



PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Volume 6 2011

Kasey K Stables and Butch Reid's Afleet Again Wins 2011 Breeders Cup Marathon



CHURCHILL DOWNS/REED PALMER PHOTO

Kasey K Stables' managing partner Bob Krangel and his wife Sue still haven't come down from the clouds after their 40-1 victory in the Breeders Cup Marathon with Afleet Again. Their first Breeders Cup Champion was the also the first for trainer Butch Reid, and the first to come out of Parx – the biggest win in the local community since Smarty Jones won the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes for Someday Farm and trainer John Servis in 2004.

Reid, a PTHA board member, and his wife, Ginny have been stabled at Parx for over 6 years and the lanky grey gelding's victory is their biggest career win. The son of Afleet Alex is the first Breeders Cup winner to come from the Bensalem track.

"On Breeders Cup day this year, there were 18 horses competing that had prepped at Parx in 2011, including the first and second place runners in the Marathon, and the first three finishers of the Turf Sprint," said Parx Director of Racing Sal Sinatra. "It's Tricky, who was second in the Cotillion here for Kieran McLaughlin, was second in the Lady's Classic, and Ruler On Ice, 2nd in the PA Derby, was third in the Classic. I'd say we were well represented."

Bob Krangel, who is retired and now manages multiple LLCs that race under the name Kasey K Racing Stable, had loved Afleet Again for over a year and a half—and was eager to purchase him when the former owners, Cash Is King, LLC, were ready to sell earlier this year. Being in the same barn, with the same trainer, Krangel knew the horse well.

"There was just something about him," said Krangel. "He is a big, goofy horse who, I think, just needed to get a little more serious about his job."

(continued on page 3)



TRAVIS KIRSCHER/WDRB PHOTO

2011 BREEDERS CUP CONTENDERS WHICH PREPPED AT PARX

HORSE	BC RACE/FINISH	TRAINER	PARX RACE/FINISH
Golden Mystery	F/M Sprint/7th	C. Guerrero	Alw./Won
Tar Heel Mom	F/M Sprint/12th	S. Hough	My Juliet S./Won
Say A Novena	Juvenile Filly/10th	E. Plesa	Brandywine S./Won
Ask the Moon	Lady's Classic/6th	M. Wolfson	Sleigh Ride S./4th
It's Tricky	Lady's Classic/2nd	K. McLaughlin	Gr.2 Cotillion S./2nd
Plum Pretty	Lady's Classic/5th	B. Baffert	Gr.2 Cotillion/Won
Afleet Again	Marathon/Won	Robert "Butch" Reid	Greenwood Cup/3rd
A. U. Miner	Marathon/dnf	C. Hanna	Greenwood Cup/Won
Birdrun	Marathon/2nd	W. Mott	Greenwood Cup/2nd
Chamberlain Bridge	Turf Sprint/8th	B. Calhoun	Gr.3 Turf Monster /3rd
Country Day	Turf Sprint/2nd	S. Margolis	Gr.3 Turf Monster/8th
Holiday For Kitten	Turf Sprint/9th	W. Ward	Turf Amazon/6th
Perfect Officer	Turf Sprint/3rd	M. Pino	Gr.3 Turf Monster/2nd
Regally Ready	Turf Sprint/Won	S. Asmussen	Gr.3 Turf Monster/10th
Wilburn	Dirt Mile/7th	S. Asmussen	Smarty Jones S./Won
To Honor and Serve	Classic/7th	B. Mott	Gr.2 PA Derby/Won
Rattlesnake Bridge	Classic /9th	K. McLaughlin	Gr.2 PA Derby/3rd
Ruler On Ice	Classic/3rd	K. Breen	Gr.2 PA Derby/2nd



DESIREE FITZPATRICK PHOTO

Afleet Again in the winners circle after Marathon win. The Krangels are third and fourth from left (top left); trainer Butch Reid with flower blanket after victory (middle); Ginny Reid, assistant trainer to her husband, reacts as Afleet Again crosses finish line first.

President's Message . . . SALVATORE DEBUNDA, ESQ.



On behalf of the PTHA Board and Staff, I'd like to congratulate Trainer/Director Butch Reid and the Krangels for the Breeders Cup Marathon win last month with Afleet Again. What an exciting moment for all of us here at Parx! Your win belonged to all of us, Butch, as we cheered for the talent that has come from our racetrack family.

Back when I was elected in February, I developed a "to do list" of things that I wanted to accomplish, and first on that list was creating purse stability for our horsemen during a time when Pennsylvania was in midst of a budget crisis. Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I spent many hours in Harrisburg, speaking on behalf of the entire Thoroughbred industry, and made sure that through the next budget review in June 2012, our funding is safe.

Secondly, the legislative "blitz" that we had planned to educate legislators that racing and breeding Thoroughbreds is an integral part of the Commonwealth's economy started with our PAC this past Spring, and was further proven by the 2011 Fall Festival of Racing. These five weekends beginning in September have developed into an event that demonstrated that the racing and breeding industry in the Commonwealth is stronger than ever. With eleven Breeders Cup contenders this year prepping in Festival races, including the first three finishers of the Grade 2 PA Derby, and one-two runners in the Grade 2 Cotillion, I'd say that we have put Parx Racing on the map.

In 2011 the PTHA and Parx established a Hall of Fame, which honored 12 jockeys, trainers, owners and horses, in addition to three special men who have contributed in many ways to the industry's success. Our plans are to honor the leaders from Parx every year.

Medication issues are ongoing, but this year we worked hard to make sure the rights of both Parx and Penn National horsemen were protected, and Mike and I continue to do so. Nationally, the question of race day lasix use is still being discussed, and we are keeping abreast of what is happening along those fronts.

Backstretch renovations moved ahead as we had planned, with six new barns built this year, and two additional old barns demolished in mid-November. Paving in between new barns, and removal of the old feed room containers and manure pits, has vastly improved the safety and appearance of the north end of the barn area, while the construction of a manure collection building has benefitted the entire barn area.

One issue which I know is very important to horsemen is the turf course at Parx. Please know that we have begun to work with management on improving the safety of the grass for both horses and riders, the results which will be seen in the spring when the season begins again.

Although much has been accomplished in 2011, I realize there are still many challenges ahead. The decrease in on-track handle needs to be addressed, and the PTHA board and track management will be meeting soon to continue the effort to decrease the number of scratches on our race cards.

I look forward to serving as your PTHA President for the upcoming year, and along with our Board, wish each and everyone of you and your families a Happy Holiday and a successful and prosperous New Year.



Parx Racing and the PTHA have a zero tolerance policy for trainers and/or owners who are responsible for their Thoroughbreds found at livestock auctions where they could end up in "kill pens," or sold to dealers who sell for slaughter. Action by management could include loss of stalls or backstretch privileges. Turning For Home is the PTHA's retirement program for all Thoroughbreds based at the track.

Check out www.patha.org and click on Turning For Home for more information.

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(Breeders' Cup continued from page 1)

Krangel, who has been involved in racing for over 6 years, wasn't deterred by the horse's 13 race losing streak, his last victory in the 2010 Withers Stakes.

"He is a four-year-old who has earned over \$400,000. He is a plodder, though, and has one pace, but can go all day. And believe me, we wouldn't have taken him to Churchill, spent nearly \$20,000 to get him there, if we didn't think he'd make a good showing."

The group that owns Afleet Again is made up of 13 partners. "It is really priceless to watch--there is a big scream from my wife when Afleet Again got up to fifth place, as she knew he had at least paid for the trip to Louisville," said Krangel.

"We were basically a small claiming partnership that races at Parx all the time, although we live in New Jersey," said Krangel. "My wife and I are both retired, and we started out as part of a large partnership. After awhile, we built our own. We have no children, so we named the stable after our miniature Schnauzer, Kasey – my wife operates the business end, and I work on the horse part of it, and we have seven different LLCs."

"Even without Afleet Again, we have had really good run of success with Butch, who has been training for us for the last two years after a friend introduced us," said Krangel.

"He and his wife, Ginny, have become good friends of ours, and I truly think Butch is a 'throwback,' – he is honest, and he and his wife both so obviously care about the horses."

The trip to Churchill was the first for both Reid, and his wife, Ginny, who is his assistant trainer.

"It was also our first attempt at the Breeders' Cup," said Reid, who came up under his brother, Mark. "It was especially great for my wife, who has been on the racetrack since she worked at Green Mountain in the 1970s. To get her into the winners circle on a day like that was something she deserved. My daughter, Whitney, couldn't be there but she was very excited, too, as she has always been involved with our horses."

As for the former owners of Afleet Again, Cash Is King, LLC, they still own the gelding's full sister, also grey, stakes-placed three-year-old Oh So Bella, who is stabled

with Reid in the stall adjacent to her brother. She won her last start, an allowance race at Parx.

From an owner's perspective: check out Afleet Again on Youtube as Greta Heinbold, one of the partners, filmed Susan Krangel's play-by-play of the race from the owner's box at Churchill. As Bob Krangel says, "It is priceless!"



Ruffino Rendon, Afleet Again's groom, back home at Parx after the Breeders Cup. The Marathon Champion's next start may be at Woodbine in December.

Robert "Butch" Reid, Jr. , Trainer 2011 Breeders Cup Champion Afleet Again

Born in Camden, NJ. Currently residing in Bensalem, PA.

Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, University of Maryland, College Park. During college, walked hots for his brother, Mark, who is now a well known bloodstock agent.

In 1981, worked at the newly-opened Playboy Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City, but after trying many jobs there, decided he belonged at the racetrack.

Married -- Wife , Ginny who has been his long time assistant trainer
Daughter – Whitney, Attends Wellesley College in Boston, MA

Trainer of Thoroughbred racehorses for 27 years.
First trainers license granted in NJ in 1983.
First PA trainers license – Philadelphia Park in 1986.

Has trained at all major East coast racetracks over the last 27 years, including the last 6 years at Philadelphia Park/Parx Racing. Afleet Again was his first Breeders Cup contender.

Elected to the PTHA Board of Directors in 2011.





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**PTHA President Sal DeBunda,
Executive Director Mike Ballezzi, the
Board of Directors & the PTHA Staff
Congratulate Butch Reid and
Kasey K Racing Stables, LLC.**

**2011 Breeders Cup Marathon Champion
AFLEET AGAIN**



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Security group,
Palakow is a
1995 Graduate
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of Law.

THE UNITED STATES H-2B VISA PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN WORKERS

The U.S. allows approximately 66,000 workers to come to the U.S. for several months each year under what is known as the H-2B Visa Program. The work these employees do must be temporary or seasonal, and is often so temporary, dangerous, low paying or undesirable that without temporary seasonal workers the industries themselves would completely disappear. Crab picking, oyster shucking, commercial fishing, hotel and lodging work in short-season resort areas and traveling outdoor carnivals are just some examples of places of employment where H-2B workers are used every year. Each worker sponsored on an H-2B Visa is a seasonal U.S. employee, permitted to work, live and operate an automobile in the United States for a short period of time. They pay taxes, contribute to our economy and must return home once the season is over, hoping that they will again obtain an H-2B Visa the next year. Many horsemen are familiar with the H-2B Visa process. Grooms, trainers, assistants and stable hands have obtained H-2B visa approvals for many years.

Advocates for the unemployed have argued that more of the H-2B jobs could be filled by U.S. workers if companies paid higher wages, particularly given the rising U.S. unemployment rates of the past several years. Most employers who use H-2B workers counter by arguing that they would be more than happy to employ available U.S. workers, who simply do not apply for the work available. These sponsoring employers argue, credibly, that without seasonal temporary workers on H-2B Visas, they would not be

able to stay in business.

THE DETERMINATION OF THE PREVAILING WAGE

As provided by § 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, the H-2B Visa classification for nonagricultural temporary workers is available to a foreign worker who resides in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning and who is coming to the United States to perform temporary service or labor that is other than strictly agricultural. The H-2B Visa category has thrived in recent years to keep employers functioning who otherwise would have to shut their doors.

To comply with obligations under the H-2B program, an employer must pay H-2B workers a wage that will not adversely effect the wages of U.S. workers similarly employed. As a result, sponsoring employers must take the first step in the application process of determining exactly what the prevailing wage for the type of job they wish to sponsor will be. Typically, these are relatively low paying jobs. On January 19, 2011, the wage methodology of the temporary nonagricultural employment H-2B program was revamped by the USDOL. By amending its regulations, the USDOL issued a final rule which would have become effective in January, 2012. Due to lobbying and administrative pressures, the application date for this new rule was expedited, to become effective on September 30, 2011.

THE H-2B STAKEHOLDERS UNITE AND FIGHT

H-2B employers, "stakeholders", as they are known, were shocked. A large group of these employers, including the Louisiana Forestry Association, Inc., the Outdoor Amusement Business Association, Inc., the Crawfish Processors Alliance, Inc., the American Shrimp Processors Association, the Forest Resources Association, Inc., the American Hotel and Lodging Association and the American Sugarcane Association of the USA, filed suit seeking declaratory, preliminary or temporary injunctive relief before September 30, 2011 against Hilda L. Solis in her official capacity as Secretary to the United States Department of Labor, Jane Oates, in her official capacity as United States Assistant Secretary of Labor Employment and Training Administration, the United States Department of Labor, Janet Napolitano in her official capacity as the United States Secretary of the Office of Homeland Security and the United States Department of Homeland Security, as an organization. In a 52 page comprehensive complaint, the group of plaintiffs systematically attacked the many reasons why the action taken by the DOL is not only damaging to U.S. businesses, but is, in fact, unlawful. The wage increases anticipated by the DOL's decision are not modest in nature and are expected to exceed 100% in many different industries. Many employers begged the question, "What industry is seeing even 5-10% increases in wages paid these days, let alone increases near or over 100%?"

The Complaint and brief filed by the legal team representing the group of plaintiffs attacking the DOL wage increases has resulted in a 60 day stay voluntarily implemented by the DOL without the Court's decision as to the merits of the plaintiffs' case. There are estimates that the 60 day delay will save collective H-2B employers anywhere between 30 million and 100 million dollars in excess wages and benefits they would have been obligated to pay H-2B workers if the program was implemented immediately. Ironically, many H-2B workers' visa status expires in the early winter months when the seasonal nature of their employment ends. As a result, only industries that operate over the winter months, employing H-2B Visa workers would be affected by the ultimate decision of the court or further action by the DOL over the next several months.

(continued on page 10)



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Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Rick Bunker

In the busyness of the Christmas season, it can be a challenge to come back to the reason Jesus came, focus on it, and appreciate it. We can be so preoccupied with the clutter of the holidays that we forget the simple yet profound message of the baby in the manger and the reason He came.

Still, the real message of Christmas is not the gifts that we give to each other. Rather, it is a reminder of the gift that God has given to each of us. It is the only gift that truly eternally keeps on giving, so I want to point out four things about the greatest gift of all.

First, God's gift to us is surprising.

When Christmas rolls around, you often try to figure out if certain people have bought that gift you really wanted. Maybe you already know what they bought, because they didn't hide it very well. Or, maybe you uncovered it by accident – or maybe not. But when the day comes and you open the present, you have to pretend you're surprised. Yet all along, you knew what it was. God's gift to us, however, was a complete surprise. It was not expected, and as you examine it more carefully, you realize how great a gift it actually is.

Second, God's gift came to us in the humblest of wrappings. What would you think if you saw a gift under your Christmas tree that was wrapped in brown paper and tied up with string? At first, you would probably assume that a guy wrapped it. But think about God's gift to us. Jesus was not born in a palace of gold; He was born in a stable. He was clothed with rags. He was laid in a feeding trough. Yet these things do not, in any way, diminish the story of Christ's birth. If anything, they help us realize the great sacrifice God made for us. God's gift to humanity, the ultimate gift of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ, came in the simplest and humblest of wrappings.



Third, we don't deserve this gift. At Christmas, we give gifts to those whom we care about, who have been kind to us over the past year, or who have given us a gift first. We don't give presents to the person who has been slandering our name or to the angry neighbor who never has a kind word to say. Yet God gave us His gift when we were His enemies. He didn't give this gift to us because we deserved it. In fact, it was just the opposite. The Bible tells us, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8 NKJV).

Fourth, the gift tells us something about the giver. When you want to give someone a gift, you start thinking about it ahead of time. Hopefully you try to find what the person wants or needs. When God decided to give us the gift of eternal life, it wasn't something that He just thought of on the fly. Long before there was a town of Bethlehem, a garden called Eden, and a planet called Earth, a decision was made in eternity that God would send forth His Son, born of a woman, made under the law, to redeem those who are under the law. The Bible says that He was slain from the foundation of the world (see Revelation 13:8). Make no mistake about it: this gift that God has given to us was the most sacrificial thing He could possibly have offered.

So Christmas isn't about those gifts that you have under your tree right now. All those things will be gone one day. All that will be left after this life is the human soul, and that will live forever. We put so much stock in what we have, but this is all going to pass away. Life is about what happens beyond the grave. Life is about knowing the God who made you and who gave you the greatest gift you will ever receive.

That is the Christmas story that gets me in the spirit of Christmas.

Thanksgiving on the Parx Backstretch



While Parx Chaplain Rick Bunker served up some Scripture during his November Chaplain 'N Chow in the track's rec hall, members of the Harriman United Methodist Church prepared and dished out a free Thanksgiving dinner to backstretch workers who attended the monthly meeting. About 100 attended.

Turkey and trimmings were also on the menu on Thanksgiving Day at Ron's Backstretch Cafe, as he and his family and kitchen employees fed 270 track personnel, compliments of the PTHA and Parx Racing. Turkey, ham, stuffing, gravy, vegetables and desserts were offered buffet style to the crowd.

The Backstretch Cafe will also feed track personnel with the help of the horsemen's organization and track the customary Christmas dinner on December 25.



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and all who have donated their time and energy toward our program!

(Immigration Laws, continued from page 6)**WHAT MUST H-2B EMPLOYERS DO NOW?**

What is important for H-2B employers to know is that they may consider becoming stakeholders who take an interest and action in following the litigation and lobbying for their own cause. Without massive support from the various industries that employ H-2B workers, it is inevitable that the DOL will be able to implement the changes they have sought, thus massively increasing the wages that must be paid to seasonal unskilled laborers.

At a minimum, any employer employing H-2B laborers should ensure that they are paying the appropriate prevailing wage pursuant to a DOL prevailing wage determination to both protect themselves from audit, fines or prosecution. Further, employers planning to continue to employ H-2B Visa workers beyond the 60 day stay (approximately November 30, 2011) should perform a new prevailing wage determination to find out exactly what the DOL will require that they pay these workers if the DOL's amended regulations governing the employment of H-2B workers are approved and endorsed by the federal court. Employers who do not know how to implement this process or work through employment agencies should consult with an attorney.

This first victory on the part of the plaintiff employers is temporary relief and the ultimate decision of the court as to the legality and enforceability of the USDOL's Final Rule will be made in the future. However, stakeholder employers should consider consulting with counsel, lobbying efforts or join in the class of plaintiffs that have challenged this law and pleading their case as to why legal, affordable H-2B labor is a necessary part of their industry and our economy at large.



Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season

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Backstretch Views



Holiday Cheer

On December 16, all backstretch employees are invited to a holiday lunch, sponsored by the PTHA, in the track kitchen, starting at 11 a.m. The Annual Children's Christmas party, sponsored by the PTHA and Parx, and hosted by the Chaplain and his volunteers, is on December 17, and the PTHA and Parx' Christmas Dinner, open to all backstretch employees, is served 11 to 3 on December 25.

Condolences

To the family and friends of Frank Shenski, exercise rider from Monmouth Park and Parx, who passed away on November 5. Frank was well known on the PA and NJ circuit, and galloped for many trainers. He and his wife, Susan, lived in Allentown, NJ. He was the father of three children: Layla, who passed away previously, and Derek, from his first marriage; and Jessica.

Frank had celebrated his 60th birthday on October 20, and died while in hospice, suffering from pancreatic cancer.

"He worked up until a few weeks before he passed," said his wife, who he met when they both worked at the track exercising horses many years ago.. "He loved what he did."

Following his wishes, the family had his body cremated.

Welcome



**The Penningtons and
baby Frankie, III**

Frankie Pennington, third leading Parx rider, and his wife, Jennifer Jennings-Pennington, are the proud parents of Frankie James, III, born on November 25 at Lower Bucks Hospital. Weighing in at 6 lbs. and 1 oz., the baby was 18 3/4" long. Baby Frankie is the Pennington's first child. The family resides in Bensalem.



Shaynette and Neysha Calderon

Congratulations to trainer Luis Calderon and his wife, Cherilee, on the birth of their twins, Brianna Keylee and Luis, Jr., on November 17. Brianna weighed in at 6 lbs., 10 oz., and Luis, Jr., his father's first son, was 5 lbs., 2 oz. The twins join sisters Shaynette and Neysha. The family lives in Philadelphia.

Congratulations

To Brady's Longshots, the backstretch pool team which won the Division Pool Championship of the American Pool Players Association (APA) Spring Session 2011 earlier this year.

The team, made up of eight players from Parx Racing, is led by Irene Myers, Captain, security guard for the PA Horse Racing Commisison. Other members of the team are Sherry Harrington, outrider; Bob Wright, David Garcia (assistant trainer, Scott Lake), Santiago Gomez (groom for Mike Aro, Top Gun -- highest total winning scores -- of the Spring session), Juan Martinez (exercise rider, Ron Dandy), Juan Picon (exercise rider, Michelle Fortebuono), and Adrian Wheaton (former Dutrow groom).

The team plays once a week at Brady's Irish Pub in Bensalem, and at other local bars, and made playoffs for summer session., finishing in third place.

They are currently in third place Eight Ball Division of the APA.



**Brady's Longshots
Juan Martinez, Santiago Gomez (Top Gun),
Juan Picon, captain Irene Myers, and
David "Coyote" Garcia**

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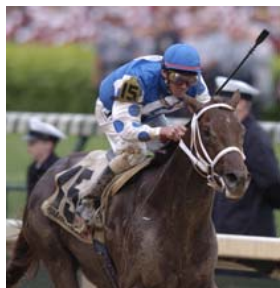
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