

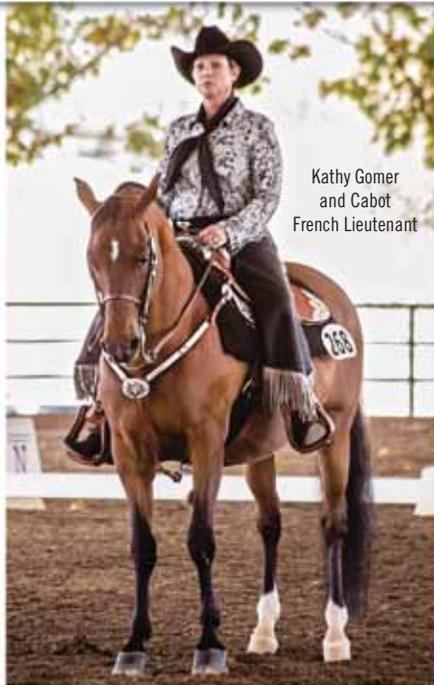
2014 MORGAN SHOW RECORD

November 15-17, 2013 • Rancho Murieta, CA

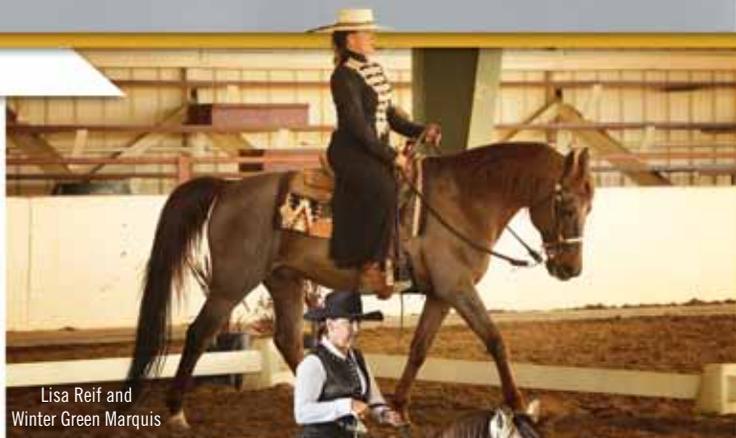
BY DEBBIE BETH-HALACHMY AND WYATT PAXTON



Jamie Butler and
TGM Reino DeOro



Kathy Gomer
and Cabot
French Lieutenant



Lisa Reif and
Winter Green Marquis



Lisa Horning
and NVS Midas

COWBOY DRESSAGE World Gathering Finals Show

The first ever Cowboy Dressage Show was held on August 29th, 2012, and was combined with Sacramento Valley Morgan Horse Club's (SVMHC) Mother Lode Show. Cowboy Dressage offered a free clinic to help educate horsemen and horsewomen about the Cowboy Dressage way. After that Cowboy Dressage quickly started to explode here on the West Coast. Record numbers of horses and riders began to attend shows and clinics as the word spread. Attendance grew from 50 plus rides at the June 2013 Far West Morgan Show in Redmond, Oregon and quickly grew to almost 200 rides at the Rancho Murieta Gold-n-Grand Summer Show. Another record number attended the 2013 Sacramento Valley Club Mother Lode Show at the end of August, 2013.

During this time the Cowboy Dressage World (CDW) group continued to expand, introducing the Vaquero Division at the Gold-n-Grand Show. The first Vaquero classes were ridden enthusiastically at SVMHC Mother Lode show 2013. The new Youth / Amateur Partnership Tests were also introduced at SVMHC Mother Lode show in 2013.

Many of these early Cowboy Dressage shows were associated with A rated Morgan Horse shows, held one day before the Morgan show. Adding Cowboy Dressage to horse shows provided much needed revenue as many shows continue to have reduced numbers and attendance during these economic times.

Cowboy Dressage World Partners, Debbie and Eitan Beth-Halachmy, Garn Walker, Lyn and John Moe, Susan and Terry Tomasini, and Sarah Dickinson worked tirelessly to build the lifestyle and Hand Shake Code of Cowboy Dressage World. The Cowboy Dressage way is simple, "Be kind to your horse and your fellow horseman. Live honorably and always choose the high road when dealing with your horse no matter what the competition demands. When you fail, try again."

In August 2013, it was decided Cowboy Dressage World would host their own show—a final with no qualifying. Goals were set; make it affordable, give horsemen and women education in Cowboy Dressage, and give all a place to show their horse. They had hoped to get 200 rides, but when the numbers came in it was more than 500 rides and they had to turn many away. Four arenas, four judges, for two days. It all went like clockwork. Many who attended stated it was the best-organized, low stress horse show they'd ever attended.

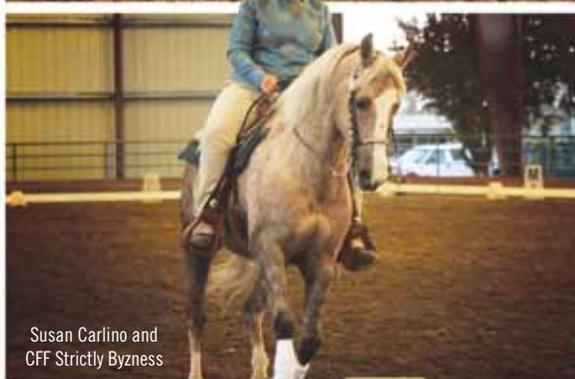
Ten thousand dollars in prizes was awarded to the high point riders and overall high point riders, with awards also given to the highest scoring "soft feel" riders. During the High Point Awards ceremony in the evening, the lights went out in the indoor arena where the awards were being held. Garn Walker lit a match and read the awards by match light. Garn says, "If this isn't cowboy I don't know what is." The lights did come back on but it was a

COWBOY DRESSAGE World Gathering Finals Show

Debbie Beth-Halachmy
and Indigo Go Gold



Jamie Butler and
Ragtime Oro Blanco



Susan Carlino and
CFF Strictly Byzness



Wyatt Paxton and
Alves Black Pearl

special moment that grounded us all.

An example of CDW passion was shown last August when two young adults showed up at the Mother Lode/Cowboy Dressage World Show. They were young Vaquero riders and were totally unprepared. When the young man went to ride his test he got so lost it was a disaster. Garn Walker stopped him in the middle of his test and walked him through his test...teaching him, not judging him for his six-minute ride. The judge allowed it. The two youngsters got a lecture from Garn Walker and Eitan Beth-Halachmy, and provided one of the most memorable images from the show. The two young riders returned to the Gathering and Finals in November and were fantastic. They went home, did their homework and returned in top form. Breaking the rules and doing the stepping outside the norm changed these rider's lives.

Another memorable story is about a mule at the finals who entered the ring and was frightened by the table and judge at C. The judge got down from her table and walked out to the mule and helped her get comfortable with the table and the people on the judges stand. When the mule relaxed the judge said, "Now you can ride your test."

The show was a huge success with the help from Ron Smith, Wyatt Paxton, Kelly Denison, Paul Dupray, Katrina and Jeff Sanders and all the volunteers. These outstanding folks are all part of the Cowboy Dressage World team that help make the sport so successful and enjoyable.

Judges Ivetta Harte, Martina Bone, Lynn McEnespy and Gloria Bedulen kept all the classes running on schedule and provided a positive and welcoming atmosphere.

The Morgan community turned out in full force. Some of the top rides were on Morgan horses. 2012 World Champion Western

Dressage partners Susan Carlino and CFF Strictly Business were at the top of the scores in the Walk/Jog/Lope and Challenge tests. The much beloved Cabbot French Lieutenant and Kathy Gomer won top honors in the Walk/Jog division and were awarded a "Soft Feel Buckle" for their rides. Diane Hastie and Suntime Doc Holiday rode to solid scores in the Walk/Jog division. Jamie Butler rode the beautiful Ragtime Oro Blanco and TGM Reino De Oro for Peggy Malone of Talika Gold Morgans. The talented Megan Evans brought two good horses, Farceur's Wake Up Call and Baymonts Cisco Kid. NVS Midas and Lisa Horning brought home the top score for the Freestyle. Other top rides on Morgans were earned by Lynn Moe on NY Minute, Shirley Rosenburg on Manhattan Royal, Wyatt Paxton on Alves Black Pearl, Lisa Reif on Winter Green Marquis (Lisa got the best dressed award) Nadine Paxton and NSP Diamond Sensation, Shirley Rosenburg and Manhattan Royal, Debbie Beth-Halachmy and Debby Miller shared Indigo Gold and both rode to winning scores in the Walk/Jog division. For complete scores and awards go to www.cowboydressageworld.com/finals-show-2013/

Cowboy Dressage World will be offering a four show series in 2014 at Murieta Equestrian Center in Rancho Murieta, CA. The dates are January 18-19, June 20-22, August 1-3, and August 27-28. Cowboy Dressage World will be hosting the second Cowboy Dressage World Gathering and Finals Show at Murieta Equestrian Center November 13-16, 2014.

Cowboy Dressage is growing fast in Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, California and Wisconsin, Australia and throughout Europe and Britain. It is coming to a place near you.

Please visit www.cowboydressageworld.com and www.cowboydressage.com for updates, entries and continued information. ■