

**ONTARIO MORGAN HORSE CLUB  
HALL OF FAME  
2012 INDUCTEES**

**COLLEEN ANNE LONGHURST**



In July 1968, the 16 year old Colleen Longhurst arrived at Lauralee Morgan Farm located north of Brampton, to work with the Morgans. She fell totally in love with them and began her lifelong passion to promote Morgans.

The Ontario Morgan Horse Club was started just 2 months before her arrival at Lauralee. She became an OMHC member and went to work promoting the Club. Several of her projects remain today as enduring OMHC endeavours. Her first undertaking was to establish a Youth Club with Colleen becoming the first OMHC Youth leader. That was the fledgling of today's Just-In-Tario Youth Club.

As time went on, Colleen became the promotion director for the Club and in that capacity looked for more ways to promote the breed and the Club. She set up the Morgan Horse Hotline to connect buyers and sellers across the Province. Another enduring promotion

that is still successful today. It was her innovation to establish the resale boutique that is still keeping us supplied with Morgan apparel and gift items. A later brain storm was to set up displays of Morgan books and literature at libraries around the Province and donate Morgan books to the library.

In 1977, Colleen bought her first Morgan, Lauralee Merrimarch. She was the mare Colleen was in love with. Breeding was contemplated, but was not in the cards for this mare. Merri went to many local shows and provided tons of fun for many kids. Unfortunately Colleen lost Merri prematurely as a result of a broken leg.

It would be several years before Colleen could face having another horse, but she kept dropping in for visits at Lauralee Morgan Farm and eventually she fell in love with a handsome young gelding, Lauralee Squire Knox and bought him in 1999. She trained him and did get to a few shows, but her interests took her into distance riding and Knox thought that a great adventure. She was thrilled to do the ultimate ride on Knox from Nancy Beacon's farm in Flesherton thru the Beaver Valley. To Colleen "THAT was riding!" In distance riding the motto is – 'to finish is to win'. Colleen won a lot.

One year Colleen and Deana decided to try Ride n' Tie. One horse, 2 riders, running (or walking) and finding the horse in the forest tied to a tree and jump on, playing leap frog all the way – 6 or 8 miles. Colleen was up for anything.

As trailering got harder for her to find, she went to smaller, local shows. She wanted to prove what a good horse, as well as a good Morgan, Knox was. She wanted him ready for anything the future would hold for him.

On June 27, 2012, Colleen passed away from cancer. All her concerns leading up to her death were of Knox, now 18 years of age. What would happen to him when she was gone? Arrangements were made for him to live out his days on the farm where he was living at the time of her death.....the farm where Colleen's ashes have been spread.

Colleen's devotion to the Ontario Morgan Horse Club and the Ontario Morgan was honoured on February 9, 2013 with her induction into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall of Fame. The honourarium was accepted by Colleen's brother Craig and his wife Debbie.

## RALPH D. PARKER



*Ralph D. Park with Adanac Bonnie Prince (1972)*

Ralph Douglas Parker was born on April 27, 1898 in California. In 1921 he graduated with a B. Sc. from the University of California but moved a few years later to Canada to work at various mines until, in 1931, he settled at Inco, eventually moving from Sudbury to Toronto. In 1963 he retired as Senior Vice President of the company. However, he never forgot his love of the Morgan horse that he had known so well in his youth in California. In the mid 1960s he built a country home just north of Kendal, Ontario that was followed by the creation of a horse breeding farm north of Elizabethville, a few miles to the east of his home. He named the farm Adanac, Canada backwards, out of love for his adopted country. Adanac Horse Farm was born.

Most of the Morgan Horse foundation stock for Adanac was purchased from W. T. Carter's San Joaquin Valley Ranch in California including two stallions: Flight Admiral and Danny Easter Vermont. Flight sired a total of 23 foals in both the US and Canada, while Danny sired 34 foals with the Adanac prefix. The foundation mares from California

included Tetonia Majesty, Halabart, Fanchon River and Jan L G Carter. Two foundation mares, Kennebec Kestrel and Jubilee's Princess were also purchased from Margaret Gardiner's Kennebec Morgan Horse Farm in Maine. Jubilee Princess produced Adanac Bonnie Prince who sired 11 foals. In 1972 David Dew was made manager of the farm and in 1975, the Dews purchased the stallion Green Mead's Rebel from Arduns Morgan Farm in Connecticut at Mr. Parker's request. Rebel produced 15 foals with the Adanac prefix.

In its heyday in the 1970s, approximately 12 Adanac foals were born each year, many of whom went on to achieve great success in the show ring, on the trails and as foundation stock themselves. In 1975 the progeny of Danny Easter Vermont: the Morgan's Adanac Baron, Adanac Comtesse and Adanac Halla's Dawn, won the Get of Sire class at the New York International Morgan Horse Show. After a long and very successful career in the show ring all three passed the torch to future generations. Adanac Baron became the foundation sire for Baronial Morgans (Anita Jackson), Adanac Halla's Dawn a foundation mare for Claybrook Morgans (David and Jane Buttars) while Adanac Comtesse, owned by Pam Dew, continued the Adanac name as a foundation mare when Mr. Parker transferred the prefix to the Dews. Adanac Brigadier was purchased by Claire Errington who showed him with great success for many years. Brigie then went on to the Blease family where he was shown and loved by the young Kim and Melissa Blease. Adanac Balios became the foundation sire for Sunny Acres Morgans (Tim and Wendy Inch) after an incredible career in dressage and carriage driving, Adanac Lightning and Adanac's Miss Canada became the foundation mares for Northline Morgans (Bruce and Alice Murray) and Adanac Bonnie Boy the foundation sire for Sumicaro Stables (Ron and Carmen McNulty). Adanac Bonnie Boy's son, Sumicaro Beau Geste, was later sold to Mountain Creek Morgans to continue the bloodline in Australia. Anne McCaughey purchased No Duplicate, a Rebel Danny cross, to use for Endurance Riding. They completed many rides including a number of 100 mile events winning the Canadian Championship for junior riders twice.

In 1977, Mr. Parker felt that it was time to slow down. However, he did not want the Adanac name to finish with him and transferred it to the Dews who set up a smaller farm just north of Cobourg, Ontario. He dispersed much of the breeding stock with Danny and Rebel and some of the mares moving to Tennessee to finish out their days. Over the next few years the Dews helped him to sell the remaining horses. In 1980, Adanac Comtesse was bred to Elm Hill Charter Oak to produce Adanac Redd Oak. Redd, born in 1981 and

the 81st foal to carry the Adanac prefix, became the foundation sire for the 'new' Adanac siring 16 foals in the next few years. There are just under 100 Adanac foals registered with the AMHA and/or the CMHA. Although no longer actively involved, Mr. Parker continued to visit the horses and the Dews regularly from 1977 until his death in 1983.

R. D. Parker is a member of the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame. In addition to his wonderful Adanac legacy, the R. D. Parker Building at Laurentian University and the R. D. Parker Collegiate in Thompson, Manitoba are named in his honour.

Mr. Parker was a most remarkable man who did much to advance the Morgan breed in Ontario through his Adanac breeding program. Mr. Parker was inducted into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall of Fame on February 9, 2013. David and Pam Dew accepted the honourarium on behalf of Mr. Parker.

## CORDON MARKSMAN (#418)



In the spring of 1966 Deana Wilson was looking to acquire the first stallion for her breeding farm. She contacted Mabel Owen of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, a well known authority, Judge, breeder and educator of the Morgan breed. Deana was not in a position to travel around and look at various animals and she knew she liked Mabel's kind of horses, so Deana asked for her help.

Mabel found Cordon Marksman who was sired by Bro-Rock March On (by Vigilmarch) and out of Merry Cordelia (by Townshend Manwallis); a 2 year old bred by Mr & Mrs Ronald Phelps who lived in Mabel's general vicinity. Mark was a bright red chestnut with matching hind socks and a small star.

Aside from good conformation and no defects that would preclude breeding, a key requirement was that this horse had to have an excellent disposition as Deana had never had a stallion before. Mabel guaranteed his disposition and so a trusting Deana bought him sight unseen. He was delivered to a stable where Deana had arranged for a stall. Of course, he yelled hello to the other horses and the stable owners panicked and said they could not keep him. So he went to an Arabian farm that was a breeding farm and familiar with stallions. There they thought he was just a pet and he could do no wrong. Mark



stayed at that stable the first year and bred Deana's mares and the Brown's lovely Kay Jay Spar. He received his hand breeding lessons then and was a perfect gentleman.

When Deana was finally in a position to take him home, she rented a pasture and he ran with the mares the next year. She broke him to ride and a couple of years later, hooked him and drove around home a bit. He would do anything for Deana and always looked beautiful doing it. By the time he was 4 years old, he was breeding every year and Deana and Mark were showing wherever possible. People loved him wherever they went and whatever they did.

In 1968, as a 4 year old, Deana and Mark entered the second 50 mile endurance ride held in Ontario at Joker's Hill. At the pre-ride vetting, the vet said he was too young and would never make it, but he was sound and they let him go. He finished the ride quite fine. The process then had the horses confined to stalls over night; not allowed to come out until they were led to the judge for soundness. He was fine. Next the horse was saddled up and ridden out the trail traveled the day before. Some horses really did not want to go, but Mark was right up for the challenge and trotted right out. His problem was that he was a stallion and every time they went to take his pulse, he looked over at a mare and his pulse just jumped!



*Cordon Marksman with Deana Wilson up*

Mark made many friends for the Morgan over all his years. His attitude tricked other riders into not realizing that he was a stallion. On many occasions when standing around in a group of horses they would crowd right into him. Deana would politely advise that he was a stallion and they would think she was joking.

Two of his first foals went on to have illustrious careers. Kay Jay Spar produced Desi Brown who had a good show career including Champion Stallion at the OMHC show and showed in park harness as well. He was later gelded and sold to Nancy Beacon, who has said he was the “perfect Morgan”. Desi could do and did everything, including 100 mile endurance rides and still looked Morgan beautiful doing it.

Mark’s next most significant foal was Lauralee Delia Rose (out of Dawn Rose). Delia was a medium chestnut with a star. She was all legs as a foal and took several years to grow up and into them. A late bloomer, she did not have much of a show career but it was soon evident that her niche was the breeding shed. She produced 12 foals over a 24 year period.

Her first foal was born in 1973, Lauralee Foxy Man (by Skipper Boy) was quickly purchased by Catherine Hosken Sampson the year he was born. He went on to make a good name for himself under her care and exhibited his sire’s great temperament. Foxy Man was the founding sire of Trillium Morgan Farm.

Then followed six in a row sired by Clear River Phantom – Lauralee Phandel in 1975, Lauralee Phantastic in 1976, Lauralee Phantasm in 1978, Lauralee Phanfare in 1979, Lauralee Phantasy in 1981, and Lauralee Pheonix in 1982. This was Delia’s golden cross, as each one went on to a super show career in many different disciplines with the exception of the filly Phantasy who died very young.

In 1985, Holly McHugh leased Delia and bred her to Mad River Sailor resulting in MCH Cheryllynn and her next three foals were for the Sampson’s Trillium Morgan Farm – Trillium High Falutin by Jaklee High Voltage, Trillium Mr T Riffic by Chestnut Hill Mr T, and Trillium Top Gun by Dartmoor Tor. Finally Delia came home and had her last foal at 24 sired by Mad River Bell Buoy and named Lauralee Cordelia Belle.



Mark was sold back to the States in 1975 where he was gelded and shown with much distinction by a youth for many years. She then sold him to Larry Sparks of Triple Creek Stables for his grandchildren to do walk trot. Mark went to the Grand National in this capacity and performed well. He ended his life in the comfort of a heated barn and was well loved.

He had a good life and fulfilled his potential as Morgan ambassador wherever he went. His blood lives on here among Ontario Morgans.

Cordon Marksman's outstanding Morgan qualities and the significant early footprint he put on the Morgans in Ontario make him well suited to be chosen as the first Morgan horse to be inducted into the OMHC Hall of Fame. On February 9, 2013 Cordon Markman's Hall of Fame honourarium was accepted by his importer and Canadian owner Deana Wilson.