

I have been in love with horses for as long as I can remember. I was one of the lucky horse crazy kids, though. I had a horse crazy mom, the late Bonnie Herman. I grew up in Northern Illinois and when my parents bought our farm, there was a guy who kept a horse there. He asked if it would be okay for him to keep the horse there. My mom said it would be okay as long as they could ride it. That horse was a Tennessee Walking Horse. My mom was so impressed with his temperament and how smooth he was, when she went to buy her own horses, she bought two Tennessee Walking Horses. Later when I was a little older, she looked for someone to give me riding lessons. Joan Krumm lived 15 minutes away. She was a breeder and exhibitor of Tennessee Walking Horses and was active in the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association Versatility Program. That solidified our involvement in the Tennessee Walking Horse and for almost 30 years, we have owned nothing else. Through Joan Krumm's instruction and encouragement, I won the Youth Superior Versatility Championship twice, with Delight's Hi Tone and Johnny's Glory. I was the first person to do that. I showed and placed at the National Celebration. Around the time I went to college, we met Sherrie Szucs, a flat shod Tennessee Walking Horse trainer in Ohio. We have had a horse or two with her since that time and one of our horses that she trained, Newt, won the 1998 Three and Four Year Old Lite Shod Specialty World Championship.

My mom passed away in 2006 and left a huge hole in my life, but I still continue to ride and show flat shod Tennessee Walking Horses. I mostly train my own horses, although I still keep a young horse with Sherrie. I love versatility work and do jumping, dressage, trail, barrel racing, and pole bending with my horse, I'm Billy the Kid. One of my goals is to help increase the participation in versatility events in Northern California. I love showing but also enjoy a good trail ride. I also love breed promotion work and have regularly participated at the Western States Horse Expo in Sacramento. I am also a member of the National Walking Horse Association, a group that my mom helped found. I am working to promote the breed, better the industry, and ensure there is an end to the practice of soring.



Giving Audrey Hepburn a hug.



Getting an early start on George. The horse that started it all.



My current versatility project, I'm Billy the Kid.



My second Youth Superior Champion, Johnnys Glory.



With Audrey Hepburn and my beloved late mother, Bonnie.