

**JOAN SACKETT, President**

As a candidate for re-election as President of the NYSMHS I will take a minute to introduce myself to our new members. I have been an avid Morgan Horse lover since my introduction to the Morgan via the Morgan Horse Magazine and time spent with Dana W. Kelley and his Royalton Morgans in Woodstock, Vt. during the early 50's. However, it wasn't until 11 years ago when my children were out of college that I could follow my heart's desire to raise Morgans. I now have a small farm in Williamson, NY and operate under the prefix of CAJA Morgans. I have shown my Morgans on the Morgan circuit with greatest interest centering around my daughter Christine's competition at Open and Morgan dressage shows. This past year it has been very exciting for me as I now get to watch my granddaughters, Kristen and Erika, competing with my Morgans.

My passion is the Morgan Horse but my profession for the past 25 years is that of a Program Manager for Xerox. In addition to being the President I serve the club as Editor of this newsletter and I currently coordinate the dressage divisions at the Western District, NY Regional and the Massachusetts Morgan shows. I serve as the AMHA Local Clubs Liaison and I also Co-chair with Polly Quinn the AMHA Open Competition Committee.

I believe we have a strong active club and I will continue to work to keep it a Morgan club that we can all support and be proud of. I strive to act as a facilitator that will be there to protect and promote our diverse membership. As our memberships grow we need to encourage these new members as well as our current members to step up and join in the work and fun of keeping this club vibrant and growing. We all have our personal ways to use and promote our Morgans but as a club we must stand together and appreciate each others disciplines as we are as versatile as the Morgan Horses we love.

The past two years have flown by and I look forward to the challenges and opportunities the next two years will bring. Thank you for your support.

Joan I. Sackett

## **NOTES FROM THE EDITOR:**

As your new editor for the Morgan Trader let me introduce myself. I was a horse crazy girl whose first horse was a retired standardbred that I rode and drove around the Genesee county town of Bergen, N.Y.. My riding partner was Bea Dunham in her pre-Morgan days. I received my first subscription to The Morgan Horse Magazine as a birthday gift in 1952 and have been an Morgan lover every since. In 1954, I spotted a small ad in the magazine from Dana W. Kelly offering his Justine Morgan farm in South Woodstock, Vermont for your vacation site. I took him up on it and spent a week riding and getting to really know some Morgans. From that point came marriage, 5 children, divorce and the need to support my family, so the dream of owning Morgans was put on the back burner. However, by 1983 the kids were grown and Christine was completing Law school so I decided it was my turn and I literally bought the farm. A small 25 acre place in Williamson, New York.

My first purchase was a retired Western pleasure gelding, Tamarack Commander, who I used for trail rides. Then came Dunraven Eloquence and her 3 month old filly, Eloquent Lady and other Morgans in quick succession. When I decided to try my hand at raising a few foals I registered our prefix "CAJA" which is a combination of my daughter Christine's and my initials. As I write this we have just put down our beloved mare Dunraven Eloquence (Button) due to a brain tumor, but we have her two daughters to carry on her great lineage. We also have a gelding that Christine is showing at open Dressage shows, a yearling who is half Morgan and half Dutch Warm Blood and two ponies that my Grandchildren ride. Our 4 yr old mare CAJA's Foxy Lady is currently in training and will be shown at the Elmira Charity and NY Regional this year in the English Pleasure Division. Our future plans for her are that my Granddaughters will be able to show her next year in the walk-trot division.

I am employed as a Program Manager at Xerox but hope to retire in a few years and if the economy improves, raise a foal or two each year and finally have a few minutes to enjoy my Morgans.

I have been active for several years with the NYSMHS and am looking forward to serving as the Trader Editor. I will be looking for new ideas and suggestions from you to ensure that the Trader meets your needs. Remember, the Trader is for you, to keep you informed of current and future activities as well as to give you a vehicle to advertise your Morgans. Our club covers a very large geographic area so it is essential that we utilize the Trader as our major means of communication to keep all our membership informed and active in our club.

Please drop me a note or call me (after 8PM, is best) with an ideas or requests for the Trader. Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Editor of the Trader.

Sincerely,

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