



# American Cream News E-Letter



December 2011 Vol. 21 Issue 4

## Inside this issue:

<i>Creams Contribute to Equine Rescue</i>	pg 1
<i>From the Drivers Seat</i>	pg 2
<i>A Blast From Our Past</i>	pg 4
<i>Merchandise Tree</i>	pg 6
<i>Who's New and What They Do</i>	pg 7
<i>Members and Their Creams</i>	pg 8
<i>2012 Meeting Details</i>	pg 10



## Officers

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**Vice President:** Wendel Lupkes  
**Sec/Treas:** Nancy Lively  
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**Editor:** Susan Engel

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Do owners look like their horses, or visa versa? Terry Coburn and Mary help with the annual Christmas wreath fundraiser for the Equine Rescue.

## Creams Contribute to Equine Rescue Cause

Two American Creams, Mary and Tiffany, share their home in Flora Vista in northwest New Mexico with some 40 other horses. The Creams belong to Terry and Debbie Coburn. They have led a life of leisure and have never been without loving care. Unfortunately, many of the horses they share space with at the Coburn's have not been as fortunate. For one reason or another, those horses have ended up under the care of the Four Corners Equine Rescue (FCER) non-profit organization. Since incorporating in 2004, the Coburn's have taken in more than 100 horses. In 2010 alone, they took in 37 horses and adopted out 25.

Debbie's introduction to draft horses came early. As a little girl, she was allowed to ride on the back of her family's draft horses used for logging in northern Wisconsin. Terry's involvement was secured when he married Debbie. "I gave him a horse for a wedding present," Debbie explains.

Now with 33 years of marriage, the horses they care for are the center of their world. cont. p. 3

I would like to start by sending you Best Wishes for the upcoming Holiday Season. Hope all of you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends.

How Well Do You Know The Workings of Your Association?

Who handles the following?

1. Provides information to new members
2. Handles all correspondence
3. Editor of newsletter and coordinates publishing old and new newsletters to website
4. Records minutes at meetings - regular and Board of Directors
5. Handles new registrations
6. Handles all transfers
7. Collects and records dues
8. Pays our bills
9. Maintains membership list
10. Creates annual meeting packet before the annual meeting
11. Copies and mails out annual meeting information after the meeting
12. Creates the annual budget
13. Serves as the main contact point for the Association
14. Maintains the herd book
15. Merchandise coordinator-creates and maintains



If you think that #'s 3 & 15 are handled by Sue Engel you are correct. # 11 was handled by Marilyn and Terry Precord this year. All of the other tasks are handled by our secretary/treasurer Nancy Lively. This is nothing new, before Nancy, Betsy Ziebell did it. This is a volunteer effort, no pay from the Association. I think it is time we start discussing some way to relieve this position of some of the duties. We have been very lucky over the past 30 plus years that we have been able to find someone to fill this position and handle all of the work of the Association in their spare time. Both of these Ladies deserve a big THANK YOU.

YOUR THOUGHTS.

Now is the time to start making travel arrangements for our Annual Meeting. I am looking forward to it since it is being held in an area that I have never visited before.

Remember Sue Engel needs information and pictures for the newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Frank Tremel  
President



2012 Meeting Invitation beginning on page 10.....

*Lively's Livery ready to serve*

*Creams Contribute to Equine Rescue Cause* cont. from pg. 1

Around taking care of the horses in their charge – feeding, cleaning, veterinary calls, supervising volunteers, meeting visitors - the Coburn's operate Five Star Mechanical, a full time family business, working Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 4:30. While Terry is out on jobs, Debbie manages the office. If the day's job permits, he drives home for lunch – not only his, but to feed the horses. Every weekend, Terry hauls 130 bales of hay from local sources or southern Colorado. FCER is one of seven licensed large animal rescue organizations in New Mexico.

With many horses already under their care, what circumstances could have led the Coburn's to add a draft horse to the mix? Debbie describes how Mary came into their lives. Four years ago, they flew to Virginia to explore the countryside. According to Debbie, "It was to be a much needed vacation, to totally get away from home." At Colonial Williamsburg, they enjoyed seeing the old breeds of livestock, which looked quite different from any cows, chickens and sheep they had seen before. "As fate would have it, we took the last carriage ride of the day," Debbie recalls. "The driver asked if we'd like to see the barn, and of course, we did." There they met Mary, registered name of CW (Colonial Williamsburg) Peaches N Cream. Immediate fascination with this rare breed and learning that the herd was being reduced, the Coburn's plan of getting away ended up with getting another horse.



*Mary welcomes all visitors*

The Coburn's joined the American Cream Draft Horse Association. Through it, they acquired a second Cream mare in 2008, registered name of Lupkes' CJ's Tiffany, from Wendell Lupkes of Waterloo, Iowa. Now both eight years old, tipping the scales at around 1700 pounds each, Mary and Tiffany make a handsome pair.

"They're wonderful horses," Debbie tells anyone who will listen. "But they have to learn that they are big." Mary's assertive nature led Terry to enroll her in a Parelli Natural Horse Training weekend workshop near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. No doubt this

massive draft horse, which could almost make two of the usual light horses brought to the training workshops, was the first

American Cream that the folks at this world-renowned training center had ever worked with. The Parelli natural horse training method is based on equine psychology and emphasizes partnership and harmony without coercion. Sold on this approach, the Coburn's train volunteers who work with the Equine Rescue horses on the Parelli method of handling horses.



*Mary and Tiffany receive a treat from Debbie Coburn*

Mary remains the barnyard character, but the Creams' docile nature contributes to the Equine Rescue's success in attracting visitors, who often become adopters of rehabilitated horses. FCER is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, entirely dependent on donations.



*Mary mugs for the camera*

While the Coburn's donate their time, property and equipment, at an average of \$100 per month to care for each horse, the community's contributions are essential. For special events and the monthly "meet & greet" barn tours, with a volunteer on the lead, Mary gives patient, safe rides to visitors, young and old. "They're a big attraction for the annual Open House," Debbie says. You can see Mary at work in her public relations role on the FCER website, [www.fourcornersequinerescue.org](http://www.fourcornersequinerescue.org), scroll down and click on American Creams.



American Cream Notes

A TRIBUTE: KARENE BUNKER TOPP

RETIRES

By Elizabeth Ziebell

Karene Bunker, a school girl and neighbor of C.T. Rierson, Radcliffe, the first president of the association, was "talked into" becoming the secretary/treasurer of the newly chartered American Cream Draft Horse Association of America in February of 1944. She retired May 4, 1991, after 47 years of faithful service to the Association. "There was a time in the '60s and '70s that I was seriously considering contacting someone in another breed to find out what I should do to close out the Association and find a permanent home for the records," Karene confided.

"My father worked for C.T. Rierson," continued Karene, "and I loved to help with the horses. I've probably driven as many hours on horse-drawn equipment as any woman alive today," Karene told the gathering of 26 members and guests. "The American Cream I )raft Horse descended from a draft type mare with an outstanding cream color, located in central Iowa during the early part of the 20th century and is the only draft breed originating in the United States. By mating her offspring to other well-known draft breeds, the type and duality had been improved while the color was maintained. In 1935 a special effort was made to make a distinct breed of them. In 1948, they were recommended for recognition by the National Stallion Enrollment Board and in 1950 they were recognized as standard by the Iowa Department of Agriculture," she said.

"The ideal American Cream was a medium cream color with white mane and tail, pink skin and amber colored eyes. Some white markings were also desirable. Colts foaled had nearly white eyes and by maturity had amber colored eyes. The horses eligible for registry all had the pink skin. Pink skin was the determining factor in securing this rich cream color. Past experience had proven that dark-skinned Creams often did not have a satisfactory color and when mated with the American Creams, generally produced too light or nearly white offspring. The pink skinned Creams varied but little in color throughout the year and their white markings contrasted beautifully with their rich cream color. Linebreeding and inbreeding were also used as a means of producing this very

desirable new draft breed admired by all who saw them," she continued.

"The American Cream horse has classified as a medium heavy draft type. An average weight of mares would have been from 1,600 to 1,800 pounds with the stallions weighing from 1,800 to as much as a ton, and stood 15.3 to 16.3 hands.

"C.T. died in 1957 and his herd of American Creams were sold. A few were transferred but only a handful remained in central Iowa. By that time we had accepted 58 owners and/or breeders of Creams into the Association and registered 199 Creams. We had Creams in New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota and Missouri but the advent of the tractors and the growth of the farm away from being 160 acres with a three-year rotation of corn, oats and hay seriously marked the decline of Creams and all breeds as well,"

Karene noted. "For many years during the late '60s and '70s there were no registrations of Creams and no new memberships," the former secretary noted. "However, Arnold Hockett of Estherville, Iowa, and Richard Eads of Lanark, Illinois, were two small farm owners who found themselves with Creams in the '60s and liking them, decided to continue to breed. An early corner to the rebuilding of the Creams, William Walczak, purchased a mare in 1979 and applied for membership and registration, thus renewing my hopes of the breed being reestablished. Richard Eads and Arnold Hockett both applied for membership in 1981 and registered additional animals, followed shortly by Clarence Ziebell of Charles City who joined and registered a stallion. A reorganization meeting was held in 1982 in Dubuque at which time Richard Eads, Arnold Hockett, Gloria and William Walczak, Clarence Ziebell and myself were elected directors. William Walczak became president, I remained secretary/treasurer and Clarence Ziebell became vice-president. Arnold Hockett was unable to make the meeting but we had to have six directors, so we elected him a director. The directors voted to open registry and for a time members will be able to register females with dark skin but the stallions must have pink skin. We were starting over again for all practical purposes," concluded Karene.

The members and guests who gathered in Charles City, May 4, will always remain indebted to Karene for the invaluable service she rendered all the years when the Association was active and in the efforts to once more grow into a viable organization worthy of being recognized.

Penny Sperlak and Arnold Hockett were elected to a one-year term as directors in 1991 and returned for a three-year term July 8, 1992 at the Annual Meeting in Charles City where the Association hosted the Draft Horse and Mule Association of America tour group in the afternoon. Dan Williams and Elizabeth Ziebell were elected for a two-year term and Frank Sperlak and Karen Smith were elected for a three-year term. Officers elected in 1991 and returned to office for 1992-93 year were Frank Sperlak, president; Dan Williams, vice-president; and Elizabeth Ziebell, secretary/ treasurer.

Dan and Brenda Williams and daughter, Shari, of Gilman, Iowa showed a team of mares and a stud colt. Don and Linda Johnson, Russell, Iowa, showed a mare, a three-year-old filly and a two-year-old filly. Frank Sperlak, Ellsworth, Wisconsin, showed a three-year-old and a two-year-old filly. The Ziebells, at whose farm the meeting was held, showed a four-year-old stallion, a 16-year-old "grandmother" and her 12-, 7-, 5-, and 3-year-old daughters with two foals at side, a mother and daughter team, 8 and 5 years, and a mare, 11, recently purchased from Ohio.

People from 22 states were on the tour and many were seeing Creams for the first time. The members of the American Cream Draft Horse Association were pleased and proud to have been asked to welcome these folks and their captains, the Farrells.

For information concerning the American Cream Draft Horse and/or the Association, write Elizabeth Ziebell, secretary; 2065 Noble Avenue, Charles City, Iowa 50616-9710



This article first appeared in Vol. 16 No. 3, Summer 1992 issue of the Small Farmer's Journal magazine, 192 W Barkley Dr, Sisters, Oregon and was written by our now former secretary/treasurer Elizabeth Ziebell of Charles City, Iowa.



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## WHO'S NEW & WHAT THEY'LL DO

by Nancy McBride

New members Richard & Deborah Osborn bought Mike McBride's team of HnJ's Dick's ClarAnn and Ray's Golden Girl. I thought it was very fitting for a team of American Creams to be at "Our American Dream Farm" located in Cream Ridge, New Jersey. They own other drafts also. They operate a livery service and do weddings, proms, hayrides, parades, sleigh rides and other events with their carriages, wagons, stage coach & hay wagons. The website to view all they do is [www.horsedrawnhayrides.com](http://www.horsedrawnhayrides.com). Welcome Rich and Deb. Enjoy the girls.



*Rich Osborn and their new "Dream Cream Team" HnJ's ClarAnn and Ray's Golden Girl*



New member Kerrie Beckett from Maine chose Mike McBride's gelding Timex for her new riding horse. She also runs a small horse rescue. She has plans to hitch and drive Timex for pleasure. Her e-mail is [kerrie.beckett@stantec.com](mailto:kerrie.beckett@stantec.com). Welcome to the Association, Kerrie. Enjoy Timex.



# Look What some MEMBERS and their Creams have been doing!

Belle Davis and MCD's Joshua's Bobbi at Shady Oaks CDE, Lodi, CA



*"Fort of no Appeals" obstacle*



*"Watering Hole" obstacle*



Crossing the Finish Line BILL DAVIS | PHOTO



BILL DAVIS | PHOTO

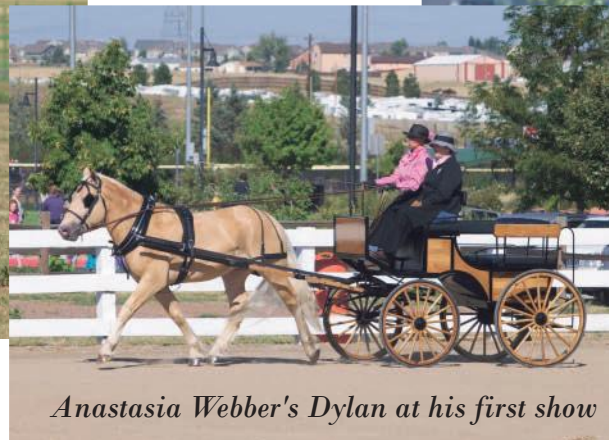


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*Christine Thompson's Million Dollar Max*



*Anastasia Webber's Dylan at his first show*







*Precord's at the Great Frederick County Fair*



*Colonial Williamsburg's British Army Officer & mount*



*Jennifer Cobb's SBF Bold from the Blue at the 4th of July celebration in Galesville, MD*

*SBF Bolt from the Blue aka "Guinness" "Out for a Swim" and a "Proud Pose"*



*David Lively's "Good Girl"*



*Sue Engel and her new ride, HnJ's Dick's Kitt*



*Cheryl & Martin Bacon's Lucy and Joy at their first Christmas parade*

## 2012 American Cream Draft Horse Association Annual Meeting

### Our Schedule

- **Thursday afternoon, August 16th: Ground handling demonstration**
- **Thursday evening, August 16th: Welcome Dinner, Scandinavian Style**
- **Friday, August 17th: meet the horses, and more..**
- **Friday night, August 17th: Iowa at it's Best Banquet**
- **Saturday morning, August 18th: Annual Meeting**
- **Saturday afternoon and evening, August 18th: Play in Okoboji**

Spencer, Iowa is the location for the 2012 American Cream Draft Horse Association Annual Meeting.

Spencer is an enterprising city where country charm and a modern lifestyle go hand in hand. Unlike much of Iowa, the lovely, rolling farmlands of this northwest corner of the state are dotted with picturesque lakes and wooded shorelines. It is a landscape enhanced by the historic buildings of the downtown area and the town's personable cultural flair. With a comfortable lifestyle, low crime and abundant recreation areas, Spencer is a great town with a lot going for it. It comes as no surprise that Spencer is listed in *The 100 Best Small Art Towns in America*. At the center of the local arts scene is Arts On Grand. One of the town's biggest tourist attractions, Arts On Grand also puts on exhibits, classes, and special events year-round.

Only a 15 minute drive away from Iowa's Great Lakes region, Spencer couldn't be better situated for year-round fun. Residents can enjoy beautiful biking and skiing trails, picturesque campgrounds, and terrific bass fishing. Just point your car in practically any direction, and you'll find a promising lake. The natural beauty of the town's surroundings combines with the thriving cultural to make the Spencer area a first-rate



vacation spot. There are also many municipal resources available. The area features two golf courses, with 18 more within less than an hour's travel. There are also plenty of city parks providing tennis courts, nature trails and playing fields.

With so much to recommend it, it's no wonder people are attracted to Spencer. With people come more business, and the economy is flourishing. The agricultural, retail and recreational sectors are booming, and yet the cost of living is below the national average. Spencer seems to have it all. In addition to a healthy lifestyle, residents enjoy excellent health care and a safe environment. For all these reasons, Spencer is one of the most appealing towns in Iowa.

### Staying in Spencer

We have a block of rooms reserved at Days Inn, 10 11th Street SE, Spencer, IA 51301.

Rate is \$80.99 for Sunday thru Thursday nights and \$89.99 for Friday or Saturday nights. There is a 10% discount available for AAA, AARP, government or senior citizens.

The hotel has smoking or non-smoking rooms, a pool with hot tub, and offers a continental breakfast.

Reservations may be made by calling 712-580-4077 or by e-mailing [daysinmanager@smunet.net](mailto:daysinmanager@smunet.net). Tell them you are with the American Cream Draft Horse Association.

### Traveling to Spencer

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

All airports serving the area do have multiple car rental agencies available.

# Our Host City, Spencer, IA



## Parker Museum

Step back in time with a visit to the Parker Historical Museum of Clay County. The museum collects and preserves Clay County history and heritage in a 1916 Arts and Crafts period house and the adjacent Duroe Building.

The artifacts in the museum's permanent collection date primarily from 1860 - 1950 and include a rosewood piano, Victorian organ, Observatory time clock, 1918 LaFrance fire truck, vintage clothing, china and agricultural tools.



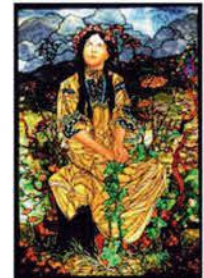
Spencer was added to the National Park Service *National Register of Historic Places* in 2004, with its mix of Art Deco and Mission Revival styles of architecture on Grand Avenue.

In November of 2004 downtown Spencer was also designated a *Cultural District* by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.



## Bogenrief Studios

Bogenrief Studios, known around the country for years as foremost artists in stained glass began a new adventure in 2003 with the addition of a blown glass studio. They are located in the former U.S. Post Office building, and are a wonderful place to browse for unique gifts.



## Spencer Community Theatre



Housed in a renovated grocer's warehouse, the SCT Playhouse offers quality community theatre experiences for people of all ages. Tours are always welcome. When visiting the Spencer area, feel free to stop in for a tour of the renovated warehouse. And don't forget to ask to see the Costume Shop on the second floor!

Spencer Library was the home of Dewey



## Ground Handling Demonstration Thursday afternoon

Sue grew up in AZ, as a pre-teen and teenager she trained and competed with her own horses in arena events, as well as endurance and competitive riding. As a young adult, Sue worked for a number of Arabian breeding and show barns in the north Scottsdale area. Hired as a groom for chancey Arabians, she was soon training a string of green broke show horses for Sterling White. In the early 90's Sue was working at Turf Paradise Race Track when she took on a second job at Raw-

hide. Sue **noticed right away** how each mule was an individual and how they re-acted to different techniques and even to the different personality's of the other drivers. Several of the "old timer" drivers at rawhide and "Mule Men" such as Tom Banes, Marvin Mills, and Clarence Koch all of whom farmed, built roads, or trained their entire lives, became her mentors. Sue always said " Rawhide is were she fell in love with mules and knew right away she had to, someday, own and train

one for her self! Sue's duties included driving teams on wagons and driving 4-up hitches on the Stage coach, as new or replacement teams were bought, Sue worked with them first to condition and train. She also worked with new drivers to modify their "Horse

Sense" to "Mule Sense" Did I mention Sue quit riding at Turf Paradise ? In the spring of 2003, Sue attended Steve Edwards "Spring flowers trail ride" at Queen Valley mule ranch. At this point she now owned and trained her own mule, Virgil. Steve noticed Sue had a very natural way of communicating with her mule and asked her if she had ever thought of training for others. He talked to her about an apprenticeship with him; Sue then spent the next two summers at Steve's ranch and has helped him at his clinics in Minnesota and Arizona. Today, Sue trains equines as well as their handlers. She will be working with us in a hands on demonstration of her training methods. We'll have enough Creams on hand that you can monitor the class or fully participate.



## Scandinavian Welcome Supper Thursday night

- OLE: Why don't Swedes make Kool Aid?
- LENA: I tink it is becoss it is so hard getting a quart of vater to pour into dat little hole in da package

Our Welcome supper is being hosted by Kevin Johnson. He plans to bring the best that those Swedes and Norwegians have to offer. An informal evening with lots of good food (did you know smorgasbord is Swedish?) and lots of laughs. Come hungry, but come dressed as Ole or Lena. Everyone will participate in an Ole and Lena Lookalike Contest. We promise this to be a fun evening you won't soon forget.

Ole and Sven are standing at the base of a flagpole in Spencer, looking up.

Lena walks by and asks what they were doing.

"Ve are supposed to find da height of da flagpole," says Sven, "but ve don't haf da ladder."

Lena takes a wrench from her purse, loosens a few bolts, and lays the pole down. Then she takes a tape measure from her pocketbook, takes a measurement, announces, "Eighteen feet, six inches", and walks away.

Ole shakes his head and laughs. "Ain't dat just like a voman! Ve ask for da height and she gives us da length!"

## Meet The Horses And More Friday all day.....

Friday we will spend the day at the Clay County Fair grounds located in Spencer, IA. We are making plans to have a few dozen Creams on hand. Two nationally known experts will be joining us. This will be a full day of clinics with the pros. Bring your questions, bring your problems, bring your solutions, bring your pictures and if possible, bring your horses. All day will be spent with our 2 and 4 legged Cream family.

### .....Dr. A.J. Neumann, D.V.M.



Dr. A.J. Neumann, DVM will be joining us. His life has been spent working with and caring for horses, especially drafts. He authors the "Ask the Doc" articles for the Draft Horse Journal Magazine and is well know for his clinics and lectures. He is a respected judge for both confirmation of animals and handling. He'll be available all day to discuss confirmation, breeding, care, and anything pertaining to the draft animal.

### .....Mr. Robert Mouw

Robert Mouw's patriotism and love of horses have combined to lead the Sioux County farmer to a unique way of honoring America's veterans and others who have served their country. Mouw, who has a small farm near Alton, has been supplying horses to the U.S. Army to use in funeral ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery since 1999. The horses are a mixed breed, said Mouw. "The ones that go to Arlington National Cemetery are basically a half-blood draft. They're mostly Percheron. These are horses that weigh 1,250 to 1,400 pounds and stand around 16 hands high." Mouw got into the business of selling horses to Arlington through a friend, an Orange City veterinarian. "He had some contacts with the people in Arlington because he went to do some work for them," explained Mouw. "And at that time a lot of their horses were very old and unfit. They said they couldn't find the right type of horse and I told them I might be able to help them." In February 1999, Mouw and his wife Shirley went to Arlington to see how the horses were used and what type and size the Army needed. That July Mouw delivered his first horses to Arlington. "I've been there about once a year ever since," he said. Although there are two other individuals who occasionally supply horses for use at Arlington – one in Indiana and one in Texas – Mouw said he provides the most of them. When he delivers three next month, more than half of those now at Arlington will have come from his farm. Along with the horses he provides to the Army, Mouw also has draft horses that he uses to farm about 25 acres. He has also hosted numerous Draft Horse Driving Schools, as well as trained other draft horses.

## Iowa At It's Best Banquet Friday night

The best of beef, the best of pork and the best of company .....That's what you'll find Friday night. Another informal evening to spend with our Cream Family.



# American Cream Draft Horse Association Annual Meeting

Saturday morning



We'll gather in Spencer for our annual meeting Saturday morning. We'll take care of the business of the association and then have lunch together. When our meeting is adjourned, we can say our goodbyes for another year or we can head north to Okoboji, IA to play. This is a year to get to know our horses and our members. Come to Iowa and ENJOY THE FUN.

Your 2012 hosts:  
Connie Purchase  
Kevin Johnson

