

American Cream News

E-Letter



Volume 21 No.3 August 2011

2011 Meeting Edition



Left photo: guest speaker Clair Rierson, grandson of C. T. Rierson, first president of our association and Frank Tremel, present president of our association

Right photo above: Radcliffe, Iowa home of C. T. Rierson, Ardmore Farm
photo courtesy of Clair Rierson

Frank,

Just a belated thank you for inviting me to your Association meeting. As you could tell, it meant a lot to me to see how active your group is and how you are maintaining the breed.

The Rierson family is truly grateful for your passion for the Creams. I am sorry I couldn't spend more time with you, but, maybe next time. Thanks again for all that you and those Cream owners do. I know that C.T. would be very proud to see what has been maintained.

Sincerely,
Clair Rierson



C. T. Rierson's 6 horse hitch

photo courtesy of Clair Rierson

Look for more on our visit with Clair Rierson on Page 9



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stephen E. Branson
2363 Levi Sloan
Victoria, TX 77904

Associate Members

Clair Rierson
413 Dimock Way
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Officers

<i>President:</i>	<i>Frank Tremel</i>
<i>Vice-President:</i>	<i>Wendell Lupkes</i>
<i>Sec/Treas:</i>	<i>Nancy Lively</i>
<i>Directors:</i>	<i>Donna Miller</i>
	<i>John Schwartzler</i>
	<i>Catherine Murphy</i>

© American Cream Draft Horse Association
No part of the American Cream News may be reproduced (including photographs) without written permission of the Secretary of the Association.

American Cream News is a benefit of membership in the American Cream Draft Horse Association, published quarterly, as of 2005. American Cream News welcomes articles, pictures, letters, and classified ads dealing with American Creams and equipment and events dealing with draft horses. Our new format will be available to members one issue before it is posted on our association website.

Nancy Lively, Secretary/Treasurer
193 Crossover Rd, Bennington, VT 05201
lively123@comcast.net

Susan Engel, Editor
54658 Bent Rd., Marcellus, MI 49067
sufynnengel@juno.com

Dean Tick, Webmaster of www.acdha.org



LOOK!!! New 2012 ACDHA Calendar and 8 New ACDHA Ceramic Christmas Ornaments

@www.ACDHA.org/merchandise LOOK!!!

FROM THE DRIVERS SEAT

The weather cooperated as bright sunny days and beautiful cool evenings greeted us for our Annual Meeting at Bird in Hand, Pennsylvania. Our scheduled activities started on Wednesday with a drive south into Maryland to tour the carriage collection of Jack Day. who gave us the history on each of the over 50 carriages in his collection. What an interesting experience.

Our meeting was called to order on Thursday at 12:30. A very emotional presentation was given to us by Clair Rierson, the grandson of C. T. Rierson. He shared family photos and remembrances of working with his Grandfather and his herd of Creams.

Both Jack Day and Clair Rierson made our time with them very enjoyable and informative.

After his presentation we continued with our business meeting. Congratulations to Donna Miller who was elected to the Board of Directors. A SPECIAL THANKS to Linda Corson for her years of service to the Association as a Board member.

We had a short silence in memory of member Mike McBride. We completed business by 4:30pm. Probably set some sort of a record for the shortest meeting in the last 2 decades. While the meeting was short probably the most important thing that I personally enjoyed was the sharing of time with our follow members. I enjoyed the conversations as we ate together and we did do a lot of eating as a group. Names now have a face with them and I saw members that I haven't seen in years.

Horse Progress Days which was held on Friday and Saturday was an interesting experience. Nancy and Dave Lively made the trip from Vermont with a team to participate both days in the parade of the breeds and also the demonstration of different types of farm equipment. Sue Engel and Nancy McBride did an excellent job of setting up our booth.

THANKS to all those that helped with manning the booth both days.

By the time you read this you should have received the annual meeting mailing. Marilyn and Terry Precord volunteered to take on this task.

Next year our meeting returns to Iowa and the following year we will be in California. Please keep current on your dues and we need your foaling and breeding reports. The Newsletter editor needs your photos, articles, etc. She can only print what she receives.

Sincerely,

Frank Tremel
President



To go or not to go:

Horse Progress Days 2011

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

July 1 - 2

by David Lively

Nancy made the original call to David Stoltzfus Jr, the coordinator for the horses/teamsters back in March.....asking about having one of our teams come to Horse Progress Days to participate in the field demonstrations for the two day event. As you may or may not be aware, horses come to these events by invitation only, so it was gratifying when the request from our Secretary was met with a nod of approval from the organizers. Well that part was easy and we moved on to the "What exactly are we going to do there?" part. Our first task at this point was to repeatedly tell Mr. Stoltzfus that American Creams are not halflingers in stature nor strength. "These are small horses" he suggested, "so maybe you'd like to cultivate in the vegetable gardens across the street from the hay fields." "Nay, nay", Nancy said. These Creams are 1,750 lbs and 16.3 hh....a tad bigger than the breed standard, but quality well trained Creams all the way to the bone. A mother/daughter team of 13 & 9 years, respectively, Shirley, bred by Don & Linda Johnson and Samantha, sired by our 'Jumper's Trouble' were the Cream team coming to represent our breed along side of some of the best working horses and teamsters that HPD's would showcase.

Once we got past the small horse thing with David, we were accepted to come and pull with the big boys; and the usual suspects of Belgian, Perchies, Fjords, Spotted Drafts and yes....Halflingers. But there was a bug-gaboo.....we had developed big time truck worries. Our '01 Ford 350 was engine willing, but the body, breaking system and suspension was a real concern to us; a breakdown with horses in tow can take the fun out of any trip. Then on Saturday the weekend before we were to leave, a wheel bearing went and so did a rear seal in the differential. For those of you mechanically challenged....we were in deep doo doo. Time to trade? A tough decision given today's truck prices, and the sagging economy, but we had committed to the event and figured that we were in need at some point soon, so we found a new truck, which we managed to get 'trailer' ready with a goose neck ball hitch by Wednesday, two days before HPD.

We just couldn't bear the burden of telling all our Cream friends and the straw hats hosting the event that we had to cancel out. We couldn't bear the thought of being left out or somehow eliminated from consideration at future draft horse events of this sort.

We got our local 'Big Boys Toys' folks to stuff in a goose neck ball with almost no notice...that's gonna cost me a case of Bud, but they did a really neat job. We've been good customers through the years, so the 'what goes around, comes around' thing.....came around.

But a caveat....the new integrated braking system on our 3500HD Silverado didn't recognize the potent amperage draw of an electric-over-hydraulic braking system on the new Eby trailer, so - for you challenged - deep doo doo, again. We found out this marvelous little piece of news the morning we had brought the horses home from across town with our old Ponderosa trailer with magnetic breaks...which worked fine on the new truck. I figured we were golden to go. Um....hook up new trailer with horses and gear aboard...no brakes. Four hours later at the Chevy dealer with techs, computer plug-ins, and two horses on the trailer, we knew we weren't going to have brakes for this trip. The new truck has an engine brake and most of the trip was interstate where we could keep a safe space; we decided to go.

A safe passage:



Home away from home

We arrived without incident early evening Wednesday at the site....a beautiful Amish farm, who's owner had committed to giving up some 80-100 acres of tillable land to horse and vendor tents, trash, toilets and thousands of people for a week. Where else but in Intercourse, Pennsylvania - a name a bit harder to say than to read. Our rig had barely come to a stop, and it was instantly like a 'home coming' as Cream folks who had come from far and near for the American Cream Draft Horse Association's Annual Meeting and HPD converged in smiles of familiar faces, handshakes and hugs. We now knew we had made the right choice to come so far. With helping hands we settled the horses in their stalls beneath a tent and fetching water & hay for the pair of mares this effort was all about. Once we were confident that chores were done, we finalized our dinner plans, cleaned up the horse trailer by fertilizing a nearby cornfield, and parked the trailer where it would serve as our harnessing and standing needs for the next three days. As most of the horses and trailers would be coming in throughout the day on Thursday, we were lucky to pick a pretty good spot to park, close enough to the horse tent, yet quiet enough to avoid the bevy of activity to come. It was time for sit down with friends over an Amish dinner, with some catching up on stories and happenings of the year past.....some happy, some sad. More on the latter, later.

Fix the darn brakes:

Thursday morning arrived quickly at the motel....the internal clock with “where’s my horses” got me hopping out of bed. Doug Garrand, a friend and ACDHA member jumped in the truck with me and we headed to the farm. I just love it when all is quiet in the early morning....heck, we beat the farmers out of bed! The horses hadn’t emptied their water buckets, but had finished cleaning up their hay and were relatively clean. I’m pretty sure they didn’t lay down; not a surprise as they were in a strange looking barn. We walked them out to the water, but they weren’t interested. So true; ‘you can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make ‘em drink’. So back to the stalls we went, with hay and freshly filled pails of water. We hitched the trailer and were headed to Blue Ball, PA, where Eby had a manufacturing plant. They were the ones who built this trailer, and knew we were coming to deal with the ‘no’ brake issue. Well...long story short, they installed an electronic device in the trailer brake wiring that fooled the truck’s computer into thinking we had regular magnetic brakes. Ain’t technology great? Now we had brakes and now I could focus my attention on the task at hand – horses!

Our wives, both Nancy’s had come along to the farm a bit later and held our spot for the trailer, while making the ACDHA booth display ready for the event coming Friday and Saturday. Then they were off for our annual meeting in town, while Doug & I decided to stay and give the horses a real good look at what was outside their tent along with all the activity that was just beginning to bring the farm to life.



Horses of different colors



Just when you think you've seen all there is to see at a horse drawn event, someone shows up with a camel. Go figure?



Doug & I discussing the hitch and making ready

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure:

As this was an event different from what our horses are familiar with, I thought it was a good idea to put them out and about to get a feel for what they’d be experiencing for the days to follow. We harnessed up and ground drove the team around the area, having to pass through the barn yard area of the farm. We met head up with pairs, three and four abreast teams of horses and mules pulling steel wheeled wagons, forecarts, and a rather scary 1,300 gallon liquid manure spreader that was being used to water down the dust on the access lanes and paths that were getting pounded by the heavy footed and their dray. Doug stayed on their head, just in case things got out of hand, but other than their wanting to walk a bit faster than their teamster, they settled in after a few rounds up and down the growing line up of horse drawn equipment that would be put to work. Tied to the trailer, the horses stayed harnessed, except for bridles, so they could eat and drink. I intended to take them back out later in the afternoon. So did several other teamsters with their hitches; I guess we were all on the same page with being prepared and getting the horses more comfortable. Even though we were throwing the fluff and puff out the barn door for a couple days, tomorrow was show time and we all knew it. In hindsight, it was well worth it both for the horse and me.

Time to go to work:

Friday morning we had a 7:30 teamsters meeting at the end of big horse tent. We had each been given an index card with our specific hitches in the order of presentation. After a friendly good morning and a thank you for bringing our animals to the event, the subject turned quickly to safety. “Don’t drop your lines” were the first words of caution. “I know you all know your horses and how well they stand, but please: ‘Don’t drop your lines’” He didn’t have to tell me, not once, not here, not in this circus environment. Do mine stand? Yeah, and they are like rocks for me, but again not now and not here. Although we all have heard the drill, it was a good way to get everyone focused on the importance of good harness, calm horses and watching to see and avoid dangerous situations. “It’s in our nature to sit and watch when something is wrong, but today let’s not do that...tell someone and get it fixed”, said David Stoltzfus Jr., as he looked around at the mostly Amish teamsters. I guess there were a half dozen of us that were not. David continued with a couple points, reiterating safety and ended with a comment that I’ll not soon forget: “There are going to be some people here that don’t know much about what we do, so don’t abuse your horses anymore than you need to”. As I walked away from the meeting to ready the horses, I tried to think of anything I would or could do to my Creams that one might consider abuse. It’s not in my nature to beat a horse for any reason, but unfortunately I guess it happens all too often. I avoid people that do; sooner or later it catches up with them. As I drew the attention of our team, they gave a look of recognition. I walked up to Shirley and whispered in her ear: “You ready to go to work?”



OK Sammy, on the count of three we run

Wives Nancys had been busy brushing and helping Doug harness during the meeting, so when we left to find our first hitch, the horses looked really good. Sammy got into the bit for a minute or two, but seemed to settle down as we moved on. “E..a..s...y” I spoke to her, “We walked this yesterday.....let’s settle down, now”. Doug was in his usual spot at lead horse Sammy’s head.

It became apparent of the need for headers and hands on lines as team after team came quite close to other teams backing into their hitches, with strange horses standing only a couple feet from total strangers.....though I never heard a squeal, or saw any problem with horses not wanting to share the limited spaces given us. Once we got in line to make our way through the hedgerow and the waiting crowds, things were very calm. Each piece of equipment got top billing when the announcer brought us up to stand while folks checked out each piece of steel and wheel. The last thing spoken by the announcer before each demonstration was the description of the horses pulling the equipment. “This spreader is being pulled by a nice pair of Cream Horses”, he said. It was time to put the spreader in gear and go. But first a rewind from a memorable manure spreading episode.

About 5 years ago, I had a runaway with a young pair of American Creams on an old rickety ground driven spreader. I guess it was the vibration of the pole and the noise (at a gallop, these things are really loud and shit flies really really high!.....at least that’s what the club members told me later) that got the lead filly out of sorts. Somewhere I’ve got a picture of the initial take off. Flaps down and power at 100%. The hardest thing for me was trying to hold their heads without falling off the flopping seat, which had bolts of questionable tightness. There was a fence line ahead and thankfully we were heading somewhat uphill.....the spreader was lighter (make that empty) but still the beaters rumbled through the hardware. About 50 feet or so from the fence line, the horses slowed and stopped. I sat and kept an eye on them, prepared to get a line full of bit, should they want more. I lifted the levers on the spreader and after a minute or two I swung the team around to face some of the club members across the meadow, who appeared to be applauding. I wasn’t in the mood to bow. Long story short, we went back to the barn loaded up the spreader again. The second load spread much more evenly and not so high in the air, though I had my feet planted and had to hold hard the first few feet. OK, back to HPD’s.

photos: Nancy McBride



Doug had put the spreader in gear, and announcer gave me the go-ahead. I called ‘Sammy’ and the team walked on nicely. We spread an even load staying straight as an arrow between the rows of onlookers. This was much more fun than some previous experiences of spreading manure with horses. We made our way back to the equipment line, unhooked the horses and moved on to the back blade attached to a fore cart; this one had rubber wheels. The second time through the line up of teams and equipment between the hundreds of people lining the field was much more enjoyable for all of us. The blade was better suited for snow removal or gravel work.....but we took it through the open ground, filling in a dead furrow with varying degrees of success. The team stayed true in line, but the clumps of sod didn’t roll back so well. I didn’t care....the horses were doing fine. We took the blade back and parked it. The afternoon session was a couple hours away, so the horses were taken back to the trailer where they rested while we had some lunch and reflected on the morning’s work.

continued on Page 7

A DAY WITH MARGE AND JACK DAY

by Frank Tremel

I don't think any of us were prepared for the collection of carriages that we saw when we arrived in Monkton, Maryland. The carriage house is set a bit lower but on the same knoll as their house over looking some of Maryland's most beautiful hillsides. When you enter the first section of the carriage house you are struck by the way everything is meticulously arranged and the fact that the collection not only includes carriages but everything else associated with them. There were also beautiful displays of sleds & sleighs, many of them hanging from the ceiling. Lining the walls in several locations are peg boards and hooks for every imaginable carriage part, harness part, bits, pieces of the carriage maker trade, whips, harness brasses and a beautiful collection of lamps. In all there were 31 different collections.

Carriage collecting ran in the Day family. His father supplied horses to Mackinac Island, Michigan where all traffic is horse drawn. He was also a member of the Carriage Association of America, had a collection of carriages and spent a lot of time attending auctions taking Jack along. When Jack was 12 years old he gave sleigh rides using a 20 person sleigh for birthday parties. During his college days he continued to attend auctions buying his first buggy for \$5.00 and a sleigh for \$1.00. He met his wife Margaret while in college. She liked traveling and meeting new people and shared his interest in the vehicles. Now over 40 years later their collection consists of over 60 vehicles and displays in a 6500 square foot building. All of the vehicles have a write up of their history on stands of front of them. For over 2 1/2 hours Jack gave us a guided tour of his collection, talking about each carriage, sled or wagon totally from memory.

If I had to choose a favorite rig it would have to be the 1882 Abbott-Downing stage coach. It is all original, beautiful paintings and scroll work on the body. Looked just like the ones that I have seen in so many western movies.

This collection is not open to the public, what a treat to have the opportunity to visit this collection. If we ever have another meeting in this area we should try to tour this beautiful collection again.

We truly appreciated Margaret and Jack for inviting us to come and enjoy their collection.

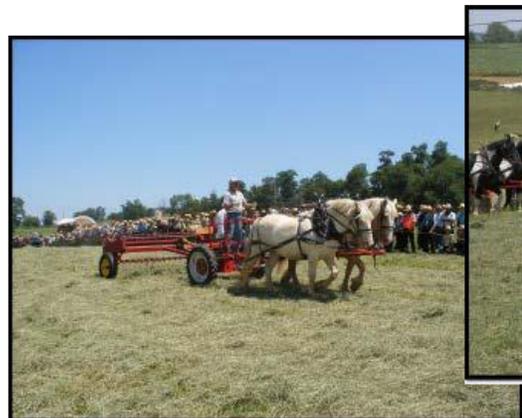
Photo tour continued on Page 8



HPD 2012



photos: Nancy McBride



We only had one hitch for the haying demo; an old 'power take off' hay tedder, the kind with horizontal bars and tines that never seem to pick up the hay to my liking. The fore cart was a homemade wheel driven pto cart with 20" tractor tires. The lever that engaged the pto didn't work very well....Doug tried several positions to get the tedder to turn while we started down the field of downed hay. Friday's demo with this unit was better than Saturday's. Turns out we couldn't get the pto cart in gear until we were almost to the end of the field. Oh well....it was good chance to have folks see the Creams in the field. We had signed up for the breed demo, which took place in the arena, each day after the field work was done. The Pioneer Company graciously let us use one of their wagons for the demo. Donna Miller, our newly elected director held the team while we waited our turn to enter the ring. It seems that there was something tasty in the brand new neck yoke, and Sammy was bound and determined to chew the dickens out of her side. I half expected a little note from the boys at Pioneer, but I guess they chalk that kind of thing up to 'demo equipment'. It was the last event on Saturday and I think the horses were ready for some quiet and a bale of hay. For those who do the fairs and such, it becomes clear at the end of a long week, that the horses are ready to go home. I think this was stage 'one' of I'm bored, so I'll just chew this piece of wood. We had gathered up the Cream clan (ACDHA members) in attendance and visited while we sat and waited...then we greeted the crowd in the bleacher seats as we did figure eights and circles around the ring. The announcer in the booth gave the onlookers the history of our rare breed and described this team as a good representation of the American Cream draft horse. We left the ring and took a little ride around the farm for a little unwind walk and to reflect on the last three days.



Riding shotgun.....Donna Miller
In the wagon: Linda Corson, Nancy & Doug Garrand,
Nancy McBride, & Sue Engel

In Memory:

The 2011 ACDHA's Annual meeting was dedicated to Mike McBride, a long time member and tireless worker for, and of the American Cream Draft Horse. Mike was a regular at these events and shined as a great teamster, working his horses and loving what he did. Mike would never leave his horses alone at events like this. He'd spend the nights in a sleeping bag on a bale of hay, refusing to leave his best friends. Mikes' wife Nancy, came to this meeting to help celebrate the memory of her husband and lent a helping hand with our horses, took some great photos, and was truly an inspiration for the legacy of her life partner. I'm sure it was difficult for her to be here without Mike, but I think I can speak for all of us, that we, as a group are happy to have helped share our offerings of condolences and yet extend our hope and good feelings that Mike's memory will carry on with all of us as a man who did great things for the American Cream Draft. We will certainly miss him!
Nancy McBride, don't you become a stranger!



Thank you, girls!

In Closing:

The event was a success. The horses did well; they looked great and I think they represented our breed as good looking working horses that can proudly stand side by side with their peers in the draft horse world. I think that it's important for us as an Association to get these horses out and about for people to see and enjoy. Our first time at a HPD's, working the horses in this manner was a great experience for the horses, me as a teamster and hopefully all our attending members and friends old and new that we saw throughout the three days. Happily, we have new members that are truly excited about the breed and are stepping up to the plate to do their part to help keep the American Cream Draft horse numbers growing not only in numbers, but in acceptance as the great American Bred horse they are. We are proud to have been given the opportunity to show off our Creams.

Nancy & I would like to thank everyone who helped make our trip to Horse Progress Days 2011 a successful and memorable experience. A special thank you to Doug & Nancy Garrand for their hours of help with horse care from start to finish. It will be seven years before this event returns to the Northeast. I would love to see four or six or more Creams here next time. I sincerely believe that they will be welcome. For those who have participated with their Creams in the past and for those who will come tomorrow, we wish everyone only the best. These American Creams are truly a genetic treasure.



Good-Bye to HPD 2011
Thanks, Dave

Passengers: Sue Engel, Nancy McBride, & Linda Corson
Photo by Donna Miller

Dave Lively

A photo tour of Jack Day's Carriage Collection



THANK YOU, Mr. Day





Our new Hall of Fame plaque made by John Schwartzler

2011 Meeting Attendees dining at Bird-in-Hand restaurant

Bits 'n Pieces

John Swartzler writes: Here is another tidbit of Creams in the media. It is the home page of Old Sacramento's Labor Day Gold Rush Days event. We are invited to bring in two Fire Wagons for this years event and will send forward some pictures after Labor Day. This is a local event we envision to compliment the 2013 ACDHA meeting in California.

Google : Gold Rush Days, then open the first website to pop up The cover page photo has the Creams traveling along the riverfront of Old Town at a previous Gold Rush event. 100,000 visitors come into Old Town to see the 3 day event. Check out the photo's from related Gold Rush websites.

The Hall of Fame Plaque is a honorary tribute to the men and women who's passion was saving a breed of draft horse that was to become the American Cream Draft horse we know today. John Schwartzler crafted the plaque and it was brought to the meeting at Bird-in-Hand, PA. The first names to appear will be "Old Granny" and the "Nelson Brothers" as voted at last year's meeting in Missouri. The names of "Silver Lace" and "C. T. Rierson" were voted to be this years selections added. Anyone with ideas for consecutive years should contact our officers. A BIG THANK YOU to John Schwartzler for this lovely plaque.



SEATED AROUND THE TABLE L to R: Catherine Murphy, Nancy Lively, Don Johnson, Nancy McBride, Bernadette Lester, Nancy Garrand, Linda Johnson, Leonard Offutt, Donna Miller; **STANDING** L to R: Terry and Marilyn Precord, Dan Zarske, Wendell Lupkes, Sue Engel, Renee Lupkes, Frank Tremel, Karen Smith, Paula Tremel, Cheryl and Roy Martin, Linda Corson (not pictured: Dave Lively & Doug Garrand)

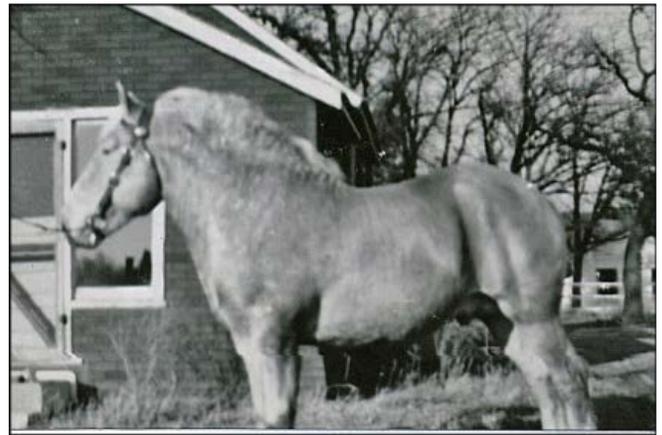
photo by Maggie Lupkes

We had the honor and privilege of meeting Clair Rierson, grandson of C. T. Rierson as guest speaker of our annual meeting this year. Clair talked of the times he spent with his grandfather and of C. T.'s great love for American Cream draft horses.

Clair was a young child of about 4 years old when he can remember being around his grandfather's horses. His father was not a lover of horses, he helped with the farming and the Aberdeen-Angus cattle when he lived at home but was not interested like C. T. in horses. Clair however loved his grandfather and was fond of his horses. C. T. farmed 80 acres at the Ardmore Stock Farm all with horses. In 1934 he became interested in the cream draft horses he was seeing around the county and purchased the best he could find. He began line breeding and inbreeding to perfect and improve the breed from the best bloodlines. You could always see 6 to 8 horses in the pasture with their foals. C. T. usually owned 20 to 30 creams and would loan them out to neighbors needing a horse to do their farm work. He was frugal with his money and was the type of man who walked out of a restaurant refusing to pay a nickel for 2 slices of bread but would help a friend save his farm by giving him \$5,000. He wasn't breeding creams as a means to make money and one of his favorite slogans was: "Know how to make a lot of money with horses, start with a big fortune."

Clair would spend many hours readying harness for the Hardin Co. fair in Eldora. Also when C. T. would buy used harness, which he often did, Clair became well acquainted with Brasso. The C. T. Rierson hitch wagon pictured in black and white photos was painted a cream color with red trim

Grandfather's rules were that there are 3 ways to do things; 1) the right way, 2) the wrong way; and 3) his way.



C. T. was known to have a very stubborn and persistent personality. Clair learned to choose his grandfather's way.

At the Hardin Co. fair in Eldora at the same time that Dick Sparrow had his 40 horse Belgian hitch; C. T. had a 6 horse Cream draft horse hitch that was driven in front of the grandstand. He believed the only way to get the horses known was to take them to fairs and other demonstrations. In July 1944 the Secretary of Agriculture in Iowa proclaimed that American Creams were a breed of draft horse. In 1947 when Clair was about 2nd grade he was allowed to ride on the seat of the hitch wagon in a parade that followed the National Plowing Demo in Ellsworth, IA. Lawrence Bavender was the first driver of grandfather's 6 horse hitch and Daryl Richardson was the last. At the Iowa State fair in 1954 Clair showed a cream stallion in open class against all the other drafts and won a blue ribbon. From then on a class was added for the Cream draft horses. Then there was the Harvest Festival in Alden, IA and Neil Yoder would ask grandfather to bring his creams to pull the Steam locomotive.

Karene Bunker became involved with C. T. after the Rierson's children were grown and gone. She lived on a farm just across the street. She would come over to help with the horses, so when the American Cream Horse Association organized in March 1944 Karene became the secretary-treasurer. She was in high school at the time. C. T. became the association's first president, Verner Stromer became vice-president and elected directors were Lawrence Bavender, Al Staudt, and Earl Werling.

In August 1957, C. T. Rierson passed away from a heart attack. The Ardmore Stock farm and the livestock, including all C. T.'s American Cream horses were sold in January 1958.

Clair Rierson has worked as a baseball coach for Iowa State and now scouts players for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
2012 AMERICAN CREAM DRAFT HORSE
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
THUR, AUGUST 16TH THRU SAT, AUGUST 18TH
CLAY COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS, SPENCER, IOWA**



Thursday, August 16th starting at 1pm we will have Sue White demonstrating ground work techniques. Horses will be available so everyone can participate.

Thursday night our Minnesota host, Kevin Johnson, will be presiding over a Lutefisk and Swedish meatball feast while we all participate in an Ole and Lena lookalike contest.

Friday, August 17th will find us working with Bob Mouw and Dr. A.J. Neumann. We will be working on a hands on confirmation clinic and practicing our halter class techniques.

Friday night our Iowa hostess, Connie Purchase, is bringing in the best of Iowa; Iowa chops, Iowa corn fed beef and Iowa grown sweet corn.

Saturday, August 18th will be our annual meeting.

Saturday night will be a good time to head north to Lake Okoboji.

AIRPORTS SERVING THE AREA INCLUDE;

SIoux FALLS, SD.	103 MILES	2 HRS
SIoux CITY, IA	97 MILES	2 HRS
MASON CITY, IA	103 MILES	2 HRS
OMAHA, NE	157 MILES	3 HRS
MINNEAPOLIS, MN	224 MILES	3.5 HRS

HOTELS IN SPENCER INCLUDE;

AMERICINN	DAYS INN
SUPER 8	PLAZA 1
BUDGET INN	ECONO LODGE

WE WILL HAVE A BLOCK OF ROOMS RESERVED AT ONE OF THESE HOTELS

One night, a torrential rain soaked northwestern Minnesota. The next morning the resulting floodwaters came up about 6 feet into most of the homes there. Mrs. Johnson was sitting on her roof with her neighbor, Lena, waiting for help to come. Mrs. Johnson noticed a baseball cap, floating near the house. Then she saw it float far out into the front yard, then float back to the house; it kept floating away from the house, then back towards the house. Her curiosity got the best of her, so she asked Lena, "Do you see dat der baseball cap a floatin' away from da house, den back again?" Lena said, "Oh yeah, dats my husband Ole; I tole dat lazy-such and such he vasgonna cut da grass today, come hell or high water!!!!"

For several years Kevin Johnson and I have been talking about how we would each like to have "an expert" really look over our horses and tell us what we have. Croup too long or too short? Enough muscle? Neck too long or too short? What about the feet and legs? What should the ideal Cream look like? What good traits are my mares passing on and what should I be trying to breed in to improve my next baby? We both had the same questions and the same desire for answers.

Enough with questions. Let's get answers. We decided to find a draft expert to spend a day with us, educating us on what we have and what steps to take to improve our horses. We'd bring our horses together, ask others in the area, and we could have 25 American Cream Draft horses. What a great time. Lots of beautiful horses and the wonderful people who own them. You can't improve on that. Then we thought, yes we can improve on that. Let's get all the Cream people involved.

That was the beginning of our plans for the 2012 meeting.

This is a hands on meeting. We plan on lots of time spent together. We have history and horses to talk about. Throw in lots of good food and fun and that will be your 2012 meeting.

So make your plans to come to Spencer, IA in August of 2012.

Lena passed away and Ole called 911. The 911 operator told Ole that she would send someone out right away.

"Where do you live?" asked the operator.

Ole replied, "At the end of Eucalyptus Drive."

"Can you spell that for me?" the operator asked.

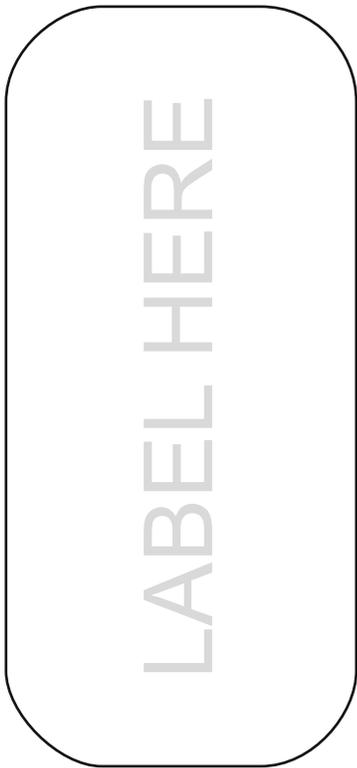
There was a long pause and finally Ole said, "How 'bout if I drag her over to Oak Street and you pick her up der?"

American Cream News is a publication of the American Cream Draft Horse Assn. and is not to be reprinted or reproduced in any way without written permission from **Nancy Lively**, secretary or **Susan Engel**, editor.



Color Us Cream

The American Cream News
54658 Demi Road
Marcellus, MD 21067



From the wife of Mike McBride

To the Board of Directors and all Association Members,

I would really like to thank everyone for the donation from the ACDHA to the memorial for Mike McBride. I also want to thank everyone for all their condolences. It was very helpful through this rough and trying time. I really appreciate all the friendships I have made with association members through Mike. You are all just wonderful.

Thank you for everything.

Nancy

