

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

MAY-JUNE 1999

VOL. 8 - NO. 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...



Larry Riviello
President

Hurry, hurry, hurry. Come on down to the first floor at Philadelphia Park.

The first floor has been upgraded (from slow to fast) to an attractive facility for live racing and simulcasting. Restaurants, deli, two bars, a Horsemen's Lounge for owners and trainers, a new 45-seat

Director's Room, 64 televisions for individual use, also 362 larger televisions and plenty more, so hurry down.

It was \$4 million well spent.

I was privileged to be part of the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

I've been in the restaurant business since 1949. To be successful, my philosophy is serve good food and have good atmosphere. A winning combination.

Philadelphia Park has good trainers, good owners, good horses and

good jockeys. We put on a good show for the public. Now management is adding the other ingredient, "atmosphere."

A winning combination.

On behalf of the horsemen and horsewomen at Philadelphia Park, my board of directors and I thank Mr. Green, Mr. Hal Handel and Mr. Jim Gagliano for making this possible.

* * *

On April 8, Julie Krone announced her retirement. The 35-year-old native of Benton Harbor,

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BETTING PALACE BECKONS FANS

The ugly duckling became a swan.

The slimy caterpillar turned into a magnificent butterfly.

Olive Oyl walked into a beauty shop and came out looking like Cindy Crawford.

The race track once described in a newspaper article as appearing more like a Sears warehouse was transformed into a marvelous mecca for fans of the Sport of Kings.

A complete makeover that cost \$4 million has converted the first floor at Philadelphia Park into an ultra-modern turf club that

features plush simulcast theaters, a brand new and sparkling dining room and sports bar, a lounge exclusively for horsemen, a 45-seat and elegantly understated Director's Room for the use of high rollers and a grand entrance of marble and granite.

In addition, there are 64 TV monitors for individual use with 362 larger televisions arranged in

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RIBBON CUTTERS — Participating in the ceremony that opened the magnificently refurbished grandstand at Philadelphia Park are (l. to r.) State Sen. Robert M. Tomlinson, PA-THA President Larry Riviello, Executive Director Mike Ballezzi, Philadelphia Park CEO Bob Green and PA-THA 1st Vice President Sal DeBunda.

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from the desk of
**THE
 EXECUTIVE
 DIRECTOR**
MICHAEL BALLEZZI

"These are the best and most exciting times ever at Philadelphia Park," said PA-THA Executive Director Mike Ballezzi on the completion of the remarkable renovation of the first floor at the race track.

"It should be obvious to horsemen that the expenditure of over \$4 million to the grandstand is as much an investment in live racing as it is in the future of track management," Ballezzi added.

The Executive Director noted the transformation of the grandstand into a showcase and a huge attraction for fans, "will be for naught if we don't maintain our professionalism and realize we are all in this together for the sake of continued progress and success."

At the same time, the Executive Director noted, major improvements on the backstretch continue.

Revamping, reconditioning and reconstruction of Barn 3 has been completed. Work is currently underway on Barn 9, with improvements to include installation of a new roof, plumbing, electrical wiring and fixtures.



HAPPY TIMES — Enjoying the Horsemen's Lounge in the brand new grandstand are PA-THA Board Member Steve Rowan, 1st Vice President Sal DeBunda, President Larry Riviello, Philadelphia Park CEO Bob Green, Board Member William Hartwell, Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and Board Member Ralph Delaney.

In addition, substantial repaving of the backstretch is being done, including re-paving of all horse paths as well as the areas between the barns.

On the frontside, the trainers' viewing stand in the paddock is being updated and enlarged.

The Executive Director is pleased to announce the long-awaited promise of a gleaming, new track kitchen that offers clean, efficient surroundings along with satisfying, well-prepared food has been fulfilled.

Good food, good companions and a bright, cheerful atmosphere — who could ask for anything more?

* * *

Let's Go Racing, co-hosted by Bruce Casella and Dick Jerardi with regular contributions from track announcer Keith Jones, has returned to the air on Comcast Sports Net every Saturday at 12 noon. Tune in for an informative, action packed and exciting show starring local horsemen and our equine charges.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

continued from pg. 2

* * *

The Executive Director asks everyone to be aware that the popular Garden Contest resumes.

Stop in the office for details. Lots of cash prizes for lots of flowers.

* * *

On the social calendar, the new softball league is off to a rousing start, thanks to Commissioner Ron Taylor.

Congratulations also to Commissioner Bob Swentkowski for all the hard work he has invested in launching the golf league.

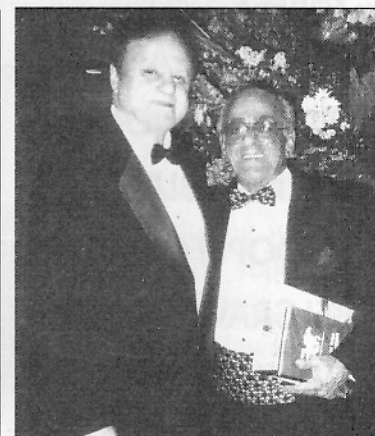
Standings for both sports will be posted elsewhere in this newsletter as the season progresses.



POINT OF ORDER — Ron Taylor of Cloud 9 enters the picture requesting to be recognized by the umpire during a discussion in the season-opening softball game with the Captains played on the field behind the Rec Center.

AULD ACQUAINTANCE

PA-THA President Larry Riviello in the winner's circle at Garden State Park in 1967 with Walter Blum astride Larry's horse Bellagio and together again reliving memories and renewing an enduring friendship at the Eclipse Awards in Florida earlier this year.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Mich., registered more than 3,540 victories from 20,450 career starts with nearly \$81 million in earnings.

Julie is a great credit to the thoroughbred racing industry.

* * *

Jim Beem, Director of Racing/Racing Secretary at Philadelphia Park, is retiring. Jim and wife Pat are moving to beautiful Arizona. We wish him the best.

* * *

About two months ago at Quinton Township, N.J., 27 horses were kept from the butcher block. The sheriff's sale ended with the horses destined for new homes.

Thank you, horse lovers.

* * *

Thanks to our board of directors for authorizing \$5,000 to the Penn National horsemen in support of their financial need. This is what it is all about.

* * *

Big, big question.
Is the whip needed? If so, to what extent?

Should the jockeys decide the whip rule?

Who should?

Any comment, please write to me at my office or home.

Thank you.

Remarks will be greatly appreciated.

* * *

Take time to read Mid Atlantic Thoroughbred, May issue. It contains a great article on Castle Rock Farm in Unionville, Pa., and Peter

Giangiulio — Never Give Up.

* * *

It was my pleasure at the Eclipse Awards in Florida recently to be with my friend, Walter Blum.

Going back to the year 1969, July 28, my horse Bellagio won going 1 mile, 70 yards in the second race at Monmouth Park with Blum up, at a payoff of \$68.

Blum's agent, Fats, preferred another mount (no comment).

Walter, in my opinion a first-class gentleman, was one of the greatest gate jockeys. If you wanted a horse out of the gate on top, Walter was the jockey to do it.

I was pleased and honored when at our recent meeting, Walter congratulated me and our PA-THA for having a well-organized and aggressive horsemen's organization.

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PA-THA TROPHY WINNERS APRIL - MAY



HORSE	OWNER	TRAINER
SCHUMATE	THREE BROTHERS STABLE	ROLANDO LIMA
WALL STREET FEET	THREE BROTHERS STABLE	ROLANDO LIMA
INDEED MY DEAR	ROCKY HILL STABLE INC.	SUZANNE J. JENKINS
SHE'S A RABBIT	MAC ARTHUR WILLIAMS	REGIUS HUNTER
VARLEY	KAMIKAZE STABLE	DONALD REEDER
HARRY'S HARRIET	SKIPART STABLE	DENNIS DESMARIS
JEREMIAH HOOK	SYLMAR FARM	RONALD B. HOUGHTON
DIVINE OBLIVION	GREGORY FRANCIS	RANDY ALLEN
SNOOPBFORMARRIAG	JON STABLE	JOSE AGRINSONI
BELGRAVE SQUARE	JAMES HINERDEER	JAMES HINDERDEER
S R K'S CHESTNUT	STERLING KRUMBINE	HENRY D. MILLER JR.
MOKHIEBA'S CHOICE	PLUMSTEAD STABLES	ROBERT SEEGER
LET ME IN COACH	DEMON DEACON STABLES	SCOTT LAKE
STERLIN GREEN	RED WOLF STABLE	RANDY ALLEN
CARSON CITY GOLD	STRONACH STABLES INC.	FENTON PLATTS
ELK RIVER	DONALD S. REEDER	DONALD S. REEDER
GIFTED MONARCH	MARTIN L. FALLON	MARTIN L. FALLON
SCHUMATE	THREE BROTHERS STABLE	ROLANDO LIMA

BETTING PALACE *continued from pg. 1*

banks throughout to show live local racing and simulcasts from all over the country and around the world.

A VIP reception that included

State Sen. Robert M. Tomlinson (R., Bucks) and Bensalem Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo officially opened the betting palace May 13.

The visiting dignitaries were properly impressed with the new facility and Tomlinson, who has been a staunch supporter in

Harrisburg of slot machines for Pennsylvania race tracks, noted that the plush surroundings ideally suit the addition of slots and vowed to continue the fight in the Legislature.

* * *

PROFILE - BOB SEEGER

by Larry McMullen

HORSEMAN WITH A GOOD HEART

You might wonder why Bob Seeger would run for election to the PA-THA Board of Directors.

For openers, he was kind of busy running a stable that includes close to 70 thoroughbreds, and not just the kind that take up stall space.

He was leading trainer and owner at Philadelphia Park in 1995 and 1996 and followed up that performance by repeating as top local owner in 1997 and 1998 as well as finishing second in the trainer standings those two years.

So he could have argued he was too busy to get involved. And too successful to want to.

But he did run, of course, and he did win.

"The reason you serve," Seeger was explaining recently on the backstretch at Philadelphia Park, "is that you're trying to make things better for everyone. Anyone who complains about conditions should be interested enough to do something about it."

Seeger pointed to the improvements that have been made at Philadelphia Park under the leadership of the PA-THA the last couple of years.

"For the first time," he said, "I've seen real change around here, things getting better on both the frontside and backside. These guys (PA-THA officers and board members) have worked hard at it. I think I can help them."

* * *

Seeger has always known what he had to do in order to survive. He gave up a car dealership in Doylestown that was tremendously rewarding — financially.

"Too much stress," says Seeger. "I had a heart problem. Doctors told me I needed a pacemaker. I gave up the car business instead."

"I chart races on the computer," he said, "and claim a horse because the chart tells me he has back class and maybe he has just been running the wrong distance. In this game, information is everything."

* * *

Seeger said the reason he has so many horses in training right now is that the first crop of 2 year olds by his stud, Tri For The Gold, is getting ready to begin racing.

Tri For The Gold won around \$300,000 in a career during which he captured 10 stake races and established a track mark at Delaware Park going 1 1/16 miles.

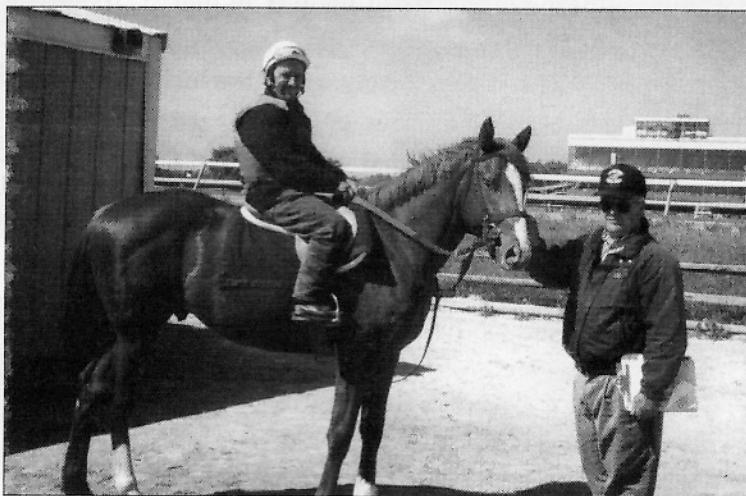
Such a record, of course, doesn't guarantee that a horse will have the same kind of success at stud.

So although Seeger says horse racing is a

business and must be run as a business, he also points out there is more luck involved than in most other endeavors.

"If you're doing really good at this game," he said, "you're winning 20 percent of your races. Anybody who gets a big head from losing 80 percent of the time is a fool."

But whatever else Seeger has to say about his sport, he almost always adds that doctors now give him a clean bill of health on his heart.



WINNING COMBINATION — Bob Seeger gives last-minute instructions to jockey Mark McCormick, astride Gold Trick, prior to a workout. McCormick has won more than 100 races riding Seeger's horses.

He had already owned horses when he ran the dealership, but now he threw himself entirely into the racing business, starting at Penn National where he learned everything he could about the game.

"I rubbed my own horses and learned how to do everything else on my own, too," he said.

He's been at it full time for about 17 years, adapting as he went along to changing conditions and advancing technology.

He credits computers, for instance, for helping to make him successful in racing.

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Opening day at Delaware Park this year evokes memories of days gone by, which I would like to share with my many readers. It's almost unbelievable, but I was there at the original opening day — June 2, 1937. But when one realizes, not so unbelievable because there was no racing in Pennsylvania and for a horse nut like me to have a race track only 35 miles from home was Utopia.

The track itself was small and rustic, grandstand and clubhouse all made of wood, mostly green in color, but the small, beautiful paddock to the left of the clubhouse (still there to this day) with the horses being saddled under the trees, was fascinating because only in Saratoga was that being done. In fact, many sportswriters called Delaware Park the "Saratoga of the South."

The people I spoke to were mostly farmers, with very few knowledgeable horsemen, but always very pleasant and there to enjoy new experiences. There were also real horsemen and high society people who were responsible for building the track, such as the DuPonts, Woodwards and Strawbridges.

One humorous incident occurs to me. After being invited to sit in the Strawbridge box, I was asked if I had a necktie. Luckily, I had one in my coat pocket, and after producing it, spent the day in that clubhouse box.

There were many great horses that ran there, but only one race and the horse that won it that I will never forget. He was carrying top weight in a stake race and was nowhere, even at the last turn, behind about 15 lengths, but as they were aiming for the wire, in the corner of my left eye was a splash of chestnut, coming like an express train in the stretch and, of course, winning the race.



Iz Schwartz

That was the great horse Stymie. What a thrill!

But more important to me than the horses are the people you meet at the track. One such person at Delaware Park that I met was the track announcer and race caller named Tony Bentley, who you may recognize as the announcer at Fairgrounds in New Orleans.

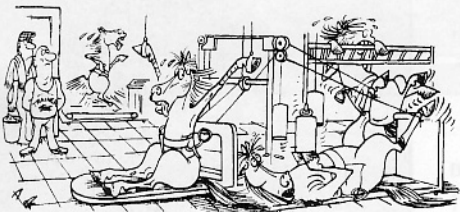
He invited me up to the caller's box and I'll never forget that trip, or that visit — no elevators in those days, just wooden steps going up and up forever — I thought I'd never make it. But I did and the panoramic view from there of the racetrack, and the races, was just great.

* * *

Can You Identify Them?



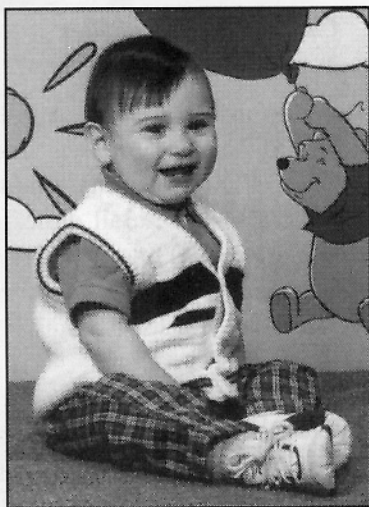
HELPFUL HINTS — The winner of this 7-furlong race at Charlestown, W. Va., on Dec. 23, 1965 was Carolyn's Mink, owned by Audley Farm and trained by Jake Dodson. The identities of the skinny youngsters (1 and 2) are revealed elsewhere in this newsletter.



BACKSIDE VIEW. . .

Up Close and Personal

Anniversaries • Birthdays • Special Occasion Announcements • Get Well Wishes • etc.



We should all be as joyful on celebrating a birthday as **Gavin Montoya** was when he turned 1 year old on March 13. Belated happy birthday, **Gavin**, from all of us and from your parents, trainers **Ross Montoya** and **Marya Heimer Montoya**, and all the rest of your family.



Congratulations to **Zack Dean**, who received his First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 1, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bensalem. Zack is the son of **Tina Dean**, grandson of **Barbara DiStasio** in the Racing Commission Office. Great-grandparents are **Jean** and **Jack DiStasio**.



PHOTO BY PHILADELPHIA PARK TRACK PHOTOGRAPHER BARBARA WEIDL

Rodrigo Madrigal Jr. is surrounded by fellow jockeys and horsemen helping him to celebrate reaching the magic mark of 1,000 winning rides. **Madrigal** (holding the sign on the left) rode a horse trained by his father, **Rodrigo Madrigal Sr.**, **Jeff Lloyd**, who has surpassed 4,000 victories in his riding career, and **Tony Black**, rapidly approaching that figure, are immediately to the right of the younger **Madrigal**.



IN MEMORIAM. . .

We note belatedly and in sadness the passing of
Rose DeSandro
*wife of owner **Joseph DeSandro**, on March 31.*



THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Will you be ready for Y2K? Have you thought about what might happen if computer chips malfunction on Jan. 1, 2000? Wherever you go, whatever you are reading, there is always someone or some article raising the question: "Are you preparing for the year 2000?"

Some are taking steps of preparation . . . buying generators, giant propane tanks, huge amounts of food to stash along with water, cash and other supplies. Many are even buying guns and learning to use them so that they can defend themselves and keep strangers away should our society break down completely (which is most unlikely to happen).

Is the Y2K problem overhyped? Will the fear of what could happen be worse than the problem itself? No one really knows at this time. What is best? To ignore Y2K or prepare for a disaster? Or should we follow a path somewhere between these two extremes? That probably makes the most sense to me. Y2K will, no doubt, cause at least some problems, so it's unwise to ignore it entirely. It is not at all certain that the problems will be widespread or long lasting. Even if there are some problems, that doesn't mean society will collapse.

In case the people working on Y2K aren't able to fix everything in time, we shouldn't panic. Some preparation needs to be made, but how much depends on the individual. We need to prepare in these specific areas:

1. Financial preparation means that we need to be certain our bank is Y2K ready, and that we have some cash to last until the problem is fixed.

2. Physical preparations should be made on a short-term basis to make sure you're not running low on

anything by the time Dec. 31 rolls around. You may need to consider having enough food, medicine, gas, candles, flashlights, etc.

3. Spiritual preparation — perhaps the greatest challenge will be in the realm of the mind and spirit. If people become selfish and vicious during a difficult time, there could be violence, rioting and looting. Don't think it can't happen. If people can riot over a jury verdict or a sporting event, they're capable of rioting when something even more serious affects them personally.

Some people might want to ignore Y2K, so on with business as usual and assume everything will be okay. But that approach will backfire if the problems turn out to be real. It's far better to acknowledge in advance that we might face some difficulties. It's even far better to be somewhat prepared financially, physically and spiritually. If people are ready to deal with some difficulties and keep a clear mind and a calm spirit, then even if Y2K causes some serious technical problems, the worst scenarios envisioned by alarmists won't take place.

Y2K might be a lesson in humility. The possibility that glitches could paralyze the world's infrastructure should remind us that all human efforts — even the computer programs written by our most brilliant minds — are fragile and capable of collapsing. At times, we think we have our future mapped out and under control, but Y2K is one more lesson that nothing based on human effort or planning is certain.

Whatever financial and physical preparation we do, spiritual preparation is most important. Among other things, this means staying calm and faithful no matter what



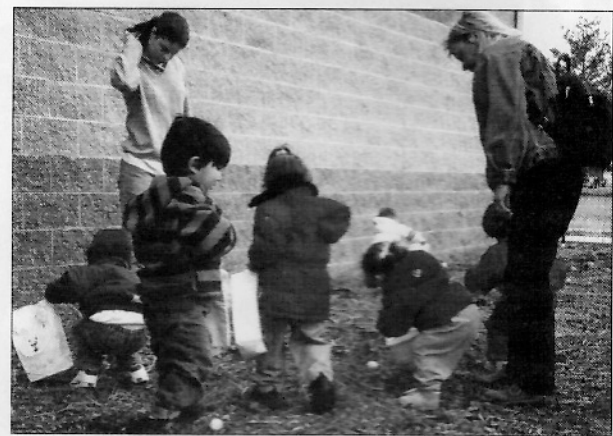
Chaplain Nicholas Salios

happens. In the Bible, the Apostle Paul says to young Timothy, "Keep your head in all situations, endure hardship . . . discharge all duties of your ministry." (II Timothy 4:5). These words apply to every follower of the Christian and Jewish faith.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Another successful Easter egg hunt was held March 27 in the Rec Hall. Fifty children were pre-registered by their parents in the Chaplain's Office. One hundred parents and children crafted, played games and hunted dyed Easter eggs. Thank yous go to horsemen and their families for helping through the day, the track kitchen for lunch and visiting guests who assisted with face painting, decorating and crafts. Combined efforts of the PA-THA and the Chaplain's Office provided funds for the program.

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BULLETIN BOARD

**It Pays to
ADVERTISE
in the
PA-THA
Newsletter
Call:
215 638.2012
for more info.**

HORSEMEN'S PURCHASING ASSOCIATION "Quality Shavings, Feed & Supplements at Discount Prices"

5/7/1999 Price List

FEED

Alfalfa Cubes	\$ 7.25
Timothy-Alfalfa Cubes	7.25
Barley, Steamed/Crimped	8.25
Bran, Wheat	8.00
Bran, Rice	28.00
Calf Manna	14.85
Legends 14% protein	7.80
Respond 12.5% protein	8.50
Saddle Up 12%	5.80
Stables Choice 12% protein	6.05
Super Horse 14% protein	8.25
Sweet Rely	8.75

OATS

Crimped Oats	6.50
Hulless Oats	9.25
Whole Oats	6.50

ICE 30#

3.00

SHAVINGS 2.8 CU.YDS.

Air Dried: Rip O Bec	2.85
Kiln Dried: Laurentian	2.65
Kiln Dried: Factor	2.70

SUPPLIES

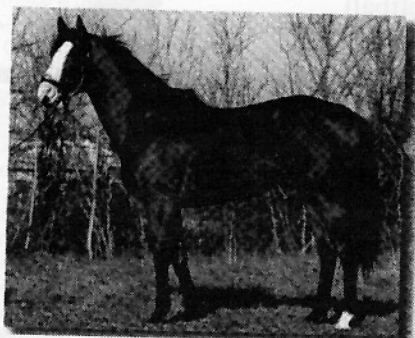
3M Patches 100/Box	38.00
Alcohol 70% Gal.	5.25
Bigeloil Gal.	23.80
Bowie Clay	8.75
DMSO Gal.	19.25
Furacin 1# 12/Case	38.20
Reduce Hoof Dressing	11.85

SUPPLEMENTS

Finish Line Poultry 23#	\$ 15.25
Finish Line Poultry 45#	27.00
Uptite Poultry 22#	17.80
Uptite Poultry 48#	36.00
Azo-Free/3 tube treatment	42.00
Biotin Gold 3#	17.20
DMG-It 5#	19.75
Enduro-Lyte 4#	5.50
Extrolyte 5#	14.50
Extrolyte 25#	52.00
Fat Cat 5#	14.35
Fat Cat 25#	53.20
Flex-It 5#	67.60
Go Max Gal.	10.55
Golden Energizer Gal.	12.00
Horse-Shoe 2#	13.75
Iron Horse Gal.	17.00
Lact-Ezz/pkt	5.50
Pelleted Horse Wormer	7.00
Redcell Gal.	13.10
Redglo Gal.	18.50
Vita 99 5#	23.50
Vita 99 25#	74.80
Vita-min Biotin 3.5#	13.50

Tri for the Gold

TRIOCALA (TRIJET)—MANHATTANGOLD (QUADRATIC)



All champions go for the GOLD Pennsylvania's champion 3-year-old in 1993 GRADED STAKES-WINNING SPRINTER/MILER

- Won three races at 2, including the Pennsylvania Futurity.
- Won four stakes at 3, including the **Grade 3 Garden State S**; the 7-furlong **Ilex S** in a quick 1:22.2, by 7¼ lengths, carrying top weight; the 6-furlong **Danzig S** by 5 lengths, carrying top weight; the 1¼-mile **Iroquois H** in the slop.
- Also won the 1¼-mile **Charles Staats Memorial H** in 1:43.1, the 1¼-mile **Yankee Affair H**, and placed in seven additional stakes (in four beaten by no more than three-quarters of a length). Ten wins lifetime, with total earnings of \$282,760.
- By the brilliant sprinter TRIOCALA (\$465,660).
- Inbred to the influential speed sire **HYPERION**, as are leading sires DIXIELAND BAND, EL GRAN SENOR, NUREYEV, etc.

First crop 2-year-olds of 1999.

\$1,000 live foal; Special consideration to approved mares
Nominated to Breeders' Cup; registered Pennsylvania stallion

Sweetbriar Farm

Bob and Robin Seeger
1344 Sweetbriar Road, Perkasie, PA 18944
Phone 215/795-2270 • Fax 215/795-0683

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Breeders Association held its 20th annual Iroquois Awards Dinner Thursday, May 20 at the beautiful Hotel Hershey, honoring the state's 1998 champions and its leading breeders.

Congratulations to all awardees. Congratulations to Our Farm (Raymond and Betsy Gambone), leading award recipient — at \$108,011 — for the second consecutive year, topping last year's \$106,499.

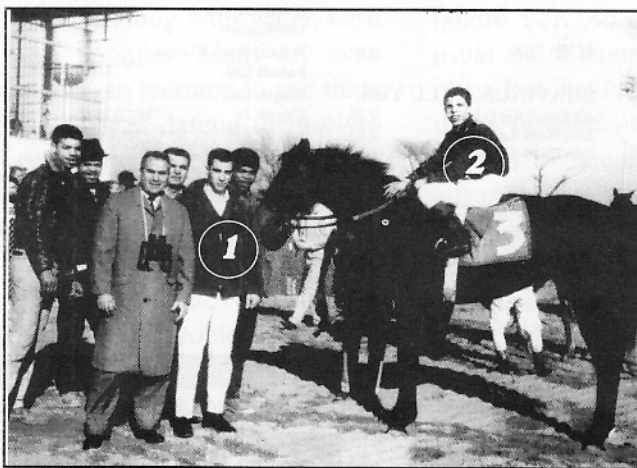
Also, one of our local breeders, Barbara J. Geraghty, was honored for having bred the 1998 Pennsylvania bred 3-year-old male co-champion, Power By Far,

trained by Tony Correnti.

Job well done on the award dinner by Mark McDermott and committee.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Success is a result, not a goal.



Answers to Can You Identify Them? (Pg. 6)

Behind curtain number 1, assistant trainer **Ralph Riviezzo**, now a member of the Board of Directors of the PA-THA and 2, the winning rider, **Rocco Gabriella**, currently a placing and patrol judge at Philadelphia Park.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

continued from pg. 8

Nurses from the Bucks County Department of Health gave 75 tetanus shots to horsemen on Monday, March 22.

LaSalle University nurses, in addition to hosting a Saturday Health Clinic throughout the year, provided a Health Fair April 24 in the track kitchen. The nurses will continue to provide a Health Clinic, but will do so on Fridays, 10 a.m.-12 noon, effective through the summer months.

* * *

Softball meetings and preparation for the season began March 30. Rules, regulations, sponsors, sign-ups and naming of team captains have all fallen into place. softball Commissioner is Ron Taylor, who is doing a great job. Teams have been practicing on the newly prepared field behind the Rec Hall. First game was Sunday, May 16. Most games begin at 5:30 p.m. with few exceptions.

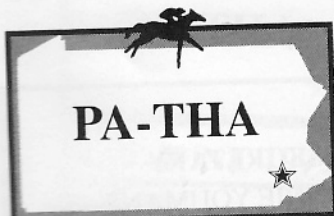
Eight teams playing in the league are Cloud Nine, E & G Monarchs, Gambone-Reeders, PA-THA, Sackers, The Captains, The

Corporation and Y2K.

* * *



PA-THA RESIGNS FROM THA



May 26, 1999

Alan M. Foreman, Chairman of the Board
and Chief Executive Officer
Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association
10500 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 420
Columbia, Maryland 21044

Re: THA

Dear Alan,

This letter is a follow-up to the Executive Session of the THA Board which was held on May 12, 1999. The meeting with Tim Smith and Mark Wilson was very informative and helpful to all present but especially to the PA THA representatives because of our unique set of issues.

You have often pointed out to us and as Tim Smith stated, that same day, that as a member of the NTRA Board, under fiduciary provisions, your first obligation is to the Corporation (NTRA). As part of our fiduciary obligation and responsibility as Officers and Directors of the PA THA, we requested an executive session of the THA Board to express our Board's concern; a) about certain of your actions at the recent NTRA Board meeting; b) whether you had acted in accordance with our perception of your mandate regarding that Board meeting as a result of a telephone conference among THA Board members a few days earlier; and c) how you had balanced the possible conflict of representing all THA members and fulfilling your fiduciary obligations to the NTRA.

Instead of responding directly to our concerns, you decided to characterize this inquiry as part of a continuing personal attack on you by representatives of the PA THA, stated that you are "fed up" with our questions to you and stated that we had three options:

1. Ask you to resign as Chairman and CEO of the THA;
2. Resign as members of the THA; or
3. Remain as members but stop questioning your actions.

We asked only for an open discussion of our concerns; it was you alone who raised the options of asking for your resignation or resigning ourselves. Since the PA THA and Larry Riviello personally were founding members of the THA, we were reluctant to consider those options, and our president Larry Riviello was personally disappointed in your reaction to our concerns, which has now required our association to make a decision.

The PA-THA believes that we cannot agree to not continue to question your actions as our Chairman and CEO and, also, as our representative to the NTRA Board whenever we feel that our fiduciary obligation to our members requires it, we must regretfully consider the remaining two options.

As only one of the six members of the THA, we feel that it is not appropriate for us to request your resignation if the PA THA alone has these concerns.

Therefore, while we had hoped for an open dialogue about our concerns, given your ultimatum regarding our options, we must choose Option 2, i.e., to resign from the THA effective immediately. Given the nature of your response to us and your unwillingness to respond directly to our concerns, but instead to give us an ultimatum regarding our only options, our only choice was to continue to vigorously represent the members of the PA THA in every forum, including the THA. Since that was not one of the options offered to us, we therefore must resign.

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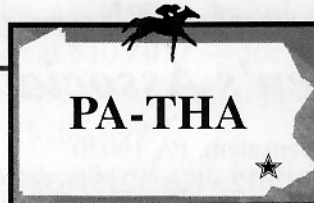
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