



American Cream News



February 2013 Vol. 23 Issue 1



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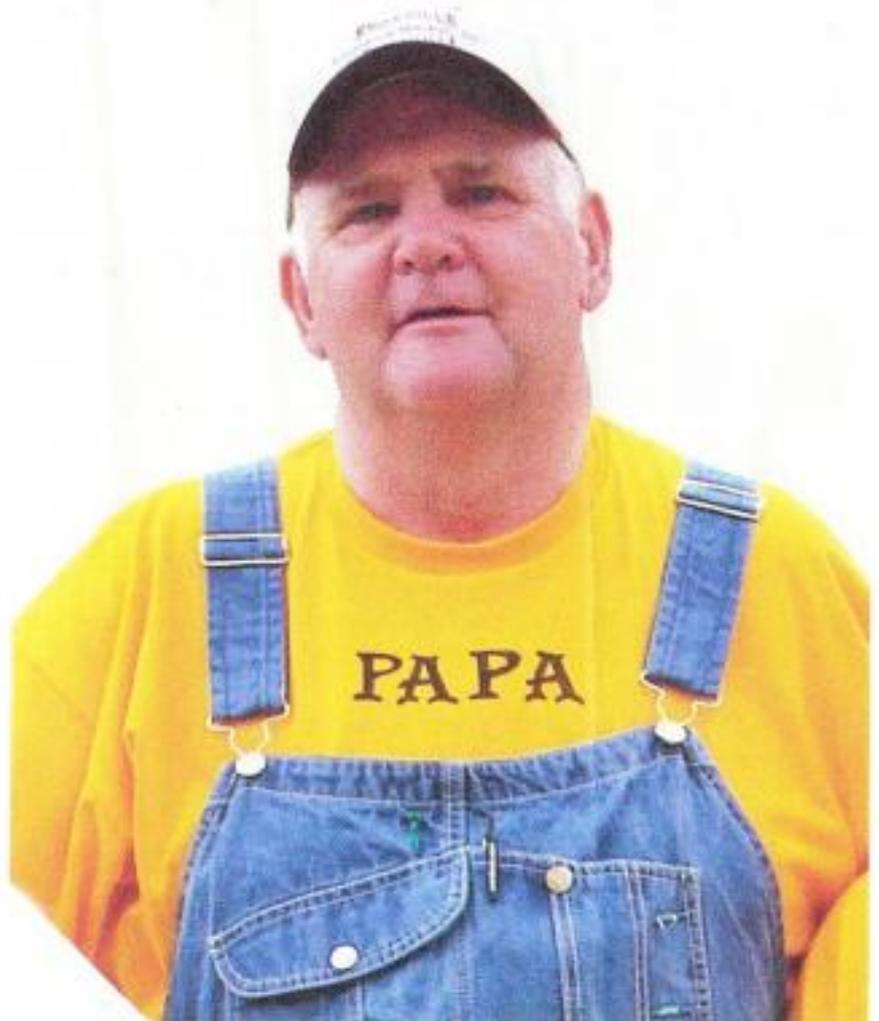
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A Tribute to member Donald C. Johnson 1948 - 2012

A Life to Remember





I felt the light of heaven
 it was shining down on me,
 I heard His voice, He called my name,
 "my child, come follow me;"
 There is no pain, there is no hurt
 nor sadness anywhere,
 In heaven there is joy and love
 and I'll be waiting there;
 For on the day I left this earth
 I felt your many tears,
 And now I watch you from above
 and keep you very near;
 It hurts to be apart from me, but
 be patient for the day,
 When we meet again in love and peace
 when you too come this way
 -Stephanie Clark

*Dear farmer, your worries are over, put the tractor in the shed.
 You worked long days and into the night but now you go ahead.*

*The fences have all been mended, so put those overalls on once more,
 You tried so hard and fought the fight; it's time to close that door.*

*The work at times was not easy and most days had too much to do,
 But when you did it together, the family always made it through.*

*You taught your family all you knew and although they didn't always mind,
 They know what's right; keeping safe, just as you designed.*

*And when Papa's kids look for the moon like so many times before,
 They will know that you are near and couldn't have loved them more.*

*Although the struggles here are earth seemed vastly hard to bear,
 We have peace in knowing you are breathing heaven's sweetest air.*

*With Heaven now your home; no more must you wait,
 So lay your head, your work is done and we will close the gate.*

-Lori Johnson

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Donald (Don) C. Johnson

September 19, 1948 – September 16, 2012

SERVICES

Friday, September 21, 2012 at 10:30 AM
New Providence Baptist Church- Confidence, Iowa

OFFICIATING

Pastor Merle Prater
Rev. Alva Skiles
Rev. Sonja Van Dusseldorp

MUSIC

Dixie Daughton, Pianist
Alva Skiles, Vocalist
“Precious Lord Take My Hand”

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

“I Know Who Holds Tomorrow” #96

BEARERS

Jay Pierschbacher	Jake Rodgers
Phil Shenefield	Joe Miller
Brian Beaty	Sunny Atwell
Kevin Briggs	Marshall Schlutz

HORSEMAN

Mike Beaty	Richard Yoder
Henry A. Yoder	Harley Yoder

MILITARY RITES

Charlie Clark American Legion Post 308
Russell, Iowa

INTERMENT

Confidence Cemetery
Fielding Funeral Home
www.fieldingfuneralhomes.com





Don's funeral procession with JD's Penny behind the wagon

How it all began *by Linda Johnson*

It all started with the love of horses in general, then thinking about his dad and the horses he farmed with began Don's idea of having draft horses. So in January 1991 he went to the Midway Winter Classic Draft Horse Sale in Columbia, Missouri. Don brought home an old team of non registered light colored Belgians, a gelding and a mare named Sally. They were well broke (Amish used them) and Don enjoyed using them and decided to breed Sally to a spotted stud. He found one in Missouri at Finis Brunlege's farm. Mr. Brunlege said "I think this is an American Cream." What...??

Well the rest is history. In 1991 there was no internet on our farm so he got Betsy Ziebell's phone number (she was secretary of the American Cream Draft Horse Association).

We so enjoyed Betsy and Clarence (her husband), Don just listened and was fascinated by the story of how the Creams got started. We went to a meeting at Ziebell's and the passion, joy and love these "old timers" had got us going!

The first colt we got was from Ziebell's #263 Clar Ann Dick's Sandy. Of all the colts and mares we have had she is the BEST. Don so enjoyed the visits and heated discussions. As most knew, Don fought hard to keep the image of the cream as a working draft horse. Somewhere along the way he lightened up!

He enjoyed going to the meetings across the U.S.A. and meeting all of you. I can still see Don, Arnold Hockett, Clarence Ziebell, Earl Hammond, then later Merle Lupkes and Mike McBride "talking horse." Don's message to you all would be, Use the creams don't just feed them!

Donald C. Johnson

Donald Clarence Johnson was born on September 19, 1948 in Ida Grove, Iowa to Clarence and Alvena (Moss) Johnson. He went home to be with the Lord on September 16, 2012 at the age of 63 due to complications following a double lung transplant.

Don spent all of his childhood in Ida Grove, Iowa graduating from Ida Grove High School in 1967. Don served four years in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Don was baptized as a child in the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove, Iowa. He was a member of the New Providence Baptist Church and when he and Linda relocated to Pittsburgh to await his transplant, he returned to his childhood Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

Don enjoyed all horses but especially his draft horses. Don enjoyed the trips he took delivering horses and the friendships he made through the years. He was always willing to help others grow their love for horses. Don enjoyed showcasing his horses every year in the Avenue of Breeds at the Iowa State Fair. He LOVED the State Fair; he could be found watching the beef show in the Pavilion, watching shows in the horse arena or just sitting on one of the benches watching all the people.

On May 28, 1983, Don married Linda Buttz of Russell and moved his family to rural Russell to follow his passion for farming and livestock. Each of Don's five children has many fond memories of the time spent with their dad on the farm and off.

Chad enjoyed helping his dad at the farm team horse shows, especially when his dad won first place at the 2010 World Percheron Congress in the barnyard pull competition. The very next year in 2011 his dad helped Chad to win first place in the field cultivating competition at the Iowa State Fair.

Heather will never forget the time she spent with her dad in Pittsburgh. She has many fond memories that she will hold dear to her heart. When she was younger she remembers her dad putting her up on the furnace to stay warm and the big snow piles. Heather's fondest memory is how special her dad made her feel because she was his only daughter.

Scott's favorite memories with his dad were the times spent together working with the cattle. From checking cows and looking at the baby calves to going to the cattle sales and shows to pick out the best ones... but never really being able to buy them. Scott said that Don would always wait on the bench outside to be picked up on sale day and would always show that beautiful smile when he saw Scott coming.

Mark's fondest memories of his dad include the hours they spent fixing the old tractors. Mark and Don shared an appreciation for living in the country, they enjoyed sitting in the yard together in the evening watching the sunset and listening to the old windmill squeak.

Wes remembers the Johnson family vacations, these journeys were completely packed full of memories. With seven people crowded into a motorhome they really did have some adventures. Don drove them all across the whole country, from the west coast redwood forests to the craziness of Disney World in Florida.

Those who have gone before to be with the Lord include his parents, sisters Elaine and Eloise, brother Duane, brothers-in-law Wendell, Bob and Marvin and niece Linda.

Left to cherish the wonderful memories are his wife Linda, his five children, Chad (Michele) Johnson, Heather (Josh) Flanders, Scott (Lori) Johnson, Mark Johnson (Jill Walderbach), and Wes (Erin) Johnson, his sister Margene, brother Ronnie (Patsy), sisters-in-law Shirley and Dorla, and his eight grandchildren, Macayla and Ty Johnson, Cody and Cruize Flanders, Garrett and Ava Johnson, and Abby and Lucy Johnson as well as many special nieces and nephews.

His love for his family was remarkable and his eight grandkids including the one on the way were his world. Though his health limited his life, he enjoyed his grandchildren who dearly called him Papa. He loved family reunions and was known to have many impromptu weekend wiener roasts...always with s'mores.



The Johnson's at Clarence and Betsy Ziebell's with Nellie #262 and Sally #260

photos courtesy of Betsy Ziebell

Don plowing with his horses

Don and his Favorite Gal enjoying time together

photos from Linda Johnson



Memories of Don

by Wendell Lupkes

Don Johnson was a person that was always easy to be around. I first met Don when my dad and I made a road trip to Russell to look for a replacement for Dolly, the non-registered cream mare that was part of the original trio that came from Arnold Hockett. We arrived at the Johnson's home and turned in the long drive to the house up on the hilltop. My dad had met Don and Linda a few times before at the 1997 and 1998 meetings. but this was my first meeting, Don impressed me with his Southern Iowa hospitality combined with a bit of Jeff Foxworthy country humor (I would have said Tennessee Ernie Ford, but that would make me seem too old). After we reviewed all of Don's mares on the place that were not for sale, he brought out JD's Judy, a four year old Cream mare. Don told us that Judy was broke to drive, and "there was nothing wrong with her, except that scar on the inside of her

right rear leg, but that don't bother her none." I took the lead rope and headed down the lane towards the field, just to get an idea of Judy's personality. She was a quiet mare, with nice respect for my space. I brought her back to the barnyard and discussed the question on my father's mind "Why does he want to sell a horse like this, what's the matter with her?" Well it turned out that Don was right, there was nothing wrong with her, and she was a fixture on my father's place as long as he lived. Don and my dad also had a great time each time they got together, usually at the Waverly sale. It made me think of two school boys, each trying to out do the other for the title of class clown. Don always had some pretty down to earth advice to share with me. I remember talking with Don about how I should decide whether or not to sell one of my mares, and he told me "Keep the one's you look forward

to seeing when you go out to the barn in the morning, and sell the others" Simple but it pretty much sums up the real motivation for horse ownership. Don's breeding program over the years has produced a lot of quality animals that have made contributions all across this country. After we lost Ackerman's Dan, I took a mare down to Don to have her bred to Cadillac Sam. That gave me my Golden Rose (Goldie). After that, Cadillac Sam was struck by lightning. Don and I discussed what we should do next, as we needed a stallion between us. At his direction, I went to check out JD's Dee Jay, one of Don's products, and obviously still well thought of by Don. Well, I didn't end up with Dee Jay, but I did end up with his son, Forevergreen Clayton. So every time I go to the barn I get to see Don's heritage and think about keeping the ones I look forward to seeing in the morning.





Photos above: Horse Progress Days 2006 in Clare, MI



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I had the privilege of meeting Don and Linda at the 2006 Shipshewana meeting. Mike and I were dating then and we became friends right away. Don and Linda went to Horse Progress Days in 2006 in Clare, Michigan. Mike had all four of the Creams there.

In September 2009 Mike and I were taking a vacation to Iowa to visit my cousin so Mike called Linda and told her we would be coming to Iowa and she said "call when you get here and we will get together and surprise Don." When we got close to them we called Linda and found out they were having their Creams feet trimmed at their Amish farrier. Linda gave us directions and found we weren't too far away. We were going down a country road and could see a cart being pulled by horses. As we got closer we realized it was Don and the farrier. You could tell Don was enjoying the ride and he was real surprised to see us pull up. Of course Don asked "what are you doing here?" Mike told him "we came to see you and Linda." They returned to the farrier's house and loaded up the horses, talked for a short time and off we went. They had to stop at a harness shop and then we went out to lunch. After lunch we went to their house. I went with Linda to the store and Mike went with Don and helped him put the Creams in the barn. We went inside and sat there for a while talking, laughing and enjoying our time together. We had a wonderful time.

I've been to most of the meetings since 2006 and always enjoyed seeing and talking with Don and Linda. Don was a wonderful person and will be greatly missed.

by Nancy McBride



2003 Reiman Gardens
Ames, Iowa



Don Johnson....Remembered

It was September 1998 when David and I, and our Aussie, Gus, left Vermont for Iowa with our truck and trailer in tow to pick up our first American Cream Draft horses. They were two six-month old fillies owned by Don and Linda Johnson from Russell, Iowa, and Laverne and Shirley were to be their names. We had never met Don and Linda but had had several phone conversations and had sent them a check for half of the purchase price of the fillies a few months earlier. Our friends at home – who had egged us on to get draft horses after we had sold our Jersey milking herd – said “You sent money to people you’ve never met...are you CRAZY?” Well, we always thought we were a decent judge of character, and responded “They seem like nice people.”

And, we were right. We were welcomed with a full course dinner and friendly conversation before we headed out to the barn where Laverne and Shirley were tied with their respective brand new red and green halters. They had never been loaded on a trailer and David – a stubborn Canuck with several Monty Roberts horse whisperer videos under his belt – wanted to do it his way. And so he did....for three hours.....while Don was patiently waiting for the grueling process to be over saying (as we were told afterwards), “He isn’t going to make it!”



Over the years that followed, we became good friends with Don and Linda. We always joked about that day in September '98 and that David not only ‘made it’ but also did all of the training, farrier work, and started a horse and carriage business.

The better we got to know Don it was obvious that underneath the Iowa overalls was a shrewd businessman, excellent horseman, and, most importantly, a wonderful human being. Although the annual meetings were when we usually caught up, we also met in Pennsylvania in 2003 to pick up another horse that we bought from Don and Linda, and in 2004, they came to visit us in Vermont and we drove down to Colonial Williamsburg together for that annual meeting. When we hosted the annual meeting in 2008, Don spent all morning helping David get the horses ready for our ride, and in 2010, we rode our motorcycle to Iowa and visited with Don and Linda when we hitched up his horses and went for a ride. Even though the words were never spoken, I think we all knew that that would be the last time that we would be able to do that with him.

It was a good time whenever we got together. Our stomachs always hurt from laughing so much and the constant ribbing of how he could at least buy us dinner with all the money we’d given him for horses! We will miss him dearly but will always cherish the memories of our times together.

by Nancy Lively





Clar Ann Dick's Sandy

It's not possible for me to write about Don Johnson without telling how I got involved with American Creams. The Readers Digest Version says I was looking for a team of draft horses. I was checking out all the draft breeds, and then saw my first American Creams and my mind was made up. I wanted Creams. The first opportunity I had of American Creams being sold was at the Waverly Draft Horse Sale Fall Auction. The sale book had 3 stud colts listed for sale. I hooked up the trailer and headed to the sale.

The stall assigned to the Creams was empty but the stall next door seemed to be party central. There was a jolly guy in bib coveralls holding court every time I went by.

The man was always laughing and the stall was always full of people.

Sometimes it was older couples visiting, sometimes Amish men, sometimes Amish kids, sometimes a real mixed lot. The only constant was the man in bibs who seemed to be in charge. Every time I went by, the man in bibs was laughing and smiling and having a great time. Finally, F I N A L L Y , the Creams showed up.

And low and behold, the man in the bibs was the owner. His wife was along and between the two of them they seemed to know everyone. I spent a lot of time talking to the couple about their horses, and I decided even if I didn't get the horses bought, I had made friends. Don and Linda Johnson were just 2 of the nicest people you'd want to meet. No wonder everyone was stopping by

to talk.

I did buy 2 of the horses that day, and Don and Linda became good friends. One or the other would call every month or so and when in the neighborhood, they would stop in and see me and "the boys".

Two years later I bought "the girls" from Don and Linda. Don was one heck of a horseman. He knew a good horse when he saw one and he was always trying to breed up. He would always look at his own animals and would tell you what could be better, but you had to work hard to get him to tell you what was wrong with anyone else's animal. Then he would end up saying Sandy was the best he ever bought, and Penny was the best he had ever bred.

Sandy was getting some age on her and Don hadn't bred her for a few years. I really wanted another filly from Sandy so I asked Don if he would breed her again. He said he'd do it for me, if I took whatever was born. You betcha. I wanted a 1) cream colored, 2) pink skinned, 3) filly. I got a 1) sorrel, 2) dark skinned 3) stud colt. His name is Breyers but he also goes by 3 Strike.

When Breyers was born, Don called, and I was on the road to see him. 14 hours round trip, but worth it. A few weeks later I made the trip again to see how my little one was growing. Again and again I made the trip. I don't know if Don was being very kind, or was just tired of seeing me, but he told me to just bring the trailer down and take Breyers and Sandy home with me. When it was time to

wean the little guy I could return Sandy to Don.

Twice a year since that first time in Waverly, whenever the draft horse sale was on, Don and Linda and I would spend a day together at the sale. It was getting time to wean Breyers, and Don said we'd talk about it at Waverly. We were sitting together watching horses sell and Don asked if I wouldn't just want to keep Sandy. I told him of course I would but I didn't think he would ever sell her. He said he'd sell her for whatever price the next horse in the arena brought. We watched the next horse sell and I asked what he really wanted for Sandy because I thought that was too cheap.

Nope, that was the price he wanted for Sandy. Well, Don had a check in his hand that day.

When Don was going to the hospital, I arranged to lease his mares for breeding. I had tried to breed Sandy every year that I've had her, with no luck. This year we didn't use any drugs, no A-I, and I just let her run with the other mares when the stallion was here. Yep. This year she's bred!

I'm happy I had the privilege of telling Don that both Sandy and Penny are bred. He gave his usual "Well, isn't that nice", and I could see his smile in his voice.

We lost a real Ambassador of our association. Don was respected by all as a true horseman. He was kind, knowledgeable, and just fun to be around. Don is gone, yet the JD breeding will forever be a foundation of our association.

-Connie Purchase

FROM THE DRIVERS SEAT

Hope everyone had a nice holiday season with Family and Friends.

Over 2 months ago your Association was asked to help place a number of Creams that had been confiscated by a County because of severe neglect. Wendell Lupkes became our contact point with the lawyers, the County and the rescue organizations that were caring for and boarding these animals. During this time your Board of Directors - Wendell, Nancy Lively, Catherine Murphy, Donna Miller & Belle Davis exchanged over 100 emails as we negotiated with the authorities, set up the procedures for notifying the membership and the adoption fees and procedures. We were also involved in transporting many of these animals to less crowded facilities.

To help offset the financial burden to the Rescue Organizations we made a donation on behalf of the Association and paid for the transportation of the animals that were moved. Word went out electronically and by U.S. mail and you responded by getting the information out to non members who might be interested in adopting. Many of you also sent donations to the Rescue Organizations and to the Association which we forwarded on to them.

I am happy to report that all of this effort has resulted in many of these animals being adopted and we have some new members. When we initially got involved I really thought that we would be lucky to secure homes for just a few of these animals, but you proved me wrong. The next time you see Wendell, take the time to THANK HIM for all of the time and effort he gave for this cause. There are still a few animals left. Lets get all of them adopted!

Our 2013 Annual meeting will be held in Grass Valley California. The committee has done an excellent job presenting us with a very nice and well planned event. Make your reservations early as there are a limited number of rooms available at the host hotel.

Many thanks to Betsy Ziebell for handling the mailing of last years Annual meeting minutes, reports and membership lists. Take a look at the membership list. Note the number of Cream owners who are not members. Wouldn't it be nice to get just 1/4 of them to become members. If any of them live in you area or if you know them, contact them personally and see if you can get them to join.

We still have a lot of cold weather coming. Remember the danger of snow covered iced over ponds. I personally know of one incident that led to the horse drowning when it walked out on the pond and was unable to get out. I cannot imagine standing there and watching that unable to do anything.

I know that you are probably tired of hearing this but each year we receive very few reports from owners on breeding and foaling. This is requested for mares and stallions. Without this information we really have no idea if we are growing or declining. REMEMBER to register your foals.

Hope we have a record attendance at this years Annual meeting. It looks like it will be a fun time. I look forward to meeting new members and socializing with everyone.

I would like to thank everyone who shared their remembrances of Don Johnson. Don was one of our members who very rarely missed a meeting, did whatever was needed to make the organization run and had a unique way of looking at issues and putting them in their proper perspective. He will be missed.

Frank Tremel
President

NOTICE

Stallion reports were due January 1
Don't forget the foaling reports
Membership Dues on June 15

(please include your e-mail address to keep our records current)

Annual Meeting on August 29 in Sacramento, CA

Send any reports to our secretary:

Nancy Lively
193 Crossover Road
Bennington, VT 05201

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 Newsletter will be published to our association website, however if you have trouble viewing the online version or do not have a computer a printed copy can be obtained from our secretary. Contact her if you need to be on this list and she will mail the newsletter to you when it becomes available.

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Don loved attending the annual meetings

2006 Shippshewana, Indiana

2007 Waverly, Iowa



1996 Living History Farm De Moines, IA

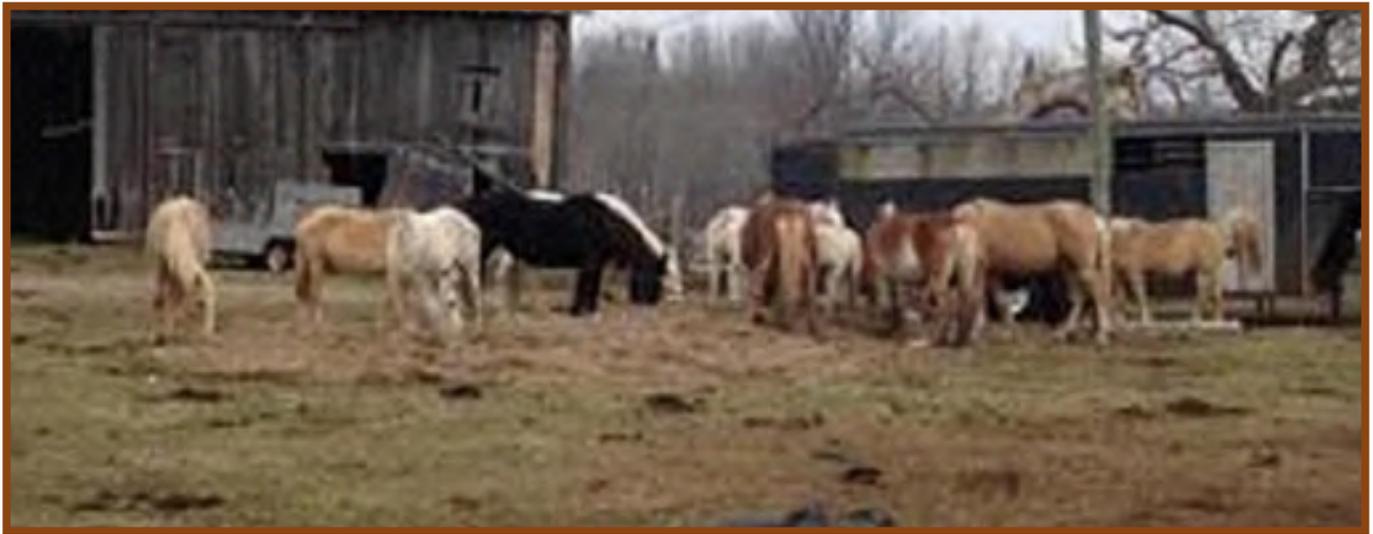
2004 Colonial Williamsburg, Don was seen carrying his purse



FAREWELL, DEAR FRIEND
2011 Annual Meeting Kinzers, PA

American Cream rescue adoption update

by Wendell Lupkes



As you should all know, the ACDHA became aware of a seizure of a number of horses, some of which were American Creams. Initial contact with the rescue organization revealed that they would be required to geld the males and adopt out the females with a "No breeding" restriction. That's why the board decided we needed to become the adoption agency for these horses, in order to prevent losing them from the genetic pool of American Creams.

Due to the large number of horses involved in the seizure (33), the rescue organization was forced to foster horses at three additional locations, besides their own facility. That made it difficult to get any reliable information in the beginning. We were able to determine the identity of the stallion, Million Dollar Max, and one mare, Ackerman's Allisha. The board voted to set adoption fees in order to cover the expenses of this adoption process.

The adoption process has gone pretty well, with nine of the horses being adopted to date. Million Dollar Max has been adopted by Sue Engel and Tiffany Corson, and Ackerman's Allisha was taken by Joe Dolan in Iowa. The tracking mare Ackerman's Flory and filly foal are going to Clark Miller in Iowa, and the tracking mare Lupkes' Harmony and the mare H-n-J's Dick's Creamy Supreme both went to Krystal Kruckner in Colorado. Kerrie Beckett will give mare #2 a new home in

Maine, and mare #1 went to Barbara Wright in Michigan. The light colored gelding went to Connie Purchase, who will be working with two 4-H girls to bring him back into condition.

There is one tracking mare left to be placed, H-n-J's Dick's Kate, and five young horses. Kate may have a potential home, as do all of the young horses. We are waiting on results of JEB, PSSM1, and parentage tests prior to sending adoption letters on the remaining horses. Adoption letters went out on all the mature horses, with the exception of the tracking mares and the light gelding. The remaining horses will be placed in good homes, with emphasis on placing them where they will give the breed as much exposure as possible.

A special thanks to Suzanne and Pam at Second Chance Ranch and Rescue for their outstanding efforts to help the ACDHA with the care and adoption of these horses. Also, thanks to Dan Zarske for his help with transportation and boarding of Max, to Myron Karsten for transportation and boarding within Michigan, and to Jeff Koening for transportation to Iowa.

Thanks to all those who have adopted, and to those who have donated to help with expenses. We will have updates in future newsletters on the completion of the adoptions, and what the new owners are doing with their adopted horses.

B & B's Lucky



Don and his wife Linda were some of the kindest people we've met through the American Creams. We had the pleasure of meeting them when they came for the association meeting in California, it was our first meeting. I would think one of the legacy's that Don left behind is some very good Creams and we count Lucky among them.

Lucky was five in April 2012. He was started when he was three, then given a break and then went back when he was four. He has turned into a very solid young horse. You will also see pictures of his Dam and Sire. Rose, Lucky's dam came from Don Johnson, he had gotten her and several others from Ackerman's "estate". Rose came already bred to Cadillac Sam and that is how we ended up with Lucky.

-by Belle Davis



Solid Gold Cadillac Sam #296

The first time I met Don Johnson was the 2004 annual meeting at Colonial Williamsburg. He was already good friends with Mike McBride and Sheila Johnson so I was just added as one of the group. Don and Linda were a lot like the people I had grown up around. A good honest farm family with a love of God and a love of horses. Don reminded me of my grandfather who was also someone who loved his draft horses and working them in the fields. It is from my grandfather that I give credit to my love of draft horses. I will never forget getting to set on top of his large Belgians as they ate in their stalls in his bank barn and my head touched the beams above. I was about 4 or 5 at the time. Don was an ambassador of the American Cream Draft horse and he was always looking for ways to get others interested. He would go out of his way to rescue Creams that had been taken to the sales or helping with herds

being dispersed as happened with Jack Ackerman's horses. He would take the horses in and give them some care and training so they could become horses others would be interested in. I remember Linda telling me they needed another horse like they needed a hole in the head when he took on the Ackerman horses. But if not for him Belle and Bill Davis would not have had their Lucky and I'm sure there are others out there that are grateful to Don for his passion. Don always had a smile and Linda was always elbowing him when he was trying to get his views across at the meetings. I will miss that smile and I'm sure Linda misses trying to give Don direction, but usually to no avail since he knew what our Association needed to be doing to ensure our Creams would be around for future generations. Requiscat In Pace.

by Sue Engel

FOR SALE

Introducing...



Triple Springs Link to Grant

American Cream Draft Horse Colt (registration pending)

Foaled on July 23, 2012

Sire: Rose Hill ADBJ463 Lincoln (reg#675)

Dam: Deep Valley Barbara Fritchie (reg#624)

"Grant" has been handled since birth and already: halters, leads, stands on ties, lifts feet, stands for farrier, trailers, and more!

He is smart, sweet and personable.

Proudly offered for your consideration

Asking \$3000

Triple Springs Farm

Roy and Cheryl Martin

860 Allens Lake Rd. Dillwyn, VA 23936

434-983-9823



So sorry to hear of the passing of Don Johnson. Our sincere sympathy to his wife Linda, family, friends and Creams. We own a horse that Don bred, JD's Willy (Sunshine) and he is a gem and a celebrity here at home. Thank you Don for all your hard work and dedication to helping preserve this wonderful breed!

Pamela Jerrett
 Suzanne Solieri
 Melville, NY



Don with JD's Willy and JD's Judy

Join Us in California for Gold Rush Days

2013 Annual Meeting

The 2013 annual meeting is just around the corner! Please plan to join us at the historic Holbrooke Hotel in Grass Valley, California. The Holbrooke Hotel is a restored gold rush-era hotel in the heart of California's gold country.

Grass Valley is a small city of 12,000 residents in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is 65 miles from Sacramento International Airport (driving time: 1 hour 15 minutes). There are several state parks nearby including Empire Mine and Malakoff Diggins as well as historical museums.



The meeting is being held right before Labor Day weekend so that attendees can visit Gold Rush Days in old-town Sacramento that weekend. Long-time members John and Sandy Schwartzler will be participating, using their Cream geldings to pull antique fire equipment.

A block of 15 rooms has been reserved at the Holbrooke Hotel for Wednesday, August 28th and Thursday, August 29th. They are giving us a 20% discount off of their regular rates (rooms will be \$95.20 for a queen, \$103.20 for a king bed, plus taxes, per night). Be sure to let them know that you are coming for the ACDHA annual meeting. Please reserve your room early, as this is tourist season and other hotels in the area are quite a bit more expensive.

On Friday, August 30th, attendees will need to switch to a hotel down in Sacramento. Several hotels are offering special rates in conjunction with Gold Rush Days. Check out the listings at <http://sacramentogoldrushdays.com>. I recommend the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza (916-446-0100) as it is only 1 block from Old Sacramento.

Tentative Schedule:

Wednesday August 28, 2013

Check into Holbrooke Hotel
Meet for dinner at a local restaurant

Thursday August 29, 2013

9am-12pm Annual meeting
12pm-1pm catered lunch
1pm-5pm conclude meeting, go shopping or sightseeing
6pm meet for dinner at local restaurant

Friday August 30, 2013

Morning Check out of Holbrooke Hotel, shop, sightsee or visit local ranches
Afternoon Check into Sacramento hotel

Saturday & Sunday September 1-2, 2013 visit Gold Rush Days in Old Sacramento

Donna Miller
Millers' Cream Drafts
Grass Valley, California