

Kid's KOrner

Horsing Around On Wishful Acres

BY LISA RISSER

MANHEIM (Lancaster) — Many children fall in love with the grace and beauty of a horse and dream of owning a whole stable of the delightful animals. But only a few realize this dream. Holly Wolgemuth held onto her dream and now owns Wishful Acres with her husband Dennis.

Currently home to three Arabian horses, a Morgan horse, and a Welsh pony, Wishful Acres is a training stable as well as a boarding place for equines. Holly will break and train any breed of horse, but shows only Arabians.

"I chose Arabians because they are a versatile breed," she explained. They are everything from a jumper to a working stock horse. Also, everything they do is natural, such as the way they carry their heads and tails up. On Standardbred horses they clip nerves so the tail will stand up. On Arabians this is natural."

Holly's experience with Arabians extends back to the year she was 14 and was given an Arabian yearling, Miss Moonshine. Holly broke and trained Miss Moonshine herself.

Holly learned how to train a horse by helping her neighbor work with Welsh ponies and attending demonstrations. In addition, "ever since I was a kid, I had read everything I could get a hold of," she related. "If I had any questions I would go to trainers for the answer." Some of the trainers Holly met while working at horse farms such as Senora Farms in Manheim and Kellori Stables in Brickerville. She met others through notices in tack shops.

In breaking an Arabian or Morgan for riding or driving, the first step is taken just weeks after the horse is born. The animal is touched and brushed to accustom it to being around and being handled by humans. After a time, a halter is put on and then a lead attached to teach the young animal to respond

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Wish is the farm's newest member. Holly has named the filly Moon Rocks Wish, pending acceptance with the Arabian Horse Association. Moon comes from the filly's dam,

Miss Moonshine; Rocks comes from the sire, Elza Rock; and Wish comes from the farm name, Wishful Acres.



Dennis's nieces and nephew came for a visit and helped groom Sandy, a Welsh pony that Holly has owned for many years. Amy and Derick Bollinger, 9 and 4 years old respectively, groom Sandy while Tracy, 11, holds onto the halter.



Holly and Dennis purchased the farm in 1985 and have developed it into a training and boarding stable for all types of horses.



Cinnamon Twist, a three-year-old Morgan horse, greets trainer Holly Wolgemuth with a kiss.



Holly and Dennis lead Miss Moonshine and Wish from the riding ring into the stable.