo in the true Vaquero tradition.

Higuera Bandido was the inspiration for Wendy LeGate's Old Growth Oak Morgans, and her passion for preserving rare old foundation bloodlines at Silver Spur Stables, where he was later owned by Ken Craig. In addition to being a working ranch horse, his offspring excelled at every kind of discipline imaginable, and he was bred to numerous grade mares as well as a few pure Morgans. Many of his full-blooded offspring were never registered, and Wendy bred the Higuera Bandido son OGO Higuera Rio Bravo (x Circle H Merlita), foaled in 2003, which is the only surviving sireline through Celebration to Senator Graham. Through 2019 he has sired 13 registered offspring.

Bonny Ellen, a daughter of Bonfire out of Ruby Ellen, was the dam of nine foals including Highland Gay Bonny (x Gay Dancer) who was Grand Champion Mare of the 1966 Circle J National. She went on to produce 12 foals, including the mare Porvenir Betty B (x Orcland Dondarling), used by Art and Jo Baughman, Philhomath, Oregon, for their Desiderata breeding program. Highland Gay Bonny also produced several others of the Porvenir and Serendipity prefix, among them Hall of Fame Broodmare Porvenir B Bonnet (x Windcrest Bob B), dam of Serendipity Gaelic B (x Mycount Showaid Vona; and the full siblings Serendipity Storm B., Serendipity Glory B, and Serendipity Aries B (x Applevale Cadence).

### **QUANTA (x Luxury by Night Tide), 1946**

Quanta was a chestnut mare, dam of seven, including chestnut mare Bambi Moon (x LU Colonel) dam of six foals, including 1960 bay stallion Topside Eager Beaver (x Broadwall Brigadier), sire of 110. He in turn, was the sire of Triple S High Noon (x Triple S Soap Suds), the beautiful palomino gelding who won 1994 USDF Horse of the Year with owner Alixe Szepesi, and was ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the United States of all horses competing at Third Level Dressage. He also won the Van Shaik Dressage Scholarship with Monica Szepesi in 1995, and in 1997, won again with Alixe at Prix St George level, scoring 61.62. Both Morganquest Perfect Storm, 2018 World Champion Reining Horse, and Morganquest Red Warrior, World Champion Reiner in 2016 and 2017, also trace multiple times to Senator Graham through Topside Eager Beaver.

### **JENNEY LAKE (x Monty by Flyhawk), 1946**

An exceptionally classy chestnut mare, Jenney Lake was foaled at the LU Ranch, and went on to become one of Helen's most highly regarded mares. Jenney Lake won Champion Two-Year-Old Mare and Grand Champion Mare at the 1948 Illinois State Fair. She was the dam of seven foals including Nighty Night (x Shadow Hawk) who won the Yearling Filly Championship of the Illinois Morgan Breeder's Futurity, and Reserve Yearling Championship, both sexes, at the 1963 Illinois State Fair. She also produced the full brothers Hurricane Lake and Mr. Breezy Cobra (x The Airacobra). Hurricane Lake was a stunning chocolate chestnut with silver white mane and tail, many times champion parade horse, and sire of 33 offspring.

Mr. Breezy Cobra was a dark chestnut stallion foaled in 1954. He won the Championship and High Point Trophy for Stallions Four and Over at the 1961 Mississippi Valley Show. He was the sire of 120, and best known for his famous son Beamington, the first Morgan horse to command a sale price of more than \$100,000, and many times Sire of the Year. Beamington sons include 1983 World Champion Stallion Sharp Shooter; Forevermore (x Merwin Madonna); Windhover Enchantment (x Milady Dona); Whispering High Beam (x Highover Desiree); HVK Santana and his full brother HVK Quintana Roo (x Equinox Georgiana); Beamine (x Pleasant Lady); and Windy Hill Beam Song (x Cherokee's Love Song).

Beamington was the sire of Windhover Antigone (x Camelot Kathleen), who was the dam of MSV Victoria (x Arboria Noble Victor) who produced 13 foals, and 1988 World Champion Stallion Century Free Spirit (x Wham Bam Command), who earned many national and world titles. Century Free Spirit was the sire of 96 foals. Another Beamington daughter Beam's Victoria (x Regina Linsley) was the dam of Nostradamus (x Noble Flaire) who was the sire of 111, including the multiple world champion SpringMill Superstition GCH. Van Lu Jolie (Beamington x Westwold Dona Resa) was World Champion Mare, and in 1986 won the World Park Harness Championship.

Breezy Cobra also sired the mare Irish Breeze (x Ella Barr), bred and shown by Helen's daughter Doris Ryan, winning the Two-Year-Old Morgan Futurity at the Illinois State Fair in 1963. He also sired the great mare Dove's Breeze On out of the Shine On daughter Azurewood Hight Time, making her a double granddaughter of Senator Graham. Dove's Breeze on was the dam of 1984 World Champion mare Heart To Heart, who was 100 percent foundation\*, and carried an additional cross to Senator Graham through her sire, giving her more than 14 percent of his blood.

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*\*Note: Foundation refers to Morgans which trace directly to Justin Morgan in sireline, the very top line of their pedigree, and which have none of the Saddlebred outcrosses after 1930 which were allowed under Rule 2 of the Registry. Rule 2 was originally established with Volume II of the Morgan Register, to allow horses with a non-Morgan sire, but who traced to Justin Morgan through their dam and had at least 1/32 Morgan blood. In 1921, the rule was modified to allow the registration of any horse not the produce of a registered sire and dam by applying to the Executive Committee of the Morgan Horse Club, whose decision would be final. It was further modified in 1942 to clarify that the Executive Committee would only consider horses of preponderantly Morgan breeding. The rule was finally rescinded altogether in 1948. Many beautiful and talented Morgans have been produced who may have a Rule 2 ancestor. There is also a growing interest in identifying and trying to preserve some of the rare older foundation lines without the allowed outcrosses, which are now in danger of being lost from the breed.*



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Mr. Breezy Cobra (The Airacobra x Jenney Lake); Beamington (Mr. Breezy Cobra x Ellen Bar) (courtesy Renee Page, Brunk CD); Evening Song (Senator Graham x Bright Star) Champion Weanling Mare and Champion Weanling, Illinois Morgan Futurity, 1963 Illinois State Fair.

Many other champions of all disciplines trace to Mr. Breezy Cobra, including Iron Forge Starman (Iron Forge Be Blue x Cambridge Suzy Q), who successfully competed at Grand Prix level dressage, and earned his rider, Sally Anderson, her USDF Gold Medal in 2008. Just one far-reaching example of the show influence of Mr. Breezy Cobra can be found in 2010 and 2015 World Champion Stallion, the late Dragonsmeade Icon (Mizrahi x HVK Obsidian), who traced to the Mr. Breezy Cobra daughter Gallant Colleen through both his sire and dam. Colleen was the second dam of HVK Bell Flaire (x Noble Flaire). HVK Bell Flaire is the only “Triple Crown Winner” in the Morgan breed, winning world champion titles in hand, park saddle, and park harness. He sired 326 offspring, including more than a dozen Champion titled Morgans, as well as being the sire of Icon’s dam 2001 World Champion Mare HVK Obsidian; the prolific Hall of Fame Broodmare Kim’s Bellegante; seven times World Champion Roadster Flairetation; and 2006 World Champion stallion Mizrahi, sire of Dragonsmeade Icon. Mizrahi in turn also sired 2014, 2016, and 2017 World Champion Stallion Merriehill After Hours GCH (x Merriehill Dusk to Dawn); 2017 World Champion Mare Treble’s She’s Mizbehavin GCH (x Treble’s Pomp And Byzazz); 2008, 2011, and 2012 World Champion Stallion Mastroianni (x Kim’s Bellegante). Numerous others come through this line as well.

#### **DUKE B K (x Mallow by Linspar), 1946**

Duke B K was a chestnut stallion, sire of just two registered foals. One of his daughters, Gayla (x Highland Firefly by Flyhawk) was the dam of 14, among them the stallion Tas-Tee’s Firefly (x O C R). He was the sire of Fleur-De-Lis (x Gaylsa [Townshend Gaymeade x Ailsa by Senator Graham]) who was the dam of Lynn Shpak’s well-known stallion Chief Of State (x The Statesman), who was also 100 percent foundation. Chief Of State, with his half-brother Atavista Statesman, won the National Combined Driving Pairs championship in 1990. Chief Of State was a frequent winner at the Mid Atlantic Morgan show, and won the Mid-A Sport Horse award three times. Tas-Tee’s Firefly was also the sire of Shaker’s Eva, dam of Montbelle Trophy, who was the sire of 1984 World Champion mare Heart To Heart.

#### **STARFIRE (x Wanda by Highview King), 1948**

Starfire was a chestnut stallion, sire of nine foals including Jubilee’s Star (x Jubilee’s Cinderella by Jubilee King), 1959 bay stallion, sire of 46. His greatest fame came through his son Waseeka’s Nocturne (x Upwey Benn Quietude by Upwey King Benn), bay stallion, 1954, sire of 98. Many perhaps do not realize that this tremendously popular and influential stallion traced his origins to a Wyoming ranch, but thanks to Helen’s brilliant partnership with the LU Ranch, many great champions from all disciplines as well as Sport and Western Working Morgans have roots tracing to the LU Ranch.

Starfire was powerfully bred, uniting all three of the great Brunk strains, Jubilee King, Flyhawk, and Senator Graham, as well as Jubilee King’s full sister Sentola. Starfire’s dam Wanda was a daughter of Highview King, bred by and foaled at the LU Ranch in Wyoming, out of the Flyhawk daughter Teepee, who was the dam of five foals. Bred in the typical LU pattern, Teepee was out of Mallow by Linspar; second dam Larkspur by Flyhawk, and third dam Eula, by a son of the famous pacer Dan Patch, sired by Joe Patchen, double registered in the Morgan Register #5544, and American Trotting Register #30239. Starfire’s second dam, Mallow, was a prolific mare, producing 13 registered foals, many of whom played an important role in later Brunk pedigrees.

Highview King was bred by Helen and foaled at Highview Farm in April 1940, just two weeks before Senator Graham was born. He was sired by King De Jarnette out of the great mare Sentola. King De Jarnette, bred by JC, was a son of Jubilee King and out of the Senator Knox daughter Deura, a fine example of the careful blending of old lines JC practiced. Deura’s dam, Penala, was a daughter of Penrod, the sire of Jubilee King and Sentola. Her dam Galva was a daughter of Billy Herod by Herod. This repeated the lines found in Go Hawk, sire of Flyhawk, who traced three times to Herod through his sire’s dam, and through both the sire and dam on his dam’s side. Highview King was sent to the LU farm where he remained until 1946. He was bred to three more mares that spring for the 1947 foal crop, bringing his total for the LU to 40 registered offspring. Helen sold him in 1946 to Ken Durrell of Corvallis, Oregon, where he spent the remainder of his life, siring just four more foals.





**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Bambi Moon (L U Colonel x Quanta by Senator Graham) at the 1959 Estes Park Colorado show; Heart To Heart (Montbelle Trophy x Dove's Breeze On); Starfire (Senator Graham x Wanda) (photo © Frye).

The dam of Waseeka's Nocturne was Upwey Benn Quietude, full sister of the well-remembered Upwey Ben Don by Upwey King Benn (Upwey King Peavine x Audrey by Bennington), and out of Quietude (Troubadour Of Willowmoor x Ruth by Reynard). Quietude was also the dam of Roland Hill's well-known Western stallion Sonfield (x Mansfield). Bred by Ted Davis, Waseeka's Nocturne was sold as a weanling to Waseeka Farm along with his dam, and it was agreed he would be allowed to carry the Waseeka prefix when he was named. He began winning championships as a weanling, with the Stallion Foal Championship at the 1954 National and Reserve Junior Champion Stallion at the same show. He did not compete at the National in 1955, but in 1956 won the Two-Year-Old Harness Championship, and in 1957, the Junior Harness Stake Championship. After this his wins included winning Grand Champion Stallion 15 Hands and Over at the Morgan National Show from 1959–1963, as well as winning the Championship Saddle Stake at the National 1959–1961, and again in 1963. He also won Champion Morgan Horse twice at the Eastern States Exposition, and twice at the Pennsylvania National in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 1960 and 1961 he was AHSA High Score Award Winner in the Morgan Division. Through his son Waseeka's In Command (x Miller's Adel), he continues to be the leading sireline for World Champion Stallions and Mares.

## **SENETA (x Moneta), 1949**

A chestnut mare, Seneta produced five foals, including Starfly (x Flyhawk) who was Grand Champion Mare at the 1961 Mississippi Valley Show; and Big Bend Connie F (x Wind-Crest Ben Davis), dam of Big Bend Doc Davis (x Green Mt Doc Bird), the first Morgan to show at Grand Prix level dressage. Big Bend Doc Davis was featured on the March 1984 cover of *The Morgan Horse*.

## **JUST ANN (x Teewinot), 1951**

Just Ann was a beautiful dark chestnut with connected star, strip, snip, left high ankle, and flaxen mane and tail. She was Grand Champion Mare of the 1954 Illinois State Fair, and went on to become the dam of seven foals including Just Ann's Hornet (x Wood Hornet), who competed in the Grand National Stock Horse

classes in 1978, and Indian Ann (x Tehachapi Rock) who won the Trail Stake Championship at the Western National in 1964.

## **LU VANITY (x Vampire), 1952**

A very pretty dark chestnut mare with a large star prolonged into a short strip, LU Vanity was among the young horses Helen brought back to Illinois and sold. She became the dam of nine foals, and her daughter Vanity Fair (x Mr Showman) was owned by Shaker Hill Farm and won eight championships in Morgan and Open Competition during 1963.

For more on the widespread influence of the LU mares, see The Mares of the LU Sheep Ranch, *The Morgan Horse*, February 2012.

## **THE HIGHVIEW FARM YEARS OFFSPRING BRED AT HIGHVIEW FARM**

### **TORCHFIRE (x Jubilee Joy), 1954**

Torchfire, 1954 chestnut stallion, was the sire of 20. Torchfire won the Yearling Stallion and Reserve Champion Yearling Futurity; and the Two-Year-Old Harness Futurity Championship at the 1955 and 1956 Illinois State Fairs. He was the only son of the golden Senator Graham x Jubilee Joy cross. Some of his best-known offspring were from eight full siblings out of the mare Illawana Marie, a daughter of Cherokee Gilmore (Highview King x Mallow) and out of Illawana Lady (Captain Red x Illawana Ruby). The first of these was the lovely mare Hylee's Torchsong, who won the Champion Yearling Futurity at the 1958 Illinois State Fair; the Champion Two-Year-Old Mare at the 1959 Illinois State Fair; Grand Champion Morgan Mare at the 1960 Minnesota State Fair; and the same year won Wisconsin Grand Champion Model Morgan. She produced three foals including the stallion Shaker's Rio (x Troutbrook Playboy). In 1959, Marie produced the twin foals Hylee's Deb and Hylee's Heir who were featured on the cover of *The Morgan Horse* for June 1959. Deb went on to produce ten foals, and Heir was used by the Neeley ranch and sired 38 offspring. Another son from this cross, Hylee's Flame Fire, was the sire of the beautiful palomino stallion Senator Gold Fire (x Taha Tina) and his full siblings Render's Gold Flame,



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Waseeka's Nocturne (Starfire x Upwey Benn Quietude), Champion Stallion Foal and Reserve Junior Champion Stallion, 1954 Morgan National Show (photo © B. Stone); Waseeka's Nocturne and John Lydon (photo © W. Patriquin); Doris Ryan on Starfly (Flyhawk x Seneta by Senator Graham), winner of Morgan Combination, 1961 Kane County Horse Show.

Render's Gold Torch, and Goldtree Fool's Gold, owned by Bob and Loretta Brown, and who became the foundation for their Goldtree Morgans. The influence of this line still continues, and will be discussed a bit more later.

#### **ABBY GRAHAM (x Fillaine), 1955**

A dark chestnut mare, Abby Graham won the Western Performance Championship at the 1960 Ohio State Fair. She also won the English Saddle and Ladies Saddle Championships at the 1962 Morgan Gold Cup National. She was the dam of six foals.

#### **MARY TODD (x Flyette), 1956**

A lovely flaxen chestnut mare, Mary Todd won the Champion Weanling Futurity at the 1956 Illinois State Fair. She was sold to Mehlwood Morgans, and was the dam of ten foals.

#### **LILY DACHE (x Flyette), 1957**

Lily Dache was a chestnut mare, a full sister of Mary Todd, dam of four foals. Her daughter Val's Marcee (x Vigilmarch) was the dam of Serenity Flight Time (x Fleetwing), Park Champion, and sire of 119 offspring. Lily Dache also produced the stallion Reata's Dutch Treat (x Fleetwing).

#### **PUKWANA (x Neliza), 1957**

A chestnut stallion with connected star and irregular strip, and a chestnut spot within the star, Pukwana was the sire of 71 foals. He was bred by, and used for several years by Stuart Hazard for his Funquest program. Later he was also used by Pinehaven Morgans, and then Michland Morgans.

#### **LA JOYA (x Jubilee Joy), 1957**

A chestnut mare and full sister of Belafina, La Joya won the Illinois Morgan Breeder's Futurity for weanlings at the 1957 Illinois State Fair. She went on to become the dam of 16 foals, including M C La Senorita (x Shadow Hawk), the dam of Justa Joy (x Beamington), 1978 World Champion mare.

#### **BELAFINA (x Jubilee Joy), 1959**

A chestnut mare of great elegance, Belafina was marked with a beautiful diamond star and connected strip. From the golden cross of Jubilee Joy (Flyhawk x Sentola) she united the three great strains of Brunk breeding. She began her winning ways early, winning the championship for the Yearling Filly Division of the Illinois Breeder's Futurity in 1960. Belafina was the dam of 10 foals, including Famous Barr (x Breezeway).

#### **NIGHTWATCH (x Flyette), 1959**

Nightwatch was a black stallion who sired Robbin's Cotton Queen, dam of the popular sire Rimlo Black Pepper (x Rimlo Black Talent), tracing to the Flyhawk son Black Jig (x Blue Roan Mare).

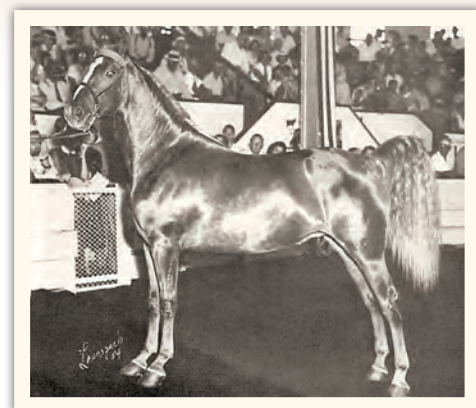
#### **KINGS-HAVEN SENATOR (x Choquita), 1960**

A bay stallion, Kings-Haven Senator was sold to Edward T. Young, Cambridge Morgan Horse Ranch and went on to sire 96 offspring, including 1975 World Champion Mare Topside Firefly (x Windcrest Selection).

#### **SHINE ON (x Miss Holliday by Tango), 1963**

Shine On was a black stallion, sire of 69, including King Cole (x Hickory by Stetson) 1969 black stallion, sire of 72. He also sired the mare Azurewood High Time (x Fleurette), who was the dam of 17 foals in the 20-year period from 1972–1992 (without the aid of embryo transfer). Azurewood High Time was the dam of Dove's Breeze On (x Mr. Breezy Cobra out of Jenney Lake by Senator Graham), who won Grand National titles in 1983 and 1984 for Produce of Dam. As her dam was by a son of Senator Graham, and her sire was out of a daughter of Senator Graham, she was a double great-granddaughter and carried 25 percent of his blood. She produced eight foals including the stallion Sorento (x Prince Cobra) and several daughters by Montbelle Trophy, including 1984 World Champion mare Heart To Heart. Heart To Heart also carried another Senator Graham cross through her sire, who traced to Duke B K. Azurewood High Time was also the dam of Dove's Airon, full





**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Shine On (Senator Graham x Miss Holliday), third place Weanling Stallion, Illinois Morgan Futurity, and third place Open Weanling Stallion, 1963 Illinois State Fair; Indian Ann (Tehachapi Rock x Just Ann by Senator Graham) (photo © Alexander); Just Ann (Senator Graham x Teewinot), Grand Champion Mare at two years old, 1954 Illinois State Fair (photo © Launsbach).

brother of Dove's Breeze On, and sire of 76, who was owned by Jerry and Peggy Hatfield of Fortune Morgans in Kansas, and whose name often appears in the pedigrees of many champions today.

## **IRISH LEE (x Rachel Lee by Allen Lee), 1963**

Irish Lee was a chestnut stallion, gelded 1969, sire of three including Breezeway by Irish Breeze, who was the sire of Mantic Batman (x Mantic Monique). Mantic Batman sired the mare Shadyshadow Satin Jewel, dam of the consistently winning roadster mare Flairetation (x HVK Bell Flaire). Flairetation won World Champion Roadster at Grand National every year from 2011–2016, did not compete in 2017, and came back to win it again in 2018, by which time she was 16 years old. She also carries Senator Graham crosses through the Mr. Breezy Cobra daughters Irish Breeze (x Ella Bar) and Gallant Colleen (x Princess Penette) as well as several through Waseeka's Nocturne. Breezeway was also the sire of Famous Barr (x Belafina), who won Junior World Champion Stallion in 1981.

## **SENATOR BARR (x Ellen Bar by Barberry), 1963**

A chestnut stallion foaled at Highview Farm, Senator Barr won Champion Weanling Stallion, Reserve Champion Weanling, and Reserve Grand Champion Stallion All Ages at the 1963 Illinois State Fair. Joint ownership by Merriehill and Helen Greenwalt cemented the long relationship between Illinois' Brunk and Staehnke families. He was the sire of 101 registered offspring, including the stallion Merriehill Bo Jangles and his full sister Merriehill Illusion (x Faberge) who were 100 percent foundation. Bo Jangles won numerous park championships, and sired 31 offspring, including the winning roadster, Merriehill Justalook (x Merriehill Mystique), who was also foundation and won multiple roadster championships at both the Grand National and regional shows. Illusion was owned by Lois Jean Mayes McDermid, granddaughter of Roy Brunk, and was both a good show mare and fine producer. Senator Barr also is one of many Senator Graham lines found in the pedigree of 2014 World Champion Stallion Merriehill After Hours GCH. (See "Merriehill Then and Now," *The Morgan Horse*, January 2015).

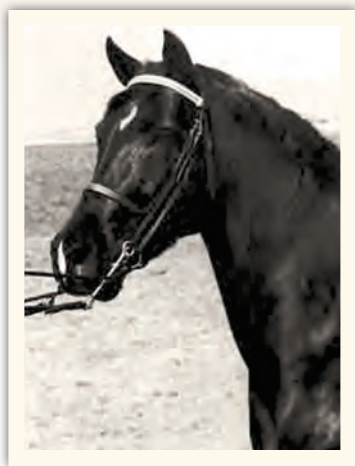
## **SENATOR GRAHAM INFLUENCE TODAY REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND WORLD CHAMPION SHOW HORSES**

For the past 20 years, out of 40 horses crowned World Champion Mare or Stallion, these titles were won 32 times by horses tracing their sireline to Senator Graham through his grandson, Waseeka's Nocturne (several of which won the title multiple years.)

Although a few other sons of Senator Graham do still have surviving sirelines, the Starfire line through Waseeka's Nocturne, and in turn through his son Waseeka's In Command (x Miller's Adel) is huge. Some influential sons of Waseeka's Nocturne frequently seen in pedigrees today include Windcrest Music Man (x Windcrest Delight), sire of 142 and his full brothers Waseeka's Skylark, sire of 160 and Waseeka's Moonshot, sire of 123; Waseeka's Here Tiz (x Waseeka's Thisizit), sire of 10 including Waseeka Peter Piper (x Sweet Pepper) and Waseeka's Vivo (x Waseeka's Theme Song) and his full brother Waseeka's Show Time, sire of 221; Waseeka's In Command, sire of 165; Troutbrook Playboy (x Mistress Merridawn) sire of 86; and Lord Appleton (x Vigilmay), sire of 118.

Influential daughters of Waseeka's Nocturne include Waseeka Cajun Queen (x Corrine) dam of 12 including Tedwin Topic (x Fiddler's Contender); Waseeka's Theme Song (x Mannequin), dam of 11; My Sweet Sue (x Rose Bowl by Senator Graham), dam of four; Cherokee's Love Song (x Cherokee Princess), Grand Champion Mare at 1969 Eastern National and dam of seven including Windy Hill Beam Song (x Beamington); Waseeka's Joy (x Windcrest Delight) dam of six; and Waseeka's Interlude (x Waseeka's Thisizit), dam of five including Noble Command (x Waseeka's In Command), sire of 126 and winner of national titles in park and Get of Sire; 1986 and 1987 World Champion Stallion Carlyle Command (x Wawayanda Bay Maebel); Tug Hill Commando (x Fiddler's Majesta); and full brothers Wham Bam Command and I Will Command (x Trophy's Corrigan).

Noble Command's sons include 1989 and 1991 World Champion Stallion Noble Flaire and 1985 World Champion Stallion Nobility, full brothers (x Lost River Sanfield); both also



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Vanity Fair (Mr Showman x L U Vanity by Senator Graham), winner of eight championships in halter, harness, and saddle in Morgan and Open Competitions in 1963; Torchfire (Senator Graham x Jubilee Joy), Reserve Champion Stallion, 1958 Illinois State Fair (photo © Launspach); Hylee's Torchsong (Torchfire x Illawana Marie), Champion Yearling Futurity, 1958 Illinois State Fair (photo © Launspach).

won multiple world titles in park harness and sired 260 and 250 offspring respectively. His Broodmare Hall of Fame daughter Nobelle (x Waseeka's Valiant Lady) produced 21 foals from 1987–2005, many through embryo transfer, including the popular Futurity's French Command (x Carlyle Command) who has sired 296 offspring through 2019.

The cross of Waseeka's Nocturne with the blood of Upwey Ben Don, full brother of Nocturne's dam, blended with other Brunk, government, and old Vermont lines became so popular, that over this 20-year period, these World Champion Morgans each carry an average of eight to 11 crosses to Senator Graham in their pedigrees. Most include other crosses to Senator Graham as well as the lines through Waseeka's Nocturne. The number of crosses continues to increase with later generations so that although they become farther removed from Senator Graham, a strong influence is still maintained. For example, 2019 World Champion Mare VVM Another Dream (Jake Ryan CH x VVM Dreamkeeper) carries 20 crosses to Senator Graham, and 2019 World Champion Stallion Queen's Sebastian (Queen's Dirty Deeds x WRR Miz Wildfire) carries 31.

#### **BROODMARE HALL OF FAME**

It is also noteworthy that of 68 mares inducted into the Broodmare Hall of Fame, 35 of them, or just over half, trace in sireline to Senator Graham through Waseeka's Nocturne. The General Gates family is next in influence with 21, followed by eight tracing their sireline to Upwey King Peavine through Upwey Ben Don; three tracing to Flyhawk, and one to Peter's Ethan Allen 2d. Of the Broodmare Hall of Fame mares tracing to Senator Graham, roughly 75 percent have used embryo transfer to produce many or most of their foals, as this technique has become much more widely used and can offer a number of advantages. It can, for example, allow a mare to continue showing or competing without interruption while still producing a foal, or allow the birth of multiple foals in a single season from a valuable mare. It can also

allow a foal to be produced from a mare that might otherwise be unable to carry a foal to term, or the pregnancy might be too much strain on her. It also may enhance the preservation of certain bloodlines. Hall of Fame mare Kim's Bellegante (HVK Bell Flaire x Napaley's Obsession), remarkably produced 32 foals from 1999–2014.

#### **SPORT MORGANS**

In addition to dominating the blood of show Morgans for more than 75 years, Senator Graham has continued to have a strong influence on sport Morgans. The tremendously successful dressage champion West Mt Winston traces his sireline to Senator Graham through Waseeka's Nocturne with additional crosses through Jenney Lake and LU Vanity, as well as many other Brunk bred lines. Winston won USDF All-Breed Championships at Grand Prix and Grand Prix Musical Freestyles during 2009 and 2010. He also won the AMHA Gold Medallion, and in 2010 earned his fifth world champion title in dressage at the Morgan Grand National with scores as high as 68.7. His rider, David MacMillan, earned his USDF Gold Medal on Winston, and they received the Grand Prix Achievement Award from AMHA. In 2011, Winston became the first Morgan in history to earn a Grand Prix Performance Certificate from the United States Dressage Federation, and he was named "Dressage Horse of the Decade" by Horseworld.com.

BlueandWhite Raven (Night Hawk Of Rocking M x Four-L Black Magic), a 100 percent foundation\* Morgan owned and ridden by Jennifer Drescher became the thirteenth Morgan to compete at Grand Prix level in 2015, and he was the first Morgan to compete at US Nationals at Grand Prix level. BlueandWhite Raven carries crosses to Senator Graham through Kings-Haven Senator, Jenney Lake, and Bonfire. In 2017, Jennifer and BlueandWhite Raven became US Dressage Finals Grand Prix Adult Amateur Freestyle Reserve Champions.

In 2016, Avatar's Jazzman (KJB All That Jazz x Avatar's Cassandra) became the 14<sup>th</sup> Morgan to successfully compete



## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Senator Graham.*



**TOP ROW:** Hylee's Flame Fire (Torchfire x Illawana Marie) at 16 years old; Abby Graham (Senator Graham x Fillaine) (photo © Launspach); Mary Todd (Senator Graham x Flyette). **BOTTOM ROW:** Belafina (Senator Graham x Jubilee Joy); Justa Joy (Beamington x M C La Senorita, 2d dam La Joya by Senator Graham) (photo © Bob Moseder); Kings-Haven Senator (Senator Graham x Choquita).

at Grand Prix level dressage. Jazzman carries multiple crosses to Senator Graham through Senator Barr and Jenney Lake, in addition to a double cross to Starfire through Waseeka's Nocturne. In 2018, three more Morgans successfully competed at Grand Prix dressage level, bringing the total to 17. These included HD Redford (Tedwin Titlist x Perinton Serenity), who carries several crosses to Senator Graham through Waseeka's Nocturne and Coulee Bend Kahlua (Season's Forever French x Jante Fancy Fashion), who carries several crosses through Waseeka's Nocturne as well as through Bonfire, Jennie Lake, and Shine On.

Finally, in 2019, EMR Maximus became the 18<sup>th</sup> Morgan to compete at Grand Prix level dressage, carrying several crosses to Senator Graham through Waseeka's Nocturne as well as through Jenney Lake. Also, this year, Brookstone's Lets Boogie (Born To Boogie x Kresknoll Raffinee) ridden by Sue Jaffe became the first Morgan to complete the Limited Distance ride in AMHA's new Distance National Championship program, held alongside the Distance National Championships hosted by the Arabian Horse Association. Sue and Brookstone's Let's Boogie also took home awards for Top Morgan finisher and Best Conditioned Horse, winning overall second in the Open section of the same ride.

### FOUNDATION AND WESTERN MORGANS

Another valuable source of Senator Graham bloodlines has survived due to the efforts of Sherry Siebenaler, at her Morgan Hill Farm in the Lake Champlain Island Region of Vermont. Sherry's goal in more than 30 years of breeding Morgans with the SC Island prefix is to preserve some of the most rare and difficult to find old bloodlines., which include several Senator Graham lines and many other old government and Brunk lines She notes that these lines produce type, great bone, correct legs and hooves, good minds and willingness to work. The Senator Graham daughter Nightwatch (x Flyette) was the dam of Robbin's Cotton Queen (x Nancy Cotton), who in turn was the dam of the fine foundation stallion Rimlo Black Pepper (x Rimlo Black Talent) who spent his last years with Sherry. Black Pepper's fourth dam was also a Senator Graham daughter, Flashena (x Lustre). Sherry has Black Pepper's last son, SC Island Habanero (x A-One Ellie Mae Correll), a gelding who has been in training for reining, and will make his debut in 2020. Through his dam, Habanero also carries crosses to the Senator Graham daughter Lady Lyda (x Cactus).

Most interesting, Sherry has a rare supply of frozen semen from many old foundation stallions. She was able to obtain frozen

## TABLE OF WORLD CHAMPION STALLIONS AND MARES

Tracing in Sireline through Waseeka's In Command and Waseeka's Nocturne to Senator Graham, 2000 – 2019.

HORSE	SIRE	DAM	SENATOR GRAHAM X CROSSES	TITLE
VVM Another Dream	Jake Ryan CH	VVM Dreamkeeper	20x	2019 WC Mare
Queen's Sebastian	Queen's Dirty Deedson	WRR Miz Wildfire	31x	2019 WC Stallion
Akira Derringer	SpiceOLife Present Tense GCH	Fire Run Natalia	14x	2018 WC Stallion
Merriehill After Hours GCH	Mizrahi	Merriehill Dusk to Dawn	18x	2017 WC Stallion 2016 WC Stallion 2014 WC Stallion
Ledyard Octavia	Astronomicallee	FRF Stolen Moment	16x	2017 WC Mare
Treble's She's Mizbehavin	Mizrahi	Treble's Pomp And Byzazz	21x	2016 WC Mare
Dragonsmeade Icon	Mizrahi	HVK Obsidian	10x	2015 WC Stallion 2010 WC Stallion
Jungle Love	LPS The Boogie Man GCH	HVK Heartbeat	4x	2014 WC Mare 2011 WC Mare
ECP Anchor Man	LPS The Boogie Man GCH	Minion Marquis	12x	2013 WC Stallion
Causing Chaos	Hollybrook Stage Rage	Mantic Mardi Gras	8x	2013 WC Mare 2012 WC Mare
Mastroianni	Mizrahi	Kim's Bellegante	11x	2012 WC Stallion 2011 WC Stallion 2008 WC Stallion
LPS The Boogie Man GCH	Man About Town LPS	Honeytree's Simply Unique	8x	2007 WC Stallion 2005 WC Stallion 2003 WC Stallion
Mizrahi	HVK Bell Flaire	Schiaparelli	6x	2006 WC Stallion
Long Acres Broadway	Tug Hill Whamunion	Mantic Mardi Gras	8x	2005 WC Mare 2004 WC Mare 2003 WC Mare
Queen's Victorian Lady	Mizrahi	Queen's Tiffany	9x	2002 WC Mare
HVK Obsidian	HVK Bell Flaire	HVK Belleek	5x	2001 WC Mare
Man In Motion	Man About Town LPS	Devan Melmore	4x	2001 WC Stallion 2000 WC Stallion
RWF Noelle	Tara's Cherokee	A Touch Of Elegance	5x	2000 WC Mare

semen from Loretta Brown's late palomino stallion Senator Gold Fire who sadly died in 1989 at only five years of age, but through this means has been able to sire several more registered foals. Sherry bred the beautiful 100 percent foundation black stallion SC Island Senator (Senator Gold Fire x Caduceus Margaux), marked with a connected star and slight strip, foaled in 2009, 21 years after the death of his sire. In addition to his direct sireline through Torchfire, he carries an additional cross to Senator Graham through his dam through Kings-Haven Senator, for two crosses within four generations. In type and conformation, as well as disposition and athletic ability, he bears a remarkable

resemblance to his famous ancestor, Senator Graham. His pedigree is rich with many of the same carefully woven Brunk crosses to Flyhawk, Jubilee King, and Sentola which produced such a wide variety of champions and performance Morgans during Senator Graham's lifetime. Senator has been sold to Sharon Kennedy in South Carolina, who named her new farm, Senator's Stables after him. He has produced just one registered foal to date, but Sharon has plans to breed more.

In addition to his own roots, spending the first 11 years of his life as a working ranch horse at the LU Ranch in Wyoming, Senator Graham bloodlines have been used in many working ranch and



## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Senator Graham.*



**TOP ROW:** Topside Firefly (Kings-Haven Senator x Windcrest Selection), 1975 World Champion Mare (photo © Freudy); Topside Mercedes (Kings-Haven Senator x Topside Malinda), 1969 Circle J National Champion Mare; Senator Barr (Senator Graham x Ellen Bar), Champion Weanling Stallion, Reserve Champion Weanling, and Reserve Grand Champion Stallion All Ages, Illinois Morgan Futurity at the 1963 Illinois State Fair. **BOTTOM ROW:** Merrie Hill Bojangles (Senator Barr x Faberge); Waseeka's Skylark (Waseeka's Nocturne x Windcrest's Delight), great-grandson of Senator Graham, won all five National Shows in 1968: Eastern, Western, Gold Cup, Circle J, and Jubilee; SC Island Senator (Senator Gold Fire by Hylee's Flame Fire, x Caduceus Margaux), 2009 stallion bred by Sherry Siebenaler from 21-year-old frozen semen of Senator Gold Fire. Now owned by Sharon Kennedy (photo © Sherry Siebenaler).

Western working Morgan breeding programs, including the Jackson Ranch, Warner Angus Ranch, Ida-Ho Morgans, Cream Ridge Morgans, Jaquima a Freno Morgan Stock Horses, to mention just a few. The stallions made famous by Eitan Beth-Halachmy's Cowboy Dressage, Holiday Compadre (Carlyle Command x Holiday Temptress) and Santa Fe Renegade (Gradelle's Vigilante x Sable & Mink), both carry many crosses to Senator Graham, and both won several world champion titles in Western pleasure.

The list of Senator Graham descendants and their accomplishments is endless, and only a fraction of them are mentioned here, as the careful planning of the Brunk breeding program will doubtless carry his legacy far into the future, and continue to influence the Morgan breed for many years to come. ■

### RESOURCES

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