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Let me tell you of how I became interested in the Gotlands.

I was a member of the Oklahoma Horse Council a long time ago when I met another member named Pepper Lee. I got to know Pepper quite well and found that she had about 45 Gotlands and also had a non-profit organization which used the Gotlands for riding therapy for children. Pepper, I found out, was the Registrar and had all of the Gotland information on the breed and was issuing the breeding certificates. At that time she was the only breeder that was raising animals and she had fallen behind in the record keeping.

I was going to try to get funding for her and for her program and was investigating how I would work it when I found that she had died.

I contacted her son, Chris Lee, and told him that I would help him in any way that I could in selling off the Gotlands and keeping the registry going. Chris said he would handle it and he sold the horses without the papers. I asked him what he was going to do with the registry and he said that he would get someone in the organization to take it. There was not one that would take the Registry and he later told me that if I wanted it I was welcome to it.

I picked up the "Registry" in a cardboard box. There was all sorts of papers and very little of it in any order.

I started by renaming the Registry to the Gotland Horse Registry (USA) and I notified everyone that I could find that I would handle the pedigrees and would handle the registration of both the Gotlands and the Half-Gotlands. For the time being I said that there would be no charge for my services. Frankly, I was thinking that I would give it to someone when I got it straightened out!

During this time I bought a computer and began putting the registry on disks.

I managed to find some people who bought the Gotland horses. When one of them had to get rid of them in a hurry I paid \$200 for a stallion that was shipped to Kentucky with a bunch of mares. I never did have my hands on the stud--but I owned him!

Then in 1988 my wife took a job in Anaheim, CA with an employer that she was working for here in Oklahoma City and I took a job with the California Authority of Racing Fairs in Anaheim. I traveled a good portion of Southern California.

To hit the highlights I lost my job in 1992, had a heart attack in 1993 and a stroke three days later and took better than six months to come back physically.

During this time I thought that in order to have the Registry continue so that it did not fall apart as it did when Pepper died I had to find someone to give it to. I had been in contact with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy and a Ms. Carolyn Christman of that firm. I explained the problem to them and they agreed to take the Registry.

I have a letter from Ms. Christman on the ALBC letterhead dated 1994 telling of the publication of the Gotland Horse Registry and the Half-Gotland Horse Registry.

I was very happy to have the ALBC as the organization that registers these horses. I figured that I had accomplished my project of keeping Pepper Lees's hard work intact and making it possible for Gotland owners to continue to breed these fine animals.

Jack Jungroth