

FJORD Herald

Issue 134 • Spring 2020





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Gifting a new membership or a subscription to our popular Fjord Herald is a great way to encourage interest, participation, and education about the Norwegian Fjord Horse to fans of the breed. This is especially ideal for new owners, the youth, and outside organizations. New members and those who have given will be acknowledged in upcoming Herald's. *Sponsor today!*



THE FJORD HERALD

Spring 2020

Issue 134

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On the Cover



Another Fjord is born! Filly Eija (pending) (Skogheims Viljar x Shota's Elsa) greets her mother for the first time with a precious nuzzle. Both mom and baby (and picture) are owned by Brenda Johnson.

Editor/Layout/Design: Erin Kinn

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FROM THE HERALD COMMITTEE

Hello Fjord Family!

We on the Herald Committee hope everyone is staying healthy and safe during these unprecedented times. Who would have ever thought this is how 2020 would kick off!

In these unknown times there are decisions that are difficult to make and the change of format for this issue was definitely one of those difficult decisions. We know this is a drastic change for most, but it is only a one-time change to ensure we have a viable future for the Herald.

Spring has just sprung and there are activities to look forward to. Evaluations for 2020 are on the calendar! Don't miss out on the opportunity to participate with your Fjord or just go and observe. These are great learning opportunities for all.

Don't forget to share your pictures and Fjord stories with us. We want to see those foals frolicking and all of the fun activities you do with your beloved Fjords.

Take care and happy Fjording!

The Herald Committee

FROM THE EDITOR



Greetings and happy spring! I hope this finds you all healthy and safe during these uncertain times.

While it's disappointing that events and gatherings are postponed, there are still plenty of Fjord-related activities to look forward to.

We had a tremendous amount of contributions from our membership this issue, and the support is overwhelming. While we decided to change the format this issue—which was not an easy decision—the Herald is still packed as usual with great articles, stories, and photos.

With the nice weather approaching, hopefully you can get out and safely enjoy your Fjords. Have wonderful spring!

Be well.

~ Erin

I am still under the impression that there is nothing alive quite so beautiful as a horse. - John Galsworthy



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FJORD
Herald

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INFORMATION

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NFHR BREED STANDARD

See "About the Breed" at www.nfhr.com

RULES OF REGISTRATION & TRANSFERS

Please refer to our Rules of Registration and Services and Fees page for NFHR rules and current fees. Forms are available from the site.

PEDIGREE SEARCH

Fill in the search criteria that interest you and click Begin Search.

2020 FARM DIRECTORY

Updated regularly!

LOCAL CLUB INFORMATION

Regional Fjord clubs in the United States. Each club is dedicated to promote the Norwegian Fjord Horse breed in their area.

EVALUATION PROGRAM

The NFHR has an independent evaluation program for its horses.

NFHR Deadlines

JANUARY 1

- Deadline for advertising and articles for the WINTER issue of the *Fjord Herald*. Print February 1st.

JANUARY 15

- Deadline for membership renewals.

APRIL 1

- Deadline for advertising and articles for the SPRING issue of the *Fjord Herald*. Print May 1st.

JULY 1

- Deadline for advertising and articles for the SUMMER issue of the *Fjord Herald*. Print August 1st.

AUGUST 1

- Nominations open on August 1st for Board of Directors Election. Send your resume and cover letter to the Nominations Committee chair to be considered for the election.

SEPTEMBER 1

- Nominations close for the Board of Directors election. All candidate resumes and statements being sent to the Nomination Committee chair must be postmarked by this date.

OCTOBER 1

- Ballots are sent to membership for the NFHR elections.
- Deadline for advertising and articles for the FALL issue of the *Fjord Herald*. Print November 1st.

NOVEMBER 15

- Deadline for NFHR election ballots to be returned. Your ballot must be postmarked by this date to be considered a valid ballot.

DECEMBER 1

- Election results announced.

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MESSAGE

from the President

In the midst of the most incredible adaptation the world has ever seen due to an invading virus, I find myself happily marooned in my home with my wife and two horses in SW Washington wondering what the near- and long-term future holds for us all. I am most curious to see what this will do to our conventional way of life. Will we find new ways of communicating and interacting or will we simply go back to business as usual? I have no idea how to answer that question, but this is giving me serious opportunity to think through how I will conduct myself from here on out. And I do think this is a time to be creative and devise new ways of being with each other and doing things together.

As for the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry, things are moving forward vigorously. This edition of the Herald is being produced and disseminated online and is being published on the website. This is a controversial move that was made by the Board in view of the hazards with mailing a hardcopy and the prospect that advertisers were planning to cut back on our revenue. We did lose advertising income due to the virus but, thanks to the efforts of the Herald Committee and our advertising initiative, the Herald has not lost revenue. And we are offering this edition online to anyone, member or not, in the hopes that it will stir interest in future subscriptions. There is no intent to continue publishing the Herald only in a data form. We will go back to the same beautiful hardcopy edition you are used to seeing. The reaction to this decision clearly shows how much you value receiving your Herald in the mail so we will resume paper publication with future editions.

The Evaluation Program re-write has now been completed and can be found on our website. Sections 4 and 5 are now posted for your review and future reference along with the other sections that were previously revised. And we have scheduled two evaluations for later in the year, optimistic that we can hold them in-person. One is set in California and the other in the Midwest. Stay tuned for updated plans as we move into 2020.

We also completed a revision to the Resource Guide that is now available for your review. We were running out of the original guide just at the point where we revised our evaluation program so the timing worked out perfectly. A huge "thank you" must be given to the Norwegian Fjord Horse Foundation for funding that project. They deserve our financial support so please send them a donation to show your gratitude. And if that wasn't enough we signed a contract with our existing computer programmer to create a new on-line database for our horse registry. It will have all the features we currently enjoy plus a few new ones like allowing horse owners to file registrations and transfers online. This will take us into the 21st century and permit us to add more features as time goes by. We hope to have the new database up and running by the Fall. As with everything, nothing is certain, but we are excited about this new development. This step also caused us to focus on our privacy policy, currently more of an informal understanding that needs formal adoption. The next step will be to integrate a clear policy into our dealings so that you know what information we keep and how it will be used and protected. And we have decided to review our By Laws as they relate to ongoing business operations in this new world in which we live. For a small horse registry with a few hardworking volunteers, we have made huge steps forward.

There's a lot going on right now with the NFHR. People are stepping up to provide lots of support for our efforts. We need volunteers to help in many ways and we are always on the lookout for new Board members. If you see a way that you can assist us, please contact Nancy Newport or Jeanne Poirier at the NFHR office to discuss your interests. We'd love to have your help.

- Eric Watness 🐾



Courtesy of Lianne Miller



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Setting up Foals for Success: Ten Things to Do

By Dr. Michelle Abraham and Sacha Adorno • University of Pennsylvania • PennVet
Photos courtesy of Cherrie Nolden

From December to August, breeding and foaling season, Dr. Michelle Abraham has her hands full with pregnant mares and foals.

“During this time, my obstetric and neonatal cases fall under a few categories,” said Abraham, a staff veterinarian of Internal Medicine and Emergency and Critical Care, and a specialist in equine Neonatal Intensive Care. “There are uneventful pregnancies and births and more difficult cases. Common issues include high-risk pregnancies, difficult births, foals born to mares with placentitis, premature deliveries, and foals who develop colic, sepsis, and/or diarrhea in the days after birth.” Horses, she added, are considered foals until they are weaned, which can occur anywhere from 4–7 months of age.

Abraham and New Bolton Center’s critical care and internal medicine team offer services for mares and foals onsite at Penn Vet. The Healthy Mare Foaling Program provides 24/7 observation of late-gestation mares. The Graham French Neonatal Intensive Care Unit specializes in high-risk pregnancies and critically ill foals. Additionally, the hospital’s Equine Field Service can treat foals on the farm.

“A healthy foal begins with a healthy mare,” Abraham explained. “Penn Vet’s facilities and personnel are at the forefront of neonatal intensive care, and we have world class specialists in all areas of equine medicine. New Bolton Center patients receive the best care possible at the hands of exceptional doctors and nurses and amazing volunteers.”

Ten Things to Do for Mom and Foal

To set horses up for success, Abraham offers a list of ten things owners can do. The following information is not a substitute for medical advice. “Call a veterinarian any time you’re worried about anything,” said Abraham. “Even before there’s an issue, develop a close relationship with your veterinarian to establish goals for your horse and understand when to seek veterinary help.”

During pregnancy, contact your veterinarian immediately if your mare is dripping milk leading up to foaling. She may be at risk of losing a significant amount of colostrum. Also known as the “first milk,” colostrum is filled with antibodies critical to a foal’s developing immune system. A poor supply of colostrum puts the neonate at higher risk of infections.

Remember the 1-2-3 rule. 1: Foals should stand by one hour of age. 2: Foals should successfully nurse by two hours of age. 3: Mares should pass her fetal membranes within three hours of delivery.

Have a “new foal veterinary exam” within 24 hours after birth. During this exam, your veterinarian should conduct a newborn checkup. A general physical exam should be performed, and when the foal is between 18-24 hours of age an IgG test should be performed. This is to ensure the foal has received enough colostrum from the mare. The result should be greater than 800 mg/dl, with most healthy foals in the 1000–2000 mg/dl range.

Your veterinarian or an experienced person should also evaluate the fetal membranes to ensure they’re intact. Mares who retain even the smallest portion of the fetal membranes can become incredibly sick.

Allow mare and foal to bond. If foaling went without issue, give the mare and foal time to bond. As hard as it is to resist, don’t invite the entire neighborhood over immediately after the foal is born. There’s a very short time from birth to when you want the foal to stand and nurse. Anything that derails these milestones can potentially cause problems later. The mare also needs time to rest, free from the stress of onlookers and visitors. A great, unobtrusive way to keep an eye on mom and baby is a stall camera.



Maintain good hygiene around the barn and stall. Wash foaling equipment/kits after each foaling. Clean the mare's udder before her foal nurses. Avoid sticking your fingers in the foal's mouth—not only can it distract a foal from learning to stand and nurse, but human hands carry many pathogens. Foals have weak immune systems when they are first born, so while pathogens may be harmless to us and older foals, they can be problematic to newborns if ingested.

Watch for and encourage meconium passage. This is the first manure a foal passes. Some foals get very distracted and tired when they're putting effort into passing meconium. An enema can help them and allow them time and energy to focus on standing and nursing. Talk to your vet in advance about enemas to have on hand and how to administer them.

Start handling a foal once everything settles down. Acclimating a foal to human touch is important and can make your life much easier when the foal is bigger. Make sure early touch is a positive experience—don't force it! The environment should be quiet, calm, and near the mare. Work with the foal for short periods each day. Find where he or she likes to be scratched—often the base of the neck is a good place. I also like to teach foals to pick up their feet early so it becomes part of their day-to-day life.

Always be careful not to humanize a foal. Don't over-handle the animal—the foal needs to understand you are not a playmate. Horse play is dangerous for you when the horse is fully grown!

Get mare and foal outside as soon as they're healthy and strong enough. Start them in a small paddock for short periods and gradually building up to more space. This is as much for mom as it is for foal. The mare's uterus will expel the remainder of fetal fluids and return to its pre-pregnancy state faster with turnout.

And last, but certainly not least, enjoy your new foal!



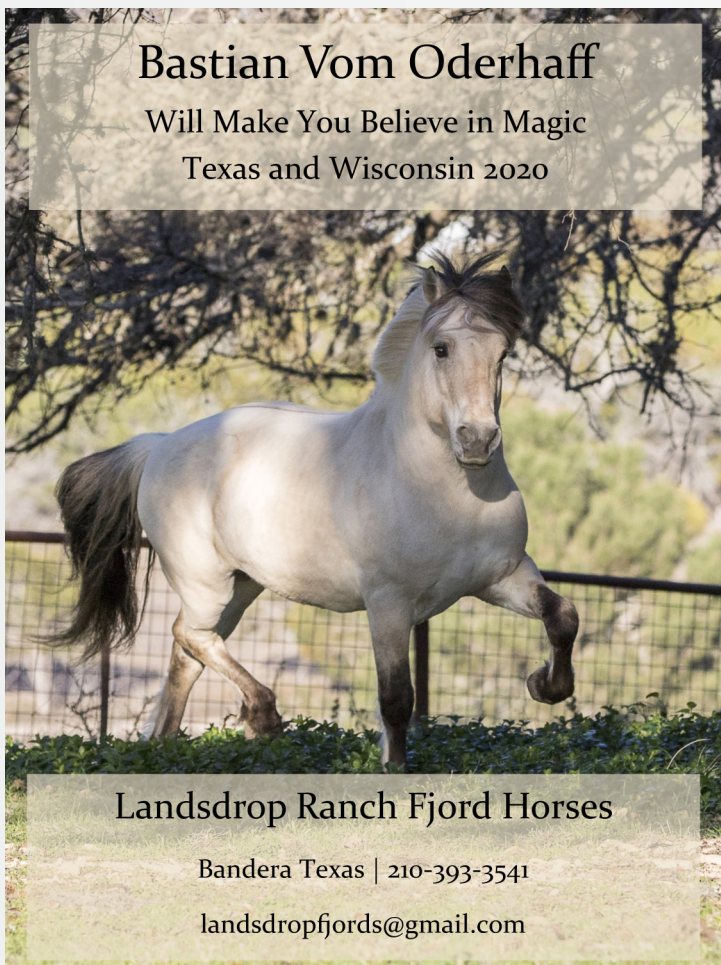
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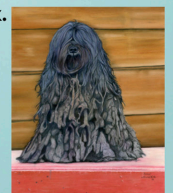
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What Foals Eat When: *The First Days, Weeks, Months*

By Kentucky Equine Research Staff • Photos courtesy of Sara Boling

“The foal appears to make feeding the second priority after breathing,” is a common quote among veterinarians and equine nutritionists. Indeed, a foal is driven to stand within an hour of birth and nurse within two hours.

“A foal’s most important meal is that first milk, colostrum, that is packed with infection-fighting, life-saving antibodies and other goodies like protein, energy, and vitamins,” confirms Clarissa Brown-Douglas, Ph.D., nutritionist for Kentucky Equine Research (Australia).

But what comes after that first suckle? How do you know your foal is nursing enough (or too much) and growing appropriately? When should “real feed” be introduced?

First Days and Weeks

- The mare’s colostrum will be replaced by milk within about 24–36 hours. Generally, a foal weighing 110 lb (50 kg) will consume approximately 15 liters of milk daily.
- In the first few days of life, a foal can nurse as frequently as every 10 minutes, but that usually decreases to once per hour within the first month.
- A healthy mare’s milk provides all of the energy and nutrients a foal needs to support rapid, but steady, growth.
- Foals often nibble at grass or the mare’s rations, and they can even be seen eating the feces of adult horses. Both behaviors are normal.

The Next Few Months

Foals learn to eat hay and concentrates. If foals are on pasture, it might take them longer than if they spend part of every day in a stall observing the dam. This might involve creep feeding.

“Creep feeding allows pre-weaning adaptation to a post-weaning nutritional program as well as other benefits. It involves providing a nutrient-dense product designed to meet the demands of a young, growing horse. The feed is not suitable for adults and is therefore placed in a bin or enclosure that only the foal can access,” explains Brown-Douglas.

Again, ensuring a steady rate of growth to maximize skeletal health is imperative during this period. This is easily achieved by regular weighing of the growing foal, using electronic scales if available or a weight tape around the horse’s belly.

“Monitoring body weight every 30 days or so will allow breeders to determine if a steady growth rate is being achieved. Many breeders find the use of growth-tracking software, such as Gro-Trac™ helpful in managing the growth of their young stock,” suggests Brown-Douglas.



Weaning (4–6 Months)

Many foals are weaned during this period, although timing of weaning is variable. The large intestines of foals have been developing over the past few months and now contain the appropriate microorganisms needed to ferment forage. Weaning can be stressful. Growth slumps during this period are not uncommon, making nutritional supplements targeted for growing foals desirable, such as Nano-E.

FJORD FOAL SEX RATIOS ARE RELATED TO PARENT SEX AND AGE AT BREEDING

By Cherrie Nolden • 1 dr Fjords, PhD Dissertator in Animal Sciences at University of Wisconsin-Madison

Fjord breeders often hope for a certain sex foal from each breeding pair. One would expect foal sex ratios at conception to be 1:1, with equal chances for the X or Y sperm to fertilize an egg. This theoretical ratio isn't observed at birth (Hamilton, 1967). Of the many theories proposed to explain the variations in the sex ratio, differences in parental age is a plausible approach (Caughley, 1971; Manning et al., 1997; Nicolich et al., 2000; Orvos et al., 2001; Stone et al., 2013). Horses of the Brazilian breed, Mangalaga Marchador (MM), demonstrated significant variations in foal sex ratio based on the age differences of the parents (Santos et al., 2015). Breeders of Fjord horses may have an interest in producing more fillies or more colts out of certain horses for preservation of genetic diversity, to expand their herd, for marketing purposes, or for other reasons, and if the Fjord population demonstrates variations in foal sex ratios like those of the MM horses, this knowledge would be a valuable tool to breeders. Given that, I was interested in the proportion of each sex produced by Fjord parents of different ages in the NFHR pedigree database. If the sire was the older parent, or the dam was the older parent, did this make a difference in the sex of the foal? Is the sex ratio of the foals different between parents of different ages?



To investigate this, I downloaded 7,971 records from the NFHR Pedigree Database on 1/27/2020, which included Fjords from 1874 to 2020. Of these, there were 6,671 records that contained the birth dates for both sire and dam. 1300 records were incomplete and not used. One record showed a mare foaling the year after she was born, so that mare's birthdate was changed for this analysis based on the foaling and transfer record dates. For calculating sex ratios, I only included years for which there were at least 6 foals registered. This reduced the analysis to 6,596 registered Fjords produced during the 38 years from 1981 to 2019.

In order to account for the known NFHR database bias of Fjord males, primarily geldings, not being registered at the same rate as mares, I corrected the foal count with annually calculated and applied correction factors prior to analysis of sex ratios by parent age. The correction was done by dividing the number of males registered by the number of females registered each year, and counting each female as that ratio value, while counting each male as one individual.

Foal sex ratios are perfectly even, with 50% fillies and 50% colts produced, when the ratio is 1.00. If the ratio of fillies to colts (F:C Ratio) is 1.29, that number can be interpreted as 29 more fillies were produced than colts out of 100 foals produced, or 1.29 fillies were produced to every colt. A filly to colt ratio of 0.85 is interpreted as 15 fewer fillies were produced than colts in 100 foals produced.



If this is confusing, I've presented the data in another way also The Filly Proportion is the likelihood of producing a filly over a colt from a certain breeding. A F:C Ratio of 1.29 indicates that 29% more fillies were produced, and a F:C Ratio of 0.85 says that the filly proportion is -15%, or 15% fewer fillies than colts were produced by the breedings recorded in this dataset. I've chosen to present the data both ways to help make the results more understandable.

Parental age used for these analyses was age at conception of the foal produced. This was calculated by taking 335 days off the recorded birth date of each foal, then subtracting the date the parent was born from the foal conception date. This gestation length is the average for my personal Fjord mare herd and consistent with average horse gestations.

Results:
Table 1 shows Fjord dam and sire ages at foal conception and the resultant foal sex ratios. Very young parents and older parents tended to produce more fillies, while the middle ages were more evenly split between colts and fillies. Caution needs to be taken when interpreting ratios with small sample sizes (N), since the results are far less reliable than when large numbers of foals are represented in the analysis.

Table 1. Sex ratios of Fjord foals by parent age at conception of the foals.

Table 1. Sex ratios of Fjord foals by parent age at conception of the foals.

Parent Age (Years)	Dam			Sire		
	N	F:C Ratio ¹	Filly Proportion	N	F:C Ratio ¹	Filly Proportion
1	31	1.852	85.2%	81	1.387	38.7%
2	200	0.853	-14.7%	463	0.808	-19.2%
3	594	1.128	12.8%	556	1.023	2.3%
4	672	0.900	-10.0%	589	0.988	-1.2%
5	653	0.922	-7.8%	589	1.002	0.2%
6	605	1.133	13.3%	470	0.960	-4.0%
7	575	0.917	-8.3%	484	0.995	-0.5%
8	545	1.119	11.9%	406	0.900	-10.0%
9	466	1.042	4.2%	362	1.195	19.5%
10	386	0.869	-13.1%	351	0.963	-3.7%
11	353	1.160	16.0%	345	0.992	-0.8%
12	308	1.036	3.6%	298	1.015	1.5%
13	273	1.066	6.6%	243	1.119	11.9%
14	206	0.951	-4.9%	226	1.203	20.3%
15	172	0.946	-5.4%	195	1.178	17.8%
16	149	0.997	-0.3%	153	1.091	9.1%
17	131	0.788	-21.2%	146	0.943	-5.7%
18	99	0.985	-1.5%	143	1.008	0.8%
19	65	0.881	-11.9%	97	1.000	0.0%
20	44	0.724	-27.6%	101	0.893	-10.7%
21	30	1.102	10.2%	80	0.809	-19.1%
22	19	0.807	-19.3%	62	1.115	11.5%
23	14	1.061	6.1%	53	0.711	-28.9%
24	4	NA	NA	35	1.033	3.3%
25	2	NA	NA	22	1.489	48.9%
26	NA	NA	NA	19	0.955	-4.5%
27	NA	NA	NA	15	NA	NA
28	NA	NA	NA	4	NA	NA
29	NA	NA	NA	6	NA	NA
30	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA

¹ F:C Ratio is the number of fillies divided by the number of colts produced, with filly count corrected for annual discrepancies in sex ratio registered.

² Filly Proportion is the percent increase in fillies over colts. A negative number indicates fewer fillies than colts by that percent.

Data were derived from the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry database from 1981 to 2019.

Data are presented as the sex ratios of the offspring. Registration bias was corrected for annual number of females/number of males.

NA indicates that there were no data.

I was also interested in whether foals born to older sires or older dams were biased toward more colts or more fillies. Table 2 shows Fjord pairings of differing ages of dam and sire, and where either sire or dam was the older individual in the pair. From this NFHR dataset, generally, when the sire was older than the dam, more fillies were produced. Filly proportion was lowest when the dam was 10-20 years older than the sire, and when the sire was 15-20 years older than the dam.

Table 2. Count of Fjord foals and ratios based on corrected foal count by dam and sire relative age difference at foal conception

Table 2. Count of Fjord foals and ratios based on corrected foal count by dam and sire relative age difference at foal conception				
Older Sex	Years Older	N	F:C Ratio ¹	Filly Proportion ²
Dam	0 to 5	2136	0.980	-2.0%
	5 to 10	835	1.030	3.0%
	10 to 15	247	0.797	-20.3%
	15 to 20	49	0.750	-25.0%
	20 to 25	3	2.249	124.9%
Equal	0	18	1.026	2.6%
Sire	0 to 5	1874	1.024	2.4%
	5 to 10	832	1.048	4.8%
	10 to 15	409	1.076	7.6%
	15 to 20	163	0.842	-15.8%
	20 to 25	29	0.916	-8.4%
	25 to 30	1	0.884	-11.6%

1 F:C Ratio is the number of fillies divided by the number of colts produced, with filly count corrected for annual discrepancies in sex ratio registered.

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Data were derived from the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry database from 1981 to 2019.

Data are presented as the sex ratios of the offspring (registration bias corrected number of females/number of males).

The results of this analysis of the NFHR database are consistent with the results from the Santos et al. (2015) publication on the sex ratios of the Mangalaga Marchador horses in Brazil. Based on these data, if a breeder wanted to use parental age as a strategy for producing more fillies, a younger dam than sire would be more likely to produce fillies. An older dam than sire will generally produce more colts.

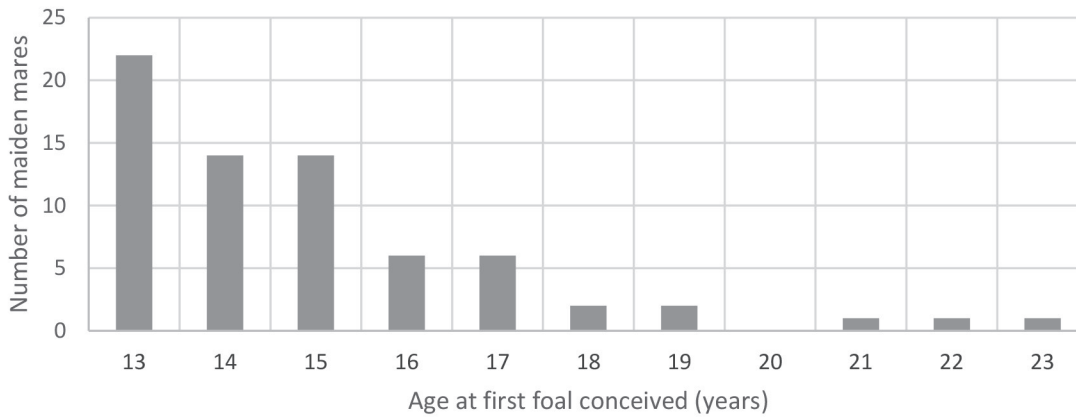
There are many other factors that also impact the offspring sex ratio, and some of them with significantly more impact than parent age, but this dataset did not allow for analysis of those effects. I experimented with one of those other factors during the 2019 breeding season, so we will see if the change I made affects the sex ratio produced by my Fjord herd in 2020. I typically have an even sex ratio of foals produced annually. I didn't make a control group in 2019 since I only bred 16 mares and splitting the group in half for an even set of control and treatment mares would reduce the N to 8, which is often too small of a sample for reliable interpretation of treatment effects.

Other interesting facts from this analysis were:

- Thirty one Fjord mares birthed their first registered foal at age 2, and 200 Fjord mares birthed their first foal at age 3. Fjord mares being bred at ages 3-8 were the most common in the NFHR database.
- Fjord stallions were used for breeding at younger ages than mares, with 81 colts breeding their first mares as yearlings and 463 two year old colts producing registered offspring.
- The oldest reproductively successful Fjord mares in the database were 25 at the time of breeding, and there were 113 mares that conceived foals from 20-25 years of age.
- There were Fjord stallions still breeding at age 31.
- The mare who produced the most foals conceived her first foal as a 3 year old and delivered her 18th foal at 24 years old.
- The sire who produced the most offspring in the NFHR database started at 10 years old and his 102nd foal was born when he was 32 years old.
- There have been 69 maiden mares in the Fjord breed conceiving foals beyond the 13 year age that many equine reproduction specialists say is the cutoff. Figure 1 shows the number of maidens and their age at first conception in the NFHR database. The individual mares conceiving their first registered foals at ages of 21, 22, and 23 could indicate unique maiden reproductive soundness in the Fjord breed. It is possible that these mares had produced foals prior to these, but those foals weren't registered. Having foals at younger ages primes mares for successful reproduction later in life, so if these mares hadn't previously produced foals, these ages at first conception are truly remarkable.

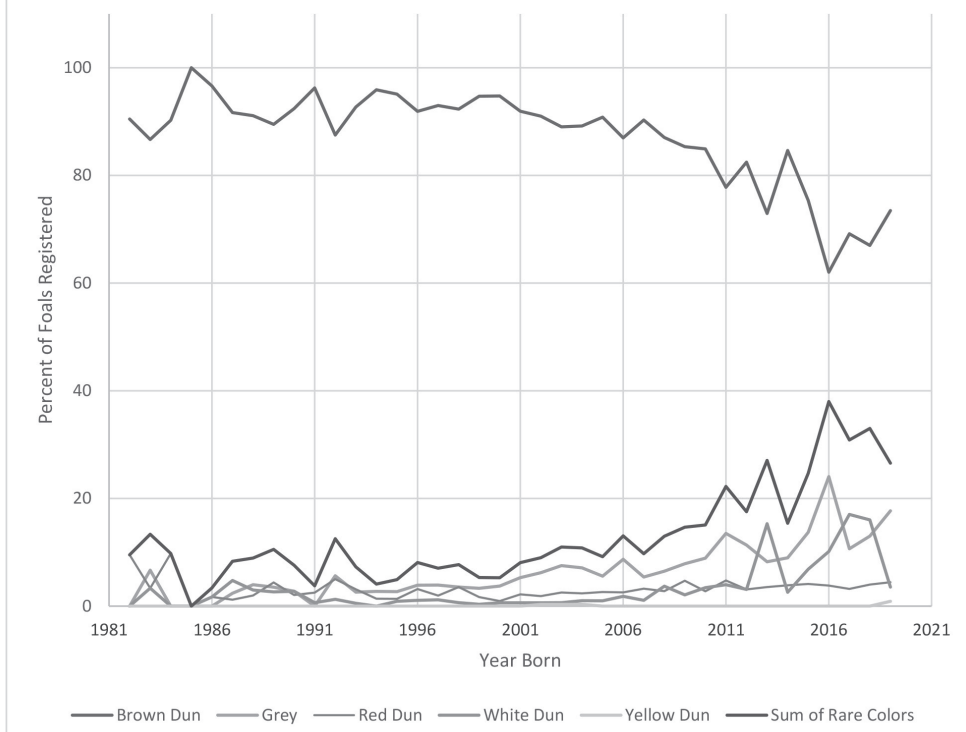
Another interesting thing I saw in the database was not related to foal sex ratios. Breeders have increasingly been using rare-colored Fjords for breeding instead of the brown dun in recent years as understanding of color inheritance has become more prevalent. Proportions of foals born of the rare colors has thus increased, making the rare colors less rare. Relative to 1980's levels, the percent of all rare colors has increased by 24.3%, with greys up 13.8%, white duns up 8.7%, red duns up 1.6%, and yellow duns up 0.22%. Where brown duns used to be nearly all of the Fjords born each year, they were down to 67.9% of the foals registered in 2019. Given the large shift in breeding stock from brown duns to rare colors, I expect that this trend will continue, with rare colored Fjords becoming far less rare in coming years.

Figure 1. Number of maiden Fjord mares and age of first conception



This summary does not include the statistics that will be included when the analysis is submitted to a journal for publication and when included in my PhD dissertation. Questions regarding the results of this analysis may be directed to me at canolden@wisc.edu, wonderfjords@yahoo.com, or on my Facebook profile Won Der Fjords. The results will also be posted on the NFHR Facebook group. The NFHR Board of Directors gave me permission to analyze the sex ratios of the NFHR database in this manner with the condition that individual horses not be identified, so I have intentionally not given out specific names of any horses or owners/breeders. The database is publicly available and the information presented here could be similarly compiled by anyone with internet access.

Figure 2. Percent of NFHR Fjord foals by phenotypic color registered from 1982 to 2019



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Care of the Expectant Mare

Patrick McCue, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACT • Photos courtesy of Solveig Pederson

Tasks that should be completed prior to sending your mare to be foaled out at the Equine Reproduction Laboratory, Colorado State University, include:

Calculation of the Due Date

The duration of pregnancy in the mare is approximately 340 days, but may range from 320 to 360 days. An approximate foaling date may be calculated by subtracting 25 days from the day the mare was bred or ovulation was detected. Obviously, calculation of the potential foaling date is much more accurate when an actual breeding or ovulation date is known as compared to if the mare was pasture bred.

The length of pregnancy is usually 5-10 days longer for mares due to foal in the late winter or early spring than for mares that foal out in the late spring or summer. Mares will often (but not always) carry a foal for a similar time period during each pregnancy.

Housing and Management

Pregnant mares should be separated from other horses on the farm to limit transmission of diseases that potentially could have a detrimental effect on pregnancy. Exercise should be encouraged during early to mid pregnancy. Mares in late pregnancy will generally obtain sufficient exercise from grazing in a pasture or walking in a paddock. Stress should be avoided as much as possible. Routine dental care and foot care should be provided as needed. We generally recommend that annual dental examinations and procedures be performed after the mare foals and before she is rebred to avoid the stress of the procedure(s) and avoid sedation while pregnant.

It is recommended that pregnant mares be transported only when necessary. The mare should be moved to the Equine Reproduction Laboratory at least 7-14 days prior to the calculated foaling date. This will allow her to become acclimated to her new environment and to begin to develop immunity or antibodies against the local pathogenic organisms. These antibodies will be passed on to the newborn foal through her colostrum.

Vaccinations

Vaccination to prevent rhinopneumonitis or equine herpesvirus (EHV-1) abortion should be performed at 5, 7, and 9 months of pregnancy. On farms with a history of EHV-1 abortions, it may be recommended that the vaccination series against EHV-1 be initiated at the third month of pregnancy. Currently, there are two killed virus vaccines approved for use in pregnant mares to prevent EHV-1 abortion: Pneumabort-K® (Fort Dodge Animal Health, Ft. Dodge, IA) and Prodigy® (Intervet, Inc., Millsboro, DE).

In high-risk situations, it may be beneficial to vaccinate pregnant mares against equine viral arteritis (EVA). The vaccine (Arvac®, Ft. Dodge Animal Health, Inc.) is not labeled for use in pregnant mares. However, many hundreds of pregnant mares have been vaccinated with this modified live virus vaccine without adverse effects (i.e., no abortion or congenital infections in foals). Consequently, if the risk of exposure to the field virus is high and an owner wants to limit the possibility of abortion and/or potential infection when breeding the mare back after foaling, vaccination of the pregnant mare should be considered. Vaccination during pregnancy will also provide the neonate with immune protection via passive transfer of maternal antibodies in colostrum. The vaccine may be safely administered from 3 months of gestation out to approximately 6 weeks prior to the potential due date. We are currently not recommending vaccination in the first 3 months of pregnancy or the last 6 weeks prior to foaling. As an alternative, mares may be vaccinated against EVA approximately 7 to 10 days after foaling. In this instance, one would skip the foal heat and breed the mare back on her 30-day heat.



Pregnant mares should be vaccinated 4 to 6 weeks prior to their due date against tetanus, eastern and western equine encephalomyelitis (EEE and WEE) influenza, and West Nile Virus (WNV). This will provide immunologic protection to the mare as well as increase the amount of antibodies available for uptake by the mammary gland. These antibodies will be passed to the newborn foal in the colostrum. Administration of vaccines against other pathogens, such as strangles, botulism, Potomac horse fever, rotavirus, and rabies, depends on geographic location, potential for exposure and medical risk.



We are currently recommending the following vaccinations for late-term pregnant mares to be foaled at the Equine Reproduction Laboratory, Colorado State University:

1. 4-way vaccine – one month prior to foaling Eastern equine encephalomyelitis (EEE) Western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE) Tetanus Influenza 1 West Nile Virus – one month prior to foaling;
2. Rotavirus – CSU is following the guidelines of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) in recommending that the Rotavirus A vaccine be administered at 8, 9 and 10 months of pregnancy to optimize passive transfer of antibodies and reduce the incidence and severity of rotavirus diarrhea in foals;
3. Equine Viral Arteritis – see above comments;
4. Rabies Please contact your regular veterinarian to schedule these prefoaling vaccinations.

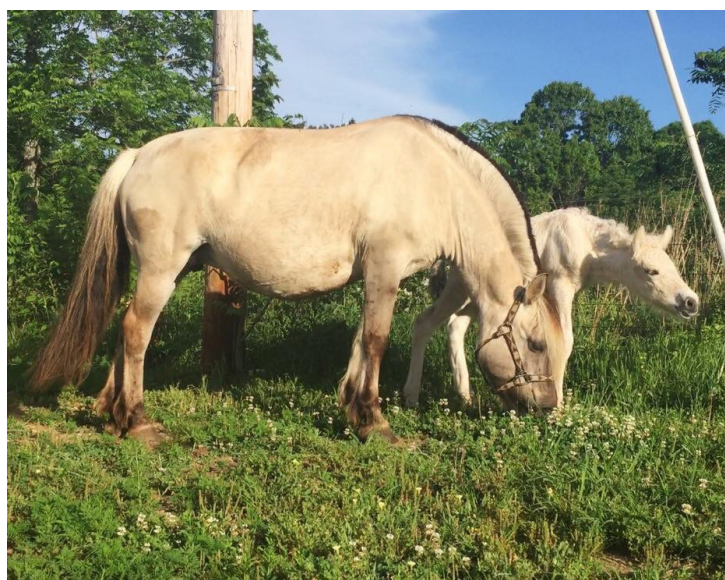
Deworming

Anthelmintics (dewormers) should be administered to pregnant mares on a routine basis, with the specific agent and frequency based on the exposure level, parasite load and farm management practices. Most commercially available dewormers are

safe for use in pregnant mares. However, it is recommended that the product label be examined before administering dewormers or any other product to a pregnant mare. Routine deworming of the pregnant mare throughout gestation will decrease the exposure of the newborn foal to parasites. We recommend that you deworm your mare approximately one month prior to her anticipated due date.

One of the first parasites a foal may encounter is the intestinal threadworm (*Strongyloides westeri*). Larvae of this parasite may migrate to the mammary gland of the pregnant mare and subsequently be passed through the colostrum to the newborn foal as it nurses. An infestation of *Strongyloides westeri* can cause enteritis (inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract) and diarrhea in foals and may predispose foals to other intestinal problems. Administration of an ivermectin type dewormer to the mare immediately after foaling will prevent or reduce the degree of *Strongyloides westeri* infection in the foal. This will be performed at CSU as part of the routine foaling management program.

Caslick's Management Mares that have had a surgical procedure to partially close the dorsal or upper portion of the vulva (Caslick's surgery) should have the sutured portion of the vulva opened 7-14 days prior to the predicted foaling date. Failure to open a sutured vulva will result in a difficult birth and potentially a serious tear in the perineal region of the mare. The Caslick should be opened earlier if the mare exhibits signs of increasing udder development more than two weeks prior to her due date.



Courtesy of Sara Boling



Savvy and Zain's 6-S to Sun Protection Campaign

Article and photos by Savvy and Zain Brill

We are Savvy and Zain Brill, friends of Sunnyside Farms since 2014. We live in Wickenburg, Arizona and get to spend time each week with Ms. Wendy and the Fjord horses while they are here for the winter from Montana. We get to ride and drive the mares and the gentle stallion from Norway, Smedsmo Gråen. We like to greet and play with the new foals, dress them up; bathe, groom and clip horses; do parades; work on projects and even make movies! Here in Arizona, it is almost always sunny. It doesn't take long to get a sunburn, and too much of that can cause skin cancer!

We know this because many people that we love have had surgery to remove cancer. This year, we decided to start a campaign to share with other kids what we know about the risks of sun exposure and how everyone can protect themselves, especially while outside enjoying horses. We are learning to create awareness, educate our friends and prevent cancer! Ms. Wendy showed us a really funny video from Australia of SunSmart Sid the Seagull who taught about "Slip, Slap, Slop!" We got to brainstorming and added "Seek, Slide and Slug" and decided to make our own video with these 6 "S" words! Saying "6-S" got to be a tongue twister sounding like SUCCESS so we coined our efforts as the "6- S to Success in Sun Protection!"

It took us LOTS of tries to get the video just right with the stars being Savvy and Zinna (Sunnyside Farm's filly born in January out of Seljeset Wendy by Smedsmo Gråen). It took lots of practice acting and dressing up! Zain was the stage manager and costume designer. We needed to come up with lots of props and it took creative efforts to hold the SPF 50+ umbrella in the wind! Zinna wasn't sure about the sunscreen but she really likes wearing hats! Acting and dressing up is fun, especially with Fjord foals and with a great cause in mind. In going over the 6-S slogan again and again, taking lots of photos and video, and using items to protect our skin from the dangerous rays of the sun, we accomplished three things:

- (1) Zinna learned that she has nothing to be afraid of.
- (2) Our minds really got the sense of being SunSmart and doing what we can do to protect ourselves.
- (3) We carried on the great tradition of Fjord horses, who know from rural life that even horses sometimes shouldn't be exposed to too much sun.

Now, whenever we go outside to work, play sports or hang with our friends, family, pets, and horses, we can help others too! Our message is this: Please get out there and have fun with your Fjords, but make sure to use the 6-S's for Sun Protection, and take extra care around the brightest hours of 10 to 2 when the rays are strongest!



KIDS *Love* FJORDS

Photos Courtesy of Andrew Hinrichs



Avery Hinrichs practicing vaulting on Mary



Adley Hinrichs on Hinrichs Farms Aleana



Ambrus Hinrichs loving on our stallion Kjør Arve.



Adley & Axton Hinrichs with Kjør Arve



Avery & Ambrus Hinrichs with Mary

You Can't Keep a Good Fjord Down!

By Beth Beymer

March is Expo season in the Rocky Mountain Region with the Colorado Horse Council holding its annual Rocky Mountain Horse Expo in Denver, Colorado. Starfire Farm was once again invited to participate in the Mane Event, a special equestrian entertainment program performed to music.



Courtesy of Mark Lankton

Starfire Farm has performed a variety of acts in the Mane Event since its inception in 2009. This year was very special to me as my main performance horse, BDF Obelisk is now twenty-three years old and though I hope to continue with him for many years to come, the reality is that it might become necessary to retire him at any time. In addition, we recently welcomed back Starfire Giotto due to the passing of his previous owner, Martha Lankton. I invited my friend Sarah Reidy to join me in a pas de deux with Obie and Giotto, with her riding Giotto. Sarah had purchased Giotto when he was a two-year-old and had sold him to Martha when he was eight, so she was more than happy to be reunited!

In an effort to design a ride as gentle as possible for Obie, I choreographed a routine beginning with walk in circles, shoulder-in, half-pass and walk pirouette. We then moved into trot in circles and half-pass. As we practiced the routine (to Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody performed by the Royal Philharmonic) it became pretty clear that Obie was interested in doing a bit more than walking and trotting, so we added a short medium trot.

The Mane Event is held twice during the Expo. This year the first performance was Saturday night and the second was held Sunday afternoon. It was evident that Obie was tense during the first warm-up and performance. One really doesn't get much warm-up at all during these events, it's not a horse show! We had a maximum of 15 minutes or so for Obie and me in walk and some collected trot with lots of bending in an effort to be considerate of his age. Once our act started, he let me know he was clearly up to the task! Though he had not been included in any of our performances for the past four years, he remembered the pattern of the previous routine he was in and decided to canter going across the diagonal. I just started laughing and went with it and so did Sarah and Giotto. Both Obie and Giotto were able to do Spanish Walk, some passage and piaffe with Obie piaffing a quarter pirouette the first night even though his tension was still evident. The next day he was "on" with better rhythm! Sarah and Giotto were able to do better passage and piaffe and Obie was clearly able to easily do a full piaffe pirouette with both horses performing a jambette at the end.

Best of all, Mark Lankton was able to attend the Saturday performance. He met us at the beginning of the "meet and greet" at the end of the show and thinking of Martha, he, Sarah and I could not contain our tears. I'm sure Martha was enjoying the performance from above. Mark was also able to take some incredible photographs! I had fun handing out Obie's hair to little kids (as he was shedding) and telling them to take it home to grow their own Fjord while watching their parents' eyes roll. Ha!

Once again, we had a wonderful time connecting with old friends and making new ones. Giotto is quite ready to step into Obie's shoes when the time comes, but I hope that isn't for a very long time. You just can't keep a good, old man Fjord down!



Courtesy of Kathleen Bryan



Courtesy of Mark Lankton

Still performing after all these years!



BDF Obelisk
23 years young!

Kathleen Bryan photo

Also standing: Silver Flyer, Thordal,
LTW Prince Christian and LTW Sir Xilef.

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2020 EVALUATIONS SCHEDULED

Written by Ardeth Obenauf • Photos courtesy of Jeanne Poirier

The Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry is happy to announce that the Board of Directors has tentatively approved two evaluations coming later in 2020.

They are:

1) Midwest – September 19 & 20 at Belinda's Best Little Horse House, 28204 560th Ave, Cambridge, IA 50046, hosted by Jenny Olsen jen-jen@hotmail.com and Sydney Baker luckyfoxfarms@gmail.com.

2) California – November 7 & 8 at the International Agri-Center – Equine Center in Tulare, California; hosted by Sara Jongsma sarajeon@yahoo.com.

Despite the uncertain times, the NFHR Board of Directors is anxious to begin holding Evaluations under the new system. All plans are subject to the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. Current Evaluation rules cover refunds in situations such as this.

Evaluation entry forms for both events will be posted on www.NFHR.com as well as our Facebook group. Please contact Jeanne Poirier, jeanne@nfhr.com, with any questions.



Covid-19 and Quality Time with Your Horse

Article and photos by Phil Odden

No doubt about it, there are a lot of changes in our lives with COVID-19. But there is a lot that remains the same for people who keep Fjord horses. As the world has slowed down now is the time to spend more time with your horses. This may be the time you and your children can spend time with the horse together. Certainly we must continue to practice physical distancing, that is staying at least 6 feet from another person. But we can be close to our horses. People who keep horses understand germ control with regard to contagious diseases since we have learned to protect our horses from the large number of horses with contagious diseases can get. We don't share water buckets and we don't allow people to touch the faces of our horses. Children and some adults love to go from one horse to the next and stroke their faces. Bad idea! That is how some bad infectious diseases are spread.



Yes, physical distancing is a concept we all understand with regard to horses. When working with our horse we need to maintain a safety bubble for our person. The horse cannot come into our safe bubble unless we invite them. A large animal like a horse can do a lot of damage to a person in short order. If you don't want to be stepped on, run over, bit, kicked, slammed or head butted, you need to teach your horse to stay out of your bubble and behave. The horse needs to learn to stand quietly where you put them and move only when you ask them to move.



You teach discipline to your horse by being intentional in the skill and behavior you want and by being disciplined yourself in asking for and demanding that movement and behavior.

The NFHR is hoping to get back to holding evaluations this year. Much work has been done by a number of people the past years to develop a new plan for evaluating Fjords. The information can be found on the NFHR website.

One of the most popular performance tests in the evaluation program is the Family Fjord Foundation Test. Just as the title indicates, this is a good starting point or foundation for skills you and your horse will need to move on to ground driving, long lining, riding or driving. In this time where people can feel cooped up, working with your horse on the ground is a safe way to get some exercise and personal therapy time with your horse. The FF foundation test may be a good way to start young horses. You can practice elements of the test and change up the order of the elements so you and the horse don't get bored with endless repetition. In my experience Fjords don't do well with endless repetition that other breeds may need in order to learn.

I like to work in sets of threes. If they get it right the first time, reward by releasing the pressure and move on. If you need a second go make sure the horse understand what you want. Break the movement or skill down into smaller pieces applying and then releasing pressure at the right time. Timing is everything when it comes to horses. Refine what you are asking for on the third attempt, take what you can get and move on to something else.

At this time of uncertainty for many, we can find comfort in spending quality time with our Fjords. No matter how rough the day can be, when I toss my Fjords a slice of hay in the evening and they stand quietly munching the hay, all is right with the world.



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Photo By Kim Anderson

Bayshore Fjords



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Star Catcher Farm

Setting up a *Driving Dressage* Arena 40 m x 80 m

Article and Photos by Rory K. Miller

In the Spring, I set up a driving dressage arena in my pasture. Obviously, this is an annual event, and in past years I struggled to make the arena sort of square. So, I am putting in writing what our local driving club does when it sets up its dressage arenas for our completions. I hope this is helpful to my fellow dressage drivers.

We begin by making measuring lines and marking them for the positions of the cones. This part is fairly easy and inexpensive. Essentially there are six lines. Four of the lines will make the sides of the arena (two 40m and the other two 80m). The two diagonal lines help us make the arena square. The length of the diagonal lines is simple trigonometry. Using colored electrical tape, I wrap each line where the appropriate cone will be positioned as well as the reel and ring. Thus, I have color-coded the lines to avoid confusion when laying them out. (Yup. I got them mixed up once or twice and had to untangle them!)

I have used 18" white dressage cones for my arena and 18" orange cones for the corners. However, color is not important. I have used cones as they are easily driven over (not that I have!) with little or no damage. Using 8" to 10" vinyl letters, the dressage cones can be made easily. It's a good idea also to use the intermediate letters (R, P, V, and S) as they can help in learning the touch points for circles.

To assist in my practicing the dressage patterns, I make a short line with ground marking paint to mark G, X, and D. Using orange cones, I mark the quarter lines (on the short sides) to help in practicing the corner turns. Thus, I have a way of judging easily a 10m radius turn as M, F, K, and H are 10m from each corner as are the quarter lines. Every little bit helps!

Of course, each of us has the challenge of finding a small football-field area so that we can convert a portion of our pastures into a driving dressage arena. My pasture has a little roll to it, so my arena is a "best fit." Not much in life is perfect, certainly not me. The proof: I make a dressage arena to practice my dressage which in itself is never perfect.

As with any good recipe, I have listed for you the materials that you will need. As you consider this project, you may come up with better alternatives. Go for it.

So, let's begin.

What You Need

1. 100m measuring device (tape or wheel)
2. 1/8" solid braid nylon line enough to make 2 x 80 m lines, 2 x 40 m lines, and 2 x 89.44 m lines. (It will take about 360 m or 1,181 ft.)
3. 12 rings (1" stainless steel) for the end of each line
4. Colored electric tape (Red, Blue, Black)
5. 6 electric cord reels (see the picture below)
6. 5 step-in posts (to set the corners and to mark X)
7. 8 or 12 x 18" traffic cones with dressage letters
 - a. white or orange works
 - b. 8"-10" letters work well
- 8 lettered cones for the minimum letters (C M B F A K E H)
 - a. Or 12 cones for all of the letters which includes the eight above and R P V S
 - b. 4 x 18" traffic cones for the four corners (white or orange works)
8. Ground marking paint (to mark X, G, and D). A small amount of shavings also works.

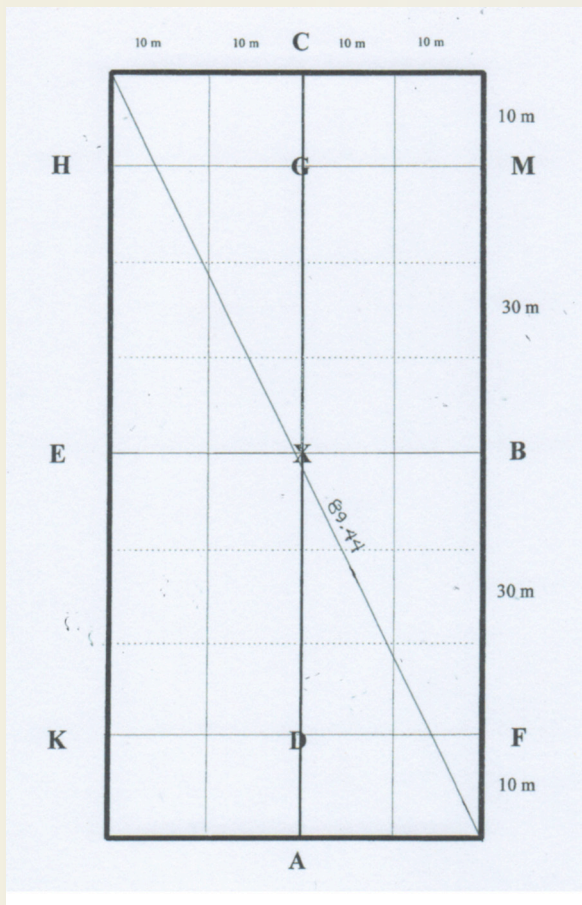
Making the Lines

1. Measure 2 x 80m lengths for the long sides (make sure to leave enough length to tie rings at each end and still have 80m.)
2. Measure 2 x 40m lengths for the short sides (make sure to leave enough length to tie rings at each end and still have 40m.)
3. Measure 2 x 89.44m lengths for the diagonals (make sure to leave enough length to tie rings at each end and still have 89.44m.)
4. Using the driving dressage arena picture (below), note the distances where each lettered cone should be placed, measure each distance on the 80m line, and wrap a piece of tape at that point on the nylon line (Use the blue tape for the 40m lengths and the red tape for the 80m lengths). Wrap a piece of tape on each ring (blue for the 40m, red for the 80m and black for the 89.44m lines)
 - a. Starting at one end of the 80m line, the letter M is 10m from the end, the letter B is 40m, and the letter F is 70m.
 - b. It's a good idea to mark the intermediate letter points also.

- i. R is 15m from M (the midpoint between M and B)
- ii. P is 15m from B (the midpoint between B and F)
- iii. S is 15m from H (the midpoint between H and E)
- iv. V is 1 m from E (the midpoint between E and K)
- 5. On the 40m lines, use tape to mark the points for the “quarter lines” (10m in from each end) and the center (20m from the end)
- 6. Wind each line on to its separate reel
 - a. 2 reels will be marked “40m” (and a piece of red tape)
 - b. 2 will be marked “80m” (and a piece of blue tape)
 - c. 2 will be marked “89.44m” (and a piece of black tape)

Setting Up the Arena

1. Choose a relatively flat area for the arena.
2. Pick a point! Put in a step-in post, placing it through the ring at the end of a 40 m line and walk the line out. Eventually there will be three rings to anchor three lines at each corner.
3. At the same place where you started the 40m line, put the step-in post through the ring on an 80m line and walk it out. Just take a guess as to where it might lie.
4. At the same place you started with the 40m line and the 80m line, place the step-in post through the ring on the 89.44m line and walk it out diagonally (once again, best guess).
5. Do the same steps for the other 40m, 80m and 89.44m lines, using the step-in posts to anchor the lines, thus forming the four corners.
6. Adjust your lines so that they eventually square up. It will take a little maneuvering to get this to work. Leave the lines in place.
7. At X (in the middle of the entire arena) the two diagonal lines will cross. Set a step-in post at X. (Hint: when you move the diagonal lines, the step-in post remains until you mark X with ground marking paint. Don't paint the lines or they will become stiff and more difficult to use in the future.)
8. Set out the cones at the corners and at the places for the various letters along the two long sides. On the short sides, set the A and C cones. (As an option, mark the quarter lines with unlettered cones (orange) as this will help you in learning the turn.)
9. After you have positioned all of the cones, remove all the step-in posts and the lines by reeling up the lines on their separate (marked) reels.
10. If you are in a pasture, mow all the way around on the inside of the cones and all the way around on the outside of the cones, leaving a strip of grass about the width of a cone. You have created a “grass line” to define the arena.
11. To help you in your practicing, mow a line from A to C.
12. With shavings or ground marking paint, mark G and D.
13. To keep your cones in the proper places, lift each cone and with ground marking paint, spray a dot on the ground under the center of each cone. Replace the cone.



STARRING

FJORDS!

Article by Robin Norwood Photos courtesy of Thaddeus Wadleigh

“So...this shampoo is for horses, right?” Oops. I guess I should have known better. W.C. Fields never liked to share the limelight with children or animals because he knew they wouldn't share it. They'd steal it.

After considerable effort and expense, it appears that I've proven his point. Those who view the commercial we shot here on my farm notice only Pisco and Angelina, my scene-stealing Norwegian Fjords. Forget the inspiring voiceover, the charming jingle, the beautifully framed product shot – all of which make abundantly clear that these are products for people – people with grey or white hair.

Nobody cares. All their comments and questions focus on the horses.

“Ooh, they're so cute!”
“Are they yours?”
“What are their names?”
“How old are they?”
“Where do you keep them?” On and On.

The day we shot the commercials these two were already stealing hearts with the arrival of the film crew at sunrise. Their scene-stealing just followed naturally. I suspect they can't help it, that their Fjord charm is as genetically programmed as their limpid brown eyes and ridiculously full forelocks.



Another built-in Fjord feature is their amazing work ethic. Over a very long day's shooting these two proved to be real showbiz troupers. While we rode back and forth again and again over the same path the horses stayed cheerful and willing, even learning to start moving forward when they heard, “...ready...and...ACTION!”

When I'm trimming his mane Pisco can wriggle like a nine-year-old boy waiting for recess. When the shooting moved to the barn he somehow managed to stand still as a statue for retake after retake as I removed and resettled the saddle on his back. Finally, though, he'd had enough and his inner nine-year-old boy took over.

My co-star in the commercial, Dave Stamey, is a celebrated singer/songwriter as well as a true cowboy. He was out of the shot and turned the other way when my horse made his move. Pisco's head snaked out, his teeth grabbed Dave's beautiful pearl grey custom-built Double H cowboy hat and with a perfect little toss, he sent it sailing like a Frisbee. But cowboy reflexes are quick and Dave caught his hat out of the air to much laughter and applause for both performers.

The good news: the camera followed all the action and captured the scene beautifully. The bad news: a crew member was caught in the frame and spoiled the shot for use in the commercial. Darn. I so wish that typical bit of Pisco mischief could have made it onto the screen. It showed my darling grey dun at his clever best...Oh no! I've been seduced just like those viewers I described into thinking this commercial is about my adorable Fjords and their winsome ways. It's not.



But it's not strictly about shampoo either...The main purpose of this little vignette we filmed is to remind those of us who are no longer young that life can and should be a daily celebration. If we're not sure how to make this happen, all we have to do is watch a Fjord.

Pisco and Angelina, like the rest of their breed, know how to celebrate. Those of us who share life with Fjords have seen them make a party happen out of nothing. No food or drinks or music needed. No special event or occasion. Not even an invitation other than the magnetic charisma Fjords naturally exude.

Our dun friend will be standing there not doing much of anything, when out of nowhere, people start to gather round. First they praise, then they pet. Next they smile, and when their smiles get too wide, they laugh. They talk to each other and...wow! Life feels really, really good.

So yes, it's true. Fjords steal things. They steal hearts. I lost mine long ago; if you are around Fjords, your heart is probably long gone as well.

And they obviously steal scenes. In fact, in any activity we share with Fjords, it is best to acknowledge right up front that we are merely their supporting cast. They not only steal the limelight, they generate it. Does that bright circle of glowing good cheer come from their undeniable star power or is it a special Fjord superpower that makes life good wherever they are?

Who cares? I'm just glad they do what they do – and I bet you are too.

To see Pisco and Angelina starring in their commercial go to www.sensationallysilver.com.



An advertisement for Hidden Hill Farm. The top part features the text "Hidden Hill Farm" in a cursive font, followed by "Red Deer County, Alberta", "403.347.4859 / 403.357.7305", "Registered Norwegian Fjords", and "info@hiddenhill.ca". Below this is a row of four small images showing different horses. At the bottom, there is a line of text listing the stallion and brood mares: "Stallion: Odden's Favne (CFA #3229), Brood Mares: Miss Parker (CFA#3302), Lacey (CFA #3300), Indy (CFA #3384), Petra (CFA#3413), Sofie (NFHA #16-7216-M)".

From Hunter Princess to Combined Driving Fanatic... by way of a Fjord!

Article and photos courtesy of Denice Klinger

For the last three decades I've been a hunter princess. OK, not really a princess, unless you mean a princess who feeds, cleans stalls, ships, trains, braids, grooms and shows her own horses. In other words, a sad excuse for a princess, but one who enjoyed doing the hunters. My last horse that I showed at the recognized (USEF) level was Kings and Vagabonds, aka "Robbie." I bought him along from a failed racehorse to a really nice hunter, and I used to joke that we were like an old married couple on course. We knew each other. More seriously, I said he was my ride of a lifetime, my horse of a lifetime. After Robbie retired, I lost him far sooner than expected. It was a gut punch, losing him. I didn't just love to ride him, I loved seeing him every morning and evening. He was my horse of a lifetime, after all. After a while I picked myself up, dusted myself off and thought about next steps. I have a strict two horse limit, but it's not just a limit, it's a minimum threshold as well. My other horse was not coming along as expected and between me, the farrier and my vets we weren't sure if it was pain, behavioral or both. I started looking around for another hunter prospect.



Here's the thing, I always had "driving" on my bucket list. After watching combined driving at WEG2010 in Kentucky, I knew exactly what type of driving I wanted to do when I was ready to do something other than hunters; however, it was always kind of a hazy thing for the future. You know, for when I was "old". It occurred to me that I was in my 50's, and maybe not "old" but I sure wasn't young anymore! Plans changed. I'm not looking for another hunter prospect, I'm looking for a driving prospect!

It goes without saying that if you are starting on your Bucket List, naturally you should tap into your Thirteen Year Old self's Dream Horse List. I checked the old memory banks:

MY 13-YEAR-OLD DREAM HORSE LIST

1. Fjord
2. More Fjords
3. See 1 and 2, above



Alrighty then, I am going to get a Fjord. I did have some adult logic behind the choice. I like trail riding, and not every equine wants to be a driving equine. So if my new pony didn't want to drive, he needed to be suitable as a trail mount. I'm 5'8 with longer legs and I just didn't see me "fitting" on a slender welsh or GRP type. See, this is how you rationalize decisions when your 13-year-old self is in charge.

I googled, I looked at a half dozen internet sales sites, I found the NFHR farm listing and stalked all the farms. I'm in Georgia and there aren't a lot of Fjords or Fjord breeders locally. I expected that, but there weren't a lot of choices in the Eastern US, period. It was my busy time at work, and I wasn't ready to go all the way across the country just yet. That's because there was one Fjord of suitable age (3 1/2) for sale on this side of the country. I called up Margaret Bogie at Ironwood Farm in Virginia and made an appointment to see her young Fjord.

The weather was barely 40 degrees and rainy that January day when I showed up at her farm. I'm not going to lie, a yak-like Fjord in full blown soggy winter coat is not a noble looking creature. I might have been a bit underwhelmed—my 13-year-old self had taken to watching *Frozen* and had visions of Fjord Loveliness. I told her to "Let It Go." Adult me is pretty good at doing character tests on young horses though; Margie, her husband, son, and I trudged down the hill towards the arena with Ironwood Xander, leaving all his pasture mates out of sight, but not out of mind. I could tell he was concerned, but going along with the idea. Then I proceeded to gently, kindly, but constantly push his buttons and evaluate his response.

Xander was mostly agreeable. He also told me when he was not a fan by simply... leaving. Fjords. They are BORN knowing how to use that head and neck! But he wasn't rude, he just trotted away a few steps and waited for me to come get him. I'm sure he was trying to train me as much as I was training him! I watched his reactions as I moved to either side of him, especially the off side. I evaluated how quickly he

learned to move away from pressure and how much it concerned him. I did a little intro lunging (walking/stopping in a small circle around me), then I got cocky and pushed for a trot. Then I retrieved the Fjord from the other end of the arena. I asked if they had a tarp. Margie sent her husband off to get one. I died a few deaths when he came back dragging the open tarp down the hill! Xan got a few inches taller, but that was about it. Score one for the Fjord. We worked on being near the tarp, I really had no intention of asking him to be ON the tarp, that's a big step, and I knew he was already on his last Fjord nerve. Eventually I stood in the middle of the tarp with a Fjord at the edge looking at me while I asked him if he would just maybe put a foot on it. I was done with this exercise even if he didn't do it, but I could just see his brain working. It went something like this: "This strange lady is SO annoying, she just keeps pestering me. But she gives good scritchies. I LIKE scritchies. I think I shall go get some scritchies from the Very Annoying Lady." And he calmly walked across the tarp to say hello and get some scritchies.

Sold.

Of course about five minutes later when I went to pick up his back foot he kicked so hard and fast, he almost removed my head from my person, and I think Margie died a few deaths and mentally wrote off selling a Fjord that day. But I understood, he was DONE. We went back up by the barn where he could see all his pasture mates, and when he relaxed, I tried picking his feet up again. He was just fine, but I already made my mind up.

Sold.

I didn't say as much then, because he was the first Fjord I looked at. And we all know the saying: NEVER BUY THE FIRST Fjord YOU LOOK AT. I went home to be a mature, introspective adult and weigh the pros and cons. Then I remembered I bought a marathon carriage about a month before visiting Ironwood Farm, so I literally put the carriage before the horse. I think the ship sailed on that mature, introspective adult thing. All kidding aside, I had weighed most of the young horse pros/cons before I ever went out to see him. He answered all my questions, and most of all, I liked him. I've owned horses who were talented at their job but we just never clicked. I've learned that liking the horse is an important part of owning a horse, especially if you are an amateur showing just the one horse.



Photo courtesy of Picsofyou.com

Sold. But for real. One Yak Like Fjord arrived in April 2016.

The next stage was training the Fjord. I kid. The next stage Operation Hair Removal. The only thing worse than a cold soggy yak like coat was a hot sweaty yak like coat. You could smell him a block away. It turned out there was a cute Fjord under all that hair. My Thirteen Year Old Self rejoiced and had a Disney Heroine twirl around the barn aisle. The Adult Me headed home to remove hair from places never imagined by a Disney Heroine.



Photo courtesy of Meg McGuire Photography

The next six months were all about becoming a civilized young Fjord. Things like standing still, being tied, and getting on and off a trailer. He learned how to lunge without leaving. His opinion was that leaving made lunging more interesting, although he wouldn't leave so much as self-lunge for a few minutes, then look at me as if to say "all done, let's have snacks now." He took it all in stride and by October not only was he mastering all three gaits in the arena, he was also going out on regular trail rides. I originally planned to start Xan driving in January 2017. I would do all the basics, and then send him to a professional for driving training. As winter approached it became clear he wasn't ready, so I kept riding and took a break from anything driving related. A local dressage schooling show added some western dressage classes. I had a western saddle and didn't have dressage tack so I decided to do those as an inexpensive way to get mileage.

All spring and summer we played around at some local shows, trail rode, worked on accepting the bit, improved the trot and struggled with an engaged canter. By the time fall rolled around, I thought maybe it was once again time to see if Xan wanted to be a driving horse. I'll be honest, I had doubts. He was fine ground driving and dragging things, but the pressure of shafts on his side concerned him. I sent him off for training in early December and gave the trainer the full rundown on what I had done, where I thought he was solid and where I thought he might have concerns. I waited 10 whole days to call for an update, figuring I would give them a chance to settle in and start working him. The trainer told me I had done such a thorough job on the pre-driving work that he was already pulling the breaking cart in the small

covered ring and had been for several days. A few weeks later I went up and they hitched him up to the carriage, I hopped on the back and we went on a short trail drive. Imagine my surprise when I found out that was his first time out of the covered ring! His training (and mine) progressed smoothly and by the first week in April, he was ready to come home.

In spring I made my competitive plans for the year. They were Zippo, Zilch, Nada, None. All the western dressage shows that were close to home were no longer running, and I didn't feel like driving several hours to get to one. That was a shame because I found out how you give a Fjord an amazing canter, you send him off for 90 days driving training. He was so strong and balanced when he came home! I decided it was time to buy some dressage tack. By summer I found a used dressage saddle that fit Xan, fit me, had a twist that didn't cause me excruciating pain AND was in my budget. I managed one schooling show at the end of summer before it was time to switch to driving, at Training 1 and 3. We did well, but I learned I had a much stronger pony at shows than I did at home, which was surprising since he regularly worked off the farm by then.

2019 was the year we were going to show steadily all year long. Either Xan was going to relax enough to be the same pony at shows as he is at home, or I was going to learn to ride and drive the pony I had at a show. Either outcome takes practice, and the only place you can practice showing is at a show. My wallet actually whimpered. Driving season kicked off in January and we celebrated our first event by being eliminated on marathon. Yup, I went through the very first gate of the very first hazard backward. Go me! Over the season we started to put the pieces together although I felt we were anything but consistent across all three phases. But the last event of the season we finished 5th in a big, competitive class, and I felt like maybe we might be good at this sport eventually.

From there we moved into the ridden dressage season. Our first show of the season was a schooling show in awful weather. A cold, sleeting, rainy day and neither of us wanted to be there... and the scores reflected it. Naturally this cemented my decision to move up to both rated shows AND First level. First Level was still a work in progress for us, but I wanted to see judges' comments in areas I knew we needed work rather than getting feedback on what I mostly already knew. Over summer we did a mix of schooling and rated shows so I could stay in budget and still get him going to shows regularly. His scores were consistently in the mid to high 60s, we won some Pony Cup ribbons and at our last rated show of the summer, he scored a 68 and 69. To say I was proud of Xan is an understatement.

As we started the 2020 season, I turned my focus to the Preliminary championships. In early January we did a driving trial, and I planned to do a CDE in late January before the USEF championship class in mid-February; but Xan was off for a week after getting a mild case of shipping fever. I changed my plans, scratched and worked on hazard gymnastics at home. The week before I left would be dedicated to working on dressage and cones. Best laid plans and all that... The rains came. They left but not before a flash flood took out the arena and dumped a ton of debris in the field. One week from my biggest class and the only place to work is up and down the road.

I went to Florida a day early so I could at least practice something other than a straight line for a day or two before our class. Saturday was dressage and cones with marathon on Sunday. He warmed up nicely for dressage, and I thought we laid down a really nice test, possibly our best ever. But, I've thought that before only to find my opinion wasn't shared by the judges! We headed off to meet my nemesis, I mean my cones course. The course had a lot of inside or outside line options, but the outside lines were not going to get it done if you went the target speed. Xan is pretty fast and I'm trying to go fast in general since I want to move up, so I planned a few outside lines in the beginning and then all inside/tight routes after that. About halfway through, I realized not only was I clocking along at a solid Fjord trot, but I was having fun and even looking ahead to the next cone as soon as I lined up the current one. Who was this driver and what did she do with Denice? We finished double clear (that's all that matters) and about 30+ seconds under the allowed time to a huge cheering section. BEST FEELING EVER!

Later that afternoon when my navigator and I were walking hazards, a fellow competitor came up and congratulated us.

"Ummm, thanks... but for what?"



Photo courtesy of Picosofyou.com

"You are the leader!"

That's a feeling I'm not going to forget in a long while! We were only the leader by a very slim margin. Behind us was one of the top drivers in ponies in the last few years. Her pony (also a Fjord!) is young, but a very nice pony and driver experience matters. I figured we might not keep that overnight lead so I planned to enjoy it while I had it and then try like crazy to keep it.

Xan had been so soft and responsive on Saturday that I put the rein on the top slot of his marathon bit... Yes, I have a Fjord and I made that decision, I'm going to own it. The first two hazards went smoothly, although I felt like maybe I was battling for control more than I liked. When we got to the third hazard, that's when I fully expe-

rienced the folly of my rein slot decision. He just pulled me clean past my planned route. Then I got confused and wasted time getting us back on the correct path. Once we were clear of the hazard and 30 meter mark, my navigator reinstalled power steering and brakes, aka moved the reins down a slot. After that I had an amazing pony! We powered through the next three hazards with Xan waiting on me to tell him where to go. We finished 4th in hazards, but between 2nd and 4th there were less than 2 penalty points and I suspect I wasted that much time in hazard 3. Not enough to change the leaderboard, but once I get my act together, I know Xan is fast and handy!

No, we didn't keep our lead, the USEF Preliminary Championship went to that young Fjord, Teresa Kandianis' Sweetwater's Marmaduke. Ironwood Xander was the Reserve National Champion, and his amateur driver is beyond thrilled with that! Best news of all? Yet another Fjord was third! FRF Donner, with his amateur driver, Janet Crumpton, took third place. A clean sweep!

Xan has one more CDE event this season, then we will start thinking about conquering second level in dressage, but not until he has a month of just poking around on the trails and doing fun stuff. I don't think I'll show in ridden dressage too much this year. He exceeded my wildest expectations this last season. We won some National Pony Cup classes, he was first in Amateur and Vintage USDF Breed Awards, First Level/ Amateur champion in our local GMO year end awards and then finished up with that great performance in driving. I do not believe I have ever owned a horse who bought home so much swag in such a short time, so he's earned a break (as has my wallet). We will spend 2020 perfecting our second level game and learning how to be competitive at intermediate in driving.

But better than all the achievements, awards and swag, I'm feeling something I haven't felt in a long time... I'm feeling like this pony and I really know each other, possibly like an old married couple. As it turns out, even if you were lucky enough to have the horse of a lifetime, you might get luckier still, and have the pony of a lifetime.

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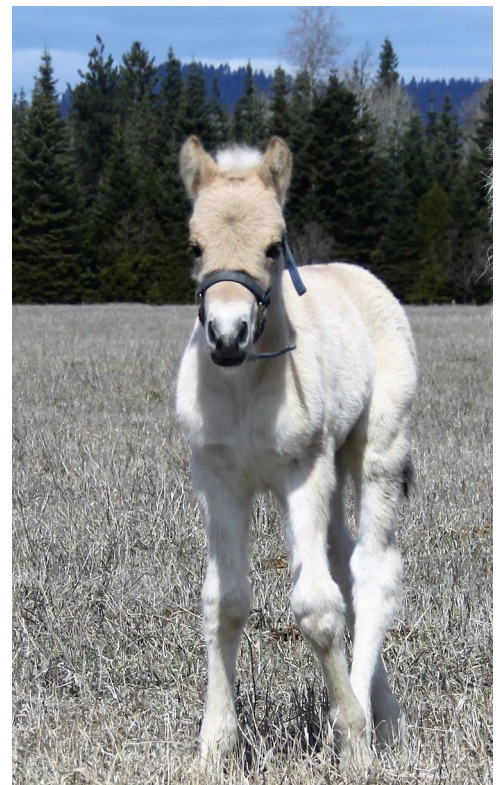
By Cady Miller • Photos courtesy of Solveig Pederson

To most of us, Fjord's are what dreams are made of. They are our fairy tale ponies with unique looks and personalities to match. I remember back to a time when all I dreamed of was just to have a Fjord of my own. I would buy breed books, doodle Fjords, and research my favorite farms. Then, after making that happen, our dreams grow and morph into new and bigger dreams. For some, that may be more training, shows, or breeding goals with your one special horse. For others it's moving onto new horses that bring you new levels of training.

Being on social media you start to see challenges that present folks in making dreams happen. Loss of job, finances, housing a horse, or skill level. I see so many people post how much they would love a Fjord but can't find one, or cannot afford one. I cannot imagine how discouraging this may feel, but I want to kindly remind everyone to not lose hope. With the power of networking and social media, there are so many opportunities nowadays to find your dream Fjord. Websites such as Dreamhorse.com or Equine.com, Facebook, or going through the Breeder list on NFHR.com. Make a list of traits you must have and start your search. Do you want young prospect or a broke horse? Mare or gelding? Age and budget? All factors that play into finding that special "unicorn." Start reaching out to Fjord folks and breeders. This is very important to find someone willing to work with you and help you in your search. Like any breed there are differences within breeding programs and bloodlines. Don't let your dreams fade or be overturned by finances or lack of resources for finding your Fjord! Start saving, budgeting, limiting unnecessary purchases. I promise, it's worth it! No matter what your budget or goals, eventually something will turn up.

I've written articles before, and you may remember my past Fjords. I've been fortunate to own an accomplished stallion and multiple geldings in the past. Most have moved on to long-term homes and are loved by their new owners. Norris has been featured before, as well as my current gelding, Finn (SPF Georgio). I love getting young prospects and turning them into something, but not every horse and person connect. This is where finding a program that encompasses similar goals to you is important. Years back I started following Olivia Farms webpage and Facebook page.

I began messaging Solveig, the owner, as well as following posts and researching bloodlines she had. I noticed such versatility within her program yet they are strong, correct and do not lack "pretty." Coming from reining bred Quarter Horses, I tend to like the sportier, less course looking Fjords. Solveig has been nothing short of understanding and wonderful to work with. For years I've wanted a foal by her stallion, Skogheims Viljar. If you're not familiar with him, check him out. He is what dreams are made of. Between life changes for both of us, and the right cross just not there for me, it didn't happen as soon as I would have liked. But, I stayed patient. I knew her program was what I wanted, and although breeders closer had foals, nice foals, I just didn't want to feel I was settling. Now, this year in 2020, a Brown Dun filly was born by Viljar and out of Tulla, a grey Dun mare. Guess what!? She is all mine! OFI Vårin will be here this fall/winter and I couldn't be happier. My message in this article is to remain patient, stay determined, and don't settle for less than you want and deserve. We all have different goals, check lists, and dreams. Stay true to yourself, and make that dream happen!



Youth Committee

The Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry Youth Committee is proud to announce the winners of our first art contest open to our youth members. Several wonderful entries of many different mediums were received, and it was a pleasure to review each piece as they arrived! The committee blindly voted on the artwork and a congratulations goes out to our winners as follows:

For the 0-9 Year olds in Drawing: Mallory Ralph, Age 8



For the 10-18 year olds in Drawing: Ingrid Watanabe, Age 15



For the found items in nature: Skylar Ralph, Age 11



Periodically, we hope to host opportunities for the youth of the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry to show off their creative outlets. Please watch for more to come. In fact, we also got to enjoy Savvy Brill dressing up a young foal when we invited youth to share fun costumes on a Fjord. Something that we all love and admire about the Fjord breed is their willingness to participate in whatever we throw at them (and their love of children!). Again, congratulations and a big thank you to our youth participants. We look forward to hosting more interactive events like this in the future.



Courtesy of Savvy Brill

Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry

Board of Directors Face -to-Face Meeting 2020
Saturday and Sunday, January 25-26th, 2020
Best Western Plus Plaza Hotel
Longmont, CO

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry was called to order at 8:22am MST at the Best Western in Longmont, Colorado. All members of the board were present, Rory Miller, Kay Schwink, Kelly White, Curt Pierce, Eric Watness, Jim Raabe, Jessica Reuterskiold, Darby Hewes, Jennifer Wright as well as Executive Director Nancy Newport and Jeanne Poirier, Registrar.

Eric began the meeting by reinvigorating our purpose on the board and as board members of the NFHR. He asked us to go around the table and express our reasoning why we were here and what the Fjord Horse means to each individual member.

Jeanne then discussed the progress on working towards our new database. It is moving slowly, and we hired a contract attorney to help us move forward. \$1,665.00 has been donated by our NFHR membership to go expressly towards the new database from project specific donations. The database will help us greatly to pull more detailed reports and will be backed up and maintained online by the developer which will be a benefit to us. Kay made a motion and Darby seconded it to pursue this database contract and empower the subcommittee to move forward on contract negotiations. This passed unanimously.

The Board then discussed membership and fees. We would like there to be a creation of a single new "registration package"/fee for all the forms/products (DNA Test) to be required for registration to streamline the process. A motion to refer restructuring our fee schedule of further memberships to the membership committee was made by Rory, Jim seconded this. Passed unanimously. We currently have 126 single life memberships and 37 family life current memberships.

The NFHR would also like to encourage breeders to register their foals before their sale or transfer. There was a motion by Kay to move that a transfer fee shall be required for the registration of a Fjord being registered by anyone besides its breeder. This was seconded by Kelly and passed unanimously and was an extensively discussed motion.

After Eric announced his goal of holding at least three evaluations in 2020, the Board moved into Executive session. It was so moved by Rory and Darby seconded a motion that the Board move into Executive session. The motion was approved unanimously. After a short executive session, the Board resumed its discussion. We also discussed sending our Junior Evaluator (s) to attend the evaluator seminar in Denmark. Curt made a motion for our Junior Evaluator(s) to attend the seminar (airfare and seminar paid by the NFHR) in Denmark in exchange for committing to performing 5 (five) evaluations after receiving assistance from the NFHR. Jim seconded and after much discussion it was also passed unanimously. We will shortly be surveying our evaluators for black-out dates and conflicts so that we may start getting evaluations on the calendar!

After an extensive morning in session, the Executive Committee met over lunch and discussed business. They agreed to raise our Registrar's pay to \$15.00 an hour for 35 hours a week. They also decided to offer our Executive Director a 3% raise. The realignment of the Promotions, Awards, Youth, Membership and Marketing committee was also discussed.

There was a formal proposal delivered to the board by Jenny Barnes to allow evaluations to be performed by foreign evaluators. It was decided that this can be done privately and independently but is not endorsed by the NFHR.

The realignment of the large combined singular committee of promotions, awards, youth, membership and marketing was discussed. Jessica made a motion to reorganize the committee structure into an awards and promotion committee, youth and membership committee and marketing. Curt seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Promotion Committee's purpose will be to develop and provide promotion of the NFHR, Fjords and assist committees in their advancement of the breed. There was a motion by Curt for this definition, seconded by Jessica and the motion passed unanimously. The purpose of the Membership and Youth Committee will be to support and foster adult and youth memberships, future and current for the NFHR. Rory made a motion to accept this definition and Darby seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Finally, the new Awards and Recognition committee will maintain a record of awards for the awards coordinator and increase outreach to future shows and events for award participation. Rory made a motion to accept this definition and Curt seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

The 2020 committee chairmen on the board are as follows:

Awards and Recognition Committee: Jennifer Wright

Breeders Committee: Kelly White

Education Committee: Kay Schwink

Elections Committee: Curtis Pierce
Evaluation Committee: Eric Watness
Evaluation Committee Review Board: Eric Watness and the Executive Board
Executive Committee: Eric Watness, Rory Miller, Curtis Pierce and Jennifer Wright
Finance Committee: Rory Miller
Fjord Herald Committee: Jessica Reuterskiold
Membership and Youth Committee: Jim Raabe
Promotions Committee: Rory K. Miller

In discussion regarding the Herald, Jessica proposed a revenue sharing with our advertising coordinator for doing such an incredible job encouraging advertisers in the Herald. Curt made a motion to create the position of Advertising Coordinator for the NFHR and grant them a 5% commission for any new or renewal ads in the Herald they generate. Kay seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. Our editor is still always looking for and accepting submissions for the Herald for interest generating, educating and evaluation information regarding Fjords.

The new NFHR resource guide is in proof-reading stages and will be distributed to members who indicate on their membership renewal that they will donate to receive one in the mail.

The Breeders Committee proposed a new Fjord Owners Code of Ethics and after much discussion and debate within the Breeders Committee regarding what something like this should look like. It reads as follows:

Fjord Owners Code of Ethics

According to Fjord Horse International, the Fjord horse "shall be strongly built, hardy, well-proportioned and athletic, a horse with great presence and charm. The horse shall be cooperative, dependable, willing, and calm in most situations and have natural, well-balanced movements. The Fjord shall be a versatile riding, driving and draught horse. The conformation of the Fjord should assure that he moves equally well in difficult terrain as on the flat. With these qualities the Fjord Horse should be easy to handle and suitable for family use, and in different activities as in riding schools, competitions and for leisure."

Upholding this standard of conformation and character also demands that Fjord horse breeders, owners, and enthusiasts also embrace and exhibit the traits beloved in the breed: cooperation, dependability, willingness, and charm. Protecting the reputation of the breed is critical to ensuring continued demand, and thereby preserving the Fjord horse in North America. In the representation of these horses and business related to them, members must conduct themselves with honor and integrity.

Membership in the NFHR is a privilege and not a right. The registry is implementing a code of ethics for the members, which should guide breeding, buying, selling, or promoting the Fjord horse.

- 1) If I breed, I will endeavor to breed horses of sound mind and body that adhere to the conformational and temperament guidelines set forward by the NFHR breed standard.
- 2) I will represent, fairly and accurately, any health conditions or concerns, conformation issues, behavior issues, level of training, and experience of any horse that I breed, sell, consign, or lease.
- 3) When appropriate, I will provide leases, contracts, bills of sale, and any other official paperwork to ensure the validity of any transaction concerning my Fjord Horses.
- 4) I will complete all transfers, registrations, status updates to the registry, and membership renewals promptly.
 - a) Registrations should be completed within a year of birth, or before listing for sale.
 - b) Transfers should be completed no more than 90 days after the transaction occurred.
- 5) I will treat any horses in my care in a humane manner, as defined by equine veterinarians and farriers.

Kay made a motion to accept this code of ethics as entitled " Fjord Owners Code of Ethics." Darby seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

For the Board of Directors Face-to-Face meeting in January 2021, the NFHR will pay for lodging and the board members shall pay for food and airfare to get to the location of the meeting, which will be in Colorado again over January 30th and 31st, 2021.

The NFHR will support regional clubs and activities from time to time as it sees fit. The Equitania USA has requested the Fjord/NFHR presence at the festival at the Kentucky Horse Park for three days in September, which will cost approximately \$1,600 to participate. Curt made a motion for the NFHR to contribute \$400 to the fees incurred and Kay seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. Our Executive Director, Nancy Newport pledged to contribute \$100 to the fees personally. Jessica said that she would bring up the discussion of pledging \$200 with the Midwest Fjord Horse Club also. We greatly appreciate our regional clubs/activities and their support of the NFHR and one another!

Sunday, we reconvened to finish up any leftover business or new issues that may have arisen. All board members and staff were present and accounted for.

The Breeders Committee will continue work on the Code of Ethics and begin work on a best practices document for breeding.

The Education Committee will continue to solicit articles and educational opportunities and work with other committees for education. Wikipedia will be updated.

The Herald Committee will seek historical information to be reprinted and shared with other publications.

The Membership and Youth Committee will review fee structures and youth awards.

Eric will look into membership data privacy and investigate privacy laws with our Washington attorney. Eric requested an additional amount up to \$1,000 for legal consult. Rory so moved and Curt seconded. The matter was discussed and approved unanimously.

Several line drawing breed logos were reviewed as additional embroidery or other uses for our members. The Promotions Committee must approve all uses other than those through LVR Embroidery who has permission to use our logos.

Rory made a motion to adjourn at 10:43 a.m. MST. Curt seconded and motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Wright
NFHR BOD Secretary

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Editor@nfhr.com

www.NFHR.com

NFHR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Eric Call to order: 6:03 MTN

ROLL CALL – Jennifer, Jeanne, Kelly, Eric, Nancy, Rory, Jessica, Jim, Darby, Curt, Kay-excused

RATIFY MOTIONS APPROVED BY EMAIL (January 26-February 12, 2020): none

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Face2Face already approved

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Eric, refer to business discussion

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Nancy – Requested information for the acknowledgement letter from committees and asked for verification of the 2020 BOD meeting dates. 2020 BOD meeting dates - April, June, August, October, December, second Tuesday of the month.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT - Jeanne

Total 2020 foals presented for registration: 1

Total 2019 foals presented for registration: 119

Total membership renewed or new for 2020: 328

Stallion Listing being developed to post on the NFHR.com website We have 23 so far.

TREASURER'S REPORT: - Rory- Sent review to the Ex Com, finances looking good.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Email motion on the table from Darby, seconded by Kelly, amended by Rory, accepted: Motion reads – The NFHR BOD reaffirms our existing policy that no two different individuals may register their foals with the same farm name designation. The first individual to use a specific farm designation has sole use of that title unless they release it to another. The NFHR Registrar has final approval of all farm designations and foal names. Motion passed unanimously.
- Rory made a motion, and Darby seconded to refer the above policy to the Breeders Committee for further inquiry as to whether this needs to be added to the Rules of Registration. Motion passed unanimously.
- Email motion on the table by Curt, seconded by Rory: Curt moved that the effective date for the transfer fee policy change be September 1, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Code of Conduct feedback – Received feedback about the code of conduct that we took under consideration and are referring it back to the Breeders Committee at the consensus of the board.
- Breed logo and promotion- Curt makes a motion that the three logos be approved as presented, Rory seconded. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 7:24 MTN

Respectively submitted, Jennifer Wright, NFHR Secretary



FJORD Herald

ADVERTISING RATES & INFORMATION

General Information

The Fjord Herald is a quarterly publication published for the Fjord enthusiast by the Norwegian Fjord Horse Registry. Circulation is approximately 1000 copies distributed to readers all over the world.

Deadlines

Received by noon on: Winter Issue – October 1; Spring Issue – January 1; Summer Issue – April 1; Fall Issue – July 1

Policies

All advertisements must be prepaid. Checks should be payable to "NFHR" and mailed along with your ad to address below. The Open and Member Rates are available without a signed contract. The Open x4 and Member x4 Rates are only available with a signed contract (contact the Editor for contract). The Fjord Herald reserves the right to refuse, cancel or edit any advertising at any time. The Fjord Herald will not be responsible for errors appearing in ads.

AD Submission Guidelines

Electronic format is preferred. Resolution must be a minimum of 300ppi at actual or larger final dimensions. Acceptable graphic formats include correct resolution PDF (preferred, with fonts embedded) or TIF. Ads and photos in JPG accepted but please be sure resolution is correct. Web images are NOT high enough resolution for printing. No guarantee of reproduction quality if sent as Microsoft® Word file. Color ads must be CMYK with any spot colors converted to CMYK. Files may be sent via email or on CD. Please contact the Editor (at the address below) if you wish to send via FTP.

Send your advertisement, with check payable to "N.F.H.R" (in U.S. funds) to:

1801 W. County Rd 4
 Berthoud, CO 80513
 Phone: 303-684-6466
 Toll Free Fax: 888-646-5613

Ad pricing and sizes					
10% Discount with purchase of a combination of display ad in the Fjord Herald and a banner ad on the NFHR website. See website for details.					
Advertisement size	Dimensions (w x h) inches	Member	Member x 4	Open	Open x 4
Inside Front Cover	Bleed: 8.75 x 11.25 Trim size: 8.5 x 11 Live area: 7.5 x 10	\$375	\$350	\$475	\$440
Inside Back Cover					
Outside Back Cover					
Full page		\$350	\$315	\$440	\$400
1/2 page Vertical	3.5 x 9.875	\$210	\$190	\$260	\$235
1/2 page Horizontal	7.25 x 4.875				
1/4 page Vertical	3.5 x 4.875	\$140	\$125	\$170	\$155
1/4 page Horizontal	7.25 x 2.375				



Fjord Farm

DIRECTORY

IDR FJORDS

Striving to help you experience the wonder (1dr) and intrigue of the Fjord breed for the past 29 years. We manage our large mare herd and foals 24/7 on hilly phytochemically-diverse pastures for optimal growth and joint development, long-term soundness, healthy metabolic function, ideal social skills, and low-stress skill-learning. We are always working toward the unachievable perfect Fjord as defined by the Breed Standard. We aim to produce Fjords with a naturally calm level-headed temperament, strong work ethic, easy trainability, and sound, correct, functional, versatile structure and movement in a range of draft to lighter types. All accepted Fjord colors are possible from our herd. Quality foals and young stock are available annually. We're happy to help you pick out a foal that best matches your equine aspirations. Finding the right Fjord makes all the difference! Come to our June or September Open House to meet all of our Fjords and their foals in person! Cherrie Nolden and Allen Philo, Dodgeville, Wisconsin, USA, 608.477.1981, call or text, wonderfjords@yahoo.com, Won Der Fjords on Facebook.

ACCENT RANCH

Twenty plus years of raising quality Norwegian Fjords. Just 65 miles from the east entrance to Yellowstone Park. We ride, drive and pack our horses in actual ranch life. Experience the wonderful 'Fjord Ride' by taking beginner or intermediate riding lessons available here at Accent Ranch. Standing the Dutch bred stallion A2Z Thor and the grey stallion Pines Zane of A2Z. Newt & Jane Pawley, 1531 Hwy 14A, Powell WY 82435, (307) 272-7731. pawleycody@tritell.net, www.accentranch.com

BAYSHORE FJORDS

A partnership of J Frank Baylis and Kay Schwink & family, is the home of carefully selected Fjord breeding stock chosen with temperament and movement as our highest priorities. Standing Bayshore Snø Drift and Peppertree Farms Karolina King to approved outside mares, we also offer young horses for sale. Contact Kay ksck169415@gmail.com 540-250-2393

BLUE RAVEN FARM

We imported 1999 our breeding stock from Europe (Germany) to Canada. Sure we looked for top of the line mares and an extraordinary stallion. The pedigree of our horses shows that they descend in male or female line from the most important bloodlines of the Modern Fjord Horse (Spring issue Fjord Herald 2000). You will find: Torbjorn 1417, Gloppang 894, Ola Gik 1703, Valebu 1569, Rei Halsnaes D462 NJ833, Grabb 1651, Dyre 1059, Safir 1717 and Jarmann 1788. Till now 30 offspring show that there is the best of the best in our horses. Three of Orka's sons earned the Award of Excellence in Dressage (Thank you Wendy Luscombe) while others too excel in Dressage and Jumping. The stallion "Njal 166" the Founding Father of the modern Fjord Horse shows his "Njal-Mark" -a brown dot on the faces of the most of our horses. Inge Burr, 2621 Hwy.215, RR# Walton NS, BON 2 R0, Canada, phone (902)369-2940, iburr@xplornet.com, www.blueravenfarm.com.

DEEP CREEK FARM FJORDS

Curt Pierce & Marsha Korose. We have been breeding quality Norwegian Fjords for over 30 years. Standing stallion LFF Ulend via live cover. Lessons and limited training available. 537 Fjord Ridge Dr., Mathias, WV 26812, (304) 897-6627 cepinwv@yahoo.com, www.deepcreekfarm.com.

DREAMCATCHER FJORDS

A small farm nestled in the eastern Ozarks of Arkansas. Breeding fjords to preserve and enhance their natural abilities and wonderful temperament for all disciplines. Our foals are imprinted at birth and handled daily. Follow us on facebook at Dreamcatcher Fjords Brian & Theresa Galloway 508 Browns Creek Rd Ravenden, Ar. 72459 870 966-4100 email tcdreamcatcher@hotmail.com

DREAMFIELD FJORD FARM

Dreamfield Fjord Farm is a small farm located in Southern Kentucky. Our daily lives involve our Fjords. They are true members of our family. We are currently standing our young gray stallion HF North to the public. Please contact us for details. Each year we raise a few great foals for others to enjoy. There are lots of nice bloodlines in our herd. Feel free to contact us at (Ashley) 270-535-2669 or on Facebook through our leather tack business Dreamfield Farm and Tack!

DUN IN FARM

We are a small farm in the thumb of Michigan. Breeding high quality, registered Norwegian Fjords. From top of the line mares who are producing all around athletic horses with outstanding dispositions. Standing for 2019 white dun stallion OFI Siljar. Here for one year only. Mid-Westerners don't miss the opportunity to breed to this outstanding stallion. Live cover or fresh chilled. Visit us on Facebook. Email Phofert0109@gmail.com or call 810.395.7107 or 810.627.3677

FAR FIELD FJORDS

Kurt Prasnicki, W7680 Hwy S, Adell, WI 53001. (262) 689-7355, kurtprasnicki@gmail.com, Like us on Facebook, "Far Field Fjords - Norwegian Horses". Nice temperament, quality breeding stock, 3 stallions – Duke, Spirit and Stanley. Riding or driving Fjords for pleasure or show.

FARO FJORDS

Raising, registered, gentle, family-raised Fjords for sale. Trout Creek, Montana. Stallion: Freddie. havensstable_s@hotmail.com, (406) 827-4473.

FOOTNOTE FARM

NEW in 2020 ~ the highly evaluated, proven producer of quality, and German licensed stallion Njord Halsnaes! Footnote Farm offers exceptional Fjord horses bred for performance and built to last! Njord joins our boys by frozen - Vajeur, Dylan, and Pirke. Also this year we welcome 2 more imported mares in foal who will join our Pramienstute band. Our mares carry the lines of Dylan, Fjolestaen, Raan, and Vacceur. Our motto is "for peace of mind" and you will find that in the temperament of a Footnote Farm bred Fjord. You can rest easy knowing that a Footnote Farm fjord is bred for exceptional conformation, soundness, and movement including a great canter. Our horses are out in the community and in the show ring. 35 years of varied equestrian experience across breeds and disciplines and a small number of foals bred each year ensures that every foal has a great start and that we can evaluate and appropriately place every one. www.footnotefarm.com footnotefarm@gmail.com 778-822-3276 and find us on FaceBook.

GRATEFUL PINE FARM

Breeding and training top-quality Norwegian Fjords for competition, companionship and adventure. Our program is focused on developing talented dressage prospects with exceptional movement and conformation, without sacrificing the wonderful fjord temperament. Our young stallion, OFI Federico (Tico x Silvia by Frederik Skovå), will be available to select mares starting in 2016. Kelly@gratefulpinefarm.com
Web: gratefulpinefarm.com

GREEN VALLEY FARM, INC.

True measure of any stallion is in their offspring. Green Valley Farm stallions, Kastanjegardens Fernando, GVF Rolf, GVF Sjolokade and Thorvald, have proven to produce top-notch foals. These offspring are proving to be athletic performers and movers with exceptional disposition, temperament and versatility. They are proving themselves at Open Breed Shows as well as Fjord Shows and Evaluations. Frozen semen available at approved facilities. Give us a call to create that perfect match or choose one of our select offspring for sale. Howard & Sophie Fiedler, Galena, Illinois, (815) 777-6008. sophie@greenvalleyfarm.com. www.greenvalleyfarm.com.

HATTON FARMS

A small family owned farm, located in Northeast MO. Having raised 5 children we now have a new passion. We raise quiet, sound, gentle, versatile registered Fjords. We pasture breed our mares, foals are handled from birth, and raised on pasture. We trail ride, drive and pack our Fjords. Occasionally we have foals for sale out of our stallions; "Fair Acres Sven II" (Brown dun), "FSF Ole" (Grey dun) and "Telemark Leo" (Brown dun) a son of Karibu. Like us on Facebook at Hattons Fjord Farm. Robert and Billie Jo Hatton, (573)-473-0625 or (573)-228-1177 or email: rbhatton88@gmail.com

HIGH & MIGHTY THERAPEUTIC RIDING/ DRIVING

High & Mighty is a PATH Premier Accredited Center in New York. We offer equine assisted activities to children and adults with special needs. Our fjords are an important part of our mission. They ride, drive and participate in ground work. Laura Corsun, Registered PATH Instructor, Founder, Executive Director, 71 County Route 21C, Ghent, NY 12075, 518-672-4202, www.high-n-mighty.org, info@high-n-mighty.org.

HUGHEY FARM FJORDS

We are a small family farm breeding athletic, family friendly and versatile fjords to use in our riding, driving, and packing adventures. We usually have young stock available for sale. In 2020, we will begin using Landsdrop Nyx as our herd sire. Along with fjords, we raise the occasional litter of English Jack Russell Terriers. You may find more information on our website: www.hugheyfarmfjords.com or like us on Facebook at Hughey Farm Fjords. Jason and Jordan Hughey, D.V.M., 400 West Cabin Road, Helena, MT 59602.

906-563-5514

HORSE TAILS FARM

Sue Plein, Home address: 426 39th Ave, Winona, MN 55987, Barn address: 22076 E Burns Valley Road, Winona, MN 55987. We breed, raise, and train fjords for performance in SE Minnesota. Also operate a boarding facility and provide riding lessons with our fjords to be the beginner and intermediate riders. pleins@hbci.com

IRONWOOD FARM

Standing Ironwood Blitzen, S1, G1, V, E. We are the largest Fjord farm in Virginia and focus on competing our Fjords in dressage and eventing at both recognized and unrecognized levels. We offer quality young stock and mature Fjord horses for sale from our own breeding program and through consignments. Ironwood Farm also offers English riding lessons, boarding and training. We breed for a sporty performance type Fjord with a good mind. Visitors are welcome! Margaret Bogie and Tom Snyder, 10291 Homeland Road, Rixeyville, VA 22737, (540) 729-4430, ironwoodfarmva@aol.com, www.ironwoodfarm.com, www.facebook.com/Ironwood-Farm-215017341878391/

KERVAN FARM

Producing outstanding foals from beautiful mares of imported bloodlines. Sired by our awesome German bred stallion MOGLY - these foals are the complete package of excellent movement, temperament and conformation. Quality young stock for sale. Marg Kerr, R.R. #2, Milford, Ontario, K0K 2P0, Canada. (613)476-4263, margkerr@kos.net, www.mogly.ca.

KLAMATH EQUESTRIAN CENTER

KEC is a full service boarding and training facility close to town in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Riding and driving lessons provided by Michael Wakefield, a Level III and CAA Master Driver and is the owner/operator of Three Hats Training Center. Along with his partner, William "Bill" Trento, they provide extensive knowledge to the driving community. KEC is in the beginning stages of developing a Fjord breeding program. Please feel free to come by for a visit! maria@klamatheq.com. (831) 235-3031 www.KlamathEQ.com

LANDSDROP RANCH FJORD HORSES

Disposition. Conformation. Athleticism. Color. Located in the Texas Hill Country, Landsdrop Ranch stands the German- and Canadian- imported white dun stallion BASTIAN VOM ODERHAFF. NFHR Blue Evaluated with a score of 83, and 17.5 for type. Focused on moderate-to-draft style fjords with safe and people-oriented temperaments. Landsdrop Fjords are featured annually at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo's Horse Discovery exhibit. Bastian lives naturally with his family herd. Ee/Aa/nCr - carries cream, red, gray genes. Proven sire of offspring of outstanding type, work ethic, and ability. Live cover for 2020 in Texas and limited breedings available in Wisconsin. Visitors welcome in Texas by appointment. Kelly White (K.L. White on Facebook) | landsdropfjords@gmail.com | (210) 393-3541 | landsdropfjords.com

LONGVIEW GRANGE, LLC

Home of Prydarson, No. #1 rated stallion in North America with a confirmation score of 87. Frozen and Cooled Semen available for approved mares. Prydarson has produced some exceptional offspring. Bob & Donna Long, W8744 Hwy Q, Watertown, WI 53098, 920-285-8745, lvfarm@gmail.com

MARYLAND FJORDS

Raising and enjoying sound, mannerly, family friendly Fjords L. Lee Royer 4785 Baptist Rd., Taneytown, Maryland 21787 Ph 410-756-3189 weefarm@hiwaay.net

OLIVIA FARM, INC.

Olivia Farm, Inc. Standing Skogheims Viljar & home of Horsemanship in Balance & Harmony. Lessons, yoga instruction and training. Solveig Pedersen, (509) 828-9029, 4669 G Williams Valley Road, Clayton, WA 99110. info@OliviaFarm.com, www.oliviafarm.com

PARADISE FJORDS

Paradise Fjords is a small breeding and training farm located in Western Montana along the scenic Flathead River. Raising traditional quality Fjords. Standing Stallion, Paradise's Rocco with a strong draft type pedigree. Stallion prospects for sale in 2018: 4yr old Paradise's Harvey and 2yr old Paradise's Ragnar. Contact Nancy Beech 406-826-3260, email paradisefjords@blackfoot.net and web site www.paradisefjords.com.

POGUE MT FJORDS

Jodi Curry, 410D Green Lake Road, Okanogan, WA 98840, (509) 322-7292 email: jodicurry1967@gmail.com, Quality Fjords. Ride, drive, pack, pleasure or show. Excellent family horses. Stallion Service: ASKE BM-P-1667-S. Visit the pedigree website to see pictures of Aske.

POPLAR RIDGE FJORD HORSES

Producing quality, correct and athletic horses who are raised as a part of our family. Join us on facebook (Poplar Ridge Fjord Horses) and follow our journey! Located in central Alberta, Canada. Contact Aja and Dennis Johnson 780-490-8320 or 780-918-3176, email: poplarridgefjords@gmail.com, website: www.albertafjords.com

RAVEN'S NEST FARM

W2817 Shanghai Road, Juda, WI 53550, 608-897-5484. Lisa J Weldy / Tony Mendes. ravensnestfarm@gmail.com Breeder of quality fjords; standing stallions 1DR Knute, #18-7434-S, White Dun and Fair Acres Garth, WFA-1-694-S, Brown Dun. Foals for sale.

SANDE'S FJORDS

Registered Norwegian Fjord stud, Tuf Kenyon, available for services. Eden Prairie, MN location. For more information and address call Patty Sande (612) 240-3077.

SCENIC VIEW FJORDS

Our registered fjords graze our hillside pastures in eastern South Dakota. We train our fjords to pull a variety of wagons and farm equipment and are often rode on trail rides. Our herd includes a variety of color, including brown dunn, red, and grey mares. Chauncey and Carla Christiansen, 30172 449th Ave., Volin, SD 57072, (605) 661-3232, (605) 661-0391, email christiansen.farms@live.com

SHOME FJORDS & DEXTERS

Dean and Rosemary Fleharty 25979 Hwy EE Prairie Home, MO 65068, (660) 841-9502, deanfleharty@centurytel.net. Breeding horses and cattle for quality and disposition. Good bloodlines and excellent stock available.

SHORELINE STABLES

Aden Miller, 8639 S Wiswell Road, Windsor, OH 44099. A few select fjords for sale. Older horses and younger stock. 440-272-5825. Leave a message.

STAR CATCHER FARM

We are located in Tulare County California in the middle of Dairy country. We are proud to announce that we will be standing our 2 young stallions, SCF Vegard and DD Taro Locke, to a select number of outside mares in 2021. Both boys boast pedigrees with 5 generations of clean genetics. Vegard (Vae) is a beautiful young stallion with moves made to impress. He is extremely easy on the eye and shows an athletic ability I hope to put to good use in the future. Locke (Loki) has an idyllic temperament. His calm disposition makes him easy to handle and his willingness to work makes him easy to train. For more information on breeding to either of these fantastic boys contact Sara Jongsma. (559) 786 - 8156, email: sara.jean@yahoo.com

STAR N FARM

We are a family friendly farm located outside of Union City, OH. We run a local 4-H group, are active members of a Mounted Search and Rescue team, trail ride, drive for pleasure and for show, compete in medieval games and jousting, and train horses. Patrick also does saddle fitting, is a farrier and helps treat horses with PEMF therapy using MagnaWave. He is a representative for DK Saddlery, which is an adjustable tree saddle. We have 2 mares, Lorin and Lilah, that we trail ride, are staring over fences and on cows and are soon to be competing in medieval games. We are standing YRF Trygve, a beautiful brown dun with an amazing personality, as our farm stud. Hopefully soon, he will become Sir Patrick's joust/war horse. We currently have a filly and a stud colt for sale from our mares and stallion. Website: www.starnfarm.com

STARFIRE FARM

Standing five excellent stallions. BDF Obelisk (Gjest x FG Stine), Gold Medallion, Blue Ribbon stallion with conformation score of 83.5 (live cover). Thordal (Lestor x Kristin) Gold Medallion, Blue Ribbon stallion conformation score 81 (live cover). Silver Flyer, white dun stallion (Smedsmo Graen x FC Gwendellin) available via live cover or transported, cooled semen. Also two beautiful direct sons of Felix; LTW Sir Xilef (Felix x Udine) and LTW Prince Christian (Felix x Tarissa) available live cover, transported cooled semen or frozen semen. See stallion directory or our Facebook Page for more information regarding these special horses. We have produced Fjord horses that excel in the show arena as well as partners on the trail or in your backyard. Training available for mares boarded for breeding. Lessons in Horsemanship, Dressage and Driving. Beth Beymer & Sandy North, 2012 Blue Mountain Ave., Berthoud, CO 80513, (303) 651-3940, starfirefarm@usa.net.

SUNNYSIDE FARM

Sunnyside Farms is where traditional Norwegian bloodlines meet today's therapeutic needs. We preserve, protect and promote the Norwegian Fjord in order to ensure its future as a therapy horse. Located in beautiful SW Montana, Sunnyside is where the delightful imported grey stallions Smedsmo Gråen and Brigg thrive, and where a fantastic array of lovely imported and USA-native grey mares flourish. We take pride in temperament, conformation, movement, sensibility, usability and breed a horse of a different color, consistent with the breed standard and proven for therapy. We use and promote our horses, young and old, to help people. Visit our website (<https://sunnysidefjords.org>) and Face Book page (@sunnysidefjords) to learn about our programs, follow the development of our young stock, and enjoy all of the amazing things that happen here. Quality home-grown, imprinted, proven and socialized foals are available throughout the year. Sunnyside Farms, Inc., Wendy Bauwens, Clyde Park, Montana 406-223-6933 wcbauwens@gmail.com

WETZEL FJORDS

Kenneth Wetzel or Tony Wetzel, 480 County Road 27 NE Spicer, MN 56288. Phone (320)796-0056 Fax (320)796-0441 E-mail fyrereee87@hotmail.com. Young stock available sired by our red dun stallion Kjør Prancer.

WILLOW RIDGE FARM

David and Anne Skoog, Boise, ID Standing Willow Ridge Ragnar (Fair Acres Ole x Kjør Greta by Runar FRA Opdal), available for registered mares only. We offer a limited number of foals each year breeding our 2 mares Quad-L's Liskan and Elke by Brok. We are a small farm located 20 min southwest of Downtown Boise. Keeping our farm small has allowed us to spend all of our time and efforts on training and raising our mares and foals. Through careful breeding we can offer confirmation temperment and trainability. Our foals are independent and ready to become your new partner in any direction you chose.

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Your Committees at Work

Breeders Committee

Objective: Support, educate, and encourage Fjord Horse breeders
Board Liaison: Kelly White

Education Committee

Objective: Develop and provide educational materials and organize educational events to include, but not limited to education forums, seminars, and clinics for NFHR members and the general public.
Board Liaison: Kay Schwink

Elections Committee

Objective: Solicit and accept nominees for the Board of Directors. Act as point of contact for the company receiving, counting, and certifying the election.
Board Liaison: Curtis Pierce

Evaluation Committee

Objective: Ongoing development and oversight of the NFHR Evaluation Program.
Board Liaison: Eric Watness

Evaluation Committee Review Board

Objective: Responsible for making recommendations to the BOD regarding the approval of evaluators following the training period and to resolve disputes referred by the evaluation committee or the BOD.
Board Liaison: Eric Watness & The Executive Committee

Executive Committee

Objective: Assist and make recommendations to the BOD in the management of the NFHR.
Board Liaison: Eric Watness, Rory Miller, Curtis Pierce, Jennifer Wright

Finance Committee

Objective: Provide yearly projected budget in a timely manner. Develop and implement proper accounting methods.
Board Liaison: Rory Miller

Fjord Herald Committee

Objective: Assist the Fjord Herald Editor to obtain, solicit, and generate content for the Fjord Herald to include advertising, articles, and pictures.
Board Liaison: Jessica Reuterskiold

Membership & Youth Committee

Objective: To support and foster adult and youth memberships, future and current for the NFHR.
Board Liaison: James Raabe

Recognition & Awards Committee

Objective: Maintain a record of awards for the awards coordinator and increase outreach to future shows and events for award participation.
Board Liaison: Jennifer Wright

Promotion Committee

Objective: Develop and provide promotion of the NFHR, Fjords, and assist committees in their advancement of the breed.
Board Liaison: Rory Miller



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