



American Cream News



Fall 2023 Vol. 33 Issue 3

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On Tuesday July 11th (National ACD day!) Clair Rierson attended the arena dedication at Ellsworth College in Iowa Falls. The Ellsworth Community College Equine Center Arena was renamed to the C.T. Rierson Arena during ceremonies honoring C.T. Rierson's contribution to the horse industry of Hardin County.

This has been a summer to remember for many American Cream Draft horse people. We are getting a new education on the history of how the breed came about courtesy of the descendants and friends of the first breeders. Our associate members Barbara Homrighaus and Clair Rierson have brought other families of the first breeders to join in a recognition of the first horses and how they played a part in the breed we have today. The article in this newsletter edition by Barbara Homrighaus is helpful in clarifying the actions of a few Iowans who fell in love with this unique draft horse.

We are forever grateful for their work in developing and preserving our American Cream Draft horse.

Each of the three talks in the "Celebrate National American Cream Draft Horse Day July 15th" series is available on silverkingbook.com

President's Letter and Greetings

End of Summer and Upcoming Annual Meeting

Greetings my fellow American Cream Draft Horse lovers, according to the calendar summer officially ends September 21st, which is not a moment to soon, but we all know that doesn't mean the hot weather or drought ends for many of us around the country. But no matter the weather it was an exciting summer for a lot of American Cream owners and lovers as hinted on the first page of the newsletter and it only gets better as you continue to read. Iowa was the place to be this summer as Barbara Homrighaus and Clair Rierson share with us through their words and pictures. We are so thankful to several of our ACDH owners and breeders that shared their horses with the public this summer in Iowa, including Wendell and Maggie Lupkes, Tony Stalzer and Butch Sowers. Thanks to them the public got to meet America's only draft horse up close and personal.

Tiffany Corson has written a great article on their journey of doing the first ever Embryo Transfer in American Creams. It is an insightful piece that shows the tenacity and dedication required to carry out a successful breeding program for an endangered breed such as our American Cream Draft Horses. Looking forward to many more updates from Hero in the future.

Also, in the newsletter you will find two letters of intent, from Wendell Lupkes and Wendy Deni-Pruden as they put their names in the hat to run for the ACDHA board. Wendell is a veteran member and Wendi, who participated with us last year in Virginia, is very familiar with draft horses. Please read both of their letters and if you are a member do not forget to vote and show your support for our association.

Finally, is our upcoming annual meeting in Grapevine, Texas this year on October 12th. Registration information is included in this newsletter and needs to be completed and returned to Kerrie, the Association Secretary, as soon as possible. The actual meeting this year is at the Comfort Inn Grapevine Near DFW Airport (817)329-9300. Anne and Ken Murray will be our host and there is some critical information that Anne needs to know before the meeting so please complete the registration form ASAP!! Also, there is an awesome opportunity to support our Association by contributing to our silent auction the day of the meeting. Anne and Ken are also hosting a social event at their farm on Friday, October 13 at which there will be an opportunity to support the ACD rescue, MerEquus Equine Rescue and Sanctuary. One way that you can help is by taking advantage of an opportunity to order T-shirts and Hoodies ahead of time. All this information is in the Newsletter.

Please enjoy our Newsletter, we are so lucky to have Sue Engel and her passion not only for our breed but for letting everyone else know about them. If you have any ideas, events or information that you would like to share with us please email me at Belledavis59@gmail.com or Sue Engel at sulynnengel@yahoo.com.



Celebrate July 11th
Reporting in from Iowa, 2023
By Barbara Homrighaus, ACDHA Associate Member

The “Celebrate National American Cream Draft Horse Day” banners feature American Cream Draft Horses Puppy (left) and Duke (right), and were designed by ACDHA members Jessica Smith and Kerrie Beckett, Secretary/Treasurer.

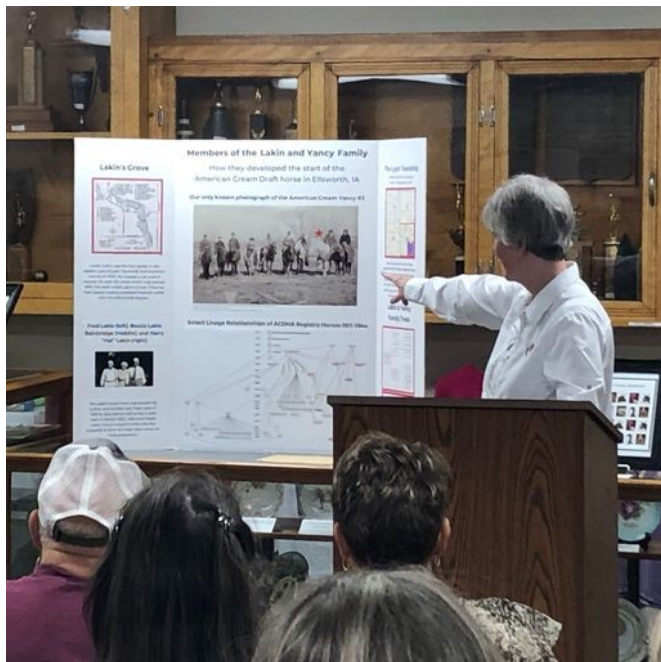
Two ACDHA Banners for National American Cream Draft Horse Day July 11th were displayed prominently this summer during a public talk series I presented in the towns of Jewell, Ellsworth, and Radcliffe, Iowa on the early history of our Cream breed. Each one of the three talks in the Iowa series focused on someone ACDHA founder, C.T. Rierson of Radcliffe, described in 1946 as a ‘pioneer breeder’ of the American Cream Draft Horse.

◦ On June 10th during Jewell Jubilee Days, **Dr Erick Christian**, Jewell veterinarian in Hamilton County and owner of Eureka (1926) Registry No 4 was the subject of the first ‘pioneer breeder’ presentation at the Jewell Museum.



Thanks to Maggie Lupkes and her Cream Goldie, and her parents Renee and Wendell Lupkes, for facilitating having Goldie in the Jewell Parade and then at the Museum that afternoon. Thanks also to Association member Jodi Knox and daughter Hannah Bengtson for carrying the Banner in Jewell.

◦ On July 8th, **John and Jessie Lakin Yancy**, Ellsworth farmers and owners of Yancy (1923) Registry No 3 in Hamilton County were the subject of the second 'pioneer breeder' presentation at the Ellsworth Library and Museum.



The talk in Ellsworth on Yancy No 3 (left) was followed by farm visits in Zearing and Nevada, thanks to ACDHA owners Tony Stalzer and Butch Sowers, where John and Jessie Lakin Yancy's great great granddaughter Paige Yancy from Dover, Delaware first sees Creams (right).

◦ On July 15th during Radcliffe Summerfest, **Charles 'Charlie' Knox**, farmer and owner of Knox 1st (1926) Registry No 5, Knox 2nd (1932) Registry No 12, and Prince (1935) Registry No 17, was the third subject of the 'pioneer breeder' talk at the Radcliffe Community Hall. Charlie farmed with and bred Creams from 1925-1945 in Hamilton, Franklin, Hardin, and Webster counties.

ANNUAL DUES AND INFORMATION

Full Member per year. . . . \$50 * Associate Member per year. . . . \$25 * Junior Member per year. . . . \$5

Member _____ (ACHDA# _____)

Dues 2023 _____ Past Due (- ? -) _____

Dues 2022 ? _____ TOTAL Enclosed _____

Donations _____ (Designate Fund) _____



Update Personal Information _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Horse Updates: _____

Mailing address:

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Maggie Lupkes rode Goldie and Wendell Lupkes walked next to them in the Radcliffe parade, once again showcasing a Cream draft horse in the town celebration, preceded by Charlie Knox's grandson, Associate member Chuck Knox, who drove a truck displaying the Banners with Charlie's great grandson John Knox in the back supervising five of Charlie's great great grandchildren throwing Bit 'O Honey cream-colored candy out the back to the crowd.

With thanks and gratitude to all who encouraged research and supported the talk Series, the rare photographs already presented in Jewell, Ellsworth, and Radcliffe — including images of Harry 'Hat' Lakin, the owner of Old Granny, Registry No 1; Dr Erick Christian, the owner of Eureka, Registry No 4 and Dude, Registry No 7; and the only photo ever seen to date of Yancy, Registry No 3 — will follow in the next ACDHA Newsletter.

Meeting Registrations and 2023 Dues **MUST** be sent to me no later than September 25, 2023 to make sure I receive them before leaving for the meeting. If you think your return will be too close before the meeting, please contact me. You must be current on dues to VOTE!

<u>ACDHA 2023 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION</u>			
Member PRE-Registration Sign-up (\$25)			
Register Day of Meeting (\$30)	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total \$</u>	
Number of Members Registering	_____	_____	
(Names) _____			
Number of Non-members Registering	_____	_____	
(Name) _____			
<u>LUNCH at Meeting:</u>	(1)	(2)	(3)
Selection of your choice for each reg. will be provided at meeting:			
_____ Small sandwich lunch box	_____	_____	_____
_____ Large sandwich lunch box	_____	_____	_____
Number of lunches in addition to registered (\$15)	_____	_____	
Number of People Joining Friday's BBQ? (pay at BBQ)	_____		
Please pick up lunch tickets for registered members at meeting when you check in! Thank you for registering! We are so happy you will be joining us for great FUN in Texas!!			



Letters of Intent for the position of Director of the ACDHA

Hello fellow American Cream Draft owners,

My name is Wendell Lupkes and this letter is to announce my intention to run again for a director position. I am a land surveyor by profession and director of operations for our engineering firm, have been president of the Waterloo Jaycees, chaired our local airshow for several years, and am currently 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 from Arnold Hockett's herd in 1996. Since then, we have bred, foaled, and sold or raised Creams that are spread across the country. I brought American Creams to my acreage in 2000, and we continue to build our breeding program and assist others with theirs, now with the help of my daughter, Maggie.

I have 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. The ACDHA discovered in late 2012 that quite a few 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 board approval of each step, and the assistance of members and future members in transporting, testing, and adopting, it all got done with a net zero cost to the association. This past year we, my daughter Maggie and I, were privileged to participate in events in Iowa highlighting the origins of the breed, its pioneer breeders, and naming the equestrian arena in Iowa Falls for C.T. Rierson, (the location of the 75th Anniversary of the ACDHA in 2019). Thanks to Clair Rierson and Barbara Knox Homrighaus for allowing us to be a part of these events.

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, always 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 things that I would still like to accomplish on behalf of the breed, with your support.

Respectfully,

Wendell Lupkes



* LETTER OF Intent for Wendy Deni-Pruden *

Let me start by telling you a little about myself. My name is Wendy Pruden. I have been retired from my career in engineering for 2 years and have recently made the move from California to Georgia to build the farm of our dreams with my husband and best friend Paul. Horses have always been a huge part of my life. Growing up we bred Arabians and for the last 20 years I have had the joy of exclusively sharing my heart with draft horses. I am extremely active in the draft horse community showing in fun classes, driving for farm and pleasure, obstacle courses, riding to hounds, and more. Sidesaddle is one of my favorite riding disciplines and I am a founding member of the California Aside, the regional affiliate of the American Side Saddle Association. As the Equine Director for Horses Healing Heroes, I have spent countless hours volunteering my time and horses in therapeutic programs. Over the years I welcomed the youth of our community to our Ranch and taught them general horsemanship and husbandry. In my free time I extensively study Equine Genetics not only as a passion, but so that I can make more informed decisions within my breeding program and on the overall care of our horses. I cannot imagine life without drafts and have dedicated myself to being their advocate and steward. As empty nesters, Paul and I are able to dedicate our full attention to the joys of our horses, our breeding program, and taking the next steps in our journey with American Cream Draft Horses (ACDH).

In 2019 we welcomed our first American Cream Draft Horse Lila into our family. She is perfect and everything we had hoped for. Not only is Lila an amazing broodmare, but we have an unbreakable bond, and I am truly blessed to be her person. Her kind soul and beauty sparked a fire in our hearts to do everything we can to help preserve the American Cream Draft Horse. We love this breed and everything they are about from their beauty to their history. Through Lila we have been welcomed into the ACDHA community and stand beside you in the fight for this phenomenal breed. When I attended my first meeting it felt like family. Being with so many others who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of this amazing breed was awe inspiring. After much time and consideration to ensure that I am making the right decision for the horses, and my family, I am ready to run for the ACDHA board.

As an owner and breeder of ACDH I am in it for the long haul. Though I will continue to do everything I can as just one person, I know that there is strength in numbers. I bring motivation, longevity, dedication, experience, and passion to the table, and am humbly requesting the opportunity to better serve the horses by becoming a board member. As a member of the Board, I would strive for the preservation of the ACDH and maintaining the breed integrity as we work to increase the number of ACDH foals being born. I want to work together to gain more exposure and recognition for the breed and build an even better future.

I hope you consider voting for me to represent you and our ACDHA. Thank you!



Our Journey Doing The FIRST EVER Embryo Transfer Of An American Cream Draft Horse

by Tiffany Corson

Our journey began the year before we decided to do it, after one of our mares kept having problems during pregnancy and lost her second baby. The vet informed us she had Placentitis due to a loose cervix and should not be bred. He recommended us to his business partner who is a specialist in equine reproduction and embryo transfer. We had a consultation with Dr. McKinlay and decided it would be a good option to attempt to get a foal from Honey's rare line. Honey is one of the only mares from the Brehm's Swedes line.

We wanted to use my rescue Thoroughbred mare as the recipient that had a Studley (our American Cream Draft stallion) cross foal in 2021. In May of 2022, we brought Penny down to Dr. McKinlay to get Penny and Honey's heat cycles synced up. When Honey came into heat we bred her to Studley. Eight days after she ovulated, we brought both mares to Dr. McKinlay to flush Honey's womb and see if she had an embryo. We didn't just have one embryo, we had two! Then came the decision to either find a second recipient mare from our vet's facility or to discard the extra embryo.

We decided it was too good of an opportunity to pass up. The vet's staff began checking their recipient mares to see where they were in their cycle, as they have to be at least one day behind Honey for the embryo transfer to be successful. The mare that was chosen was a Quarter Horse named Tank Girl. He implanted one embryo into each mare, while we crossed our fingers and began the wait to see if the transfers worked.

The following week, the mares were checked and both kept their babies! The mares stayed down at our vet's facility for 40 days so they could continue checking them each week to make sure the embryos were progressing. Once the mares were cleared to come home, meaning the fetus had a heartbeat, was growing correctly and the mares were stable, we picked them up. With every high, there is a low. The Quarter Horse, Tank Girl, had stepped on a nail that went into her Navicular Bursa. They had been treating it, packing it and had put a metal plate on her foot. We were instructed how to properly care for her hoof and took her home. We had to change the packing twice a day and it took A LOT to keep her sound (anyone that has had horses with hoof problems knows how hard they are).

We brought them to our vet for their 100 day check and all looked good. Both mares were progressing well in their pregnancies. Tank's hoof was getting better and Penny was a champ.

At the end of November, Tank Girl colicked (We suspect it was from all the medications she was on, but can't be sure). We got her through that colic and thought she was on the mend. Just over a week later she was down again and this time it was much worse. We took her to WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, which is about 4.5 hours away from our farm. Tank Girl had colic surgery. Miraculously, both her and the baby survived the strenuous surgery. The next day, Tank Girl took a turn for the worse and had to be put down. We were absolutely devastated! Not only did we lose a horse, but we lost a precious American Cream Draft foal with her.

We picked ourselves up and reminded ourselves that we had another Honey foal growing inside Penny to look forward to. We kept a close eye on her all winter and spring. Even though Dr. McKinlay told us Penny would be fine carrying a full draft baby, she sure got BIG!!! It made us kind of nervous. On April 15th, 2023, Penny gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. Penny just loved him, she licked and licked him until he was all cleaned up. She had no problem giving birth, he was just the right size. I GUESS Dr Mckinlay knows what he's doing after all. Haha!

The FIRST EVER Embryo Transfer Of An American Cream Draft Horse continued

But again, foaling has its ups and downs. Poor little colt had a bad case of windswept hind legs and had trouble standing. So, we wrapped his legs to help support him and he was up and moving in no time. We were still concerned, so we made him a vet appointment when he was a few days old. They did X-rays of his legs and said they would eventually straighten out on their own and there was no need for the wraps anymore. They were concerned about his swollen umbilical cord, so they did an ultrasound of that as well. They found it was badly infected and said it could have killed him within a couple of days. I think everything happens for a reason because if he wasn't born windswept, then we probably wouldn't have him now. He stayed at the vets to receive IV antibiotics, as that was the only kind to cure that type of infection. He was such a trooper and was so brave that we decided to name him Hero. Hero is now healthy, has beautifully straight legs and is one of the fastest creams we have ever had.

Even though we've had ups and downs during the process of getting Hero, we decided to try embryo transfer again (We are a glutton for punishment). We even took it a step further this year and bred our mares to two outside stallions. We had 3 recipient mares donated to us as well, so we were feeling pretty optimistic about our plan. After many attempts, we had only one mare, Taffy, that took to an outside American Cream Draft stallion and the only mare that was synced up with Taffy was...you guessed it, our amazing mother Penny! Penny is now carrying a Taffy/Oakley baby. Fingers crossed all goes well this time! Taffy actually had two embryos and we tried putting the second embryo in one of the vet's recipient mares, but she didn't hold onto it. So, once again Penny saves the day!

We tried many times this year to breed and flush all our mares to the other stallions using AI or side by side because our mares are older and we wanted to get some foals that were not related to our stallion. After many unsuccessful attempts, we decided to go to plan B and breed them to Studley. He is doing so well!!! Taffy is pregnant and carrying her and Studley's foal to term. Honey got pregnant, flushed and the Studley/Honey embryo placed in one of the donated recipient mares, Dolly. Millie got pregnant, flushed and the Studley/Millie embryo was placed in another donated recipient mare, Coconut. (Now this one was a miracle it survive because it was a big embryo. Dr. McKinlay even had to use a semen pipette to put the embryo into Coconut. He said normally they don't survive if they are this big, BUT it did.) Carrie was having some problems with her tubes so we decided to breed her to Studley and see if she could even get pregnant (Turns out she is also pregnant). Our last recipient mare is a beautiful Mustang mare, Sena, that was donated to be Carrie's surrogate. Since Sena wasn't being used, we decided to breed her to Studley to create a warmblood foal. She is also confirmed pregnant. So Studley's track record is looking pretty great, as all of the mares bred to him are pregnant!

If you're wanting to do Embryo Transfer, we highly recommend that you find a good breeding stallion, with a high semen count (especially if you are using AI) and also having young, healthy mares makes it much easier as well. In our experience, working with older mares and low semen counts has really not given us the best outcome.

If all goes well, we hope to have a lot of babies next year. Helping the amazing breed of American Cream Draft Horses has been our goal and dream for many years. My in-laws, Ben and Linda Corson, have been breeding creams since 1994. My husband, Nick, and I have helped on and off since we were teenagers. The last couple of seasons, we have really stepped up our game in an attempt to help get the cream numbers up. I hope you enjoyed hearing about our journey with embryo transfer. We hope you follow along with us as our journey continues.

Meet "Hero" the FIRST embryo transfer foal born from American Cream Drafts



Introducing all the people and horses involved in this wonderful adventure.

Left to Right: ACD mare Honey and Ben Corson; surrogate mare Penny and Linda Corson; Hero and Tiffany Corson; ACD Stallion Studley and Nick Corson

Nick & Tiffany Corson introducing ACD Hero to his sire ACD Studley



Here we have surrogate mare Penny and Tiffany ACD Hero and Linda ACD Honey and Ben

Please join us in welcoming**Full Members**

Heather Clark - Kizie, OR
 Jenny Gleadhall - Enderby, BC
 CANADA
 Anna Filleti - Ramona CA

Associate Members

None to report at this printing

*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).

Please transfer your horses once they are sold, that is how we keep track of them!

As stated in our by-laws, please remember to submit registration papers on deceased horses for record, they will be returned to you after it is recorded in the system.

Do you have any new contact information? Please let me know so I can update it!

Please note – Full member dues are \$50/yr as voted by membership at the 2022 Annual Meeting, Associate member dues \$25/yr. Dues should be paid by 15 June to remain a member in good standing. Contact Kerrie if you need assistance to determine if you are current!

Have you submitted your stallion reports or foaling reports? If not, please do so, they are still helpful to maintain our records and statistics.

Stallion owners... DNA is required to be on file for stallions (this is not new). Please make sure your stallion has his DNA on file with the ACDHA if you are breeding him.

Remember to always hug your Creams and enjoy their love and beauty! We are so lucky to have them in our lives and be their stewards!

2023 Grapevine, Texas Meeting

Hosts: Anne & Ken Murray

Check in on Wednesday night October 11

Meeting at the hotel conference room (it's small, so please no dogs, seats around 50 but it's free)

October 12 Box Lunch \$10-\$15 and ACDHA Silent auction (bring your auction items to help support our ACDHA)

Dinner on north Main St—finalizing the restaurant \$30

Friday October 13: come to Workhorse Ranch for coffee, tea, BBQ & corn hole games, visiting 2 and 4 legged friends, MEERS Auction and raffle. Then around 2:45-3 we'll head to Fort Worth Stockyards to see where the west begins with the cattle drive, touristy stuff like shops, honky tonks etc

Would anyone be interested if I got a shuttle bus for Friday? I'm waiting to hear options on that one.

Saturday October 14: you can head home or hang out at Nash Farm, Grapevine Texas or explore all the shops and wineries in Grapevine.

So c'mon....this is your organization we wanna see ya there!

We are hosting the American Cream Draft Horse Association social at our farm in Boyd, Texas on Friday, October 13th, around 9am till 2:30pm Besides our social this day, we also have a meet the Creams, a lunch (no official cost but donation), another silent auction & raffle for our ACD rescue, MerEquus Equine Rescue and Sanctuary. We'd love to see some items donated from other sources if you feel inclined to donate. TIA: I actually have fostered a couple of ACDs for MEERS, and their need is great. I think they saved at least 3 this past year from the slaughter pipeline...For my donation this year, I got the help of Saydea E Bontke to get some souvenir T-shirts designed. If you would like to order one to pick up in October, please PM me your type and size. These will need to be pre-paid. If you would like to order one and have it sent to you, send me your address and I will have to add shipping cost. Remember, this is a fundraiser, so while the price may seem high we want to help MEERS. They will get all the profit!

Short sleeve-S, M, L, XL \$25

Long sleeve-S, M, L, XL \$30

Hoodie-\$40

2XL and 3XL available at \$5 extra charge

*order before Sept. 20th!!!

To place an order contact:

Anne & Ken Murray

workhorseranch1998@gmail.com

or

phone #18179254993

or

706 CR 4599

Boyd, Texas 76023

