

Futurity Founder Hands Over Reins

In the spring of 1959, I was requested to start the New York Morgan Horse Society Futurity. After writing several breed organizations for information on how they ran their futurities, a set of suitable rules were derived for the NYSMHS futurity.

That first year, 12 foals were assembled at our fall meeting and picnic at Fritz Eisenhard's farm in Warsaw, New York, for judging under Dr. D.C. Parks. The NYSMHS futurity was underway.

The first New York Morgan Horse Show was held the following year in Syracuse and futurity classes were included. In 1962, our first alumni classes for graduating three-year-olds were added. Since then classes for two-year-old futurity driving and three-year-old futurity saddle have been added.

In 1981, a \$100 bonus for the winners of the futurity alumni classes was added. The bonus was awarded to the nominator of the horse, as a weanling, no matter who the owner was when the horse won. In 1990, over 190 horses, from weanlings to three-year-olds, were nominated. Over 120 were shown in futurity classes with 61 shown in-hand. That's quite an increase over the original 12 in 1959.

It has been many long hours of work and you might say almost 24 hours of answering service on my phone. I have loved every minute of it and all the people involved. It was especially nice to meeting people who came up to my futurity box during the New York show.

However, due to circumstances beyond my control, I can no longer do the work. I am very thankful to **Jo and Al Celecki** for helping me with the statements, checks, and high score awards this past fall.

In the future, Jo Celecki has agreed to be Futurity Secretary. All entries should be sent to her from now on. Her address is: **Jo Celecki, RD #1, Box 21, King Ferry, New York, 13081 or (315) 364-7477.**

I am still available, and always will be, to help. So, don't be afraid to phone.

Love to all of you and thanks for your support.

- Submitted by Mary Arnold
Futurity Chair