Region 6 Representative Bios

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Samantha VanSickle

GVHS Member for 10 years Owns 20 GVHS registered horses

I have been involved with the GVHS and the Gypsy Vanner breed here on the West Coast since 2010. I am passionate about the breed and love working with, and helping to grow our membership in this region. I'd love to have the opportunity to represent this region and help develop more educational and social opportunities for its members.

Sarah Murphy

GVHS Member for 1 year Owns 1 GVHS registered horse

I first met the gypsy vanner breed several years ago when attending the Feathered Horse Classic in Perry, GA. It was love at first sight.

It wasn't until 2019 when I was able to purchase my dream horse, Cherry Creek Humble Pie, (Paul). I knew I was buying before meeting him since he came with the name Paul, which was my late father's name. He was halter broke (almost), knew nothing of manners or discipline, his feet were a mess, he had very little training in leading, groundwork, but he was beautiful and healthy. Luckily, we found a great trainer who helped me (a 54 year old airline pilot who had not had much interaction with horses since being a teenager) get him under saddle. It took several months to go from purchase to being able to sit on him. Now, in 2024, we are showing at Training Level in Dressage (and being successful) and we trail ride all over our Colorado mountains. We will be attending our first GVHS show in June in Utah and then another one in August.

As for the being the Region 6 Rep, I would like to promote our breed in the area by finding others who have gypsy vanners and encourage them to participate in events, both GVHS events and all breed events. It would also be great to develop other gypsy vanner events/shows as one of the challenges is that there are not many local shows. I hold an officer position in Rocky Mountain Dressage Society and ran the Central Office for some months in 2023. I also lead informal trail rides in our area of Colorado.