



CANADIAN REGISTRY OF THE TENNESSEE WALKING HORSE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – APRIL 17, 2010

2009 has been a lean year for new registrations and for transfers, as it has been for all the horse breed registries. However we continue to emphasize education and information, so people may get the greatest pleasure and enjoyment from their horses.

CRTWH sponsored three 'Gait from the Ground Up' clinics with Clinicians Bill Roy and Dianne Little last year. Bill and Dianne worked together right here at Klondike Victory Farm at the AGM clinic last year. Then only two weeks later Dianne gave a clinic at Magnolia Meadows near Evansburg, AB, and Bill was clinician at a clinic at Pouce Coupe, B.C. in September. Our thanks to Dianne & Bill, and the folks who organized the venues.

The eye-catching CRTWH booth at the Mane Event in Red Deer last April was a great success, with many compliments from visitors. Thank you to all who set up the booth, and to the volunteers who manned it for the weekend. A special big 'Thank you' goes to Jean Rempel for organizing the photos, Dianne Little for bringing and organizing the backdrops, and Bill Roy for organizing and riding in the demos and presenting several mini-clinics. Thank you also to the members who brought horses and rode in the demos: Lori Dyberg & Romeo, Karla Freeman and Ken, Fran Kerik and Mira, Keith Oberle and Bellatrix and Bill Roy and Trooper. It was a great opportunity to demonstrate the quality of Canadian bred Walkers and the pride their owners feel in them. We were also represented at Equitana in Germany last spring at the European Association's booth (ETWHA). We had brochures and literature there as well as a photo presence. Since then Dianne Little has been back to Europe to give a Judges' Clinic and while there presented CRTWH's Program For Excellence to the ETWHA.

Last spring Jean Rempel volunteered for the duties of Secretary of the Association and Bill Roy took over as Vice-President. We welcomed two new members, Leslie Hunchuk and Ralph Livingston, to the Board in 2009. We very much appreciate their willingness to serve. Lexie Cole, long-time Saskatchewan Director, retired in 2009, and Maureen Hummel of BC and Ernie Wall of Saskatchewan both stepped down when their three year terms expired. We thank them for their work on behalf of the Registry.

There was a Trail Plus Event in Alberta organized by Keith Oberle which saw several horses evaluated for Training Levels. There were also new entrants in the Ride Your Walker Program and horses entered in the Program For Excellence. We have now evaluated over forty horses in the PFE and have a new feature on the CRTWH website to recognize them. The Canadian Triple Challenge program is unique in the world of Walking & gaited horses. We have even evaluated horses in the US and Switzerland. We'd like to see many more Canadian members take part in any or all of the Canadian Triple Challenge: the Program For Excellence - to evaluate conformation, gait and breed character; the Training Levels - to show trainability and versatility, and The Ride Your Walker program -for the sheer enjoyment of your horse!

Dianne Little, Jean Rempel and Ernie Wall completed the editing and up-dating of Eldon Eadie's gait video, The Running Walk of the Tennessee Walking Horse, to DVD format. It has been advertised in Canada and the US since November, as well as on our website, with interesting results.

The last item I'll mention is that your Board decided to have all the Canadian Tennessee Walking Horse pedigrees made available on the CLRC website in 2009. This allows anyone to look up a horse's family lines, breeder, owner of record and progeny, if any. It's a great addition to our knowledge of the horses we have here in Canada – and it is another free service provided through the Registry. It has shown up one glaring fact however. Why are so many horses being sold - but not transferred to their new owners? And what, if anything, can we as a Registry, do about it? I'd like to put that question to you later in the meeting.

My grateful thanks to all the Board members for putting in the time, effort and initiative to make the work of the Canadian Registry possible.

Thank you.

Marjorie Lacy