



American Cream News

VOLUME 12, NO. 2

FALL 2002

Iowa Will Host the 2003 Annual Meeting, July 11-12

As soon as the dust settles from one meeting, plans begin for the next, and making it a two-day event was very well received this past July.

Don and Linda Johnson from Huxley, Iowa, are making all of the arrangements. Plans are in the works for a tour of the Veterinary College at Iowa State University with some possible talks on West Nile and other issues that concern us on Friday, July 11. There are beautiful gardens nearby and that night we will probably go to Hickory Park.

On Saturday, our meeting will take place at The Hotel at Gateway Center (just off I-35 on Highway 30 to Elwood Drive—very close to Iowa State University). A block of 10 rooms is being held until June 27, 2003. The price is \$74 plus 5 percent hotel tax and 5 percent sales tax. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-FOR-AMES. There will be no charge for our meeting room if we reserve 20 lunches at \$9.40 each, which includes tax, drink and gratuity. Lunch consists of soup, salad, cold cuts, bread, cheese, dessert and a drink. Breakfast is served in the hotel restaurant from 6:30 A.M. on Sunday, if you desire, and is paid for if you go.

A more exact schedule will be in the Spring newsletter. Please mark these days on your calendar. We would never be able to be exposed to as much knowledge on an individual basis, not to mention the importance of our meetings at this time.

From Your Not-So-New-Anymore Secretary

I am now into my third month as Secretary, and it has been quite the eye-opening experience. Shortly after July 13, box after box began to arrive from Charles City, Iowa, to make its home in the middle of my dining room floor. There sat the past and present of our breed—the history, the heritage, the ongoing—absolutely everything that the American Cream Draft Horse Association has. I'm getting a chill up my spine just writing that.

But it's 2002 and the future of the ACDHA looms before us. We listened to Dr. Phil Sponenberg's opinions about our breed and, as a unified group, made a major decision at the Annual Meeting to determine how that future will play out. We now have three categories of registration:

1. Full Registration: a Cream horse that is the result of a Cream to Cream or

Cream to Cream Tracking Registry (either the Tracking or Appendix Tracking) mating.

2. Tracking Registration: an off-colored horse that is the result of a Cream to Cream mating.

3. Appendix Tracking Registration (new category): a horse that is the result of a Cream to Belgian, Clydesdale, Percheron, Shire or Suffolk mating, regardless of color.

It was also the general consensus of last year's Nominating Committee that the secret ballot voting process was a success. Those members who are unable to attend the meeting still had the opportunity to select the directors who represent them, and there were more votes cast than there were members at the meeting. I would, however, urge everyone to go to the Annual Meeting. It is a wonderful Cream-filled, educational weekend. You'll meet many fellow Cream owners and associate members (who are a tremendous support to our Association, by the way) and see more pictures than you ever thought imaginable!

Here is what's happening in our Association:



Three Generations of Secretaries
Left to right: Karene Topp, first secretary of the association 1944-91; Nancy Lively, newly elected; Elizabeth Ziebell, second secretary 1991-2002

- We were given an anonymous donation to computerize the American Cream Draft Horse Association. (Thank You!) This is a computer program called Heavy Horse that all the other draft breed associations except the Belgians use. We will use it for all record keeping and registrations.
- We will be advertising in the following publications:
 - Rural Heritage*
 - Small Farmer's Journal*
 - The Draft Horse Journal*
 - American Livestock Breed Conservancy News*
- There will be an article on the Creams in *Equus* magazine in either the November or December issue.
- We have an official **2003 American Cream Draft Horse Calendar**. Priced at \$15, the calendar contains 35 photographs of several members' Creams and 32 graphics. This is a fund-raiser for the association. Call me at (802) 447-7612 to place your order. They make great Christmas gifts and it wouldn't hurt our vendors (vets, farriers, etc.) to reciprocate some support!
- Shaun and Jennifer McKinley do an outstanding job with the website. However, they need our help. They would like to insert a picture next to each registration in the herdbook. Although I respect that some members have chosen not to join the computer age, the vast majority of our inquiries and potential new owners/members come from the website. So, even if you are not computer friendly, please send photos of your horses to:
 - Shaun McKinley
 - 11373 Green Road
 - Wilton, CA 95693
- Our merchandise is a great way to support our breed and I would like to expand what we have available for sale—perhaps some different hats or the golf T-shirts with pockets. Please let me know what you would like to see us wearing.

B. David & Nancy H. Lively
 Lively's Livery
 193 Crossover Road
 Bennington, Vermont 05201
 (802) 447-7612
 Fax (802) 447-0711
 lively@sover.net
 www.livelyslivery.com

Members presented Elizabeth (Betsy) Ziebell with an oil painting of Clar Ann Dick, a photo album and a plaque for all her years of service

2002 Stallion Reports and 2002 Foaling Reports are due by December 31, 2002. Please file promptly!

If you would like to run for director in 2003, please submit a letter of interest to any member of the Nominating Committee by March 31, 2003, so that they may present those running to the President by April 1. The Nominating Committee is made up of John Schwartzler, Don Johnson and David Lively. All ways to reach them are in your herdbook.

All Association decisions are made by all six directors. Please don't ever hesitate to contact any one of us. The following is a list of your directors and all ways to reach them are in your herdbook:

Frank Tremel—President
 Don Johnson—Vice-President
 Nancy Lively—Secretary/Treasurer
 Wes Rogalski
 Wendell Lupkes
 Art Gebel

I'd like to thank you all for your past and future support. Our Association is in for a great ride and I'm enjoying being part of it. Since we became Cream owners, David and I have been committed to getting our girls and boy out for people to see, enjoy and learn about. Just in the past four years, there are many more comments now like "Oh, so these are American Creams" instead of "What kind of horse is this?" I think we're headed for "Oh look, another Great American Cream Draft Horse!" in the not too distant future.

Nancy H. Lively
 ACDHA Secretary/Treasurer



Directors

Left to right: Frank Tremel, president; Wes Rogalski, Arthur Gebel, Merlin Lupkes, Nancy Lively, secretary; Don Johnson, vice president



The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy (ALBC) Meeting and Creams

by David Lively

This is the fourth straight year that American Creams Laverne and Shirley have gone to the Rare Breeds Exhibit and Fair at the Hancock Shaker Village in Massachusetts. The fair, held in late September, draws thousands of people from near and far to see a variety of rare and heritage breeds. The girls turned four years old this year and visitors remember them: when folks passed through the tent we heard them say: "Oh, there are those beautiful American Creams—you brought them back again. They look so big!" And I have to grin, because our first year here, Laverne felt the need to scratch her butt on the gate panels during the night and ended up rearranging the whole line of pens under the tent. Now when we lead the girls to their stalls for the weekend, we see stakes and metal fence posts driven in the ground around their panels. I guess their reputation for the little yearling "itch" left an impression on the boys in the village.

Because the ALBC held its Annual Meeting at Hancock Shaker Village during the Rare Breeds Exhibit and Fair, this year's turnout of people was impressive. Talk about a great venue. The 25th anniversary meeting of this organization dedicated to saving rare and endangered livestock and poultry breeds found Hancock Shaker bustling with activity. Extra tents for exhibitors were set up for this special event, offering a diversity of conservation breeds from cattle to pigs, poultry to Poitou donkeys, and of course, our beautiful American Creams.

Sharing the sights and scenes at the Shaker Village was Bill Heffernan from Missouri, an ALBC board member and Cream owner with a young team in training. George and Donna Miller, members from California, flew East to enjoy the weekend and listen to Dr. Phil Sponenberg, who addressed an attentive

audience with his expertise on what makes breeds unique and how to go about saving and perpetuating these genetic treasures for the long term. Charlotte Metcalf, a Cream owner from Norwich, Vermont, also came by to see us and helped with harnessing the girls on our first day at the fair, as the weekend was certainly not all fluff and puff for our Creams. Laverne and Shirley had to earn their oats and pull our wagon about the ground for horse-drawn wagon rides. We joined two other teams of horses that were hired to give rides away from the village walkways on a fenced farm road, its perimeter populated by the village's pigs, goats, cattle and poultry. George Miller took some great pictures from the driver's seat of our wagon as we got a chance to relax a bit and talk about Creams, teams and things.

Yes, it was really nice to see our friends, especially our fellow American Cream Draft Horse members and supporters, all coming together from near and far. And I didn't miss the opportunity to pull the team right up to Dr. Phil, who was visiting by one of the tents, to tell him "WE" had the best Creams. You'd have to have been at our St. Louis meeting to appreciate that tongue-in-cheek comment, because Phil says that we all think our own Creams are the best. . . . and they are!

"Cream" of the Crop

(reprinted from Cream Newsletter,
Summer 1993)

He's so handsome, my Cream
With those soft, amber eyes
They melt me to pieces
I'm telling no lies.

His chest and forearms are strong
Like his back
He can pull a load better than
Three Jenny's and a Jack.

His sweet disposition goes from
Beginning to end
He's a heck of a worker
And his master's good friend.

He stands tall and attentive
And learns with great speed
He's the all around boy of
The American Cream Draft Horse
breed.

by Shelly Young



Dave Lively and his Cream team gave wagon rides at the ALBC meeting held at Hancock Shaker Village in September

Preserving a Genetic Treasure

By Lynne Howe

It's just another meeting right? We'll go, pay our dues for the next year, visit with other members of the association, eat lunch, cast a couple of votes during the business portion and come home, right?

Well, not exactly.

For one thing, the official announcement of the annual meeting of the American Cream Draft Horse Association contained four pages of proposed changes in the by-laws that had been tabled from the preceding year. This could be one long, boring meeting, right?

Well, not exactly.

For another thing, one of the reasons so many of the proposed changes had been tabled was because the membership was wise enough to understand we needed to know more before making those decisions and this year invited Dr. Phillip Sponenberg to address the group. The latest newsletter included a preview of his talk "My Take on Cream Draft Horse Issues, 2002" and listed his credentials: D.V.M., Ph.D., Director of Student Affairs, Professor of Pathology and Genetics at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. He's actively involved with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy. He's written books, alone and with others: *A Rare Breeds Album of American Livestock*, *A Conservation Breeding Handbook*, and *Taking Stock: The North American Livestock Census*, to name three. This professor, veterinarian and published author is going to speak way over our heads, so we might as well stay home, right?

Well, not exactly.

For a third thing, we discovered that not only did we understand what Dr. Sponenberg had written for our newsletter, we whole-heartedly agreed with him. You have to like a guy who says, "You have a real genetic treasure in your breed, and the decisions of the next few years will be important in safeguarding it for future generations," right?

Well, yes, exactly.

Dr. Sponenberg had the floor Friday (July 12). He addressed the subjects of breed types and definition, DNA testing, grading up, open/closed registries, and what to do with off-color foals and horses. He patiently answered questions. He made a point that these horses are worth preserving and he is willing to do

whatever he can to help us preserve them. He stove gently but diligently to help us understand how many decisions we would have to make, and their ramifications.

On Saturday morning we set to work.

With only 299 known American Cream draft horses registered and alive at this time in history, we breeders needed to reach a consensus. Do we go our separate ways, breeding our horses to any or every other breed of horse, rationalizing that we're enlarging a critically small gene pool? Do we require registration of all resulting foals? Do we acknowledge this critically small gene pool and begin jealously guarding what remains of it? Is compromise possible? Is compromise desirable?

"Where do we go from here, and how do we get there?" became our main order of business.

Our first controversial decision pertained to the registration of animals. Were we going to register the offspring of American Creams bred to every other breed or type of horse, or were we willing to restrict the breeding of Creams to other Creams and other horses of draft—specifically Belgians, Clydesdales, Percherons, Shires and Suffolks? After some intense conversation the vote was close: we chose to restrict registrations to draft breeding.

For many of us the decision opened a five-gallon bucket of worms, because of the effect it has on yearling and weanling foals we've been waiting to register. That

First Confirmed Epitheliogenesis Imperfecta (EI) Foal Born in 2002

What is EI?

EI is an inherited disease caused by a recessive gene. In order for a foal to be afflicted, the sire and dam must both be carriers. The disease is untreatable.

What are the odds I'm going to have an EI foal?

Again, remember that both the sire and dam must be carriers of the gene in order for the foal to be afflicted with EI. The chance of having an EI foal from a breeding of two carriers is 25 percent (1 in 4).

What about the other 75 percent of the time?

In a breeding of two carriers, half of the foals will be inapparent carriers, while the other 25 percent will be perfectly normal.

What if only one parent is a carrier?

An EI foal cannot result from this breeding. Fifty percent of the foals will be inapparent carriers and the remaining 50 percent will be normal.

How do I know if I'm breeding two carriers?

At this time there is no test for carriers of the gene. However, research is under way at the University of Kentucky. In the meantime, we must rely on past experience. If

an EI foal is produced, that stallion and mare should not be mated to each other again.

How do I identify an EI foal?

The first course of action is to make certain you have an EI foal and eliminate the possibility of some other abnormality. EI foals possess the following physical characteristics:

- Patches of skin missing from their extremities and body. At times an entire limb will be skinless.
- Teeth are present.
- Oral ulcers are present as well as ulceration of the coronary band.
- After three days the hooves will slough.

What can I do?

If you have an EI foal, contact your veterinarian immediately and report it to the association—we want to keep track of who is a carrier.

Dr. Phil Sponenberg feels that there will be a test for this disease within a year. He strongly recommends that when the test is available all breeding stallions should be tested and all carriers noted. If a stallion does carry the gene then the mare to be bred to him should be tested as well, since it takes two carriers (both stallion and mare) to have an EI foal.

CREAMS in the NEWS



Letters

Nancy,

Our Creams were a success at the Waverly Iowa Draft Horse Sale. After long consideration we decided to sell there. With the help of Bill Dean, we had lots of publicity and a great stall. The American Creams were the talk of the barn. We took a show board full of pictures and gave out more than 200 brochures to help inform people of the breed.

The sale ring was packed Thursday evening as we sold our three stud colts. We sold a team that were 3/4 brothers and then a single cream. The creams were well accepted at the sale with bidders from at least five states. We feel that more people will be joining us in the love of the American Cream Draft Horse.

Don & Linda Johnson

By Daniel Pierce

Rural Heritage (Spring 2002) shows Liza Howe with a pair of Creams competing in log skidding at Deets Old-Fashioned Days, Milledgeville, Illinois.

Rural Heritage (Summer 2002) ran a letter from Carol Pshigoda, Bend, Oregon, about being at Memorial Day activities in Boise, Idaho, to honor firefighters. She drove a three-abreast hitch of Creams pulling an 1829 Steam Pumper.

Rural Heritage (Autumn 2002) ran two articles by Lynne Howe, Lena, Illinois. One titled "Preserving a Genetic

Treasure," deals with saving the Cream breed from extinction. The other article was about the possible cause of death of her Cream gelding, Sugar. It should be noted that Sugar, along with his stable mate Cream, have been depicted in many magazine articles in recent years. His lifetime may not have been of great length, but the fine job he did representing the American Cream Draft Breed at various plowing and workhorse events is well documented.

Please let Daniel know (danhpierce@yahoo.com) if something is published so we can all be informed.

CLASSIFIEDS

CREAMS FOR SALE

*Corson, Ben & Linda, HCR 61, Box 193 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805; (208) 267-2174, email: bcorson@coldreams.com, website: www.moyievalleyranch.com.

#525, Corson's Captain's Champagne, yearling gelding, light cream.

Also available 3 weanlings to be registered: cream filly, pink skin, Sire: #314,

Captain's Timothy Taylor, Dam: #417, HnJ's Dick's Mae Pearl.

Also a tracking filly: dark, dark skin, Sire: #314, Captain's Timothy Taylor, Dam: #367 HnJ's Fanny-Dan's Princess.

And a gelding: cream, pink skin, Sire: #416, HnJ's Dick's Fanny Duke, Dam: #00009 tracking Corson's Timothy's April Ann. Delivery possible.

Merchandise Available

Official Logo

Royal blue with three white stars above red and white stripes in a shield shape. Harnessed team of white American Cream Draft Horses with the words "Born and Bred in the U.S.A." in black. Designed by Brenda and Dan Williams and approved at the 1995 meeting.

Listed price plus postage will be billed in the package.

Decal (3"x3") to be mounted on glass windshield	\$4
Bumper stickers	\$4
Car shades	\$13
Non-magnetic decal	\$9
Magnetic decals (9"x12")	\$13
Youth T-shirts, S and M	\$11
Adult T-shirts, S-XL	\$12

Adult T-shirts, XXL \$13

Adult T-shirts, XXXL \$14

Prices are for white tees with colored logo

Sweatshirts S-XL \$21

XXL \$22

XXXL \$23

Oatmeal canvas tote bag with team outline \$7

Cream and brown baseball cap with the screen print team outline \$7

"Buck"—This American Draft Horse likeness is 11" tall to top of head. Buck is made of synthetic fibers and can be surface washed with cold water and mild soap, air dried and gently brushed to restore plush. "Buck" is a soft cream-colored horse with poseable legs. Great fun to play with. Retail price plus postage

\$18.95

American Cream News

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Karen V. Smith, Editor

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The Association website is:

www.americancreamdraft.org

Email Secretary Nancy Lively at: livery@sover.net

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