



American Cream News



Summer 2022 Vol. 32 Issue 3

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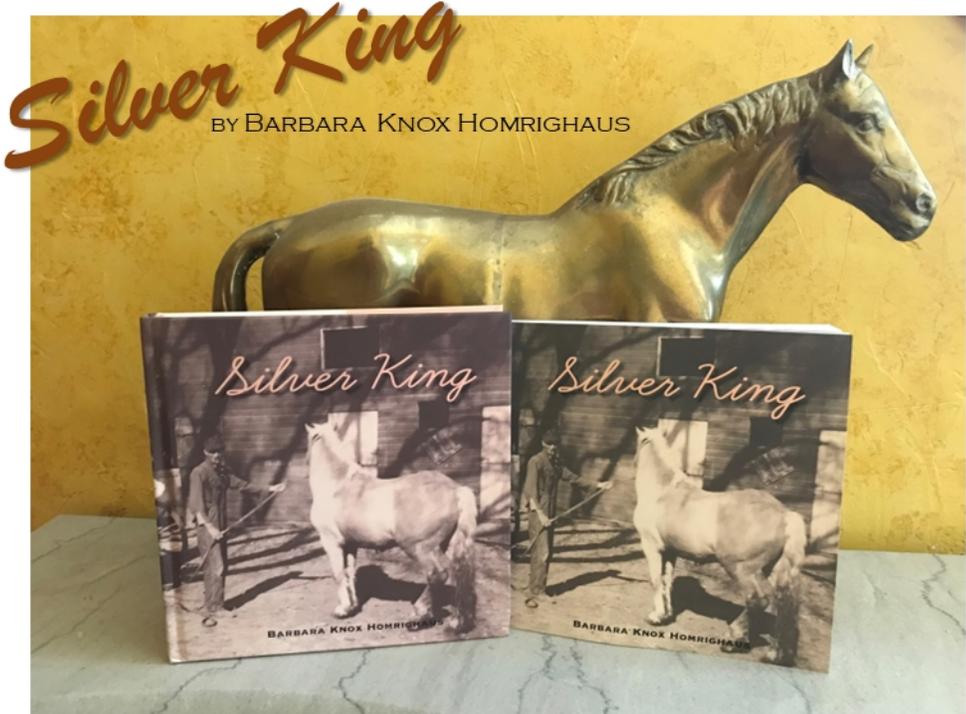


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- President:** Belle Davis
- Vice President:** Anne Murray
- Sec/Treas:** Kerrie Beckett
- Directors:** Sue Engel
- Wendell Lupkes
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- Mischala Walker
- Website:** www.ACDHA.org
- Newsletter Editor:** Susan Engel

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PRESS RELEASE

ACDHA would like to announce the release of "SILVER KING" by Barb Homrighaus, an Associate Member. Barb will be presenting the story of her family at the 2022 Meeting as one of our speakers to discuss her book! Additionally, Barb has generously granted the ACDHA a special printing of her historical book to offer to members ONLY. It will be available in hardcover (\$26) or softcover (\$22) for members (one per membership) at the 2022 meeting, and available for shipping (\$ S/H) to members after the meeting. Please contact Kerrie (secretary) if you have any questions.

Thank you!

See more about the Knox family and their interest in American Cream Draft Horses on Page 4 of this issue.

Summer is waning and the ACDHA Annual Meeting is calling!

I'm writing this tonight after spending all afternoon in the hay fields. I try to help as much as possible and I brought 18 1200-pound round bales into the side shed to save for the horses this winter. My horses are still enjoying all the luscious green grass, but they are sweating and fighting biting flies and bugs the whole time.

I hope everyone will enjoy reading our newest Newsletter, it is packed with some good stories and updates about upcoming events and Letters of Intent of those running for the Board. I have decided to run again, and I would love to remain the President of the Association, it's been a learning curve, but I feel like it takes time to learn everything. The Board is participating in a Cultivating Leadership Program that will be presented by the Livestock Conservancy, our first zoom meeting is this week and I know I've a lot to learn.

There is also an application included for a scholarship that is available to a young person wishing to further their education. Our Vice President, Anne Murray has set up a scholarship committee that will review the applications and present the winner, please read short summary about scholarship.

Also included in this Newsletter is a great article by Barbara Knox Homrighaus, it's about Charles Knox and Early American Creams that was featured in the Iowa Barn Foundation Magazine. Barbara will also be at our meeting this Fall to speak to us about her Grandfather Charles Knox and her book "Silver King", which will be available at the meeting.

I hope everyone is looking forward to our annual meeting this October in the beautiful hills of Virginia. Cheryl and Roy Martin will be our hosts this fall as we visit their beautiful farm in Dillwyn, Virginia. We will be holding our meeting on Friday, October 21 and visiting the Martin's farm on the 22nd and staying at the Hotel Weyanoke (434)-658-7500 in Farmville, VA. We have a block of rooms reserved at the Hotel Weyanoke from October 20 until October 23, 2022. The hotel will only offer the special ACDHA rate until September 18th, so please book your room as soon as possible.

If you, the reader, have any ideas and information for articles that you would like to share with the Association or questions please email me your thoughts or ideas at Belledavis59@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you and will endeavor to answer you.

Belle Davis, President

One of the beautiful foals to add to the books for 2022. Born to members Sue & Roy Suehs of Wisconsin. The dam is BLC Joker's Violet; the sire is Million Dollar Max and the foal is Henry. Welcome to the ACDHA.

Anyone who added to the herd book in 2022 please pass along photos and information to feature in the next newsletter. Email them to me Sue Engel, the Newsletter Editor at sulynnengel@yahoo.com



Radcliffe Days with Maggie Lupkes and Goldie



Your neighborhood American Girls participated in an unseasonably cool parade during the Radcliffe days this past weekend, July 16th. Our third year in a row representing the breed at the place now known as "The Cradle of the American Cream Draft", this seemed "old hat" to Goldie (#751), and she even picked up some candy along the way! Grateful to the Rierson family for their hospitality yet again, we were also gifted with the company of Mrs. Zoe Rierson (C.T.'s daughter-in-law, now 103), who commended Goldie for her good behavior and a job well done.



Secretary Tidbits:

Membership Dues – Please send in your dues if you have not done so, due in June.

Stallion reports are due in December, but I will accept them ANYTIME! Please submit your stallion report if your boy has been active this year!

Foaling reports are also due in December, but I will also accept these ANYTIME! Please submit your foaling report if you have had foals this year.

NEW this year – we are starting to keep DETAILED records of breedings and foaling and the outcomes. For example, it took 4 live covers to settle your mare. You had a stillborn foal. These records will help us determine trends and evaluate any particular issues that may be occurring in our breed. I will follow this up with more information shortly.

Please transfer horses who are sold or get a new owner. It helps us keep track of where registered horses are located without getting lost.

Meeting packets will be mailed to members within the next few weeks, be on the lookout for yours!

Please register for the meeting ahead of time if you are planning on attending. This helps us to plan the number of meeting folders, room size, meals, etc.

Please contact us if we can be of any help or you have any questions. We are here for the membership and the horses!

— BY BARBARA KNOX HOMRIGHAUS —

CHARLES KNOX

and Early American Creams



1972 aerial photo courtesy of the Wahlert family.



Charles Knox didn't have his own American Cream Draft Horse barn until 1938 when he purchased a farm. Before then, between 1926 and 1938, he and his wife Hattie Hildal Knox negotiated eight different contracts with eight different Central Iowa farm owners, to plant and harvest that owner's second farm while they lived on

site, believing that the terms they negotiated for their share of whatever money crops brought in would gradually allow them to build up enough equity to buy a farm of their own.

Between 1926 and 1938 Charles or 'Charlie', my grandfather, not only farmed someone else's land,

Charles Knox and Big Buck. Courtesy of Esther Knox Murray family.

**Charlie Knox with his Cream horse
Captain and three potential
clients in front of the barn in
Webster Township, Webster County.
Courtesy Gladys Knox Bell.**



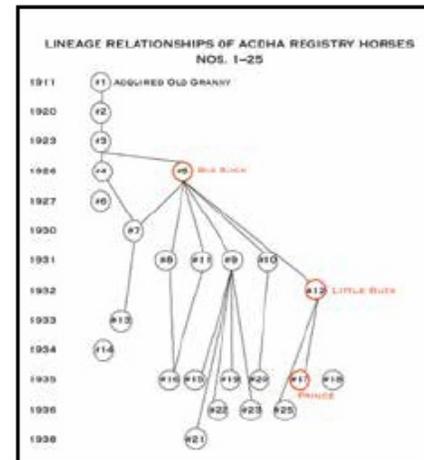
he followed his dream to be a Cream draft horse breeder. He did not do this as a well-to-do farmer. He did this as someone who was not going to inherit the Knox family farm and who needed to make his own luck. So as he farmed others fields, he slowly built up his number of Cream draft horses, and continued to breed Creams after he owned his own farm in Section 24, Webster Township, Webster County.

Grandpa's parents' farm was located a mile and a half east of Jewell in section 35, Lyon Township, Hamilton County, two or three miles southwest of the nearby farms of the men who first began to establish Creams beginning with Old Granny. (Old Granny is the first horse listed in the American Cream Draft Association's registry i.e. "ACDHA #1.") In 1925 Charlie decided on two life-changing gambles. The first was to try for a Cream foal. The second was to sign a contract with Ordain Oskvig in Rose Grove Township northeast of Jewell to farm Oskvig's place in section 13 from March 1926 to March 1927. The results were that in 1926, the Knoxes became lifelong friends of the Oskvigs; Charlie farmed the Oskvig land and Hattie welcomed their seventh child the end of September, while the rented barn from Ordain Oskvig sheltered Grandpa's first Cream, Big Buck (ACDHA #5), foaled in May 1926..

Of the eight barns Charlie had across Hamilton, Hardin, and Franklin Counties only the 6th barn remains. Knoxes referred to it as the Quelland farm in Section 14, Rose Grove

Township, Hamilton County. My grandparents signed three consecutive contracts there from March 1933-March 1936. Prior to 1933 Charlie had crossed Big Buck with his two draft work horses, Flody and Bonnie, on the Nelson farm in Hardin County, in 1928, which resulted in the Cream colts Silver King and Billy Boy in 1929 on the Williams farm, in Hamilton County. At that time, there were literally no other breeders with the resources or horses of the right age to develop the American Cream Draft Horse breed, so Charlie's efforts were crucial in that they brought in clients Eric Christian, Hank Johnson, Gay Lenning, and Fred Johnson in 1929 and 1930.

It was while on the Quelland farm, that the results of Charlie's earlier efforts to have Creams began to be apparent. First, a descendant of Big Buck, Gay Lenning's horse Silver Lace (ACDHA #9), became so influential that even today Silver Lace accounts for about 30 percent of all existing American Cream Draft Horse bloodlines. Second, the Johnson brothers' foals, Pet (ACDHA #8) and Tarzan (ACDHA #11), both out of Charlie's Big Buck, were sold



Lineage Relationships of ACHA Registry Horses Nos. 1-25. Horses owned by Charles Knox circled in red. Courtesy Ruth Homrighaus.

to C. T. Rierson, and these were the two Creams that Rierson referred to in 1939 as foundational to his own efforts to develop the breed from 1933 into the 1950s. Third, Charlie's own Cream stock rose to six horses: he had two draft horses Bonnie and Flody, and six Creams—Silver King, Billy Boy, Little Buck (ACDHA #12), Queen, May, and Prince (ACDHA #17).

The gambrel-roofed Wahlert barn on the farm Charlie knew as the "Quelland farm" was built in the

early 1900s southeast of Williams, Iowa. It measures seventy-eight feet long by forty-four feet wide by thirty-eight feet high and is owned by Wade and Carina Wahlert and is used for horses and sheep. Wade's grandparents Marvin and Edna Wahlert purchased the farmstead and 360 acres in the fall of 1971. To save the leaning barn, Marvin Wahlert and his son, Wayne, put a lean-to on the east side in 1980. In 2005, a metal roof was installed to the original part of the barn. The farm was passed to Wayne and Connie Wahlert and Wayne's sister, Alice Wahlert Bowden, in the fall of 2002. Wayne and Connie's son Wade and wife Carina are the current owners. The Wahlert barn today has beautiful custom-made box stalls of wood and steel.



Though little is known about what the interior of the barn would have looked like when Charlie and his family used it, he probably kept his cattle and milk cows in the barn as well as his Creams — though it was his practice to turn out the Creams at night.

Charles Knox left the Quelland farm in 1936, and continued to increase his stock of Creams on the Doty farm in section 16 and the Owasa School farm in section 13, both of Ellis Township, Hardin County. He farmed with both Creams and tractors in the 1940s but Grandpa was fifty-nine years old in 1950 when he no longer had any horses on his farm. I researched and self-published *Silver King: Charles Knox and the American Cream Draft Horse, 1925-1945* for my extended family in 2021 in order to honor Grandpa's contributions to Cream horse development in the early days. Today, there are only about four hundred registered Creams left worldwide. To support the efforts of the ACDHA to promote Cream draft horses, increase their numbers, and get them off the critically endangered list in the twenty-first century, I have made arrangements for *Silver King* to be made available this Fall, only through ACDHA membership. For more information, visit acdha.org.

Special thanks to Gladys Knox Bell, Ruth Homrighaus, Dennis Houseman, Audrey Knox Johnson, Chuck Knox, Ken Starek, Marlin Smith, and the Wahlert family.

Charles Knox with Captain. Courtesy of Esther Knox Murray family.



View of the Wahlert barn today

Letters of Intent

1

Hello, my name is Belle Davis, and I am currently serving as President of the ACDHA. I would like to remain on the board, and I would like to remain your President. I am just getting things going and I would love to see things keep growing within our American Cream Association and Community. I will not deny that this past year was a difficult year for me, adjusting to life without my sweet Bill and keeping the farm running and trying to be President of our great Association. I currently own three American Cream Draft Horses: Lucky, Mariposa and Junior (currently living in Louisville, KY at the Breed Barn in the Horse Park). We are planning on participating in a new Leadership program for Breed Associations being launched by The Livestock Conservancy. I've a lot to learn still and would love the opportunity to keep serving on the Board. Thank you for your continued support, Belle Davis.



Howdy to all you ACD fans and members!

My name is Anne Murray and I have served on the ACDHA board for 2 terms, the latest being as Vice President. I also serve as a board member of Carriage Operators of North America, a national organization for commercial carriage operators. I currently use some of my ACDs in my commercial carriage operation. I have really enjoyed working toward the future of our association by assisting in the rescue of ACDs by fostering for MEERs, promoting the breed to the public with public appearances and promotions, putting a few foals on the ground and serving on the board.

Our association is small but we are growing. There is still a lot of interest in our registry. We have had some setbacks in membership with the pandemic but the challenge will be to get these members back into the association. We have a new bylaw which Sue Suehs and I have submitted for promoting our Junior Membership Grants before us at the Annual meeting in October. We have set this as a grass roots effort to promote youth promoting our breed, should it pass.

I prefer to remain positive about our breed and registry. In a world where negativity can overwhelm us and make us stagnant, we must remain ever vigilant towards increasing our members and our herd numbers. It is only through support of each other and our horses can our breed advance into the future and help these numbers grow. This is why I will always invite people to join us as an associate member, come to a meeting, meet breeders and then they can find the American Cream of their dreams. I will persist in reminding mare owners their obligation to breed and put registered stock in our herd book for the future. And I would love to continue my work with the board should you decide to vote for me at the Annual Meeting in October.

Should you have any questions or suggestions for me, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address or phone number below. I would be glad to hear what you have to say with an old fashion call, email or text. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to meeting you in Virginia.

Sincerely,

Anne Murray

817-925-4993

Workhorseranch1998@gmail.com

Virginia in 2022

ACDHA meeting is back on the East Coast!

The 2022 Annual ACDHA is set for October 20 -23, 2022 in Farmville, VA. Roy and Cheryl Martin are hosting the meeting this year in Virginia!

We'll be staying in Farmville, and we have a block of rooms reserved at the Hotel Weyanoke. Rooms are available starting Thursday, October 20. The meeting will be Friday at the Hotel itself and then we'll go to Cheryl and Roy Martin's beautiful farm on Saturday.

Hotel Weyanoke is cradled between Charlottesville and Richmond in Farmville - a central Virginia town known for its university presence, state park accessibility, and place in history. Just off Main Street and across from Longwood University is Hotel Weyanoke, a boutique hotel, catering, and restaurant venue. Blending small town hospitality with large market quality and aesthetics, Hotel Weyanoke continues to be an inspiring place to share ideas, celebrate milestones, and try something new. Featuring 70 luxurious rooms adorned in mid-century modern decor, a full-service restaurant, rooftop bar, with private event and meeting spaces, Hotel Weyanoke is the ideal location for your stay.

Rates start at \$169 for a traditional queen and go to \$179 for a traditional king or double queen for those of us that double up.

To ensure reservations are at the discounted rate, guests must refer to the ACDHA Group Block when calling the hotel to make a reservation: 434-658-7500. Reservations must be made 30 days prior to your arrival to guarantee the room and rate.

I know everyone is excited to get together for our American Cream Draft family reunion and it be a treat to be back on the East Coast. There are several airports to fly into, depending on how far you want to drive in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains! I know several of us will be driving in and we hope to have a few horses coming in for the meeting!

The meeting will be Friday at the Hotel starting at 9 am, the hotel is catering a lunch for us so that we can keep the meeting going and get everything done. It will be a "deli" style lunch with bread, meats, cheese and salads with brownies for desert and tea and water to drink. The price is covered by your registration fee and a donation. We will have our normal silent auctions to raise funds for the association. Friday evening will be on your own but there is an awesome restaurant in the hotel.

Saturday we will meet at Roy and Cheryl Martin's Farm "Triple Springs Farms" in Dillwyn, VA. They have an exciting day planned with breakfast being served starting at 9:30 am to 11:00 am at a cost of \$15 and you won't go away hungry. Lunch will be served starting at 12:30 to 3:00 pm at a cost of \$20.

Also, there will several Farm Day Events including hayrides, games, presenting Milk Wagon for pictures. There will be a raffle with proceeds going to MEERS. There will be all kinds of games. There will be an Amish Speaker and Dr. Shane may speak on AI breeding in Drafts. There is a registration form included in this newsletter and you will need to complete it and return so that we will have a head count and can make sure we have enough food!!

Please mail the following Registration Coupon with the \$25 meeting charge with your ballots to Kerrie before attending. If you don't have your dues up to date, coupon on page 12, include that in the amount you send for the meeting. All current members will get a lunch coupon and meeting notebook. The ballots for directors will be sent out after this newsletter. This is the **last** reminder you will receive so if you mailed all your \$\$ to Kerrie you are set, if not you better get it to Kerrie with the ballots for director you will be receiving from her after the 1st of September.

Note: All non-members (spouses, children and guests) will be responsible to pay for the meeting lunch. Money will be collected before the meal.

| ACDHA Annual Meeting Registration | | |
|---|--------|-----------------|
| Meeting registration fee is \$25 per person attending. | Number | Total \$ |
| Name(s) _____ | _____ | _____ |
| (Joint registration=2 persons if both attending) | | |
| Number of non-members attending, if known | _____ | _____ |
| Number of lunches (includes members and non-members) | _____ | # for the hotel |
| Number attending the meals at the Martin's on Saturday \$\$ collected at each meal: | | |
| Breakfast | _____ | |
| Lunch | _____ | |

Lunch tickets will be available when you check in! Thank you for registering and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting and activities!



LOOKING FOR FREE MONEY?

ISO: Young persons interested in American Cream Draft Horses and obtaining free money for pursuing a post high school education. We want to award you a \$500 scholarship for any field of study, but preference is given to those pursuing direct or indirect study of the American Cream Draft Horse. Just fill out the attached application telling us about yourself. Please return to Ann Murray at workhorseranch1998@gmail.com by October 1st. The committee will announce the award at the annual meeting on October 21st. You do not need to be present to win.

This is the 1st Annual Youth Scholarship given and is for the 2022-2023 school year.

Our next scholarship for 2023-2024 will have a deadline of June 1st. Look for the application in the spring newsletter.

The Scholarship Application is on the next page.

Welcome



Full Members:

Dana DePello
7667 Patrina Way
Sparks NV 89436



APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP American Cream Draft Horse Association

Date Received _____

Applicant Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Cumulative GPA _____

Current Activities (Please include any school activities as well as those outside of school.)

Provide examples of volunteerism and/or community service.

In what ways have you displayed responsibility and leadership during your time in high school?

What college do you plan to attend? _____ What will your major be? _____

Why do you want to pursue the career in which you are interested?

Applicant signature _____ Printed name _____

If under 18, please fill in the parent/guardian information and have them sign below.

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Date _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Printed Name _____

Essay

Please write a few paragraphs about (1) who you are, (2) your history with, and how you work with Creams, and (3) what you would like to learn, research, or participate in with Cream horses this year. Describe how this scholarship would be used to achieve your goals. (Use a separate page for your essay)

Return Address

Address Label

2022 ACDHA Membership Dues

Member's Name and 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

_____@_____

Voting Member: \$25.00
Associate Member: \$25.00
Junior Member: \$5.00

Make check out and mail to:
ACDHA
226 Schellinger Rd
Poland Spring, ME 04274

Memberships expire on June 30th of the current calendar year. If not received before the next meeting you may lose your membership and all the benefits that come with it.

ACDHA Webpage Advertising – Please note: ONLY current members have the benefit of free advertising on the ACDHA webpage. If you would like to post horses for sale, stallion services, other... make sure your dues are current!! Thanks!! Non-members are welcome to post for a fee (please contact us for prices).

Please help us keep our ads current, if anything changes with an ad you have on the website please let us know ASAP. Thank you!