

## **Letter from Marianne Lange, Mohawk, NY**

**I am writing in response to your request for information from owners of the get of Lippitt field Marshall. I have owned O-AT-KA BENN MORO, who I believe is the last Marshall son, since he was a weanling in the year 1972. I remember Marshall well and the Eisenhards who kindly and knowledgeably introduced me to Morgans when I bought Benn, I didn't know anything and couldn't imagine how my life would change because of him.**

**Over the years I learned a great deal about horses and met many people because of that step I took, buying a stud colt, as an uneducated city girl. I believe any success my family has enjoyed in horses comes from the blessing of God and the wonderful versatility and type of the Morgan horse. Benn is a liver chestnut with a white blaze and white markings on several feet. I always felt that he was and is a handsome horse. At 23 he's enjoyed a good life and good health.**

**As a young horse he was trained for saddle seat riding and I did show him a little locally and a few times in Syracuse and Western N.Y. When I met and married my husband, he began to ride and show him western. He trained Benn for reining and showed him very successfully in that capacity. We also had the honor of seeing Benn on the cover of the August 1984 issue of the Morgan Magazine as well as having the honor of participating in the promotional video, Morgans for the Sport of it, in which Benn is seen doing the segment on cutting. As a result of the photo session with Morgan Horse, Benn was also used in Western Horseman that year in their all breed issue and later again featured in Horse and Rider.**

**As time went on my husband's interest returned to his first real love, polo, and since basically with few exceptions, Morgans were the only horses we have owned, it lead them into a new area. Over the last few years this is what we have been doing with our horses. In the April '94 issue of The Morgan Horse I wrote an article on our Morgan polo string and how they always draw attention on the field because they are the only horses with full manes and there is no way I'd cut them. In that article Benn is pictured in the foreground at age 21 still playing hard. I would also mention that his son Benn Moro's Obadiah is also featured there and I feel he was Benn's most outstanding son getting that true Morgan disposition of Marshall's that Nan Banker speaks of in her letter to you. We have since sold Obie to a first time Morgan owner, Sue Mazur, who is now without a doubt a real Morgan ambassador in our area. So you see the legacy of the Morgan just goes on.**

**At 23 Benn is slowing down some but is still in good health. He has done a great deal in giving our daughter, Caitlin who is 8 a boost of confidence in her riding. She now, after an active summer of trail riding, proudly tells people, "I'm over my fear of loping!" Benn was also the reason both of my sons were able to play polo at such young ages. Josh is almost sixteen now and is becoming a decent polo player and requires faster mounts than Benn but will readily admit that "Benn is the best horse to hit off of". However it is time for him to slow down a little and Caitlin keeps him busy enough.**

**I don't have a progeny report for you but I know we've had our share of nice babies. Throughout New York and even some other states are a number of Marshall Grandsons and Granddaughter and I think the best thing is to say how often we sold to first time Morgan owners just like me who are now completely sold on the breed. I'm grateful to the Eisenhards, my husband and others along the way who helped me enjoy a wonderful horse. I hope I can find some pictures to send to you, if not I want to make sure to get this letter out to you right away**

**Sincerely, Marianne Lange**