Welcome to Autumn—a wonderful time of year to watch our cob friends as their hair begins to grow and swirling autumn leaves send them snorting and galloping ahead of winter winds and rain and snow. It's a time to admire the hard work of summer that has the barn replenished with hay and perhaps the apple barrel filled with fruit in anticipation of winter months ahead. It's a time to complete not-quite-finished and last-minute projects at the barn before the weather sends you indoors to a warm hearth. It's the best time to get out and enjoy your cobs. Whether riding or driving, there is nothing like a crisp Autumn day that will cause your cobs to pick up their feet, arch their necks, snort and blow and press against the bit making for an exhilarating outing.

Thanks to your contributions, this issue is packed with a bit of everything—photos of well-known Welsh stallions and mares taken by the Sharpless two years ago while in Great Britain, an article about bone diseases that can be prevented, an interesting story submitted by writer Pat Ferris about her first experience showing a cob stallion, and a lovely excerpt from an old English book that puts you atop a striding powerful cob on a whirlwind ride round Devils Hill. In addition, we have our regular features.

Thanks to many of you who support this newsletter by contributing articles, stories, pictures and advertisements. The first issue and directory, sent out only 9 months ago, went to 31 pioneer subscribers. Since that time, through your efforts, subscriptions now total 75 and continue to grow.

Take notice of the renewal reminder on the inside back cover of the newsletter. To ensure receiving the North American Cob Connection's first issue of 1988 and revised Directory, please renew soon. Send any updates for the Directory as a result of birth, lease, or sales to Ann by December 1. All the transfers, additions and corrections that have appeared in the newsletter this year will be included in the updated Directory.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WELSH PONY & COB SOCIETY OF AMERICA
NOVEMBER 7, 1987

The Society will hold its Annual General Meeting at the Campbell House Inn, 1375 Harrodsburg Rd., Lexington, KY 40504 during the weekend of November 6-8. Room prices range from $47 for one person to $67 for four people. A tentative schedule is as follows:

Friday—Evening meal with a speaker to follow discussing genetics with a particular reference to excessive white.
Saturday—Annual General Meeting
Sat. & Sun.—Activities around the Lexington area including a visit to the Kentucky Horse Park and hopefully attendance to some Thoroughbred studs.
For reservations at the Campbell House Inn, call toll free 800-354-9235.

CHRONICLE OF THE HORSE ARTICLES DUE NOW

The Chronicle of the Horse magazine publishes it's annual Pony and Junior issue the middle of November. Each year they publish news from pony breeders and invite you to submit a report from your farm. Reports must be no longer than 250 words, typed double spaced. You might include how you got started in pony breeding, how you chose your stallions and mares, or what adventures you have had at competitions and at home. They request you don't pass along the "We breed for quality, not quantity" storyline, but be unique and stick to this year's news. One photo from each farm is welcome, but publication is not guaranteed. If you want the photo returned, please include a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage and a piece of cardboard to keep the photo from being bent. Identify all subjects, and put your name and address on the photo itself.

Connemaras, Half-Welsh, and other breeds are featured. Last year's issue contained several photos of Welsh cobs. Of course you will want to order copies of the issue so you can see the results of your efforts. Include $1.25 for each copy you would like to receive. Perhaps if you sent something immediately it could still be included. Or a telephone call to their office would confirm whether your efforts would be worthwhile at this date. This is a great way to advertise your farm and your cobs for FREE. Send your story and/or photo to The Chronicle of the Horse, P.O. Box 46, Middleburg, VA 22117 (703) 687-8341. Deadline: 10/16/87

FROM OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Some lovely words of encouragement have come our way. From Liz Seldenberger, Collinsville, Oklahoma: "I wanted to tell you how much I've been enjoying your efforts in regard to the Cob Connection. I look forward to each issue. It's too bad we are so far-flung across the United States. Thank goodness for
SUBSCRIBER - continued

your newsletter because it does help keep us a little bit in touch." Liz has done a remarkable job of getting out and promoting the Welsh cob in Dressage circles. Liz writes: "I do strictly dressage on Jack (Crossroads Valiant Flyer), who is a 14.0 hand bay and have gotten really favorably remarks from instructors, clinicians, and judges." Despite having two very young boys that keep her busy, Liz showed at Training Level at two different shows earlier this year and won a first and second place. Congratulations, Liz and keep up the good work. Your efforts benefit all who own and breed cobs.

DERWEN REPLICA and Ifor Lloyd

VIDEOS OF ROYAL WELSH AVAILABLE

The Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America has made two VHS cassettes available for rent of the 1985 Royal Welsh Horse Show. To receive this tape, send a $25 deposit, refundable upon return of the cassettes, plus a $10 rental fee. If not returned within 15 days, the deposit will not be refunded. Contact the WPSCSA, P.O. Box 2977, Winchester, VA 22601.

FROM GREAT BRITAIN
ADVERTISING IN THE 1988 JOURNAL
(GREEN BOOK)

The deadline for submitting an advertisement to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Dyfed for inclusion in the 1988 Journal is October 31, 1987. A full-page advert with a black and white photo is £255.01. Cheques should be made out to: THE WELSH PONY AND COB SOCIETY then cheques + copy + photographs are sent to: Cambrian News (Aberystwyth) Ltd., 18-22 Queen Street, ABERYSTWYTH, Dyfed SY23 1PX. Details of stallions standing at stud, photographs of prizewinners and articles offered for considered for the 1988 Journal must be sent by October 31 to the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, Editor, 6 Chalybeate Street, ABERYSTWYTH, Dyfed, SY23 1HS. The fee to list stallions in the Journal is £6.90 for each stallion. Include stallion’s name, number, section, colour, exact height, sire and dam (+ their registration numbers) and stud and groom fees in addition to your name, address, and telephone.

CORRECTIONS

In the Summer issue of NACC, HASTENING MIRAGE, owned by Richard and Carol Holcombe, was erroneously listed as Bayford’s Mirage.

DIRECTORY ADDITIONS

SEA WINDS MARQUESSA (Dafydd y Brenin Cymraeg x Close to Market, TB) 1986 Filly. Chestnut Welsh PartBred. Owned by Wendy Sharples, Sea Wind Farm, 84 Gristmill Road, Randolph, NJ 07869

TRANSFERS

SMOKE TREE HUEY LEWIS, D-273, 1986 Palomino roan Gelding (Magic Ball of Penrhyn x Llanarth Morwen) Sold May 8, 1987 by Kathy Reese to Amanda Williams, Rt. 1 Box 186, Waldron, AR 22958

GWENETH AUR Y PENRHYN, D-131, 1983 Chestnut Mare (Turkdean Sword x Gaythorn Dywyll) Sold March 1, 1987 by Beth Francis to Grazing Fields Farm, Ltd. Bournehead Road, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

HASTENING MIRAGE, D-165, 1984 Chestnut Mare (Bayford True Patriot x Kentchurch Bonnie Mae) Sold May 4, 1987 by Mrs. Kate Shields to Mrs. Carol Holcombe, 05832 North Fork Road, Florence, OR

WATERFORD BRYN MELIN, D-292, 1986 Cream Stallion (Crossroads Prince of Wales x Heathwood Goldust) Sold July 17, 1987 by India B. Haynes to Shirley Foster, RFD 1 Box 530, West Paris, ME

The following animals have been transferred from Mrs. H. Garland Ingersoll on March 1, 1987 to Grazing Fields Farm, Bournehead Road, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532:

LOCKERIDGE WENDY, D-69, 1981 Bay Mare (Hewid Meredith x Lockeridge Tamsin)
LYSIAN CWSG Y PENRHYN, C-115, 1983 Palomino Mare (Turkdean Sword Dance x Llanarth Phillida)

OKEDEN SENSATION, D-89, 1981 Black Stallion (Arc Sir Ivor x Okeden Gorse)

PENRHYN BRIGHT SUNSHINE, D-253, 1986 Bay Mare (Okeden Sensation x Fair Tegolin Y Penrhyn)

PENRHYN FAIR STAR, D-185, 1985 Bay Mare (Okeden Sensation x Nebo Fair Lady)

PENRHYN SENSATIONAL LADY, D-162, 1984 Bay Mare (Okeden Sensation x Nebo Fair Lady)

PREN AWYR Y PENRHYN, C-107, 1979 Chestnut Mare (Dafydd Awyr y Penrhyn x Bwyl Y Barcud)

TURKDEAN SWORD DANCE, C-91, 1968 Palomino Stallion (Turkdean Cerdin x Llanarth Dancing Satellite)

COBS FOR SALE

WINDCREST STUD FARM is now offering Artificial Insemination services to their three Section D Welsh cob stallions:

DAFYDD Y BRENNIN CYMRAEG, D-33, Chestnut

*OKEDEN TAFFY, D-167, Chestnut

*OKEDEN WELSH FLYER, D-287, Bay

Windcrest also has youngstock available for purchase. It is now taking reservations for Spring 1988 foals. Further information and terms available upon application to Windcrest Stud Farm, 84 Gristmill Road, Randolph, NJ 07869 or (201) 361-5805.

Western light-weight ladies endurance or trail saddle, specially designed for cobs. $375 Canadian. Arlene Unger, Box 294, New Sarepta, Alberta TOB 3M0 (403) 878-3769.

1985 Registered Welsh cob colt. Bay, super temperament, born to please and to work. Will be a big cob--15 hands or more at maturity. Also, 1984 very athletic Welsh cob-cross filly. Chestnut. Stands now at 15:3 h. Intelligent and ready to learn. Show quality. (203) 567-0426

WANTED: C cob, 13-13.2 hands. Dark bay with 4 white socks to be used in a pair (617) 948-2291

LLANARTH LORD NELSON

SHOW RESULTS


SHOW RESULTS - continued

Class 30. Reg. Welsh Cobs, any age or sex. C or D:
(2) 1. BRYNARIAN GWENNO, M. Chambers 2. CROSSROADS RECALL, T. Sullivan

Judge: Mr. Richard Miller. Location: Jefferson, Wisconsin

Cob C & D, Foal, yearling & 2-yr. old: (3) 1. MADOC GYPSY MOTH, M.A. Williams 2. MADOC PRINCESS ANNE, M.A. Williams 3. MADOC SARA MARGARET, M.A. Williams Cob. C & D, 3, 4 & 5 years: (3) 1. WARCOLAG COMET MOTH, M.A. Williams 2. BRYNARIAN BRITON, M.A. Chambers 3. BRYNARIAN CERYS, D. Ford Cob. C & D, 6 & Over: (2) 1. BRYNARIAN GWENNO, M. Chambers 2. TREVALLION LADY DIANA, M.A. Williams Novice Cob at Halter: (3) 1. WARCOLAG COMET MOTH, M.A. Williams 2. BRYNARIAN CERYS, D. Ford 3. CROSSROADS RECALL, C. Cavaanough Supreme Cob: WARCOLAG COMET MOTH, M.A. Williams Reserve Ch. Cob: MODOCS GYPSY MOTH, M.A. Williams

AMERICAN NATIONAL WELSH PONY & COB SHOW, Horseheads, NY, July 3, 4, & 5, 1987. Judges: Ms. Angela Poles, Herefordshire, England; Mr. Lyman Orcutt, W. Newbury, MA; Mr. Jeffry Ayers, Quakertown, PA; Ms. Melani Alexander, Freevile, NY

SECTION C HALTER


SECTION D HALTER


LLANARTH TRUE BRITON

COB PERFORMANCE


Grand Champion C Cob: SILVER JUBILEE BALL OF PENRHYN
Reserve Half-Welsh Pony Hunter: CHEERS Cob Versatility Award: BAYFORD TRUE PATRIOT

Parc Rachel

HALF-WELSH PERFORMANCE

Chdel Hunter: 1. BROOKSFIELD FANCY FEATHER CHEERS, Spring Hill Farm 3. TRENTON HILL RHYS, W. Jones 4. SARATOGA REBOUND, P.

FRONARTH WHAT HO, age 33
21-time Winner at the Royal Welsh—the last time shown he was 26 years young
The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Canada is now accepting advertisements for their 1988-89 Member/Breeder book and newsletter cover. Rates for the Member/Breeder book are $60, full page; $40, half page; $20, quarter page (no photo) and $15, association listing. The full- and half-page ads include one photo. Mail your ad to Pay Clay, Box 4, Site 2, R.R. 1, Strathmore, Alberta T0J 3H0. The newsletter cover for the Canadian Society features a photo and farm listing information. In addition to enough copies for members, an additional 1000 copies will be run off and distributed to Provincial Associations. Your ad covers a 3 year period and costs only $40. Send your ad and clear photographs to Mrs. Jean Morton, 52 Sterne Street, Bolton, Ontario, L0P 1A0. Deadlines for both the Member/Breeder book and the newsletter cover are January 15, 1988, but send now to reserve space.

The illustrations on harness, the proper way to handle wrap straps, and how to hold the reins and whip are reproduced from Doris Ganton's book, BREAKING AND TRAINING THE DRIVING HORSE. This book is an excellent resource for the beginning driver and green animal. In addition to very clear illustrations, Mrs. Ganton describes how to construct a driving board, which will give any aspiring whip an opportunity to practice handling the reins and whip.

![Diagram of Harness](image)

Figure 3. Complete Harness

1. Bridle
2. Checkrein
3. Backpad
4. Crupper
5. Breeching
6. Breastcollar
7. Trace
8. Surcingle
9. Wrap Strap
10. Shaft Loop
11. Breeching Strap
12. Running Martingale
13. Rein
14. Ring (or Rein) Terret
DRIVING

In a recent edition of the Horse and Hound Ann Martin referred to Alwyn Holder who drove a team of Welsh Cobs, the article read as follows:

The attributes of Welsh Cobs include ideal size, paces and speed but these were not the only reason that Alwyn Holder, a regular British team member, selected them. "I've never driven anything else, except for a brief spell with Irish Draught Thoroughbred crosses. The cost of five big ones would be too great. Welsh Cobs are very economical to look after—in a normal year they can winter out with a standing and hay but no hard food."

"I've only ever wanted to drive British horses because if I am lucky enough to be successful I would want Britain to have 100 per cent of the glory."

Welsh Cobs are reputed to be mercurial and Mr. Holder agrees: "Initially, they are difficult to break and handle and you can't crack or use a whip with them as you can with some of the other breeds. But, once they are with you, you soon realise they are pretty wiry little animals and very willing to please."

One of the other problems is finding suitable Welsh Cobs big enough, i.e. 15.1 h.h. so his 1987 team is both striking and unusual. "They are different colours, hopefully of matching ability and type, rather than say, chestnuts of varying types." All five year olds, they were bought as stallions and then gelded. The wheelers are a black with white socks and a liver chestnut, the leaders a dun and chestnut with a pinky-white mane and tail."
HEALTH NEWS

FACTORs IN BONE GROWTH ABNORMALITIES IN YOUNG HORSES

Hoof Beats, March 1986

Some breeders are losing the sale, or usefulness as athletes, of up to 10 percent of their yearlings due to failure of cartilage to develop into healthy bone. In addition, many horses probably have poorer conformation than they were bred to have because they had metabolic bone disease during their growth.

This disease, which appears in several different forms, is now being called metabolic bone disease. It is one of the fastest growing problems in young horses in the United States and Europe. Possible causes for the increased incidence are that trace minerals are being removed from the crop land and horses are being pushed to grow to their potential. Consider this fact: from 1962 to 1984, the number of horses referred to Ohio State University for treatment has doubled. However, during that same period, the number of horses seen at OSU showing evidence of metabolic bone disease has increased twenty-fold!

Metabolic bone disease occurs when there is a disturbance in the normal process of cartilage turning to mature functional bone. These disturbances might result in such conditions are epiphysitis (physitis), osteochondrosis, osteochondritis dissecans (enlarged joints due to loose pieces of cartilage and bone, including bog spavin), juvenile arthritis, and crooked legs.

Horses having cervical vertebral malformation causing spinal ataxia (true wobblers) have evidenced osteochondritic changes in their vertebrae that are believed to be a form of metabolic bone disease.

Another way in which metabolic bone disease can plague the working horsemen is in the form of articular bone cysts and juvenile arthritis which is due to malformation of articular surfaces and bones (especially the hock and pastern joints).

I would like to summarize the results of a presentation on metabolic bone disease given at the American Association of Equine Practitioners meeting in Toronto last December. The paper was titled "Correlation of Dietary Mineral to Incidence and Severity of Metabolic Bone Disease in Ohio and Kentucky."

In early 1985, investigators from Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine examined 384 yearlings on nine farms in Ohio and ten farms in Kentucky. This group consisted of 207 standardbred yearlings, 170 thoroughbreds, 10 Arabs, and 7 Quarter Horses.

Each yearling was rated by three examiners using a system which considered (1) the number of sites and (2) the severity of such problems as epiphysitis, contracted tendons, distended joints, and spinal ataxia.

These same examiners also analyzed the rations being fed to these yearlings. The actual feed was scored in comparison to their recommended concentration of calcium, phosphorus, calcium-phosphorus ratio, copper, zinc, manganese, vitamin A, and vitamin D.

They found that those yearlings being fed rations with the highest scores and highest levels of certain minerals (calcium, phosphorus, copper and zinc) showed less severe bone problems.

They found that the levels of protein, energy, magnesium, potassium, manganese and iron were not as important in affecting the incidence of bone disease in this study.

Metabolic bone disease is most often found in large-framed, rapidly-growing horses. There is little doubt that several factors are involved. Genetic predisposition, conformation, lack of exercise and nutrition have all been suggested as contributing factors.

Of the four factors cited above, nutrition is the factor most easily controlled by management and thus has received the most attention. Specifically, attention has been focused on calcium-phosphorus deficiencies (or imbalances) and also the overfeeding of protein.

Many breeders who have suffered problems with epiphysitis have been able to reduce the severity and prevalence of those problems to some degree by correcting calcium and phosphorus deficiencies in their ration. Despite that success, some breeders still try to correct epiphysitis problems by restricting or lowering the protein intake of weanlings and yearlings instead of the proven method of correcting mineral deficiencies.

It's true that reducing the protein intake will slow the growth rate of a weanling or yearling to a level compatible with the level and availability of nutrients (minerals) necessary for that rate of growth. However, if you continue to restrict a horse's protein level for an extended period of time, you risk limiting the potential size of the horse. That's especially detrimental if you are raising your yearlings to sell.

Also, if you restrict the protein intake of a young horse for a while, then increase the protein level to normal, you're likely to see a recurrence of the epiphysitis problem.

A better approach to correct epiphysitis problems in young horses is to provide a nutritionally-balanced ration so that they can grow at an optimal rate without developing abnormal bone formation.

Actually, the potential of a horse to develop metabolic bone disease may begin before he is born, during the late stages of the mare's gestation. As we all know, most pregnant mares are fed a lot of hay because they can maintain weight without being fed more expensive grain. Grain mixes designed for adult horses, when fed to pregnant mares, do not meet their needs because of concentration of minerals.

Research from Germany indicates that unborn foals receive their trace mineral deposits during the last trimester of pregnancy. If the mare is receiving feeds low in trace minerals during the gestation, she may be unable to pass along sufficient trace mineral reserves to her foal. If the foal hasn't stored up some trace
minerals by the time of birth, the foal may not be able to
sustain its rapid-growth phase immediately after birth
without getting epiphysitis and other forms of
metabolic bone disease.

"What about the mare's milk?" you might be
wondering. "Won't the newborn foal get sufficient
minerals from it?"

Not really. Studies have shown that maternal
milk levels in all species are quite low in copper, zinc, and
manganese. So the foal must rely on liver stores as a
source of these minerals and the rapid bone growth
period after foaling may quickly deplete those stores.
That's when bone growth and development will be
compromised.

Actually, there has been little documentation of
the role of trace minerals in various problems we see in
horses. The last published feeding trial using levels of
copper was in 1949. In that study four draft horses
(aged 3-6 months) were used. Two foals were fed a
diet containing 8 ppm (parts per million) of copper. A
third foal was fed a diet with 10 ppm of copper and the
fourth foal a diet with 100 ppm of copper. Weight gain
was considered in all groups.

This 1949 feeding trial is the basis on which the
National Research Council recommends that 9 ppm be
used in equine rations. This recommendation was
made despite the fact that the two foals being fed a
diet of 8 ppm copper were shown to have severe
osteochondritis (OCD) lesions.

Recent studies have shown that copper
deficiencies may be a cause of osteochondritis in the
foals of suckling foals.

Based upon the data available, the research team
at Ohio State University believes that in the Ohio-
Kentucky area that copper and zinc deficiencies are
very important factors responsible for developmental
skeletal abnormalities.

It's likely that calcium, phosphorus, copper, and
zinc deficiencies are causes of epiphysitis, contracted
tendons, and OCD lesions in yearlings. The farm
which had the fewest yearlings with these problems
were the farms that fed rations containing at least twice
the levels of calcium, phosphorus, and zinc and 3-4
times the level of copper currently recommended by
the National Research Council. That suggests that the
minimum feeding levels recommended by the NRC
may need to be re-evaluated.

If a farm needs to increase the levels of trace
minerals being fed to its horses, we think it's more
effective to augment the grain than to rely on free-
choice consumption of conventional trace mineral
salts. Remember, these trace mineral salts are
designed for food-producing animals (cows, hogs,
etc.) and don't appear to have a high enough level of
trace minerals for young horses.

The quality of nutrition obviously plays a
significant role in preventing metabolic bone disease.
Calcium, phosphorus, copper, and zinc appear to be
key minerals needed to prevent this problem.

However, more research must be done as
metabolic bone disease results in serious economic
losses to the horse industry.

*Authors: D.A. Knight, Ph.D.; A. A. Gabel, D.V.M.,
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Other investigators from the Department of Veterinary
Clinical Sciences: L. Michael Schmall, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Editor's Note: cobs are not immune to bone growth
abnormalities.

August 1987. It is with sadness that Grazing Fields
Farm Ltd. has to report the passing of one of their
original Welsh cob mares, Bwyd y Barcud, 29934,
known to most everybody as "Mushroom".

Bwyd y Barcud

Mushroom was imported in utero when Mrs.
Ingersoll purchased Llanarth Phillida from the late Mrs.
Joan Crotty of the Turkdean Stud. Phillida gave birth
the following year to Gweneth Dwyll by Golden Glory
who went on to produce a wealth of fillies that play a
large part in the stud today. Mushroom was by the
palomino stallion, Honiton Michael ap Braint, a Royal
Welsh winner in hand and under saddle and was very
typical of that line of Llanarth Braint stock. All
Mushroom's offspring had wonderful temperaments
that allowed them to excel in all that was asked of them
and it is only fitting that two of her best sons, Victory
Ball of Pencry by Christmas Ball of Penrhyn and
Michael the Welsh Prince of Penrhyn by Daydd y
Brenin Gymraeg should have done so well at the
National Show this year.
46th Annual
Winkelman
Pony Production Auction

Saturday, December 5
12:30 p.m.

Winkelman Farm
Lohrville, Iowa

Large Selection of
Welsh Cobs

By our Big D, 100% Cob Herdsires:

Dai Hanesydd y Penrhyn, D-26 WPCSA; #19857 in Wales
and
Winks Prophecy of Penrhyn, D-27 WPCSA; #21041 in Wales

This herd reduction auction will also include:
Welsh Ponies
Winkelman Pony-Horses
Classic Shetlands

For further information and pedigrees, call
Bill & Betty Winkelman
Lohrville, Iowa, USA 51453
712-465-2125
(No Sunday Calls, Please)

"We have spent many years developing the most useful animal for today."
ENITRE COB POPULATION TURNS OUT FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR
By Pat Ferris

Two years ago there were no Welsh cobs in Oregon; today there are five. Their presence in the state represents a major commitment by their owners of time, money and energy. That commitment has been highly evident to the rest of the Welsh community this past summer in the outstanding support of newly-established cob classes at area point shows. The three farms who own the five animals have traveled notable distances to participate in their classes. The animals they are showing are all young; three are just yearlings, a two-year-old and a senior citizen of five! As a group they represent almost all of the classic bloodlines found in the oldest and finest families of cobs.

The Washington County Fair, held August 1st in Hillsboro, Oregon was unique in that 100% of the Oregon Welsh cobs were present. It was the first time the fair had offered a class for cobs; the first time that all five were shown simultaneously, all ages, all sexes; and on a personal level, the first time I'd shown a stallion OR a cob. I had eagerly jumped at the opportunity to be a handler for one of those beauties.

It was quite a class! Judge Bob Martin took one look around and immediately instructed the ring steward to make an announcement to the crowd informing them how lucky they were to witness these rare and special animals. The cobs, especially the two yearling stallions, responded like true Welshmen...they pranced, they snorted, they exuded that marvelous presence that makes them Welsh cobs. The crowd was charmed.

Eventually, Judge Martin was forced to make his choices. This came only after he'd petted each cob and spoken with every handler. He was obviously enjoying the class as much as the audience! The crowd had quickly picked favorites and different camps alternately cheered or mumbled displeasure as the animals were placed...this capability of cobs to engender instant crowd loyalty seems to transcend the Atlantic! Ultimately, the brilliant bay stud colt, Synod Gladstone was tabbed as first with the lovely mare Okeden Jolly second. Hastening Mirage was third, followed by Windcrest Chloe, and Brynanrian Black Magic. Oddly enough, the final placings seemed secondary to the thrill of presenting a wonderful product to an appreciative audience. The future for cobs in Oregon seems rosy indeed.

NEWS FROM KELLY ACRES

Nita Wilson, Kelly Acres, writes to tell us of her successess with BRYNAIRIAN EIDDDWEN COMET this year and the arrival of some new cobs. After doing well in Combined and Obstacle Driving and Dressage at some early shows, he was the overall winner at the Saskatchewan Combined Driving Classic. At this show he had the highest mark in Dressage, the least penalties in the Marathon, and was third in Obstacle. At the Alberta Pony Breeders, he won Champion Cob, second in Open Pleasure Driving, and first in Welsh Pleasure Driving. Comet topped the summer by winning Reserve Champion Welsh and Res. Champion of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Saskatchewan Show. His first place in Pleasure Driving, second in Obstacle Driving, and second in First Year Driving contributed to his honors.

Five Section C colts (50%) and one 100% Section D filly arrived. Nita reports all are very typy and correct.

BRYNMORE WELSH MAGIC

FEATHERS ALLOWED?

The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America - AHSA Show Rules state: "Cobs are to wear long, natural, unbraided mane and long, natural unset, ungathered tail. Tails are not to be thinned. A small bridle path may be clipped. The long hair of the ears may be clipped." There is no mention of the feathers.

The Canadian Equestrian Federation (and Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Canada) rules include: "Feather: a moderate quantity of silky feather is desirable but coarse wiry hair is definite objection." In Part II, Breeding Classes Section 2, (f), CEF rules state: "Welsh Ponies of Cob Type, Section C, and Welsh Cobs, Section D, shall be shown with full mane and tail and with feather on their heels."

Naida Whittaker, Dressage Director of Washington State Horsemen, says that there are no rules about grooming for dressage. The suppleness, obedience and movement of the horse are the important factors.

Careful examination of photos of cobs in the Journals of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society (Great Britain) show that while they do have feathers, the cobs are well-groomed and the long hair on the back of the legs as well as under the jaw has been removed, probably by singeing, which is more common in Great Britain than here.
"Charlie" has what it takes ----

CROSSROADS PRINCE OF WALES
Section D
15 h. 6 y.o.
Mahogany Bay Gelding

Sire: Derwen Rebound  Dam: Nance Queen of Wales

This beautiful cob has proven himself. 1985 New England Hunter and Halter Champion. An enthusiastic jumper--honest and handy over fences. Does a 3' course; flying changes. In the ribbons in dressage. Excels cross-country/trail work. Great driving potential. Kind and sensible. Charlie has no vices. Easy to work with; good manner; absolutely sound and unflappable.

Inquiries always welcome  201-543-7294 (NJ)
J. Rainis, Owner

North American Cob Connection / Autumn 1987
ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION
Why it's Important and How it Works
Submitted by Carlene Sharples

Since the approval of Artificial Insemination (AI) by the Board of Directors of the Welsh Pony & cob Society of America, many people have heard just enough about it to become thoroughly confused. It is really a fairly simple procedure, but one in which each step must be followed exactly.

The importance of AI to the Welsh breed becomes more and more defined as one delves into the subject and its possibilities. As an example, prior to AI the few breeders in Alaska were at a dead end once they had their first foal crop by their own stallions. Alaska itself represents vast distances so the possibility of transporting a mare for breeding would be counted as naught on impossible. This is an extreme example but one that serves to illustrate the geographic difficulties of stallion selection for live cover.

Many other areas of the country are able to boast of numerous stallions to choose from, however they sometimes are closely related or not the "perfect" or more desirable match for every mare. Breeders in the United States seem to becoming very discerning in the cross matching of bloodlines and conformation of prospective mates. The breeder of today is very knowledgeable and therefore not content to breed for an average quality foal but are seeking to breed for better and better offspring. With AI this gives access to senior sires for all breeders without the need and risk long-distance transport.

Many Welsh breeders do not wish to keep a stallion. A stallion requires a lot of time, energy and money for just the few mares he covers. AI allows for the introduction of outstanding bloodlines into this small farm at a fraction of the cost of maintaining their own stallion. Many of the smaller but elite studs in England do not keep a stallion to avoid the temptation of restricting themselves to only one stallion versus a wide range of animals available.

The use of AI also reduces the possibility of acquired health problems such as transmitted infectious diseases. It also reduces the possibility of the mare slipping the foal during the first 60 days of pregnancy. The mare is not placed under stress of transport to and from the stud farm and is relaxed in her own familiar territory.

The mechanics of AI is quite a simple procedure. The stallion semen is collected via an artificial vagina, mixed with extender and prepared for shipping. There are professionals available to help set up the collecting and shipping processes. The semen is then cooled at a predetermined rate in a special container designed specifically for cooling and shipping of horse semen. This is usually done when the stud farm has been notified of the mare's impending dropping of the follicle. The container complete with extended and properly cooled semen is then shipped to the mare owners farm or veterinarian. The containers may be shipped via U.S. Mail Overnight, UPS Overnight, Air Freight, etc. depending on the distance and location of the mare owner's farm. Upon receipt of the container the mare owner's veterinarian will inseminate the mare using the presribed method conforming with the shipping process. The conception rate of breeding via AI in this method has averaged the same and sometimes better than live covering.

At this point one must make note of the registry requirements for breeding via AI to register the resulting foal with the WP&CSA. The stallion must have been bloodtyped and the stallion AI permit issued prior to the breeding taking place. The bloodtyping kits are available from the National Office for $50.00, which includes processing. (The results are life time records.) The mare must be bloodtyped prior to breeding and the foal must be bloodtyped prior to registration. Even as in the case of the foal, the fact that these are life time records will serve when the animal is old enough to breed or be bred.

Many breeders have specific bloodlines they are promoting and with AI they will now have the chance to choose from the numerous stallions carrying these lines. I myself feel that I do not have to be restricted in my choices when I cross-match the sires and dams of future foals. I really do have the choice of the "cream of the crop" or that special animal known to produce just what one of my mares need. The Welsh breeders in the United States have been given the tools via AI to produce the best possible foals, now it is up to them.

Editor's Note: Approximate costs for mare owners include: Bloodtyping ($50) Use of receptacle for semen storage ($25) Vet visit ($15) cost of insemination ($25). The amounts quoted are estimates.

Parc Welsh Flyer & friend, Wendy Sharples

North American CCB Connection / Autumn 1987
TROLLBERG WELSH COBS & WELSH WARMBLOODS for riding and driving
(suitable for Dressage, Jumping, Eventing, Long Distance Riding, Combined Driving)

_____ WELSH COB: the outstanding triple purpose horse (they ride, they drive, they work on the farm), tough and strong, spirited but sane horses with dashing good looks, spectacular action, courage and jumping ability.

_____ WELSH WARMBLOOD (WELSH COB X TB): talented and proven sports horses, under saddle and in harness, combining Thoroughbred speed with Welsh Cob bone, substance, and surefooted "handiness."

A few youngstock for sale to serious equestrian homes

WELSH COB STALLION (SECTION D 100%) CWMFELEN GOLDEN ECLIPSE

(by Hafael Brenin, imp., by Oakhatch Cymydog Da, out of Penlon Iris, imp., by Llangybi Seldom Seen), at stud.

14.3 hh. palomino, strikingly handsome, pronounced Welsh type, delightful personality and action.

Eclipse has to offer: a sound and sane body and mind, abundant substance and power, balanced action, thrilling good looks, triple versatility under saddle and in harness, loads of quality, excellent jump; he has proven to produce foals much like himself, out of different mares.
The following article was submitted by Barbara Wynn from an "old English book" she has titled *Horsemanship*. "The First Ride" was from the chapter 'Long Live the Horse'.

**The First Ride**

The cob was led forth; what a tremendous creature! I had frequently seen him before, and wondered at him; he was barely fifteen hands, but he had the girth of a metropolitan dray-horse; his head was small in comparison with his immense neck, which curved down nobly to his wide back; his chest was broad and fine, and his shoulders models of symmetry and strength; he stood well and powerfully upon his legs, which were somewhat short. In a word, he was a gallant specimen of the genuine Irish cob, a species at one time not uncommon, but at the present day nearly extinct.

'There!' said the groom, as he looked at him, half admiringly, half sorrowfully, 'with sixteen stone on his back, he'll trot fourteen miles in one hour; with your nine stone, some two and a half more, ay, and clear a six-foot wall at the end of it.'

'I'm half afraid,' said I, 'I had rather you would ride him.'

'I'd rather so, too, if he would let me; but he remembers the blow. Now, don't be afraid, young master, he's longing to go out himself. He's been trampling with his feet these three days, and I know what that means; he'll let anybody ride him but myself, and thank them; but to me he says, "No! you struck me".'

'But,' said I, 'where's the saddle?'

'Never mind the saddle; if you are ever to be a frank rider, you must begin without a saddle; besides, if he felt a saddle, he would think you don't trust him, and leave you to yourself. Now, before you mount, make his acquaintance—see there, how he kisses you and licks your face, and see how he lifts his foot, that's to shake hands. You may trust him—now you are on his back at last; mind how you hold the bridle—gently, gently! It's not four pair of hands like yours can hold him if he wishes to be off. Mind what I tell you—leave it all to him.'

Off went the cob at a slow and gentle trot, too fast and rough, however, for so inexperienced a rider. I soon felt myself sliding off, the animal perceived it too, and instantly stood still till I had righted myself; and now the groom came up: 'When you feel yourself going,' said he, 'don't lay hold of the mane, that's no use; mane never yet saved a man from falling, no more than a straw from drowning; it's his sides you must cling to with your calves and feet, till you learn to balance yourself. That's it, now abroad with you; I'll bet my comrade a pot of beer that you'll be a regular rough rider by the time you come back.'

And so it proved; I followed the directions of the groom, and the cob gave me every assistance. How easy is riding, after the first timidity is got over, to supple and youthful limbs; and there is no second fear. The creature soon found that the nerves of his rider were in proper tone. Turning his head half round, he made a kind of whining noise, flung out a little foam, and set off.

In less than two hours I had made the circuit of the Devil's Mountain, and was returning along the road, bathed with perspiration, but screaming with delight; the cob laughing in his equine way, scattering foam and pebbles to the left and right, and trotting at the rate of sixteen miles an hour.

Oh, that ride! that first ride! most truly it was an epoch in my existence; and I still look back to it with feelings of longing and regret. People may talk of first love—it is a very agreeable event, I dare say—but give me the flush, and triumph, and glorious sweat of a first ride, like mine, on the mighty cob! My whole frame was shaken, it is true; and during one long week I could hardly move foot or hand; but what of that? By that one trial I had become free, as I may say, of the whole equine species. No more fatigue, no more stiffness of joints, after that first ride round the Devil's Hill on the cob.

Oh, that cob! that Irish cob!—may the sod lie lightly over the bones of the strongest, speediest, and most gallant of its kind! Oh! the days when, issuing from the barrack-gate of Templemore, we commenced our hurry-scurry just as inclination led—now across the fields—direct over stone walls and running brooks—mere pastime for the cob!—sometimes along the road to Thurles and Holy Cross, even to distant Cahill!—what was distance to the cob?

**George Borrow**

1803–1881

Lavengro

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EQUIPMENT/TACK SUPPLIERS

Welsh Books, Records, Miscellaneous

David Morgan is a Seattle-based company that has a very healthy mail-order business. The company's 112-page catalog has an international flavor offering items from the British Isles, Australia, and Native American art and jewelry. Of interest to Welsh enthusiasts are a fine selection of Welsh shirts and clothing, hats of Welsh tweed, Welsh dragons in jewelry, glassware, T-shirts and sweatshirts, key fobs, note paper, ties, flags, linen tea towels and bumper stickers. Welsh music and literature is available as well as a complete selection of maps, dictionaries, and a book of Welsh surnames. A catalog may be received free of charge upon request to David Morgan, 11812 Northcreek Parkway N., Suite 103, Bothell, WA 98011 (206) 485-2132. Telephone orders are accepted.

Nylon Harness

Deb's Stitch 'N Hitch is a relatively new harness shop which evolved from the need to produce a light but strong and virtually maintenance-free harness for use on their farm. Since Deb and Ron farm with Suffolk horses year around, the nylon, polypropylene and Bioplastic harnesses meet their requirements: no oiling, do not mold, and are not stiff. Designs now range from all-purpose, to training and to high-quality show harness in three sizes: Pony, Horse, and Draft. For example, a Bioplastic Hame-Style Buggy Harness is $235 (pony) $270 (Horse) and $295 (Draft). For a well illustrated catalog and price list, write to: Deb's Stitch 'N Hitch, 884 Old Mail Rd., Crossville, TN 38555 (615) 484-2203.

Vehicle Kits

Jim Rich of the Takilma Forge & Wagon Works produces a brochure explaining and illustrating his product with the following introduction:

"Back in 1978 I built my first wagon, sold my old Chevy pick-up, and began making my horsepower rounds by real horsepower. Several friends and neighbors watched this experiment with great interest, and several have now joined me in this exhilarating alternative to OPEC-powered locomotion. Our local economy is quite depressed, and few people around here can afford to come to me and say "Build me one of those wagons." Today the cost of a new spring wagon is well over $3,000, a simple buckboard over $2,000. Restorations are almost as costly, sometimes more so, and restorable vehicles harder and harder to find. So I offered a deal to one less-than-wealthy would-be wagon owner: "I'll supply the axles, wheels, springs, shafts and ironwork and you can do the rest"
yourself. I'll show you how." It worked very well, and the wagon kit was born."

In addition to receiving the above-named parts, the "builder"—you would supply lumber, nuts and bolts, paint, glue, elbow grease and imagination. Jim also supplies the plans and instructions. He does not like to think of his product as a kit that one simply puts together, nor do the vehicles represent a compromise, something less than professional, like a picture done "by the numbers." Jim emphasizes his vehicles are not pleasure or show buggies, but working vehicles. "The result of your efforts will be a sturdy, handsome vehicle that, with care, will last a lifetime."

Jim's prices, to give you an idea of the cost, are listed as follows for 1986: Road Cart (light horse): $435 (ded. $25 for steel tires instead of rubber), Buckboard: $682, Spring Wagon: (light horse) $963. To receive a catalog, send $1 to Jim Rich, Takilma Forge & Wagon Works, 9345 Takilma Rd., Cave Junction, OR 97523.

Leather Harness

Smuckers Harness Shop was recommended as a company that produces good quality leather harness at reasonable prices. A cob-sized light harness with breast collar costs $149.90, while a cob-sized harness with collar is $211.50. The prices quoted are from 1986 and are the lowest-priced product, although still very acceptable for a show. The company's best harness is called the Super Deluxe Cob with Imported Horses for $915. Harness for Pairs, Tandem, and 4-in-hand are listed in a variety of qualities and prices. A catalog may be obtained by writing the Smucker Harness Shop at RD #3, Narvon (Churchtown), PA 17555.

The Fairbourne Carriage Company of England

Campbell and Joan Lawrence, Glendower Farm, are able to offer several driving vehicles from the quite well-known carriage builder, The Fairbourne Carriage Company. All Fairbourne carriages are designed and built along traditional lines to individual requirements, with the emphasis on fine authentic style vehicles. Currently, two vehicles are available: the Sportsman Gig and Flyer models. Available in pony, cob and horse size, the Gig features steel wheels with rubber tires. The gig is durable enough to withstand the rigors of cross country driving while retaining enough style and elegance to make it equally at home in the show ring and suitable for pleasure driving. The Fairbourne Flyer is a 4-wheeled vehicle designed with the emphasis on use for presentation, showing and pleasure driving, but which can very simply be converted into a practical tough marathon vehicle. In addition, the Lawrences offer custom-made English harness to fit your pony or horse's individual needs. You are invited to compare the price and quality of the top of the line products. Send inquiries to Glendower Farm, 1060 Bourne Road, Plymouth, MA 02360 (617) 759-3339.

If you would like to recommend a product, service, book or any resource you think others might find interesting, please let us know. We're pleased to pass along that kind of information.

COW Birds? or COB Birds?

At first I was amused, but now it's not so funny. Let me explain. We noticed a small flock of birds of rather nondescript appearance fluttering around on the ground near our cob filly. Upon closer observation, these birds would move as the filly moved, to stay in her shadow. Smart birds, we thought, to avoid the heat this way. They also appeared to be eating off the ground—bugs, we thought. Over the period of a week or so, one of the birds moved to a higher perch—on the filly's back. Cute, we thought. With the swirling heat causing a mirage-like scene, the pose of cob and bird resembled a scene from the Serengeti in Africa. We inquired about what kind of bird this must be. "It's a cow bird!" the neighbors said. A cow bird. Then what is this feathered friend doing on my cob? Doesn't it know the difference between a bovine and an equine?

This was a rather insulting blow, since nature usually does so well giving animals natural intuition. We went to the pasture to try to observe more closely, determined to find proof this was not a cow bird that mistook my cob for a cow. As we approached, the bird flew from the filly's back. But what is this? All over her back? and her rump? At least 2 dozen calling cards—bird droppings, if you will. Left by a new strain of Perching Aves (bird species)—newly named the Pacific Northwest Cob Bird.

SUBMITTING PHOTOGRAPHS

We really appreciate receiving photos. They enhance the newsletter as well as provide visual samples of different animals. Please take these precautions: enclose your pictures in light-weight cardboard. This will prevent them from being bent. If there is writing on the backside, separate pictures with a clean sheet of paper or place them with back sides together. This will prevent any printing on the backside from damaging the face of the photo behind it. Ink stamps can cause the most damage, especially if the print is not allowed to dry before being stacked with other pictures.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OKEDEN STUD

This stud specialises in Section D Cobs of perfect temperament, very well handled, and of excellent conformation making comfortable riding horses and sensible strong driving animals with straight extravagent action.

Llanarth True Briton

Okeden Welsh Jack

Tyhen Comet

Okeden Heather

Llanarth Meredith ap Braint

Okeden Gorse

Arth Maid of Honour

Jack has been a first-prize winner 10 times as well as a Royal Welsh winner. In 1987 Jack won four yearling cob classes then at the Lincoln County Show won the Section D championship and a Welsh Pony & Cob Association medal, which is a great triumph for a yearling. Jack is one of our young cobs offered for export. A more complete sales list is available upon application. I will do FREE extended Welsh pedigrees of your cobs upon request.

Dr. June Alexander, OKEDEN STUD, Appledene
North Ferriby, North Humberside England HU14 3AN
Telephone: 0482-632184
WELSH COBS

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Generations of Conformation & Performance winners producing a new generation of winners for you

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Transported Semen available in 1988 to our three Section D Stallions with Cheryl A. Brannibar, DVM Breeding Consultant

Look to the Welsh Cob —
FOR SALE

Colt GORDON’S SIR GWILYM (Turkdean Sword Dance Knockbridge Kizzy) Born 3 May 1987; 1st in foal class Welsh National, Elmira, NY. A super mover, a champion; Dual registration.

Colt GORDON’S SIR IVOR (Okeden Sensation x Welsh Rite of Penrhyn) Born 16 June 1987: A sparkling dark bay with great presence, a quick mover; Dual registration.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FOR 1988

Thank you for your support in the birth year of this newsletter. For 1988 your subscription buys four quarterly issues of NORTH AMERICAN COB CONNECTION, a directory of Welsh Cob owner-breeders, a directory of registered (and pending) Welsh Cobs and a listing of Welsh Partbreds. The directories cover Canadian and American owner-breeders. Rates are as follows payable in American funds, please: U.S. and Canada: $8 Overseas: $10. Make your check payable to NACC, 35807 Willama Vista, Pleasant Hill, OR 97455 (503) 746-4760.

The following is a do-it-yourself receipt for your 1987 tax records. (We’re using the honor system here) Clip and save!

North American Cob Connection

Received from _______________________________ the amount of $______ for a subscription to the 1987 North American Cob Connection newsletter. An additional amount of $______ was received for advertising costs in this newsletter.

Co-editor _______________________________ Date _______________________________
Winterlake Farm introduces...

BRYNARIAN BLACK MAGIC
(Llanarth Maldwyn ap Braint x Llanarth Malen)
Yearling, 100% Section D Cob Stallion
Stallion Service Available to approved mares, 1988.

Winterlake Welsh Cob Farm
Bill & Cindy Dishman
35807 Willama Vista
Pleasant Hill, OR 97455
(503) 746-4760

The following excerpts are from Ann's library of horse books. This is what some of her resources have to say about cobs:


"The Welsh Cob... is probably based on the old Pembrokeshire cart horse, although the Cob is mainly bred in Cardiganshire. The largest and strongest of the Welsh breeds, it is courageous, with great powers of endurance and is famed for its trotting ability, and its performance in harness. It is just as good under saddle, however, and being very active and a good jumper makes a splendid hunter in all but the faster grass countries. Added size and speed is achieved by crossing with a Thoroughbred. As a general, all-around riding horse there is little to beat the notoriously sound and hardy Welsh Cob."

"The Welsh Pony of Cob Type... has had infusions in the past of Andalucian, the now extinct Pembrok cart horse and Norfolk Roadster blood and more recently that of the Hackney. Originally used for shepherding and for general farm work, it is courageous, kind, intelligent and very sound and hardy... very versatile, combining strength, with quality and common sense. Ideal as a child or small adult's hunter and for trekking purposes, its good, free trotting action also makes it suitable for harness work."


"... a very strong, ride-and-drive typed, short-legged and a fast trotter... with silky mane and heel tufts. The breed has been evolved from the native Mountain Pony, which it closely resembles, through the 'Old Welsh Cart Horse', by many crosses, including the Thoroughbred. The trotting action seems to point to some Hackney or English Roadster influence. Though making an excellent harness horse, the mare can be used in breeding good Polo Ponies, and the stallion has been much in demand abroad for breeding military horses. The uses of a Cob of this type are obvious and almost unlimited.

From Horses by Kate Reddick, Bantam Books, Toronto, 1976.

"Although the precise origins of the breed are unknown, some authorities believe that it descended from native stock crossed in the twelfth century with imported Spanish warhorses.

"It has a small quality head, a shapely neck, and a strong deep body with a broad chest and long massive quarters. The legs are sturdy and relatively short, sometimes with a little silky feather on the heels, and the hoof are hard and well shaped.

"Welsh Cobs are exceptionally strong, nimble animals with a bold, free action and considerable jumping ability. These qualities, combined with their gentle disposition, make them ideal as family mounts and hunters. They take readily to harness and are invaluable for general ride-and-drive purposes."
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Following months: January, April, July, and October.

The North American Cob Connection is published on the 15th of the month.

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WV 95022 (206) 882-3877.
Send articles and ads to Cindy Blankman.
Send directory changes to Ann Lamb, 10015 Averdon Rd, Redmond.

6. Regularly review NACC newsletters and publications to stay informed.

7. Stay up-to-date with NACC events and activities.

8. Support the NACC newsletter.

9. Share the newsletter with others interested in the cob industry.

10. Participate in community and industry events.

A Publication for Welsh Cob Enthusiasts

NORTH AMERICAN COB CONNECTION