

## Journey Begins



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Last spring, professional photographer Gloria McDonald of Wild Mane Photos in Bartonville captured this image of Journey, a weeks-old warmblood foal keeping pace with his dam, an Oldenburg hunter named Costarr. Rated "Premium" in the German Oldenburg inspection, Journey was given his name by owner Bridget Moseley to signify the road they will travel together as she prepares him for a career on the hunter/jumper show circuit. Reflective of her Irish heritage, Bridget calls her Denton County farm Claddagh Sport Horses. The Gaelic word means "love, friendship and loyalty." Besides competing in AA shows and breeding a few top-quality warmbloods, she also appraises horses. For more information on Gloria McDonald's services - mare and foal portraits, stallion promotion, sale shots, English and Western events - visit [www.WildManePhotos.com](http://www.WildManePhotos.com) or call her at (940) 453-4880.

## Cow Catcher

by Dan Talbot

**"M**odern Day Saddle Tramp" reads Jim Shaffer's business card. "I haven't had a job since 1983," deadpans the burly East Texas cowboy.

But he always has plenty of work. His cell phone rings often (to the tune of Conway Twitty's "Hello, Darlin").

If a thousand-pound show steer escapes the veterinarian at the county livestock show...if a widow has a cow and calf holed up in the mesquite brush...if a freight train hits a cattle truck at a crossing and spills livestock all over town...people call Jim Shaffer.

Terrell is home to Jim and his wife Nancy, but he ranges from the Red River to the Piney Woods to the Rolling Plains, cleaning pastures of cattle that eluded the roundups. His tools are a remuda of tough ranch horses and a dozen savvy herding dogs—Catahoula leopards and yellow black-mouthed curs. He's been called "the bad cow's nightmare." For the hardest cases he carries a tranquilizer gun.

"If you're in the cow-catching business, and you don't have a set of good dogs, you'd just as well take your sign down," he says.

The key to working with cowdogs is patience, he explains. "You've got to let 'em get the cattle ready to go in the pen, circling and circling until they get 'em in a wad. They'll finally 'manner' 'em."

Jim keeps a pistol with ratshot to 'manner' the dogs, if they get too rough with the cattle.

One of his favorites is a blue leopard

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