



2021 SPRING ICHO GAZETTE

International Curly Horse Organization

322 Tulie Gate Road, Tularosa, NM 88352

2021 SPRING GAZETTE

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Hello ICHO Members and Friends!

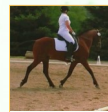
Spring is always a busy time on the farm. I am admiring the beautiful crop of Curly foals from you all! You know what else is in the air?! It's show season! And boy, do we have a line-up for you! ICHO is presenting the first ever INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL CURLY HORSE SHOW! It has been a long time since there has been a Curly horse show, unfortunately, Curlies are far and wide and it is physically difficult or impossible to have a show together. Or is it???!!!!

Our team has been working very hard to provide a virtual show experience for anyone who desires to present their registered Curly! This virtual show is open to every Curly registry, world-wide, several disciplines, age groups, and ability groups. There are classes for youngsters who need leadline assistance, youth, adult, persons with disabilities, and more. And all these classes may be performed from the comfort of your own home or barn. Virtual shows have taken a huge leap forward in the past year, and is perfect to bring Curly riders together from everywhere! There are Western, English, Gaited, Driving, Jumping, Trail, and many more classes offered. A complete list of classes will be posted later this month, keep an eye out on our Face-Book page and website.

We are also honored to have Joanne Coy as our judge. Ms. Coy is an L Graduate with USDF and a USEF Western Dressage "R" judge. She is also a board member of the Western Dressage Association of America. All dressage tests will have written test results.

If you have any questions about the upcoming show, please message our office or myself directly (email is on the left). We are super excited to share this event with everyone! Let's show those Curlies, add to their experience and yours!

Sincerely, Joan Henning, ICHO President, Region 5 and Angel Leggs.



There are still ICHO Calendars available!

Order at cafepress.com/wallcalendar/ICHO



GAZETTE AD DEADLINE

We now have a new Gazette ad deadline schedule for submitting ads as follows:

WINTER: Dec 15

SPRING: Mar 15

SUMMER: June 15

FALL: Sept 15

Ads that are received after the deadline will be run in the next following issue. Payments must also be made before the deadline. All ads and payment must be sent to the office. Thanks!

ARTICLES- We are always looking for interesting articles for the Gazette. The article could be about training, health tips, an interesting story about a Curly or anything of interest horse related. Please send all articles to the office before the deadlines. Awaken the writer within you!



GAZETTE SCHEDULE

-  **WINTER February**
-  **SPRING May**
-  **SUMMER August**
-  **FALL November**

Submit Ads & Payment to: office@curlyhorses.org

Ad & Payment Deadlines:

Winter Dec 15 Spring Mar 15 Summer Jun 15 Fall Sep 15

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ICHO now offers DNA testing for:

Ancestral only TX A&M	\$25.00
Parentage Only U of KY	\$30.00
CA- (Cerebellar Abiotrophy) VetGen	\$35.00
Genetic DNA Panel Testing	\$99.00

Visit the website for more info or contact the office.

Gazette Ad Specials!

Stallion Station Ad– only \$10.00 per issue, \$40.00 for the year, color ad.

Business Card Ad– only \$10.00 per issue, \$40.00 for the year, color ad

All color Ads at Black and White Prices! All Gaz Color Ad fees reduced!!

Full Page Color \$40.00, 1/2 Pg Color \$20.00, 1/4 Pg Color \$10.00, Classified \$10.00

Submitting ads: *Pay for ads online on our webpage– <http://ichocurlyhorses.org>

All ads must be copy ready in word doc format or jpg, png. Since we have reduced our prices we need the ads in ready to print format. For photos png is preferred since it has the best resolution. We can no longer accept pdf format because it does not insert clearly for the Gazette editing process.

All Ads must be sent to the office with payment. Ads also appear on the ICHO webpage.

Thanks! office@curlyhorses.org

Gazette editor– Joan Henning





We are pleased to announce the first annual International

ICHO Virtual Horse Show!



Show bill will be released later this month. Any Curly registered with any Curly registry are welcome to attend this event, we look forward to seeing you!



Gaited, Western and
English disciplines:

Showmanship

Halter

Rail Classes

Driving

Dressage

Trail Obstacle

Trail hours

At Liberty

Jumping

Speed Events

Entry applications and details will be available later in June, on FB and the ICHO website. Show results in Fall 2021.



Our esteemed Judge is Joanne Coy, who co-taught the Group Apprentice Judging Program at the Western Dressage World Show in Oklahoma in 2017 and 2018, and will be teaching it again in 2020. She was one of the clinicians at the Western Dressage Judges Seminar this year and last year in Colorado and judged at the 2019 Western Dressage World Show. She is a USDF Bronze Medalist, L Graduate with USDF and a USEF Western Dressage "R" judge. More on Joanne page 21.

Right, Joanne Coy and Curly Mocha Baby Twist at a ground work clinic.

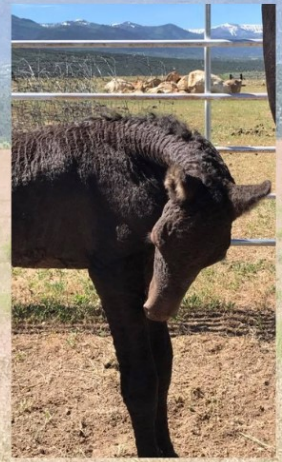


FEATHER GATE RANCH

Curly, Colorful Missouri Fox Trotters

Sweet, athletic, hypoallergenic, AND gaited horses are out there! Located in central Utah, there is a repertoire of not only hypoallergenic curly coats, but also stunning combinations of Cream and Champagne color genetics. We have variations of paint markings or solids, curlsies or smooth-coats, all available in both heterozygous and homozygous, to guarantee curls and color in stud services.

They are family-friendly and kind-spirited, and their signature Missouri Fox Trotter gait gives you a very smooth, consistent ride that anyone can enjoy all day long. Being born and raised in the frosty, rugged mountains of Utah, they are built to be very hardy and powerful, and are therefore very healthy and dependable horses.



We have multiple stallions available for both AI and live cover stud service, and foals for sale. They are all genetically clean, and have even sold internationally!

Feel free to email Robin Clifford at feathergate712@gmail.com, or find our Facebook page: Feather Gate Ranch @FGRCurlyChampagneFoxTrot

The Birth of Twins!

Haras Heiligenmatt

www.Curly-horses-satheca.fr

“The Heiligenmatt stud saw an extremely rare event on the night of
March 28-29, 2021, the birth of twins!....”



.At the time of birth, anguish runs high for the first 14 days, hoping the fillies do well. This double birth was not expected and of course unwanted knowing the risks incurred by the mother and the foals. The mother is a Selle Francais mare performing up to 125cm in jumping. She was stopped following an injury and began a career in reproduction. Unfortunately she has trouble carrying her gestations to term. The echographic control is difficult because of a very cystic uterus. She was covered on April 20, 2020. The sire is our curly stallion, Bobeyhill Splash (upper right). Bobeyhill is a pinto curly stallion from the Splash (Spartacus) line. He is very sweet and always wants to do his best. He is as good in dressage as in jumping (105 cm competition), a good hunter horse.



Knowing that out of 62 cases of twin gestation in mares, 65% result in a complete abortion, 21% in the abortion of one of the 2 eggs and only 14% in a birth of the two foals which remain very fragile. The decision was to let nature take its course. When the foaling alarm went off, we rushed to help the mother during foaling. The first foal was born at 0:06 a.m. curly and pie of Bobeyhill but so small that we quickly realized there was a problem. The mother continued to have contractions. A search of the mare made it possible to discover a second foal which was born 10 minutes after the first. Straight et pinto (the father only produces pinto) she was taller than the first. The mare was exhausted and had collicas.



My veterinarian husband then took care of the mother while our daughter and I rubbed the foals. We took the colostrum and after sharing it we fed the fillies in the half hour after birth ; so the mother could recover. None of the pouches broke on their own, no foals would have survived if we had not been present. At 3 am the mother was fine and the twins were drinking standing up. Post birth care, sufficient colostrum and heat for 15 days seem imperative. The size of the stallion allows to have foals at term since he transmits a size smaller than a French sport horse (Selle Français). We were on watch all night. They immediately had interactions between themselves as contacts, stimulations, synchronization of sleep, and eating.

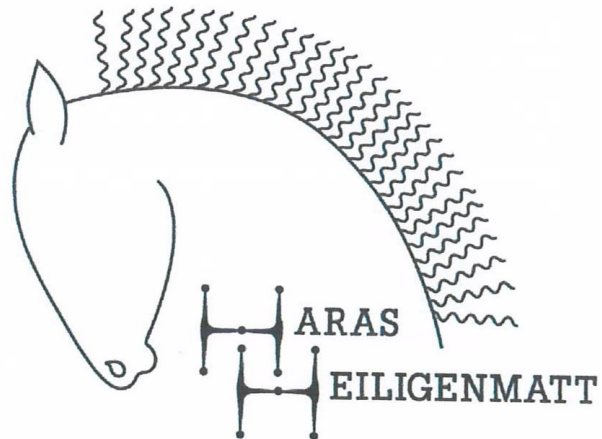
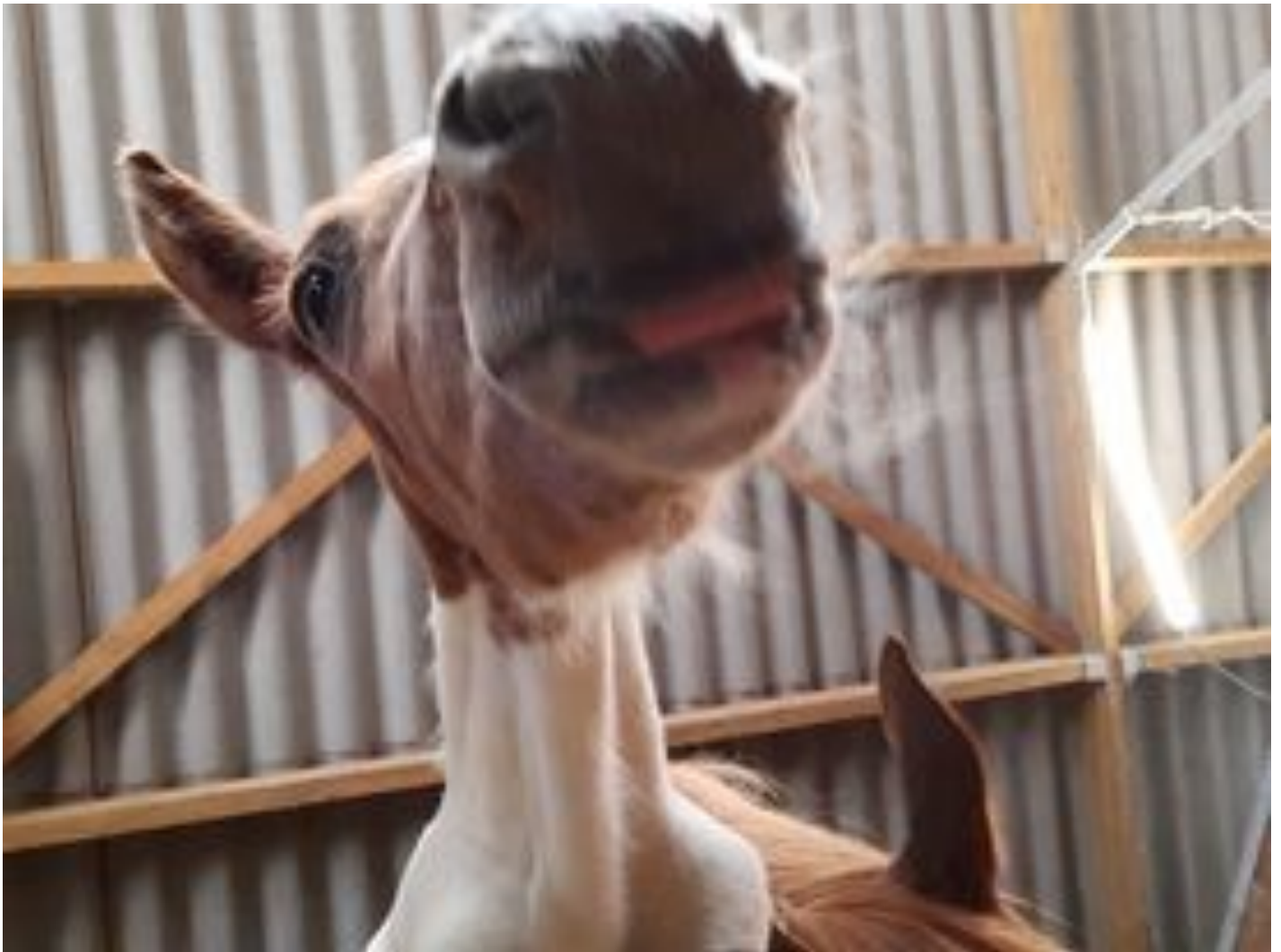


“Dinner time!”



This great adventure was stressful and required a lot of involvement. A supply of bottles and supplements for the mother made it possible to put all the chances of survival in motion. The broodmare is an excellent mother, she has enough milk and from 10 days old, the little ones have started to eat hay and grain. It is a wonder to see them both (a straight and a curly) next to their mother in the stable. They are very close to man, it is the love of foals. Great Bobeyhill done it !!!!





WANTED:

Your Mares
with our
Posse of Stallions
at Feather Gate Ranch
Curly Missouri Fox Trotters

We have Homozygous Dominant Curly and Smooth-Coated stallions available for A.I. Shipping and live cover. They all have lots of color including Champagne and Cream and the ever-smooth, sure-footed gait of the Fox Trotter breed.

Stud Fee starting price: \$800.00
for 2021-2022 foals

We can offer Multiple-Mare discounts as well.

Email Robin Clifford:
feathergate712@gmail.com
Facebook page: @FGRCurlyChampagneFoxTrot



ICHO Feature Farm

Feather Gate Ranch-Unique Missouri Fox Trotters

Feather Gate Ranch is a 20-acre ranch in the frosty mountains of east-central Utah, privately owned by Robin Clifford. We specialize in breeding Missouri Fox Trotters with unique characteristics- a hypoallergenic curly coat, color combinations with the champagne and cream genes, and lots of personality!

The ranch started out small with a few mares and a couple of foals on a few acres of undeveloped land. After lots of hard work and time, and the purchase of neighboring property, it's grown significantly in size and capability but maintains the close attention of a small business, as the horses' health and happiness are always first priority. Live breeding is always done carefully in-hand to ensure not only success, but also the safeties of mare and stallion. We have stallions that have done successful A.I. shipping, and sold horses nationally and internationally!

Not only are there horses here, but we have an ecosystem of barn cats, dogs, chickens, and peacocks. They're incredibly effective at maintaining the insect and rodent population, making the ranch a relaxing haven for the horses. There's also a lot of surrounding wildlife; birds of prey of all sizes, deer, elk, coyotes, foxes, and badgers all roam the area, but true to mountain horse fashion, the Fox Trotters are used to it all.



We have a lot of big names in our horses' bloodlines; Black Cloud, DCC Vegas, Zane Grey, Lady Anne, Missouri Traveler E., and more! Not only are many of our lines right out of Missouri show rings, we've even made some names of ourselves out West. Our top stallion, Feather Gate Gold Wings

(pictured right and left), is a proven show horse. The day after finishing his 30 days' training with the late Nya Bates, he took Reserve Grand Champion at an all-breed show in Boise, Idaho. While not all of the horses have been in shows, they are certainly show-quality and will soon be making their way into the arena. They all gait beautifully and are all well-marked, and very fancy with all



that curly mane and tail! There's a horse for everyone here, whether you want small and quiet for kids, or large and flashy for the show rider.



Our Stallions

As of 2021, we have four breeding stallions, and all are standing at stud. They are the prime example of the ranch's purpose; creating and sharing family-friendly, athletic gaited horses. They are all available for live cover breeding, Wings and Mitus also offering AI shipping.

Wings ICHO/NACHR 2263-D



This first stallion- the oldest, and king of the ranch, is Feather Gate Gold Wings, who was previously mentioned. He is one of the first horses born in the beginning of the ranch, and so has been a foundation of the entire herd. He has the best attitude of any stallion you'd meet, and all of his get have carried it on. Upon meeting a woman with mental and physical handicaps, this king of the hill melted into a purring kitten, holding perfectly still as she brushed him all over and gave him treats.



He is also very sweet with other horses; he has no problem sharing his food through the fence panels with foals, whether they are his or not, and visiting with them when he gets the chance. While we are careful to make sure all stallions have the appropriate spaces, especially from each other, it is rare to have any of them get into skirmishes. With his amazing Champagne coloring, he can give any foal champagne no matter your mare's color, and has passed on both champagne and dominant curly more than 50% of the time.



Mitus ICHO/NACHR 2266-D



FG Wing's Curly Mitus Touch is a jack of all trades. He is Amber Champagne, Double Dominant Curly, Cream, tobiano, and gaited as can be! He can throw almost any color combination, depending on the mare. You could breed him twice to the same mare, and you could get a fascinating different foal every time!



He is a proven stallion as well, having had two foals in as many breeding attempts. Both had picked up his tobiano, one had his cream, the other the champagne and curl. Lots of variety is in store for you with this guy, and he is just as gentle as his sire Wings. He is very athletic, never passing up a chance to show off his gait and powerful gallop. He is a perfect copy of Wings' conformation, with the thick bone and perfect gait.

Flint ICHO/NACHR 2267-S



F.G. Wing's Flint Smokin Black is, in a word, flashy. He has a slenderer body than his sire Wings, yet does not lack in the power department. He is a homozygous black with cream, and is also a proven stallion, his foal having picked up both the black and cream genes. With Wings being his sire, he is a smooth-coated curly, and we are excited to see how many curlies he will produce with the right

mares. Also because of the curly gene, he has the longest mane and tail of any of the stallions, which is no small feat. He has a very pronounced gait, is light on his feet and shows off with glamour. He has a very gentle heart and sensitive demeanor that makes his trainability very high, and he will have no problem passing it on to more foals!

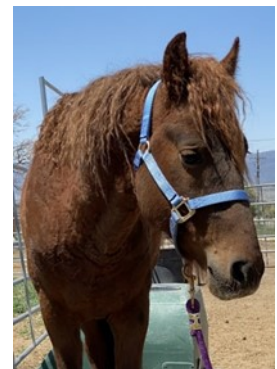


Pilot ICHO/NACHR 2265-D



FG Wing's Curly Red Pilot is a new addition to our stud service panel this year! He has some of the best bloodline of any of our horses, his direct bottom line grandsire being Zane Grey himself! It would be a crime to keep hiding him away! He is a Dominant Curly, thick and tall, and a gorgeous ruby-red chestnut color. He has large, dark eyes that absolutely melt when you brush him. He has the same happy, sweet personality of his sire Wings, and has all the gait you could want in a stallion. He is so easy-going that he and Flint are best

buddies and are kept very close to each other, sharing a fence line and a water trough, and are happiest that way. There is no reason he couldn't recreate that temperament with any mare, making him a very valuable stallion to have on board.



All of the profiled stallions are available for stud service, and are extremely healthy animals. They all have strong hooves that have never needed shoes, they are all easily handled and easy keepers. These are all common traits in our bloodlines, and they are perfect examples of the gaiting, colorful, curly, and kind-hearted horses we strive to create and share with others.

Foal to Full-on Horse: Early Training and Routines



Each mare that is bred is carefully paired with a stallion to improve and maintain correct conformation, gait, markings, and good personality. Due to the gentle manners of the stallions and mares alike, almost all breeding is done on location and in-hand. The stallions are all perfect gentlemen, and we are sure to check that the mares are fully in heat and ready to breed to avoid any confrontation between horses.

They are also very fertile, and there has been very few times there was an unsuccessful breeding. Due to the unpredictable weather of our Utah springs, we typically breed in May or June, so the foals are sure to be born during the warmer months. That

way, they have plenty of time to grow and mature before winter comes knocking on the door again.

Every foal is imprinted as soon as possible, getting daily human interaction and care. The mares are carefully monitored to ensure the birth goes without a hitch, and they are so sweet that they have no problem letting their babies play with people and dogs! We allow the foals to bond closely with their dam before any regular training happens, and they're always put in a safe, wide pasture so they have freedom to run and play to develop their muscles and bones. We typically will have two or more foals born around the same time period, as they develop great socializing skills when in a herd of nursing mares. Not only does it make their playtime more fun, but the mares are great mentors, teaching the new recruits about boundaries and rules.



When they are about a month old, we start halter-training the foals. We use a slow, steady pace and familiarize the foals with the smell and feeling of the rope and halter, and reinforce positively with scratches and brushes. As a result, the halter always means good things, and they all shove their noses right in! Lead-training is also gradual, and they pick it up very quickly. You can't beat having a smart little foal!

Beyond proper ground-manners and basic desensitizing, most training is done after weaning and after their growth plates have begun closing. They are slow-growing, so learning how to carry anything heavier than an English saddle comes later, around four years old. Because we allow them the time and freedom to fully mature before bringing them into full workloads, they stay strong and energetic far into their lives; we have senior mares in their early twenties that have all the spunk and shine of a young filly!





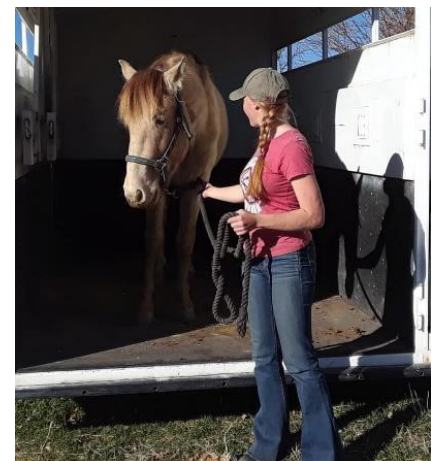
Because groundwork is so emphasized upon, the first rides on our young horses, thus far, have been great! Pictured below on the right are two of our mares during their first times ever being ridden; each horse had been very patient, were solid and balanced, and the rides ended on a great note! We have never used any calming supplements on our horses outside of veterinary uses, so each training interaction with the mares and stallions are genuine and transparent.

We start them in halters before anything else, then hackamores/bosals, and then soft bits. We also start bareback, which is of course naturally more dangerous, but has given us a better feel for the horse and how they adjust to riding.

On the bottom left is a picture of one of our own pioneers, a young stallion born here named Beryl. He was brought up in the same routine as our other foals, and his outgoing, highly intelligent personality was the frosting on top of the striking Amber Champagne and cream and curly genetics. He was even tested for genetic gait capability, and the result came back 100%! He was sold internationally to France, where he has a very bright future as one of the only curly, champagne, and gaited Missouri Fox Trotter stallions in the country.



More great foals are available for sale now, and they, including several mares, are currently awaiting all color test, genetic health panels, and registration in different associations. International Curly Horse Association, Missouri Fox Trotter Horse Breed Assoc., National Spotted Saddle Horse Assoc., and International Champagne Horse Registry applications are all underway. All of the health panels and gait tests that we have done so far have all come back totally clean for each horse, which is



Color and Curl-The Icing on the Fox Trotter Cake



Breeding is as much an investment as it is an adventure. When it comes to the champagne and curly genes we work with, the results are always unique and always stunning. One of our mares, Breeze, is a great example of the fascinating progression of both the champagne and the curly. As seen here, she was born midnight-black, the only tell-tale sign of the champagne being her electric-blue eyes and pink skin around her eyes and muzzle. As she got older, those black curls began to melt into a dusky brown. Now, at nearly four years old, she is a rich milk chocolate. Her bright eyes morphed into a creamy amber with blue flecks, a signature of her sire Wings. Her curls also changed; at birth, the dominant curly is loud and unmistakable. In their first winter, it grows very thick and long, making the following spring a shedding frenzy! The appearance of a curly coat varies from horse to horse, too. Most of the time

it is very tightly coiled in the winter, and flattening into a crushed-velvet texture in the summer, while the mane and tail remain thick and wavy. Breeze and this other mare, an Amber champagne with grey, also portrays the seasonal change. The crushed-curls condenses in the neck and chest for the most part, while the rest shortens and appears straight.

Other times, particularly in the case of double-curlyies like Mitus or even Pilot, the coat keeps a rhythmic wave throughout the body during the summer. Some seem to pick up the curly gene stronger than others, so they don't always need to be a double-bred curly to have the highly pronounced year-round curls.

Even though we use color testing to make an educated guess of what the color result of a certain breeding would yield, they still never cease to surprise you! While most estimates have been close, our young filly Melody decided it would be fun to beat the odds. Both her dam and sire are champagne horses, her sire Mitus being a double-curly, double-dilute. Her dam is also a straight-haired curly, which typically increases the possibility of producing curly. It should have basically guaranteed a champagne curly, and what did we get but not a champagne curly at all! She stole away the minute genetic chance of being a seal bay tobiano with cream, and no presented curly at all! Pictured here (left to right) are her sire Mitus, her dam Rhythm, and then Melody herself as foals.



The Mission of Feather Gate Ranch



As we all know, anything can happen when it comes to running a breeding ranch, and horses in general. Stallions can push boundaries, mares can be moody, and even foals can be a little big for their britches at times. When you have some of each, there is a lot to keep track of! Starting them out right is crucial, and we have been extremely fortunate to have been stewards of wonderfully patient, kind and, if we do say so ourselves, stunning horses. The true overall goal of Feather Gate Ranch is to share the gift of these animals and provide a best friend and partner to someone who will love them.

While no horse is exactly like another, we can say with confidence that we breed family-friendly horses that are good with kids, elderly and disabled people, as well as the ambitious rider. Like all horses, they have the innate ability to connect with their handler, and once the trust has been formed, there really isn't anything that they won't accomplish

with you.



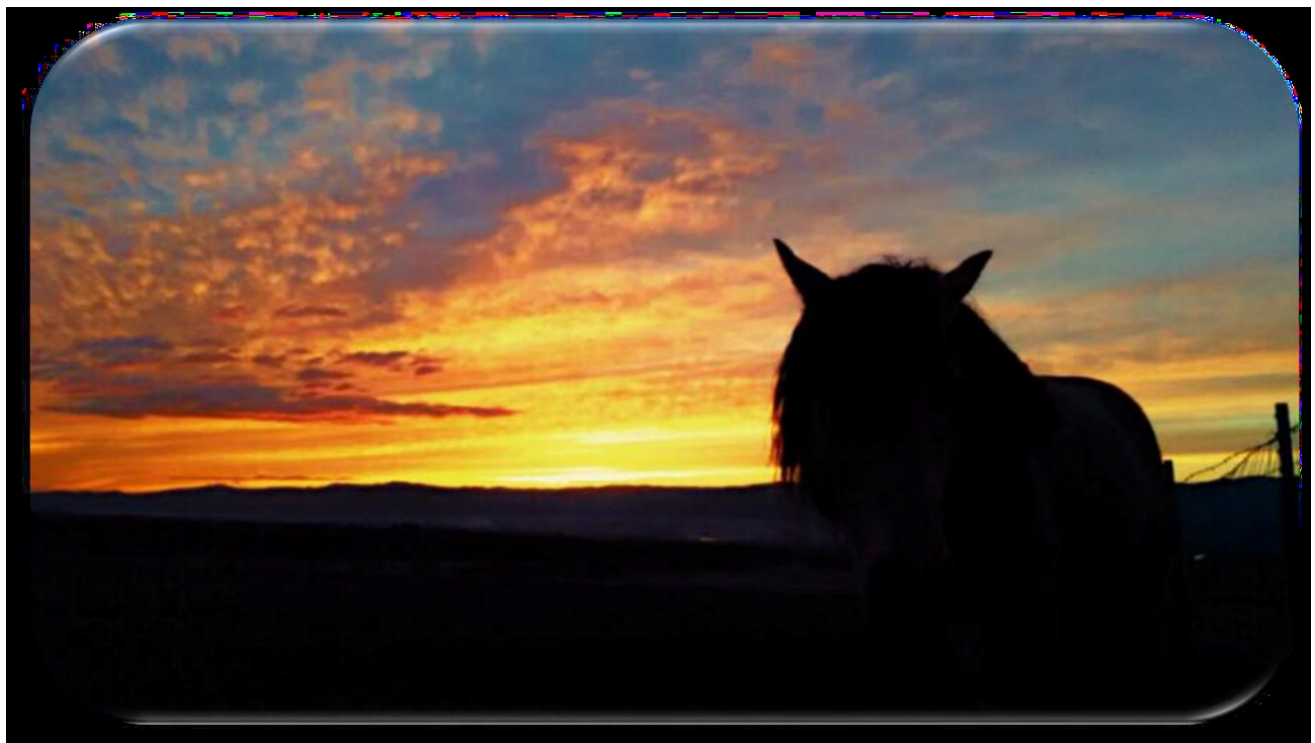
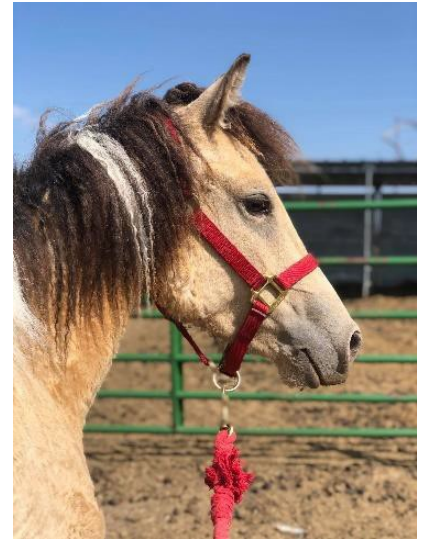
Missouri Fox Trotters around the world are renown for their therapy work talent, and that is exactly the skill we hope to employ in the horses' futures; to bring comfort, joy, and inspiration into the lives of everyone who interact with them. No cause could be higher than to serve our fellow man through the graces of the horses we send out into the great, wide world.



How to Meet the Horses
of
Feather Gate Ranch

We are currently offering great deals on stud services for the handsome stallions we introduced in this article, and we also have a select few mares and foals available for sale! We have a Facebook Page called Feather Gate Ranch, easily searchable by @FGRCurlyChampagneFoxtrot. We are located in Utah; for an exact address, we would ask that you e-mail ahead and we will set up a time for you to come and check out our horses! We are currently working on setting up our own website, but in the meantime, please feel free to find our page to see more details on our horses and services, such as genetic test results, colors, the curly coat and their lineages, along with a lot more pictures! We are very excited to be getting our horses and mission out into the world to thrive and succeed.

Email: feathergate712@gmail.com





FUND RAISER FOR CURRENT CURLY HORSE RESEARCH

Funds for Curly horse research are really searing ahead and progress being made! A goal of \$3500 is in the midst of being achieved, well over half of this drive has been achieved. But more donations to this research are needed to complete the goal. All donations, tax deductible, are going to Texas A&M University directly to Curly horse research. The research efforts, tirelessly speared forward by Dr. Mitch Wilkinson will go to the Animal Genetics Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Rytis Juras, Professor Emeritus, Dr. Gus Cothran and research assistants.

So why is this research so important? This research will work toward isolating causative Curly genes, genes that produce curl, but also a fascinating yet detrimental gene or gene combination that causes the dreaded alopecia condition. It is not currently understood how alopecia occurs in Curly horses, but hypothesis's are pointing toward curly gene combinations that result in this condition. And these possible genetic combinations exist right here in North American and abroad. They happen worldwide. Research to understand the causative mechanism in Curly horse balding or alopecia will help prevent this difficult condition form happening. And the research will work toward this goal in Curlies worldwide.

By now, if you have kept up with the valuable research that has progressed with Curly gene isolation in our previous articles, you are familiar with the KRT25 Curl gene and the SP6 curl gene. But there are Curlies who have neither gene, concluding that there are more Curly genes "out there". It is hypothesized that certain curl genes, when combined, cause the balding/alopecia conditions. But further research is necessary, vitally necessary. These genes are referred to as "incompatible genes." If you have seen a balding/alopecia Curly, you will understand how vital it is to prevent this from happening. From Dr. Mitch Wilkinson....

" Both goals of this research may by linked to each other. It is theorized that combinations of incompatible curly coat causative genes may be the cause of alopecia or balding. In order to prove or disprove this idea, the causative genes must be found, isolated, and tests developed for them. At that point, horses known to exhibit balding can be back tested to see if the theory holds true in some or all cases. We have hints that several more causative curly coat genes may be present in the North American population. "

Please consider donating to the Curly horse research fund, even the smallest amount, tax deductible. There are several ways and places to donate, on the ICHO website, and various social media sites.

Donate here—https://www.ichocurlyhorses.com/store/p67/Research_Gene%2Fs_Isolation.html

Sincerely and Thank You! Joan Henning, ICHO President, Region 5



ICHO members, it's coming!

2021 ICHO AGM

Occurring in early Autumn.

We will have a live ZOOM AGM Meeting for all ICHO members!

Look for more details in the Summer 2021 Gazette.

Please plan to join us!





Joanne Coy



Joanne Coy is a life long student of the horse, with a varied background in all things horse. She is on the boards of Glass-Ed (a group member organization of USDF), Western Dressage Association of Michigan, and delighted to be a new board member of Western Dressage Association of America. She co-taught the Group Apprentice Judging Program at the Western Dressage World Show in Oklahoma in 2017 and 2018, and will be teaching it again in 2020. She was one of the clinicians at the Western Dressage Judges Seminar this year and last year in Colorado and judged at the 2019 Western Dressage World Show. She is a USDF Bronze Medalist, L Graduate with USDF and a USEF Western Dressage "R" judge.

Her other horse endeavors have included endurance and competitive trail riding, harness racing, racing harness horses under saddle, competitive mounted orienteering, Western and English pleasure, natural horsemanship training, trick training, showing English and Western Dressage, trail riding and just having fun camping with her horses.

Joanne is a semi-retired teacher and middle school counselor, and often compares training horses with working with middle school kids. The statement, "They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," certainly applies to both students and horses. She enjoys working with other riders who are interested in learning how to develop a partnership with their horses, gives lessons at her farm, and does clinics around the country. She frequently participates in clinics and lessons herself with those she considers horsemasters, and is currently expanding her knowledge working with a reined cow horse champion.

When not judging a show herself, Joanne enjoys showing her quarter horse and her half-Arab in both English and Western dressage and working with gaited horses. "I haven't met a horse yet, no matter what breed, who hasn't benefited from the elements of training as described in the training pyramid. Following those elements will always make a horse better, happier, and more correct so that he can live a long and healthy life."

Joanne enjoys life on a small farm in Michigan with a collection of horses, a spoiled dog, and a cat who refuses to hunt mice.