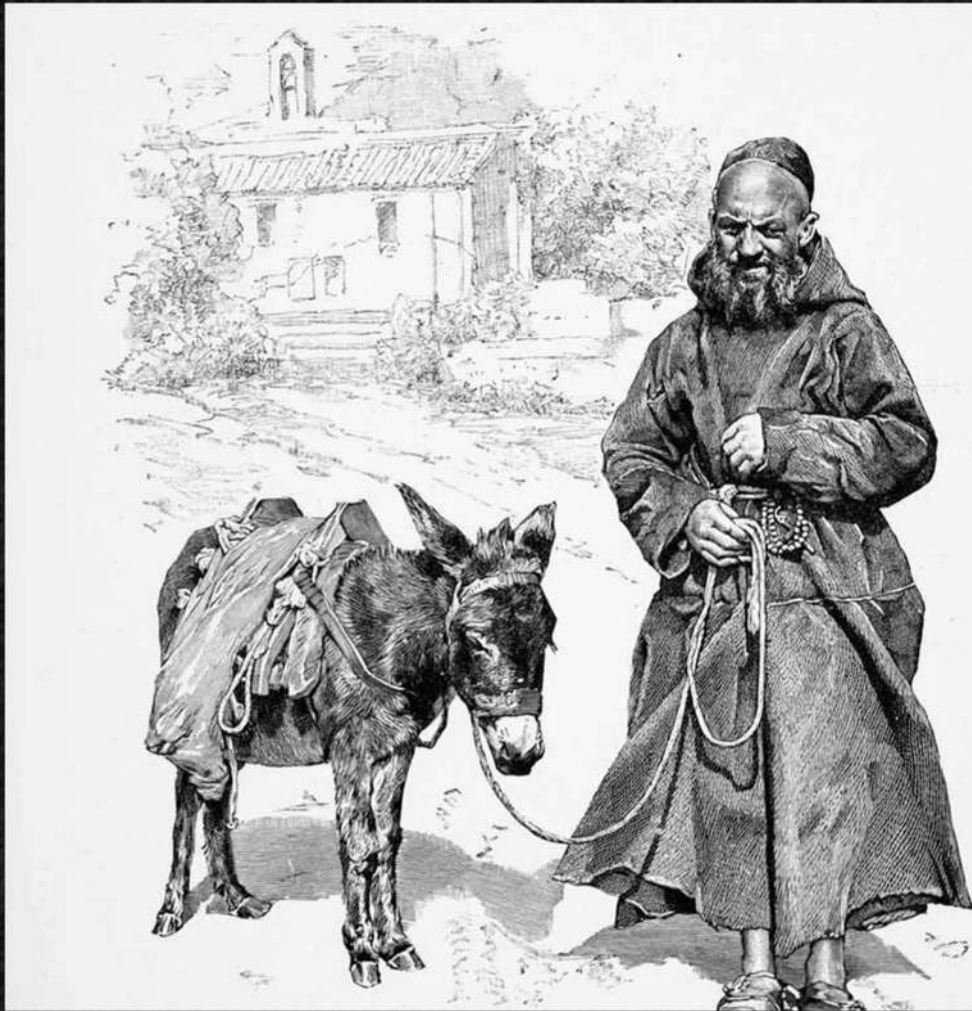


# THE BRAYER

JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN  
DONKEY AND MULE SOCIETY

\*\*YOUR MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER \*\*



**The Original All-Breed Longear Publication  
In This Issue:**

**\*\*\* Many Changes \*\*\***

**\*\*\* 2024 Fees \* New Rates \*\*\* Saddle/Girth Sores \*\*\***

**\*\*\* Does Coloration Matter? \*\*\* Lost Registration Protocol \*\*\***

**\*\*Calendar of Events \*\* \* Disaster Preparedness \*\*\* When to Call the Vet \*\*\***

**The BRAYER, Volume 56 #Winter 5&6 2023**

# The Brayer



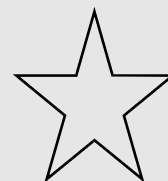
Published Six (6) times a year by  
The American Donkey & Mule Society Inc.  
World's Largest Single Source of Information on Donkeys,  
Mules and Zebra Hybrids

Leah Patton, Editor; Paul Hutchins, Executive Editor

Address: PO Box 1210, Lewisville TX 75067 Phone (972) 219-0781  
E-mail: lovelongears@hotmail.com. Website—www.lovelongears.com

Dues/magazine \$34.00 per year (USA, \$43 Canada, \$55 overseas) (2023)

Volume 56 #55 & 6 Winter 2023



3 .....	Index of Advertisers	42 .....	Clubs and Organizations
5 .....	<b>Next Issue Deadline January 1</b>	44 .....	The Book Shelf (Things to Read and View)
6 .....	Betsy's Bits	46 .....	Business Cards
7 .....	Leah's Corner	48 .....	Professional Directory
8 .....	Farm Name Notes	50 .....	Explaining NMDA vs ADMS
9 .....	<b><u>2024 NEW FEE RATES SHEET</u></b>	52 .....	Permanent ID Info (MDR and ADMS)
10 .....	Old Wives Tales and Myths	58 .....	Ad Policies
11 .....	A New voice— Presenting <i>Chava &amp; Fyedka</i>	59 .....	Classified Ads
12 .....	Disaster Preparedness		
13 .....	My Longear is Drooling		
14 .....	Is your Equine Ready for Winter?		
15 .....	Lost Registrations (PLEASE READ!)		
16 .....	Conformation Clinic—Toplines		
18 .....	Does Coloration Matter?		
20 .....	Suddenly, He's back sore		
21 .....	Dues Renewal Notice		
22 .....	Equine Melanoma/Malignancy		
23 .....	Weather got you down?		
24 .....	Stud Report Notes		
25 .....	Blank Stud Report for <b><u>all Jack Owners</u></b>		
26 .....	Battling Geldings		
27 .....	Microchip Issues (missing/no reading)		
28 .....	Calendar of Events		
30 .....	Winter tack-room Cleanup		
31 .....	When to Call the Vet		
32 .....	DNA Export Requirements		
33 .....	Pedigrees—3-generation for Exports		
34 .....	Choosing a Trailer		
36 .....	Long Ears and Short Tales		
49 .....	Saddle Sores/Girth Sores		



## Index of Advertisers

Barnesyard Books .....	31
Bonnie Shields Legacy of Love .....	26
Caleb Life Lessons Book.. .....	21
Chicks Saddlery .....	13
Come Inside Little Donkey (Book). .....	27
Elvis Meets a Mule (Book) .....	33
EZ ID ... .....	47
Get your Ass to Work (Book) .....	7
Jasper the Mule.. .....	29
JF Miniature Donkeys .....	32
Livingston Productions .....	21
Long Ears & Short Tales Book .....	41
Love That Ass .....	5
Lucky Three Ranch.....	Back Cover
Mules and More .....	15
NMDA DNA Testing.....	15
Pro ID Microchip Solutions .....	23
Republican Donkey Co/Old Glory.. .....	8
Shlei Original Art.....	48
Sugar Creek Graphics .....	13
Www.gotdonkeys.com.....	23
WXICOF.....	10

**Deadline for the Vol 1/2024 \*online only\* issue is  
January 1st for any and all content.**

**Professional Directory Listing and business cards  
WILL appear in the issue.**

**The issue in your hands now is the Winter issue for  
the 2023 calendar year. The next issue is First issue  
of 2024, January/February**

We know it seems strange to have the deadlines a month in advance of the issue date –imagine how it feels for the editor to be always typing in a month name two or three months in advance! Your cooperation in helping us meet deadlines is greatly appreciated!

**Yes we are having phone issues—we are working on equipment upgrade.**

**Need to email us? Lovelongears@hotmail.com is our only current email address.**

The information is being corrected on the website to reflect the new prices for 2024. Meanwhile, all forms shown on the site will be accepted

We no longer have/use FAX .

Subscriptions: \$35/yr (Jan to Dec) in the US, \$45.00 Canada, \$55.00 overseas. Single copy back issues available for \$3.00 each. E-mail lovelongears@hotmail.com Circulation 1000 Worldwide.

We do not rent, trade, or sell our mailing list.

Advertising rates and information may be found at the back of this issue. The BRAYER reserves the right to refuse any advertiser or advertisement. Although we make every effort to protect our readers from false or misleading advertising, the BRAYER magazine and ADMS assume no responsibility for statements made by advertisers.

Any ad not received in copy-ready form may be reset by the BRAYER magazine and additional fees charges. We take no responsibility for errors in content in ads that are not copy-ready.

Any letters, photos or unsolicited articles that are sent to the BRAYER or ADMS by mail, fax, email or other method become the property of ADMS/the BRAYER. Published letters, articles and stories may be edited for brevity or clarity. Articles reproduced in the BRAYER may be re-printed without additional permission except where noted. Articles reprinted from other sources have been done so with their permission. Persons or organizations wishing to reprint must obtain permission from the original source.

Every effort is made to return photos to the sender whenever possible, but we are not responsible for items lost in the mailing process. All photos should be labeled with the sender's name and address on the back, and a SASE provided to ADMS.

Mention of commercial enterprises or brand names does not constitute endorsement or imply preference by the ADMS or the BRAYER.

The BRAYER is the journal of the members of the ADMS and as such strives to maintain a professional quality, however the magazine limits it's responsibility for any errors, inaccuracies, misprints, omissions, or other mistakes that appear in editorial content or advertising.

**PLEASE NOTE OUR mailing address may soon be changing. Please keep touch on the Facebook pages and website here for any changes.**

The Brayer Winter 2023 (V56 #5 & 6 )  
© 2023 American Donkey and Mule Society (est. 1967)  
501©3 Non-profit organization

Published 6 times a year, 2023 - January, March, May,  
July, September, November.  
Membership Circulation 1000. No single copy sales.

**American Donkey & Mule Society Inc.**  
**PO Box 1210, Lewisville TX 75067**  
Membership \$35.00 per year.

### NOTICE OF CHANGE TO AD POLICY:

Any display ads submitted to ADMS should be copy-ready **if at all possible**. Display ads are full, half, quarter, 1/6th and 1/8th page ads. Business cards should also be copy-ready. This means that layout, crop marks, and photo boxes must at least be in place. Photos can be placed into an ad that is otherwise copy-ready for no extra charge. **We can still set up ads, but need the extra time to do so.**

Professional Directory listings and Classified ads do not have to be copy-ready, but we must be able to clearly read hand-written text.

WE ARE NOW AN ALL-ELECTRONIC format with our printer. This means we can no longer send in slides, photos, etc to the printer and they do paste-up. All scanning, paste-up and layout must be completed here at the ADMS office. For this reason, anything you can send as email, (Word or Text documents, jpegs, tiff files, PDF files) are GREATLY appreciated. This will considerably cut down on the prep time, which is now tripled. **Any ad needing set-up will have to be in the office at an earlier date and an additional fee for setup must be charged.**

If you have questions about how copy-ready ads should appear, format for submission, or advance dates for ad-setup, please contact the ADMS office. A new Ad packet will be available outlining all of this information.

We do not bill for ads. Please remember to send in your ad payment with your copy. 🐾

**DISCLAIMER:** The ADMS is not responsible for Ad content including but not limited to Display Ads, Farm Names, Professional Directory Listings, Business cards, or Classified ads.

### NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT:

We offer reprint rights on many of the articles from the BRAYER. Most may be reprinted without further permission. Articles that do not originate with The BRAYER magazine may not be reprinted without permission from the original source. Please contact the ADMS office for additional reprint information. **Reprinted material should credit the Brayer magazine as the source.** Artwork within may be used by clubs for newsletters. Small art **may not** be used for logo or advertising purposes by organizations or individuals, or posted as "Freeware" on websites without express permission from the Artist. **Artwork on covers, page one, and marketplace or from stickers may not be used without express permission from the Artist.**

The BRAYER is not a commercial magazine but rather a large member oriented newsletter. Our circulation worldwide is based on the current membership, which averages 2500 members yearly.

### The ADMS Board of Directors:

**Paul Hutchins, President**  
**Diane Hunter**  
**Bonnie Shields**  
**Kathleen Conklin**  
**Howard Kunder**

**Any comments to the board may be made in writing, C/o ADMS, PO Box 1210, Lewisville TX 75067 and will be forwarded promptly.**

**Notice 2008 - 2023**

## ADMS Registry Inspectors and JUDGES

We appreciate everyone wishes to remain or to become ADMS registry inspectors and Regional representative and Judges.

The reason for the Inspector's and Representative's test was **to make sure everyone was current on the most commonly asked questions—fees, address, color, terminology**. We realize a number of inspectors have been with us for many years, and your services are invaluable. However, we just need to be assured that you have the latest up-to-date information to act as a Representative. This includes the correct color terms, information about registry costs, gelding, and more. An inspector must also be familiar with basic conformation. **If you had problems on the conformation portion of the test, we will contact you and review items. If you inspect and approve an animal for someone and it has terrible conformation, it reflects badly on the inspector and the association both.**

If you need more forms (with the correct address on them) please let us know so that we can keep you supplied. Remember also that forms are now posted on the website.

If you were a carded judge previously, you may remain a judge for ADMS, please let us know as we'll be running the updated Judges' list soon. Otherwise, we are only carding judges on a case-by-case basis. If you have cards with other organizations and wish to be a donkey and mule judge, **we ask that you please submit your list of credentials for review. We are working on implementing a new carding system asap!**

Again, we appreciate you all—keep up the good work! 🐾

**Planning on ADVERTISING in the NEXT ISSUE, the Volume 1 2024, ISSUE?  
SEND IN your ad copy NOW!!!**

**Anything over 1/4 page MUST be reserved in advance as fitting in display ads on the deadline date is nearly impossible! Day after deadline is too late!**

**The DEADLINE IS January 1st, 2024**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR COPY IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

**Please note issues will be ONLINE ONLY at this time.**

**We may have either 6 or 4 issues of online content for 2024. Part of this will depend on membership and space on our website. We need time to get everything set up - please be aware of the deadline and time schedules. There may not be spaces for larger ads left on the day before deadline!!! (If you reserve space but do not confirm copy with us by the deadline date, your ad may not run! Emailed ads are best!)**

***IF YOU MISS THE DEADLINE:***

***YOUR MATERIAL WILL GO IN THE NEXT AVAILABLE ISSUE. Business Cards and Professional Directory WILL APPEAR in the all issues in 2024. The ad rates/deadlines appear near the back of every BRAYER issue.***

**NOTE RATE CHANGES FOR 2025!!!! FEE Schedule in this issue, page 9 !**



**Love That Ass**  
Registered Miniature Donkeys LLC

In Loving Memory of  
**LTA Sweet Love of Mine**  
8/20/15 - 6-26-16  
Due to the Border fire in CA. June 2016

Because of extensive illness throughout the LTA herd due to the fire, we are unable to attend the NMDA Nationals as planned. We regret not being able to meet all the fine competition, and fellow breeders. Best of luck to you all. Our thoughts are with you. If you wish to know more about the Border fire and the turn of events that turned our live supsidedown, go to [gofundme.com/LTADonkeys](https://gofundme.com/LTADonkeys) where you will find extensive coverage.

At long last all our kids have recovered. We are grateful for that, but there will always be a huge heart pain and loss with out Sweet.

[www.ltadonkeys.com](http://www.ltadonkeys.com)    Kim & David Fuson    619-772-7108    [Ombrose13@gmail.com](mailto:Ombrose13@gmail.com)

## Betsy's Bits

A few of you have noticed there was not a Volume 5 Brayer magazine mailed out. There was not a volume 5 issue, and a volume 6 will be offered online only.

Abrupt change? Yes, and we have to apologize, but it's a lot of trickle-down that finally caught up with us. In the past, the Brayer was just barely covering cost to print and mail physical copies of each issue. This last year, it was not even managing that, with postal cost and paper cost increases. Additional factors (again postal cost to mail paperwork, which we have never charged additional for) and other earth-shattering—or at least our little corner of the world shattering—issues have led to a hard sliding stop for us.

We have lost or long time sponsor, through whom generous donations for many years kept us going. That donation made up for postal shortages, electric bills, book-keeper fees, and many other small things that must be paid each month in order for a very small Non-profit to keep revolving.

We are going to all electronic for the Brayer—it will be available to all members. We also must increase fees, but it is the only way to cover our costs. We can't keep up with post office increases without it. (Reminder, we haven't charged extra for postage, but instead rolled it into cost, and now that cost is exceeding the fees, we much change fees.)

We don't want to, but if we are to keep going, we either need a miracle donation, or rise in fees, or both. Right now we must go with the latter and hope for the former.

We are trying our best to teeter this tightrope and continue to bring this much needed service of pedigree and ownership of your animals to you. We have talked with people for several months now—and we feel that having your papers is the best service to you and your animals. We need your help to keep going.

That's all we can say. We need you. Please help.

We don't want to change the mailing address, but it will also be necessary, as our post-office box is remote and costs several hundred dollars in rent alone, not to mention time/mileage to visit it. We'll begin now with the new address, knowing full well it will be a huge hump to overcome.

As soon as we have finalized a post box with the local PO, we will post the new address and change it on all the forms. For now, continue to use the same PO Box in Lewisville please.

A Note from Paul... Betsy and I founded ADMS 56 years ago and have NEVER taken a penny from ADMS. Our dedication to our role, scope and mission is still our goal. We wish to continue to provide services to our members. We still have many loyal members and wish them to continue to use our services.

Thank you for your loyalty. Love to all. Paul and Betsy Hutchins, in absentia.



## Leah's Corner

It's that time of year again- foaling season. Haying season. Fire season. Vacation season - Hey WAIT! What's a vacation! Those of us that live on farms and ranches have special needs when it comes to "taking time off". Who is going to follow our routine? How do you do it?

It's not easy. Friends and family may not be equine-savvy. You have to have them come over ahead of time, get used to the layout, the feeding schedule (oh goodness, the supplements and the separate buckets)... don't schedule the farrier, or have a mare/jennet about to foal... water the lawn? Check the fenceline? Are the hens laying eggs in the tack room? The dogs, the ponies, the donkeys, the cattle... circus it is, but we know our own circus for the most part! How do YOU do it?

As for fire season, the summer sun loves to scorch the grass to a crisp. Rainfall is short in many places, so the fear of fire grows. Could you evacuate your herd? Do you have halters and leads for everyone in the pasture? When did you last check the trailer tires? Got a go bag for you? Backups of your files?

Every two months, usually right after I finish the BRAYER magazine, I do a big cleanup and backup on the computer. I do dailies while working on the layout, so I don't lose hours of work. But when it's all done, it's time to sit back and catch up on clean-up work. Files that are duplicated, unused, unnecessary, out they go. Backup the rest. Do a second backup that goes off-site. Essential everything easy to hand

or locked up. Portable hard drives are cheap nowadays and cost a LOT less than loss of info! (More than ten years later and we are still missing info that can never be replaced after the break-in.)

Do yourself a favor if you are planning a vacation, and let your cleanups and backups run while you are working out your lists. Write it up, type it up, save it in duplicate - sure, put it on the cloud for easier access, but make sure your family know the plans for EVERYTHING - wills included - while you are out and about!

Having just finished a three-day working weekend, I know how valuable down-time is... hopefully SOON! I'm lucky I have family to look after the animals while I'm gone, even though it's extra work for them. Don't forget to THANK THEM abundantly!

Now, get to work on those lists so you can take that trip to the mountains, or beach - or even just a spa day!!!

Leah Patton, office manager, ADMS



**GET YOUR ASS  
TO WORK!**

AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO TRAINING  
YOUR DONKEY TO HARNESS

**DICK COURTEAU**

PHOTOS BY CALEB COURTEAU / ILLUSTRATIONS BY MAEVE COURTEAU

To purchase this book, go to:

<https://getyourasstowork.com/buy>

Direct from the author!

Or through your favorite retailer.

Suggested price, \$23.00



# New Farm Names

Farm names are placed in the next available issue. Remember that your Farm Name and Prefix are not the same - prefixes are required on the front of all registered donkey names. To register your unique farm name (which is only required one time) send \$7 to the ADMS along with your request. Farm names must be unique to ADMS records and are not duplicated.

Please note your farm name must be unique to be registered—Lil Longears, Lil Darlins, Little Brayers, varying “Lil” and “Little” is not a mark of unique. No Farm name beginning “Little” anything will be allowed at this time without having unique properties in the name.

The same holds true for “Half Ass” (Anything), or Happy Ass, or many names with “Ass” in the farm name title. Long Ears (in any variation) is also not allowed as we have hundreds.

If you have questions, Please email [lovelongears@hotmail.com](mailto:lovelongears@hotmail.com) or check with us on Facebook! (ADMS has a page! ) We will work with you to get you a farm name and corresponding Prefix (not the same as your farm name) for your registrations.

Thanks!

Republican  
Donkey Co.

at  
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- Stud Service Available

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3633 River Road  
Wimberley, Texas 78676  
(between Austin & San Antonio)



Home of Roy Rogers & Willie ADMS, PO Box 1210, Lewisville TX 75067 (972) 219-0781



## FEES for All ADMS Services 2024 (Note some fees have changed)

### Membership

in the USA (1 yr, Jan-Dec) **for 2024**.....\$35.00  
 (all family names may be listed under one membership)  
 Canadian Residents **2024** (in US Funds).....\$45.00  
 Overseas residents **2024** (in US Funds).....\$55.00  
 The BRAYER will be online only.

**FARM NAME REGISTRATION**.....\$10.00  
 (must not be already in use by others)

**PREFIX RESERVATION** .....Free  
 (limit to 13 letters/spaces)

### REGISTRATION FEES (animals never registered before)

Jack or jenny Donkey under age 3 .....\$20.00  
 Jack or jenny donkey over age 3 .....\$30.00  
 Gelding donkey any age ..... \$8.00  
 Mare mule/hinny any age.....\$15.00  
 Gelding mule/hinny any age ..... \$15.00  
 \*\*all male mules/hinnies must be gelded before the age of two.  
 NO intact male mules may be shown or exhibited)  
 Zebra hybrid any age..... \$10.00  
 Zebra any age ..... \$5.00  
 RACE mule under age 2..... \$10.00  
 RACE MULE over age 2.....\$50.00

### REGISTRATION of an animal into ADMS with papers from any other Registry

Jack or Jennet any age ..... \$12.00  
 Gelding donkey any age ..... \$5.00  
 Mule or hinny any age ..... \$8.00  
 Zebra or Hybrid any age ..... \$3.00

### Transfer of immature animal

No reissue of papers, notice only ..... \$7.00  
 (Official sticker affixed to certificate)  
 Transfer of immature Jack with status change to GELDING  
 Papers to reflect change to Gelding ..... \$5.00

### Transfer of Mature animal

With a Reissue of papers .....\$10.00  
 (height should be added if not already on papers)  
 Photos must be sent if animal is being updated  
 No reissue of papers ..... \$7.00  
 (Official sticker affixed to certificate)  
 Transfer of Mature Jack with status change to GELDING  
 Papers to reflect change to gelding / add'l info .... \$3.00

### MATURE update only (by current owner)

Height and 2 photos required ..... \$6.00

### NAME CHANGE

With permission, for animals under age 2 only.....\$20.00  
 (other fees apply for other services such as transfer)

### CERTIFICATE CORRECTION

Information correction.....\$10.00  
 Pedigree Addition .....\$10.00  
 Verification of Sire .....\$10.00  
 Registry office error correction ..... No charge

### RUSH FEE (2024 rate)

Additional Per animal ..... \$55.00  
 All RUSH rules apply. (Shipping fees additional)

### Reissue of lost papers (2024 rate)

Signed statement required ..... \$55.00  
 Photos required, current height should be stated.

### MOVE FROM ADR to MDR w/addition of Information

For animals that were submitted with missing information, put  
 in ADR (that qualify by parent for MDR).....\$15.00

### VHOF/Award Program

Enter single animal into VHOF ..... \$15.00  
 Enter Farm into VHOF..... \$15.00  
 Enter individual Handler into VHOF.....\$15.00  
 Enroll animal in Merit of Breeding Program .....\$15.00  
 Enter animal in Driving Program ..... \$15.00

### Filing Stud report fee

Stud reports required for year.....NO FEE

**Pedigree request**.....\$2.00

**Progeny Report**..... \$10.00  
 per sire/dam

### Courtesy donation (greatly appreciated)

for Credit card or Paypal fees .....\$2/per \$20

### Donations to Research Fund(s)

GREATLY APPRECIATED ..... no Limit

Additional postage for any action—rush, etc (otherwise normal  
 first class is included in services) POSTAL RATE—currently  
 postal rate for PRIORITY is \$16.00

REMEMBER to keep photocopies of your paperwork for  
 yourself anytime you send in paperwork. For all transactions  
 where there is an original Certificate from ADMS (transfer,  
 mature update) we MUST have the original certificate returned  
 to us. If you do not send an original, your paperwork will be  
 held up!

PLEASE NOTE these are 2024 fees. We will continue to  
 process all paperwork but will bill for the missing amounts  
 (anything at 2023 rate, thank you for your understanding).

Please call or email if you have questions.

(972) 219-0781, lovelongears@hotmail.com 🐾

## Myths and Old Wives Tales

What's the silliest factoid you have ever heard about donkeys or mules?

We all know the one about them being stubborn. That mules can see all four feet without looking down (they are quite aware of where their feet are, but they cannot truly see their hind feet on the ground). That female mules will always steal a foal because they want to be a mama (they do in fact steal foals and calves sometime). That all mules are male and hinnies are the females. (Mules are the cross between a donkey jack and horse mare, hinnies are a horse stallion crossed on a donkey jennet, and either cross can be male or female.)

What about color myths? Those certainly abound in the horse world! There is still the adage that a horse with four white feet is worth less than one with dark hooves (remember the rhyme about one white foot—Buy him, two white—try him, four white feet and a white nose, take off his hide and throw him to the crows). This comes from the fact that some (though not all) white hooves are softer than dark and do not hold a shoe as well.

Or how about the old wives tales? Placing three hairs from a donkey's shoulders in a muslin bag worn around the neck is said to be a cure for whooping cough or measles.

Send us your funny stories, tall tales and myths! 🐴



[www.wxicof.com](http://www.wxicof.com)



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Books - Supplies - Gifts

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\* Cookie Cutters \* Magnets***

*And Much More!!!*

**Our complete catalog can be found online at [www.wxicof.com](http://www.wxicof.com)**

## A New voice—*Chava* the office cat

It's more important than ever right now for everyone to please read through the paperwork before you send it in.

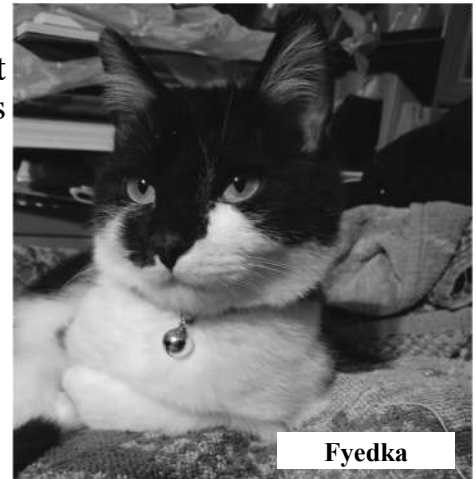
Mom (Leah) doesn't want to close the office. Everyone would lose a lot of valuable information if that happens. It's very tough right now, PLEASE, please help us to keep going. I enjoy being an office cat and do not want to be a house-cat with my bratty baby brother *Fyedka*.

I know they are having to make a lot of changes—and you know how much cats HATE change, right?



Please show all the support you can. The struggle is real.

*Chava*

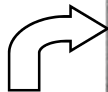


Fyedka

## Photo Notes

You can print two per page on a 4"x6" page and they are the perfect size—that's what the office does with the Online Registration photos. The animal should be about the size of a credit card in the picture. The staff at the office will cut up the photo for you, please don't cut animals out with wavy lines or strange shapes. If there are other animals in the picture, you can put a note on that says "*Bubba* is the spotted" or "*Baby* on right". Don't forget *Caitlin's Rule Of Paw*—if her paw could cover the animal in the photo, the picture is too small...(Chava says her paw is much smaller than *Caitlin's* was, so please DON'T make them that small!

Thank you, *Chava* and Staff.



LEAVE your photos uncropped like THIS



**DO NOT** Cut around them like THIS!

ONE LEFT-side and one RIGHT-side view of the animal is required for ALL new registrations, for mature updates and for reissues. (That's two photos total.) Immature transfers do not require them but they are appreciated. 🐾



Left view  
FULL SIDE  
ON VIEW!



Right view

## Disaster Preparedness

GREENWICH, Conn.) – With wild fire and hurricane season hitting regions throughout the country, prepare to include pets in safety procedures, evacuations and shelter accommodations. For most species, the majority of owners would take their pets with them during a disaster including 76 percent of dog owners and 72 percent of cat owners according to the American Pet Products Association (APPA) 2011 / 2012 National Pet Owners Survey. When natural disasters strike, ensure furry family members stay safe and prepared for the worst with the following APPA tips and products manufactured by members.

### Ensure Pets are Easily Identifiable

Should a pet get lost in a crowd or during the hustle and bustle of an evacuation, ALWAYS ensure pets are easily identifiable and able to be tracked down at all times. Secure pets with collars and identification tags with accurate emergency contact information and look into tags with built-in tracking systems to alert local shelters if pets go missing. <https://www.idtag.com/buy-idtag>

### First Aid Kits for Pets

Be prepared for emergencies and injuries with first aid kits for pets. Ensure proper tools, bandages, antiseptics and more are packed and ready for use should a pet need treatment for minor injuries or stabilizing wounds. Visit [www.PetFirstAid.org](http://www.PetFirstAid.org) for complete and ready-to-go first aid kits for cats, dogs, birds, horses and small animals.

### Pack Plenty of Pet Food & Water

Ensure pets have a hefty supply of food and treats to last them at least more than three days. Non-perishable canned or freeze-dried foods are great to pack up and easy for storing at room temperature. Check out freeze-dried options for cats and dogs at <http://www.grandmalucys.com/home.html>. In addition, pack up a water supply to ensure all members of the family stay hydrated in extreme heat and smoke conditions. Pack convenient and collapsible bowls for pets and visit <http://www.kurgostore.com/categories/Bowls/> for easy-to-pack options.

### Ensure Visibility in the Dark

Always be prepared for possible power outages and low visibility. Make sure pets can easily be spotted and are as visible as possible with proper reflective gear. Visit [www.PetFlect.com](http://www.PetFlect.com) for a complete system for dogs including a reflective leash, collar and vest in multiple sizes. Providing added convenience, consider an LED flashlight dispenser and pick-up bags to attach to any leash. [www.OutInternational.com](http://www.OutInternational.com)

### Ensure Shelter for Yourself and Pets

Listen to local news or contact emergency officials to stay up-to-date on all evacuation orders and procedures. Double check

which shelters allow pets to ensure accommodations for the entire family.

For additional suggestions, information or products samples, contact Jamie Brant at [Jamie@TheImpetusAgency.com](mailto:Jamie@TheImpetusAgency.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

The American Pet Products Association (APPA) is the leading not-for-profit trade association serving the interests of the pet products industry since 1958. APPA membership includes nearly 1,000 pet product manufacturers, their representatives, importers and livestock suppliers, representing both large corporations and growing business enterprises. APPA's mission is to promote, develop and advance pet ownership and the pet product industry and to provide the services necessary to help its members prosper.

Visit our website at [www.americanpetproducts.org](http://www.americanpetproducts.org) for more information.

EDITOR: For livestock, preparations are similar. Luckily all most equines need is pasture (they can do without grain or supplements in emergencies).

Do you have enough trailer space for your herd? Which ones should you evacuate first?

**EVACUATE EARLY!** Don't wait until mandatory evacuations start, and you find you cannot get yourself and all of your animals out. Yes, equines can swim but with rising floodwaters, underwater dangers are HUGE! Fire is worse, your animals cannot be expected to outrun raging fires.

Make sure you have a halter and lead for each animal. You can put a simple tag on the halter, or mark directly on it with a permanent marker. Put your name and phone number on the halter. Alternately—or additionally—you can mark the animal. Use a cattle sale marker to write directly on their hide. Or use a cable tie and a small luggage tag to attach to their mane. Even a plastic bread wrapper tie (the rectangular ones) knotted into the mane with a name written on it in Sharpie marker is better than no id.

Keep an overnight bag at the ready, with a change of clothes, travel size toiletries, and medicines. Keep important papers in a safe, and make copies! Scanned copies of paperwork can be reduced size-wise by storing on a flash (thumb) drive. This means not only YOUR important papers (bank numbers, Credit card number, Passport info) but your animal registration and vet records as well. If nothing else on a rainy day, scan or photograph important documents and upload them to your email or save them on a flashdrive.

When emergencies arise, you'll be thinking in the moment and not planning ahead, so make any checklist and pre-prep you might find useful! (We hope you will never need to use any of this!) 🐾

## My Longear is Drooling All the Time

ADMS gets this question from time to time, and there are a number of possible causes. Remember though that we are not vets and cannot give veterinary advice. We can only give you suggestions from past experiences and you should then discuss further with your vet.

First thing to consider is the overall health of the animal. Are there any other symptoms? Does the animal seem glassy-eyed? Stumble? Not want to eat? Has a temperature? If any of these signs are present, call your vet immediately, as it is possible the donkey has eaten something, or has a communicable disease. **QUARANTINE IT!** Check your pasture for poisonous plants! Your local vet and agricultural Extension agent should have a list of plants in your area that are known to be poisonous to equines. Some, such as clover, can cause excessive salivation, but are not necessarily considered to be poisonous.

If you are sure the animal is not ill, then the next factor is age. Is this a foal? Still suckling, or a weanling. Is it dribbling milk? Is the drool clear, white, or green? Foals may drool as they learn different eating and drinking skills. Nursing and drinking from a bucket are not the same! Nor is properly chewing up and swallowing grass or hay. Check baby teeth, inside the upper palate (cleft palate) and for anything held inside the mouth (a wad or chew of grass). A stiff piece of hay could be embedded in the jaw, gum, tongue, palate, throat... If you see anything out of place, call the vet immediately. Consult the vet if you see this ALL the time, or if the foal seems to be losing weight or is listless.

If the animal is between three and five years, check to make sure it isn't in the middle of losing baby teeth and getting permanent ones. Again, this can cause drooling from a sore mouth, or "quidding" of grass or hay from improper chewing. If it is just missing baby teeth, cutting up hay a little shorter, switching to a pelleted feed if need be, or giving several smaller feeds can get help to get them through the hump.

If the animal is older, check to make sure there are not sharp hooks on any of the molars. Do the teeth come together evenly in the front? Is there an over- or under-bite? Bite deviation can cause the lower lip to droop, which in turn can result in drooling. Missing teeth can cause the jaws to no longer align properly, with the same results as well. For any dental problems, or suspected foreign bodies in the mouth (burrs, etc) consult your vet and or your equine dentist. 🐾

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## Is your Equine ready for Winter?

Dr. Frederick Harper Extension Horse Specialist University of Tennessee  
& Leah Patton, office manager, ADMS

Fall leaf color's signal that "old-man winter" is just around the corner. And, it is time to make sure that your donkey or mule is ready for winter.

While the weather is still nice, check your animal's winter housing. If your donkey or mule will have access to a run-in shed, it should be cleaned out now. Remove old bedding and manure, and re-bed the shed with 4-8 inches of fresh bedding.

Check the drainage to be sure that water will not run into the shed.

Make sure there are no loose boards or nails in the shed. Horses—equines - are active and prone to injuries. The run-in shed also should be adequate for the number of horses, allow at least 80 square feet per horse. (That is an 8 x10 area for each horse-sized equine, horse or mule. For miniatures, the area can be 4x6 or 4x8.)

If you plan to put your animal in a stall if the weather gets bad, clean it out and make necessary repairs to remove any risks. Box stalls are best if the animal has to spend any time stalled. While minis can share stalls, larger donkeys, mules and horses should have a stall of their own.

After the equine's housing is in tip-top shape, check your animal, which should also be in tip-top condition before winter.

The animal should have an adequate amount of body fat to insulate against winter's cold wind, rain and snow. You can use a visual-hands-on system to evaluate body condition. Body condition score (BCS) your horse from 1 (emaciated) to 9 (very fat) before winter. Your horse should have at least a BCS of 5, (a 4 on most donkeys, 5 on a mule) which means you cannot see the ribs but can feel them if you run your fingers over the rib cage applying slight pressure.

Equines add body fat from front to rear and top to bottom. Evaluate their necks, withers, covering over their rib cages and croups, and around their tailheads for deposition of fat. It is really important that you feel your donkeys in winter due to their heavier winter haircoat. Often, one cannot accurately evaluate an equine body condition by only visual appraisal. It is important to body condition score your horse each month in winter.

If your equine is less than a 5 body condition score, you need to increase its energy intake to improve body condition. You can increase a horse's BCS by a point, from 4.5-5.5, in 30 days by feeding more grain and hay. If your winters are colder, you may want to increase your horse's body condition score to a 6 to 7. There is no need for it to be an 8 or 9. (Especially for donkeys! It is far harder to get the fat back off a donkey than it is to slim down a horse!)

But, body condition is not the only consideration. Your equine also should be on a scheduled deworming program. Horses, donkeys and mules need to be dewormed every other month with ivermectin, every 90 days with moxidectin or every month with other dewormers.

Although you probably vaccinated your animal in the spring, make sure it has been immunized against tetanus. Horses, and donkeys especially with their longer haircoat often get undetected cuts in the winter that are an ideal environment for the tetanus microorganism.

Now is a good time to have your equine's teeth checked. It is advisable to remove sharp points on molars before feeding winter hay. Talk to your vet or equine dentist about an exam. Older animals may have trouble chewing hay. You can look for signs of this if the animal is dropping hay or feed with every mouthful.

It is advisable to remove your horse's shoes if it will not be ridden in the winter. Loose shoes can cause serious injuries. Make sure the horse's hooves are properly trimmed. And do not forget to have them trimmed periodically during winter. (While most donkeys aren't shod, the same thing goes for donkeys and mules. Remove shoes, give their hooves a chance to grow out. If shoes are absolutely necessary for winter performance events, check them every time the animal goes out, and be prepared to have borium calks on hand to help with purchase.

Do not turn horsed, donkeys or mule out, even for a short time, with a halter on either. Injuries happen all too often when a horse catches a halter on a fence post or tree limb. A leg can go through the halter, or it can get hung up (this can happen in stalls as well). If it is absolutely necessary to have a halter on the animal, make certain it is a break-away type.

Also make sure your water source is easily accessible. While some ranchers prefer open ponds, these can freeze – often solidly—in wintertime. Make sure you have an alternative source. A heating wire can be wound around pump pipes if needed. Equines do tend to drink less in wintertime, and some won't touch icy-cold water. Watch to make sure everyone is actually getting water daily. T

## LOST REGISTRATIONS

You must apply in writing for the form to reissue papers. **We will accept email or preferably by postal mail**, not voice mails or FB messages. You must explain the situation that caused the loss (death of owner and no one can find papers, fire, natural disaster, animals went through sale, etc). **You must make a good faith effort to locate the original papers, and let us know what you have done in the situation.**

ADMS will fill out what we know on the official reissue form and mail it to you as agent or owner... or to the last known owner. The form must be filled out and returned with the items requested on the form.

We do not publish this form anywhere. We do not normally email it. This is a binding document and needs to be treated as such. Our rules are such that there CANNOT BE TWO SETS of papers (in the same registry) on an animal. This means a lost set must be treated as destroyed so another can be issued. If the originals are ever found, they must be immediately sent back to ADMS with a note.

If you feel you have lost papers, and have made a good faith effort to find them, you may contact ADMS for the form to start the reissue. If you do so, you must give us some idea of the names we should be looking for, the ages/genders/colors, and if you are the original owner or not. All of this is necessary information to start a computer search. All required photos, updated information (height, changed address) and fees must be submitted to ADMS along with the official reissue form.

We encourage everyone once again to make a photocopy and/or digital copy of your paperwork and store it in a safe place. This way should the actual originals be destroyed, you have that information to pass along to us, making everything a little quicker and smoother for the reissue process. Thank you!

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National Miniature Donkey Association  
DNA Program Coordinator  
2961 Co. Rd. 31  
Blair, NE 68008  
[nmdadna@earthlink.net](mailto:nmdadna@earthlink.net)



## Conformation - Toplines Poll to Tail

One of the most frequent questions asked about donkeys is the shape of the topline. In comparison to a horse, the donkey topline is very nearly level and straight. The skeletal structure itself - the lack of bony spinal processes at the wither - is responsible.

If you look at horses, nearly all will have a little rise at the withers. This can be cloaked in flesh in an overweight horse, or stark and staring in one less covered in muscle and fat. Some breeds are lighter and this feature stands out to the eye more, some it is difficult to see unless one looks with the judge's eye, disregarding any markings, the background, and just viewing the overall outline.

For the purpose of looking at conformation, outlines are the best place to start. All distractions are removed.

All of these outline are drawn from real animal, to make sure proportions are correct.

Remember that topline means from the poll (between the ears) all the way to the croup where the tail extends. Some horses have high head carriage, others are trained and encouraged to keep theirs lower. A high head carriage, well set neck and laid back shoulder encourages higher stepping. Donkeys in general are known for a level head carriage and less action when traveling. This also makes the more straight-level topline more evident overall. The way the neck joins into the wither/shoulder area can make a change in the overall topline. Most donkeys have straight necks that flow right into the shoulders and back. A ewe neck can leave a little dip in front of the saddle area. Donkeys rarely have "arched" or curved necks like an Arabian or Friesian horse.

In general a donkey will have a more upright shoulder and a shorter, often steeper (less round) croup than a horse. They also lack the full rounded haunch of most horse breeds. The musculature of the hip is not the main concern, but the angle of the hip, which will make the croup shorter, or longer and sloped.

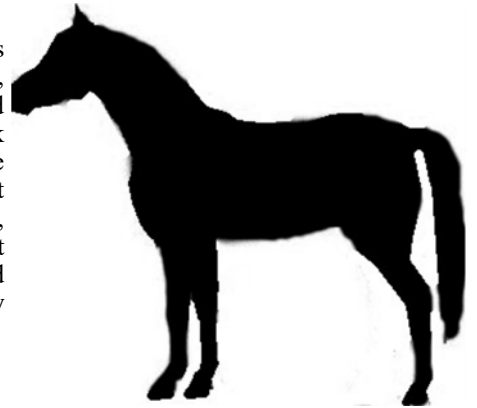
This isn't to say that a slight wither rise and slight dip in the spine isn't favorable - it can be, if the rest of the conformation is also harmonious. Some good donkeys do indeed have a nice bit of wither, a saddle back and a nice rounded croup.

Look at the various silhouettes and see if you can get a feel for the way a donkey compares to various horse breeds (yes, some of these are extremes).

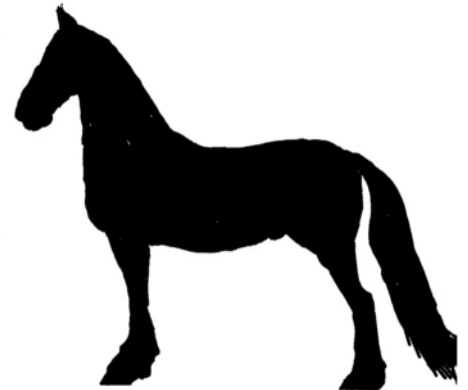
(We have not shown a true roached back, which is an upward curve of the spine, like the shape of a turtle shell. This is a true fault and should absolutely be avoided in all breeding stock. It is more unusual to see a severe roach back than a sway-back, but they do occur. We will discuss these faults next time around in the conformation clinic.)

The Arabian horse has a rounded, arched neck, well defined wither, and is said to have the most level topline of the horse breeds. The croup should be rather flat, full, and the tail coming out of the croup at a higher angle than the majority of breeds.

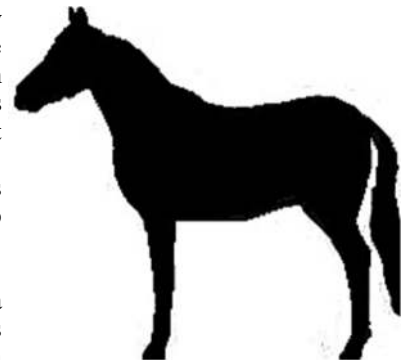
The Friesian has upright carriage, and both angles and curves. The neck should arch, the back have a slight dip, and a rounded, full rump. The gait should be free and lofty, assisted by the shoulder angle.



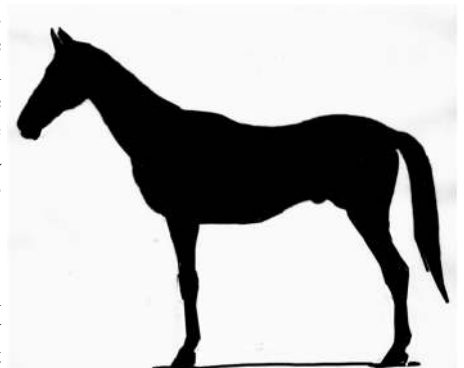
Smaller ponies of Welsh or Shetland type should still have a rounded (arched) neck, distinct wither and a rounded croup. The type may be of a heavy draft type pony or a refined harness horse, but the definition of the shoulder and wither should still reflect the curves of spine, back and croup.



The Akhal Teke is a very lean horse, with the extreme in the form being encouraged. This breed shows every point of the skeleton clearly. The neck of this horse is ewed, forming a dip before the withers.

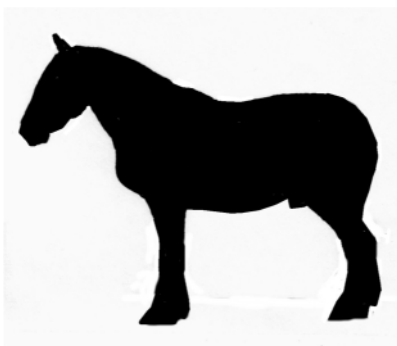


The Breton Draft is a breed that is literally as wide as it is tall. Even with a short thick body the wither is still prominent. The rump is wide and rounded. While there is very little saddle area, there is a dip in the spine as with most horses.



Heavy drafters bred in Europe historically were used for meat production as well as heavy work. Thick

bodies, heavy legs, and deep shoulders and chests for pulling power were expected.



Another thing to keep in mind is that the withers and croup should be relatively level with other. Young animals may go through stages where the rump is high (by several inches) then a month later the withers may be higher. This is not a fault as long as it evens out in the long run (even if the animal is four or five years old).

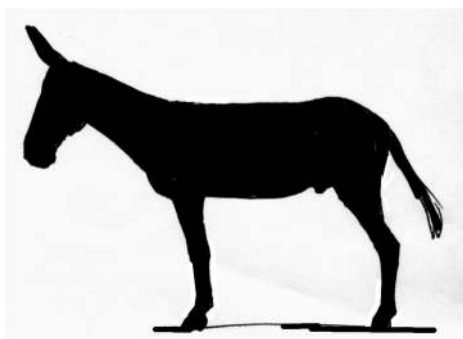


Donkeys are often viewed as being slightly "downhill" (rump high) and one reason is the lack of withers. The drive train of the donkey is the back end, and for this reason you will see photos of "the donkey seat" with the rider far back near the rump.

The donkey in general has a moderate head carriage, with a straight neck blending smoothly into a level spine. The rump and croup are shorter than that of a horse, the tail emerging low.

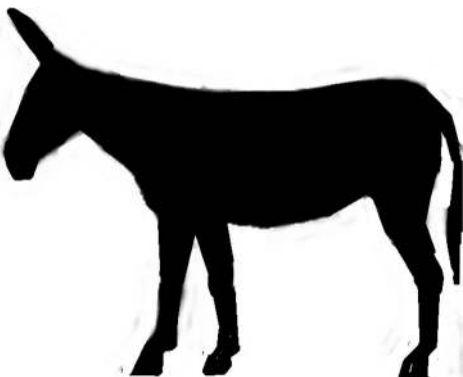
A slight rise to the croup is not uncommon. One should make sure that the pelvic angle is not too steep, resulting in a pointed appearance (Bullet butt).

Even with the head raised, the neck joins smoothly with no wither rise. Animals with a ewe neck may have a very slight dip in front of the shoulder.

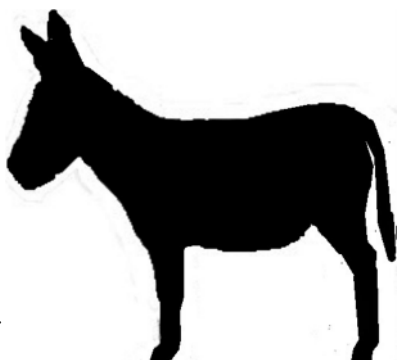


This being a very young animal, the rump is in the high-stage.

When measuring an equine, one should know how to find the top of the wither. With the exception of one horse registry, measurement is taken at the tallest point of the wither (taking a

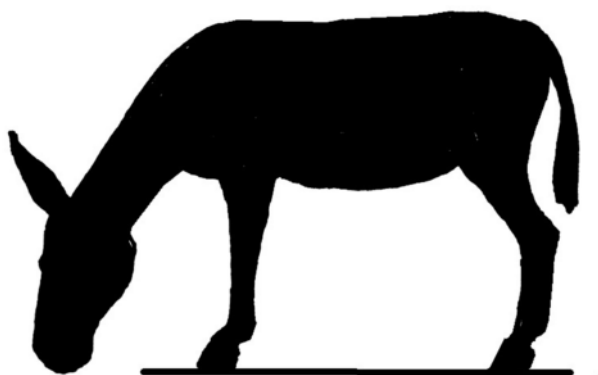
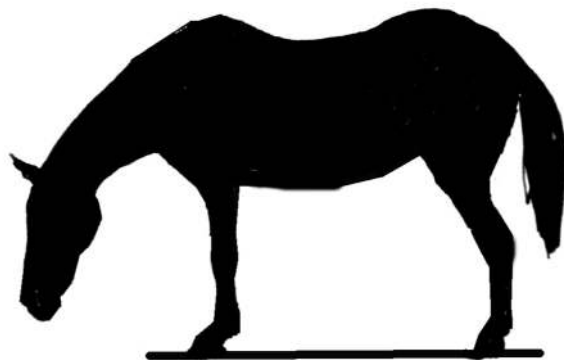


measurement at the last hair of the mane often is lower than the rise of the wither, as the mane can end on the very furthest point of the wither, at the saddle slope.)



If ever unsure of a measuring spot, place a bit of carrot or some treat on the ground in front of the animal. That bit sticking up highest above the shoulders is the wither. When measuring, make sure the forelegs are properly under the animal and not spread, sprawled or V'd.

In the two drawings below, the extreme lines of both a horse and donkey can be seen, showing the vast variance in the toplines of both types of equine. 🐾



# Does Coloration matter in donkeys?

Again, we must specify, as with all information about color genetics, that coloration and patterning should always be considered to be the icing on the cake and not the main breeding goal.

## Color correlations

Color genetics has been our most asked for genetics lecture. We are happy to continue to present the series, but will always preface with the disclaimer: color is the icing on the cake. If a breeder has built up their program with top-quality (ie 90+ points on a scale of 1=100) animals and can then choose color as a breeding goal, kudos to them. In that case, knowing color and pattern outcomes is essential to reach a goal in a short period of time. Otherwise, color should not be of import. Conformation and temperament are far, far more important than any color or degree of white patterning. Unfortunately, fads and color trends tend to rise and fall every few years, as they have since man first began domesticating animals.

Descended from wolves, dogs became man's best friend. They were the outcast wolves, the ones the pack turned away, many times because of color. Certain color strains in wolves (such as black) would never be found in wild packs if it were not for man keeping these unusual animals, and re-introducing them into the wild population. That isn't to say that plenty of unusually colored pelts haven't graced the bodies and beds of humans for generations, but once man discovered they could collect and then BREED FOR unusual colors, captive breeding populations have flourished.

The Appaloosa horse is a breed based solely on breeding for color. While it has now reached a point where there is a closed stud book and limited gene pool, the pattern of the coat was always the goal of breeders. A number of other horse breeds have very strict rules on coloration. The Friesian Horse is now exclusively black, with no white markings other than a small star on the forehead. The breed used to include the silver-dapple (Z) gene, but that is no longer found. Until recently, chestnut (red, the e gene) also was carried in the breed, but now that color and carriers of that color gene (Ee horses) are not allowed in breeding programs. Shire horses used to have a roan gene, but roan stallions were phased out of breeding when it was discovered that true-roan was a genetic lethal.

In donkeys, the only known lethal is the spotting pattern, but this is an early embryonic lethal. While it appears genetically similar, it is not like the frame overo gene in horses where OO (homozygous frame) foals are born alive but die shortly from incomplete intestinal structure. Frame overo breeders risk having live-born all-white foals every time they breed two frame horses to each other. Spotted donkey breeds should not have to fear this, as the jennet will reabsorb the embryo at an early stage, but statistics show that spotted x spotted breedings do produce a 2:1 equation (in other words, 0:2:1).

Another interesting fact is the possible link between some

colors and bone structure (at least as observed in early Mammoth breeding records). The Mammoth Jack was produced by careful blending of a number of different breeds. The black donkeys of Catalonia, Malta, Majorca and the rare Poitou, and the black or roaned heavy giants of Andalusia. Many of the taller, black Mammoths were lighter in bone (but greater in height) while the roan animals were shorter and heavier in bone. Even when crossing a roan to a black, the foals might be black and tall, or roan and stouter.

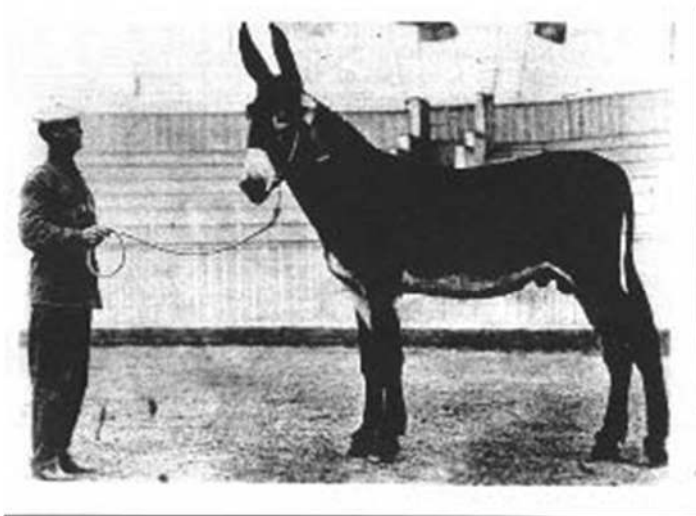
The Poitou donkeys, while only being bai-brun (a bleached shade of dark brown) show genetic links to bone, height, and coat structure. They have been selected only for the one color, the brown with a light nose, and no dun factor at all. No other colors are accepted in the breed. New research in the past decade shows there are genes for hair coat, though not necessarily linked to any color or pattern genes.

There is linking in genes, quite probably in more ways than just color. Some breeding experiments have linked white markings to other pattern genes, white markings to tail curl in foxes, blue eyes to certain white markings, even pattern genes linked to certain temperaments and behaviours. We do know in horses that Splash genes are linked to blue eyes, but in donkeys thus far, blue eyes in spotted animals are exceedingly rare, and a pale blue-eyed donkey is an ivory (or ivory spotted).

Does color affect anything in our donkeys other than popular demand or trend? Nothing has been noted so far. We have not yet discovered any kind of live-birth lethal. Nothing is associated with night blindness, muscle wasting (HYPP), brain development (Cerebellar atrophy), deafness (Splash white or double merling as in dogs), or skin problems (HERDA) other than sunburn.

Some people love flashy white markings, others prefer the original gray-dun color. It's up to the breeder and owner to decide what they fancy, what they will collect, and ultimately breed for future generations.

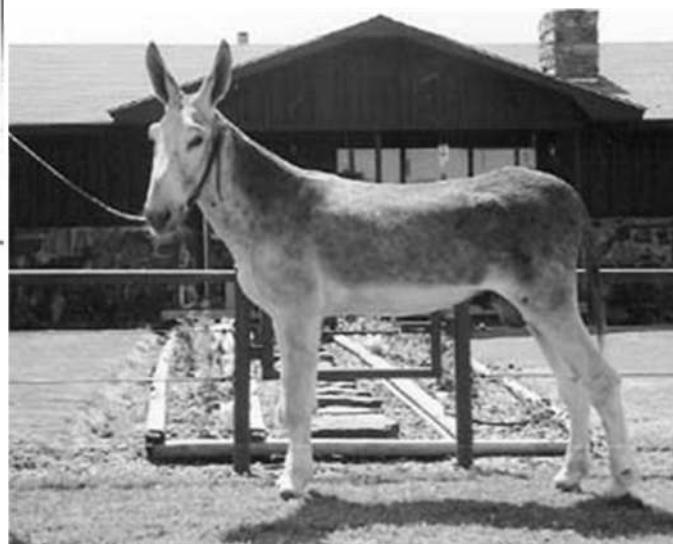
Should color be watched in future breeding programs? Certainly. It's possible, theoretically, that the white points (nose, eyerings, belly) in donkeys could be bred out. No Light Points (NLP) is a recessive gene, recessive to the light points (called pangare in horses). Use a jack with NLP on a herd of jennets with light noses, and all of their offspring will be Pp. Start breeding Pp to Pp and eventually you will have a herd of animals that are PP, Pp and pp (the latter being no light points). Weed out the light points, and eventually all your animals would be NLP. Of course the reverse is true, and eventually No light Points could disappear as well.



*The Mammoth Jack*  
The famous jack *Kaysville City Chief*, World Champion jack at the World's Panama Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, 1915. Still the model for the Mammoth breed of today.



Dr Aaron's famous *Old Hickory*



Garrett jack from *Old Hickory* bloodlines.



*Cockely's Major Leo*, heavier boned black jack.

Right—*Dry Gulch Maynard*, a top show jack of his day.  
The lighter, refined saddle type of black Mammoth.



## Suddenly - He's Back Sore

ADMS Staff

"Last week I took my longear out for a trail ride. It's been too hot to ride during the summer but we finally got a break in the heat. I've been working him in the round pen every other day or so, just to keep his mind sharp.

We didn't stay out long, but when we got back in, he acted grumpy. The next morning he acted mad and wouldn't let me groom his back.

He's acting like he's sore! Hunched up, even kicked when I went to tighten the cinch today. We have used this saddle for years! What's wrong, what happened? "

Unfortunately this is a common occurrence. What most likely happened is that the saddle fit is off and it really has caused him some soreness. Animals, like humans, can change shape throughout the season. A winter coat of fur can cause the gullet, cinch and bars to rest on the animal tighter than they might in a sleek summer coat. Or perhaps he got a little chubby over the summer on nice green grass.

First, give him a day off from riding. Go back out into the round pen, let him have some time stretching his muscles and see if the kinks work out. See if he still acts sore moving out on his own. If he head dips or you see shortness in the stride, he may still be having issues.

When you saddle, see where the pressure marks on his back. Are they even? Is one side further forward than the other? Saddles can develop a twist in the tree over time. Also don't forget to check your stirrups and make sure the mounting side hasn't stretched out. This is quite common in English saddles with thinner leathers. They can stretch as much as a hole's length if they aren't swapped out. Uneven length can mean uneven pressure on the saddle.

Is the pad stiff and in need of a washing? Sometimes even one rough spot can cause a rub. Try a different pad if you have one. That one may be too thin or even too thick (depending on equine conditioning) and cause the saddle fit to alter just enough for a sore back.

When saddling, snug the cinch just enough to hold the saddle in place. Now check with your hand under the bars and gullet. If the saddle is in the correct place, the gullet will be lifted above the spine and the bars will not be pinching the shoulders.

Next time you ride, check your routine. Do you groom him, check his back for tender areas or cuts? Then shake out the blanket, make sure when you place it you put it down forward and slide it back with the hair direction? Do you lunge and stretch him before riding? Pull his forelegs forward to get rid of rolls of pinched skin under the girth? Does he pick up the lead better on one side or the other? Pin his ears and swish his tail more going in one direction or the



other?

Did you know that the length of the animal's coat as well as muscle condition can make both the saddle and girth sit in different positions? A thick hair coat in winter versus those few short weeks we get nice, slick donkeys can alter the placement of the pressure on the back.

Get a friend to observe while you work. Does your animal react to certain aids, certain areas being touched, picking up leads, even transitions from one gait to another?

If saddle fit is not the issue, and you cannot find another source, contact your vet and /or an equine massage practitioner. There is such a thing as massage for equines, sometimes a good stretch and a little alignment can make a huge difference in the performance of your equine companion. 🐾



**It's time to renew your dues for 2024!**  
**Please send in your renewal now so you may register your animals for 2024. The rates have changed at this time and the fee sheet is on page 9 of this online issue.**

**You may pay any number of ways—check, M.O, paypal, credit card (via our online link).**

**See the Website for more info on online payment: [www.lovelongears.com](http://www.lovelongears.com). Hopefully our phone issues will soon be resolved, meanwhile, please email us with questions at [lovelongears@hotmail.com](mailto:lovelongears@hotmail.com)**

**\$35 USA, \$45 Can, \$55 overseas. You must be a current member in order to register any animal. 🐴**



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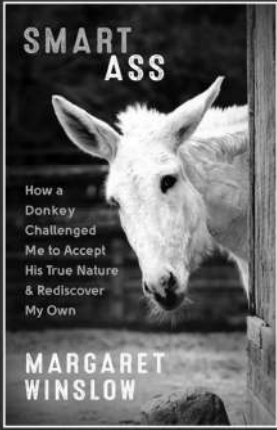
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— PUBLISHERS WEEKLY




**SMART  
ASS**

How a Donkey  
Challenged  
Me to Accept  
His True Nature  
& Rediscover  
My Own

**MARGARET  
WINSLOW**

**"A moving and humorous account of what a woman learned about herself as she trained a donkey."**  
— BOOKLIST

**"Laugh and cry as Margaret Winslow parks her ego to accept the honest reflection a donkey provides — endearing comedy and blatant humiliation."**  
— KARLENE STANGE, DVM,  
author of *The Spiritual Nature of Animals*



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# Equine Melanoma and the Nature of Malignancy

Whether equine melanoma is a benign or malignant neoplasm has been discussed and debated for at least 100 years. Many equine practitioners, by virtue of their training and experience, consider it a common benign growth of the skin, particularly of gray horses, which is precisely as stated in a manual on recognition and treatment of equine diseases published by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1916. However, equine melanoma was considered at that time a serious malignancy—"melanosarkoma"—in thought and German literature (1909).

During pathology training, many veterinarians are taught that most equine melanomas are focal aggregates of locally -growing, variably pigmented cells—akin to human moles (pigmented nevi), which is a somewhat classic view of benign tumors. Armed with this knowledge, they counsel owners of horses with tumors that melanoma is slow-growing and of little consequence. This theme is common in pre-purchase examinations. The statement "your horse will die of something else" is arguably correct considering that the truly common causes of death of horses include musculoskeletal injuries (and euthanasia), gastrointestinal catastrophes (and euthanasia), and a variety of cardiorespiratory lesions resulting in poor performance (and euthanasia).

Little justification exists for prolonging discussion of the nature of equine melanomas. Equine melanoma is a progressive malignancy.

Like all neoplasms, equine melanoma must begin with the transformation by mutation of a single stable cell faithfully reproducing its genotype and phenotype to that of a neoplastic cell displaying a propensity for unregulated growth and variations in differentiated phenotype. This process is not in dispute. The small melanoma under the tail of the gray horse already has formed a cluster of cells that infiltrate and compress surrounding skin and connective tissue—two things that normal, differentiated melanocytes do not do. These small melanomas may be quiescent for many years.

In 30-40% of affected horses, these cell clusters continue to evolve at one or more sites. We know from the study of many animal and human tumors (malignant gliomas, for example) that the progressive growth of, and invasion by, tumors is driven by further mutation of the unstable neoplastic genome. Progression involves the selection of neoplastic cells capable of exploiting their environment—acquiring and processing nutrients, soliciting vascular growth, avoiding detection and destruction by immune and inflammatory systems—and increasing their numbers. As they progress, these neoplastic cells become more and more difficult to control and eradicate, fully expressing their malignant character.

It is common to see severely affected horses. A small cutaneous lesion that has been present for months to years begins to grow rapidly and may ulcerate. In some cases,

multiple masses form at different sites, possibly representing simultaneous growth of several unique tumors (something being investigated with genotyping), rather than metastatic spread. Virtually all of these tumors are infiltrating tissues around them, a well-recognized problem in Stage III-IV human melanoma (in which the survival rate is less than 10% five years after diagnosis). These malignancies in horses are difficult to excise and are rarely removed completely. When they interfere with defecation, reproduction, or eating, they cause suffering and result in death (euthanasia).

Equine melanomas are not benign and should not be ignored. The current proven method for control of these tumors is removal, through surgery, by laser, or with cautery. Veterinarians should recognize the need for this approach and deal realistically with horses with equine melanomas until we have a better understanding of the mutations that drive their formation and progression.

## CONTACT:

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Department of Biomedical Sciences & Pathology,  
Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary  
Medicine,  
Blacksburg, Virginia

Reprinted from Equine Disease Quarterly

Editor's Note: Nearly every gray (aging gray-turning white) horse will develop these malignant melanomas. They may also occur in graying mules. If you have a frosted spotted white donkey and notice lumps under the tail on the black skin, please take it to your vet and have it evaluated for melanoma. No studies have yet been done in donkeys on the possible relationship between the frosting gene and melanoma. Please observe your donkeys and contact ADMS if you find a case of melanoma in any, but especially FSW donkeys. Thank you. ) 🐴





## Weather days got you down?

What do you do when the weather and everything seems to be against you? Keep on chugging along is about all any of us can do, but what kind of plans do you have for a rainy day? Do you have evacuation plans? Do you have enough trailers to be able to get your livestock out in an emergency? Do you have a halter for all your equines? Could they all be caught and loaded? Do you have a store of feed, and hopefully some of last year's hay well sheltered?

As we get into colder weather (first freeze early this year for Texas) there are shorter daylight hours. We get up in the dark, feed stock, do chores, go to work. Some of those days are going to be too cold and rainy to do a lot. Those are great for doing a little additional organizing. Clean the tack and make sure it is good repair. Put a tag or label or even mark a name in Sharpie on halters for each animal. Those that fit no one but are still good, bundle together in an old pillow case and store them accessible but out of the way.

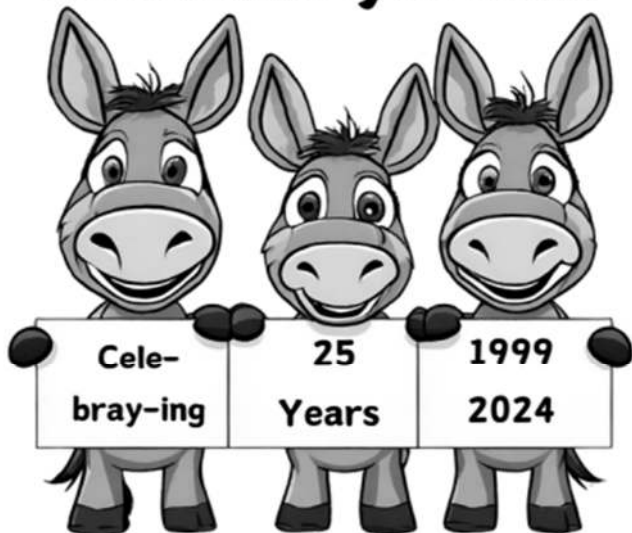
Take an old broom out and make sure there are no cobwebs in the barn rafters. Yes, spiders catch bugs, but they won't be active in winter months, and accumulated cobwebs are a fire hazard.

Make copies of your paperwork if you haven't already. This is always a problem we are faced with when people call the registry. Digital copies, paper copies, but have copies! This helps you, your buyers and the registry. (It never hurts to do cleanup software on your computer on a monthly basis - weekly if you use the 'net a lot - and to run a full backup of all records beforehand.) Swap out your storage drive - we use four different ones in rotation at the ADMS. We've had that crash before, and it's no fun.

Update your breeding records. Update your show records. Update your website. If you are selling stock, or standing a jack, a good clean website is useful! Software updates to websites (we're experiencing that now) can be a good thing or a terror... but the more updated the site the less you may have to do later.

We hope everyone has a good winter with little stress and strife. 🐾

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**You should already have sent in your 2021 and 2022 Reports. Please send them in asap, if you have not already done so. It is now time to submit your 2023 report if you have not already. You should start SENDING in your records NOW for 2022, at least with the foal registration paperwork if you have not already.**

**You must still keep a stud report even if you do not breed at all and you own a jack (just note “no breedings”) or if the jack is pastured year-round with jennets (note: pastured all year and list the jenny and/or mare names that live with your jack).**

**You may ALWAYS send in additions or corrections to your report. The sample form is in previous issues of the BRAYER this year, and also on the website.**

**2022 STUD REPORTS were DUE BY DEC 31 of 2022.**  
**Send them in now if you have not already done so.**  
**2023 Stud reports are due NOW.**

## Stud report notes

Please note on page 32 there is a sample stud report. You may make copies of this, or make up a similar report in any text format you like. You can mail it in at the end of December, you may email it in. How it gets to us doesn't matter, just so we get it. It is our cross-check for who owns a jack and jennet, if we ever have a discrepancy on the papers (which happens, unfortunately, more than we like).

**If you are ever in doubt as to whether you sent in a stud report, don't call, just send us another copy.** We'll get them recorded and paired up if necessary. Same goes if you think you might have left a jennet off the list—just do an amended stud report, or email us with a title “Amended stud report” and we'll get it noted into the computer and the hard copy filed away. There aren't any actual penalties for late reports, no charges, and no suspensions as there are in other registries. We just ask that you file them for your own use (you should be keeping these records anyway) and for our cross-reference as to ownership of the animals at any given time.

YOUR 2021 and 2022 REPORTS are DUE IN NOW (2022 was due by the first of January). Please feel free to mail or email them—email is [lovelongears@hotmail.com](mailto:lovelongears@hotmail.com).

# Stud Report for year 20 \_\_\_\_

Donkey Reg # - \_\_\_\_\_

(A calendar year for breeding runs from Jan to December. Your stud report for the 2021 breeding year ended Dec 31st 2021)

Jack Name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

(Exactly as it appears on his registration papers)  
Color \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Microchip # \_\_\_\_\_ DNA on File Y/ N at \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name and address (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Jennet /Mare name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first breeding (or intro to pasture) \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Jennet/Mare name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first breeding (or intro to pasture) \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Jennet /Mare name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first breeding (or intro to pasture) \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Jennet /Mare name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first breeding (or intro to pasture) \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Notes \_\_\_\_\_

You may make as many photocopies of this form as you need. Please do a separate list for each jack (not an individual sheet for each jennet). This includes jennets you own as well as others that you breed for outside owners, and any "accidental" pasture breedings where animals get out or are not supposed to be with each other but mate anyway. Please make SURE to include the registration numbers of all animals, and full owner contact info where requested. ADMS does not have member-ID numbers for people or farms. 🐴

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, please complete and begin mailing in your 2022 Stud Reports now!**  
**Stud reports should be turned in before you begin registering foals (ie, 2019 for 2020 foals, etc.) If unsure whether you have submitted or not - please just resend! 2022 Reports past due, 2023 report NOW DUE.**

## \*\*\*\*\* Battling Geldings \*\*\*\*\*

I have two geldings, that I have put together in the last week. I thought they would fight for a day or two, and then get along, wrong; they continue to fight every day. They are not as bad as they were to begin with, but they will still fight at some point during the day. These donkeys are five and six years old. they are in a small pasture, about 1.5 acres. I have a small place, and I have three small pastures. All three pastures are about the same size. As for the fighting, they go at it pretty good, just today, *Leroy* tore three good size gashes in *Rueben's* neck. I don't know if they will stop or not. *Rueben* is getting the worst of it, and I am afraid he is going to scar for life. What can I do, or is this the way it is going to be from now on? Please help if you can, either with the fighting, or tell me if I need to get rid of one of them.

Thank you. GC

Hi G - a week is a short time for them to decide who is the "top dog" and who is the underling. Also, is this serious drawing-blood, squealing, mouths open-chasing until one of them is exhausted fighting? Or to they wander across each other, tussle for a bit, then go back to whatever they were doing? The point of having them together is so they will have a play/fight partner instead of seeing their human as their play buddy.

Is the 1.5 acres divided into three? That is as small an area as I would want them to have. That may be part of it - one cannot get away. Make sure they have somewhere they can each get individually—a shed at opposite ends of the field.

Put something like cut-heal on the gashes, they will heal up. But do NOT get between the two of them or put yourself in a position to get hurt. Make sure you halter them both, tie them up in opposite ends of the pasture, and then work on them.

Make sure they have areas to eat that are separated, and if you are putting out hay, put out three piles instead of two. This way they don't immediately start fighting over the food.

Give them another week or so, but if you do not start seeing change, you may have to separate them.

Good luck, ADMS Office.

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## Microchips (Electronic Implants ) Duplicates and NO reads

Each month we have a number of emails and calls from people, mostly overseas, that are trying to trace microchips that do not match what is on the paperwork.

When you chip an animal and place the sticker or write out the number, it is entered into our computer AND typed on to the front of the registration certificate. It is searchable in our database by us, once entered. One number off, of course, can render a search invalid, but in every case, we try every search perimeter available... first three, middle three, last three, string of four, etc. Anything we can do.

We are now seeing that the majority of these searches are yielding NULL results. The microchips we are being asked to search for are not in our system.

Two possible reasons: The first microchip is no longer reading, and a second has been added. However, the second number is NOT written on the papers, not given to ADMS and therefore cannot be used to verify the animal. (Photos can be used in some cases, and in one of the last 30 such cases, it was verified by contacting the breeder that indeed a second chip was added).

The second is that the animal is not/has not been registered with ADMS. Once again, the microchip cannot be used to verify an identity, and the buyers must resort to other ways to ID the animal. In the case of any overseas buyers, they must then back-track and do DNA verification, as their registry and stud books have stricter guidelines for registry.

IF YOU ARE selling an animal, check that the chip scans before you deliver the animal! Make sure it matches the papers you are handing over to the owner! If you must implant a second chip, add a brand, tattoo, scars, or other form of permanent ID, inform the registry!

If you are purchasing an animal, ask to see the papers! If the papers have not yet been mailed, ask for a photocopy (or snap a picture of the application with your phone). Make sure everything still matches when the animal arrives!

**Overseas buyers - make sure papers and verification are in order before you arrange shipment or delivery of an animal!** ADMS will do everything we can, but in the majority of these cases, it is far outside the range of anything we have control over. 🐾

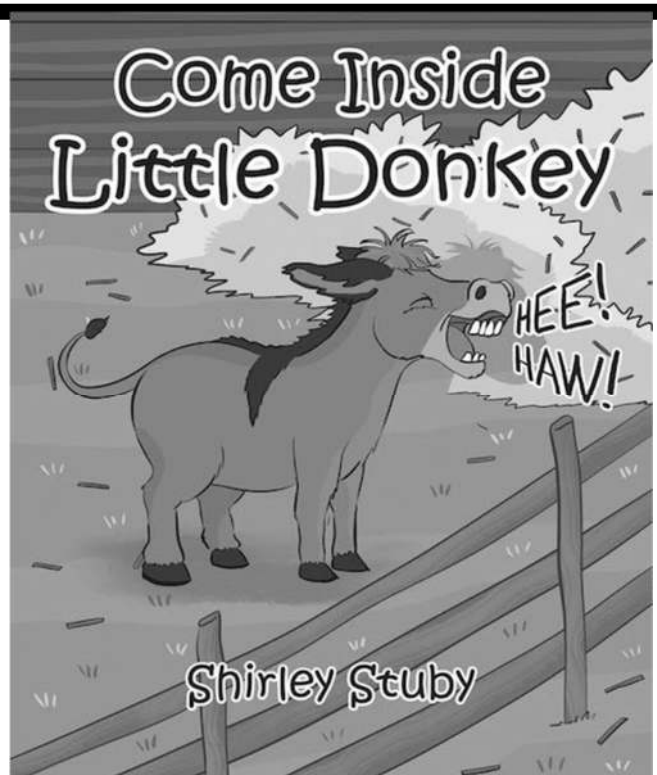
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**ISBN-13:** 978-1644716083

Also now available, Let's be Friends Little Donkey, a sequel to the last book ! Look for both on Amazon!





## Calendar of Events

### ARIZONA

February 22-24 - Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic.  
Florence, Az. (Semi-Private) tsmules.com

March 3-10 - Boyd Ranch Mule Days,  
Wickenburg, Ariz., [www.boydranch.org](http://www.boydranch.org)

March 4-6 - Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic.  
Wickenburg, Az. (at Boyd Ranch Mule Days)  
tsmules.com (see

March 14-16- Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic. Sedona, Az.  
(Semi-Private) tsmules.com

### ARKANSAS

October  
Annual Pea Ridge Mule Jump, Pea Ridge, Arkansas  
[www.pearidgemulejump.com](http://www.pearidgemulejump.com) (479) 451-1122

### CALIFORNIA

May 3-5  
Gold Country Mule & Donkey Show I, Triple County  
Equestrian Center, Lincoln CA (American Mule  
Association Website info)  
*Contact Jessica for help or more info.*  
[gcmds2020@hotmail.com](mailto:gcmds2020@hotmail.com)

MAY 22, 2024 - MAY 27, 2024  
BISHOP MULE DAYS CELEBRATION  
BISHOP CA  
Website: [Muledays.org](http://Muledays.org)

June 21, 2024 - June 23, 2024  
Western States Mule & Donkey Show  
Rancho Murietta, CA  
Western States Mule and Donkey Show - Murieta  
Equestrian Center

Sept 20-22  
Gold Country Mule & Donkey Show II  
(Same info as above for May Show)

### COLORADO

January 17-21 - National Western Stock Show Mule &  
Donkey Show, Denver, Colo., [nationalwestern.com](http://nationalwestern.com)  
IDAHO

April 4-6- Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic.  
Caldwell, ID [tsmules.com](http://tsmules.com)

April 9-11- Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic.  
Salmon, ID [tsmules.com](http://tsmules.com)

### KENTUCKY

March 8-9 - Waugh Livestock Sales LLC Spring Catalog  
Sale, Morehead, Ky. [facebook.com/WLSMuleSale](https://facebook.com/WLSMuleSale), 606-  
748-9721

### MICHIGAN

### MISSOURI

April 27-28 - Country Tough Trail Versatility Buckle  
Series #1, Von Holten Ranch, Mora, Mo.,  
[vonholtenranch.com](http://vonholtenranch.com)

Sept TBA

Ozark Mule Days featuring the Missouri Mule Makeover,  
Springfield, Mo (Missouri Mule Makeover/Ozark Mule  
Days | Facebook)

September 14-16

### South CAROLINA

March 27-29- Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic. Camden,  
S.C. (Semi-Private) tsmules.com

### TENNESSEE

January 13 - Tennessee Mule Sales/Reese Mules  
Traditional Colt Sale, Lebanon, Tenn., [reesemules.com](http://reesemules.com)

April 26-27 - Tennessee Mule Sales/Reese Mules Annual  
Riding Mule Sale, Lebanon, Tenn., [reesemules.com](http://reesemules.com)

July 12-13, 2024  
American Gaited Mule Association Show starts at  
6PM EST each night Indoor Arenam Roane state Univ.  
Donation only Keith Holley 423-802-5760

### TEXAS

January 20-21 - Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo Donkey  
& Mule Show, Fort Worth, Texas, [fwssr.com](http://fwssr.com)

### UTAH

April 23-25- Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic. Spring City,  
UT (Semi-Private) tsmules.com

April 29 - May 4 - Bryce Canyon Mule Days & the Chrome in the Canyon Premier Mule Sale, Tropic, Utah, [brycecanyonmuledays.com](http://brycecanyonmuledays.com)

#### WASHINGTON

Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic, Nine Mile Falls, WA (801)598-7465 [www.tsmules.com](http://www.tsmules.com)

#### WEST VIRGINIA

September 9-10  
29th Central West Virginia Mule and Donkey Show,  
Holly Gray Park, Sutton WV, 304-532-5206

#### WISCONSIN

April 19-21 Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic. Madison, WI,  
(at Midwest Horse Fair) [tsmules.com](http://tsmules.com)

Oct 26 - NATIONAL MULE APPRECIATION DAY

\*\*\*\*\*

Various events around the States, for full calendar visit website or call, Ty Evans Mulemanship Clinic, Hopkins, MI (801)598-7465, [www.tsmules.com](http://www.tsmules.com)

Thank you to Rural Heritage for helping to supply a list of donkey and mule related shows and events on their website. Also to all the clubs and especially Mule magazines (Mules and More, Western Mule) that publish Event Calendars.

Please note that all event dates are subject to alteration and cancellation depending on state and local mandates and changes to the COVID 19 situations around the country. Please contact show secretaries directly for further information regarding specific events.

Every issue we glean through listings online to try and find events for everyone. Winter is the off season, but PLEASE share with us so we can pass along to everyone as events are planned. T

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## Winter Cleanup—How do your tack and Feed rooms look?

The ADMS Staff

Missed spring cleaning? Fall cleaning as well? For most parts of the country, truly cold weather hasn't set in yet, but cooler days and frosty evenings are arriving. Knowing we all hate to take on cleaning chores in the heat, take a couple of hours to go to the barn and tackroom and make sure everything is ready for winter.

In addition to regular maintenance like leaky roofs, doors and windows that close properly, protruding nails, loose hardware, make sure that your wiring and pipes are still intact. It's better to know BEFORE the emergency need arises!

If you have a smoke alarm in the tack room/barn, did you test it and make sure the batteries are fresh? (What about in the house?) Is the room sealed up, or does it have any kind of ventilation? If it's been sealed and musty, time to let it air out for a bit. Take in a duster and wipe down the layer of dust that inevitably gets in no matter what.

Is your tack hung up on pegs or racks, or in a heap in a box? (Or a combination of the two? Did you forget to sort those lead ropes from last time?) Don't worry—you aren't the only one! Take that moment to sort and hang up halter, leads, bridles. Is everything sound and in one piece? Throw away the lead with the broken snap, it's cheaper to replace. Anything too brittle or too frayed should be replaced. Now is also a good time to make sure all leather goods have been cleaned and given a light coating of neatsfoot oil or other leather dressing to make sure they stay soft and supple. (Over oiling can be just as bad as under conditioning leather.) Bridle bags and saddle covers will also help extend the life of your tack.

Bridles, halters, leads and harness should ideally be stored on bridle brackets anyway. This helps to retain the suppleness of the leather, or keep from creasing biothane and other synthetic materials. Nylon halters (which should be in your tack room and not on animals in the field) can rot over time and should be checked over frequently. If they are stiff and hard to fasten, replace them.

Buckets dusty and filled with junk, or do they need a rinse out? Extreme temperatures and time will ruin even the toughest buckets, so look them over. If they get brittle, and you bang it against the concrete or truck bumper, hope that it does so when empty and not full of mash or steaming water! A good time to hint that your Christmas present should be a shopping trip to the feed store, or online gift credit at your favorite tack website.

Medicines, shampoos, and other liquid or paste items need to be stored in a climate controlled area. Over-heating or freezing can ruin some items. Check expiration dates and replace as needed. If the labels are not legible on any bottles or tubes, you should probably replace them anyway. One would not want to grab the wrong item in an emergency and cause a larger problem.

If you are breeding, do you have that all-important foaling kit on hand? This is best packed in a small plastic tote with a snap-fitting lid. This will help keep everything as clean as possible. Now is a good time to give it a once-over, and then do so one more time before you actually get into foaling season. Replace leaky or outdate items, replace anything that didn't get restocked right away.

Speaking of clearing things out, is your phone list up to date? Make sure emergency contact information is readily available, and that phone numbers are still correct! Back up your phone list to your SIM Card on your mobile phone! Rewrite numbers on cardstock or your notebook that have changed or may not be legible any longer.

Other items that are good to think about having in the tack room are a marker board or noteboard, flashlight (change batteries when you check the smoke alarm!), spare light bulbs, trash bags, large zip-lock bags, first aid kit, and a fire extinguisher. Duct tape? Sharpie markers? If your tack room is not near the house, it never hurts to duplicate some items that you always need to have handy.

If you use any kind of pest trap, change them out. Please make sure you are not using bait-type poisons, as these not only kill rats and mice, but the animals that prey on them, all the way up the food chain. And don't discount equine getting a hold of them and eating them. We've all seen it, they can and will eat anything they darn well please..

Make sure outlets are clear of dust and cobwebs as well. Bundle up old empty feed sacks and put them in the trash or recycle bin. It's fine to keep one or two around, but having a stack of them invites vermin.

Turn the critters out, watch them play a bit, then take those few minutes to get everything spic and span and write up your shopping list! Never too soon to tell the family (or Santa) what you want in your stocking! 🦌



## When to Call the Vet

There are times when you can deal with medical situations at home, then others that the vet is absolutely a necessity.

PLEASE REMEMBER that the staff and Board of ADMS are not vets. We cannot give medical advice. In addition, we are unable to observe the animal firsthand, which means it is also difficult for us even to suggest what might be wrong. We do have experience in dealing with all kinds of situations and questions, but please go to your vet FIRST!

If your animal appears to be lame, call the farrier or the vet. Most causes of lameness in donkeys are related to laminitis, hoof injury, or abscess. You may end up having to call both, but until the root of the problem is discovered, you will need to consult a professional.

If your animal has a minor cut, you might not need the vet, but it will depend on the area of the cut (joints heal slowly), how long since it happened, and amount of bleeding. You do not want infection nor proud flesh taking over a wound.

If your animal has been injured on a sharp object (nail, stick) or has the object STILL IMBEDDED, do not attempt to remove it. You can cause further bleeding and damage. Call the vet FIRST and follow their instructions. A tetanus shot should also be a MUST in situations like this.

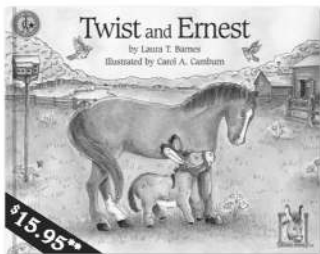
If a jennet or mare has been in active labor for more than an hour or two (Straining, rolling, or sack seems to appear and disappear) call the vet! Also read up on Red Bag Deliveries, and be aware of how they present. You may not have time for the vet to arrive in those cases, but he/she needs to get there as soon as possible.

Weak animal, lethargic, fever, won't eat. Don't call ADMS—call the vet. Get fluids into the animal, get tests started to find out what is happening.

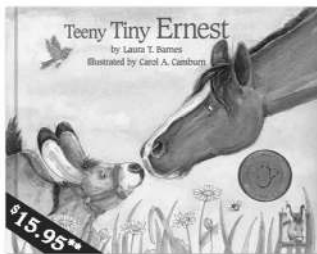
If your animal is very sick or injured—call your vet. Do the tests, find out why, and protect the rest of your herd from any possible contagion. 🐾

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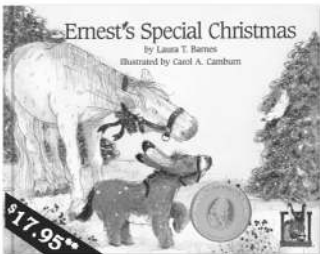
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Inside Message:  
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Ernest Plush  
Adorable 9" stuffed animal.

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## DNA requirements for Donkeys going to the UK

From Jill Allen-Melvin

Secretary, Miniature Mediterranean Donkey Association of the UK (reprinted from 2017)

The Miniature Mediterranean Donkey Association of the UK are delighted that so many American Miniature Donkey breeders are now having their breeding stock DNA typed.

This makes pedigree confirmation so much easier and more reliable.

The MMDA have a Stud Book for our best breeding stock and of course reliable pedigrees are essential for this purpose. Our members have imported large quantities of quality stock from the USA in the past and certainly will continue to do so in the near future. Most of these super little donkeys have proven to have reliable backgrounds and we are delighted with the diversity of our gene pool this provides in the UK.

However the forgoing is not always the cause aid some pedigrees have proven to be false or in error in some way. Stock brought in and sold at auction by dealers has how our biggest worry. For this reason at our 2007 Annual General Meeting, it was decided to require all imported stock from June 2007 (to present) to be DNA typed with their sire and dam at point of sale. As so many responsible American Breeders are now having their stock DNA typed, it will be a

simple matter to check the offspring against the registered Sire and Dam.

As we want the best, all imported Miniature Donkeys must have three registered generations to be accepted into our Stud Books. Anyone wishing to see the 2007 rules on importing Miniature Donkeys into the UK may visit our website at [www.miniature-donkey-assoc.com](http://www.miniature-donkey-assoc.com)

We feel sure that most of our friends in the USA will understand and accept the above; we wish to protect our members and our Stud Book and feel we must do whatever it takes.

Thank you,

Jill Allen-Melvin

**SELLERS - The DNA requirement for the UK has been in place for ten years. If you are selling a donkey to Great Britain/England/Ireland/Wales or any other studbook overseas (European) that requires DNA typing, you will need to have the animal TYPED and cross-matched to the parents before the sale. You will need to work out timing details with the buyer. You should register the animal with the DNA tag so that it appears on the papers. ONLY the seller and the buyer should have copies of the actual DNA results. The tag is what is necessary for the registration papers in the USA.**

# JF Miniature Donkeys

## Herdsires



Lil Graceland Suspicion  
30" Red



Short & Sweet Sparkplug  
30.5" Dark Red



Quarter Moon  
Flashbang  
30" Dark Brown  
and White Spotted



Heiken's Ark Napoleon  
31.5"  
Dark Brown/Black/  
White Spotted

JF  
London



Julie Jones  
(360) 202-6996  
Mount Vernon, Washington



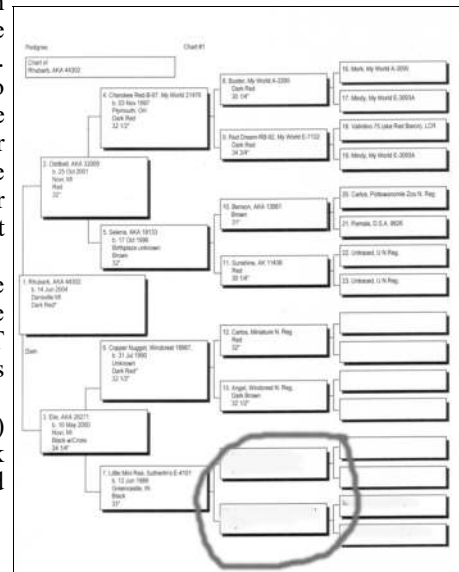
[www.JFRanch.net](http://www.JFRanch.net)  
[jfminidonkeys@gmail.com](mailto:jfminidonkeys@gmail.com)

## Pedigrees and Export—Three Generations

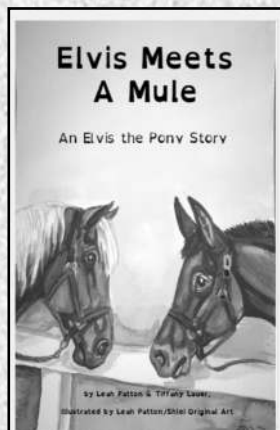
A number of Registries outside the USA have noted that unless an animal has a full three-generation pedigree behind it with Registered Parentage (Miniature, Mammoth) it is ineligible for any other then their General Registry. This means that the donkey you sell to an overseas or non-USA buyer needs to have a pedigree as shown below. If it does not, the animal that these people are paying great import cost for cannot in turn produce offspring that are eligible for their country's stud-book. While the burden does fall to the buyer to make sure that pedigree exists for the animal they are purchasing, it also falls to the seller provide papers for a sale animal that would be suitable for the export requirements.

ADMS can look up SOME pedigrees but not others (many horse registries charge to have pedigrees researched) so please include a copy of the PEDIGREE side of a horse's papers, or that of a donkey if they are NOT registered with ADMS. We do not need copies of parent papers for animals already registered in ADMS (sending extra pieces of paper is extra postage!)

ADMS is working over a rule change to allow American (Irish, etc) Miniature Donkeys with Three generations of registered pedigree to qualify back into the MDR Book. Your pedigrees are important! Bloodlines, height and color all show in the pedigree fields!



to



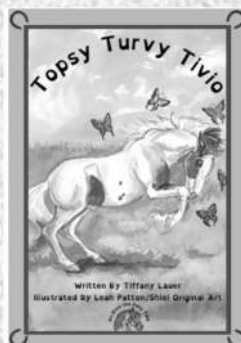
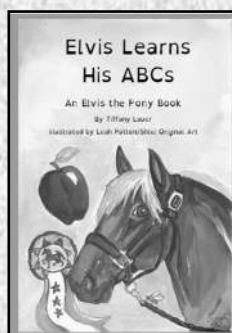
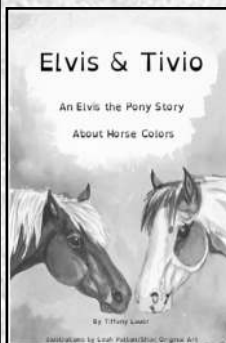
## ELVIS Meets a Mule

A new story in the *Elvis the Pony* Books series! [Elvisthepony.com](http://Elvisthepony.com)

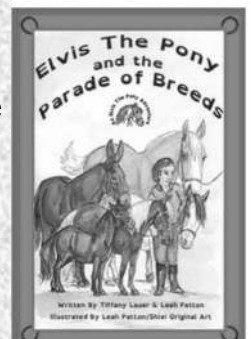
Meet *Elvis*, the silver-bay lesson pony! In his first book, *Elvis and Tivio*, the ponies had an adventure learning about horse coat-colors. In the second book, *Elvis* learns his ABCs, featuring his friends both long and short eared! Donkeys and mules are featured right alongside his pony and horse friends! Find Longears in the Elvis Series!

In the third book of the *Elvis the Pony* Series (available now!), *Elvis* meets a long eared mule at the local Show! Read about *Elvis* and how he discovers he can make friends even if they do not look like he does!

Book 4, *Topsy Turvy Tivio*, *Elvis* Learns his Numbers and Colors, and *Elvis the Pony* in a One-Horse Open Sleigh are now available as well! All SEVEN books available directly through Elvis the Pony Publications! All Editions available now or soon in SPANISH as well! See more at the website [Elvisthepony.com](http://Elvisthepony.com)



Now in PRINT and for E-readers—Parade of Breeds featuring your favorite ponies and their friends including *CURLY THE MULE!*



## Choosing a Trailer - Which is best?

Leah Patton, Office manager, ADMS

From time to time, new trailers, vans and floats come out on the market. For the most part, they are tried-and-true designs, but even with the oldie-but-goodies, there will be the occasional problem when hauling livestock. These problems will often make owners stop and wonder if they have the right transport for the job.



**Stock trailer.** The Stock trailer is more commonly seen in the Southern areas of the USA. Most are multi-purpose—you can haul your cattle, horses, donkeys, mules, or furniture in them. (Though usually not all at once, we have seen it done!) There are both bumper-pull type trailers, and gooseneck (aka fifth wheel) attachments. Bumper pulls are fine for smaller trailers that will not have as much load. Goosenecks should be used for stability in larger/longer trailers.

Advantages to the Stock trailer are that you can haul four or more animals (again depending on size of the trailer). Most have at least one partition (4-horse) and some have more (6-8 horse). They may have side escape doors, swinging/sliding back door combinations, and many have dual axels.

Disadvantages are that stock trailers are open-sided. This provides little protection from the elements and none from the cold if trailering in extreme weather. The floors are usually wood (2x4 planking) which can be slippery, and will need replacing over time. The odd few are open-topped as well, which is never recommended for equines. Canvas tops can be purchased, but these tend to flap (and rot or fray, needing replacing).

Fifth-wheel/gooseneck trailers also require special hitches in the bed of the pickup truck. You cannot just hitch and go if you do not have the fifth-wheel already installed. There are special fifth-wheel plates you can purchase that are removable, but if this is the way you are going to haul for frequent use, you need a solid installation.

**Slant load.** Horse trailers that are slant-loads, that is, designed for the horse/donkey/mule to ride at an angle across the trailer, also come in gooseneck and rarely bumper-pull designs. Many are three-horse, with space in the front for feed and tack, and a small space at the rear as well. Some come equipped with changing areas, or rails on top for storing hay, feed and carts.

**Horse Trailer or Float.** A two-horse trailer is probably one of the more commonly seen equine transports in North America. They have a distinct look, with a rounded nose (manger portion, usually with storage underneath). They can be single or double-axel, and usually have a swinging, partitioned door at the back. A few will have a ramp that lifts up to close the tail. Most also have some kind

of divider bar, and higher end models will have an escape door for the human.

This trailer has advantages if you only have one or two animals to transport. They are more cost efficient than hauling a larger, half-empty trailer. They are usually reasonably priced, come in a variety of styles and colors, and are durable. Many now come equipped with hydraulic brakes.

Disadvantage are of course older models with safety issues, gaining an extra equine, most are bumper-pull and not goose-neck. Safety issues can

arise from lack of braking systems, no escape door, in-line two-horse (less stable than a side-by-side) and age of the trailer (rust, rotting of the floor).

**Horse van.** Horse vans are popular in the Northern portions of the USA, and in Europe. These are quite literally vans that are designed with the truck-cab up front, and the box for the equines at the back. Anyone familiar with the Dick Francis mystery novels will know the term “horse-box” or “horse lorry”. While there is some difference between the two, they basically look like a modified box-truck, or cargo truck. The animals are loaded into their stalls via ramps, which then fold up to become the wall. They may be rear-loading, slant-load, or have removable partitions to arrange for optimum space.

Advantages are self-contained transport, often making it easier to park in certain areas. Mileage for many lorry or boxes is often equal to that of a truck-and-trailer. Storage space is usually available in the van.

Disadvantages include the ramps (some animals are not good with the ramps, and they are often large and heavy). There is also no way to leave the trailer and go somewhere in the separate truck. Space may also be limited on these vans, to two or three animals. In the USA, there are few brands available, and they tend to run slightly higher in cost than a



truck-and-trailer combination.

Be cautious selecting any kind of trailer that appears to be home-made. We have seen such horrors as a trailer top (no wheels) strapped to a flat-bed trailer, and pieces of fencing bolted to the sides of an older trailer to make a kind of cage. Home-made might be wonderful, but more often than not, it can be an accident waiting to injure your animal.

No matter the option you choose for your trailering needs, always make certain that you have a sound vehicle each time you start out. Buying used can have advantages in cost, but also issues with safety (rusting, rotted floors, damage, old tires, bad wiring). Newer models have more safety features but will run higher in cost.

Practice working in your trailer before you ever load an animal. Where are the doors, how do the hinges, latches and safety features work? Is it easy to hitch onto the ball of the truck? Wiring working (blinkers, tail-lights). Do you know how to correctly fasten safety chains?

You will also have to consider your hauling ability. Do you have a large truck? What is the towing capacity? Does it have a towing brake package or can one be added? Who is going to be using this truck more often, and is it going to be used daily around town and the farm? Big dually trucks can be notorious for low miles-per-gallon ratio. Will it be gasoline or better yet, diesel? Is diesel readily available in your area? (Don't laugh, at least two large stations in our small town do not even have a diesel nozzle.)

In some states and areas, a commercial license is required for any vehicle/combination that exceeds a certain number of feet. If you have a very large long trailer and setup, do you have the experience and permit to drive it?

You must also take into consideration how many animals you own in total, and how many you might have to move at one time for a show. A six-draft mule hitch is certainly going to need more moving power than two saddle mules. In case of an emergency, could you load all your animals in one throw and go? The answer is probably no, it's the rare facility that actually has enough trailers (and then trucks to pull them) to evacuate everyone at once.

All of this will help make your donkeys and mules safer and more comfortable on the road—thus taking some stress off of you when traveling, knowing you've done your homework on their best mode of transport. 🐾





# LONG EARS AND SHORT TALES

“NICHOLAS”

Oliver grunted, then took the last swallow of his morning coffee. He re-turned the ceramic mug to the wooden table with a force that created a knocking sound.

Brodie, his old black lab picked up his head and whispered a bark.

Oliver chuckled and beckoned to the old dog. “It’s just you and me now.” He took the dog’s head in both hands and gently massaged his ears. The dog closed his eyes and enjoyed the affection.

“It looks like it’s going to be a white Christmas in New Jersey,” he said staring out the window at the gentle white flakes drifting down from the sky. He cleared his throat and continued. “There will be no white Christmas in the middle east, where the kids are stationed.”

His son and daughter enlisted in the army shortly before his wife’s sudden passing. He was very proud of them at the time, but now he worried.

“Christmas Eve was always Sharon’s favorite day of the year,” he said out loud. Brodie looked up at him, with knowing eyes.

He continued caressing the dog, then looked up as if speaking to someone. “I wasn’t expecting to become a widower on such short notice.”

Brodie licked his hand and gently wagged his black hairy tail.

“Let’s get going,” Oliver took a deep breath, then grabbing the table, he helped himself out of the chair.

“I’ll do a load of laundry, then we’ll go out to the barn.”

He put his cup in the sink, and then slowly walked down the cellar stairs. After putting his jeans in the washer, he took a deep breath and raised his chest. For the first time in several months, he allowed his eyes to wander around the basement where the Christmas decorations are stored. In the corner, sat the doll house he made for his daughter, Lelia, and the pedal firetruck he made for his son, Sean. “Those were happy years,” he stuck out his bottom lip and closed his eyes. An image of his late wife came to mind. She looked

directly at him. “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.” It was something she always said. “I’ll try,” he opened

his eyes, raised his chin and continued looking around. Behind the trunks, he could see the tops of the plastic Nativity Scene. Sharon always took de-light in placing Joseph, Mary, and the angel on the front porch the day after Thanksgiving. The manger with Baby Jesus wasn’t added until the night of Christmas Eve. He swallowed, as he slowly climbed the cellar stairs.

Brodie wagged his tail and waited by the back door as Oliver put on his coat and hat. “Brodie, you and I will make the best of this,” he forced a chuckle. “Nicholas is by himself and probably wondering where we are.”

Nicholas was his wife’s mule. His stable mate, Cameo, a miniature don-key, was away doing a Christmas gig. A theater company often borrowed the donkey for Christmas scenes. Every time Nicholas stayed home alone, Sharon would tell him, “One day you’ll do something very important.”

“Good Morning Nicholas, Merry Christmas Eve,” he called to the mule who usually waited for him in the barnyard.

Oliver stretched his neck. He could see the mule’s hind end through the window, but the mule’s head wasn’t in view. Oliver hastened his pace, opened the barn door, and turned on the lights.

Brodie growled; his hackles stood up. A child’s screech sounded from un-der the hay rack. The mule turned his head to acknowledge Oliver, but didn’t move his feet.

Brodie, lowered his hackles, wagged his tail and looked up at Oliver.

Oliver blinked as his eyes adjusted to the barn light. He couldn’t believe what he was seeing. Two small children with dark brown eyes and black hair, shivered in their pajamas, as they huddled together under the hay rack.

“Who do we have here?” Oliver softly spoke.

The boy knelt up straight, “I’m Abel.” Then he nudged his sister. The little girl’s eyes widened. She slightly glanced at Oliver, before lowering her eyes to the ground. “I’m Evita.”



Brodie looked up at his master and whined. Oliver scratched the dog's head, before speaking again.

"What are you doing here?"

"Mamma's crying," Abel answered. "She doesn't like it when we see her cry, so we came here to see this big burro."

Oliver put his hand to his chin as he digested what he just heard. "Does she know you are here?" He inquired as he slowly opened the stall door and approached the children.

"No," Evita answered with her teeth chattering. "We should go back home but we are too cold and the burro is keeping us warm with his breathe."

"I'll get you some blankets," Oliver quickly turned to retrieve Nicholas's fleece cooler blankets from the tack room.

The children remained huddled together. With wide eyes, they studied Oli-ver, as he wrapped the blankets around them.

Oliver noticed their curiosity and chuckled. "My mule's name is Nicholas."

"Like St. Nick?" Abel softly whispered, without a smile.

"I guess you could call him St Nick," Oliver chuckled. "He kept you warm. He's a very smart mule."

The children remained huddled and continued staring at Oliver and the mule with wide eyes.

Oliver took a step back, put his hand on the mule's rump, and noncha-lantly inquired. "Where do you live?"

"We just moved to the ranch," Evita pointed in the direction of Canterbury Show Stables.

"Is Poncho, your dad?" Oliver looked intently at the children.

"Yes," Evita whispered, then lowered her head.

"You know my Papa?" Abel looked at Oliver with wide eyes.

"I never met your Papa, but I know his boss, Mel

Tomalson," Oliver chuckled. "I know a new worker, named Pancho, moved into the farmhouse at Canterbury with his family."

Oliver knew the rest of the story from his friend, Tony, who delivered hay to Canterbury. Every year, the week before Christmas, horses, hired hands, and clients migrated to Canterbury's winter farm in Florida. Only a couple horses and hired hands remained north. Poncho was summoned to Florida for the first two weeks to help set up. Too bad for his wife and children, he wouldn't be home for Christmas.

"Okay," Oliver's smile hid his irritation at Poncho's disrespectful boss.

"While Nicholas is eating his breakfast, I'll drive you kids home, I'm sure you Mamma is worried about you."

Evita shouted on the verge of tears, "Mamma said never get in a car with a stranger!"

"We won't get in the car with you. We'll run away." Abel stood up and threw the blanket from his shoulders.

"Put that blanket back on," Oliver laughed. "What would Mamma say if you rode Nicholas home?"

Abel picked up the blanket and wrapped himself in it again. Both children jumped up and down and giggled.

"Mamma wouldn't mind." Abel informed him.

"It might make her stop crying and smile," Evita added.

"All right," Oliver chuckled as he dumped grain into the mule's feed tub. "I'll get his gear. I can put his snow boots on while he's eating his breakfast."

"Snow boots?" Abel questioned with wide eyes.

"We don't want him slipping on the road?" Oliver spoke cheerfully, then let the children examine the boots. He put the saddle and bridle on the mule and led him out of the stall. The children giggled as they followed.

Oliver lifted both children on top of the mule and tucked the fleece blankets around their little legs.

"I'm going to pretend I am Blessed Mother Mary riding a burro to Bethle-hem." Evita's eyes twinkled as she adjusted the blanket around her head.

"I'll pretend I am St Joseph," Abel added and raised his chest.

Oliver blinked back a tear, as he recalled his wife's prediction about Nicho-las doing something every important. He led the mule out the driveway and down the road toward Canterbury. Brodie walked close to Oliver and kept an eye on the children. The snow continued to fall, but wasn't sticking to the roads. Oliver was grateful for that.

A car pulled up along side of them. The window rolled down, a round jolly face came into view. "Merry Christmas," he smiled looking up at the chil-dren. "What's going on?"

"Hey Tony," Oliver's smile was as wide as the sky. "I found these two little rascals in Nicholas's stall this morning."

"Oh?" Tony looked at the children, then back at Oliver.

Oliver kept walking, and leaned closer to the window. "These are Pon-cho's kids."

"We came to see the burro cuz Mamma was crying," Abel was anxious to share the news.

"Why was Mamma crying?" Tony's eyes narrowed.

"Mamma's sad because we don't have a Christmas tree and Daddy won't be with us for Christmas." Abel continued.

"Santa will bring a tree," Evita raised her chin. She notice Tony smiling at her; she added. "And I am pretending that I am Jesus's mother riding a burro to Bethlehem."

"I'm St Joseph," Abel added.

"That's pretty impressive," Tony's tone grew serious. "Stop for a second and let me take your picture because you look so much like Mary and Jo-seph."

Oliver brought the mule to a halt. The children sat up straight and smiled directly into the camera. Oliver knew very well his friend was up to some-thing.

"I've met their mother, Maria. I'll drive to the farm and let her know the kids are safe and on their way

home."

A half hour later, Oliver jogged the mule up his driveway and caught sight of Tony siting in his car, talking on his cell phone. Oliver clucked and Nicho-las picked up his pace. Brodie galloped and kept up with the mule.

Tony ended the call, when the mule reached him. Nicholas pushed his warm muzzle through the open window.

"Wow!" Tony was taken by surprise. "Hello to you too!" He grabbed the mule's nose and gave it a quick rub.

"What's their story?" Oliver wasted no time to inquire.

Tony pressed his lips together, and held up his cell phone. "I texted a pic-ture of Poncho's kids on the mule to your neighbor, Mel Tomalson. I told him it was a disgrace their father wasn't going to be home for Christmas!"

Oliver, dismounted his mule. "Do you think it'll do any good?"

"I sure hope so," Tony responded. "I'll let you know of any updates. I know for a fact, one of his clients who owns a car dealership has his own plane. He flies himself back and forth to Florida. There should be no reason he can't fly Poncho home for Christmas!"

"That would be a blessing!" Oliver bellowed. "Nicholas and I are going up the mountain to cut down a Christmas tree and I have a trunk full of extra ornaments they can have." As Oliver spoke, his smile broadened and his eyes sparkled. "I may have a few other things."

"Sounds good. I'll be in touch," Tony gave him a thumbs up, then drove away.

Oliver led the mule into the garage to retrieve his ax and a long rope. The mule stepped away from Oliver and rooted through the recycle bucket.

Brodie scolded the mule with a bark; then looked at Oliver for recognition.

"What's he doing, Brodie?" Oliver chuckled without looking at his dog. He fastened the rope and ax to his saddle, and then led the mule out of the garage.

“Let’s go Boys.” He climbed into the saddle and jogged toward the path that lead up the mountain. Brodie followed the mule as Oliver sang, “Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree.”

When they reached the bridge, Oliver brought the mule back to a walk. “It’s all up hill from here,” he told his mule, then looked down at Brodie. “Are you ready for this?” Brodie proceeded up the mountain without looking back.

It had been several years since the family made their annual trip up this mountain. He recalled laughing with Sharon while Sean and Lelia raced the ponies up the mountain to capture the best tree. “Those were good days.” A smile formed across his face as his wife would have wanted.

The wind picked up, sending a cold chill right through him. He pulled his scarf up over his cheeks. “We’ve got to make this trip,” he told his dog and his mule. They were about half way from their usual spot, when the mule veered from the path and marched in another direction.

“Don’t give me a hard time now, Nicholas!” He pleaded trying to take control of the mule. Nicholas continued marching a short distance, then stopped in front of the perfect Christmas tree.

“Are you kidding me?” Oliver joked. The mule circled the tree, revealing the tree’s perfect shape and size.

“You’re too smart.” Oliver jumped down and put his arms around the mule’s warm, fuzzy neck. He chuckled as he removed his ax and rope from the saddle, then began chopping.

Brodie laid on the cold ground and observed, while Nicholas nibbled on dead leaves. Within minutes, they were on their way down the mountain with the tree tied to the saddle horn in tow.

“That was a lot of fun!” Oliver chuckled to his mule and his dog as they walked across the driveway. He untied the tree from his saddle horn, dis-mounted his mule, then lead him to the barn. Brodie followed.

“It’s been a long morning,” he patted Nicholas’s neck. “Thank’s to you, those kids will have a Christmas tree.”

After untacking the mule and filling his rack with hay, Oliver and Brodie walked back to the house. The snow had eased up, but the temperature was dropping. He scratched Brodie’s head. “It’s a good thing we found

those kids when we did. They would have caught pneumonia.” He rubbed his hands together as he looked around the yard at the new fallen snow. His hands and feet were very cold, but his heart was warm. He started to jog, then suddenly stopped in his tracks. The sight of a beautiful red cardinal took his breath away. The winged creature glided in front of him and took his place on the step of the bare front porch. The bird held his head high and stared at Oliver with scolding eyes.

“Sharon,” he whispered. A warm feeling came over him, as he recalled her words. “When you see a cardinal, a deceased loved one is coming back to visit.”

“We’ll set up the Nativity Scene right after lunch,” he chuckled at the bird. The bird nodded, then flew away.

Oliver shared a can of chicken soup with Brodie. The dog licked his lips, then looked up at his master for more. Oliver treated him with a biscuit. The dog enjoyed the treat, then exhausted from the morning journey, he retired to his bed and fell asleep.

Oliver smiled at the old dog, as he put the dishes in the sink. He glanced out the kitchen window, and caught sight of Tony’s car coming down the driveway.

“I see the tree!” Tony chuckled as he entered the house and unzipped his coat. “Poncho will be home tonight,” Tony spoke with assertiveness. “Tom-alson claims arrangements were already in place.” Tony rolled his eyes, then plopped in a chair. “Of course that was after I left him a voicemail.”

“So what’s the scoop?” Oliver sat in a chair across from him.

“Another employee, Catherine, is picking up his wife and kids at 6:00 to-night. She’s taking them to meet Poncho at the airport and then to a nice restaurant. She will text me when they leave the house. I’ll call you with an update.”

“You have a way of getting in the house?”

“Yes. I’ll have a key and I’ll help you set up the tree. I also have some Christmas cookies and other treats to leave for them. Tomorrow a caterer is delivering a turkey dinner.”

“This is perfect!” Oliver’s face lit up.

Tony looked at his watch, “It’s already 2:00. I’ll give you a hand putting the tree in your truck, then I need to

get going.”

Oliver hurried back to the house as Tony drove out the driveway. His next move was to retrieve Christmas treasures from the cellar. He knew which trunk held the extra decorations, he pulled it out and carried it to his truck. Then he returned to the basement for the firetruck and the doll house. After dusting them off, he stepped back and studied them. “It’s time to put them to use again.” He cleared his throat, then hoisted them in the back of his pickup truck and shut the tailgate.

Brodie was waking from his nap when Oliver came through the back door. “We’re almost finished,” he cheerfully informed his canine buddy. The next trip down the cellar steps, was to retrieve the plastic light up Nativity set. He hummed Silent Night as he arranged Mary, Joseph, and the angel on the front porch. A few hours later, when darkness fell, he placed the manger with Baby Jesus, between Mary and Joseph. He rubbed his hands together to warm them raising his eyes as if Sharon were standing alongside of him. “I miss you, Sharon. I’m trying to make the best of this Christmas.”

He stepped down from the porch and beckoned to Brodie. “Let’s go in the house and wait for Tony’s call.”

An hour later, he and Brodie drove to the farmhouse. Tony’s car was be-hind him. The passenger window rolled down and Tony’s wife, Grace, shouted cheerfully. “Hey Oliver, your mule must have known what he was doing, walking on the road in time to meet up with Tony.”

A lump formed in Oliver’s throat, then he chuckled. “He has a sixth sense. He knew very well what was going on.”

“Tony showed me the kids’ picture and told me they had nothing for Christmas.” She opened the car door and got out with tw

ags. Her voice filled with laughter, “There were a few things left on the shelves in the store!”

Oliver, Tony, and Grace spent the next hour setting up the Christmas tree and arranging the presents. When everything was placed just so, Grace took a photo with her cell phone. “This is a Christmas they’ll remember for the rest of their lives,” she giggled as she put her cell phone back in her purse.

“It’s a Christmas, I’ll never forget.” Oliver’s voice cracked as he took a fi-nal look at the firetruck and dollhouse.

Brodie was waiting patiently in the truck when Oliver came out of the house. “I hope you didn’t get cold.” He rubbed the dog’s back and belly to warm him. Brodie looked up at him then put his head on Oliver’s lap. “We’ll be home in a minute,” Oliver caressed the dog’s ear with one hand, holding the stirring wheel with the other.

Oliver headed home to an empty house, but his heart was full. “Thank God for Nicholas,” he said out loud. Before he reached his driveway, a truck and horse trailer pulled in ahead of him. “It looks like Cameo is back from her Christmas gig. Wait until I tell her, Nicholas was on spotlight to-day.”

The driver greeted Oliver, then proceeded to lower the trailer ramp and unload the donkey.

“Merry Christmas,” Oliver cheerfully exchanged the greetings. “She can go back in the pasture. I’ll get the gate.”

As he was propping the gate open, he noticed another vehicle coming in the driveway. He squinted, trying to recognize the car. Brodie looked up at Oliver then slowly jogged toward the car. When the car doors opened, Bro-die ran full speed whining and wagging his tail.

“Hi Dad,” his son, Sean shouted.

“Merry Christmas Dad,” his daughter, Lelia joined in. Oliver left the gate and ran to his son and daughter. As they were greet-ing with hugs and kisses, the driver quietly lead Cameo down the trailer ramp and put her in the pasture. Then he closed up his trailer



and left.

"This was last minute," his daughter confessed. "We wanted it to be a surprise."

"A charity organization made the arrangements," his son added.

"This is wonderful," Oliver's lower lip trembled as he held his daughter's hands. "I have nothing prepared for a Christmas dinner, but I'm so glad you are home." He hugged both of his children as tears sprang from his eyes.

"A catered dinner will be here tomorrow," Lelia informed him. "Compliments of the organization."

"This is a real surprise! Let's go in the house and I'll tell you what Nicho-las did today."

"Nicholas?" His son chuckled and pointed to the big mule walking across the driveway with Cameo.

"I forgot to shut the gate!" Oliver turned quickly toward the mule. "Nicho-las! Cameo! Please go back in the pasture."

The mule marched across the driveway and paid no attention to Oliver. When he reached the porch, he stopped and bowed at the Nativity Scene. Then the big mule lowered his head and kissed the Baby Jesus. He beckoned to Cameo to do the same.

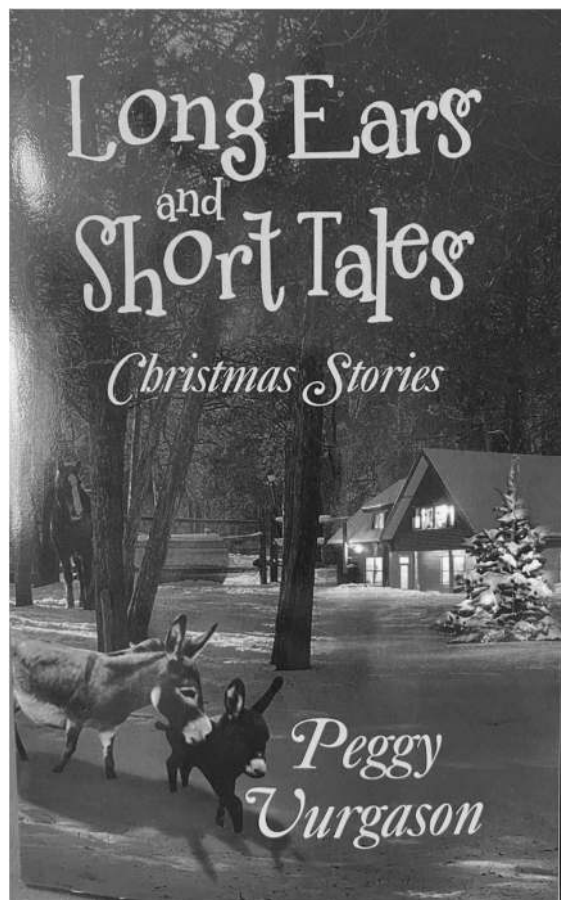
"You are a special animal," Oliver put his arms around the mule's neck. The mule gently nuzzled Oliver, then he and Cameo walked back to the pasture for the night.

That's my story and I am sticking to it.

Merry Christmas and God Bless all who read my story.

Peggy Vurgason

Illustration by Lana Bescrip



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**Future issues will be online, we will set dates when we have all the logistics worked out!**



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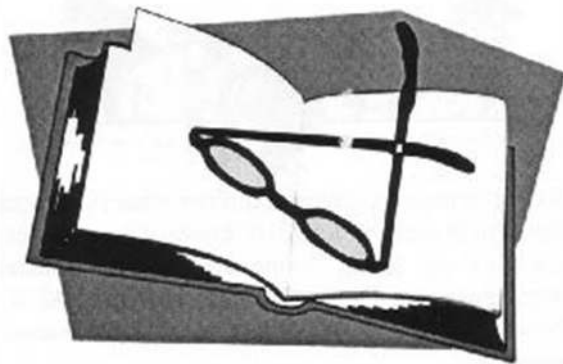
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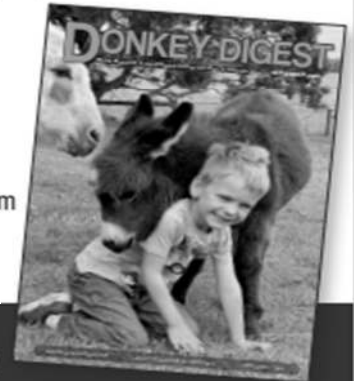
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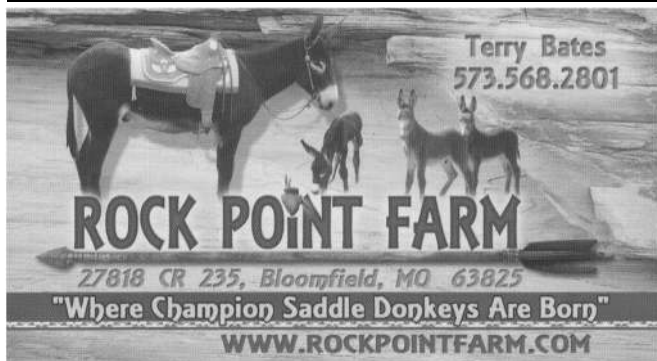
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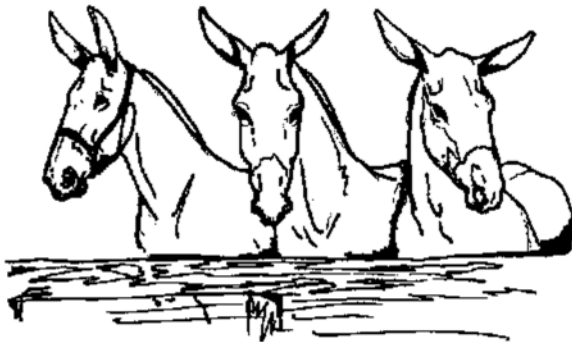
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PLEASE NOTE THE COST FOR EACH LISTING IN 2023 is \$10/issue. If you wish to pay in advance for the entire year the cost is \$56 (a slight discount). **This issue in your hands is the Winter issue of 2023** If your listing is marked V3 May 2023 at the end it has expired and will have to be renewed BEFORE January 1st if you wish to appear in Volume 1 Jan/Feb issue (ONLINE). Cost is \$10 per issue. We are giving you a grace period.) We have carried a lot of ads due to the pandemic, but we must drop unpaid ads with the next issue.



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Select herd of miniature donkeys for showing, breeding or that special family pet! We breed for conformation, disposition, size and color! Award winning breeding program producing next year's show champions! We ship overseas; references available! (V3 2023)

### Republican Donkey Company at Old Glory Ranch

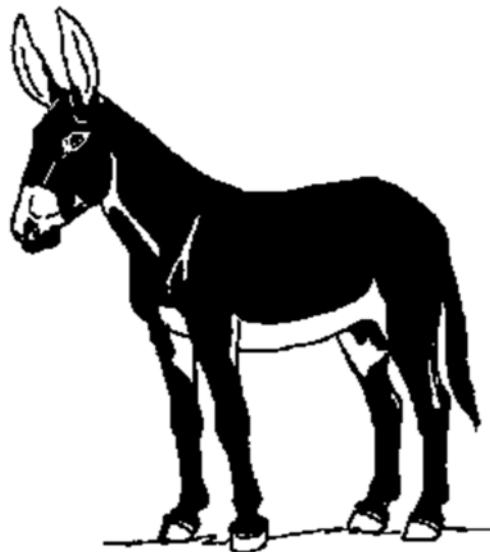
Suzanne B. McCord 512-847-3646

3633 River Rd Wimberley, TX 78676

Website: Old Glory Ranch.com

E-mail sbm@oldgloryranch.com

Home of *Republican's Roy Rogers* and *Republican's Abraham Lincoln*. Brown, Gray-Duns and Spotted. Pet and Show Quality along with Stud Service available. (V1 2023) \*



NMDA is kind enough to forward emails about registration questions to ADMS, but we are separate organizations, and there is confusion as to who does what.

ADMS is the National (but also International) Longears Registry and All-Breed/Type Organization. We have five registry books, register all types and sizes of longears (including Miniature Donkeys, Standard and Large Standard Donkeys, Mammoths, Mules and hinnies, and Zebras and Hybrids). We put out the BRAYER magazine.

NMDA is the Miniature Donkey Breed Association. They have general information about Miniatures, administer the NMDA Show Circuit, keep track of some DNA records and previously printed the ASSET, but **they do not run the registry.**

If you have general questions about Miniature Donkeys, approach either or both organizations.

If you have registry, update, pedigree, transfer or other Stud-book type questions, please refer to ADMS. Our address and contact information is printed on the back of your registration certificates.

If you have questions about specific shows or showing information, please refer to NMDA, who has a rulebook and show lists. ADMS does not run any shows at this time, nor do we have rulebooks for shows.

There is some crossover in what we can and do handle, but two aspects are very specific (Showing and the registry) and we must refer any emails back to the other if we are asked. Please help us keep our own busy offices running smoothly by making sure your requests go to the right organization!

NMDA - Rome NY

Showing Information and Questions, Formerly printing the Asset Magazine, general information

ADMS - Lewisville TX address (no longer in Denton TX)

**Registration/Transfer/Update/Pedigree questions. The BRAYER magazine.** General Information, Advertising in the BRAYER.

Thank you! Leah Patton, office manager, ADMS

## *Shlei Original Art*

### **Bookmarks—Limited Edition prints of Shlei's Original watercolors. (Originals also available) Illustrator of the *Elvis the Pony* Series Equines a Specialty! Horses, Donkeys and Mules always in Stock.**

Various Sizes and Shapes of bookmarks, from ACEO (2.5" x 3.5") size to tall. In clear protective Sleeves with color coordinated tassels. Brights, pastels, if you'd like a certain color theme, just ask!



Have a special request for a show or 4-H event? Custom orders welcome. You can purchase the Original and any quantity of prints from the original painting.

Prices starting at \$3 each, 4 for \$10 - Only \$1 shipping for 4, or bulk discounts. Perfect Stocking Stuffers!

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Email: sandar@msn.com or for more info or write to:

**Shlei Original Art  
C/o ADMS PO Box 1210, Lewisville TX 75067**

**AND NOW introducing the ELVISTHEPONY book series—Book one *Elvis* and *Tivio* is about horse color. Book two—*Elvis* Learns his ABCs features horses, ponies, donkeys and mules. Book Three—*Elvis* meets a MULE! Book four—Topsy Turvy *Tivio*! Book five—*Elvis* learns Counting and Colors! Book Six—*Elvis* in a one Horse Sleigh! SIX books now available—and featuring longears as well!!  
More information at [Elvisthepony.com](http://Elvisthepony.com)**





# Saddle sores, Girth sores

Leah Patton, office manager, ADMS

Saddle sores and girth sores can be caused by tack that does not fit properly. It might be either too tight or too loose, or the hair and skin may be pinched and rubbed.

A donkey or mule can get a sore from one long workout, though a bad sore is more likely if the area is rubbed more than once. The most common areas for saddle sores are on either side of the withers. For girth sores they are most likely to occur in the thin-haired area just behind the elbow, or directly on the ventral line on the belly.

Evaluate your animal by taking photos from above, and from behind. Are the withers the same size and shape? If not, the rigid tree of the saddle can cause undue pressure on one side, less on the other. This can be helped by changing the underlying saddle pad, but also by muscle and strengthening exercises to help the animal even out on both sides. Always check the saddle pad when you put it on to make sure there are no stickers, burrs or twigs (even a strand of hay can be needle-sharp) and again when you take it off. Are there areas that are excessively wet—or one part dry with wet areas around it?

Look at your animal's back after the pad has been removed. You can see in the pattern of sweat stains if there is even pressure. If the pad slips around, it may cause the saddle to sit unevenly as well.

Most people tend to try and cinch the saddle down tighter if it doesn't sit properly on the withers. This often isn't the correct fix. The saddle may be too large, sitting down to far



*Curly* the mule has white saddle marks on his withers. They have faded some with age, but bad gall marks can kill the pigment cells in the hair, causing it to come in white.



on the back, or too small, pinching the withers and shoulder blade. If it pops up in back, it doesn't fit right. The rear girth on a western Roping saddle isn't to hold the saddle down in regular riding, it's to help steady it when there is a big calf on the other end of the lariat. You may see people using the back cinch on a Western saddle popped back to the flank (behind the largest part of the mule belly) to keep it in place but this is not the actual correct placement of that girth. It may count against you in an open show. Your animal may also not tolerate that placement. Look at alternate rigging on the girth placement, or a shaped girth, or a crupper/britchen combo if needed. Remember English Saddles have only one girth! Some shows will allow for a crupper on a longear in English classes.

When cinching a saddle or harness, be sure to pull the forelegs forward to make sure skin isn't rolled and pinched under the girth. Always move a saddle or harness turret backward with the grain of the hair, not forward. Wipe down all pieces of tack that come into contact with the animal to avoid buildup of dirt and sweat. Clean and properly oil or wash tack periodically as well. If you aren't going to be using it for a while, do a thorough cleaning on the tack and store it away—covered or in a harness bag—to help prolong the life of the tack.

Treat any wounds or rubs you find on your animal. If you get off lucky, it will just be a hairless area and a bit sore to the touch. If it's raw and open it must be treated. Let them heal up before you work him or her again, to avoid having a donkey or mule that is unhappy about their riding or driving experience. Left open they can get infected, have flies infest them, and if bad enough, the pigment cells are killed off. This will result in a white patch growing back in. That's called a blemish, and is a tell-tale sign that the animal has been used with tack that rubbed. 🐾



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Requirements—**Any form of Permanent ID is acceptable**. This can be freeze brand (hot brands may be used but are not recommended), lip tattoo, ear tattoo, microchip, or DNA on file. ADMS will not insist on any one brand of microchip—you may use any brand offered by your vet, local clinic, or even a low-cost dog/cat clinic. There are vaccination clinics held all over the country, and dogs and cats can be chipped for under \$20.00. Bulk microchips can be purchased, preloaded in syringes, with barcode tags, for as little as \$7 each. We have had people calling tell us of costs of over \$70 to microchip an animal, which we find overwhelming. We have had two dogs chipped at \$20 each, which included registration on a Petwatch site.

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ADMS records the microchip information in our computer database, and can access the last known owner of an animal in a computer search. **Please note this means you should also make sure that you pass paperwork along properly to new owners when they purchase an animal.** Preferably, the seller should go ahead and submit the papers to be transferred to the new owner directly to ADMS themselves. This way the owner can be assured that the transfer has been done.

**ADMS WILL NOT longer call and ask for ID info if an application is on the correct form showing ID REQUIRED. The animal will automatically be placed IN ADR if it is an un-ID'd mini or large donkey.**

ADMS has always had the policy of requesting further documentation on animals when it appeared the photos, parents or other aspects pertaining directly to registration of animals or their offspring did not match. Permanent ID is expected to help make some of this identification of individuals easier.

Most Horse registries require DNA to be done on foals before a foal will be registered. If the parents do not match those on file with the registry databanks, the foal is denied registration.

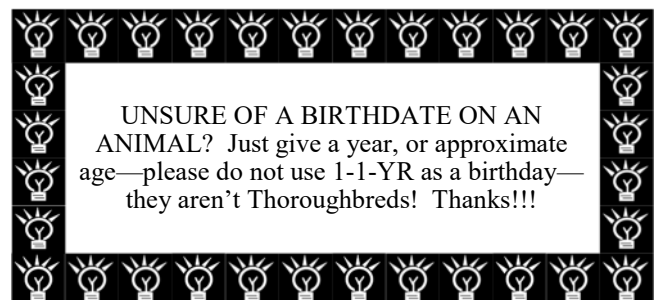
ADMS does not wish to go to a DNA verified registry, not only because of the additional time involved but also cost. In addition, there is STILL room for fraud in DNA verification, as a well documented case in the last two

years has shown (a pinto foal from a breed know to have absolutely no pintos was fraudulently registered, resulting in research back a full three generations to find the grand-dam had been substituted in DNA and pedigree for the real dam).

If DNA verification or DNA on file is used by breeders or owners and shows a pedigree to be incorrect as previously listed, changes should be made to pedigrees. This is not to penalize the breeder, but instead is an attempt to make any and all possible efforts for a more accurate database. ADMS has researched the horse registry policies in regards to matters such as this, and will continue to research and update policies as needed.

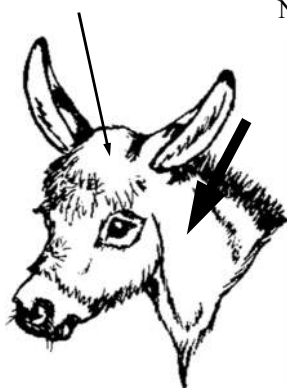
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ADMS has always, and still strives to try and keep our paperwork simpler than that of horse registries. We do not require parent verification prior to registration with rare exceptions. We do not have time penalties for later/aged animal registrations (which can run into the hundreds of dollars with some horse registries). We do not suspend members for late submission of dues or stud reports. We appreciate the support of members in the changes we do have to make in order to keep the registry up to industry standards while at the same time making it as easy and friendly as possible to our users. 🐾



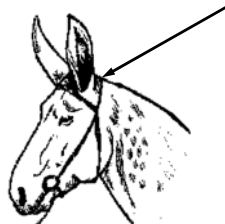
For brands or tattoos, please again state the name and registration number of the animal, type of marking (freeze brand, hot brand, lip tattoo, etc) and the location of the brand. A photo is helpful if possible. Remember EACH brand must have a single unique ID for each animal, not just your farm brand on each animal.

Front base Left ear.

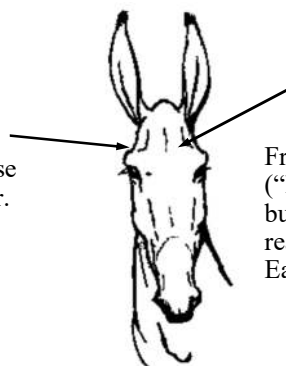


Nuchal Ligament (please note your papers will say Nuchal Ligament, not Neck.

Back Base left ear.



Front base Right ear.



Front base left ear ("left forehead", but the papers will read Front Base Ear.

## SUBMISSIONS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY:

**WORDING IS LIMITED TO 35 words in the listing (not including your contact information). If you submit more than the allowed number of words, your listing will be edited.**

***We do not add boxing or borders, and no bold or italics (other than FARM name is bold, animal names are italic). This is the same format we have always used. Please do not request bold or border ads. There is no additional charge for additional wording since we do not allow additional words. Thank you!***

Please check the date at the end of your listing. If it says Mar 2022 (v2) , it expires with this issue and will NOT appear in the next issue. Please contact us **before April 1st, 2022** if you wish to be included the remaining issues displaying the Prof Dir for 2021. (Prof Dir NOW ALSO appears in volumes 4 and 6—all six issues for the year.)

**THE MAJORITY of Prof Directory Listings end with the Volume 5 and Volume 6 issue—please note you have until October 1 if your listing has expired to get it into the next available issue. The deadline for V6 (ALL CONTENT) is always October 1—NOT January 1st!!!**

PLEASE NOTE we now have an advertising form link on our website at [www.lovelongears.com](http://www.lovelongears.com). You may click on that link to go to the FORMDESK site, and mark/pay for your advertising for the year. This will help us to have an email record of your advertising requests as well.

If you have a listing that was missed, please email Leah at [lovelongears@hotmail.com](mailto:lovelongears@hotmail.com) with your listing and we'll extend you an issue. Thank you! 🐾

### AD SUBMISSION POLICY

As we are a non-profit organization, the amount of advertising we may include each issue is strictly limited. We realize there are many of you who would like to run full-page ads each issue, however, this in total would exceed the amount of advertising we are allowed.

Advertisers are allowed THREE (3) full-page ads each year, which would also include if you feature a two-page spread. The rest of your ads may be of any other size (half pages, quarters). The inside front and inside back, as well as the outside back cover , are the exceptions to the full-page rule. Please be advised that these covers are offered to the people who have put their names on a waiting list, in the order in which they are received. If you have been on the cover in the past, you still need to inform us you would like to be placed back on the waiting list. If a cover is relinquished or passed up by the current person in line, the next person on the list will be contacted about their turn for a cover. Currently the cover waiting list is about one year. The cover is offered as the entire year, and must be paid in full for the year. A discount is available for paying in advance for the full year. If you would like to have the cover but cannot fill it for the entire year, you may work out an agreement with another party if you like and we will work with you to alternate your ads.

We can accept ads as hard-copy, we can set up ads, or you may **email them as jpegs**. We will accept as PDF files, but we must then convert, insert into our publication software, and then re-convert to PDFs at printing time. This results in a loss of clarity in the graphics and in small text in your ad. **Black-and white jpgs, at 300 dpi, are all we need.** Large color files we must convert back to black-and-white. Please try to convert your ads and make sure **you** are satisfied with the contrast in black and white. **DO NOT SEND** any other type of electronic file save Jpg or PDF. We do not have many types of conversion programs, to keep expenses down!

It is also important to make sure your ad follows the size guidelines at right. Many times we have ads that are not wide enough, or are too tall for the space. The exact sizes are preferred, as this helps keep balance in your ads and the overall publication. Crop marks on electronic ads are not necessary, as we do not use bleeds, and all pages will have a white margin in the magazine. We can add line or graphic borders to any ad upon request.

We are PC based, so we are unable to use MAC files. Although we have many resources available, having files we cannot open or must re-convert results in extra fees and a general slowdown of the finalizing process.

Please email or call if you have questions. We try very hard to make sure all ads are included, updated as needed, and correct. Email: [lovelongears@hotmail.com](mailto:lovelongears@hotmail.com). Attachments accepted. Phone 972-219-0781 . 🐾

## ALL ADVERTISING/Display/Material DEADLINES

**Volume 1 - January 1, 2024** (Includes Prof Dir & Business cards)



**Volume 2 - Feb 1st 2024** (Includes Professional Directory & Business cards)

**Volume 3 - April 1, 2024** (Includes Professional Directory & Business Cards)

**Volume 4 - June 1, 2024** (Includes Professional Directory & Business Cards)

**Volume 5 – August 1, 2024** (Includes Professional Dir/Business Cards).

**Volume 6 - October 1, 2024** (Includes Professional Directory and Business Cards)

*THIS IS YOUR CHRISTMAS ADVERTISING ISSUE. Please reserve space early! Then actual copy must be at the office by OCTOBER 1st!!! Plan early for mail or better, please email.*

- Dates at this time are subject to change. Please keep apprised of information on the website and our Facebook Page .

Material received after deadline will probably not appear in that issue. If you are sending awards, articles, or other things that we need to type, PLEASE send in **at least 5 days ahead of the deadline** to give us time to get it ready for publication, or it may not appear. If the magazine is filled up, some material which is not date sensitive may be reserved for later issues. **FULL PAGE ADS must be sent in before the deadline!** Ad space is limited. We plan to use our new issues for MORE ARTICLES! SEND YOURS IN AT ANY TIME !

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ADVERTISING SHOULD BE DONKEY AND/OR MULE RELATED. If you are not a subscriber to the BRAYER magazine, you will need to make arrangements for copy to be sent after the magazine is published. We do not send the magazine to non-subscribers without prior arrangement.**

The opinions and knowledge expressed in written material are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the American Donkey & Mule Society. All submissions are subject to editing. **ADMS is not responsible for the content or honesty of advertising.** (We would, however, appreciate hearing any complaints)

ADMS does not pay for submissions.

**At this time the BRAYER will be ONLINE only for the 2024 year. We do not know the status of later printing or print-on-demand possibilities at this time.**

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breeders or owners and shows a pedigree to be incorrect as previously listed, changes should be made to pedigrees. This is not to penalize the breeder, but instead is an attempt to make any and all possible efforts for a more accurate database. ADMS has researched the horse registry policies in regards to matters such as this, and will continue to research and update policies as needed.

The same holds true for animals that do not match photos or microchip scans. If it cannot be proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the animal is the same (in photos), further research may be required. Obviously if IDs such as a brand or tattoo do not match, the wrong animal and papers have been sent and every effort will be made by the registry to trace down where the correct animal might have gone to. We hope that breeders and owners will assist in this matter by keeping accurate records and informing the registry of sales, ID numbers, and death of animals.

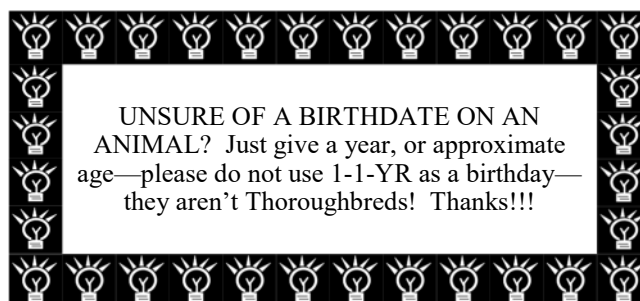
ADMS has always, and still strives to try and keep our paperwork simpler than that of horse registries. We do not require parent verification prior to registration with rare exceptions. We do not have time penalties for later/aged animal registrations (which can run into the hundreds of dollars with some horse registries). We do not suspend members for late submission of dues or stud reports. We appreciate the support of members in the changes we do have to make in order to keep the registry up to industry standards while at the same time making it as easy and friendly as possible to our users. 🐾

ADMS has always had the policy of requesting further documentation on animals when it appeared the photos, parents or other aspects pertaining directly to registration of animals or their offspring did not match. Permanent ID is expected to help make some of this identification of individuals easier.

Most Horse registries require DNA to be done on foals before a foal will be registered. If the parents do not match those on file with the registry databanks, the foal is denied registration.

ADMS does not wish to go to a DNA verified registry, not only because of the additional time involved but also cost. In addition, there is STILL room for fraud in DNA verification, as a well documented case in the last two years has shown (a pinto foal from a breed known to have absolutely no pintos was fraudulently registered, resulting in research back a full three generations to find the grand-dam had been substituted in DNA and pedigree for the real dam).

If DNA verification or DNA on file is used by

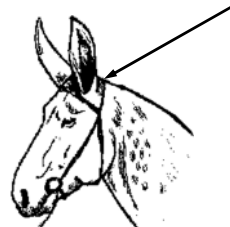


For brands or tattoos, please again state the name and registration number of the animal, type of marking (freeze brand, hot brand, lip tattoo, etc) and the location of the brand. A photo is helpful if possible. Remember EACH brand must have a single unique ID for each animal, not just your farm brand on each animal.

Front base Left ear.



Nuchal Ligament (please note your papers will say Nuchal Ligament, not Neck.



Back Base left ear.

Front base Right ear.



Front base left ear ("left forehead", but the papers will read Front Base Ear.

## AD Rates

**FULL PAGE - \$175.00 (7" across, 9" down)**  
**Set up fee if not camera ready \$15.00 (box on opposite page shows dimensions.)**  
**NO BLEEDS.**

**HALF PAGE - \$85.00 (7" across, 4.5" down)**  
**Setup fee - \$10.00**

**1/4 PAGE - \$45.00 (3.5" across, 4.75" down)**  
**Setup fee \$7.50**

**1/8 PAGE - 15.00 (3.5" x 2.25")**  
**Setup Fee \$5.00**

**BUSINESS CARD \$12.00 per issue (4 issues/yr, send your horizontal card or camera ready bc size ad - \$2.00 setup on vertical cards)**

**Cover if available: \$200.00**

**If you wish to be placed on the waiting list for the cover, please contact Leah with your information. The covers are offered to the next person(s) on the list as they become available.**

**The borders shown on this page are for all the ad sizes from full pg down to Business card/1/8 pg.** Your ad must fit **INSIDE** these borders (BOTH SIZE AND SHAPE) to meet our printers specs. Odd shaped ads may or may not be able to be fitted in.

Affiliated Clubs may have full page ads to advertise their activities for \$100.00 and one 1/6 page or business card ad per year free. Affiliation dues \$ 23.00

**PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY** (Breeders Directory) \$10.00 PER ISSUE, or **\$54.00 PER YEAR** Pd in Advance. (Now in ALL SIX issues—No set up fee) **35 word limit** along with Name/addy/phone/e-mail/etc.

**People With Longears should enclose a \$5.00 fee for each photo (limit 4 per issue, no advertising, please) and a stamped, self addressed envelope for photo return.**

**Full year discount ads must be paid in full, in advance. \*\*\*\*\*We do not bill for ads.**

  
**Half page box is below.**

**CLASSIFIED ADS - 25 cents per word, name/address/phone/fax count as one word.**

**Our ad rates are kept low because we prefer camera ready or ready to print ads. (Regular photos can be sent, half-tones are not recommended. SLIDES must be pre-processed and will incur an additional charge. If we must set up your ad it takes time that we have little of - so we are charging a small fee. This helps to keep the rates low and available to everyone.**

*Any images should be sent as Jpegs (Jpg) or as PDF files. We do not have numerous graphics programs, in order that we can keep cost at a minimum. If in doubt, please call or email. We request that file sizes not be over 5 mg. If you are sending us a .img photo that will be in black and white, PLEASE reduce the size of the image! One to two meg are usually sufficient for any file size you are sending us.*

\*\*\* Please send jps at 300 dpi \*\*\*

**We do not bill for ads! Please send payment with your copy! We cannot contact advertisers at deadline – you must notify us if you want ads placed! Questions? Call! 972-219-0781.**

**No charge for small changes or photo changes in existing ads, or to add a border to a camera ready ad. If you want a border you must request it.**

**Leah Patton, Editor**

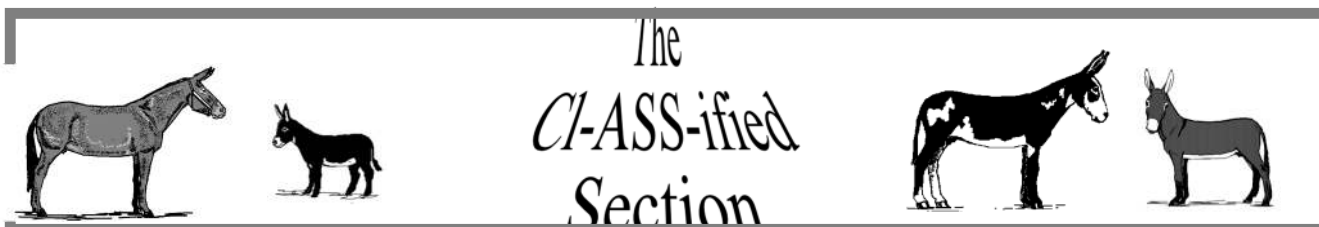
**Paul Hutchins,  
President ADMS**

**Office Staff**

**Leah Patton, Manager  
Colleen Goodrich,  
Registrations  
Betty Posey,  
Registration assistant**

**PLEASE READ IN front of this issue (page 3) ABOUT OUR FORMAT CHANGES!**  
**We are all-electronic, meaning ALL AD and PHOTO MATERIAL MUST BE SCANNED IN ahead of printing time. This means no late submissions!**  
**Emailed text, layout and photos is preferred to help cut down on prep time on our end!!!**





## DONKEYS

FOR SALE: 27" 3 year old grandson of our NMDA, ADMS, and Canadian National Champion, Circle C Maverick, and sired by our 28" multiple champion, Merlin. Lil Half Pints, Eldon, MO, 573-392-3575, lhpints@gmail.com

Wanted—Mammoth donkeys, 3 years or older, minimum height 56". Broke or untrained. 920-787-7522, 715-281-0314. Wisconsin. (V4-6)

For Sale—2021 Mammoth donkeys foals sired by our Colored Jack (*Classy Ass Asskem*) out of 15 hand well bred jennies. Wisconsin 920-787-7522, 715-281-0314 (V4-6)

## MISCELLANEOUS

Gifts for birthday, Christmas and yourself. Unique clocks and greeting cards from rubber stamped **longears** and **other critters**. Fleece blankets too! See website for available items at : [www.UnderKittySupervision.com](http://www.UnderKittySupervision.com)

Miniature **donkey blankets** for sale—wholesale or retail. Handmade in Lancaster County. We also have calf blankets. Washable—different colors and sizes available. Thinsulate linings available. Prices \$20-\$65, many options to choose from. Will ship at additional cost. 717-361-4474. Sawbuck **PACK SADDLE**—standard/burro sized. Canvas Panniers, harnessing, bag, the whole setup. Made in USA—reasonably priced. Call Bob in Bozeman MT, 406-587-0310

**Back issues** of the BRAYER magazine available—singles \$3

(limited issues available) or boxes to hand out at your next event (cover postage). Have a gap in your collection? We may have a replacement issue to fill in those holes in your library! Please email the ADMS office (lovelongears@hotmail.com) or call 972-219-0781 for details. (\*)

**ADMS Fax number NOTE:** The fax number is now disconnected for over 5 years!!! Please do not call and attempt to fax items! Thanks! Also, please update your address books in your email to show ONLY lovelongears@hotmail.com. . (\*)

Need to get your advertising in for the rest of the year and beyond? ADMS now has an Advertising Form link on our website. Go do [www.lovelongears.com](http://www.lovelongears.com) and click on the advertising/Brayer link. You will go to our Formdesk site, and be able to select all of your advertising! Pay online with a credit card, use paypal, or send a check! Many options and still expanding! (\*)

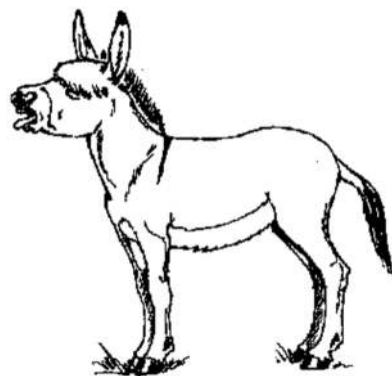
ADMS has moved the physical location but the mailing address is the same! Please continue to use the normal mailing address of PO BOX 1210, Lewisville TX 75067. We prefer you do NOT send certified mail, as it actually slows down delivery. Priority mail now includes tracking at no additional charge and is placed directly into our mailbox instead of having to be picked up at the counter.

Need clipart for flyers, business cards, whatever? We have clipart for all your needs! Multiple

collections available on CD or flash Drive. Just send an email inquiry to lovelongears@hotmail.com!

Did you know there is a new children's book about mules and ponies? ELVIS Meets a MULE, one of many colorfully illustrated books from Tiffany Lauer and Leah Patton! See more info at our site, [Elvisthepony.com](http://Elvisthepony.com)

**COVERS AVAILABLE!** We have 1 cover slots for the 2023 year open and available. Covers are \$200 each (per issue). You may go issue to issue or pay in advance for the entire year and receive a 10 percent discount. Contact the ADMS office to reserve! Copy is due by each deadline (listed in this magazine) and 300 dpi format is preferred. Email the ADMS/Brayer office at lovelongears@hotmail.com



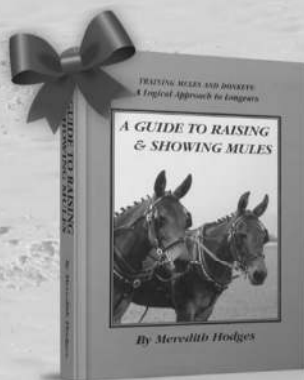
# WHAT CREATES SUCCESS?

## A Willing Partnership



*If you want a friend.  
You have to be a friend.*

*Meredith Hodges*



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