

# THE MORGANS BEHIND THE AQHA LEGENDS, PART I

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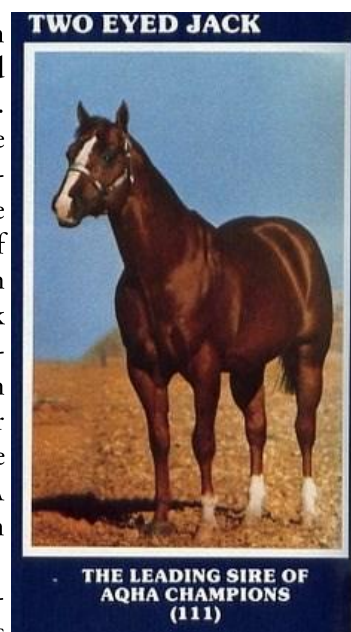
This is the first in a series about the Morgan heritage of some famous Quarter Horses and QH families. While these great Quarter horses and bloodlines were, of course, not predominantly Morgan, each has at least one traceable line to a Morgan horse. In these articles I will attempt to document the connection of well-known foundation Quarter Horses to specific Morgan horses. Subjects include Two Eyed Jack, Driftwood, Yellow Lou, Jess Hankins, Sappho and Fillinic.

## TWO EYED JACK 178246 Two D Two x Triangle Tookie 1961 - 1991

In many ways Two Eyed Jack was the epitome of the Quarter Horse breed standard, and he garnered the halter and performance points to prove it. He was shown from the time he was a weanling until he was nine years old. In his show career he won 70 Grand Championships and earned the AQHA titles of Superior Halter, Performance Register of Merit and AQHA Champion. His record as a sire was even more impressive. Out of 17 foal crops, he got almost 1500 foals, of which 119 became AQHA Champions, which places him firmly atop the list of All Time Leading Sires of AQHA Champions. He also stands number two, behind Zippo Pine Bar, as the All Time Leading Sire of Performance ROMs (Register of Merit) with 242 winning get and he is number three, behind Leo and King, for All Time Leading Maternal Grandsire with 28 daughters who produced AQHA Champions.

Two Eyed Jack, a big handsome sorrel with three white feet and a blaze, was foaled in 1961 on the Double H Ranch in McHenry, Illinois. His breeder, Herman Mass, had searched the country for top QH breeding stock and Jack was the result of two of his early purchases. His sire, Two D Two, was purchased as a weanling in California and his dam, Triangle Tookie 70166, came from the Triangle Ranch in Texas as a yearling in 1952. Like her dam and granddam, Triangle Tookie grew up to be an exceptional brood mare. Besides Two Eyed Jack, she produced four other AQHA Champion foals and is on the list of All Time Leading Dams of AQHA Champions. It was through Triangle Tookie that Two Eyed Jack carried Morgan blood. She was by Grey Badger III and out of the top Burnett broodmare Lady Hancock 3637. Lady Hancock, a palomino foaled on the Triangle Ranch in 1940, was by Roan Hancock and out of Triangle Lady 10. She is pictured as a youngster in the first paperback edition (1941) of the AQHA Studbook. She went on to produce several good foundation Quarter Horses. Her dam, Triangle Lady 10, registered #445 in the AQHA Studbook, was a dun mare bred by Tom Burnett and foaled on the Triangle Ranch in 1930. According to the AQHA Studbook, she was sired by a Reg. Morgan Stallion and out of a riding type mare of unknown breeding.

Undoubtedly, the registered Morgan stallion who sired Triangle Lady 10 was Redolent 7295 (Red Oak x Minnie K x Headlight Morgan). He was a bay with a star, which was foaled on the Sellman Ranch in 1920, and purchased by Tom Burnett in 1925. He was the only Morgan stallion known to be owned by the Triangle until Jubilee King arrived in 1934. It is not known how many ranch horses were sired by Redolent during his many years at the Triangle Ranch. He appears either as "Reg. Morgan Stallion" or under his own name as the sire or dam's sire of several foundation QHs, but there must have been hundreds of unsung and unrecorded Redolent ranch geldings and broodmares. He began siring foals for the Triangle in 1925 and was still active until at least 1940. We know this because the Triangle registered two Morgan colts by him in 1940 and 1941. The first was Red Admiral, a chestnut out of Deura born in 1940 and another colt, a bay named Red Herod, out of Heroda in 1941. Deura (Senator Knox x Penala) and Heroda (Allen King x Galva) had been acquired for the Triangle by Tom Burnett from the Brunk farm in Illinois in the fall of 1934 along with Jubilee King.





Red Oak, f. May 1, 1906  
Pictured in 1914 in Middlebury, VT  
(General Gates 666 x Marguerite 01635)

Red Herod was never transferred from Triangle Ranch ownership and he produced no Morgan offspring. Nothing is known of his fate. Red Admiral was sold in 1944 to Mrs. Ileana Morgan Naugle of Dallas, Texas. That same year she purchased a black Linsley granddaughter named My Black Beauty, which had come from Kansas. From 1945 to 1947, the Naugles, then of Grand Prairie, Texas, produced three full siblings, two fillies and a colt, from Red Admiral and My Black Beauty. In 1945 a brown filly, Admiral's Warbaby, was foaled. In 1947 she was sold to T. E. Kuykendall of Abilene, Texas. In 1946 a light chestnut filly, Golden Belle, was born and in 1947, Dagon, a black colt was foaled. H. T. Buehring of Dallas later owned both of them. None of these produced registered Morgans and it is not known if they contributed to the emerging Quarter Horse breed. Unfortunately, with them passed the only hope of saving the blood of Redolent for the Morgan breed. We don't even have a picture of Redolent. If there were any photos of him or his Triangle Ranch offspring, they were probably lost in the fire that destroyed the Triangle Ranch horse records after they were turned over to AQHA.

The legacy of Redolent lives on in horses like Two Eyed Jack. He had only the one Morgan line from his maternal great granddam, but it came down to him through a very strong mare family. Perhaps a bit of his Morgan heritage was showing through the year Two Eyed Jack won the hotly contested Versatility class at the QH Congress. For a big horse he was surprisingly fast and light-footed. Long-time owner Howard Pitzer appreciated his sensitive mouth and his good natured willingness to do any task he was put to. By the time he died at age 30 in 1991, Two Eyed Jack was truly a Quarter Horse legend.



The Brunk-bred Jubilee King 7570, f. June 29, 1927  
(Penrod [Allen Franklin x Black Bess A] x  
Daisette [Senator Knox x Daisy de Jarnette])