



# PTHA NEWS

We **ARE** Pennsylvania Racing

PENNSYLVANIA THOROUGHBRED HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

Issue I, 2007

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

As we look back over the past year, we may remember many things that put a smile on our face. We might also recall those events that didn't work out as well but those will go to the top of our list to work on for 2007. Whether we actually write down a list of resolutions or just think about how we would like this New Year to have a better ending, we all have personal items to consider. Many people will work on getting rid of those extra pounds, vowing to eat healthier and exercise regularly. Others will enroll in classes and read books to better ourselves and enrich our minds.

Many owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys, agents, veterinary staff will, however, have other ideas for 2007. The central theme on all of these lists will involve PA Breds - owning them, breeding them, winning with them, training them, caring for them and yes, making more money with them. Below are examples of some of these resolutions. Happy 2007 Philadelphia Park- Here's to the PA Breds!

### We Resolve:

**PTHA Staff:** To continue to represent and support Philadelphia Park horsemen!

*Left:* Mike Ballezzi, PTHA Executive Director • *Center:* Larry Riviello, President • *Right:* Office Staff, L-R - Nikki Yager and Leslie Saunders  
Tex Welch, Joe Galluccio; Carl Jones, Jonas Williams • Joseph DeMasi, Cathy Somers, Connie Youmans



Photo of Philadelphia Park by: EQUI-PHOTO



**Jockey's:** To keep riding more PA Breds – AND WIN!!!

L-R - Joe Hampshire, Joanne McDaid, Roberto Alvarado,  
Jose Flores, Frankie Pennington

**Casino Patrons:** To return regularly to the Philadelphia Park Casino and Racetrack and win lots of money!

L-R - Robert Delgado, Ariel Figueroa, Edna Figueroa, Michele Courtright

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Outstanding Owners 2006 Eclipse Award to Lael Stables Roy & Gretchen Jackson  
along with a Special Eclipse Award for the Jackson's and U Penn New Bolton Center.

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# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*By Larry Riviello, President*

**2006** - A year of uncertainty. Are we or are we not going to have slots in Pennsylvania? Should we improve our stock? Should we move? Buy a home? It was a roller coaster ride.

If you followed my newsletter I was very optimistic about having slots in Pennsylvania.

Yes, it's now 2007, a new year of hope. Slot revenues are in place. Purses are up. All we need now is good luck and good health. Good luck is part of success.

I want to thank Michael Ballezzi, our executive director; Sal DeBunda, 1st VP; Ed Simon, statistician; Connie Youmans, board secretary and Michael Colucci, CPA, for spending many hours working together to put in place the distribution of slot revenues. This undertaking is a major job, a complicated, legal and responsible one. We are talking about millions of dollars.

Wednesday, December 13th the PTHA formally engaged Christopher McGill, president of East River Bank to assist in planning for the slots money. Your Board also retained Carl Herbein of Herbein + Company, Inc to do the state mandated audits of the gaming money used for purses and horsemen's benefits.

January 1st started the New Year with a new condition book reflecting the new increased purse structure. For the first time everyone gets paid for running. Pa bred's get a 40% owner bonus, more stakes and some restricted races. What a year it is!

Here we go again. Hard Spun, an unbeaten 3 year old Pa bred won his fourth race, the \$100,000, one mile Grad III Lecomte at the Fair Grounds in New Orleans by 6 1/2 lengths with Mario Pino aboard. Congratulations to owner Rick Porter and trainer Larry Jones. Further congratulations to Unionville breeder Michael Moran and Brushwood Stable of Malvern., another exciting year for Pennsylvania bred's.

Smarty Jones - Afleet Alex - Hard Spun. We all wish Hard Spun a successful 3 year old campaign.

I took it upon myself to write a letter of congratulations to the Honorable Edward Rendell on his re-election as Governor of Pennsylvania. I was pleased to receive a thank you letter from Governor Rendell dated December 22, 2006.

Congratulations to our own Dick Jerardi, Philadelphia Daily News, Daily Racing Form & Thoroughbred Times correspondent. Dick earned a Media Eclipse Award in the news/commentary writing division for his three-part Barbaro series published in the Philadelphia Daily News on May 22nd and 24th '06.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

December 22, 2006

Mr. Larry Riviello  
Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 300  
Bensalem, PA 19020

Dear Mr. Riviello:

Thanks very much for your kind note congratulating me on my re-election. I am excited about having the opportunity to use the next four years to build upon the progress we have made in moving Pennsylvania forward.

I couldn't have done it without the help of so many people—the great women and men who work with me here in Harrisburg and so many of you across the state who helped in our campaign effort.

So thanks again for writing, and I hope you and you family have a great holiday season.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Rendell  
Governor

Reminder - The 2006 Pennsylvania Horsemen's Banquet will be held on March 28th at Celebrations, on Galloway Road in Bensalem. It is a fun night, come honor your fellow horsemen and horsewomen. There will be some changes and surprises this year.

"Let's Go Racing" with Keith Jones and Dick Jerardi appears weekly on CN8 at 1:00 am on Friday morning and midnight Friday night. Television personality Bruce Casella produces this, the only local show on horse racing.

Hall of Fame trainer Grover "Buddy" Delp passed away at 74. He was the conditioner of Spectacular Bid. Bud won more than 3,600 races but Spectacular Bid's victories in the 1979 Kentucky Derby (G1), Preakness Stakes (G1) and 3rd in the Belmont Stakes (G1) made him a memorable hero. Buddy Delp blamed the loss in the Belmont on a safety pin that he pulled out of the colt's foot the morning of the race.

Feel free to call me at my home for any suggestions or comments. I welcome your call - 610-543-1764.

**Thought of the Day**

*Don't be hasty, prosperity will knock on your door.*



# FOX TALE'S PICK

# 6

## It's the surest bet in Pennsylvania

Whether you're breeding to race or breeding to sell, Fox Tale Stud has six of the most commercially appealing young stallions in the PA market. And thanks to our enviably high in-foal rate and quality mare care, when you breed to Fox Tale stallions, you increase your chances of cashing a ticket to get a share of the nearly \$10 million in annual Pennsylvania Breeding Fund Program Awards.

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#### Song of the Sword

(Unbridled's Song - Appealing Ms. Sword, Crusader Sword)  
Multiple graded stakes-placed winner of \$269,555 from America's hottest sire line! First foals born 2007!  
Stud fee: \$3,500 (\$3,000 to PA mares)



#### Smart Guy

(Smarten - Royal Tali, Talc)  
Pennsylvania Derby winner of \$462,740 who's a complete outcross to Mr. Prospector, Northern Dancer, and Bold Ruler!  
Stud fee: \$1,500 (\$1,000 to PA mares)



#### Lord of the Thunder

(Saint Ballado - Astarte, Deputy Minister)  
NY stakes winner and blowout juvenile maiden winner with earnings of \$329,531! First foals are yearlings of 2007!  
Stud fee: \$2,500 (\$2,000 to PA mares)



#### Sort It Out

(Out of Place - Vex, Kris S)  
NY open stakes winner of \$312,318, from the immediate female family of the great Forty Niner! Enters stud in 2007!  
Stud fee: \$2,000 (\$1,500 to PA mares)



#### Rubiyat

(Rubiano - Blushing Madame, Blushing Groom)  
Multiple graded stakes-placed winner in NY with total progeny earnings nearing \$750,000!  
Stud fee: \$1,500 (\$1,000 to PA mares)



#### My Favorite Grub

(Grub - La Favorita (Col), Kabori)  
Speedball stakes winner and track-record setter of \$329,531 with 85% winners from starters!  
Stud fee: \$1,000 (Special consideration to PA mares)





## Optimal Cartilage Development

Grade 1 Winner Brass Hat. 5 years old.  
After suffering non-displaced sesamoid fracture.



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Sept 11 2006

After 5 Weeks



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# PENNSYLVANIA HORSEMEN'S BANQUET

Come celebrate the outstanding achievements of 2006

*You are cordially invited to the Pennsylvania Horsemen's Banquet on March 28, 2007.*

This year's event promises to be a fun filled experience for all. Features of the evening include a cocktail hour from 6 to 7 pm, an auction that will appeal to trainers, owners and horse enthusiasts, a delightful dinner and surprises. Proceeds will benefit the Philadelphia Park Race Track Chaplaincy and the Granny Scholarship Fund. Mark your calendar, come out and support with your attendance the season's most exciting event. We can all be winners at the 2006 awards banquet.

**Location:** Celebrations, 2201 Galloway Road, Bensalem, PA 19020

**Cocktails:** 6 - 7 pm - your favorite drinks with hot & cold hors d'oeuvres. **Dinner/Awards:** 7 - 10 pm

Menu items include a Vodka and Pomodoro pasta station, Chicken Francaise, Chicken with Sun Dried Tomatoes and Artichoke Hearts station, Filet of Salmon with Dill, Flounder stuffed with Crab Meat station, a Filet Mignon carving station and Tiramisu for dessert.

All this for only \$25 per person. You are encouraged to buy a table of 10 for \$250 so you can invite your friends to join you in this wonderfully exciting event.

Contact the PTHA office for tickets 215-638-2012.



## WE'VE GOT THE ANSWERS!



**Q - How can we find PA bred horses to purchase?** James in Philadelphia, PA

**A -** To purchase a Pennsylvania-Bred one would want to contact one of the many breeders in the state. I would suggest starting out at The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association's website at [www.pabred.com](http://www.pabred.com) to get affiliated with the breeders as well as a current list of registered Pennsylvania Breds. Found on the home page are a list of all foals registered from 1994 thru 2006. Included are sire's name, dam's name, sex of foal and the name of the breeder. Deal with a breeder who has a reputation for breeding quality well-bred horses that perform. Beth Ann Brown-Gambone, Owner Our Farm Inc. and Board Member, Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association.

**Q - What does it mean in the program when it says "Plus up to 40% PA bred bonus"? Who gets the bonus and why?**

A fan in Bethlehem, PA

**A -** The 40% owners bonus in non-restricted races is an incentive paid through the Pennsylvania Breeders Fund. This money is added into the purse which in turn helps all aspects of the breeder program: owners and trainers with added purse money, breeders and stallion owners through breeders awards. The owners bonus also helps put a higher value on the PA bred horse. This is just one of the advantages to owning and racing a PA bred. This bonus along with the restricted race program will make future owners want to buy and race PA breds. Barbara Rickline, Owner Xanthus Farms and Board Member - Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association.

## Did you know that PTHA members could save hundreds of dollars a year on auto insurance?



Did you know that Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association members can get a special group discount on auto insurance through Liberty Mutual's Group Savings Plus® program? In addition, Group Savings Plus offers many other discounts on both auto and home insurance. In fact, you could save hundreds of dollars a year on auto insurance alone. And you could save even more by insuring your home as well.

To learn more about all the valuable savings and benefits available through Group Savings Plus, contact me today.



Contact **Brian Sanfratello**, Prudential Agent at **215-672-4022**.

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# In the Spotlight



Photos by: EQUI-PHOTO

## Frankie Pennington Wins 256 And Breaks Record

On December 19, 2006, Frankie Pennington broke the record for number of Philadelphia Park single-season wins at 256. The 1991 record of 255 was formerly co-held by Robert Colton and Gwen Jocson. The win came on E R Blazer, trained by Jane Vaders for E & G Stables.

A former Texan, Frankie is quite happy he made Philadelphia Park home. This quiet young man says of his decision to move east, "The jockeys and all the people involved with racing here have made me feel so welcome. Everyone works together and they were really happy for my win and for breaking the record." Frankie started his career riding for his stepfather, a trainer at Thistledown.

Frankie and his agent, former rider Bobby Martel, are both excited about the bright future of racing at Philly Park. Says Frankie, "Slots will make such a difference for everyone. Bigger purses, more fans, everyone will be happier." A 2005 apprentice winner at Philadelphia Park, Frankie, at 19 ended 2006 with 267 wins. ■



## Tony Galetto's Super Filly, Giovanna Gold Wins Again!

On January 6, 2007, Giovanna Gold once again brought her owner/trainer to the Winner's Circle. Tony Galetto has started his special horse 29 times with 4 wins, 4 seconds, and 4 thirds to date. She has won over \$84,000 - something spectacular for this little horse that overcame physical problems just as her best friend, Tony, has overcome skepticism and doubt from fellow trainers.

This last win for this 4 yr. old filly came at odds of 19-1 and was as thrilling as the picture portrays. What's in store for Giovanna Gold in 2007? "I'm going to just let her tell me. If she wants to race or rest, it's up to her," smiles Tony with genuine love and admiration in his eyes.

Born in New York, Tony started his career breaking yearlings and as a freelance exercise rider in Florida. His love affair with horses took hold there where he would stay in the barn and watch over the babies. His first official race as a jockey came on August 12, 1969 at Saratoga. Over the years Tony became an owner as well as an assistant for several trainers. Two years ago he took out his license and began his training career at Philadelphia Park. When asked about all the changes he's seen, this energetic horseman quickly responds, "I love everything about the slots coming to Philly Park. Where else can you have a great time with fun people and horses and make money in such a beautiful setting. I love the sights and sounds and all the glitz and glamour of the Casino too." Good luck to Tony and Giovanna Gold in 2007! ■



Photos by: EQUI-PHOTO



## PTHA CLASSIFIEDS

### BROODMARES IN FOAL TO CLOSE UP

(Their 2007 foals will be PA-breds also eligible for restricted NJ races)

- '89 Angel Top by Noble Assembly, w 171K
- '96 Bold Jewels by Bold Josh, dam of 3 Close Up winners
- '96 Nantucket Stroll by Strolling Along, 1/2 sister to MARCO BAY
- '90 Prospect Her by Allen's Prospect, dam of 100K+ runners

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# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Chaplain Jack Cordell



## "FOR 2007: GOD'S LIGHT, OR GOD'S HAND?"

Britain staggered under the onslaught of World War II. In a New Year's Eve address to the nation, King George VI offered his countrymen hope. He turned to the words of Millie Louise Haskins, "I said to the man who stands at the Gate of the Year, 'Give me light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied, 'Step into the darkness, put your hand into the hand of God, and that will be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'" So, which would you prefer for 2007, God's light for the unknown way, or God's hand as you stumble into uncertain days? True, the Psalmist tells us that God's word is a "lamp to my feet and a light for my path." But the Psalmist also declares "you hold me by my right hand." Both images are powerful. But the thought of God holding us by the right hand throbs with the strength and feel of a father's protective care, constant love, and secure presence.

A current TV commercial proclaims that we all are headed in the same direction - the future. No one can reverse time's march. It pushes us into the next minute, hour, day, month and year. The new year might bring you fearful times, painful times, lonely times, joyous times or sad times, but the key is for you to choose to face those times with God securely holding your hand because you daily walk with him. Or, you might want his light to show you the way when the darkness envelops you. Whether you prefer God's light or God's hand is up to you, but it's absolutely critical that you turn to God in all those times.

In short, making it through 2007 is not up to you alone. It's up to the God who will not leave you alone. ■

## BACKSIDE View



Please meet Mason Edward Graham, born November 18, 2006 to our very own Wendi Starritt (we watched her grow up since she was Mason's size) and Edward Graham. Weighing in at 6 lbs 12 oz he was a tall 20 inches and is certainly the shiny apple in the eyes of grandparents Carolyn & William Starritt. Wendi, bring that baby in to see us before he goes to college!

Mo' Money?



**\$197,720**  
**MO MON**  
MARIA'S MON—SEWING LADY, BY KEY TO THE MINT

Money won by Mo Mon during Graded-placed and multiple allowance-winning career, including wire-to-wire MSW victory over eventual G1 SW **FLEETSTREET DANCER** 3rd only 3 lengths to Champion Sprinter **ALDEBERAN** going 7 furlongs in 1:21%

**\$2,051,160**

Racetrack earnings of half-sister, Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) winner

**ADORATION**

**\$2,500 LFSN**

**\$19,581,616**

Progeny earnings of sire **MARIA'S MON**, including Kentucky Derby (G1) winning son **MONARCHOS**

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*Our Farm Inc. Norristown, Pennsylvania*

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**Pictured: 2006 yearling filly by Red Bullet out of Nappelon (Comely Stakes G2 winner of over \$600,000).**

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