

TRIBUTE

EQUINOX BEAUBROOK

(Royalton Ashbrook Darling x Equinox Sarah Mia)

1978 - 2010

by Judy Mosman

Equinox Beaubrook was one of three siblings out of **Equinox Sarah Mia**, a full brother, **Equinox Royalton Ash**, and a half sister, **Equinox Sarah Darling** by **John Ethan Ashbrook**. He matured to 14.2 hands, was bay, and was foaled at the East of Equinox Farm in Manchester Center, Vermont, where he lived his entire life of 32 years. Why go anywhere when visitors and visiting mares came to see him at home?!

During this time, he sired 96 registered Morgan foals; one third of them were Lippitts! Beaubrook was trained to ride and drive, and his kind, quiet disposition made him a favorite for visitors to ride or drive around the farm. I remember one visit I made to the farm when Ivan took Beaubrook out, left him in the aisle, no rope or tied to anything, and walked over to get the brush. Mind you, this was in the stallion barn and here is a stallion just standing in a wide aisle, unattached to anything or anyone!!! Someone else told me during their visit there, there was a hole in the wire separating the two stallions, one being Beaubrook, who seemed not to care about his stallion neighbor, who was sticking his nose into the hole to say hi to Beaubrook!! This disposition was one of the traits Beaubrook passed on to his get. When I contacted folks to get their input into this story, everyone mentioned the sweet, kind, gentle dispositions on their progeny.

Baubrook's first foal was born in 1984 when he was six. For the next 25 or more years, there was not a time when at least one Beaubrook foal arrived somewhere, either by AI or natural service. This incredible stallion has a foal coming in 2011!! Certainly a virile stallion. Once when visiting the farm, Ivan casually mentioned Beaubrook's virility by claiming he could collect Beaubrook in an envelope and send it through the mail and the semen would still be viable. Because I work for the Postal Service, I replied: "Please don't!"



Equinox Beaubrook in 1985, at LCS in Woodstock.

My love affair with Beaubrook is probably because of his sire, **Royalton Ashbrook Darling** (Lippitt Ethan Ash x Lippitt Joan Darling). When I first started in Lippitts over 30 years ago, my goal was to have four foundation mares, all sired by RAD. As can happen, some plans just don't get completed and this was one of them. I was content with two RAD daughters and began to build from there. Now my program is pretty powerful with this blood and it is due to **Equinox Beaubrook** himself, last living son of RAD. I even bred a 40% colt of RAD blood but with the horse market as it is, this colt, as his older full brother, will be gelded and become someone's trail horse. I have searched for this blood and gotten as much as I can into my breeding program.



Equinox Beaubrook in 1992

Who can forget the beautiful, dished head of RAD, his spirit and zest for life? Apparently he passed this all on to his son, **Equinox Beaubrook**, who matured into a larger horse than his sire. A private survey with some folks on their Beaubrook get got the same words: disposition, athletic, beauty, and this was from breeders across the country.

I always felt that Beaubrook crossed well with the Meredith lines. Someone else felt it was the **Stillwater Indigo** lines. Perhaps a common denominator was **Lippitt Ethan Ash** who was behind both of these horses.

Equinox Beaubrook brings the older bloodlines to today's Lippitts. His pedigree goes back rather quickly to the likes of **John A. Darling, Lippitt Ethan Ash, Dyberry Bob** and **Nekomia** to name but a few. The closer to **Justin Morgan**, the better.

I am not sure everyone knew such a breeding gem was on the grounds at East of Equinox but 30 or more Lippitt folks did and took full advantage of it. Repeat breedings tell a story of their own and the faith and belief in a stallion. Louise Townsend of Maine had seven repeat breedings; I had three; the Curtis family in Washington had two; and Jane Muraro, then of Connecticut, had two.

Baubrook has five Lippitt bred sons who are or will be breeding mares in the near future. Speaking for my own breeding program, I feel that Beaubrook has improved heads, feet, and has intensified the athletic abilities my mares possess.

Each time we lose one of these genetic powerhouses, we get further from **Justin Morgan**. The Morgan Horse is known for its versatility and this stallion put versatile progeny on the ground from driving to endurance horses. Look at your own pedigrees. Do you have **Equinox Beaubrook** in there?