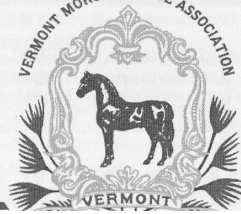


# VERMONT MORGAN HORSE ASSOCIATION



Volume 32, Issue 1

January 2022 Newsletter

## *VMHA President's Letter*

Dear Friends,

This year Vermont Morgan Horse Association marked 55 years since the association was founded in 1966. Over the last 55 years the VMHA has evolved from an organization incorporated for the purpose of encouraging and promoting the Morgan breed to one that is organized for educational purposes including: advancing the knowledge of the history Morgan breed; promoting the Morgan as a versatile pleasure, show, and breeding equine; awarding scholarships; and providing educational opportunities.

Today the association continues to evolve to meet the needs of its current and future members. While there have been challenges along the way, we have been able to address and successfully mitigate them.

As we close out 2021 let's look back to some of the VMHA's accomplishments. The board is working together for the benefit of the organization managing the club operations and finding solutions to challenges as they arise. In the midst of the COVID virus, its variants, and the ever-changing safety guidelines, the VMHA ended the year on firm financial health. The Summer Kickoff and Heritage Days horse shows were profitable, the Denny Emerson Clinic was very successful; and Outreach Promotion Sales were exceedingly strong. VMHA continues to network or partner with other organizations and entities. The youth group is reinventing itself. We continue to work towards the VMHA goals.

Looking ahead to 2022 and beyond we are in a great position to succeed in our strategic plan and mission. Here are some updates on club activities:

- The Open Competition Awards Ceremony and Potluck will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Heyday Morgans, Springfield, Vermont. The uncertainty of whether the Woodstock Senior Center would be open prompted the decision to move the location. The Quinn's indoor ring can accommodate social distancing and well as serve as a shelter from inclement weather. John Greenall will be the master of ceremony and I suspect the youth group members will assist John. Details will be forthcoming.

- The Summer Kickoff Horse Show will return to Deerfield, NH. The VMHA and Twin State American Saddlebred Association will be joined by New Hampshire Morgan (Granite State) for a combined, larger show.
- VT Morgan Heritage Days has a new show manager. Jennifer Hopper, VMHA Board member, life member, and longtime horse show enthusiast will be the show manager. Pam Turner will return to be the show secretary. The HD Committee members are organizing and beginning to plan the show.
- Several clinics have been proposed. The first is in the initial stages of planning. Once dates and details are confirmed updates will be forthcoming,

When I reflect on the VMHA activities of this past year, I am reminded that it is because of the ideas, energy and contributions of our volunteers, coupled with the active participation of club members that make the difference.

As we welcome 2022 I am confident that we will continue to adapt to meet changing preferences of our members and the challenges of the current and future environment. With your continued support we will see to it that the VMHA continues to evolve undertake new activities and events.

Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy New Year.

With warmest regards,

Karen

Karen B. McKnight, President VMHA

## *VMHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

### *Officers:*

President: Karen McKnight.....PO Box 15, Underhill Center, VT 05790.....802.899-4185...kmcknight802@gmail.com  
 Vice President: Amanda Ryan..27 Maple Ridge Lane, South Hero, VT 05486..892 578-0353..amandaspringryan@gmal.com  
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### *Directors:*

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 Hayes Sogoloff.....126 Braeburn Road, South Burlington, VT 05403....802 343-6434 .....vtspringclassic@aol.com  
 Mary (Luci) Stephens.....PO Box 87, Forestdale, VT 05745.....802 247-1495.....lucis@myfairpoint.net

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## *2022 VMHA Calendar of Events*

- April 30 - VMHA Spring Potluck and Open Competition Awards, Heyday Morgans, Springfield, VT at 12:00 p.m. John Greenall (802) 436-2266 [john@greenallcarriage.com](mailto:john@greenallcarriage.com)
- Dates to be announced - Larry Poulin Clinic, Heyday Morgan, Springfield, VT Nina Quinn (802) 885-7281 [nrquinn1960@gmail.com](mailto:nrquinn1960@gmail.com)
- July 1-3 - VMHA Morgan Heritage Days, Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Tunbridge, VT Jennifer Hopper (802) 598-1939 [jhopper82@icloud.com](mailto:jhopper82@icloud.com) Pam Turner, Show Secretary
- July 7-9 - Summer Kickoff, Deerfield Fairgrounds, Deerfield, NH Hayes Sogoloff
- July 25-30 - New England Morgan Horse Show, Tri-County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA
- August 12-14 - The Lippitt Country Show, Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Tunbridge, VT Dennis Tatro (802) 763-2516
- August 26-Sept 4 - Champlain Valley Fair, Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction, VT Anne Brown 802) 878-4128
- October 8-15 - Grand National Morgan Horse Show, State Fair Park, Oklahoma City, OK
- October 29 - VMHA Annual Meeting, Dinner and Awards Karen McKnight (802) 899-4185 [kmcknight802@gmail.com](mailto:kmcknight802@gmail.com)
- November 10-13 - Equine Affaire, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA



## *VMHA Members News*

***SPRING WILL COME EVENTUALLY***; with spring comes warm temperatures, shedding horses, and equine activities. Those lucky few have already made plans for breeding season; pouring over the recent TMH stallion issue, or visited Morgan horse farms during the winter months to choose just the right mate for their favorite mare(s).

Even more anticipated is foaling season. Following is a tease to get everyone ready for the upcoming babies. A big thank you to Anne Hablitzel, Old Vermont Morgans, Hartland, VT, for the use of her photographs. (Please note that Anne sent the following back in March of 2021.)

### **Old Vermont Morgans in 2021, Anne wrote that:**

Spring has arrived! Finally looking forward to attending Heritage Days and the Lippitt Country Show again this year. Sure did miss those two events in 2020! It was a busy breeding season last summer regardless. One of my Lippitt mares was bred via frozen

A.I. and “took” on one attempt, so I was excited about that. Her foal is due sometime around Memorial Day. Sadly my older Lippitt mare was not as cooperative, but we’ll try again this Spring. Her 2019 filly Prudence is now in Wisconsin and I’d sure love another like her. Genesee, her pasture buddy, has sprouted up at age 2 and is taller than her dam. I’m hoping Baroncrest Levi Ash, my 14-year-old Lippitt stallion, can start training soon so we can work in a few competitions. Levi was Champion Stallion at Heritage Day in 2018 and 2019, and Reserve Champion Stallion (behind his son, Old Vermont Recruit!) at the Lippitt show in 2019. In the meantime, my immediate focus is on necessary repairs inside and outside the barn.



Baroncrest Levi Ash



Old Vermont Prudence and Old Vermont Genesee



## *Carriage Driving Clinic*

Nina and Patty Quinn, Heyday Morgans, Springfield, VT had graciously hosted a John Greenall Carriage Driving Clinic. The Quinn sisters follow in the footsteps of their mother, Polly Quinn, by giving “back to the community”. They have opened their farm to many fundraising events for the benefit of the VMHA, and then donating their time and facilities along with any proceeds to the Association. VMHA owes many thanks to the Quinns!

Norma Katz, Joanna Bligh, Barb Estey, Pam Sorton and Sue Lathrop with their equine partners were put through their paces by clinician John Greenall. The auditors seated along the indoor wall also gained insights and knowledge from John as he instructed, suggested and demonstrated strategies to cement the partnerships between the four legged and two legged teams.



Barbara Estey listening intently to John Greenall. “Rosie” is ready to go when Barbara is.



Sue Lathrop and Cindy (the Mini).



Pam Sorton getting set



Joanna Bligh and Bluefield's Rita discuss driving techniques with John

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### ***VMHA MEMBERSHIP DUES AND MORE***

**Memberships are NOW due.** There has been a delay in getting the forms out to the membership, soooo please fill out the membership forms that will be e-mailed to each VMHA member and return to Nina Quinn. A mailing to others without email will follow.

**The Map Ad** is also due and the forms will be e-mailed out.

This year the **VMHA By-laws will be revisited** and sent to the membership for comment this Spring. The By-laws are very important to the Association and only members will be able to vote on changes. **WE NEED YOU!**

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*AN INVITATION*



**STAGECOACH DAYS Haverhill Corner, NH**

**Saturday, October 8, 2022, at 1:00 PM**

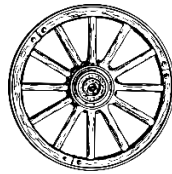
**An Invitation to the  
Vermont Morgan Horse Association:**

**CALL for**

**Carriage Drivers and  
their Morgans  
to attend**

**STAGECOACH DAYS**

**For a Parade of Morgans  
in harness**



**For more information, contact Joanna Bligh, Co-Chair of Stagecoach Days, at [joannabligh1230@gmail.com](mailto:joannabligh1230@gmail.com)**