

AMAZING TRAIL OF TRAILS

The CRHA mare Springdale Honey entails quite a history. Over 100 years ago the Whipples imported into Colorado a son of the General Grant stallion, Leopard. The trail continued with the breeding of Ira J. Whipple, Mike Ruby, and Lorne Knisley.

In the 1950's Lorne Knisley was in need of another stud for his Colorado Appaloosa mares. Finding one to his liking in southern Wyoming, he inquired into his breeding. He was told he was registered, but the owner had died and they didn't have the papers and they could not remember the name of the registry. They thought there was a Colorado in the name. It took some digging, but Lorne unearthed the Colorado Ranger Horse Assn. He found it was incorporated by Mike Ruby, deceased. Soon after Ruby's death, the registering of horses was ceased. Most of the recorded horses were descended from the Whipple's General Grant horses.

In their latter years the General Grant stallion, Leopard and Linden Tree were standing at Beatrice, NE at the ranch of General L.W. Colby, a personal friend of President Grant. Around 1900, Mr. Whipple was raising fine carriage and riding horses and was hearing good reports about the offspring of these stallions. He made a trip to see for himself. He returned with Tony, a son of Leopard and some mares.



WAMPUM CHIPS



REDDY WAMPUM

Lorne Knisley bought the Wyoming stallion, GRANITE CANYON, and he became quite impressed with the old dormant CRHA registry and did manage to get it operating again. Lorne and I loved those horses and took some of them along wherever we went, to Canada and ever to the Middle East.

In Lorne's senior years we were living just across the Arizona line in New Mexico. We had with us a red leopard stallion, WAMPUM CHIPS. He was a son of REDDY WAMPUM, one of my two all-time favorite mares. We also had a daughter of the other mare, the one we had flown to Jordan. We name the daughter DESERT RED. The mating of Chips and Red had given us three nice and well-colored offspring.

Arizona wasn't selling fireworks to the public, so one day in July in the late 1980's, a couple of teenage boys had driven into New Mexico to buy some. Spotting our horses, they stopped to visit. One of the boys, Scott Sansom, remarked that they raised Appaloosas too. Lorne told him they were Rangerbreds. Instead of the usual, "What is a Rangerbred?" Scott said, "My mother was a Whipple and her great grandfather brought the General Grant horses into Colorado."

Later we learned that Scott's grandfather, Perry Whipple, was a lad of twelve when the big flood hit the Republic River scattering all of Ira J's horses. Since the ranch had been destroyed, Perry and his sixteen year old brother A.C. Whipple rounded up what they could of the horses and took them to auction. The Whipples breedings were lost. Years later, Perry was raising Appaloosas.

Scott: "My grandfather, who had recently visited us, had seen an article in a magazine about CRHA and contacted the organization." On his trip to Arizona, Perry had shared with his daughter, Kathy and her husband Ray Sansom his findings about the horses and their history. So Scott was informed about Rangerbreds when we met him.

LOOK AT THE TIMING!

I told Scott my book on Rangerbreds had just come out and was in the Safford bookstore. Within days, his parents were at our door with two copies to be autographed. Who would ever had dreamed that some thirty years down the road, of all places in the United States, members of the Whipple family and the Knisleys would be living some 50 miles apart and trails would merge. Kathy's husband Ray Sansom and her father Perry Whipple bought the Knisley's last senior stallion, Wampum Chips, who traced twice to Tony, the stallion Ira J. Whipple had purchased from General Colby over one hundred years before. Wampum Chips bred to Rubia (registered half-Arabian), produced SPRINGDALE HONEY, the 2006 American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) National Mileage Champion and War Mare Champion.

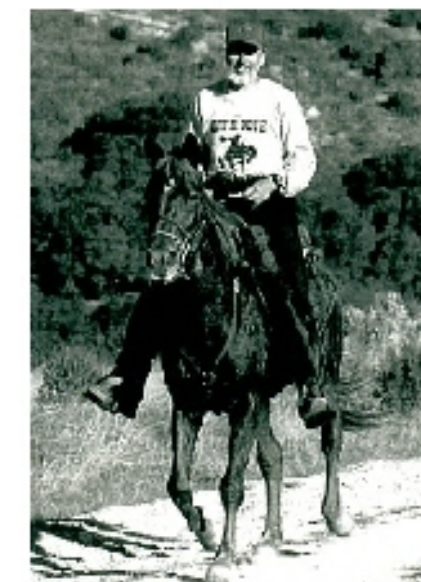
Vera Knisley, CRHA Lifetime Member...



GRANITE CANYON



DESERT RED



SPRINGDALE HONEY