



2021 HORSE OF THE AMERICAS YEAR END AWARDS

With the change of leadership, moving of the registry's homebase, changing our bank, and updating our corporate status, we have been busy. Yet the 2021 winners of our HOA Horses of the Year have FINALLY been computed. All registration numbers are HOA's. Please meet last year's champions on the next 5 pages.

SHOW HORSE OF THE YEAR

Copper Concha, #2175, Rebecca Pizmoht



SPORT HORSE OF THE YEAR

El Condor Pasa, #1848; Karma Farms
Reserve Champion: CWH Up 'N Adam,
Karma Farms



****HOA would like to invite each one of these owners or riders to send us an article about their 2021 HOA Year End Champion for our next newsletter. Please include breeding and breeder, the story of how you and this horse became a team, where you are competing in 2022 and 2023, and any other stories you would like to tell HOA and our online audience. Please include GOOD color pictures. *Seeing* you and your CS Horse makes all the difference.**

PLEASURE DRIVING HORSE OF THE YEAR

Dakota Krome; #2199, owner Su Zi driving



SHOW DRIVING HORSE OF THE YEAR

Dakota Krome; #2199, Su Zi driving



PLEASURE TRAIL HORSE OF THE YEAR

Bella Notte; #1901, Tamsyn Cuniff & Mill Swamp Indian Horses

Reserve Champion: **CH Long Knife #2193, Mill Swamp Indian Horses** (see memorial in this issue.)

**And a pat on the back to Mill Swamp who had the most entries in this category and to everyone else who sent in their horse's mileage for 2021. Here is how the rest of our Top Ten came out:



- 3) **CH Croatoan's Blue Feather #2236**, Lana Anders, Blue Raven Farms
- 4) **RE Kitty Hawk #1972**, Kelly Anders, Blue Raven Farms
- 5) **Hickory Wind #2102**, Mill Swamp Indian Horses
- 6) **Janie's Got A Gun #1988**, Mill Swamp Indian Horses
- 7) **SWH Diamond City Pony Boy #1649** ("Holland"), Mill Swamp Indian Horses
- 8) **Ta Sunka Witco #1769**, Mill Swamp Indian Horses
- 9) **Uncle Harley #1445**, Mill Swamp Indian Horses
- 10) **CWH Cornstalk #2094**, Mill Swamp Indian Horse

CAROL STONE AMBASSADOR AWARD

Copper Concha #2175; owned by Rebecca Pizmoht



BUCKAROO AWARDS: For riders under the age of 18 who collect 50 points in one year: For 2021, we salute our newest Buckaroos: **Emmalee Burns:** 50 points, and **Evelyn Burns:** 52 points. The girls rode Kathy Peacock’s family horses. Congratulations to both of you!

And speaking of Kathy Peacock’s family Horses...

SUNDANCE AWARD: Awarded to an HOA registered HORSE for 300 points from any accepted categories.

SUNDANCE WINNERS FOR 2021

KATHY PEACOCK FAMILY:

Right: WR Corazon del Leon; #2123; 348 lifetime points (Buckaroo Winner Emmalee Burns up)



Corazon joins Kathy Peacock’s other earlier 3 Sundance Winners:

Left: Domingo’s Painted Fury; #1985; 483 lifetime points with Buckaroo Winner Emmalee Burns)

Right: A Feather In The Breeze; #1581; 421.5 lifetime points (Buckaroo Winner Evelyn Burns up)





Congratulations also to **MILL SWAMP INDIAN HORSES** and owner **Valerie Todesco** for her **2021 SUNDANCE WINNER** **Ta Sunka Witco**; #1769; 444.2 lifetime points for his point accumulation in Pleasure Trail Riding. So sorry that this fine trail horse was not recognized earlier as he is already nearing his **Legends Award**.

Speaking of LEGENDS:

LEGEND AWARDS: Awarded to the HOA registered HORSE for 500 points in a specific category.

Categories:

- 1) Legends in Show (Show & Sport)
- 2) Legends in Distance (Competitive/Endurance)
- 3) Legends in Pleasure Trail (Ride & Drive)
- 4) Legends in Time (Speed Events)
- 5) Legends in Farm & Ranch Work (Farm & Competitive Work)

HOA WELCOMES THE 1ST EVER WINNERS OF OUR LEGENDS AWARD:

Uncle Harley #1445; 743.73 lifetime points; Mill Swamp Indian Horses



LEGEND OF PLEASURE TRAIL

AND: Jacob's Star #1580; 535 lifetime points; Kathy Peacock Family.

(Hanna and Emmalee Burns up)



LEGEND OF PLEASURE TRAIL

These two horses are the first to reach this level in the HOA Awards Program. Congratulations to them and to the folks who rode them to this achievement. Please remember that our deadline for points to be turned in for 2022 awards is now February 28, 2023. This year we took everyone's points 'way after the deadline, but we also knew that we would be late getting it all together and getting our new points database built. We have new awards forms that are MUCH clearer, a new database to look up cumulative points, and lots of new help in calculating your point forms. You may copy the one in this newsletter as many times as you need or print them off the HOA site at: <http://www.horseoftheamericas.com/awards>.

Horse of the Americas Registry Officers Summer 2022

President: Vickie Ives, Vice President: Annette Baca, Secretary : Andrea Mulnix,
Treasurer: Tommi Grey, Newsletter editor: Courtney Fox (but Vik for this one)

Executive Committee Regional Representatives: Kendra Chavez, Rebecca Pizmoht, Adam Edwards,
Mickey Pliakos, Kelly Anders.

If YOU live in an area which does not have a Regional Rep yet and you want to volunteer to serve, let us know. MUST be able to attend a Zoom meeting monthly.

Saying Good-bye and Saving a Champion

by Vickie Ives, HOA President

Can't say June, July and now August were fun, but they certainly have been a challenge around here. I gather I am not alone in this opinion.



Jamie and Cherokee

Good-bye to Jamie Hicks

Let me first say that Colonial Spanish Horses have lost a special friend and dear heart. Jamie Hicks died July 3, 2022 in Anderson, South Carolina, leaving behind her mom, Gail Hicks and many friends. She had a winning smile, a heart of gold and excelled in riding and enjoying her horses despite her physical challenges. Jamie and I met at American Indian Horse shows. She, Gail, and her dad Jim, became fast friends of all of us at Karma Farms.

Jamie had a beloved Indian Horse mare called "Cherokee" that was her darling and special friend. Cherokee got Jamie involved with American Indian Horses. When they met my Colonial Spanish Horses, they added a couple of fine ones from us. Jamie and Gail picked well: a stout young stud colt, a Doctor Wu lookalike with more chrome than his daddy. Their boy was named Doctor Doolittle (Doctor Wu/ Miss Crazy Horse). They also bought a very fancy young dun overo mare we named Light My Way (Choctaw Sun Dance/Lady Madonna).

These later went with them to Anderson, SC after a flood wiped out their Texas home and much of their town. Jim found work there.



With Doctor Doolittle



Jamie and Light My Way

They bought a big rambling house with room for their horses and assorted small animals. They raised some fine foals over the years. I would like to hear from anyone

who has CS Horses bred by the Hicks family. We shared lots of fun times. I would so much appreciate anyone who can help Gail now. Please follow this link:

[Fundraiser by Bobbie Thompson : Gale Hicks expenses \(gofundme.com\)](#)

Gail would appreciate any help you can offer. She is now all alone at her new home in Seguin, Texas with limited vision in need of cataract surgery, no vehicle here (she cannot drive until she can get the eye surgery), and no job in her new hometown. She still has Jamie's car and lots of possessions to move from their home in Anderson, South Carolina. Please consider showing your love for Gail and Jamie and helping Gail with Jamie's final expenses and her own situation after her beloved daughter's loss

And Jamie, I'll bet you were greeted by not only your beloved father, but also some wonderful horses and lots of rescues from goats to ducks to a passel of greyhounds. They were all special to you, each and every one. Give Light My Way a stroke on the nose for me, would you?

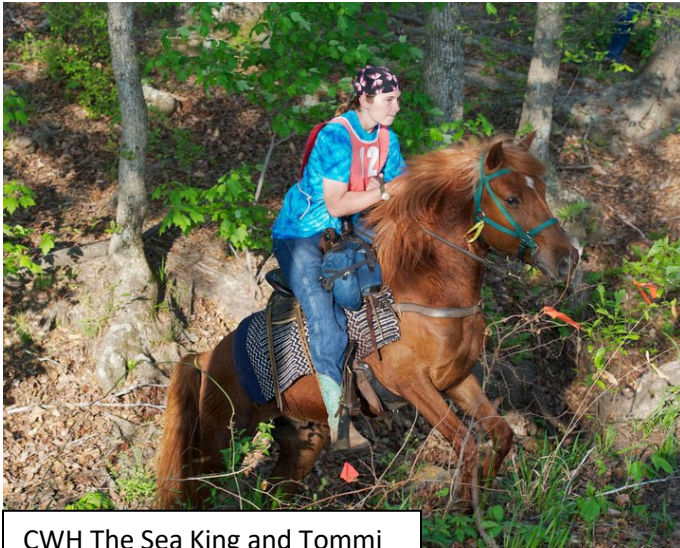
Saving The Sea King

Here at Karma Farms this summer was especially hard on our stock. First in June, our Dexter cattle were attacked in their pen by dogs or coyotes and chased until they panicked. We do not know how long they ran the cattle. The cattle had raced and spun, trying desperately to escape. The next day to our horror, we found many canine tracks their pen. The tracks of the terrified Dexters scored the whole paddock. One of them had tried to leap their new fence and fell on top of it while being chased by the pursuers. The rest of the cattle followed, desperate to escape the attacking canines after the fence was broken over by the weight of the first one. All except our fine bull raced out into U.S. 59 while still being pursued and were immediately hit and killed. At around 4 am we were awakened by the Sheriff's department. "Jimmy" only survived because he ran up into my iris show garden beside my front yard instead of onto the highway. When I realized that he was not among the dead, I found him there grazing, looking dazed. He stood quietly and let me halter him and lead him to safety.

My Dexter business was now only one lonely, but much loved, bull. My partner Cynthia Ojeda climbed aboard our old John Deere, and I collected chain so that we could drag our fallen cattle, Penny, a 2-year-old cow with her 2022 heifer calf and Honey Blossom, a young cow that was expecting her first calf this month, off the road and to our animal graveyard at the back of the farm. We got pictures of fence, tracks and other details after the sun rose. We feared we would need them to prove that the failure was not bad fencing, but a predator attack on our cattle. Turns out we were smart to get them, and hoping they are enough if we go to court.

One week later my daughter Tommi Grey's wonderful Corolla stallion CWH The Sea King escaped from the pen beside her house after a padlock failed on a chain around her front gate. Her mare and foal got out just after midnight when they rattled the gate and the lock opened. They ran west down her little blacktop road, headed for Karma Farms, where her dun mare Race the Wind had grown up. When King realized that he was alone, he found the open gate and followed.

The mare and foal arrived at my house safely even though they ran right out onto the killer 4 lane U.S. 59 and bolted south right down the center stripe. They survived because Good Samaritans saw them and got behind them with emergency blinkers on, blocking traffic. They were luckily joined by a passing trooper who saw what was happening and helped to block traffic, his much brighter emergency lights blazing. Thank the Lord for them both!



CWH The Sea King and Tommi tackle NATRC trails and a photo taken from the damaged side after the first surgery.

By the time they got to my house, we were already out there having been notified (again!) by the Harrison County Sheriff's Department that we had stock out. The horses ran in at my house, and we caught them safely. I called Tommi to let her know that Race and Sunrise had been out. but now were safe in one of my horse pens.

"King isn't with them?" she cried, and she hung up to check. Her search revealed that the bright sorrel stallion was gone too. Thus began a 2-hour search for him. King was only found when his stallion calls for his lost family were heard by both Cynthia and our wonderful neighbor Danielle Mauldin. They located King behind a nearby RV camp site. He had been struck by a mirror on the right side of his head,

crushing his eye and socket and leaving a deep and unmistakable imprint of the sideview mirror of the hit-and-run truck that struck him. Blood was still dripping from both nostrils and the terrible wound. The eye hung from his poor head, almost unrecognizable. But he led to the closest place we could get my truck to him and loaded like the champion he is. He underwent the first repair surgery as soon as Kilgore Vet Clinic and Dr. Handlin were prepared the following Monday.



Tommi's work continued after King's extended stay at Kilgore Vet Clinic where he underwent 2 surgeries and stayed for 3 weeks. Healing the huge wound that quickly infected from invasive foreign material and bone fragments too small to remove necessitated powerful antibiotic treatment daily. His dented skull and destroyed eye socket were wired together expertly by Dr. Handlin, and hide was drawn over eye area and stapled in place. There is a chance that he will need more surgery, but he has come SO far.

He is finally home and doing remarkably well. True, he will not be the same horse as the NATRC picture above. He is now one-eyed with a dented face on the right side, but he is on his feet just as he has been from the first and fighting to rehab. Staples are long gone with only 2 small spots left close on his face

Thank you to the many folks who helped Tommi save her "seahorse". It was a very costly business up to now and not quite over. Many thanks for the continuing prayers for Tommi and King. He is a fighter, and his girl will be there for him. Watch for updates on Tommi Grey's profile on Facebook.

Up-side: Last weekend Tommi saddled and bridled him with her vet's permission and joined a sunset ride here at Karma Farms. Our trail riders cheered and took pictures. Many had followed his ordeal on Facebook and were delighted to see that seemingly shattered horse now neighing and prancing with joy to be under saddle. He went for nearly 2 hours and Tommi couldn't stop smiling. You go, King. Can't keep a Corolla down!

Want a Farm and Ranch HOA membership, but haven't spent the extra \$5? With a F&R Membership, you can allow ANY HOA member to show your horses for points, not just family. HOA junior memberships are just \$5, so put your niece, neighbor, or student aboard and take that other great horse along. Now we are sweetening the deal. Get one free full page ad in the HORSE OF THE AMERICAS NEWS with every F&M membership from now until Dec. 31, 2023!!

Importance of a Registered Horse: A Story of One

Duv Cardenas; Limerock Ranch; Lone, California

In 2008, I did not have horses yet, but my husband and I had them in our youth and, after decades without them, were interested in getting some. I started taking Equine Science classes at a local Community College to expand my knowledge of horses and horsemanship prior to our getting horses again.

In the Spring 2010, my Equine Reproduction course instructor mentioned, in passing, the dun-colored wild horses in one of the BLM Herd Management Areas. I began to research them, and that led me to learn of the dun wild horses of the Sulphur Herd Management Area. Shortly thereafter, a Sulphur strain gelding was for sale on our local Craigslist and my husband and I went to see him. He was registered with the Sulphur Springs Horse Registry (SSHR), and while his purchase did not work out for us, had he not been registered, we would not have been aware that the registry existed.



That fall, we learned of some Sulphur mares near Seattle, Washington. Still interested in the Sulphur strain, we flew up to see them. The horse owner had various strains of Colonial Spanish horses, and had done some breeding. However, he did not believe in registering his stock. As we toured his ranch, we were walking past a pasture with geldings, and a pinto caught my husband's eye and he seemed focused on my husband. The seller said, "I hate that horse. If you buy

the [Sulphur] mares, you can have him."

As it turned out, this nine-year-old gelding had been purchased as a yearling from his original breeder. When he matured, he was turned out with mares for pasture breeding, and he sired some offspring. Unfortunately, this was not accompanied by any additional training, handling, or care beyond what he had received in his first year of life. At some point, he became unmanageable and aggressive, (thus his owner hating him) and he was gelded.



Even though he did not even lead well (he probably did as a baby, but had forgotten his manners), we saw something in him we liked. He was nice looking and had a charisma about him that was intriguing. We got him and two Sulphur mares and they were shipped from Washington to California. With them came their Coggins and Health Certificates for transport, and his registration paperwork. "Frederico de Dagoon" (aka, Freddie) had been registered with the Spanish Barb Horse Association (SBHA) as a foal before he went to Washington. Had he not been registered with the SBHA, we would not have been aware this registry existed, nor been able to learn anything of his lineage.

As we learned more and began to network, we also learned of the Horse of the Americas. We acquired some more horses and have done a little bit of breeding. Several of our horses are double and triple registered (some of ours also have curly-coat genetics, but that's another story), but we've settled on Horse of the Americas being the primary registry unifying them all.

Freddie has gone on to be a great saddle horse. He's trained in the traditional Californio manner, starting in a bosal, going to two-rein, and progressing to straight up in the bridle. He's been used for trail riding in the Sierra Nevada mountains, gathered cattle, been roped from, ponied other horses in training, and competed in Working Equitation. In 2020, he was the National High Point #1 Spanish Barb in the Working Equitation competitions.



Frederico de Dragoon, WC-83; HOA-2018; SBHA-G/444

And, if he'd not been registered, we'd never have known he was anything but an interesting, pinto horse. We'd never have known of the Wilbur-Cruce strain or their history. We'd never have known he was son of Padre Kino (HOA Winter 2022 newsletter, page 6). We'd never have known about Colonial Spanish Horses or the existing registries. We'd never have bred any stock to contribute to the breed.

All this started from stumbling upon this wonderful horse, Freddie, whose registration paperwork happened to come with him.



Freddie & Duv Cardenas working cattle

REGISTRAR'S REPORT—SEPTEMBER, 2022

by Gretchen Patterson, HOA Registrar

Registration of horses continues a steady upslope with fifty-one registrations to date. In 2000, HOA started our numbering system with #1000 and today, we are at #2368. This is our twenty-second year as a registry, but our tentative plans for a meeting in Virginia this summer with Mill Swamp Indian Horses in Smithfield as our host did not happen. Since then, the SARS-Covid-19 virus upended everyone's plans for the foreseeable future. Maybe 2023 will allow us to have the registry meeting. The Executive Committee added a poll to the Facebook group page which asks for opinions on a Zoom virtual meeting this fall. Be sure to check your preference.

One Dance Left & Gretchen Patterson



I encourage breeders to keep good records of their foals and offer a buyer a completed application when a sale occurs. Breeders are asked to complete a Stallion Report that will be due by December 31, 2022. The Colonial Spanish Horse is an antique breed now in the 21st century. Every Mustanger must realize the importance of recording the names and bloodlines of each horse for future generations. When selling a registered horse, please fill out a transfer form to go with the registration certificate. Stallion Report forms may be requested either in print or online format.

To make registration easier, HOA has payment by PayPal which is available through the website at: <https://horseoftheamericas.com> The online application can be emailed along with the registration photos. Please submit pictures in one of three formats: regular

photographs; digital scans on photographic paper or via email. I would like to stress that digital pictures must be printed on glossy paper. I cannot use pictures that are printed on regular copy paper.

If you send pictures via email, try to reduce the size to **1 mb** to **800 kb** and should be formatted and saved as a **.jpg, .png, or tiff**. Picture files saved as a .gif extension have been compressed and do not reproduce well.

All photos should be taken in open space, preferably in the morning or early afternoon. Pictures with lots of shadows do not scan well, and the horse's true color is difficult to reproduce. Trees or other busy landscape should be out of the background whenever possible. I require pictures of both sides as well as a front, a rear, and a good facial. If a horse has unusual white patterns on the head, a close-up photo is also needed.

For more information or assistance, please contact Gretchen Patterson, 502 N. Steen Drive, Nacogdoches, TX, 75965 or by email: gpatterson62@gmail.com. My telephone is 903-407-3260. You can also leave me a message on the HOA Facebook page.

LOOKING FOR THE NEW HOA BROCHURE OR OUR NEW AWARDS POINT KEEPING FORMS?

Gretchen Patterson has just added new printable forms now available right on our website. Go to the HOA website at: <http://www.horseoftheamericas.com> and mouse over to:

REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP. A pull-down menu will appear.

[HOA Brochure \(horseoftheamericas.com\)](http://www.horseoftheamericas.com)

[Horse of the Americas](#): Click on the link and go to: **HOA POINT KEEPING FORMS**; A pull-down menu will appear for the various .pdf downloadable forms.

Click on: **MORE**--the pull down menu for other HOA pages.

"THE CATTLEMAN'S FRIEND" by Gretchen Patterson

The utilization and domestication of the horse has been traced as far back as 8,000 B.C., and there is documented evidence that horses were used as a food source as early as 30,000 to 20,000 B.C., long before man sat astride this swift, powerful beast. The Greek philosopher Plato said that "a true creator is necessity which is the mother of our invention."¹ The saddle was a necessary implement for riding security and comfort, yet centuries of bareback riding passed before this horseman's tool came into existence. According to Glenn Vernam from his book, *Man on Horseback*, there are no records that delineate the origin of the saddle; if any such documents do exist, they are one of "the best-kept secrets of antiquity."² As the horse culture spread throughout the Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Persian, Greek, and Roman empires, the saddle evolved, starting with a simple cloth or pad tied with leather strings around the horse's mid-section. The oldest representation of a saddle was carved on a column dedicated to the Byzantine Roman emperor, Theodosius II, 440 A.D. in

Constantinople, now modern-day Istanbul³. As empires rose and fell, horses carried their riders into wars and unexplored lands. In 1492, instead of finding a faster, shorter passage to India by ship, Christopher Columbus discovered what would become the New World. On his second voyage in 1494, Columbus unloaded the first horses on the shores of the present-day Dominican Republic. Although these first horses did not survive, other voyagers brought more horses and other livestock to the Americas. By 1513, the expanding horse market was a valuable resource for the conquistadors needing horses as they marched northward into Mexico in search of glory, conquest, and gold for the Spanish crown. They were followed by the entrepreneurs and the colonizers who viewed the limitless grazing lands as the means to acquire property, wealth, and a new beginning. These early caballeros and vaqueros brought their war saddles, gear, and riding customs from Spain into Central, North, and South America to manage their livestock and

¹ Plato, *The Republic* (Athens, 360 BC), Book II.

² Glenn Vernam, *Man on Horseback* (New York: Harper & Row, 1964), 54-5.

³ Glenn Vernam, *Man on Horseback*, 55.

mount expeditions into the vast, unclaimed territories.

By the late 1600s, the basic stock saddle form was modified to include improved cinches, longer stirrup straps, lighter wooden stirrups, and saddlebags. "By the outset of the nineteenth century the saddle used by the horsemen of Mexico was founded upon a saddle-tree incorporating...the elements of design by which the western tree is distinguished even today."⁴ In the early 1800s, the Vaquero saddle evolved into the Santa Fe with a wooden, rawhide covered tree, saddle horn, single rigging in three-quarter position, and the mochila, a leather cover with holes for the horn and cantle and draped over the tree. By the 1860s, the Santa Fe was altered, becoming the Mother Hubbard saddle "which was an outgrowth of the saddle [where] the mochila was adhered permanently to the saddle-tree with saddle strings."⁵ After the Civil War, the Mother Hubbard was modified into the Texas Trail saddle that featured full double rigging, square skirts, and the back cinch as cowboys needed a solid, secure seat when chasing and roping wild Longhorn cattle or horses. From 1870-1899, jockeys and fenders, the decorative Cheyenne roll on the cantle, the steel horn, and saddle swells were added to the stock saddle. The fully covered, padded seat and the three-inch, lower back cantle appeared in 1900. From the 1900s through the 1950s, the western stock saddle acquired new features, such as the Blevins buckle which allows for the quick change of stirrup length, the quilted, padded seat, and different styles of stirrups, depending upon rider preference.

⁴ James S. Hutchins, "Western Saddles before the Cowboy," in *Man Made Mobile: Early Saddles of Western North America*, ed. Richard Ahlborn (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1980), 39.

⁵ Russell H. Beatie, *Saddles* (Norman: The University of Oklahoma Press, 1981), 57.

Civil War survivors returning to Texas found that the untended herds of cattle and horses had enjoyed a huge population explosion due to plentiful grazing and water across the wide-open Texas plains. "Northerners were clamoring for fresh beef. With many northern and Midwestern cattle herds decimated during the war...the beef supply was low."⁶ No Texas railroad yard existed in 1866 to accommodate the cattle industry and meet the huge demand for beef in the Eastern markets. Enterprising ranchers began sending herds of cattle north to either Sedalia, Missouri or Abilene, Kansas, thus inaugurating the trail drives that continued in Texas until 1885, when the Fort Worth Stockyard was established with a rail head expressly developed for Texas cattle. The cattle drives of the late 1800s required cowboys, horses, and gear that could manage all types of rough country and inclement weather while trailing a cattle herd several hundred miles to the mid-west shipping facilities. The cowboy, with his horse, saddle, and bedroll became a popular and romanticized figure as writers like Charles Siringo published inexpensive novels. These *dime novels* about cowboys entertained an avid American readership with stories from his own life experiences such as "*A Texas Cowboy* or *Fifteen Years on the Hurricane Deck of a Spanish Pony*."⁷ Mr. Siringo was a man of few possessions except for his saddles but kept no record of the style or saddle maker.

Saddle makers were successful at selling their products throughout the American West. These included the J. C. Higgins Company, Visalia Stock Saddle Company, which is still in business today, and the George H. Schoellkopf Company of Dallas Texas. George Schoellkopf

⁶ Eddie Weller, "The Cattle Frontier in Texas" in *The Texas Heritage*, 4th ed., ed. Ben Proctor and Archie P. McDonald (Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, Inc., 2003), 274.

⁷ Charles A. Siringo, *A Texas Cowboy, 1885* (1950; repr., Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1966), Front cover.

started his saddle business in 1869 using the trademark, “The Famous Jumbo Brand,” and produced quality saddles and horse equipment until 1970 when the company was acquired by the Tandy Leather Corporation. As a young man, George traveled extensively in Texas and Mexico buying wool and buffalo hides. He settled in Dallas, “impressed with the need for a saddlery and harness house in Texas to supply the needs of ranch hands...”⁸ The company’s success revolved around George’s high standard for quality goods and amiable customer service.

By 1875, the maker of Jumbo Brand saddles and leather products enjoyed a global market because clients “learned that they could buy these products with...the assurance that they would get full value for every dollar invested.”⁹ During an interview with Leana Rideout Westergaard, former secretary for the Spanish Mustang Registry, and collector of antique saddles and equine artifacts, she noted that the “Schoellkopf family employed some of the best Mexican craftsman this side of the Rio Grande, and they made saddles to last.”¹⁰ In 2003, Mrs. Westergaard offered a limited number of her collected antique saddles for sale including an eight string, 1902 Jumbo Brand cattleman’s stock saddle. She originally purchased the saddle in 1972 from a ranch dispersal sale out of Tyler, Texas, but was unable to locate any history of previous ownership. This author purchased the Jumbo to have an authentic saddle for frontier period equine re-enactment events. Due to the saddle’s former use as an everyday working ranch saddle, and after more than one hundred years of service, some minor repairs were made; however, the saddle has the original full double rigging, square leather skirts, jockeys, fenders, stirrup straps, horn cap, brass conchos, and the Jumbo Brand brass maker’s mark. Mr. Rick Sims of Leesville, Texas used the Jumbo saddle on Captain Walker, HOA-1326 and they won the

Adult Frontier Period Costume Reserve Championship class at the 2013 American Indian Horse and Horse of the Americas national show.

1902 Cattleman’s Western Stock Saddle
“The Jumbo”



From the first Spanish war saddles brought to the New World in 1494 by the conquistadors, to the present, the western stock saddle has evolved to meet the needs of the men and women who explored the continental United States on the back of a horse. The Spanish translation for saddle is *montar de silla* (mounted seat or chair.) From the earliest time when man first sat on a horse, saddle makers worked to perfect this piece of equine equipment that allows a rider to sit in comfort and security. Times have changed and cattle ranches prefer to use motorized transport vehicles today, yet the western stock saddle remains the cattleman’s friend whenever a modern cowboy needs a horse for work, pleasure, trail riding, or rodeo competition.

⁸ G. H. Schoellkopf, *General Catalog No. 25* (Dallas: The Johnston & Advertising Printing Co., 1924), 6. CD-ROM, <http://www.cabincreekcads.com> (accessed October 6, 2013).

⁹ G. H. Schoellkopf, *General Catalog No. 25*, 7.

¹⁰ Leana R. Westergaard, oral interview by author, Marshall, TX, September 28, 2013.



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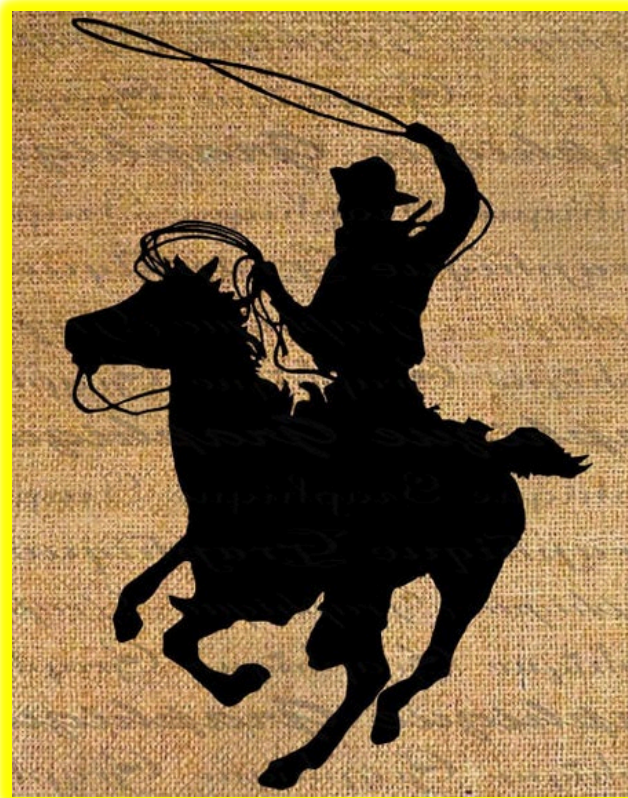
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Karma Farms presents **El Condor Pasa** 2021

HOA Sport Horse of the Year

"Condor" is not jumping in this 1st shot. He is doing his regular job, taking a guest rider who has never ridden him before. Folks come here to trail ride and he makes them happy. Calm but quick, smooth but ready, he is a great example of what we breed. We have been raising Colonial Spanish Horses here since 1973. We have won national awards in speed events, competitive trail, halter, performance but this is our first English performance award.



So thanks to Cynthia Ojeda and her English students who won this National award for our beloved Belsky bred gelding. Below see Dalilah Harris riding in one of her first shows aboard Condor. She was only 9 then, but she was already doing great things. Dalilah is just one of the young riders who helped Condor to this award. Cynthia also showed him in every show we attended last year, picking up so many points that she rivaled the total of all the youth that rode him. He often performed under 3 riders a show.

Condor's son **SMOKE AND MIRRORS**, an appaloosa out of the Belsky bred mare Phantom's Fancy Lady, is making a fine eventer. He shares his sire's abilities and temperament. Fee: \$350 for 2023. Come meet them both or call for more info.

Karma Farms
7925 U.S. Hwy. 59 N.
Marshall, Texas 75670
(903) 903-407-0298



Horses Read Us Like A Book (and Remember!)

by Kelly Anders – Tyner, NC

Empathetic horse people are often accused of anthropomorphic tendencies, but we arguably just don't understand how intelligent horses are. According to a study conducted by the University of Sussex, horses can recognize the difference between dominant and submissive body postures in people, even when the humans are unfamiliar to them.



Photo: Clever Hans performing in 1904; Source: Karl Krall, Denkende Tiere, Leipzig 1912.

The findings add to our understanding of how animals communicate across species-based boundaries using body position, and they're especially useful for horse handlers and trainers learning how horses interpret human body language.

Thirty domestic horses were used by equine scientists to investigate if they were more willing to approach someone with a dominant body stance, or submissive. This involved a person standing in either a dominant or subservient posture. Dominant postures included straight backs, arms and legs apart, chest inflated. Slouching, keeping arms and legs close to the body, and bowed knees were all examples of subservient body language.

The horses were substantially more inclined to approach the people demonstrating a submissive rather than a dominant posture in follow-up trials, even though they had previously been offered food rewards by each person when in a neutral body posture.

Horses are generally regarded to be skilled at reading human body language based on anecdotal evidence such as the "Clever Hans" effect. However, there has been little peer-reviewed study to back this up. These findings raise intriguing issues concerning cross-species communication's adaptability.

Clever Hans was a German horse in the early 1900s, rumoured to be capable of performing mathematics and other mental activities. Following a formal inquiry in 1907, psychologist Oskar Pfungst uncovered a flaw in their research approach that proved the horse was not truly executing these mental activities but was instead watching his trainer's reactions. The horse was reacting to involuntary cues in the body language of the human trainer, who was completely ignorant that he was giving them. The correlation has

subsequently been referred to as the Clever Hans effect in honour of Pfungst's study, and it has remained crucial knowledge in the observer-expectancy effect and later investigations in animal behavioural sciences.

Evolutionarily speaking, animals — including humans — prefer to adopt greater postures to suggest dominance, or threat, and smaller postures to indicate submissiveness. As a result, there is a theory that horses may have an intuitive sense of large, dominant, and smaller, submissive postures. It would make sense for this to be important when making instinctive fight or flight decisions.

The Scientific American also published a study in 2020 that indicates horses can indeed recognize specific faces. Most horse folks have known the joy of a horse that enthusiastically whinnies for them. Any barn owner can verify that horses absolutely identify veterinarian shaped vehicles. Ethologist Léa Lansade of the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food, and Environment experimented to discover how well horses might be able to recognize specific individuals in photos.

By tapping their noses to a computer screen, she and her colleagues taught the horses how to “select” between two side-by-side images. The horses were then given photographs of their current caretaker, as well as photographs of strangers. They had never seen any of the random people's images before. About 75% of the time, the horses correctly identified their present caretaker and ignored the stranger's face, which is much better than chance statistically. Even more interesting, the horses preferred photographs of their prior keeper, whom they hadn't seen in six months. In fact, while the horses didn't always get it right, they were just as good at recognizing their past keeper as they were at recognizing their current one.

In my personal experience, horses can and do recognize those that have an impact on them. One of our boarders has a beautiful mare that is polite enough, but the second her mom's car comes down the driveway she's all ears up and deep nickers. I am absolutely in the camp that we don't give horses enough credit for their emotional intelligence.

Feel free to join us on Facebook at Horse Training Talk: Commonsense Horsemanship.
blueravenfarmswrites@gmail.com * IG and FB: Blue Raven Farms *#commonsensehorsemanship

Awards and Lido's Fund: Help with an HOA Fundraiser

All our Year End Winners are featured here. Hopefully we will get some of their stories for the next Newsletter, written by those who compete with them, but we really want to do more for them. Look at our Treasurer's Report in this issue. We can barely cover the costs to produce and mail the papers, and cover office expenses, website, advertising in *The Livestock Conservancy* publications and incidentals like travel, corporate fees, etc. Our dedicated registrar is owed for supplies she has purchased and fees she has paid, and we are paying Gretchen back. We want to: **1) Do plaques for wins in our awards program except for our annual Horse of the Year Awards for which we would like to buy trophy logo buckles. 2) Increase our presence in other horse magazines. 3) Pay costs for an in-person Annual Meeting (when it is safe).**

My auction idea has not worked. No one had time arrange it plus VERY little was donated to auction (but THANKS if you offered). No one wanted to handle shipping. So...we are going to produce a new HOA T-shirt printed front and back with our lovely logo plus a new design for the other side.

Now we WANT to hear YOUR ideas! What else can we do? Email karmafarms@yahoo.com with funding ideas. Love to see your design for back of our new t-shirts too. Free shirt to winner!!

In honor of 2021 Reserve Champion Pleasure Trail Horse: **CH Long Knife #2193, Mill Swamp Indian Horses:**



REMEMBERING LONG KNIFE

by Curie Thomas

Sometimes, an animal can be your best friend—Long Knife was certainly mine. If you asked people to describe Long Knife, many would say “angry”. Sure, she liked to pin her ears a lot, and she’d buck you off if she didn’t like you, but she was so much more than just angry. Compassionate, goofy, loving, talented, and smart are just a few of the words that come to my mind when I think of my Long Knife. When I was sad, she comforted me without being able to communicate with words. When I was happy, she played with me. If I was upset, she would try to calm me down. In short, she was my best friend.

I’ve never felt more loved and happier than when I was around Long Knife, even though she couldn’t say the words “I love you”. Just seeing her made my day and filled me with joy. I also trusted her more than anything—I knew that no matter what, she would take care of me. I felt completely safe riding her with no bridle in open fields, galloping with no hands, standing by her side and giving her

the command to rear, or laying by her in the pasture. I always knew that no matter what she’d never hurt me on purpose.

I never knew the true pain of losing a best friend until I lost Long Knife. The heart wrenching feeling of watching my best friend's life slowly come to an end and knowing there was nothing I could do about it is a feeling I’ll never forget. I remember saying “I love you” as she took her last breath, knowing that nothing would ever be the same, but that I’d also love her forever.



The summer has seen HOA more solvent than we've been in a while. As of the writing of this report on 8/31/2022, the registry has \$1,148.14 available in our account and after a deposit from today is no longer pending, our balance will be \$1,162.13. And while this seems like a fine amount to keep the registry operational, we are not exactly out of the red yet.

*TREASURER'S
REPORT*
by Tomlyn Grey, HOA
Treasurer

When I took over the office of Treasurer of the Horse of the Americas Registry in November of 2021, there was less than \$1000 belonging to the registry and no paper trail. This was due to the first treasurer having passed away a few years ago and not being properly replaced by registry government at the time. With a great deal of help from the corporate members of HOA, especially Gretchen Patterson, we moved the registry funds to a new, easier to access bank. Both myself and Registrar Gretchen have access to this account (unlike the previous account) so that if something should happen to me or if I should resign – or vice versa – another person can be added to the account and funds shall always remain accessible and tracked by more than one person. This includes incoming **and** outgoing.

With that said, virtually all of HOA's income comes from memberships and registrations. While this is expected, 2022 has been a year of new beginnings for the registry – and lots of fees. Our website was updated and switched to a new provider, for instance. Fees that should have been seen to while we had no treasurer were also taken care of. Most of these were large chunks that were either one-time fees or will be much smaller next year. However, we have had financial assistance to cover many of these costs from certain individuals to make sure we continued to have operating funds in the bank.

This brings us to the 2022 awards and future funds. For this year, awards have been given out in the form of certificates. While HOA has been known to give much more ornate awards in the past, this year we wanted our members and recipients to know that we value them and their achievements– but for one year, we needed to save funds so that next year we can go back to something a bit more stylish.

We are also want to restart something HOA was very proud to host once upon a time: *Lido's Fund*. This fund was once used to help Colonial Spanish Horses in need, be it an owner unable to afford hay or a horse trapped in a kill pen. This was a special, donatable fund (501(c) (3) to which anyone with an HOA registered horse could apply. The fund had its own committee and was named after Steve



Edwards of Mill Swamp's brother, Lido.

To help achieve this and other goals, HOA will need to bring in more than just registrations, transfers, and memberships. It is the intention of the Executive Committee to have a fundraiser. What kind is still being determined and a poll is being held on the HOA Facebook page. We highly encourage everyone who would be interested to take part. Options right now include t-shirt sales and online auctions, but we are open to all ideas.

Have a fabulous Autumn!