



A VERY special Month. August 13, 1965, my beloved soulmate Amik, came into this world...



Amik means Beaver

1970 was a very dark time of my life. There were a few highlights with not much desire to move forward – but then, I saw him... an emaciated, greatly abused Standardbred gelding, covered with skin disease, so afraid of any human that if he was in his stall eating & a person stepped into the building, he would retreat to a corner & forego his meal. He was also... dying of pneumonia.



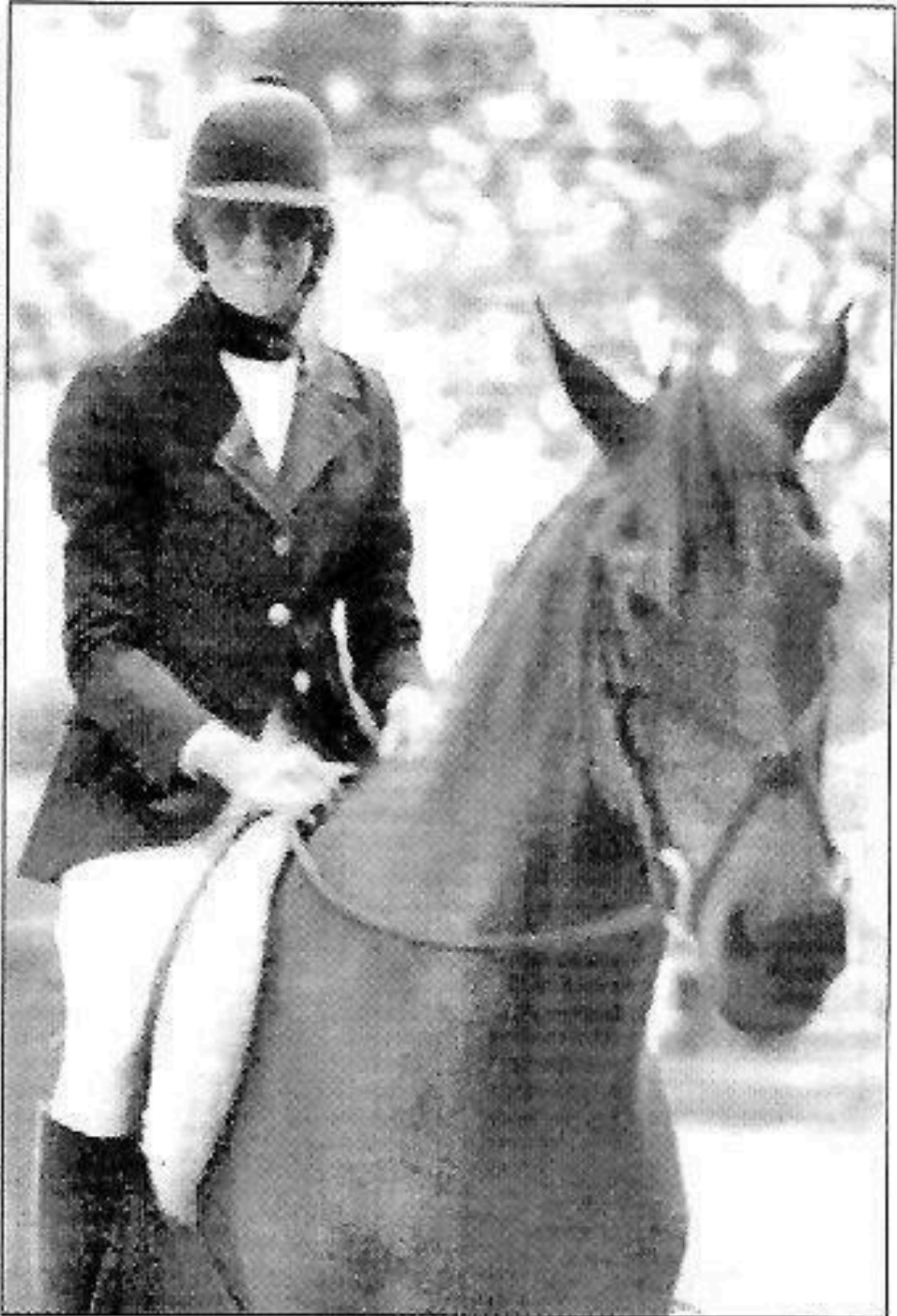
My veterinarian was right when he said Amik would die, yet it was not to be from the double pneumonia crippling his lungs – it was to be after becoming a mega-Champion, spending more than 28 years carrying my spirit. He never again had any lung ailment or breathing issues even after relocating with me from New York, to Canada, Maryland, college in Ohio & onto Florida where I named my farm after him. In the 1970s we cleared the 5'4" Puissance Wall in Thomas School of Horsemanship's Junior Olympics.

THE STORY OF AMIK JUBAL OF XANADU

Amik Jubal of Xanadu, later known simply as Amik, was a coming 4 year-old, bay Standardbred gelding dying of pneumonia when we met. My vet offered to put the horse to sleep for free, certain that his condition was terminal. His trained eye saw an emaciated, probably foundered and no longer conformed horse who was distrustful and ill. My vet liked me. He believed I deserved better. Amik lived.

He lived and he could have been no better a mount for me than if he'd been carved from my very soul. He lived, he loved and he jumped. Boy, did he jump! From when we met, until his passing just days shy of our 28th anniversary, he loved me, his freedom and anything he could jump – which was nearly everything. Cross-bar, in and outs, 5' and up and High Bar, pasture fences, arena gates, stall doors! He did these on command, at play, in emergencies or just for fun. He also did them mounted, longeing or completely bare of human influence except for the shoes on his feet.

In over 20 years of jumper competitions, he won more blues than all his other ribbons combined. I can count on two hands the number of times he was unplaced. He was versatile enough to win against the clock, Six-bar, High Jump, Puissance or rub classes. Though not fast, he could turn on a dime. Triple bars and oxers were favorites and I could ask him to lift any one or any combination of legs on command to assist clearing touch classes.



Amik is proudly dedicated to the memory and life of this spirited friend and it is in his honor that we build this dream each day.

- Laurie Wolf

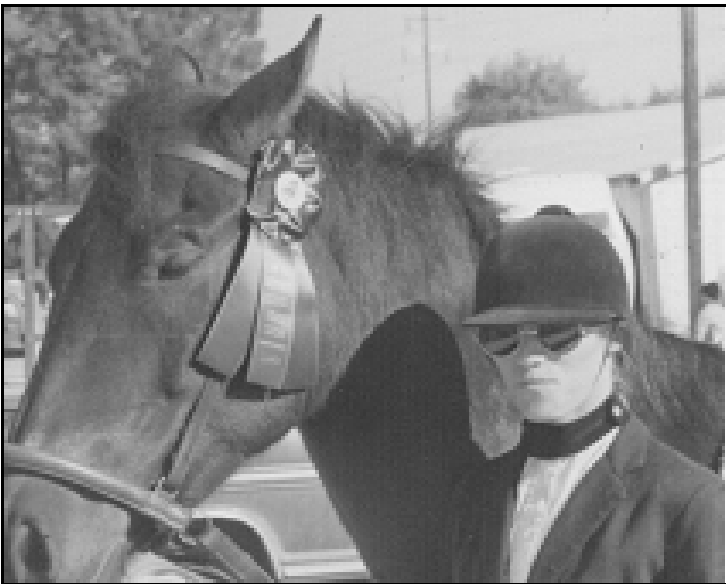
A Standardbred is an American horse breed commonly known for harness racing, but as Amik so aptly proved, they can also be ridden... & *JUMPED!* Although many are Pacers (who move with a different gait than the more familiar trot), Amik's bloodlines trace to 18th-century England trotting horses.

In the 17th century, races in America were usually held in fields while being ridden. By the middle of the 18th century, they began to be held on official courses in harness instead. Several breeds are credited as foundation stock but in 1780, a gray Thoroughbred stallion named Messenger was foaled. Imported into the US in 1788, he became a major influence. Foaled in 1849, his great-grandson Hambletonian 10 (or Rysdyk's Hambletonian) became the breed's foundation sire. All Standardbreds now descend from him.



Two of our other lovely Standardbreds – mother & son. With the same quietude & self-assurance held within a zest for life... & each other, so typical for the breed. This pair survived incredible injuries while each hospital commented on their ease of care & gentle attitudes in the face of potential demise.

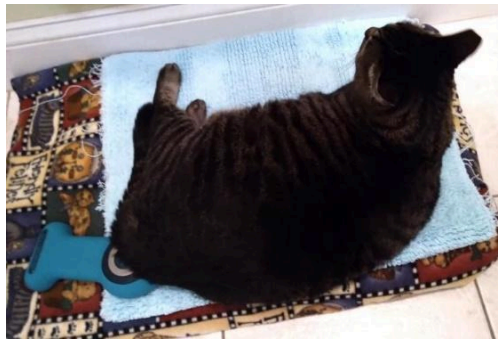
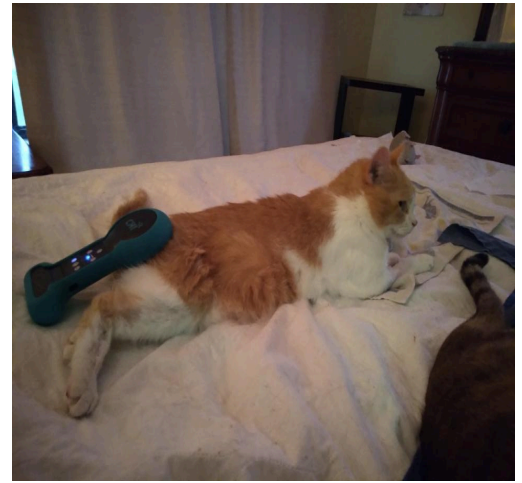
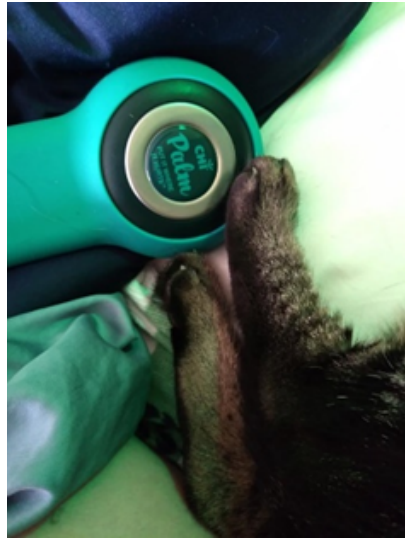
Amik means Beaver in the Chippawa Indian language. He was named for having the largest, heaviest tail I have seen to this day! When I first got him, I had two very close friends say they had ideas for great show names, but Amik had already named himself. Rather than reject the sweetness of my friends' offer, in the beginning of his show career I did use his 'whole name' but as the months went on – he simply became, Amik... The 'other' parts to his name were 'Jubal' from Heinlein's book *Stranger in a Strange Land*. My other friend was always gentle, hopeful & idyllic so she had chosen Xanadu; hence Amik Jubal of Xanadu.



Did you guess??? We call this a “Chi Party”! Can you find the unit they have gathered around? These felines are enjoying their CHI Palm experience!



Meet Richard Lee, Founder of the CHI Institute & inventor supreme! Not only do so many of us *love* & find comfort & healing from units like the CHI Palm & CHI Sun, but our animals know a good thing when they see it. We will be adding a page to our website all about our various CHI tales but for now, Carmine & his friends asked to be a part of this issue, so here are several members of our subset rescue, Lana’s Garden. As do our other species, these cats regularly treat themselves...



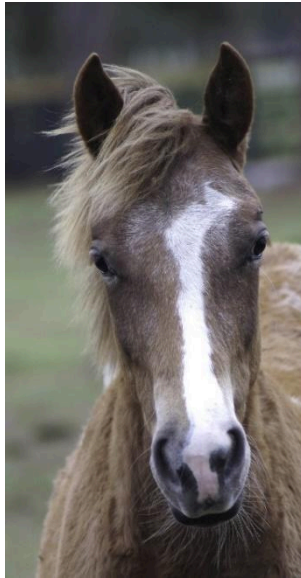
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Who's bad-hair-day is this & what the heck is Xenophon? Next month!



On June 29, 2025, Equestrian Spirits was granted a Miracle...

For the first time in 6 years, this horse's life is not in danger. Brutally attacked by a demented psychopath, this mare was captured, tranquilized & carved with surgical instruments with the intent of ending her life. Thanks to some amazing veterinary actions & our follow up, after the initial healing began, we embarked to the rest of what was to become... 6 long years of watching her body fill in the gaping wound with scar tissue in an attempt to save her leg – hence her life.

Medically, there was much question if her survival would ever honor a quality of life, but the mare persevered & until *they* say it's time to quit, unless we are completely out of options, we keep going. Reaching out for grants, donations, outside assistance of many kinds got us nowhere. So day-by-day, out of pocket, hands-on healing, we moved forward.

The mutualization was so large, with no option for grafting or sutures, a huge mass formed. Her whole story will be posted on our website but a self-promise that no gruesome photos would ever be printed in Amik's Legacy, I will simply say that I am glad I honored this horse's wish to live.



Day 1, nearly dead

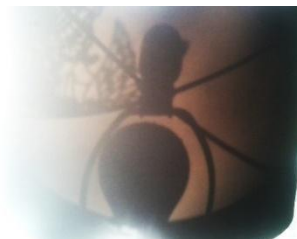


1st day, of the rest of her life... **March 7, 2019 – June 29, 2025**; still going strong! Further healing in need, but enjoying a new freedom.

When I began printing Amik's Legacy, I hoped to feature at least one specific resident, remember to thank someone or a company for their support or faith in our principals, but I also believe every day is better with a smile. Having been accused of a twisted sense of humor like my parents, I look at each day as if it might offer a giggle or two. Maybe a bit of my archives will give you a grin as well. Have a happy!



Ghost? You decide! I only have a flip-phone camera so forget photoshop!! I took this to tease a volunteer who said, "I'll get the gate," in a torrential Florida downpour. He put a plastic bag over his head & stepped out. It was weeks before I saw the copy. Low & behold.... (look to the right...)



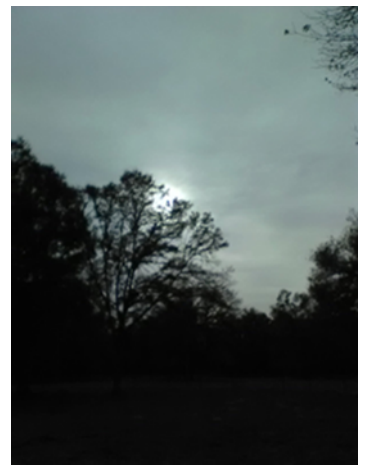
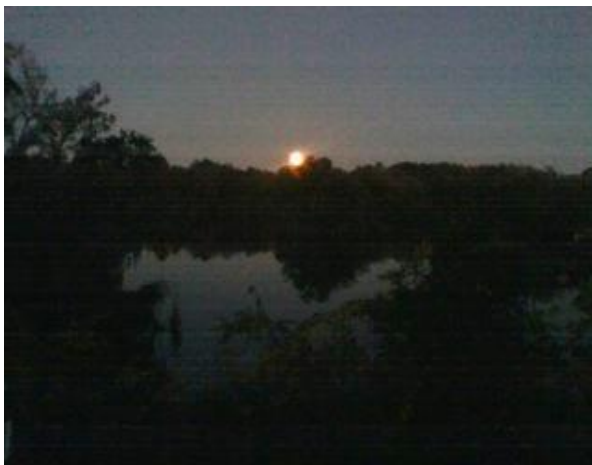
Do you see a black widow? Or the inside of my livingroom lamp close-up of a finial & a bulb? Took the picture when my 1st glance looked like a widow! I respect, yet fear our spiders.



Anyone want to guess my favorite numbers? This is Mhyrrfree (as in Murphy's Law – 3rd 'r' is silent – lol) Well maintained by Colina's Mobile Auto Repair, donated by a local show dog breeder/groomer & her friend in 2011, Mhyrf (as friends call him) is going strong, over 350,000 miles now. For the curious... Chevy. Yes, I DO talk to my truck; I will let you know when I hear an answer – hahaha!



No job too big for the dedicated! GIG (352) 665-8805. Farm verses... hurricane.

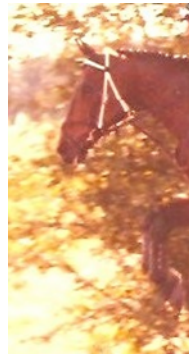


Dawn or dusk - bring on the new or call a close to what has passed. Both hold a beauty all their own.



Please consider a donation to **Amik's Rescue Fund** or **Save the Animals** by visiting our website: www.EquestrianSpirits.ORG. *Proceeds are used for animals only*, as our board is all volunteer. By donating, you offer a peace & safety some have never known. Repair of injuries, food in their bellies, lots of love to mend broken hearts & spirits. Comfortable ways to let them 'redefine their lives'...

you are still, the wind beneath my wings... **our hearts travel free...** in unison



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www.EquestrianSpirits.ORG P.O. Box 237 - Morriston, Florida 32668

Very sincerely, and in the spirit of all who have gone on before me... many thanks for your interest – Laurie L.

Wolf

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