



Photo © Claudia Irmer



**MorganHorse**

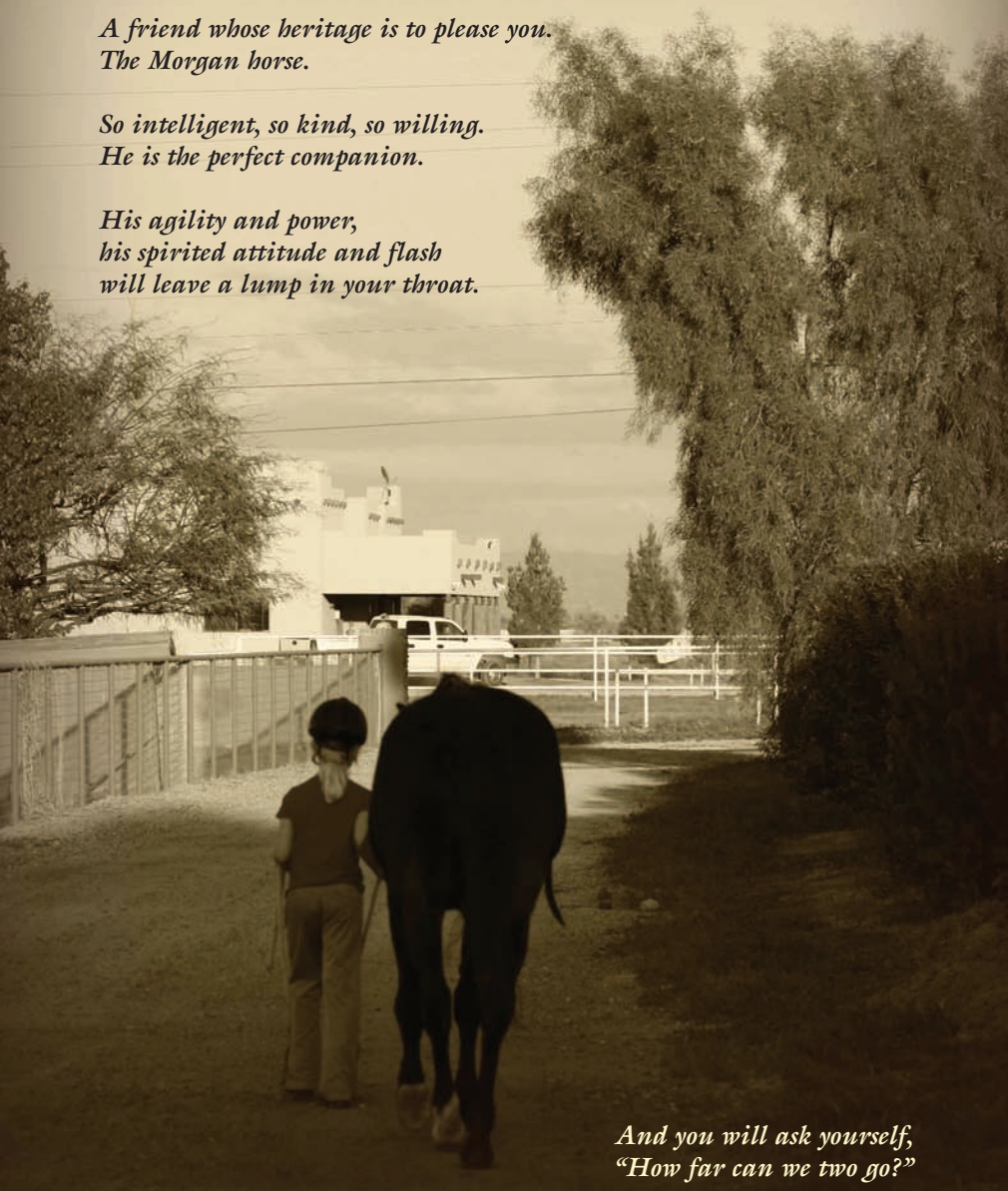
*The Horse That Chooses You.™*

*Whichever road you take in life,  
It's nice to travel with a friend.*

*A friend whose heritage is to please you.  
The Morgan horse.*

*So intelligent, so kind, so willing.  
He is the perfect companion.*

*His agility and power,  
his spirited attitude and flash  
will leave a lump in your throat.*



*And you will ask yourself,  
“How far can we two go?”*

*The answer will be,  
“Wherever our path leads us.”*



# The Morg

## HISTORY WAS MADE!

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS — 1789  
A small bay colt named Figure is born; his parentage veiled in mystery. The colt had an ordinary, even humble beginning. But in the coming years, the accomplishments of the stallion became legendary.

He earned his keep by clearing wooded mountainsides in Vermont. After a full day of work he could still out walk, trot, and run his challengers, under saddle or in harness. His gaits were strong, ground-covering, perfect for traveling long distances in the new world. And his willingness to take on new challenges established his value with men who appreciated a good horse. A working horse with a demeanor of royalty, Figure was as beautiful as he was functional. And he passed all of these wonderful characteristics on to his offspring.

He was the “Justin Morgan Horse,” named after the Vermont music teacher who owned him, and he founded America’s first breed of horse. Twenty generations later, our Morgans today still exhibit his extraordinary traits.





**To know the Morgan you must look into his face—gaze into his intelligent, kind eyes and you will see a true friend who is willing to lend you his courage, his good sense, his winning attitude.**

He is a loyal friend who will stand stalwartly by your side as you face challenges together.

His beauty will leave you breathless, this aristocrat of horses. Notice his proud carriage, run your hands along his upright, graceful neck. Know you are touching a living work of art.

Watch him gallop across an open field and admire his agility and grace. Absorb his spirit and exuberance. Better yet, let him take you along. Let him share with you his power, humor, and zest for life.

Ask him to obey you and he will. Ask him to be courageous and he will. Ask him to go the extra mile and he will. He is your companion and he lives to please you.

Go to the pasture gate and call his name. His ears will perk up at your familiar voice, and because he's a Morgan, he will leave his favorite things—green grass, pasture mates—to come visit you.

He'll frisk you for carrots or other treats with an easy familiarity, and when you reach up to scratch his favorite place, he will predictably return the favor and gently scratch you back. This is a friendship, after all, and the Morgan never takes more than he can give.



The beauty of the Morgan horse lifts the heart. The breed exists solely because it pleases people. It is their heritage. The Morgan is easily recognized by his proud carriage, upright graceful neck, and distinctive head with expressive eyes. Deep bodied and compact, the Morgan has strongly muscled quarters. The intelligence, willingness, zest for life, and good sense of the Morgan is blended with soundness of limb, athleticism, and stamina. The Morgan horse is free moving and calm under western tack or elegant and aristocratic ridden in English style. A tractable temperament allows the Morgan to excel when driving in single or multiple hitches. Companionable and comfortable on a quiet pleasure rider, the Morgan can go anywhere open skies beckon, working as a sensible partner for a long day of ranch work or endurance riding. Waiting alert and ready to enter the show ring, or performing in formal riding disciplines, the Morgan is a versatile breed. The Morgan horse agreeably adapts to his owner's lifestyle. The first American breed can be found worldwide. Reliable, loyal, and tireless, a Morgan becomes one with people of all ages and walks of life, sharing the mutual enjoyment in every equine pastime.

Photo © Greg & Kathy Lyons



**His warm breath on your neck will say more about how he feels than any words.**

The Morgan horse is known for many things, his extreme heart, his willingness and intellect, and his athleticism and versatility; the American Morgan Horse Association (AMHA) is here to preserve, promote, and protect this wonderful horse.

Founded in 1909, the Morgan Horse Club was formed to support the Morgan breed. As the breed grew, the Club evolved with it and in 1971 underwent a reorganization to reflect its blossoming responsibilities. Its permanent headquarters was established in Shelburne, Vermont, in 1988. The headquarters also is home to the National Museum of the Morgan Horse, whose exhibits display the past and future of this great breed.

The Registry exists to maintain and ensure the records of the Morgan Horse Register. It works in tandem with breeders to uphold the soundness of all Morgan horse breeding records. In 1927, the first registration certificates were issued and to date, more than 170,000 Morgan horses have been registered.

The breed journal, *The Morgan Horse*, was introduced to the public in 1941 as a newsletter. Now a four-color publication, the magazine continues more than 65 years later to be a source that is instrumental in reflecting and introducing the Morgan to a worldwide audience.

**AMHA offers many programs to enhance  
the enjoyment of the Morgan breed.**





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## Young people are an important component of the breed and AMHA.

Young people are encouraged and rewarded for working with the Morgan horse in AMHA youth programs in ways that develop a sense of sportsmanship, enhances citizenship skills, grows leadership talents and a sense of responsibility in themselves and their horses.

As a youth member, you will have the opportunity to enter national contests, participate in AMHA programs, apply for scholarships, qualify for annual recognition, and join in AMHA governance. Youth clubs are offered across the country, which generate camaraderie amongst members, allowing them to learn new skills along the way. No matter a youth's strengths or interests, Morgan involvement can bring out the best.

All young people interested in improving their horsemastership and management skills are invited to become a youth member. Owning a Morgan is not a requirement, only a passion to become the best they can be.

*"Because of Morgans, I am leading the life I have always dreamed of. Morgans are the reason when I hit the gate, all eyes are on me. Morgans are the ethereal lifeblood running through my veins, fueling my heart in a world that better belongs in my wildest dreams. When I am riding, I am transported on a journey of exhilaration, passion, and action. The versatility of this breed allows me to experience all aspects of the horse world from trail rides to showing in the jumping ring. Whether for pleasure or show, my Morgan horses help me get the most out of life."*

Rebecca, AMHA Youth Member





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