

PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Volume 5 2010

New Name, Higher Purses & Graded Stakes for Fall Festival

Parx Racing's Fall Festival of Racing began with memories of 2004 Champion Smarty Jones, and ended with Breeders' Cup champion dreams for many of the Festivals competitors. The combined efforts of both the PTHA and racetrack management in



Favored First Dude (r) could not hold off the efforts of Morning Line. The winner gave trainer Nick Zito his thrid PA Derby win.

renovating the grandstand, and offering full, competitive fields of racing to its many fans and horsemen was highlighted by the \$1

million PA Derby on September 25. "It was a very

exciting month of racing for us," said Sal Sinatra, Director of Racing.

"The enhanced purses were well received, and amazingly, the weather fully cooperated."

Nick Zito's Morning Line

PTHA President's Cup winner Violon Sacre. The 5-year-old began his career in France and scored his second American stakes win

gave the popular New York-based trainer his third PA Derby, which

preps his colt perfectly for a start in the Breeders' Cup

"The PTHA's Owners' Appreciation Day feature race, The PTHA President's Cup, offered a field including two



Saddle towels representing Owner's Day

grade 1 stakes winners," said Sinatra. "And the whole card was great for horses who compete at Parx, as they had preference over others. The whole point was to give horses that regularly support us a chance at the bigger pots."

The PTHA presented special gifts to all trainers, owners and grooms who competed in the day's races, with special gift bags

for the winning connections.

The Day's card offered 100% increase in overnight purses and a payback



PTHA Vice-President Sal DeBunda presents PTHA President's Cup trophy to Violon Sacre's trainer, Patrick Biancone, jockey Pablo Fragoso, and owner Bernard Weill (far left).

of \$500 from sixth to last place.

The Festival kicked off on Labor Day with Smarty Jones Day, and plenty of fans lined up to collect autographs of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winners' connections, trainer John Servis, owner Patricia Chapman, and jockey Stewart Elliott. The \$300,000 Smarty Jones Stake for three year olds, was won by Thiskyhasnolimits, ridden by Jamie Theriot, who also rode the winner of the Turf Monster earlier on the card.

Pennsylvania's Day at the Races on September 11 featured an entire card of PA-bred races, including four stakes, with the six race undercard offering a 50% increase in purses.

Saturday, October 2 was the last weekend in the Festival, with \$1,500,000 in



PA Derby Day crowd numbered over 8,000.

total purses offered for Cotillion and Ladies' Appreciation Day. All races were for fillies and mares, headed by the \$750,000 Grade 2 Cotillion Stakes. The Female Rider's Challenge hosted top women jockeys from around the world. Parx Racing's COO Joe Wilson presented a check for \$25,000 to the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Awareness. All ladies attending the races received gifts, as well. (continued on page 2)

President's Message

My three-year term on the PTHA Board of Directors will be finished in December, and it is with great regret that I will be stepping down as president due to some health issues that I have been dealing with this year.



However, I have been nominated as a trainer/ director and look forward to continuing my work with the new board and Executive Director, Mike Ballezzi.

It certainly has been a whirlwind of changes in the last few years during my term in office. The outgoing group of board members has worked exceptionally hard in considering the welfare of our horsemen here at Parx racing, especially when it comes to health care and pensions for trainers and their families. We were very successful in being able to put together a pension plan that has just been approved by the Gaming Control Board -- a plan that is like no other, that was created from the ground up, and is also retroactive with a "catch-up provision for the trainers over 55 years old that have supported racing at our track.

Certainly, one of the most important changes that our board and I have seen has to do with the increase in purses due to the slot machine revenue. We have seen the casino across the parking lot grow to become the most successful casino in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and because of the strength of our executive director and board, we were there, heard from, and included when legislation was written that would insure that the horsemen received a percentage of the slot machine revenue that would enhance our purses, strengthen our racing and breeding industry therefore, our quality of life.

Our day to day life on the backstretch is improving all the time, too, with racetrack management and the PTHA working closely to improve the condition of the barn area, and therefore, the safety of our horses.

Our retired horses have been insured against ending up at slaughter with the creation of Turning For Home. Now in its third year, it is a model program for other racetracks across the country.

I have no doubt that it took a special group of people that worked hard with our best interests always in the forefront. I am proud to have served as your president for the last three years, and look forward to once again working as part of this team.





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(Festival of Racing cont. from page 1)

"The entire Festival is something that we plan to build on in 2011," said Sinatra. "With many of the stakes contenders going on to compete in this year's Breeders' Cup, we really have outdone ourselves on the map as far as offering top racing."

PA Derby winner Morning Line, Turf Monster Handicap winner Thiskysthelimit, Turf Amazon Stakes winner Rose Catherine, and one-two in the Cotillion finishers, Havre De Grace and Blind Luck, plan on Breeders' Cup appearances.

For more photos of Smarty Jones Day, PA Day at the Races, Owner's Appreciation Day, PA Derby Day, and Ladies' Appreciation Day and the Cotillion Stakes, please turn to pages 6 and 7)

New Barns Tweaked to Perfection; Final Plans Out to Bid

This year's PA Derby Day ship ins, including the Nick Zito-trainee and eventual winner Morning Line, were the first horses to be housed in Barn A, the newest barn on the Parx Racing backstretch. The former Pony Barn A was razed two months ago, and entirely rebuilt, earning approval from horsemen, and importantly, the Department of Environmental Protection.

The new prototype for the remaining barns features two 11 x 10 wash stalls at the street end, large sliding doors replacing the hinged doors, and heavy, flat plastic which lines each stall.

"The new barns will have all the amenities we asked for," said Michael Ballezzi, PTHA Executive Director, who was instrumental in the design of the wash stalls and other improvements. "Once the bids for the barns are approved, we anticipate an expedited schedule for building the 33 remaining barns."

Three new barns had been finished when the scheduling of building the new barns was interrupted early this year when the DEP told racing management that run off from the washing of horses and the manure pits was polluting local waterways.

A new design has allowed for indoor wash stalls which would drain into the sewer system, but still maintain the same amount of storage space and 44 stalls within each barn.







Barn A, the newest of the Parx backstrech barns, is considered the prototype for the remaining 32 barns. It features sliding doors (far left), newly constructed stalls, heavy, smooth white plastic lining the inside of the engineered plywood stalls and on the barn walls, three wash stalls (above left), and wide aisles (above right), with high ceilngs and huge ventilation fans at either end. The PTHA purchased stall mats, stall screens with yokes, and individual stall fans to keep everything in the barns uniform and safe.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

for the PTHA President and Board of Directors

November 28, 2010 11 A.M. in the Rec Hall

Come and meet the PTHA Candidates who are running for PTHA President and Board of Directors in the December Elections

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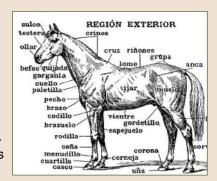
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VETERINARIAN'S CORNER

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS WITH DR. PATTY HOGAN

What % of your patients are Thoroughbred racehorses? About 50% are TB's the rest are STB's – very little of my practice is riding horses.

What % of your practice involves orthopedic surgery? Probably 60% of my practice is orthopedics but I do a lot of throat surgery – basically those 2 areas are what bother racehorses the most – musculoskeletal injuries and upper airway issues.



How many years have you been doing orthopedic surgery, and how long have you managed your own clinic at Fair Winds? I have been a surgeon since 1996 and this is my 4th year in my own practice. It has been a wonderful experience and I have enjoyed every minute of it!

What are the most common racetrack injuries that you see? The most common injuries that I see are chip fractures involving the knee or ankle joints, and various types of leg fractures that are common in the racing population.



A spiral fracture (I) in Turning For Home retiree 6yo Rolled Up that was fixated with three screws. Rolled Up (r) shown here five months after Hogan performed the surgery.

What changes would you like to see in medication/racing rules? I think this is a very difficult area to regulate right now – there are many medications that are very therapeutic and are of great benefit to our equine athletes in helping them to maintain fitness, and address minor issues with inflammation or sickness. However, the fine line is where the use of such medications can be abused or used in a blanket fashion for other "perceived" benefits. Clenbuterol would be an example of that sort of medication. It is a very important and useful drug that has its place in racing, but there have been some questions raised on the potential for its abuse.

I do feel that uniformity in rules is needed, especially from what I have observed in Standardbred racing, where horses may race in a different state (I) every week. Knowing the various rules for each state for legitimate medications puts an undue burden upon the trainer.

How much responsibility do we, as an industry, have towards horses who can no longer race? I have great compassion for our horses both as an animal-lover and as a veterinarian. But even if I disregard my personal feelings on the subject and remain objective, at the very least it is obvious that racing is a business vying for the shrinking entertainment dollar. We require the full support of the public on many levels to survive. Any successful company will tell you that positive public relations are absolutely vital to the success of any business and there is no way that we can sell our product to the public without seeing that product through full-circle. The fact that our product happens to be a living animal makes it all the more important to show the public that we care and can think beyond the tote board. We need to have rules and regulations regarding equine welfare, have safety nets in place as horses progress through their racing careers, and have programs in place that can offer retraining, retirement, or euthanasia. In all cases, there should be an acceptable end-result that we control – not one that got away from us and certainly not one that will haunt the sport (i.e. Ferdinand's slaughter overseas). I firmly believe that this concept should be an industry-wide organized and supported goal, not just that of volunteers and private donations. Any of us who makes a living in this sport is responsible for making this happen.

You mention euthanasia: how can it play a role in the aftercare of these horses? Euthanasia is a viable option for horses that cannot sustain an acceptable quality of life. I can look at that very objectively if there is clearly an issue with a horse sustaining an injury causing pain, or if the quality of life, for whatever reason, is poor. But if we are having to euthanize perfectly healthy, wonderful horses solely because they are "unwanted" then we need to ask ourselves some very tough guestions.

Your own personal thoughts on horseracing! I have loved racing since I can remember, devouring every book possible as a child, watching all the big races on TV, and grooming Standardbreds at the age of 10. I am a true fan and also a participant as an owner and breeder. I feel privileged to have also been able to carve out a career as a veterinarian caring for these elite athletes. I am happy that I have something of value to give back and that is what drives me to help whenever possible. If veterinary care can make a difference for one horse to have the opportunity to be adopted and move on to another career, I would like to be there.

Dr. Hogan was honored with Turning For Home's Special Recognition Award for 2009. Her Hogan Equine Clinic at Fair Winds, LLC, is located in Cream Ridge, NJ.

Results of Pennsylvania Day at the Races

September 11, 2010 at parx racing

All PA-Breds, All Day!

Purse \$28,000 Maiden Claiming PA-Bred Two-Year-Old Fillies 5F

Eight Gig Nano White Fox Farm, et al The Elkstone Group Ron G. Potts Kendrick Carmouche

Purse \$45,000 MSW PA-Bred Two-Year-Old Fillies 5F

Salty Girl Plus Pennston Farm Iola & Spina Chuck Spina Pedro Cotto, Jr.

Purse \$30,000 Claiming \$10,000 PA-Bred 3yo & Up 6F

Call the Raise Michael W. Jester Michael W. Jester Steve Rowan Tony Black

Purse \$35,000 Starter Alw. PA-Bred 3yo & Up 1 1/16 T

Out In The Rain Karen Kohl Meadow Echo Farm Francis Meares John Bisono

Purse \$45,000 MSW PA-Bred Two-Year-Olds 5F

Der Meister John R. Penn Wanderer's Stable & Murray Rojas Jose Flores

RJG Mgmt. LLC

PHBA CLASSIC \$100,000 GUARANTEED PA-BRED 3YO & UP 1 1/16 M

Movin' Out Stone Church Farm & Vince Campanella Keith LeBarron Stewart Elliott

Hickory Plains Farm

MRS. PENNY STAKES \$100,000 GUARANTEED PA-BRED F & M 5F TURF

Noble Maz Dr. S. Mark Rayburg, Inc. Fred Hart William McCarthy Stewart Elliott

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Zoeling E & D Enterprises & On The Mark Racing Doug Matthews Florent Geroux

1 1/16 M

Joseph Lacomb Stables, Inc.

PHBA DISTAFF \$100,000 GUARANTEED PA-BRED F & M

Jemilyn Frances Hartwell Frances Hartwell Ramon Preciado Abel Mariano

Purse \$45,000 Maidens PA-Bred & PA-Sired 3, 4, and 5yo 6F

Son of a Gun Susan & John Moore Susan & John Moore Steve Klesaris Angel Arroyo



Congratulations to the connections of the Webb Carroll graduate EASTERN ASSASSIN, trained by Kate DeMasi and owned by Gorkoy Stable. Eastern Assassin won his first start at Monmouth Park going gate-to-wire over an impressive group of MSW 2-year-olds on Sept. 26.

Parx Fall Festiva

Smarty Jones Day · Pennsylvania's Day at the Races · Owners' App

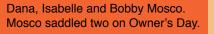


Owners' Appreciation Day September 18



Violon Sacre scores PTHA President's Cup victory under Pablo Fragoso, for trainer Patrick Biancone (below).







PA Day at the Races September 11





Jeremy Rose hugs Cotillion winner Havre De Grace; Havre De Grace wins a tough battle over Blind Luck. Both fillies now head to the Breeders' Cup.



Cotillion S. & Ladies' Appreciation Day
October 2

Members of the National Ladies' Rider Challenge (I); souvenir pink caps showed the symbol for breast cancer awareness (above r); pink was the color of the day! (r)





Horseshoe decorati benefit Turning For



of Racing 2010

preciation Day • PA Derby • Cotillion S. & Ladies Appreciation Day





Let's Go Racing 's Dick Gerardi interviews trainer Bill McCarthy, winner of the Mrs. Penny Stakes with Noble Maz.



Karen Kohl's Out in the Rain, saddled by Frances Meares, winner of the PA-bred starter allowance (above, left). PHBA Executive Director Mark McDermott (I) and President Brian Sanfratello present a check to Turning For Home's Administrator, Barbara Luna, in support of the PTHA's racehorse retirement program (above, right).

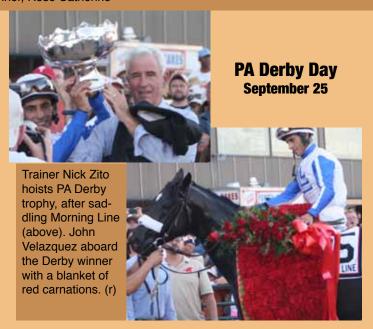


PTHA V.P. Sal DeBunda, Treasurer Steve Appel, Senator Michael Stack, Shari Williams, wife of Senator Anthony Williams, Senator Shirley Kitchen, Tonya Stack, Javier Castellano, and connections of Turf Amazon H. winner, Rose Catherine



Parx, the racetrack's new

mascot (I).



NAMES IN THE NEWS:

PA Gaming Control Board Executive Director Kevin O'Toole

Early this month, PA Gaming Control Board Executive Director Kevin O'Toole announced his board's approval of the pension plan for trainers at Parx Racing that PTHA Executive Director Michael Ballezzi and his committee have worked diligently on for the past two years.

"I was very pleased to see the PTHA pension approved by our board," said O'Toole, who recently moved to Harrisburg from New York State, along with his wife Marie. "Mike Ballezzi did a very good job of explaining the objective of his plan, which is to enhance the quality of life for the horsemen."

A 1972 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, O'Toole went on to earn his law degree in 1982 at Rutgers University School of Law-Camden.

O'Toole joined the Gaming Control Board in June of 2009. After 28 years of experience regulating table games, working with horsemen was a brand new experience, different from his former position as commissioner of the Oneida Indian Nation's Gaming Commission in New York.

"Oneida was a very busy casino, and always had expansion plans, was always looking to open up new poker rooms or add new entertainment," said O'Toole."The horseracing aspect of the Gaming

Control Board is still a learning experience for me.

"I have always had a sporting interest in horseracing, following the bigger races, like the Triple Crown, but working in regulating is different," said O'Toole.

He and his board are currently overseeing plans to increase the handle and attendance at the PA racetracks. Through

new legislative revisions, racetrack management must show they are working towards that goal.

"We are very fortunate to work closely with the Racing Commission and the Department of Agriculture to help further that agenda," said O'Toole. "The plans show increased marketing efforts in print media, mostly, and already you have seen the results of upgrading the facilities, like your clubhouse and grandstand. We continue the process of attracting the best quality of horses with increased purses."

O'Toole is confident that horseracing and table games are . very compatible. "It is my job to make sure that the legalization of gaming in PA continues to offer specific and concrete positive effects for horseracing."



PTHA 2010 SOCCER LEAGUE...in action!

The first season of the PTHA's Soccer League ended on October 11 with Phil Aristone's Red team defeating Guadalupe Preciado's Black team in the championship playoffs. It was unanimous among players and fans that the league is a rousing success!

Victor Molina, who organized the league, gathered seven teams together, while the PTHA sponsored referees, uniforms, equipment and playoff trophies.

"It was a great season," said Molina. "Most of these guys who played





have no recreation at all, living on the back-stretch. Now, they can feel good because they are a part of something.

"We were only able to do this with the help of the PTHA, and I give them all the credit."

All seven teams wore shirts with the names of Parx Racing trainers who helped pay for the uniforms: Kate DeMasi, Cal Lynch, Carlos Guerrero, Guadalupe Preciado, Ramon Preciado, Phil Aristone and John Servis.

Both Guerrero and Lynch also played on their respective teams (see above photo of Guerrero as goalie).

Games were played in the evenings behind the recreation hall on the track's backside, often with families and friends of the players cheering from the sidelines.



"We fully plan to do this again next year," said Molina. "Since everything has been put in place we'll hopefully get started a bit sooner and have a longer season."





Backstretch Views

Condolences

Ron C. Wendling

Trainer Ron C. Wendling passed away on September 5 at the age of 51. Our thoughts and prayers go out especially to his wife, Janice, and his sisters Marie Ann Becker and Kathleen Eyerman, and his brother Roger Wendling.

Born in NY, Wendling lived in New Jersey for most of his life. He and Janice met while attending

East Brunswick High School, and their love of horses led them to purchasing their first racehorse in 1981. For 28 years they ran Charter Farm, a 20 acre piece of property adjacent to the NJ Turnpike near Bordentown. Last year after the Turnpike Authority purchased the land, the couple retired to a 55+ community, and Wendling retired from the day to day business of training horses.

"My husband had a very strong personality," said Janice. "But I remember him most for his sense of humor -- and he was a great cook! "

Congratulations



William and Joan Carango Celebrate 60th Anniversary September 30

Back in the late 1940's when Bill and Joan Carango lived in the adjoining towns of Bristol and West Bristol, horses lived in backyards and the train pulled into town once a year to unload the wranglers, performers and animals for the local circus.

The two almost met while Carango asked then 15-year-old Joan if she had seen his lost horse while she was picking blueberries in Commerce Park.

"We didn't really speak to each other until later, though when a bunch of us girls were making prank phone calls to the gas station where he worked--we didn't have such things as tv and computers back then--and we'd call and ask if they had Prince Albert in a can."

Although Carango was quite a few years older than his young wife, Mrs.Carango's mother approved the marriage, and the pair has been together ever since, living in Bristol

and raising two children in a house Carango built himself.

Carango, who always loved horses, began working at the racetrack 24 years ago after retiring as a millright. He bought his first racehorse with money he earned from selling a forklift. He is one of the few horsemen on the grounds who has been at parx racetrack for all of its name changes!

Mrs. Carango says the reason they have stayed together for so long is because of their religious beliefs, both having become born again Christians.

"I love him as much now as I ever did," she said. "He was such a handsome Italian fellow, and to me, he still is. There were many girls that were after him, but I'm the one who got him."

The Carango's son, Tony, trains horses at parx. The couple also have a daughter, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Get Well Soon Wishes

Dr. Steve McBride was injured in a bicycling accident in mid-September near his home in Lumberton, NJ. The private practice veterinarian, who along with associate Dr. Jaime Arias, is a regular face on the backstretch, and well known for his generosity to Turning For Home, the PTHA's racehorse retirement program. According to Dr. Arias, McBride is eager to get back to work, and for all of us who know him--we know that is true! Speedy recovery to you Steve!

Local jockey **Tyrone Carter** was seriously injured when a horse flipped on him during training hours in late September. He suffered a punctured lung, broken collarbone and broken ribs, and was hospitalized for six days. Now back at home with his wife, Pat, in Bensalem, Carter may have to undergo additional surgery for a knee injury, according to fellow rider and Philadelphia Park Jockey Association representative Tony Black.

"Tyrone is well rspected among our jockey colony, and everyone wishes him well," said Black. "Our riders got together and donated \$2,600 to his recovery, and we are hoping for further help from the Jockey's Guild."

Want to know what's going on in your horsemen's organization?

Read the PTHA News with all the happenings
that affect you, as trainers, owners, and backstretch workers at parx racing.

OR: Sign on to our website at www.patha.org



Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name!

- Psalm 105:1

It happened in Metz, France. Three-year-old Marie received the Bronze Medal "for an act of courage and sacrifice." When she saw her two-year-old playmate fall into the swimming pool, she put her life on the line, reached over the edge in a precarious position, and pulled him out of the water by his hair. The boy, Dennis, was not very grateful, however, according to Marie. She said, "He doesn't like me now because it hurt when I pulled his hair."

There may be many times when it is hard to understand why certain things happen to us, because rarely do we see the whole picture. However, if we are to enjoy life fully, we cannot lose by showing gratitude even under trying conditions.

The story goes that two men were walking through a large open field, when suddenly they saw an angry bull storming toward them. Although they were running as fast as they could, it was obvious they would never make it to the safety of the fence! Terrified, one of them shouted to the other, "Pray, John; pray or we're in for it!" To this John replied, "I can't! I can't! I've never put up a prayer in public before!" But Bill insisted that he simply had to pray or they were goners! Finally John gasped for air, and said "Well, I'll offer the only one I know: O Lord, for what we are about to receive, make us truly thankful."

I doubt that incident ever happened, but it serves to show how very important it is to know God and be ready for any emergency. Then when we see how wonderfully he is helping us, we will truly be thankful!

Have you thanked God for your uneventful, somewhat boring, days? Think about it. In an uneventful day you did not have an auto accident, did not fall down the stairs, avoided a race to the hospital, and were not robbed. Let us thank God for those mercies! On the other hand, there are those times when adversities are good for us, and even then we should be thankful. Try always to think of hardships like an athlete thinks about his training. We must bear up under those rough experiences and heavy loads in order to build up muscle and endurance. Those are the things that make us strong, and if we see them as our trainers and helpers, they will not discourage us. From this perspective, we shall look on those experiences as our friends!

How can a person not be joyful with that kind of attitude? Not only will he be glad over each day's experiences, but he will get the added blessing of being glad that he is glad. It multiplies itself. That's how God made the seed's of earth - with the power to keep multiplying. An astounding factor that God created – let us plant seeds of thanksgiving.

Your Chaplain, Rick Bunker

PTHA Labor Day Weekend Pig Roast

Every year, the PTHA organizes and sponsors an Independence Day Picnic and Labor Day weekend Pig Roast for backstretch employees and their families. Especially exciting for this year's Pig Roast was the mechanical bull, enjoyed by young and old. Three 100 pound pigs were cooked and carved by members of Ron's Backstretch Cafe, and served to 350 hungry workers and their families. Live merengue and salsa music was supplied by Josie Sanchez and Sanbuca, and DJ Pat McBride kept the tunes going.













TURNING FOR HOME PAGE

News & Notes on the PTHA's Racehorse Retirement Program

TFH 2ND ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sept. 29, Blue Bell Country Club Many Thanks to Our Sponsors:





Brian Sanfratello and Mark McDemott (I); Lou Santoro, Denise Rolfe, Phil Aristone and Bobby Robbins (r).



Bruce Casella (producer of Let's Go Racing), Dan Grimaldi (former mob guy from The Sopranos), Anthony Salamone and Frank Sisto both from Hillis Adjustment Agency, enjoy dinner after the tournament.

TURNING FOR HOME YEARLY EXPENSES 10/1/09 to 9/30/10 INCOME **OWNER/TRAINER START FEES** \$175,585.00 **FUNDRAISING** 20,215.39 DONATIONS 163,582.03 TOTAL \$359,382.42 **EXPENSES ADMINISTRATIVE** \$36.071.98 **PROFESSIONAL FEES** \$4,164.73 HORSE CARE Veterinary \$9,142.80 Rehabilitation 16,575.00 **Placement** 200,265.00 TOTAL \$266,219.51







Stephen's Sport (top left) and Megan Matthews; Gotaghostofachance (top right). Kiss My Buddy (I) and adopter Veronique made a great impression at their first horse show last month, with the PA-bred 8yo gelding scoring reserve champion honors!

Love hearing about our Turning For Home graduates? Want to know more about our program, find out who is ready for adoption, or how you can help? Sign up for our new eNewsletter by sending your email address to turningforhome@patha.org.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

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LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW

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