



In Memory of Bold Soldier

by Linda Crandell

Our stallion Bold Soldier was put to sleep on December 18, 2009 at the age of 29. Over the 24 years we owned him, he played a huge part in taking the place of our horse "Diamond T," winner of the 1980 Old Dominion, the last year it was held in Leesburg.

Soldier came to us in 1986 from breeder Tom Lockett of Louisville, Kentucky, along with our first new aluminum 4-Star gooseneck trailer that my son John had picked up in Oklahoma beforehand, making for an exciting double arrival.

During this period, we purchased Diamond T's dam and mares from the Rushcreek Ranch in Nebraska, as well as Brown R Missy from the Brown Ranch in Wyoming, to launch our breeding program.

Soldier had already experienced a year or more of endurance competition when we got him. John took him on our family's first endurance ride at the 1987 Graves Mountain ride, I took him on his first 100 later that month and he won and received best condition on my second ride with him, the 1988 Old Dominion 55.

Thus began a wonderful decade of competing together. Soldier loved to travel (and visit friends in camp) and was so smart. At one Race of Champions, held in Colorado, he knew a hail-storm was coming over the mountain, saw the trailer door was open and loaded himself in six seconds – just before golf-ball sized hail came down denting car tops and piling up around the big tent! Another time, our truck was starting to break down, so we pulled into the parking lot of an auto repair shop in the middle of the night. We neck tied and halter tied Soldier to the 4-Star's tie hook only to awaken at 3 am, realizing he had somehow slipped out. We proceeded to chase him up and down the streets of Denver, me in my PJ's. After having his fun, he returned to the parking lot and indicated it was time for breakfast!

In 1995, during a tour of the West, Soldier was Top Stallion at the Race of Champions (ROC) in Taos, New Mexico; Top Ten at the Bridge Port 50 in California; and 11th at Tevis in California. He ended up with over 4000 miles of competition miles, not all of them under his AERC number and many of them in CTRs, where we enjoyed many wins because of his wonderful pulse recoveries. Soldier seemed to know just what the judges wanted when it came time to trot out. I would hear "he looks like a movie star!" and could tell he loved every minute of it.

Soldier's dam, Kellowna, was inducted into the Jockey Club Hall of Fame for producing winners on the track.



Kathleen Crandell with Bold Soldier at the 1996 Race of Champions.

Soldier was never given the opportunity to race or trained to his fullest in endurance riding (perhaps why he endured so many years of completions), but his son, LR Forgeym, led me to many victories and best conditions as well.

Today, we have a pasture full of Soldier's wonderful offspring to enjoy, with the youngest foaled at 6am on race day of the 2009 "No Frills" ride. We named her "LR Amilyan Frills" and she was big and bold enough by 14 weeks of age to handle life on her own when her dam, Brown R Missy who had given us so many wonderful foals by Soldier, died this past summer.

My plan was to retire them together in a pasture here on earth, but I am thankful they are both at peace in the pastures of horse heaven and not in this cold, cold winter we are having.

I could write a book on Soldier and all our wonderful experiences. I will remember all these good times and try to do the best I can with what he has left behind.

Calling all Volunteers!

Old Dominion Endurance Rides, Inc. events depend heavily on volunteers because of the logistical challenge of running an event on National Forest Service land and since our vet checks are typically located outside of basecamp. Over the years, a corps of dedicated and knowledgeable folks has always been there to meet this need, and we are eternally grateful for their efforts.

Volunteering is a great opportunity for those new to the sport to learn about it firsthand. If you are planning to ride or are otherwise not able to volunteer, maybe you have a friend or family member willing to help out!

To volunteer for the April 10 No Frills ride or June 11 Old Dominion 25/50/100, e-mail Mary Howell at countshiloh@gmail.com or Bonnie Snodgrass at chicamuxen@netscape.net. For those who have volunteered in the past, Mary and Bonnie welcome your feedback on how to provide a better experience. Thank you!

Prepare for 2010 Ride Season at OD Events

If one of your New Year's resolutions happened to include tackling the Old Dominion Ride in June, the Old Dominion Endurance Rides, Inc. is offering two events you can use to prepare:

On **April 10**, the No Frills 30/55 and Ride and Tie events will be held using John and Ann Crandell's farm in Star Tannery, off Rt 55 west of I-81, as basecamp. This is a chance to ride some of the same trail that will be used for the June ride. Ride entry forms are online at www.olddominionrides.org.

On the weekend of **May 8-9**, the OD will be hosting training rides out of the new June ride basecamp in Orkney Springs. This will give you and your horse a unique chance to pre-ride even more of the trail for the June ride. Pre-registration is required and information will be posted on the OD website.

Finally, after the 25/55/100 OD Endurance Rides on **June 12**, we'll be hosting a ride & tie clinic on **July 24-25** for all you who want learn more about this unique, team-oriented sport.

For those of you looking for new riding buddies to train with locally, the OD membership list is being provided with this issue.

Thanks to OD members who helped staff our joint booth with ECTRA at the January 22-24, 2010 Timmonium Horse Expo!

Old Dominion Board of Directors

President: Claire Godwin	crgdvm@aol.com	301.527.1913
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Jack Weber	hollyhillwebers@aol.com	540.933.6614
Karen Wickens	wickens_wish@comcast.net	540.578.0550

2010 Old Dominion Meetings & Events

Old Dominion Members are welcome to attend monthly meetings, which are normally held at 6:30 pm on the second Saturday of each month at the M.A.R.E. Center in Middleburg. Here is the 2009 schedule, with meetings at other locations noted:

- March 13/14** - Orkney Springs work party, pleasure riding and dinner board meeting to follow
- April 3** -- board work party and meeting in Star Tannery
- April 10** - No Frills 30/55 Endurance Ride and Ride & Tie events
- May 8/9** - guided training rides from Orkney Springs basecamp; board meeting/potluck supper after Saturday training ride
- June 12** - Old Dominion 25/50/1 00 Endurance Ride
- July 10** - board meeting at the M.A.R.E. Center
- July 24-25** - ride & tie seminar and events at Orkney Springs
- August 7** - board meeting at the M.A.R.E. Center
- September 11** - board meeting at the M.A.R.E. Center
- October 9** - board meeting at the M.A.R.E. Center
- October 22/23** - Fort Valley 25/50 2-day Endurance Ride
- November 20** - board meeting at the M.A.R.E. Center
- December 11** - OD Holiday Party, Holiday Inn Front Royal

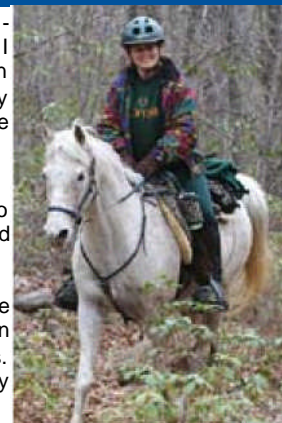
OD MEMBER PROFILE: Flora Hillman

When did you get involved with the Old Dominion Endurance Rides? In 2000 I purchased a Welsh/Arab-carriage pony to remake into a hunter pony because he had wonderful jumping bloodlines on the Welsh side. I thought it might be fun to see what his Arab bloodlines could do and called my friend, Adrienne Hewitt, an experienced 100 miler, to ask what I needed to learn about endurance. She immediately leapt on the opportunity to drag a newbie into the sport of endurance, and took me out on conditioning rides. I was quickly hooked on the sport, and my new pony loved it as well! Adrienne was on the OD Board and encouraged me to join.

What is your current role with OD? I'm "Web Mistress Extraordinaire." Several years ago I volunteered to redesign the old OD website and took over the management of the site so that OD members and riders had quick and easy access to information. It is a lot of fun, very creative, and I enjoy it tremendously.

Where do you live? In the middle of Piedmont Foxhunt' territory in western Loudoun County, VA. Our farm is a mile west of the historic village of Unison and we are surrounded by centuries-old estates with thousands of acres open to foxhunting and riding, the majority of land now protected from development by perpetual open space easements. Our farm is adjacent to the original OD trail that traversed Loudoun County in the early years. I still condition my pony on that trail up the Blue Ridge Mountain, a 1700's era byway that leads to the Shenandoah River.

Tell us about your horses. I have ponies, actually! Before owning ponies, I had Thoroughbreds that I would foxhunt, event, drive, and ride dressage. A photo of me driving my favorite Thoroughbred with an antique phaeton at a Carriage Association of America conference in Montpelier, VA made the front cover of the 1993 "Maryland Horse," and we were featured in many driving articles in the American Driving Society magazine. In 1990, I was given a 13.2 Welsh Pony as a gift for my then 3 year old son. That one darling pony soon blossomed into two, then three, then five -- eventually outnumbering the Thoroughbreds. As the pony herd increased, so did our collection of antique pony vehicles, and eventually we transitioned from Thoroughbreds to Welsh ponies. I left dressage and eventing, and took up endurance riding with "Itchy." These days heading miles down the trail has far more allure than accomplishing the perfect 20 meter circle! We appeared in a full page color ad for the AERC in the Aug-Sept 2008 Modern Arabian Horse Magazine. I think it was the big smile on my face, and my leopard skin saddle packs that made the photo being AERC's choice to represent the national organization to the world. What an honor! Itchy is now 20, but still sound and going strong both endurance and foxhunting. We are looking forward to competing in endurance up to 2011 when we reach Decade Team status. I plan a few more years in endurance with him before I retire him to just foxhunting and carriage driving and pleasure trail riding. In the meantime I have a gentle, sweet purebred (14.1h) Welsh Section B that grew too large as a replacement for one of my 13.1h pair, so along with foxhunting him I am thinking of starting him up in endurance as well.



What do you do when you're not riding? I am a portrait artist and since retiring 23 years ago as an executive in corporate banking I have been a contributing writer for several equestrian magazines and historical societies. My writing has been published in several books and in the compiled work "The Best of the Whip" (volumes 1 and 2) by the American Driving Society. Most recently I was awarded the USEF's 2006 Pegasus Media Award for "Best Feature Article in a Magazine" for an article I wrote for Endurance News. I also have a busy web design business, and a genealogy document retrieval and research business that keep me busy, including travel to places around the US, Canada, and overseas as part of my genealogy (and writing) research.

Want to be featured in an upcoming issue? E-mail your photo and answers to the above questions to countshiloh@gmail.com. We are also looking for great ride stories - please share your experience at OD rides!



Message From the OD President

Greetings OD members! With the 2010 ride sea-season ramping up, the OD board is working to make this your best year **ever** in endurance. Projects we're tackling include:

- Adjusting trail in response to members' suggestions
- Basecamp improvements, include new fencing and pavilion
- Educational programs to promote safe, responsible riding

If you have ideas about any of the above, now is the time to email us or attend a board meeting so your voice is heard.

Remember to renew your membership! With it you'll receive coupons to our three rides that enable you to recoup the annual cost, so it's essentially a "free" membership. Plus, you support the OD by your participation.

Why is supporting the OD important? The Old Dominion has been around since 1974, with a reputation of being a true test of horsemanship and fitness. It stands distinct from flat track racing being done elsewhere, and preserves the sport of endurance as it was originally conceived. The Old Dominion is and should continue to be one of the most challenging courses you'll face, and shouldn't be watered down to make it easier.

We also need your support because a ride doesn't survive for 35 years with just one or two people running it. Over the years, several key people have been instrumental in the continuity of the OD, but new faces are also needed. In the years I've served on the OD board, I can definitely say that what you put into the club is what you get out of it!

We are planning a work/ride weekend on March 13-14 at the Orkney Springs basecamp and hope lots of you turn out for it. We're replacing the old fencing and you don't need experience to help, nor do you need brawn. Our board will hold a dinner meeting at a nearby restaurant and then ride on Sunday and finish the fence construction. Please RSVP to crgdvm@aol.com.

In closing, as you start actively planning your ride season, please put as one of your goals this season to support the OD.

Regards,

OD Store Update

The OD store is becoming a popular attraction at our rides! Current OD members can use the discount coupons mentioned in the President's Message to purchase store items, and OD store manager Samantha Austin welcomes your feedback on what to stock in the coming year. Contact Sam at 540.746.8614 or S.L.austin@comcast.net.

Chain Saw Certification Class Offered March 20-21

You may not know that federal chain saw certification is required in order to use this equipment in National Forest to help clear trail. Only a handful of Old Dominion members are qualified at this time, so please consider attending the Forest Service chain saw certification class that will be held the weekend of March 20-21 at the Lee Ranger District Office in Edinburg. Classes begin at 8 am each morning; please call 540.984.4101 to register and contact OD board members Diane Hypes or John Proudman with any questions.

March 13 VHC Annual Meeting to be Held at Colonial Downs

The Virginia Horse Council (VHC) will host its Annual Meeting at Colonial Downs racetrack, just off Exit 214 of I-64 in New Kent county on Saturday, March 13, from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

The educational portion of the event will be broken into separate tracks to include trails, equine health/nutrition, marketing and 'hot topics' in the equine industry. The sessions will run concurrently, so attendees can mix and match topics according to their individual interests. Back by popular demand is the youth track, which offers a variety of hands-on equine learning activities. There is also an expert speaker on properly constructing trails.

The VHC will hold its annual meeting and election of officers for 2010 during lunch; VHC Awards for achievement for outstanding service to the Virginia equine industry will also be presented.

Overnight accommodations are available at the Holiday Inn, 445 International Center Drive in Sandston by calling 804.236.1111.

To register, visit www.virginiahorsecouncil.org.

Member Classifieds

WANTED: Experienced SE Junior needs mount for the OD 100 in June. OD members willing to lease their horse and either ride with this junior or help find a sponsor may contact Peggy Clark at 706.485.5117 or nvyo@bellsouth.net

For Sale: Bowman Horse Treadmill, kept indoors, \$3000. E-mail Judie Ricci at meadowspringsranch@earthlink.net

For Sale: 15 acres in Wildersville, TN by Wrangler Camp-ground and the Natchez Trace trail system. New 40X60 met-al building with 25X40 living quarters and the rest for stalls or trailer parking. Great retirement or starter home. Go to RE-MAX and enter Wildersville for a slide show or contact Mary Coleman, 814.448.2821 or caf@raystownwireless.net

For Sale: Coming 5-year old registered tobiano paint mare. \$2500. Email Janice at jheltibr@shentel.net or call 540.436.8367

All aluminum "Ranch Hand" stock trailer. Can be used either as a 4 horse trailer or 2 horse trailer with a large tack area and a spacious bed. Good condition, asking \$7,000. Zoe Sollenberger at zoe4dogs@shentel.net or 703 447 8636

Have a green or problem horse? Meadow Springs Training Center can help with basic training and solving horse behavior issues.. Visit www.meadowspringstrainingcenter.com or e-mail. Judie Ricci at for meadowspringsranch@earthlink.net

To have your classified ad included in the next issue, e-mail countshiloh@gmail.com or call 804.932.9328.u



Preferee • 2010 OD Raffle Horse

Here's Preferee, a promising young filly bred by Asgard Arabians, whose breeding program resulted in such accomplished horses as Heraldic, winner of the 2006 Old Dominion 100, 2006 Tevis and 2006 100-mile National Championship, and Theatric, ridden by U.S. endurance team member Kathy Brunjes. Tickets are \$10 each or 5 for \$40 and the drawing will be held at the Fort Valley Rides in October 2010 - you need not be present to win. For tickets, see a board member or add to your ride entry for any OD-sponsored ride this year. Thanks for your support!

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2010 OLD DOMINION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Family Members:

(fill in for Family Membership only)

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

(Please print clearly)

Annual Membership: Individual (\$25 – 1 vote) Family (\$35 – 2 votes)

Lifetime Membership: Individual (\$400) Family (\$500 – 2 votes forever)

My check is enclosed. Credit Card payment this year only Renew annually

(credit card only) Name on card _____

Card type: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Card # _____ Exp Date: (mo) _____ (yr) _____

Card 3-digit CID Code (found on back) _____

I would like to volunteer to help at rides clinics other events

I agree to uphold and adhere to the rules of the Old Dominion Endurance Ride, Inc.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to "Old Dominion Endurance Ride, Inc."

Please send form and check or credit card information to:

Lani Newcomb - OD Membership
33715 Snickersville Turnpike

Bluemont, VA 20135

540.554.2004; 540.554.2285(f)
[e-mail: give2bute@aol.com](mailto:give2bute@aol.com)



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