

AMHA MASTER: SANDRA WOODING

Except for my family, horses have always been my prime interest; especially Morgan Horses. It began in Maine in the mid 40's when I was riding two half Morgan sons of Tipperary. My folks felt I would outgrow this love of horses as many teenage girls do. My case was the exception. Finally with a small inheritance from my grandfather, who shared my love of horses, I toured New England looking for the perfect Morgan filly. She was at Orland Farms and her name was Orland Linda. In the summer of 1955 she moved to Maine with me and was my life long companion. She was my friend, my show horse, and a wonderful broodmare, being the dam of seven babies, the first four by the immortal Kingston. Grace Graham joined Linda in 1964 as the riding horse for my husband and eventually became a broodmare. From these two mares 95% of my produce with the Acadia prefix have originated.

Following graduation from the University of Maine, I married and followed my husband to Blairstown, New Jersey where we purchased a Veterinarian practice and enough property to raise a few Morgan horses. Busy as a vet's wife in a single man practice and raising two children, I still continued to train, show and trail ride. My daughter Heather, showed Acadia's Fantasia and her brother Mike showed Acadia's July. A member of the Mid-Atlantic Club while living in New Jersey I showed three of my Morgans to Horse of the Year Honors. Orland Linda was the very first Mid-A Horse of the Year in 1962, in 1972 Acadia's Lady Belle won and in 1982 Acadia's Fantasia was the winner.

Believing in futurities, my young home-bred horses were entered and shown very successfully in the Mid-A and New York State futurities. I am still actively participating in the horse show world. Currently I have been training and showing Acadia's Odyssey in the very competitive New England and NY State show circuits. Odyssey has been extremely competitive with blues at Vermont, Mass. Morgan and NY Morgan. He was Grand Champion Amateur Western Pleasure Horse at Mass and Reserve Amateur Western Champion at Vermont.

When not in the show ring with my Morgans you can find me out in the hunt field with the Old Chatham Hunt aboard my mare Acadia's Olana or enjoying the scenic trails of Acadia National Park with Odyssey.

Life for this sexagenarian is not only sitting in a rocking chair reading and knitting. In addition to my Morgan activities I have two grandchildren who have recently become an occasional part of my life. Along with a renewed interest in gardening I also do volunteer work in the emergency room at our local hospital keeping very busy. And what does the future promise? I had my last Morgan foaled two years ago. She is my next training and showing project and her name is Acadia's Secret Promise.