Fran Pugh and her daughter Holly Pugh Johnson look forward to many more years of Tara Farm’s involvement with breeding, raising and showing Morgans. The 2001 show season has seen Holly cheer on her new gelding Med-E-Oka Nobel Prize (photo on left by Doug Shiflet), while both she and her mother have shown Tara’s War Eagle (right) to championship honors.

fully brought him out in the Open Park Saddle division.

“Fran and I have a lot of respect for each other,” Lynn continued about his longtime client and friend. “She has a direct thought in mind about what she wants Tara horses to look like and act like. She seems to enjoy the activities of Tara Farm even more now. She’s had a lot of ups and downs the past couple of years, losing some horses who were very important to her. She’s always a lady, and takes the good with the bad.”

To date, approximately 150 Morgans have been registered with the Tara prefix. In 2002, Tara Farm is expecting foals by Man In Motion, HVK Bell Flaire, and Salem Command.

In addition to her involvement with Tara Farm Morgans, Fran is on the board of the Virginia Carolinas Morgan Horse Club and has served as treasurer of the Southern States Morgan Horse Show since 1991. She is also a member of the AMHA Hall Of Fame. Fran has been a trustee of Wake Forest University since the mid 1970s, and co-chair of Ravenscroft School, in which she has been involved since 1969.

For the past 40 years, Fran Pugh has enjoyed not only her Morgan horses, but the camaraderie that has developed with her Morgan friends. “It also means a lot to me to see my horses do well in the show ring and in the breeding shed,” she said. “I find it interesting how the puzzle pieces fit together to make the farm work. It’s quite a challenge.”

With this new era for Tara Farm, Fran said, “It’s wonderful to have Holly and my grandsons showing. Dini loves working with our customers and their families. And now, even when Walter is home, he wants to ride.

“I have found our involvement with Morgan horses to be very rewarding and pleasing to me. My whole life, what I’ve put into Tara Farm has been very meaningful.

“I like Ken’s approach with the horses,” she continued. “He is patient and understanding, and respectful of me and my thoughts. He doesn’t second guess me. I appreciate Dini’s ability to work with different kids and amateurs on different levels.

“They are both mature happy individuals,” Fran said, “which is important to me. With them, it’s fun to go to the barn and it’s fun to go to the shows. With the way things are set up right now, we are all like a family.

“I look forward to Holly and her boys continuing to ride, show and enjoy their Morgans,” she continued. “And I can’t wait until my other grandchildren get old enough so I can introduce them to the wonderful world of Morgan horses.”

In the future, Fran sees one of Tara Farm’s main goals is to keep pace with the Morgan world. “The breed is constantly changing,” she said, “and we have to have a vision to keep Tara current with the times. Morgans today look different than my very first one. I don’t want to lose the old blood that I have in my breeding program—it is very special, and we have to keep it all in proper perspective.”