

American Cream News

VOLUME 13, NO. 2

FALL 2003

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, TO HOLD 2004 ANNUAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 15 AND 16

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation will host the two-day 2004 annual meeting, with something planned Thursday evening for attendees who arrive early. More details of the event will be published in the spring newsletter.

The host hotel will be the Woodlands Hotel & Suites, a Colonial Williamsburg hotel, located conveniently near the Historic Area, the world's largest outdoor living history museum. Colonial Williamsburg re-creates 18th-century life in Williamsburg and includes public buildings, trade shops, taverns, homes and domestic animals.

A block of 20 rooms is being held until September 15, 2004. Room cost is \$99 plus tax per night with a two-night stay (Friday and Saturday). More rooms will be made available at this price if needed. Make your reservations early, and be sure to tell them you are with the ACDHA. The toll-free number is 1-800-261-9530.

The Woodlands will extend the \$99 per night price if members wish to stay longer than two days. Call for details.

A registration fee of \$15 per person will cover the cost of a Colonial Williamsburg pass, good for visiting the Historic Area during your entire stay. The Woodlands is providing a conference room free of charge for Saturday's meeting, but there is a charge of not more than \$10 per person for lunch that day.

For an information sheet on the Woodlands Hotel & Suites and transportation services to Virginia, contact Karen Smith at (757) 220-7790 or email ksmith@cwf.org. Members who attended the 2003 meeting have already received this information.

A more detailed schedule will appear in the spring 2004 newsletter; mark your calendar and make it a family trip. Remember, 2004 is the 60th anniversary of the ACDHA!

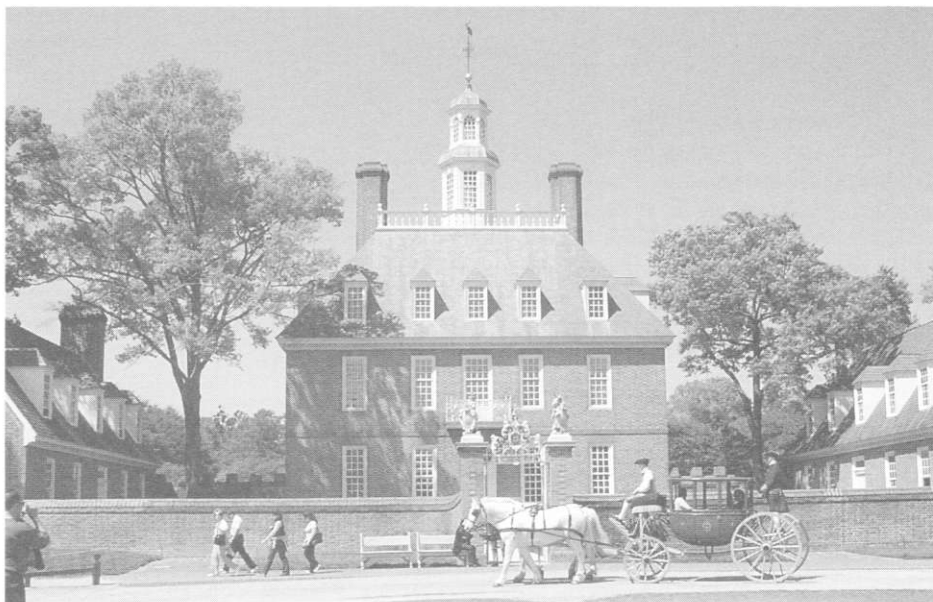
SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Now that I have a year as secretary under my belt (along with way too many cookies and mashed potatoes!), I've had the pleasure of working with many "old-time" members one-on-one, as well as answering the questions of many who are having their first "Cream experience." Five new members and three new associate members have joined us in the last six weeks. That is exceptional for an association our size and, we hope, a sign of things to come.

The 2003 Stallion Reports and the 2003 Foaling Reports are due by December 31, 2003. All unpaid dues must be paid as soon as possible. Finally, please register all of your yet-to-be registered horses. That mentioned, let's get to new business:

JEB Test Bylaw Change. "As of 1/1/2004, applications for all unaltered males must be accompanied by results from a junctional epidermolysis bullosa (JEB) test performed on the animal in question. If sire and dam are noncarriers, offspring do not need to be tested. All testing results shall be reflected on the registration certificate and in the herd book." Please refer to the "JEB Facts" you received in the membership mailing and that were published in the newsletter. The JEB test is a DNA test done from hair samples. Contact me for applications. Fill out the application, and return it to me with a check for the \$40 test. I will then send you the kit that you mail directly to the University of California. All of the instructions are very clear.

Newsletter Publishing Change. Due to budget constraints, the 2004 fall newsletter will be the last that Colonial Williamsburg will publish for us. How our newsletters are published after that date will be an agenda item at our 2004 meeting. However, associate member Nancy Phillips has agreed to put out a "trial newsletter," if you will, in January



The American Cream is a modern breed, but it represents the size and disposition of 18th-century draft horses. Here is coachman Eric Hunter driving Jesse and Cream Ben in front of the Governor's Palace.

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2004. She will need input for that by January 1, 2004. Please send any contributions to me or Nancy Phillips, 10975 Barnard Road, Crocker, MO 65452; email topaz2@gateway.net.

Newsletter Deadline Change. The deadline for the spring 2004 newsletter will be March 15, 2004 (not April), and the deadline for the fall 2004 newsletter will be September 15, 2004 (not October).

Draft Horse Secretary's Meeting. I will give a slide presentation on the American Cream draft horse at the biannual Draft Horse Secretary's Meeting in June 2004. The Clydesdale Association is hosting the meeting and celebrating its 125th anniversary. This is an opportunity for us to educate and enlighten all of the other draft breed associations on the greatness of our horses. Please send me pictures and stories to share.

2004 Annual Meeting. Please make plans to attend our 2004 annual meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia. It will be the 60th anniversary of the American Cream Draft Horse Association and our best celebration ever.

David and I would like to wish you all the happiest of holidays and a healthy, prosperous new year. Clear the way for the Cream parade in 2004!

*Nancy H. Lively
Secretary*



Interested in Running for Director?

The members of this year's nominating committee are Art Gebel from Missouri, Linda Corson from Idaho and Leonard Offutt from Maryland. You will find their mailing addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers on the member list that you received in August.

If you are interested in running for director in 2004, send your letter of interest to any member of the nominating committee by April 1, 2004. Serving as a director is a great way to have your voice heard between annual meetings and to stay abreast of Cream activity throughout the year.

LETTERS

A Big Thank You

While the medical profession mends the body, it is the phone calls, cards and emails that help the mind and make the healing time pass quickly. I sincerely appreciate everything that everyone did during my recovery.

*Sincerely
Frank Tremel*

News from Oregon

We worked pretty hard all spring and summer to reach our goal of the new 4-up, mostly against huge odds, as one of the geldings was just a pill. It took four men at our state fair to get him hitched to the wagon after he reared over backwards when a 6-up of black shires scared him. But some wonderful friends from the other hitches came to our aid the next day and that night helping us fix our new, now seemingly ruined, harness. They all told stories of each other's horses acting up and causing them lots of grief over the years.

To top it off there has always been an element of anti-Cream sentiment with a few of the hitches, most of it resolved over the years, but one of the hitches passed a rule in our absence last year stating that all hitches needed to be shod. This came as a surprise to the other hitch owners.

We had told them this was a do-or-die year for us at the state fair. If we encountered bad politics, we had other shows we could go to, and it just was not worth it for us.

Because the rule was in place this year, we took last in every class, to the increasing boos from the crowd, who were not party as to why. They were almost livid. I drove our last class on the 12th day we were there. It was a 4-up competition course of obstacles, bridges, cones, tight turns, etc. We were given the last-place ribbon, as expected, to boos from the crowd. When we were outside in the warm-up arena waiting for it to clear out so we could unhitch, Dave Cunningham, owner and driver of the biggest Belgian hitch, Meadowlake Belgians, came up to me, congratulated us on how well the horses did, and, to my shock and disbelief, gave me his third-place ribbon and said, "This is the ribbon you really won. Next year will be different!"

This meant a lot coming from a wonderful teamster. Glenn was standing near the judge when she was trying to place us, and she said the Creams won third, but what do I do about the shoes? It was a rule that was only supposed to apply in a conformation class.

Anyway, there was a meeting, and the rule was changed because the other competitors wanted diversity of breeds and wanted the Creams to come back. It was wonderful to have such support for the breed.

It has been a busy year. This spring, Georgia foaled her 13th foal (this includes a pair of twins that died), and Barney sired his 45th foal. WOW! One would have never been able to tell me this would come to pass many years ago! Not all of Barney's babies were registered, nor are all of them living now, but I was very surprised when I started counting at the end of the breeding season.

Last fall our family made the commitment to make some drastic changes in our show hitch. Our goal was to present a brand-new 4-up hitch to the show circuit, one that would be competitive in harness and vehicle, without changing the conformation standards of our breed; that is, we refuse to breed taller horses. We feel we met that goal. We had a new harness made to complement the horses, brown leather with brass fittings, and added brass rail to the wagon with white accents.

As most of you know, it is always a challenge to take young horses on their first outing off the ranch or away from home. Our hitch this year is made up of young horses, with Eve being the oldest at 6, Babe at 5, Justin and Sonny are both four-year-old geldings, who were laid off training for a year when we presented the first 4-up in 2000, which was made up of Barney, Georgia, Eve and Babe, the last two mares at that time were 3- and 2-year-olds.

With this hitch we were able to get a Cream in front of the public in men's and ladies' cart, team, and all of the 4-up classes, where in the past we were only able to have Creams in four classes, the cart and team classes. With this exposure the horses really developed a following. We had a cheering squad at the



three major shows we attended. Our first show of the season was a bust, as the geldings were so nervous they both colicked, and we had to take them home. They recovered and did much better at the state fair. Eve did pull through for us, though, and we were able to participate in ladies' cart. We were disappointed to be the only Cream exhibitors at the Grass Valley Draft Horse Classic. Dave really impressed the spectators by winning second, beat only by Hames Valley Vineyard, in the amateur to drive 4-up class. The horses really did well. There were 32 entries in the ladies' cart class, with three heats to decide who would actually go into the evening show, which only had about 16 entries. Eve and I made that class.

Taking the horses alone, Dave and I were too busy to take any pictures, but a T-shirt shop there took some pictures during the ladies' team class and also outside in the warm-up area right before ladies' cart. When passing this T-shirt booth the next day, I mentioned, as I always do, they needed an American Cream T for the public. The owner told me they had one. I was very surprised to see she had put Sonny, the right-hand horse of the lead team of the 4-up, and our right horse in the team classes, on a T with the American Cream heading. She also did a nice flag shot of Eve's head. She told me she had a website, and these Ts are now available on the net.

We could not have made it to any of these shows this year without the help of many friends; Donna Miller and her girls, Cali and Casey, were indispensable at the Grass Valley show, as were Anglea and Dave Belonge of Redding. At the state fair, Melinda Hanna and family came to our aid. It has truly been an effort of cooperation getting these horses out to the public this year.

The website for the T-shirts is www.horsedesigns.com and the page that takes you right there is www.horsedesigns.com/drafts/creamflag.html.

This young hitch did well, and, now that they have their first year under their belts, we know they will be more solid next year. They did well in Carol's 4-up classes, but they seem to like the obstacle courses best. We are already working on training the swing team for next year's 6. We are keeping our fingers crossed.

For us it is not the ribbons, but the breed recognition. The more times the public sees Creams, the more likely they are going to remember them. This is the "create-a-market" phase of their preservation program in our books, and we cannot thank all of you enough who also are able to get your horses out in the pub-

lic's eye. We know how much work it is and what a commitment it takes to do it.

Have a great winter and next spring.

*Carol, Dave and family
Dave and Carol Pshigoda
Cream Acres Ranch
American Cream Draft Horses
www.creamacres.com*

News from Idaho

We have had a very busy summer and suspect most everyone else has as well. Ben spent all spring tilling fields and planting and all summer haying—June 1 to August 25. Ben and Linda worked with the three new foals born this year, as well as the adult horses and foals we kept from last year (we now have 16 Creams), and cared for our flock of sheep. Linda also opened her weaving studio to the public as part of an artist tour. Guests to the studio also enjoyed seeing and learning about the Creams.

We attended the Sandpoint Draft Horse Show and placed second in farm equipment and lady's street cart classes. Enclosed is a picture of Linda and Payton's Fanny. Fanny is 23 years old and still can put on a show! I personally hadn't driven her in cart for two years (we warmed up a little before the class); however, Ben had worked her in team and with Babe and Princess this spring. You could have knocked me over with a feather! Placing second was the last thing on my mind! What a grand horse!

We are now getting ready for winter and looking forward to spring's new foals and lambs. May all of your endeavors do well and may God bless us all.

Ben and Linda Corson



P.S. As the "hay boss" for nearly 20 Creams, I have spent virtually all of the recent summers putting up hay for our precious but ever-hungry charges. I am sorry I've missed the opportunity in recent years to meet all you new faces and to get to know everyone better . . . and so, I want to thank Colonial Williamsburg and the organizers of the 2004 meeting for setting it in October!

Ben

YOUTH HOSTEL DRAFT HORSE CLINIC

Every year the Percheron Horse Association in Fredericktown, Ohio, hosts a combined adult and youth draft horse clinic. The American Cream Draft Horse Association will sponsor up to 50 percent of the registration cost of the clinic for a youth from a member family. Let Nancy Lively, secretary, know by January 1, 2004, if anyone is interested in doing this. If more than one young person is interested, the president will appoint a committee to review the applications and choose one youth.

The 2003 clinic took place April 21–25. As of the newsletter deadline, the 2004 dates had not been announced.

FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

If you were not able to make the annual meeting, I suggest that you go over the minutes. Please pay attention to the testing information for JEB. The test is now available; we have the opportunity NOW to erase this problem in our breed. A tip of the whip to Catherine Offutt for all of the time she spent getting the information to present to us.

Calendars are again being offered. Thanks to all who sent in photos. If every member bought just two, we would raise some much-needed funds for the association. The Precord family is handling the calendar sales. Order early as ads have been placed in the ALBC and other publications.

We are going to issue a winter newsletter between our two regular publications. This is in preparation for when we lose Colonial Williamsburg as our publication sponsor. Please send information for the winter issue to Nancy Phillips.

Start planning for our annual meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, in 2004.

Frank Tremel, President

As of August 2003, the American Cream Draft Horse Association has 89 full members and 36 associate members. There are 308 registered full-blooded horses: 150 mares (112 four and over, 38 under four) and 158 males (53 two and over, 19 under two, 86 geldings). There are 21 tracking horses: 17 mares (10 four and over, seven under four) and four males (three two and over, one under two).

WHAT IS JEB (EI)?

JEB is an abbreviation for junctional epidermolysis bullosa, which is the new name for the old disease called EI (epitheliogenesis imperfecto), or hairless foal. This is a simple recessive genetic mutation that occurred many generations back.

How do I identify if a foal has JEB?

This genetic mutation results in the defective production of a skin protein that holds the skin to the body. The foals are typically born alive and well but soon develop patches of hair and skin loss over points of wear. These patches soon become larger and encompass large areas of the foal's body. Hoof attachment is also dependent on this protein, and its absence leads to the loss of the hoof wall. The foal dies, or is euthanized for severe infection and discomfort, at 3 to 8 days of age. The foals also have another important feature: the front teeth are in at birth with many oral ulcers present.

What is the history of JEB?

JEB is not a new problem to Belgian breeders; we have been plagued with this annoyance for centuries. There are scientific reports of this condition dating back to 1934 in Sweden and 1936 in the Netherlands, and 38 cases were reported in Germany from 1935 to 1944. This condition is not isolated to the Belgian horse; similar conditions are reported in the American Saddlebred and even humans. It was through human research conducted by the French in collaboration with Dr. John D. Baird* of the University of Guelph that the gene site of the mutation was isolated on January 24, 2002. The isolation of the site removed the largest obstacle in developing a test to identify carrier and noncarrier horses of the defect.

How do the genetics work with this genetic mutation?

There are three types of animals with this disease:

- 1) Lethal JEB foals (jj)—These horses die shortly after birth and never reproduce.
- 2) Carrier horses (Jj)—These horses carry the genetic mutation, and it is the breeding of two carrier horses that allows the birth of a JEB foal. Breeding two carrier horses results in the following offspring:
25% Noncarrier offspring (JJ)
50% Carrier offspring (Jj)
25% Lethal JEB foals (jj)
- 3) Noncarrier horses (JJ)—These horses do not carry the genetic mutation and the breeding of two noncarrier horses results in all their offspring being noncarriers. The breeding of a noncarrier to a carrier horse results in the following:
50% Noncarrier offspring (JJ)
50% Carrier offspring (Jj)

The take-home message with the genetics of this defect: *Do not breed two carrier horses together.* By avoiding this combination we will never have another lethal JEB foal again. A successful breeding program can be accomplished by breeding known carriers, as long as they are mated with known noncarriers.

How do I identify which of my horses are carriers and noncarriers?

We no longer have to guess and hope that our breeding program is not breeding two carriers together leading to the production of a lethal JEB foal. The Belgian Corporation has contracted with the Veterinary Genetics Lab at University of California, Davis, to handle the genetics testing for the JEB condition and to handle the testing for our parentage verification. **Only registered animals can be tested.** The owner of the horse submits the registration papers and appropriate fees to the Belgian Corporation office requesting the JEB test. The corporation office will then send back to

the owner bar-coded paperwork and an envelope. Within this envelope you place the mane or tail hairs of the appropriate horse. **These hairs must be pulled and not cut.** If the horse is less than 1 year old, it is recommended that you pull tail hairs and, if greater than 1 year old, that you pull main hairs. Approximately 50 hairs are required for the test.

The root (bulb) of the hair is what contains the DNA needed for the testing. These hairs can be pulled by the owner of the horse; the process does not require a veterinarian. The hair samples are very stable and do not require refrigeration or special express mailing. The lab will then do the genetic testing to determine the carrier or noncarrier status and then parentage verification to confirm that it was the animal specified. The results will then be returned to the Belgian office and printed on the registration papers as "carrier of JEB" or "noncarrier of JEB." The registration papers will then be returned to the owner.

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*Dr. John Baird from the University of Guelph, Canada, is planning to attend the 2004 meeting to give his talk on JEB for those who missed it in July. He will also give an update on his findings and how this relates to American Creams.



Coachman Ed Merkley driving Ben and Jesse in front of the Courthouse on Duke of Gloucester Street.

2003 MEETING A SUCCESS

For those of you unable to attend this year's meeting, here are a few pictures. Don and Linda Johnson did a wonderful job hosting the meeting, and all who came had fun.



Members visited the Reiman Gardens, run by Iowa State University, located across the street from the vet school. Don Johnson takes a break from the walking and sits in a cocoon chair.

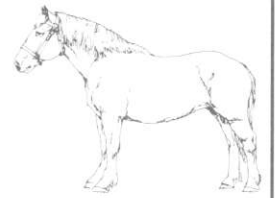


Meet your directors: (left to right) Frank Tremel, president; Betsy Ziebell; Arthur Gebel; Nancy Lively, secretary/treasurer; Don Johnson, vice president; and Karen Smith.



After Saturday's meeting, members went for a ride compliments of Don and Linda Johnson with their team of mares and foals at their sides.

CREAMS in the NEWS



By Daniel Pierce

"Horse Progress Days—10 Years and Still Growing," *Driving Digest* (March/April 2003), includes a paragraph on Creams.

"Festival of Draft Horses in Ohio," *Heavy Horse World* (Summer 2003), includes a brief description of Creams. (This is a U.K. publication.)

"Riders Get Drafted," *Horse Illustrated* (August 2003), discusses using drafts for riding. Shaun McKinley of Wilton, California, is quoted, and American Creams are mentioned in the article.

"Living a Dream," *Rural Heritage* (Summer 2003), is a three-page feature on Carol Olson-Pshigoda's quest to find, own and breed the horses of her dreams.

"An Old-Fashioned Fair," *American Profile* (August 17-23, 2003, southeast edition), contains information about and a photo of Doug Smith's team of Creams.

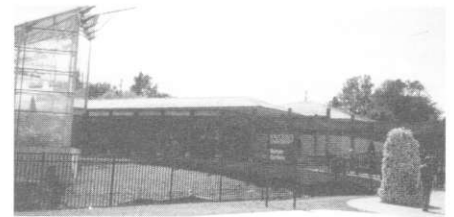
Rural Heritage (Autumn 2003), under "Feedback," includes a letter and photo from Carol Olson-Pshigoda relative to her 4-up hitch of Creams. Also, "Right in Our Backyard" shows a photo of Christ Nisely from Butler, Ohio, and his team of Creams at the Parade of Breeds, Horse Progress Days 2003.



Members of the ACDHA should shortly start receiving complimentary copies of the *Horse-Drawn News*, a small newspaper published in Eatonton, Georgia. It contains many interesting articles on carriages, horse-drawn implements, restorations and the care of draft horses. This publication is also a good resource for draft-horse supplies, schools and sales. Free classified ads are offered to private individuals. Hope you enjoy it.



Friday started out with members meeting for breakfast at a local restaurant and catching up on the news. At 2 P.M., we were given a private tour of Iowa State University Large Animal Hospital. President Frank Tremel stands outside the hospital's main entrance.



The butterfly house was one of the biggest hits at the garden. You can see part of the house in the left of the photo.



Our guide at the hospital was a fourth-year veterinary student. She was a lot of fun and answered all our questions about the facility and diseases like West Nile virus. Members were shown the X-ray room with the university's newly acquired state-of-the-art machines for taking large X-ray slides.

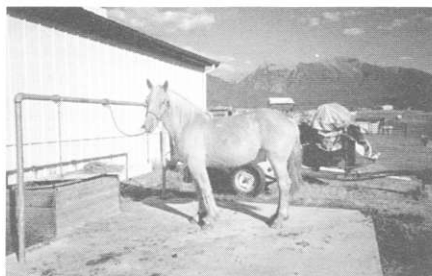
CLASSIFIEDS

CREAMS FOR SALE

Corson, Ben and Linda, HCR 61, Box 193, Bonners Ferry, ID 83805; (208) 267-2174; email bcorsn@coldreams.com. #525, Corson's Captain's Champagne, 2-year-old gelding, light cream, pink skin. #546, Corson's Sonny Boy, 1-year-old gelding, medium cream, white mane and tail, pink skin, amber eyes. One-year-old filly (half Cream, half Suffolk) to be registered as a tracking horse, sire: #416, HnJ's Dick's Fanny Duke, medium cream, white mane and tail, pink skin, amber eyes. Weanling colt to be registered as a full Cream, sire: #416 HnJ's Dick's Fanny Duke, dam: tracking mare, medium cream, white mane and tail, pink skin, amber eyes.



Rogalski, Wes, email wrogalski@aol.com. Warlands Farms Scout, stud colt born 4/1/03, light cream, sire: #282 Clar Ann Dick's Major, dam: #482 Captain's Sandy, light cream (see picture above). Also, filly born in 2002, Warlands Farms Big Bertha, sire: #282 Clar Ann Dick's Major, dam #451 Captain's Eve, medium cream (see picture next column).



Tremel, Frank, P.O. Box 303, West River, MD 20778; (301) 261-5327; email rosehill-creams@aol.com. Weanling filly, sire: #284, C.W. Cream of Wheat, dam: #307, Ye Plain Ole Sand Storm. Yearling colt appendix and weanling colt and filly appendix, sire: #284, C.W. Cream of Wheat, dams: Belgian mares.

Yoder, Mike, 14917 Watson Road, St. Ignatius, MT 59865; (406) 745-5111. Stud colt born 4/21/02.

Lively, David and Nancy, Lively's Livery, 193 Crossover Road, Bennington, VT 05201; (802) 447-7612, Fax (802) 447-0711; email lively@sover.net; website www.livelyslivery.com. Tracking filly born 3/03, all Cream breeding for two generations.

Smith, Doug, (860) 546-1079; email horse-logger@juno.com. Colt born 7/03, sire: #291, dam: #428. Trackable filly, 18 months old, sire: #291, dam: Dolly Bel. mare. Three-year-old gelding, light cream with dark skin, sire: #284, dam: Dolly Bel. mare. Six-year-old gelding, cream, sire: #273, X Bel., dam: Bel. mare.

Wetherington, Bill, Red Lantern Farm, Monticello, WI; (608) 938-1370; email wwetheri@tds.net. Red Lantern Farm's Bright Hope and Red Lantern Farm's Hearts De-Light, full sisters, aged 11 and 5; both have had some training but little work; they need a home where they will be worked and bred on a regular basis. Prefer to sell as a pair but would consider separating or selling only one.

2004

PHOTO CALENDARS

Photos of Creams working, showing, parading and in the pasture; 13 large and 12 small photos; \$15.00 each, shipping and handling included in the United States. Support your association. Available for Christmas. Contact the Precord Family, 5233 Muddy Creek Road, West River, MD 20778, (410) 867-4592, email SBFCreams@aol.com.

NEW MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

New merchandise is now available for sale. Christmas is right around the corner! Just let Nancy Lively, secretary, know what you want.

Medium, large and extra large for all of the following are in stock:

Item	Colors	Price
Fleece Jackets	Heather Grey	\$42.00
Hooded Sweatshirts	Gray, White (XL only)	29.00
Sweatshirts	Red, Navy, Natural, Athletic Heather, Royal, Light Gray, Tan, White	22.00
Long-Sleeved T-shirts	Gray, Tan, White	21.00
Golf Shirts	Red, Charcoal Heather, Navy, Stonewashed Blue, Light Steel	28.00
T-shirts	Red, Navy, Tan Heather, Light Blue, Denim, Khaki, Black Heather, White	12.00
New Hats	Khaki, Stone, Khaki w/Navy, Stone w/Black, Khaki w/Red Visor, Khaki w/Navy Visor	20.00

American Cream News

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The American Cream News is a benefit of membership in the American Cream Draft Horse Association, published biannually from the Coach and Livestock Operations at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. The American Cream News welcomes submissions of articles, pictures, letters and classified ads that deal with American Cream draft horses.

Karen V. Smith, Editor

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Fall issue, September 15

The association website is:
www.americandraft.org
Email Secretary Nancy Lively at:
lively@sover.net

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