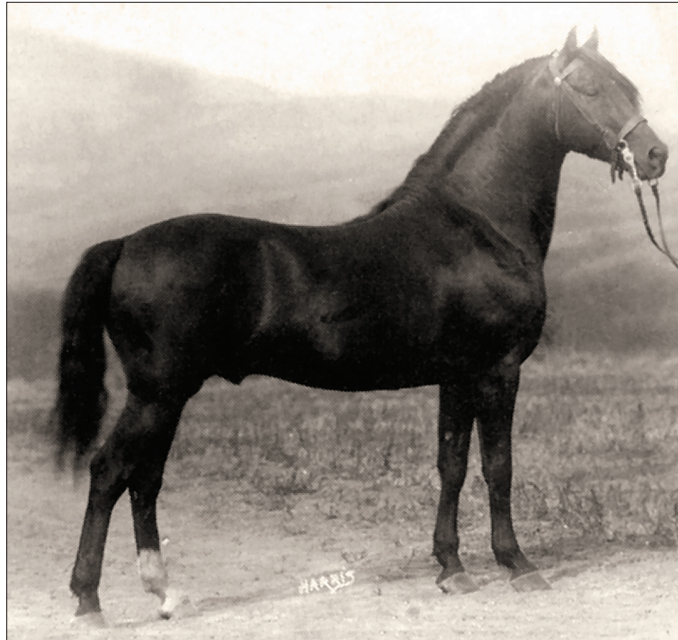




Gay Mac 7988

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2014



(Photo © Harris)

Gay Mac 7988 (Mansfield 7255 x Dewdrop 0527) • Dark bay, star, left hind sock white, 15.2 hands, 1,130 lbs. Fine Morgan conformation, a smart head and eye, excellent saddle withers, short back, good rump, good bone and legs, good feet
Foaled: May 3, 1936, Middlebury, Vermont • **Died:** December 31, 1961, The Morgan Horse Ranch, Compton, California
Breed by: USDA • **Owned by:** 1936-1942 by Dr. Wallace L. Orcutt; 1942-1961 by Dr. Clarence C. Reed
Linebred to: General Gates 666; 37.5% of his blood; 26 crosses to Sherman; 13 crosses to Woodbury; four crosses to Bulrush; 12 crosses to Gifford; 11 crosses to Black Hawk. 100% Old Government breeding
Eight Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding: 7.21817016601562% • **Registered Morgan progeny:** 22 colts, 40 fillies.

From 1938 through 1942, Gay Mac was shown every year by the Orcutt family, never leaving the ring without a ribbon in open and Morgan classes. He was third in the 1941 four-way Justin Morgan performance class at the National Morgan Show, losing to his sire and paternal full uncle. In May 1942 the stallion was purchased by Dr. Clarence C. Reed of Compton, California, to head his Morgan breeding farm near San Clemente. In October 1942 he was chosen as *Western Livestock Journal's* "Horse of the Month." Dr. Reed, Gay Mac's owner for most of his life, advertised him as "the ideal stock and saddle horse."

In "History of the Morgan Horse Ranch," an article by Dr. Reed in the November 1942–January 1943 issue of *The Morgan Horse* magazine, he quoted Dr. Wallace L. Orcutt: "Many horse critics say 'Gay Mac is the nearest likeness of Bennington of any horse they have seen. Exactly same color and markings and size, very similar conformation and way of going'... He has a wonderful disposition and perfect manners under every condition, grand intelligent head and eye, excellent saddle withers, short back, good rump, good

bone in legs and excellent feet. He is absolutely sound, clever, and can take hard work."

Dr. Reed chose Gay Mac as his foundation sire after a nationwide search for a General Gates-Bennington-Artemisia-line government stallion. He believed "this strain is easy to gentle, smart, quick to learn, and particularly adaptable to either the trail or range, and the horses can be taught harness and farm work as well, and they are, therefore, truly an all purpose horse."

Gay Mac was known as a broodmare sire. Through his daughters—mostly from Sellman-Hill mares—he was the grandsire of such influential sires as Dapper Dan, Havolyn Dancer, Muscle Man and Townshend Gaymeade; and the great-grandsire of California Prince. His descendants across North America are using horses—athletes excelling in the show ring and the rodeo, in dressage and on the trail. In the 1990s, vice-president and director of the American Morgan Horse Association, Phillip M. DuBois said, "When we study bloodlines to find the genetic sport horse, a substantial animal, time and time again it carried the blood of the Government Stud." ■