

The Buckeye Harness Horseman



The Official Publication of the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association



November 2018 | Volume 48 | Number 4



Kitty Kitty Bang with a Nob Hill High Filly. Photo by Scott Hagemeyer

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The Official Publication of the
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association
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Inside The Buckeye Harness Horseman - November 2018

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CALENDAR

January 18th

1st Quarter OHHA Board Meeting
Marriott Columbus University Area
3100 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH, 43202

Members are always welcome for lunch and the general session at noon. Please RSVP by calling the OHHA office at 614-221-3650

November Date TBA

Ohio State Racing Commission Meeting
Riffe Center, 77 S. High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
<http://www.racingohio.net>

Cover Photo: 2018 Fairfield County Fair
by Conrad Photo

The Buckeye Harness Horseman 120-850 (ISSN 0194-7842) is published four times annually by the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, 2237 Sonora Dr. Grove City, OH 43123
Phone 614.221-3650 or 800-353-6442. Single & back issues, if available, \$2.50. Periodical postage paid at Columbus, OH. Postmaster, send address changes to the
OHHA, 2237 Sonora Dr. Grove City, OH 43123..

Regularly Scheduled Ohio State Racing Commission Meeting Recaps

By Renée Mancino

For a transcript of the OSRC meetings contact the State Racing Commission.

From Wednesday August 29, 2018 at the Columbus Riffe Center.

In normal business for the Commission the Executive Director's Approval items were introduced and the [July 24, 2018 Minutes](#) were offered for ratification. There were no documents disclosed or discussion surrounding the Report items. Assistant Attorney General Charles Febus discussed the Rules that would be under five-year review, new, or rescission, and the process for the Rules. The documents relative to the approvals provided were [Resolution 2018-08 and 2018-09](#), which was an enumerated list of the applicable rules discussed. Resolution 2018-08 Rules, including new or amended rules were outlined. Resolution 2018-09 followed discussing the five-year rule reviews required in 2018. No other documents relative to the approvals were disclosed to those in attendance. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the Executive Director's Approval items, July 24th Meeting Minutes, and Resolutions 2018-08 and 2018-09.

[The Standardbred Permit Holders](#) provided details on 2019 Race Dates and submitted them for approval. Miami Valley Gaming requested 87 live racing days from January 4th to May 6, 2019. Northfield Park requested 221 live racing days January 1st to December 31, 2019. Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway requested 78 live racing days September 9, 2019 to December 28, 2019. Eldorado Scioto Downs requested 90 live racing days May 7, 2019 to September 7, 2019. R.C. 3769.089(B)(2) sets forth minimum live race day requirements based upon yearly gross VLT revenue calculations. Those calculations for 2019 result in a minimum live day requirement for Northfield Park of 125 live days, Eldorado Scioto Downs for 125 live days, Miami Valley Gaming for 125 live days, and Hollywood Gaming at

Dayton Raceway, 100 days. The Chairman also made it clear that they were mandating no overlap in the southern half of the state between the Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway, Miami Valley Gaming, and Eldorado Scioto Downs. Consequently, all three had entered into Two-Party Agreements with the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association to permit the reduction of those mandatory live race days below the statutory required minimum, an agreement was not necessary for Northfield Park in 2019 with 221 live racing days. The Racing Commission unanimously approved all live date calendars for 2019.

[A recap on the horse racing fatalities](#) was provided by Dr. James Robertson to date. It was noted that the numbers reported are for training and racing related catastrophic breakdowns analogous to the Jockey Club's reporting requirements, sudden deaths that occur during or after a race. Since last month's report there were two Thoroughbred and no Standardbred fatalities. Year-to date totals were, twenty-nine Thoroughbred fatalities (24 racing related) and four Standardbred racing related fatalities statewide.

[The Monthly Racing Commission financial report](#) was provided with revenue down 5% due in-part to tax revenue being down \$27,000. Although revenue is commensurate with last fiscal year, licensing, fingerprinting, and fines are slightly lower over the previous fiscal year including 12% for office renovation. The gain for this fiscal year is \$2,000 versus a \$51,000 gain for the last fiscal year. The Ohio State Racing Commission Operating account balance is a little over \$2,100,000.

The remaining time in the meeting the Chairman requested input from Ohio's horsemen on [Out-of-Competition Testing](#). OHHA President R. Kevin Greenfield appeared on behalf of the Standardbred Racing Horsemen, Executive Director Dave Basler provided input for the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association.

Director Basler's comments were on the

scope of testing directly. The original and sole intent for out-of-competition testing was to detect substances that are illegal and cannot be detected in post-race samples. That included blood and gene doping, Erythropoietin (EPO) and snake venom are two substances the Association of Racing Commissioners International provides as target substances for out-of-competition testing.

President Greenfield set forth that the OHHA and Ohio's Standardbred Horsemen support out-of-competition testing, that Ohio should be a leader on this important topic, and handle it correctly. Horsemen want fair and equal competition. However, the concerns and questions that horsemen have are Constitutional questions of whether there is a reasonable basis for implementation and a rational basis for the law, justified by the costs for the process. Additional questions are on the timing and scope of the testing. On timing should a horse that is nominated or registered be subject to testing or should testing be limited to a horse that has entered the box to qualify or race? At what point does the Racing Commission have jurisdiction over the horse and testing under Ohio Law? These questions require a thoughtful and careful approach to out-of-competition testing.

In the matter of the [Settlement Agreement](#) in Christi Pokornowski versus Ohio State Racing Commission (OSRC) case number, 18-AP-000318. Ms. Pokornowski was the trainer of record for winning horse Sports Sinner at Dayton Raceway on October 24, 2015. The post-race test sample was found to contain 3-methoxytyramine (3-MT) at 16 +/- 9 mg/ml. The original ruling and recommendation for penalty were, a return of the 1st place purse money (\$6,000), a \$5,000 fine, and 730 day suspension citing rule violations under, Rule 3769-18-01(A)(2), 3769-18-01(B)(1), 3769-18-01(B)(13), 3769-18-01(B)(16), 3769-18-01(B)(17), 3769-18-02, 3769-18-99 & 3769-17-43. The OSRC's original decision was appealed to Franklin County Common Pleas Court asserting that the OSRC does not have an adopted regulatory standard to provide adequate notice of the threshold amount of 3-MT (a naturally occurring

Continued on page 4

OSRC Recap Continued from page 3

substance in horses) that would constitute a violation of Ohio racing rules. The Court ruled that the Commission's ruling was not in accordance with Ohio law, which requires the OSRC have a rule or order providing a system of classification for prohibited levels of prohibited substances (including, 3-MT) and reversed the Commission's ruling sending the case back to the Commission for reconsideration. The OSRC appealed that decision to the Tenth Appellate District under an abuse of discretion standard in finding the violations were not in accordance with the law. The case remained under appeal at the time of the Settlement Agreement. In settlement of the case it was negotiated that the OSRC would drop the appeal and Ms. Pokornowski would withdrawal her request for attorney's fees in full settlement of the issue. After consideration of the negotiated Settlement, the OSRC moved to reject and followed in unanimously approving that rejection. At this time the case will proceed through the appellate process.

The Racing Commission adjourned into Executive Session to discuss, employment hiring, and employee-related compensation. Upon conclusion of the Executive Session there would be no further business, so the Motion and Vote was taken to adjourn into Executive Session and conclude the meeting.

From Friday September 21, 2018 at the Columbus Riffe Center.

In normal business for the Commission the **Executive Director's Approval items** were introduced and the August 29, 2018 Minutes were offered for ratification. There were no documents disclosed or provided to those in attendance. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the Executive Director's Approval items and August 29th Meeting Minutes.

In consideration of the approval of the **sale of Belterra Park and Belterra Park's requested 2019 race dates**, Resolution 2018-10 was offered for consideration. Boyd Gaming Corporation's, Keith Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer, Brian

Larson Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, and James Adams, Vice President and Assistant General Counsel appeared to provide details and information related to the transaction. Gaming and Leisure Properties, Inc. (GLPI, Penn Gaming's corporate spin off REIT) real estate owner, and Pinnacle Entertainment's (PNK, Ohio) leaseholder's interest in Belterra Park was purchased by Boyd TCIV, LLC a wholly owned subsidiary of Boyd Gaming Corporation. In completing the transaction, with the potential for Penn Gaming to run afoul of the "no two-track ownership rule" (R.C. 3769.07) in Ohio, the parties to the transaction creatively structured their deal enabling closure and transfer of the Racing Permit. GLPI, original real estate owner offered a 100% non-recourse loan-to-value loan at approximately 11-11.5% interest over the thirty-two year life of the loan. Boyd Gaming Corporation will operate the facility for Boyd TCIV to commence October 1, 2018. Chris Corrado will continue as Vice President and General Manager of the property for Boyd Gaming. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the lease, sale, transfer, and Belterra Park's 2019 race dates pending final overall regulatory approval on the master sale and merger.

In conjunction with discussing the terms of the Belterra Park transfer, the monthly status update on the Permit Holder and Horsemen's Agreement Negotiations between Belterra Park and the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (OHBPA) was discussed. OHBPA Executive Director Dave Basler set forth that his Board had given him sole authority to negotiate to completion, which will permit the process to move quickly pending final conclusion on the Belterra transfer. The previously held escrow account, of approximately \$2.7 million was closed with about \$1.9 million to transferred to the Thoroughbred Racing Fund.

A recap on the horse racing fatalities was provided by Executive Director Crawford to date. It was noted that the numbers reported are for training and racing related catastrophic breakdowns analogous to the Jockey Club's reporting requirements, sudden deaths that occur during or after a

race. Since last month's report there were three Thoroughbred and no Standardbred fatalities. Year-to date totals were, thirty-two Thoroughbred fatalities and four Standardbred racing related fatalities statewide.

The Monthly Racing Commission financial report was provided with revenue down \$36,000 with \$78,000 in office renovation costs. Although revenue is commensurate with last fiscal year, payroll (due to 10% cost-of-living raise), veterinary costs, medication and testing, and travel expenses are up slightly over the previous fiscal year. The Ohio State Racing Commission Operating account balance is a little over \$2,100,000.

In the **Chairman's comments**, Chairman Schmitz thanked his staff, the attorneys from Thompson-Hine, Commissioner Winters, and Boyd Gaming Corporation for a job well done working through a very complex transaction. Chairman Schmitz also spoke with high regard for the Delaware County Fair and their 2018 Little Brown Jug racing program, which attracted over 46,000 fans on the hot day. He complimented the OHHA Board of Directors for the investment in the racing program via sponsorship and purse supplements of just over \$1 million including the Ohio Fair Racing Conference, Little Brown Jug, and Buckeye Stallion Series races. Chairman Schmitz also commented on the Eldorado Scioto Downs "Super Night" racing program with over \$2.5 million in purse money as a success with a new track record from Ohio Champion Lather Up, despite poor weather. He further forecasted his planned attendance at the October, 13, 2018, "Best of Ohio" racing card at Jack Thistledown, with five stakes that make up the series together and offer \$750,000 in purses annually, heading Ohio's richest day of thoroughbred racing.

The Racing Commission had no further business, so the Motion and Vote was taken to adjourn and conclude the meeting.

The next scheduled Racing Commission meeting date is October 31, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Riffe Center, Room 1948, 77 S. High St., Columbus, Ohio.

Attention Breeders....

Breeder's Award Mare Registrations are
DUE NOVEMBER 30th

Forms can be found on the OHHA website at www.ohha.com under For Horsemen - Forms and Updates - Ohio Breeder's Awards

They were also in the September issue of The Buckeye Harness Horseman magazine. Remember if this is your first time or you have a change of address you will also need to include the W9 form, also found on the website.

Upcoming Advertising Opportunities

Ohio Stallion Directory advertising and pedigree reservations are due **November 15th**. Pricing can be found on the website www.ohha.com.

Limited space for classified ads and holiday shout outs will be available in the December issue of OHHA News.

Please email rmayhugh@ohha.com or call Regina at the office for more information on ads for either publication.

2019 OHHA Awards Banquet

Planning is underway for the 2019 OHHA Awards Banquet. This year the banquet will be held on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at a new location:

Marriott Columbus University Area
3100 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, OH, 43202

More information will be in the December issue of OHHA News and posted on the OHHA Website and Facebook pages once details are available.

We are currently taking donations for the 2019 PACER Stallion Breeding Auction and door prizes.

Please let us know by November 15 if you are donating a stallion breeding so they can be listed in the December issue of OHHA News.

If interested in donating either stallion breedings or door prizes, call the office at (614-221-3650) or email the OHHA office at rmayhugh@ohha.com. Thank you for your support!

The 1st Quarter OHHA Board Meeting will be held Friday, January 18th at the same location.

We are excited about the new location and hope you can join us!

International Hoof-Care Summit coming to Cincinnati

by Jessica Schroeder, USTA Outreach & Membership Enrichment Coordinator

The 16th annual International Hoof-Care Summit will be held Jan. 22-25, 2019, in Cincinnati.

Held at the Duke Energy Center and Hilton Netherland Plaza, the summit offers farriers and veterinarians the opportunity to gain new and valuable ideas for improving equine hoof care. Between 15 Hoof-Care classrooms, 24 Hoof-Care roundtables, 18 "How-To" clinics and eight General Sessions, there are multiple opportunities over the three days to learn more about equine health, hoof care and conducting your farrier business.

For more information visit the American Farriers Journal website or click here for the International Hoof-Care Summit flyer. Early bird registration rates are available until Jan. 3 and all registrations must be received by Jan. 18, 2019.

OHHA sends our condolences to family and friends of

John F. Bowers ,
Phyllis A. Masterson and
Fred Polk.



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October issue of OHHA News Correction

OHHA News Typo, Page 2 Rock Candy photo caption should have read Ohio Breeders Championship 2CP Conrad Photo Apologizes for the error.

Hiltibran Receive Groom Appreciation Award

The Dayton Groom Appreciation Award went to Ann Hiltibran. Hiltibran is from Urbana, Ohio and has been employed by the James Dailey Stable since 2009. Her dedication makes her an asset to the stable.



Ann Hiltibran, photo by Brett Merkle

Congratulations, Ann!

The Northfield award winner will be announced in the December issue of OHHA News.

Remember to nominate your grooms! Forms can be found on the OHHA website www.ohha.com under For Horsemen - Forms and Updates or by contacting your track representative Brett Merkle or Amy Hollar.

Hollywood Gaming Dayton Raceway Coat Drive is Underway

From Hollywood Dayton Raceway

Dayton, OH --- Hollywood Gaming Dayton Raceway is collecting new and like new coats, gloves, hats and scarves in all sizes from infants to adults now through Saturday, November 10.

Cash donations are also accepted for us to do your shopping.

Donations will be made to local Dayton St. Vincent DePaul shelters.

Please see Brett Merkle or Terri Mt.Pleasant with questions and donations. Your help and continued support is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations!

Kayne Kauffman won his 3,000th career win at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway on Monday, October 22nd.

Emily Hay won her first pari-mutuel win on October 20th at Northfield Park when she raced in the Pace for the Cure race.



P.A.C.E.R.

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2237 Sonora Drive • Grove City, Ohio 43123

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P.A.C.E.R. - Ohio horse racing received great support from Governor Kasich and Ohio legislators with the enactment of House Bill #386 (HB386).

We must support those legislators who support us.

Donate by sending a personal check, LLC check*, or money order to:

P.A.C.E.R
2237 Sonora Dr.
Grove City, OH 43123

Include employer information, type of business and occupation. All P.A.C.E.R. donations go to a candidate's campaign funds.

The OHHA offices receive calls every week from state legislators asking for campaign donations as they attempt to raise campaign financing throughout the year.

*Corporate checks are not acceptable for PAC donations. Personal or LLC checks only are acceptable for PAC donations.

Cash is limited to \$100 contribution per year.

A special Thank You to those who donate!

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the Blooded Horse Sales Company's 71st Annual



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The Fall Speed Sale is our largest and most popular sale of the year! Once again it will offer a wide selection of racing and breeding stock, with horses to fit every stable and budget, plus a large selection of 2018 yearlings. If you're looking for competitive racehorses and productive broodmares, you'll find them here.

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Horsin' Around With.....

By Regina Mayhugh

Meet Kelsey Grose

Kelsey Grose is from Marysville, Ohio and works for Hickory Lane Farm in Findlay, Ohio. "I began working for Hickory Lane intermittently in 2015 where I began helping with yearling sale prep. I have been on full time since 2017. I started at Hickory Lane through a contact I met while working at a sale for Spring Haven Farm. She mentioned they needed help, and I had always wanted to learn the breeding side of the business," shared Grose. "Originally I was hired at Hickory Lane to help in the office but you can find me anywhere on the farm. From the office, in the barns, to the breeding shed, everyone does a little bit of everything around here. We all work closely together to make it all function smoothly".

She is also part of Spurwood Farm, her family's farm near Marysville, Ohio. "I am fortunate enough to be a part of my family's farm where we have a great group of seven broodmares and their foals, with plans to continue expansion in the future", Grose stated. Spurwood Farm is owned by her parents Rob and Kathy Grose and her brother Kyle is also involved.

Grose enjoys foaling season at both farms. "By far, my favorite moments at the farms are during foaling season. Seeing one opening its eyes for the first time, stagger to stand up for the first time, and witnessing the bond between a momma and baby is an indescribable feeling. I love the whole process, from foaling, to sale prepping, and then watching them continue on with their racing careers."

Grose enjoys traveling and watching races. "I have been to all the tracks in Ohio, The Meadows for the Adios, Hoiser for the Breeders Crown and The Meadowlands for the Hambletonian. Some of my favorite things about harness racing would be the people in the industry and that winning is based on who crosses the finish line first. It doesn't matter who you are or how big your stable is, there's always a chance to win! The people in the harness racing business are so friendly and I have been fortunate enough to meet so many nice folks and create invaluable friendships."

She shares about some of her favorite horses. "I've had a couple first time horses. The first Standardbred I sat behind was Hanky L when he was a 2-year-old training in Florida. I loved jogging him and even took him a couple training miles before he went on to win in Ohio as a 2-year old, 3-year old and aged horse. The first broodmare that I cared for was a Jate Lobell mare named Love Power. She currently still resides at our family farm with a Racing Hill filly on her side."

"Over the past few years that I have been involved in the harness racing industry, Ohio has really improved tremendously. Allowing gambling and slots back into our tracks has increased purse money, which then attracts buyers to purchase Ohio bred yearlings, and even buyers from outside of Ohio. This definitely means something. Ohio is a place to be racing! This helps the breeding farms be able to survive by selling nice individuals for what they are worth. The Ohio Selected Sale has been strong the last couple of years, providing us with revenue to keep our farms functioning. I look for racing in Ohio to keep getting better and better!" To help continue the strength in Ohio, Grose would love to find ways to encourage more youth to get involved in the industry. "They are the future of this business and we need that next generation to keep the harness racing alive."



There is even more to Grose than horses. "In addition to the horses, I love being on the water; boating and riding jet ski's on an occasional weekend during the summer months. My favorite TV show is Yellowstone. My favorite food is a great steak! Previous to wanting to focus solely on the Standardbred breeding business, I actively showed Quarter Horses across the country and have won 4 World Titles. I am blessed to have very supportive parents, Rob and Kathy Grose."

Thank you Kelsey for all that you do in the harness racing industry!



Ohio County Fair News

Fairfield County wraps up the 2018 Ohio Fair season

By Thom Pye

Lancaster, Ohio --- What started this past June at Paulding in northwest Ohio as a summer-long journey that raced through 67 of the 88 Ohio County Fairs finished at 4:48 p.m. on Thursday (October 11th) as the 2018 Ohio Fair season concluded at Fairfield County Fairgrounds in southwest Ohio.

And as it has since 1880 the grand old half-miler offered its followers and fans some pretty exciting contests and it was no exception on the two days of Ohio Colt Racing Association racing.

Wednesday began with 82 degrees under a sunlit sky and a large crowd witnessed Diamond H Racing Stable and Steve Carter's Bat Chip Crazy with Ryan Holton dominate 6 other two-year-old trotters in the \$10,899 OCRA stake as the Manofmanymissions gelding stepped off by 8 3/4 lengths.

As the clouds and rain moved in the resilient surface was dulled but kept the attendees' interest as the \$4,842 OCRA 3-year-old fillies still came home in :30.4 as the Titus Schlabach-trained Momementsoffire (Nisonger) pushed her lifetime earnings close to the \$60,000 plateau with a 3/4 length triumph over Moola Begonia (Jason Haynes) and Missiononmymind and Allen Miller.

The Free For All Pace was grabbed by Sigh Of Relief (Derek Watiker) by 10 in 2:03.4 as the 6-year-old mare by The Panderosa got her first win in 6 starts of 2018 for owner/trainer Mary Dawson of Circleville.

Thursday's (October 11) 13-race card had a thriller under cloudy skies and a 57 wind-blown degrees when Long Train Runnin (Hunter Myers), Cass Delight Rock (Cam McCown), and Adios Man (Trevor Smith) - each of them winners of over \$40,000 in 2018 - were pitted in the

\$5,400 OCRA 3-year-old pacing colts 1st division. It turned out to be a neck and neck battle between Myers and McCown the whole mile before Cass Rock Delight (McCown) was posted the victor by a tight length in 2:02.3 as the Bret Schwartz-conditioned Pet Rock gelding lived on the outside. Adios Man (Smith) was up for 3rd as the track had a two-second allowance due to the overnight rains.

Carol Jean Noble's Johnny Chip took the 2nd division by 7 3/4 lengths as the Dan Ater-trained Big Bad John gelding defeated CG's Toy Boy (Roger Hughes Jr), Rock Hard (Cam McCown) and 4 others in 2:04.3.

Marthas Star found the cool weather agreeable as Jack Dailey steered Gwen Thompson's 3-year-old filly by World Of Rockroll to her very first trip to the Winners Circle in 35 career starts in 2:05.1 over Christina One (Pat Melloys Jr.) and Filou Fly Fast (Ryan Holton) in the \$4,802 OCRA stake.

A neck separated Billy Tumeys Itsnoonertime (Allan Anderson) and Screen The Call (Tom Litt) in a conditioned pace while the Mervin Schmucker-conditioned Rockinthepines (Cam McCown) necked out Team Zordin (Luke Ebersole) and Rompaway Beau (Jack Dailey) in the Signature Series Trot with a mile in 2:07.3 as the career winner of over \$200,000 gave driver McCown his 4th winner on the day.

One of our Text Trivia questions incorporated Lancaster's 280-foot-high Mt. Pleasant - known by the early settlers as "Standing Stone" - when announcer Chris Patterson asked the patrons in the grandstand "how many horses in today's program have the word "rock" in their name?" Answering it was MUCH easier than climbing the rugged landmark... been there, done that... once.



The John Ricketts Open pacers bust off the gate and the fans along the tarmac can easily hear starter Mike Wolfkenberg's command of "GO!"
Photo and caption by Thom Pye.

The 2018 season finale, the 2nd division of the John Ricketts Open, finished with a "Z" as Zachary Highers aimed the Joey Putnam-tutored 5-year-old Shadysark Hanover mare to a length win in 2:03.4 over Bunny Direct M (Jack Dailey) and Bestinthebusiness (Braxton Boyd) as the career winner of over \$185,000 gave Zach his first win of 2018 on the last day of the Fairs.

All the action was up close and personal and it was not about the time, it was about the tempo as the racing was viewed by devoted fans of the Sport and swarms of "young people" as they enjoyed a couple of official days off from the Fairfield County schools to compete at and come to "the Fair." It was wild and noisy and controlled mayhem. And quite enjoyable.

Harness racing at the Fairfield County Fair has been a tradition at Lancaster since 1851.

Northfield Park hosted the Ohio Fair Championship finales on October 20th as the top point earners of the summer faced off to put an exclamation point on their Season.

2018 Signature Series Wrap Up

By Lisa Schwartz

The Signature Series wrapped up the 2018 season at Delaware with the \$12,000 trot final being taken by Rockinthepines, a 7-year-old gelding by Pinetucky owned by Rocking Meadows Stable (IN) and trained by Mervin Schmucker. The \$12,000 Signature Series pace final was won on Jug Day by Mystical Rock in 1:54.0. The 5-year-old gelding by Rockin Image is owned by Fix It Up Farm (IN) and trained by Mervin Schmucker.

Not to be outdone, Ohio's own Jack Dailey trained both of the high point winners in the Signature Series pace taking the top award of \$2,000 with Twinspeak owned by Randall Bond (OH) and the second-place award for pacers of \$1,000 will go to Rip N Rock owned by Bill Laffin (OH). Twinspeak finished atop the leaderboard with 102 points and Rip N Rock followed with 88 points over the 19-fair season.

On the trotting side, the high point winners were Ronan, trained by Steve Boroff and owned by Larry Farley (OH) who will take home the \$2,000 top award and Rockinthepines, the winner of the pacing final at Delaware getting the second place point award for \$1,000. Ronan participated in ten Signature Series races over the 19 fair season and Rockinthepines raced in eight events.

Notably, Rip N Rock climbed to a final second place in the points and did not

win a Signature Series race during the season but just kept lighting up the tote board in the place and show to stay in the hunt for points and the cash.

The Signature Series turned right around and started the 2019-point accumulations only three days following the final at Delaware this year due to the Montgomery County Fair holding their fair racing at Hollywood Dayton Raceway on September 23rd. As a Signature Series member, that fair will have points awarded on the following year just as always occurred with Lancaster where racing takes place the second week in October.

The Signature Series would like to thank our sponsors who make this a great and competitive series for older horses at fairs with great cash awards and excellent purses for the finals at Delaware each year. Please visit our website and support our sponsors: the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, the Blooded Horse Sales Company, AWS Stables, Midland Acres, D&D Ingredient Distributors, Hickory Lane Farm, MWI Animal Health, Cool Winds Farm, Hagemeyer Farm, Sugar Valley Farm and Spring Haven Farm.



Rockinthepines, Signature Series Trotting Champion. Conrad Photo



Mystical Rock, Signature Series Pacing Champion. Conrad Photo

Any fairs that are interested in joining The Signature Series for 2019 should contact Lisa Schwartz at thesignatureseriesus@gmail.com, by mail at P.O. Box 505, Washington Court House, OH 43160 or simply call at 614-778-2480. Fairs need to arrange this by the first of February for the Huff's Guide deadline. Please follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ohiofairracing/ for all the latest in the competition and we hope to see you at the next Signature Series event.

Feature Race Grant Applications Available

Know a county fair interested in hosting a feature race? The Feature Race Grant Program is designed to assist individual county fair race programs to increase the purse for a feature race or races. This could be an existing feature race or a feature race that the fair is considering. A feature race is a mainstay event, a race that would have a higher purse than the normal overnight events. This race should have a "story" element to it. For example, many races are named in memoriam of individuals or horses that have had an impact on racing in that county. A feature race should be newsworthy and can be used to promote fan attendance at the harness racing program.

If a fair is interested in applying for a 2019 Feature Race Grant, applications can be found on the OHHA website www.ohha.com and click Ohio Fair Information and Updates or call the OHHA office. Applications are due November 30th!

Pinktober Held at Northfield Park

By Regina Mayhugh

Pinktober is a month long fund raiser event at Northfield Park to spread awareness and raise funds for Susan G Komen, an organization that is involved with breast cancer research, community health, global outreach and public policy initiatives in the fight against breast cancer.

On October 20th Northfield Park hosted a Pace for the Cure race, consisting of seven female drivers: Jayne Weller, Mary Birkhold, Christina Evans, Sierra Graham, Emily Hay, Laurie Stark and Rosy Weaver. This year's winning horse and driver combination was Jj's Doughnut (Yankee Cam-Western Sara), driven by Emily Hay and trained by Keith Kash, Jr.



everyone welcomes us girls with open arms and just makes it worth going to. Every girl who came out and drove was really a winner for helping support this event!"

This is the third year for the ladies race. Tabitha Canarr won the first year in 2016 and last year Jayne Weller took the win.

Prior to the race, Northfield Park sold raffle tickets for a variety of prizes. There were bags set up with each driver's name and after purchasing the ticket the ticket holder could choose which bag to drop the ticket in. Following the race, the driver that won the

race determined which bag tickets would be drawn from for the winning items. There was also a silent auction set up.

Following the race the lady drivers joined in the winner's circle and were presented with flowers. "We appreciate them hosting this race for us," shared Emily Hay. "It's just a great fun night and

These two fund raising events raised over \$1500 that was donated to Susan G. Komen of Northeast Ohio.

Share Your Favorite Memories of 2018 Harness Racing



"Three generations celebrating a sire stakes win! Also that moment that you realize your wife will let you buy more babies this fall," shared Bret Greiner.



"Brother in laws Cameron Mccown and Beau Brown in the stretch at Logan County," shared Jennifer Brown.



"After 18 years of the Van Wert Fair track record being held by my uncle, my dad's horse Redwood's Hanover broke it this year," shared Brittany and Jacob Turner.



"Chase Mccown watching races," shared Jennifer Brown



"First year of driving at the fairs," shared Curtis Grismore.



"Matrix of Luck, horse #4, was my first that I could say I got to races by myself this year! Hard work does pay off," shared Daisy Evans.

Ohio Tracks, Top 20 Driver Stats by Money Earned Jan 1, 2018 to October 25, 2018

<u>Driver</u>	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Places</u>	<u>Shows</u>	<u>Money Won</u>	<u>UTRS</u>
Aaron Merriman	2,707	677	471	401	\$6,472,940	0.396
Chris Page	2,428	420	312	288	\$5,306,862	0.284
Ronnie Wrenn Jr.	2,030	540	343	272	\$4,949,550	0.405
Dan Noble	2,310	509	347	289	\$4,944,642	0.346
Tyler Smith	2,125	228	254	267	\$3,055,667	0.216
Ryan Stahl	2,110	297	314	308	\$3,016,381	0.272
Kayne Kauffman	1,924	172	208	216	\$2,365,297	0.187
Jeremy Smith	1,885	249	258	220	\$2,354,498	0.247
Josh Sutton	1,972	201	222	233	\$2,298,275	0.204
Greg Grismore	1,908	223	270	244	\$2,045,611	0.238
Kurt Sugg	2,229	226	292	296	\$1,976,198	0.218
Chris Lems	1,877	206	189	202	\$1,707,947	0.202
Trace Tetrick	752	156	109	94	\$1,654,574	0.330
Jason Brewer	1,313	123	146	149	\$1,491,220	0.193
Tony Hall	623	72	71	90	\$1,462,354	0.227
Jason Merriman	1,861	146	205	250	\$1,458,961	0.184
Kyle Ater	1,136	100	114	119	\$1,351,206	0.179
Trevor Smith	1,144	73	117	115	\$876,224	0.154
Cameron McCown	760	160	117	116	\$872,834	0.347
Jeff Nisonger	745	119	117	120	\$826,570	0.301

Ohio Tracks, Top 20 Trainer Stats by Money Earned Jan 1, 2018 to October 25, 2018

<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Starts</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Places</u>	<u>Shows</u>	<u>Money Won</u>	<u>UTRS</u>
Ron Burke	738	186	109	86	\$3,438,913	0.373
Brian Brown	309	67	56	42	\$1,881,500	0.363
Virgil Morgan Jr	860	158	129	113	\$1,618,335	0.311
Christopher Beaver	424	92	70	72	\$1,375,540	0.365
Dan Ater	714	92	109	80	\$1,286,841	0.251
Sam Schillaci	938	140	122	114	\$1,135,276	0.262
Steve Carter	489	110	86	68	\$932,098	0.369
Kent Sherman	551	87	86	79	\$924,526	0.292
Dan Noble	290	84	41	38	\$919,380	0.412
Herman Hagerman	834	96	127	115	\$894,138	0.246
Jeff Brewer	649	86	90	85	\$890,171	0.253
Jessica Roegner	491	93	88	66	\$863,114	0.334
Tyler George	282	69	46	40	\$714,403	0.383
C Brian Loney	552	104	74	63	\$699,317	0.301
Kayne Kauffman	480	52	60	64	\$640,206	0.222
Doug Hinklin	472	71	64	73	\$639,177	0.277
Kimberly Dailey	275	41	50	46	\$628,618	0.306
Paul Holzman	306	69	51	39	\$612,085	0.361
Jim Arledge Jr	424	53	62	45	\$588,106	0.242
Jessica Millner	645	73	77	67	\$532,506	0.214

New Beginnings

From Harness Racing to Endurance Riding - The Horse's Perspective

By Dot Morgan

New Vocations Retired Racehorse Network is a Facebook page for adopters and other retired racehorse owners to share stories, seek advice and encourage each other. Join the group and be inspired with the adventures and pictures of fellow adopters, both two- and four-legged; Mindy Taylor's adopted Standardbred Western Wayne is so talented he writes his own posts!

Western Wayne, a former Claire Umholtz trainee, frequently posts about his experiences as he makes the transition from a Northfield Park pacer to veterinarian Mindy Taylor's endurance mount. Mindy adopted Western Wayne, aka Booney, last year after he retired with 57 starts and \$100,387. Mindy loves to trail ride, especially in the scenic Kentucky and Tennessee national forests. She wanted to develop Booney into a solid trail horse with ambitions to eventually do some endurance rides. From the humorous Facebook posts that Mindy pens for the personable gelding, it appears he has a good self-image about his athletic prowess and is getting a handle on riding and camping.

Booney Goes Camping, one of Western Wayne's earlier posts.

Mom took me to horse camp with two trail pals. It seems your feed pan and hay net goes to horse camp, too, so I was pretty happy. I always stand tied quiet at the trailer for tacking and eating, but that high line was something new. They put electric tape around a circle 'cause we are all used to that, then my buddies and I each had a high line and our own food stash. I figured out I could lie down and roll (I love to do that) and it was pretty cool. I got to wear a fly sheet, too.



For two days, we walked some pretty tough trails, and everybody bragged on me. Well, except when that big tree branch grabbed my hind leg and when it snapped it really sounded like a whip cracking. I don't know what came over me, but I was "off to the races" and left Mom behind. She wasn't hurt and I really didn't mean to leave her. I went back to the creek near camp and waited until they found me. Seems like they could have kept up, but I guess I'm just still kinda fast.

So now, I get my legs and belly rubbed with tree limbs a bunch. Hey, it's no big deal now that I know what it is. Mom says I'm just green and that's why we go do new stuff so I can learn. So, I'd better go before I get in trouble. She wasn't mad when I got scared but if I spend too much time on Facebook I'll get a scolding.

Fast forward 15 months to a more recent post. Mindy has been riding Booney once or twice a week on much longer rides with lots of hills and water crossings. Finally, he's ready for his first endurance ride and shares this Facebook post on his return.

OK so Mom took me to the Iron Mountain Jubilee Endurance Ride in Virginia to do 30 miles. My pals were all like "Oh wow! Your first race!" I'm thinking RACE? Really? I haven't raced in over a year and a half, but OK, I'm game.

On race day, I'm tied to the trailer with my saddle already on, and I hear them call for the start and my pal Sam leaves from the trailer next door. Oh no!!! I lose my mind and start wheeling and calling, and Mom gets a chain shank and puts it on my halter and says "stand up here!!!! Get a brain!!!! This is the 50 which is Sam's distance and you're doing 30 and NOT RACING. We are going midpack speed at the most."

Whaaaaaaat?? Midpack???

So I get my brain back mostly and about 5 minutes after the 30 mile racers start Mom gets on, and we start out all alone down the gravel road. So I do what most good pacers do when confused, I rack real slow until we



catch up to some other horses and get on a trail. Then we trotted unless we came to rocky footing or steep downhills or a creek or water trough. Everybody said "Wow, he's a good drinker" like drinking water is a skill. People are not too bright sometimes. Duh, I can drink water.

Oh yeah, we got checked by vets at 15 miles, and my pulse was below 60 before she even got off (coulda told ya I got a good ticker), and I got to eat and eat and eat and get cleaned up some, then we went out and did 15 miles again back to camp. My new Arab friend Indy and I were the only ones on the trail going back. Mom let me do what she calls my "Big Trot" for about five minutes to loosen up (sorry Mom I got waaaaaaay bigger than that) and Indy had to canter to keep up. The vet at the finish said, "wow he still has that same big trot he had before he did 30 miles!" and I'm thinking, Dude, I got waaaaay bigger than this!

So we did finish midpack like Mom wanted, and she was real happy, so I'm OK with it. But Dude, there's this rail trail with a really FLAT and SMOOTH surface that runs beside the river and it looks like a track. If they ever decide to move that race to the rail trail, Mom and those vets are gonna say "Dang!!!! We only thought we had seen his big trot!" And if they let me pace, it will for sure be a RACE!!!! Hang on Mom, we're headed for home!!! HA!!!

And the best part I saved for last. I got to meet East Meets West, aka Eli!!!! He's a USTA Endurance Champion and a real legend! Soooooo coooooooool!

– Booney (Western Wayne)

Photos by Mindy Taylor

Fun with Standardbreds



Ohio State ATI Students Attend the Buckeye Classic Yearling Sale

by Aspen Adams

The Ohio State ATI Equine Center is proud to report that our first appearance at the Buckeye Classic Yearling Sale was a resounding success. ATI was represented by three Charley Barley yearlings and six dedicated students.

Our participation in the sale was a learning opportunity for students from beginning to end. It has been a pleasure to watch them grow and learn from the day they helped foal out these colts until the day they led them to the sale ring.

We are excited to return and continue our tradition of creating the next generation of equine professionals. We also thank the consignors and buyers that participated in the learning process and shared their knowledge with our students.



“Christina Freeman, a girl I work with, this was her first Harness Race Experience. She went home told her husband she wanted a horse. I could be in trouble,” shared Emily Hay. This photo is from October 20th at Northfield Park when she raced in the Pace for the Cure.



“Full Surge enjoying the crisp fall air,” shared by Miles Wollam.

New World Records set by Ohio-bred Horses in September and October

Pacing on Half Mile Track

2-year-olds

Rock Candy (Pet Rock-Cotton Candy)

1:51.3 September 20th at Delaware County Fair

Yankee Boots (Yankee Cruiser-Boots N Saddle)

1:51.3 October 6th at Northfield Park

Trotting on a Mile Track

3-year-olds

Impinktoo (Manofmanymissions-Marge Seelster)

1:49.4 October 6th at The Red Mile

Trotting on a Half Mile Track

3-year-olds

Northmedo Mission (Manofmanymissions-Northmedo Blessings)

1:53.3 October 9th at Northfield Park

Aged

Ladys Dude (Victory Sam-Ladys Star)

1:53.2 October 6th at Northfield Park

Records Set in Stakes Laden Program Saturday at Northfield Park

By Ayers Ratliff

On October 6th Northfield Park hosted eight \$40,000 divisions of Buckeye Stallion Series Championships and four \$60,000 Ohio Sires Stakes (OSS) Championships for 4-year-olds and up.

The stakes racing action led to a track record being set for freshman gelding pacers and a tied mark for Five-and-Up Trotting Geldings.

Yankee Boots won the evening's fourth race, the \$40,000 Buckeye Stallion Series Championship 2 CP. His 1:51.3 clocking made him the fastest 2-year-old pacing gelding in the track's history.

The mark was previous broke in 2017 by Drew The Dragon (Dan Noble) in 1:51.4.

Steve Carter of Londonderry, Ohio trains and co-owns the pacer with Peggy Carter, Chuck Grubbs and J Whitacre. Aaron Merriman was in the sulky for the winning drive.

Yankee Boots (Yankee Cruiser-Scootin Mercedes-Expensive Scooter) started from post four. He left from the gate and led every call through fractions of :26.3, :55.2, 1:23 and 1:51.3, besting his competition by two lengths.

Yankee Boots now has nine wins in 14 starts. Saturday's victory bolstered his bankroll to \$93,010. He was heavily favored and returned \$2.80 to win.

Race 10, the \$60,000 OSS Championship for four-and-up trotting horses and geldings, saw Lady's Dude equal the 1:53.2 record for five-and-up trotting geldings.

This is the fourth time this record has been set and is a tie with Obrigado (Mark MacDonald) in 2016, Cimeronken (Aaron Merriman) in 2018, and Fly Jesse Fly (Chris Lems) in 2018.

Ron Burke trains the trotter for owners Burke Racing Stable, Weaver BrusceMI LLC and JE Yoder. Chris Page was in the sulky.

Lady's Dude (Victory Sam-Lady's Star-Hi Noon Star) started from the rail and sat the pocket through times of :27.1, :55.3 and 1:24.2. Page pulled approaching top of the stretch and won by ½-length in 1:53.2.

Lady's Dude now has 11 wins in 23 starts this year. This victory represents his 45th career score and pushed his earnings \$793,848. He paid \$8.80 to win.

Ohio Buckeye Stallion Series Final

Northfield Park- October 6, 2018

otos by JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc.



Ilianora 2-year-old Filly Trot 1:59.3
Driver: Carmeron McCown Trainer: Jason Hannah



Atlantic Star 2-year-old Filly Pace 1:55.0
Driver: Ed Hennessey Trainer: Sandra Hennessey



Buckeye On Broadway 2-year-old Colt Trot 1:58.0
Driver: Ronnie Wrenn, Jr Trainer: Jeff Edwards



Yankee Boots 2-year-old Colt Pace 1:51.3
Driver: Aaron Merriman Trainer: Steve Carter



Infrontandforgetit 3-year-old Filly Trot 1:56.3
Driver: Dan Noble Trainer: Jim Arledge Jr



Velocity McSweets 3-year-old Filly Pace 1:52.3
Driver: Aaron Merriman Trainer: Steve Carter

Ohio Buckeye Stallion Series Final

Northfield Park- October 6, 2018

Photos by JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc



Showboat 3-year-old Colt Trot 1:55.0
Driver: Dan Noble Trainer: Virgil Morgan Jr

Rock On Creek 3-year-old Colt Pace 1:51.1
Driver: Chris Lems Trainer: Calvin Hollar

USTA Youth Delegate Aubrey Schwartz



Aubrey Schwartz taking a ride in the starting gate with Becky Wuebkenberg. Mike & Becky have gave out many rides this racing season & even started passing out shirts for their riders.



Loaded up & heading to the races for Bret Schwartz & the Hired Gun Racing Stable

Youth Corner



Laurie Justice shared this photo on the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association Facebook page as one of her favorite memories of this year's racing season. She enjoyed watching the next generation of horsemen taking an interest this year. "My son walks from school to the fairgrounds everyday to work and learn with his Dad," Justice commented.



Sister team Aubrey and Alexis Schwartz working at the Piketon fair as part of Hired Gun Racing Stable with Abba Official.

US Postal Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title: **The Buckeye Harness Horseman**

2. Publication Number: **0 1 9 4 - 7 8 4 2**

3. Filing Date: **Membership**

4. Issue Frequency: **Winter - Spring - Summer - Fall**

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: **4**

6. Annual Subscription Price: **Membership**

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®):
**2237 Sonora Dr
 Grove City, OH 43123**

Contact Person: **Regina Mayhugh**
 Telephone (include area code): **614-221-3650**

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer):
2237 Sonora Dr Grove City, OH 43123

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
 Publisher (Name and complete mailing address):
Regina Mayhugh 2237 Sonora Dr Grove City, OH 43123
 Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Regina Mayhugh 2237 Sonora Dr Grove City, OH 43123
 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):
Regina Mayhugh 2237 Sonora Dr Grove City, OH 43123

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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association	2237 Sonora Dr Grove City, OH 43123

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
-----------	--------------------------

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
 The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title: **The Buckeye Harness Horseman**

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: **Nov2017-Feb2018-July 2018- Sept2018**

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: **Membership Publication**

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	2792	2718
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions (listed on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	2569	2603
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions (listed on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	121	115
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails (including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®)	0	0
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	2690	2603
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies (included on PS Form 3541)	53	35
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies (included on PS Form 3541)	23	22
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))	76	57
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)	2766	2660
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))	26	58
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)	2792	2718
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)	97	98

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	2690	2603
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	2766	2660
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)	97	98

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17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the **November 2018** issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: **Regina Mayhugh**, **Communications Director Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association**, Date: **9/21/18**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

WWII war veteran Leonard Schaffner, age 98, took a ride in the Mike Woebkenberg starting gate at Hollywood of Dayton on his birthday! Great job Mike and drivers for making Leonard's day special!

Photos by Brett Merkle (left) and Conrad Photo (right)



A Pretty Fair Night

By Thom Pye

Maybe the weather didn't co-operate but everything else fell into place on a wet and windy October 20th night as the Ohio Fair Championship 2 and 3-year-olds strutted their stuff in each of the eight \$25,000 races.

It was the umlaut at the end of the 2018 Fair season in Ohio for many of the year's best at the Fairs and Joyce McClelland's This Year's Best (Ryan Stahl) trotted to a 13th victory in her 30 2018 starts with another consistently good time of 2:00.4. The John Ryan Melshiemer-trained 3-year-old daughter of My MVP pushed her seasonal earnings a tick shy of the \$60,000 mark as she gutted it out from the half home over Sunny Day (Chris Shaw) and Bellesvictorysong with Jeff Nisonger.

And it was So Romantic (My MVP-Modern Romance) when the Ken Holliday trained and driven 2-year-old filly decided to make her initial appearance to the winners circle in her 12th lifetime start for Black Magic Racing LLC with a gate to wire effort in 2:02.2. The slick-gaited miss had been competing against the tougher OSS and KYSS lasses and was 64th in points earned but she made the finals when a lot of the other 2-year-olds opted out for the race. She responded with a 2-length win over Trotslikenoother (by Uncle Peter) with Ronnie Wrenn Jr in the bike and an up and challenging Ilianora (by Broadway Hall) and Cam Mc Cown as she notched her seasonal earning to just about the \$50,000 level.

A mile in 1:59 over the track rated sloppy was stamped by the Ron Randall owned and trained Officially My Way (Jason Thompson) as the 2-year-old filly by Art Official added win number 11 to her 2018 17-race resume and showed her heels to the field by 3 lengths besting Bad Leading

Lady (by Big Bad John) and Cam McCown and Heythere Lisamarie (by Pet Rock) with Ryan Stahl as her freshman year's earnings topped \$70,000.

Myron Yoder's Stars And Stones 2-year-old gelding by Wishing Stone garnered his 7th win in 16th starts when the Sophie Desroches-conditioned trotting machine capped the season off with his 14th on-the-board effort in 16 starts and rounded off his 2018 earnings to a little over \$50,000. "Silent Cam" McCown did the honors again as he made his statement on the frontend when he cut the mile in 2:00.3 and won by 2 over UB Cruisin (by Dontyouforgetit) with Chris Lems as Hall N Bro (by Dejarmbro) and Jason Thompson took the show spot.

Aaron Merriman commanded the 2-year-old pacing colts and geldings when he put Gerald Mijal's Tanner J (Believeincruiser-How Is Carrie) on top and led every step of the way in the mile in 1:58.1 as the Steve Novak student posted victory number 7 in his 17 lifetime starts for \$51,000 plus. Thundering Jim (by Woodstock) and Ryan Stahl was a game second as Beachesbeckonme (by Beachtree) and Jimmy Smith got up for 3rd.

You knew it was TC's Happy Time when the vanfull of delighted Wellers arrived in the Winners Circle. Ryan Stahl had just steered Louise and Jay Weller's Triumphant Caviar 3-year-old to a 2 1/2 length triumph in 2:00 flat as the Jayne Weller-conditioned gelding was the crowd favorite too by besting Home Run Trot (Jason Merriman) and Twilight Twist (Robin Miller) over the rain-soaked surface.

The van had to turn right around when Jayme (Weller) Laing's Talkaboutaqueen dominated the

3-year-old filly pacers by 8 lengths with a Chris Lems-authored mile in 1:56 flat. The Jayne Weller-trained daughter of Oaks Enforcer chalked up her 4th seasonal win to go along with a tenfold of seconds as the proud and happy group had "two-in-a-row in Ohio" trips to victory lane on the night. VH Princess Brea (Ryan Stahl) was second as Aaron Merriman with Friske Jewels managed the third spot.

In the Pace For The Cure, 7 dauntless ladies braved the elements as Emily Hay took Christopher Short's JJ's Doughnut straight to the finish line in an excellent time of 1:57.4. It was Hay's first time behind the Keith Kash Jr.-trained 11-year-old and she held off Bold Decision (Sierra Graham) and Da Vinci Artist piloted by a very busy Jayne Weller in a thriller by half a length. These Ohio ladies are not only good drivers, they're pretty darn good horsefolk too.

The 2018 Ohio Fair Season wrapped up the night rockin' and a rollin' as Rose & Buerger Farms LLP's Rockin M and Kurt Sugg took the 3-year-old pacing colts and geldings in a blanket-finish of four in 1:57.1. The Mark Winters Sr.-trained Pet Rock gelding prevailed by a head over Long Train Running (Ronnie Wrenn Jr.) and Ohio Prince (Ken Holliday) as Cass Rock Delight (Cam McCown) was 1 1/4 lengths back in 4th. It was the 7th win on the year for the \$61,000 plus lifetime winner as the dependable sophomore was on the board 18 out his 21 seasonal starts.

A sincere thanks to our host on the night Northfield Park and to all the officials, owners, trainers, caretakers, and faithful fans that make our Ohio Fair Season an enjoyable "back to our roots" family-fun event. Good speed and good racing throughout the year to all.

Ohio Fair Championship

Northfield Park- October 20, 2018

Photos by JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc.



So Romantic 2-year-old Filly Trot 2:02.2
Driver & Trainer: Ken Holliday



Officially My Way 2-year-old Filly Pace 1:59.0
Driver: Jason Thompson Trainer: Ron Randall



Stars An Stones 2-year-old Colt Trot 2:00.3
Driver: Cameron McCown Trainer: Sophie Desroches



Tanner J 2-year-old Colt Pace 1:58.1
Driver: Aaron Merriman Trainer: Steve Novak



This Year's Best 3-year-old Filly Trot 2:00.4
Driver: Ryan Stahl Trainer: John Ryan Melsheimer



Talkaboutaqueen 3-year-old Filly Pace 1:56.0
Driver: Chris Lems Trainer: Jayne Weller

Ohio Fair Championship

Northfield Park- October 20, 2018

Photos by JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc.



TC's Happy Times Driver: Ryan Stahl	3-year-old Colt Trot Trainer: Jayne Weller	2:00.0	Rockin M Driver: Kurt Sugg	3-year-old Colt Pace Trainer: Mark Winters Sr	1:57.1
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Ohio Harness Racing History



happening in Ohio. The horseman who stuck it out in the bad times are now reaping the benefits and deserve a lot of credit along with OHHA. I follow racing on my computer and there no better place to be than OHIO! I see alot of sons, grandsons and relatives of people I raced against and who raced under me when I was a race secretary and a judge

Mike Davis, OHHA member currently in Myrtle Beach SC, has owned 10-12 horses off and on since 2014. Currently he has a 2-year-old Muscle Yankee colt named Ten Million at Saratoga, trained by Perry Simser (Saratoga Hall of Fame trainer).

Davis is a former race secretary and Judge from Ohio. Davis is looking forward to getting back into Ohio-breds. "I would like to say how great it is to see what's

around the Midwest and I enjoy watching them," shared Davis.

Davis shared some past photos of his time in Ohio. The first photo was his first ever drive in 1946 at his farm in Chillicothe, Ohio. The horses' names were Bird and Baldy. In the win photo is Davis with his father Walter Davis. Walter was a longtime OHHA and USTA member. He passed away in 1990. Davis

said his father didn't have the opportunity to have many win photos with Mike driving, but he remembers many with drivers such as Chet Dewbre, Jim Pollock, Jim Parkinson, Cowboy Bill Robinson and many others from Hilliard Raceway from 1958 to approximately 1985.

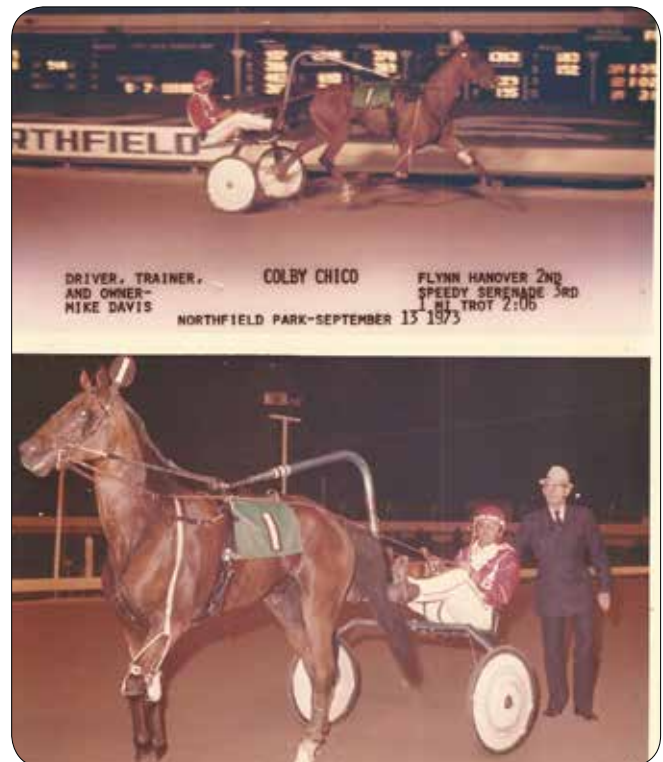
Davis's last drive was in 1976 at the Knox County Fair (Mt. Vernon, OH) where he won both heats of the free-for-all with Eastern Burton. His friends used to tease him about his drives. "My buddies used to say if I got beat it was a bad drive but if I won the race was fixed."

Besides having a win photo with his father when he drove the horse, Mike shared other memories this photo represents. This was his first and last time driving in a single shaft, his first trot drive and a new lifetime record for the horse. He also remembers

when he turned to go to the gate and they jack-knifed in the bike. "The horse was looking down on me going the other way. Donnie Irvine yelled at me and said "you're the best if you can stay on the bike," shared Davis. Well I guess he stayed in the bike and came out the best in the race since

he won!

Thank you, Mike for sharing your photos and these stories! We wish you the best of luck with Ten Million and look forward to seeing you with your future Ohio-breds!



Ohio Harness Racing History



Fairfield County Fair, approximately early 1980's. Can you name the drivers? Thank you, Rita Long for sharing!

NOBLELAND SAM



FEE \$3,000 Contact the farm for booking information.

“The outstanding racehorse and Ohio super sire Nobleland Sam with his Trainer / Driver Sam (Chip) Noble III. Caretakers were Gary Wasson and DiVita Franklin”, shared Jimmy Whisman. Thank you, Jimmy for sharing!

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Winner in 1:50.4

Burke Racing, Knox Services, Jason Melilo & Weaver Brusceci, owners
Chris Page, driver Ronnie Burke, trainer Ron Salcedo, breeder



LADY'S DUDE

Veteran Trotting Champion

Winner in 1:53.2~equaling the Northfield Park Track Record!

Burke Racing, Knox Services & Weaver Brusceci, owners
Chris Page, driver Ronnie Burke, trainer Duane Lowe, breeder



DANCIN YANKEE

Veteran Pacing Champion

Winner in 1:49.3

Burke Racing Stable, owner Elizabeth Yontz, breeder
Ronnie Burke, trainer Chris Page, driver



PARTY AT THE BANKS

Veteran Mare Trotting Champion

Winner in 1:55.3

Burke Racing & Weaver Brusceci, owners Chris Page, driver
Ronnie Burke, trainer Midland Acres & Aci Stuteri Ab, breeders

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Ohio State Racing Commission

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