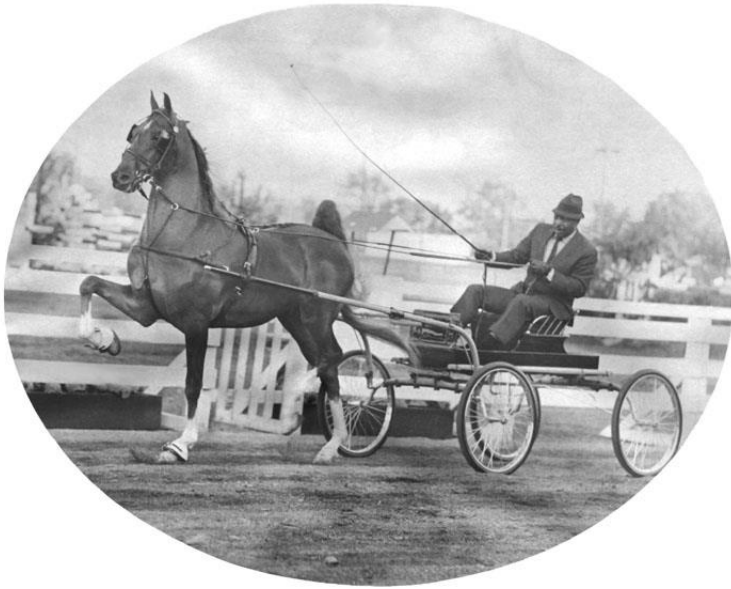


Alloway's Tam O'Shanter 54697S Aka Big News



Alloway's Tam O'Shanter was by no means famous, but he could serve as inspiration to anyone who has ever wanted to breed an American Saddlebred horse. From humble beginnings, he ended up with some of the finest trainers in the industry, and travelled the country from coast to coast. Foaled in Michigan in 1969, his teenage breeder owned just one single broodmare and Tam was her fourth foal produced in four years. He was sired by Grand View's Matinee Idol, a son of Golden Thunderbolt, and his dam was a Society Rex granddaughter. Tam could have been ordered from a catalog, as he arrived with a chestnut coat, four white stockings and a stripe. He was certainly eye catching!

Tam sold as a yearling and was placed in training with Junior Seay, a wonderful horseman who trained horses like CH Stonewall's Crescendo, CH Penny's Stonewall and RWGC CH Glamorous Lucretia. Tam was shown in Fine Harness as a 2 year old and had wins at Youngstown, Ohio and New Castle, Pennsylvania. At the end of the season, he sold to Mrs. Sallie Busch Wheeler and went into training with Jim B. Robertson. This meant a relocation from Ohio to Kentucky and he also underwent a name change. From then on he was shown as Big News. He continued in the Fine Harness division for his 3 year old season. As a 4 year old, he sold and moved to California. His new owners, Richard & Judith Shepherd, were long time exhibitors. Judy Shepherd showed such horses as CH It's a Beautiful Day and WGC CH Callaway's New Look. Big News was trimmed and shown in 3 Gaited classes by trainer Frank Dye. He was the Junior 3 Gaited Champion at Delmar as a four year old.

Big News was sold a few years later and spent time in Missouri with Art Simmons until he went through Mr. Simmons' Heart of America sale in 1976. According to Mr. Simmons, he was a grand horse, which was high praise coming from a gifted horseman. From Missouri, Big News sold to Lewis Solomon of Connecticut. Mr. Solomon had shown American Saddlebreds for decades, and his extended family is still showing Saddlebreds today. Alloway's Tam O'Shanter may have had a modest start, but for a while, he was Big News!



Alloway's Tam O'Shanter as a yearling



Alloway's Tam O'Shanter with Junior Seay



Big News with Jim B Robertson



Big News with Frank Dye

