

## Commentary: Spotlight on elders

**By William Peirce Randel**  
In the long series of group migrations to North America, from the founders of Jamestown to the tar-weary refugees from Viet Nam, few if any have arrived without fixed attitudes toward aging and special traditions for treating their elders. The variations are many; but they have not had much influence on the development of any form of "ageism" recognizable as distinctively American.

For the first three centuries of our history we had a rather colorless or neutral behavior toward our elders. This came about largely by default. The first shiploads of settlers, mostly from Great Britain, had almost no older people (by whatever definition of "older"). Hewing livable space out of a wilderness called for the best in brawn and good health. Only when a few of these "founding fathers" (and mothers) survived their fifties and settled into less strenuous labors, was there even the appearance of an older group in the community.

We know some of these lucky few by name and reputation. Anne

Bradstreet, for example, our first poet of any substance, lived to be sixty, and her formidable husband Simon, stepped down as Massachusetts governor at 89. We know the dissenter Roger Williams, who founded Rhode Island as a haven for religious liberals, and who, at age 72, served as a militia captain in King Philip's War.

We recall with special pride the many-sided Ben Franklin, 70 when appointed to help draft a Declaration of Independence, 82 when he finally retired from public life. And it amuses us to read the diary of Samuel Sewall, former judge in the Salem witch trials, as he records his courting of widow Winthrop in his late 60s (She turned him down.) But - and this is a very important but - the stress on age

colonial sampling is a recent addition; what individuals did, in early times, was what really counted,

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### Boots-Saddles horse show winners

The Boots and Saddles Horse and Pony Club held their third Gymkhanna of the year on Saturday, August 23, at the Fellenbaum farm with 25 members showing.

**Jr. Grooming and Showmanship**  
Donna Sammons, Sharon Gernert.

**Sr. Grooming and Showmanship**  
Terry Miller, Phil Young.

**Dollar Bareback**  
Elyse Wells, Lori Sammons.

**Pony Pole Bending**  
Pam Sammons, Kathy Van Aulan.

**Horse Pole Bending**  
Sandy Hamilton, Ray Carmean.

**Jr. Western Equitation**  
Donna Sammons, George Metzler.

**Sr. Western Equitation**  
Dan Fellenbaum Jr., Lashon Bussell.

**Egg and Spoon**  
Elyse Wells.

**Western Pleasure Pony**  
Doug Fellenbaum, Donna Sammons.

**Western Pleasure Horse**  
Brenda Blaxland, Sharon Gernert.

**Pony Barrel Race**  
Doug Fellenbaum, Lori Sammons.

**Horse Barrel Race**  
Ray Carmean, Terry Miller.

**Hunt Seat Equitation**  
Dan Fellenbaum Jr., Elyse Wells.

**Crawl thru the Barrel**  
Sandy Hamilton, Elyse Wells.

**Break and Out**  
Pam Sammons, Jeff Fellenbaum.

**Western Riding**  
Deb Carmean, Lori Sammons.

**Pony Keyhole**  
Doug Fellenbaum, Lori Sammons.

**Horse Keyhole**  
Ray Carmean, Terry Miller.

**Hunter Under Saddle**  
Dan Fellenbaum Jr., Lashon Bussell.

**Pony Scurry Race**  
Lori Sammons, Pam Sammons.

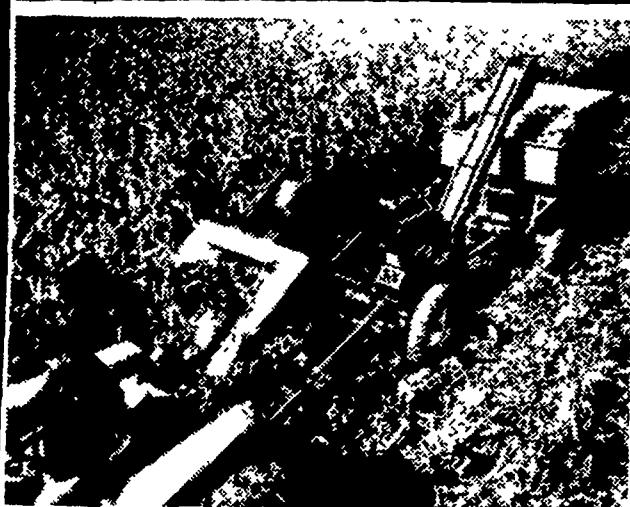
**Horse Scurry**  
Terry Miller, Sandy Hamilton.

**Pair Class**  
Rosalind Falk, Sharon Gernert; Doug Fellenbaum, Lori Sammons.

**Pony Trail**  
Lori Sammons, Beth Harcelrode.

**Horse Trail**  
George Metzler, Sharon Gernert.

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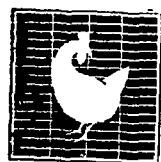


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