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**Officers**

President: John Schwartzler
Vice President: Frank Tremel
Sec/Treas: Kerrie Beckett
Directors: Sue Engel
           Wendell Lupkes
           Anne Murray
           Belle Davis

Editor: Susan Engel

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**American Cream Class of 2020**

My name is Brint Corson. I was a senior this year, but the whole coronavirus got in the way of my plans. I joined the American Cream Draft horse association last year. My grandparents have been a part of the Association since 1995, and my parents joined in 1998. Needless to say, Creams have been a part of my life from the beginning. Since I was one, Indy, a half cream and half Morgan has been a part of our family. I learned how to ride on Indy. I've done cross country, dressage, and jumped with him as well.

Now I have been helping my parents with breeding and training of the Cream Drafts. Now I plan on going to college at U of I.

Cont. pg 6

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**ACDHA 76th Annual Meeting – Spokane, WA**

CANCELLED for 2020 and rescheduled for 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
see details in the President's letter

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American Cream Draft Horse Association

1944 – 2019

The only draft breed originating in the United States
Spring Greetings ACDHA Family and Friends

President’s Spring 2020 Report

We trust this Newsletter finds all of you Healthy and in good Spirits after weathering the most challenging Winter-Spring season in recent History.

Well, it’s true, the 2020 ACDHA Annual Meeting in Spokane, Wash. scheduled this July has also become a casualty of the Corona Virus and is postponed until July 9th & 10th, 2021. The American Cream Draft Horse Assn’s gathering of the Tribe is a very special type of Family Reunion. It will leave a big void in all of our Members & Friends plans for this year! It offers more time to enhance the 76th & 77th ACDHA Annual Meetings in 2021. It will definitely be twice as Fun!

The remainder of 2020 still offers lot’s of opportunity for each of us to share our excitement about Cream Horses with each other in our respective Regions across this great Nation. Think about hosting gatherings of ACDHA Members & Draft Horse enthusiasts in your local areas. Farm & Play Days, BBQ’s, Rides, Wagon Trips and Camp Outs are always a good time and can expose new Folks to the marvelous qualities of the Cream Draft Horse Breed.

Your ACDHA Secretary & Directors have been meeting monthly via Conference Calls to keep advancing the growth and day to day activities of your Association. Be sure to remember that the Election of Directors is coming up very soon, so be sure to mail in your vote.

The snow and mud has been drying up, and the grass is now green which once again invites us to get out and play with our Horses this Summer. Let’s all go have some Unbridled Fun with the Creams!

John Schwartzler
Greenwood, California
Hello fellow American Cream Draft owners,

My name is Wendell Lupkes and this letter is to announce my intention to run again for the director position. I am a land surveyor by profession, and have been president of the Waterloo Jaycees, chaired our local airshow for a number of years, am president of the board for Americans for Independent Living, a local non-profit that assists veterans in a variety of ways, mainly housing-related. I’m also on the advisory board for the Civil Engineering Technology program at the local community college, and teach land surveying there each spring semester.

I’ve been around American Creams since my father bought 3 in 1996. Since then we’ve bred, foaled, and sold or raised a number of Creams that are spread across the country. I brought American Creams to my acreage in 2000, and we continue to build our breeding program, with the help of my daughter, Maggie.

I’ve also been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to play a part in the story of the American Cream Draft a little bit from time to time. In 2001, based on the recommendations of Dr. Phil Sponenberg, I drafted and introduced the by-law change that we debated at two annual meetings, adopted, and is now our appendix or tracking registry. The ACDHA discovered in late 2012 that a number of horses had been rescued in Michigan, and I worked with the local rescue group, the county attorney’s office, and the ACDHA board to intervene and prevent the 14 horses that appeared to be American Cream from being gelded, or adopted with the stipulation that they not reproduce. From there it was a complicated endeavor, but with assistance in transporting, testing, and adopting, it all got done with a net zero cost to the association. This past year circumstances required someone in Iowa coordinate with Clair Rierson to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the breed here in Iowa, and due in large part to my Iowa roots and current location, I was given the privilege of arranging for the historic gathering.

My point is that along the way as there have been needs for the advancement of the breed, I’ve done my best to do what I see as the best course of action for the protection, promotion, and advancement of the breed, working with the approval of the ACDHA board of directors. I have enjoyed participating in whatever aspect needs attention, and ask that you let me continue as your director. There are a few things that I would still like to accomplish on behalf of the breed, with your support.

Respectfully,

Wendell Lupkes
Hello fellow ACDHA members,

I'm asking for your vote as director. I have served two terms and at first I thought I needed to pass this to someone else but after much consideration I decided I really would like to continue helping build a better Association for keeping track and promoting the American Cream Draft horse.

I live in southwest Michigan and currently have 5 creams. We also own 4 miniature horses, 2 miniature donkeys, and 2 saddle horses. I come from a farming family and have always had horses and been riding since I was 3 years old. I had admired the cream horses and foals for quite a few years as we drove to and from work and passed the farm of Sheila Johnson. After I lost my 32 year old Morgan in 2002, my love of the American Cream began. In 2003 we purchased a yearling filly from Sheila and the rest is history. I have represented our association at Horse Progress Days setting up a booth to educate people about our breed. I have put together Association calendars since 2007 and became the newsletter editor in 2011. At our 75th Anniversary celebration I shared my stallion, Ackerman's Million Dollar Max with all that attended. I knew he would be the one to win over any new person who was on the fence about this fantastic breed.

One issue currently facing the American Cream Draft horse is that horses are being found all across the country with no registration or record of parentage. I hope to see the incorporation of DNA testing in our association and working with the Livestock Conservancy to have more accurate records of our breed. I would like to see the Association do more to impress the importance of being members and show them there is pride in owning an American original is the reason to become part of an elite club.
I will do my best to represent the ACDHA by being available for questions about the horses and our association and by publishing an informative newsletter to the best of my ability.

Thank you,

Susan Engel
Marcellus, Michigan

We still have ACDHA 2020 calendars with pictures from the archives of Karene Topp, C.T. Rierson, etc. and from the 75th Anniversary meeting.

Please order your calendar NOW!

Calendars are $20, plus $3.50 s/h fees. We also accept PayPal now to pay for your items! Contact our secretary, Kerrie Beckett, to order your calendar and have an invoice sent!
Dear members of The American Cream Draft Horse Association,

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your consideration in allowing me to serve as a Director for the American Cream Draft Horse Association. Ever since I was a young girl watching people riding their horses on the beaches of Brazil, I have loved and been involved with horses. Horses have been an integral part of my life. Although a teacher and high school administrator by profession, I continued to pursue and grow in my knowledge of horses. I have participated in working with many breeds and various breed associations. I have shown horses in English and Western Disciplines and apprenticed with a Natural Horsemanship Trainer. I continue to be very involved in the horse community through my relationships with other horse owners, trainers, breeders, suppliers, cowboy churches, giving lessons and volunteering my horses for city and county events. I am the owner of a beautiful American Cream Draft horse (ACD horse) mare named Triple Springs Lady Eleanor (aka, “Ellie”).

The time is perfect for us to increase recognition and status of the ACD horse. As a Director, I believe we can do this at local, state, national, and international levels. Belonging to the ACDHA gives members opportunities to participate in an organization whose common goal is promoting the ACD horse. This can be accomplished through marketing the unique abilities, beauty, temperament and versatility of the breed and branding the ACD horse in all show promotions. Each member has expertise in a variety of disciplines that can be a tool to demonstrate and teach others about our wonderful breed. We should share and draw upon each other’s knowledge in order to accomplish our goals as an Association. Open lines of communication, sharing of ideas, concerns, and suggestions will help facilitate this. Developing corporate partnerships with a variety of businesses and organizations will help achieve our goals as well.

Finding ways to allow the community to actually touch and see our endangered horses would bring us closer to accomplishing our goals. Demonstrations, hosting groups, and participation in various equine events allow opportunities for others to see why this breed is so special. We should facilitate programs and services that promote and enrich family life, activities, recreation, and fun!

It is time for the American Cream Draft horse to shine! It takes long range planning and sound policies to invest in the future of our breed. It would be an honor for me to assist and support you as you support the ACDHA.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Leonard
Woodruff, SC
melizabethleonard@gmail.com

**REMINDER:** Stallion Reports and Foaling Reports are due if you have not sent them in already. Please send them to the secretary, Kerrie. These are an important way to help us keep up to date with our records. Thank you if you have already sent them in!!
American Cream Class of 2020 continued

I am Gabby Kilpatrick and I plan on attending the University of Iowa for business and accounting, and later transferring over to Drake to go into tax law. I’ve been working with the Creams for several years, and they’ve meant a lot to me in giving me a reminder of home. Working with the Cream Drafts has helped me to build my sense of responsibility and has allowed me the opportunity to learn and grow in the horse community. I want to give a special thanks to Ann and Ken for introducing me and allowing me the chance to learn and be around these animals.

I’m Maggie Lupkes and I will be attending Iowa State and majoring in pre-Vet with an Ag business minor. My grandfather started with 3 Creams in 1996 and it has continued on and heavily influenced who I am today. I am thankful for the opportunities and learning experiences I’ve gained working with these horses throughout the course of my 4H career and all the extraordinary characters I’ve met along the way.

My name is Noah Doran and with my senior year being cut short due to the global Covid-19 pandemic I have had some time to think about what I want to do after high school (between all the extra farm chores of course) and I have come to the conclusion I still don’t know what I want to do. Since school closed I’ve joined my local volunteer fire department, talked to several military recruiters, taken jobs at horse barns and even started a lawn care business with my best friend and I still don’t know what I want to make a career out of. Until I make up my mind on what career to pursue I plan on staying at the family farm and going to the local community college to get an Associate’s degree. In the future I can see myself owning several American Cream Drafts on my own farm in North Carolina.
Important Bits and Pieces from our Secretary

Important:

ACDHA is moving in the direction of going electronic. If you prefer to have your mail sent via USPS mail, YOU must notify us!! Thank you!

Website NOTICE:

For Sale Ads are free for members on the website. Contact Kerrie Beckett, secretary to place an ad. Please note, ads will run for 3 months. Owners of ad will need to notify Kerrie if they want the ad to stay up longer than 3-months, make changes, etc., otherwise it will be removed (no notification).

REMEMBRDER: DNA-individual profile results via Animal Genetics are now required when registering a new horse (based on By-law change effective September 2019).

Form is on the website or send sample PLUS payment to Kerrie Beckett, secretary (payment must be included to be processed by the lab).

Notice:

Ballots to vote for Directors will be mailed out to full (voting) members (see Letters of Intent in this newsletter), and will follow the schedule determined by the original meeting dates for 2020 (as if the meeting was occurring). Ballots will need to be returned and RECEIVED by July 10 to be counted. Please get them back to Kerrie Beckett, secretary so they can be counted!

Please join us in welcoming

Full Members

Jared Lesch (F-431)
306 W Menance Ave
Lakefield, MN 56150

Pat Hastings (F-432)
PO Box 282
Hartland, VT 05048

Associate Members

Sue Topp (A-172)
726 S. Sleight St.
Naperville, IL 60540

Barbara Homrighaus (A-173)
2345 Sunrise Ct.
Green Bay, WI 54302

Barry Homrighaus (A-174)
2345 Sunrise Ct.
Green Bay, WI 54302
The Value of Off-Colored Creams

When I met my first American Cream Draft in the spring of 2017 I immediately sensed that I needed him in my life but I never could have guessed how special he really was. Harley Go Lucky (T00206), "Harley", is a sorrel Cream with flaxen legs, mane and tail, beautifully put together but not what the breed was ever intended to look like, he is what some might call a "dud" and I admit that I was confused at first about why he was the "wrong" color.

My background is with saddle horses, anything you can jump on and go down the trail with, riding for pleasure and long hours in the saddle. At the time that I found Harley I was in search of a confidence building trail horse for my timid teenaged daughter. She had had some setbacks with our Quarter Horses and I didn't want to see her give up on riding. What we found that day was so much more than a trail horse or a confidence builder and to think we had never even heard of an American Cream Draft. I have owned somewhere between 30 and 40 horses over the last 25 years and Harley is by far the best horse I have ever known.

There is such a shortage and need for horses with sound minds and quiet dispositions. I jokingly say that I would remortgage the house if he needed something but it's not really a joke! While the number of American Cream Drafts is critically low we need as many as possible in breeding homes, helping to save our breed. But we also need ambassadors who can show up to the expos, the fun shows, the 4-H barn, the big camping weekends and let the bigger equestrian community see what Creams have to offer, regardless of their coat color.

Harley dressed up like Santa and went to our local assisted living home the last three years to bring Christmas cheer. It is his favorite day of the year with elderly women leaning out of their wheelchairs to hug his legs and some follow him with their walkers right up under his tail, he is surrounded by slippered feet and feeble bodies and he never takes a step that I don't ask for. Some cry and talk about the horses that they used to own, it is a very special day.

He is also the most valuable tool I have for training unhandled and unbroken horses. His willingness to demonstrate anything for a horse in training and to pony them down the trail no matter how unruly they may be to start is priceless.

You would think being an "old man" with heavy legs and big feet he would be limited on the trail but that is the farthest thing from the truth. Last year he carried himself plus 190lbs across the state of Michigan, from Lake Huron to Lake Michigan in 10 days, barefoot, and he has the certificate to prove it! The wild-born, young and healthy Mustang who was his riding companion had a hard time keeping up with Harley, the "Beast"!

I really do need him to live forever but on the off chance that he leaves me someday I decided that I would need another Cream to follow in his hoof prints. I purchased my second "off color" Cream back in December from the very experienced breeder Frank Tremel. I couldn't be happier with the "little" guy and I look forward to many more years of sharing this wonderful breed with the world and watching their numbers continue to grow.

Crystalyn Houston

White Lake, Michigan
My Horse Life through Association Memberships: PART I
by Anne Murray

This is my story about my current association memberships and why I belong to each and every one. It is important to know that through various association memberships, a group cannot only socialize with people with the same interests but also promote that interest as well as educate people just for general knowledge. It is out of these connections that maybe, just maybe, a new generation will grow that will also have the same interests.

I currently follow lots of clubs on Facebook (that permit me) so I can keep current on local and state events. I do not keep my annual monetary membership current in most of them. The association memberships included here are those that I am active in—I pay my dues, I try to do my part by reading, following and contributing where I can. I try to attend their meetings and conferences when time allows. I vote in their elections, if there are any.

I guess the one that I have been in the longest that I am still active in is the Carriage Operators of North America (CONA). I joined that one in about 1998 or 1999, when I opened my commercial carriage business. I decided if I was going to make my passion and hobby also my ‘work’ I better get some liability insurance and have a professional connection with which to learn from others. (Let it be known I’ve always ‘worked’ 2 jobs.) There is a lot to learn about the commercial carriage trade, and there are various levels in which to be involved in that business. It is a trade that does not necessarily have a ‘school’ to learn all the aspects of the horsemanship, carriage presentation and maintenance, marketing, and business. I am one of those that I may have had many experiences but I am always learning. At some point in time all driving draft horse owners are asked to participate in a public event. If you decide to do the event and give rides then you are a carriage operator and should join. I was honored a couple of years ago to be elected to the board of directors. The biggest reason I stay in this group is for the professionalism and tips of the trade. Right now the cutting edge is on two fronts—first is how to handle your business given the ‘new normal’ with CV-19 and the second is and has been for some time, how to handle animal rights activists (ARAs) who are extremists where animals are concerned. They want to make a villain out of you and shut you down. It is hard to handle marketing and education to a public when you have to compete against unreasonable extremists. It helps to be part of a group who can help you in this regard. They also have lots of members who share marketing and business tips, but that has taken a backseat with the ‘normal’ of today being different in different areas.

The next association that I have been a part of the longest is the American Cream Draft Horse Association (ACDHA). I have been a part time breeder of horses for my own purpose for quite a few years. I never really got into breeding horses to sell them, I was looking to breed the perfect horse for my purpose. Unfortunately I usually ended up selling for various reasons, mostly because I did not have time that is required to raise a foal to a finished working horse, about a 5 year investment. I gave up breeding for a few years. At least this was the case until about 2009, when I purchased my first ACD, WR Dolly, a found cream. It was not until 2014 that I acquired a registered stallion, Noah #621, that I started breeding again and raising ACDs to replace our old tried and true teenaged percheron team. After all, we had a beautiful mare, a good stallion, and an endangered breed that was by all accounts fading. It is a great association to socialize with, we all love the breed. We do need more direction, but with very little resources we do what we can to market the breed. ACDs are not well known, so most people see them and think—“Is that a Belgian?” “Is that a Clydesdale?” but the ACDH size and temperament make it the perfect breed for me. It has been the breed I was always trying to find for my perfect work horse when I started breeding horses. It is the perfect farm chunk with a great temperament. I was also honored to be elected to its board of directors a couple of years ago. I do my best to promote the breed through my commercial carriage business as well as public and historical presentations.

The Livestock Conservancy (LC) is a group I became interested in because of my ACDs. Their purpose is the same as mine--- to save my beloved ACDs (as well as over 150 other heritage farm breeds) from extinction and protect genetic diversity in livestock. As a small group of breeders with a small herd, it is important to prepare our breed for the future. We hope the horses as a breed will continue long after we are gone and that there will be others who will carry the torch using the technology world by applying scientific methods to keep the breed relevant and prolific, without changing the breed characteristics. They also have some experience with ARAs who are trying to keep people from ‘using’ animals so they do offer some educational marketing in this regard.

Cont. pg 11
Grandma’s Side of the Christmas Mare Story:
or Frank Got A New Cream

Oh my, it’s time to hear the other side of Frank’s story from the last newsletter.

As for his not aging as quickly as I, there is a very reasonable answer-men never grow up! “The only difference between men and boys is the size and price of their toys.” as the saying goes. For example: tractors, fire trucks, horses, dogs, parrots etc.

Now for my Christmas gift of a mare, it just follows a pattern. A puppy for birthday, anniversary or Labor Day when everybody knows I’m a cat person. There was the Christmas I had mono- he got me bicycle tires and for my birthday while I was recovering from rotator cuff surgery(due to a horse accident) he gave me a wheelbarrow. A special wheelbarrow because it had duel wheels. Guess what, it’s always full of his stuff!

Maybe for his birthday I’ll give him a kitten and a duel wheeled wheelbarrow for me to fill.

But yet, after almost 52 ½ years of marriage I still love the man (and the grand kids) and his thoughtful gifts.

PS I’m already thinking of foal names that start with “Z”

Mrs. Frank (Paula) Tremel
West River, Maryland

2020 ACDHA Membership Dues (by June 15th)

Member’s Name:______________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________
Number of Voting Members:_______
Amount: $________
Number of Associate Members:_______
Amount: $________
Number of Junior Members:_______
Amount $_______

Check #_______

Amount Enclosed_________

Update e-mail address for ACDHA records
__________________________@_________________________

Update phone number for ACDHA records
(_____)________-_________
My Horse Life through Association Memberships: PART I continued

The next few associations which I belong were all joined about the same time and for the same purposes. The Association for Living History, Farms and Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) is an organization that brings history to life. We have given many presentations on behalf of this organization in conjunction with an agricultural museum in Grapevine, Texas called Nash Farm. It shares practical knowledge and skills among those who make history relevant to contemporary lives. As a group they draw strength from the diverse network of members, sharing experience, research and passion for participatory learning. We enjoy sharing our horses with the farm historians at their conferences and with the public on their behalf when they want us to attend public events. Sometimes we get paid, sometimes we volunteer, and sometimes we work for donations or a stipend. It all depends on the purpose of our presence but being a part of this organization, and a similar one called the Texas Living History Association (TLHA) gives us an opportunity for two things—to educate the public about our endangered horses and to promote their use and all horses through work. Working horses is a dying art and many people are disconnected from the past and the work it takes/ took for us to get from farm to plate, from walking on foot to riding to the transportation we have today. I feel it is important to belong and educate these living history educators and the public who attend their venues of today because the living history educators represent what I do, in a way, with my commercial carriage business. They may not have horses or oxen at their venue but they educate the public about the olden ways, and inadvertently do it on my behalf.

So whatever you do, think of your end goal. Associate and invest time with those like-minded individuals. I would have to say our end goals are farming, using horses in farming and transportation, and using a breed that needs saving, our ACDHs. At some point in time we may have to sell horses again. We cannot keep them all, unfortunately. We must share our knowledge and horses with future generations in order for our goals to continue in others, try not to be short-sighted in your goals. It is well worth the time to learn and to share knowledge about whatever your passion may be with those associations that have similar goals.

We still have 75th Anniversary Polo Shirts Available

Shirts are a beautiful royal blue with silver embroidery. They are $30 each and shipping is included in the price.

Sizes available are men’s small, medium, large, extra-large and 2x-large, others are available by special order but the price will be higher since these were bought in quantity.

Send the size information, quantity and payment to Kerrie Beckett, 226 Schellinger Rd, Poland Spring, ME 04274.
Youth incentives for American Cream Draft Junior Members

The Livestock Conservancy will be awarding several $500 scholarships for youth (ages 8-18) who work with American Cream Draft horses!

The future of the American Cream Draft horse also depends on the recruitment of new young owners and breeders. Applicants must submit a short proposal that describes their project, a photo, and a letter of parental permission. A written report on how the funds were used is required within one year of accepting the award. You can apply online by sending these materials to ccouch@livestockconservancy.org Applications are due on July 15, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Charlene Couch at The Livestock Conservancy at 919-542-5704.

Last year's recipient for the LC scholarship was Brint Corson who did a study on Genetic Testing to determine the foals from your sire and dams. We await his report on the outcome of his research at our next meeting.

Based on the voting at our annual meeting, there is a change to our by-laws effective 01 January, 2020 for new registrations of any horse. It is stated on page 6 of our by-laws:

Section IV. Application for Registration or Tracking Registration

G. Effective 1/1/2020, new registration applications on all horses shall be accompanied by the DNA-parentage (individual profile) test results on that Horse.

The lab that was selected to be used is Animal Genetics, and they have given us a discount on the DNA-parentage testing (though they do call it DNA Individual Profile testing, it is the same thing in this case). They have also been kind enough to provide us with additional discounts if you choose to do other testing with them. JEB testing (if your horse is not already known to be N/N by parentage) can be tested at a discount (NOTE: your horse is not required to be tested if you already know him/her to be N/N). Color tests have also been discounted, and they have offered us package deals as well.