

# A Box of Crayons

## Monroe's Exotic Morgan Collection—aka—MEMC Morgans

*"Life is about using the whole box of crayons." ~RuPaul*

If you ask a group of Morgan lovers which farms spring to mind when they think of colorful Morgans, chances are MEMC Morgans will be high on the list of responses. Acquiring that sort of name recognition might be more difficult for any barn that does not show extensively, but Jennifer Monroe of MEMC Morgans in Melissa, TX has bred and sold many Morgans who have carried the torch for her into that endeavor.

Like many of us, Jennifer has loved horses from her earliest memories. Her father, the late John T. Weske, was a veterinarian. The family moved a lot until Jennifer's teen years, and everywhere she lived she took riding lessons. Her first horse was a very hot Arab/Saddlebred cross. "I knew he would be fun because when we went to see him, he immediately ran away up a dirt road with me," Jennifer remembers. "I got him turned and when we came back down that road at a fast trot, I said he was the one!" That sense of adventure has served Jennifer well in her quest to breed outstanding colorful Morgans—specifically, cream dilutes with a lot of white trim.

While she was in college and throughout her early married years, Jennifer began buying and selling horses to help with the upkeep costs on her personal horses. One of those resale horses was a Morgan mare, Duzz It Well Dinamin. "I didn't realize it then, but she was a Morgan that was hard to find at that time, 15.2 and a lot

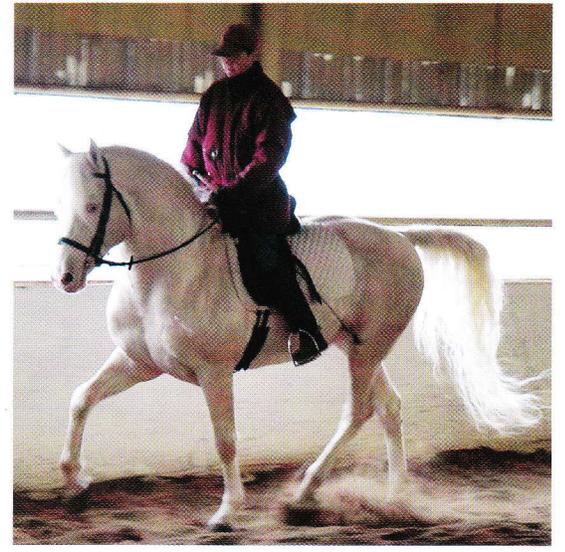
of sport horse potential," Jennifer says. "She sold in about 10 days for a profit to a lady in Oregon who was very pleased with her."

MEMC Morgans—MEMC stands for Monroe's Exotic Morgan Collection—got its official start in 1995 with the purchase of Pynrose Lady In Red, known as "Mars" for her red coat. Jennifer had learned that

double cream dilutes would produce gold, and soon she was in the market for a cremello stallion to breed to Mars for palomino foals. She found two cremello Morgan stallions for sale on the American White and Crème Horse Association's sales list. As this was before the repeal of the White Rule in 1996, neither one was registered. Nashboro Sir Galahad was out of Jennifer's price range, but the other stallion—just a yearling at the time—interested Jennifer enough that she inquired on him. "I received two Polaroids from his owner in North Dakota. I decided to buy him because I knew I could make money doing partbred breedings with the cremellos. I did require the lady to send a signed AMHA registration application with the colt in case he was ever registerable. He was a yearling and I paid \$545 for him; his shipping was more than his purchase price." Shortly after sending the money for the colt, Jennifer had a bit of buyer's remorse. She was making good money from her boarding business; what was she doing buying an unregistered stallion? She even tried to convince a friend to take the colt instead, but in the end went through with the purchase—and has never regretted it.

**By Laura Behning**

MEMC youngsters enjoying a romp in the snow, February 2011, left to right: MEMC *Hallelujah* (raf) (MEMC Crown Royal x Alatheia Fire N Ice) 2010 palomino splash/sabino filly, MEMC *RC Ryder* (raf) (MEMC Crown Royal x MEMC Lickety Split) 2010 chestnut splash sabino colt, MEMC *Confetti* (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x W-B Her Royal Highness) 2010 palomino splash sabino filly, and MEMC *Genevieve* (MEMC Grandeur x Alatheia Fire 'N Ice) 2009 palomino sabino filly. Inset: Jennifer Monroe and her 2009 palomino sabino/splash filly, MEMC *Enchantment* (MEMC Grandeur x W-B Her Royal Highness), share a quiet moment.



*Head stallion at MEMC Morgans is the big cremello, MEMC Tequila Cuervo (Triple S Bald Eagle x Twine Pines Sara).*

Now known far and wide as MEMC Tequila Cuervo (Triple S Bald Eagle x Twine Pines Sara), her new acquisition had never had his feet trimmed, eaten grain, been wormed or vaccinated when he arrived at Jennifer's farm. "He still looked vibrant and healthy and his feet were almost perfect, because that horse's legs and feet are so correct that they had broken off evenly," Jennifer recalls. Tequila is her best friend. "As soon as he stepped off the trailer, there was my buddy. I still call him Bud. He is only Tequila when he's in trouble or in front of company!" Had she not gone through with Tequila's purchase, MEMC Morgans would never have come to be.

With the repeal of the High White Rule in 1996, Tequila was able to be registered, and two years later his first Morgan foals arrived. It was then that Jennifer began to understand just what she had in her big white stallion. "The wonderful thing about this horse is that he can cross with so very many different phenotypes and produce these consistently better colorful offspring," Jennifer says. "He is a prepotent stallion and corrects mares without taking away the special things the mare brings. I have always gotten many repeat breedings and customers, and I feel that is a great sign that people are pleased with their resulting foals. His foals generally have size and are strong movers with good minds and good hearts." Tequila foals are also very uniform, and that "Tequila look" is still there generations later.

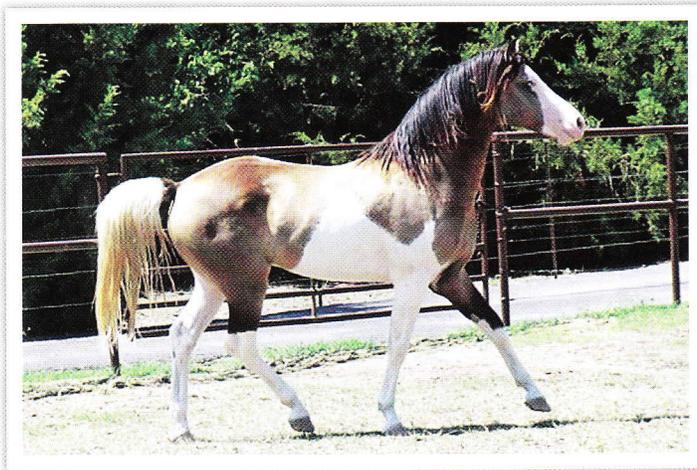
The rescission of the high white rule, while allowing the colorfully marked Morgans to be registered, also skyrocketed their prices.

At that time of Tequila's purchase, there were only two other cremello Morgan stallions in existence. The demand for colorfules was going up, and being a guaranteed color producer, Jennifer soon received an offer on Tequila for \$40,000. "I told them he was not for sale, ever. I have done horse trading over the years in other breeds and also resold some Morgan mares in foal as an income source, and when you are in business, most everything generally has a price. Tequila has never had a price," she stresses.

That demand for colorfules made Jennifer start thinking about purchasing a second cremello stallion. "I looked to the horse I felt would complement my breeding program both in terms of his popularity and for later crossing with Tequila offspring. That horse was Nashboro Sir Galahad, and now that he was registered, his price was significantly higher. I paid \$44k for Galahad and not only did he repay the loan with interest for me, he made money for me, his foals made money, and then he sold for a five figure profit." Jennifer says. "He was a beautiful animal with a unique look and essence to him. He had been extensively trained and shown in Tennessee and is beloved by many people still today including me and I have some regrets about selling him. Tequila put me on the map with my breeding program and Galahad, well, he was the icing. Those two stallions were very good to me and through them I made friends and contacts worldwide."

Jennifer made two decisions early on that she still stands by today. "The first was to keep the stud fee higher on the two stallions than the other colorful stallions at that time, with the exception of the well-known Primavera Valdez. I felt my two stallions were fine horses and they deserved their service fees, and I worked hard and I felt my time was valuable too. Once a well-known colorful breeder called me, and while we were talking she told me I should lower my stud fees because I would then make more money and have more mares. I told her I was not out to set a record for quantity of colorfules produced, I was out to try and make a difference in the quality, and to build my own breeding program in the same way. I also told her that I didn't see how it behooved me to ask less for the fees so that I would have to breed more just to make the same money!"

"The second decision I made when I started breeding Tequila was not to stand him to cream dilute mares and that even included my own mares until he was a much older horse and I felt I needed to produce a son to replace him. Since Tequila was a homozygous color producer, we knew he would produce a cream dilute foal.



Above and below: MEMC On Target (MEMC Crown Royal x W-B Her Royal Highness), 2006 buckskin splash/sabino pinto stallion. "Tiger" is the only male homozygous splash pinto in the breed; Above, right: MEMC RC Ryder (raf), 2010 chestnut splash sabino colt, and MEMC Hallelujah (raf), 2010 palomino sabino (possibly also splash) filly, hitting the hay.

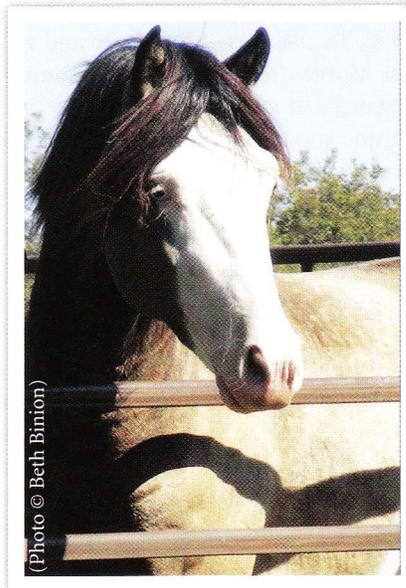
I would tell people to bring their best bred mares because you know you will get color, so breed for the highest quality colorful you can. I know there were some people who didn't like that decision of mine. Therefore, I did make Galahad available for cream dilute mares."

Jennifer added a third stallion to her breeding program in 1999. High White Revolution (High Water Running Star x Bellemount's Magic Moment) or "Rebel" as he was known around the farm, had won some In-Hand and Pleasure Driving classes in Virginia for his breeder Sue White before moving to MEMC. Being a very well marked high white sabino Morgan, Rebel was chosen to add the next element Jennifer wanted in her breeding program—lots of white markings. He was later sold, but not before he left his greatest influence on Jennifer's program through his daughter MEMC Lickety Split (x HRH Fancy), who has been a consistent producer of high white Morgans for MEMC.

### Mare Power

"When I chose mares to produce more high white, I did look at mares that had some chrome on them but more so, I looked for mares who, like Rebel, came from a bloodlines of consistent white markings," Jennifer says.

A sabino mare Jennifer added early on was Alatheia Fire 'N Ice, purchased from Tom and Lois Sauer. "Tom spent over 40 years building his bloodline, and I admired his stock. I also bought the dam of Fire, Goings Dream Come True. She was later sold in foal to Tequila and has been a good sport mare producer for Lynn Skillington's sport horse program in Pennsylvania." Fire's 2008 son



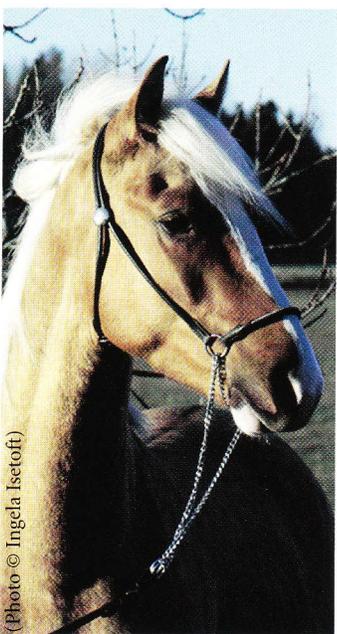
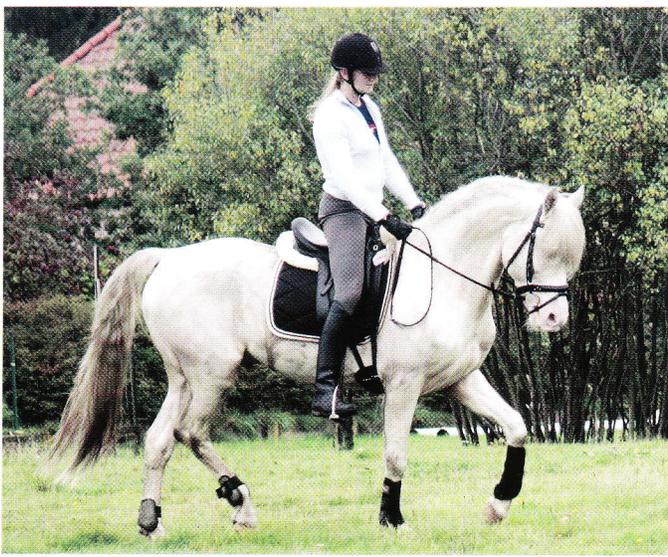
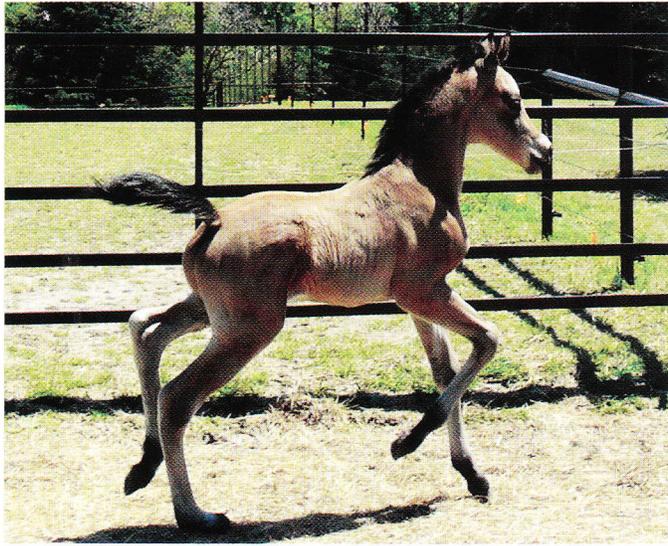
(Photo © Beth Binion)

MEMC Princeton (by MEMC Crown Royal) was sold to Ice Morgans in Sweden to be a breeding stallion. Jennifer is keeping his full sibling, MEMC Hallelujah, a palomino 2010 filly "who is high white with blue in both eyes as she carries both the sabino and splash gene," Jennifer says.

Jennifer realizes that she is fortunate to have had just the right horses come into her life at precisely the right moments. The acquisition of the chestnut sabino/splash mare, King Blaze Mint (WindhoverEnchantment x Icestone Whitewing) was one such fortuitous purchase. "I had always been in love with the incredibly beautiful high white stallion King Royal Mint, and when I was presented with the opportunity to have Blaze as well as the high white dam of my Rebel stallion in a double package deal, well, I did it." Blaze arrived in foal to the buckskin stallion Robbi Sue's Mr Alert, and in 2003 Jennifer had her fourth stallion with the birth of the buckskin sabino/splash, MEMC Crown Royal.

"I was so amazed by Blaze and her new son that I called and introduced myself to the owner of Blaze's sire whom had also owned her for a while. This was Vicki Greer and I still enjoy a good friendship with Vicki today. She is a great woman and it is thanks to her

that my once in a lifetime mare came into my life, W-B Her Royal Highness. She is full sister to Blaze and the producer of my most beautiful and colorful Morgans to date. If MEMC Tequila Cuervo put me on the map as a breeder being my best stallion of note, W-B Her Royal Highness or Queen has done it as a mare. I am deeply indebted to Vicki and Queen for all they have done for me."



(Photo © Ingela Isetoft)

**Top to bottom:** MEMC Amante (MEMC Crown Royal x Golden Acres Precious Lady), a 2008 buckskin gelding, is typical of the quality produced by MEMC; MEMC Grandeur (Nashboro Sir Galahad x MEMC Finer Things, by MEMC Tequila Cuervo), a cremello stallion, is owned by Diana Jasica of Off Border Hill Morgans in Belgium. He is being pointed towards a dressage and driving career, and scored a 64% in his first dressage competition; MEMC Princeton (MEMC Crown Royal x Alatheia Fire 'N Ice), a 2008 palomino colt owned by Ice Morgans in Sweden.

## A Splashy Surprise

In 2005 the colorful Morgan world was learning that the rare splash white gene existed in our breed. For Jennifer, this newfound knowledge meant that MEMC Crown Royal, with his blue eye as well as his white markings, was a splash in addition to sabino. In 2006 she crossed Crown Royal back to his dam's full sibling, W-B Her Royal Highness, and anxiously awaited the results. She was there the night Queen foaled. "As he was born there came some tall stockings. When the head came out I noticed a big bald face. I thought, well with all that white on the head, those eyes are probably blue and he seemed dark since he was all wet. It was only as I went behind the mare to dry the baby and examine the sex that I realized I not only had a colt this time, but also he was about 40% white! His tail was white, his entire belly too and he had some white going partially up his sides. It was finally then, once I knew mom and colt were okay, that I could step back a bit and I realized what I had here was a homozygous splash Morgan and his birth made him the first male one in the breed. It was the middle of the night and I didn't want to awaken anyone to give them my exciting news, so I remember just jumping around in my yard. I had no idea I might get this much color and it was a wonderful moment for me."

The birth of a foal with this much white identified W-B Her Royal Highness as a splash in addition to sabino—even though she did not have blue eyes, which are the usual indicator of splash gene's presence. Her new buckskin pinto colt was named MEMC On Target "because after years of working to create quality cream dilute high white Morgans with classical type, movement, upheadedness and beauty, I felt I hit the bulls-eye with him," she says. More excitement is in store for this spring as On Target's first foals will arrive.

## MEMC Morgans Overseas

The quality produced by MEMC Morgans has not escaped the eye of savvy European breeders. MEMC Morgans has been one of the leading exporters of colorful Morgans overseas, with nine of them sold there so far. Jennifer's website has been a crucial marketing tool in this endeavor.

Diana Jasica, of Off Border Hill Morgans in Belgium, was looking for some new bloodlines to introduce to her breeding program when she found Jennifer's website. "I was immediately overwhelmed with the type and beauty of these horses," Diana recalls. "Looking further into their bloodlines I noticed a lot of new names I didn't really know at the time, as well as others that I did. By then I was lost and decided to take a closer look." Diana was very drawn to Nashboro Sir Galahad, but Jennifer didn't own him any more and the frozen semen she did have was not approved for export. A Galahad granddaughter that Diana was interested had already been sold. So when the Galahad son MEMC Grandeur (x MEMC Finer Things, by Tequila) came available in 2008, Diana jumped at the chance. He was imported along with Golden Acres Precious Lady, a palomino mare in foal to MEMC Crown Royal. The following spring Lady foaled a perlino colt that Diana named MEMC Royalty At OBH. Diana plans to put him in driving training next summer. Grandeur is in dressage training, and scored a 64

percent in his first outing—against all breeds. “We are convinced he has a great career ahead of him, representing MEMC Morgans in Europe,” Diana says.

Another happy overseas customer of Jennifer’s is Ingela Isetoft from Ice Morgans in Sweden. Ingela had also been visiting Jennifer’s website regularly. “Every time I looked, I just fell even more in love with her horses, and said to myself that someday I want my own MEMC Morgan in my stable,” Ingela says. Ingela started emailing Jennifer about six years ago, in search of a new stallion for their breeding program. “She was always so nice and honest, which I appreciate for myself, but also for the horse,” Ingela says of Jennifer. Ultimately Ingela decided on MEMC Princeton (MEMC Crown Royal x Alatheia Fire ’N Ice), a 2008 palomino colt. “I not only have a great golden horse with a golden heart, but I also made a new friendship for life in Jennifer,” she says.

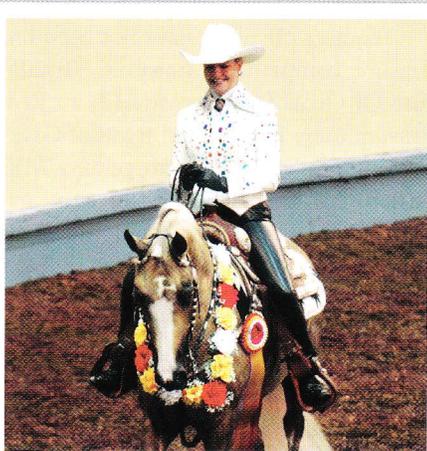
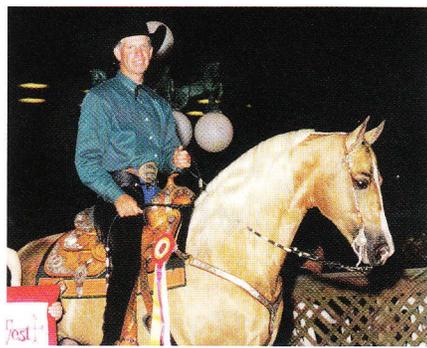
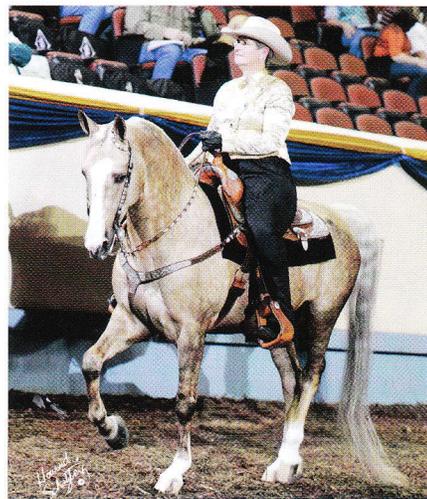
### MEMC Morgans in the Show Ring

MEMC Morgans has bred a number of successful show horses in both open and Morgan competition. One of the most well known is the striking palomino mare MEMC Graffiti (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x W-B Her Royal Highness). A heavily dappled palomino with chrome accents, Graffiti is the very picture of what Jennifer breeds for. Among her many show ring wins is the title of Reserve Grand National Champion Western Pleasure Three-Year-Old Mare in 2008, where she was shown by her then-owner Kelly Kraegel Varner. She was purchased after the show by her current owner, Carole Downs of Acworth, GA. Kelly says of ‘Fifi,’ as she is known to her friends, “She is incredibly smart and always wanted to learn; she was a snap to train. She won nearly every class I showed her in her three-year-old year, starting at the Oklahoma Centennial. Fifi is a ton of fun to accessorize and match outfits to! She has one of the biggest followings of any horse I have ever shown. I have found that to be true with almost all of the colorfules I have shown. People love them, and so do the judges. The colorfules are gaining a lot more quality to them now, which is what I think we were missing at the beginning of the colorful trend. I’ve heard people say that the judges are prejudiced against colorful Morgans, but I have found the opposite to be true! The problem is if your colorful is not correct or quality, the judge’s attention will be drawn to them and it will be noticed; but if your colorful is a quality individual I feel people gravitate to them in a very positive way.” Kelly had previously bred another Western pleasure winner by Tequila, the palomino mare KAK Gold Coast (x Whispering My Command), now owned by Kathy Mendenhall.

The buckskin stallion MEMC Orion (All Things Considerd x SFG Passion Flower) made the long trip to Hawaii as a weanling, where he is winning in open Western pleasure classes for his owner, Angie Troxel. “He very smart and brave, and he doesn’t have a mean bone in this body,” Angie says. “Jennifer really did a good job with this breeding.” Orion is currently in reining training, and enjoys being trail ridden in the Piiholo state forest reserve.

MEMC Tequila Cuervo has sired many western stars from outside breedings, including the well known Western pleasure horse UDM Gold Mine (x Double M Gail Force). Bred by Karen Burrige of Upson Downs Morgans in Gainesville FL, Gold Mine was shown to many Western pleasure blues and tricolors by Garn Walker. He has continued his winning ways for current owner Kathy Gutting, under the direction of Broadmoor. Gold Mine is the sire of multi-champion palomino western pleasure horses BPM Gold Dust (x Treasure Merrigold), a gelding owned by Kris and Allen Breyer of Briar Patch Morgans, and UDM Fortune In Gold (x LSC She’s A Pistol), a stallion owned by Deloise Mitchell.

The 16 hand, six-year-old palomino gelding, CFF Strictly Byzness (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x GLB Like Nobody’s Byz), has been another successful Western pleasure representative for his sire. Under the direction of Cathy Grimes, “Slick” and owner Susan Carlino of the Carlino Family Farm in San Martin, California were third in the 2010 Grand National Western Pleasure Ladies’ Amateur Gelding class, and were top ten in their other classes. Susan says “this was no easy task for a colorful competing at the national level and that being my first year showing Western—ever.”



**Top to bottom:** The 16 hand, 6-year-old palomino gelding, CFF Strictly Byzness (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x GLB Like Nobody’s Byz), is shown here at the 2010 Grand National with his owner Susan Carlino; UDM Gold Mine (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x Double M Gail Force), 1999 palomino stallion, shown here at the 2006 Far West Regional with Garn Walker, up; MEMC Graffiti (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x W-B Her Royal Highness) winning Reserve World Champion Western Pleasure 3-Year-Old in 2008, where she was shown by her then-owner Kelly Kraegel Varner.

(Photos © Howard Schatzberg, Casey McBride & Ken Martin)



Photo © Photos of You



**Left to right:** MEMC Tall Order (High White Revolution x Goings Dream Come True) on the marathon portion of his first CDE, the Katydid Combined Driving Event in Windsor, SC, November 2010; The buckskin stallion MEMC Orion (All Things Considered x SFG Passion Flower) made the long trip to Hawaii as a weanling, where he is winning in open western pleasure classes for his owner, Angie Troxel.

Tequila's propensity for siring Western pleasure champions has not gone unnoticed. "In 2009, I was pleased to receive a certificate from *The Saddle Horse Report* that deemed MEMC Tequila Cuervo the status of Overall Top 10 Western Pleasure Sire," Jennifer says. "I do believe that is a first for a colorful sire and certainly for a double dilute one."

Tequila's offspring have not been limited to Morgan Western pleasure competition, however. Tequila's first foal, The Yellow Rose Of Orcas (x Pynrose Lady in Red), was a winning hunter pleasure mare for Mary Morgan of Orcas Morgans in Ellensburg, Washington. The palomino gelding MEMC Playboy (x Reland's Delilah) has been a successful eventing horse for owner Jackie Banton, and the MEMC-bred Kin Uma (x Bellemount's Magic Moment), a palomino mare, has shown at training level dressage for owner Denise Clark. As a two- and three-year-old, the cremello mare MEMC Casablanca (x MEMC Custom Made, By Nashboro Sir Galahad) won Morgan Sport Horse In-Hand classes on the West Coast for owner Stephanie Davidson.

One MEMC-bred Morgan has made quite an impression with his first foray into combined driving. MEMC Tall Order (High White Revolution x Goings Dream Come True) is a 2003 brown gelding owned by Deb Dickerson of Columbus, NC. "Magic" attended his first Combined Driving Event (CDE) at Training Level in Windsor, SC last November. The team won their Training Single Horse Dressage class, the Training Division Dressage Championship as well as Overall High Point Training Level Championship—against 29 entries. Quite a debut!

The new Western Dressage classes will see an MEMC-bred horse in competition this year. MEMC Neon (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x Alatheia Fire 'N Ice) is a six-year-old palomino mare owned by Debbie Beth Halachmy of Wolf Creek Ranch in Grass Valley, CA. "I fell in love with Jennifer's horses from the pictures on her website," Debbie says. "I had dreamt of her Indigo Go Gold for a long time. Finally I was able to purchase him, and when I went to

Jennifer's in TX I saw a yearling filly and had to have her, too. That filly was MEMC Neon. She is a big lovely palomino with a blaze and four white socks. Neon is filled with talent and movement. She is forward moving and light on her feet. You don't even hear her feet hit the ground. She has a great mind too, so I got the whole package."

So where will a MEMC Morgan show up next? One of Jennifer's dreams is a flashy palomino parade horse that she could ride in the Rose Bowl Parade. "Once I had my first colorful Morgans, I knew that dream horse could only be a Morgan. I did buy a Ted Flowers parade saddle, but I still need to complete that goal!"

### A Foundation For Other Breeders

The Carlino Family Farm began their association with Jennifer Monroe and MEMC Morgans more than ten years ago. They have bred their carefully chosen mares to Tequila and Nashboro Sir Galahad, and the resulting foals have been all that they had hoped for. CFF Texas Tea (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x Kellys Blackfire), a 2003 smoky black mare now owned by Rhonda Walker, was their first foray into colorful breeding. "My daughter, Genevieve, was the first to plant the seed of breeding colorfals," says Susan Carlino. "We did some homework and over the next months we kept coming back to MEMC Morgans. Jennifer has always done great advertising, and we wore out many copies of *The Morgan Horse* looking at her ads. By that time we had a couple of mares and we knew that it would be important to uphold the Morgan type and standard. Jennifer and her breeding program fit the bill perfectly."

When Texas Tea was born, the Carlinos were surprised—they had expected a golden foal! The family soon learned all about smoky blacks and their ability to pass on the cream gene to their offspring. Sure enough, Texas Tea's first foal, CFF San Miguel (by Santa Fe Renegade) was a buckskin colt, foaled in 2007. He now resides in the Netherlands with Mandy and Murray Ford of M&M Ranch, where he will stand his first season this spring. The Fords



(Photo courtesy of Roxanne Riggs)

**Left to right:** The smoky black mare CFF Texas Tea (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x Kellys Blackfire) and her 2007 buckskin colt, CFF San Miguel (by Santa Fe Renegade), who now resides in the Netherlands; The 1998 palomino stallion, MEMC Tinseltown (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x Gallant Anesthesia) was one of the first foals produced by MEMC. He has been a successful breeding stallion for SFG Morgans in Michigan.

are also the owners of another Morgan from the Carlinos, CFF Santa Barbara (MEMC Tequila Cuervo x GLB Like Nobody's Byz), a 2008 palomino mare who is a full sibling to the Carlino's Western pleasure horse CFF Strictly Byzness. "We've done this cross quite a few times, and will continue to do so," Susan says.

Roxanne and Jean Riggs of SFG Morgans in Commerce Twp., Michigan purchased one of MEMC Tequila Cuervo's very first offspring, the 1998 palomino stallion, MEMC Tinseltown (x Gallant Anesthesia). They had just lost their beloved foundation stallion Light My Fire, so the youngster had big shoes to fill. "That colt grew into a handsome breeding stallion," Roxanne says. "We crossed him on our small broodmare band and he has produced some wonderful, productive sons and daughters including SFG Infinity And Beyond, SFG The Polar Express, SFG Jack Frost, SFG Tussy Mussy, SFG Whitecap and many more. His gelding sons have been great family and therapy horses. His foals and grand foals have excelled in the show ring. We never offered him at stud to outside mares, yet he crossed well with our few mares and all the resulting foals have been marketable, known for great beauty, talent, trainability, and certainly helped make a name for us in the Morgan world." The Tinseltown son SFG Infinity And Beyond (x Shatona's Empress), a cremello, has been the colorful pillar in Patty Clark's PLF breeding program. He has many champion offspring to his credit, including the well known palomino gelding Guha's Gold N Romeo, who was Junior Western Pleasure Champion in 2010 at Southern States, Mid-A and New England Regional. Other champions by SFG Infinity And Beyond are PL Be Glorified, a multiple hunter pleasure winner at the 2010 Buckeye Morgan Challenge, and PL Dancing With Angels, who is carrying on for her sire on the West Coast with Erin Silver where she is winning classes in Western pleasure and sport horse in-hand.

### Not Just Another Pretty Color

The emphasis at MEMC has always been on quality. "I don't want anyone to think that I only ever chose horses for their color, because that is not so," Jennifer emphasizes. "From the beginning I wanted to have a *breeding program*, not to just breed for color. I did to add certain colors on the right horses that had all the rest of the features important to the breed. I wanted my colorfults to have similar characteristics of upheadedness, self-carriage and animated movement, which are attributes of the Morgan horse. They must also have good temperament and trainability."

"I know that I have years left to be a breeder of real merit like the breeders I have tried to learn from and emulate," Jennifer continues. "It is a learning process. Breeding horses is a lot of work and a lot of time and heartache, but a lot of joy too. I am so grateful to all the people who bred to my stallions over the years or purchased Morgans from me, because without them, I could not have continued."

That appreciation is mutual. Susan Carlino's comments were echoed by everyone that I spoke to. "Jennifer is a good egg and a class act. She is smart and an incredible business woman. She knows her Morgan genetics and especially those of the colorfults—a great mind with a rare gift. And just about the nicest person you ever want to meet. She has always stayed true to her breeding program of breeding beautiful, correct, baroque individuals that are athletic and good minded. Even without the color and the bling, Jennifer's horses are all Morgan—Morgans that compete effortlessly in the show ring—solid, good minded and incredibly athletic in any discipline and best friends at home. Add the color and the bling, and you've got the thing that dreams are made of." ■