

HORSES HAVE BEEN IN ROBERTA'S LIFE A LONG TIME. SHE REMEMBERS TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH THE WAGON AT CORN HARVEST, OFTEN HOPING THAT THE PICKERS DIDN'T MISS THE BANGBOARD TOO OFTEN. HER FIRST EQUINE WAS A PONY THAT WAS NO LONGER ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH CARNIVAL WORK.

YEARS LATER, HUGH AND ROBERTA'S DAUGHTER, ANITA, NEEDED A PONY. THEN HUGH NEEDED A HORSE TO TRAIL RIDE WITH ANITA. THOSE NEEDS EVOLVED INTO OVER 15 YEARS OF FAMILY ACTIVITY WITH THE WAPELLO COUNTY 4-H HORSE CLUB AND THE COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL.

DURING THAT TIME, THE MORGAN MARE, BONNIE LEE'S JEANNIE WAS PURCHASED. JEANNIE WAS A GENTLE, USING DRIVING HORSE WHO PRODUCED HAWKEYE'S SARAH DEAR. ANITA AND SARAH WON HIGH POINT MORGAN WESTERN PLEASURE HORSE AND HIGH POINT WESTERN PLEASURE HORSE OVER ALL BREEDS FOR THE IOWA SHOW HORSE ASSOCIATION. HAWKEYE'S SWIPESY (GEORGE) WAS SARAH'S ONLY PRODUCE. AS A TEAM, THEY WON THE IOWA STATE FAIR AMERICANA CLASS PULLING AN AUTO TOP BUGGY 4 YEARS IN A ROW.

AT AGE 22, SARAH ENTERED CARRIAGE DRIVING COMPETITION AT THE MORGAN GRAND NATIONAL WORLD CHAMPION SHOW PLACING RESPECTFULLY IN 5 OF HER 6 CLASSES.

AS THE FAMILIES NEED GREW FOR ANOTHER HORSE, ROBERTA PURCHASED CASLAND LEADER (CASH) FROM THE JUNE ACRES MORGAN FARM, SOLON, IOWA. AFTER BEING SHOWN SUCCESSFULLY IN IOWA IN MORGAN ENGLISH PLEASURE AND MORGAN PLEASURE DRIVING, CASH BEGAN CARRIAGE DRIVING WINNING THE IOWA STATE FAIR AMERICANA CLASS 8 TIMES.

ANITA TRAINED CASH FOR COMPETITIVE CARRIAGE DRIVING COMPETITION. AFTER COMPETING SUCCESSFULLY AT REGIONAL SHOWS, CASH WAS TAKEN ON TO COMPETE AT THE MORGAN GRAND NATIONAL AND WORLD CHAMPION WINNING 2 CHAMPIONSHIPS AND 1 RESERVE CHAMPIONSHIP.

THROUGH ALL OF THESE SATISFYING YEARS, HUGH AND ROBERTA WERE INVOLVED WITH MANY OTHER HORSE ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTED HORSES AND MORGAN HORSES. THERE ARE TWO SPECIAL AWARDS GIVEN TO THEM FOR THEIR INVOLVEMENT WITH THEIR HORSES: THE IOWA HORSE COUNCIL PRESENTED THEM WITH THE COUNCIL'S APPRECIATION AWARD FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THEY ALSO RECEIVED THE AMERICAN MORGAN HORSE ASSOCIATION MASTER'S CERTIFICATE WHICH RECOGNIZES THEIR LONG-STANDING INVOLVEMENT WITH MORGAN HORSES.

PERHAPS THE MOST SATISFYING USE OF THEIR MORGANS IS AS THERAPY HORSES.

QUEEN IS BEING USED BY A FAMILY WHO HAS AN AUTISTIC CHILD IN THEIR HOME. GEORGE IS ON LEASE AS A DRIVING HORSE FOR A PROGRAM FOR THE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, CASH STANDS SO QUIET AS A WHEEL CHAIR BOUND PERSON APPROACHES. HE THEN DROPS HIS HEAD TO THEIR LAP FOR PETTING.

SO MUCH CREDIT FOR THE PEDRICK'S SUCCESS WITH MORGAN HORSES GOES TO A BELOVED FRIEND, BOB RILEY, WHO PASSED AWAY IN APRIL 2001.