



"The Official"

# Hungarian Horse Association of America

## July 2017 Newsletter

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### ***Letter From the Editors: Our 2017 Progress Report***

The year 2016 and the first half of 2017 have been a time of change and revitalization for the Hungarian Horse Association of America. As George Cooksley wisely pointed out, "This is not the first change nor will it be the last."

In this letter we are sharing the background of the 2016/2017 HHAA revitalization in hopes of providing understanding, earning support and communicating the sole desire in embracing this massive project: ensuring the future of the Hungarian Horse in America.

When several HHAA Board members called for a special Board of Directors' meeting on 3/28/16, the purpose was to revitalize our organization. Setting about that immediately, your BOD recognized that during the "recession" the HHAA had suffered in terms of declining registrations, transfers, memberships and lack of member interest and involvement.

Several of the items addressed at those early 2016 BOD meetings were: time lapse between

membership meetings - the last occurring in 2011; position vacancies on the BOD; and a need for a plan of action to revitalize the HHAA with excitement, interest and involvement. Continuously and to guide us, we asked ourselves the question: "How can we ensure the longevity of all of our beloved Hungarian Horses through the HHAA?" During the next month (April 2016), we had several BOD meetings, established a working BOD (with several interim members seated until the next election) and set a date/place for a membership meeting, which would include BOD and Officer Elections. To notify members, the meeting plan and location were published, both on Facebook and in our July 2016 newsletter.

The goal of our 2016 Membership meeting was to revitalize and to infuse enthusiasm into our association by bringing members together: asking them what they would like to see improved and what HHAA can do to attract and keep members. It was an extremely positive and successful brainstorming session, as well as, a very pleasurable networking

#### **HHAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- Reduced Registration and Transfer fees
- Simple & Inexpensive Registration process
- DNA testing
- Enrollment in our HHAA Annual Awards program
- Eligibility in the USDF All Breeds Awards Program
- Receive HHAA Newsletter
- Membership in the Official HHAA Facebook Community
- Free Stallion Service advertising on HHAA Facebook and Website
- Free Sale Ads on Facebook
- Participation on an HHAA committee

***Please let us know what other benefits you would like to have!***

event; making new friends and renewing old friendships. Attendance was great with 32 people attending and 7 new members joining HHAA. Meeting attendance was remarkable, as at the time, the total HHAA active membership was 53.

Chris Bredeson led a very productive and positive meeting, reminding attendees that we wanted them to identify their concerns with a constructive solution and to brainstorm ideas to help the HHAA to grow and to flourish. Out of this meeting a list of 29 items was developed. The BOD looked at these items, prioritized them and began working on implementation. As of mid-May 2017, we have and are tackling 13 of those 29 items. The following is our 2017 Progress Report to date.

We invite your comments, ideas and suggestions. We also invite your participation on a working committee to tackle "future projects". If you see something that you would like to get involved with or have an idea that might help HHAA, please contact us. Also please tell us if you would like your name removed from our mailing list.

*Henrietta Morey*

*Markay Kerr*

## HHAA PURPOSE

The HHAA Articles of Incorporation provide that the specific and primary purpose for which this corporation is formed is to record the lineage of Hungarian Horses, govern such infusion of other genetic material as needed and approved by the Association, encourage further improvements of the breed, and promote the interests of the breed. To this purpose should be added/to record the lineage of pre WW-II Kisber type horses.

## *Work in Progress - The "First" 13 Items*

- A vital website is needed: one that is designed and managed by a professional and paid designer and that is frequently updated.

**We have interviewed several designers, conducted evaluations and hired a new professional web site designer. We are in the process of soliciting a committee to execute the website implementation.**

- HHAA needs a responsive person to walk thru the registration process, transfers, memberships and help with concerns in a timely manner. Attendees noted that they are aware of horses eligible to be registered in HHAA but have been registered in other associations because our process is difficult.

**We hired a Registrar, separated the registration and membership processes, and assembled a committee to handle the transition. A huge thank you to our Transition committee: Marie MacAulay, Val Sivertson, Petra Mann and Jamie Barents. They worked extremely hard; under less than ideal circumstances and for many hours to analyze the current process and develop a comprehensive plan to address members' concerns. They met with and spoke with our suppliers that execute our DNA testing and design/manage our pedigree data base software. They reviewed hardware needs and purchased a new HHAA computer and printer. They reviewed and analyzed HHAA registration guidelines. They then made recommendations to the BOD for system improvements and for a process to manage an efficient transition. With BOD approval, The Registrar Transition Committee has designed, set up and implemented an efficient and accurate registration/transfer of ownership system, which will address members concerns regarding timely processing of applications,**



**timely deposits of members checks and HHAA responsiveness.**

- Our on-line studbook has not been updated since 5/2/13. Several members' horses were registered last year and are still not noted on the on-line pedigree data base.

**The on-line studbook has been laboriously updated and correlated with the pedigree data base system and is now available for member use and viewing. You can view it at: <http://hungarian.hvyhorse.net/>**

- Members noted that when membership applications, transfers and registrations are sent in, their checks are not cashed for "months". This was a concern as people were unsure if they were members or not.

**As a smaller association, we have operated with a local bank in Nebraska. This made timely deposits difficult. The registrar and membership chairman collected checks over time; processed the requested action; then sent the processed checks to the Treasurer who had to make a special trip into the bank to deposit checks. We are now establishing a relationship and an HHAA banking account with a national bank allowing satellite deposit capabilities. Our main bank is still in Nebraska, but now both the Registrar and Membership Chairman are able to deposit checks immediately after your applications for horse registrations/transfers have been processed and approved and your membership application or renewal processed.**

- HHAA needs to be more involved in Social Media. We need a Facebook Manager that is professional and deletes inappropriate posts and publishes a list of FB "rules" that those posting must follow. It was suggested that we watch other FB pages for Hungarian Horse notations and invite those posters to join HHAA and use HHAA FB.

**After our HHAA BOD members were blocked from the former HHAA Facebook page by the administrator, we appointed a Facebook Committee consisting of Jamie Barents, Petra Mann and Rachel Galambos with a BOD Liaison: Norma Knittel. Petra set up the new page. We tested it for a while (which explains the "secret" status for which some of you were concerned). Investing extensive time and energy, Jamie has led the effort and established our new live Hungarian Horse Association of America – Official Facebook Group. We are beyond excited with the uplifting nature, positivity, and enthusiasm for this "Official HHAA" Facebook site contributed by current members, old members and friends that we have not heard from for a while. In addition, Rachel has set up new HHAA TWITTER and INSTAGRAM accounts. It is important to note that anyone interested in Hungarian Horses is welcome to participate in HHAA's social media. Guidelines have been established and are posted to keep this site positive and helpful. Please visit the Hungarian Horse Association of America – Official Facebook Group for these guidelines.**

- HHAA needs to have present day and successful Hungarians promoted on website/FB. Historical horses that have done well are interesting but we also need to generate enthusiasm for our present day stock.

**Our members have enthusiastically jumped in here by posting photos, videos and stories of their Hungarians on our NEW Facebook Page titled Hungarian Horse Association of America – Official Facebook Group. Keep up the great posts!**

- Congratulate new owners/trainers/foal births. Welcome them to our Association (if not members) and help them be a part of our group.

**Our registrar Petra Mann and Jamie Barents will often be the first line of contact for our members and other interested parties. They are resourceful, enthusiastic, excited and ready to help.**

- Develop and sell Hungarian Merchandise.

**We currently have the historical book: *The Heavenly Horses* for sale. We would love to have HHAA members volunteer to investigate further ideas and potential products.**

- Produce a newsletter twice a year.

**A newsletter committee was established consisting of Henrietta Morey, Markay Kerr, Norma Knittel and Val Sivertson. You are viewing our first newsletter of 2017 and we plan another newsletter for Fall/Winter 2017. We hope you enjoy the format and encourage your participation. Our newsletters are also available electronically for email and publication on our website.**

- Develop list of current breeding stallions for website.

**Our first attempt at developing a list of HHAA Stallions and owners is included in this newsletter and will be published on FB and on our website. Thank you to Val Sivertson for doing the research and assembling this directory.**

- Develop succession plans for HHAA officers and any other key positions.

**This has begun with the BOD appointing an Assistant Registrar (Jamie Barents) and an Assistant Membership Chairman (Petra Mann). Both Petra and Jamie are tasked with learning and understanding each other's roles. In addition, the BOD has set up a project management reporting system in which a BOD member is a liaison for each of our "projects" that is not managed by a BOD member. Val Sivertson is the Registrar BOD Liaison; Markay Kerr is the Membership BOD Liaison; Norma Knittel is the Facebook Liaison; Chris Bredeson is the Board Liaison for Awards and USDF. The liaisons are responsible for communicating with the Project Manager/Chairman and keeping the BOD informed regarding that project.**

- Encourage more involvement in HHAA. Encourage people from geographically diverse locations.

**The BOD wants to recruit members from all areas of the US and Canada to become actively involved in the HHAA. Our new Facebook page has brought participation from many diverse geographical locations. Our current plan includes holding our next membership meeting somewhere on the "East Coast". Jamie Barents has graciously agreed to "host" this event. Watch Hungarian Horse Association of America – Official Facebook Group for further developments.**

- There is no mailed reminder (Invoice) regarding annual membership so people do not think about it.

**This will be remedied. A reminder was sent out for 2017 via email. For 2018 dues payment, our Membership Chair will develop a plan to best communicate our dues payment information and process.**

## ***In Memory of Ellen Nicholson Walker***



During the summer of 2016, Ellen Nicholson Walker, one of our most beloved and dedicated HHAA Board Members/Newsletter Editor, passed away unexpectedly as the result of a horse pasture accident. The following is a tribute to Ellen that was first published on the Eventing Nation Website and is reprinted with the editor's permission. We feel it captures the spirit of this amazing, multi-talented woman whom we had the privilege of knowing well and sharing HHAA adventures up to the week before her death. Ellen was one of the initiators behind our "revitalization" of HHAA in winter 2015/2016. We feel her loss deeply and dedicate this newsletter to Ellen's memory. We can only aspire to be



as warm, kind, dedicated and well-loved horsemen and human beings. Ellen, we hope you approve of our efforts on your behalf in terms of the newsletter production and carrying on your work of preserving the HHAA. Your HHAA newsletter committee: Henrietta Morey, Markay Kerr, Norma Knittel and Val Sivertson. This image is a painting of Ellen done by her dear friend Lee Bennion of Spring City Utah.

## *Eventing Community Mourns Loss of Ellen Walker*

By Lorraine Jackson 7/21/16

The eventing community is mourning the loss of longtime instructor and volunteer Ellen Walker, who died earlier this week at Utah Valley Regional Hospital following a pasture accident at her home in Spring City, Utah. In a fitting final act from one who gave so much to so many, Ellen's wishes were fulfilled to be an organ donor and save other lives. She was 61 years old.



Ellen and HS Comrade by HS So Rare out of H Monda

Ellen was a talented instructor who could have taught at many levels, but she was extremely devoted to bringing in beginners and giving them a safe and solid foundation in jumping, dressage and eventing.

She was the instructor for the Sanpete County 4-H English Program from the mid-1980s until the day she died, and also the instructor for the Skyline chapter of the United States Pony Club in the 1990s. She was an all-volunteer instructor who continued to recruit curious riders in the heart of "cowboy country" year after year to help them find their way safely and effectively in the sport.

She was a tremendous Area IX volunteer, organizing fundraisers for The Event at Skyline, coordinating volunteers, hosting training camps and clinics, and supporting riders at shows near and far, both recognized and unrecognized. She was honored by the Event at Skyline with a Lifetime Service Award just this past May.

In her personal riding career, Ellen was an exceptional trainer and competitor in dressage. She took multiple horses from their first ride under tack to competing at Prix St. Georges, and she always trained them with supreme skill and kindness. She loathed tricks and shortcuts in training. Last year for her 61st birthday, she switched gears and competed in the inaugural Event at Skyline, where she took fourth place in Intro on her pony, Pippi.

She was also a tremendous advocate, trainer and breeder of Hungarian Warmbloods and was a board member of the Hungarian Warmblood Association of America. She loved them for their history, their movement, their spirit and their friendliness, and she rescued more than one from dire circumstances.

Ellen accomplished all of this while being a full-time high school teacher. She also devoured books and loved gardening, cooking, and riding the mountain and desert trails with her many friends.

Most of all, Ellen was just the glowing, beating heart of the Utah eventing and dressage community. Her life's work was taking people under her wing and never turning away anyone who was willing to learn.

Some of her students have gone on to make full-time careers in the equestrian industry, others ride and compete in the English disciplines as a hobby, and one former student will be going Intermediate at Rebecca Farms this weekend. Through her dedication to teaching she touched thousands of lives across generations.



Ellen and Zsafia (Sophia) by H Gyemant out of H Monda

## Introducing HHAA's Board of Directors and Officers



### Chris Bredeson - President

I first got involved with Hungarian Horses in about 1978 when I was 12 years old. I cleaned stalls in a stable in Roy, WA in exchange for riding lessons from Val Sivertson. While at this stable, Val brought Hungarian horses over from the Bitterroot Stock Farm in Montana for training, breeding and sales. I was one of the first to breed a mare to the Hungarian stallion Taltos and later had the opportunity to ride him on trails with Val as part of his training. I showed hunter/ jumpers during my teen years until my focus needed to be on academics and my career in healthcare administration.

After college, graduate school, marriage, and 3 children, I got back into horses and started Liberty Farms Sport Horse Company with my cousin, Henrietta Morey. We purchased eight Hungarian mares from the Cooksley Ranch and HS So Rare from Summervale Farm to begin our breeding operation. I later purchased Hungarian Sir Bungee from Adele Furby to cross on the So Rare offspring. Over the years it has been fun to breed and sell many Hungarians. I am at a point where I am transitioning back to riding and am reducing my herd size as I pursue riding again.

I have served on the HHAA Board since about 2001, including many years as President and Vice President. I also serve as the Director of Sport Horse Breeding for the Equestrians Institute in the Puget Sound Area.



### Rick Brandt - Vice President

Sharon and I have been Members of the HHAA since 1986. We own and operate Brandt Excavating Company, out of Lincoln Nebraska. We have an HHAA Stallion – H Royal Rare (Roy) and three Hungarian Mares plus some mules that we use on pack trips. Royal Rare is sired by HS So Rare and out of H Lola's Shadow; a granddaughter of Secretariat. We have used our Hungarians in the mountains around Yellowstone Country extensively.

Before moving back to Nebraska, I made a living singing Opera out of New York City, quit, and moved to Montana. In Montana, I started outfitting in the Big Hole Valley and Yellowstone National Park. After I sold the Outfitting Company, I returned to Nebraska where I met Sharon and we are living happily ever after! Most recently, I am embarking on a new adventure having been appointed by Nebraska's governor as the Commissioner of Nebraska Game and Parks.



### George Cooksley - Treasurer

George Cooksley, owner/operator of Cooksley Ranch, is a cow-calf producer west of Anselmo, NE. George grew up breeding, raising, training and selling Hungarian horses at the ranch. George's parents, Steve and Wanda Cooksley, were part of the original founders of the Hungarian Horse Association. George is the Treasurer of the Association and a Lifetime Board Member.



### Henrietta Morey - Secretary

I was one of those "horse crazy" little girls and finally received my first pony at age 11. Since that time, I have never been without a horse - participating in 4-H, Rodeos, in-hand showing and trail riding, showing in both the English and Western Disciplines and breeding a few Quarter Horses and Appaloosas before falling in love with our amazing Hungarians.

I first became intrigued with the history of the Hungarian horses in the early



1980's when Val Sivertson and Charlene Summers bought a few Hungarians from Countess Margit Bessenyei and brought them to our local area. However, I was not able to pursue my Hungarian interest for some time as I was busy climbing the corporate ladder: working in various Marketing Research, New Products Development and Marketing Management positions at Olympia Brewing Company, Anheuser Busch & Weyerhaeuser Corporations.

I bred my first Hungarian foal (by HS Pik Brado) in 1998. Along with transitioning out of corporate America and into Real Estate Development and Sales, I jumped into Hungarian breeding with both feet in 2000 by buying eight Hungarian Mares from the Cooksley Ranch in Nebraska along with my partner, Chris Bredeson. Together with Chris' wife Darla and my husband Phil, we formed Liberty Farms Sport Horse Company. That soon led to purchasing a Hungarian Stallion (HS So Rare) and actively participating in breeding, training and showing Hungarians in Dressage, Hunters and Eventing. Simultaneously, I became active in the Hungarian Horse Association of America and the Pacific Northwest Sport Horse Breeders' Community, becoming a Board Member for the NW Sport Horse Breeders' Association and later the HHAA.

In the past 15 years we have bred over 30 foals with at least 22 of them registered in the HHAA Registry. As a Hungarian stallion owner, it has been a privilege to campaign HS So Rare and his foals to numerous regional and national USDF Dressage Breeding titles. Additionally, my Hungarian's have earned Regional Hunter Championship titles, USDF Horse of the Year Awards, HHAA Awards, Regional USDF Training Level Championships and Championship Pony Hunter Breeding titles.

As a member of HHAA, one of my proudest contributions was initiating and leading the development of the Hungarian Riding Pony Registry and breeding the first Hungarian Riding Pony – HRP Princess of Hearts.

Hungarian horses have opened a new world for me. Their story is one of courage, resilience, and perseverance with a little romance thrown in. They have captured my heart and fashioned my sincere admiration of them due to their spirit, intelligence and devotion.



## Markay Kerr - Member at Large

A long time ago, Markay Kerr was an athletic, fearless, horse crazy (sound familiar?) girl growing up in Missouri who dreamed of and lobbied for a horse (to be kept in the suburban back yard). Alas, location, time, money, career, doctoral studies and more career limited the dream to assorted lessons from riding a wonderful mare who took 3rd place in the Maryland 50 mile cross country as a 25 year old (what a horse!) to jumping with a former head trainer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, then retired to Minnesota, until...

After moving to Wyoming deferred gratification flew out the window when Markay's husband surprised her with a horse. Not the jumper she had in mind, but, even as a yearling, a very loyal, kind, safe, smart and dependable Appendix Foundation Quarter horse who herded cattle, packed in the mountains, actually had an extended trot, safely introduced many, many children to the riding experience and lived to a robust 32.

In 1989 they all moved to Washington settling south of Seattle on a small farm, building a log home and a separate barn. Fast tracking, time moved on, and as retirement approached Markay cast about for ways to be more involved with horses. While looking for a horse for her nieces, a friend took her to see the sire of a young colt the friend was selling.

The sire turned out to be Wishes and Dreams (Weltmeyer (HAN) x Phirst Solo (OLD), also recognizable as influential in the Hungarian Sportlo book). Over the course of that interaction Markay met Charlene Summers, Norma Knittel, Val Sivertson and Hungarian horses. Her retirement project was launched. She did buy the young colt for her nieces and started breeding Hungarians post haste, still seven years before retirement.

Breeding, showing and promoting the horses became the before work, after work and weekend activity. Her horses were successful in Dressage Sport Horse Breeding winning awards from local recognized shows to regional and national levels. Shifting focus, Markay promoted breeding in the NW by managing Dressage Sport Horse Breeding, Hunter Breeding and Future Event Horse shows for the Northwest Sport Horse Breeders Association (NWSHBA), now the Equestrians Institute Sport Horse Breeding Division.

Working with Equestrians Institute also led to managing its licensed, recognized Level 3 National Dressage Shows and assisting with Clinic Programs. Markay still owns four brave, intelligent, willing, powerful and graceful Hungarian horses – two Felver mares, two HPB geldings (for sale) - and one OTTB Mare with a stellar pedigree for breeding to Hungarians. Markay's abiding interest in preserving the historically rich Hungarian horse led to membership and participation in the HHAA from 2000 on and now as a Board member and one of the Newsletter Editors. Her continuing interest is to see the magnificent Hungarian horses flourish and thrive.



## **Marie MacAulay - Member at Large**

We love our horses! They are living, moving, and breathing art. Yet, they are a core of steel that shaped history and civilizations.

Besides there is nothing better than galloping across the countryside, so 3-Day Eventing is a natural fit! Tim MacAulay, born and raised in Banff, Alberta (his family settled there in 1883) went to work with horses in the Canadian Rockies as a youth. He was an outfitter in the McKenzie Mountains in the NWT for almost twenty years. He "retired" to raise horses and cattle at Buck Lake, Alberta in 1992.

Marie MacAulay, born and raised on a livestock ranch in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, (started by her family in 1884) met Tim while wrangling at a camp in the wilderness of the Ya Ha Tinda, Alberta.

A passion for horses and the outdoors led us to the Hungarian Horse. Their fascinating history contributes to their present-day potential. We use the "recipe" perfected by the Austrian-Hungarian cavalry to produce an ideal mount for 3-Day Eventing.

Our horses are pasture bred and raised. They thrive on almost one thousand acres of lush pastures, woodlands and wetlands. Nestled near the foothills of Alberta, this environment fosters the development of great lungs, legs, a clear mind and a hardy constitution. They are naturally sure-footed, confident and capable of negotiating rugged terrain.

We sell only a limited number of horses a year to select homes where they can reach their greatest potential.



## **Val Sivertson - Member at Large**

I was first introduced to Hungarian Horses as a student at Pacific Coast Equestrian Research Farm and School of Horsemanship in 1969. After graduation, was hired at the school as an instructor and assistant trainer. It was my good fortune to be able to ride, school, exercise and show many outstanding Hungarian Horses. In 1970, I completed the Tevis Cup with Linda Tellington and Margit Besseney, Evented up to preliminary level, and competed in many Hunter, Jumper and Dressage competitions. I purchased my first Hungarian in 1978 but did not fulfill my dream of being a Hungarian breeder until 1989.

With the help of my husband, Mark, we established the Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm. I am very proud of the Hungarian horses we have produced, including the stallions HS Kivalo and H Randevu. I am devoted to the Hungarian Horse and its rich history here in America and am honored to serve on the HHAA Board. I believe that the health and growth of the HHAA is imperative to the strengthening of the Felver lines which will thus preserve the history and the continuance of this important breed.

In addition to co-owning the Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm I have been the manager of Pioneer Farm Museum since 1989. My family has always been involved in education and started the not-for-profit, historical preservation and children's experiential "living history" museum in 1975. Mark and I have three grandchildren and love watching them grow and experience life with such interest, introspection, and delight.



Funniest thing happened on the way to publication... Somewhere between the final editing and printing, the bio for Norma Knittel, Board Member at Large, vanished into cyber space. We are deeply sorry for this inadvertent misstep in the process and find the response and subsequent action of the printer very refreshing. Our deepest apologies to Norma and a hearty 'thank you' to Business Solutions of Orting, WA for their work in righting the error and for their extensive efforts in producing our latest HHAA Newsletter.

~Henrietta Morey & Markay Kerr, Editors



## **Norma Knittel - Member at Large**

My husband and I began breeding sport horses in 1989. While maintaining professional careers, as well as raising a family of seven children, we made time to immerse ourselves in the study of bloodlines and the structural qualities necessary to maintain soundness in our performance horses.

We began with an imported German Trakehner mare, Faktorei, and her son, Faber. Faber was the first stallion to sire foals for our farm. He was licensed by ATA, Canadian Sporthorse Association and Oldenberg NA. Our second Stallion, and the one used by several Hungarian Horse breeders was the imported Class I Trakehner stallion, Rubin. Our lovely Hungarian mares (many purchased from the Cooksley ranch) were ideal crosses with our Trakehner stallions, especially Rubin. The same foundation stock was used in the early development of the two breeds. Some of the same improvers were used (shared) between the Studs in the region. And you know, once you've had a Hungarian, you are hooked! It wasn't long before the Hungarians far outnumbered the Trakehners.

I attended the reproduction classes for breeders at Colorado State University School of Veterinary Medicine. There, I trained and earned certificates in AI, breeding with frozen semen, and embryo transfer.

We utilized all three methods in our breeding program. The last year of Rubin's life, we did six embryo transfers, resulting in five live foals. Those ETs are: HS So Rare, HS Maradonda, HS Marado II, Riscay (Oldenberg), and Royal Rajah (Oldenberg).

At this stage of my life, (a young 72 year-old) I feel it a privilege and a joy to be part of the revitalizing of this wonderful breed of horses through my participation on the Board of Directors. I know who these horses are. I know the blood from which they've come. I know the faith and the love that went into breeding and preparing our Hungarians to take their place performing alongside the best of the best. And succeeding! And, I treasure the Hungarian who helps a child discover the unique love, the joy that can only be found between horse and human. They are my favorite!

# 2016 Membership Meeting Summary

By Merri McBride

On the cold, clear morning of October 22, 2016, 32 intrepid members and friends of the HHAA gathered for day one of the annual meeting at the home of HHAA member and Board Director Henrietta Morey and her husband Phil Antush; located in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains near Eatonville, WA. Members came from as far away as Nebraska. Henrietta, co-owner along with Chris Bredeson of Liberty Sport Horse Company, has a unique and beautiful home built above her barn. Her great room has a large, garage-style door at one end that opens directly to the covered arena. This was the perfect setting for the meeting!

Presiding board president Chris Bredeson called the meeting to order with a warm welcome and with an invitation for all the members to introduce themselves. The admiration and enthusiasm for our Hungarian horses shone through as each member told not only who they were, but why they were there and how they came to love the Hungarian horse. During the reporting phase a shared purpose of invigorating and sustaining the HHAA resulted in many creative and innovative suggestions for improving communications, increasing membership and horse registrations, and promoting the Hungarian horse.

After the discussion we held nominations for the Board of Directors. Nominated members in attendance gave a brief biography and explained their interest in being on the board. The statements of members who were not able to attend but were interested in serving were also read. (For more detailed information see the minutes of the meeting.)

There was time for celebration as well as serious business. Sofie Wright Wohllaib brought free samples of the machine-embroidered pattern of the HHAA brand that she created. Henrietta made sure copies of The Heavenly Horses were available. Once the board was elected, we were treated to a delicious luncheon and viewed the wonderful video compilation of recent Hungarian Horse performances created by Norma Knittel and Belynda Moore. If you would like to watch this video you can view it at the Hungarian Horse Association of America – Official Facebook Group.



**Val and Mark's Amazing Barn**

to Rick Brandt and Chris Bredeson for doing the branding and to Mark Sivertson for keeping the fires burning.

Thanks to all the members for such a great meeting with so many good suggestions!



**2016 Meeting "Venue"  
Henrietta and Phil's Home**



**2016 HHAA Meeting Attendees**

The biggest treat of the day was the opportunity to roll the doors open and see several of the Liberty Farms Hungarian Horses. It was especially exciting to see Henrietta's two lovely Hungarian Riding Ponies. On day two, several members gathered at the Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm, hosted by owners and HHAA members Val and Mark Sivertson. Warmed by fresh-from-the-oven blueberry zucchini bread and coffee they gathered at the barn to meet Val's stallion, mares and geldings and to watch Hungarian horses branded. Some members even went home with a souvenir of the Hungarian

horse brand burned into wood. We offer our many thanks



**Val and Her "Girls"  
(Hungarian Mares)**





## Welcome to Our Newly Elected Registrar - Petra Mann



Hello HHAA Members. My name is Petra Mann and I have been elected, your new Registrar for the Hungarian Horse Association of America. I'm very excited to assist the HHAA in such an important role. I look forward to helping members with the registration & DNA process.

Let me tell you a bit about myself. I have owned horses most of my life. I grew up and lived in the Puget Sound area, but landed back on my home turf of Vashon Island, WA (The Mann family has been here since 1937) after graduation from Cleveland High School in Seattle, WA. I have worked as a school bus driver, on Vashon Island for the last 30 years. I found that driving school bus allowed me middays off (about 5 hours), which left me time to ride my own horses, train client's horses and manage different boarding/training facilities. Holidays, school breaks and summers off were also a big perk for showing and going to clinics!

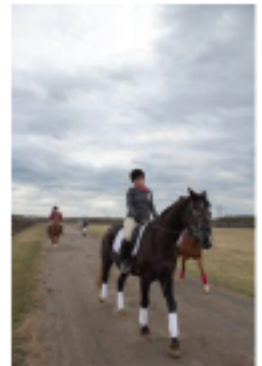
I was introduced to the Hungarian horse by Val Sivertson of Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm here in Washington State. In 1993, Val was recommended to me, as T.E.A.M. instructor to help with an issue I was having with a young Dutch WB gelding that I bred and owned. From time spent interacting with Val and her horses and the more I learned about the Hungarians, their history and personality...I was in love. Their versatility, hardiness, willingness to learn and perform was absolutely amazing. Let alone, their extreme kindness and honesty. I currently own a Sportlo mare I bred, by Val's late stallion, HS Kivalo, out of my TB mare, Happieagle. I hope to breed this mare in the near future.

My true passion over the years and as I continue breeding, is researching pedigrees, compiling information concerning a stallion's performance and his progeny. I also put the same emphasis on a mare's progeny and bloodlines. I feel very passionate about preserving this breed and its rich history in the U.S. I believe as an association we need to promote the Hungarian horse by working closely with breeders and owners.

## Say Hello to HHAA's New Membership Chairman - Jamie Barents

Jamie Barents is a 37 year old mother of two, who lives with her kids and husband Matt, and various animals on a small farm in Clifton, Virginia which is just outside of the Washington DC beltway. They purchased the property in 2015 after Matt completed a 21 year career as a Navy pilot, and while Jamie was recovering from breast cancer treatment. Matt has since transitioned to a career with the airlines, while Jamie is at home and busy with kids, animals, barn building, and restoring their old Virginia home.

Jamie became interested in Hungarian horses after riding with a hunter jumper show team in Central Virginia as a teenager, which happened to be coached by one of Countess Gyurky's former students. The team had a number of lovely ponies and horses, including a beautiful bay Magyar mare, which was a gift from the Countess to the riding program. All the kids were told the story of Judith Gyurky fleeing over the mountains with her treasured horses from the invading Russian army. When Jamie and her husband decided to buy their own farm in 2015, she decided to see if there were any special old mares like that from the Countess' breeding program left in Virginia, and eventually found Magyar Inge... a foundation line broodmare in need of a new job. Inge is now



a treasured member of the Barents' family, and they have hopes for a few more Felver foals from her before she retires.

Jamie is a lifelong rider, who started in Pony Club, showed hunters and evented, and more recently has focused on classical dressage and riding young horses, especially her 4 year old GOV mare, Hallie (pictured). In between horses and supporting her family and husband's military career, she got a degree in Economics and an MBA and worked as an associate for a logistics and procurement consulting company for several years. These days though, life is focused on her home and family, and enjoying her horses and life in Northern Virginia!

## ***Free 2017 HHAA Membership for 2016 Members***

As a token of appreciation and in celebration of HHAA's Revitalization, the HHAA BOD voted to give all 2016 HHAA members a free year of membership for 2017. So, if you paid your membership dues for 2016, you are automatically a 2017 member! If you are not currently a member, please complete the enclosed membership form and send it (along with a check for \$25 made out to the HHAA) to our Membership Chairman – Jamie Barents at [bjgiftos@hotmail.com](mailto:bjgiftos@hotmail.com). Mailing information is included on the form.

### **HHAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

- Reduced Registration and Transfer fees
- Simple & Inexpensive Registration process
- DNA testing
- Enrollment in our HHAA Annual Awards program
- Eligibility in the USDF All Breeds Awards Program
- Receive HHAA Newsletter
- Membership in the Official HHAA Facebook Community
- Free Stallion Service advertising on HHAA Facebook and Website
- Free Sale Ads on Facebook
- Participation on an HHAA committee

***Please let us know what other benefits you would like to have!***





## Meet HHAA Awards Program Chairman - Lorraine Heath

I am a Supervising Forensic Scientist in the DNA section of the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab just outside Spokane, WA. I'm originally from Toronto, Ontario, Canada and moved around the world (MO, AZ, Scotland, and England) before settling in WA nine years ago.

I've been involved with horses for over 30 years - starting in the hunter/jumper world then moving to eventing and dressage. In recent years, I have been mostly doing dressage while searching for the right horse, but am now returning to eventing and hope to complete my first recognized event in 20 years this summer.

I'm active in the Spokane horse community as secretary for four dressage schooling shows per year for the Inland Northwest Dressage Association. In addition, I co-organize and run three hunter/jumper schooling shows per year with a friend for Clear Round Hunter Jumper Association.

I had never even heard of Hungarian horses until I met and purchased Luna (H. Moonglow by Atman Pff out of H. Rose by H. Talisman) two years ago as a coming 4 year old. I have fallen in love with Luna and the breed she represents. Our first year was focused on dressage and she has done well at the Intro level at local dressage schooling shows. She started jumping last year and excelled, so this year we will begin competing in horse trials and events, as well as, progressing to Training level at dressage shows.



## Congratulations to Our 2016 HHAA Award Winners

Thank you Lorraine Heath (our Awards Chairman) for once again doing a stellar job in managing the HHAA Awards Program. Following are the 2016 winners. As you can see, Lorraine chose some beautiful awards (Halters, Saddle Pads and Windbreakers). Information regarding the 2017 Awards Program will be available soon.



***In the meantime, please be sure that your 2017 HHAA membership dues have been paid in order to participate in this program.***

## 2016 HHAA Award Winners

- Eventing Champion** - Rachel Galambos and HS Wolf
- Half Arabian and Hunter Champion** - Annalisa Boucher and H SF A LilBit Elegant
- Endurance Champion** - Linda L. Fassett Rudolphi/Olivia Rudolphi and H Wineglass Syrah
- Competitive Trail Champion** - Nicole Mauser-Storer and HS Wineglass Pik George

### DRESSAGE

- Prix St. George: Champion** - Robyn Hahn and HS Brav-o;  
**Reserve** - Paula Helm and HS Wrapsody
- Intermediate: Champion** - Molly Martin and H Wrendition
- Intermediate Freestyle Champion** - Molly Martin and H Wrendition  
**Reserve** - Robyn Hahn and HS Brav-o
- Third Level: Champion** - Catherine Keith/Sara Meeuwsen and H Rossi
- First Freestyle: Champion** - Allison Allbaugh Cino and H Szovaljo
- Training Level (Recognized): Champion** - Sharon Skaggs and HS Winspiration
- Training Level (Schooling): Champion** - Nicole Mauser-Storer and HS Wineglass Pik George;  
**Reserve** - Mary Barnes and HPB Tempe
- Intro (Schooling): Champion** - Lorraine Heath and H Moonglow

## ROBYN HAHN CONTINUES AS OUR USDF LIASION



Robyn Hahn lives in Hillsborough, North Carolina on a farm with just enough acreage to ensure never-ending mowing most of the year. An avid dressage competitor and volunteer, she spent almost a decade as a Member-at-Large and Vice President of the North Carolina Dressage and Combined Training Association, the largest USDF Group Member Organization in NC.

Robyn became a Hungarian Horse enthusiast quite by accident when she purchased HS Brav-o (Pik Brado x HS Spirit) as a coming five year old in 2009. Already a USDF bronze medalist, together Robyn and Brav-o have achieved their USDF silver medal and obtained scores towards their USDF gold medal. Along the way they were the 2013 USDF Region 1 BLM Champions at Third level, the 2014 GAIG/USDF Region 1 Reserve Champions at Fourth level, and placed 5th in the 2014 USDF US National Championships at Fourth Level.

Robyn's family includes an enthusiastic 11 year old daughter, a ridiculously patient farm-hand boyfriend, and lots of furred and feathered critters. Together we volunteer with Beyond Fences, a community based organization that helps under-served neighborhoods access basic pet care resources. Robyn's career centers around animals as well, working as a small animal veterinarian. Whatever free time is left is used working in the garden, wrangling pet-hair dust bunnies, enjoying craft ciders, and searching for the best taco in North Carolina.





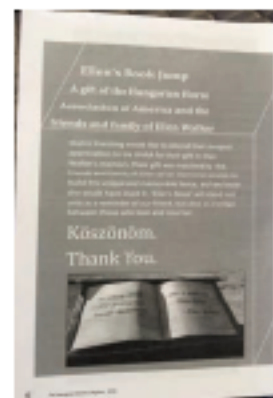
## Ellen Nicholson Walker Memorial Contribution



Ellen's Jump

In memory of Ellen Nicholson Walker, our HHAA Board of Directors voted to contribute \$500 toward the construction of a cross county fence located in the Skyline Eventing Park in Sanpete, Utah. Ellen was an active and avid supporter of the construction of this eventing venue and a participant in its inaugural event in 2015. The fence is a creative design incorporating her loves of education, books and horses.

**10/26/16 Note to HHAA from Lorraine Evans Jackson (Editor of Eventing Nation): "Tomorrow is the first day of the Ellen Walker Memorial Event at Skyline Eventing, and we are so honored to be debuting the Prelim Fence built in Ellen's memory courtesy of the gift from the Hungarian Horse Association of America. The funds you donated were matched at her memorial event by friends and family. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!"**



Skyline Event Program

## Rubin Memories by Norma Knittel 3/27/17



Our "Influential Horses" Section is designed to be a recitation of the lives of horses (Hungarian or not) that have had a significant impact (historical or living) on our breed. For our first installment, we have chosen Rubin as an influential Trakehner stallion whose HHAA offspring are noted in this article written by Norma Knittel (Rubin's last owner). Settle in with a cup of tea (or coffee), have some tissues handy and enjoy. Our plan is to publish these articles on the new upcoming HHAA website. ***If you have a horse in mind that***

***you would like to write about, please let us know!***

Rubin was bred by Gottfried Hoogan in Hamburg, WG. He was Performance tested (100 day) in 1975 at Adelheidsdorf, WG. His inspection scores were stellar: 9/9/9/10/9/10-with an average score of 9.

Rubin was imported into Canada by Harry Zimmerman of Dundas, Ontario in 1986, for Dr. Jack Dwyer and his wife Maureen. Dr. Dwyer was a professor of veterinary medicine at a veterinary college in Alberta, Canada. The Dwyers also purchased a number of Trakehner mares who were to be bred to Rubin for the purpose of developing their own breeding program, consisting of Trakehner and Trakehner crosses.

Dr. Dwyer died unexpectedly at a young age. His wife, Maureen, decided to return with their young children to their family and home in Ireland. The horses were sold. Rubin was purchased by Don Carnegie, and brought to his dairy farm in Aldergrove, British Columbia. Don had some lovely mares sired by Conduis (Trak) and the beautiful mare, Isola Lanka (Trak). Isola Lanka produced two stallion sons by Rubin. They are Ikor and Intermezzo.



While at the Carnegie Farm, Rubin became gravely ill. It was felt by veterinarians and others who took an interest in him, that he was not going to survive. But fortune smiled on Rubin one day when a remarkable horse-loving woman, Victoria Robertson, stopped by the Carnegie farm when she saw the word "Trakehner" on the farm sign. How serendipitous life can be.

When Victoria was 16 years old, living with her parents in Germany, she was in the audience for the final day of the 100 day stallion testing, when the newly licensed stallions were presented. Victoria described to me the hush that fell over the crowd when Rubin entered the arena (usually there is umpapa band music and lots of clapping, etc.). Ridden by Johann Hinnemann, his hooves seemed never to touch the ground. He seemed to be more of a mirage, floating above the ground, gliding effortlessly through the air -- a natural contact in a natural frame -- mesmerizing and beautiful. Tears filled her eyes as she described what she saw and felt that day, watching Rubin. Already an accomplished equestrian riding good horses, Vic said, "From that day forward, Rubin remained the standard by which she judged all other horses."

Needless to say, when Victoria realized that the horse lying before her was Rubin; it was a life shifting moment. She and husband Glen committed themselves to restoring this remarkable stallion to good health. It took a long time. To say that their efforts were "beyond heroic," would still be an understatement!! But restore him, they did! Rubin was even breeding again.

Rubin was advertised for sale in December 1993. Bill and Norma Knittel called on the ad; and in January 1994, brought Rubin to his final home, Frosty Meadow Farms, in Graham, Washington. There, he shared breeding duties with our younger Trakehner stallion, Faber. Always, Rubin moved with that bounding forward, airborne stride, even to the last step he took, on a sad November day, remaining always in that beautiful carriage and noble frame. Rubin entered our barn with such dignity (a kind of aloof nobility) never even acknowledging the temper tantrum of a horrified, Faber. That was Rubin, quiet and dignified---well, until the breeding halter came out. SHOWTIME!

Two Hungarian gentlemen, Lazlo Monastory and Egon Kamarazy came to the farm to see Rubin in the spring of 1994. Lazlo returned two more times in the years that we had Rubin; always touching base to be certain that Hungarian mares were being bred to Rubin.

When Captain Monastory was managing breeding operations in southern Hungary, they were consistently competing with the Trakehner Stud at auctions for blood stock. Lazlo liked to tell the story about going to auction with plans to bring home to the Hungarian Stud, the Arabian stallion, Fetysz ox. They were outbid by the Trakehner Stud. So they had to settle for a full brother to Fetysz ox. I can't remember the name of the full brother. Fetysz ox is the great great grand sire of Flaneur, who is Rubin's sire. Fetysz ox was foaled in Janow, Poland. He is recognized as one of the most influential stallions used in all European Warmblood breeding. He is the only Arabian stallion to establish a significant and lasting stallion line in the modern Trakehner breed. This important stallion was lost during the East Prussian flight from the invading Russian Army in 1944.

There was never the opportunity for an exchange between the Kisber stud and the Trakehner Stud with Fetysz ox; though these kinds of exchanges were common during Lazlo's time there. The two breeds' foundation mares came from the same area and were alike in type. They also shared similar breeding goals. It isn't unusual to find the same blood lines in the two breeds early on. I think it was because of Fetysz ox, that Lazlo urged us to breed Rubin to as many Hungarian Felter mares as possible. More than once, Lazlo remarked that we should "not listen to the talk. Breed this horse to as many Hungarian mares as possible, and then pray for fillies... the next generation will be better, but the third generation will find the pearls". Look at the lineage of many of the HS horses competing at the higher levels of their discipline today, and you will understand why Lazlo held such a prestigious position at Kisber, at such a young age.

Thanks to Victoria Robertson, it became possible for Rubin to leave a legacy worthy of the Fetysz ox, one that helped to propel Hungarian performance horses to the highest levels of competition....and WIN! I believe that we bred Rubin 22 times in the short time that he was with us. We were unable to resettle the lovely Trakehner mare, Isola Lanka. And one of our six embryo transfers failed to produce a living foal. The Hungarian ETs resulting in live foals are: HS Maradonda, (Rubin/Marado) HS So Rare (Rubin/Marado), HS Marado II (Rubin/ Marado). Other HS offspring are: HS Alaric (Rubin/H Princess Helene), HS Kivalo (Rubin/H Nagyszony), HS Jeremiah (Rubin/H Foka) and HS Rubato (Rubin/H Bajos III).



**Norma Knittel and her beloved Rubin**



## HHAA Stallions

These Hungarian Stallions standing in North America are currently ones that we are aware of. Please contact their owners for more information. This list will be published on our new website. ***If you are an HHAA member and have an HHAA registered stallion that is standing at stud, please send a horse bio and a picture to us.***



### **H PAN #1547 - 2004 16.1h Brown by SEATTLE SYN out of H WITCHESS.**

Pan's sire, Seattle Syn was a son of Seattle Slew. His dam, H Witchess carried the bloodlines of Fontos, Nicsak and Secretariat. Pan was bold, powerful, athletic, and stamped his foals with natural talent and brave, sensible dispositions. His progeny are now successfully competing in jumping, dressage, and eventing. Video of him, at liberty can be viewed on our YouTube channel, "tmacfarm." Frozen Semen by Private Treaty. TMAC Eventing & Sport Horses-Tim and Marie MacAulay 780-388-2117



### **H RANDEVU #1554 - 2001 16h Chestnut by HS SO RARE out of H ALDAS.**

Randevu has an unbeatable walk, expressive trot and balanced canter. He has won numerous national and regional championships, both in hand and under saddle. Randevu's get have inherited his wonderful disposition and grand movement. He carries a great balance of Trakehner, Thoroughbred, Shagya and Hungarian blood. Fresh Cooled Semen by Private Treaty. Contact Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm - Valerie Sivertson (360) 832 3885



### **H ROYAL RARE #1574 - 2007 15.3h Black by HS SO RARE out of H LOLA'S SHADOW.**

Roy has a strong willingness to learn and loves to be with people. He is very calm and quick to learn. He has a lot of pure Hungarian Felver traits from the Lola line, as well as, athletic movements from his dam's grandsire, Secretariat. Contact Rick or Sharon Brandt 402-450-9302 Roca, Nebraska



### **H SIR BUNGEE #1509 AF- 2003 16.3h Grey by \*SHANDOR (Shagya) out of H Othea.**

Bungee's name was inspired by the elasticity of his gaits. That expressive movement is passed on to his offspring who have won many regional and national championships "In Hand" (halter), in both Dressage and Hunter divisions. His get are well known for their rideability and that special connection with their owners. Fresh and Cooled shipped semen. Liberty Farms Sport Horse Company – Contact Chris Bredeson 360 -269- 2685



### **H VICTOR #1571 - 2003 15.3h dark bay by H MARIUS out of H STE. MICHELLE.**

Victor is very easy to ride and is working at PSG this year. Photos are from 2015 showing 3rd level. Pedigree is on my website at [www.reithofrumke.com](http://www.reithofrumke.com) under breeding. High quality frozen semen available in macrotubes. Number of sperm per dose >300million PM (post thaw motility). Contact Brigitte Rumke at 613-363-4456



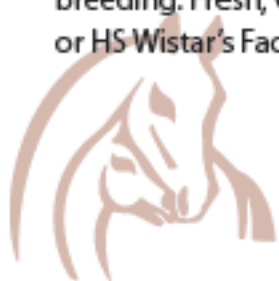
### **HS SO RARE #HS161 - 1996 16.2h Black by \*RUBIN (Trak) out of H MARADO.**

So Rare has proven himself in the most important way by producing many champion progeny both on the line and under saddle. As the result of his foals' successes, So Rare has the distinction of being: Champion Dressage Breeding Sire for the NWSHBA for 4 consecutive years. Champion Hunter Sire for the NWSHBA. Ranked in the Top 8 USEF Dressage Breeding Sires for 4 consecutive years and was also ranked #4 USEF Dressage Breeding Sire for 2006. So Rare is approved for Felver breeding. He will produce your next champion! Fresh and cooled shipped semen. Liberty Farms Sport Horse Company – Contact Chris Bredeson 360 269 2685



### **HS WISTAR #HS141-1996 16.2h Bay by WISHES & DREAMS (OLD) out of H MARADO.**

Wistar is a Grand Prix Dressage Stallion that has won many local, regional and national Championships. His off spring have also proven themselves in the show ring. Several of his get are competing in FEI Dressage and Eventing competitions. Wistar is one of only 2 Sportlo Stallions approved for Felver breeding. Fresh, Cooled shipped semen. Please Contact Rene (253) 682-7798 or HS Wistar's Facebook page and messenger too!!





### **HS COOL RIVER JUDGEMENT #HS326 - 2006 16.2h Bay by HS KING'S DREAM out of GEE ZEE.**

Judge has 3 exceptional gaits and jumps 5+ fences easily. He is not trained to ride but has a very kind temperament and pleasing laid back personality. His first foals are very nice with exceptional movement and conformation. They have shown the easy to train characteristics of the Wishes & Dreams line, with wonderful straight legs. I am looking forward to riding them when they grow up. Fresh and cooled semen available. Contact Cool River Ranch  
Lura Curtiss 509-860-3302



### **HS KING'S DREAM #HS166-1998 17h Chestnut by WISHES & DREAMS out of H SORSHA.**

King has wonderful Dressage movement and Jumper scope over fences. He was shown by his owner in Dressage and Hunter with great local success. His wonderful, kind temperament and head turning presence make him an easy winner. Trained and shown very successfully in jumping by an international rider in Canada at Grand Prix until an injury forced his retirement. King has many offspring showing in many different disciplines. His offspring are cherished and called the "star of the barn". Many carry their youth riders to the winners circle. Fresh Semen only. Contact Cool River Ranch-  
Lura Curtiss 509-860-3302.



### **HS KIVALO #HS147 -1995 16h Grey by \*RUBIN out of H NAGYASZONY.**

Kivalo had outstanding natural ability and cadence. His movement was breathtaking. He received many awards in hand and under saddle. Kivalo's offspring are well conformed have great balance and cadence and are excellent representatives of the Hungarian Breed. Through his dam he carries many of the oldest most treasured Hungarian bloodlines. Frozen Semen by Private Treaty. Contact Valerie Sivertson Ohop Valley Hungarian Horse Farm - (360) 832 3885.



### **HS WARADO #HS225 - 2002 16h Dark Bay (Black) by HS WISTAR out of HS Marado II.**

Warado stamps his movement, beauty and talent on all his foals, crossing extremely well with a wide variety of mares. Competed through 4th level and showing exceptional balance and ability to carry weight behind, he was progressing in the footsteps of his Grand Prix father Wistar, schooling through I-1. Currently ridden by a disabled rider and an amateur due to his excellent temperament. A proven producer of dressage champions and event champions, Warado also imparts his amateur friendly temperament on his offspring. At age 15 he is sound and requires no maintenance, he produces horses that have the best Hungarian traits. Fresh cooled semen, frozen semen and live cover available by Private Treaty. Contact Lise Madson at LiseMadson@gmail.com  
541-403-1063





## Wanda “Musings”

We hope for this column to be a regular in our newsletters. Those of us who were fortunate to know and admire Wanda and Steve Cooksley always waited expectantly for our next HHAA newsletter to arrive. Wanda was our HHAA newsletter originator and editor through 2006 at which time she passed the newsletter torch to Ellen Walker. Wanda was a fountain of knowledge and expressed her ideas and thoughts about her beloved Hungarians in a clear, concise, loving and knowledgeable manner. We plan to extract and republish some of the many articles Wanda wrote about the HHAA and her cherished Hungarian horses.

The word “Musings” is defined as a period of reflection and thought. We know that Wanda had many of these periods and lovingly dedicate this column to her. This article “The Registry: A Retrospective” was published in the July 2006 edition of The HHAA Newsletter. We hope you enjoy it.

## The Registry: A Retrospective

The registry of the Hungarian Horse association of America is based upon the records that came with the US Remount Service horses when they were imported from Germany after World War II. Those records, maintained at Kisber since 1864, had been brought out of Hungary with the horses. The officers and men, who cared for the horses, matched horses and pedigrees, in addition to the brand records. Later Laszlo Monostory received information from friends in Hungary so the identity of the horses was again verified. Laszlo’s memory of pedigrees was so great that when he came here to proof the extended pedigrees, he found them correct except for Honpolgar IV, who had the incorrect dam and was too young to have been a depot stallion (in Hungary), so could not have had the roman numeral IV. These corrections were made.

Countess Judith Gyurky’s horses were the other sizeable group of horses. Their records also came from her farm records, which she brought out of Hungary with the horses. Later, when Temple Farms at Chicago decided to breed only Lippizan horses, Margit purchased all of their Kisber horses. They went to Judith in Virginia where they were judged and sorted, keeping a small number of horses as brood mares. The others were sold as grade horses. Katherine Nelson also joined the Association with her mare who had been imported to Canada by Zoltan de Nemethy.

After the original association was formed, Margit hired Hanna DeVegh (another Hungarian) to go directly to the original stud farms to record their horses from their farm records. Hanna spent a week at Judith’s Port-A-Ferry farm and a week here (at Cooksley Ranch) before going to Montana to record those horses and organize the registry. (I’d like to add here that Hannah was a very careful “recorder” and a most interesting and talented person. We felt totally comfortable with the job she was doing.)

After the deaths of Margit and Judith, the widening of the membership additions of breeders was necessary. The Felver and Part-Bred books were already established. The gene pool remained extremely small so the Sportlo book was added. The addition of the performance breeding of the European warmbloods became a real asset as Steve had predicted.

Laszlo told us the background story of the addition of the Trakehner stallions, Formas and Szeplak. They [the breeders at Kisber] were looking for a stallion to re-introduce the bloodlines of the English Thoroughbred Lancelot, which had been very successful for them at Kisber. The Trakehner association had two young stallions by Lancelot for sale. The Hungarian breeders also liked the concentration of Thoroughbred bloodlines in the pedigrees. They purchased (or traded, as we remember it) for these stallions, who were re-named Formas and Szeplak in Hungary. Unfortunately, this was not long before World War II and the total upset of horse breeding in Europe. After the war, Szeplak went back to Hungary from Germany and Formas to the US with the Remount importations.

Formas became the sire of the two mares (sisters of a Kisber mare) we purchased from the civilian boss at Fort Reno. He had purchased the stallion and mare at the Remount dispersal sale at Fort Reno. One of the Formas mares became the dam of Big John by Honpolgar IV. The head of the horse division at the University of Nebraska and coach of their judging team had seen Big John here at a three-day clinic. He brought his judging team back 200 miles, re-inspected Big John very closely, and instructed his team to study him



carefully, for he could find no fault in the horse. "Memorize him to use as your model for your horse judging decisions."

Big John's disposition was also ideal. Susan, as a very young girl, began playing with him in the corral when he was a weanling. He always loved people. He produced foals true to his type and with excellent dispositions. Steve's belief in the Hungarian horses was proven true. Big John served as herd sire here for as long as possible, then was traded with Margit Besseney for H. Taltos. He left a very good set of broodmares on which to continue building. AT THAT POINT HE BECAME THE FIRST WARBLOOD CROSS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED INTO THE FELVER BOOK.



Here would be a good time to talk about the meaning of Felver – it means "high in blood", not "purebred". \* All horses imported were recorded as part-bred in the US Remount Stud Book and given numbers in that registry. At the time of the formation of the Sportlo book, we dreamed of again having a stallion produced in that book with the performance, disposition, and conformation that would warrant again adding to the Felver book. He would also have the advantage of being half Felver. This year, those dreams came true.

There was discussion and disagreement (at the meeting of the Breeder's Board) about Wistar's Hanoverian sire. From watching the registration application photographs over the years, I was convinced we were losing bone and body substance in our Felver book. After the war, European warmblood breeding changed, with the addition of more Thoroughbred breeding. The Kisber Association in Hungary opened their registry to the other warmbloods this year hoping to improve the quality of their horses with their addition. Also, Wistar's dam, Marado, always produced a good foal, regardless of the sire. Add to that his proven performance record. His disposition is great too. Jennifer travels all over with him by herself. The Wistar foal pictures have been good. Only time will tell of their performance ability.

So Rare added the Rubin (Trakehner) bloodlines. Rubin has added beautiful dressage movement to his foals. So Rare has won both local and national recognition as a conformation dressage stallion. His foal pictures have also been very good. Again, time will prove the decision wise or unwise.

Any endeavor must move forward or stagnate. We can only trust the future breeder's boards will make wise decisions as they guide the breeding of Hungarian horses in America.

\*Editor's note: In the past, "blooded" horses or "bloodhorses" was a term often used to denote Thoroughbreds or horses with a high percentage of Thoroughbred blood. In England, the term "half bred" specifically means half Thoroughbred. The Kisber horses are referred to as "Hungarian half breds" in some equestrian literature.

The German stud at Trakehnen had a breeding program more similar to the Kisber stud than did other warmblood studs. In fact, many of today's successful Trakehners carry Hungarian blood through the stallion Burnus, who was bred at Kisber and was a grandson of Fenek V.

## My Hungarian Horse

This column is intended to give our members a platform to share stories about Hungarian horses. It could as easily be titled "I Love my Hungarian Horse." This first story is about a brave little Hungarian mare bred by Henrietta Morey who faced death and survived to become a young woman's soul mate at a time when she really needed one. Republication, reproduction, dissemination without permission of both authors is prohibited.\* ***Please send your Hungarian Love story to Henrietta Morey or Markay Kerr for consideration for inclusion in one of our newsletters.***



# A Hungarian Love Story



## **Lilli's Story - the third chapter // Early July 2016**

By Henrietta Morey

Some of my non-horse friends chide me about "having all those horses," all the time that I spend with them and of course the money involved. This is the reason WHY. I am touched, humbled and gratified to share this story of a Hungarian mare (Lilli) that I bred, her brush with death, the miracle of her survival and the partnership with her new owner, who herself, survived an unbelievably abusive relationship. Together they have not only comforted each other, they have not let their injuries stop them from getting on with life, and have started a new chapter to add to each of their stories. Wherever this new path leads them, they both have shown clearly that they are survivors and role models for others. It is a bit long but be sure to read Amber's story below. Thank you to Ellen Nicolson Walker for arranging this partnership. I am very grateful that Ellen understood my need for Lilli to have a special home and Amber's need to have Lilli. Read on... You may want to have your Kleenex handy.

## **Lilli's Story - the first chapter // 2013**

By Henrietta Morey

Lilli is a beautiful blood bay color with a little white "L" on her forehead thus inspiring the name "Lilli". She stands about 15.3 hands tall and is very sensitive, athletic and competitive. She has long lovely straight legs and sturdy feet, a short strong back, solid heart girth and an uphill build.

Lilli was bred to be an eventer. Her dam was one of our top producing Hungarian Mares – H Liberty Foka. The Foka mare line is the producer of Hilda Gurney's Hungarian dressage star - Pasha. Lilli's sire, Dunant, was an imported Irish Thoroughbred. Dunant retired from a spectacular racing career that included numerous wire-to-wire wins on two continents and setting a track record for 1 1/16 miles at Bay Meadows.

Jumping skills and endurance were added to Lilli's pedigree thru her maternal grandsire: the famous Hungarian stallion Brado. Brado won the Best Conditioned Horse award in the Colorado 100 mile endurance race and then 2 weeks later he was both the Champion Jumper and Champion Hunter in the Concord, California Hunter and Jumper Trials while in training with Linda Tellington-Jones. To prove that this was not a fluke performance, he did it again. After winning the Oakland International Gambler's Stake, Brado then placed in the top ten Tevis Cup 100 Mile Ride only one week later.



We started Lilli lightly under saddle as a 4 year old. She proved to be an apt albeit sensitive student definitely drawing on her TB heritage. She preferred to have her own person and tended to bond with one person at a time but gave her all to that person. She also proved to be very competitive in the herd...always winning the race to be first to the feed barrel.

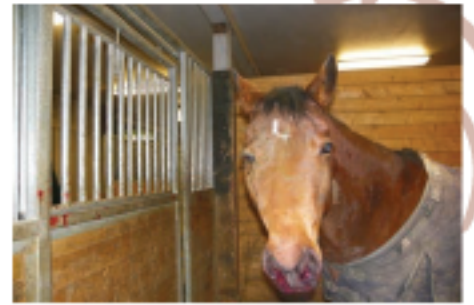
In the summer of 2009 she went out to several schooling shows as an observer. She later made her under saddle debut by winning her dressage class and the high point award at her first show. Lilli was schooling a solid first level when disaster struck.

Early December 2009 was cold with temperatures in the single digits for about a week resulting in frozen ground and ice covered trees. Lilli's bad luck started with a violent windstorm (60 MPH) at 10 AM on December 6. It was like a war zone at my home with trees falling everywhere. I was trying to get my horses in from the paddocks and had 2 in hand when a falling fir tree hit Lilli on the head and back. My husband was able to catch her and bring her to the arena thru the falling tree debris.

The tree severely damaged her face (broken eye orbit, sinus and nose bones). It was horrible ...blood was pouring out of her nose, and her breathing very raspy. Because I had seen the tree strike her back before it hit her face, I thought she must have serious internal injuries because of the severe bleeding. Because of the very severe storm, we knew it could take hours for a vet to arrive and thought the kindest most humane thing we could do was to put her out of her misery. It was evident that she was in shock and loosing blood fast.



Lilli is a lucky horse. She defied death 4 times on this life changing day. After surviving the falling tree, we tried to shoot her immediately, but could not. We have never shot anything in our lives and my husband just could not bring himself to pull the trigger. We then called a hunter neighbor to come shoot her but he could not. He felt that since she was on her feet, that his shot may not be fatal and she would break away. Then we would have an even larger problem. By now the storm had slowed so we called the vet to come put her down. I blanketed her and tried to comfort her best I could while we both waited covered in blood.



**Lilli shortly after her injury**

Remarkably, the vet thought we could save her. His hypothesis was that the bleeding was coming from her nose and sinus damage as opposed to internal damage. Although we were facing continued nose bleeding, possible brain swelling and eye damage, numerous broken facial bones, we decided to go for it.

As we moved forward with her treatment, we discovered she would not or could not drink water. We immediately upped her fluids to keep her hydrated. This was quite time consuming as it took about 1 1/2 hours (twice daily) to run that much fluid thru her catheter. With lots of IVs, DMSO, antibiotics, pain meds and fluids (and of course money), and constant home nursing, we saved Lilli.

Lilli was quite the trooper allowing me to treat her without tranquilizers or restraints. She exhibited a remarkable attitude and much patience during my nursing. The bleeding continued for a good week off and on. Eventually, I was able to coax her to drink from a very shallow bucket where she did not have to submerge much of her nose.

Lilli and I had lots of "talk" time while I stood by her side waiting for the lifesaving fluids to circulate through her body. I promised her I would take care of her to the end or at least until I could find her a great home if she would just survive. We talked about her having a baby and passing on her great genes and beauty. We considered finding Lilli a Para-Rider if she recovered enough to be ridden. Wouldn't it be cool for a handicapped rider and horse to be successful? We talked about fulfilling her eventing destiny.

Over time she has recovered surprisingly well. Thankfully, the potential of brain swelling and loss of her eye or sight did not materialize. Although there are numerous small broken bones in her face, they have not caused any problems. The only lasting indication of Lilli's brush with death is a weepy eye (damaged tear duct) and her newly "dished" face. In fact someone asked me if she was an Arab, mistaking her damaged face for that Arab "dish".

In 2012, Lilli foaled a lovely pony filly: Liberty BlueBelle affectionately known as LuLu. To keep the stress of foaling minimal, I bred Lilli to a tiny 11.2 hand Welsh/TB pony – Blue Who from Florida. It was a very easy birth. Again Lilli allowed me to help her and attend to her new baby. I will never forget the look on her face as she looked around at her back end and first saw the baby. She clearly was wondering where in the world that little wet thing came from. Lilli's spirit again shone through as she proved to be an attentive and careful new mom.

### **Lilli's Story - the second chapter // Early July 2016**

By Amber Jacobson Tucker

Wow! Thank you Henrietta Morey! I love hearing that, I was crying. I hope that it's alright that I finish this story. Or at least tie my story and Lilli's together.

I was at one time married to a very abusive man. After two children, three years of being physically abused, many years of verbal and emotional abuse I decided to get out. On October 17, 2012 my tragedy struck. While trying to get myself and my two very young little boys away from my ex-husband, he ran me over. Seven thousand pounds went over my entire body. The driver side front tire started on my right foot, my foot was lying on its side. It then ran over my legs, hip, torso and shoulder. When the weight of the truck made it to my shoulder I knew I was going to die. Just a few more inches and my head would be smashed under the

weight. Both of my children were going to watch their dad kill their mom. They were three and five at the time. My ribs, however, could not bear the weight of the truck, they snapped off my spine and down the center throwing my left shoulder forward dropping the truck off of my body. My right hand was lying in front of my face; the tire nicked my nose and went over my hand. There was nothing left but hamburger of what used to be a beautiful long skinny hand. My three middle fingers were amputated, bones poking out all over. My three year old sat in the middle of the road trying to put the fingers back on my hand. My five year old lay across my shattered ribs begging, "mommy don't die." My neighbor rushed to my side, called 911 and when the ambulance arrived, took my kids to his house while the ambulance rushed me to the local hospital. Life flight was called in; but after the x-rays showed my lungs had not been punctured, I was moved by ambulance to a larger hospital better equipped to handle this type of trauma.

After being in ICU, I was released to a general room, and endured major surgeries to repair my hand. I came home far from the person I had been physically just a few short weeks before. All of my left ribs were shattered; my right foot didn't have a bone in it that wasn't broken, the muscles were completely compressed and severe nerve damage left me with a foot that had limited feeling, most of which was pain. I had a bruised left lung, a damaged pancreas, a six inch deep cut on my right hip less than an inch from a major vein and only time would tell what my hand would be like.

I was told by doctors that I would never walk the same, riding any horse would be limited at best and my hand would probably never be strong enough or mobile enough to hold reins. I told myself that I would prove those doctors wrong and with that I set out to ride again. I had a very nice, big, beautiful TB gelding that I knew I was going to be competing on...eventually. But my poor luck continued, in the summer of 2013 my gelding coliced and died, he was only eight.

I was heartbroken. For the first time since my assault I thought about giving up. I was a broke single mom battling it out with my ex in court rooms and struggling to make my 30 year old broken body work again.

Later that fall Ellen Nicholson Walker called me, she told me she had a mare at her place that she wanted me to come ride. I jumped on the opportunity, I have always loved riding with Ellen and who wouldn't take the chance to ride a lovely warmblood. I got to her house and as we walked to the pens she explained a bit about Lilli and prepared me as best she could for the face I was about to see.

Wow! I wasn't prepared at all. It was the most impressive scar I had ever seen and believe me, I see impressive scars every time I look in the mirror. But it didn't last long, as soon as the mare moved I fell in love with her.

That is how Lilli and I met, how two survivors came together to make one team. Lilli is the most amazing animal I have ever had or been around. We have an amazing and unique bond. I don't believe our bond would be as strong if we didn't share that same desire to live, the struggle we endured to survive. I know in my heart our paths were always meant to cross. If horses can be our soul mates, then Lilli is mine. **P.S. As of this newsletter publication, H Lilli was just confirmed in foal to HS So Rare. With a little luck, there will be a new Hungarian Felter foaled in April 2018.**



Amber and Lilli





## Member News - Spring 2017

This section is for YOU! It is a place to post your news about your Hungarians; accomplishments, horse for sale, etc. **Please forward your news to Henrietta or Markay. Please participate! We cannot do it without you.**

**Pam Nelson** – 3/29/2017 I still have my mare HPB Coco Channel. We continue to trail ride and take part in Dressage clinics and the occasional Hunter pace. A lovely picture of Miss Coco can be found on the cover of Jean Claude Barry's latest book. *From the Editors:* Impressive cover girl, congratulations!



**Catherine Keith** – 3/29/2017 I am the prior owner of H. Rossi, 2005 Hungarian Felver (bred by Chris Bredeson). H Rossi is now owned by Sara Meeuwsen. She will be showing him 4th level dressage this season. *From the Editors:* Congratulations Sara!

**Jill Barber-Helmer** – 4/6/2017 My horse Sandor (Stick) born in 1990 at the Cooksley's Ranch in Nebraska was put down last March at the age of 26. We had 20 wonderful years together. He was an especially handsome, affectionate fellow and a beautiful mover. His rocking horse canter was the envy of many Morgan & Arabian horse owners here in Vermont. I'd like to think the Cooksley's would be glad to know he had a wonderful life. *From the Editors:* Our condolences. We are sure the Cooksley's would like to know.

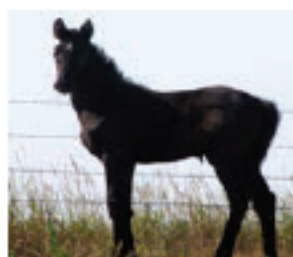


**Sharon & Rick Brandt** 4/27 Our Stallion - H Royal Rare (Roy) is at our home and is currently available for breeding. Roy is a 2007 foal out of H Lola's Shadow (out of H Stoney and America's Promise by Secretariat). His sire was HS So Rare. Roy is a joy to have and truly brings out the Hungarian willingness to learn and at the same time be gentle. He is just under 16 hands.

We also have a daughter sired by H Royal Rare- H Mona Monda . She will be 4 years old this spring. She is doing well on the trail. Her Mom was H Monda 2 (by H Gyemant & out of H Monda by Hadur) from the Cooksley's herd. She is 16 hands already and still growing. We love her attitude. She is very needy for attention and loves to be around us. She acts just like Roy!!!! *From the Editors:* What a lovely foal sired by Roy!



**Royal Rare**



**Baby Mona Monda**

**Patricia Vogel** 5/24 I lost my wonderful Stallion 5/16/2017 Pajkos one day after his 34th birthday. What great memories and special part of the Heavenly Hungarian Heritage. Greetings to all! *From the Editors:* We are so sorry Patricia.

# Hungarian Horse Association of America Membership Form ~ 2017

**\*Please join our Facebook Group:**

**"Hungarian Horse Association of America - Official Facebook Group"**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/County/Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (Mobile, Home, Farm):** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**May we include you on group membership e-mails? YES \_\_\_\_\_ or NO \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please complete form and either e-mail a scanned copy to [bjgiftos@hotmail.com](mailto:bjgiftos@hotmail.com), or send a hard copy of your completed form and payment to:**

**Jamie Barents - Membership Chair  
12421 Fairfax Station Road  
Clifton, VA 20124**

**Please make your check payable to Hungarian Horse Association of America (HHAA)**

**Adult Membership is \$25 per year**

## **Additional Information**

**Petra Mann is our newly appointed registrar. She may be reached via e-mail at [hhaaregistrar@gmail.com](mailto:hhaaregistrar@gmail.com). Please contact Petra with questions pertaining to registration, transferring ownership, or DNA testing your Hungarian horse.**



# HHAA MERCHANDISE FOR SALE



## The Heavenly Horses

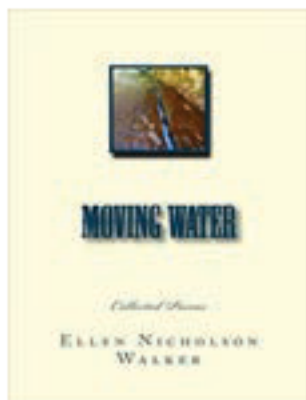


We have new copies of "The Heavenly Horses" by Virginia Weisel Johnson for Sale. The book was published in 1986 and is a "dramatic account of how two women fought to establish the Hungarian Horses as a breed in America. The book tells the history of the Hungarian Horses from the ponies of Genghis Kahn to the elegant Grand Prix jumpers of today. Extracts from the Breeders' Manual and descriptions of Hungarian bloodlines in America are also included".

Books are \$18.00, which includes postage.

Contact Henrietta Morey to order at [libertysporthorses@gmail.com](mailto:libertysporthorses@gmail.com)

## Moving Water



Ellen Nicholson Walker was a woman of many quiet achievements. This is a wonderful book of poems written by Ellen. "Moving Water" is available from Amazon at a cost of \$8.96. It is described as: "Contemporary poetry from the landscape of the American west, rural living, and family relationships, spanning nearly fifty years and various forms, but all with attention to playing with sound, imagery and unexpected connections between the worlds of nature, science, literature, spirituality and personal experience"

## 2018 Membership Meeting

The HHAA 2018 membership meeting is in the early planning stage. Jamie Barents will be hosting if there are no changes. We are looking forward to visiting Virginia, and to meeting as many Hungarian Horse enthusiasts as can attend our meeting. Another possibility for a meeting venue would be the World Equestrian Games held at the Tryon Int. Equestrian Center in North Carolina. The dates for these games are September 10th thru the 23rd in 2018. At this time, we are trying to discern which venue would bring the greatest number of attendees for the meeting. **If you would attend the 2018 meeting, where are you most likely to attend? Please let us know.**



### HHAA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Reduced Registration and Transfer fees
  - Simple & Inexpensive Registration process
  - DNA testing
  - Enrollment in our HHAA Annual Awards program
  - Eligibility in the USDF All Breeds Awards Program
  - Receive HHAA Newsletter
  - Membership in the Official HHAA Facebook Community
  - Free Stallion Service advertising on HHAA Facebook and Website
  - Free Sale Ads on Facebook
  - Participation on an HHAA committee
- Please let us know what other benefits you would like to have!**



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