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#### September 2017

### **Good Morning!**

I can't believe another Grand National is just about here! This has been a crazy month. Still getting used to our new software, preparing for Grand National, looking at year-end awards, the Convention, and even next show season! Phew!

Speaking of the Convention, if your club would like to have a booth, please let me know. The paperwork will be ready next month. We'd love to have you in the Bluegrass State. It's going to be a fabulous time!

As always, please contact me if you have any questions, comments, or needs.

Enjoy the fall weather! Chris

### **AMHA News**



### AMHA Award Nominations Due Nov. 1

Nominations are now open for AMHA members to nominate a Morgan person who has helped to make the breed great and are due November 1. AMHA members can nominate their Morgan hero or heroine for a number of special year-end awards. All AMHA awards are based on nominations made by AMHA members.

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### Registry Rush Fee Increased

Please note, the fee for rushed registry paperwork will go from \$75 to \$100 effective Friday, Sept. 1, 2017. At its third quarter meeting, the AMHA Board of Directors voted and approved the increase. A rush is the turnaround time of a day if paperwork is received during the week, and not during a weekend or a holiday.

BECOME
INVOLVED
AND
NOMINATE
SOMEONE

Lexington, Kentucky. Awards to be presented at the annual awards banquet include:

\* "Person of the Year." This award recognizes the individual(s) who, in the past five years, have made particularly exceptional contributions to the support and preservation of the Morgan breed and/or AMHA.

\* The "AMHA Young Person Award" honors one young person (under 40 years of age) who has demonstrated breed promotion and outreach through participation in events, committees, or clubs, and has noted achievements with Morgans in or out of the show ring. The nominee will also have exhibited positive personal characteristics and sportsmanship and inspired others. Nominees must be a current AMHA member.

\* The Promoter of the Year award has been renamed the "Dr. Albert Lucine Promoter Award." Given to an individual, group, or farm that goes above and beyond to promote the Morgan breed, this award recognizes an individual who exemplifies volunteerism throughout the Morgan horse world. It is an individual who volunteers his or her time on a local or regional level, as well as stepping up on the national level. This is an individual who has shown a penchant for volunteering, and will do anything to promote and support activities involving Morgan horses and their people.

Other awards include the AMHA Hall of Fame, AMHA Breeders' Hall of Fame, Cecil R. Brown Memorial Sportsmanship Award, and Show Horse Hall of Fame, among others. Go to AMHA Honors to see the various awards that are offered and to download a nomination form. Nominations must include a summary of the nominee's accomplishments relevant to the type of award.

Watch <u>www.morganhorse.com</u> for more Convention updates!

# There is ONLY One Way to Get the 2018 AMHA Calendar

There is only one way to get the 2018 AMHA Calendar-to be a subscriber to the official breed journal, *The Morgan Horse* magazine!

Every subscriber (at the time of printing) to the official breed journal, The Morgan Horse magazine, will receive the 2018 AMHA calendar! This will be bundled with the January/February 2018 issue as an added, FREE bonus gift!

Make sure you subscribe **NOW** because your subscription must be current to receive this special gift. <u>Calendars will not be sold separately!</u> In order to guarantee your subscription, AMHA must receive payment no later than December 31, 2017.

The cost for U.S. AMHA members for a year is \$24.50; U.S. non-members can subscribe for \$40.

Subscriptions can now be taken online! Go to <a href="https://www.morganhorse.com">www.morganhorse.com</a> to place your order! Or call (802) 985-4944 to sign up today!

If you are an AMHA Premium member, don't forget you can get your registry work processed within a week if you make the notation when you submit your paperwork.

In an effort to introduce people who are unfamiliar with the breed we love, AMHA is organizing an event targeting the general public. Dubbed "Day of the Morgan," this event will open the doors to more than 100 Morgan barns across the country! Visitors will get an up close and personal introduction to the best breed on earth!



The event is slated to take place on October 28, with a "rain date" of November 4 if you have a conflict.

Whether you have a couple of Morgans that you pleasure ride on the weekends or have a large training stable, commit to promoting the breed with an open barn. Perhaps you have a dependable Morgan on which you can give pony rides? If you are into carriage driving, a ride in your buggy around the farm would be fabulous! If you can do demonstrations, great! But if you can't, no problem! If nothing else, let your visitors brush, pet, feed a horse a carrot or take a selfie! This is your day to make your Morgans shine!

For more information or to sign up, contact Sandy Sessink at (248) 207-4956.

## Good Luck to the 2017 Youth of the Year Contestants

AMHA wishes good luck to the following 16 talented, driven young equestriennes who are vying for the elite title of 2017 Youth of the Year at the Grand National! All of these contestants qualified either won a local or regional youth contest or scored above 800 points—not an easy feat!

While in Oklahoma, these young women will participate in a judging contest, a written exam, and give an oral presentation. Additionally, each has to ride or drive a pattern scored by two judges.

A lot of work and preparation goes into the Youth of the Year Contest, and these youth have done a fabulous job of promoting the Morgan to their peers. Below are the contestants and the name of the show where they qualified.

If you'd like to learn more about AMHA's youth programs, please contact Katie Hodges at <a href="mailto:Katie@morganhorse.com">Katie@morganhorse.com</a> or (802) 985-4944 ext. 401.

Natalie Bair, age 15, representing Gold Cup Regional Horse Show

**Erin Baker**, age 17, representing British Columbia Morgan Horse Show

**Nicole Bobbi**, age 17, representing Massachusetts Morgan Horse Show

Clea Cloutier, age 15, representing New England Morgan Horse Show

**Randie Jo Evans**, age 16, representing Michigan All Morgan Horse Show

**Jessica Hyman**, age 15, representing: New England Morgan Horse Show

**Skyler James**, age 16, representing Citrus Cup Regional Horse Show

Alicia Kollien, age 15, representing Buckeye Morgan Challenge

Emily Mulligan, age 21, representing Seacoast Morgan Horse Show

**Sophie Proctor**, age 16, representing UPHA Chapter 14 Spring Premiere

Kate Ramsower, age 17, representing Carousel Charity Horse Show

Victoria Ricci, age: 20, representing Connecticut Morgan Horse Show

Makayla Ronk, age 15, representing Morgan Masterpiece Abigale Stemper, age 17, representing C-Fair Charity Horse Show

**Annika Stoldt**, age 21, representing Michigan All Morgan **Shaunicy Sturm**, age 18, representing Carousel Charity Horse Show

## AMHA Issues Statement Regarding Cancelled Horse Shows

AMHA is saddened to learn of the cancellation of two significant horse shows (Penn-Ohio and Circle J).

The decisions to end these long-standing events by their respective show committees/clubs are always difficult ones. Show committees work extremely hard to provide wonderful venues for our membership to enjoy showcasing our beloved Morgan horses. Shows are challenged by so many different things from increased expenses, to finding volunteers, to managing diverse interests of so many different viewpoints.

In an effort to provide a venue for our members to express their concerns and more importantly, provide suggestions for solutions, we will plan to set aside time for forums (to be led by a panel of experts from all aspects of our industry) at the 2018 Convention and Annual Meeting to be held in Lexington, Kentucky February 14-17. It will lay the foundation for AMHA to be pro-active in the approach to not just maintaining our industry, but to also GROW it. We hope you will plan now to be a part of this exciting endeavor as we all have the same LOVE - the Morgan horse.

An agenda for the forum will be available in the coming months. Plan now to participate - Convention Theme: My Morgan, My Heart (Bring your heart to the heart of the Bluegrass).

#### **Grand National News**

### FREE Live Streaming at 2017 Morgan Grand National

The Grand National & World Championship Morgan Horse Show® is happy to announce this year's live feed will be brought to you FREE at <a href="https://www.MGNLive.com">www.MGNLive.com</a>.



With the help of the expert production team at Richfield Video, every minute of this magnificent Morgan event will be brought to you live from start to finish beginning Saturday, October 7.

Many thanks our advertisers!
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There is still time to become an advertiser and reach thousands of viewers live throughout the week and on our website into the future! Contact C. A. "Tony" Lee at tony@caliii.com for more details.

Competition for this year's show begins Saturday, October 7 with three shows daily through Saturday, October 14. Show times will be at 9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. each day. For more information on the 2017 horse show and for updates, log on to <a href="https://www.morgangrandnational.com">www.morgangrandnational.com</a>.

#### Club News

# GMHO's Silver Valley Tate Wins National Championship



The Gaited Morgan Horse Organization (GMHO) is proud to announce Silver Valley Tate (Caduceus Moses x Mary Mels Rosebud) recently won the Open National Championship Competitive Trail Ride for the second time!

This gaited Morgan is owned by Mary and Dwight Hanson and bred by Missouri Morgans. Dwight is an advisor for the Gaited Morgan Horse Organization. In 2016, Tate earned his Open National Championship with the North American Trail Ride Conference (NATRC). In 2015 he won the Competitive Pleasure National Championship and now once again, he has earned his Open National Championship for 2017! Tate competed in two 50-mile American Endurance Race Competitions in Florida and placed seventh among a large competition.

Tate's rider, Sarah Rinne, is the Executive Director at the NATRC, a Horsemanship Judge for the NATRC, and Hay Girl at Rinne Hay Service in Tennessee after a career as a U.S. Marine Corps staff sergeant and Nebraska State Probation officer. Sarah has plans to compete Tate again for the 2018 season for NATRC and hope to be in shape to attempt the 100-Mile Tevis Cup in California!

Sarah says she will always be partial to Morgans, because of her retired gelding Phoenix and many wonderful miles on him, but Tate has stolen her heart. "I love this big boy, he's sweet and he's tough. NATRC is a great sport for the breed, they often excel!"

Pictured is Mary Hanson, Tate, and Sarah Rinne!

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