

HORSES IN HISTORY

The First Saturday In May and All Miscellany Related

Spring has arrived and brought with it all the usual controversies, not the least of which will occur on the first Saturday in May. This writer has a long and storied history with **the first Saturday in May**. For those who are not horse racing familiar, that particular Saturday is reserved for the running of the Kentucky Derby. The Derby has deservedly been termed "the most exciting two minutes in sports" and has unquestionably earned that accolade.

My own history with the Derby began when I was very young and my family had a television that only worked during football season, obviously it was a magic television...or my Dad, who thought it was more important to read and be outside than it was to watch TV knew what to disconnect. My father might have recognized my love of all things horse related because on the first Saturday in May I would be told to put on dress up clothes and we would make our way to the local Inn where I would have help getting up on a bar stool that was much taller than I was. Dad and I would watch the Kentucky Derby. In my early teen years at the end of a visit to the horseman daughter of friends I was traveling with we made an early exit from the daughter's home in order to insure getting home before Derby post time. As luck would have it the car broke down and luckily the service station that we rolled into had a little bitty TV on the desk in the office. About everyone that worked there and the three travelers watched the Derby that year in a service station in Toledo. There was a memorable Derby that nearly cost me a job...I had just been hired as a 'resident assistant' for my sophomore year in college. Sitting in the college dormitory lounge with a couple of other horse people, I failed to remember that the Dorm Director who had just hired me had entered the room and when the horses made the last turn and started down the stretch I left the couch, loudly and enthusiastically saying, "look at that son of a ***** run!" Said Director did a lot of throat clearing and informed me that that was really not appropriate and perhaps she should reconsider her choices for RA's. Later, attending my brother's wedding, after not seeing him for several years, I told him how delighted I was to see him but really, a wedding on the first Saturday in May, what was he thinking? With all the wedding planning and logistics he had forgotten, so taking the situation in hand in his about to be mother-in-law's house where the wedding was taking place, he approached the minister with this statement, "Hey Rev, let's get this show on the road, we only have an hour until they go to the post for the Derby." The family reactions were varied but predictable. My mother said, "oh good Lord!", my cousin, Andrew, managed a fist pump and "yes!" and my Uncle George started laying odds and taking bets.

All that being said this piece on history is meant to share the history of these great races and not defend the people that have not played the game well or fairly. So this will just be a sharing of some fun facts related to Triple Crown Races, riders, trainers and horses.

The Kentucky Derby is the first of a series of three races which cumulatively have been dubbed The Triple Crown. **It** is in fact a series of races for three year old Thoroughbreds and it should be noted that there is a Thoroughbred Triple Crown for fillies and a Standardbred Triple Crown for harness racing.

Though the Kentucky Derby is the first of the races in the series it is the last of these three to be established. The first was run in 1875. The Preakness Stakes, second in the series was first run in 1873 and The Belmont Stakes, last of the three was first run in 1867.

Sir Barton was the first horse to win the Triple Crown but was not awarded the trophy until 29 years after the fact.

The Triple Crown was not established until 1948 and at that time all the horses that had won all three races in their three year old season were awarded the trophy.



Sir Barton- 1919.



Seattle Slew- 1977

Seattle Slew took the Triple Crown in 1977 and was the only undefeated horse to do so until 2018 when Justify moved into that category as well.

In 1948 Eddie Arcaro became the first jockey to have ridden two horses to Triple Crown success riding Citation that year and having piloted Whirlaway in 1941. Both his wins came under the ownership of Calumet Farms, Whirlaway for trainer Ben Jones and Citation for Ben Jones' son, Jimmy Jones.

At 52, Mike Smith was the oldest jockey to win a Triple Crown when he rode Justify in 2018. Smith rode Justify through his career and the horse retired undefeated. And at 18, Steve Cauthen was the youngest of the Triple Crown winning jockeys when he won aboard Affirmed in 1978.



The tradition of wearing big hats at the Derby originated with the superstition that a hat would bring you luck...the bigger the hat the bigger the luck.



There was a 25 year drought of Triple Crown winners from Citation in 1948 to Secretariat in 1973. And another drought from Affirmed's 1978 victory to American Pharoah's in 2015. James E. Fitzsimmons, know as Sunny Jim was the first trainer to have two Triple Crown winners under his tutelage, Gallant Fox in 1930 and his son Omaha in 1935. Both horses were bred and owned by Belair Stud. This feat was not accomplished again until the wins of Bob Baffert in 2015 and 2018 for American Pharoah and Justify respectively.

Starting with the 1st Saturday in May these three races are complete by early June these days, but in the early days of these races they were sometimes run in conflict or with merely a week between races. There were schedule adjustments in 1945 due to WWII and in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although both are permitted entry neither a filly or a gelding has ever won the Triple Crown. A filly did win the first Kentucky Derby in 1875.

In 1917 and 1922 the Derby and the Preakness were run on the same day.

All thirteen Triple Crown winners were foaled in the U.S. In 1978, Alydar, trained by D. Wayne Lucas, ran 2nd to Affirmed in all three Triple Crown races, the only horse to do this.

Trainer, D. Wayne Lucas, won 6 consecutive Triple Crown races with different horses, never winning the Triple Crown, but winning the 1994 Preakness and Belmont with Tabasco Cat, the 1995 Derby and Belmont with Thunder Gulch, the 1995 Preakness with Timber Country and following up with a 1996 Derby win with Grindstone.



Fillies have accumulated only 12 wins among the three races over the history of the events.

The next steps in this story would be to discovering the interesting facts and figures on the also rans, coming in second in races of this caliber does not make a horse a loser, it makes him a horse with a career.

Hopefully, with the advent of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act which has been signed into Law and is to take effect in July of this year, the sport will be cleaned up and become newsworthy for its positive aspects rather than its rule breakers and people who are willing to endanger riders and horses. The press seems ready to let the public believe that doping, in all its facets, is new to the racing game. Horses can be drugged to run faster or slower and it has been one of the problems of the industry forever. Sir Barton, the first Triple Crown winner ran on cocaine, known as 'hop' and used commonly. Since there were no tests, at that time, to detect the presence of drugs a veterinary exam was performed to see if a horse appeared to be "under the influence" and could be disqualified by a veterinarian just by appearance and behavior. The sophisticated testing has made infractions more easily identified and this is going to be the dawn of a new age for the sport. My thought is to hate the player not the game if something is amiss, and to be grateful to the people who have worked so hard to get these laws enacted which will make the sport a sport again!



The great Secretariat, jockey Ron Turcotte and groom Eddie Sweat after the 1973 Kentucky Derby.

HORSE RELATED QUOTES- TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE- WHO SAID IT?

1. To me, horses and freedom are synonymous.
2. The horse through all its trials has preserved the sweetness of paradise in its blood.
3. Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway.
4. Horses lend us the wings we lack.
5. He has virtually extended the strength of man, augmented his speed, doubled his time, decreased his burdens, released him from drudgery, and made him free.
6. There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man.
7. When your horse follows you without being asked, when he rubs his head on yours, and when you look at him and feel a tingle down your spine...you know you are loved.
8. Horse sense is the thing a horse had which keeps it from betting on people.
9. I have many times seen my horse's soul in his eyes.
10. One reason why birds and horses are not unhappy is because they are not trying to impress other birds and horses.
11. The horse is a great equalizer, he doesn't care how good looking you are, or how rich you are or how powerful you are- he takes you for how you make him feel.
12. A canter is the cure for all evil.
13. A good trainer can hear a horse speak to him. A great trainer can hear him whisper.
14. If people knew how much more they could get out of a horse by gentleness than by harshness, they would save a great deal of trouble both to the horse and to the man.
15. He has galloped through young girls' dreams, added richness to grown women's lives, and served men in war and strife.
16. A man that don't love a horse, there is something the matter with him.
17. Love means attention, which means looking after the things we love. We call this stable management.
18. I can make a General in five minutes, but a good horse is hard to replace.
19. It is the chief glory of the American horse, that he is the most enduring and the most amiable of his kind on the face of the earth.
20. The most beautiful, the most spirited and the most inspiring creature ever to print foot on the grasses of America.

Bonus Question

Who is the only horse to be featured with a cover photo on Time Magazine, Sports Illustrated and Newsweek all in the same week?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 27

Spring 2022 Cryptogram Puzzle

Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a random letter.
Try to decode the message. Hint we gave you the 'H'

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 S Q J K I K J I R W T R P P J Q P J A R T I L X

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 D S A L I D R A T A F U E Q J T S I S B V R F

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 T Q U I T A T J A U S T

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S. H	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	1

ARTS AND INSPIRATION

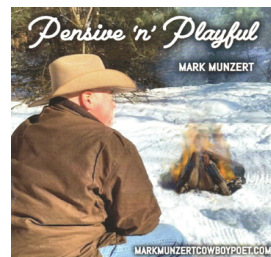
Mark Munzert is a National Champion Cowboy Poet and regular contributor to Groundwork. His artistry brings us all together with ideas of friendship, dedication, humor and the value and heartbreak of loving animals and each other.

RANCH RAIN

The sun squints, clouds rollin' in.
Smell it comin', carried on wind.
Sprinkle, drizzle, hangin' there,
It's in currents, moist full air.
"Button up, tie 'er down."
Stroms' comin, I hear its' sound.
Droplets drip on my Rodeo King
Splatter my slicker, it begins to sing.
Branches break n' crops sway,
Sweet torrents drown sound away.
Pouring puddles, carving ruts.
Cowdogs? Drenched mutts.
Cross the creek an' up the hill,
Cold is comin', feel its' chill.
Mud squishes with each stride.
Steady, the big quarters' Cadillac ride.
Collar up, saddle creakin',
Murky sight. Boots are leaking.
Drop my blade in the muck.
Wise guy chimes "Nice day, for duck."
Yeah, funny, heard that before.
Bucket rain, big floods, great lore.
All God's creatures soaked in strain.
Mostly I enjoy it, old bones though, pain.
Flash and rumble from dark sky.
Likely a message from on high.
"Here's your water", mind it well.
Life without is dust-bowl hell.
Gone as quickly as it came,
Nothing untouched, never the same.
The aroma, it lingers still.
Just weather, or God's will?

Cryptogram Solution below

Horses react appropriately while
waiting for the human to get it right.
Monty Roberts



WHO SAID IT-ANSWERS CONTINUED FROM P 26

1. Veryl Goodnight- (born 1947) Equine sculptor, know for her realistic depiction of horses.
2. Johannes Jensen- (1873-1950) Nobel Prize winning Danish author
3. John Wayne- (1907-1979) American actor and filmmaker, best known for western and war films
4. Pam Brown- (1917-1975) English stage and film actress.
5. Rev. Henry Ward Beecher-(1813-1887) American clergyman, speaker and social reformer, best know for promoting the abolition of slavery and as the brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author of Uncle Tom's Cabin.
6. Winston Churchill-(1874-1965) British statesman, Prime Minister of the UK 1940-1945 & 1951-1955
7. John Lyons- (born 1947) Horse trainer, clinician and author
8. W.C. Fields- (1880-1946) American comedian, actor, juggler and author
9. Plenty Coups-(1848-1932) Became Chief of the Crow Nation at the age of 28. Best known for defending Crow lands in Washington and promoting education for Native American youth
10. Dale Carnegie-(1888-1955) American author best known for the book, How To Win Friends And Influence People
11. Buck Brannaman- (born 1962) American horse trainer, clinician and trick roper, documentary film, 'Buck' won US Documentary Competition Audience Award at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival
12. Benjamin Disraeli-(1804-1881) British statesman and Prime Minister
13. Monty Roberts- (born 1935) American horse trainer, clinician, author, equine advisor to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Best selling book, The Man Who Listens To Horses'.
14. Ulysses S. Grant- (1822-1885) 18th President of the United States
15. Toni Robinson- American author.
16. Will Rogers- (1879-1935) American Vaudeville performer, actor and social commentator. Born in OK as a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.
17. George H. Morris- (born 1938) American equestrian, won silver medal at 1960 Olympic Games, coached winning U.S. Olympic team from 2005-2013.
18. Abraham Lincoln- (1809-1865) 16th President of the United States.
19. W. H. H. Murray- (1840-1904) American clergyman and author.
20. J. Frank Dobie- (1888-1964) American folklorist, writer and newspaper columnist.

Bonus- Secretariat, of course! Also first horse on a U.S. postage stamp.

THE WORD FROM WASHINGTON- Excerpts from Marty Irby

The workings of the 117th Congress have been discombobulated by real world circumstances, most notably by the violence of January 6, 2021, and the persistence and variations in the COVID-19 virus. But like “death and taxes,” there’s one thing that both humans and horses alike can count on: Congressional appropriations, the annual spending bills required to be enacted each year in some form to continue funding the federal government. Numerous programs are included that provide us with an opportunity to benefit equine welfare and the horses we all care so deeply about.

For the first time in some years, the Congress passed a new “omnibus” appropriations bill this month to fund the federal government for Fiscal Year 2022, not just renewing and slightly tweaking the prior year’s offering.

With the enactment of the omnibus in the past week and the provisions now signed into law, we’ve provided a breakdown of the provisions we’ve lobbied hard to secure.

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA):

Language to maintain the de facto ban on horse slaughter through defunding the inspection of horse slaughter plants has now become an automatic, with both the House and Senate bills containing the defund language that keeps horse meat off the table. We worked for many years embattled in controversy on this issue, but the tide has turned in the past year due to our work with equine industry groups like The Jockey Club, The Breeders’ Cup, Team Valor, the New York Racing Association, The Stronach Group, the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, West Point Thoroughbreds, Crawford Farms, the U.S. Harness Racing Alumni Association, and others taking firm positions against the slaughter of our iconic American equines. We give thanks to Staci and Arthur Hancock of Stone Farm for their decades of leadership in pressing the horse racing industry to support efforts to end horse slaughter.

The final FY22 spending package also provides \$3 million for the Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act’s shelter program, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to continue coordinating with other federal agencies to efficiently implement the grant program for providing emergency and transitional shelter options for domestic violence survivors with companion animals, that provides some relief for victims with equines as well.

And as always, AWA has made funding available for the enforcement of the Horse Protection Act (HPA) to end soring a very high priority and worked with leaders in the

Tennessee Walking Horse breed to secure just over \$3 million in HPA funding for FY 2022. That’s a record-breaking amount of funding that had never been above \$705,000 annually until AWA started pressing for more funding when we opened shop in 2018, and well above the \$2 million provided for in 2021 and \$1 million provided for in 2020, a steady increase each year. Also secured: \$300,000 allocated for USDA to “begin utilizing swabbing for prohibited substances and other science-based inspection methods, radiology, and other objective measures as part of its horse soring inspection protocol,” a request made by Reps. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., Ron Estes, R-Kan., Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., Hal Rogers, R-Ky., John Rose, R-Tenn., and Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., at the urging of AWA and leaders in the walking horse breed.

U.S. Dept. of Justice:

The FY22 spending package also includes language pressing the DOJ for “vigorous enforcement of the Federal animal fighting statutes” and “other laws related to animal welfare crime,” which includes the Horse Protection Act. This will help the DOJ take on soring-related cases and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law. In 52 years since the HPA was enacted not a single violator has ever gone to prison for soring Tennessee Walking Horses, and this language can be a game changer in that regard.

There’s also language directing the DOJ to explore the possibility of creating the Animal Cruelty Crimes Unit to help better enforce the Horse Protection Act and other animal cruelty laws that our 2019 and 2020 House floor funding amendments sought to achieve. We extend thanks to the Senate Subcommittee’s leaders, Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., and Jerry Moran, R-Kan., for leading the charge on this important issue.



Marty Irby is the executive director at Animal Wellness Action in Washington, D.C., and a former 8-time world champion equestrian who was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, II for his work to protect horses. Follow him on Facebook and Instagram @MartyIrby.

Continued from page 15

ECI: What do you think the most direct route is to stop the mismanagement and illegal maneuvering of the BLM?

JAK: I think there are several ways from my position as a documentary investigative filmmaker, but many of the same methods apply to everyone. Begin by gathering evidence through filmmaking, photography, video footage, and then filing a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to find out specific information on what is unfolding in Wild Horse & Burro herd management areas. Look at the Oil/Gas/Mining leases the BLM is issuing. There's an online site where you can go and you can file FOIA requests. And what I suggest people do is work in your local community. If you have a wild horse herd in your community file to find out what lands are being leased and to whom they are leased, because typically they're being leased to the big extractive Industries who are making billions of dollars off the exploitation of public lands. Most of these companies are the multinationals, they are offshore so they don't pay taxes and then after they come in and rape and pillage the land, they declare bankruptcy and leave. It's so corrupt, it's so sinister. This is what's happening to our public lands. When you file a request you have to be very specific. Once you have government email communications you can then use them in a court of law, but more importantly you can also publish it to expose the truth. I think Community involvement is very important. There are organizations that are trying to work with the BLM. I think that's good, although we have a lot of these organizations that are overzealous with the use of PZP, the birth control drug. There is just no overpopulation of Wild Horses and I'll say that again, there is no overpopulation of wild horses! There is an under population. So now we've got all these Wild Horse Advocates running around with their PZP dart guns thinking, they're going to save the horse. Well, what they're actually doing is they're helping the BLM to manage them to Extinction. What else can people do? Continue to educate, watch my movies, (Vimeo.com/on demand/MustangsandRenegades). They do a great job of educating. We show you how to document these roundups and how to interview people from the government. If you watch the films you see how to be an activist on this issue. And then of course, write to your legislators and if you can go to their office and get a meeting you won't necessarily get a meeting with your Senator or Congressman, but you will get a meeting with one of their staffers. Staffers take good notes and they listen. They realize that this could potentially lead to getting elected or not elected and they will want to side with the source of votes. I must say the awareness of the Wild horse issue has grown by leaps and bounds in the last ten years but there still needs to be more education. Politicians are becoming aware and as we know 80% of the American public is in favor of saving the wild horses. This is a bipartisan issue. When politicians are running for re-election they look at the numbers, they'll realize that this is an issue in which they should take the side of the wild horses. The other big thing is the appropriation of the federal budget. They appropriate all this money to the BLM Wild Horse and Burro program. They need to stop appropriating these massive sums of money for roundup and removal.



There needs to be a stipulation in which, if the BLM is receiving money to manage the horses, the money is earmarked for in the wild, Wild Horse and Burro management on the range. The re-introduction of predators (mountain lions) back onto the public lands they have been eradicated from, will result in natural population control and strengthen the herds through natural selection. The result of roundup and removals resembles concentration camps that they've created for the wild horses & Burros.

ECI: What kind of pushback did you get and where did it come from?

JAK: I have been targeted. There were several attempts to get me to take money from Iran so they could declare me a terrorist. While I was raising money for the production of my film with a kickstarter campaign someone sabotaged it. I write about this more in my Book: **'No Country For Truth Tellers'** - Available on Amazon.

ECI: What prompted your move out of the Country? Did you think that move was going to be permanent?

JAK: I was living in Telluride and I was being harassed by David Holbrooke (son of politician and Wall Street banker Richard Holbrooke). His defamation of character campaigns and outright threats against me caused severe harm to my film work. That's when strange things were happening. Finally, through the FOIA request, we got the document. The entire document was blacked out except at the top of the page. It said, "The United States versus James Kleinert" and I didn't know what the rest of it said. By that point when I saw the document I thought I'm done and I'm out of here. So I left the country for two years. We had set up the investigation around my FOIA requests. After a year and half in Norway, I got the email from my attorneys telling me, "you need to be in Washington, D.C. in 2 weeks. We're going before a federal judge." It just changed everything. I thought I may be living abroad the rest of my life, which I really didn't mind. Living in a foreign country, learning and seeing different ways of doing things is eye opening.

Norway was a very positive experience. I was embraced by mainstream media, was on Norway's number one investigative news show on NRK. Worked with several Norwegian organizations to produce a film on Scandinavia's ecological efforts and progress.

ECI: What about the involvement or lack of involvement of the media?

JAK: So you just have to keep looking for ways around lack of reporting and lack of good investigative honest reporting. What we're seeing right now is the emergence of an alternative media. For example, Rumble. I did publish some film clips on Rumble. They claim they're not censoring people and from what I can tell they're not. Obviously you can't publish hate speech. Rumble, seems to have sound policies and rules. They'll let you speak your truth! We're seeing people leave platforms like Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and other platforms that are outright censoring content that is not in business interests. If you look at corporate controlled media like CNN and NBC their audiences are shrinking dramatically. The media moguls are so upset with Joe Rogan because he's speaking truth. They are trying to shut down speech of consciousness, intelligence and just get us to be sheeple, but we still have the power of the internet and it's keeping things alive. The ability to communicate effectively through the internet is keeping some consciousness alive now. One of our biggest battles will be Free Access to the Internet and Free Speech honored on the net. Alternative media is replacing old school media. The legacy media will transform into something else because they're losing their audience. The public is privy to the fact that they are being lied to. Truth oozes to the top, it's destined to come out and there's going to be more and more deep stuff exposed in the weeks-months ahead! And I think it's all related, all goes back to the wild horses. When my first feature film **'Wild Horses And Renegades'** was released I kept telling people what a powerful symbol Wild horses are for the American people and people everywhere. What's happening to them is happening to us. Our rights are being taken away, massive violations of civil rights, constitutional rights, environmental rights, are all represented by the roundup and removal. Incarceration of the Wild horse is exactly what's happening to us. People have a right to fair and just elections, Freedom of Speech, peacefully protesting, these are the most basic Constitutional Rights! I think we are seeing more people getting involved and we're going to see a lot more excitement in the days and weeks ahead, the unveiling of truth, justice and positive peaceful change. What's happening to them is happening to us. Our rights are being taken away, massive violations of civil rights, constitutional rights, environmental rights, are all represented by the roundup and removal. Incarceration of the Wild Horse is exactly what's happening to us. People have a right to fair and just elections, Freedom of Speech, peacefully protesting, these are the most basic Constitutional Rights!

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ECI: Can you talk about the "Kleinert vs. The Bureau of Land Management" case?

JAK: In 2015, U.S. Judge John D. Bates heard arguments in my case Kleinert v. Bureau of Land Management. The hearing was held in the E. Barrett Prettyman courthouse in Washington D.C. Then in April 2016, Kleinert v. BLM set important precedent for future cases involving public records and legal proceeding with the Bureau of Land Management. Westlaw published the case – '2015 WL 5675792' – and it is now in legal standing. Westlaw's decision to publish was based on the importance of the case in establishing legal precedent, it's usefulness for legal research, and as a reference for legal authority in future cases. We proved the Bureau of Land Management, had been surveilling me for almost ten years, trying to disrupt the making of my documentary films. Judge Bates, who's in one of the highest courts in the land, heard the case. Besides being a federal judge He sits on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISA). Judge Bates was well prepared and immediately started asking the BLM's attorneys "what's going on here? Why are you violating Freedom of Information law"? And of course, they didn't have a valid excuse. I think one of the reasons BLM wouldn't honor the request is that they were busy destroying documents. It took us over a year to get documents and the first round of documents were heavily redacted. I had been filing FOIA requests with the BLM in 2013 and had no luck. Animal Legal Defense Fund looked at my case and then assigned Attorney Jessica Blome to help. Jessica tried for months to get FOIA documents from the BLM and they stonewalled her as well. Daniel Stotter a lawyer specializing in FOIA law came on board and we filed Kleinert v. BLM in Federal court. This is what it took to get the FOIA documents from BLM.

What was so interesting is what was not in the FOIA documents. In 2011 prior to and during the Spring Creek round up my attorney, Diane Wolfson, myself and others, had sent numerous emails to local, state and federal BLM officials and actually received some responses. None of those email communications or phone calls showed up in the FOIA documents we received.



© James Anaquad Kleinert

Those email documents should have been included in our FOIA search but they were not. What we did find was a document dating back to 2007 when I presented a short film at a small historic school house in Basalt Colorado for horse enthusiasts. According to the e-mail document that we did receive, BLM had sent a undercover agent to spy on the gathering and reported back to Sally Spensor, head of the BLM Wild Horse & Burro program in D.C.. The email went onto say "He's doing another film and talking about oil and gas leases and the effects on wild horses . . . Should we handle this within or do you want to take the lead." Spooky? You can read more about this in our book '**No Country For Truth Tellers**'.

ECI: You see the mining and extractive processes as a bigger threat to the Mustangs than other advocates who focus on the BLM's kowtowing to the livestock industry and excessive grazing permits. Why?

JAK: Yes. I live out here in the wild west. A lot of these activists are on the east or west coast and so many of them have never been out in the rangelands. So, that's the first point I want to make, is that I live here and I'm out around Wild Horse ranges, oil and gas ranges, mining ranges. I'm around it all the time. I see what's going on all the time. So what typically happens? They get rid of the horses, and then they'll let the cattle and sheep in after the horses are gone. But you have to look at is those cattle and sheep. They're five years down the road, and in many, many cases, they let the cattle and sheep on for a year or two to appease the ranchers but then, when the big extractive industries move in they tell their ranchers to get rid of your cattle and sheep and then the big players come in and the big players are the multinationals who are doing the super heavy damage on the land. Not the cattle. Cattle, if they over graze. can do a lot of damage. People have got to look at the bigger picture, the second largest form of income for the United States government is the leasing of public lands to the extractive industries. That's where all of this is going. Now with the coming of the new green renewable energies age it is actually going to have a huge impact on public lands because they have to keep mining these special minerals. They refer to it as rare earth. Making the cellphones, computers, the batteries in electric cars, etc. takes a tremendous amount of minerals and they're going to the public lands to get these now. Here's another great example. Barrick Gold, biggest gold company in the world. Big issue with a massive open pit mine in Nevada. They recently bought out the two largest cattle operations in Nevada, but they could make it look like they're still family run cattle operations. They're not, they're owned by Barrick Gold. And they're making a move to go from old traditional ranching to getting into the mining industry and fracking. But they front the ranch house. It's saying, 'oh, we're good old ranchers'. We're in the background, you know, people are moving towards the much more destructive industries. And again, I'm not saying that there is no overgrazing. Yes, it has a big impact, but you've got to look at the bigger picture,- what's going on behind that money. I have worked and I still work on a small family ranch in Colorado. There are good ranchers and there are bad ranchers, of course.

Some ranchers, do a really good job of managing their lands and moving their cattle. Some don't. Another thing is when you look at the amount of greenhouse gases that cattle and sheep give off it is pretty alarming. I'm not pro-rancher and I'm not anti-rancher. I just think that the whole way we're doing agriculture needs to be revised. There should be a big investment from the federal government to help ranchers and farmers retool so that can do things in a better way. There's a great film on Netflix called 'Kiss The Ground' and it's all about going from old school to better choices. Taking farming and ranching to newer techniques in which you preserve the soil. People should watch that because we have to transform the way we do agriculture in this country. Because I live here in the west I have to get along with ranchers and of course, I get along with environmentalists. I walk down the middle of the road on that. Most ranchers and farmers can be stubborn, but you can talk to them. When you get some of these wild horse advocates who come out here and start screaming at them it doesn't solve anything. People really have to think through things and there's got to be a better way of planning on how to do those things. But I have to say I do stand- up for the family ranch and the family farm.

ECI: You are clear about the danger to humans created by the extractive industries in some of these areas- do you get a different or greater reaction when the human factor is brought up?

JAK: There is an interview in my film with a gentleman whose wife died as a direct result of fracking. The fracking solutions got into their drinking water. Their animals died off first. Then the his wife had three tumors back-to-back and the third tumor killed her as a direct result of the contamination of their water supply.

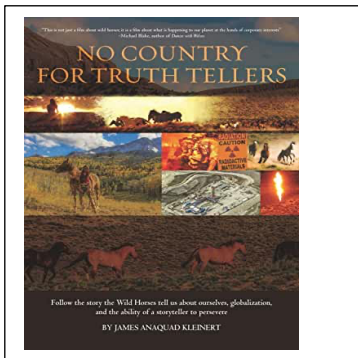
Here in the west, we have been inundated with fracking. It slowed a bit because of the pandemic, but they're really back at it now. People out here in the west are pretty concerned about it. Then consider Pennsylvania, where they have oil shale and they are fracking there. It is an issue that has received a lot of media attention. I think it's something that the general public has a grasp of now.



When you look at the power structure from Wall Street to Washington, I was definitely caught right in the middle of it, with exposing the uranium mining. I documented the Spring Creek Herd roundup and eight months after that the entire area was staked out with uranium claims. When I was documenting all of this the pressure really came down on me. I mean, the whole thing was so incredibly Criminal. And the wild horses were the arrow to the truth on that. That's you know, that's how I discovered it all. And meanwhile my Free Speech is being limited where I live in Telluride. There has been defamation of character. Attempts have been made to destroy my career. And this all went down and everyone's denying it. And it is unbelievable. Unbelievable!

ECI: What keeps you going James?

JAK: I am a fighter for what I believe in. I do think the revolution is coming and I think there's a lot that is going to go down in the next year or two. I'm one of the truth-tellers and I'm going to make sure that these people who are not truth-tellers are exposed. There are a lot of Truth-tellers rising up right now. We are going to fight the good fight.



ECI: Did the BLM or others give you a hard time while you were observing roundups or filming 'Mustangs and Renegades'?

JAK: What was interesting about that back in 2003 when I started I was the only civilian on-site. Everyone else was either a contractor or a BLM employee. I was shocked. This mass roundup was going on and no one else from the media was there. Of course we've seen that changed dramatically over the years and now there are sometimes a lot of observers. There's a lot of media coverage. It is good that more and more of these roundups are being documented. They shouldn't be happening at all but at least there is more documentation, because in the beginning almost no one was aware of what was going on.

ECI: What was the progression of change in terms of cooperation for observing roundups?

JAK: In 2003 when I started, the BLM assigned a guy to me to help me out and he was very nice. He and I had you good conversations and good interaction. He asked me where I wanted to film and I indicated the middle of the path where they were going to bring them in. He said, "let me clear it" and he did. he cleared it. We walked out into the middle of

The helicopter is right over me and the horses come right by me. The footage I got in that round up is so revealing. The next major round up that I found was the 2007 Spring Creek in southwestern Colorado. Even then the BLM wasn't bad about letting us film where we wanted and we had really good observation points. We couldn't go out in the field but they let us set up on a cliff line and we got incredible footage. That was the last time. They started setting up what they called viewing areas where observers can hardly see anything. We try to point that out in the film and it includes my argument with Sue Cattoor.

ECI: Ideally- what do you want 'Mustangs and Renegades' to accomplish?

JAK: It is a several pronged approach. The first thing is just education, educating people that there are wild horses out there. You know, that there is no final part of the western ecosystems from there. An incredible resource on many levels and, you know, we need to sustain them and keep them out of there. There's a new episode, called 'Native Horse'. It goes deep into the scientific fact that the horse is indigenous and native to this country, to the North American continent. I hope the film really connects people with Western landscapes so that we we preserve them better instead of destroying them. I hope it connects people with the spirit of the horse as they look at human life. We evolved with the horse. Horses made us what we are and the majority of people have lost that connection. I think to get that back is incredibly nurturing and holistically healing for human beings. Another episode of Mustangs and Renegades is called 'Horse Medicine'. It's all about the human horse relationship. I've seen how horses empower people- from youth at risk to Veterans of war and all kinds of levels between. Instead of killing these horses we should be using them in therapy programs and education programs. You know, there's so much we could be doing with the horses and the public lands in a positive way.

ECI: DOI and the BLM- who is at fault in this situation?

JAK: The BLM gets their marching orders from the Department of interior, and the Department of Interior is under the Executive Branch. So it's under the President.. So if you really want to point the finger at somebody point it at the executive because the executive, they could change this overnight if they wanted to see it done. And they don't because there are too in bed with the extractive industries, not the cattle industries, but the extractive industries.

ECI: Adoptions and sanctuaries- what are the realities of promoting them as the solution to the supposed Wild horse overpopulation?

JAK: What do we have now? Something over sixty thousand horses in holding, so if you can adopt a horse, do it because that horse may end up with slaughter, if you can give it a good home you can prevent that.

My horse, Akiywa, my best friend, my best companion. He is just an incredible animal. We know the BLM puts a smoke screen up saying, 'we're adopting them' and what people have to be very aware of is that only a small percentage of the horses that they round up are adopted. Most of those horses end up in bad places. If you can adopt a horse adopt one, and if you think you don't think you have the money, then do a community group organization and put four, or five people together, share the cost. The horse is a great cooperative project.

The sanctuary question...what I don't like, are people who create these private sanctuaries and then they run around and they want everyone else to support the financial cost of the sanctuary. So essentially what these people are doing is supporting their private ranch and their lifestyle. I think it can be abused. It's not all bad though. When people are rescuing horses and giving them a good home that's a good thing. But if people use it to make money I think it can be questionable. It's questionable when some people make it look like they're saving many more horses than they are. They've turned it into a money-making machine and I'm just skeptical of people that are doing that. I am definitely not saying it is all bad, it is just something that needs to be looked at. I think if people get a herd of wild horses on their property they should make it open to the public. Part of what needs to be done is to recognize they've gotten a resource from our public lands and if they are going to do this and turn it into a commercial operation then it should be for the good of the people. Some people are doing this and these rescues and sanctuaries are different. I believe you have to look at the people's motives.

ECI: The BLM seems to be promoting sanctuaries, just as they promoted adoptions, as the answer to the roundups.

JAK: I don't see it as the answer. They should be managing horses in the wild, and actually, they should be putting these sixty thousand plus horses they have in holding back on public lands. If you have somebody that wants to adopt a herd of wild horses and use them for Therapy Program for Veterans or something like that I think that's a good thing but repurposing all these horses that they've taken off public land will be impossible. They're looking for ways out of the problem that they've created rather than just managing the horses in the wild where they have the right to be and belong.

ECI: Porcine Zona Pellucida, Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone (GnRH), now IUDs, surgical sterilization- compromises or just contributors to the destruction of Mustangs in the US?

JAK: They are all part of the horses being managed toward extinction. Some will accomplish it faster than others.

ECI: Survival of the fittest, natural predators, etc?

JAK: I think the ranchers that are out there should not be allowed to eradicate the natural predators and the other wildlife species that are on these public lands. Again. Losing some stock to predators is the cost of doing business if you want to put your cows or sheep out there on public land. Predators out there. That is part of survival of the fittest. We know the the Fish and

Wildlife Service is mostly a wildlife eradication agency. A quest again to appease ranchers, right? It's very wrong. And that brings us to this...There is always talk about how we need jobs in America. If you have a herd of cattle out there and you're afraid of predators, put four or five real cowboys out there to do it the old way, where they would literally live with the herd, protect it and chase off predators. But there are ranchers today that dump their cattle out on the public land and want to see predators eradicated so they don't have to invest the time or effort to watch the herds. A public works program could be created. I know the extermination of wildlife and the predators is just absolutely horrible. We know the predators and all the wildlife that share these American lands keep everything else in balance.

ECI: What is next for you?

JAK: We are doing the final cutting the entire series. We've got this great episode 'Native Horse',. That will be coming out. We got a few more episodes so there will be a total of 13 or 14. We're still finding the right home. Hopefully a major a national distributor will pick it up and get behind it. This film project is so politically charged and so revealing that it has been a tough sell in some places.

ECI: What are the most important things that I failed to ask?

JAK: Well, I think I think we've covered it. The biggest thing I can say is this is a much bigger than the wild horses. This is the loss of our constitutional, civil and environmental rights. It's reflected in the wild horses. This is an absolute dictatorship and I think our federal government is out of control. We're seeing this with other governments and I know people need to harness the spirit of the wild horse to stand up for their constitutional, civil and their environmental rights. We are in a whole new age right now and they are doing things that cannot be undone.



© James Anaquad Kleinert

James' horse, Akiywa, is a rescued Wild Horse who came out of the Battle Mountain Herd Management Area in Nevada. His name is a short slang term in Lakota meaning 'Thunder Being.'

The Wild Horse Solutions Summit

We come from different locations and travel different paths
but our destination is the same.

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 7 p.m. Eastern

Join Equine Collaborative International as we bring together experts from every aspect of advocacy and the media to discuss what can be done to end the crisis situation that has been created for America's Wild Horses and Burros. The objective for this meeting is to bring together people of diverse backgrounds and experiences who share the common goal of defending and preserving Wild Horses and Burros. Providing these presenters with a platform so they can give all interested parties a broader base of fact based information and try to establish a unified course of action. Questions entered in the chat box will be answered after presentations.



James Anaquad Kleinert - Award winning film maker, Director, producer, cinematographer, fine art photographer and author from Colorado. 11 episodes of his film series 'Mustangs and Renegades' are available at [Vimeo.com/ondemand/mustangsandrenegades](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/mustangsandrenegades) and speaks the painful truth of the plight of the American Mustang and those who are devoted to their preservation.



Cynthia Smoot - Emmy award winning 35+ year veteran of broadcast journalism, with a true passion for wildlife and animal cruelty issues. She is with Fox News in Florida and also is the adoptive owner of an American Mustang.



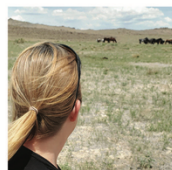
Craig Downer - Professor, author and Wildlife Ecologist who has specialized in Wild Horses and their role in conserving and preserving the ecosystem. He is located in Nevada and had the rare experience of working directly with Velma Bronn Johnston, known to many of us as Wild Horse Annie.



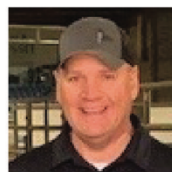
Scott Beckstead - Moderator for the event- Lifelong horseman, author and Adjunct Professor of Animal Law at Willamette University in Oregon who is currently serving as the Director of Campaigns for both Animal Wellness Action and The Center for A Humane Economy. He is left a law practice to move into animal advocacy and has been a strong voice in defense of animals ever since.



Sandy Sharkey - Wild Horse Advocate and Photographer of Wildlife specializing in Wild Horses and leading Wild Horse excursions to Sable Island and Alberta. Though based in Canada Sandy is a staunch defender of Wildlife across all borders.



Heather Hellyer - Longtime Wildlife photographer and newer than the rest to Wild Horse Advocacy she has been involved for about 2 years and is completely immersed in trying to preserve the American Wild Horses and Burros. She is currently based in Oregon.



Carl Bledsoe - 2nd generation horse trainer Carl left the show horse world to pursue training with the objective of respecting the horse and working toward promoting a better relationship between rider and horse. His question is always, "what's in it for the horse?" Carl and his wife, Tammy, run their teaching and training facility, Just Gait, in Talking Rock, Georgia but travel extensively for clinics and expositions.

And more.....

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- MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022*

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*For Renewal, if no information has changed it's not necessary to complete the rest of this form

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Same

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instructions

June 22, 2022 7p.m. Eastern

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