

Statesmans Courage ~ Loveliest of All snow Camp, North Carolina

Statesmans Courage (Chief of State x Fortunes Summerbreez) is an eight year-old, 16 hand chestnut Morgan stallion who made his show debut at the Southern States Regional Morgan Horse Show in Raleigh at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds on May 25, 2006. Courage was ridden by his trainer Gloria Ripperton of Terrell's Creek Farm, Pittsboro, NC and captured first place in both of the classes entered which were Training Level Test 1 – 69.09% and Training Level Test 2 – 65.00%.

Statesmans Courage stands at Friendly Morgans at Tanyard Farms, which is owned by Mike & Penny Arnold, and is located in Snow Camp, North Carolina, in the rolling countryside between Greensboro and Chapel Hill.

Gloria Ripperton, Courage's trainer and rider, has been riding horses since she was a young girl growing up in Durham, North Carolina, where she took hunt seat lessons. She later began fox-hunting and started competing in three-day events. After Gloria stopped eventing, she began to focus on dressage competitions and trained and showed several horses to second and third level. Currently, Gloria's equestrian interests include foxhunting a Morgan crossbred mare, navigating for Combined Driving Events and training and riding Courage. The Arnolds are very fortunate to



have Gloria as Courage's trainer and Gloria often comments that she really enjoys training him as well. Gloria recently said, "Courage has wonderful elastic gaits and is one of the quickest learners I have ever ridden. He works hard to please me, and his balance is so natural and uphill, the work comes easily for him".

At Friendly Morgans, Mike & Penny Arnold and their sons Jacob and Samuel, strive to produce the best of the Morgan Sport Horse; to produce Morgan horses that excel at all the sport disciplines. As they begin Courage's dressage career, the Arnold family currently competes in carriage driving pleasure competitions as well as Combined Driving Events.

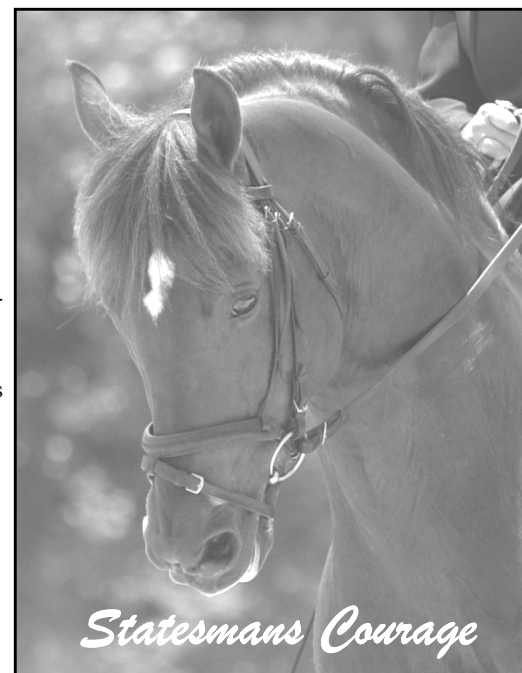
Statesmans Courage was bred by Lynne Shpak of Statesmans Farm in Woodstock, Maryland. Lynne has been breeding Morgan sport

horses for over thirty years and her horses are known for their intelligence, beauty and correct conformation and movement. Courage is an old type, classic Morgan, often described as a baroque Morgan. His bloodlines qualify him as a Foundation Morgan, which means that he has no modern outcrosses and a male sireline that traces directly to Justin Morgan, the founding sire of the Morgan breed. Justin Morgan (also known as Figure) was a bay colt who was born in 1789 and was sold to schoolteacher and musician Justin Morgan who was from Springfield, Massachusetts, to pay off a debt. After the colt grew, Justin Morgan had the stallion clear fields by day and race at night, where he was unbeatable, even though he was smaller than his competitors. As Figure grew, his compact muscular body and stylish way of going impressed many of the farmers and settlers of the day and tales of his extraordinary strength, speed, hardiness, beauty, gentle temperament began to spread throughout the small New England townships. Figure's ability to out walk, out trot, out run and out pull other horses was legendary and soon every farmer and horseman wanted their mares bred to Mr. Morgan's stallion. Figure's most valuable asset was the ability to pass on his distinguishing characteristics, not only to his immediate offspring, but also through several generations.

Today less than 20% of current Morgans qualify as Foundation stock, due to outcrosses to other breeds. Courage has a compact, close ribbed body, substance of bone, deep well-rounded quarters, oblique shoulders, broad forehead with soft kind eye and medium length neck nicely crested. Courage's confirmation reflects the baroque origins of the Morgan horse including the Iberian Barbs and Arabians as well as the early proto-Thoroughbreds. The common ancestry, confirmation and movement of the Morgan and Lipizzaner was recognized when two Morgan stallions, Broadwall Drum Major and Parade accompanied the Spanish Riding School of Vienna on their triumphant tour of the United States in 1950, under the direction of Colonel Alois Podhajsky, who had the highest praise of the Morgan's ability.

At Friendly Morgans, the Arnolds currently have several horses in competition, including Spring Hollow Dark Shadow (Statesmans Silhouette x Caduceus Jocosta), who won the Open Single Horse Championship, High-Point Obstacle Championship as well as Moore County Driving Club High-Point Champion at the 2004 Carriage Classic in the Pines in Southern Pines, NC. This win came after win-

ning the Open Single Horse Championship as well as High-Point Morgan at the Carolina Fall Classic held in Lake Waccamaw, NC. Shadow's daughter, Friend Lady Anne (Neverland Captain



Statesmans Courage

Hook x Spring Hollow Dark Shadow) has also started her driving career.

This year, several of the mares at the farm are in foal to Courage. Other Morgans currently in work on the farm include Statesmans Firefly (H-Ken x Statesmans Treasure), whose dam was a Star Premium Mare and Champion Mare at a Danish Warmblood Keuring in 1994 & Statesmans

Gift (Chief of State x Bethesda May Bee) among others.

In the coming year, The Arnolds plan to also stand Courage's half-brother, Statesmans Music Maker (Chief of State x Battersea Margaret Dear), a three year-old chestnut stallion, as well as start serious training with one of Courage's first offspring, Statesmans Lovely Legacy (Statesmans Courage x Battersea Olive). Lovey is a three year-old filly who is shaping up to be an excellent example of what Courage produces.

The Arnolds have quality Morgan sport horses for sale and welcome visitors to their farm to see their Morgans in person. For more information on Morgans, see <http://morganhorse.com>, Foundation Morgans <http://foundationmorganhorse.com>, or if you would like more information about Courage or would like more information on the program at Friendly Morgans, see <http://friendlymorgans.com>, send them an email (ma@snowcamp.org) or give them a call at (336)376-9433.

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