

Townshend: Where quality is tradition

Strong mare base is secret to specializing in foals for both show and sport.



Top left: Colt by Mighty Mo

Top right: Call To Order

Bottom: Filly by Call To Order

Seventy years and still counting, Townshend Farm, Bolton, MA, established by Anna Dickson Ela and operated by her and her daughter, Nancy Caisse, has bred – and is continuing to breed – quality Morgans for all disciplines. The Townshend prefix appears on Morgan pedigrees across the United States.

An icon in the Morgan world, Anna Ela at 95 still has a keen interest in the farm and Morgans. She is the recipient of dozens of awards, was an AMHA director and AHSA judge. The best known Morgan stallions she has owned are John A. Darling, Sealect, Cornwallis, Orland Vigildon, Melody Morgan and Merri-Lee Double Don.

Townshend has always been best known for its strong mare base, allowing for specialization in show or sport Morgans. The mare families have different physiques, but share the basics. The common base emphasizes a strong, aggressive forward-going attitude, high-headed and proud, a smart, clever personality, a good work ethic with lots of grit and, of course, conformationally sound enough to do the job. Morgan type and prettiness are never forgotten.

The three basic mare groups are the original Gladloss x Sealect/Cornwallis with outcrosses to Orland Vigildon and Merri-Lee Double Don; Bay State Wardissa crossed with Orland Vigildon, Lippitt Rob Roy and Merri-Lee Double Don; and the favorite show mare Townshend Debadonna by using Orland Vigildon on Brown Pepper/Cornwallis lines.

To meet modern challenges, Townshend has crossed established mare groups to outside stallions. Some of these have entered the broodmare group. Younger ones presently for sale include those by Man About Town LPS, Menomine Yankee D Dandy, Legacy's Viking, Suite After and CCR's Outrageous Courageous. 2004 will bring foals by Main Frame, Whispering Whamuniton as well as Call To Order.

The exciting young six-year-old out-cross stallion, Call To Order (FPM My Time x Berry Bank Paperchase), owned by Tom Maker. He is producing that special look, size and high headedness and athletic talent.

Limited bookings are also available to the older stallions Townshend Bentime (Bildair's Benjamin x Townshend Vigiline), Townshend Mighty Mo (Wood-N-Brook High And Mighty x Townshend Donnarissa).

Since Townshend is a working farm with a herd of 50 Morgans and limited time for showing, the focus is returning to that earlier phase of raising foals to sell and providing foundation stock. All youngsters are handled and started in training.

Visitors are always welcome at Townshend. Contact Anna Ela & Nancy Caisse, 200 Wataquadoc Hill Rd., Bolton, MA 01740. (978) 779-2244. Fax (978) 779-5280. 1 1/2 miles from I-495, Exit 27 in eastern Massachusetts.

