

# **PTHA NEWS**

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter

We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Volume 3 2013

# PA Derby and Cotillion Top \$6.3 Million Festival

Parx Racing made history last year when, other than the Breeders' Cup, it became the first track to card two \$1 million races on the same day, the PA Derby (Gr.2) and Cotillion Stakes (Gr.1). PA Derby Day on September 21 is once again the highlight of this year's Festival of Racing,

#### 7/5 Independence Weekend

\$200,000 Gr.3 Parx Dash
W-MGK Radio Station race
Live broadcast with DJ Andre Gardner

#### 9/2 Smarty Jones Day

11 races including

\$350,000 Gr.3 Smarty Jones S.

\$350,000 Gr.3 Turf Monster H.

\$200,000 Gr.3 Greenwood Cup

\$200,000 Turf Amazon H.

50% increase in overnight overnight purses

#### 9/7 PA Day at the Races

10 races including

\$75,000 Mrs. Penny

\$75,000 Mr. Jenny H.

\$75,000 Banjo Picker S.

\$75,000 Roanoke S.

\$75,000 Dr. Theresa Garofalo Memorial

#### 9/14 Owner's Appreciation Day

12 races including \$250,000 PTHA President's Cup

100% increase in overnight purses; Parx starters preferred

#### 9/21 PA Derby Day

12 races including

\$1 Million Gr.1 Cotillion S.

\$1 Million Gr.2 PA Derby

\$300,000 Gr.3 Gallant Bob H.

\$75,000 Alphabet Soup (PA-Bred)

\$75,000 Soul Starter H.

50% increase overnight purses

PA Derby hat giveaway

#### 10/12 5K Day

10 races including

\$75,000 Cornucopia S.

\$75,000 First Responder

\$45,000 Silver Goblin Starter

and along with the Gr.1 Cotillion, there are three other stakes carded and the traditional PA Derby hat giveaway.



Heading for home, Handsome Mike is enroute to winning the 2012 PA Derby.

The PTHA will hold its Owner's Appreciation Day on September 14, with all members invited, and a 100% increase in purses for the day, Parx Starters preferred.

A luncheon for all and gifts for owners, and trainers of horses racing that day will be offered.

(continued on page 3)

# Dynamic Duo: PA Bred Fillies Steal Spotlight on Oaks Day in KY

Princess of Sylmar and So Many Ways, both Pennsylvania breds, pushed PA racing into the national headlines when they scored impressive victories on May 3 at Churchill Downs.

Princess of Sylmar, by Majestic Warrior and bred by Ed Stanco, won the 139th running of the \$1 million Gr.1 Longines Kentucky Oaks, while So Many Ways took the \$150,000 Gr.3 Eight Belles Stakes earlier on the card.

Stanco, who is CEO of a New Jersey



So Many Ways on the outside in Eight Belles S.
Photo by Barbara Livingston

re-insurance company, sent the filly's dam, Storm Dixie, to Ron and Betsy Houghton's Sylmar Farm after she retired from racing. Married with two sons, Stanco lives in Malvern, PA, close to the farm where he keeps a couple of other broodmares, too.



Princess of Sylmar in front in Longines Oaks.

Photo by Barbara Livingston

"Mr. Stanco is a wonderful person," said Betsy Houghton. "Since he named her after our farm, we have gotten so many phone calls, her name has really gotten us a lot of attention."

The Houghtons foaled Princess of Sylmar, raised the filly, broke her and gate schooled her before sending her to Todd Pletcher at Belmont Park. She broke her maiden in her second start at Penn National last year. Storm Dixie has been sent back to Majestic Warrior in Kentucky.

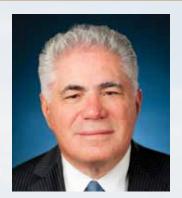
Eight Bells winner So Many Ways, who was named 2012 PA-bred Champion Two-Year-Old FIlly and Champion Sprinter, has proven to be a profitable purchase, beginning her career with a maiden victory at Parx last year when trained by Tony Dutrow. (continued on page 5)

## President's Message

### Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esquire

The Thoroughbred horsemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania received unexpected recognition the day before the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs when Princess Of Sylmar won the Gr.1 \$1,000,000 Kentucky Oaks, and So Many Ways scored just as impressively a few races earlier in the \$150,000 Eight Belles Stakes.

Princess of Sylmar, owned and bred by Ed Stanco of Malvern, has even deeper PA connections, as she was born on and broke at Betsy and Ron Houghton's Sylmar Farm. The Houghtons do a wonderful job, which I know first hand, as they have foaled and raised my babies for me since 1968.



So Many Ways was already recognized by the PA breeders as 2012 Two-Year-Old Filly and Champion Sprinter. And even better, both fillies started their careers by breaking their maidens at Parx or Penn National.

The proof that Act 71 is strengthening the Thoroughbred racing and breeding industry is proven in so many ways, but national recognition of our state breds is the best advertising we could have.

In the past few months, your Executive Director Michael Ballezzi, and I have been inviting legislators to see up close and personally how our industry works by hosting events at farms and at the racetracks. Most recently, board members Butch Reid and John Servis played host to a tour of the Parx backstretch in the early morning hours. We "insiders" know the morning is probably the most exciting time for newcomers to experience the thrill of the Thoroughbred in action. Allowing the offspring of Smarty Jones, Parx Racing's 2012 Horse of the Year Hello Lover to be so accessable to the men and women who will vote on the budget in a few short days will leave a positive and lasting impression as being among veterinarians, exercise riders, grooms, feed trucks, the gate crew, and yes, even the folks who feed us at Ron's Backstretch Cafe, all have jobs because of our industry.

It is always a wake up call to me when adults are wide-eyed and enamored with the magnificence of the Thoroughbred, which they witness pounding through the lane in a morning workout, but are vying for a scratch on their necks, or for the peppermints and carrots they are offered as treats back in the barn area. People can be intimidated by things they don't understand, but I am hoping the legislators and their families who learned about training, feeding and care of the Thoroughbred will educate others about our industry in a positive manner as a result of these tours.

As you have seen, the Parx Festival of Racing schedule is out, and our Owners Appreciation Day is scheduled for September 14. We are hoping you, as our members, will attend the races that day, and enjoy lunch on us, the PTHA. As owners and trainers, you may benefit from the 100% increase in purses offered that day, with Parx runners preferred, and maybe bring a friend who is new to racing.

We continue to promote our product, and the more people who can enjoy it along with us, the better!

Salvater M. DoBula



### We Are Halfway There!



With the final touches now completed on Barn 15, Parx' backstretch renovation project is at the halfway point. The \$35 million project, which also includes paving,



### **Legislators Treated to Morning Hours at Parx**

Earlier this month, PA legislators, their associates and families were invited to spend a morning touring the Parx backstretch. PTHA Executive Director Mike Ballezzi spoke about how important racing is to the economy in the Commonwealth, and the sight of exercise riders, grooms, and hotwalkers performing their early morning tasks drove the point home.

Thanks to the hospitality of PTHA board members Burch Reid and John Servis, the visitors experienced the inner workings of two of Parx' largest stables of horses and were treated to an appearance of last year's Parx Horse of the Year Hello Lover, who posed haandsomely for as many photos as could be snapped!

Senator Stewart Greenleaf and his family, including his two grandchildren, fed horses mints and watched a very talented son of Smarty Jones from John Servis' barn work under leading jockey Kendrick Carmouche.

Legislators in attendance included Senator Stewart Greenleaf, Representatives Ed Neilson (above), Gene DiGirolamo, Tina Davis, Kate Harper, Matt Bradford, and Steven Santarsiero. Also in attendance were Gary Babin and Joe Loeper, lobbyists from S. R. Wojdak and Pete Peterson, spokesperson for the PA Equine Coalition.



Kelly Greenleaf befriends a West Point Thoroughbred runner (rght).



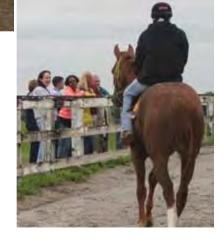


Butch Reid sends out a set of two-year-olds (above), while Gary Babin helps Sen. Greenleaf's grandson feed mints to a filly.



Parx Racing's Horse of the Year Hello Lover (above) creates a photo op.

Rep. Gene Digirolamo watches horses work out on Friday morning (left).



#### (Festival of Racing, continued from page 1)

This year, the Festival kicks off on the Fourth of July weekend with one of the two newly graded Parx stakes, the \$200,000 Parx Dash (Gr.3). There is a four week break until the popular Smarty Jones Day on September 2.

"We set up our schedule to better accomodates Breeders' Cup runners," said Director of Racing, Sal Sinatra. "Our second big change was moving the Greenwood Cup from mid-July to Smarty Jones Day."

Traditionally, many of the Breeders' Cup entrants have used major Parx races as their final preps. Last year, Gr.1 Cotillion winner My Miss Aurelia went on to finish second in the Breeders' Cup Distaff, and Trinniberg used the Gallant Bob, now a Grade 3, as his stepping stone to a win in the Breeders' Cup Sprint.

"Our final change to the 2013 Festival was the addition of three overnight stakes to 5K Day on October 12," said Sinatra. "With the big charity foot race that day, we felt adding some exciting races would make it a full day for fans."

### PTHA's Geoffrey Moulton Leads Disabled Vets' Bike Ride

by Geoffrey Moulton

As you may know I ride my bicycle and raise money for many charities. My 'silks' are cycling jerseys and this past weekend I was wearing the colors of Face of America for World T.E.A.M. Sports. The ride is a two day event for disabled veterans and we travel from Washington D.C. to Gettysburg, PA. This year we had 110 disabled riders and 400 active service, veterans and civilian riders.

The bicycle is a wonderful machine which helps our wounded brothers and sisters recover in many ways.

Participating in this event and traveling 110 miles over the two days is something many able body people would not consider doing. It is a major part of the healing process for these men and women. Many are introduced to



Geoffrey Mouton wearing his FoA silks and Beads of Courage

bicycle or hand crank cycle while recovering from their wounds. They spend many years in hospitals and now can move about under their own power. We had a team of riders from Walter Reed Military Hospital along with their nurses this year.

I travel to DC on Thursday, April 25 and help set up the room where the participant's bikes will be inspected and stored. On Friday morning I lead a group from the hotel, across the Potomac River, to visit the Vietnam, Korean and WWII memorials. The picture below is of Bill Czyzewski visiting the Vietnam wall with Lew Meyer. Bill lost his leg in Vietnam and if you look at his hand cycle you see his prosthesis mounted behind his seat. Bill was part of a group of Wounded Warriors who crossed the country last summer going from San

Francisco to Virginia Beach.

We start our journey on Saturday morning by passing Arlington Cemetery and looping around the Iwo Jima monument before heading north to our days end location in Frederick Maryland. We overnight in Frederick and continue our ride to Gettysburg Sunday morning.

You can see the wooden poles mounted behind the hand crank bikes. When we get into the hills and the hand crank riders tire a rider on an upright bike can ride alongside and give assist to climb the hill. Some hills are steep enough that you will see other riders pushing the riders pushing the hand



Bill Czyzewski (rt) and Lew Meyer at the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

cycle. It is an amazing sight.

In the center of the picture below is Colonel Greg Gadson. He is still on

active duty as a garrison commander. You may have seen him in the movie Battleship or on the sidelines of NY Giants games. He is their inspirational speaker and has two Super Bowl rings.

The ride finishes at a farm just outside of the Gettysburg battleground. The feeling of accomplishment is tremendous.

I am proud of what we do. Although the name of the ride is "The Face of America," it should be nicknamed "The Spirit of America."



When the hand crank riders tire, the two wooden poles on the back of their bikes are used so the riders on upright bikes can push.

Geoffrey Mouton is the "computer guru" and IT man for the PTHA. We are proud of his accomplishments on his bicycle and with his fellow war veterans.



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Spirit and Speed, an original WVIA documentary film, is a one-hour HD presentation that travels through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and provides viewers with a unique look behind the scenes of horseracing. Its purpose is to contribute to the growth of the equine breeding and racing industry by highlighting its contributions to agriculture and the economy.

It celebrates the history and pageantry of racing with interviews, dramatic visual effects, and coverage of topics including horse breeding, equine medicine, slaughter and horse rescue, gambling, and track operation.

#### AIR SCHEDULE

#### Comcast Sports Net/ Let's Go Racing

10 a.m. Part 1 6/29 10 a.m. Part 2 7/7

#### **WITF Harrisburg**

6/22 3 p.m. 6/23 7 p.m.

WHYY Philadelphia TBA

(Continued from page 1)



Owner Maggi Moss
Photo by Barbara Livingston

Bred by John R. and John C. Penn, father and son team from Kentucky, she was reluctantly purchased by Moss for \$22,000 in 2011 at the Fasig-Tipton Mid Atlantic Eastern Fall Yearling Sale, upon the advice of her sales agent.

"I have been in racing for 12 years," said Moss, who lives and practices law in Iowa. "I want to race where I can always see my horses run and not have to travel too much, and I like to support local breeding programs. I didn't want a PA-bred, but my agent was insistent.

"I didn't even have a trainer in PA, so I found Tony Dutrow, and when she broke her maiden at Parx in open company, I looked at the winning purse and said 'holy buckets, Batman,' this is a great state-bred program they have there. I am now thrilled to have a Pennsylvania bred!"

Although a businesswoman, Moss is breaking her number one rule with So Many Ways.

After her winning her debut, the filly reeled off consecutive wins in Saratoga in the Schuylerville S. (Gr.3) and the Spinaway S. (Gr.1).

"I have always taken a profit from a horse whenever I can," she said. "I love all of my horses, they are all unique, and they are all special, but when we began negotiations with the Japanese to sell her, I soon made the decision: So Many Ways is a mare that I will never sell."

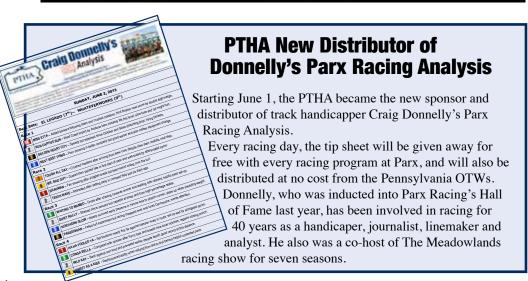
That decision has as much to do with Moss' mother as it has to do with So Many Ways' personality.

"I have never owned a horse with such a demeanor, "said Moss. "She is like a big, brown Labrador, like a pet. Her eyes almost speak to you. But on the track, she is no longer sweet--she is aggressive, and serious about her job. That is part of my reason, the other is about family.



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"Although I have never had my mother interfere with my business, my Mom, who is in her late 80s and my best friend, is all I have in this world with the exception of my animals. She changed my mind," said Moss. "We were home in my kitchen watching the race on tv, and when the filly crossed the finish line in front, there were tears pouring down my mother's face. It was one of the more chilling moments of my life.

"So that is the story of So Many Ways," she said. "I will probably be racing her next at Prairie Meadows, not because I am dodging the competition, but because I want my mother to be able to see her. I need her and this horse close to me."





# LOOK AT THE SAVINGS PTHA MEMBERS HAVE RECEIVED!\*



\$2069 Saved on Auto & Homeowners Member 1

\$2023 Member 2 Saved on Auto & Homeowners

\$ 969 Member 3 Saved on Auto

Member 4 \$ 385 Saved on Homeowners

\$ 350 Member 5 Saved on Auto & Homeowners

\$ 291 Member 6 Saved on Auto & Homeowners

\$ 107 Saved on Auto Member 7

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\*These figures reflect actual members' savings. Savings will vary.

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Ed. 09/2007

# Chaplain's Corner

### Chaplain Rick Bunker

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-- and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man. – Prov. 6:10-11(also Prov.24:33ff)

In the last millennium President Kennedy asked, very near the close of his inaugural address, for Americans to "ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country." It was 53 years ago that those words rang out from the back steps of our Capitol Building. The sentence was found to be inspirational and I find no record of those who, at the time, found it to be insensitive. I wonder if even the first half of that sentence was uttered today what the reaction would be. Would it be acceptable to go so far as to ask at the close of the sentence to ask what you can do for yourself if not for your country? Politicians may be unwilling to ask this but I know many of you, thanks be to God, are willing.

You are some of the hardest working people I know and I applaud you for it. Your hard work and love of freedom make you good citizens of this great nation. Augustine said that the way to judge a nation is to determine the "loved things held in common." One could add up the wealth, number the armaments, list the size of cities, count the citizens, and enumerate accomplishments and discoveries; but, according to Augustine, that would not tell what kind of a nation it was. One of the "loved things held in common" by Americans has always been freedom.

Freedom is something that, paradoxically, requires great restraint and discipline. The Founders were very concerned whether freedom would be able to last. John Adams said that "there never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide." James Madison was equally gloomy: "Democracies have always been spectacles of turbulence and contention, and as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths."

They knew that throughout history when freedom has been won it failed to be ordered. Most Americans may at this point say that we got that covered. We have the longest lasting constitution in the history of the world. Our freedom has been won and it is ordered. The godless French Revolution, the godless Bolshevik Revolution, and godless Chinese Revolution all came and went with their countless millions slaughtered and here we are still – we are good.

There was something that concerned our Founders even more than the winning and ordering of our hard won beloved freedom; that was the sustaining of our freedom. Remember Benjamin Franklin's reply to Mrs. Powell's question: "What have you given us, Dr. Franklin?" He replied, "A republic – if you can keep it."

How do we keep our freedom? What endangers our freedom? Freedom is certainly not free, at least not for long if ever, it requires the restraint of self-restraint; and, thus the greatest danger to freedom is freedom. There is an even greater danger than that of external military attack and invasion. The Greek historian Polybius tells us that even if

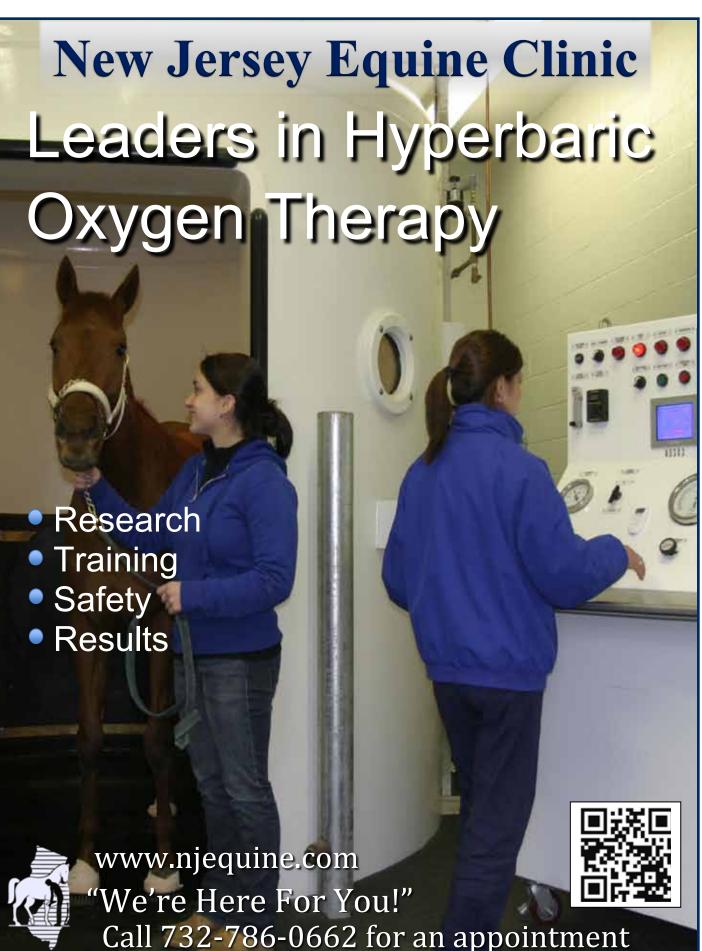
a nation is well defended and has the best of constitutions and structural restraints; freedom can be lost as a result of the "corruption of customs." For a vociferous few this is too much impertinence and yet many I think would say that we are living in an age where customs, which have carried us to great heights and brought us glorious rights, are at the point of corruption where those rights are now actually being eroded.

Interestingly the same year that our Constitution was completed the final volume of Edward Gibbon's The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire (1776-1788) was published. He says that the Roman Empire fell as a result of the "injuries of time." Lincoln referred to the "silent artilleries of time." Our Founders were keenly aware of this truism as well. They, quickly after the Constitution, gave us the Bill of Rights to be our strongest resistance to decline and the First Amendment is not first without intention. They knew that a strong, vibrant, unfettered exercise of faith would be necessary. Today many consider the religion clause of the First Amendment to be saying that religion is to be placed in the corner and not allowed to pervade into all parts of life in our country - that could not be further from the intent of our Founders. It may be what some want to be the case, but that would clearly mean that there is a "corruption of customs."

In order for freedom to endure there must be virtue/values. In order for virtue to endure there must be faith/religion. It is a golden triangle as some have called it – freedom, virtue, faith – worth far more than gold. As John Adams said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

God bless you and our country as we celebrate 237 years of declared freedom this Independence Day. May we be given the wisdom to do the necessary work to keep it and pass it on to those who come after us – Amen.







# Backstretch Views





### **Molly Shallcross**

Mary Anne "Molly" Shallcross wore many hats in her lifetime. Those of us at Parx Racing knew her as secretary to both Chaplain Jack Cordell and Chaplain Rick Bunker, before she retired after 15 years of service to the Chaplaincy.

Molly passed away on May 11 at the age of 68.

Among her many activities, she was President of the local Red Hat Society, which was named Molly Bee's Chapter in her honor. A dedicated Republican, she served as Judge of Election and a committeewoman in Levittown, whre she had been a resident since 1954.

She and her husband Joe, her high school sweetheart, had been married for 50 years before her passing. She is also survived her sons David and Paul, and grandsons lan and Pat Anthony. Molly was instrumental in the success of the PTHA and Chaplain's annual children's parties, especially the Christmas party, and picnics before retiring four years ago.



### **Congratulations, Graduate!**

Congratulations to six-year-old Gavin Murphy, grandson of the HPA's Leslie Saunders. Gavin, his five-year-old sister Riley, and his mom, Kerry, live in Wilmington, DE, where he recently graduated from Richardson Elementary School.

### **Local Dads Celebrate Father's Day**



Jockey Frankie Pennington celebrated with Frankie, Jr.



Trainer Danny Velazquez celebrates his first Father's Day with daughter Thalia, who was born on April 2.

## A PA-BRED DOUBLE at CHURCHILL DOWNS!

Gr.1 \$1,000,000 Kentucky Oaks winner PRIVERS OF SYLWAR

OWNER/BREEDER: ED STANCO/KING OF PRUSSIA ST. TRAINER: TODD PLETCHER

Gr.3 \$150,000 Eight Belles S. winner

BREEDER: JOHN R. & JOHN C. PENN OWNER: MAGGI MOSS TRAINER: TOM AMOSS







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### **Philadelphia Police Department Chooses TFH's South Fleet for Mounted Force**

Turning For Home's South Fleet, now known as Captain, has a new career. In late May, the Philadelphia Mounted Patrol unit welcomed the big bay gelding who has taken the steps from racetrack speedster to city streets safety and community relations officer.

Early in 2011, the PTHA and Executive Director Mike Ballezzi were approached by James Binns, attorney and consultant, and representatives of the Philadelphia Police Department asking for help to resurrect the Philadelphia Mounted Patrol Unit. The unit dates back to 1889, but was disbanded in 2004 due to budget constraints.

In July, 2011, the first 4-horse detail took to the city streets from its temporary stabling facilities at Krewstown Stables. South Fleet is the 16th equine on the force.

"We usually have two shifts, with two squads of six or seven out at a time," said Captain Ed Salamon. "We work until 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, and during the week until midnight, starting around 8 a.m. with the first shifts."

"I believe the Mounted Unit offers a sense of security in the city," said Salamon. "The presence of a patrol is often enough to deter any criminal activity. We were recently at the Kenny Chesney concert doing parking lot control. We



South Fleet winning at Parx Racing in his former life. Photo by Equi-Photo

get tailgaters with what we call "beer muscle," and all you need is a horse to drop a pile of manure near a tailgate party, and the problems seem to go away.

More often then not, people will come up to the horses an pet them and give them treats, so it is a police job plus offers good community relations."

South Fleet has already taken to the streets with his trainers, dealing well with jackhammers, buses, sirens, and puddles, but had been well prepared for his new responsibilities by Bonnie

Hutton of After the Races in Nottingham.

After 22 races, he retired to Hill Haven Farm in Millstone Township last November for some needed rehab, and then was sent to Hutton for reschooling in February.

"When Barbara Luna, Turning For Home's Program Administrator, called three months later and asked if we had a candidate for the poilice department's mounted unit, I didn't even hesitate," she said. "I immediately thought of South Fleet. He has always been a 100% honest horse, totally unflappable, and adjusted easily to our different riders. He is one of the



Bonnie Hutton puts South Fleet through his lesson, including stepping over a plastic tarp, in preparation for his job with the Mounted Patrol



Captain Ed Salamon picking up South Fleet

am. ven Farm in Millstone Township last

to head to his new home in Krewstown

Stables near Philadelphia.



Dressed in his "uniform," South Fleet is ready for patrol with the Philadelphia Mounted Patrol. He is one of three Thoroughbreds on the force, and the only horse recently off the track.



**Breakfast of Champions Day** 

The HPA's Vicki Mangini and Agway representative Shelly Chase, recently promoting Agway feed.

# **Turning For HomePage**



## TFH Horses Compete at Thoroughbred Celebration Show in Lexington, VA

Lisa Molloy headed her truck and trailer north from Suffolk VA to the Lexington Horse Park where TFH's **Awyn's Forte** and **One Bad Texter** competed in the region's biggest all-Thoroughbred Horse show June 8 and 9. Molloy came on board with Turning For Home as one of the five organizations which work with us to rehab, retrain and adopt the Parx retirees.

Both Barbara Luna, TFH's Program Administrator, and Molloy are determined to prove to adopters that racetrack injuries do not always limit what a horse can do with a change of career.





Awyn's Forte (above left) suffered a career ending condylar fracture last December. She earned the "most recently retired" award in VA, while Just Turn West (show name Ever So Clever), (above right) was Grand and Reserve Champion in two jumper divisions at the same show for adopter Georgia Ulassin.





**"War Horses" Regain Youth in New Lives**Don't tell eight-year-old Deputyville (left) or
nine-year-old Sum Fun (right) that they are too
old! With 121 starts, and \$574,000 in earnings
between them, they love their new lives.
Definitely not pasture potatoes...they retired
sound and are ready to roll!

### TFH Retiree Expected to Make 100% Recovery After Timely Surgery

Thanks to the quick action of trainer John Rodriguez and the expertise of surgeon Dr. Jen Smith of the NJ Equine Clinic, **MEADOW CAT** is expected to make a full recovery from a condylar fracture sustained during a morning workout on May 7th. The quick assessment of the 'big picture' by Mr. Rodriguez led to the timely surgical repair of the injury and gave **MEADOW CAT** every chance in the world to seamlessly transition into his next career as a riding horse with no physical limitations.

According to Dr. Patty Hogan, who evaluates all of the x-rays on the TFH applicants and has provided pro-bono services and surgeries to our program since its inception, often times the difference between a successful transition to a 2nd career and having no future at all, is all in the timing.

"It is vital to the success of the program that trainers and owners be aware not only of the negative effects of continued training on low-level injuries that may lead to irreparable arthritic conditions or even more severe injuries that render the horse unadoptable once they are finally entered into the TFH program, but also of the importance of prompt attention to significant injuries before secondary complications set in".

Unfortunately there have been many horses entered into the program weeks after a significant injury has occurred and what would have been a very fixable injury then becomes one with a significantly down-graded prognosis.

"The goal is to give the horses and the horsemen every possible chance to transition these horses into useful and lasting secondary careers. We have the resources available but we really rely on the horsemen's help in getting the ball rolling in a timely fashion."

Trainers considering placing a horse in the TRF program are encouraged to contact TFH as soon as possible after an injury and provide the results of the veterinary examination (i.e. x-rays, ultrasounds, etc) so that a prompt evaluation can be made and surgical care and a medical plan can be arranged for as soon as possible.

Meadow Cat after surgery at the NJ Equine Clinic, ready to start his rehab. He will spend three months at Hill Haven Farm before staring back under saddle.



# Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association P.O. Box 300 Bensalem, PA 19020

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# **LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW**

Presented by the PTHA

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Photos by Skip Dickstein.



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