

**ONTARIO MORGAN HORSE CLUB
HALL OF FAME
2016 INDUCTEES**

GREGORY REEVES



Greg & Chestnut Hill Felicity

On November 12, 2014, the equine community lost a very special member; Greg Reeves slipped away from us at the age of 54. His accomplishments with horses, and in particular the Morgan horse, were exceptional. He and his family helped to establish international recognition of the Morgan breed in Canada. Greg himself was a great ambassador for the Morgan Horse.

The Reeves family became Morgan owners in 1966 with the arrival of the colt Hippothous. With Hippi in tow, Jack, his wife Kay and young sons Greg and Geoff moved to a farm in Uxbridge. It wasn't long before the mare Williams Drumlin Lou and her daughter Aristippi were added. Chestnut Hill Morgans was created!

From those humble beginnings, it was that Morgan foal, Aristippi, that would become such an important part of Greg's life.

In 1974 the Reeves family travelled to Detroit, Michigan for the Morgan Grand Nationals. Greg and Tippi had practiced trail routines all year. In the season leading up to the 1974 Grand National, Tippi had shown trail 12 times - winning 10 firsts and 2 seconds. Greg, only 14 years of age, was aboard Tippi and together they executed one of the best runs of her life. They was up against pro trainers and horses from all over the United States. When the judge's cards were turned in, Tippi and the young Greg were called out Grand National Trail Horse Champion! Tippi was the first Canadian owned horse to win a Grand National title. It was a win that truly did put the Reeves' farm and Canadians on the 'Morgan map.' In Greg's own words: "Aristippi was a special horse for me and without a doubt was the best horse I ever rode; after all, she took me to the best win of my life."

Some 'older' members may remember an occasion in 1976 when we got to see real life cowboy heroes in the Reeves men. It was during the Ontario Morgan Horse Show that year at the Sutton Fairgrounds. A park harness horse became a runaway outside the show ring. The Reeves boys, Jack, Greg and Geoff, mounted on their Morgans, chased after the runaway. Our three cowboys each played their role perfectly; slowed the galloping panicked horse; and brought him down to a stop. (The horse was fine, the show buggy, not so much!)

In the show ring, when Greg teamed with his brother Geoff, they could show an In Hand horse like "nobody's business"! Greg was a master horsemen - whether it be riding saddle seat, western pleasure or trail or pleasure driving.....he did it all. Horses were magic in his hands and he had the great talent to teach as well. His vast experience made him an ideal judge. He held a Morgan, Saddlebred and Arabian Equine Canada judges card and he was a well respected judge all across Canada. He was fair; impartial; and he enjoyed his job. At the 2014 Canadian Morgan Horse Convention he participated in a judge's panel where he spoke

passionately about his judging experiences and the many great horses he had the pleasure of judging.

Greg was competitive. He didn't like to lose but he was always gracious. Losing a class just inspired him to work harder next time. He wasn't just a rider, he was a trainer and always sought out the solution to help his horse be better. He attended clinics and gave clinics, often without charging for his time. He donated his time and talent to many events for the Ontario Morgan Horse Club, Canadian Morgan Horse Association and the Quarter Horse Association also benefited from his experience. He designed many of their trail courses and during the winter season, he would host fun trail ride clinics at the home farm for the boarders.

He was a member of the Canadian Morgan Horse Association for 35 years; founding director of the Morgan Horse Heritage Centre; a long-time member of the OMHC; a director on the OMHC board; and horse show chairman for the Morgan Horse Championship Classic for many years. He was a terrific negotiator and diplomat. Always the first to step up and volunteer to help.

He travelled to many of the CMHA conventions (often with his dad) and was especially good at hospitality. A smile and a funny story were his trademark. He was a master at storytelling....but factual of course!!

Greg, with his Morgans, earned many Championships in the show ring and high point awards. His gelding Chestnut Hill Sealect earned enough points to be awarded the Superior Justin Morgan. An honour only a handful of Morgans have earned to date. He developed and showed many Morgans....too numerous to mention here....but suffice to say, he won a lot in competition!

But Greg will be remembered for so much more than the ribbons and trophies. He was part of a family dynasty that created and built a solid foundation for the Morgan breed in Ontario and Canada. He was continuing that family legacy, but putting his own stamp on it. He never passed up an opportunity to compete on his mare Chestnut Hill Felicity (grand-daughter to his beloved Tippi). In 2014,

Greg and Missy were the OMHC Western Pleasure Champions and that same year Aristippi was inducted into the OMHC Hall Of Fame Award. An honour which meant the world to Greg.

On February 11, 2017, at the Ontario Morgan Horse Club's annual banquet in Port Perry, a very deserving and deeply missed Greg Reeves was inducted into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall of Fame. Geoff Reeves, Greg's brother, and Madison Reeves, Greg's niece, accepted the framed James Walls limited edition print "The Figurehead" (a Justin Morgan head study) as a token acknowledgement of the occasion.



Greg & Aristippi (circa 1974)

BRUCE AND ALICE MURRAY



When Bruce and Alice Murray first set out together in search of their first horse they did their horse shopping homework. They considered the Arabian, the American Saddlebred but when they saw their first Morgan, the stallion Hippothous, at Jack and Kay Reeves' Chestnut Hill Morgans they were hooked. The Morgan was the perfect fit for them.

So began the Murray's association with the Morgan Horse. While visiting at Chestnut Hill, Jack talked to them about the Ontario Morgan Horse Club and invited them to an upcoming Club meeting being held at Adanac Horse Farm in Garden Hill.

At this time, Adanac, owned by Ralph D Parker and managed by David Dew, was the biggest Morgan breeding farm in Ontario. They went to that meeting and met some amazing Morgan enthusiasts and soon after, in 1974, they bought their first Morgan, a weanling named Adanac Lightning. They took Lightning north to their home in Gravenhurst and it was there that they came up with their prefix "Northline".

Alice and Bruce stayed in touch with their new Morgan friends and a few years later moved south to become the caretakers at Adanac Horse Farm. While working at Adanac they purchased their next Morgan mare, Adanac's Miss Canada and about a year later the colt, Adanac Balios. When the Adanac property was sold in 1977 the Murray's initially boarded their horses at fellow Morgan owners David and Jane Butters in Port Hope. It was at this point that they got the 'show' bug and Adanac Lightning began her momentous show career with the Murrays. Lightning would ultimately earn 2 Justin Morgan Awards in Western Pleasure and countless fans.

It was not long before Bruce and Alice decided they wanted to buy a farm and look after their own horses. They purchased a farm north of Cobourg with a small 3 stall barn.....just enough for their 3 Morgans.....but those 3 stalls soon needed to be 11. Northline Morgans was expanding!! Shortly after the barn addition was complete, they received an inviting offer to purchase their property.....with a quick 30 day closing. They agreed to sell and bought 52 acres of land overlooking Rice Lake. They built the house, barn, and arena themselves and this is home to the Murray family and their Northline Morgans today.

In 1980, Polly Smith in Connecticut offered them the opportunity to import the Morgan stallion Ironbrook Sun Hawk on a lease to own basis. Sun Hawk was by the Airacobra straight back to the great Fly Hawk. Perfect line breeding for their own Adanac's Miss Canada and that cross produced several lovely Morgans, including Kelly Pilgrim's, Northline Royal Hawk. The arrival of Sun Hawk was followed shortly with the purchase of several new mares selected as outcross to their new stallion.

All the while, Bruce and Alice still were showing their Morgans; their son Ian had been born; and now their breeding farm was in full swing. Bruce and Alice always with a keen eye for improving their breeding program. The stallion JMF Royal Express was selected as an outcross stallion for their Sun Hawk mares. Unfortunately Royal did not work out as a breeding stallion.....but as a gelding became the perfect Morgan partner for their son Ian. One of the key mare additions was the lovely Burnt Mtn Bridget. Some years before they had sold Adanac Balios to Tim and Wendy Inch and in 1983 they selected Balios to cross with Bridget. That proved to be a pivotal breeding for them as it produced the talented versatile Northline Rain Bird.

Northline Rain Bird was such a fun stallion. He loved to show; and won countless championships in Pleasure Driving, English Pleasure and Park. He earned CMHA Justin Morgan Awards in English Pleasure and Pleasure Driving while only competing in Ontario Shows. Bruce and Alice, with Rain Bird, introduced many people to the Morgan breed during volunteer demonstrations throughout Ontario including the Royal Winter Fair. Rain Bird was a prolific breeding stallion who sired 34 registered Morgans in Ontario including Heather Dilts-Baiano's Morgan Grand National Reserve Champion Northline Rainmaker and the talented likes of Stephanie Rutherford's late Northline Knightbird, Sheila McNaughton's Northline Spring D-Lite, to just name a few.

Throughout the years Bruce and Alice have been huge supporters of the fairs.....and were instrumental in getting Morgan classes at Roseneath Fair a number of years ago and continue to manage and grow that show. Bruce and Alice were keen competitors who loved to show their Morgans and enjoyed fun times with their Morgan friends. Always the first to offer a needed hand or to throw the first bucket in a water fight. .

As individuals Bruce and Alice have shown their Morgans to many championships, earned High Point and Justin Morgan awards throughout their 43 year career in the Morgan breed. As breeders Canadian Livestock Records lists 68 Morgans

registered under the Northline prefix. Morgans bred by Bruce and Alice have won over 125 Champion and Reserve Champion titles in the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Highpoint. They have sold horses throughout North America, including breeding stallions to Vermont. To this day you can still see Northline Morgans showing and winning championships and hearts in Ontario and the United States. The 2016 Ontario Show Horse Classic saw Ashley Reeson's, Northline Enterprise pinned the first Eastern Canadian Morgan Hunter Pleasure Champion and Sheila McNaughton's, Northline Spring D-Lite pinned the first Eastern Canadian Park Reserve Champion.

Bruce and Alice Murray have devoted over 40 years to the Morgan breed in Ontario. Through their participation on the Ontario Morgan Horse Club board, showing, breeding and selling family friendly Morgans they have introduced countless people to the breed we all love. It is fitting, that Bruce and Alice Murray of Northline Morgans, are welcomed as inductees into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall Of Fame.

On February 11, 2017, at the Ontario Morgan Horse Club's annual banquet in Port Perry, Bruce and Alice Murray were inducted into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall of Fame. A thrilled and honoured Bruce and Alice accepted the framed James Walls limited edition print "Figure" as a token acknowledgement of the occasion.

ADANAC BARON
(*Danny Easter Vermont x Jan L G Carter*)
1972 - 2003



Spring 1972 was an exciting time at Ralph D. Parker's Adanac Horse Farm in Campbellcroft, Ontario. It was foaling season. On June 8th that year the young bay Morgan mare, Jan L G Carter gave birth to a beautiful bay colt, sired by Danny Easter Vermont. This spirited youngster was aptly named Adanac Baron and developed into a stallion that exemplified the wonderful spirit and versatility of the Morgan Horse. When just a weanling, Baron was selected by Steve and Anita Walton (Anita now known to us as Anita Jackson) as a trail riding prospect. The proud youngster proved to be too handsome and too talented to hold him to a life on the trails. The Adanac Baron journey included memorable moments in and out of the show ring; amazing show ring accomplishments and a breeding shed legacy as the founding sire of Baronial Morgans. Baron transferred to Anita Jackson's sole ownership in 1980. He lived a long life in partnership with Anita, passing away in 2003 at the age of 31. He was a well known show horse and

Morgan sire throughout Ontario, Quebec and North Eastern US, as well as a wonderful equestrian teacher and friend.

Baron's show career spanned 1973 to 1983 and he was an outstanding competitor. His first show was The Ontario Morgan Horse Show at the old Markham Fairgrounds in 1973. As a yearling, with rookie handlers, Baron was pinned Reserve Champion Yearling and then Canadian Bred Champion....a class that included all ages and genders. His show career was off and running!!

As a 2 year-old, in 1974, Baron attended 10 horse shows and fairs with the highlight being his participation at the Morgan Grand National held in Detroit Michigan where he just missed a top ten pinning. During this season Baron would earn enough show points to achieve what would be the first of his many Canadian Morgan Horse Club Divisional/Zone and OMHC High Point awards.

As a 3 year old, in 1975, he added performance classes to his resume in addition to In hand. He competed in both Western and English Pleasure Classes as well as Pleasure Driving..... in both Morgan only and Open classes. Baron was indeed a keen example of the Morgan breed's versatility.

His show career continued, against what can only be described as fierce competition here in Ontario during that period of time, through the next number of years. He was a force to be reckoned with at fairs and horse shows throughout Ontario, Quebec and the north eastern US. He won innumerable Championships, Grand Championships and year end awards. Over his show career he earned six Justin Morgan Awards - 3 In Hand, 2 Pleasure Driving and 1 English Pleasure and collected Justin Morgan points in 7 difference divisions. A versatile Morgan extraordinaire.

Over the years Baron was an outstanding ambassador of the Morgan Horse through participation in Open Horse Shows and local area Santa Clause parades. His demonstration of the Morgan's versatility and tractable temperament were the basis for many conversations his owners had with the public that saw and

admired him. In May 1977 the horse publication The Equestrian Image focused an issue on the Morgan Horse. Danny Easter Vermont and his get were featured in that issue with high praise for Danny's multi-talented son, Adanac Baron.

As the foundation stallion of Baronial Morgan and inspiration for the farm prefix, Baron's name, legacy and bloodlines will forever tie to the foals bred and raised at that Morgan farm. Adanac Baron sired 19 purebred foals. His name continues to appear on the registration papers of Morgans throughout Canada and the United States. His stamp remains on multiple generations. His descendants, like the old man himself, excel at whatever job they are given. Some familiar names that have this amazing Morgan in their breeding include Baronial Big Mac (a grandson), Baronial Blues 'n' Jazz & Baronial Blooming Star (great-great granddaughters); Baronial Casanova, and Baronial Mr. Charisma (great-great grandsons)...all champions in their own right carrying on Baron's legacy.

On February 11, 2017, at the Ontario Morgan Horse Club's annual banquet in Port Perry, Adanac Baron was inducted into the Ontario Morgan Horse Club Hall of Fame. A token acknowledgement of Baron's induction, in the form of an engraved silver candy dish, was presented to his life-long owner, a thrilled and tearful Anita Jackson.