

TAKE A CHANCE AND SHOW THEM OFF or WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T MAKE MONEY WITH A HORSE?

By Gordon Fulton

How does a Fjord horse get a Canadian Warmblood ribbon? You jump into the Precision Driving Competition portion of the evening Gala of the Canadian Warmblood Breeders 16th annual fall sale. Were my Fjord and I prepared for this? Not in the least. My horse was fat and furry and had been turned out for fall retirement for the past three months. Me? I was ill and not up to driving that week. I had to talk a Fjord friend, Alison Bakken, into coming to the gala and being the driver.

The Canadian Warmblood Association's Gala took place in Olds, Alberta in October 2010. It's a sale and a fundraiser for their breed, and to keep the \$100 a plate guests amused, there's an Invitational Drive as entertainment in the evening.

The stands were full, one Fjord, some Warmbloods, a Halflinger, and other assorted pony breeds. I'd like to say my eleven year old Lakeview Spunkie and Allison won, but that didn't quite happen. However, Alison did drive to third place and even got four dollars more money than the entry cost. Who says you can't make money with a horse?

The best of the evening were the positive comments towards the unique character of the Fjord horse and its great way of working.

If the opportunity comes along to participate in any mixed breed event, take it! You and your Fjord horse are the best breed ambassadors in the world. We have versatile and willing horses that don't have to be retrained every time they come out. My advice is "Take a chance and show them off." 🐾



Alison Bakken and Gord's gelding Spunkie win a Warmblood ribbon.

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW BUT NEVER DARED ASK

Many horse people have questions come up every once in a while they can't answer. Send your question to me, newsletter editor Jane Beall, at pwolfe@istar.ca and maybe your question with an answer from an expert will be the one printed in the following newsletter. Here's a question I received from a CFHA member and the answer given by horse nutritionist Jim Lewis.

QUESTION: "My horse suffers from chronic diarrhoea. I've tried just about everything with little success. Any ideas?"

JIM LEWIS: Here's an old remedy to try. I have found it to work in many cases of chronic diarrhoea. I first heard of it from old-time horsemen who didn't always have a vet available. Give your horse 100 ml (about 3 ounces) per day of tincture of strawberry. You can mix it in wheat bran. There is no danger in using it and it's available at a pharmacy. If the problem is still there at the end of a week, I would consult a vet. I see many horses these days with weak intestinal flora and a lack of the ability to produce enzymes. A more modern remedy to try is Equinal Zyme, which contains live cell yeast and digestive enzymes.



