

Curly Horse History (/)

Search

PUBLICATIONS (/)

DOCS I (/DOCS-I.HTML)

MUSTANGS (/MUSTANGS.HTML)

DOCS II (/DOCS-II.HTML)

HOME (/HOME.HTML)

GALLERY I (/GALLERY-I.HTML)

GALLERY II (/GALLERY-II.HTML)

CURIOUS (/CURIOUS.HTML)



Chief Cochise

by Harold UMBER

It was a beautiful Thursday morning when I left Bismarck to visit with Bill Valentine at his ranch north of Wales in Cavalier County northwest of Langdon. I was thankful for the warm sun that was slowly settling the deep snow on the North Dakota prairies. About halfway to Langdon the weather turned sour and the March lion blew in colder air and snow squalls. North of Devils Lake the snow was blowing across the road and the temperature had dropped below freezing. When I went to bed that night any premature notions that spring had arrived were dashed.

The next morning it was bitter cold. When I pulled into Bill's farmyard about 11 o'clock the wind was whipping snow in icy gusts across the pasture west of the corrals. Judd Dew, Bill's brother-in-law was near the barn and waved for me to go into the house. I met Bill at the door and within minutes we were talking like old friends about Spanish Mustangs—the purpose of my trip. I commented on the quick change in the weather. Bill replied, "We don't worry about nothin here. We just have fun." And fun is what we had. For the next two days we visited and laughed and had what Bill would describe as "a good old time."

Bill owns a herd of 20 Spanish Mustangs. These horses, once numbering in the millions, have been sharply reduced to a small number held in captivity. In Bill's opinion there are few, if any, left in the scattered wild horse bands remaining in the West.

The history of the wild horse in America dates back nearly four centuries to the early ventures of the Spanish Conquistadors. Native

Spanish Mustangs—

few now
herds of this primitive horse
wild throughout

American Indians recognizing the superiority of the horse over the dog soon began acquiring mustangs for their own use. Most Indian horses originated in the Spanish settlements along the Rio Grande River. The Indians raided domestic herds and the mustangs spread from tribe to tribe transforming Indian culture and increasing Indian mobility. Large numbers of horses escaped Indian hands, gained freedom, and flourished in the wilds of the Great Plains. With a ready supply of Spanish ranch animals available the Indians rarely went after the wild bands.

The wild herds did well on the plains until American settlers began to push westward in the latter part of the 19th century. The competition for grazing lands created a confrontation the horse could not win. Although strong scientific evidence exists supporting the belief that the horse is native to North America, it is also accepted by most of the scientific community that, for whatever reason, the native American horse died off about 8000 years before the voyages of Columbus. The Spanish Mustangs that Bill Valentine loves and admires are the horses transplanted into this country by early Spanish conquerors and colonists. Valentine has a beautiful mustang stallion that bears the name Cortes, after the Spanish Explorer who first brought Spanish breeding stock to the West Indies in 1519.

The Spanish (Andaluz) Mustang is a blend of Barb and Arabian ancestry combining the qualities of both breeds. The most apparent distinction in determining Barb qualities in a mustang is the presence of a Roman nose. The Arabian quality most recognizable is a slightly dished face. Bill Valentine has examples of both features in his mustang herd.

The Spanish Mustang is a small horse with alert, intelligent eyes. It has small ears—"lynx ears", Bill calls them. The mustang's body is sturdy and well-

muscled; its powerful front quarters and deep heart girth, combined with durable leg bones, have earned it a reputation for endurance and speed—two qualities paramount in Bill's breeding efforts. The mustang's back is short. It has only five or five and one-half large lumbar vertebrae, in comparison to what Bill calls the modern "tinkered horse" which has six large lumbar vertebrae.

Bill's interest in mustangs started many years ago. He has always raised Indian ponies, he says, "and that's all these horses are is Indian ponies." His interest in Spanish horses heightened when he read a Western Horseman article on Spanish Mustangs by Bob Brislawn of Oshoto, Wyo. During the



The Mustang—bright-eyed, gentle and alert.



Chief Sitting Bull

mustangs." The members meet every year. Last year's meeting was held in Trego, Mont., and this year's meeting is scheduled for St. Louis, Mo. About 725 mustangs have been registered since 1958. Today there are about 500 horses in the registry, Bill said, but quickly changes his mind. "Now . . . we haven't got 500 horses. Too many of them are dead. I've still got a few geritols running around like old Two Woman out here. She's 23 this year and she's in pretty good shape. She's had a colt every year for the last two or three years. A third of the horses registered are probably dead."

While Bill and I were talking, Bill's wife, Fannie, came into the kitchen. "This is the boss," he said. She refilled my coffee cup and I asked her if she was involved in the horse business. "More so now that I've retired," she said, gripping the elbow of her arm, now in a sling as a result of a recent operation. Fannie worked as the Cavalier County Public Health Nurse for many years. Now that she is retired she hopes to find time to write a cookbook, a project she has been putting off. Bill and Fannie have two children. "One of each kind," Bill adds. Their son Tom lives in Iowa and their daughter lives in Oklahoma. Both the Valentine children maintain an interest in horses and are good riders. The Valentines live on the original 1887 homestead of Fannie's parents. Judd Dew, Fannie's brother also lives on the ranch and raises quality Belgian horses. He has 26 Belgians on the ranch.

After eating a dinner, proverbially "fit for a threshing crew," Bill called his friend, 16 year old Vada Shea, a student at Langdon High School. Since Vada got out of school in the early afternoon, Bill asked her if she would come out to the ranch and ride one of his horses to show me how gentle and cooperative they were. She would use just a piece of twine wrapped around the horse's neck to guide it through its paces. Vada arrived about 2:30. We visited a bit, donned our coats, and went outside. It had gotten colder and the wind had intensified; I was worried that my camera would not function properly and put it under my coat for protection.

The first horse Bill showed me was a mare that had recently been captured in the Canadian wilds. "That mare never

had a human hand on her until the 20th of February, 1977." Bill pointed to her foot. "She was caught in a snare sometime or other," he said. "She has a ring around her foot." The horse stood near the corral fence, alert but unafraid. "I can't get rid of the old bugger," Bill said. "She follows me everywhere I go." I learned in the time I spent with Bill that all of his horses acted the same way around him. "Horses are like kids," he told me. "They've got to have discipline and they have to respect you."

There were horses in the corral, horses in the yard, and horses in the back pasture. I stood out of the wind near the barn trying to manipulate my camera while Bill helped Vada up on Dolly—the horse she plans to ride in horse shows this summer.

Dolly is a Bashkir curly horse, another primitive breed. Her coat was a mass of wavy curls. She is one of four curly horses Bill owns. They are rare horses and little is known of their origins in North America. They were found running wild in Nevada but nobody knows how they got there. The curly horse is said to come from the Russian steppes, but there are those who surmise that the curly horse could be the native horse of North America.

"Isn't she a beaut," Bill said as he stood beside me while Vada rode Dolly around the farmyard using the piece of twine Bill had given her. "She doesn't turn . . . she spins," he said with admiration. After riding Dolly, Vada was cold and my fingers were numb from taking pictures. We stood huddled beside the barn, trying to shield ourselves from the bitter wind. Bill came high-stepping by us. "The first hundred years are the worst," he said leading us into the small barn where he kept some of his horses.

Inside the barn Bill moved about his horses with ease. Bill talked to them like errant children, occasionally picking up a hoof or nudging them around in their stalls. In response they nuzzled him affectionately. "These mustangs are so much smarter than other horses it ain't even funny," he said.

Outside the barn again, I asked him about an interesting looking colt that I had seen earlier. "That's Chief Glass Eyes," he told me. "He's a Domingo colt." Chief Glass Eyes is a Medicine Hat, a color phase of the mustang greatly favored by the American Indians. Mustangs come in many different color phases, but the two most famous because of their association with the Old West are the Appaloosa and the Medicine Hat.

The Appaloosa is the more familiar of the two color phases. It is the famous blanket-spotted horse bred by the Nez Perce Indians of the Columbia Plateau. The Nez Perce Indians valued the Appaloosa as much for its beauty as for its functional uses. The Appaloosa was so renowned for its beauty that it didn't



Chief Glass Eyes and Dollie head for the barn.

28—April 1979/ND REC Magazine

have to be painted for use in Indian ceremonies.

The Medicine Hat color phase was developed by the Plains Indians. It was known among early white settlers as the War Bonnet, because of the bonnetlike marking covering its head. It also has a dark shield that was said to protect its chest. Only Indian warriors who had proven themselves in battle were allowed to ride a Medicine Hat. The Medicine Hat became the war horse of the great plains. Their desirability led them to be deemed sacred and those who rode them thought themselves invincible.

Probably the most famous of modern day Medicine Hat stallions was Bob Bislawn's, San Domingo. Bislawn's interest in the Medicine Hat's role in Western history led him to search for this type of pinto for his mustang reserve. He received information from the Navajo Indians living in the Santa Domingo Pueblo of New Mexico that a young Medicine Hat stallion had been captured in the wild. Bislawn obtained the stallion and named him San Domingo.

San Domingo is dead now. He lived on the Bislawn Cayuse Ranch in northeastern Wyoming. He inspired a Disney Studios movie on wild mustangs and sired several Medicine Hat offspring while on the Bislawn ranch. San Domingo's bonnet and shield were red roan floral. Even with the various color phases of the Medicine Hat, most if not all, are basically roanish. San Domingo died last summer after having lived his last nine years on the Valentine ranch. Bill got San Domingo in 1969, "because if they'd left him on the range, he'd have been dead the year I brought



Vada Shea rides Dolly, using only a piece of string for reins.

him home." Valentine prizes the little statue of San Domingo that his niece made for him and his photo albums contain many pictures of the famous stallion.

The last stop on our tour of the ranch was the west pasture. When Bill stepped through the pasture gate several mustangs came running toward us. Among them was Two Woman, the "geritol" and one of Bill's studs, Chief Cochise. The mustangs were gentle and easy to approach. Chief Cochise was the only one that showed signs of nervousness. He was always on the move and paced back and forth, sometimes with two other horses that followed him and sometimes alone. He finally stopped long enough for me to snap a couple of pictures. By then, I had no feeling in the ends of my fingers and the shutter on one of my cameras wasn't working due to the cold. I was apprehensive about the

pictures I had taken and I desperately wanted a picture of Cochise.

Out of all of Valentine's horses, Chief Cochise captured my imagination. He epitomized my preconceived notions about Spanish Mustangs. He was alert and restless. His thick coat and shaggy mane made him a part of the frigid windswept prairie on which he lived. He belonged to the earth. As I watched him move about, he became part of a long distant past. I imagined him on a prairie free of fences. I saw him with a harem of mares in the arid Southwest. I pictured him in a stall aboard a Spanish ship headed for the New World. As I watched him, he became a misty representation of the Old West. For Bill Valentine, he is unique and irreplaceable—"the genuine article"—a horse that he describes as being able to do anything any other horse can do and "do it just a little bit better."

PROFILE: Bill Valentine

Bill Valentine is a "doer". He is full of knowledge and enthusiasm with a zeal for life that belies his 72 years. He is unswerving in his dedication and respect for primitive horses. He attends horse shows on a regular basis and is eager to show what his mustangs are capable of doing.

He is a man that doesn't mince words. "If a man's word is no good, he's out as far as I'm concerned. I'm an ornery bugger that way." Of some modern breeds of horses, he says, "They're crossed with everything from a bull bitch to a barbed wire fence."

Valentine extolls the virtues of the mustang. "These little horses have the smoothest ride you ever saw. They travel with two feet on the ground. Those other nags travel with three; it's enough to jar your folks in the old country."

Bill is quick to credit others in the Registry for their work in preserving the mustang. He speaks fondly and often of his old friend Bob Bislawn and the work of the entire Bislawn family. He was a friend of Velma Johnston, the lady known as Wild Horse Annie. Wild Horse Annie battled successfully for a Federal law protecting unbranded horses on public lands. As a personal gesture of admiration and respect for the Bislawn brothers and Wild Horse Annie, Bill presented each with a plaque commemorating their efforts in behalf of the wild mustang.

He is particularly fond and proud of a silver belt buckle won by Paul Revere, one of his horses. Paul Revere, ridden by Susan Reilly, finished first in the 102 mile Ox Tail Ride in Nevada. "It starts at 6:30 at night and you're got to be back by 6:30 the next night. You swim the Truckee River three times and slide down hills at a 45 degree angle. It's quite a race." Paul Revere won many events over the four years Susan Reilly rode him. When we retired him, Bill says, "we took him home and the dizzy bugger slid on his head at a horse show and broke his neck. And after riding down all those hills!"

What's next for Bill Valentine? He's just gonna keep on going, he says. Bill plans to enter two horses in the Pony Express Classic being run from St. Joseph, MO to Sacramento, Calif. this summer. He hasn't decided which horses to send yet, but right now it looks like he'll choose between Cortes, Stemwinder, and Chief Sitting Bull.

Although Bill doesn't ride much himself anymore, you can bet if there is something he can do to further the reputation of the Spanish Mustang he'll be doing it. "I don't care for myself," he says. "I do it for the horses."

Valentines are members of Cavalier County Rural Electric. "I still say if everything else was as cheap as electricity, by golly, we'd all have a bargain."





Meet Chief Joseph, a 'Medicine Hat' colt born last year



Mustangs are a bit of the Old West

Gracefully high-stepping through the freshly fallen snow with plumes of white rising behind them, a small herd of mustangs romps across the windswept prairie. A colt kicks up his heels in a burst of exuberance.

A scene from a century or more ago? No, it's today in North Dakota.

At his ranch near Wales, in Cavalier County northwest of Langdon, Bill Valentine's herd of 20 Spanish mustangs is a remnant of the Old West.

Valentine's small horses now are a rare breed. Once they numbered in the millions.

Today there only 725 in captivity and precious few more still in the wild.

The Spanish mustangs can be traced back to the horses the conquistadores rode in their conquest of the New World. They are also the horses that made the Plains Indians one of the finest light cavalries ever seen.

"I like 'em primitive," says Valentine. He has little to do with the larger, modern "tinkered with" horse. He says his horses are a unique part of history. Through the Spanish Mustang Registry, he has worked hard the past 20 years to preserve their place in Americana.

When the Spanish Mustang Registry was formed in 1957, there were believed to be less than 200 in North America.

Mustang is a generic term for any horse born wild or gone wild. "A wild horse is just a wild horse," says Valentine, past president of the SMR, "but then sometimes you find those that are different."

Spanish mustangs, of Barb and Andalusian ancestry, have the more primitive characteristics long ago bred out of the modern horse. And in preserving them, SMR breeders allow no crossbreeding to "improve" them.

The Spanish mustang stands 13 to 14½ hands high. It has a short back with only five lumbar vertebrae, and its cannon bones in the lower leg are dense, making them extremely durable.

Its body is equally balanced, but its forequarters are powerful and the heart girth very deep — other reasons for the Spanish mustangs' remarkable endurance.

Valentine is quick to defend their honor. He explains how smart they are, how gentle they are with children,

how easy they are to work with, and extols their speed and endurance.

They provide a very comfortable ride, too, and cowboys learned they have a special "cow sense" in cutting animals from a herd.

"See that. They run with two feet always on the ground at a time.

"That's the only way to tell a Spanish mustang. The old-time Arabians and the old-time Morgans had it too, but the new-time ones (modern horses) don't."

Spanish mustangs are very colorful horses, too.

The American Indians had two favorite color phases, the Appaloosa and the Medicine Hat. The Appaloosa, with a blanket of spots on parts of its body, was bred by the Nez Perce of the Northwest. "It was so beautiful that it didn't have to be painted for ceremonies."

A special mystique surrounded the Medicine Hat, a particular type of pinto developed by the Plains Indians. White people called this animal a War Bonnet because a special bonnet-like marking covered its head and ears, and a dark shield "protected" its chest.

A warrior riding into battle on a Medicine Hat considered himself to be invincible.

Valentine's prize stallion is a Medicine Hat, and he has two more born last year.

Valentine, 72, can no longer perform his pony express trick, jumping in and out of the saddle from one side of the horse to the other while going full speed, but he still has his love of horses.

"I don't care. I don't do it for the money. I just do it for the horses.

"As long as we save the horses, that's okay."

He also has four rare Bashkir curly horses, another "primitive breed" whose ancestors came from the steppes of Russia. They were found running wild in Nevada.

His brother-in-law, Judd Dew, raises registered Belgians. He has 26 on the farm ranch.

"You better like horses if you come around here," says Dew.

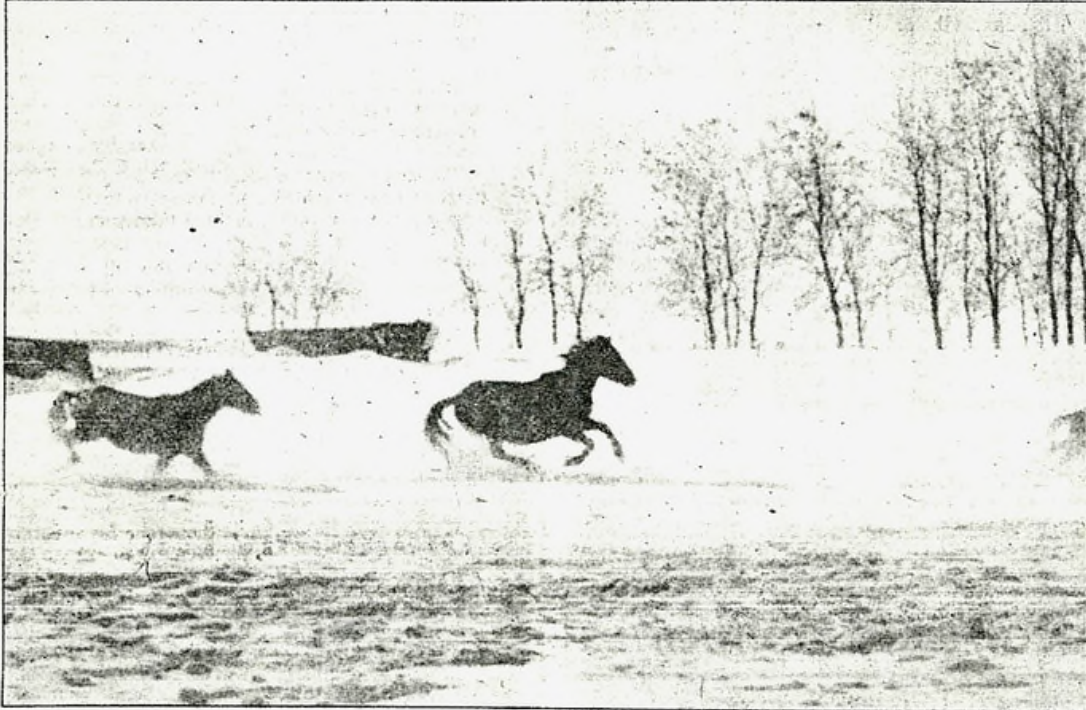
story by
ken retallic



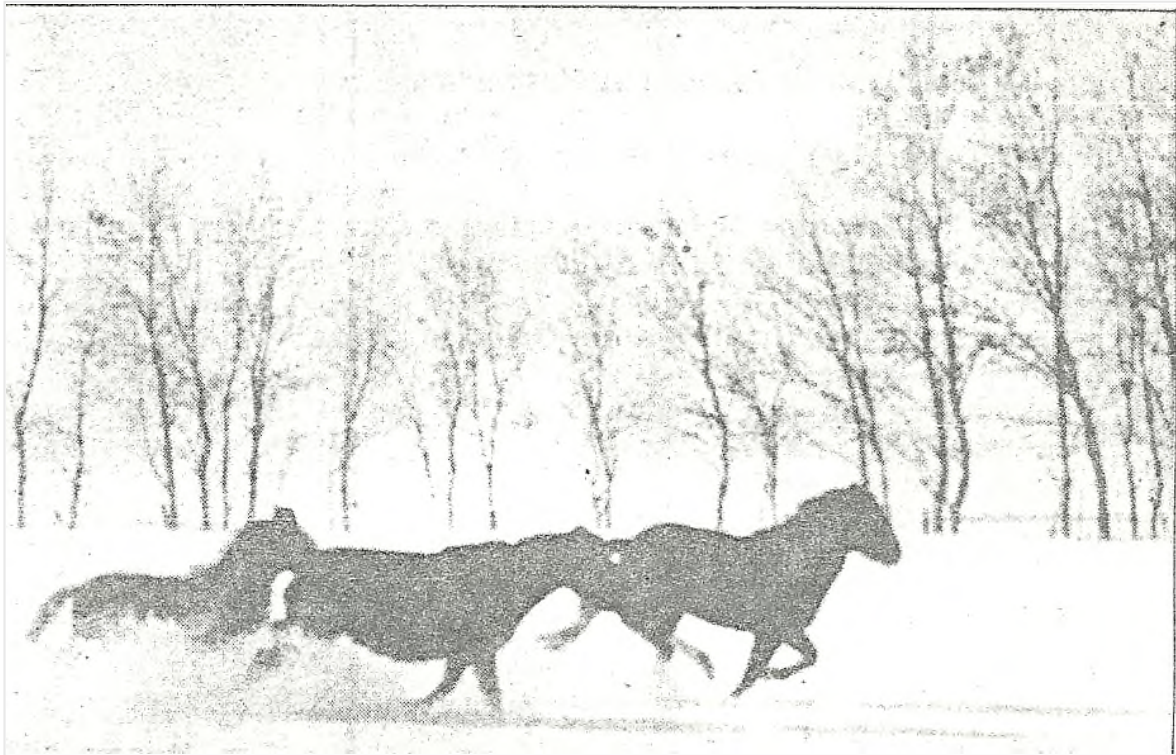
Grand Forks Herald

Section C — Sunday, February 18, 1979

clo



Mustang herd gallops gracefully across



Hi Everyone. *Valentine* *Wholes, N. Ver*
 6-15-79 58281

Here are the Pictures at last, + the ones of
 of Dakota Curly did not turn out so good for the 2nd time
 he must be a freak of some kind, but I sent along some
 of his Mane + also Dakota's summer mane, she is real pretty
 now, a real Golden Palomino. + He is a real Jet Black
 + a real sharp looking

also are the white upon the horse that was in
 the Paper's

I am real sorry I could not make it to the meeting
 but the Prairie TV want to come up + stay a couple of
 days + do a 1 hour TV show on the horses, so we will
 do our best to get a Tape made of this one, as they
 flubbed up on the last one, even though I offered to
 pay them for it

Vada will be leaving this week for her trip
 to the British Isles, with her Grand Parents, so this should
 be quite a trip for her, + a very eventful summer

enclosed is a check for \$10.00 + you can mail
 in the Trophy + we will have the President of
 our Saddle Club present it to her at our Horse Show
 as she is a real Modest Kid + could win the
 World's Championship + not get very excited about it.
 She has already got 17 Bts so far this year
 in Palom + Keffauke, (over)

also here is Nevada Mary's Papers I'm sure happy she
will be Semerant registered,
She will not foal this year, but she has had 3 in
a row so she needs a rest,

Keep up the goat work, and we are
pulling for the Curlies, + hope they do real good
this year
will keep you posted on the Pony express class
it will start on Aug 12 + 2 Plan on being there
Come Hell or high water

Wild Lizzie's Conqueror

By LLOYD HAMILTON

An old man, weary and bent, slowly ambles down Eighth Avenue. His countenance shows discontent as each aching step makes life that much more arduous. Breathing no longer comes easy, tiny beads of perspiration break through his leaky forehead. "Whew, it's hot!" He gently removes his Stetson and with a clean handkerchief, wipes his brow, wrinkled with 74 years of age. Thin, white hair lies straight upon his head.

This man, who appears so forlorn today, was once a handsome, young champion bronco buster; possessing the trim muscles of an athlete in firm fitness. Let us look at his "heyday" to his prime in time when everything was right for him. Let us look back—20, 30, 40 years ago—to the cheers and thrills of yesteryear.

Thanksgiving Day, 1922.

It only lasted 24 hours, the same as any other day, but within that period a miracle took place. It all began when hundreds of people crammed Calgary's Victoria Park horse show building to see a wild west show. A show which greatly exceeded all their expectations and later proved to be an overwhelming success.

A Wild Beast

One of the features of the evening performance was the shocking demonstration put up by Wild Lizzie, the famous freak mare who had shaggy long hair for a coat. Wild Lizzie lived up to her mean, killer reputation. When she was brought out, snorting and kicking everything in sight with a bang, the "rail-birds" lining the balustrades quickly sought safety in the higher tiers of seats in the pavilion. Just as the announcer was advising the audience to keep well back and was explaining that this horse cleared seven-foot corrals whenever she got excited, "Lizzie" gave a mighty jump and succeeded in getting her front feet over the top of the chute, high above the ground. The crowd fell back into the



WILD MARE'S OFFSPRING—There is no known picture of Wild Lizzie, but above is shown a picture of one of her volts. The colt had the same curly coat as the dam but apparently a gentler disposition. Bob Jackson is shown holding the colt.

upper layers as one individual without any further argument.

After dangling in this position for a moment, "Lizzie" tumbled into the narrow chute and became fastened to the bottom with two hooves thrusting out between the palings on either side. It was necessary to release the side of the chute to get her out. It was then decided to snubble her instead of preparing her in the chute. This was accomplished after some 10 minutes of ear-chewing on the part of two husky cowboys and a series of diplomatic adjustments by three other "busters."

Dare-devil Rider

George Hamilton, for seven years champion bucking horse rider of Southern Alberta and sole owner of the belt for which he first won at Macleod in 1908, announced that he would ride the demon horse with a surcingle; that is, practically bareback.

It was he who now started to crawl across the backs of two other horses on to "Lizzie's" curly spine. "Wild Lizzie" stood close to the ground, shivering with excitement and expectation as Hamilton slid his legs down her sides; and when the signal to "let 'er buck" was given, she let out a bellow that sounded like a sea lion, and fairly lashed the dirt with lightning-like movements that resembled the last desperate

struggles of some huge serpent brought at bay.

The crowd roared as Hamilton's body was jolted dangerously to the right and to the left, forwards and backwards, as his charge shot its body through every motion, trick, and gyration known to outlaw broncs. It was man against beast. Wild Lizzie sun-fished, swapped ends, jumped high into the air, and turned the side of her body parallel to the ground, but, by the grace of God, Hamilton stuck to her like glue. He swept the air with his Stetson and twice yelled in true buckaroo style. "Lizzie" finally broke and stood still, trembling while her cargo dismounted with a handspring. The crowd gave the elated cowboy a standing ovation for several minutes.

How sweet the hour of victory was! So sweet was it that both the victor and the vanquished shared its glamor and glory. But like most things, it faded away into history.

Months passed by before Wild Lizzie was seen by the Calgary public again. This time she was being exhibited in a stall on Seventh Avenue and Centre Street. She was an attraction worth seeing for the price of admission. Many citizens remembered her sensational Thanksgiving Day violent buck-

(Continued next page)

(Continued from previous page)
ing which almost caused a minor stampede within the crowd of spectators.

Among Wild Lizzie's visitors was the only man who ever rode her, George Hamilton. He was quoted as saying: "The ground was slippery when I rode her. When she slipped at practically every pitch I had a chance to get a new seat on her. I was hanging on by a hair all the time and



BRONC RIDER — George Hamilton, young Alberta bronc rider. The picture was taken in 1906 when George was 18 years old.

I knew that if she should succeed in getting me off, she would try her best to trample me to pieces. I would not ride her again with a surcingle, and I'll bet that nobody can ride her with saddle or surcingle on dry ground. She is every bit as wild as the papers said she was."

Hamilton's words did not go unheeded. Charlie McDonald and a friend, Pete Vandermeer, doubted the invincibility of Wild Lizzie. They took up George Hamilton's challenge to the international cowboy world to ride the famous, freak mare owned by Charles Jackson of Calgary, and put up a \$200 deposit on a \$1,000 forfeiture that Mc-

Donald could ride the bronc. The contract between McDonald, the Canadian champion, and George Hamilton, the Southern Alberta champion, was drawn up, signed, and marked cheques were deposited in the hands of Jack Kipling, the Alberta champion. If McDonald failed to ride Wild Lizzie under the rules of the "Cowboys Bucking Horse Contests", his and Vandermeer's forfeiture would go to charity; namely, the Salvation Army Children's Home and the Sunshine Fund.

McDonald was remembered as the winner of the Canadian bucking horse championship at Winnipeg and at the Calgary Stampede in the summer of 1919. He was a native Albertan.

The Winnipeg Tribune had the following to say of McDonald's riding in the Stampede held in that city August, 1919.

"Charlie McDonald, champion bucking horse rider of Canada, is by far the best of the riders, and he keeps to the backs of the brones like the proverbial burr. He demonstrated that the wildest bronc could not make him pull leather; and upheld his designation as the premier rider of the Dominion."

McDonald won his Dominion championship by taking all bucking horse honors at the Calgary, Gleichen, and Winnipeg stampedes, thus establishing his supremacy in both the east and the west.

(To be Continued)

^{Sunny}
The photostat turned
out quite good -
Hope it is of use
to you.

IF I ever find the
end of the article I
will send it to you
Lee

FROM
LEE MAXWELL, EDITOR
THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Dear Sir

I saw your letter about the curly haired horse in a recent issue of Paul West and am answering, not so much because I have one, as I got mine through a sale and was not able to find out where he came from, but in winter he has long curly hair, but sheds off slick in summer, only inside the legs and around the feet have long curly hair. his mane is like a spring, you can not comb it straight, his hooves are black, he is only three years old, has been ridden very little, but is gentle and wide awake and will even watch a cow a little.

Now the reason I am writing is to tell you that never heard of the curly

in June West in June 1967
but I read a long time ago,
and I don't know where, of
a man seeing a picture of
a horse carved on the rock
along the Columbia river, I don't
remember the date but it was
awfully early and the man
marvelled, as I did, at the short
time it took the Indians to
get the horse such a long
distance in such a short time,
after Cortez had brought them
to Mexico. but I feel sure now
that the Indians along the Columbia
had seen horses before Cortez
brought them to the Continent
I hope that this will be of some
help to you.

Don Barry
Merrill Oregon

Research

Dear Sunny,

I do not know if you remember me, but I wrote inquiring about the Bashkir and mentioned I was working on a manuscript about the Spanish horse. According to my facts, the Andalusian is an Asian horse, a direct descendant of the Persian warhorse introduced into Spain by Emperor Justinian in the 550's A.D. The Persian is history's most famous breed and was once raised by the Scythians in the Altai Mts. These horses came in every color including apaloosa. For some reason this information is being suppressed by Arabian breeders.

Also since there are several breeds of horses from Altai with apaloosa marks, the Bashkir is also a likely candidate for inheriting his spots in Russia. Note the Apaloosa horse may very well have Russian blood - California is closer than Mexico.

Have you done a chromosome count? The Bashkir may be the link between E. przewalski and E. caballus. Of course he has been influenced by modern breeds but his basic structure is very primitive.

I would greatly appreciate knowing your blood test results. It would help my work I'm sure. I must say I got very excited over your breed. Being a historian (I specialize in Central Asian) I've uncovered a lot of information that contradicts much of the propaganda being pushed today. I also question the claims being made by the Caspian pony people - that it is the oldest breed.

Anyway - thank-you for your time.

Sincerely

Beverly J. Burris
CEDAR CRAFT E-3
Tahlequah, OK. 74464



CALIFORNIA VAQUERO

BY

A.R. Rojas

ACADEMY LIBRARY GUILD
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA
1953

Copyright 1953

ACADEMY LIBRARY GUILD

•
Typography

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA TYPOGRAPHIC SERVICE

•
Lithography

SIERRA PRINTING AND LITHOGRAPHIC CO.

•
Binding

PRINTERS SERVICE

•
Publisher

ACADEMY LIBRARY GUILD

•
Fresno, California

Foreward . . .

We have judged it unwise to rewrite this narrative or even to introduce more order into it. The story flows just as it would around a campfire after a busy day. Who are we to dare suggest that the Last Vaquero submit to literary rules. We want to live with the remnant of the vaqueros and to see them just as they are. Let us then have the good sense to permit one of them to talk just as he will. Let him remain a vaquero so that we may know him as he is. He will keep us interested just as he was kept interested as a kid by the old Mexican and Californian worshipers of the horse, the cattle, and the lesser denizens of the California plains and hills at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th Century.

James H. Culleton, Editor

My Thanks . . .

My sincere gratitude goes to all the many and good people who helped make this book possible. High on a long list, which must remain incomplete, are the following: Walter Kane, Bernice Harrell Chipman, and Ralph Krieser of the Bakersfield *Californian*; Frank Latta and Richard Bailey of the Kern County Historical Society; Elmer Belloumini and Louise Renfro. Then, too, we have the old vaqueros: Leonardo Chavarria, Emiliano Castro, Orville Glen, Guadalupe Gomez, Adolfo Encinas, and many others who with a kind word encouraged me. Jim Day, of course, comes in for very special *gracias*. Was it not he who bore with my defects and opened up for me the gate to a new world — the enjoyment of the fruits of the pen!

Dedication . . .

This book is affectionally dedicated to those *Don Quijotes* who in yesteryear rode the ranges of Kern County carrying a long rope instead of a lance and wearing a *ten gallon hat* in place of the *Mambrinos* helmet. They upheld the vaquero tradition with the tenacity, he of the *Sorrowful Figure*, that of the knight errant, looking back over the bottomless canon of the years I see much of Don Quijote and naught of Sancho Panza in the range rider of long ago.

Arnold R. Rojas
Bakersfield, California
September 4, 1952

red Durham cattle. They traveled with a wagon train across the plains, penning the cattle every night in a corral made of the wagons joined in a circle as the herds of buffalo would scatter the cattle and it would take a number of days to gather them again.

It took six months and eight days to arrive at Grass Valley in California, and in 1853 Packwood and Smith moved to Porterville and built the first house on Tule River. They ran their cattle on land where the city of Porterville now stands. Their vaquero boss, *Romauldo*, was killed in the Indian uprising which required the soldiers of Fort Tejon to come on a fast march to quell it.

Packwood planted barley in 1864. The following year was so dry the barley never sprouted, and the year 1866 being wet, the barley that had lain in the ground over a year sprouted and he got a big crop. Mr. Smith can indeed say he is a pioneer cattleman.

The Horse Breaker . . .

Horse breakers are kin to the gladiator. There is a steady alert look about them which is characteristic of the men who fight broncos and stake life and limb on their skill and quick thinking to earn their living.

Old Sam Howe's features are grim. His body is erect, flat backed and his shoulders have the stoop long years in the saddle give the horse-man. He has bowed legs and a stiff walk. His limbs have been broken in battles with horses. Put him on a horse and he becomes graceful, skillfully handling his mount with smooth expert hands.

His life has been a series of different horses. He is old in experience and wise in the ways of the horse. He can judge a horse and read his character like a book, and classify him from his general appearance, and know at a glance how hard or how easy it will be to break him.

When he looks over a corral full of colts he knows there are some there he will dread to climb aboard for he is old now and his bones ache for days when a horse bucks with him. But he will go ahead about his business of breaking steadily, quietly, patiently, using every trick he knows to make the animal gentle and submissive.

He knows a horse need not buck when it is being broken, and if he never bucks so much the better. He knows, too that a horse learns how to buck and will try until he throws his rider. He knows that one can never ride the buck out of a horse, though he can ride one when he does buck. For a horse under certain conditions will do the same thing over again that he has the habit of doing.

— 94 —

Then, too, when a man is afraid of a horse he scares the horse and the animal will fight the thing he fears, and a man will get hurt if he is afraid.

This is Sam Howe who has had many rough rides on bucking horses since he started riding for Miller and Lux in 1908, and has spent forty-two years as a buckaroo, rodeo bronc rider, bulldogger and roper. He has been a packer and cattle buyer and is still breaking horses and doing a good job of it. Born in Bakersfield, he was brought up here and once escaped death in the clutching, quick sand of Kern river by grabbing the tail of a dead horse as it floated by and hung on until the force of the current pushed the body by, and pulled him out of the sand to a clump of willows where his companion, Salvador Rodriguez, pulled him out of the river. The *Paisanos* called it *Rio Bravo* (Fierce River) for it took its toll of lives even in those early days.

Caballo Chino . . .

The *Caballo chino* (curly-haired horse) figures quite often in the tales told by the old-timers who say the *chinos* were *muy guapos* (very tough) and not uncommon in the bands of mustangs found here in early days. Al Mora told me this story of Pajaro, the black *chino* horse, who traveled from San Carpojo to Lebec in a night and half a day.

Juan owned the best-reined horse in his county, back in the days when life was cheap in California and the taking of it frequent and commonplace. Juan, an innocent man, was pursued by a posse eager to catch and hang him. He was a man who never lost hope or his nerve, and when they closed in on him he made a feint by dashing to one side of the circle of riders then, wheeling, he dashed back. He made several feints before he found an opening; then rode between two members of the posse and got away. But the posse hung at his heels and dogged him across the Carriso plains, over the Temblores, and turned back only after they were well into the San Emido mountains. The black *chino* galloped on. Every now and then Juan dismounted to tighten the cinch but never drew rein until he trotted into the yard at the house of Ramon Dominguez, 110 miles from his starting point.

Malicious Mares . . .

We were weaning that year's crop of colts on Rosedale Ranch and had put a band of mares and colts into the corrals. We sat on our horses outside and watched the brutes mill 'round and 'round. Sometimes

— 95 —

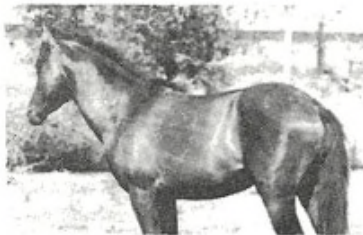
Wild Horse Research Farm

(Apology s that some may not be order many years of collecting has made it very difficult. We did our best to have good scans but some being very long ago done are not 100%: Editor)

Rick Inman
Owner-Manager
4010 F Poplar Ave. 93257
209-781-1886

THE HORSE OF THE AMERICAS RESEARCH RANCH

Jeff Edwards
Research - Newsletter
P.O. Box 388
Porterville, CA 93258
209-781-1225



Feb. 27, 2013

Dear Carol L. Erickson

I am so sorry to hear of the death of Sunny Martin. I remember her well and we had a great time when I traveled to Ely and talked of the research that Bob Brislawn and I, Jeff Edwards had done with the horses on the Wild Horse Research Farm in Porterville, California.

I warned the Curley Horse Registry to be careful of introducing outside blood into the breed as they will lose the curly that they are based on.

Enclosed is a book of Bob Brislawn at the Wild Horse Research Farm. There is a lot of research in the book on the horses and you feel free to use any of the information in the book or in the magazines and newsletters. You certainly have my permission.

Sincerely,

Jeff Edwards
248 N. Main Street
Porterville, CA. 93257
(551) 781-1225

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

OFFICE 248 N. MAIN STREET PORTERVILLE, CA. 93257 Phone 209 781 1225 Night 209 784 6408

5-8-78

Dear Sarge and Sunny:

I was happy with what you told the BIM and hope they do inquire about the way we select the horses and also they might be interested enough to do some work on the curly horse. God knows there is a lot of good old time horse here and needs some good scientific work done.

This last foal was a filly and a good barb with a grulla color so we are real pleased with her and will keep her for the foundation stock. She is out of Crane and BlueMonday. Now we have 6 foals and one more to come out of Four Lane and Little Thing. Hope it is a filly and we will have a very successful foaling season. We got the films and pictures of her and will send them as soon as they get back.

Also thanks for the check for the newsletter and I have to get one out again. This time we will have more to report on the horses in Birkenfeld, Oregon as we brought two of them here and had some tests run and they were so high in three of the tests they could not keep on the scale. Now one of the horses is in the Univ. of Calif. and they are going to do some extensive research. I only hope they get to the bottom of it and we can know how the herbicides kill the horses. I will keep you up on the progress and will send the pictures soon.

Love from all,

Jeff

5-12-78

Brislawn-Edwards Spanish Barb Wild Horse Research Farm

248 N. MAIN ST., PORTERVILLE, CALIF. 93257

(209) 781 1225

784 6408

"A Living Link To The Past"

Bob Brislawn was a true son of the old west. He was born in Sprague, Washington on Nov. 18, 1890 of Irish parents who had settled there in the 1870's. While attending school he worked in the barber shop and shined shoes and talked to the old cavalry men, stage coach drivers, mountain men, hunters and packers who came to town. After graduating from high school he could have had any job in town as he had an education but chose to take a job as a recorder with the topographical survey. Soon, however, the man who had the job as packer quit so Bob took over his job and packed for the survey all over the West for the next 30 years.

With the need for good pack animals that could live off the land, Bob again turned to the oldtimers who suggested these little Spanish horses. From them he learned how to best tell a Barb from an Indian pony or a Spanish Barb. Some of his teachers had been born in the 1840's and the 1850's and in their time this was the only horse available.

Bob Brislawn is now 87 years old and doesn't act it. He is two years younger than J. Frank Dobie and two years older than Will James. Both Dobie and James are now considered experts on the horses of the West. Will James rode and worked the horses and J. Frank Dobie got most of his information by sitting on the porches in Texas and talking to the old timers. Some of his information has given an excellent base for authenticity of the Spanish horse. Ferdie Brislawn, Bob's older brother, is still alive and is three years older than J. Frank Dobie.

Both Bob and Ferdie Brislawn have worked and studied the horses all their lives and know the Spanish horse. Their knowledge is from actual, "on the ground" experience and research and is not from the pages of a book in the library. Their research has been documented on the ground.

It is for this reason that Bob Brislawn and Jeff Edwards of Porterville, Calif. formed a partnership and started the Brislawn-Edwards Spanish Barb Wild Horse Research Farm. In 1969 fifty horses were lost in a storm in Oshoto, Wy. and died. Although it was a tragedy it did allow Bob Brislawn and his son Shane to examine the bones that are all important in determining purity.



JEFF EDWARDS

BOB BRISLAWN



BOB BRISLAWN, PACKING IN 1920

In 1971 fourteen horses were shipped to Porterville, Calif. and the Wild Horse Research Farm was a reality. Now more research has been done there on the characteristics and purity on the Barb horse, Spanish Barb and the Cayuse Indian pony.

In 1972 the Department of Agriculture recognized Bob Brislawn as the founder of the Spanish Barb Mustang horse. Now with the horses on the Research Farm being personally selected by Bob Brislawn they are "authenticated".

Bob Brislawn says he is now through with the research and the letter writing and has turned the entire project over to his partner Jeff Edwards, but every day he is to be seen following a horse around and looking at the hair on the legs or some other physical feature that either means purity or not to the horse. Bob can by no means quit so he will still get out a few letters and enjoy showing the horses to visitors and school groups who come to see the horses.

Bob says we don't have a horse ranch but a living horse museum and in reality he is right and he and his brother Ferdie are the men responsible for the saving of the little horse that did so much for the winning of this great nation.

features, wider jaw and usually a Roman nose. The Andalusian has finer characteristics and a straight or slightly dishd face. Both types have deep throat latches, wide-set eyes, and small, well-notched ears. a white sclera around the eyes is often found.

These horses run the gamut of coloration including Grullas, Appaloosas, Palominos, Blues, Medicine Hats, all shades of duns, buckskins, roans, and paints. All the common solid colors are also found. Roan hairs, mainly on the flanks and in the tail, are present in all the colors. Genes patterns, such as line-backs, Christ's Cross over the withers, and zebra stripes on the legs are common.

As had been done for the South American Criollo Horses of Spanish Barb origin in Chile in 1893, in Argentina in 1923, and in Brazil in 1932—so at last on June 14, 1957 at Sundance, Crook County, Wyoming an association was established for the North American equivalent of the Criollo of South America—The Mustang, also mostly of Spanish Barb Ancestry.

Bob Brislawn died Saturday, January 6th, 1979 at the age of 88, in Moorcroft, Wyoming. He was preceded in death by his wife in 1943. They had 5 children. He is buried at the Pine Grove Cemetery near Oshoto, Wyoming.

A memorial book of Bob Brislawn will be published soon. It will contain part of Bob's life, most of it was written by Bob, about himself and the horses.



Pack horses on old logging road in 1911, Idaho, all ponies loose and following like dogs, Little Roany Barb behind.

For those interested, the Spanish Mustangs can be seen at the Cayuse Ranch and/or the True Blood Reserve near Oshoto, Wyoming.

For information on Bob Brislawn, the Spanish Mustang horse, the Breeders List and/or the above mentioned memorial booklet "Mr. Mustang", can be obtained by writing the new Secretary-Treasurer at:

Spanish Mustang Registry, Inc.
Dave Tooker
Box 201,
Alden, Michigan 49612

Guests at the Brislawn Cayuse Ranch, Oshoto, Wyoming can also see the nearly extinct Mule-footed pigs of Spanish origin. The only other place where they can be seen is at Gilbert Jones of Finley, Oklahoma.



Crook County Museum
Sundance, Wyoming
(Bob Brislawn Memorial Section)

Written and compiled by Bob's daughter
Dipper Brunson
Sundance, Wyoming 82729

October 19, 1979
Copyright 1980



Bob Brislawn "MR. MUSTANG"

Robert E. Brislawn also known as Bob Brislawn, "MR. MUSTANG" and as "THE WYOMING KID".

Bob was born in Sprague, Washington in 1890. He worked for the Topographic Branch of the United States Geological Survey as a teamster and packer from 1911 to 1943 when they were mapping the western United States. Long trips were necessary



Buckshot SMR#1 and Bob Brislawn

for the survey team and as packer and teamster, Bob was required to make a careful choice in picking his string of pack horses. It was during this time that Bob came to rely on the Spanish ponies because of their strength, endurance, surefootedness and dependability.

Bob wrote "During the 1920s the straight Mustangs were getting scarce and during the 1930s all but extinct. We decided that they best be saved. Like the Longhorn cattle and the Buffalo, they are part of our western tradition."

Bob had been perpetuating these horses and to insure the preservation efforts Robert E. (Bob) Brislawn, Sr., Robert E. (Emmett) Brislawn Jr., and Lawrence P. Richards, PhD., founded the Spanish Mustang Registry, Inc. on June 14, 1957. Although the Registry was formed in 1957 Bob has been perpetuating these horses for over 60 years. Bob devoted the last 20 years to traveling extensively throughout the west, searching remote areas for Spanish Mustangs. A Spanish stallion, trapped in Utah in 1927, sired two of Brislawn's foundation studs. Their mother was a Ute Indian mare foaled about 1935. In 1925 two authentic mares were found in Montana. Later two Spanish mares from New Mexico and one from Old Mexico were obtained. Those horses found were taken to the Cayuse Ranch, Oshoto, Wyoming where Bob set up a Reserve to save them from extinction.

Other people interested in preserving the Spanish Mustang and doing so on their own, became aware of the registry. A few other horses proven to be substantially Spanish Mustang, were found in

remote areas of the United States, Canada and Mexico were admitted to the registry.

Because of their rarity, only 731 horses have been admitted to the registry since its founding 22 years ago. Many of these are the offspring of the foundation stock. Many of them are now deceased since they were foundation stock the Brislawns acquired in the early years of the registry. Every horse admitted has to be proven Spanish Mustang to the registry's satisfaction. Since it is extremely difficult nowadays to find a horse that might be Spanish Mustang, and then trace it back far enough to get substantial proof of its breeding, very few outside horses have been registered in the past several years.

In 1972 the United States Department of Agriculture recognized Bob as the founder of the Spanish Barb Mustang horse. Bob's knowledge is from actual, "on the ground" experience and the research is not from the pages of a book. Everything Bob said about the bones, heart, lungs, ribs and vertebrae has been scientifically proven 100% correct.

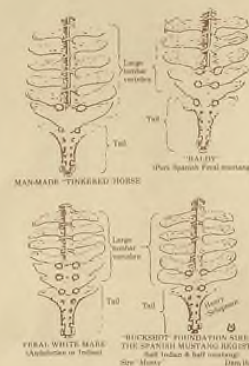
The Spanish Mustang bloodlines trace back to the first horses brought to America by the Spanish Conquistadores in the early 1500s and 1600s. The Spaniard's horses were of Andalusian (native Spanish), Barb, Arabian, and Norse Horse blood. The resulted from years of selective breeding in Spain to produce a handsome, hardy horse worthy of praise, yet sturdy enough to endure diverse conditions entailed in war and exploration. The sturdy Barb and the hardy Norse Horse supplied durability while the Arabian contributed swiftness.

In the 300 to 400 years since the Spanish conquest in America, descendants of the Spanish strain, in the feral and semi-feral Indian herds, evolved into the Spanish Mustang. This was a smaller horse, generally, than its ancestors, but a hardy, tough piece of horseflesh produced by the rigorous environment of this continent.

These mustangs must not be confused with the wild horses of today as the wild horses are all of mixed breeding and have gone wild—they are not the original spanish bloodlines the Spaniards brought over with them to the New World.

In the American frontier this is the horse that was Indian pony, Pack horse, Cavalry mount, War

horse, Plow horse, Cow pony, Pony Express mount, Remuda horse and the horse that chased the cattle up the Texas Trail into Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana. The Mustang is well-known for his Cow-sense. He is the original horse of the Americas. He can proudly and justly claim the title, "The Horse with a Heritage".



The Spanish Mustang stands 13 to 14½ hands high and weighs between 700 and 900 pounds. He is short-coupled, and his back has only five lumbar vertebrae with only 17 ribs. The cannon bones are dense, making them extremely durable to stand up under strenuous work. The Mustang lacks feathers, except for a sparse fellock. Chestnuts, when present are small and smooth. Pasterns are medium long.

The body is equally balanced. The distance from the poll to the withers measures the same as from the withers to the croup. The forequarters are powerful and the heart girth very deep—other reasons for the Spanish Mustang's endurance. The chest is not so wide, but Vs down nicely. The hindquarters are not heavy, the croup is short, and the tail set fairly low.

Two head types are found in the Spanish Mustang: Barb and Andalusian. The Barb head shows coarser

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

OFFICE 248 N. MAIN STREET, PORTERVILLE, CA. 93257
Phone 209-781-1225 Night 209-784-6408

Types Of Western Horses

There are few wild animals that possess the glamour and excitement of the wild horse. It seems his affinity for man and man's love of the horse is never ending. Yet, at times man seems to have forgotten all the things the horse has done for him and is now letting the little horse that won the west and was ridden by the Spaniards, Indians, and cowboys slip into oblivion. Had it not been for the farsightedness of two brothers, Ferdie and Bob Brislawn, the last of these wild horses would now be extinct. Having worked this breed of animal in their youth, no one knows this horse as well as these two men. Ferdie is now 86 and Bob is 83.

It was the Barb horse that served as a breed for the Spanish horses that was brought to the new world by Columbus in 1493. These horses were landed at Santa Domingo in the Caribbean on the second trip to the new world by Columbus. This horse was a cross between the Barb horse that the Moors brought to Spain from North Africa and was crossed with the horses already in Spain. It is also likely there was a little twist of Arab mixed in as the Moorish officers rode Arabian horses.

The finest horses from this breeding cross were called Andalusian as they were developed in the Province of Andalusia. This horse was also called a Spanish Barb. He also had five lumbar vertebrae and a fused sixth as compared to the Barb who had only five lumbar vertebrae. This Andalusian (Spanish horse) was the finest horse in the world at that time.

It was this horse that was lost by Ponce De Leon, Hernando DeSoto and Francisco De Coronado in their explorations of the southeastern part of the United States. The Indians of this area, Chickasaw and Choctaw, gathered up these horses and later they became known as the Chickasaw horse. This was the fastest running horse in the United States until the importation of the English racing thoroughbred. The Chickasaw horse is listed in the Jockey Club Volumes. This horse was crossed with different imported breeds. Many studs are listed as being imported but only a few mares are mentioned so it was this little Chickasaw horse that nurtured the seeds planted by the fine imported studs.

The only other horse culture was in the Northwest and that by the Cayuse Indians. Here a horse was developed that could run long distances and was a distinct breed. Not only was this horse different in conformation but had lots of

color. Paints, Pintos, Medicine Hats and the Appaloosa horse was developed. Some of the different physical features were the higher withers, longer and loose tendons in the legs as well as a longer canon bone. The pastern was more sloping and had a pronounced breakdown in their walk. This made an easy riding horse for the Indian.

Being of such a different conformation, we feel this had to be a crossbred horse and probably from the French Norman horse from Canada.

A conglomerate horse from all this was the Mustang that ran wild on the plains and was fair game for Spaniard, Indian and the cowboy. It was only the wild horses from Texas and New Mexico that were called Mustang. Farther north they were referred to as Broncos and in the far north were again called Cayuse.

In Wyoming and Montana the Spanish horse of the trail herds were called "Texas Ponies, Broncos, or just plain Broncos." The horse of Will James, Big Enough, was a straight Spanish Pony.

As the horse migrated north his size increased. Whether due to grass or an infusion of French Norman blood remains to be researched.

Crossbreeding is a difficult thing to trace but the Barb horse has to have certain features that make him a Barb. Genetically he is 13-2 hands and feed will not make him taller, it will only make him fat. In other words "you can't breed up a breed." Like the deer, wolf and the Cotton Tail rabbit he has a genetic size and it will take outside blood to make him larger. The Barb is a running horse and has round bones in the legs and five lumbar vertebrae in the back, as well as five sacral vertebrae.

Here on the Wild Horse Research Farm we are restoring the Barb horse and studying the others. Bob Brislawn has the horse that he feels is pure and we have the bones of some of the ancestors that bear him out, but it is going to be a long and deep study to verify a pure strain of Barb horse.

At age 83 Bob Brislawn has seen his Spanish Barb Mustang restored and recognized by two departments of the United States government and listed in the Department of Agriculture Official List of Breeds. The Spanish Barb Mustang is as much a breed as any horse today and not by pedigree but by blood and his physical characteristics.

Presenting this horse to the public is the next step and to answer this, only time will tell.



BARB STUD



SPANISH BARB (CHICKASAW)



INDIAN CAYUSE HORSE

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PRIMITIVE HORSE

The basic general appearance of the primitive horse is his small size as he is under 14 hands high and, when standing at rest, will hold his head at the height of the withers or slightly higher, but not high and erect. He will also appear to be leaning forward with the front legs at a slight forward angle and the back legs are well under the body. We have seen this distance between the front and back hooves as close as two feet. He is ever ready to jump, not kick.

Looking at the horse from the front, he has a deep narrow chest and is slab-sided, with very straight front legs. If viewed from the side, he has more up front and has a definite belly line.

With this general description in mind, let's take a closer look at the physical features.

- HEAD - (1) His head will measure under 19" from the bridge of the nose to the pole.
 (2) His small nostrils will be crescent-shaped and will expand greatly if under stress.
 (3) His eyes are not round as in most horses but are slanted, and he can see to the rear as well as he can front.
 (4) Just above the eyes are tear drops that are well pronounced.
 (5) His small ears are rimmed and the tuft inside is of a lighter color than the body of the horse, and the tuft is very heavy and will prevent insects from getting in his ears.
 (6) In general, his head appears bony and angular.
- NECK - (1) His neck is short in appearance and will possess seven cervical vertebrae.
- BODY - (1) His back appears short as he has but 17 pair of ribs.
 (2) His withers are low and best seen when the horse is eating off the ground.
 (3) He has a definite belly, with the belly line longer than the back line.
 (4) In the lumbar area he has but five lumbar vertebrae.
 (5) His deep narrow chest is readily seen from the front and is one of his distinctive features.
 (6) The slab-sided effect is in conjunction with the deep and narrow chest.
 (7) In viewing from the side, he is seen to be ribbed up enough to allow him to stride well.
 (8) His croup is round and steep.
 (9) This croup will be short and has five sacral vertebrae.
 (10) The top of his rump is rounded and does not possess a trough or sometimes referred to as a dimple.
 (11) This horse has a definite shoulder point that is best viewed from a 45-degree angle to the rear.



BARB HORSE (PRIMITIVE)

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PRIMITIVE HORSE

The basic general appearance of the primitive horse is his small size as he is under 14 hands high and, when standing at rest, will hold his head at the height of the withers or slightly higher, but not high and erect. He will also appear to be leaning forward with the front legs at a slight forward angle and the back legs are well under the body. We have seen this distance between the front and back hooves as close as two feet. He is ever ready to jump, not kick.

Looking at the horse from the front, he has a deep narrow chest and is slab sided, with very straight front legs. If viewed from the side, he has more up front and has a definite belly line.

With this general description in mind, let's take a closer look at the physical features.

HEAD - (1) His head will measure under 19" from the bridge of the nose to the pole.

(2) His small nostrils will be crescent shaped and will expand greatly if under stress.

(3) His eyes are not round as in most horses but are slanted, and he can see to the rear as well as he can front.

(4) Just above the eyes are tear drops that are well pronounced.

(5) His small ears are rimmed and the tuft inside is of a lighter color than the body of the horse, and the tuft is very heavy and will prevent insects from getting in his ears.

(6) In general, his head appears bony and angular.

NECK - (1) His neck is short in appearance and will possess but six cervical vertebrae.

BODY - (1) His back appears short as he has but 17 pair of ribs.

(2) His withers are low and best seen when the horse is eating off the ground.

(3) He has a definite belly, with the belly line longer than the back line.

(4) In the lumbar area he has but five lumbar vertebrae.

(5) His deep narrow chest is readily seen from the front and is one of his distinctive features.

(6) The slab sided effect is in conjunction with the deep and narrow chest.

Page 2

- TAIL - (1) It is from the rear that you see the roundness of the top of the rump with no dimple or trough.
(2) The tail is low set, with roan hairs at the top of the tail near the body.
(3) The full heavy tail is essential to survive the severe cold of the north.
- FRONT LEGS - (1) It is the straight legs that you see first and they are to allow the horse to run without becoming lame.
(2) The straight legs come into a narrow upside-down V where they join the chest.
(3) He possesses keen clean little legs.
(4) Pasterns are of a moderate slope and moderately long.
(5) Hooves are small and hard and of one color, black. The footprints in the ground are perfect circles if the horse has been running in the rocky ground.
(6) A tight comb will be on the back of the legs to prevent snow and mud from balling up on the back of the legs.
(7) The circumference of the canon will be under $7\frac{1}{2}$ ".
(8) The fetlock will be curly to aid in the throwing off of mud and snow.
(9) There will be either a small teardrop-shape chestnut or none at all, and they will be soft and not hard.
(10) The Ergot will be non-existent or very tiny.
(11) The canon bone is round.
- BACK LEGS - (1) The back legs sit well under the body, and the horse is ever ready to jump.
(2) There is a tight comb on the canon and sometimes a small tuft of hair at the top of the comb.
(3) Again the fetlock is curly as on the front legs.
(4) The chestnut will be tiny or non-existent.
(5) Ergots are not in existence or, if so, are very small, about the size of a match head
(6) In the thigh of the leg the large gaskin muscle is missing and the small gaskin muscle is noticeable.
(7) He may also be slightly cow-hocked and will spin with his back hocks together.

It is the distinct features of the little primitive horse that allow him to exist in the remote wild, and he must have these features to continue his life as a remote wild animal.

- (7) In viewing from the side, he is seen to be ribbed up enough to allow him to stride well.
- (8) His croup is round and steep.
- (9) This croup will be short and has five sacral vertebrae.
- (10) The top of his rump is rounded and does not possess a trough or sometimes referred to as a dimple.
- (11) This horse has a definite shoulder point that is best viewed from a 45-degree angle to the rear.

- TAIL -
- (1) It is from the rear that you see the roundness of the top of the rump with no dimple or trough.
 - (2) The tail is low set, with roan hairs at the top of the tail near the body.
 - (3) The full heavy tail is essential to survive the severe cold of the north.

- FRONT LEGS -
- (1) It is the straight legs that you see first and they are to allow the horse to run without becoming lame.
 - (2) The straight legs come into a narrow upside down V where they join the chest.
 - (3) He possesses keen clean little legs.
 - (4) Pasterns are of a moderate slope and moderately long.
 - (5) Hooves are small and hard and of one color, black. The footprints in the ground are perfect circles if the horse has been running in the rocky ground.
 - (6) A tight comb will be on the back of the legs to prevent snow and mud from balling up on the back of the legs.
 - (7) The circumference of the canon will be under 7 1/2".
 - (8) The fetlock will be curly to aid in the ghrowing off of mud and snow.
 - (9) There will be either a small teardrop shape chestnut or none at all, and they will be soft and not hard.
 - (10) The Ergot will be non-existent or very tiny.
 - (11) The canon bone is round.

- BACK LEGS -
- (1) The back legs sit well under the body, and the horse is ever ready to jump.
 - (2) There is a tight comb on the canon and sometimes a small tuft of hair at the top of the comb.
 - (3) Again the fetlock is curly as on the front legs.
 - (4) The chestnut will be tiny or non-existent.
 - (5) Ergots are not in existence or, if so, are very small, about the size of a match head.
 - (6) In the thigh of the leg the large gaskin muscle is missing and the small gaskin muscle is noticeable.
 - (7) He may also be slightly cow hocked and will spin with his back hocks together.

It is the distinct features of the little primitive horse that allow him to exist in the remote wild, and he must have these features to continue his life as a remote wild animal.

Jeff Edwards
Wild Horse Research Farm
248 N. Main St.
Porterville, Calif. 93257

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CAYUSE INDIAN PONY

It is no wonder the Cavalry couldn't keep up with the Indians as the Cayuse Indian Pony is a cross between the Spanish Barb and the French Norman Horse from Canada. The Chickasaw Horse was the fastest running horse in America until the coming of the English Racing Thoroughbred, and the French Norman Horse was a small Percheron draft horse and one of the few draft horses that can trot all day. Dr. Manning's Horse Book of 1882 confirms this cross as do some of the old timers the age of Bob Brislawn.

The physical characteristics of the Indian Cayuse are as follows:

- (1) SMALL HORSE 600 to 850 LBS.
- (2) UNDER 14.5 HANDS HIGH
- (3) HIGH WITHERS
- (4) FIVE AND ONE-HALF LUMBAR VERTEBRAE
- (5) 18 PAIR OF RIBS
- (6) HEAD SHOULD NOT BE OVER 19½" FROM THE POLE TO THE NOSE BONE
- (7) SHOULD HAVE TEAR DROPS ABOVE THE EYES
- (8) THE THROAT LATCH SHOULD BE DEEP
- (9) DARK MANE AND TAIL
- (10) FULL LOW TAIL WITH A SLOPING CROUP
- (11) DEEP NARROW CHEST BUT THE FRONT LEGS ARE WIDER SPACED ON THE CHEST
- (12) STRONG LOOSE TENDONS IN THE LEGS
- (13) CANON IS LONGER THAN EITHER THE BARB OR SPANISH BARB
- (14) CANON NOT OVER 7½" AROUND
- (15) CURLY FETLOCKS
- (16) COMB COMES UP THE BACK OF THE LEG BUT IS NOT TIGHTLY CURLED OR HAVE A TUFT LIKE THE BARB
- (17) CHESTNUTS ARE MORE ROUND AND ARE MORE ROUGH
- (18) THEY HAVE ERGOTS
- (19) THEIR HOOVES ARE LARGER AND ARE NOT MULE SHAPED
- (20) THEY POSSESS A PINK COLOR IN THE CORNER OF THE EYE

The Cayuse is a running horse and a smooth one, and the Pasterns have a definite breakdown that can be seen when they walk. They are fast eaters and fast to recover from a long ride. They are haters of dogs, and old timers put Indian ponies with herd animals to keep the cayotes and wolves away.

They may be paint and pinto in color, but not vivid colors such as in the Tobiano Pinto. The true Cayuse Indian Pony has a solid mane and tail.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SPANISH BARB HORSE

The Spanish Barb Horse was the first horse to set foot on the North American Continent. It is called other names such as the Chickasaw-Choctaw Horse, or Andalusian, as it was bred in that state in old Spain. This was the fastest running horse in the United States until the importation of the English Racing Thoroughbred, and even then the Chickasaw mares were used on the imported thoroughbred stallions.

Following are his physical characteristics:

- (1) SMALL HORSE 600 to 900 LBS.
- (2) UNDER 14 HANDS HIGH
- (3) HAS FIVE LUMBAR VERTEBRAE AND A FUSED SIXTH
- (4) 18 PAIR OF RIBS
- (5) HEAD SHOULD NOT BE OVER 18" FROM THE POLE TO THE TIP OF THE NOSE BONE
- (6) HAS TEAR DROPS ABOVE THE EYES
- (7) THE THROAT LATCH SHOULD BE DEEP
- (8) SHOULD BE OF A SOLID COLOR AND DARK
- (9) HAS DARK MANE, TAIL AND HOOVES
- (10) FULL TAIL AND LOW SLOPING CROUP
- (11) DEEP NARROW CHEST AND LEGS JOIN TOGETHER AT THE CHEST
- (12) ROUND BONES IN THE LEGS
- (13) GOOD SOLID TENDONS BUT NOT AS SOLID AS THE BARB
- (14) CANON IS SHORT
- (15) CANON NOT OVER 7½" AROUND
- (16) CURLY FETLOCKS
- (17) COMB IS TIGHT AND 2/3 THE WAY UP THE BACK LEG BUT DOES NOT HAVE A TUFT
- (18) CHESTNUTS ARE SMOOTH AND TEAR DROP IN SHAPE
- (19) THEY HAVE AN ERGOT
- (20) THEIR HOOVES ARE SHINY BLACK AND MULE SHAPED

The Spanish Barb Horse has the keenest of legs and is more delicately formed than either the Barb or the Cayuse. They excel in short races, with the Indian Cayuse being superb in the long distance runs.

This horse is extremely durable and reliable and is not prone to lameness of any kind. They also have a shinier look as they possess more oil in their hair than does the Cayuse but not as much as the Barb Horse.

Page 2:

This little horse has a short back with seventeen pair of ribs and only five vertebrae. Sometimes the sixth vertebra is fused into the fifth, but never will he have six lumbar vertebrae. This short back gives them the ability to turn on a dime and give you some change, as the old saying goes. They can run long distances surefootedly as well.

The head is small, not over eighteen inches from the pole to the end of the nose bone. The ears are small and rimmed with black. Light hair grows out of the center of the ear. The muzzle is small, with little crescent shaped nostrils which expand to a full circle while the Barb is running.

Barbs are usually solid colored or else roan or grulla, which shades from slate to mouse brown. Duns and buckskins are derived from the grulla. The mane, tail and hooves are black, as are the legs from the knee down. The hair at the back of the legs is not straight but instead grows in a curl and comb. Both mane and tail are full and long.

While the Barb is not a beautiful animal, he has a primitive poise about him. He retains his wild custom of running in stud bunches where each stallion has his own band of mares, and they share a mutual loyalty to one another.

Of the true Barb, we feel that there are less than thirty in the entire world. The preservation of these few is largely due to Bob and Ferdie Brislawn. Some day perhaps they will be given the credit they deserve for saving so important a part of our national heritage.

The study of the Barb is going to be long and deep, we hope. He has been officially recognized and listed as a Light Horse Breed by the United States Department of Agriculture, but this little horse who carried so much of our early history on his back, has not been restored in the minds of the public. This is what we are striving for at the Wild Horse Research Farm and the Cayuse Ranch. Visitors are always welcome. We'd like you to see the almost unbelievable sight of several bands of stallions and mares sharing the same pasture in peaceful co-existence. Come take a look!

Spanish Barb Wild Horse Research Farm
248 N. Main St.
Porterville, Calif. 93257

Cayuse Ranch
Oshoto, Wy. 82724

Brislawn---Edwards**SPANISH BARB WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM**

OFFICE 248 N. MAIN STREET

PORTERVILLE, CA. 93257

Phone 209 784-5664

Night 209 784-6408

12-15-75

Dear Ray and Pat McKenry:

The curly horse is of great interest to us here on the wild horse research Farm and we are wondering if they are of five lumbar vertebrae in the back or five and the fused sixth. If a horse is primitive and straight he will have but five. I will enclose a picture for you to see and some material that we have researched and will be doing a lecture this coming spring for the University of Calif. at San Luis Obispo and want to know all we can about the different horses that might be primitive. My partner Bob Brislawn saw the horses that Bill Valentine got in Nevada and they didn't have any eggots so have to be pretty basic.

If you have any material on the horses as to their bones and physical characteristics I would sure like to know.

If you get down this way drop in and see the horses that are authenticated as to breed and I will sure come by sometime and look at your curly horses but it will not be unannounced.

Sincerely,

Jeff Edwards



NEWSLETTER #12 BRISLAWN-EDWARDS WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM - AUGUST 1975:

HORSE OF THE AMERICAS - Yes, thanks to Bob Denhardt for his permission to use the name of his classic book, "HORSE OF THE AMERICAS", we have now formed the new registry and are registering horses. These horses are not registered by one chart but by a chart for each different horse. It just doesn't make sense to register a Barb and a Cayuse Indian Pony by the same chart. Some of the horses registered are Barbs, Spanish Barb, Cayuse Indian Pony, Mustang, Palomino, Tobiano Medicine Hat, Spanish Medicine Hat, Appaloosa (Spanish), Endurance Horse, Spanish War Bonnet, Tobiano War Bonnet, and others. Each type of horse has his own chart to show his individual physical characteristics. Enclosed with this newsletter is a brochure on the new registry.

BOB DENHARDT'S BOOK "HORSE OF THE AMERICAS" is now off the press and any one wanting a book may order it from the Wild Horse Research Farm. The total cost is \$10.00. In the center of the color pictures is a picture of the little Medicine Hat filly from the Wild Horse Research Farm, and one of Bob Brislawn and Bob Denhardt at the 1973 SMR Annual Meeting in Camino, Calif.

BOOKS: A. R. Rojas is an old Vacquero from the Bakersfield area and has written several books and has combined them all in one called "THESE WERE THE VACQUEROS". Selling for \$16.95 this is also a rare book and tells of the ways the old Vacquero did his work and how he lived. A whale of a book.

ED CONNELL is also an old Vacquero and was a foreman for the Miller & Lux Ranch in the Bakersfield area and has two classic books for the reinsman. One, "THE HACKAMORE REINSMAN", has been printed 13 times and is still the Bible in the use of the Hackamore and sells for \$4.50.

His other book, "THE REINSMAN OF THE WEST", is on the use of bridles and bits, and no horseman was a better reinsman than was the Vacquero of the West and especially in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. For the ultimate in reining and biting, this is a must for \$5.50.

Just finished Hope Ryden's new book, "GOD'S DOG". It is a fine book and she has done her usual extensive research and flavors it with some fine photographs. Look for it in the book stores. You will be glad you did.

arrived at the same time. Grace is from Joseph, Oregon, and Kit is from New York. Kit had driven his father's furniture from New York to Los Angeles; and Grace had stopped on her way to visit with Helen and Ben Overland, but both took the time to spend several days with us, and a good time was had by all. Grace is pursuing the history of the Appaloosa Horse, and we were having a time with the Charbury Horse of England, but another friend came up with the information and that was Pat Champagne of Catlettsburg, Ky. Seems Pat is a real student of the horse and this is not the first time she has come up with some tough answers.

Pat Champagne has done a sketch of a mystic horse and we will be using it on some of the brochures, and you will be seeing her art work soon.

Not to be outdone in art is the RICHARD THOMPSON FAMILY in McCall, Idaho, as the entire family is loaded with talent and anyone wanting information on the organizing of a 4-H Horse Club should contact them at P.O. Box 598, McCall, Idaho 83638.

OTTO & BARBARA NELSON were surprise visitors and even though they no longer have Mustang horses, they still have a soft spot for the little Spanish Horse. We enjoy their visits and look forward to their coming again.

PETE HANSEN from Phoenix, Arizona, spent several days with us and we had a good time, and he and Guy Edwards went to the hills to visit with Peter Flint and look at his horses but also took time to go shoot their guns. Pete is now back in Phoenix and wanting to sell most of his horses, so any one wanting a good horse or more contact Pete Hansen, Box 629, Black Canyon Stage, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

TOM & MARY ANN THOMPSON also dropped by on their way home from the SMR Meeting in Oregon and we talked and looked at the horses all the time they were here and had a great time. Mary Ann took lots of pictures and we loved having them.

MARK REY is now on the Pryor and studying the wild horses and we enjoyed his second visit as well as his first, and feel he knows a lot about the horses. We wish him luck in his work with the horses, and Mark doesn't know it but his and my picture was published in a horse magazine, "TIGGIE SPRING".

Jackie Strasburger has some horses to sell and they are registered in the "Horse of the Americas" Registry and are bone straight and characteristic pure, so if you need a good horse for raising or for riding, here is a good opportunity. Put in your order by writing 1804 Bunker Creek Rd. Chehalis, Wash. 98532.

BOLCILINDA DEE is the stallion called "BO" that Otto and Barbara Nelson raised and he eventually became a cow pony on the Gill Ranch here in Porterville. In talking to Steve Stout the other day, he says he is the most powerful horse on the ranch and they wouldn't trade him for a dozen other horses. He is small, strong and is a good worker.

OUR PLANS to go to the Roundup by the BIM in Tonopah was called off as the horses were first impounded and then set free. If they have a meeting in Reno later we will attend that and let you know what it was all about. Helen Reilly of WHOA was the one to keep me posted so I didn't make an unnecessary trip.

KARLA BALLREICH of Phoenix had some bad luck and had a beautiful little Appaloosa foal rear and go over backwards and die. The foal was out of the Pushmatah line and a good one. For those not up on the news, Chief Pushmatah was put to rest as he got his leg broken. I know it must have been a tough job for Bill Valentine as he has taken care of a lot of the old line horses.

Three other horses passed on this last year and those were Cochise, Narragassett, and Andaluz. We hate to see them go, but they can't live forever. Do the most you can for them while you have them. Bob is going to let me know on the bones and will pass on that information later.

BUY AND SELL - Anyone wanting to sell or buy a horse, let me know and we will see if we can't get two people together and it will be good for the horses, too. Karla Ballreich had two horses she wanted to move so we lined her up with the Sunburst Group in Cuyoma Valley, Calif. and they are going to Phoenix to get the two horses. They will have a good home here in Calif. and will be ridden. It is not good for the horses to stagnate.

- 2 -

DR. DAVID WILLOUGHBY at 820 Wilson St. in Laguna Beach, Calif. 92651 has his new book ready for sales, and you can get an autographed copy directly from him for \$15.00. The name "EMPIRE OF THE EQUUS" is just that and is the most complete and comprehensive book to come out in a long time, and for a person doing work with the Wild Horses this is a must, so get it as soon as you can.

A CLASS OF EQUESTRIANS from the State College at Bakersfield, Calif. visited the Ranch and we showed them around and explained the horses to them, and they are interested in pursuing the research to a more scientific degree.

Also had a CLASS IN VETERINARIAN SCIENCE visit and they were amazed at the many physical characteristics of the horses and will now have a new respect for the horses.

DR. JULIAN from the University of Calif. at Davis wrote, and the little Spanish Horses do have more red blood corpuscles but we were also told they possess more blood. We want to get to talk more thoroughly with Dr. Julian and hope to travel to Davis, Calif. to do this.

DIANE BOCK from Costa Mesa has been saving horses from the killers in So. Calif. There are a few good Mustangs going for dog food, and Diane is stalling this and trying to find homes for the horses and has instructed the man at the plant to look for a horse that is Mustang and call her and give her a few days to find an owner. To them it is all pounds of meat, so buy a horse by the pound. Diane's address is 1967 Anaheim, Costa Mesa, Calif. 92626.

BILL VALENTINE of Wales, North Dakota, went to Utah and got a couple of the curly horses and dropped by the Cayuse Ranch in Wy. to show them to Bob Brislawn and the crew there. Bob Brislawn offered to bet \$100 that the little horses didn't have any ergots but didn't have any takers, so Ron Conde climbed in and checked them and, sure enough, no ergots. Bob really knows his horses but you can also say the rest of the crew knew enough not to bet, so they also know horses.

JACKIE STRASBURGER in Chehalis, Washington, has two young girls who are breaking horses for her. These girls, Betty Darris and Bobbie Travitt, are attracting a lot of attention with the work they are doing and they are letting the public know these little horses are not mean and hard to handle. A national story could be done on these girls, and I hope one is written. The little horse is best when he is working but doesn't go much for the round corral work, and will take punishment but not abuse. Jackie is going to keep us posted on the progress of the girls.

- 3 -

TRAILING - It seems the little Spanish Horse is a natural for trailing and we seldom see them in any other formation but the single file and one behind the other. It is no wonder Bob Brislawn loved the little horse on the trail. They are naturals in the mountains. See if yours also doesn't trail.

BILL MURPHY and his wife, Jo, visited us and the horses and Bill is a feature writer for the Los Angeles Times, and we were happy to have them here and hope the story does the little horse some good, but I know it will.

There is a new magazine out called "SADDLE ACTION" and it is doing a fine job of reporting the endurance riding action. It is also our job to do an article for them concerning the red blood corpuscles and the fact that they have more blood, so am working on that also. We will let you know when that comes out, but if interested in the magazine, write to SADDLE ACTION, Box 918, Paso Robles, Calif. 93446.

PROGRESS is being made slowly but surely and have been in correspondence with the University on Prince Edward Island in Canada as well as Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo, Eastern Montana College, and Oregon State University, so things are moving faster for the Little Spanish Horse than it appears on the surface, so hang with the Little Horse and things will work out and he will take his rightful place in the world of the horse.

JIMMY LEONARD, JR. from Front Royal, Virginia, has been doing great things with his little mare, "Lady". This summer she and Jimmy have been reserve champion, high point champion, and Gymkhana champion, and another reserve champion. That is a hard record to beat and we are happy to have "Lady" registered in the "HORSE OF THE AMERICAS" REGISTRY as "Lendoah's Lady Hope". We expect great things from this combination of horse and rider.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM has a few selected young horses for sale. These are authenticated animals and are from personally selected stock by Bob Brislawn and proven bone straight and characteristic pure on the Research Farm. Both fillies and stud colts. This is your chance to get the good ones.

BOB PAINTER called and he is wanting to get out of the mustang business and he has his horses to sell. Most of his stock is out of Southern Pride and Smoke Balleau. Both are fine horses and produced Kiamichi, an excellent stud horse, so contact Bob if you want some good horses...3762 Hassler Rd. Camino, Calif. 95209.

LAST MINUTE NEWS: Ed Connell and his wife were visitors at the Ranch, and we looked and talked horse for several hours. Ed sure knows his horses and is one of the last of the old time reinsmen, and it is his books we listed earlier in the Newsletter.

DOYLE GRAY of Porterville registered a fine little Mustang mare that has come off the Tule River Indian Reservation. She is not a Spanish Barb but is a fine little riding mare and gentle and loves people. There are not many good Mustangs left in this country, and we are glad to get one in the "HORSE OF THE AMERICAS" REGISTRY.

JOHN MCCORMACK, founder of the Mustang Stock Horse Registry, and his wife, Phyliss, stopped by to visit and look at the horses and a great deal was discussed and learned. John is an excellent rider and knows the stock horses, and it was the Spanish Barb studs they were using on grade mares to get a good stock horse. The goal was to have them 50% Spanish. John now lives in Henderson, Nevada, so is not too far away from us to go and see him. We intend to do just this.

SAN DIEGO ZOO - Seems some men are out buying or getting horses under the ruse they are working for their Wild Animal Park. This is not so, and some horse owners have been duped. If anyone has knowledge of this operation, contact Dr. Jim Dolan, the Curator of the Park, at Route #1, Box 7258, Escondido, Calif. 92025 Ph. 714-747-8702.

ADIOS for this time, and we are hoping that Bob Brislawn will be with us when you get the next Newsletter.

JEFF EDWARDS
248 N. Main Street
Porterville, Calif. 93257
Phone 209-784-5664 (day)
209-784-6408 (night)

YOU CAN'T BEAT EXPERIENCE

When it comes to horses, scholars don't know as much as the man who uses and works them day in and day out. A scholarly writer may go to the library and read what some other scholarly writer has written before him but it is just as likely that the first scholar had no more experience than did the second. This is the case of the little Spanish horse that thrived in the west prior to 1920.

There isn't anyone who has had more experience with this unique little horse than Bob Brislawn. Being born in Spokane, Washington, in 1890 he is a true son of the old west. Adventure is the backbone of this type of man, and at a young age Bob worked in a barber shop and poolhall where he talked with and listened to old mountain men, cowboys, military men, and anyone else who would talk horse. With the young set, in those days a horse was talked about with as much fervor as young people today discuss cars. Bob listened and learned.

Upon graduation from high school he could have had any job he chose, but he decided upon a job as a packer with the U.S. Topographical Survey. In this way Bob was present when a lot of the west was mapped. This was a May to October job, and after 31 years of packing it came to an end in 1941 when most of the horses were replaced by machinery. It was when the automobile took over that Bob returned to his ranch in Oshoto, Wy. and took care of his beloved pack animals he had rescued from his survey days.

The animals he used for packing were the little Spanish horse and the Indian Pony. It was Bob's job to select stock for the survey party. He became adept at selecting the right animal. Any mistake would be a definite problem from May to October. It was these many years of experience, years of use and study, that formed the foundation of the research he had done on the little Spanish horse.

In his studies, Bob found little change in the Spanish horse until after 1900 when civilization started to move west. The pioneers began to raise hay and grain so it was not necessary to have a horse that could live off the land. These little horses were a genetic size and feed would not make them bigger, so as outside blood was introduced it also became essential that feed was provided for the horses. There is an old and almost forgotten saying concerning horse breeding, "A drop of blood, an inch of bone".

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Few people recognize the importance of the Barb horse in our unique American history. They forget, or else never knew, that it was from his strong, sturdy back that much of this history was made. This is especially true in the West. Therefore, it is the purpose of the Wild Horse Research Farm to preserve the Barb from extinction and to promote a better knowledge of the breed.

Prior to the advent of Columbus, there were no horses on the American continent. The Indians depended on their feet, their boats, or in a few cases, dogs, for travel and transportation. It was in 1493, during Columbus' second trip to the New World, that horses were put ashore on Santo Domingo in the Caribbean Sea. These first horses were the tough Spanish Barbs.

The natives, at first terrified of the strange, shaggy beasts which the white gods rode, soon saw their value. They began to acquire them whenever and however they could. Many of these horses escaped from both the conquistadors and the Indians to run free. A great many of them found their way to the great plains of the central United States.

When the white man pushed his way westward, he found the little range horses mighty handy in replacing the worn out draft stock which had pulled their wagons. In some cases, the draft breeds were later mingled with the Barb to produce the quarter horse, the Morgan, the Appaloosa, and many of the other riding breeds. Little thought was given to the Barb, however, once he had bred his traits into the new horses. By the 1900's very few were left as foundation stock and what was around was not pure.

Bob Brislawn and his brother Ferdie were some of the first to concern themselves with the fate of the little Spanish horse. As early as 1925, they began to search out what pure stock that remained and found they had to turn to the wilds of the West to locate them. They were surviving in places where domesticated stock would have perished within a few months. The Brislawns found some in the Brookcliffs on the Green River between Utah and Colorado. Here the canyons were 500 to 600 feet deep. Food was scarce and in some places, so was water. Yet the Barb thrived here. Some were found in the mountains of Oklahoma and on the deserts of the Southwest, in Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada. Here the horses had run wild for a century or more, and Nature's law of survival of the fittest had been brought into full play. Weak animals, or those with foaling problems, would succumb to natural predators or else to the extremes of weather they were forced to endure. Those who could not survive on the meager fare perished. Like many a wild creature, they inbred very seldom and so had remained pure.

Genetically, the Barb is a small horse, under fourteen hands and weighing about eight hundred pounds. His withers are low. The chest is deep and narrow, with the front legs joining the chest in an upside down "V". The round bone and tight tendons in his legs give them the appearance of little cedar posts. The ergots are small or else non-existent and the chestnuts are small, smooth, and soft. They do not peel as do the chestnuts of the draft horses. The Barb's croup is low and his back legs sit well under him. He can jump quicker than he can kick.



WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 – 784-6408

THE FAMED CAYUSE INDIAN PONY OF THE NORTHWEST

It is no wonder the Cavalry couldn't keep up with the Indians, as the Cayuse Indian Pony is a cross of the Spanish Barb and the French Norman horse from Canada. The Chickasaw Horse was the fastest running horse in America until the coming of the Little English Racing Thoroughbred, and the French Norman Horse was a small Percheron draft horse and one of the few draft horses that could trot all day. Dr. Manning's Horse Book of 1882 confirms this breeding cross as do some of the old timers who were the same age as Bob Brislawn.



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FAMED CAYUSE INDIAN PONY OF THE NORTHWEST

1. Small horse under 900 lbs.
2. Under 14.5 hands high
3. High Withers
4. Five and a fused sixth lumbar vertebrae
5. 18 Pair of ribs
6. Head should not be over 19" from the pole to the bridge of the nose
7. Should have tear drops above the eyes
8. The throat latch should be deep
9. Dark Mane and tail
10. Full low tail with a sloping croup
11. Deep narrow chest but the front legs are wider spaced
12. Strong loose Tendons in the legs
13. Canon bone is longer than either the barb or the Spanish Barb
14. Canon Bone in the front leg is not over 7 1/2" around
15. Curly Fetlocks
16. Comb comes up the back of the leg but is not tightly curled or have a tuft like the Barb horse
17. Chestnuts are more round and are more rough and hard
18. They also possess ergots
19. Their hooves are larger and are not in a perfect circle
20. There is a pink color in the corner of the eyes
21. In general appearance they are a little more rumpy

the Cayuse is a running horse and a smooth one, and the pasterns have a definite breakdown that can be seen when they walk. They are fast eaters and fast to recover from a long ride. They are haters of dogs, and old timers put Indian Ponies with herds of animals to keep the cayotes and wolves away.

They may be paint and pinto in color, but not vivid colors such as the Tobiano Pinto. The true Cayuse indian pony has a solid mane and tail.

In Summary, let's face the facts. The horse doctors went to school in 1900 and quit studying the horse and switched to medicine, and it is from the old timers such as Bob and Ferdie Brislawn, who knew and used these horses, we have to fall back on. The research is not to be found in the library but in the horse himself.

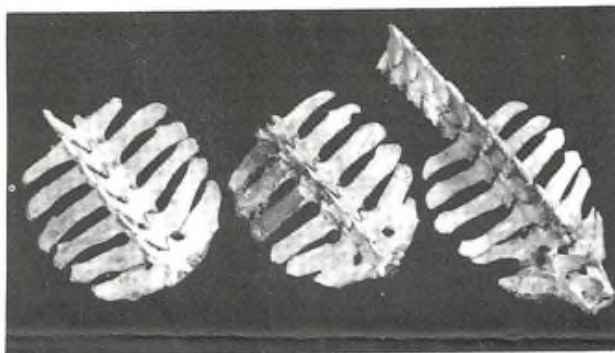
It is imperative that there be a reserve for the horses of different breeds so they can be allowed to run in their own stud bunches. This way they can be studied in the wild as they should be.

We study these horses in confinement, but it is not the same thing. Many of the finding we have researched are entirely reliable but we can only go so far.

Wild Horse Research Farm
248 N. Main Street
Porterville, Calif. 93257



Page five



FIVE LUMBAR FIVE AND FUSED SIXTH SIX LUMBAR

THE PROOF IS IN THE BONES
We often say this and it is true but through the years we have found other things in connection with the bones.

I am writing this after the death of Chinooki who was out of parents of five lumbar vertebrae. At least we assume Little Thing has five lumbar vertebrae. One of the foals out of Four Lane and Little Thing has his bones on display at the University of California in Davis and he is a perfect five lumbar vertebrae. Now Chinooki comes up with five and the fused sixth.

The following is what has developed in the bones that we find from the deaths of different horses through the years:

TWO FIVE LUMBAR VERTEBRAE HORSES
These are most likely to have five lumbar vertebrae foals but can have a five and the fused sixth.

ONE FIVE LUMBAR HORSE AND ONE FIVE AND A FUSED SIXTH LUMBAR VERTEBRAE
These two are most likely to have a five and a fused sixth lumbar vertebrae but could have a five lumbar vertebrae foal.

TWO FIVE AND A FUSED SIXTH LUMBAR VERTEBRAE HORSES
These two horses are most likely to produce a foal with five and

the fused sixth lumbar vertebrae but could throw back to a five lumbar vertebrae foal.

A SIX LUMBAR VERTEBRAE HORSE AND A HORSE OF FIVE AND A FUSED SIXTH LUMBAR VERTEBRAE

It is possible these two could have a foal with the five and the fused sixth vertebrae but it is more likely they will have not have a six lumbar vertebrae foal.

TWO SIX LUMBAR VERTEBRAE HORSES

It is almost certain the foal from this cross will have the six lumbar vertebrae but it is also possible to have a throw back and have a five and fused sixth lumbar vertebrae.

In this study of the bones there is another factor that is not yet far enough studied to draw any conclusions and that is whether it is the stud that has the most influence on the bones or is it the mare? With the death of Chinooki we feel it is possible that the stud has more to do with the bones than the mare but we cannot be positive in making this statement so more work will go on in the research of the spanish horses but their purity is still in the Bones, Blood and Genetic size and physical characteristics.

Bob Brislawn said "It is a deep study." and he is right.

Crossbreeding is a difficult thing to trace but the Barb horse has to have certain features that make him a Barb. Genetically he is 13-2 hands and feed will not make him taller, it will only make him fat. In other words "you can't breed up a breed." Like the deer, wolf and the Cotton Tail rabbit he has a genetic size and it will take outside blood to make



INDIAN CAYUSE HORSE

him larger. The Barb is a running horse and has round bones in the legs and five lumbar vertebrae in the back, as well as five sacral vertebrae.

Here on the Wild Horse Research Farm we are restoring the Barb horse and studying the others. Bob Brislawn has the horse that he feels is pure and we have the bones of some of the ancestors that bear him out, but it is going to be a long and deep study to verify a pure strain of Barb horse.

At age 83 Bob Brislawn has seen his Spanish Barb Mustang restored and recognized by two departments of the United States government and listed in the Department of Agriculture Official List of Breeds. The Spanish Barb Mustang is as much a breed as any horse today and

not by pedigree but by blood and his physical characteristics.

Presenting this horse to the public is the next step and to answer this, only time will tell.

Additional information may be obtained from the Wild Horse Research Farm upon request.

The Wild Horse Research Farm is also a mustang registry. If you plan to adopt a wild horse be sure it is a mustang.

If you would like to send copies of this pamphlet to your friends, send your request to us at our headquarters.

"Those who give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

... Benjamin Franklin

The MUSTANG is a periodical published by the National Mustang Association with a circulation of 18,000 devoted to the protections and welfare of the western wild horses. The Officers and Board of Directors are:

William G. Freeman	President
Alfred P. Pederson	Vice President
Ruth S. Pickering	Sec. and Treas.
Donald Bowler	Director
Haldow E. Christensen	Director
Edward J. Gardner	Director
C. Tom Holland	Exec. Mgr.

NATIONAL MUSTANG ASSOCIATION, INC.
Newcastle, Utah - 84756

the MUSTANG

National Mustang Association, Inc. Newcastle, Utah - 84756

INFORMATION PLEASE

We have a constant flow of mail from everywhere asking what is a "Mustang?" We have combined our efforts with many years of research conducted by a well known wild horse farm, along with our own knowledge through experience with the capturing and handling of wild horses.

Contrary to some belief there are still a few true mustangs running wild in our western states as evidenced by their skeletons. This is proof of their bone structure, which is a positive identification. The following information submitted by Jeff Edwards, 'I'm sure, will be of interest to you. This is the type of animal we are preserving on our ranch and ranges, descendants of the horse that built America.

Types Of Western Research Horses

There are few wild animals that possess the glamour and excitement of the wild horse. It seems his affinity for man and man's love of the horse is never ending. Yet, at times man seems to have forgotten all the things the horse has done for him and is now letting the little horse that won the west and was ridden by the Spaniards, Indians, and cowboys slip into oblivion. Had it not been for the farsightedness of two brothers, Ferdie

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb

Spanish Barb

Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St. Porterville, Calif. 93257 Phone 209 781 1225 - 784 6408

Newsletter #22

Oct. 1977



Margaret Benkels of the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation enjoyed working with this little filly out of Tiger Eye and Isabella. She is a fine gentle filly.

MARGARET BENKELS AND TIM MEYER visited the Wild Horse Research Farm this month and a real good time was had talking horse and we also took a trip to see the big Redwood Trees that are in the mountains above Porterville.

Margaret is the Public Relations officer for the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation and Tim is an artist who is working with the horses. While here Tim did a sketch of myself and I have included it in the newsletter. We really enjoyed their visit and look forward to their return.



PETER LUNDY AND THE MEDICINE HAT STALLION is the name of the TV show to be premiered on NBC TV on Nov. 6, 19

Nov. 6, 1977. This is a real must viewing for any horse person as the medicine hat is one of the color breeds of the spanish horse that has long been neglected and this can afford such wide spread publicity as to revive him. Truly he is the war horse of the indian.

From reports of the people who have been working with the film they are all very enthusiastic and are looking forward to a great show and if possible it could be turned into a weekly series so if you like the pilot film on Nov. 6th be sure and write the NBC channel and tell them so and perhaps your wish will be granted. Remember the date, Nov. 6th on NBC TV. Tell your friends.

Page 2



87 YEARS OLD IS WHAT BOB BRISLAWN will be on Nov. 18 so drop Bob a card and wish him well. Without Bob and Ferdie Brislawn the horses would not be here today. We all owe a great deal to these two fine men. They are the real sons of the Old West.

Marguerite Henry really honored Bob when she copied a character in her book San Domingo after Bob. This is the same book that will be on TV Nov. 6 on NBC and Bob is being portrayed by Milo O'Shea. It will be an Irishman portraying an Irishman.

Lets all send Bob a Birthday Card. Bob Brislawn, Cayuse Ranch, Oshoto, Wy. 92724

SKELTON OF BARB HORSE. All is set to take the skelton of the yearling barb horse to the Univ. of Calif. at Davis and we will be greeted by a group of professors and will get to talk some horse as we are taking up the full brother of the skelton. This is the horse that was shot in the neck on the river of the Research Farm and had to be put down.

Dr. Julian of the Anatomy Dept. is the one we delt with but Dr. Albaugh Dean Emeritus of the Animal Science Dept. will be there as well as others

from the Radiology and Michelle Harvey from the Animal Protection Institute of America will also be there and Bob Denhardt the famous author of the book "The Horse of the Americas" and a founder of the quarter horse assoc. has also been invited so it will be a real assembly and it is a real important one for the horse. There is a lot of scientific research that needs to be done and it will take a university to do it. There will be a full report on this in the next newsletter.

THE SPANISH BARB RESERVE FOUNDATION is going gread guns now and Jackie has even had a half hour phone call from the office of Senator Packwood in Washington D.C. on the horses and a bill he is sponsoring on the wild horses and he says he can get her some help with the feeding of the horses for the winter so that sounds real good. Wes and Jackie Strasburger also have a TV show coming up on the Medicine Hat horses that they have on the reserve. This is in conjunction with the TV show Peter Lundy and the Medicine Hat Stallion that will show on NBC in the eveing of Nov. 6th. It is beginning to look as if the authenticated horses can no longer be ignored.

AUTHENTICATED HORSES seem to be an unknown thing so just a note of the method used to authenticate a horse. There are four things it takes to authenticate a horse they are Bones, Blood, Physical Characteristics and Genetic Size. First the bones have to have the correct count in the Lumbar Vertebrae and ribs as well as the round canon bone in the front leg. The bone is also of greater density and strength.

There also needs to be more blood in the horse as well as having more red blood corpuscles

Physical Characteristics keep the conformation of the horses uniform and makes a breed of them.

Page

Genetic size is the final check as being a breed they will not get any larger without the introduction of outside blood. This takes at least three generations of horses.

Now when you see that a horse is AUTHENTICATED you know what is meant. There are authenticated horses at both the Wild Horse Research Farm and the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation as well as on the Cayuse Ranch and the True Blood Reserve.

ED CONNELL the great reinsman of the West has died in British Columbia while on a horse seminar there. He will always be remembered for his books on reining. The Reinsman of the West and Hackamore Reinsman are already classics and will live forever.

Two years ago Ed and his wife paid us a visit at the Wild Horse Research Farm and we had a great time talking horse. Mrs. Connell is a wonderfully gracious lady and said that Ed was very impressed with the horses and that he had bought some property in the Devil's Den area on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and he was going to get some of our horses and use them in his biting program. It is sad to think of his passing but the world is a better place for his having been here. Adios, old friend.

BOB PAINTER of Diamond Springs, Cal. has an excellent stud by the name of Smoke Balleau. I have a good mare up there not to be bred. The mare is Chinooki and she is out of Narragassett Pacer and Little Thing and a good sandy dun color. Last year she aborted so will be bred to Smoke Balleau this coming spring. I want a stud and Bob wants a filly so he will keep her for a full year and we will hope she will satisfy both of us.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE SUN in Santa Barbara, Calif has done a terrific job with the horses and have about 12 horses. These horses do everything from being ridden to working cattle. They can and do it all.

The Brotherhood has a lot of brush goats in the mountains behind Santa Barbara and they use the horses to take people in and out and to go between the different herds. Some of the horses stay in the mountains for weeks and have to live off the land and do fine.

with the horses. The work being done here could well be the pilot for other reserves in the future.

No one knows the horses as well Rev. Schwieger who will visit the range at least twice a week and with the enthusiasm of men like John Bowler and Pat Smith who owns the local paper they have it all going for them and have done a good job. All in all it was a great trip and it was a pleasure to see the horses and to see the reserve and again many thanks for the hospitality and we hope some of our research will be of some good in the culling of the horses.



at Howell, Wyo. got a blue roan and it was a fine looking two year old mare and was one of the best of the horses that we saw.

Our thanks and gratitude goes out to all of our new friends at the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Reserve and especially to John Bowler, Rev. Floyd Schweiger, Pat Smith and Bud Brown. Bud Brown is the manager of the reserve for the Bureau of Land Management and with the help of Len Taylor they are doing a bang up job

Tim Meyer Visited the Wild Horse Research Farm with Margaret Henkels of the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation and I took them to the mountains to see the big redwood trees and while driving up he sketched this picture of me. He has also done some sketches of the horses and has a real preceptive eye. It was pleasure to have Tim visit.

page 5



Bob Peak our horse expert on the Tule River Indian Reservation is seen sacking out a young quarterhorse. The procedure is to accustom the horse to being touched and also sudden noises are used in the gentling process of the horse.

In sacking out a horse the animal needs to be tied in such a way he is secure and still cannot hurt himself if he pulls back or makes sudden jumps. Bob Peak handles this with one of the new metal corrals that are now available on the market.

The psychology of the horse is very important and you have to remember that the horse is a free running animal and to teach him confinement and control is best when it is taken slowly and at the speed of the horse and not the desire of the man.

A good rule to go by is when you are in doubt of moving on then don't as trying to move too fast can cause a setback later.

Ferdie Brislawn is the savior of the medicine hat horses. It was on his ranch in Gusher, Utah that he specialized in the medicine hat horses. It was also Ferdie who recognized a lot of good barb horses that were coming out of the Bookcliffs and also saved them.



There are three different types of medicine hat horses. The first is the spanish Meicine hat and he is white in his basic color and his markings are subtle and not bright.

The color markings can be of any color except black. They also have to be subtle and flowered. There are some horses in the Paint Horse Registry that are Medicine hats and they don't know it.

The Tobiano Medicine Hat is the bright colors and the edges of the color is sharp with colors of Red, Black and blue but all these colors are bright. These Tobiano colors come from the shetland blood in the horses.

The third horse is the Domestic Medicine Hat and this is a large horse and over 14-2 hands. I see them in horse shows all the time and they are not recognized for what they are.

Medicine Hat is a color breed but it was also the War Horse of the Indian and not the Appaloosa as is claimed. If you take a look at the old paintings of indians on horses you will find 10 times more medicine hats than Appaloosas.

Page six

Be sure to watch...
Leif Garrett as Peter Lundy
"PETER LUNDY AND THE
Medicine Hat Stallion"

Sunday, November 6, 7pm (EST)
NBC Television Network

Previously I had sent out some announcements on the TV show on Nov. 6th as the press premier was on the 29th of Oct. and I was not sure if my newsletter would be in the mail and delivered by that time, but I am going to tell you what I thought of the film.

First of all I might say I felt like an important person as I was seated between Marguerite Henry and Mervyn Leroy. Marguerite was introduced as she was the authoress of the story.

The film was absolutely magnificent with tremendous scenery and a true to life story to go along with it.

It concerns a family on the trail west in the Nebraska territory at the time of the Pony Express. Peter Lundy later becomes a rider for the Pony Express and there are some excellent scenes of the riding and the switching of the mail from horse to horse.

There are also indians and some real good footage that adds to the excitement of the story. Even beyond this is a story of family life that is portrayed with a realism that is seldom seen on the screen with a harsh father and a sensitive son.

All of the material on the horse is not correct but this does not take away from the film unless you are a horse person like the readers of this newsletter. Still they did

say a lot of nice things about the barb horse and sometimes it is important to take a few liberties in the filming to enhance the story so I was very pleased with the film and endorse it fully. In fact don't miss it.

Bob Brislawn is one of the main characters in the plot and it was well played by Milo O'Shea. If you know Bob Brislawn be sure and see the show.

A good idea would be if each one of the recipients of the newsletter would call up five families and let them know of the film it would help get viewers and remember if you are impressed with the film be sure and write to your NBC station and ask that it be made into a weekly series as it is truly worth it.

Many thanks.

Jeff Edwards

Jeff Edwards

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb

Spanish Barb

Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408
NEWSLETTER #30

DECEMBER 1979

Wishing you
a joyous Christmas
and a New Year blessed
with all good things

Jeff & Rosemary



WITH ALL THE ILLNESS AND TIME SPENT IN SEEING DOCTORS WE WERE UNABLE TO DO
A REAL CHRISTMAS CARD BUT OUR SENTIMENT IS AS WARM AND SINCERE AS EVER.



CORTES IS OUT OF BLUE MONDAY AND
CRANE AND IS A THROW BACK TO THE OLD
TIME SPANISH JENET

Before we can say that Cortes is an old time Jenet we will have to know the count of his bones. He is a cross of three horses, Spanish, Barb, Arab and the horse that was in Spain at the time the moors conquered Spain in 730. This made a little fiery horse with more spirit which the spanish liked as well as a horse that had the face of the Arab. He was still a strong horse with a desire to go in fact he seemed to have an abundance of power and was always

PAGE TWO

ready to go. Another feature of the barb he lost was the heavy headedness.

During this time in history the Jenet was the ultimate of riding horses. We will only know for sure if Cortes is a true Jenet when we find out the count of his bones as he should be a five and a fused 6th in his vertebrae. Time will tell.

BOB BRISLAWN ONCE SAID, TIME NEVER STANDS STILL AND IS CHANGING ALL THE TIME AND SO IT IS ON THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM.

My illness has not turned out as minor as it had seemed and I have cancer. At first it seemed my time had run out but with the treatment with chemotherapy things are looking up. At least I am comfortable and can do some work on the typewriter as I am not ill and uncomfortable.

Perhaps this will cause us to do some cutting down on the size of the herd we keep here at the farm and will have to sell down but will keep a stud bunch to photograph and do some research on.

My nephew, Chris Rathbun, came over for his Christmas Vacation and has taken care of the horses while I did a two week stint at the hospitals in Stanford. Right now I am into the therapy only two weeks but they are happy with my progress and we will keep you up with the newsletter as to what happens but if in the meantime you think you might want to buy one of our good barb horses be sure and get an order in.

Jeff Edwards

THE WILD HORSE CONTROVERSY is a new book that has just hit the market and anyone who is interested in the wild horses should have a copy of it as it is very complete and covers all the different aspects and also the battles that occurred. The book is written by Heather Thomas and is published by the A.S. Barnes and Co. Look for it and if you don't find it contact your local library or book store and get a copy I recommend it.

Heather Thomas lives at PO Box 215 Salmon, Idaho 83467 so if you have trouble getting the book drop her a card and she can help you.



WES AND JACKIE STRASBURGER WITH THEIR SON DUANE VISIT THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM IN OCTOBER. BESIDES SEEING THE HORSES WE INCLUDED A TRIP TO THE MOUNTAINS TO LET THEM SEE THE BIG REDWOOD TREES.

This was quite a visit as it gave them a chance to compare the horses we have here on the wild horse research farm with the ones they had on the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation. They were strong on the Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest and we are stronger on the Barbs and the Spanish Barbs but it did let us know we had the same kind of horses with the same bones, blood physical characteristics and genetic size. For sure they know their horses and it was a real pleasure to show them our horses and to discuss them and talk some real horse. They are dear friends of ours and will be looking for them to return again in the near future.

PAGE THREE

ON SELLING HORSES-----This is a bad time of the year to sell horses unless you have some nice little shetland pony's that people will buy for their kids for Christmas. To insure your horse will not go to the killers and dog food be sure you sell for more than thanhe is worth per pound at the killer plant. In other words if you have a 1000 lb horse and the price of horse on the hoof is 30¢ a lb. you have to get more than \$300.00 or the buyer can turn around and sell him and make a quick profit and your horse is soon in a can.

Horse buyers like to move in on a large horse operation and buy many horses at one time for one price and pick up quick money by just going from where he bought the horses to the rendering plant.

Beware of horse buyers as they can tell you anything but when the horse is his he can do as he pleases with it and you don't have any recourse.

ARLENE KINGSLEY PHONED THIS LAST WEEK to inform us of her horse Wahoo that she bought from us several years ago. Wahoo is an-interesting case as he hurt his knee as a foal.

When Wahoo was running with his mother with the stud bunch he hurt his knee so bad all he could do was drag it. It seemed apparent that we would have to put him down but I had an old time cowboy by the name of Guy Rutherford come out and look at him and he advised to wait as he has seen foals damaged and come out of it in good shape.

This was not the case with Wahoo as his knee went back together and he used it OK but had a huge knee and it angled to the outside. However he didn't seem to have any pain and used it well. Another thing in his favor was his gentle and loving disposition and his desire to go.

When Arlene visited the ranch one time she fell in love with Wahoo and I practically gave him to her so she took him home. A little professional ferrier work on his foot helped to straighten out some of his leg but not entirely nor did any of the size go down.

Since this time Arlene has used him as a saddle horse and goes into the mountains and they ride up and down the mountains that are so steep her friends horse won't go and have a wonderful time but people still look at the size of that front knee and just shake their head in disbelief.



HEAVY HEADED HORSES This is what Cunningham Graham called the Barb type horses as this is one of their traits. You also see it painted in Charles Russell's work with the old Horse tied in front of the saloon with his head hung down below the level of his back. This gives the appearance that the horse is so tired that he can't hold his head up but but in reality he is just the opposite and Cunningham Graham tells of the rider untieing his horse and the horse springing to life and in just a few moments is a dot on the horizon line.

Many event riders have horses with heavy heads but they teach the horse that when the event is over the rider will reach over the horn of the saddle and pinch the neck of the horse and this is the signal that it is all over so the horse will relax and drop his head as if he has gone back to sleep. So much for a Horse being "Heavy Headed".

PAGE FOUR



Bob's daughter lives in Sundance and she is the power behind the throne. She is the wife of Don Brunson but is called "Dipper" by all her friends.

I really appreciate Dipper as she is Johnny on the spot when it comes to information on Bob and what happened with him and his horses.



TWO VIEWS OF THE BOB BRISLAWN MUSEUM IN SUNDANCE, WY. BOB DIED THIS YEAR IN JAN. AND ALREADY THE MUSEUM HAS BEEN IN OPERATION THROUGH THE SUMMER WITH MANY TOURISTS TO SEE BOB'S THINGS.



VERY RECENT PICTURE OF JEFF EDWARDS ON CHICA TO SHOW I AM NOT DOWN AND OUT BUT SURE DON'T WANT TO DO ANY WORK OR ROUGH RIDING.

THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM IS IN TROUBLE.

This is sad but true as things were really picking up with lots of publicity and people coming from all over the country to see and buy horses to join in the crusade of saving the Barb horse with the five lumbar vertebrae but sickness had done it work.

PAGE FIVE

Jeff Edwards has been ill all summer and finally Jeff and his wife Rosemary went to the clinic in Santa Barbara to find out what was the matter and there was plenty. First thing they found out was he had a rare form of Hodgkin's disease and All the marrow in the bones was being turned to scar tissue and very little red blood corpuscles were being manufactured. Five units of blood took care of this but with the disease comes Lymphoma and this growth had formed between the kidney's and is applying pressure on some of the vital organs. The clinic referred us to Stanford Hospital for more testing and We will go up there this next Monday.



The problem of cure is this: The Hodgkin's Disease will respond to radiation treatment but with the low white corpuscle count in the blood the radiation could also destroy what I have left in those and then would be a sitting duck to infection and pneumonia. So they have find out how much radiation I can take and not kill the white blood corpuscles; If no treatment can be given they give from three to five months to live but if I can take treatment I will have some years. Either way I am no longer able to raise and work horses so am just out.

If things work out favorably I am hoping to be able to care for a couple of horses and still do the research and writing I have always done so again the future holds the key but we will know soon.

NEW BOOK TO BE WRITTEN BY THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM BY JEFF EDWARDS AND HIS NEPHEW GLENN MICHAEL EDWARDS. This book will be on the fountain-head of the horse from then to now with the chain being still unbroken to this present day because of the existence of the barb horse with his proof of purity. Glenn Michael has his doctorate in ancient history and will be invaluable in that area of the book and I will handle the later part. Hope to beat the illness in getting it out.

LITTLE THING is one of the best and oldest mares that we have on the ranch and is now 18 years old and is still giving us a foal each year. She still runs with the stud bunch with Four Lane and Tamara Walker but when we find her hanging around her personal corral we go out and close the gate and feed her some grain but we do not lock the gate and she will push it open and go back out. This occurs a couple of times a day so she does need special attention but is well worth it.

Doris Kloss is a writer and visited the wild horse research farm to do a story on the horses. She spent two days taking pictures and talking and even went to Springville, a town 18 miles away to take some pictures of the three barb riding horses that Lynn Gill has and Lynn impressed Doris with their ability and willingness to perform.

Lynn's horses do it all from being a riding stable horse for the kids to running the barrels in the Gymkana competition in town. They just do it all.

We know Doris was impressed and will do a good write up for the little Barb horse.

PAGE SIX

Happy New Year

A NEW BORN COLT IS INTRODUCED TO THE HERD, WHAT AN EXPERIENCE.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH
FARM NEWSLETTER. DO IT NOW.

Enclosed is five dollars (\$5.00) for
the year of 1980.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb

Spanish Barb

Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 – 784-6408
NEWSLETTER #33

December 1980



WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St. Porterville, Calif. 93257 Phone 209 781 1225 - 784 6408

NEWSLETTER #24

MARCH 1978



Received at the Wild Horse Research during the month of Feb. was a letter from the President of Argentina. In the letter, Presidente, Rene Alejandro Embrigio requested information on the horses.

Of Course we enclosed a complete package of material along with a letter of explanation on the proof of purity that is required of any horse that is authenticated.

If more develops from this contact we will let you know in a future newsletter.

MRS. BONNIE BOHANON of Warren N.J. Has a War Bonnett horse by the name of Lightening and when a friend of hers, Doris Mount, did an article for the "Horse of Course" magazine she used her for the demonstration pictures. The article was on how to teach your horse to stand still while you are mounting and was very well received.

Inquiries were received in the mail and some of them noticed the color markings of the horse and wanted to know what kind it was and of course they had to let them know what a War Bonnett was.

Lightening is the only War Bonnett horse that is registered in the Horse of the Americas Registry but we do have some Medicine hats.



OLD TIME SADDLES are used at the wild horse research farm to show that the horses are the same as they were at the turn of the century when these saddles were made.

On the horse is an old Visalia Stock Saddle that was made in 1920 and the saddle held by Jeff Edwards is a local Porterville saddle that was made in 1895 by a local maker A.S. Mapes.

Most old time cowboys did not have a horse but would sack their saddle and move on as the saddle would fit all the horses.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408

NEWSLETTER #29

OCTOBER 1979



THE GRAZING ADAPTABILITY OF THESE SPANISH HORSES NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME AND THEY WILL GRAZE IN THE PONDS AND SOME OF THEM WILL SUBMERSE THEIR HEADS INTO THE WATER UNTIL ONLY THEIR EARS CAN BE SEEN. IT IS ALSO A GOOD THING FOR THE YOUNG FOALS AS THEY LEARN TO NOT FEAR WATER AND THIS CAN SAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS IN THEIR LATER TRAINING.

APOLOGY---This has been one of my worst summers as I came down with a good case of pneumonia and it hung on all summer and is still with me in that I can't seem to get the old drive and strength back at least I am on the mend and it won't be long until I can really get with it. This is the latest I have been with a newsletter and will try and get out one more issue before the first of the year.

HORSES ON THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM are fine and only half of the foal crop is halter broke but this next week we will be cutting out the rest of the foals and start halter breaking them. We had 12 foals this year on the Farm but did breed 25 mares and everyone conceived and out of the 25 we only lost 2 and one was killed by a pack of mauling dogs and the other was a stud colt out of Little Thing and Four Lane and her sack didn't break to let out the water so the colt was born dead but that is still not a bad record when you compare to most other breeds of horses.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb

Spanish Barb

Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408

NEWSLETTER #32

SEPT. 1980



THE FOUR HORSES FROM THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM ARE SEEN OVERLOOKING THEIR NEW HOME AT BENT'S OLD FORT IN LA JUNTA, COLORADO. THE RANGE MAY LOOK BARREN HERE BUT THERE IS PLENTY OF GOOD GRASS IN OTHER PLACES BUT AS MOST HORSES THEY COVER THE ENTIRE AREA AND IN THIS CASE THEY HAVE 175 ACRES.

LATEST HORSE NEWS—————

Now there are four authenticated horses at Bent's Old Fort in La Junta Colorado and they belong to the National Park Service and will be seen by 100,000 visitors each year.

It was the desire of the National Park Service to show their visitors

the old time horses that existed and around the old fort when it was in its heyday. For 17 years from 1832 to 1849 Bent's fort was the citadel on the Old Santa Fe Trail and it was these little horses that sustained their life line to civilization.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408
NEWSLETTER #33

March 1981



FERDINAND LEO BRISLAWN _ Born January 15, 1888 _ Died Feb. 4, 1981
Ferdie, as we all knew him, was born and buried almost 93 years
to the day in his beloved Northwest at Sprague, Washington.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

rb **Spanish Barb** **Cayuse Indian Pony**

N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408

SLETTER #35

JANUARY 1982



The Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky is like a horse Disneyland everyday they have a parade of breeds and in the center of the parade are the two horses that were donated by the Wild Horse Research Farm. One is a Barb, named Patrick, and the other is a Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest, and is named Teton.

Thanks to Ed Brice for his up to date information on the progress of the horses at the park and they will be the pets of the entire park. At the present time they are going to saddle them and all has been well and now under the saddle they will be ridden into the show ring where the visitors can see what a time horse looked liked and how he can move.

One of the main features of the show is an all breeds show that lets visitors see all the breeds at one time and this is where Patrick and Teton will shine as they will be ridden into the arena and all of their physical characteristics and their history will be announced.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408

NEWSLETTER # 36

MAY 1982



With the coming of grass and the warm weather the horses at the Wild Horse Research Farm are looking great and dropping foals. At the present time there are eleven on the ground and a few more to come and all arrived without any human help. No Problems.....

STUD BUNCHES FOR LEASE:::::::::::::
The time has come to cut down on the amount of horses we have on the Wild Horse Research Farm it is best to lease some of the stud bunches to people who will continue with the research and study of the horses. The Wild Horse Research Farm will still own the horses but the people who lease them will get to use them and the foals will be theirs.

It is our desire to lease the horses close to Porterville California so we can keep track of them and the research and then if some unforeseen thing happens we can return them to the ranch without too much trouble. We will keep you posted on this in future newsletters.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408
NEWSLETTER #37 SEPTEMBER 1982



Summer visitors at the Wild Horse Research Farm were Frank Brislawn and his son Dennis. The last time we had been together was at Camino, Calif. at an SMR annual meeting. Frank is the last of the Brislawn brothers and even though he is in his mid 80's you would not believe it to see him get around.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM

Barb Spanish Barb Cayuse Indian Pony

248 N. Main St., Porterville, California 93257 • Phone: (209) 781-1225 — 784-6408

NEWSLETTER #38

JANUARY 1983

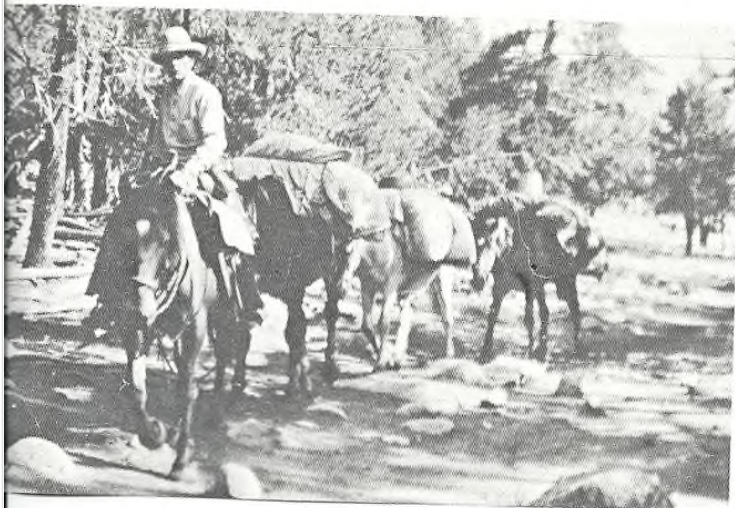


The future of the care of the horses will soon be in the hands of the local mountain men. Rick Inman is taking over the care of the horses and the property of the Wild Horse Research Farm. The above picture was taken in the high sierra nevada mountains when the mountain men held one of their rondeveous

Also at this time the old horse doctor went to school and quit studying the horse and started to study medicine. The work of other men became more valued than the experience and observations of the old timers who used and knew the horses.

Had it not been for Bob Brislawn and his love for this breed of tough, sturdy, dependable horse, it might have followed the path of the passenger pigeon into oblivion. Thanks to him and his work with the Wild Horse Research Farm in Porterville, Calif. this material is still with us and so is the horse, and research goes on every day.

Inquiries and visitors are always welcome at the Brislawn-Edwards Wild Horse Research Farm, P. O. Box 94, Porterville, Calif. 93257. Jeff Edwards is the directing partner at the Farm.





The four horses were loaded in the luxury seven horse van to start their trip to Bent's old Fort in Colorado. The van belonged to the Nation-wide Horse Transportation, Inc. and are located at 929 W. Cheyenne Rd. in Colorado Springs, Colorado 80906. All horses arrived in excellent shape.

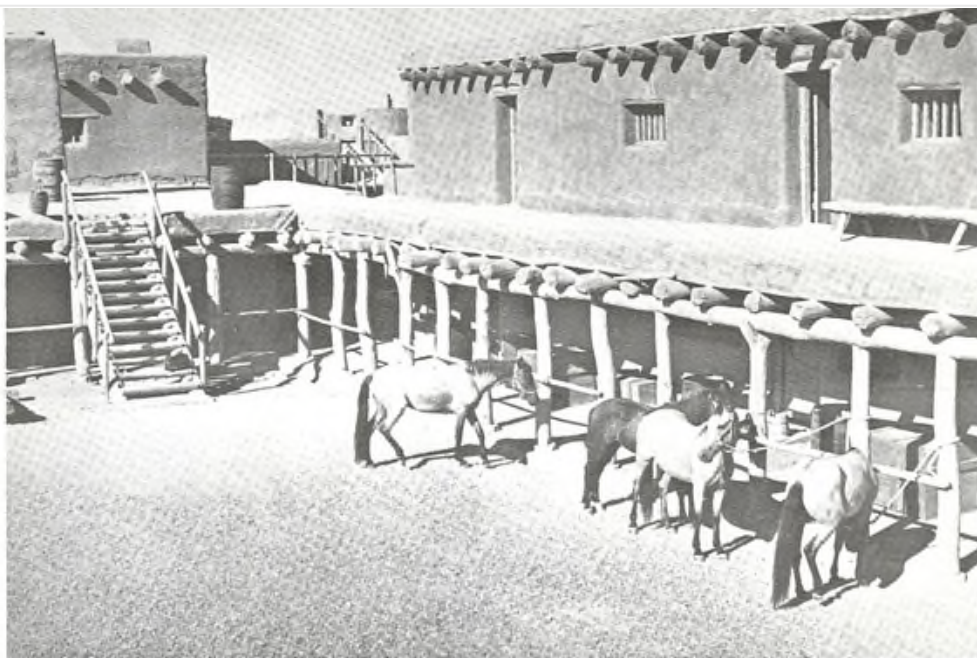
st contact for the horses came from Jean Bullard in the Denver office of the National Park Service and her giving her a lot of information as contacted by Dennis Ditmanson, of the rangers at Bent's Old Fort La Junta, Colorado. After much discussion the plan was to send four horses to the fort. Since it is not present desire to breed horses we took four horses. These were the best horses we had. All are young ready for breaking, packing, or riding. The horses we sent were following:

OWBOAT a gelding out of Snipper and Folly. Snipper is a barb and out of the wilds of the bookcliffs and Folly

is a good looking mare out of Mexico. It is possible that Showboat could be a Barb but until we see his bones he is a spanish Barb.

PRETTY THING is an authenticated Barb mare out of Four Lane and Little Thing and is a good a Barb as there is is grey grulla in color.

BLUE CORN is also a barb filly and is authenticated as we have the bones of her ancestors. She is out of Four Lane Tamara Walker. Her color is grey grulla but has the blue corn spots on her.



To get the horses used to the fort and the tourists we tied them up inside the fort all morning. The visitors were happy to see the old time horses and took a lot of pictures of them as we groomed them. There were no incidents and in a short time they showed their heavy headedness that was so graphically painted in the work of Charles Russell.

DUNNY is a dun colored spanish Barb out of Ysabella and Tiger Eye. We have seen the bones of this cross one time and it was five and the fused sixth.

As soon as the horses were decided on I asked when they would come and get them and to my surprise they said the next day as they had a truck in the area so we hustled up the horses and the following day about 1 PM the truck arrived and the horses were on their way to Bent's Old Fort.

A great deal of research has been done on the fort and some of the old time

paintings are still available and to everyone's surprise when the horses arrived they looked just like the old time paintings and also were the same colors as in the paintings so it is a hard thing to dispute as to the real authenticity of the horses.

The horses were shipped out on a Sat. afternoon and the following Wed. I flew back to La Junta, Colorado to see them and to talk to Dennis Ditmanson on the horses. We discussed their history to their physical Characteristics and the uses they would be put to in the future.

Page Four



One of the events of the fort each day is the food that the women cook in the old spanish ovens at the fort. Here the blacksmith is helping the cook while the mountain man works with a horse in the background. Authenticity is carried out to the extent that the fires are not lite by matches but by the old flint and stricker method.

There is quite a staff of people who workat the fort and in old time costume. There are a couple of women who cook and do the womanly work of the day, there is a blacksmith and carpenter, a Dragoon soldier, two mountain men and a spanish peon to sit in the shade and sleep and when working is cutting wood for the ovens that the women cook in. Alsois a store keeper in very appropriate surroundings of furs, guns and trappings of the era of the fort.

The fort sits on about 700 acres of land and at the present time the horses have the run of about 175 acres but have to come into the fort to get water so they can be checked on all the time.

Thursday I arrived at the fort and Dennis and I got right to working with the horses and we took pictures of them on the range and then came into the Fort and spent the rest of the day in discussions and plans for the future. On Friday we brought the horses into the fort and took some more pictures of them and let the tourists have a look at them and the horses did real well and soon their heads were hanging heavy as they do in the paintings of Remington and Russell. This meant the horses had relaxed and were patiently waiting to be used so after a few hours we turned them loose on the range and they settled down under a cotton wood tree away from the fort and near the



Home on the range in the shade and grass with the Fort in Sight.



Jeff Edwards and Dennis Ditmanson

Saturday morning Dennis took me to the Airport in Pueblo and I took off for home. Only two days had been spent at the fort but that was enough to make me enthused with the future prospects of the horses and happy to know that they are recognized by the National Park Service as authentic old time horses and their purity is based in their blood, bones, physical characteristics and genetic size.

We expect to soon ship a young stallion to the fort so they can do some breeding of the mares. This stud will be a dark grulla out of Crane and Country Club and is also one of the authenticated horses that we have bones from.

All in all it is an exciting thing for the horses and for the recognition of our work. As things progress we will keep our readers informed and up to date.

Jeff Edwards

Page Six



Chris Rathbun has been running the Wild Horse Research Farm since my illness last summer and is now looking at the new crop of foals as he will soon be doing some halter breaking. This particular little filly is Called Friendly and is out of Snipper and Macho.



Little Bit is a carbon copy of Four Lane and is getting darker and it seems he will be a blue corn color. He is out of Little Thing.

TOMMY PLUNK and his family have been a real help to us at the farm and have cared for Little Bit and his three mares for the past couple of years but this year the Forest Service did a boundy survey and tore down some of the fences so the horses could get out so we had to bring them back home to the Wild Horse Research Farm.

During this time they had three foals and still have them and they are doing well. It is the help from people like Tommy Plunk that keep the horses going.

SUSCRIBE TO THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM NEWSLETTER. THANKS.....

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Page two

COVER PHOTO

Lynn Gill and her mother took a trip into the back country east of Porterville and on the way to Mount Whitney they have to cross this natural bridge and this picture was taken of the little barb horses on the tip top.

LYNN GILL FINDS ROMANCE-----

This is true and soon will go to the alter and we all wish her the happiness she deserves. since her new husband lives in the East she is wanting to sell her good barb horses before she goes. These horses are all saddle broke and gentle and just this last summer she took them to the mountains on a pack trip and the true worth of the little horses made the trip a perfect last outing for Lynn for possibly a long time to come. Having been raised in the mountains and on a horse I know she will find life a lot different.

Here are the horses she has to sell:

Blackie--- He is five years old and out of Four Lane and Tamara Walker and can be ridden, packed and is broken to the cart. Excellent horse to use.

Mouse---- Also is five years old and a grulla out of Crane and Blue Monday. His disposition is gentle and can be ridden or packed and is ready for the cart.

Rainbow--- A four year old has a real smooth gait and is out of Four Lane and Tamara Walker and is a roan and shows some blue corn markings. He also is broke to ride and to the pack and would also make a good cart horse.

All the horses are geldings and are ready to make someone a happy owner as the horses have no bad habits and like people so it is just a case of getting on and riding.

If interested contact Lynn Gill
Po Box 364 Springville, Calif.
93265

KENTUCKY HORSE PARK

Got a call from Ed Brice recently and the Kentucky Horse Park is gathering all breeds of horses to show to the public and is interested in some of the barb horses and we have agreed to send a barb and a Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest to show at the park. They are interested in either geldings or mares as they want to show the horses off to the public and can't be sure of a stallion being well behaved all the time. This is another excellent place that the little horses can be seen by the public and it will also be educational as they have a Parade of Breeds where they show off the different breeds and explain the horse as the horse is performing. More will be reported on this in the next issue of the newsletter.

HOPE RYDEN STRIKES AGAIN-----

Guess horses is one of Hope's first loves and now she is going to do a documentary on the little spanish horses and mustangs for public TV and went to Bent's Old Fort to see the horses we sent. Hope knows her horses and was pleased to see the old time horses in an old time surrounding. She had intended to fly on out to California and see the rest of the horses on the wild horse research farm but with the way air travel is we are almost like getting to the south pole so she didn't make it but when she comes to the west coast we are hoping she will drop by. We wish Hope good luck on her film and will help her in any way we can.

DOC STABLER is an important part of the Spanish Mustang Registry and is now becoming more involved with the research of the Spanish Horses and this is great. We need more of the scientific research by people who are well qualified like Doc Stabler. I hope he can get a grant to help with a lot of the expenses or he can work in conjunction with some Univ. as the expense of research is just overwhelming for one person to be

Page Three

carrying the entire cost. Dr. Stabler has worked with the little Spanish horses for many years so with his veterinarian experience he can do a lot in the way of research. If he asked for assistance be sure and help.



BOB BRISLAWN would have been 90 years old last Nov. 18th 1980 had he not passed on in Jan. 1978 at age 88. I ran across this picture of Bob with Tiger Eye and made me remember how he would become partial to one horse or the other for a week or so and at this time it was tiger eye but he would still doubt his being entirely straight as he large jaws made him feel there could be some steeldust in his background.

This is the time for thanksgiving and thoughts of christmas and often I think back to the good times we had with Bob living with us and working with the horses. He certainly left his mark on the earth and will not be forgotten.

At the museum in Sundance, Wy. there is a room dedicated to Bob Brislawn and his daughter Dipper wrote to say it was well visited this last summer so if anyone gets in the Sundance area be sure and pay a visit to the museum. It is worth the effort.



This picture of Bob Brislawn was taken in the Studio in Porterville during one of his many visits to the Wild Horse Research Farm.

WHAT BECOMES OF THE HORSES?????????

The little horses have lots of friends who want them to be preserved for time to come. These friends are all over the nation and in some parts of the world. However preserving them is not as easy as it seems on the surface.

At the present time there are many breeders and users of the little spanish horses but we have to realize we are just people and will not be here forever and because of this the horses need to be on a range or reserve where some agency or institution will be caring for them or all time to come.

Even with the intense interest we have ourselves does not insure our children and posterity will have that same interest or desire to give as much of themselves as we have. It is because of this we were so happy to put four horses on Bent's Old Fort in La Junta, Colorado as here they belong to the National Park Service and they are not likely to disband very soon. Besides they want to keep the horses as authentic as possible as the aim of the entire Fort is authenticity and the horses

Page Four

are an important part of this. Now it is important to look for more such places for the horses and perhaps some of the new reserves that are being planned is the answer but we need to get good authenticated horses planted there. It is all a gamble for the horses but that is the way it is at this time of life.



Natasha Hunt and Jeff Edwards with Tule and some of the ribbons she won in the last show. Tule is in foal and everyone is waiting for spring.

NATASHA HUNT and her mother Judith have two good spanish horses and it is Natasha who really brings home the ribbons from the horse shows. In a recent show in the Carmel Valley in Calif. she brought home four blue first place ribbons and one red, second place ribbon. This was almost a clean sweep. The horse she used was a mare named Tule and she is off the Tule River Reservation in Porterville, Calif. Tule has just recently come into her own and knows what is going on and has a desire to perform.

When she and her mother, Judith, r they use the gelding, Little Beaver This is Judith's horse but Natasha also rides him when ever she wants and he is also a very cooperative performer on both the trail and th show ring. It was Little Beaver t Judith rode in a three day show at Pebble Beach horse show and this w the first time he had been in a sh and finished in third place agains some of the finest horses in the area.

Both Judith and Natasha are doing a great job with the little Spanish horses and they are becoming well known for the accomplishments they have done.



Little Beaver seems a happy horse with Natasha Hunt aboard. Many happy hours can be spent astride a good horse and Little Beaver is such a horse.



BLUE CORN COLOR-----

It seems there is little known on this color of horse and he is like the grulla in there are many different color of horses. The grulla is all the colors in the wing feather of the blue sandhill crane. The Blue Corn is the dark irregular spots on the spanish horses. You can have a grulla that has blue corn spots or a roan with the blue corn spots. Another characteristic is that the rumps of the horses

often frost up in the spring and is likely this is the horse that Lewis and Clark saw on their trip to the Northwest in 1805 and not the appaloosa as is now talked of the Appaloosa registry. We have blue corn stud by the name of Fou Lane and he throws many blue corn foals but most of them do not have the dark color that he has as his over-all coat. He is a dark blue with the dark black irregular spots. Take a new look at your horses and see if your horse doesn't have some blue corn spots. Let me know.

YEAR OF MEMORIES-----

This has really been a year of years with so many good things happening to the horses and then my getting ill with cancer and coming out of it. Because of the cancer it has been imperative that I sell down on the horses as I just can't care for a herd of forty horses. Most all are in good homes and doing what they like best and that is to work and be ridden and especially by children. It seems they have an affinity for people and especially kids. The big placement was the four horses that we sent to Bent's Old Fort in La Junta, Colorado where they are on exhibition but run free in the

many acres around the fort. Here they are well cared for and shown to the public. These are the authentic horses and not just mustangs that run on the range with the cows.

With my illness my daughters took over the running of the studio we own in downtown Porterville and are doing a good job. Seems I am not needed there.

Chris Rathbun, my nephew, also came to the rescue and has been taking care of the horses during my illness and has done an excellent job and knows about as much as I do about them and handles all the tours that come to see the horses. Generally

we have a group tour of one or two a week but have had as high as two in one day so Chris has been busy and a real help in the saving of the horses.

At present I am pretty well recovered from the cancer and the last move was to remove my spleen to get my white blood corpuscle count to come up and since the removal the count has come up but the good thing was they did not find any trace of the cancer so we don't know where it went but in some cases it did return in a few months so now I just have to wait it out and see what happens. Some friends of ours in Carmel Valley, Calif. went to Italy for a month so Rosemary and I went to Carmel Valley and baby sat their house for a month. This was at a time when the doctors felt I could be feeling

so well I might try to ride a horse or lift some hay bales so getting away from the temptation was a good thing. It is easy to fall back into your old habits and hurt yourself and after all I have been through with chemotherapy I sure don't want to undo what has been done.

My other nephew, Glenn Michael Edwards and I are working on the book on the fountain head of the horses and he spent the summer at Yale to do some research on the old history and we will soon be putting all our material together and see what has yet to be done and what we have accomplished. It is a hope this will be finished next year.

All in all it has been a different but very educational year for me and I am hoping all the health problems are over. I am not sorry I went through it but do not want to go through it again.



Guy, Chris, Rosemary, Jeff, Gail, Gwenn, Ken; Children Andy, Kristina

*May
each day of
your Holiday be
filled with joy that
lasts through all
the coming
year*

PHOENIX - Barb Horse Standing at Stud Gayle Noble has Phoenix at her home in Canoga Park, Calif. Phoenix is one of the finest Barb Studs that we have had on the Wild Horse Research Farm. He is out of Four Lane and Little Thing. Contact Gayle Noble 20811 Parthenia, Canoga Park, Calif. 91306 Phone 213 998 1699

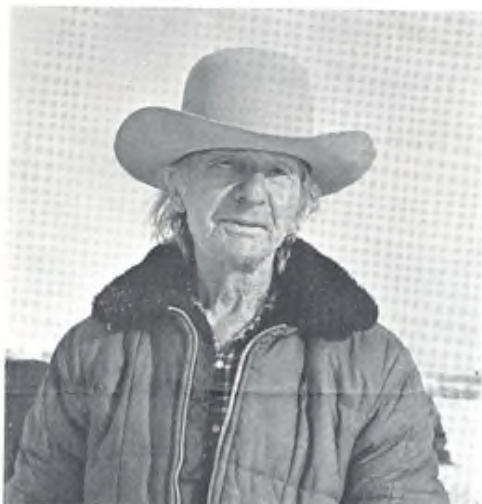
SUSCRIBE TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____



FERDINAND LEO BRISLAWN

In 1917 Fredie wrote from his army camp in Massachusetts to his family in Sprague, "Would sure seem good to see someone from Washington now. I have begun to feel that there is only one real place in the U.S. and it is the Northwest--by this I mean the climate and the people."

Ferdie was born on the family homestead near Sprague, Washington. He was the second of six children born to Ferdinand and Elizabeth McGlade Brislawn. His mother died when he was 10 years old. Following her death, he made his home with the Frank Brislawn family and attended school in Sprague Washington. He graduated from high school in 1909. He was active in sports and participated in track, football and basketball.

Many indian boys were his friends and he spoke of running cross country with them for recreation and knew Chief Joseph the famous Nez Perc Indian and his family.

After graduation he served as desk clerk in the local hotel and then established the Sprague Tailoring Company. In October, 1916, Ferdie sold his tayloring shop and moved to Oshoto, Wyoming. There he joined his Father and Ferdies brothers Robert and Francis in establishing homesteads.

While working as a surveyor near El Paso, Texas, in October of 1917 he enlisted in the 25th Engineers Flash Ranging section at Fort Bliss, Tex. These engineers surveyed the battlefields during major operations. They frequently worked between the battlelines mapping the location of the enemy artillery and heavy gun emplacements through of observations of flashes.

Ferdie attained the rank of Sgt. and participated in the great battles of Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marns, St. Mihiel, Lorraine defense sector, Vesle, and Scecheprey. On several occasions he was injured, gassed and shell-shocked. The scars of war remained with him the rest of his life.

Sgt. Ferdinand Brislawn was discharged from the service in the spring of 1919 and returned to his homestead at Oshoto, Wyoming.



Page three

On May 3, 1922 Ferdie married Anna Laura James at St. Patrick's Cathedral, in El Paso, Texas. and on May 3, 1923 a son, and their only child, was born in Hot Springs, South Dakota.

In the general election of 1930 Ferdie ran for County Clerk of Crook County and was defeated by only 10 votes. During the depression he worked on federal dam projects in Central Wyoming.

In 1935 he was employed by the U.S. Post Office Department in Casper, Wy., from which he retired in 1953. Ferdie liked to tell of delivering the mail when the snow was so deep he would unhitch one of the horses from the wagon and ride the horse because the mail had to go through.

Prior to his retirement, in 1953, Ferdie had begun to collect prize examples of spanish barb mustang horses at the Oshoto homestead and at a small Casper Ranch. This was an interest he shared with his brother Robert Emmett Brislawn. Ferdie rode in parades and won many prizes.

In June of 1957 the Wyoming Spanish Mustang Registry was founded by the two Brislawn brothers, Ferdie and Bob, at Sundance, Wy. This was the first mustang registry in the United States dedicated to "perpetuating the pure blood of the Spanish Mustang horse for posterity". "Ute", an orange dun mustang was Ferdie's foundation stallion.

in 1959 Ferdie completed the sale of his Casper property and moved his horses to Gusher, Utah on a 35 acre ranch. For the next 15 years he bred colorful Spanish horses, giving particular emphasis to the Medicine Hat, the favored war horse of the American Indian. Many of his horses were seen in the movie, "The Saga of Jeremiah Johnson", starring Robert Redford. Ferdie played a minor role and provided technical advice to Mr. Redford.

Because of age and health Ferdie retired from active life in 1976 and moved to Spokane, Wash. to be the land of his youth and of his parents and family members.

On Feb. 9th Ferdie was buried in the family plot in the old catholic cemetery in Sprague beside his parents.

He is survived by his son Ferdinand Jr, three grandchildren, Margaret, Helen and Gordon, and also by his youngest brother, Francis. James Brislawn of Oshoto, Wy.

63 years ago Ferdie wrote about the one real place for him and this is where he came to his final rest. Ferdinand Leo Brislawn lived a long life and worked hard for his beliefs and never lost his hopes or dreams. We are all better for having known him.



FERDIE BRISLAWN WITH "UTE"

There has been a misunderstanding on Ferdie's horses and those of his brother Bob's. Some people think Bob had the straighter horses and this is true but what is not taken into consideration that they were both working with different horses. Bob was working with the Spanish

Page four

Barb and the barb and Ferdie was working with the Medicine hat horse and this horse is a color breed of the Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest. Bob's horses were true by their blood and bones and Ferdie had his purity in conformation and color.

It is also said Ferdie introduced shetland blood into some of his horses to get the more brilliant colors and this is true but he also identified them as Tobiano Medicine Hat which meant there was some of the shetland blood in them. There is nothing anymore wrong with this than producing a half arabian and being truthful as Ferdie was.

On the way back from Oshoto to Gusher, Bob, Ferdie and myself had a real discussion on this Ferdie agreed that the Medicine Hat was a color breed of the Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest. But don't think all the talking was of a serious nature and I will never forget the time when we passed a car pulling another car and Ferdie asked if the first driver was teaching the back one to lead.

By the time we reached Ferdies home in Gusher he and Bob were arguing pretty well but never did they leave one another without making up and each other know they were in jest and bid each other fond farewells. I am sure they are together again and you can bet they are talking horse.

FOAL TIME AGAIN.....

We find that in the last week of pregnancy it is not unusual for the stud to keep his mare on the move and will not tolerate her standing around and being inactive. If you have your horses in stud bunches look for this to see if it is not the same with your horses. We also find it more true with the Barb horses than with the Cayuse horses but we find none of this in a group that has a quarter horse as its leader. What do you think?



ROBERT E. BRISLAWN

AL G. SMUTNEY was a good friend of Bob Brislawn's and last year when he attended the SMR meeting he went to the Pine Ridge Cemetery in Oshoto and visited Bob's grave. When he wrote of the tracks of the antelope and other wild animals on and near his grave it made me think that Bob was in a place he where he could still enjoy nature with her animals. What better place to be buried than beside your wife and still in the midst of real nature?

MONEY IS NEEDED.....

The Wild Horse Research Farm has donated two horses to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Ky. and one stud colt to Bent's Old Fort in La Junta Colorado. Both organizations want the horses and will be an excellent place for the public to see what the real old time horses were like. The hitch is in getting them to their destination.

Page five

I have had Cancer the last 18 months and this has been very expensive and the Wild Horse Research Farm cannot put up a thousand dollars for the transportation of the horses and we are asking that the readers and the lovers of the horses donate a few dollars each and see if we cannot get the job done.

You will be given a receipt for your donation by return mail just send your donations to the:

Wild Horse Research Farm
248 N. Main St.
Porterville, Calif. 93257

This is the first time we have had to ask for assistance and we will be very appreciative of all the help we can get.

Thank you,

Jeff Edwards
Jeff Edwards

NEWSLETTERS.....

It might be of interest to the readers that the Wild Horse Research Farm also publishes the news for the Curly Horse Assoc. They send the typewritten material and we make the pictures and get the printing done so if you know of any registry who is having a problem with their newsletter have them get in contact with Jeff Edwards at the Wild Horse Research Farm. It is amazing how much better a newsletter can look with good pictures and printing and still cost less than what is being turned out by their present means. Even if we don't do your work we would be glad to give you advice with your present problems.

JOAQUIN MURRIETA.....

Recently Frank Latta, one of our great california historians published his book on Joaquin Murrieta. Frank had been working on this book since 1916 and it certainly dispels

all the myths and legends that have built up for the last 130 years as Murrieta was in California in the 1849 gold rush and the early 1850's.

The interesting thing to we horse people is not his robbing and killing but that there were four gangs and they were running California horses to Sonora, Mexico and they stole and drove more than 20,000 good spanish horses down there in the mid 1800's and I feel sure you could find some pretty straight horses there today. I have a good friend, Leslie Taylor, who lives in the province of Sonora and he is looking at some horses for me when he gets the time and later my wife and I plan on making a trip down to see just how good the horses look. There will be more on this later but the book is also available from Edwards Studio, 248 N. Main St. Porterville, Calif. 93257 (\$25.00)



KATIE WITH SARAH AND RON WITH RAINTREE

SALMON GAITED HORSE.....

Katie Simons has now boarded her horse "Raintree" here at the wild horse research farm. This is one of the few remaining horses that can run the Salmon Gait. This gait was so named because the back end of the horse appears similiar to a salmon fish swimming in the river.

It is our desire to study the gait more closely and to photograph it while in action. Some of these will be forthcoming in the newsletter.

Page six

A bonus to this is that Ron Fluery owns a two year old filly out of "Raintree" and she is also boarded with us and we will see if she can also run the same gait. This will be in a couple of years when she is a more mature riding horse.

The only other horse we know that can run the salmon gait is a quarter horse in Carmel Valley and is owned by Judith Hunt. She also owns two good spanish horses in Little Beaver and Tule.

BLUECORN HORSES-----

It surprised me how many letters that came in on the article I did in the last newsletter on the Blue Corn horses being markings and not just a color.

Perhaps everyone has not seen the indian corn with all the different kernels of all colors on the cobb. They raise quite a bit of this type of corn in our area and this year we will plant some so we can send a few ears out next year to the people who are interested.

Here the corn is used more in the decorations of tables and that sort of thing but it is good to eat but has just lost out to some of the new hybred types they now plant in large acreage. In most of the letters the readers also find the frosting up of the rump of the blue corn horses in the spring and this is one of the reasons Lewis and Clark probably saw blue corn horses and not the appaloosa horses as this was too early for them to appear. The appaloosa is a color breed out of the Cayuse indian pony. The cayuse indian pony is a cross of the Spanish horse and the small french norman horse. The french norman horse is a small percheron horse that also had the appaloosa spots and was the circus horse of Europe and many old paintings depict this fact. Also the Percheron was one draft type horse that could trot all day.

FOUNDATION HORSES OF SMR.....

It is hard to believe that it was ten years ago that my son, Guy, and I went back to Gusher, Utah and saw Bob and Ferdie and then brought back 14 head of Bob's horses. We still have all of them except Shoshoni, who died but now old Four Lane is 20 years old. How time flies?



PRETTY THING.....

This mare is the best that we have produced out of the foundation stock and is out of Four Lane and Little Thing. Since both the sire and dam are twenty years old it is doubtful we will get another of her quality and it was hard to send her to the Bent's Old Fort in La Junta but it is also important that the public see the best.

SUSCRIBE TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE
COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____



There was a ceremony when the horses were introduced to the show ring. This picture was taken at that time. Ed Brice is on the left with Patrick, the barb, and Delaney Smith is on the right with Teton, the Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the Northwest. Delaney Smith is the president of the Corona Company that makes that great leather product, Exol. It was his company that donated the money to ship the horses from the Wild Horse Research Farm to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. Delaney had just sent us some of his new leather cleaner and some of his new horse shampoo and both products are great. We hope you will give both products a try.

EDS.....

We were honored by a visit of a couple of newlyweds on their honeymoon. I have known and corresponded with Heather for many years and she had married Chuck Shackelford the previous Christmas and were on their way to Exeter, Calif. to visit some relatives and dropped by to see me and take a look at the studio. I wanted to take a picture of them but they were late and I had to go back to the studio and took the camera back so didn't have a camera when they arrived. How is that for luck? Perhaps they will return and I will be luckier the next time.

HEATHER SMITH THOMAS

Heather is the author of the book "The Wild Horse Controversy" and it seems this book has caused quite a stir in the horse protection community. Recently it was pulled off the shelves by the publisher. In my experience, this controversy is the best book so far there is and that is the time to push the book and not back off. If you would like to purchase a copy, please write to:

Heather Smith Thomas
Box 215
Salmon, Idaho 83467

The cost of the book is \$19.95



CHRISTMAS CARDS

One picture on the christmas cards we received was outstanding and I wanted to let all of you see it so we put it in the newsletter. Marye Ann and Tom Thompson sent the card from Willcox, Arizona and the mare is a granddaughter of Little Mex. who is one of the Scheikofsky horses and they have the five lumbar vertebrae and are proven Barbs. We enjoy getting pictures from the readers and welcome them at anytime. Many thanks to Tom and Marye Ann and they are doing a great job with the horses in Arizona.



At Gayle Noble's place is Jeff Edwards, Gayle and her son and in the corral is Chris Rathbun.

HORSE TRADE

Gayle Noble of Canoga Park has done an excellent job with the horses and she has Phoenix. This is a stud out of Four Lane and Little Thing and he is standing at stud there. With the one stud she is now going to have to inbreed so we traded some of our stock for hers so they would not be so close as to be inbreeding. We gave her a foal out of Blue Monday Crane and she is a beauty. We have not been able to deliver her yet as we are still halter breaking her. A film company wanted to photograph some of the horses and they wanted the foals on the mares so when they got here the foals were pretty good size and now we will have to do some ponying to make sure they lead well. All in all it was worth it. Anyone wanting to breed to Phoenix call Gayle Noble at:

213 998 1699

Page five

CHRIS RATHBUN

If it had not been for Chris Rathbun coming to the help of the Wild Horse Research Farm I doubt if it would be here today.

When I came down with cancer and could not do the work the family filled in all it could to bridge the gap but it could not go on forever and that is when Chris offered to come to Porterville and work at the ranch.

At this time he was a junior in high school so he would go to the local high school in the day and in the mornings and the afternoons would take care of the ranch and a lot of this time he was alone as Rosemary and I had to make weekly trips to Palo Alto for treatment of the cancer.

We both graduated last June, he from the high school and I from the cancer treatments. With my feeling better we have planted some shallots on the ranch and will harvest them in the early summer. This is a cross between a garlic and an onion and is in demand by gourmet chefs. Often you hear older people say things about the youth of the nation and how they do not do as they should but Chris is certainly a prime example that the youth is every bit as good as we were in our youth and in his case better. The Wild Horse Research Farm will never be able to do too much for Chris.

THE SPANISH BARB RESERVE FOUNDATION

Since the spraying of the Tansy Rag Wort weed in 1974 it has been a long and tough road. With a herd of 100 head of horses only three of them are doing well at all and it is just the dedicated care that is keeping them alive. Pialita had a foal this last spring but it is not going to live through the winter and this has been the case of about 75 other foals that have been born since the spraying of the 2-4-D and the 2-4-5-T.

Three years ago we took two of the foals to the Wild Horse Research Farm and they are doing better in the warmer climate but both of the horses have blood warts and none of the rest of the horses have ever had such a thing.

There is a lot more to the sprays that are used than either the manufacturer or the government knows and in this case it was the horses that suffered, not to mention the 20 years of research and care that Wes and Jackie Strasburger put into the effort to preserve them. We have lots of the bones and they were bone straight.

Right now the case is still in the mill of the courts but has yet to get to a trial. We will keep you informed from time to time on the progress of this action.



COLOR IN THE HORSES

Gayle Noble shows off here horse that has recently developed some appaloosa spots as it gets older. This is not uncommon in the white horses.

This horse is out of a barb stallion and a mare of an unknown background, but a good looking mare. One thing we have to remember is the barb is a roan colored horse and roan will be more compatible with any strong color that is in the other partner. You can always tell a roan horse by the white hair that comes out at the base of the tail. Even if a horse is of solid color, if these little white hairs are present he is roan in his background.



This belated holiday greeting is from the wild horse research farm in Porterville, Calif. In the picture is Jeff Edwards and Rosemary, Kristina (granddaughter) and Chris Rathbun. Have a good 1982.



when she was doing some riding for Ferdinand Brislawn in 1971 so she is another person who knows these old time horses. Good luck to them in 1982.

ELLEN THRALL

Soon we will receive some bones of the tarpan horse from Ellen in Georgia and will see what they are like.

FREDIE STEVE HARRIS

Sickness has put Freddie on the sidelines for awhile but I am sure he will soon be back to his writing. I am sure all of you have read some of his articles in the national Magazines. Get well fast.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

ENJOY YOUR HORSES

The Hadley's really enjoy theirs in the out of doors where it is best. Nothing is nicer than to be in the mountains where you and your horse are partners and both need each other. It is so much nicer than just riding in an arena or enclosed areas where the horses get arena sour. I first met Merrill in Gusher, Utah

PAGE TWO

The general plan of leasing is to let the person who wants to lease the horses have the care and the responsibility of the horses and he get the foals. The foals should more than pay for the feed of the leased herd. Most of the herds are a stud and three mares. For some reason a stud will be happy with three mares but if he has two he will look for one more. Perhaps three is as high as he can count. Let me know if you are interested in the leasing of a stud bunch.



BILL AND LYNN KUHN RODE THEIR BARB HORSES IN THE PORTERVILLE JACKASS MAIL RUN THIS LAST APRIL. BOTH DID WELL AND IT WAS A PLEASANT 18 MILE RIDE FROM PORTERVILLE TO SPRINGVILLE. BILL RODE MOUSE AND LYNN RODE BLACK-IE. BOTH WERE BRED ON THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM.

Joanna Turnbull of Los Angeles area, really Glendale, had her mustang suddenly die. An autopsy was done by a veterinarian but I have not heard what the cause was. Since then she has purchased a horse from Karla Davis of Parlier, Calif and is is a foal out of Tiger Eye and Ysabella and was born on the Wild horse research Farm.



BOB EVANS HAS DONATED A SPANISH MUSTANG TO THE KENTUCKY HORSE PARK AND HE IS WITH THE BARB AND THE FAMED CAYUSE INDIAN PONY THAT WE DONATED. RIGHT NOW THEY ARE IN THE TRAINING PROGRAM TO RIDE AND IT IS GREAT THAT THEY ARE DOING SO WELL AND LEARN SO QUICKLY. THEY ARE SO GENTLE THAT THE GIRLS ARE DOING THE TRAINING AS IS SEEN IN THE TWO PICTURES.

HELEN ADDISON HOWARD of Burbank, Calif. has just had her latest book published by the mountain press Publishing Co. in Missoula, Montana. It is titled, American Frontier Tales and is an excellent book and is in paper back and sells for \$8.95. Helen is an authority on the Indians and the horses. Get a copy.

If you don't find it in your area drop me a line and I can get one for you.



FILLY FOAL OUT OF FOUR LANE AND
LITTLE THING. \$500.00



STUD COLT OUT OF YSABELLA AND TIGER
EYE. HAS DARK EYES, \$300.00



STUD COLT OUT OF GRAND CANYON MARE
AND LITTLE BIT. GRULLA IN COLOR
\$300.00



FILLY FOAL OUT OF COPPERBOTTOM MARE
AND CAYUSE INDIAN PONY. \$350.00

In the past we have never accepted ads on a paying basis but with all of the requests to list their horses, and with the increasing expenses in the publishing of the Newsletter we feel this is the best way to go and not have to raise the price of the subscription. In this issue we just used 4 spaces but in the future issues we will use 6. They will be sold on a first come first serve basis so get your ads in early.

Page four

INCOMING MAIL-----

We receive a lot of interesting mail and from all over the world and this time we got a letter from Betty Kovacova of Czechoslovakia who works with the horses and wants to know of the work we have done in the US and the Wild Horse Research Farm and especially the proving of purity with the bones, blood, physical characteristics and genetic size.

As this correspondence progresses we will keep you informed. It seems the countries of the Europe are more concerned with the straight horses than are the people in the United states.



CHICA IS A MEDICINE HAT MARE OUT OF CHIEF LOOKING GLASS AND A WHITE MARE THAT FERDINAND BRISLAWN HAD AND SHE PRODUCED A NICE COLT THIS YEAR BUT IS NOT A MEDICINE HAT.

MEDICINE HAT HORSES _____

Many years ago we had a medicine hat mare here by the name of Molly. She belonged to Bob Brislawn and we bred her to Four Lane for two years and she had two medicine hat fillies that are still in Porterville and now belong to Bob Fridlund. Bob

Brislawn thought it best to take Molly back to Wyoming and produce medicine hat mares there on the Cayuse Ranch. However when he took her away from Four Lane he never did find a niche that could be able to produce the Medicine Hat foals. He finally gave her to Sharon Scheikofsky and she still has her but she still has not had a medicine hat foal.

We have this same problem here on the wild horse research farm in that we have a mare but so far she has not had a medicine hat foal and she missed again this year. When you find the right horses don't lose it.

FRANK BRISLAWN IS COMING-----

We just got a call from Frank Brislawn and he and Emmett Brislawn are branding cattle and then Frank and his son Dennis will be on their way to visit us at the Wild Horse Research Farm here in Porterville, Calif.

Frank is doing some family history and perhaps I will be able to help him with that as Frank is the last of the generation and he should get some of the facts and stories down in black and white.

It will be great to see Frank and Dennis again and they are really on the road as they will go from here to the SMR meeting in North Carolina on the east coast so in a way they will cross the continent twice on this one trip.

TRUE WEST MAGAZINE*****

Margaret Bunch of Corvallis, Oregon did an article on the horses we put at Bent's Fort in La Junta, Colorado last year and they published it in the June issue of the True West Magazine.

Margaret and her husband Ron have been boosters of the spanish horses for a long time and own one of the horses we raised on the Wild Horse Research Farm. It is a mare out of Crane and Blue Monday and is called K'leka and is doing fine and loves people and is the darling of the horses where she is stabled.

for his sons to ride but found out the boys were just not old enough to handle them so Tom sold them to Judy and now has a couple of ponies for the boys to start on.

Judy is a fine horsewoman and we are hoping she will do a lot with the horses.

There has been a lot of rain in the Phoenix area and we wonder if it has harmed either Judy Mills or Tom and Marye Ann Thompson. This has been a tough winter.

Pat Champagne wrote and she lives in Ky. and with the coal strike they have had to put their chain saw to work to keep warm. In some of the cold parts of the nation the horse people have to divert their interests from horses to their own welfare.

ANN SPAULDING box 144 Fairfax, Cal. 94930 has a medicine hat mare for sale and she is a good one with good markings. She was foaled in 1973 so is ready to start breeding. She is out of Chief Looking Glass and a white brood mare of Ferdinand Brislawn.

Contact Ann if you want a good mare as she is having to go off to school and cannot care for her horse until she finishes her education.

HOLLAND HAGUE just phoned from Richmond, Virginia 23225 and he is doing some fine research on the premise that perhaps all the horses did not die for 8,000 years in the American Cycle but some did exist and being of the same blood as the Barb were so close in appearance they were mistaken as the same stock that the Spanish brought.

At the present time Dr. Ralph Rowlett of the University of Missouri is testing two horse bones that were excavated and result will date them. When I hear from Holland or Dr. Rowlett I will pass the news on to you.



STUD BUNCH BEHAVIOR is always an interesting chore and this last month we took a mare away from the stud Snipper and gave her to a stud named Tiger Eye. However we did not put Tiger Eye and the mare out of sight of Snipper but we did keep her with Tiger Eye for a month. When we turned the two of them back into the big pasture with all of the stud bunches we soon found out Snipper did not forget her one little bit and soon had his mare back. The behavior of the horses is always exciting and wonderful to behold.

THE BARB the following description of the barb horse was printed in 1855 in a paper called the Spirit of the Times. This was sent me by Freddie Steve Harris of Houston, Texas.

THE BARB

is not properly and arab, a race nearly alike. They are supposed to have been produced by a cross with Algerine horses, these being a cross with a south European Breed and the Arab. They are often larger than the arab with fine heads and crests, well formed about the shoulders with straight backs, drooping considerably towards the haunches. They are remarkably swift.

Page five



JERRY AND JULIE CRAWSHAW OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF. VISITED THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM THIS WEEK TO DO A STORY ON THE HORSES. IT WAS SHARON CREGIER OF THE UNIVERSITY ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IN CANADA WHO PUT JULIE ON THE STORY. JULIE IS A WRITER AND JERRY IS A VETERANARIAN SO THEY MAKE A GREAT TEAM. THEY HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND IT WAS REFRESHING TO VISIT WITH THEM AND BOTH WERE KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THE HORSES. WE WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLE.

WANT TO BUY A HORSE??????????????????

Judith Hunt

50 Holman Rd.

Carmel Valley, Calif. 93924

She has two horses for sale. One is a mare that has been ridden by her daughter Notasha is shows and is a consistent winner. She is going for \$1,000 dollars and her foal Concho is a yearling colt and has also been shown and has won ribbons and was 1st in halter class the last time out and he is going for \$500 dollars Contact Judith and get a couple of horses ready to go in the shows.

Other breeders I am sure will have some stock to sell is:

Cayuse Ranch (Emmett Brislawn)

Oshoto, Wy. 82724

True Blood Reserve (Kitty U'Brislain)

Oshoto, Wy. 82724

Mary Ann Thompson

Rt. 3 Box 98A

Willcox, Arizona 85634

Karla Davis

Box 655

Parlier, Calif. 93648

I am sure you will be able to find the horse you want from these people and if not I am sure they will be able to refer you to someone who does have some horses to sell.

Page Three

These horses are seldom kept in stables, but are picketed to the ground. They are watered and fed only once a day, the former at 1 o'clock, and the latter at sunset. The mode of cleaning the horse is to plunge him in a river two or three times a week, and allow him to dry without being rubbed down.

The superiority of some of these horses has been proven in England; The Godolphin Arabian, as already stated, was supposed to be a Barb and contributed more to the improvement of our racers than any other foreign horse before or since.



ED CONNELL loved this look of a barb horse. The eyes are gentle and intelligent and shows a desire to be a worthy partner to any job the rider might decide to tackle. Accompany this with good straight front legs and you have the horse that Ed Connell talks about in his book Reinsman of the West and The Hackamore Reinsman. Both these books are classics and will live as long as people ride horses.

THE NATIONAL MUSTANG ASSOCIATION IS now on the move and Tom Holland is getting more material made up to send to the people who request information on the horses.

In conjunction with this they have made up a brochure using the material on the Horses of the West that was researched by Bob Brislawn and myself and are sending it out.

The NMA is still working toward a reserve for the wild horses and any help you can be to them will be appreciated. Contact them at

National Mustang Association
Newcastle, Utah 84756

Tom Holland is the Executive Manager and will be happy to answer your questions.

MOVIE TIME:::::

MGM just sent a bulletin on the progress of National Velvet and that Tatum O'Neal is playing the starring role that Elizabeth Taylor did so well. The interesting part of this is that Tatum has to go from a green rider to an accomplished one in such a short period of time. She has been working hard at being a good rider and has worked with the best teachers available and it is well worth our time to attend the film. A good attendance will also let the film makers know the horse people of this country will support their efforts to make good films about horses. Attend the showing in your town.

PETER LUNDY AND THE MEDICINE HAT STALLION was a real success on the TV Special but it seems the NBC TV Network is taking their time in rendering a decision as to doing more with the pilot.

I talked to Marguerite Henry the writer and she had not heard anymore either but that there had been an executive change in the top brass of NBC TV so no one knows the new policies to be handed down. Perhaps we are over anxious.

Page six



THOROUGHBRED HORSES*****

Just recently we received an inquiry on the barb horses as they are the

one of the three foundation horses of the thoroughbred and the last of the three breeds to be sued on the horses of England. The three different breeds were, Darley Arabian, Byerly Turk and then the Godolphin Barb.

With the running of the horses at so young an age there is a lot of trouble with the legs of the horses and each year many jockey's are killed when a leg breaks during a race. I am sure the thoroughbred breeders would love to have the legs of the barb horses. The Barb horse has the round cannon bone in the front legs and the bone is of a greater density than other horses and would not be so easily broken down.

A barb horse looks like a small thoroughbred but the ability to run is in the retraction of the muscles and not in the size. Just two years ago the Kentucky Derby was won by a small filly and when the wonder of this was asked of the

trainer he discounted it by saying if size were the determining factor an elephant could out run a mouse.

It is true that the barb horse can run and is a running horse and is really "ribbed up" for this purpose.

It would be a great experiment to cross breed back a thoroughbred on a barb and see just how they turn out and if the foal would have some better legs.

ELEVEN FOALS THIS YEAR

All eleven foals are fine and we never had a nicer crop of foals and I am sure the feed for the mothers is a determining factor in the health of the foals but it is true that they do not get larger and are still the 54 inches at the withers and are genetically sized.

This year we had some good grullas and duns and two of the foals out of Tiger Eye had the tiger eye like their sire. This is the first time he has thrown his eyes.

We still have two more foals to arrive and they are out of Macho and Sarah, a mare belonging to Katie Simons of the Los Angeles area. In one more month we will start to halter break the first foals to come and then it will be a constant parade of halter breaking of foals for the next four months. It will take about an hour on each foal to do the job so it is not a hard job but we do it right so the foal is taught to lead and not to just follow. Bob Brislawn used to always ask, "Are you teaching it to lead or are you teaching it to Follow?"

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

MEDICINE HAT HORSES -- There are three medicine hat horses. The color has come out of Canada in the form of the French Norman horse and when crossed with the Spanish Barb horses produced the Medicine hat color.

The first of the three medicine hat horses is the Spanish Medicine Hat. This horse has a lighter body than the color markings and the markings are of subtle colors and of a flower pattern.

The Tobiano Medicine Hat is a more exciting colored horse with the color markings being of solid colors and deep dense colors.

The Domestic Medicine Hat Horse is a large horse that is over 15 hands high and can be of either flowered or solid colors.

There are three essential color markings of the Medicine Hat Horse and these are:

- Color bonnet on the ears
- Color shield on the Chest
- Color has to be around or touching one eye.

Because of the Peter Lundy and the Medicine Hat Stallion TV show we have had many inquiries on the Medicine Hat horse and will do a real thorough article on it in the next issue of the Newsletter.

BOB PEAK'S HORSE TRAINING TIP is on the halter breaking of horses and the teaching of them to lead. To aid in this you can put a halter on the horse and then let him drag a 10 foot lead rope and soon he will learn to stop when there is any resistance to the rope.

Don't take this as a 100% training of the horse as this is just one of the lessons for the horse to learn.

The idea of halter breaking is to teach the horse to lead and not to follow. I remember when we were halter breaking one time and Bob Brislawn came by and asked, "Are you teaching them to lead? or are you teaching them to follow? There is a difference and we want them to lead not to follow.

HORSES FOR SALE -----

If you have a horse for sale or want to buy one drop a line to the newsletter and we will try and get you a buyer as close as possible. Right now there doesn't seem to be much action in the selling business and now is the time to buy and sell before there is a shortage of animals. On the Wild Horse Research Farm we have 7 studs to sell that are all young. Two are now three. I am sure the Cayuse Ranch and the True Blood Reserve in Oshoto, Wy. also have some stock to sell. Mary Ann Thompson also has some stock in the Phoenix area as well as the Scheikofsky's at Pine, Colorado. Anyway now is the time to consider getting a horse.

THE MUSKATEERS THREE FROM BIG SUR came to the rescue his last week when they sent over a check for \$1,000 for use with the horses. The money could not have come at a more opportu-

could not have come at a more opportune time as both the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation and the Wild Horse Research Farm has been swamped with phone calls, material requests and lab tests on the horses so to Judith, Her daughter Atosha and their friend Sean we are most grateful for your help. Many Many Thanks.

Please renew my subscription to the Newsletter from the Wild Horse Research Farm.

Enclosed is five dollars (\$5.00) for the year of 1978

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____



Frank and Dennis Brislawn enjoyed a trip to the redwood trees in the Sierra Nevada Mountains that are just above Porterville about 40 miles. This area is called Balch Park and is a little known county park and the redwoods abound there and they are much more accessible than are the more publicized trees at General Grant and Sequoia parks. Here you can wonder amongst the forest giants feel the grandeur of their size and age. The tree behind Frank and Dennis is called the Hercules Tree and in 1899 a man by the name of Hoskins cut a room in the tree that was to be used as a store but the tree did not die and the sap of the tree filled the room so much it could not be used but still the giant redwood stands and is still alive. This is just one of the wonders of Balch Park.



The sad time came when Frank and Dennis had to leave for home and Frank took his suitcase and we headed for Bakerfield where they caught a bus to Los Angeles and then a flight back to Wyoming and then by bus to Moorcroft and the grand town of Oshoto, Wy.

Being the last of his generation, Frank has taken it upon himself to get down some of the family history and this is his major job right now. Dipper, Bob's daughter, is doing the typing so Bob can either write or record and dipper will take it from there.

While here Frank identified a lot of the old time Pictures Bob let me copy when he lived with us and some of the pictures had Frank in them as he and Bob packed together for more than 20 years and Frank knew all about the packing and added a lot to the back history of the Brislawn's. Bob always

PAGE TWO



CHRIS RATHBUN DOCTORED THE LITTLE MARE WITH THE SEVERE NECK WOUND BOTH MORNING AND NIGHT. NOW SHE IS WELL

THE HEALING ABILITY of the spanish horses is fantastic and we had one of the foals run into a barb wire fence and just about cut her head off. The jugular vein and the wind pipe were exposed and you could put your hand inside the throat cavity. We gave the little mare a shot of tetanus and penicillin and then doctor-ed her morning and night and made salve pads out of kotex and then held them on with some ace bandages and this kept the flies out of the open wound during each of the dress-ings we would spray the wound with hydrogen peroxide and a healing spray and then put on a bandage of salve. At one time it became a little soft so we used some salt to soak up the sluff and just played it by ear. After 2 months she is now all healed and just has a small scar on her neck that is not noticeable unless you are looking for it. It was a real surprise the way it healed.



DEFORMED FEET ARE A COMMON THING ON THE HORSES THAT WERE CONTAMINATED WITH HERBICIDES.

ONLY A FEW HORSES are still alive on the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation in Birkenfield, Oregon but they do have a few foals. However these foals are all coming up with deformed feet. They seem to have a tendency to become too erect and turn over to the front. This cannot be the result of parasites but is from the spraying of the herbicides 2-4-D and 2-4-5-T.

Just recently we found out there is a machine at the Univ. in Lincoln that can measure Dioxin in the trillions so we are now working to get some tests one on the living horses or on some of the frozen organs we have saved from the horses that have already died. Jackie Strasburger of the Spanish Barb Reserve Foundation doesn't think one single horse will survive the tragedy.

THE OCTOBER LECTURE for the Western History Society didn't come off this year and with my health not being good it was probably a good thing. The talk is still in the mill for a later date and when that comes we will again let you know.



BOB ON THE LEFT AND MIKE THE RIGHT

Mike Felkoff and his friend Bob were visitors at the Wild Horse Research Farm and were in search of some horses to use in the area of northern Idaho. They also had a lot of questions as to what a barb horse was and also the Spanish barb and the Famed Cayuse Indian Pony of the northwest so it took some time to explain it all but in the end they knew what it was all about and are going to find what they are looking for and know it when they find it.

On the Wild Horse Research Farm we have a lot of horses but all of the ones that are for sale are young and most of them are getting ready to be halter broke. It seems none of our horses stay around long enough to be ridden but are sold as yearlings.



BOB HAD TO JUMP A SMALL STREAM TO GET BACK TO THE CAR. IN THE BACK YOU CAN SEE A STUD BUNCH OF HORSES

BOB LOUGHEED the famous western artists and friend of the spanish horses passed away recently. He and his wife Cordie lived in Santa Fe, New Mexico and had a fine studio in which Bob painted.

Bob and Cordie visited the Wild Horse Research Farm to see Bob Brislawn and see the horses. He also took some pictures to use in later paintings. We had a great party at the home of Frank R. Brown's and Bob did the squaw dance with Cordie. Oh, what a fine time we had. Now of that group Bob Lougheed, Bob Brislawn, Frank R. Brown, Evelyn Brown, Annie Warner (Franks mother) have all passed on.

James Cagney was going to come to the ranch and paint the horses with

Page Three

PEG HARVEY who is the editor of the "New Zealand Horse and Pony" magazine made a visit to the United States and wrote a nice letter wanting to visit the Wild Horse Research Farm and to do a story on the horses. She was to be in our area on Oct. 7th and we got the letter from New Zealand on the 9th of October so missed meeting her. She is a friend of Sharon Greiger of Canada who we correspond with regularly so we did feel bad about missing Peg but perhaps there will be another chance in the future.



PHOENIX is an authenticated Barb Stud and is now standing at stud in Canoga Park, Calif. Phoenix is out of Four Lane the stud and Little Thing is his mother. His full brother died of a gunshot wound and his bones are at the University of California at Davis so we know the bones are right. Besides being authenticated he also has a good gentle disposition that passes on to his off spring. This is an excellent chance to use him on your mares this coming spring. Contact:
Gayle Noble
20811 Parthenia
Canoga Park, Calif. 91306
Phone 213 798 1699

So far every mare he has bred has conceived as has his father Four Lane. Bob Brislawn said of this, "He Packs The Wallop".



ANN SPAULDING visited the wild horse research farm this summer. It was she who gave us the medicine hat mare "Chicca". She and Chicca had a good reunion and Ann rode Chicca all over the ranch. One of the high lights of the visit was Ann's seeing of Chicca's filly foal out of Four Lane. The foal is not a Medicing Hat as she does not have the correct coloring but she is a fine gentle little Cayuse Indian Pony with a good disposition. Ann wants to train the foal and this is a good idea but at the present time we have a breakdown in our pickup truck so can't haul any horses.

CHRIS RATHBUN spent his second summer at the Wild Horse Research Farm and saved the day as I was so ill at times I could not have taken care of the horses. He really did a great job for us and the horses and we are deeply indebted to him. With all the extra work this year he didn't get in as much riding as he did the previous summer. However he did get in a horse show and that is another story as it was a local show and on the way over he rode "Little Beaver"

page four

Bob Loughheed but didn't make it and then Mr. Cagney was going to come by himself one time but then his brother became ill and died so Mr. Cagney returned to his home in New England and never made the trip. Death plays many parts in our lives.



SPANISH BARB RESERVE FOUNDATION

It has been some time since I last reported on the death of the more than 100 horses in the Northwest from the results of spraying the land with herbicides.

At this writing there are four horses still alive two of them are with Jackie and Wes Strasburger in Rochester, Wash. and we have two of the offspring here in Porterville. It seems the warmer weather of Porterville has been good for the horses and they do better here than in Wash. However ours are also having problems and are losing weight and just this week one of them has started to become stiff and slow and losing some of its balance. Jackie feels her two horses Red Clous and Pio will go this winter and it is possible the two we have Broom and Pie will be lucky if they last through it. The spraying of the herbicide was a terrible thing and it is also terrible to have to sit around and watch them die.

At present I am working on an article on this situation for publication in the national magazines.

HOLLAND HAGUE of North Carolina has advanced the idea that there were horses in the United States prior to the return of them by the Spanish. Now in a recent book "American Genesis" by Jeffrey Goodman Phd. a lot of the old ideas have been destroyed and man no longer evolved in Europe and Asia and Africa but from the North American Continent and in the south western part of the United States.

It has also been thought that man has not been on the earth for more than 17,000 years but with the deeper digs they have found he was here much longer and as far back as 500,000 years. There were also some horse bones uncovered that will be verification to the idea that Mr. Holland Hague had. I have written Holland and he will keep us informed as to the progress and influence the digs will have on the history of the horses.

LEASING OF HORSES*****

Two more stud bunches were leased out this month and this cuts down on the expenses and the work that we have to do at the Wild Horse Research Farm. Still we have the horses in our area and can show them to the visitors and do the research we did when we cared for them so the difference is the new people care for the horses and they get the foals.

The last two to go this month were Tiger Eye and his bunch consisting of Ysabella, Country Club and the medicine hat Chica. Then Crane and his mares went and they were Blue Monday, Macho and Blue. This works out well and we have a breeder in Canoga Park, Gayle Noble and she has a horse that has been injured and on the 25th of Sept. she will bring up the horse and we will see what we can do with it and if it has to be put down will be able to get the bones and see just how straight it really is.

Page four

and they were side-swiped by a car but not really hurt so they proceeded to the show and won three ribbons and it was so late when the show was over it was dark and he had to ride Little Beaver home in the dark and he performed well in the traffic but when he came to the bridge where he was hit he didn't want to cross it so Chris rode him up stream and crossed the swollen Tule River in the dark and Chris held onto Little Beaver's tail and they both made it. Chris now has a new appreciation of Little Beaver:

LITTLE Beaver is for sale by his owner for 1,000.00 he is an excellent horse and can do it all. His breeding is Lio Mercy and Four Lane and looks like his sire, Four Lane. Anyone interested contact the wild horse research farm and we can make a deal but he is trained and gentle and a gelding.



LITTLE BEAVER * one of the best

PIA COLEMAN 7910 Gull Ave.
N. Hollywood, Calif.
91605

DANCER IS HER WHITE MARE AND HAS THROWN A GRULLA FILLY THIS YEAR AND ARE FOR SALE AS A PAIR. DANCER IS THE MARE MY MOTHER ROBE AT AGE 78. CONTACT PIA SOON.



MEMBERS OF THE NEWLY FORMED INTERNATIONAL MUSTANG ASSOCIATION VISIT THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM L - R PENNY THOMAS, DEBBIE FERNANDES AND SALLY CROUSE.

The International Mustang Association is an off shoot of the American Mustang Association. The new association was honored with an invitation to show and explain their horses at the Los Angeles County Fair for a week in Pomona, Calif. so they came to the Research Farm to get some bones and material to use in their display.

I have not heard all the details of the week as I have been ill all summer and couldn't go down to see the display. However I am sure it was a success. The little horse the girls are holding is a stud colt out of Tamara Walker and Four Lane. He has a marvelous disposition and we named him Patrick as he was born on St. Patrick's Day.

FOR SALE ---- HORSES, HORSES, HORSES AND MORE HORSES. Such a multitude of horses for sale have come in this time that I will pass on the names of the sellers and they all have more than just one or

Page Five



TWO OF THE STUD BUNCHES AT THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM ARE OUT ON THE LOCAL PASTURES WHERE THEY EAT DOWN THE SMALL PASTURES IN THE AREA AND THIS GIVES THEM PLENTY OF FEED AND ALSO CUTS DOWN ON THE GRASS THAT CAN BECOME A FIRE HAZZARD IN THE SUMMER MONTHS. THE DRY GRASS IN THIS COUNTRY STILL CONTAINS A LOT OF PROTEIN AND THE HORSES GET FAT IN THE PROCESS. THIS BUNCH IS THAT OF "LITTLE BIT" AND HE IS IN THE FOOTHILLS NEAR SPRINGVILLE, CALIF. THIS IS JUST UP THE ROAD FROM THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM ABOUT 15 MILES ON HWYE 190.

MOUNTAIN MEN*****

Seems the mountain men have taken an interest in the spanish horses as they are devoted to authenticity with everything they do and two of the local mountain men have leased two of the stud bunches for use in their nationwide activities. Rick Inman has the Tiger Eye stud bunch and Jack Walley has the Crane stud bunch.

In the middle of October there will be a rondevous in the Sierra Nevada Mountains at White Meadow and the two men will take in an authentic

pack string to show off to the rest of the mountain men.

We are hoping this will be a start for the preservation of the straight spanish horses as the mountain men have no desire to breed up the old time horses or to try and improve the breed. We have proven purity on the Wild Horse Research Farm and now we just need to see that the work will not be destroyed.

As this project progresses we will be sure and keep you informed and we surely hope for success.

Page five

more horses for sale.
Sandy Collier of the Sunburst Farms
14000 Calle Real Rt. 1 Goleta,
Calif. Calif

Calif. 93017. She has about 9 horses to sell and Cortes in the picture is one of them.



Cortes is an authenticated barb and was foaled on the Wild Horse Research farm and is out of Blue Monday and Crane. Contract a deal with Sandy Collier soon.

KARLA (BALLREICH) DAVIS can be contacted at Box 304

Blythe, Calif. 92225

Karla now lives in Blythe, Calif. and has some horses to sell. She has some good stock out of Marye Ann Thompson's stock and some of Pete Hansens stock. Some of this is the Wild Arizona stock and make fine using horses. If anyone is wanting a good horse get in touch.

I am also sure you can contact the Cayuse Ranch and the True Blood Reserve in Oshoto, Wy. 82427. If they can't help you I know they can give you a referral.

1979 Has not been a good year and if Bob Brislawn had lived till Nov. 18th he would have been 89 years old. He has certainly left his mark with the people he met and the horses he knew.

WILD MUSTANG HORSES FROM THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT----- I get many letters from people who are interested in these horses and want my opinion of them so perhaps now is a good time to sort of set things straight.

First of all the impression is given that these are the wild horses that have run the plains and prairies ever since the Spanish Brought them in the early fifteen hundreds. This is not right and these herds are the product of intermixing domestic horses with the wild horse herds

after 1900. When the West was being settled and the cattle driven hither and yon the little horse was sufficient to do the job and when they did try to cross larger horses on the little horses the larger ones could not live off the land but when the last big trail drive was made in 1890 the cowboy era was gone and in place of the cowboy came the Cow Farmer. The Cow Farmer was a larger man than the young, 18 to 25 year old, cowboy and the Farmer wanted a larger horse so he would not look as if he were imposing on his small horse and it didn't make any difference if this larger horse could live off the land as the farmer grew hay and grain and could feed his horses.

By 1900 many of the wild stallions were shot and replaced with American blooded horses to make the horses larger. The government would give the indian reservations remount stallions to cross on the wild horses on the reservation.

1920 was another blow to the wild horse herds as the west began to mechanize and all sorts of ranch horses were turned loose with the wild horse herds and this has continued ever since. Any horse can live with a herd of cows as he can

ADVERTISEMENTS

Good riding mare and colt
that will be two next spring.

Judith Hunt
50 Holman Rd.
Carmel Valley, Calif.
93924

New crop of 12 foals that are
being halter broke right now
write for breeding.

Wild Horse Research Farm
248 N. Main St.
Porterville, Calif. 93257

Always a horse to sell and
registered in the Horse of
the Americas Registry.

Richard Wagner
9917 E. Pershing
Cheyenne, Wy. 82001

We are working with the Barb
horse in conjunction with the
Wild Horse Research Farm.
write for what we have avail-
able.

Gayle Noble
20811 Parthenia
Canoga Park, Calif.
91306

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name_____

Address_____

Town_____

State_____ Zip_____

LATEST NEWS*****

The horses at the Kentucky Horse
Park are doing well and are loved
by one and all for their gentle
and loving dispositions and their
sincere desire to please. Millions
of horse people have viewed them
and more will in the future. We
were happy to donate the horses to
this worthwhile purpose and thanks
to the Lexol people for furnishing
the transportation. By the way
Lexol is a great leather product
and you should use it.

At Bent's Fort in La Junta Colorado
we have four horses for the visitors
to view and they are a stellar at-
traction with the horse people.
Just this week we received a call
from Jerry Crandall of Riverside,
Calif. and he went there to attend
a mountain man rendezvous and saw
the horses. Jerry is a western
artist and immediately saw the value
of the horses and is interested in
being able to paint the real old
time horse and not some of the new
quarterhorses and thoroughbreds that
are being painted by unknowing art-
ists.

Jerry is going to come up soon to
see the horses and to talk some
horse and then he will be moving to
Sedona, Ariz. where he will settle
and do his work. Another fine
artist lives in Sedona and he is
Frank McCarthy and we have corres-
ponded with Frank in the past.

THERE WILL BE ONE MORE ISSUE OF THE
NEWSLETTER THIS YEAR SO IF YOU HAVE
ANY NEWS THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST
TO THE READERS SEND IT IN.

THANKS,

JEFF EDWARDS

nip the grass closer and graze a wider range from water so the domestic blood lived in these herds and spelled their doom.

Many good riding horses come out of these mongrel mustang herds but they are not the old time wild horse herd but a product of man's messing around after 1900.



PRETTY THING IS A TWO YEAR OLD FILLY OUT OF LITTLE THING AND FOUR LAND AND HER BONES ARE AUTHENTICATED. SHE HAS AN EXCELLENT DISPOSITION AND WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT HORSE FOR A VETERANARIAN SCHOOL AS SHE WOULD BE EASY TO HANDLE AND HAS ALL THE PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES THEY WOULD WANT TO STUDY.

WHAT GOOD ARE THE LITTLE SPANISH HORSES IN THE MODERN WORLD OF HORSE This is an often asked question at the ranch and it is a tough one and yet there is an answer. Let us not kid ourselves that these horses will replace the beloved horse breeds of the horse shows as they won't and the show people have a pony rule they go with for size so the little spanish horse is too small.

We do know they make the best family horse in the world and are more

economical to raise and use and in a short time become a beloved member of the family. Yet is this enough to be able to preserve the breed?, it seems not.

Since the future of these horses is not in the show rings where is its future? In studying the horse we know he has:

1. Best reproduction system
2. best circulatory system
3. Best Bone structure and legs
4. Best metabolism system

We often get a request for a sample of blood from someone who is studying horses. Just recently Dr. Jay Kirkpatrick from Eastern Montana College got a grant to study reproduction in horses. Since wild horses reproduce better than domestic horse he has been using the wild horses on the Pryor Mountain Reserve in Lovell, Wy. A lot of Percheron has been crossed on these horses and they produce less than half. When he heard our production record for the year was 100% he sent a box of vials and equipment to get some blood out of our horses and we will oblige but it seems to me every Veteranarian School in the USA should want two of these horses to study as why not study a more perfect specimen than one that is less than perfect. Perhaps their home is in the laboratory.

Bob Brislawn once said, "They took everything the little horse had to offer and now they do not want his bones". Man, Man, Man.

ALL FOR NOW JEFF EDWARDS

SUBSCRIBE TO THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM NEWSLETTER. DO IT NOW.

Enclosed is five dollars (\$5.00) for the year of 1978

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____



Chica is the medicine hat horse in the above picture and on the front cover and traces back to Ferdinand Brislawn's horses that he had in Gusher, Utah. Being a roan she is not the well marked animal that some horses are and becomes more roan with time.

WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM CHANGES HANDS:

First of all there will be no changes in the saving of the horses on the wild horse research farm but Rick Inman has just as much of a desire to care for the horses as I did and he has a better outlet for them with the Mountain Men organization than I did and they have a desire to keep the horses straight and that is very important.

This came about when Rick obtained four of our horses and then wanted to find more acreage to get some more so it seemed the logical thing to let him take over the ranch and the herd and then he could care and work the horses and I could put more time in doing the research, writing and promotion.

progress and soon Rosemary and I will move back in town to our house there and Rick and his family, he has two boys, will move out to the ranch. Rick and his wife Chris are looking forward to the move as much as we are.

My nephew, Chris Rathbun, has been wanting to move on with his life and was a great help with the horses as he took care of them during my two year bout with cancer. Now I seem to be over the disease but since the ailment was in the bone I do not want to risk breaking any bones and possibly revive the cancer. For this reason I felt the time had come to turn over the reins of the horses to someone younger and to do it now when someone wanted to take over was better than to wait and then become ill and not be able to turn over the care of the horses.

Rosemary and I feel great about the future of the horses and we have the greatest of confidence in Rick and Chris Inman and their family to carry on the project that the two Brislawn brothers devoted their lives to for so many years.



OUR HOME WAS LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF 32 ACRES BUT STILL IN THE CITY

UTILITIES OF THE CITY AND THE SECLUSION OF THE OPEN SPACES. IT WILL BE SORELY MISSED BUT WE HAVE BEEN HAPPY HERE FOR 11 YEARS AND WITH MEMORIES OF BOB, FERDIE AND AND FRANK BRISLAWN AND ALL THE VISITORS WE HAVE HAD DURING THOSE YEARS WILL NEVER FADE.

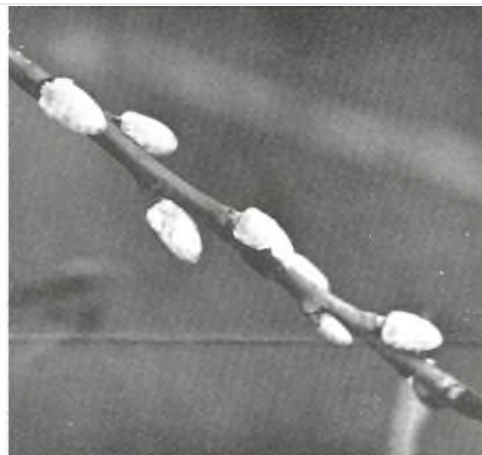


THIS IS THE SCENE ROSEMARY AND I WILL MISS SEEING DAILY WHEN WE ARISE IN THE MORNING. THE POND IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE TRAINING OF THE HORSES AND THE FOALS KNOW ALL ABOUT WATER RIGHT FROM THE START.

CHRISTMAS GREETING:

Rosemary and I would like to thank every one for the many christmas greetings we received this year. This is really the first year that I have felt well since the cancer treatments so we have a great deal to be thankful for and also we have an appreciation of what good health mean.

This is also the time of year when we think of those we loved and we do think of Bob and Ferdie Brislawn and of the sacrifices they made for the saving of the horses. Also Bob Loughheed passed on and we were sorry for that as he was another who advanced the value of the horses.



CALIFORNIA WEATHER:

With all the severe storms over most of the nation it is hard to believe that we had the budding of pussy willow before christmas this year. Generally we feel this is a sign that spring is on the way and it is but not as soon as the buds lead us to believe.



CHINOOKI DIES:

Seen with Chinooki is Bob Brislawn, Guy Edwards and Jeff Edwards. She was a fine mare and we felt a barb

as her sire and some of her brothers and sisters were five lumbar vertebrae but Chinooki was five and had the fused sixth.

We still do not know what the cause of her death was as she was in excellent condition and I petted her when I fed in the morning and i

when I fed in the morning and then she went down in the afternoon and was dead instantly. I did an autopsy with Chris Rathbun and we did not find anything wrong so Chris cut out the vertebrae to keep on the research of the horses. She was out of the Narragassett Pacer and Little Thing and Little Thing is still on the ranch and about 25 years old and produces a foal every other year but is doing so well she might just give us one this year.



BOB LANGRISH

A visitor to the wild horse research farm was Bob Langrish from England. Bob is a photographer for the Horse and Hound magazine and is working on a story for a future issue of the magazine and will send us a copy when the story comes out.

ne was a welcome visitor and took many pictures and the horse with us in the picture is a yearling grulla colt and a good one. It is not at all uncommon to have writers from all over the world come see the horses and we are happy to have them come and show them all our wares. That is the way old Bob Brislawn said it.



LITTLE BEAVER IS NOW ON THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM AND IS UP FOR SALE AND IT SEEMS THE MOUNTAIN MEN WILL SOON OWN HIM. JUDITH HUNT OF CARMEL VALLEY IS THE PRESENT OWNER AND HER DAUGHTER NATOSHA IS SEEN RIDING HIM. MY NEPHEW, CHRIS RATHBUN, MADE THE TRIP UP TO BRING HIM DOWN.



Christmas Greetings
Jeff + Rosemary
 1982

THIS WILL NOT BE THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS BUT WILL BE THE LAST ONE WITH US LIVING AT THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM . NEXT YEAR IT WILL BE RICK INMAN AND HIS WIFE AND FAMILY ON THE FARM BUT ROSEMARY AND I WILL BE THE SAME AS BEFORE BUT BLESSED THAT THE FUTURE OF THE HORSES IS IN YOUNGER AND WILLING HANDS.



SHARON SCHEIKOFSKY SENT US THIS PICTURE OF HER FOAL OUT OF MOLLY. MOLLY IS A MEDICINE HAT MARE AND WAS AT THE WILD HORSE RESEARCH FARM AND PRODUCED TWO MEDICINE HAT MARES THAT ARE NOW OWNED BY BOB FRIDLUND OF PORTERVILLE.

DONNA RICHARDS of Lockport, N.Y. has been working with some of the horses that the Bureau of Land Management gave away and has been doing an excellent job with the horses but has also been doing more than well with the publicizing of them in the news media and she has sent numerous clippings from the papers that did stories on the horses.

This is not difficult to do if you just do it and contact the papers. They are looking for stories and you might be just what they are looking for.

SUBSCRIPTION TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COMING YEAR, STILL ONLY \$5.00

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

THE HORSE OF THE AMERICAS

Rick Inman
Owner - Manager
P.O. Box 388
Porterville, Ca. 93258
(209) 781 - 1886

RESEARCH RANCH

NOVEMBER 1989

Jeff Edwards
Research - Newsletter
P.O. Box 388
Porterville, Ca. 93258
(209) 781 - 1225

HORSES IN TEXAS



BLUE MIST AND RANCH TERRAIN

This is a good example of the terrain at Monahans, Texas. Domestic horses cannot survive in this area as they need more feed than the land will furnish.



YSABELLA IS THE LAST

Of the 14 head of horses that came to the Wild Horse Research Farm in Porterville in 1971 Ysabella is the last one still alive. Macho was a foal and she is still alive in Porterville. Mr. Guerero has Macho and lives near Ducor, Calif.



BLUE MIST UNDER SADDLE

The older methods of horse training are used and one is to saddle a horse and let it stand for hours. This teaches the horse patience. The idea is to never hurt the horse but to give the horse time to learn.



BROOM

Broom is a Barb Stud and was bred and born in Washington state. He was involved in the pesticide poisoning up there as he mother died from the poison. He did develop a bad case of blood warts. Buddy has had them removed and now he is doing fine.



PHOENIX

Phoenix is out of Four Lane and Little Thing and has a great disposition. Here he is smelling the flowers. He was foaled in Porterville and then went to LA for a time and is now in Monahans, Texas and doing well.



1989 FOAL CROP

The new foals are the exciting time of the year and this year was no exception. Here are some of them in Monahans, Texas.



PHILLIP

Phillip is a fine little grulla stud. Here he is shown to good advantage.



DR. JOHN MCGEE OPERATES

Blue crane was kicked on the shoulder and it was badly broken. Buddy Ice wanted to save the horse so he had Dr. McGee operate and put some plates in to solidify the bones. Here Dr. McGee is removing the plates. This has been an almost miraculous feat as now Blue Crane is healing well and now the plates have been removed.

18 HEAD OF HORSE GO TO MONAHANS, TEXAS

Buddy and Wanda Ice have taken on a project of working with the Barb Horses. Rick Inman sent 18 head back to Monahan, Texas as a foundation group.

Since that time Buddy Ice has worked with the horses and is just now getting settled and ready to do some scientific research. So far he has attracted a lot of attention with the horses and has found a way to X-Ray their Lumbar Vertebrae. This is done by X-Raying from the belly side. So far we have not seen any of the X-Rays but will soon. We will also be able to print them in the next newsletter.

Another project is a study of the blood of the horses. The purpose of this is to see if there is something distinctive that will segregate the Barb Horse from the Domestic Horse.

Science has made great strides in the identifying of people and animals by their blood types and it is hoped this will work out and you can tell immediately if you have a Barb Horse.

There will be more on this in future issues of the newsletter.

Buddy Ice
4410 So. Hwy. 18
Monahans, Texas 79756

NO SUBSCRIPTIONS IN THE FUTURE

Rather than sell subscriptions to the Newsletter we are going to send the Newsletter out for free. Of course this is an extensive project and if anyone wishes to assist financially they can donate to the newsletter. We hope you do. Thank you!!!

BARB HORSE EXPERTS

The people who are working with the Barb Horse are the experts. Information can be had by going back into the history books and any other book that refers to horses.

There was never a group of horse people to push the Barb horse like there was for the Arabian horse. Dr. David Willoughby in his book "The Empire of Equus" has all three horse, Barb, Arabian and the Turk horse in the same category.

In the Book of Islam, the Islamic Bible it says the Berber tribes had horses 1,500 years before the Arabs. If this is so that would mean the Barb is the progenitor of the Arabian horse and not the other way around.

In a book "The Breeds of Live-Stock" By Carl W. Gay there is a passage on the Barb horse that says:

and Tripoli. The Barb is the "Horse of the Sahara", of Dumas, the "North African" or "Libyan" horse of Ridgeway. The oriental group is composed of the Barb, the Turk and the Arabian, although most recent investigations indicate the Barb to have been the real source or all oriental blood. A common error resulting in much confusion is the use of the term Arabian in a sense synonymous with oriental.

Carl Gay went on to say that there were horses in Egypt 1,500 years before there were horses in Arabia. Ridgeway also wrote that the Barb horse was the progenitor of the Turk and the Arabian horse and called the horse "Equus Caballus Libycus". This was held by Ridgeway as a distinct species or at least a sub-species. Either way the Barb horse would be the progenitor of the Turk and the Arabian horse.

In the book "South American Sketches" by R.B. Cunningham Graham on page 47 he wrote the following:

A remarkable physical fact would seem to bear out my belief. Most horses, in fact almost all breeds of horses, have six lumbar vertebrae. A most careful observer, the late Edward Losson, a professor in the Agricultural College of Santa Catalina near Buenos Aires, has noted the remarkable fact that the horses of the pampas have only five, following up his researches, he found that the only other breed of horses in which a similar peculiarity is to be found is that of the Barbary."

In the research of the bones at the Horse of the Americas Research Ranch we find you cannot take a dam and sire with six lumbar vertebrae and get a foal with less vertebrae than its parents.

Cross breeding has produced more vertebrae. The straightest modern horse is the Barb Horse. All light horse breeds go back to the Barb Horse. There is no other source.

There is one great value to this. Other breeds of horses can breed back to the Barb as one of their foundation horses.

For instance, The Thoroughbred horse was a cross of the Turk, Arabian and the Barb horse on the domestic horse of England. This was a larger horse that had to carry a rider and all his armour.

When the English decided to race their horses instead of hacking on each other with their swords they started to cross breed their horses for speed. First they crossed the Turk Horse, then the Arabian Horse and finally the Barb Horse. It was this last cross that produced the horse they wanted and since



Spread of the Horse
in North America

The above chart shows the progress of the horses when they came to America and where they went. There was no draft stock mixed with the spanish horses that came from Spain. The cross breeding came at a later date.

NEW BROCHURE SOON

In going over some of the letters we get from all over the world a list of questions have been assembled and we will answer them in a new brochure. It is our intention to use the references from books to add authenticity to the brochure.

Also in the brochure will be a list of book that are worth reading and getting in your library. Some of the books are rare and you might not be able to find them.

If you would like this new brochure drop a line to either Buddy Ice, his address is in this newsletter of myself and my address is in the mast head. Please send a self addressed and stamped envelop. Thank you !!!

RICK INMAN'S LION PROBLEM

lions but this year an adult horse fell to the lions.

This is a difficult situation as the lions are protected under the law but they have learned when the mares foal in the spring and being hungry they go for the foals. Perhaps Rick will be able to get permission to hunt the ones on his property.

JOHN BOZANICH HURT

It seems John was working with a new type of horse training technique and the horse bolted and the stopped suddenly and John didn't. John went over the horses head and landed on his shoulder.

This happened months ago and John is back in action again and playing some golf. That is good therapy for him as he has to use the shoulder. John is always anxious to get going and did get a set back when he started too soon.

This brings back the old saying:
"Never a horse that hasn't been rode and never a rider who hasn't been thrown."

John just proved it again.

BARB HORSE REFERENCE BOOKS

The Horse of the Americas	Bob Denhardt
The Breeds of Livestock	Carl W. Gay
The Wild Horse of the West	Harold E. Bryant
The Empire of Equus	David P. Willoughby
The South American Sketches	R.B. Cunningham Graham
King of the Wind	Marquerite Henry
Garden of the Sun	Smith
Foundation Sires of the American Quarter horse	Denhardt

Besides these books there are hundreds that have bits of information on the horse and his history. This is a good starting list of reading.

NEW FOAL CROP FOR SALE

Many people write to Rick Inman and either want to purchase a horse or have one to sell. If you are one of these people now is a good time to drop Rick a line and let him know your problem.

John Bozanich is also going to cut down on some of the

PART OF OUR HISTORY - OR NOT?

Wild Horses!

Leo T. Maxwell

As the Wildies were thundering down the canyon into the trap, an R.C.M.P. cruiser exploded into the opening with horns blaring. The Wild Horses turned and scattered from whence they had come.

A new plot for a Hollywood epic? A new T.V. Mini series? No. This was real life around Bronson Lake, Saskatchewan, circa 1984.

Tempers have flared, friendships been lost, and the issue of Western Canada's Wild Horses is still far from being resolved.

The band of Wildies found north of Paradise Hills is only one of many who roam freely in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

While the governments drag their heels, new reports of snowmobilers and country terrain vehicles running the horses down, continue to be brought to light.

Thus, the Wild Horse Association was fo

be living remnants of the great Nez Pearce tribe who embarked on their fatal journey to Canada in 1877. We know that approximately 50 Nez Pearce, and 300 horses, some, the coveted Appaloosa, escaped to the safety of Canada and the friendship of the Sioux Indians residing in Saskatchewan.

Around this time period, another significant political battle was erupting. The emancipation of the Metis and the Riel Rebellion. Many settlers chose to turn their stock free, while they fled for the safety of the east.

In Alberta, the curly coat pattern is evident on many wildies. Now known as American Bashkir Curly Horses (see Horse's Mouth, April '87 - Original research article), this unique type is thought to have originated in the U.S.S.R. and migrated with traders across what is now known as the Bering Strait.

The American Bashkir was also popular with the Mongols and Chinese 3,000 years ago. Artifacts found from Mexico to Colorado have indicated that traders arrived from the far east. 6,000 years of Seafaring by Orville Hope, a connoisseur of Epigraphics convincingly demonstrates that horses were introduced to Mexico several thousand years BEFORE the Spaniards arrived.

can picture himself on the horse, and you are inviting him to call and try him out.

The draw-back is-who will call. As a kid who desperately wanted a horse, I called EVERY ad on Friday and Saturday, and BOOKED an appointment hoping I could coerce my Dad into taking me to see the horses. Remember, it is better to receive two bonified calls, than be impressed with 50 time consuming non productive ones.

Speciality magazines and newspapers are probably the most effective, as they reach prospective clients who are already involved in the industry. Or, if the publication is found on general newsstands, will appeal to individuals looking for that first horse, but not knowing how to find the subscription only speciality issues.

Margaret Hughes, of California, used to preach the following: Use your breed magazines to let other professionals know what you are doing, and as a back up once you get the client to your farm. Usually, these magazines are most expensive, as they are printed on bond or high gloss paper.

The only draw-back is, your advertising is only reaching devotees to that breed, who probably have a few nags of their own for sale. Therefore, the Hughes Agencies also stated: Use available all breed publications to make your sales. You need "new" clients if you are going to survive in this business

AK INITIATOR



1981 grey 15 hands

A true athlete

Exelsior

Litigator

Bay Lady

Ansata El Wazir

AK Wazira

Mesaouds Nejm

*Standing at
reasonable
rates in 1988*

*For more information Contact:
Shaun Cunningham*

