



PTHA NEWS

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association Newsletter
We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

2016 Issue #1

A New Era Begins at Parx Racing

In 2016, Parx Racing leads the way into the future for the Pennsylvania horse racing industry.

Last year, the facilities were upgraded in a multitude of ways, including the addition of brand new rubber footing in the walking ring, paddock and winner's circle. By the end of this new year, the barns will be completed and the backstretch pavement will be brand new. In addition, before live racing returns on February 13, a new safety rail will be installed on the track itself.

The Fall Festival of Racing in 2015 was a success, attracting top equine talent and increasing the overall field sizes. The \$1 million Pennsylvania Derby (G2) and \$1 million Cotillion Stakes (G1) drew some of the best three-year-old athletes in the country. And even before the Fall Festival, the G3 Parx Dash produced this year's Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1) winner, Mongolian Saturday.

The beginning of 2016 marks the longest live racing break in the history of the track, but it holds many positives such as giving horsemen the opportunity to rest their horses. The main purpose of the break is also to take the initiative against legislators who want to see the end of horse racing in Pennsylvania.

The break also allows purses to be redistributed within the remaining live racing days. Daily purses in 2016 will be approximately \$300,000 per day, up from \$220,000 a day.

And so, as the dawn rose on January 1, 2016, a brilliant and exciting new era for horsemen began right here at Parx Racing.



Photos: Kim Pratt, Nikki Sherman

Bird of Trey Flies in PA Nursery



Photo: Nikki Sherman

Just last year, John Servis trained a son of his most famous Pennsylvania Nursery Stakes winner to win the same race - a son of Smarty Jones named Nasa. This year, Servis ironically returned with a son of Smarty Jones's Belmont Stakes conquerer, Birdstone.

Bird of Trey is a bay colt out of the stakes-winning Came Home mare Take Me Home Too and is a homebred for JRita Young Thoroughbreds, LLC. JR and Rita Young reside in Arkansas but have taken advantage of the many state-bred programs throughout the country. Bird of Trey is their first foray into PA-Breds.

(cont'd on page 4)



President's Message

Salvatore M. DeBunda, Esq.

What a successful year we had in 2015 - ranging from capital improvements of the facilities, to an exciting Fall Festival of

Racing that not only drew some of the top horses in the country to our track for the multitude of stakes races and even allowance contests, but also rewarded local horsemen with doubled purses. When Executive Director Mike Ballezzi and I walked through the revamped paddock and walking ring on the first day of the Fall Festival in August, it was a special moment for us. It marked the beginning of a new era here at Parx Racing, one that we had pushed towards for a long time, and we aren't even finished yet. Going into 2016, we anticipate that management will finish construction of the last barns, repave the backstretch and install a brand new safety rail on the racetrack.

We are now in the midst of a seven-week live racing shutdown. Hopefully our horsemen are taking advantage of this opportunity to either give their horses rest or are able to find races elsewhere. We are thrilled that NYRA has offered to assist Parx horsemen by

offering a free shuttle to Aqueduct during the shutdown, and other shippers are actively vanning local horsemen to Penn National and Laurel Park as well.

As of this writing, we still have an unresolved state budget for the current fiscal year. Mike Ballezzi and I continue to work with state legislators and actively monitor their progress so that we can protect the Race Horse Development Fund.

I would also like to congratulate my good friend Paul Conaway, whose homebred Favorite Tale ran an excellent third in the 2015 Breeders' Cup Sprint at Keeneland. What an exciting race!

In addition, I would like to thank the PTHA staff and members of our board for your support of Mike and me. Happy New Year to all of our members and good luck to everyone in 2016!



SPECIALIZED INSURANCE PROGRAMS

FOR THE HORSE RACING INDUSTRY

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Parx Horsemen Around the Nation

Oct. 31 - BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT (G1)

Keeneland, 6 furlongs
3rd - FAVORITE TALE
O: PJG Stable
T: Guadalupe Preciado
J: Javier Castellano

Nov. 14 - CITY OF LAUREL S.

Laurel Park, 7 furlongs
2nd - ROXBURY N OVERTON
O: J A G Racing & Jettany Thoroughbred Corp.
T: Ramon Preciado
J: Joshua Navarro

Nov. 14 - FRANK J. DEFRANCIS MEMORIAL DASH S.

Laurel Park, 6 furlongs
2nd - TROUBLE KID
O: Barbara Hopkins
T: Ramon Preciado
J: Joshua Navarro

Nov. 15 - CHRISTOPHER ELSER MEMORIAL S.

Parx Racing, 6 1/2 furlongs
1st - BIG LOUIE D
O: Alexandria Stable
T: John C. Servis
J: Joshua Navarro
2nd - MORNING FIRE
O: Stony Brook Stables
T: Keith Nations
J: Victor Carrasco

Nov. 15 - DONNA FREYER S.

Parx Racing, 6 1/2 furlongs
1st - EIGHTH WONDER
O: Gryphon Investments LLC
T: Dee Curry
J: Jose Flores
2nd - KYLBRYLIE
O: Jay Ar Dee Stables
T: Keith Nations
J: John Bisono

Nov. 25 - FABULOUS STRIKE H.

Penn National, 6 furlongs
1st - FAVORITE TALE
O: PJG Stable
T: Guadalupe Preciado
J: Javier Castellano

Nov. 28 - DEMOISELLE S.

Aqueduct, 1 1/8 miles
3rd - DISCO ROSE
O: Glenn Bennett
T: Robert Reid, Jr.
J: Maria Remedio

Dec. 5 - CLAIMING CROWN RAPID TRANSIT S.

Gulfstream Park, 7 furlongs
2nd - TROUBLE KID
O: Barbara Hopkins
T: Ramon Preciado
J: Jose Lezcano

Dec. 5 - CLAIMING CROWN EXPRESS S.

Gulfstream Park, 6 furlongs
1st - DODDSPRIVATE-LABEL
O: M-Z Racing Partnership
T: Marcos Zulueta
J: Jorge Vargas, Jr.

Dec. 5 - GIN TALKING S.

Laurel Park, 7 furlongs
1st - CATHRYN SOPHIA
O: Cash Is King LLC
T: John C. Servis
J: Roberto Rosado

Dec. 5 - WILLA ON THE MOVE S.

Laurel Park, 6 furlongs
2nd - DISCO CHICK
O: Freedom Acres, Inc.
T: Mario Serey, Jr.
J: Trevor McCarthy

Dec. 5 - PA NURSERY S.

Parx Racing, 7 furlongs
1st - BIRD OF TREY
O: JRita Young Thoroughbreds LLC
T: John C. Servis
J: Joshua Navarro
2nd - MORNING FIRE
O: Stony Brook Stables
T: Keith Nations
J: Frankie Pennington
3rd - WYCHMERE
O: Equinevine Farm
T: Cathal A. Lynch
J: Roberto Alvarado, Jr.

Dec. 26 - DAMON RUNYON S.

Aqueduct, 1 mile 70 yards
3rd - TAOISEACH
O: Acqua Nova Stable
T: James T. Ryerson
J: D. Davis

Dec. 26 - DAVE'S FRIEND S.

Laurel Park, 6 furlongs
1st - ALWAYS SUNSHINE
O: Gilbert G. Campbell
T: Edward T. Allard
J: Frankie Pennington
3rd - BEACH HUT
O: Silver Trail Stables LLC
T: Ramon Preciado
J: J D Acosta

Jan. 2 - NELLIE MORSE S.

Laurel Park, 1 1/16 miles
1st - LOVE CAME TO TOWN
O: Gerald F. Sleeter
T: Kevin G. Sleeter
J: Mychel Sanchez

Jan. 2 - OLD HAT S.

Gulfstream Park, 6 furlongs
1st - LUCY N ETHEL
O: J A G Racing & Jettany Thoroughbred Corp.
T: Ramon Preciado
J: Joshua Navarro

Important Info

Attention Trainers

Please make sure to submit your 2016 badge list to both Chris Forbes for validation **AND** Stephanie Smith at the PTHA. Stable employees will not be eligible for health, dental or eyecare benefits until all paperwork has been properly filed. Take care of it early so that your employees can be ready for medical care at any time.

Horse Tattooing Fee Change

Starting on January 1, 2016, all new tattooing expenses will be the responsibility of the owner/trainer. Anyone needing a horse tattooed will need to contact Thomas Weinhardt, Horse I.D., at 609-937-0826. Each tattoo will cost \$80.00 and **MUST** be paid at the time of the tattooing. Checks may be made out to the T.R.P.B.

Parx - Aqueduct Shuttle Service

NYRA will be offering a free shuttle service in partnership with Sallee Vans for all Parx runners wishing to participate at Aqueduct from Dec. 26th through Feb. 12th. Once the Aqueduct overnight is out for any given day, Parx horsemen are urged to make arrangements ASAP with Sal Russo at NYRA (718-641-4700x3029 or 516-322-0645).

Pickups will begin each race day morning at Parx at 4:15 am with a departure time of 4:45 am. Returns will take place each evening once all runners have cooled out and will vary from day to day. The shuttle service is complimentary. No other sources of transportation will be reimbursed.

Parx Racing Roundup



PA Nursery Stakes trophy presentation by **Brian Sanfratello**.

Right: **Joshua Navarro** celebrates.



Big Louie D captures the Christopher Elser Memorial Stakes.

(cont'd from cover)

Bird of Trey burst into the spotlight in his second career start, a maiden special weight event on September 5, when he obliterated a field of eight challengers and drew off to an eleven-length score. He then finished second in two straight tries at Parx Racing, including the \$150,000 Hall of Fame Stakes, before returning to the races for the Pennsylvania Nursery. New rider Joshua Navarro hopped aboard for Servis and the Youngs, and the new duo promptly walloped all competition by an emphatic 7 1/4-lengths.

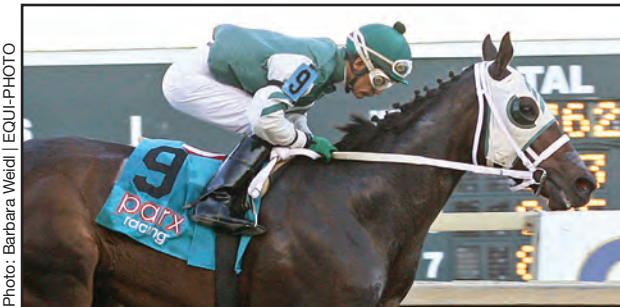
Servis On a Roll

The Servis barn had an excellent fourth quarter of 2015. On the same afternoon as the Pennsylvania Nursery, they captured the Gin Talking Stakes with Cash Is King LLC's Cathryn Sophia at Laurel Park. And a few weeks earlier, Big Louie D rolled to an easy 4 1/2-length victory in the \$75,000 Christopher Elser Memorial Stakes at Parx Racing. The two-year-old son of Stormy Atlantic was purchased at the Keeneland September Yearling Sale for \$70,000 by Alexandria Stable. Big Louie D was bred by Crossed Sabres Farm.

Pioneerof the Nile Filly Remains Undefeated

When Eighth Wonder arrived in Dee Curry's barn earlier this year, she knew that the Pioneerof the Nile filly was something special even before American Pharoah took the Triple Crown. Curry trained Eighth Wonder's dam Cheeksandpeanuts and won three of four career starts including victories in the Wonders Delight Stakes and Foxy J. G. Stakes. She has also trained all of her foals, including Key Lime Baby, who finished third in the then-Grade 2 Cotillion Stakes, and Eighth Wonder's full brother Cu Chulainn, who was a finalist for last year's Parx Racing Champion Three-Year-Old Male.

So when Eighth Wonder entered the starting gate for her first career stakes attempt in the \$75,000 Donna Freyer Stakes, it came as no surprise that the bay filly was odds-on to keep her undefeated streak intact. She did not disappoint, and powered to victory right from the start, eventually drawing off to win by 9 1/4 lengths for ownership group Gryphon Investments LLC.



Above: **Eighth Wonder** remains undefeated with her victory in the Donna Freyer Stakes.

Below: Trainer **Dee Curry** with Eighth Wonder.



Photos: Nikki Sherman

Photo: Barbara Weidl | EQUI-PHOTO

Photo: Barbara Weidl | EQUI-PHOTO

Photos: Nikki Sherman

Favorite Tale 3rd in Breeders' Cup Sprint

Photos: Nikki Sherman



Favorite Tale in the Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Four-year-old Favorite Tale very nearly pulled off a brilliant upset in the 2015 TwinSpires Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) at Keeneland Race Course on October 31. The little bay gelded homebred of Paul Conaway's PJG Stable ran his heart out to finish a fast-closing third behind the superstar sprinter Runhappy. Also ahead of Favorite Tale was Parx trainer Alfredo Velazquez's former trainee, Private Zone.

Favorite Tale was an extremely talented sprinter even last year; just take a look at his 2014 Gallant Bob Stakes (G3) victory. The son of Tale of the Cat improved this year, stamping his ticket to this year's Breeders' Cup by capturing the Grade 2 Smile Sprint Stakes, a Win and You're In stakes event at Gulfstream Park. After a third-place run in the Grade 1 Alfred G. Vanderbilt Handicap at Saratoga Race Course, followed up by a smashing win in an allowance at Parx Racing on September 26, Favorite Tale headed west for the championship weekend in Kentucky.

Parx Racing trainer Guadalupe Preciado has saddled Favorite Tale for all eighteen of his career starts, including the Breeders' Cup Sprint.

Favorite Tale closed out 2015 on November 25 with an emphatic two-length victory in the Fabulous Strike Handicap at Penn National Race Course, bringing his total career earnings to \$891,026.



Owner **Judi Arena**, trainer **Guadalupe Preciado**, Favorite Tale and his groom, owner **Paul Conaway** and Philadelphia sportswriter **Dick Jerardi** at Keeneland.



Owner **Judi Arena** gives Favorite Tale some love during a bath at Keeneland.



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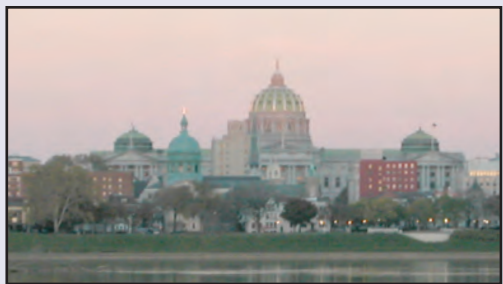
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The Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association



LEGISLATION

- Representation in Harrisburg by legal professionals who are fighting for the rights and monetary benefits of Parx horsemen
- Pushed for better workmen's compensation guidelines and rates

RACING

- Regulation of maximum purses and pay-to-last funds
- Committee to elect new members into the Parx Racing Hall of Fame
- Fall Festival of Racing rewarded horsemen with doubled purses for two months of exciting race days
- Represented horsemen before the Board of Stewards, PA Racing Commission & state legislature

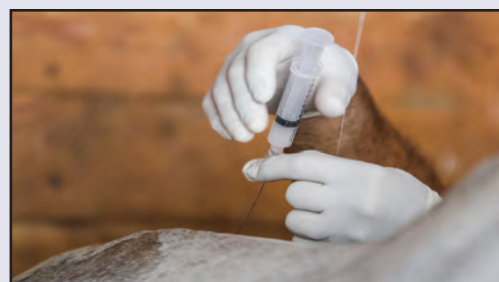


BACKSTRETCH IMPROVEMENTS

- New paddock, walking ring & winner's circle footing
- Establishment of a beautification plan for the racetrack grounds
- Continuation of new barn construction
- Agreement with frontside to build a new safety rail around the racetrack in January 2016
- Refurbishment of admin building

EQUINE MEDICATION

- Spearheaded the elimination of steroids in racehorses in PA
- Continuation of a third-party Lasix administration program
- Established uniform medication guidelines and penalties for the East Coast and Illinois
- Support of a unified penalty system for drug positives in racing, to create a level playing field



BENEVOLENCE

- Granny Youmans Scholarship Fund for stable employees or their children working at Parx
- Sponsor of the Bucks County YWCA's 2015 Teen Volunteer of the Year Award
- Sponsor of multiple bike rides benefitting wounded veterans & illnesses
- Sponsor of many holiday parties and chaplain events

...Hard at Work for Parx Racing Horsemen in 2015

HEALTHCARE

- LaSalle University nurses on-site twice weekly for all backstretch personnel
- Benefit Trust health & dental care offered for backstretch employees
- Health & dental insurance offered to qualifying Parx-based trainers & their families



MEDIA

- Sponsor of weekly television show *Let's Go Racing*
- Sponsor and distributor of handicapper Craig Donnelly's free *Parx Racing Analysis*
- *PTHA News*, a bi-monthly newsletter, mailed to over 3,000 PTHA members
- PTHA website updated and linked to PTHA Facebook page



HORSEMEN'S PURCHASING ASSOCIATION

- Feed, shavings and more offered to horsemen at affordable prices
- Weekly featured products at reduced rates & holiday sales
- Sponsor of the Chaplain's Children's Christmas Party
- Agway promotion of 1 free bag of feed for each set of 9 bags purchased extended to be a year round offer



TURNING FOR HOME

- Second annual Turning for Home Day at Parx Racing
- Nearly 200 horses adopted into new homes in 2015
- Nearly 1,800 total horses entered program since opening in 2008, with 275 in 2015 alone

AND MORE . . .

- Pension plan for eligible trainers
- Weekly PTHA trophy race
- Fax, copy, notary and provider of checks for the Racing Commission
- Sponsorship of softball & soccer leagues





Find Your Moral Compass **Thoughts from Program Administrator Danielle Montgomery**

Turning for Home, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to find homes for Parx Racing's retiring thoroughbreds.

P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020 • 267-223-3418 • www.turningforhome.org



Advocacy for retiring racehorses was in its infancy thirty years ago with the creation of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF). Based in New York but spread out across the country with many satellite locations, it provides sanctuary for a herd of just over one thousand horses. The TRF was the start of a solution for responsible owners who could apply to have their valued racehorses permanently retired, though it came with a fee and a long wait on a list to be accepted into the program due to a limited herd size. The organization is still going strong, but with the operations budget being over \$3 million per year and the 2014 average cost per horse over \$3,000, it is not an option for most owners to retire their horses with them.

By 1997, organizations such as The Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses (CANTER) began to appear, founded by concerned horsemen and horsewomen who brought the public onto the racetrack grounds in order to buy listed horses directly from the trainers and owners. These programs saved thousands of retiring racehorses and worked hard to get the entire industry involved, including veterinarians, trainers and owners. Self-listing is a great way for owners to recoup some of their losses, but it still has drawbacks and requires serious effort to track the horses after they leave. Not all owners have the time for this. It is also a liability for racetrack management to allow unlicensed horsemen on the grounds of their respective tracks.

Even with efforts by philanthropic owners starting national programs, there was still a problem for the racing industry as social media carried the stories of thoroughbreds going to slaughter. Horsemen realized that for racing to survive, something needed to be done at local tracks to take care of their own horses.

Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program started the first on-track adoption facility in 2006. Supported by track management and the horsemen's organization, it stables 16 horses and offers rehabilitation and retraining services for the horses overlooked by the listing affiliates. They have successfully adopted out over 400 horses.

In 2008, Turning for Home, Inc. (TFH), supported by the horsemen of Parx Racing and propelled by Act 71 funding,

took on the issues of long waits, placement fees, dealing with the public and marketing, veterinary and surgical care, shipping, rehabilitation, retraining, rehoming, a humane euthanasia program and an enforced No-Slaughter policy. The thought was to make it so there was never any excuse for any owner to not responsibly retire his or her retiring racehorse. It was the first of its kind based at a racetrack, with 36% of its funding coming from the owners' \$10 per start, per horse purse deduction. The mission was simple: to take in any Parx horse, sound or otherwise, and guarantee each a chance at a second career. With the foresight by the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, TFH quickly became the model program for all racetracks due to its sustainable approach to safe thoroughbred retirement and quickly proved itself to be light years ahead of all other retirement initiatives.

Nearly eight years later, TFH is proud to say that Parx Racing's horsemen are taking care of their own. Over 1,760 horses have been assisted into retirement through the program. The horse care costs have decreased to \$1,400 per horse, including the 5% that require extensive surgery and rehabilitation. Horsemen coming from other racetracks are continually impressed with the program here, especially that the program can handle an average intake of 25 horses per month and that no eligible horse is ever turned away. TFH delivers full disclosure to all who are involved with and love their former racehorses, from the veterinary screenings that inadvertently educate trainers and owners about the long-term effects of racing, to the whereabouts and success stories of their horses as they travel through the rehoming process. It is supported primarily by the owners of racehorses, as it should be.

The Thoroughbred industry is in agreement that the burden of responsibility for aftercare falls on the owners. The problem is that all too often, the owners are not always directly in contact with the horse. This is why retirement planning, education and aftercare are best handled by pooling all resources and having a system that works in the best interest of the horses. Like Social Security and 401Ks, TFH is a painless way for racehorse owners at

(cont'd on page 12)

2015 Adopted Horses

'12 Youaremysunshine
A Black Tie Crypto
A P's Buddy
All About Karma
Any Cat in a Storm
Apache Longbow
Apple Road Warrior
Archie's Echo
Aye Jay Power
Baby Gracie
Ballymurphy
Barcaza
Bashful Bandit
Bellsforsamantha
Bequick Donthurry
Berry Berry Bueno
Best Five
Blonde Dude
Bluegrass Baby
Brannaman
Bristle Bridge
Bungalow Bill
C J's Cheezit
Calypsogirl
Cape Ann Rose
Captain Sheldon
Catfive
Centauri Dreams
Centrifical Force
Chincoteague
Chip and a Chance
Classic Stance
Cocktails With Dan
Collecting Beauty
Core Inflation
Cover Price
Crevette
Cute Western Boots

Danica Irl
Decorated Admiral
Diver
Dollar Bill
Dr. Wesley
El Tato
Exit
Fantastic Voyage
Fearless Cowboy
Feverish Loot
Fia Mia
Field Marshal
Flash Mob
Forest Meadow
Formal Love
Formal Music
Fortune's Flower
Fuzzy Dice
G. I. Jody
G. I. Joey
Get It On
Giacokhan
Giant Lady
Gladiators Shot
Go Glory Go
Go Missys Boy
Grace's Honor
Grad Student
Grandad Bud
Grape Grace
Gratianus
Grizzle
Hanna No Sir
Harlan's Trick
Hazelnut Expresso
Herecomeschacha
Holdupwaitamminute
Honorable Judge

Hoppy Do
I'm Watching You
Irish Sarah
It's Purple Rain
Itwasntokinawa
Johnny Love Note
Kaptini
Kelly's Reward
Kelly's Ridge
La Valette
Lady Heat
Lady Mickelson
Lake Baxter
Landscaper
Late But Lucky
Legal Ring
Let's Make a Zeal
Lindwood's Roar
Loving Dove
Make Your Move
Makesmedance
Malibu Deputy
Maltese Flyer
Medford Blue
Midnight Harmony
Midnights Burning
Miss Shelter Haven
Moonlight Splitter
Moriah Rising
Mr. Bad Guy
Mr. Fibbs
Much Stronger
My Blue Ribbon
My Nonno
My Sweet Sister
N J Bussell
Nanny Cay
Nature's Alley
Negotiation
Nile Seeker
Ocean Cracker
One Sock Down
Our Bernie
Passion in a Box
Patrick S
Pauline's Monba
Pedler Palmer
Penn's Grant
Phil Dancer
Phoebe
Pink Napkins



Midnights Burning and adopter Jess Stewart were champions in the baby green division of their show in August. Midnights Burning now shows under name "King of Hearts".

Platinum Charm
Plum Island
Prime Interest
Printer's Alley
Queen's Tali
Quiet Rally
Quito Kid
Rebel Rebel
Regal Salutation
Reign Angel
Restricted List
Rhinestone Sandy
Riding On Faith
Roman Games
Rosiana
Run Smart One
Russian in Black
Salem Witch
Sandiwill
Sara Bay
Scat About
Senor Amarga
She's All Timber
Shelovestheband
Shes Secretly Mine
Sheza Dish
Show Bill
Shrimp Cocktail
Silent Indian
Sixtieth and Dune
Small Secret
Smokindowntheaisle
Smooth Giant
South Beach Hottie
Spark the Fuse
Star Factor
Stone Fire
Storm Summation

Stormy Norma
Suancesca Rose
Suilleabhain
Summer Time Ranger
Sunnyinseabrook
Super Defence
Super Slam
Surprise Daydream
Sweet as a Kiss
Take My Time
Tamar's Girl
Tek
The Kat's Eye
Thorin
Thunder Ball
Tizanno
Trinidad Lady
Tujoes
Turn the Page Dan
Udontnomelikethat
Uno Concerto
Valid Mission
Villalobos
Virtual Reality
Vlastic
Walllula Bluffs
War Won
Waterfall
Weevil Knievel
White Rabbit
Wonder Will
Word of Honor
Xrayder
Yacantmakethisup
Zippity Kick



Bashful Bandit is enjoying his new home in Athens, Georgia with Caroline Marlett.

								
Much Stronger	Mr. Fibbs	My Blue Ribbon	Moriah Rising	My Nonno	Midnight Harmony	My Sweet Sister	Medford Blue	
								
It wasntokinawa	Pink Napkins	Johnny Love Note	Penn's Grant	Kelly's Ridge	Pedler Palmer	Landscaper	Patrick S	
								
Plum Island	It's Purple Rain	Prime Interest	I'm Watching You	Queen's Tali	Hoppy Do	Quiet Rally	Honorable Judge	
								
Giacokhan	Seat About	Giant Lady	Sara Bay	Gladiators Shot	Sandiwill	Go Missys Boy	Salem Witch	
								
Senor Amarga	Get It On	Sheza Dish	G. I. Joey	Show Bill	Formal Music	Shrimp Cocktail	Formal Love	
								
Centrifical Force	Thunder Ball	Chincoteague	Thorin	Chip and a Chance	The Kat's Eye	Classic Stance	Uno Concerto	
								
Tizanno	Centauri Dreams	Trinidad Lady	Catfive	Udontnomelikethat	C J's Cheezit			
								
12 Youaremysunshine	Zippity Kick	A Black Tie Crypto	Yacantmakethisup	A. P.'s Buddy	Xrayder	All About Karma		



Nearly 200
adopted in 2
are some of o

HA'S
rning

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EMENT PROGRAM

horses were
015... here
our favorites!



Silent Indian



Grace's Honor



Quito Kid



Late But Lucky



N J Bussell



Flash Mob



Russian in Black



Herecomeschacha



Passion in a Box



Maltese Flyer



Spark the Fuse



Grad Student



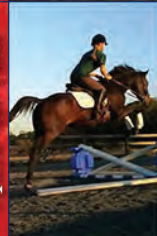
Rebel Rebel



Legal Ring



Nature's Alley



Field Marshal



Roman Games



Hazelnut Espresso



Our Bernie



Malibu Deputy



Star Factor



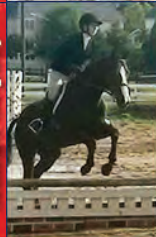
Grandad Bud



Regal Salutation



Let's Make a Zeal



Negotiation



Feverish Loot



Riding On Faith



Hanna No Sir



One Sock Down



Makesmedance



Storm Summation



Grape Grace



Restricted List



Loving Dove



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Turning for Home: Find Your Moral Compass

(cont'd from page 8)

Parx Racing to do the right thing. With added support from the PTHA, Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA), Parx Jockeys, Parx Racing management and public donations, the program has been able to bring Thoroughbred aftercare into the limelight.

Confidence in TFH has continued to increase, with even more horses benefitting from the program, but that requires more funding. Horse intake increased by 3 ½% from 2014 and expenses such as shipping have risen 40% as the volume of horses increased. In addition, this year TFH will be without a \$60,000 per year grant trust that has helped sustain the program over the last five years. TFH has established an incredible network of Partner Farms that allow the program to continue quickly moving horses into open stalls, but remember that additional horses means more money.

In 2015, nearly 28% of program income was from donations, including donations with each win at Parx, matching donations from an employer or end-of-year tax write-offs. Owners can help by defraying shipping costs, and it's most fair to do that when the horse actually leaves the racetrack. A few owners even donate \$500 - \$2,500 with each horse, which goes right to the Partner Farms for the direct care of their own retiring racehorse. Turning for Home Day is going to be the biggest fundraiser this coming year, so anyone can plan to participate and show your support.

The most important thing an owner can do is retire their horse sound. When a horse has dropped in class or has hit a bottom level, owners should wonder why this is happening. Pay for screening veterinary tests and then either rest or retire while the horse is sound enough to enjoy a second career. This is a moral issue and the responsibility lies with a proactive and educated owner. It may require missing one last race, but the result will save the trainer's day rate, as well as extra veterinary and farrier bills.

Once a horse is retired, check out the Turning for Home website for stories and photographic updates of many former Parx racehorses. Or when attending the races on Turning for Home Day, watch the tote board for even more in-depth graduate success stories!

Here are some ways that you can help your horses of Turning for Home!

Donate With Each Win

One of the easiest ways to support Turning for Home's retiring racehorses is to donate \$100 each time you win a race at Parx!

The Horsemen's Bookkeeper can set up an automatic payment on your account at any time, for any amount you choose.

Call 215-639-9000 x3315 or x3389 to get started.

Donate to Our Basket Raffle

Each year Turning for Home presents a basket raffle at the annual **Horsemen's Awards Banquet**. This has become one of our most successful fundraisers each year. **You can help by making a tax deductible donation of items or services for the raffle.** Also be sure to attend the banquet this spring - you could be one of the lucky people to win one of these great prizes!

Donate Your Proof of Purchases

Did you know that we can receive **10-35¢** from participating feed companies for each proof of purchase that is donated? **If you use 40 bags of feed a week, that's between \$200-700 per year!**

Donation boxes are located in the main PTHA office as well as the Turning for Home office. All proceeds will benefit our TFH horses.

Thank You for Your Support

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Jockey **Michael Ritvo** was happy to help with our table during the Fall Festival.

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There are so many people who contribute their time to our organization that we know we are missing many from this list. Thank you to everyone, from the bottom of our hearts!

Backstretch Views

In Memorium...



Keith LeBarron passed away after a brief illness on December 21, 2015 at the age of 62. He was regularly one of the leading trainers at Parx Racing since moving his stable here in 1991 and won nearly 1,200 career races. His best runners included stakes winners Classic Move, Movin' Out and PA-Bred Champion Valley of the Gods. He and wife Susan have two daughters, Casey and Tiffany, and a grandchild named Cameron, who he loved to share photos of with anyone who asked.



Dorothy M. Riviezzo, 97, passed away on December 7, 2015. She was loved by her family, including her sons Ralph, Vincent, Fred and John, siblings Anthony & Angela, and grandchildren. Memorial contributions in her name may be sent to St. Joseph Villa, 110 W. Wissahickon Avenue, Flourtown, PA 19031.



William Gerber, 91, passed away peacefully at his home in Franklinville, NJ on December 12, 2015. Bill was an owner, trainer and a master leather craftsman who was known for his quality leather products. A veteran of WWII and holder of a Purple Heart, he leaves behind his son Billy Gerber, also a well-known leather craftsman.

Congratulations!



Samantha Smith and **Josh Taboada** had their first child on December 22, 2015. **Joshua Antonio Taboada, Jr.** was born six weeks early and weighed an even 5 lbs. Samantha recently worked for trainer Keith Nations and her father **Harry "Hatt" Smith** works on the starting gate in the afternoon.



While on a trip to Walt Disney World over the holidays, **Guadalupe** and **Wendy Preciado's** son **Robert** popped the question to girlfriend **Kaley Perez**. She said yes! Congrats!

Do you have any news for Backstretch Views?

We're always on the lookout for backstretch views. Contact **Nikki Sherman**, Marketing & Publicity Director, in the Turning for Home office or send over an email to nsherman@patha.org.

PHBA 6th Annual Stallion Auction

January 28 - 30, 2016

Auction will be held on Thoroughbred.com.

All proceeds will benefit the PHBA-PAC, Turning for Home & New Start racehorse retirement programs.

Check out PABred.com to view the stallion seasons, which are being added on a daily basis and include:

Andiron • Banachek • Bandbox • Buffum • Bullsbay • El Padrino
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Last 2015 Live Race Day at Parx



Top: Endless Ride & Senorita Siete (gray) wear their holiday blankets before the Mrs. Claus Special • Turn to Travis wins the last race of 2015
Bottom: Model Citizen captures the Santa Claus Special • Limestone Cowboy & Vaulted Heart enter the paddock for the Santa Claus Special



Photos: Nikki Sherman

A Trip to Kentucky

A Photo Montage from Marketing Director Nikki Sherman

I have been the Marketing Director for the PTHA for two years, spending my days updating our website or creating this very newsletter for our members. But while these are my “real” duties as Marketing Director, most people know me as “the girl with the camera”.

I graduated from college with a bachelor’s degree in Photography, and in addition to writing and graphic

design for the PTHA, I also produce most of the images that can be seen in every newsletter.

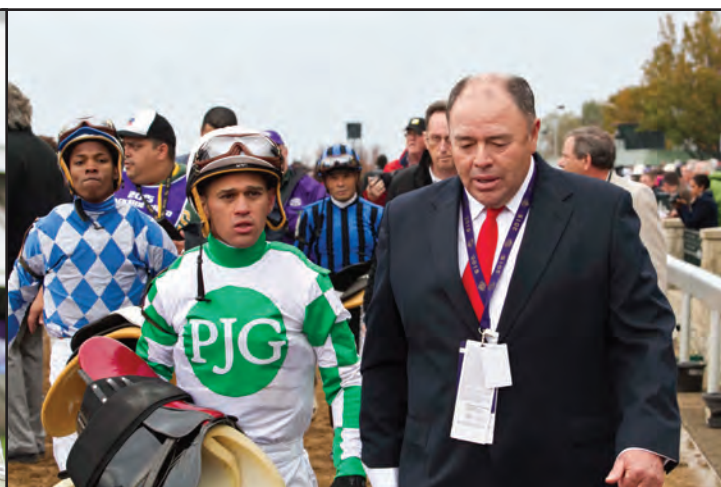
This past October, I spent ten days in Lexington, Kentucky photographing some of our very own horses and horsemen during the Breeders’ Cup, Keeneland November Sale and even the Thoroughbred Makeover. Here are a few of those special moments.



Left: Owners Bob & Angel Graham and Bob Newell of Marchfore Thoroughbreds visited their stakes-placed filly Inspired By Grace at the Keeneland Sale before she sold for \$190,000 to Cobble View Stable.



Right: A weanling son of Tapit sold for \$500,000 to Hunter Valley Farm. The colt is a half-brother to Princess of Sylmar, a PA-Bred who earned more than \$2 million.



Favorite Tale represented the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association at Keeneland with his blue and gold blanket. After the Breeders’ Cup Sprint, trainer Guadalupe Preciado talked to jockey Javier Castellano.

Thoroughbred Makeover

Over the past ten years, thoroughbreds have been making a comeback in the show horse world, and in 2015, the Retired Racehorse Project launched the first Thoroughbred Makeover competition. Held at the Kentucky Horse Park the weekend before the Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships, nearly 200 former racehorses competed for over \$100,000 in prize money. All horses were eligible as long as they were tattooed and had either raced or trained in the last two years. The horses also were not to have started a second career before January of 2015.

Upon the announcement of the unique opportunity, Turning for Home was regularly contacted as equestrians searched for their partners en route to this historic event. Three Turning for Home graduates competed in the inaugural event. Legal Ring, a filly who was just too small to be a racehorse, found her

calling as a barrel racer with Nicole Valeri. The duo finished sixth overall in the division. Show Bill competed in polo and was ridden by Shariah Harris for the Work to Ride program. Together, they finished in third place. And finally there was Star Factor, a handsome gray gelding who retired in October of 2014 with a chip. He was given surgery by Dr. Janik Gasiorowski through Turning for Home and after his rehab at Black Oak Farm, he found his calling as a show hunter. Kasey Evans rode Star Factor, guiding him to an impressive fourth-place finish in a large group of 34 competitors.

In addition, Pennsylvania-based trainer Clovis Crane claimed Yo Koffy specifically for the Thoroughbred Makeover. Not only did Yo Koffy finish eighth of 44 in the show jumping division, but Clovis rode the handsome bay gelding to the championship of the working ranch horse division!





Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Rick Bunker

**“Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.” - Matthew 5:9 (NIV)**

I recently watched the talented organist, Diane Bish playing Christian Hymns on a great organ. In this setting of magnificent organ pipes, Nativity scenes and surroundings of beautiful Christmas decorations I thought she was playing in an historic cathedral as she so often does. However, later in the show she was standing outside of the building. It was the Palace of Arts in Budapest Hungary, a most modern looking building and naturally so, for it had been completed and opened just ten years earlier in 2005. My mind both reveled and reeled as I thought of the history of this European city.

There was the revelry and celebration in my mind and heart over the clear recovery from the decades of repression that this country had suffered under the atheism of the communist totalitarianism of the Soviet Union. Of course atheism is at the very root of communism. During that time of repression Hungary was never allowed to have such public celebrations of Christmas, displays of Nativities, and concerts of religious music.

The reeling and worry that I found myself considering was that wave of unruly refugees, which had been acting more like robbers and invaders than any refugees we had ever seen before. Hungary, perhaps more sensitive to the delicacy of peace, had exercised more care with these so-called refugees, but had also been condemned for their prudence by their neighbors. I wondered if the last few years of freedom in Hungary might be squelched by some new enemy of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We certainly have been told for a few years now by some of our most powerful leaders that our enemies have been defeated. Although those same named enemies, and even others with new names, according to both printed and video news seem to actually be on the rise. And; even if they had been defeated, history should teach us that vigilance is still a necessary price in order to have continuing peace.

The Hebrew prophets of the Old Testament repeatedly condemned leaders who would declare, “Peace, peace, when there is no peace” (e.g. Jeremiah 6:14, 8:11; Ezekiel 13:10, et al). They would metaphorically warn of the dangers of not fully healing a wound or properly building a wall but, nevertheless saying that it was fully healed and properly built.

The One who has been called the Prince of Peace – Jesus, declared eight Beatitudes (or nine depending how you count) in the opening of His famous Sermon on the Mount. The eventh of those beatitudes is “Blessed are the peacemakers.” It has been well pointed out that He did not say peace lovers.

Jesus also most surely used the word shalom for peace. The word shalom has a rich meaning that means far more than the cessation of hostilities. Shalom means health and wholeness. Where there is shalom there must be freedom and vitality, or there is something else, something less, far less.

If you are a peacemaker the Bible calls you a child of God – why? You will be called a child of God because you would be like God that is the implication. The human inclination is to be a peace lover and to want to ‘sweep things under the rug’, but that won’t make shalom (real peace). It will just make a mess – under a rug, where it usually grows and becomes worse.

It is good to know that it is in God’s nature to make peace. If we resolve to be peacemakers in 2016 we will be doing the work of God and we will be in partnership with God. It surely will not be easy - there will be those who will call us trouble makers. But, thankfully, the One who matters the most will call us His child and we will be on the winning side. God help us – Amen!

Children's Christmas Party





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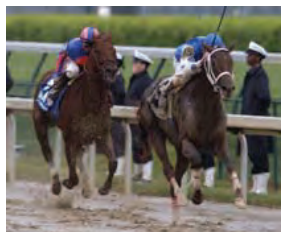
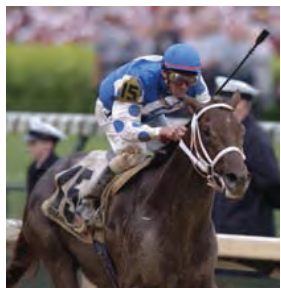
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Photos by Skip Dickstein.

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