

# HORSE OF THE AMERICAS

SPRING 2023 | VOLUME 20, ISSUE NO. 2

## NEWSLETTER



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EL CONDOR PASA OF KARMA FARMS





## From the **HURRICANE DECK:**

by Vickie Ives, HOA President

### **This Isn't *That* Kind of Horse**

The Horse of the Americas Registry is grateful for all our new members and also for our members who have chosen us to record their Colonial Spanish Horses with us for years. We are grateful to be able to help our members to preserve and protect America's First Horse for hopefully many years to come. As we hear of older breeders selling out or their families selling their horses

after their demise, we are disturbed that they had not made provisions for their CS Horses to be passed on to other existing breeders or to new breeders who have not been able to acquire good breeding stock.

I wonder how many of the horses of older breeders have been dumped at auctions by whomever inherited them and had no idea of how important the preservation of those horses really was to the survival of the entire historic breed. Before COVID19, estimates from various sources placed their numbers at 3000 to 3500 including all that are registered with the various registries that record them. More recent estimates are now usually around 2000 to 2500. If this count is anywhere close to the actual number remaining, the preservation of these remaining horses is now critical to maintain genetic diversity. How do we stop the vanishing of our breed as our older conservators vanish from the breeding of CS Horses and continue to take their breeding herds with them by not making provisions for them to be? How do we get an accurate count of living CS Horses (also known as Spanish Mustangs or Spanish Barbs) with several registries recording them? What can each of us do to help keep the conservation of the CS Horse successful in growing the number of quality, typey Colonial Spanish Horses? Too many of our breeders do not know how to select for our best, refusing to learn what these antique horses are *supposed* to look like and purposely using horses with conformation which favors modern types rather than the true Spanish Mustangs. These are the poorer ones, not the best of our antique breed.

Recently we received a letter suggesting that we were not taking proper care of our horses because "Their hip bones stand up", and "Their necks are too thin" and even "You can see their ribs." Folks, that is what Colonial Spanish Horses are SUPPOSED to look like. Their hip bones should always stand up higher than the hip muscling. Their necks are rarely thick AT ALL except for some of the Heavy or Northern types such as are mostly found in much colder parts of the US than Texas. These store fat in their crest to help survive the long Northern winters. In stallions having a somewhat heavier neck helps prevent damage to their naturally finer necks and spines in stallion battles.





In the heat of summer these horses slow down on consumption of grain, alfalfa and other high protein feeds by themselves to be able to handle the summer temperatures without risking colic or even founder if they are grazing in the sun or working on a high humidity day. When looking at a Spanish Mustang from behind, the long, extremely sloping hip with prominent hip bones is obvious and allows them to take a longer, ground-covering stride so that they go further with less steps, often walking and trotting much faster than moderns. The storage of fat that produces those thick, cresty necks seen on many breeds simply does not happen unless they are OVERFED, and is not healthy for them, often causing damage that can be life-threatening if it continues long enough. If those ribs that this letter writer is referring to are the last pair closest to the flank, these are often visible in highly conditioned horses that are ready for work in 90 degree and above temperatures. Be assured that we will be glad to put our money where our mouth is by racing your fat-hipped, thick-necked, roly-poly modern horses over a 15-20 mile course in our Texas summer and see whose horse gets in with the best condition. These are THE very horses that ran the Pony Express and drove the Longhorns from Texas to Kansas and beyond. They are NOT bred to modern standards; they are bred to perform as they did generations ago, not show in a “can you tell fat from muscle?” halter class or a “how slow can you go?” western pleasure class. In short, they are not SUPPOSED to look like your modern horse.

We strongly suggest that owners of Spanish Mustangs read the breed standards of our registries and the writings of our founders like Robert and Emmett Brislawn, Gilbert Jones, Robert Painter, or even the novelists like Zane Grey and Will James that lived in or near the time of the Old West and wrote about their stock horses and the Indian Ponies of that period. You really need to know WHY your CH Horse looks as it does before you ruin them listening to folks like the writer of the letter quoted above. In fact, if you are the person who wrote me or someone like that, it surely would not hurt you to do some reading yourself before you criticize an ancient breed about which you know nothing, a breed which helped settle this continent with your ancestors.

Don't let modern horse folks make you hang your head because your CS Horse doesn't look like their modern. Until then next time we meet, preserve, protect and DEFEND.

*Hoka hey, Mustangers!*

**Promote YOUR  
Legendary Colonial  
Spanish Horse with this  
T-shirt. Printed by Custom  
Ink; art by Karma Farms.  
T-shirt: \$27.50, sales tax:  
\$1.72. Please send size.  
Total=\$29.22 Send  
address and contact info,  
and I will call with total.  
Pick up at Karma Farms! No  
shipping! Phone: (903) 407-0298  
Email: [karmafarms@yahoo.com](mailto:karmafarms@yahoo.com).**





# A MARSH TACKY DREAM

Welp. We finally did it! Honey and I completed our first 50 mile endurance ride and had the best time. It may have taken us alot longer than planned but we got it done. When I first went to buy a Carolina Marsh Tacky in 2018 I was looking for an older seasoned gelding. I walked out with a pregnant green broke 3 year old filly.

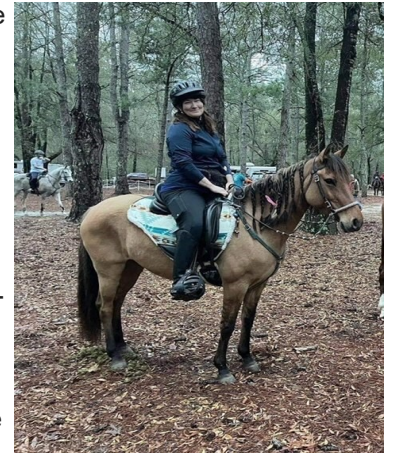
We took training slowly and all alone as we had moved to Georgia and knew no one around, and did our first LD in 2021 at the Lizard Run at Lee State Park in South Carolina and she blew me away with her motor and skills through the mud and trees. We rode in a western saddle and jeans. Ms Anita Rees guided me through that ride and I was so grateful for her guidance and now friendship.



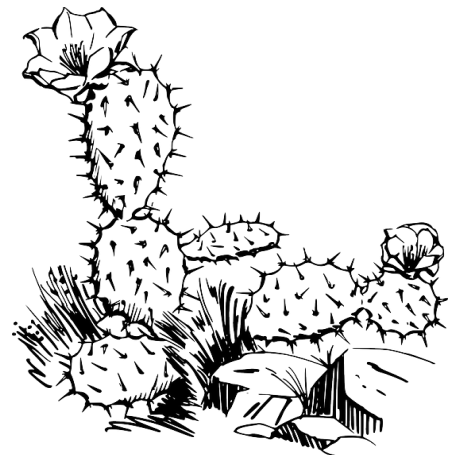
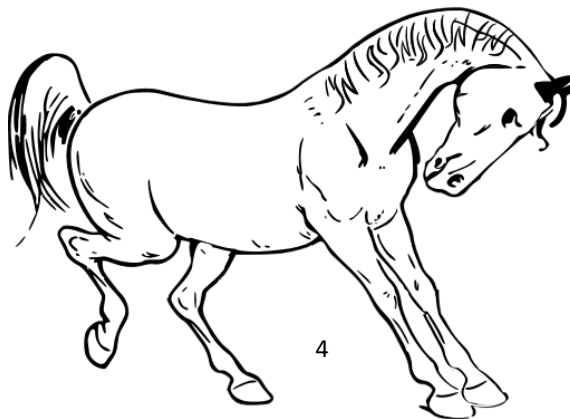
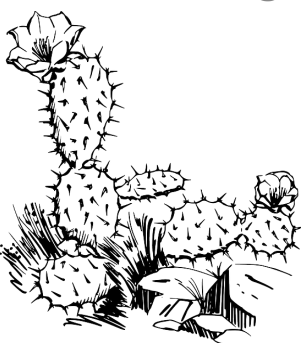
We planned to do our first 50 at the same ride in honor of her breed heritage. The swamp is where these horse excel at and feel most at home and I knew she would do good in it. In 2022 we missed the ride. I had a nagging voice in my head that said to not go so we skipped out but became determined to make this years ride I started going to the gym 4-5 day a week, lost 32 pounds, found mentors to train under ( terry and Tara Wyatt) ( they are the freaking best people ever) and listened to everything they had to say. Changed saddles 3 months out which was a struggle. I had never rode English in my life and only rode in western gear so going to a dressage saddle and riding breeches made me cry every ride. I started being serious in my weekly riding lessons and tackled the saddle change and got comfortable with it. It rained all night Friday night and I couldn't sleep because of constant anxiety attacks. Kayla's border collie laid on my chest all night trying to comfort me. Saturday am the rain had stopped and we rode up the start line. She was one of the smallest in the 50 at 14hands and 770 pounds and not an Arabian or large gaited horse. Feeling intimidated is an understatement, and I was questioning my decision to try this with her. She stood like a stone while others pranced around waiting on the signal to go.

That's all I remember of the first 20 miles. That little mare took off like lightning and gave me the ride of my life. She just kept getting stronger and faster each mile. Heart rate pulsed down to low forties as we came in and chowed down on her food.. Second loop was calmer and she was steady as a rock, even as the neighboring hunt club shot off a hail storm of bullets seemingly over our heads. Honey wasn't happy about getting saddled a third time and I was so grateful for Jessie Duffie and her mare Roxie. They helped with morale and we leap frogged leading to keep the mares motivated to go, Even when honey tried to dip through the woods and take a short cut back to camp a few times. I ain't gonna lie the last 5 miles was tough for me. I was lagging physically and mentally but we somehow powered through with the last loop being our fastest. When the horses knew we were a mile out, there was no slowing her down. She came in with a 46 Hr and all As at the end of the ride. Ride time of 6 hours and 55 minutes and came in at 26th place of forty something. I think it was Bruce Weary who said some thing about it's not a win until the next day so I watched her like a hawk. But when I took her out for a walk about at 6am, she pranced around like she was ready to go again, zero soreness and very hungry. After our 4 hour ride home she got out the trailer and immediately bullied the other horses at home and I knew she was fine. More than fine really, all week she seems to have gotten bigger and stronger looking and you wouldnt even be able to tell she did anything. So I think we did alright.

Oh, and LL175Tipsy aka Honey became the first registered Carolina Marsh Tacky mare to complete a 50 mile endurance ride.



-Ginger Hipp

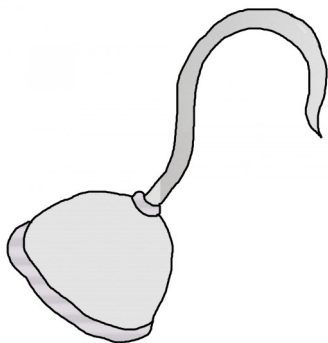




# Captain Hook

## The Adventures of

Captain Hook is a small red pony with a heart the size of a pirate ship. To tell you MY portion of his story I will have to take you back in time a ways and tell you about the beginning of HIS story and how I came to know this quiet little friend of mine. Captain Hook was born right next door to me in a place many horses call home and I call heaven. You may know the place by its more formal name... Karma Farms. Hook (as he is more affectionately known) is a very special horse. I know, I know, they are all special but Hook is the perfect mix of two very special, almost extinct, rare strains. His Dam is CWH Adam's Eve a Corolla Banker horse straight from Currituck Island, North Carolina. His sire is Scoundrel Days a Grand Canyon who resides at Mill Swamp and has gone on to sire several more wonderful foals. Adam's Eve still resides at Karma Farms and Hook is the spitting image of her. They both bare a blaze that hooks severely into their nostril. With Eve's lineage and the sharp turn of both Hook and Eve's blaze the name Captain Hook really suits the little guy. He was named by none other than Vickie Ives. The wonderful and welcoming woman whom I owe so much...including my ownership of this superior Colonial Spanish. From a distance, one can easily be mistaken for



the other. Especially when the grass is tall and covering Eve's tell tale half sock....





Hook has a tell tale trait of his own that I personally can't get enough of. Even now I am giggling while typing this. When relaxed Hook has a very pouty lip. Something I am actually quite fond of in horses because I am goofy and I like wiggling it. When trotting Hook has a lip that flaps in the wind the way a bird flaps his wings to fly; something many would scoff at I assume but I adore it. Although born at Karma Farms Hook hasn't lived here all of his life. When he was a yearling he went to live with American Indian Horse Registry President Nanci Falley at Rancho San Francisco in Lockhart, Texas. He stayed with her until recently when he was sent home to work and work he shall. Though still very green, Cynthia Ojeda had gotten on Hook a time or two and had even thrown one of her youngest lesson students on him and his quiet personality shone through even then.

Prior to acquiring Hook I had my sights set on a young stallion prospect that Karma Farms and I would share but alas that was not to be so Vik and Cyn got their heads together and came up with the idea to offer Hook to me and I am forever grateful. Hook is currently being broken by myself and my very determined 13 year old bonus daughter Presley. Don't tell her this but I think Hook prefers her over me ha-ha. Once Hook is well established under saddle Hook will be joining the Dude String at Karma Farms and Presley wants to attempt putting him over jumps...he just might do it for her. Time will tell. If I know one thing I know he will make a great kids horse with his quiet understanding nature he is sure to take care of even the littlest riders. I cannot wait to put my own son up there on him and my son cannot wait either. He loves feeding Captain Hook and calling to him while he is out in the pasture with his herd. I can tell they will be lifelong friends. There is something so very special about him. I am beyond blessed to live where I do and to be able to raise my kids in the shadow of Karma Farms. If any of us can grow to be a fraction of the wonderful awe-inspiring Vickie Ives that would be a dream come true. More adventures with my Colonial Spanish are to come so stay tuned but for now

Adios!

## Danielle Mauldin





# GROWING UP WITH HORSES

STEVE EDWARDS



Mill Swamp Indian Horses, in Smithfield, Virginia has long worked to use horses to help people live full and meaningful lives. For over seven years we have conducted weekly sessions, (weather and the pandemic permitting) for those who were being treated in patient in the PTSD program at the local Veterans Hospital. Though not a therapy riding program, we have kept our door open to those who would benefit from coming in.

Last summer we began a new program aimed at helping young people get through life in a post pandemic, world of social media and social isolation. If you have not noticed, things are bad out there for young people in terms of mental health hospitalizations, suicidal ideation, relationship development, and loss of confidence and motivation. Rates of metabolic disorder, obesity, and type two diabetes among teens paint a bleak view of the future of too many young people.

Three times a year we hold series of sessions for young people that teach what the horse has to offer in regards to physical and emotional health. We show how important communication is in keeping prey animals alive. The horse is tuned into the emotions of the herd. We can learn to become more empathetic as we learn to emulate the horse. The horse is tuned into everything going on around him. We can learn to be more focused and in tune with the present situation as we learn to emulate the horse. The horse can learn to put its fears aside as it is worked through thoughtful desensitization techniques. We can learn to get out of our comfort zone and take on new challenges as we learn to emulate the horse. The horse gains, and gives, trust by responding to perfectly consistent signals and behaviors. We can learn both to trust and to gain the trust of others as we learn to emulate the horse.

These sessions use the horse as an entrée to self understanding and the next step is a detailed introduction to what modern science can teach us about the workings of the human mind. These lessons go into great detail concerning the roles of nutrition, exercise, sleep, and the benefits of hormetic stressors in combating anxiety, depression and social isolation. We explain the risks of social media and its possible effect on dopamine levels.



The sessions constantly stress that what we present does not seek to provide the ultimate answers to all of the problems that young people face. Instead, the sessions are designed to both give a framework to begin self understanding and to introduce young people to the ever growing field of research on physical and emotional health. We encourage young people to open themselves up to counseling and professional guidance whenever such Assistance is warranted.

When I am not in the horse lot I am the deputy prosecutor for Isle of Wight County, Virginia. For nearly 25 years I have prosecuted crimes against children and sexual assault cases. That role gives me a different perspective on the darkness of the lives of many kids. I also see how much more widespread this darkness is than do most people. My office and our round pen give me rare opportunities to bring light into some of that darkness.

We are always happy to have guests come in for a three day weekend and learn about our program with an eye towards developing programs like ours all over the country. Of course, there is no charge for such visits.

If you would like to come out and learn more about how to use your horses to transform the lives of young people in your area contact me at [msindianhorses@aol.com](mailto:msindianhorses@aol.com)

Steve Edwards







2022

# Horse of the Americas Riding Awards

July 10, 2023

*Thank you to all the riders who kept and turned in point forms.\**

## **LEGENDS (500 Cumulative Points)**

Colonial Dream & Kendra Chavez

Copper Concha & Becca Pizmoht

## **CAROL STONE AMBASSADOR**

LR Painted Wind Warrior (Jubi) & Stephanie Hayes (Owner: Valerie Carter)

## **HIGH POINT RIDING AWARDS**

### **English Performance:**

Copper Concha with Becca Pizmoht

Raggedy Ann and Pamela Landskroener

**Western Performance:** Copper Concha, Becca Pizmoht

**Farm & Ranch Performance:** Colonial Dream & Kendra Chavez

**Driving Performance (Pleasure & Competitive):** Dakota Krome & Su Zi

**Endurance Racing:** Burn The Ships (Rosa) & Samantha Shoemaker

**Trail Riding (Individual):** Burn The Ships (Rosa) & Samantha Shoemaker

**Trail Riding (Group):** Mill Swamp Indian Horses & Steve Edwards

**Working Equitation:** LR Painted Wind Warrior (Jubi) &  
Stephanie Hayes

## **BUCKAROO AWARDS**

Olivia Brown

Eliana Frank





# Registrar's Report: July 2023



HOA Members and Family: Since my last report, my life was turned topsy-turvy with the loss of my main job and the subsequent resignation as a history professor at Stephen F. Austin State University. I had three weeks to pack and move which I accomplished with the help of some good friends and my family. I am residing currently in San Antonio, Texas but will be transferring to San Marcos, Texas at the end of July. Thank you to everyone who wrote or called with their love and support over the last three months.

The registrar's office is open and my permanent address will remain at: **G. L. Patterson, HOA Registrar, 14750 Hillside Ridge, San Antonio, Texas, 78233**. I will collect my mail on a regular basis from this address.

Now that it is high summer, if you've been waiting to get those young horses registered, this is a great time to take those registration photos. HOA requires the left and right sides, the front, the rear, and a good facial photograph. I prefer digital pictures, but regular prints are fine as well. Photos of your horse are printed on the certificate for easy identification purposes. With that in mind, please remember:

- 1) Pose the horse so that you are taking the picture with the sun behind you and no shadows to block the horse's conformation.
- 2) When shooting the left and right sides, point your camera or phone at the ribcage. Be sure to frame from the top of the ears to the bottom of the hooves.
- 3) Try not to take pictures looking up or down at the horse as this will distort their actual conformation.
- 4) Overcast days are better than bright sunlight—again with the sun behind your back.
- 5) Unusual face markings may require an up-close photograph.

Registration fees may be paid via the website links at: <https://horseoftheamericas.com>

My email address is: [glpatterson62@gmail.com](mailto:glpatterson62@gmail.com)



# REGISTRATION & TRANSFER FEES

WEANLINGS REGISTRATION: \$15.00

YEARLINGS REGISTRATION: \$20.00

OVER 2YRS REGISTRATION: \$30.00

TRANSFER: \$10.00

TRANSFER WITH NEW CERTIFICATE: \$20.00

## INTERNATIONAL FEES

WEANLINGS REGISTRATION: \$20.00

YEARLINGS REGISTRATION: \$25.00

OVER 2YRS REGISTRATION: \$35.00



## HOA Members & Horses



**Dakota Krome & Su Zi**  
*The Grand Oaks Classic; Weirsdale, Florida*



**Toby Lerone & William Barnes**  
Yorkshire, United Kingdom



**Walk This Way & Caleb Jensen; Elmo, Utah**



**Vindicated Vision & Connor** have a talk; Michigan

## THANK YOU TO OUR BUCKLE SPONSORS!

If you are interested in purchasing a Trophy Buckle Sponsorship to be used for future awards, they are available for \$75 each (plus an extra \$25 if you'd like your name/farm or ranch name engraved on the back of the buckle), Contact Gretchen Patterson to purchase.





## The Spanish Mustang Horse by Susan Catt; 2023

In the wilds of the west,  
Where the rugged terrain tests  
The strength of those who roam,  
The Spanish Mustang calls it home.

A breed of hardy stock,  
Whose lineage goes back  
To the days of old,  
When explorers' tales were told.

With strength and agility,  
This horse navigates skillfully  
Through canyons and over hills,  
Its spirit fierce, yet still.

A chestnut coat or jet-black mane,  
A symbol of its untamed domain,  
These horses run free and strong,  
Their wild hearts beating like a song.

For those who seek a faithful friend,  
A loyal steed on whom to depend,  
The Spanish Mustang will stand true,  
A partner who will see you through.

So let us honor this noble breed,  
Whose legacy we must heed,  
And strive to preserve their majesty,  
The Spanish Mustang, forever free.



## HOLD YOUR HORSES!

We will be adding a new award category  
for 2023:

Working Equitation Horse of the Year

## ADVERTISEMENT

### Ever seen a Colonial Spanish Horse on the cover of a poetry collection?

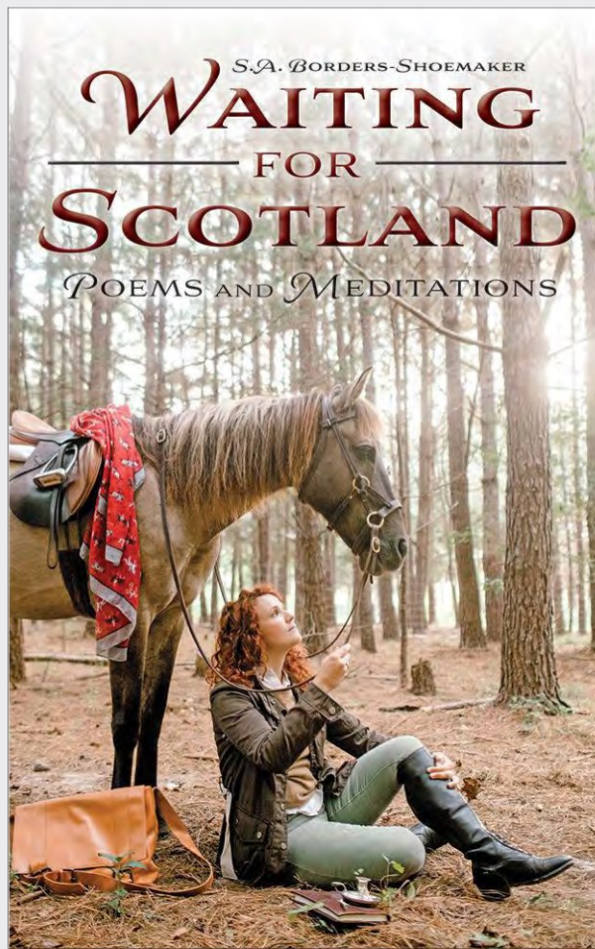
### You have now!

I'd like to share with you my upcoming poetry collection,  
which features my HOA-registered Colonial Spanish Horse  
Rosa on the cover and throughout the book.

*Waiting for Scotland* by S.A. Borders-Shoemaker  
is available for pre-order at [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org) and  
can be found by following the provided QR  
code. Your support through a pre-order or  
spreading the word would mean the world to me.



Thanks in advance for your kindness.





# ADS WANTED!!

HORSE OF THE AMERICAS  
NEWSLETTER WANTS YOUR ADS!  
HAVE AN EQUINE RELATED BUSINESS? POST AN  
AD IN OUR NEWSLETTER! CONTACT US TODAY  
TO GET YOUR AD INTO OUR NEXT ISSUE



**Advertising Rates**  
**Full Page = \$ 30.00**

**1/2 Page = \$ 15.00**

**1/4 Page = \$ 7.50**

**1/8 Page = \$ 5.00 (Business Card)**





# STICKERS FOR SALE



**Window stickers and bumper stickers available!**

**Purchase on our website**

**<https://horseoftheamericas.com/hoa-stickers>**



# HOA HORSES FOR SALE?

Do you have an HOA horse up  
for sale?

Contact [mickeypliakos@hotmail.com](mailto:mickeypliakos@hotmail.com) about  
posting them on our website!





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**REGISTRAR-**

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR–**

**DANIELLE MAULDIN|MARSHALL, TX|DANIELLERMAULDIN@GMAIL.COM**

**WEBSITE CONSULTANT-**

**DAVID JUSTIN|MARSHALL, TX|DJUSTIN@TEKIS.COM**

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**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES-**

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