

Master's Painted Kid Ryan

We are proud to announce that Master's Painted Kid Ryan has achieved his Hall of Fame in Foundation Halter.

We wish to thank Jim Curry for finding Kid and not purchasing him. Shirlee Busbee for recommending we purchase Kid. Sharon Housley and Carole Ann Ford for keeping the standards up and making this Hall of Fame mean something by providing fantastic competition.

Thanks to Chris Carringello for being #1 in the Kid fan club.



Master's Painted Kid Ryan is ASPC Foundation Certified, AMHR and PtHA registered. He is a DNA tested homozygous pinto stallion. He is standing at public stud to approved mares. Foals by Master's Painted Kid Ryan are available for purchase.



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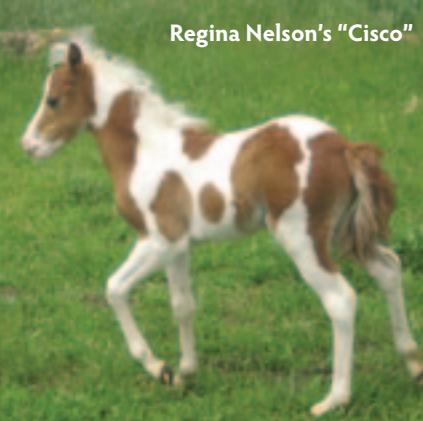
AREA VII

Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Association, Inc.

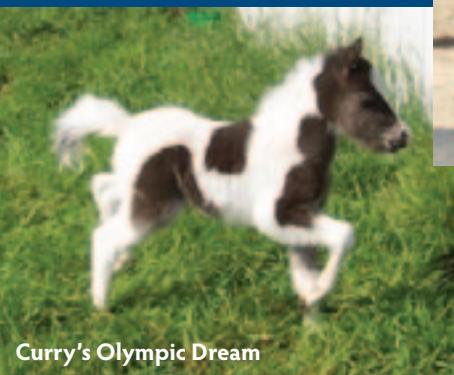
Summer 2010 • July, August, September



Linda & Pat Anastasio's "Three Amigos"



Regina Nelson's "Cisco"



Curry's Olympic Dream



Fog Ranch's Royal Coachman

SUMMER 2010 • IN THIS ISSUE

News from Our Area VII Roving Reporter

- American Scurry Challenge • Out of the Comfort Zone • Wistful Adieu • Ranch News • Member News • And More!

Beloveds Oh So Noble

AMHA/AMHR

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Beloveds Farm – Lady Lake, Florida**

Nobly adding June 2010 wins

to his already impressive show record:

- **AMHA Red Bluff Country Pleasure Driving Champion and Reserve Champion**
- **VSMHC Sr. Champion Stallion, Grand Champion Stallion, Champion of Champions, Country Pleasure Driving Stake Champion both judges–AMHR under**
- **Area VII National Area Show Sr. Champion Stallion, Grand Champion Stallion, Country Pleasure Driving Stake Champion**

Sire: Beloveds Oh My God Creation
Dam: Grosshills Stardust

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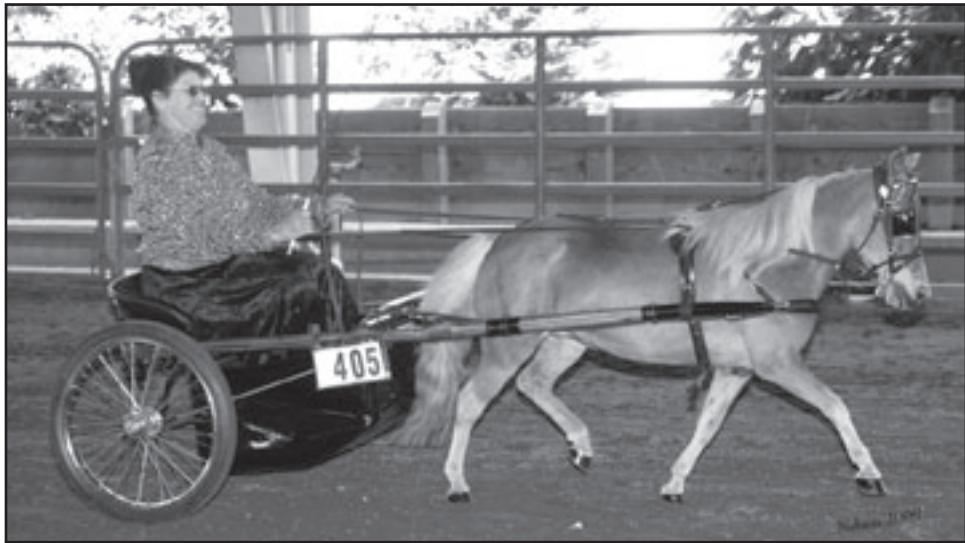
Area VII Shetland Pony & Miniature Horse Assoc., Inc.

23500 Dustin Road, Acampo, CA 95220

Area VII Web site: <http://www.areaviiclub.com/>

MiniV Escapade Slip of Lightning

AMHA/AMHR Mare • Foaled April 2001 • 33"



Slip has been shown in Country Pleasure Driving and has placed Top 3. At AMHR shows she places 1st. Slip loves kids, is a great jumper, and has been started in obstacle driving. She would make a wonderful Amateur/ Youth driving horse. She has also been in several parades. Asking \$4,500.

Sire: Alamos Locomotions Bay Escapade

(Little Kings Locomotion X French Broad Bay Dancer)

30" National Reserve Champion in Single Pleasure Driving Futurity.

Dam: Tatoos Lady Slipper

(Tanyas Little Tatoo X Anns Jewell)

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President's Report

2010 President Jim Curry

Hello everyone!

As usual at this time of year, everyone has been busy and the time has flown by.

Nancy Turner organized a drive at Woodard Reservoir in Oakdale the first weekend of May. Those who were able to attend reported having a very enjoyable time. This was the second of our planned activities for the year, the first being our schooling show at Ranchotel Horse Center on March 28. Nancy and her committee have worked hard to meet the clubs' desires.

Our third proposed event this year is a point show scheduled for October 23-24. We need input from our board and individual members as to whether this show will be supported if it takes place. Please contact Nancy as soon as possible with your wishes, as this type of thing requires a great deal of preparation. We *need* to know if the members will support a show and if they will attend if one is scheduled.

Despite the efforts of the hard-working members of the Valley Sierra Miniature Horse Club, their June Jamboree show at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth was poorly attended. They did offer all of the classes required to enable them to host the Area VII National show in 2011. They have applied to host the National show in the past, and are scheduled to do so again next year if they desire.

On the other side of things, the 2010 Area VII National show, which is hosted for the first time by the Pacific Coast Miniature Horse Club, has over 120 pre-entries. This is a marked increase over the number of entries the Area National has had for several years. This is a welcome change, as it has been the pony entries that have basically supported this show for several years.

Sadly, we are losing one of our most active and supportive members in Area VII. Sweet Opal Shetlands has sold their property in California and are in the process of moving to Missouri. Their entries will be missed at our shows, and their generous sponsorships have been much appreciated. We also lost two other valued members recently when John Killacky and Larry Connolly moved to Vermont so John could accept a great job at the arts center in Burlington. We wish them all—Jennifer Radoi and her family, and John and Larry—the best of everything. They will be missed!

Once again, *please* contact Nancy Turner about the October show. We need to know the members' wishes and whether the show will have your support and entries. —*Jim*





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hand to shoot anything you want



Calendar of Events

JULY

11

Full Scale American Scurry Challenge

Sargent Equestrian Center

Jeanne Williams: (209) 727-0200, E-mail: jeanne@sargentequest.com
www.sargentequest.com/

11

PCMHC July Jamboree (AMHR)

Riverside, CA

Kathi Albanese: (951) 205-7998
www.pcmhclub.com/

17

Whisper Equestrian Center Fun Extravaganza

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www.whisperponies.com/

22–25

Western Championship Show (AMHA)

Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno NV

www.amha.org/

AUGUST

3–7

Shetland Congress

Ardmore, OK

www.shetlandminiature.com/

7

Mini-Equine Play Day Youth Show at the Santa Clara County Fair

San Jose, CA

Entries must be received by Fair office by 5:00 p.m. July 16, 2010

For more information: (408) 494-3134

<http://thefair.org/home.cfm>

12–13

Weber County Fair (AMHR, Classic, Modern, ASPR)

Ogden, UT

Laurie Villalpando: (801) 985-9720, E-mail: lvillalpan@aol.com
www.mwmho.com/

14–15

NorCal Grand Finale (AMHA)

4 Judges

Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Santa Rosa, CA

Laura Mullen: (919) 499-4777, E-mail: Winectry@aol.com
www.norcalminiatures.com/

15

Full Scale American Scurry Challenge

Sargent Equestrian Center

Jeanne Williams: (209) 727-0200, E-mail: jeanne@sargentequest.com
www.sargentequest.com/

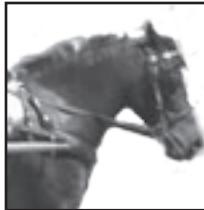
20–21

MWMHO Northern XPosure (AMHR, Classic, Modern, ASPR)

Cache County Fairgrounds, Logan, UT

Laurie Villalpando: (801) 985-9720, E-mail: lvillalpan@aol.com
www.mwmho.com/

- 21–22 Clay Station Horse Driving Trial**
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Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948,
E-Mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net
www.claystationhorsepark.com/
- SEPTEMBER**
- 4–5 Dressage Extraordinaire 2010**
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA
Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948
E-Mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net
www.claystationhorsepark.com/
- 9–19 AMHR Nationals**
Expo Center, Tulsa, OK
www.shetlandminiature.com/
- 10–13 Shady Oaks CDE**
Shady Oaks Farm, Lodi, CA
Bonner Murphy: (209) 462-2209
www.shadyoaksevents.com/
- 12 Full Scale American Scurry Challenge**
Sargent Equestrian Center
Jeanne Williams: (209) 727-0200, E-mail: jeanne@sargentequest.com
www.sargentequest.com/
- 18 Pony Day at the Santa Cruz County Fair (ASPC)**
ASPC Classic and Foundation • Open classes for ponies under 14 hands
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, Watsonville, CA
Julie Mabie: (831) 684-1555, E-mail: whisprpony@aol.com
- 22–23 2010 AMHA World Show (AMHA)**
October 2 Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth, TX
Laura Mullen: (919) 499-4777, E-mail: Winectry@aol.com
www.amha.org/
- OCTOBER**
- 3 MHA & Area VII Mini & Pony Schooling Show**
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www.areaviiclub.com or www.mhaooakland.org/
- 23–24 Area VII Points Show *Save these dates!***
Location and details to come.
- 30–31 Clay Station Horse Driving Trial**
Each day is an individual event; Minis go on Saturday.
Clay Station Horse Park, Wilton, CA
Stan & Debbi Packard: (916) 687-7948
E-Mail: claystationhorsepark@frontiernet.net
www.claystationhorsepark.com/



News from our Area VII Roving Reporter

by DZ Big Dash-A-Tabasca

Hi human readers! Dash here...Area VII's Roving Small Equine Reporter. Maybe you remember that Mom wrote about me driving in my cart for the first time last summer, so I thought maybe you'd like to hear what I have been doing in my new career.

On April 24 I visited a new place with Mom called RamTap. The only ram I saw there was made out of wood, go figure. But it was this huge place with lots of dressage rings and cones courses and trails with all sort of big obstacles that I guess the big horses jump over. As soon as I got out of the trailer, there was shooting. I thought that was darn unfriendly, but later it turned out that the police-guys practice aiming at targets next door. Phew. Anyway, it was a really nice sunny day, so Mom and I just set out to do our part of this clinic thing. That's a little confusing. One time you go to the clinic and they give you shots or mess with your teeth, the next time they are teaching your human stuff. I heard them mention something called combined driving. A pony just has to go with the flow, which is sometimes a challenge, being such a skeptical sort of an animal anyway.

We had to have our safety checked first (sorry, not sure what my safety even looks like) and then they tested me with a long walk exercise and then some trotting. I passed just great, so they took us to this big area where all those wild looking obstacles were, and said, "Okay...this trail over terrain is 3 kilometers long and marked...go find your way." Well, Mom and I never had been out together alone, but off we went and I thought it was great fun to actually be *going* somewhere. That going in circles stuff gets old, ya know? So I was just chugging along enjoying the sights.

So, it was uphill and downhill and Mom only had to figure out where we went next while I did all the work. We finally got to this one gate and on the other side was the biggest puddle I had ever seen. My Mom goes, "Walk in there!" What?! I mean, how

PHOTO: ROGER M. CLEVERLY



scary is that? What if it's hundreds of feet deep or has alligators in there? I let her know my strong pony opinion, sorry, that didn't seem like such a good idea. So, she just relaxed for a bit, and I hoped she would forget about this crazy idea. Then this big Haflinger horse came trotting along and

went right through that giant puddle!

Those guys circled around and went through again, right in front of me, and I decided it would just not look good for us kingdom of small horses if I didn't go my own self! And

Mom was just praising me like crazy while I was up to my knees in this stuff I usually just drink!

By now, I figured I had this clinic thing pretty much figured out. Do what's asked and your Mom will just leave you alone, pretty much sit quiet in the cart and stop bugging you. So, when I got that all figured out, I just trotted on. Next, coming right toward us, this big huge machine on wheels that went on forever and made a lot of noise. Later I heard mom say she wasn't sure what was gonna happen when "the train" came. Since she seemed calm, I figured this was no big deal and kept on a-goin'. Fact is, they have all the big horses out there, so a little guy doesn't want to let them see him sweat. The last thing I did was climb this big hill, and whew, that was a workout. The human instructor was up there on top where she had been watching my every move, and just went to raving about me. I thought she was one smart cookie and we had a big mutual admiration time of it. After she got done saying what a good job I did, she sent us off to another place where they had all those cone things set up. I've done weaving in and out of those a couple of times, but this one was really long. But I pulled mom right through there also. So the instructor was really impressed with me now and asking all kinds of questions about where did I come from and saying how well bred I was and just what a simply wonderful fellow I was for the short amount of time I have been doing this driving stuff. I figured I musta done really good, because from there, we got to go have lunch! I had a nice drink, some hay and siesta while mom went off visiting and eating with the humans. After lunch we went out for another drive but this one was real slow and relaxed...we just walked around that big long trail again and had other rigs and big horses whizzing by us. We went through that crazy puddle again a couple of times, but it felt pretty good since the day got warmer and no alligators showed up.

In early May mom and I set off for a neat ranch in Madera to visit my new friends Jack and Marie. We got the red carpet treatment and they even gave me my own corral. It was a great place to visit, and since all mini horses live there, I was the big guy on campus! We watched several minis do a wild game of driving all over the arena, sometimes playing follow the leader and sometimes trying to run right into each other until the last minute (like Chicken!) and all of this to music. After I watched a little while, I figured out it was the same route every time. Mom told me that they were called the Magic Mini Drill Team. Very wild.

After lunch, Mom and I went out driving with Marie and one of her minis, and

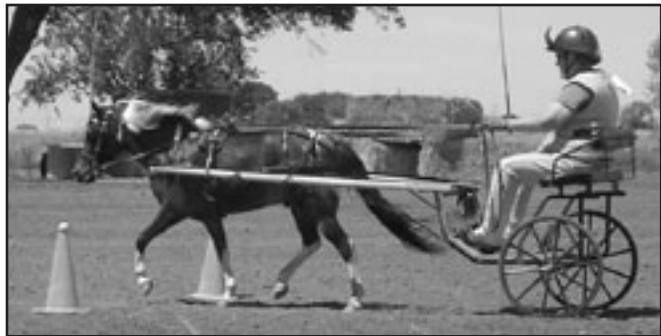


PHOTO: JACK AND MARIE MCKEE

wow, that gave me a new respect for the little guys that live there. Where I live with my pals, it's pancake flat ground. At this place, everywhere you went, it was uphill or downhill! Seems like if a fella lived there, he might be a little horse with legs like a Clydesdale, but all the horses look pretty normal! Mom said Jack and Marie were real helpful teaching her, because they have been doing that combined driving stuff with different breeds of horses since before I was born. Actually, if I think about it, they've been doing it a *real* long time, like since maybe before my Gramma DaisyMae was born! So I'm wondering if I should do pushups or start going to the gym, because I think we'll be going there again!

Later in May, Mom and I got up real early and we headed to Woodland Stallion Station for a carriage drive and tea. I know it sounds pretty darn fancy, but I thought that was a fun day because first of all lots of people crowded around to ask all about me and I was just doing my Shetland PR bit. Ya know, I hate to brag, but that's not so hard with my fine looks and considerable charm. When those folks got done fawning over me, we harnessed up and went out exploring. There were rolling hills of big hay fields and rows of grapes growing in huge patches of ground. To make it more fun, my friends Jack and Marie had showed up with a couple of their minis. Sometimes those guys were in the lead, and sometimes I got to be in front as the leader. It was a big adventure to see what might be around the next corner or over the next knoll. I did get a little upset about big horses whooshing past me at a flyin' trot, and I was ready to chase 'em down, but Mom insisted that wasn't gentlemanly behavior. Mom can be a little dull about seeing the fun in a thing and she basically insisted that I see it *her* way. Later, I had lunch and a nice long siesta while Mom went to her tea party and then they had a meeting of the Northern California Driving Club. It started to rain on the way home but it was great while we were out on the trails. It was a long trailer ride, but both Mom and I thought it was worth it and we had a great time.

The next day, Mom headed out and let me rest in the field doin' what I love to do best...eat! She went and volunteered to help at an Arena Driving Trial (ADT) in Lodi at a great horse facility called Sargent's Equestrian Center. She liked it so much that she promised to take me there.

So, on June 6th, we went to Sargent's together, but this time it was for a kinda new event called a Scurry. Now Sargent's is quite a snazzy place and they have lots of big horses there. I mean so big that I could put all four of my hooves in one of their hoof prints "big!" Since I'd done a scurry once before, I wasn't about to let those big fellas intimidate me one bit.

If you haven't scurried before, there are several games of running around those orange cone things. The first game is a pattern where you stop in the box and when they tell you go, you do a pattern sort of like the cloverleaf of barrel racing, but with three gates instead of a barrel. Then you hurry back to the box and stop and stand real polite like. It's not a real fast race; it's to try to come closest to a time they called optimum, whatever that is. I think it's a fancy name for something humans picked. I got a first place in single pony and even more fun was winning second overall. That's my very first blue ribbon in driving so I made Mom proud.

In the second game we try to be the fastest, and you do a figure eight without hitting those cone things and then a lap around the arena. Going fast can be very fun.

Mom allows me to do a big trot and some canter, so, ya know, I did my best with her cramping my style some, and I got a third place. Some day she says she'll let me have the dirt fly off the wheels and show 'em my stuff. My Shetland buddy Nikki and his mom Joanie showed up too, so I figured us two ponies could hold our own against them big guys, no sweat. Nikki's mom lets him boogie more, so I was happy that he got two seconds, and folks there now know that Shetland Ponies rock!

There is another game that has to do with moving sandbags from one place to another, and another one weaving through like 27 gates (whew!) but we were just working on basics to see if the horse and the humans like these games. Mom likes to take me to these because sometimes I have to stand around quietly, and other times I have to wake up from my dozing and go do my job real smart like. Since Mom brings carrots in the trailer, I do my best because I like her to think I'm just very clever...more carrots that way! And more folks came around to visit me and ask what kind of a pony am I, and where'd I come from, and what my name is, and it's sorta like bein' kinda like a super star or something! One of mom's friends suggested I should have my own website, so maybe some day, I'll get to be a celebrity pony and even have my own fan club?

I hope you folks liked hearing about my adventures and fun travels because gettin' out and bein' a roving reporter is pretty fun. Mom already has a few more things on the calendar, so I hope I'll see you out there with your little equine stars!

Note from Mom...er...Sherry Ward...

July 11 is the next Scurry at Sargent's Equestrian Center, so whether you would like a great training venue or have a need for speed, check out: <http://www.sargentequest.com/events.html#July 11 Full Scale ASC>. For more photos of Dash's friends at the Scurry, check out Buck Scholderer's website galleries: <http://www.picturetrail.com/sfx/album/view/23275619>

My thanks to Jack and Marie McKee of UltraLight Whips in Madera, CA, and Roger M. Cleverly for taking the photos of Dash and me at the Scurry.



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"PATRICK"
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What is American Scurry Challenge?

by Roger M. Cleverly,
Roger Cleverly: Equestrian Training

I have received a number of requests for more information on ASC, so here is a breakdown of the format. This type of event is new to the West Coast, so don't be surprised if you have not heard of it before.

The American Scurry Challenge [ASC] was conceived by two horse trainers, Robert Chambers & John Boardman, in South Carolina. Their intention was to create a fun driving event designed around a series of cones courses. The first course was set up and run at Tandem Hill Farm in Windsor, SC. They established a set of standard courses and rules, published them on a web site: www.americanscurrychallenge.com, and invited drivers from other parts of the U.S. to use them as a format for driving events in their areas.

The five ASC courses are:

Course #1: The Scurry Challenge

In this event, you have to drive the course as near as possible to Optimum Time, without going under that time, or knocking any balls off the cones. The ADS speeds for Combined Driving [Training and Prelim] cones are used to determine Optimum Time for each class.

Course #2: The Derby Challenge

This is a speed event, over a course of 13 gates, with knock downs adding 2 seconds per ball.

Course #3: Sand Bag

This event involves moving a number of sand or bean bags between containers.

Course #4: Weaver

This event comprises 27 cones, in three lines. The spacing between cones reduces with each line, and the object is to weave down all three lines without knocking off any balls. A clear round scores 27 points, and there is a timed run off in the event of a tie after round 1.

Course #5: Team Challenge

This event is a head to head course between two turnout, moving sand or bean bags between containers. It is run in a ladder format, with each winner progressing to the next round.

For the event at Sargent SC on July 11, we will be running courses #1, 2 and 4. Please feel free to contact me for more information: RogerCleverly01@cs.com.

Carole Ann Ford's

Windcrest Farm

Wauk-A-Way Shish-K-Bob (ASPC)



*Kaleigh Ann
Phipps in a
unanimous blue
ribbon debut,
presenting
Wauk-A-Way
Shish-K-Bob
for her proud
grandmother,
Carole Ann Ford.*

WF Masked Maiden (ASPC/AMHR)

- Hall of Fame as a two-year-old
- Multiple Top Tens at Congress
- Multiple All Star Top Tens including Champion



- Hall of Fame Halter, Pleasure Driving, Country Pleasure Driving
- Multiple Top Tens at Congress including Champion
- Multiple All Star Top Tens including Champion

WF Two Spirits Dancing (ASPC/AMHR)



Sr. Gelding AMHR Over June 2010 Highlights:

VSMHC Both Judges and Area VII Nat'l Area Show: Sr. Gelding Champion, Grand Champion Gelding

- Halter Hall of Fame as a two-year-old
- Multiple Congress Top Tens including Reserve Champion
- Multiple All Star Top Tens including Reserve Champion

WF Two Spirits Rainbow Connection (ASPC/AMHR)



Yearling Filly AMHR Over June 2010 Highlights:

VSMHC: Jr. Champion Mare, both judges Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Mare
Area VII Nat'l Area Show: Jr. Champion Mare and Reserve Grand Champion Mare

Serious Inquiries Invited

Trainer/Agent: Fantasia Farm • A Complete Training Facility

Bob, Sharon, and Eric Housley

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Carole Ann Ford's *Windcrest Farm*

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**AMHR Country Pleasure
Driving Over
June 2010 Highlights:**

- 2008 Foundation Classic Halter Pony of the Year
- Halter Hall of Fame as a two-year-old
- Multiple Congress Top Tens including Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Senior Stallion
- Multiple All Star Top Ten Halter and Driving including Champion Halter

**VSMHC: Stake Champion,
both judges**

**Area VII Nat'l Area Show:
Stake Reserve Champion**

SSF'S Apache Legacy (ASPC/AMHR)

WF A Night to Dream (ASPC/AMHR)

**Sr. Stallion AMHR Over
June 2010 Highlights:**

**VSMHC: Sr. Stallion and Grand
Champion Stallion, both judges
Champion of Champions**

**Area VII Nat'l Area Show: Reserve
Champion Sr. Stallion and Reserve
Grand Champion Stallion**

Serious Inquiries Invited

Trainer/Agent: Fantasia Farm • A Complete Training Facility

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Out of the "Comfort Zone," Into the...

In which our intrepid duo are invited to participate in a parade

Joan Clements of Scotts Valley, CA and her Shetland, Whisper's Sir Nicholas, aka "Nikki," were invited to participate in the Memorial Day Parade in the nearby small town of Felton. And—no less—take the Grand Marshall of the Parade along in the pony cart.

Having never been in a parade before, Joan gave thought to the possible problems that might come along and mentally made Plans A, B, and C to resolve them if needed.

Parade day arrived bright and sunny. Joan decided to get to the designated staging area early so Nikki could be hitched and driven around before the parade actually began. Although the area was full of parked cars and people in costumes were milling around, it became evident that this was *not* the place to be. There was nothing to do be get into the cart and drive around to find the correct staging area.

Highway 9 is a semi-busy two lane road, and this morning had its share of cars and trucks! Keeping as close to the edge of the road as possible, they trotted over to the Roaring Camp Railroad area. Not the correct place! Back on Highway 9 in the opposite direction. A nice "road gate" took them a quarter mile or so to the Covered Bridge Park area. Not the correct place! Back on the road again—Joan saw two Sheriff cars pull up the hill to their office and followed them. They also didn't have a clue about the staging area for the parade. Joan asked that they make a phone call to find out. Back onto Highway 9, heading back to the original lot where they had left the truck and trailer—doubtful—but with resolve to find parade participants! At this point, they had crossed three bridges twice and traveled over four miles. Nikki was well settled, Joan thought.

Finally! A sign read: "Parade Staging Area" with an arrow pointing to a dirt road that ran beside the parking area where this had all begun. The sign had been put there after Joan and Nikki had gone through the gate onto Highway 9.

Joan saw that the Grand Marshall signs had been put onto a different pony cart. This was OK with her! She was to take a Senator instead. As it turned out, he didn't show up. This too was an OK thing. After about an hour's wait it was finally time to line up and get into "parade mode." Joan and Nikki were to be in front of four teenage girls riding (very large) horses bareback, dressed as Indians. One of the horses did *not* like Nikki and gave the girl some trouble. Joan took Nikki in back of the horses which solved the problem.

Moving forward, it soon became evident that this was to be a "walk on" and stand and wait parade. Nikki thought that he should be with the horses, not behind them! And stand and wait? Are you kidding? Nikki was going to be a definite handful in a very short time. Joan called to a lady walking along with the girls up ahead. She asked her to put a lead rope on Nikki and walk with them. She did, and the parade became

manageable. People along the parade route called out to ask what kind of horse Nikki was. Many people admired and praised him. He was looking very "spiffy" and was certainly animated!

The end of the parade came and everyone in front of our fearless duo seemed to disappear. It seems *no* accommodations had been made to get safely back to the staging area. The lady had to go with the girls on horseback. In the center of town was the busiest intersection, with yet another bridge to cross! Traffic was much heavier by this time. There was nothing to do but get into it and go! By now, Nikki had become somewhat ‘freaky’ by everything going on around him! Joan enlisted two costumed men who were walking back in the same direction. They kindly helped out until Joan could again get back into the cart to drive. Nikki took off like a bullet and in no time they were back to the truck and trailer!

It had definitely been an experience for both. Thankfully, neither one was hurt. Joan can't wait until next year. Should a phone call come to ask their participation, Joan's reply will be..."No thanks! Been there done that—don't need to do it again—ever!" But she was pleased with herself, and with Nikki. They had stepped out of their comfort zone and lived to tell about it.





Wistful Adieu

by John R. Killacky

Four years ago, I thought it would be fun to reconnect to a childhood pony passion, so Larry and I Googled “Shetland Ponies – Northern California” and discovered Fog Ranch. After an initial e-mail, we drove down to Moss Landing to meet Pat Michielssen, her daughter Mimi Woolem, and their glorious Shetlands. They had tied up all their ponies, and we went from one to the other petting them rhapsodically.

After additional visits, they invited us to the Santa Cruz County Fair. During the driving classes, I turned to Larry and said, “I think I can do that.” Enter Julie Mabie from Whisper Equestrian Center, a very patient and adept trainer, who initiated me into the mysteries of carts and reins via her unflappable lesson pony, Mare-A-Gold.

I was in heaven learning to drive. As a young man, I had been a dancer, and then a marathon runner, but fourteen years ago, complications from surgery rendered me paraplegic. Driving gave me legs in the world and allowed me to dance again. Being around ponies also deeply reconnected me to unmitigated childhood joy. What a gift at my age!



PHOTO: NELSON PHOTOGRAPHY

John and Candy conquering the obstacle course at the Area VII Schooling Show.

Mimi and Pat came out to watch each lesson, cheering me and offering well-timed, prudent suggestions. They were often joined by other of Julie's pony boarders: Nurse Pat, always good for a ribald story, Heidi of the fabulous driving outfits, and Joan with her beloved Nicki.

As I progressed, Mimi and Pat wondered if I would like to drive their pinto mare, Oneka Shez n American Dream (aka Candy). How lucky I was, and what a patient animal she is. We clicked and began working regularly with Julie.

Before long it was Santa Cruz Fair time again. Mimi asked if I would drive Candy in competition. Beginner's luck and a very gifted animal earned us blue ribbons in three driving classes from both judges!

Three years later, there have been many lessons learned by this novice equestrian. I am profoundly grateful to Pat and Mimi for their generosity to Larry and me. At middle-age, it is fun to acquire new best friends as we did with our Fog Ranch family.

I also found it rejuvenating to be a learner again, training and competing under Julie's tutelage. Along the way there has much support and kindness from Dennis Woolem, Jim Curry, Regina Nelson, Sharon Housley, Chris Coringello, Shirlee and Howard Busbee, Michele and Mark Nelson, and others from Area VII club.

Working with ponies is such a lesson in humility. Candy always knew what to do. It was me who got us confused in the ring. I failed, and sometimes excelled, although I learned more in coming up short, as judges and my extended pony family offered constructive criticism.

Larry and I are relocating to Burlington Vermont for a work opportunity, so Candy and I performed our final driving classes in the recent Plymouth show. Not to fear though, we carry Area VII with us; we are bringing out Fog Ranch's Pacific Raindrop, a three-year-old Bay Roan Pinto mare.

Pacific Raindrop and I will be learning to drive next spring at a wonderful equine facility called Windswept Farm. Mozart was playing in their training oval when we visited and we knew we found home. I hope we will find a second extended pony family up here in Vermont; any connections would be most appreciated.

These pony years have been so deeply satisfying. It is with much sadness that Larry and I say goody-bye to our California friends. We are indebted to all of you, and grateful to have shared in your love of these extraordinary small equines. We wish you much happiness and success with your animals.

Who knows? Perhaps Pacific Raindrop and I will see you at Congress in a few years!



PHOTO: VANESSA CAMARENA-ARREDONDO

Fog Ranch News

I was very lucky to have Cheg-Kim's Champagne Doll foal right in front of me! Her foal by Step-N-Stone's Fancy Russet Roulette came into the world on May 7th and was he a big boy! I blew into his nose when I broke him through the birth sack .His name is Fog Ranch's Royal Coachman. We have big hopes for him.

The three of us, Dennis my husband, and my mom Pat, had a fun time at our favorite show, the Valley Sierra Miniature Horse Club Show at Plymouth. This was the show we started at, and now, 16 years later, we enjoy the company of everyone even more. Let's keep this show going, it needs more support!

Sadly, we had to say good bye to our very dear friends John Killacky and Larry Connelley right after John showed his beloved Candy at Plymouth. John and Larry are moving to Vermont. The whole time, I kept hearing in my head John Denver's song "Leaving On a Jet Plane," only they left in a Honda SUV to drive across country. They have taken a big part of Fog Ranch's heart with them, along with one of our ponies. Fog Ranch's Raindrop, whom John named. She will be traveling via Sharrway Farms Transport and should arrive sometime at the end of June.—*Mimi Woolem*



News from Nelson's Training Stables

Hello everyone! All is well at the ranch. I have a new baby this year and so proud. TC, our stallion we got from Howard and Shirlee, and my mare, Step-N-Stone's Bourbon-N-Jazz, had a beautiful baby. Cisco is what we will call him, but we're working on a registered name. I hope all of you are having a wonderful show year. Hope to see you soon.

—*Regina Nelson*



News from Whisper Equestrian Center

We have been busy, busy, busy, this spring. It is spring isn't it? The sun finally came out on the Monterey Bay.

We had a wonderful time at the Valley Sierra June Jamboree in Plymouth. Master's Painted Kid Ryan finally got his remaining Foundation Halter points to complete his Hall of Fame. It has been a long road, and we are thrilled!

Plymouth was also the last show for the team of John Kilackey and Oneka's Shezn American Dream

("Candy" to her friends). John and Larry are now safely moved to Burlington, Vermont. John and Candy had a perfect run and we hope John will come back to California from time to time to drive again.

Fog Ranch's Wave Dancer won two Stakes in Pleasure driving. Michele Nelson did a fantastic job with Whisper's Putting on the Ritz, taking a reserve just behind Whisper's Sundance Kid in Classic Gelding Halter. Whispers Sundance Kid won two stakes in Classic Roadster.

We had a great time visiting with friends and enjoying the Plymouth area. I would recommend trying this show in the future.

Joan Clements and Whisper's Sir Nicholas placed first in Pleasure driving open at the Valley Sierra June Jamboree in Plymouth, and then proceeded to Lodi to participate in a combined driving Scurry. It was their first and a good time was had by all.

Joan and Nikki also represented the American Shetland Pony at the Santa Cruz Renaissance Fair June 19th and 20th. With her new costume, she will looked quite fashionable! The two of them are keeping active for sure.

I know I have been saying this for months, but the kids are really almost in their new house and out of mine. We are getting ready for two weeks of pony camp, and our Fun Extravaganza show on July 17. Granddaughter Kiera turns 1 on June 26, and we are looking forward to Grandbaby #2 from our son PJ and his wife Stephanie in early 2011. That lead line group is growing.

We are selling a few wonderful ponies to reduce our herd and make more time for our clients. If you are in the mood for some heat relief come to the coast and visit us.—*Julie Mabie*



Michele Nelson showed Whisper's Putting on the Ritz at the Valley Sierra June Jamboree.



Rodabi-J Ranch News

Lisa Schmidt showed my little Multiple Grand Champion 2 year old "A Division" (under) filly, Rodabi-J Velvet Frost, at both our Plymouth "June Jamboree" and at the Area VII National Show in Burbank. Her wins at both shows were extraordinary and she had some ominous competition!

Little Velvet loves Lisa and always tries to do her very best when she is being shown by her. She is a drop dead gorgeous silver dapple tobiano (about 50/50) with flawless and very straight legs, long slender neck and a beautiful head. I am so complimented that all of the judges seem to like her as much as I do! Velvet's sire is my snowflake appaloosa, Rodabi-J Ebony Thrills, and her dam is my Multiple Grand Champion tobiano mare, Rodabi-J Aztec Angel Ice. Both sire and dam are out of my exceptional old mare, Rodabi-J Velvet Chills, so a half sister/half brother mating. Truly an in-breeding success story.

I want everyone to know about Betty Teal's fantastic quarterly magazine, *Miniature World Showcase*. If you do not subscribe to this magnificent magazine, you are missing out on 3/4ths of the most interesting and informative photos and news about Miniatures!

The Summer issue has just come out and here is a partial list of the beautifully-illustrated and enjoyably-educational articles it contains: "What's Behind the Spots? The Genetics of LP" (by Shiela Archer & Rebecca Bellone, Ph.D.); "Trailblazers—The Lives and Legacy of Vern and Betty Brewer—Part 4" (by Betty Teal, from the memories of Betty Brewer, Roy Brewer and Betty Lynn Southerland); "Miniature Horses Make Waves", by Johnny Robb; and "Recommended Vaccines for Adult Horses" (Washington State University).

The full-color centerfold of this issue is about the well-known California farm, "La Vista Farm" (susan@lavistafarm.com). Contacts for a subscription or advertising are as follows: *Miniature World Showcase*, Betty Teal, P.O. 1644, Burleson, TX, 76097-1644. Phone 817-350-4429 or fax 817-350-2409. Web: www.miniatureworldshowcase.com, E-mail: info@miniatureworldshowcase.com

—Barb Naviaux



31.5" Rodabi-J Velvet Frost (as a yearling) at our Plymouth Show last year. Velvet won Champion of Champions "A" Division Miniature at this show.

Fantasia Farm Training Center News

Wow what a busy show season we have had so far. God has again blessed us with much success and we are so very grateful. Carole Ann Ford's beautiful and talented group have been stellar with wins too numerous to list, with all but Masquerade showing in the AMHR over division. Legacy's elegant 2009 filly out of Michigan's Fortune Cookie, WF Two Spirits Rainbow Connection, is making her mark by winning big at Plymouth and the National Area VII Show. At the Area Show she won her class, went on to be named Jr. Filly Champion, and then was awarded Reserve Grand Champion Mare. Legacy is driving great—winning at Plymouth and placing second in his classes at Area VII including being named the Reserve Champion in the Country Pleasure Driving Stake—a lot of fun to drive with more than a few in the ring. Other than his second placings in Oregon to a gelding that has since measured out, Spirit is undefeated in Model Gelding, Sr. Gelding, Sr. Gelding Championship, and Gelding Grand Champion. Needless to say, Legacy is very proud of his offspring. Maiden and Dreamer are certainly doing their share of winning, including championships, as they wouldn't want the rest of the show string laughing at them.

Our AMHA and AMHR stallion, Beloveds Oh So Noble, owned and bred by Patricia Dempsey's Beloveds Farm in Lady Lake, Florida, has been amazing. While we do not show him halter at the AMHA shows because he shows in so many driving classes, he has been placing extremely well in harness, including being named Champion and Reserve Champion Country Pleasure Driving Horse. On the AMHR circuit he has been amazing—winning halter and driving. He has been named Country Pleasure Driving Stake Champion by two of the three judges at Oregon Gold, both judges at Valley Sierra MHC show, and at the National Area VII show. In halter, he started at Oregon with a Sr. Champion, Reserve Sr. Champion and a Reserve Grand Champion. Since then he is undefeated in halter winning Model, Champion Sr. Stallion, and Grand Champion Stallion at VSMHC and the National Area VII show as well as Champion of Champions at VSMHC.

Carole Ann has another striking Legacy baby—this one is a full brother to Rainbow Connection and we can't wait to get him to the show ring. He certainly looks like he will follow in the winning hoof prints of the other Legacy get.

For those of you who did not attend National Area VII Show—the show had 128 horses, resulting in big classes and tough competition. It was a lot of fun and the weather was beautiful. Since I had never met, watched him judge, or shown in front of him, I was pleased to note that Pat Sanders took his time looking at each and every entry and certainly appeared to be placing horses not handlers. The club was very hospitable and put a lot of time, effort and money into making this a special event. Wish you had all been there! A great time—triple points...and a beautiful black miniature schnauzer puppy purchased from Christine Grodin at the show. He has been named Woody and has already earned his place in our hearts.

Having gone to Congress the last two years, we have decided this year to attend our first AMHR Nationals. While we are sad to be missing Congress, we are very excited about the group we are taking to Tulsa. Since we will go straight from Tulsa to Ft. Worth for AMHA Worlds, we will be gone for a month. We will certainly be ready for some down time when we get home.—*Sharon Housley*

News from Tomahawk Ranch

The only foal that I had this year was a Welsh filly, and I wasn't her breeder. In fact, I haven't bred any of my minis for the past two years. Many "breeders" are not breeding due to lack of sales. Personally, I think it is about time we slow down breeding and start using our minis and ponies for something other than pasture ornaments, brood mares, and studs. This is the time of year for fairs, parades, breed shows and other events. I have been organizing and participating in exhibits with my minis. Promoting these wonderful little equines will hopefully help sell them to new customers.

More than 500 people were at the fund raiser I was at last weekend. It was a polo match to benefit wounded soldiers and we were the lunch time entertainment. The audience really liked my 31" Res National GRCH Park mare, Porcelain, the viceroy, and me in fancy long dress, running the barrels. I was supposed to have raced a Fiord with my mini, Shadow, who is getting a reputation for being fast, but we ran out of time.

Friday Porcelain will be in a "patting pen" and then we will be prancing down the midway of the Sonoma Marin County Fair in the viceroy to announce that afternoon's Horse Expo. I will be announcing the driving section of that expo and Shadow will have another chance at racing the "big" horses.

Next week we will do the Marin County Fair. Ask your local fair if you can have a stall or pen to set up an exhibit or do a driving presentation. If you need help, get the local breeders to man the booth and bring safe, gentle horses. As co-chairman of Area VII Events Committee, I encourage promotion of minis and Shetlands at your local level through exhibits at parades, benefits, fairs, and open shows. If you do not drive, then take your mini for a walk in the park, go to the beach, or visit a rest home or school. If you drive, then you can do all the above, plus there are 14 driving clubs in California where you can enter events and promote the minis and ponies by gaining the respect of "big" horse owners. Check the Area VII web site for our upcoming events.—*Nancy Turner*



More News from our Members

Pat and Linda Anastasio

Hi, as new members Pat and I would like to share our experience with Area VII.

Last year, being retired school administrators, we decided to raise and sell miniature horses. However, after we attended the mini show in Reno last year, we became very interested, (more like hooked) in participating and showing. Although we are beginners, many experienced people from Area VII have taken time to talk to us and give us advice and encouragement about driving cart horses and the many other classes available at each show.

We just want to thank all the wonderful people we have met in Area VII, and especially let you all know how important you are to us as beginners. We look forward to each show with the hope and anticipation that we are getting a little better each time, and most of all the fun and thrill of showing our miniature horses.

Thank you to everyone, and we look forward to seeing you all at the next show.

—*Linda and Pat Anastasio*



A couple of our babies posing for the camera

Dori and Tessa Hignight

Dori Hignight sent these photos of her new foal. Dori wrote, "We do not have a ranch name and this is our first foal so we are calling her 'The Ultimate Bling Bling.' Jewelry cannot compete! My granddaughter, Tessa, has decided we need to share my Bling! She was trying to convince me how cute they were together when I took her picture."



Are you an ASPC/AMHR Youth and
want to win a filly?



Enter the ASPC/ASPR and AMHR

YOUTH ESSAY CONTESTS

and you could win a show filly at Congress of Nationals!

Please go to www.aspcamhryouth.com to get all of the rules, regulations and guidelines.
They are also available in the 2010 Youth Packet.

This is a great program that allows any Nationals or Congress youth participant
to win a national caliber horse or pony. For example, "Bug" (A Nationals Essay horse
pictured extreme right above) has already earned 10-HOF
Points this year! Participate at the contests held at Congress & Nationals.

The ASPC/AMHR Youth have several programs available for kids to win
awards, scholarships and horses. Please take the time to look at what is available for you!!

A BIG THANK YOU TO...

Belinda Bagby of Cross Country Farm
www.crosscountryfarm.net
for donating the two AMHR fillies.

Jackie Tyler of Emerald Glenn Farms
www.emeraldglennfarm.com
for donating the ASPC Classic filly.

ADDITIONAL THANKS TO...

Show Time Equine Center, Bushnell, Florida; (813) 263-8431...for showing "Bug" this year.
L&M Equine Services, Quillman, Texas, www.lmequineservices.com...for transporting "Bug" this year.
Adam Longman, Madison, Minnesota, www.longmanminiatures.com...for clipping and grooming at Nationals.

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Summer (July, August, September): June 15

Fall (October, November, December): September 15

Please send all materials to: Michele Nelson, 932 60th Street, Oakland, CA 94608
michelenelson2@sbcglobal.net. (510) 326-6487.

The Stallion and His Get

by Larry Weaver



Once upon a time, there was a
handsome stallion who saw a
beautiful filly in the neighbor's field.



Well, the two carried on the blood
lines with a sweet little palamino colt.



Riding, he was a natural.



Then he explored new ways of traveling with his grandpa.



His next trials took him to high jumps...

...then rides with wheels and a special friend. They practiced and practiced and brought home many ribbons and wonderful memories.



Alas, the young colt began to show signs of a future stallion. Graduated from a herd of 597. He was champion, the ribbon read, "Madison Conrad Weaver, Summa Cum Laude, Valedictorian." As the old stud found out later, it meant "with highest distinction". He accumulated the judges score of a grade point of 4.32. Yeah, I guess that put him in the Hall of Fame and on the Honor Roll Winners List.



Now there is more horse power involved in his travels. But he is still out on the trail searching for mountains to climb and rivers to cross.

What happened to the stallion who started it all you ask? Well, he has been turned out to pasture and retired from his stud days. He is left with memories of the beautiful filly. As for the beautiful filly, she is still catching the eyes of other younger stallions. Well she stayed, however, with the old stallion to encourage him to kick up his heels every now and then. The stallion and his get want to thank everyone for all the help and their time, so that young and old stallions and fillies alike can show off from time to time.