



~ HISTORY LESSON ~

THE ORCUTT FAMILY MORGAN LEGACY

Part 5: Orcland Farms, the Golden Years

By Brenda L. Tippin

Following years of hard work and rebuilding after the tragic 1958 fire that struck Orcland Farms, Lyman and Ruth Orcutt continued adding to the Ulendon foundation they had established with many crosses and new blood. This story reviews the remarkable recovery and rebuilding of the entire program over again, practically from scratch after this tragedy. Lyman and Ruth were a major force and influence in the Morgan breed for several more decades with numerous key horses trained and shown by Chip, Louise, and Liz, as well as their parents. Young trainers would begin their careers in residence at the farm. The Orcland influence continues in the horses and horsemen of the Morgan breed today.

ABOVE: Ulendon and Lyman Orcutt portrayed by Jeanne Mellin Herrick; **OPPOSITE:** Orcland Farms mares on the cover of *The Morgan Horse*, September 1969 (photo © Paul Quinn). The mare in the foreground is Orcland Donanna with her 1968 colt Orcland Supreme who would become a herd sire for the farm.



AFTER THE FIRE

As amazing as Ulendon's legacy would be, the period after the fire still presented many challenges. For one, Lyman and Ruth were expecting a new baby. The Orcutts moved to Michigan in February, one month after the fire, and continued working in the horse industry while the three surviving horses were temporarily stabled at Townshend Farms. Freddie Johnston, who was then attending the Essex Agricultural School in Danvers, Massachusetts, came out to Michigan to help Lyman work the horses as part of his schooling. That summer, Chip flew back to Cape Cod for summer camp.

In August of 1958, the Orcutts moved back to Orcland Farms and began the rebuilding process which would take two or three years to complete. Elizabeth, known as "Liz," the youngest child of Lyman and Ruth, was born that fall. The horses were moved into the cow barn, which thereafter remained the horse barn. Chip himself put in several box stalls after the main renovation was complete. For the next two decades, Orcland Farms remained busy as usual with breeding, training, boarding, lessons, and summer camps. The outpouring of help from the Morgan community was tremendous. Many offered the use of their best mares for the Orcutts to breed a foal, and Lyman had a talent for arranging trades and breeding deals so everyone would be able to benefit and improve their bloodlines.

Ruth always had a trainer on staff, and many well-known Morgan people and horse trainers who worked at Orcland Farms are still involved in the industry today. Some examples include Judy Nason, Shirley Tallman Haas, John and Sherry Lampropoulos, Glenn Bouvier, Jim Anderson, and many more. Richard Boulé was trainer at Orcland from 1978 to 1985 and shared memories about horses he knew there for this article.

Another longstanding Orcland tradition was providing jobs to local children and young people, especially during the summers. They would work the horses, then use them to go round up the cows. Freddie Johnston and his family moved from Boston to West Newbury, a few houses down from the Orcutts.

He and his brothers worked at Orcland for several years, mainly with the dairy cows. Freddie remembered driving Lyman's tractor through the closed barn door when he was about ten and having to work all summer to pay for it. He later got into training horses, and transported Louise to countless horse shows. After Liz was born, when she was small, he remembered taking her with him in a cardboard box when he went to get shavings. His favorite horse was Orcland Dondarling. When the filly Orcland Donissa (Orcland Dondarling x Petrissa) was born at the farm in 1963, it was Freddie who found her in the field and brought her in. Freddie and his wife, Chris, later bought Donissa from Dave Rossiter and owned her for more than 20 years, during which time they won lots of ribbons, including the two-year-old driving class at the 1965 National Morgan Show.

ULENDON'S SECOND LEGACY

Ulendon was 25 at the time of the tragic Orcland fire, and had sired 39 registered offspring. Though the two surviving mares were both in foal to Ulendon, given the stallion's advanced age, Lyman and Ruth did not see a way to rebuild their program to the same level they had enjoyed before with only Ulendon and those two mares in the breeding shed. However, they underestimated both Ulendon's ability to rise to the occasion, and the generous hearts of the Morgan community. Many arranged to do breeding swaps, or generously offered the use of one of their good mares. They had been doubtful whether Ulendon could breed more than one or two more seasons at most. His list of offspring already included such formidable performers as Soneldon, Jubilee Queen, Orcland Leader, Orcland Gleam, Orcland Vigildon, Havolyn Dancer, Waseeka Special Edition, and many more. How could Ulendon possibly start over and equal such a record at his advanced age?

But he did. Ulendon continued siring foals through 1965, an additional seven years, bringing his lifetime total of registered offspring up to 94. Moreover, of his five offspring named to the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame, only one, Orcland Leader



Summer at Orland Farms.

(foaled in 1944), was born before the fire. Three were full siblings out of Anna Darling. These were Orland Dondarling, the foal Anna Darling was carrying at the time and born three months after the fire in 1958; Orland Donanna, foaled in 1959, and Orland Donlendon, in 1962. The fourth was Judy Nason's beloved Orland Bellendon, foaled in 1963.

The first three winners of the Morgan Park Saddle Championship held at the Syracuse International Horse Show were grandget of Ulendon. Ulendon died in 1966 at the grand old age of 33, truly a legend. From the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s, 22 great Morgan show horses were selected as original inductees into the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame. Among these, five were sired by Ulendon, and five more were his grandget. Between 1965–1969 alone, there were nine get or grandget of Ulendon who won Grand Champion Mare or Stallion at the different Morgan National Shows during those years. When the Morgan Grand National was first established, grandget or great grandget of Ulendon won the World Champion Mare or World Champion Stallion title 12 times from 1973–1984. After that, he continued to show up in a large number of world champion pedigrees, farther back, but with multiple crosses. No other stallion could make such a claim of excellence in all these areas.

NOTEWORTHY ULENDON GET BORN AFTER THE FIRE

ORCLAND GAYSTAR #010300

(x Orland Gay-Lass)

A black mare bred by Lyman, and foaled in February 1958, Orland Gaystar was the first foal to be born after the tragic fire. She was one of several crosses Lyman experimented with in breeding Ulendon to his own daughter, Orland Gay-Lass, a cross he repeated six times. Louise recalled, "My first experience working a horse that I trained myself was Orland Gaystar. When she was about two or two-and-a-half, I got on her in her stall. Jim Anderson was around but he was too busy to help me, and I was determined to do it anyway. I got the saddle and bridle on her and got on her. I continued working with her, totally trained her, showed her, and did really well with her." Gaystar went on to win the 1963 Northeast Horseman's Council Championships for Open Pleasure, Road Hack, and Junior Hack, as well as the 1963 Massachusetts Council Road Hack Championship.

ORCLAND ROYAL DON #13447

(x Royalton Rose Of Sharon)

A chestnut stallion foaled in 1961, his breeding represents the



A young Louise (Orcutt) Henry on Orcland Gaystar; Orcland Royal Don.

friendship with Dana Wingate Kelly. Royalton Rose Of Sharon was sired by Ethan Eldon, the stallion, bred by Frank Orcutt out of his important mare Ethanelda, who became herd sire for Dana Wingate Kelly's Royalton herd. Orcland Royal Don was purchased and owned all his life by the Beckley family in Mt Vernon, Washington, where he sired 172 offspring, many with his owners' Beckridge prefix.

**FROM THE CROSS WITH ANNA DARLING #08413
ORCLAND DONDARLING #122261**

A brown stallion marked with an irregular star and snip, he was the second foal to be born after the fire just three months later, and the first stud colt. He went on to sire 124 offspring and was among the original horses inducted to the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame. Among his offspring were Orcland Darissa (x Petrisa), 1968 Circle J National Grand Champion Mare and Westwold Dona Resa (x Rena), 1969 Mid-Atlantic National Grand Champion Mare and one of the original inductees into the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame, as well as one of the original inductees into the AMHA Broodmare Hall of Fame. In turn, Westwold Dona Resa was the dam of eight foals, including 1980 World Champion Mare Van Lu Love Story (by Empyrean Apollo), 1984 World Champion Stallion Van Lu Starbuck (by Apollo's Merry Don), and 1985 World Champion Mare Van Lu Jolie (by Beamington).

ORCLAND DONANNA #010616

A chestnut mare marked with a connected star, strip, and snip, and both hind socks white, Orcland Donanna was bred by Ruth Orcutt and foaled in 1959. She was the first mare born from the cross of Ulendon and Anna Darling after the terrible fire, and key to their efforts in rebuilding their program. Chip Orcutt showed Donanna during his teenage years, including at The National, now known

as the New England Morgan Horse Show. Among her many wins, she was 1963 Florida Sunshine Circuit Champion, as well as Junior Saddle and Junior Harness Champion at the 1963 Morgan National Show. She also won the award for 1963 AHSA Morgan Horse of the Year, having won the AHSA Reserve Morgan Horse of the year title with her brother, Orcland Dondarling, the year before in 1962. After a long run of shows, Chip enjoyed pleasure trail riding with Donanna as a good way to relax and let her see some different scenery. She was used for hacking, trail riding, and jogging in a road cart during the week between shows. Louise and Liz also remembered showing Orcland Donanna. Orcland Donanna was the dam of five foals, including Orcland Mr Music (by Windcrest Music Man), a black gelding Liz remembered showing as a four-year-old at the Grand National in Oklahoma, and who sired three registered offspring before being gelded. Donanna was among the original horses inducted into the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame. As will be noted later, Donanna was outcrossed to Waseeka's Skylark, producing Orcland Supreme in 1968, who was retained as a breeding stallion at Orcland Farms.

ORCLAND DONLENDON #14015

A black gelding bred by Ruth and foaled in 1962, Orcland Donlendon was famously associated with trainer Johnny Lydon who could be seen driving him in his signature style on a long rein with hands resting on his knees. He was owned by Mary DeWitt and was among the original horses inducted into the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame.

ORCLAND ANN DARLING #013717

Orcland Ann Darling was a lovely chestnut mare bred by Ruth Orcutt and foaled in 1963, standing 15¼ hands tall and marked with a star, strip, and snip. She was later owned and shown by Liz,

ANNA DARLING FAMILY



TOP ROW: Orcland Ann Darling with Elizabeth Orcutt in 1970 (photo © A. C. Drowne); Ulendon (center), Anna Darling (left) and Orcland Dondarling; Orcland Dondarling and Lyman Orcutt. **BOTTOM ROW:** Orcland Donanna and Tommy Flynn; Orcland John Darling and Judy Nason; Orcland Donlendon and John Lydon at Gold Cup in 1970 (photo © A. C. Drowne).

winning many ribbons and championships. Ann Darling was the dam of eight Orcland foals altogether, four mares and four geldings.

ORCLAND JOHN DARLING #16484

A chestnut stallion marked with star and both hind socks, bred by Ruth Orcutt and foaled in 1965, he was the sire of 24. In 1965, John Darling went west to Colorado as a weanling, jointly owned by Orcland Farms and Marlo Ranch, Mr. and Mrs. Milo Dugan. He was trained and shown by Martin Cockriel Stables and attained a great show record both under saddle and in harness. After the death of his illustrious full brother Dondarling in 1969, John Darling was brought home to Orcland Farms to stand the 1970 season. He sired a total of 24 offspring, including the well-known Greentree Bonniejohn (x Bonita Graham), owned by Greentree Ranch and sire of 193. Among others, Bonniejohn sired the record-setting roadster to bike mare Greentree Maryjane (x Ashland Dark Mist), the nationally titled Morgan dressage mare Greentree Ever Reddi (x Reddy Ann Eager), the versatile Blue Flag Whimsy GCH (x Niobrara Lady Evelyn), and his successor as herdsire at Greentree Ranch, Greentree Brigadier (x Lady Brigadier).

FROM THE CROSS WITH WESTFALL BOLD BEAUTY #09293

ORCLAND BOLENDA #012341

A brown mare foaled in 1962. Richard Boulé shares a telling story about working with Ruth when he was trainer at Orcland. “Bolenda

was Mrs. O’s favorite mare,” he says. One year in the late ’70s Ruth gave Richard instructions about a month in advance to bring the mare in and work her as she wanted to show her in Northampton. He did as he was instructed, but he also told Mrs. O she’d have to practice. She always had an excuse, saying it was too hot, or it was raining. So, Richard would have different kids at the barn ride her and they’d have to mount on the run, or the mare would run off with them. Ruth never rode her prior to the show. The day came to show her, and Mrs. O got out a five-gallon pail, stood it upside down, and told Richard to walk Bolenda over so she could get on. He says, “the mare stood quietly to be mounted. Mrs. O took a lot of time gathering her reins because she had to open a mint and put it in her mouth as it was dry. She scratched Bolenda on the neck and said, ‘now Bo, take care of momma.’” They won their ladies class that day. Bolenda was the dam of seven, five by Orcland Supreme and two by Bar The Way. Her gelding son, Orcland On Broadway (by Bar The Way), was the last horse Ruth regularly showed during the 1990s. She showed the little gelding in Classic Pleasure Driving on the Florida Circuit with many wins and had a great time.

ORCLAND BOLD FOX #14663

A black stallion bred by Ruth and Louise and foaled in 1963, he became a foundation stallion for W. Robert Morgan’s Triton Morgans in Gilroy, California, and was Grand Champion Stallion of the Western Morgan National in 1966. He sired 101 registered offspring, 47 with the Triton prefix, and was also used



UNH Astronaut; Orcland Bellendon and Judy Nason (photos © Hal Hoover, Freudy).

by other California breeders, including the Point Reyes Morgan Horse Ranch and Joann Stewart's Woodside Morgans in Olema, California.

ORCLAND BOLD DON #20418

A black stallion foaled in 1969. Richard Boulé has a special memory about this beautiful stallion as well. He reports that famed Lippitt breeder Dana Wingate Kelley, "loved that horse and would come to the farm to see him in the company of Mrs. O. He bred Royalton Minelda to him in 1976, producing Royalton Don Dandy." He was the sire of 30 foals.

OTHER NOTABLE GET OF ULENDON

UNH ASTRONAUT #13616

(x **Silkoline #07508**)

A chestnut stallion foaled in 1961, he was 1967 Eastern National Grand Champion Stallion.

ORCLAND BELLENDON #14486

(x **Broadwall Bonny Bell #08984**)

A chestnut gelding marked with a large connected star, strip, and wide snip, foaled in 1963. He was bred by Dorothy Hock and foaled on the property of Orcland Farms, then was purchased for well-known trainer Judy Nason by her parents when she was a teenager. A brilliant and competitive park saddle horse, Bellendon and Judy, while she was still a youth rider, took on big name trainers in Northampton. Judy has always credited Bellendon with being her original teacher and inspiration for being in the horse business. Orcland Bellendon was one of the original horses inducted into the AMHA Show Horse Hall of Fame.

HELEN OF TROY #014659

(x **Spring Breeze #011999**)

A brown mare marked with a star, bred by Mrs. Ian L. Summers,

and foaled in 1965. Her dam, Spring Breeze (Jubilee's Courage x Springfield Penny), was a lovely dark chocolate chestnut flaxen mare marked with star and right hind pastern. As a three-year old, shown by 19-year-old Louise, Helen Of Troy won the Open Pleasure Driving Championship at the Syracuse International Horse Show. Helen Of Troy was the dam of 13 foals, all bearing the Orcland prefix.

MORE ORCUTT MEMORIES

CHIP

Chip attended the UNH Thompson School of Agriculture, his mother's alma mater, and became a farrier. He still practices the trade and can regularly be found as the farrier for the Green Mountain Horse Association in the summers.

Chip remembers that in the early 1960s, "Dad's friend, [California breeder] W. Robert Morgan, bought [Robert Lippitt Knight's] Green Mountain Stock Farm in Randolph, Vermont. They hired my dad to work and run the farm for a while. We traveled back and forth a lot from our farm in West Newbury to Randolph. My parents were still building the farm back up in West Newbury. I remember I had to put the new floor down for the horse barn. And later on, they put a restaurant in there and had a bed-and-breakfast type farm with a restaurant, and people in town would come to the restaurant."

Chip, who was in high school at the time, was always struck by the layout of the farm, and also the water.

"They had a spring that came down off the hill, and the whole farm was fed by that water," he said. "It was amazing. There was also a sugarhouse. That was the first place I ever saw how maple syrup was made, got to taste that with snow."

Until 1966, there were always cows around at Orcland Farms, even though the main herd had been sold. Lyman would lease the lower pastures to other farmers for their cows during the summer. During his high school years Chip showed an Ayrshire cow in 4-H

WESTFALL BOLD BEAUTY FAMILY



Orland Bold Fox and Robert Morgan Jr.; Orland Bold Don, driven by Lyman in 1973; Orland Bolenda and Liz Orcutt (photos © Fallaw, Beick).

and remembered that his dad would always trade something so Chip could have a good cow.

Chip had his farrier shop in the tractor barn from 1970 until the farm was sold in 1988. Chip and his wife lived in an apartment above the barn, and their daughter, Chrissy, was born at the farm in 1983. They built a house on the corner of the farm and lived there until 2017.

The knowledge he gained growing up at Orland Farms still applies today. “My dad and mom taught me the correct way of doing things around horses,” Chip said. “You just work with the horses, and they’ll be fine.”

Recalling the trainers and others on the show circuit, he noted, “Talking with a lot of the old-timers, the people who’d spent their lives around horses, I learned a lot.” At 74, Chip says, “You never quit learning, being around horses. You always learn, every day.”

LOUISE

As a junior exhibitor on the East Coast show circuit, Louise met and married Woody Henry Junior of Bobbin Hollow Farm in Amherst, Massachusetts, known for both Morgans and Saddlebreds. They had one daughter, Lark, and eventually moved the operation to Florida, where Lark now manages the Bobbin Hollow Equestrian Center and Louise is still a senior instructor. Louise remembered her mom’s enthusiasm for endurance rides and taking her along on 25- to 35-mile trail rides one weekend a month. “This was just not my forte. An hour of trail riding is fine, but what I really enjoyed most was the young horses and training them. Mom did the trail rides for 50 years. She did the 100-mile rides, and after she was in her 50s, dropped back to mostly 50-mile rides. She would go with Dr. Bob [Orcutt] and Pat [Tataronis] before Northampton and after to start legging up the horses for the 100-mile ride. Mom loved the Morgans for their endurance, the way they looked, their head and neck structure, and their attitude.

“We only have one left, Orland Cleopatra [Mtn Laurel Maximilian x Orland Supreme Helen], she is 27 now. She is retired, but served as one of our favorite school horses for Bobbin Hollow since she was three years old. She was a hot, tough, good,

strong mare. We never did cross her, it was too late by the time we realized we could have gotten an embryo and saved it, but she was a great mare and still is one of our favorites.”

LIZ

Like Chip and Louise before her, Liz also learned about horses and showing at an early age. During the 1970 show season, at the age of 12, Liz showed Orland Ann Darling, another full sibling of the golden Ulendon x Anna Darling cross. Orland Ann Darling was a wonderful pleasure mare and they were rarely out of the ribbons. They won the Pleasure Driving Championship at the Morgan Gold Cup in 1972. Liz recalled, “Orland Ann Darling was my favorite, I started riding her when I was 10 or 11. She was a great one, and one of the best horses I remember. We campaigned all over the country. I also helped start her first foal, Orland My Darling.” Liz continued to own and breed from Ann Darling, and this great mare went on to become the dam of eight Orland foals.

CHRISSEY

Chip’s daughter, Chrissy Orcutt Henderson, recalled, “Mrs. O was also a ‘boiled owl’; she would sit on the porch of the GMHA 100-mile watching the vetting with all the riders of 100-miles gone by. The 100-mile was one of my grandmother’s favorite events outside of going to New England or Grand National. She would wake me up at 4:00 a.m. to make sure we saw the first horses out in the morning and then chase the ride throughout the day. We would do this for three straight days. It was like the Superbowl, she had her snacks and sandwich with her in the car so she didn’t miss any part of it. Many times, she was in charge of a road crossing and always smiling and encouraging the riders on.”

One of Chrissy’s earliest memories of her grandparents was showing in a leadline class in 1986 on Orland Mr Pepper (Trijas Mr Pepperlect x Royal Oaks Gay Lady) when she was three years old. She was so tiny, her mother and grandmother had to make her saddle suit as there was not a small enough size to order. They put her on the horse and Lyman led her into the ring with strict instructions to look between the horse’s ears and not



Waseeka's Skylark; Johnny Appleseed and Louise Orcutt.

down. Lyman and Ruth took Chrissy to compete in many shows when she was small, and just as her father had experienced, she remembered her grandfather being at one end of the ring telling her one thing, and her grandmother at the other end telling her another.

OTHER HORSES IMPORTANT TO ORCLAND

WASEEKA'S SKYLARK #15061

(Waseeka's Nocturne x Windcrest's Delight)

Waseeka's Skylark was a brown stallion marked with a star and strip, bred by Waseeka Farm and foaled in 1964. Many have perhaps forgotten, but it was Lyman who showed this stallion and traveled the country with him in 1968, competing and winning Grand Champion Stallion titles at all five National Morgan shows in the days before there was a single Grand National Morgan Show. Skylark was the only stallion to ever accomplish this remarkable feat in a single year and was also the first Morgan to fly to a horse show. That same year, he also won multiple park saddle championships and reserves. Although Waseeka's Skylark was not Orcland bred, the far-reaching hand of Frank Orcutt still played a key influence in Skylark's pedigree, as he had two crosses to Artemisia and two more to her full brother Ethan Woodbury.

WESTFALL BOLD BEAUTY #09293

(Lippitt George x Westfall Bonnie Brook)

A lovely dark chestnut mare marked with a small star and left hind pastern, foaled in 1955. She was bred by C. G. Mortimer Junior, and was one of the mares acquired to help the Orcutts build back their breeding program. A full Lippitt mare, Bold Beauty carried crosses back to Morgan Dan, one of the original Orcutt foundation stallions bred by Harrison Orcutt out of his great foundation mare Laura. Westfall Bold Beauty was the dam of six foals, five by Ulendon and one by his son, Orcland Don Darling. Among her offspring were Orcland Bold Admiral, Orcland Bold Fox, Orcland Bold Lancer, and Orcland Bold Don. Louise especially remembered her daughter, Orcland Bolenda (by Ulendon), as the second horse

after Orcland Gaystar she worked with as the primary trainer from the time Bolenda was two years old until she became a broodmare.

JOHNNY APPLESEED #12654

(Jay F x Nyla S)

Johnny Appleseed was a chestnut gelding marked with a blaze, right hind sock, and black spot on his rump, foaled in 1958, and bred by Howard Simpson of St. Johnsbury, Vermont. He was given to the Orcutts in the mid-1960s because he had heaves. At the time, it seemed like there was no point in keeping him a stallion, between the heaves and at first glance his pedigree didn't seem particularly exceptional, and so he was gelded. Louise, who was in high school at the time, saw something in this horse others failed to notice. Louise recalled, "Everyone has favorites in life, he always will be mine. He came down from Canada as a two-year-old, then after two years went back to Canada. He came back from Canada as a five-year-old for the final time. I fought with Chip over who would take him. I wanted to match him with George Goebel as a road horse. Of course, that never happened but we thought about it. I went to private school, and did other disciplines but his road trot was incredible. He was a lot of fun, I did road hack, pleasure, jumping, three-day eventing, and more with him. It was a great experience... I showed against Pat Tataronis and Vigilendon, we had lots of fun."

Louise was determined to prove his quality. Under her guidance, Johnny Appleseed blossomed, and she did literally everything with him except pull a stone boat. At the National Morgan Show in Northampton in 1967, Johnny Appleseed and Louise set a record, winning more blue ribbons than had ever been won at that show before—eight in all. Johnny Appleseed was an exemplar of versatility, winning for Louise in pleasure driving, jumping, road hack, the trotting races, roadster to bike, and more. Also, while his sire and dam may not have been well-known, Johnny Appleseed's bloodlines sprang straight from Orcutt foundation lines. He carried four crosses to the great mare Artemisia, and three more to Artemisia's full brother, Ethan Woodbury, both bred by Frank Orcutt. His dam's sire was Ethan Eldon, foundation sire

ORCLAND SUPREME FAMILY



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Orcland Supreme and Louise Orcutt; B Special Attraction CH and Sara Foy; Orcland Supreme Aire and Sullivan Davis; Orcland Society Miss and Shirley Haas; and Orcland Supreme Echo and Elsie Rodney (photos © Judith Buck, Bob Moseder).

for Dana Wingate Kelly, bred by Frank, and sired by Dr. Wallace's foundation stallion, Vigilant. Louise was able to see the ability that was his natural birthright and bring out the best in him.

ORCLAND ALFIE #016769

(Orcland Dondarling x Orcland Gay-Lass)

Orcland Alfie was a bay mare bred by Lyman and foaled in 1967. As a two-year-old, she was Grand Champion Mare at the Morgan Gold Cup National in 1969. She went on to produce a total of seven foals, two for Royal Oaks Farms followed by five more foals bearing the Orcland prefix.

ORCLAND HIGHNESS #027172

(UVM Highlight x Orcland Donanna)

A chestnut mare marked with a large, connected star, strip, and snip, Orcland Highness was foaled in 1974. Her sire, UVM Highlight, was a stallion owned by the University of Vermont which Lyman chose twice to cross on Orcland Donanna, due in part to his close connections to Orcutt breeding. Highlight's sire was Orcland Vigildon, bred by Lyman's father, Dr. Wallace Orcutt, from the famous cross of Ulendon x Vigilda Burkland. Highlight's dam, Symphonee, was bred by the U. S. Government Farm but carried four close crosses to the famous mare Artemisia, bred by Frank Orcutt, with one cross each through her sons Canfield and Ulysses, and two through her son Mansfield, all noted full brothers by Bennington. Her cross to Ulysses came through her dam's sire, Delmont, bred by Dr. Wallace, and her tail female line traced all the way back through four generations of Orcutt breeding to the original foundation mare Laura (Morgan Tiger x

mare by Dr Abel Brown Horse #3473), bred by Harrison Orcutt, and foaled in 1880. Orcland Highness was the second foal from this cross and Donanna's last foal. Ruth rode Highness in the 50th Anniversary of the Vermont 100-mile ride in 1986. She was the dam of four foals.

ORCLAND SUPREME AND GET

ORCLAND SUPREME #18966

(Waseeka's Skylark x Orcland Donanna)

Orcland Supreme was a chestnut stallion marked with a wide stripe on the face and four white socks, bred by Lyman Orcutt and foaled in 1968. He had smooth and well-balanced conformation with plenty of natural action and Lyman chose to retain him as a stallion. Orcland Supreme was among early horses shown by Glenn Bouvier before he became a professional trainer, and his wins included Park Saddle Championships at the New England Morgan Show. Orcland Supreme went on to sire 93 registered offspring, and this line was used by all the Orcutt family members to continue the Orcland program. As just one example, his daughter, Orcland Supreme Doll (x Silkoline), was the dam of 15 foals including Orcland Bar B Doll (by Bar The Way).

Among the significant horses Orcland Supreme sired were:

ORCLAND SUPREME AIRE #22096

(x Mistress Dollidawn)

A liver chestnut stallion marked with a snip, Orcland Supreme Aire was bred by Ruth and Lyman and became known as one of the Morgans that put famous horse trainer Sullivan Davis on the map in the Morgan breed. Richard Boulé recalls, "Ruth was especially

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proud of the horse and of Orcland's association with Sullivan Davis." Orcland Supreme Aire went on to sire 12 registered offspring.

ORCLAND SOCIETY MISS #021658

(x Orcland High Society)

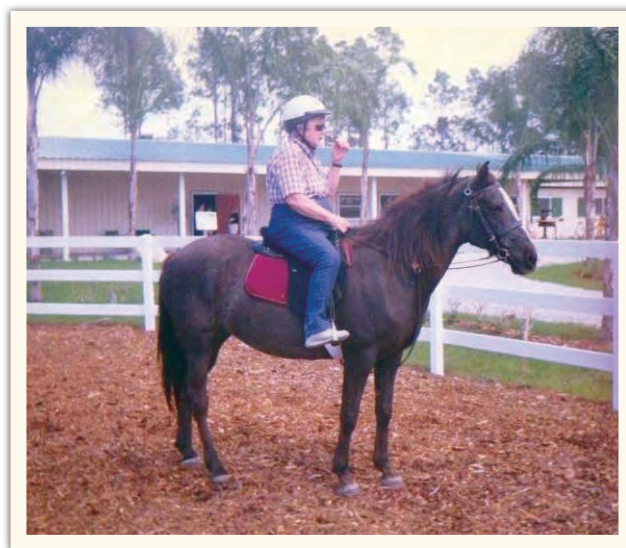
A bay mare marked with a connecting star, strip, and snip, right front and both hind socks, bred by Lyman and foaled in 1971. She was owned by Shirley Haas and shown extensively on the North and South Shore show circuits, also winning the Grooms Class at the 1979 Grand National. Orcland Society Miss was the dam of six foals including Belle Debutante (by Townshend Don Heir), dam of Shirley's classic, hunter, road hack, and carriage show mare Rare Obsession (by HVK Noble Obsession), who won numerous ribbons and trophies at major shows between 1984 and 2005.

ORCLAND SUPREME BEAU

#23478

(x Orcland Bolenda)

A chestnut stallion bred by Ruth and Louise and foaled in 1972. He was owned by Walter Shenk and crossed on Trophy mares in Pennsylvania, siring 50 registered offspring. Among these was the popular gelding Chocolate Bon Bon (x Tanya) widely shown from 1986 through 2003. Supreme Beau was also sire of the 1985 World Champion Park Saddle mare Lady's Enticement (x Amish Lady), who won championships at numerous major shows including several additional National titles. She was the dam of three foals.



Ruth Orcutt's 80th birthday ride on Orcland Highness.

ORCLAND SUPREME DOLL #023496

(x Silkoline)

A chestnut mare foaled in 1972. Liz recalled that although she was a tiny mare, she was a wonderful producer and had a lot of foals. Altogether, she was the dam of 15 foals, including Orcland Barb B Doll (by Bar The Way) and Orcland Barway (by Bar The Way), who Richard kept as a stallion but who died young after siring only seven registered offspring. Orcland Supreme Doll was also the dam of Orcland Bold Silk, owned and shown by Chrissy, and who was used as the riderless horse for Lyman's memorial service when he passed away in 1999.

ORCLAND S QUEEN #072119

(x Helen Of Troy)

A brown mare marked with a large star, left front fetlock, and right hind sock, Orcland S Queen was bred by Lyman and Ruth, and foaled in 1979. She was owned by the Fudge family's Bradvue Farm prior to sale to Francis Pugh's Tara Farm. Orcland S Queen was the dam of five foals, including My Chelsea (by Tara's Cherokee), Classic Pleasure Driving World Champion for Lexie Ellsworth.

ORCLAND SUPREME ECHO #72117

(x UVM Frolic)

A bay gelding marked with a connected large star, strip, and snip touching both nostrils, and left hind sock, bred by Orcland Farms and foaled in 1979. This beloved gelding owned by Elsie Rodney was shown in dressage and carriage driving in countless major shows for 18 years, from 1990 to 2008, winning numerous ribbons and championships as well as some world and national titles.

B SUPREME ATTRACTION #093687

(x Al Bar's Attraction)

A chestnut mare marked with a crescent star and short, connected strip angling to the left with a snip touching the left nostril. She was foaled in 1984, and bred by Elizabeth Bertrand of Stepping Stone Stable. B Supreme Attraction won the 1987 Three-Year-Old

Pleasure Driving World Championship. She was also the dam of five foals including LC Baywatch (by Tedwin Taurean), who was shown extensively from 1999 through 2007 at major shows, winning many ribbons and championships.

B SPECIAL ATTRACTION CH

#120425

(x Al Bar's Attraction)

A bay gelding with no white markings, foaled in 1990, was a full sibling to B Supreme Attraction, also bred by Elizabeth Bertrand, Stepping Stone Stable, and owned by Michael and Sara Foy. He was shown extensively in pleasure driving and English pleasure by the Foy family at countless major shows for 18 years from 1994

through 2012, winning numerous ribbons and championships.

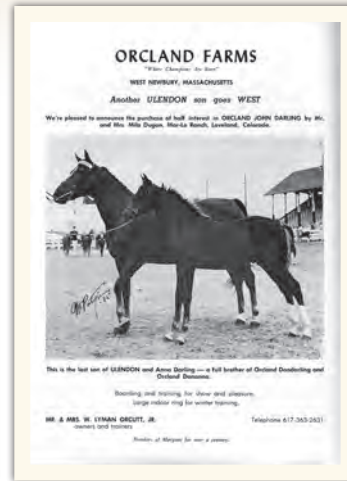
BAR THE WAY AND GET

BAR THE WAY #32132

(Breezeway x Belafina)

The Orcutts proved tenacious at breeding Morgan horses. In 1978, two decades after the barn fire, Lyman came home from judging in the Midwest with an addition to the herd, a yearling colt that was a complete outcross of bloodlines and of different type from the Orcland mares. Bar The Way was a bay stallion with no white markings, foaled in 1977, and bred by Helen Brunk Greenwalt, representing generations of Brunk breeding. Bar The Way carried three close crosses to Senator Graham (Senator Knox x Fanita), combined with the classic Brunk blending of the blood of Flyhawk (Go Hawk x Florette) plus the full siblings Jubilee King and his sister Sentola (Penrod x Daisette). Of particular significance, this blend represented at least 13 crosses to Knox Morgan (Mountaineer Morgan x Augustus Dunlap mare by Sagad hoc). Richard Boulé further comments that Lyman, "thought his breeding would give the linebred Orcland herd an outcross; but also thought Bar The

HISTORY LESSON *≈ The Orcutt Family Morgan Legacy, Part 5*



Old TMH ads featuring Orland horses.

Way was stretchier in type.” Bar The Way was the sire of 23 registered foals. Louise recalled that Bar The Way crossed especially well with Orland Supreme Doll (x Silkoline) and Orland Bolenda (by Ulendon). Some of his important offspring include:

ORCLAND BAR B DOLL #091718 (x Orland Supreme Doll)

A chestnut mare with no markings, Orland Bar B Doll was bred by Ruth and Liz and was foaled in 1983. She was the dam of eight foals including Bear Brook Supreme Bar GCH (by Hillock Showson), who was shown widely from 1997 through 2016, winning countless championships at major shows and several national and world titles at the Morgan Grand National in Oklahoma City. Bar B Doll was also dam of the last foal to bear the Orland prefix, Orland Lyman’s Legacy (x Mtn Laurel Maximilian). Lyman’s Legacy, bred by Ruth and Liz, was foaled in 1999 and is still jointly owned by Chip Orcutt and his daughter, Chrissy Orcutt Henderson.

ORCLAND ON BROADWAY #96630 (x Orland Bolenda [by Ulendon])

A bay gelding marked with two stars, left front fetlock, right front coronet extending to fetlock on the outside, and both hind fetlocks. He was jointly bred by Ruth and Louise and foaled in 1984. He was the last horse Ruth showed during her late years, winning many pleasure driving stakes on the Florida circuit, and Lyman often showed him during these years as well. Before being gelded, he sired one foal, Orland Sweetheart (x Orland Supreme Doll), bred by Ruth and Liz.

ORCLAND LEAD THE WAY #92097 (x Orland Supreme Leda)

A chestnut gelding marked with a large star and connected, very short strip tapering to a snip, and left hind fetlock, Lead The Way was another Liz especially remembered. She owned his dam, Orland Supreme Leda, and bred her to Bar The Way to produce this colt, the first and only foal she had. Liz also trained and showed Lead The Way, who was later owned by Lisa Baglini.

LATER YEARS

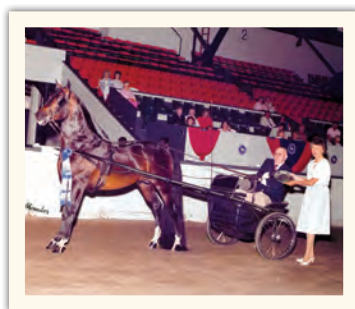
During the 1960s, Ruth began offering a four-week horsemanship camp during the summers, limited to about a dozen girls, ages ten to 16. At one point during the late 1970s, the Orcutts had 77 horses on the farm, which could increase in the summer (with visiting mares) to as many as 95. They began to have some dispersal sales during the late 1970s and early 1980s. These sales spread the Orland Morgans to show, pleasure, and breeding homes and some were sold internationally.

Many of the Orland Morgans were bred in partnership with each of Ruth’s three children from the time they were young, and later they bred some on their own. Additionally, some were bred by Lyman, and others by Ruth. Altogether, more than 200 Morgans carried the Orland prefix.

In 1988, the farm was sold to Robbie and Kathy Brown, a young couple who had grown up working at Orland for years. Although they did not continue as a Morgan horse farm, they did own Orland Bold Don and kept him there until his death. Kathy also bred several registered Morgans from him using the Annfield prefix.

Lyman and Ruth continued to breed a couple of Morgans each year during their retirement until Lyman passed away in 1999. Ruth kept them farmed out with friends who were all once kids associated with Orland Farms. The Orcutts traveled all over the world during their retirement, and both Lyman and Ruth continued to judge at various horse shows and went to judging clinics in Europe for many breeds, not just Morgans. After the farm was sold, they moved to Naples, Florida, which became their main residence, and bought a place in Vermont to go during the summers. Ruth continued to pursue her hobbies of skiing and sailing for many years.

In 1999, Lyman passed away at the 60th New England Morgan Horse Show in Northampton, one of his favorite events, doing what he loved best. He ran hospitality at the New England Show for years and loved to sit in the booth watching all the horses go by and yelling out, “Good luck, young fella!” With the help of the show committee, the family decided to do a memorial service for him at the show. Chrissy’s mare, Orland Bold Silk (Orland Bold



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Lyman brought in the 1977 Brunk bred stallion Bar The Way (Breezeway x Belafina) as an outcross to the traditional Orcland bloodlines. Richard Boulé reports his get proved popular and saleable when they came to the show ring, adding to the final crops of the Orcland production record. Bar The Way pictured here with get, Orcland B Dawn (out of Orcland Dollysupreme by Orcland Supreme); Orcland Barway (Bar The Way x Orcland Supreme Doll by Orcland Supreme); Orcland Starway (out of Orcland Supreme Doll); and Orcland On Broadway (out of Orcland Bolenda)

(photos © Equus Studios, Howard Schatzberg, Bob Moseder).

Don x Orcland Supreme Doll), one bred by Ruth and Liz, had never been to New England before, but was chosen as the riderless horse for the memorial service as a fine example of generations of Orcutt breeding carefully woven into her pedigree. Chrissy led her around the ring, and Orcland Bold Silk behaved perfectly. The Orcutts also decided to enter the Family Class at this show, Ruth with her sister Anna Ela, nephew Mark Caisse, niece Nancy Caisse, and granddaughter Chrissy Orcutt Henderson. This was Ruth's last showing appearance.

2006 was the last year Ruth was able to attend all the big shows, and she watched with pride as Chrissy showed Orcland Lyman's Legacy, the last Orcland-bred horse, in the Hunter Pleasure Division, dressage, and some low-level eventing. They won the Reserve Hunter Pleasure Championship that year at Maine Morgan to Ruth's great delight.

INFLUENCE

Lyman was named as an AMHA Person of the Year in 1970, and Ruth in 1977. Lyman and Ruth were inducted into the AMHA Hall of Fame in 1991. After Lyman's death, the Vermont Morgan Horse Association established the Lyman Orcutt Junior Scholarship Award, of at least one \$500 scholarship annually, to be awarded to an outstanding young man or woman wishing to continue their education. Lyman was inducted into the Northampton Horseman's Hall of Fame as an inaugural member in 2006. Ruth was named to the *The Morgan Horse* magazine's Women's Honor Roll in 2009. Orcland Farm was inducted into the AMHA Breeder's Hall of Fame in 2011. Ruth passed away in 2012, at the age of 92, after a

very long and full life.

Horsemen and women who got their start working at Orcland Farms were mentioned earlier in the article. But many who would remain influential Morgan owners and breeders also found their way to the breed there. Among them, the Richard and Rita Kellert family purchased Orcland Bold Lancer (Ulendon x Westfall Bold Beauty) as a weanling in 1964. Their son, Bob, is a lifelong Morgan trainer. Marti Morse, who would go on to own the top ranked sire Futurity French Command, purchased one of her first Morgans from the Orcutts, Orcland S Helenda (Orcland Supreme x Helen Of Troy). Rebecca Titcomb started her family's Morgan journey with Orcland Bold Fancy (Orcland Bold Don x Orcland Supreme Doll); Chris Cassenti would be the horse's final owner. As a young trainer, Anne Benson earned her ability in the saddle with the fiery Orcland Barmaid. Mari Sanderson, who later became AMHA President, showed Orcland Baroness to a Grand National title during the first year classic pleasure was offered and kept the mare all her life.

It would be impossible to chronicle the complete history of horses bred, programs impacted, and trainers, owners, and Morgan lovers influenced by Lyman and Ruth Orcutt. The story of how they used the aging stallion Ulendon to build not just one but two legacies, completely starting over and rebuilding after the fire, is remarkable and inspiring. It is rare even today to find a Morgan pedigree without the Orcland prefix, Orcutt breeding often appearing multiple times, regardless of discipline, purpose, or geography. Ruth, Lyman, their family, and their prefix have a permanent place in the Morgan breed's history. ■