March 2010 Past newsletters are published on our website under news

Summerwind News

MMs in the New World

During the last few issues, we have been covering some of the Brasilian breeders and origins of our Marchadors. The USMMA with the help of all the importers will be writing our history and stories soon in the USMMA newsletter, perhaps to be published in a book too. Tresa Smith is heading up the tremendous effort.

Here are some of the numbers to whet your appetite.

69 Marchadors have been imported from Brasil.
Of the 69 imports:
1 had to be returned to Brasil when he failed testing in Miami
4 have died since being imported (only one from old age)
The oldest import is a mare born in 1982 - Formosa do Crocoto.
26 were stud colts or stallions. Of these, only 11 are still breeding.
37 mares were imported to become foundation breeding mares in 11 states with 14 breeders.
5 horses were imported as geldings.

The importers:
The Guerra family in FL – MM Horse Farms.
Regal Legacy Farm, out of business, in CA, GA and OH
Tresa Smith in MT – Lazy T Ranch and Montana Marchadors
Premier International, out of business, in FL and CA
John and Lynn Kelley in AZ, Summerwind Marchadors
Susan Gabriel in CA, Dreamcatcher Ranch
Rick and Liz Schatz in OK, Flying Oaks Ranch
Holm and Susan Neumann in OR, Cascade Marchadors
Keith Mosing in TX
Peter and Lori Silcher in MT, 4 Seasons Marchadores

The foundation horses represented a great mix of bloodlines. Abaiba, Tabatinga, Favacho, Bela Cruz, Herdade, JB, Traituba, Caxambu and more. Some of the imported mares were pregnant to Brasilian stallions further adding to the genetic pool if they remained breeding animals. All of the other Marchadors found around the country are products of these original horses.

Violeiro de Itajoana, imported son of ElITE champion mare FESTA AJ. A sweetheart now in WY with Marion Neidringhaus. We wish we had kept his semen!

Following the Brasilian trail to the US. Do you know your horse's history? Tell us if you want more history!

News from Family & Friends

AZ – Kristy Everson is moving her family and the horses up to Flagstaff for the summer months. A BIG move!

Connie DeCamp is still enjoying Epopeia do Vale da Prata., now 21 years young. Epopeia waits by the gate to get out on the trails! Connie also owns 2 MM daughters of Epopeia that are approaching riding age.

CA - Our deepest condolences to Marli and Martin Wood. Martin's dad passed away from cancer in May. He was the real deal – a great horseman too.

MT – Eliza Frazer purchased our share of Caetano-Veloso de Lazy T, the dark palomino or snowcap buckskin gelding. (Coming soon – a what color is he? Contest). Eliza cared for Cat after surgery and decided she just couldn't live without him. Her MM mare, Astrud de Lazy T has just started under saddle in preparation for inspection.

NC – Michelle Bosley gets to work riding Bacara do Summerwind as Jeff is laid up after back surgery. Great job Michelle! Bacara will be inspected this year.

US – All over, the 2010 foals are being born! We've seen photos from FL, MT, and SC so far.

BRAZIL – We welcome back Felipe Ribeiro who will be training at Lazy T ranch in preparation for the 2010 ABCCMM inspection. Also returning is our favorite inspector, Getulio Tadeau Vieira. While plans and tickets are being made now, the inspection happens in August.

CANADA – Laurie Klassen hosted a gaited clinic at her ranch with all breeds welcome. At the end of the clinic, she and the trainer got to try out her newest herd member. Beethoven do Summerwind, still recovering. We couldn't be happier with his new home and owner. She is our hero.

Top: CA – Susann Gabriel's grandchild stepping out on Helga Libertas.
Middle: Laurie Klassen first ride on Beethoven do Summerwind
Bottom: The boys from Ipanema – Getulio and Felipe during the 2008 ABCCMM inspection visit.

Lynn's Corner

Chanel de Miami

Given a choice, my next dog will also be a border collie, like our wonderdog, Mac. I love the breed – their intelligence, spirit, pure joy and beauty when they are running. Wait – that description could also fit a Marchador!

Like dogs, there are now too many horses in the U.S. It's a problem. But while I donate to some of the rescue efforts, I would not want a different breed of horse, even for a good cause or for free. And now having raised horses from birth, that is the way to go for me. I breed Marchadors because they possess all of the characteristics that I value in a horse. They are what I want to own, ride and spend time with.

It isn't all about the breeders; it's also about the owners. Both produce unwanted horses. I make a commitment to SW horses. We find a new home, sell it for you or even sometimes buy it ourselves if you can no longer keep it. My dream would be for every horse to find a forever home.

Finding Joy – in life and in your horses

I am part of a web-class with Carolyn Resnick. It is often the details that are so profound. I never know what little gesture or phrase will speak to me. Learning to lose my expectations is difficult, but it does allow me to experience a deeper connection with the horse and enjoy WHATEVER happens next. Using her method translates into the horse offering to be with you and do whatever you ask – at liberty or not at liberty – if you can build the connection and leadership.

So this month – I was struck by her comments about being joyful. Horses express joy quite often. They are great helpers to return us to a natural state of joy and well-being, a state that we often take for granted or think we do not have.

Carolyn suggests to us to list 10 things that have brought us joy, no matter how small. By bundling these moments together, they accumulate an even greater strength than they had as separate moments. Just as remembering and reliving traumas has a negative effect, remembering joy has a positive one. Joy is very powerful – to you and to those around you.

As this relates to horses, when you focus on the lack of connection with your horse, it drives the connection farther way. It's better to take the time to focus on what you enjoy about your horse in the moment and allow that feeling of joy in the moment to restore the magic of the connection.

What is your list? My list - 1.) John. 2.) Our dog Mac being a pest with his toy (means he feels good!) 3.) Getting the newsletter done. 4.) My new plants survived the winds. 5.) DaVinci comes to meet me when I go out. 6.) Hearing from family and friends. 7.) I got photos of Beethoven. 8.) Remembering my mom during May. 9.) Seeing the stars here at night. 10.) Knowing that I could keep adding to the list!

Photos above: Me always smiling with my horses! Seamus da Boa Fe. My sister Kate and I picking up poop in Pagosa.

What you suspected all along…

If you've ever wondered whether your horse remembers you after you've been away for awhile, the answer is most likely "yes," especially if you treated him well.

That's according to research to be published in the journal Animal Behavior, and summarized on discovery.com. Horses have excellent memories and strong family bonds directly related to their herd behavior in the wild. The research found that horses reacted positively to trainers even after not seeing them for eight months. Horses also understand words better than expected, according to the research.

"Horses maintain long-term bonds with several members of their family group, but they also interact temporarily with members of other groups when forming herds," explained Carol Sankey to discovery.com. The research was conducted at the University of Rennes with 20 Anglo-Arabian and three French Saddlebred horses stabled in Chamberet, France.

"Equine social relationships are long-lasting and, in some cases, lifelong," added the scientists. The researchers studied horse behavior with a female trainer who they hadn't seen in eight months.

The scientists also tested the horses' responses to verbal commands. Sankey and her team note that "the majority of horse-riding training is based on tactile sensations -- pressure from bits, movements of riders' legs, weight change in the saddle." However, the researchers used some of the principles of dog training, rewarding the proper behavior with treats. The researchers were able to teach the horses to respond to verbal commands, such as "stay," using this method.

We witnessed this long-term memory coming back to Colorado this year. Not only were the horses remembering the farm, and also the entire routine, lining up at the gate at the right time of the day and calling to us if we were late in the morning! The bond you are capable of achieving is huge. Learn to be part of their herd.

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Our News

Rox Rogers purchased La Paz Jivago this month and our good friend Ned Leigh took him on his private trailer to MT. Jivago is a good traveler and arrived fresh and happy to be off the trailer. Rox is an accomplished horsewoman. She knows the MM breed and has traveled to Brasil. She has handpicked her MM herd of three that she uses for mountain riding, cow work, reining and dressage. We are very happy that Jivago will have a forever home and job – keeping Rox happy. For breeding, we have saved and stored a lifetime supply of frozen semen, so his legacy will continue in his foals.

Speaking of frozen semen, we are working to export Jivago frozen semen to Slovenia! If we can figure all the paperwork out, it would make Jivago the only Marchador stallion to have bred mares in 4 countries and 3 continents. Quite the romeo!

Mr. Marcelo Baptista, Haras Maripa in Brasil has collected and frozen semen from several of his stallions in preparation to ship to the US. We will make plans to visit Brasil again if we can import frozen semen as we will create a frozen semen bank here in the US.

Our horses made the move to Colorado at the end of April . No stress, no fuss. It is clear that they remember the place – even down to what stall was theirs! They are looking great here! BELLA IS PREGNANT!

Yankee River Update

Signa Strom hosted an open house in May at her boarding and training facility in PA. Signa and Summerwind offer to find or breed the Marchador of your dreams. If the horse needs to be started or trained in a specific discipline, we now offer that as well. Signa is competing Azenha de Maripa in endurance rides up and down the East Coast. If you want to meet a Marchador, check to see if she'll be in your area!

Top: Brasilia and DaVinci at home in CO
Left: Jivago and Rox in MT – right off the trailer.
Right: Tiziu de Maripa being collected in Brasil.
Bottom: Signa with Azenha de Maripa.