



THE TEXAS HORSEMEN'S NEWS

THBPA and TTHBPA Elections Underway

The process to elect new 2010 Board of Directors members for the two organizations that comprise the Texas Horsemen's Partnership, LLP, the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (THBPA) and the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc. (TTHBPA), is currently underway. Election ballots for both organizations' elections will be mailing out to members on Thursday, December 10, 2009, and it is imperative that all members carefully follow the instructions on the ballots they receive in order insure that your ballot is valid and counted.

Completed ballots must be received by close of business on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 in order to be counted. Note that ballots must be received by this day to be counted – not postmarked by this day. Be sure to mail your completed ballot in the signed postage prepaid business reply envelope early enough for it to arrive by Wednesday, January 20, 2010.

Ballots for both elections will be verified and counted by an independent CPA firm.

Each and every year, the THP staff and our independent auditors receive numerous returned ballots which do not follow the explicit instructions for each specific board. According to the THBPA and TTHBPA bylaws, any variation from the instructions on your ballot render it invalid, and it will not be counted.

The ballot you receive will instruct you as to exactly how many candidates you may vote for in each category (owner or trainer). If you vote for more than the number instructed in any category, your ballot will not be counted. Write in votes will not be counted.

When you have completed your ballot, place it in the small ballot envelope. Then insert that small ballot envelope into the postage prepaid business reply envelope. Sign the outside of the prepaid postage envelope and attach the peel-off label to the upper left hand corner of the pre-paid envelope. The postage prepaid business reply mailing envelope must be signed.

It is imperative that you apply the label provided and your signature for verification. If you are not provided with a label

or it is damaged in the mail, please be sure to hand write the information (account number, printed name, address, and signature) on the outside of the return envelope (not the small ballot envelope).

THBPA (Quarter Horse, Paint, and Appaloosa Board): Members of the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association will elect two (2) owner representatives and one (1) trainer representative.

Running for the two owner representative positions are incumbents Jim Helzer and Dr. Tommy Hays, who currently serves as the THBPA president. Running for the one trainer position are Bobby Moore, Bobby Touchet, and incumbent Guy Hopkins.

All persons licensed by the Texas Racing Commission (TRC) as owners or trainers of Quarter Horses, Paint, or Appaloosa horses are eligible for membership in the THBPA. A person becomes a member of the THBPA by participating in a race meeting at

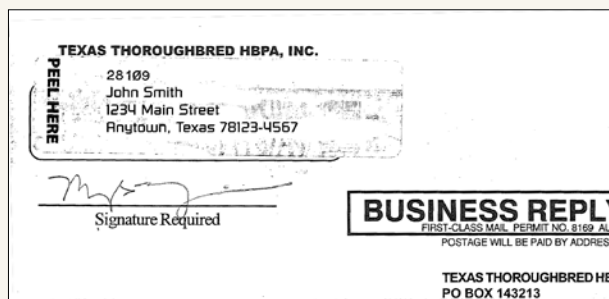
any licensed racetrack in Texas within the last year.

TTHBPA: Members of the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc. will elect two (2) owner representatives and one (1) trainer representative.

Running for the two owner representative positions are Kathy Stephens Arnold, Ron Ellerby, Ed Larson, Chris Turrentine, and Dr. Richard Weilburg. Running for the one trainer representative position are Jack Bruner, Allan Milligan, and incumbent Eleuterio "Junior" Martinez, Jr.

All persons licensed by the Texas Racing Commission (TRC) as owners or trainers of Thoroughbred or Arabian horses are eligible for membership in the TTHBPA. A person becomes a member of the TTHBPA by participating in a race meeting at any licensed racetrack in Texas within the last year.

If you have started a horse in Texas in the last twelve (12) months and do not receive a ballot by December 20th, or if you have any other questions regarding the elections, please contact the THP's main office in Austin at (512) 467-9799 or cmartin@texashorsemen.com.



Correctly prepared ballot envelope, with label affixed and signature present.

LIVE THOROUGHBRED RACING RETURNS TO SAM HOUSTON RACE PARK

DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

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November 27th & 28th

Gallery Furniture Presents
Teaxs Champions Day
December 5th

New Year's Eve Celebration
December 31st

John B. Connally Turf Festival
January 30th

Texas Stallions Stakes
February 20th

MAXXAM Gold Cup Day
March 27th



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WANT TO KEEP TRACK OF ALL THE TEXAS-BREDS YOU HAVE OWNED OR BRED OVER THE YEARS?

THE TEXAS THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

— WWW.TEXASTHOROUGHNBRED.COM —

OFFERS A DAILY LIST OF ENTRIES AND RESULTS FOR EVERY TEXAS-BRED RUNNING IN THE U.S. OR CANADA. THIS FREE SERVICE CAN HELP YOU KEEP TABS ON TEXAS-BREDS YOU HAVE BRED OR OWNED IN THE PAST. AND IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR TEXAS-BREDS TO CLAIM, THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO FIND THEM, EVEN IF THEY ARE RUNNING IN OTHER STATES.

THE TTA WEBSITE ALSO FEATURES A FREE HYPOMATING SERVICE WITH MORE THAN 60 STALLIONS TO MATE WITH YOUR MARE. YOU CAN VIEW UP TO NINE GENERATIONS OF PEDIGREE INFORMATION (SOME BACK TO THE 19TH CENTURY), PLUS:

- ★ Dosage information
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- ★ Photos
- ★ Genetic Strength Values (GSV)
- ★ Line breeding
- ★ Conduit mare profiles
- ★ Chef-de-race sire notations



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Texas Horsemen's 2009 Calendar of Events



| Date | Event | Place | Time |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Every Sunday | Chapel Services | Chapel, Retama | 11:00 am |
| Every Wednesday | Bible Study | Chapel, Retama | 11:00 am |
| Every Thursday | Bible Study | Grandstand, LSP | 12:00 pm |
| Nov. 16 (Mon.) | Off-Track Shuttle - Walmart | Chapel, LSP | 12:00 pm |
| Nov. 16 (Mon.) | English as a Second Language Class | Chapel, LSP | 5:30 pm |
| Nov. 17 (Tues.) | Spanish Services | Chapel, LSP | 5:30 pm |
| Nov. 19 (Thurs.) | Free Medical Services | First Aid Room, LSP | 4:00-8:00 pm |
| Nov. 21 (Sat.) | Chapel Services | Chapel, LSP | 11:00 am |
| Nov. 22 (Sun.) | Chapel Services | Chapel, SHRP | 11:00 am |
| Nov. 22 (Sun.) | Off-Track Shuttle - Traders Village | Chapel, LSP | 11:00 am |
| Nov. 23 (Mon.) | Off-Track Shuttle - Walmart | Chapel, LSP | 12:00 pm |
| Nov. 23 (Mon.) | Zero Date for Papers | Racing Office, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Nov. 23 (Mon.) | English as a Second Language Class | Chapel, LSP | 5:30 pm |
| Nov. 24 (Tues.) | First Day of Entries | Racing Office, SHRP | 8:00 am |
| Nov. 24 (Tues.) | Horsemen's Thanksgiving Dinner | Show Place Pavilion, RP | 12:00 pm |
| Nov. 24 (Tues.) | Horsemen's Thanksgiving Dinner | Horsemen's Kitchen, SHRP | 12:00-3:00 pm |
| Nov. 25 (Wed.) | Horsemen's Thanksgiving Dinner | Horsemen's Kitchen, LSP | 12:00-3:00 pm |
| Nov. 27 (Fri.) | Opening Night of Thoroughbred Meet | Sam Houston Race Park | 7:00 pm |
| Nov. 28 (Sat.) | Closing Night of Quarter Horse Meet | Lone Star Park | 6:35 pm |
| Nov. 29 (Sun.) | Chapel Services | Chapel, SHRP | 11:00 am |
| Nov. 30 (Mon.) | Bingo | Chapel, SHRP | 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 1 (Tues.) | ESL/SSL Classes | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Dec. 2 (Wed.) | Bible Study/Lunch | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Dec. 6 (Sun.) | Chapel Services | Chapel, SHRP | 11:00 am |
| Dec. 7 (Mon.) | Bingo | Chapel, SHRP | 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 8 (Tues.) | Flu Shots for Horsemen | Chapel, SHRP | 11:00 am-3:00 pm |
| Dec. 8 (Tues.) | ESL/SSL Classes | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Dec. 9 (Wed.) | Bible Study/Lunch | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Dec. 13 (Sun.) | Chapel Services | Chapel, SHRP | 11:00 am |
| Dec. 14 (Mon.) | Bingo | Chapel, SHRP | 6:30 pm |
| Dec. 15 (Tues.) | ESL/SSL Classes | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |
| Dec. 16 (Wed.) | Bible Study/Lunch | Chapel, SHRP | 12:00 pm |

NOTE: All events subject to change. Please check THP website and track bulletin boards at racetracks for changes.

So Many Questions ...

Question: I understand that Lone Star Park is being sold and I was told that Magna Entertainment has filed for bankruptcy. Since the company has filed for bankruptcy protection, should I take my money out of my horsemen's account so it doesn't get tied up in bankruptcy court proceedings?

Answer: You are correct regarding the sale of Lone Star Park and the situation with Magna Entertainment. As of the date of this writing, Lone Star Park has been sold, and we are looking forward to working with the management.

We can assure you that your horsemen's account is safe, and there is no need to withdraw your funds from your account. For 12 years, the function of the Horsemen's

Bookkeeper has been performed by your horsemen's organization. A change in the Texas Racing Commission Rules of Racing allowed the racetracks to contract with the Texas Horsemen's Partnership to perform the duties of the horsemen's bookkeeper at all Texas tracks.

During this period of time, all horsemen's accounts have been "centralized" within the state, which means that you only have one account which can be used and accessed at all Texas tracks. There is no longer a need to close your account when one meet ends and open another one at the beginning of a new meet. You have access to your funds wherever you are racing in Texas, and your money is available for a claim or to pay your jockey fees at any Texas

track. Your account statement details all of your account activity within the state and allows you to manage your racing business no matter where in Texas you have started your horses.

The bankruptcy process of Magna Entertainment has no effect on your horsemen's account because the funds are in no way related to Magna. So, be assured that your horsemen's account is safe and that you will continue to have the convenience of using your account at all of our Texas racetracks.

We continue to get interesting questions for this section of our newsletter and hope that you will find the answers informative. If you have a question for your horsemen's organization, just drop us an email at Marsharountree@texashorsemen.com or give us a call at (512) 467-9799.

- Texas Horsemen's Partnership Staff

Pish, Tejera Again at Retama Park Thoroughbred Meet

It may be beginning to sound like old news, but Danny Pish took the training title and Eguard A. Tejera took the jockey's title at Retama Park's recently concluded Fall Thoroughbred meet. The 32-day meet was conducted from Friday, August 28 through Saturday, November 7.

Pish has dominated Retama's trainer standings during Thoroughbred meets in recent years, this time notching his 11th training title at the Selma, Texas track. Pish saddled 23 winner from 127 starters, as well as 17 second place finishers and 23 third place finishers for a total 50 percent in-the-money percentage. Pish's trainees earned \$255,888 at the meet.

M. Brent Davidson finished second in the trainer's standings, saddling 19 winners from 80 starters. His charges earned \$160,354 at the meet.

Andrew Konkoly finished third with 13 winners from 37 starters. With 10 seconds and 4 thirds, Konkoly's trainees finished the meet in the money an impressive 73 percent of the time.

Tejera captured his fourth straight riding title at Retama Park, riding 36 winners, 27 second place finishers, and 27 third place finishers from 197 starters - a 46 percent in-the-money total. His mounts earned \$353,222.

Jorge Guzman finished second in

the jockey's standings, riding 30 winners from 197 starters. His mounts earned \$253,109 at the meet.

Finishing third among riders was Larry Taylor, who booted home 26 winners from 132 mounts. His charges earned \$272,632.



Leading owner at the meet was Anjo Racing, Inc., with 10 winners, 8 seconds, and 2 thirds from 23 starters for an astonishing 87 percent in-the-money percentage. Anjo Racing's horses earned \$105,943 at the meet.

Colleen Davidson finished second among owners, with 8 winners from 28 starters and \$56,638 in earnings. J. R. Caldwell was third with 6 winners from 11 starters and earnings of \$43,176.

Shippers owned by Ken and Sarah Ramsey and trained by Mike Maker captured the two most prestigious races of the meet on Saturday, October 24. The Ramseys brought the juveniles sired by their turf champion

Kitten's Joy for the races specifically as preps for the Breeders' Cup juvenile turf races a few weeks later.

Lisa's Kitten rallied from last place to capture the \$100,000-guaranteed M2 Technology La Senorita Stakes for two-year-old fillies going one mile on the grass by a length over Winning Tale in 1:39.91 on a soft turf course.

In the \$100,000-guaranteed Skyy El Jovan Stakes for two-year-old colts and geldings going one mile on a soft turf course, Kera's Kitten contested the early pace and drew away down the stretch to post an easy five length triumph over B'wanagoldmine in 1:39.67.

Ramsey's juveniles did not fare so well at the Breeders' Cup. Lisa's Kitten finished a disappointing tenth of 12 in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf, and Kera's Kitten was scratched from the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf on the day before the race in order to make room for stablemate Dean's Kitten to get off the also-eligible list and into the race.

Again this year, Retama Park had great success boosting attendance with its "Fifty Cent Days" at the meet. The days included free admission, childrens' and other activities, fifty cent cokes and programs, \$1 hot dogs, and \$1.50 draft beer.



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Tom Harris Hired as the News Voice of Sam Houston Race Park



Sam Houston Race Park has tapped veteran announcer Tom Harris to serve as the new voice of The Park. Harris, who currently serves as the voice of Retama Park, will join The Park's staff in

time to open the 2009/2010 Thoroughbred meet which begins on Friday, November 27.

The Park aims to utilize Harris' skills in broadcast journalism and expand the role of the announcer by making him a key spokesperson for racing and special events, utilizing him as a co-host for on-air broadcasts, as well as radio programs, and providing voice over work for The Park's radio and television campaigns. In addition, Harris will provide morning line odds and a daily live racing tip sheet, conduct fan education seminars for simulcast and live racing events, as well as have a regular presence online through The Park's social media outlets which include Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and other online industry blogs and chat rooms.

"Sam Houston Race Park is a natural fit for me, and I am thrilled to be part of the team," commented Harris. "I am very familiar with the major players on the Texas racing circuit, and I look forward to expanding my voice and The Park's presence from live racing into new mediums in order to help engage the next generation of racing fans."

Harris has an expansive background in broadcast television, producing and directing sports shows ranging from featured Thoroughbred races, Greyhound races and auto races, along with writing and hosting two cable TV shows.

Having been in the racing industry for over 20 years, Harris has extensive history working with numerous Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse tracks nationwide. Harris served as announcer for La Mesa Park in Raton, New Mexico; Rillito Park in Tucson, Arizona; Playfair Race Course in Spokane, Washington; Yakima Meadows in Yakima, Washington; Garden State Park in Cherry Hill, New Jersey; The Downs in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Retama Park in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to his experience as an announcer, Harris has also served as the Director of Marketing at Yakima Meadows and Playfair Race Course, as well as Vice President & General Manager of Horsemen's Atokad Downs in South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Translation Support for the Trainer's Test Temporarily Unavailable from the Texas Racing Commission



The Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) recently announced that translation support for the trainer's test from English to Spanish is temporarily unavailable from the agency.

Previously, the TxRC, the Texas Horsemen's Partnership,

and the Racetrack Chaplaincy partnered to provide this service.

TxRC staff will continue to work with the Texas Horsemen's Partnership to review the need for and the availability of translation support. The TxRC thanks you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Please contact Cathy Cantrell at (512) 833-6699, extension 202, if you have any complaints, concerns, or comments.

Don't Forget to Save the Date for the 2010 Darley Awards



The 2010 Darley Awards will be held in Houston, Texas, on Saturday March 13, 2010. This is the same weekend as the \$50,000 Six Shooter and \$50,000 Yellow Rose Stakes which will be Friday, March 12 at Sam Houston Race Park.

The official Darley hotel is the Hilton Houston North, at I-45 and Beltway 8, with a free airport shuttle from Houston Intercontinental airport to the hotel and a negotiated room rate for Darley guests \$89.99 per night.

The Darley evening is a black-tie/Texas-chic dinner and awards celebration announcing and honoring the champions in Arabian Racing for the year. It is sponsored by the Arabian Racing Cup. Contact Nancy Blewett, Steward for the Arabian Racing Cup and a board member of TABA, at Nancyblewett1@aol.com for more information. Or visit the Arabian Racing Cup online at <http://www.arabianracingcup.com/> for updates.

Californian Steve Hiatt Wins RTCA's 2009 White Horse Award



The Race Track Chaplaincy of America's 7th Annual White Horse Award, which recognizes racing-related heroic acts on behalf of human or horse, has been awarded to Steve Hiatt of San Pablo, California. Steve, a horse van operator in Northern California, is an unsung hero who routinely answers distress calls to transport critically ill or injured horses to the University of

California at Davis veterinary hospital. He has also assisted horsemen and women who have experienced mechanical break downs with a van or trailer full of horses. Steve comes to the rescue day or night, and does it for the most part for free out of the kindness of his heart.

Steve Hiatt was honored at the White Horse Hero's Luncheon at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California on November 5. The award luncheon was co-sponsored by the *Daily Racing Form*, Harris Farms and Taylor Made Stallions. The White Horse Hero's Award Luncheon was co-hosted by Carolyn Conley of HRTV'S morning show "Race Day



America" and Hall-of-Fame jockey Pat Day.

A silent auction to benefit the RTCA was held at the luncheon. Items in the auction included signed memorabilia from Laffit Pincay, Jr., autographed drawings by world-renown racing cartoonist Peb, and leather halters worn by Rachael Alexandra and several leading Breeders' Cup contenders, including Mine That Bird.

This year represents the 37th consecutive year of service by the Race Track Chaplaincy of America to those in the horse race industry. The RTCA is an inter-denominational ministry dedicated to providing, with excellence, for the spiritual, emotional, physical, social and educational needs of the horse racing industry workforce.

Wagering Through October is Down Over \$1 Billion Compared to 2008

On November 4, Equibase released the Thoroughbred Racing Economic Indicators for October of 2009. To date, wagering in North America is down over \$1.2 billion compared to last year, representing an overall 10.88 percent decrease.

| Indicator | YTD 2009 vs. YTD 2008 | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| | YTD 2009 | YTD 2008 | % Change |
| Wagering on U.S. Races* | \$10,587,270,436 | \$11,880,122,731 | -10.88% |
| U.S. Purses | \$930,847,834 | \$1,014,997,145 | -8.29% |
| U.S. Race Days | 5,191 | 5,298 | -2.02% |

* Includes worldwide commingled wagering on U.S. races

Uniform National Trainer's Test Study Guide Published by Welfare and Safety Summit



The Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit has published and made available for purchase the Uniform National Trainer's Test Study Guide, a comprehensive resource for individuals preparing to take a state-administered trainer's licensing exam.

The 108-page study guide is designed to assist with preparations for both the written and barn test components of the exam. The guide was compiled by Dr. C. Reid McLellan, executive director of the Groom Elite Program, a non-profit horsemen's education service that provides high-quality equine care courses to grooms, owners and trainers.

The study guide covers, in detail, every topic included in the national trainer's exam that has been provided to state racing commissions by the Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse Summit's Education and Licensing Committee. The guide also identifies the practical skills necessary to successfully complete the barn test portion of the exam.

"The Uniform National Trainer's Test Study Guide gives aspiring trainers a leg up when preparing for the trainer's exam," said Remi Bellocq, chief executive officer of the National HBPA. "Our work in helping to establish the Groom Elite Program back in 2001 has helped us provide horsemen with opportunities for professional and personal growth

and improved horsemanship. The National HBPA remains committed to the concept that improved welfare and safety begins with education and tough, but fair, uniform national licensing standards."

The Uniform National Trainer's Test Study Guide is available for \$40.00 by contacting Cathy McNeeley at (859) 224-2728 or cmcneeley@jockeyclub.com.

An entire chapter of the study guide is devoted to the rules of racing. Dr. McLellan noted, "It is important for users to understand not only the general rules of racing presented in the study guide, but also the rules and regulations specific to their jurisdiction, as these can vary a bit from state to state. Most state racing commissions have posted their rules of racing online and a list of commission websites is included in the appendix as a convenience."

Sam Houston Race Park Streamlines Admission Process for Live Racing Events



Sam Houston Race Park will celebrate the return of live Thoroughbred racing with the introduction of a streamlined admission process offering patrons free general parking for live racing events beginning Friday, November 27, 2009. Free parking will continue for all live racing dates for Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse meets with the exception of select holidays, special events and festivals. The Park will continue to offer premium parking, as well as valet for select events.

After carefully evaluating parking and admission pricing, The Park will increase live racing admission prices by \$2 in order to offset operational expenses. New admission prices will be \$6 for adults; \$4 for senior citizens; and children ages 12 and under are admitted free for all live racing and select concerts events. Park Rewards members will continue to receive free admission.

"We evaluated our parking and admissions process through customer surveys and have responded to customer comments by simplifying the approach to admission by offering free parking and offsetting expenses with a \$2 increase to admissions prices," said Dwight Berube, Vice President of Operations for Sam Houston Race Park. "We will continue to offer free admission, as well as other discounts and specials, on a regular basis to our Park Rewards members, and we will continue to offer free admission to children under 12. We feel these changes continue to offer a great value for the dollar to our customers and will enhance the customer's overall experience at The Park."

Park Rewards, the innovative loyalty program The Park launched in April 2008, provides members with free admission to The Park for live racing and simulcast events, wagering vouchers, programs, food and beverage, exclusive monthly member contests, priority mailings and offers, double and triple points on select tracks, and eligibility for



News Briefs News Briefs ... News Briefs ... News Briefs ... News Briefs

exclusive, year-end premium item giveaways and more.

Brisnet.com Charts Now Provided Free

brisnet.com

Bloodstock Research Information Services (Brisnet.com) is now providing results charts

free on its website.

"The result charts archives are a tremendous resource for everyone in the industry," stated Vice President Happy Broadbent. "Whether you're a handicapper, a fan of the sport, or you make your living in the industry, you can now look up any result chart for any North American track dating back to 1991. It's quick and easy to research the races of any horse over the past two decades."

The Brisnet.com website includes a useful calendar interface which makes it easy to see if a track was running on a particular day. The free PDF charts are available in two different display formats: the traditional charts and the charts with alternative running lines. The alternative running lines portray each runner's chart call based on the leader's margins and beaten lengths, the same as it would appear in the horse's past performances.

Thoro-Graph Launches Sales Analysis Data Exclusively on equineline.com

equineline.com
A member of The Jockey Club family of companies

Thoro-Graph, whose proprietary performance figures have been utilized

by professional handicappers and horsemen alike for the past 27 years, has unveiled Thoro-Graph Sales Analysis Data. The new products are designed specifically for the auction sales market and available exclusively on equineline.com, the online pedigree service of The Jockey Club Information Systems (TJCIS).

Thoro-Graph Sales Analysis Data encompass four separate reports that use Thoro-Graph's proprietary Performance Figures to measure racing ability and tendencies of a stallion's runners, and runners within the first two generations of a sale entrant's pedigree. Thoro-Graph Performance Figures take into account weight carried, ground loss, effect of wind on final time, and track "speed."

"Thoro-Graph Sales Analysis Data enable breeders and buyers at auction to identify trends, strengths and weaknesses within the racing history of a particular hip number's immediate family," said TJCIS Chairman and President Carl Hamilton. "This information can aid not only in the selection of sales purchases but in the subsequent management of their racing careers."

The Thoro-Graph Sales Analysis Data consists of the following four reports: Thoro-Graph Sire Profile, Synopsis for a Sire's Runners, Synopsis for a Dam's Runners and Full Sheets 1st and 2nd Dam. Additional information, including a sample of each report, is available at equineline.com/Thoro-Graph.cfm.

Tourism Promotion Bill Passes Senate



The American Horse Council is pleased the U.S. Senate passed the Travel Promotion Act of 2009 (S.1023) introduced by Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) on September 9. This bill could benefit tourism involving the horse industry.

"Equine tourism is a growing and diverse segment of the horse industry. Because it encompasses many parts of the industry including recreation, showing and racing, its continued growth is beneficial to the entire horse industry," said AHC President Jay Hickey. "If equine tourism in the U.S. is to expand, it is important that we promote it abroad as well as at home. We believe this bill has the potential to increase the number of international visitors to the U.S. who participate in equestrian events and activities, either as participants or spectators."

The purpose of the bill is to market the U.S. as a tourist destination to people around the world. It would create a non-profit Corporation for Travel Promotion, which would be responsible for correcting misperceptions regarding U.S. entry policies, and providing useful information to foreign tourists and others interested in traveling to the United States.

Notably, the bill requires the Corporation for Travel Promotion to "identify opportunities and strategies to promote tourism to rural and urban areas equally." A travel promotion fund requiring non-federal matching funds would also be established.

The bill would additionally authorize the creation of an Office of Travel Promotion in the Department of Commerce. This office would support and encourage the development of programs to increase the number of international visitors to the United States. Also it would collect data on the number of international visitors to each State and support State, regional, and private sector initiatives to promote travel to and within the United States.

"Whether it's a packing trip in the west, one of the outstanding horse shows throughout the country or one of our exciting races, this bill has the potential to help let those abroad know what the U.S. horse industry has to offer," said Ben Pendergrass, AHC Legislative Director.

"The House of Representatives passed similar legislation last year, so we hope they will approve this bill quickly," said Hickey.

-Courtesy American Horse Council

Equine Industry Survey Launched by American Horse Publications



The American Horse Publications (AHP) is conducting an Equine Industry Survey to gauge participation trends in the U.S. equine industry. In addition, the survey seeks to gather information regarding the most important issues facing the industry. The survey, sponsored by



Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health and Pfizer Animal Health, closes January 15, 2010.

Those eligible to participate in the survey are men and women, 18 years of age and older, who currently own, manage, or lease at least one horse and live in the United States.

This study is anonymous; this means that no one, not even members of the research team, will be able to associate information you give with responses. When the survey results are tallied, only aggregated results will be presented.

"We think this is a great opportunity for us to use our collective resources and reach into the horse industry to get answers about how we are doing today, how we think we'll be doing in the near future, and what we are concerned about in our industry," said AHP President Kimberly S. Brown.

To take the survey just click on <http://www.horsesurvey.org/>.

The Jockey Club Releases 2008 Breeding Statistics, Texas Declines Again



The Jockey Club recently reported that 3,439 stallions covered 56,901 mares in North America during 2008, according to statistics compiled through September 9, 2009. These matings have resulted in 31,727 live foals of 2009 being reported to The Jockey Club on Live Foal Reports

received as of September 9, 2009.

As in past years, The Jockey Club estimates that the reporting of live foals, at this point in time, is approximately 90 percent complete. The reporting of live foals of 2009 is down 8.2% from last year at this time, when The Jockey Club had received reports for 34,561 live foals of 2008.

"As we announced last month, the North American registered foal crop projection for 2009 has been revised downward to 34,000, and the live foal returns to date reflect that," said Matt Iuliano, The Jockey Club's vice president of registration services. "Although breeding activity has been in decline for several years, the rate of decline accelerated in both the 2008 and 2009 breeding seasons, so we will see fewer live foals born next year as well."

The 2009 registered foal crop projection of 34,000 takes into account that not all live foals become registered. In addition to the 31,727 live foals of 2009 reported through September 9, The Jockey Club had also received 6,755 No Foal Reports for the 2009 foaling season.

The number of stallions declined 5.5 percent from the 3,638 reported for 2007 at this time last year, while the number of mares bred decreased 7.1 percent from the 61,262 reported for 2007.

The 2008 breeding statistics are available alphabetically by stallion name through the Publications and Resources link on The Jockey Club homepage at jockeyclub.com.

Iuliano emphasized that the breeding statistics are not a measurement of the live foals born in each state or province, but rather a count of state/province-sired live foals, regardless of where the foals were born. He also stressed that the

statistics should not be taken to represent the fertility record of any one stallion.

Kentucky annually leads all states and provinces in terms of Thoroughbred breeding activity. Kentucky-based stallions accounted for 38.0 percent of the mares reported bred in North America in 2008 and 44.9 percent of the live foals reported for 2009.

The 21,620 mares reported bred to 346 Kentucky stallions in 2008 have produced 14,257 live foals, a 5.2 percent decrease on the 15,040 Kentucky-sired live foals of 2008 reported at this time last year. The number of mares reported bred to Kentucky stallions in 2008 declined 1.4 percent against the 21,938 reported for 2007 at this time last year.

Among the 11 states and provinces in which stallions covered at least 1,000 mares in 2008, only Pennsylvania produced more state/province-sired live foals in 2009 than in 2008 as reported at this time last year.

In Texas, 2,074 mares were bred in 2008, resulting in 1,000 live foals born in 2009 – a 5.2 percent decrease as compared to 2008. It continued a disturbing trend after decreases of 13 percent, 5.9 percent, and 10 percent in each of the three previous years.

Current Day Scratches and Program Changes Now Available on equibase.com



Current day scratches and program changes from racetracks throughout North America are now available throughout the day in a dedicated section of equibase.com.

Equibase developed the new service in conjunction with racetracks and with feedback from the Horseplayers Association of North America (HANA). Besides having access to the latest scratches, horseplayers can now obtain other critical updates such as when a race has been moved from turf to dirt, distance changes, jockey changes and amended wagering options on equibase.com. They can also register to receive an RSS feed for each track they are playing, enabling instant delivery of information to desktops and mobile devices.

These scratches and program changes are updated live from the racetrack via eBase®, Equibase's proprietary Internet-based data collection system. Designated personnel at the live track can now use eBase to enter the day's scratches and program changes until one hour before post time for the first race, at which time Equibase chartcallers assume responsibility for entering subsequent changes.

The "Today's Scratches & Program Changes" webpage was deployed September 29 and is accessible via a link on the equibase.com homepage. The current day scratches and program changes are also available for electronic retrieval, which enables value-added resellers, tracks and other industry organizations to provide timely changes and scratches to their respective customers



RMTC Board Forms Committee to Oversee Implementation of DTI Task Force Recommendations



Moving forward with its initiative to significantly change the structure of drug testing in U.S. horse racing, the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium (RMTC) board of directors has approved the formation of a committee to oversee the implementation of the Drug Testing Initiative (DTI) Task Force recommendations on quality assurance and laboratory accreditation programs for U.S. horse racing drug testing laboratories.

In other RMTC business, Dr. Rick Sams of the University of Florida Racing Laboratory presented to the board a report on administration studies for a number of commonly used therapeutic medications that often result in medication infractions. Dr. Sams also announced that the administration studies on anabolic steroids are complete and a recommendation on a model rule for testing in plasma for these medications has been submitted to RCI. Administration studies that are nearing completion of sample analysis are acepromazine, butorphanol, detomidine, glycopyrrolate, lidocaine, mepivacaine, methocarbamol and pyrilamine.

"RMTC anticipates that by early next year, it will be in a position to make recommendations for threshold levels and/or withdrawal times on these medications," said RMTC Chairman Dr. Robert Lewis. "Most therapeutic medication infractions are simple management mistakes. Our hope is this information will help veterinarians and trainers avoid these common rule violations."

This announcement was met with appreciation by Florida HBPA Executive Director Kent Stirling. "Horsemen will be glad to see that we are finally going to have thresholds and withdrawal times for these medications," said Stirling. "The withdrawal times database on the RMTC website is extremely helpful but shows the inconsistencies in withdrawal times recommended by state racing commissions and veterinarians. The recommendations out of these research studies will certainly help to bring about uniformity, which is a primary mission of RMTC and something that horsemen desperately want to see realized."

The RMTC board also approved the formation of a Communications Subcommittee to make recommendations on a media campaign to better explain the significant efforts of the drug testing laboratories in detecting prohibited drugs, and differentiate those findings from the more prevalent positive laboratory reports for overages of approved therapeutic medication that are primarily mistakes in administration times and dosages.

The Jockey Club Releases 2009 Report of Mares Bred Statistics, Texas Down Over 18 Percent

The Jockey Club recently released Report of Mares Bred (RMB) statistics for 2009 that further confirm the accelerat-



ed decline in North American Thoroughbred breeding activity. Based on RMBs received through October 13, 2009, The Jockey Club reports that 2,409 stallions covered 45,317 mares in North America during 2009.

The annual statistics include the number of mares bred to each stallion and represent approximately 92 percent of the mares that eventually will be reported as bred in 2009. According to historical trends, The Jockey Club expects to receive RMBs representing an additional 4,000 to 5,000 mares bred from the 2009 breeding season.

The number of stallions declined 8.9 percent from the 2,643 reported at this time in 2008, while the number of mares bred fell 13.5 percent from the 52,410 reported at this time last year.

RMB statistics for all reported stallions in 2009 are available through the Publications & Resources section of The Jockey Club's website at jockeyclub.com.

Of the top 10 states and provinces by number of mares reported bred in 2009 through October 13, 2009, only Pennsylvania stallions covered more mares in 2009 than in 2008, as reported at this time last year. Pennsylvania jumped from tenth to fifth in number of mares bred in 2009, while Louisiana surpassed California for third. Texas has fallen in recent years to number seven on the list.

This year, 174 Texas stallions (a 8.9 percent decrease compared to 2008) were bred to 1,411 mares. This was an 18.1 percent decrease as compared to 2008, when 191 stallions were bred to 1,722 mares.

John Harris Named RTCA Community Award Honoree

On November 3, the Race Track Chaplaincy of America announced John Harris, a leader in California agribusiness and racing, as the RCTA's 2009 Community Award honoree. Harris currently serves as chairman of the California Horse Racing Board. Harris was honored at the 7th annual White Horse Heroes Luncheon at Oak Tree Racing Association at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California on Thursday, November 5.

Harris was first appointed to the CHRB in November of 2000. He was the board's vice-chairman from 2005 to February 2009, when he assumed the chairman position. He owns and operates Harris Farms, a diversified agricultural beef and hospitality company located in the San Joaquin Valley near Coalinga. A member and past steward of The Jockey Club, John was elected as a director of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association in 1974 and served as the organization's legislative chairman for 20 years. He was twice elected CTBA president. He also has served on the boards of Breeders' Cup Ltd., Thoroughbred Owners of California, Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation, and the Center for Equine Health/UC Davis Advisory Board. He currently serves on the boards of the Race Track Chaplaincy of America, Western Growers Association, California Cattlemen's Association, and Pacific Legal Foundation. 🐾

News from TTHBPA Director of Racing Terry Blanton



Terry Blanton

Retama Park wrapped up its 32-day race meet with Danny Pish retaining his title as leading training and Brent Davidson coming in second. Eguard Tejera was the leading jockey, and Anjo Racing, Inc was the leading owner.

Retama Park Racing Secretary James Leatherman tells me that the average number of starters per race, after scratches, was 9.2, and there were many split races on the overnight. The overall handle was down substantially, as is the national trend. Purses are created by the wager amount, so we are hoping for improved simulcast wagering during the down time.

Live racing returns to Sam Houston Race Park after last year's hiatus due to hurricane damage. Management has made many updates to the facility and barn area; however Barn Q is lacking new dorm rooms due to an insurance dispute. They have assured us that every groom needing a room

will be accommodated.

Racing begins the weekend after Thanksgiving on November 27 and 28. Texas Champions Day will be held on December 5th and is shaping up to be a great night of racing. The stakes and first condition book are now available online, and the track officially opens for training on November 13.

There are new rules for horses shipping in due to Equine Piroplasmiasis, a tick transmitted blood disease. Make sure you check with the racing office before shipping for the requirements.

Just a reminder that the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA Board of Directors is holding its election, and ballots should be hitting your mailboxes by mid-December. This is your avenue to get things done via your elected members. Please read the qualifications and vote accordingly. Each nominee is well qualified.

The District of Delaware Bankruptcy court has awarded the final bid on Lone Star Park's license to Global Gaming LSP, LLC for \$47.8 million. This is the same group that purchased Remington Park. The sale must be approved by the Texas Racing Commission before it is finalized, and that should take another four to six months.

Hats off to Danny and Sabina Pish for another great Halloween Party at Retama Park, complete with a haunted hayride. The horsemen and children all had a spooky great time. This is a party that they have put on for the last four years, and each year seems to get better than the last. A big "Thank You" from all the horsemen to Danny and Sabina!

Tami Hare reminds me that the THP will be offering free flu shots in the Chapel at Sam Houston Race Park on December 8 for horsemen and their families that missed the opportunity to receive a vaccination at Retama or Lone Star Park.

Remember to take a look at the calendar in this newsletter and on our website for any important dates. Also, please continue to check our website and the THP bulletin boards at the racetracks for any additions and/or changes that may be announced in the future. We always welcome any suggestions that would benefit the horsemen.

If at any time you have any questions or you have any issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at (214) 384-9547 or Tami Hare at (214) 850-6821.

See you at Sam Houston. 🐾



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TH1109

Texas Racing Commission Sets 2010 Race Dates for Texas Racetracks

At its meeting on September 15, the Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) approved the 2010 live racing dates for Texas racetracks. The TxRC awarded a total of 249 live race dates for 2010 - 151 Thoroughbred dates, 74 Quarter Horse dates, and 24 mixed meet dates. The total number of race dates awarded for 2010 was down 10 days as compared to 2009.

The Gillespie County Fair Association was awarded its traditional eight-day mixed meet. Racing on Saturdays and Sundays on weeks with live racing, the meet will begin on July 3 and conclude on August 29, 2010.

Laredo Race Park, a yet-to-be constructed racetrack in the Valley, asked for and was granted two days of mixed meet racing on August 28 and 29, 2010.

Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie was granted a 60-day Thoroughbred meet that will open on April 8, 2010 and conclude July 18, 2010. Lone Star was also awarded a 29-day Quarter Horse meet that will run from September 17 through November 13, 2010.

"We're pleased with the 2010 dates granted us by the Texas Racing Commission and would like to thank the Texas Horsemen's groups for their continued support and cooperation in negotiating a well-planned racing



schedule for Lone Star Park in 2010," said Lone Star Park President and General Manager Drew Shubeck.

Manor Downs will run its traditional mixed meet from March 6 through April 18, 2010. Racing on weekends, the meet will encompass 14 live racing days. The Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (THBPA) has an agreement with Manor Downs to limit the amount of underpayment in the Quarter Horse purse account, and the THBPA has the authority to transfer any amount over that set limit to another track for additional racing opportunities.

Retama Park will conduct a 30-day Thoroughbred meet from August 27 through November 6, 2010. Like what was done this year, Retama Park was granted 15 days of Quarter Horse racing, and an agreement has been signed by all parties concerned and approved by the TxRC to move Retama's Quarter Horse dates to Sam Houston Race

Park for 2010.

Sam Houston Race Park was granted 61 Thoroughbred days in 2010 - from January 1 through April 3, 2010 and from November 26 - December 31, 2010. The first dates will be the conclusion to the track's 2009/2010 Thoroughbred meet that will begin on November 27, 2009. The latter dates will be the beginning of Sam Houston's 2010/2011 Thoroughbred meet that will conclude on April 2, 2011.

Sam Houston was also granted a total of 45 Quarter Horse dates (30 awarded to Sam Houston and 15 that were awarded to Retama Park and transferred to Sam Houston). Sam Houston's 2010 Quarter Horse meet will run from April 30 through August 14, 2010.

"The acquisition of the 2009 American Quarter Horse race dates from Retama Park proved successful for The Park in terms of overall attendance and handle, and we aim to capitalize on our live racing product in 2010 by providing live racing events and additional programming during Triple Crown dates in addition to taking on more race dates from Retama in 2010," stated Andrea Young, president and chief operating officer of Sam Houston Race Park. 🏇

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Harold Goodman, Pass Over Among 2009 Inductees into the Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame

On Saturday, October 10, the Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame held its annual gala and induction ceremony at Retama Park. The gala and induction of Hall of Fame honorees was held before and during the races at Retama Park on that Saturday and included cocktails, a gourmet buffet dinner, wine tasting, induction of the honorees, a silent auction, and the races. All proceeds from the gala benefited the Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The 2009 inductees included racing legends Harold Goodman and Jeff Carr (both now deceased) and horses Got Koko, Top Deck and Pass Over. The Joann Weber Distinguished Service Award was presented to former Texas Senator O.H. "Ike" Harris (R-Dallas).

Harold Goodman



Harold Goodman was a prominent Thoroughbred owner and breeder in Texas. He was the 1994 Texas Breeder of the Year and owner/breeder of Texas' former all-time leading female money earner, Two Altazano (winner of the Grade I Coaching Club American Oaks, Grade II Monmouth Oaks, Grade II Fantasy Stakes, Grade III Fair Grounds Oaks, Marie P. DeBartolo Memorial Oaks and Sam Houston

Oaks in 1994).

Goodman, born in Beaumont and a lifelong resident of Houston, founded the Goodman Manufacturing Company in 1977. In 1992, Goodman purchased one-eighth of A.P. Indy, the 1992 Breeders' Cup Classic (Gr. I) champion and Horse of the Year. Goodman also owned the Brazos T Ranch (complete with a training center) near Brookshire, where he stood premier Texas stallion Manzotti. Michael Stidham, one of Lone Star Park's top trainers, was Goodman's private trainer.

Goodman succumbed to cancer on January 13, 1995, one day before he was to accept the award as Texas' top breeder of 1994 and the award for Two Altazano as 1994 Champion Texas-bred Three-Year-Old Filly.

Jeff Carr



Before his death, Jeff Carr was still active in the practice of law (particularly with regard to oil and gas exploration), farming, ranching, and the horse business. He was instrumental in the formation of Retama Partners, Ltd.—who constructed the first class horse race track in San Antonio—where he served on the board as president. Carr was a member of the American Quarter

Horse Association for 30 years, and was a member of the Texas Thoroughbred Breeders Association for 16 years.

Got Koko



Got Koko was a Thoroughbred mare who was one of only three horses bred in the state of Texas to ever win a Grade 1 stakes. Got Koko scored her biggest win in the 2002 La Brea Stakes (gr. I) at Santa Anita in

California.

In 2003, Got Koko became just the third-ever winner of the La Cañada Series for fillies at Santa Anita Park since its inception in 1975. In addition, she won the 2003 Lady's Secret Breeders' Cup Handicap (Gr. II) by defeating American Horse of the Year Azeri, who came into the race having won 11 straight races. She placed in that year's Breeders' Cup Distaff (gr. I) and the Clement L. Hirsch Handicap (gr. II). In her last start, she finished third in the 2004 Santa Monica Handicap (gr. I).

Trained by Bruce Headley, Got Koko won or placed in a dozen of 15 races and earned \$960,946. Got Koko died on March 4, 2009 from foaling complications while delivering a Bernardini colt.

Top Deck



Unraced as a Thoroughbred, the stallion Top Deck, bred by King Ranch, went on to become a famous sire of Quarter Horses. He was injured as a young foal, preventing a racing career.

Top Deck died in 1965 in Purcell,

Oklahoma and was the sire of Go Man Go, Rebel Cause, Top Ladybug, Mighty Deck, Decketta, War Machine, and Moon Deck. Two of his sons were inducted into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame - Go Man Go and Moon Deck. He sired 440 Quarter Horse foals, with four AQHA Champions, 219 Race Registers of Merit, 12 Performance Registers of Merit and 21 Superior Race Horse awards. Two of Top Deck's offspring earned the AQHA Supreme Champion award - Astro Deck and War Machine. He was inducted into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in 1990.

Pass Over

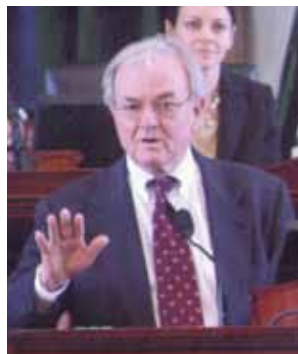


Pass Over, a 1971 sorrel Quarter Horse mare, was a world champion two-year-old filly and world champion three-year-old filly. At one point in her racing career, she was the world's leading money-win-

ning Quarter Horse female. She was called "The Cinderella of the Quarter Horse World" and labeled by Clark Nealon of the *Houston Post* as being even bigger among Quarter Horses than Secretariat was among Thoroughbreds.

Sen. O. H. "Ike" Harris

The Joann Weber Distinguished Service Award went to former Texas Senator O.H. "Ike" Harris. A former member of Texas Sunset Advisory Commission (that identifies and eliminates waste, duplication, and inefficiency in government agencies), Harris had a 40-year political career in the Texas House of Representatives and Senate. He was successful in passing pari-mutuel wagering as the sponsor



of the bill in 1987. Senator Harris chaired the Interim Committee on Horse Racing and Pari-Mutuel Betting in 1971 that laid out the reasons why Texas should have pari-mutuel horse racing.

The Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame—a 501(c)(3) charitable organization—was formed as an educational institution that promotes the character and integrity of the horse racing industry and

highlights the enjoyment the sport provides.

Each year, since its inaugural event in 1999, the Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame Gala has recognized the accomplishments of Texas racing legends (individuals and horses) by inducting them into the Texas Horse Racing Hall of Fame. The event is also designed to promote the rich history of the horse racing industry; recognize and honor Texas racing legends; and educate the public on the sport of racing.

The Hall of Fame honors the horses, jockeys, trainers and breeders who have significantly influenced and contributed to the history of horse racing in Texas and is temporarily housed on the Clubhouse level at Retama Park Race Track. Visitors have an opportunity to learn about these historical figures through biographies, view awards from their achievements, see stunning trophies and beautiful silks. 🐾

Sam Houston Race Park & Gallery Furniture Partner for Texas Champions Day & Other Live Racing Events

Sam Houston Race Park and Gallery Furniture have reached an agreement for an annual partnership which includes the furniture giant presenting The Park's most prestigious day of racing, Texas Champions Day on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Both parties will also work to unite racing's leading ladies, Rachel Alexandra and Zenyatta, later in 2010 for the \$1.5 Million Gallery Furniture Distaff Stakes.

The partnership would provide Texas Champions Day, one of The Park's signature racing dates of the Thoroughbred season, with the \$100,000 Gallery Furniture Distaff race as part the day's eight stakes racing events offering more than \$500,000 in purse money.

In addition, Gallery Furniture and The Park will work together to create a larger racing event in 2010, with the goal of uniting the top fillies and mares from across the country and around the world, including leading female champions Rachel Alexandra and Zenyatta, across a competitive field.

The \$1.5 Million Gallery Furniture Distaff, a 1 1/8 mile race on the dirt track for fillies and mares ages three and up, would guarantee a \$100,000 purse and would increase to \$750,000 if one of the famed racers participates. Should both horses agree to participate in the race, the purse money would surge to \$1.5 million. The event would mark the first time both champion horses would face one another, creating one the most anticipated racing events in horse racing history.

"Bringing two horses like Rachel Alexandra and Zenyatta

to Houston would be an event for the ages. A race like this is worth pursuing, so though we did not succeed in 2009, we will keep up our dogged efforts to get them here in early 2010 for a race of epic, historic proportions," said Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale of Gallery Furniture. "This is a promoter's dream, and we won't give up until we get Zenyatta and Rachel Alexandra here for the biggest horse race in 30 years."

"This is an incredibly exciting opportunity for The Park, and we are thrilled that Mack has spearheaded this opportunity and worked with us to create premier racing events in Houston," said President and Chief Operating Officer for Sam Houston Race Park, Andrea Young. "We are a centrally-located facility and are considered neutral territory for the competitors; plus we have one of the best racing surfaces in the country, so we are ready to showcase our facility and host top horses and industry as well as racing enthusiasts."

Since 1981, Gallery Furniture has grown from a neighborhood store to the largest furniture retailer per square foot in America by putting the customer first, living up to the promise to "Save You Money" and delivering quality furniture and home electronics TODAY. With two locations in Houston, Gallery Furniture features a wide selection of the best names in the industry like TempurPedic, Lane, United Leather, Drexel Heritage, Sony, Mitsubishi, and Samsung. Committed to offering customers the best service and an entertaining family atmosphere, Gallery Furniture is more than a store... it's a true experience. 🐾



Global Gaming LSP, LLC Approved to Purchase Lone Star Park's Operating Assets



On October 28, Delaware bankruptcy judge Mary Walrath approved the sale of the operating assets of Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie to a subsidiary of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Global Gaming LSP, LLC, which submitted a winning bid of \$47.8 million for the operating assets of the pari-mutuel horse racing track in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Lone Star Park and the City of Grand Prairie's relationship originated on January 10, 1992, when Grand Prairie voters approved a half-cent sales tax to assist in financing bonds to build a world-class racetrack. Lone Star Park is owned by the Grand Prairie Sports Facilities Development Corporation, which oversees the use of the city sales tax proceeds that financed up to \$65 million of the \$100 million project. The track operator leases the Grand Prairie track from the Grand Prairie Sports Facilities

Development Corporation.

Global Gaming thought it had submitted a winning bid of \$27 million earlier this month, but Walrath rescheduled an auction after ruling that an affiliate of Penn National Gaming Inc. was wrongfully excluded from the bidding process.

According to a court filing by Magna's committee of unsecured creditors, Penn National Gaming complied with the rules for submitting its bid but was disqualified by Magna because the deposit associated with the bid was partially refundable.

The committee said that after Penn National, a Pennsylvania-based national gambling company, clarified that it intended to bid higher once it was in an auction, the best course of action was to reschedule the auction. According to the committee, Penn National submitted an original bid of \$28 million and later advised Magna it was willing to bid \$40 million for the track.

Magna attorney Brian Rosen told the judge on Wednesday that last week's rescheduled auction opened with Penn National's \$40 million bid.

"There was extremely spirited bid-

ding that went back and forth," said Rosen, adding that the auction concluded after 43 rounds with Global Gaming's winning bid.

Global Gaming had appealed Walrath's decision to reopen the bidding but agreed to withdraw the appeal after winning the second auction.

"The debtors were quite heartened by that," Rosen said.

Ontario-based Magna, the largest horse track owner in the U.S., filed for bankruptcy protection in March, saying it was unable to obtain new financing while supporting its existing debt. Magna is currently in the process of auctioning off several other racetrack properties, including Santa Anita and Golden Gate Fields in California; Gulfstream Park in Florida; and Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, home of the Preakness, the second leg of the Triple Crown.

Now that the bankruptcy court has approved the sale of Lone Star Park, the Global Gaming LSP, LLC will be the subject of a Texas Department of Public Safety background investigation and then seek approval as a race-track licensee from the Texas Racing Commission. 🐾



Lone Star Park Fall Quarter Horse Meet Meet Stakes Schedule

| Date | Race | Conditions | Distance |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|------------|
| November | | | |
| Fri., Nov. 20 | \$19,500-added Madolynn Hill Farm Stakes (GIII) | 3YO & Up, C&G, Arabians | 7 Furlongs |
| Fri., Nov. 20 | \$19,500-added Mandolynn Hill Farm Stakes (GIII) | 3YO & Up, F&M, Arabians | 7 Furlongs |
| Sat., Nov. 21 | \$55,000-estimated Lone Star Park Paint & Appaloosa Futurity | 2YO, Paints & Apps. | 350 Yards |
| Sat., Nov. 21 | \$20,000-guaranteed Olympia Joe Paint & Appaloosa Handicap (GI) | 3YO & Up, Paints & Apps. | 400 Yards |
| Sat., Nov. 21 | \$15,000-guaranteed Lone Star Park Distance Championship | 3YO & Up | 870 Yards |
| Fri., Nov. 27 | \$15,000-guaranteed Joe B. Turner Memorial Stakes | 2YO, F | 400 Yards |
| Fri., Nov. 27 | \$15,000-guaranteed Hippodromo de las Americas Stakes | 2YO, C&G | 400 Yards |
| Fri., Nov. 27 | \$15,000-guaranteed Rheudasil Handicap | 3YO & Up | 350 Yards |
| Sat., Nov. 28 | \$400,000-estimated Texas Classic Derby (G1) | 3YO | 440 Yards |
| Sat., Nov. 28 | \$1,000,000-estimated Texas Classic Futurity (G1) | 2YO | 400 Yards |

Sam Houston Race Park 2009/2010 Thoroughbred Meet Stakes Schedule

| Date | Race | Conditions | Distance/Surface |
|-----------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| December | | | |
| Sat., Dec. 5 | \$100,000-guaranteed Gallery Furniture Distaff | F&M, 3YO & Up | 1 1/8 miles |
| | \$100,000-guaranteed Star of Texas, presented by Emirates Airlines | 3YO & Up* | 1 1/16 miles |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Richard King Stakes | 3YO & Up* | 1 1/8 miles (T) |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed San Jacinto Stakes | F&M, 3YO & Up* | 1 1/16 miles (T) |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Spirit of Texas Stakes | 3YO & Up* | 6 furlongs |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Yellow Rose Stakes | F&M, 3YO & Up* | 6 furlongs |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Groovy Stakes | 2YO* | 7 furlongs |
| Sat., Dec. 12 | \$50,000-guaranteed Bara Lass Stakes | 2YO F* | 7 furlongs |
| | \$20,000-estimated Texas Lone Star Arabian Futurity | 3YO F, Arabian | 6 furlongs |
| | \$20,000-estimated Texas Lone Star Arabian Futurity | 3YO C&G, Arabian | 6 furlongs |
| | | | |
| January | | | |
| Sat., Jan. 30 | \$200,000-added John B. Conally Turf Cup (Gr. IIIT) (includes \$50,000 from the Breeders' Cup) | 3YO & Up | 1 1/8 miles (T) |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Jersey Lilly Stakes | F&M, 3YO & Up | 1 1/16 miles (T) |
| February | | | |
| Sat., Feb. 20 | \$125,000-guaranteed Jim's Orbit Stakes | 3YO, C&G | 1 mile |
| | \$125,000-guaranteed Two Altazano Stakes | 3YO F | 1 mile |
| March | | | |
| Sat., Mar. 27 | \$100,000-guaranteed MAXXAM Gold Cup | 4YO & Up | 1 1/8 miles |
| | \$50,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Distaff | F&M, 4YO & Up | 1 1/16 miles |

*restricted for accredited Texas-breds

Be First Out of the Gate and First at the Finish Line With BBVA Compass Bank



Member Bonus Banking for Texas Horsemen's Partnership Members

- FREE Compass PointSM checking
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Disclosure: Member FDIC. One account per member available for as long as you are a member of Texas Horsemen's Partnership. Account subject to approval. Compass Check Card, installment loans, mortgages, home equity lines of credit, home equity loans, VISA and MasterCard are subject to credit approval. To receive installment loan discount, automatic payment from a Compass Checking account is required.



T E X A S
H O R S E M E N ' S
P A R T N E R S H I P

Benefits of Membership

Every person that starts a racehorse at a licensed Texas racetrack is automatically considered a member of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership for that year and is entitled to membership privileges.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership (THP) is officially recognized by the Texas Racing Commission as the organization representing owners and trainers of horses racing in Texas. The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is a partner-

ship between the Texas Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association and the Texas Thoroughbred HBPA, Inc.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership is an affiliate of the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association, as well as a member of Texans Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE). Certain members also may qualify for assistance through a trust fund administered by the THAFI to assist qualified horsemen with certain medical needs. In 2008, the THAFI paid out over \$169,000 in benevolent assistance to horsemen.

Funding for the THP is derived from several sources, including a contractual deduction from the purse accounts at each track, corporate sponsorships, revenue generating programs initiated by the THP and interest from treasury management. Therefore, no direct dues are required from any single member.

The Texas Horsemen's Partnership conducts numerous programs and services aimed at improving efficiency and enriching the lives of ALL horsemen at our tracks in Texas. This benefits package is second to no other racing jurisdiction in the country.

Below are some of the benefits that the Texas Horsemen's Partnership provides for its members:

Centralized Horsemen's Bookkeeping System: This revolutionary system was conceived and implemented by the THP and brings a branch-banking approach to our members. Horsemen are now able to consolidate all of their financial activity associated with horse racing at the various Texas tracks on one account and have one comprehensive statement. This allows for easier accounting and simplified tax reporting.

Free subscription to *The Texas Horsemen's News*: Every member who signs up at our website is e-mailed *The Texas Horsemen's News*, the official publication of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership. The THP's goal in producing and distributing this publication is to keep all of our members up to date on the news that affects our industry. We also want to give horsemen a "behind-the-scenes" look into many of the issues and personalities that shape our sport.

Interactive Website:

- Latest industry news and information affecting Texas horsemen
- Access to online Horsemen's Bookkeeper account balances
- Organization information such as structure, bylaws, meeting minutes, etc.
- Information on benefits available to members

Chaplaincy Services: The THP and each racetrack cooperatively provide funds for a chaplain at all tracks. The chaplain conducts Sunday church services, weekly bible studies, offers counseling, facilitates drug intervention treatments when necessary and, in some cases, teaches an English/Spanish course. The Chaplain also assists horsemen with obtaining GEDs and gives classes in computer use.

Complimentary Fire, Disaster & Vanning Insurance coverage: \$25,000 per horse fire insurance coverage against death by fire, disaster & vanning for horses currently racing or in training to race at a participating race track in the U.S. or P.R. or in transit between them.

Groom Elite Educational Program: Groundbreaking groom training program offered at all Class One racetracks in Texas to improve the skill level of the people working with racehorses in Texas on a daily basis. Offered in both English and Spanish. The program has been endorsed as the national groom-training program of the National HBPA, and beginning in 2002, it became available in other racing jurisdictions outside of Texas.

Compass Bank Bonus Banking Package: This program offers free checking, discounts on installment loan rates, first check order free, customized THP checks, free online banking for 90 days, and more.

Free subscription to Equineline.com Portfolio Service: The THP, in cooperation with the Jockey Club Information Systems, offers a free 90-day chance to try this great service that includes access to online condition books, horse tracking, nicking reports, etc. at no risk.

Group rates on Equine Liability Insurance: This is a cost effective group-rate policy to protect your assets in case of an injury or damage to property arising from your equine activities.

Discount at Sheplers Western Wear: All members are eligible to receive a 20% discount at selected Sheplers Western Wear super stores by presenting your TRC license at the checkout stand.

Representation in:

- Purse negotiations with racetracks
- Texas Racing Commission (TxRC)
- National HBPA (NHBPA)
- Legislative matters
- Texas Horse Organizations for Racing, Showing and Eventing (HORSE)
- Thoroughbred Horsemen's Group (THG)

Other Member Benefits Include:

- On-track doctor services for trainers, grooms, and stable foremen
- Off-track shuttle services for members living in the stable area
- Continuing education seminars for owner and trainer members
- Outings to special events during live meets
- Horsemen's appreciation dinners

Equine Piroplasmosis Discovered on South Texas Ranch, Impacts Movement of Texas Racehorses

According to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), a tick-borne disease known as Equine Piroplasmosis has been confirmed on a ranch in Kleberg County in south Texas. All of the horses involved are working/cutting horses. The ranch is quarantined, and a thorough investigation is underway. The TAHC is working with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Inspection Services to address the issue.

Equine Piroplasmosis can affect horses, donkeys, mules or zebras, and may cause clinical signs common to many diseases, including poor appetite and weight loss. It is incurable and requires quarantine.

Death losses can occur. Some infected equine animals may exhibit few or no signs of disease. Those animals that survive the acute phase of infection may continue to carry the parasite, which has been identified as *Theileria equi* (formerly known as *Babesia equi*), for long periods of time.

Equine piroplasmosis may be carried and transmitted by as many as 15 species of ticks. Although ticks have been collected from the South Texas ranch for testing, final results are not complete, and it is not known whether any of the ticks can serve as a host for the disease.

Dr. Hillman said horses infected with Equine Piroplasmosis may appear well, while others may exhibit a host of non-specific clinical signs, such as fever or anemia. These clinical signs also could be attributed to a variety of other diseases or causes. Blood tests are needed to diagnosis the disease.

Dr. Hillman said there is no vaccine for equine piroplasmosis, and treatment generally is not effective against this tick-borne infection. To avoid spread of the disease, it is important to eliminate contact with ticks and to prevent the transfer of blood from one equine animal to another.

"Equine owners should talk with their private veterinary practitioners about complying with interstate movement requirements, testing recommendations and protecting their horses from ticks. If a horse appears to be ill, it should be evaluated by an accredited private veterinary practitioner," said Dr. Hillman.

At the present, TAHC does not believe race horses are at a high risk. However, because of the seriousness of the disease, the Texas Racing Commission, the racetracks, and the Texas Horsemen's Partnership are working together,

collecting information and assessing the best courses of action for the near and long term. Horsemen may consult their veterinarian for more information and specific recommendations.

Although the TAHC has only quarantined the one South Texas ranch at this time, other states and countries are reacting to this very serious situation. Several states have imposed a variety of restrictions on horses leaving Texas, not just Kleberg County and/or the adjacent counties, Brooks, Jim Wells, Kenedy, and Nueces. Some states are requiring horses leaving Texas to have an original copy of a negative Piroplasmosis cELISA test that has been performed with the last fourteen (14) days, along with a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. If planning to ship out of Texas, you should contact the destination state to ensure your animals meet the current entry requirements.

Horsemen should monitor both the Texas Animal Health Commission website at <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us> and the Texas Racing Commission (TxRC) website at <http://www.txrc.state.tx.us/> to obtain up-to-date information. As the racetracks' policies may change, you should also carefully check the overnight and the horsemen's information section of each racetrack's website for updates.

Lone Star Park and Sam Houston Race Park Change Shipping Requirements

On November 2, Lone Star Park and Sam Houston Race Park announced that, effective immediately, horses originating from any premise under quarantine for Equine Piroplasmosis shall not enter either racetrack's premises. Horses entering from any part of Kleberg County or adjacent counties (Nueces, Jim Wells, Brooks and Kenedy) not under quarantine may enter each track's premises so long as animals are accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection prepared and signed by an accredited veterinarian within fourteen (14) days, and these horse will be required to be in an isolated area only while at the tracks (at Lone Star Park, specifically in Barn E-7).

Though not required at this time, Lone Star Park and Sam Houston Race Park recommend that all horses shipping in, regardless of origin, be inspected by a veterinarian for ticks upon arrival. 🐾

Texas Race Track Chaplains

Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie

Chaplain Sam Ed Spence
Office: (972) 237-4818
Cell: (817) 909-2850

Asst. Chaplain Eddie Rodriguez
Office: (972) 237-1168
Cell: (214) 908-8678

Retama Park

Chaplain Mike Bingaman
Office: (210) 651-7058
Cell: (210) 887-5581

Sam Houston Race Park

Senior Chaplain Jose Daniel Corte, Jr.
Office: (281) 807-7236 (English)
Office: (281) 807-8864 (Spanish)

Asst. Chaplain Vicente Ruiz
(Also chaplain for Manor Downs)
Cell: (281) 802-3050

Review: Beyond the Homestretch

by Richard E. Glover, Jr.

On November 1st, New World Library released, "Beyond the Homestretch: What I've Learned from Saving Racehorses," by Lynn Reardon. If that name sounds familiar to you, it should – Lynn is the executive director or LOPE (LoneStar Outreach to Place Ex-Racers) Texas, a nonprofit devoted to providing new careers for retiring racehorses of all breeds in Texas that has transitioned over 700 Texas ex-racehorses into new homes since 2003. The Texas Horsemen's Partnership has been a supporter of LOPE since its early days.

According to Reardon, "When the LOPE ranch opened, we expected only a few horses. Instead, nearly 40 ex-racehorses were donated the first year alone. Every type of horse came to the ranch: injured, sound, fast, slow, old, young. I became fascinated, then inspired by their unique characters and athletic heroism. So inspired that I wrote a book about them."

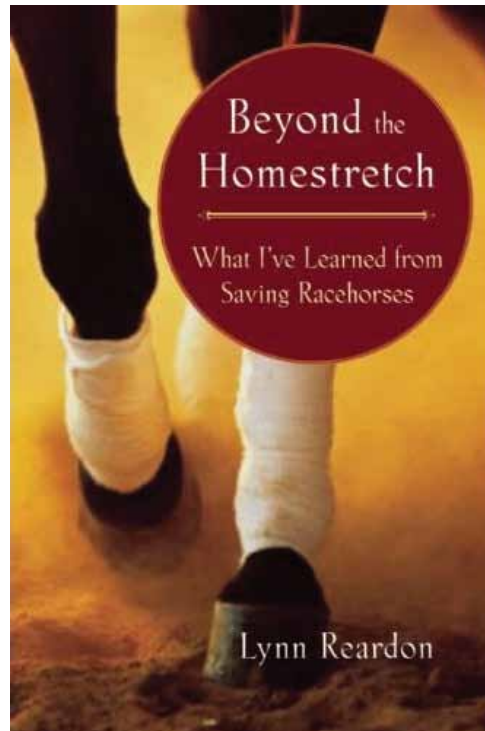
She continued, "'Beyond the Homestretch' tells the stories of many memorable LOPE horses and what they taught me. We hope for the book to not only promote the value and versatility of ex-racehorses, but also help raise funds for LOPE."

To that end, but a significant portion of the book royalties will directly support LOPE in its efforts to provide new careers and find new homes for Texas ex-racehorses.

New World Library was kind enough to provide me with an advanced copy of the book for review purposes, and I sat down to read it not knowing exactly what to expect. Was it going to be a hit-you-over-the-head message-laden book about how owners and trainers need to do a better job of caring for or finding homes for their racehorses after their racing careers are over? After all, isn't that what one should expect of a book with this title written by someone who runs a retired racehorse nonprofit?

Like me, many of you have come in contact with Lynn Reardon over the last several years. And if you have, you know there's nothing typical about Lynn. So the answer to my question was no – such an in-your-face, preachy

approach is just not Lynn's style. Lynn prefers to teach by example, and it is her energy and passion that inspire the people around her to see her point of view. That, in a nutshell, is what "Beyond the Homestretch: What I've Learned from Saving Racehorses" is all about.



First-time author Reardon wastes no time drawing in the reader with an intense story about a medical emergency she faced with a horse on the LOPE ranch known as Spider. Through the harrowing tale of an incident that threatens Spider's life, Reardon deftly puts the reader in the situation with her prose, at the same time lightening the mood periodically with her often self-deprecating humor.

Reardon is a former Washington D.C.-based pencil pusher who, along with her husband, Tom, left everything she knew behind to pursue the dream of starting up a non-profit for retiring racehorses in Texas. Once she arrived in the Lone Star State, she threw herself heart and soul into making it work.

As she details in the book, Reardon did not even start riding horses until she was an adult. Through hard work and a lot of trial and error, she has become an adept horsewoman, busi-

ness promoter, fundraiser, and retired racehorse advocate.

Reardon engagingly tells the stories of several of the horses that have crossed her path since she started LOPE Texas in "Beyond the Homestretch," never preaching, but rather letting the each horse's story tug on the emotions of the reader. It is the aggregate of the stories that help the reader build to the realization of what important functions organizations like LOPE Texas and people like Reardon play in our industry.

"Beyond the Homestretch" is both an easy and satisfying read. Reardon's conversational tone made it easy to feel like I was sitting and listening to Lynn tell the stories to me. Lynn's passion and excitement for what she does comes shining through, and her easy sense of humor helps lighten even the most stressful stories. I found myself running a gamut of emotions – from fear to relief to anger, amusement, empathy, and joy.

"Beyond the Homestretch" will touch the heart of anyone who loves horses – especially racehorses. It will remind you that every horse can be someone's perfect hero or companion, and they all should be treated accordingly. And for those who have spent time around horse farms and race-tracks, many of the colorful characters that cross Reardon's path will bear striking similarities to people you may know. Simply said, there's just a lot to like about Reardon's first book.

"Beyond the Homestretch: What I've Learned from Saving Racehorses" is available at bookstores and online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). A significant portion of the book royalties will directly support LOPE Texas.

Reardon will be doing several book signings around the state. So far, scheduled signings include:

November 19, 7:00 p.m. – BookPeople Books, 603 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78703, (512) 472-5050

November 22, Time TBA, Hy Court Farm, 4656 FM 535, Cedar Creek, TX 78612, (512) 581-3032

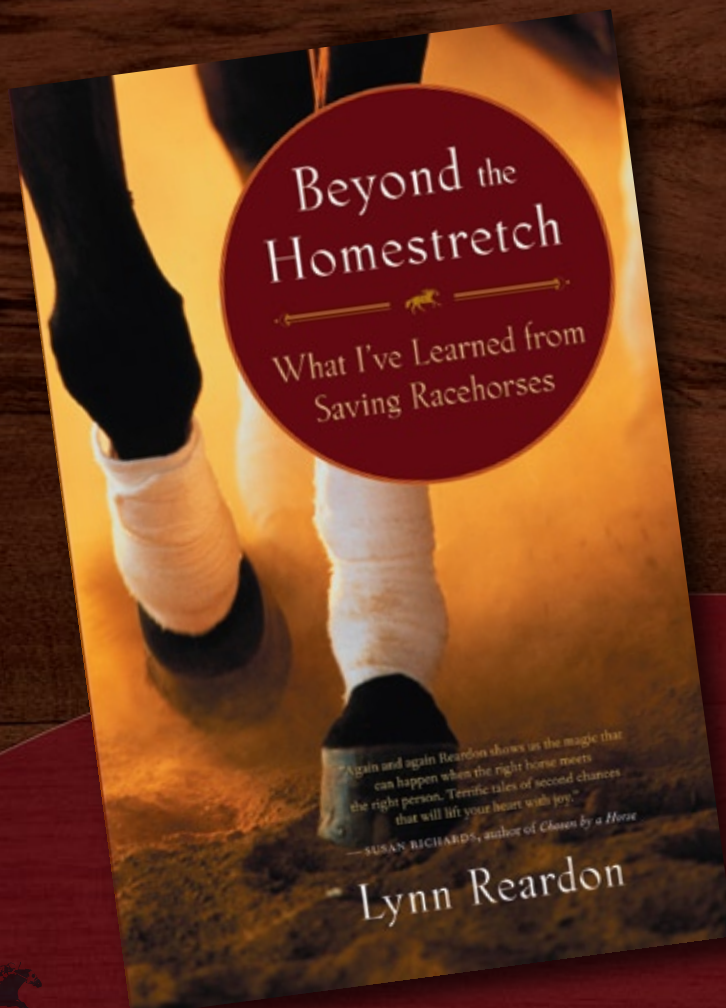
December 10, 7:00 p.m. – Legacy Books, 7300 Dallas Pkwy., Plano, TX 75024, (972) 398-9888

December 12, 4:00-6:00 p.m. – Tack Shop of Austin, 3435 Greystone Dr., Austin, TX 78731, (512) 345-9966

The new book about the second lives of Texas racehorses



Reardon shares an unlikely story. In 2002, she quit her DC office job and moved to Texas to open the racehorse placement program LOPE. At the LOPE adoption ranch, Reardon encountered dozens of unruly racehorses, all with special needs, unusual histories and vivid personalities. As she fumbled to help them make the shift to new careers, they returned the favor — by becoming her most memorable mentors in horsemanship and life philosophy.



"Beyond the Homestretch is a fascinating read for horsemen and horse lovers alike. Lynn writes eloquently about her equine adventures, really bringing out the individual characters of the horses while also vividly depicting life on a Texas ranch. Lynn's organization, LOPE, and her work on the Texas racing circuit, is a wonderful model for others to emulate."

— Alex Brown, exercise rider and creator of alexbrownracing.com

Support LOPE and get your copy today!

A significant portion of proceeds will directly support LOPE's mission of providing Texas ex-racehorses with opportunities for new careers after their racing days end. lopetx.org

Read a sample and meet the horses at.... beyondthehomestretch.com



Chaplain's Corner: Kindergarten – A Testimony

by Chaplain Sam Ed Spence, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie

Several years ago, my good friend, western artist Chuck DeHaan, painted a cowboy scene that he named "Kindergarten." It depicts a young bronc going through the lessons of his first saddling. One day, I was in Chuck's studio studying this painting when I felt a distinct witness from the Lord that I had been just like this bronc very often in my life when it came to walking with Him.

Surveying the painting, I realized that the horse has a lot of misconceptions about this two-legged critter that has him snubbed up. Truth is, the cowboy really wants what's best for the youngster. The blinders, hobbles, and snubbin' post are actually designed to help the horse, to keep him from getting hurt, and to make it easier to get used to a new way of life.

But the bronc doesn't understand this. He's fighting with all he's got to maintain his freedom. Actually, he's just flat scared of the cowboy, the same as many of us have been afraid of God, simply because we've not truly understood what He is like. He's a stranger to us, and many of us spent a big portion of our lives avoiding most anything that we thought pertained to God.

Most of what we thought we knew about God came from religious traditions, fables, or angry preachers. Looking back at my early years, it's not too difficult to understand why I had pictured God as an angry creator who would one day catch up with me, drop the hammer and smash me like a gnat. How wrong could I be!

God is just the opposite. In fact, in I John 4:18, the Bible tells it all in a nutshell: "God is love." And that word — love (in the Greek language, agape) — has a much deeper meaning than the way we use it to describe our feelings about racehorses, peanut butter, or fishing. Agape is a love that is not conditional on the recipient's actions, reactions, or worthiness. Probably the best example of agape love is the well-known verse, John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

Look at what this God-kind of love entails — the whole world! He's not going around dropping the hammer on sinners or believers. Instead, He has sent the Holy Spirit to lavish His love — this supernatural love — on anyone who will believe and receive it. This is God's true nature — a love so complete, so unconditional, so impartial, and so available.

Getting back to the Kindergarten bronc, I want to share one of the times God tried to saddle me ... with His love.

It was a summer night in 1972, very near midnight. I had worked late at the office in town and was driving home to the ranch, a lease we had about 20 miles northeast of Fort Worth. Traffic on the freeway was almost non-existent, and as I drove across a high overpass, the city skyline loomed up in a crystal clear, star-studded night. Suddenly, as fast as an eye can blink, my whole being was flooded with an emotion that (at the time) was very foreign to me — peace, absolute total peace; it seemed to fill my car and permeate my soul. I vividly remember thinking to myself, "My goodness, I don't remember feeling like this since I was a little worry-free kid in grade school. What's going on here?"

For years, I had experienced periodic times of considerable depression, but this peace in my car was entirely at the other

end of the scale — pure bliss! Moments later, these words came to my consciousness (not audible, but as plain as if printed on a page): "You know, Sam, there's a better way to live this life ... a way for you to experience this all the time."

Years later, I would come to understand this wooing of the Holy Spirit (the true nature of God), but at the time I had little concept of what was taking place, more or less thinking this was simply a conversation with myself. Yet, I also had the correct answer to the proposal presented to me. I knew in my heart that the "better way" was to turn my life over to God and get in step with Him.

Almost immediately, another "voice" spoke to me, as if there was someone sitting in the passenger seat of my car, taking in this whole episode: "But, Sam, if you turn your life over to God you'll have to give up 'this' and 'that,' etceteras, etceteras, etceteras ... why that would take all the fun out of your life!"

With no concept of the spiritual battle that was being fought out in my car (between my ears) in those brief moments, I gave in to the latter suggestion. By the time I reached the gravel driveway to the ranch house, the midnight euphoria had passed away.

I continued on my way. Amazingly, even though my way had produced what doctors called "a heart attack with some arterial damage" at the unseemly age of 30, I still balked at giving up the pressures and sin in my life that had me headed for sure destruction.

Much like Chuck's bronc in the round pen — even though the Lord had snubbed me up with the kindest treatment one could imagine — I fought it, bucking off the blanket before He could ever get the saddle in place.

But you can bet that cowpoke in "Kindergarten" didn't quit on this old colt just because he pitched a little fit. No, he just kept speaking softly, finally getting the youngster's confidence, then gently laying the blanket over his withers, easing the

saddle in place, then slowly cinching it up.

Within a year of my midnight drive to the ranch, I submitted to a continual inner urging to get our young daughters (ages four and five at the time) into Sunday school. After taking the girls down to a small, local Methodist church and picking them up an hour later, Marge (my wife) and I found ourselves in Sunday school and church the following week. The blanket stayed on this time.

A few months later, our Sunday school teacher took Marge and I to a Christian businessmen's Saturday night dinner, where I heard my first real testimony for Jesus. The speaker was a big, husky fellow, way over six feet tall and looked like he could have played linebacker for the Cowboys. At that time, he was the pastor of a church in central Texas. Formerly, he was a hit man for the Hell's Angels motorcycle gang in California ... and the love of God was pouring out of him.

I was in awe. I well recall thinking to myself, "My God, if He will use a guy like this, He might even have something for me to do!" In the alter call that followed the testimony, Marge jumped up and went forward. I followed her ... the Lord was cinching up the saddle. Thank goodness He didn't quit on this ol' kindergarten bronc when I bucked all those blankets off. And He never quits on anyone. 🙏



Kindergarten by Chuck DeHaan

WE DON'T HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE WITHOUT YOUR HELP.



THE NTRA'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION CAMPAIGN (LAC) RELIES ON THE GENEROSITY OF INDUSTRY MEMBERS LIKE YOU – WILL YOU JOIN US?

- LAC is an NTRA program that helps support Federal lobbying in Washington, D.C. to benefit the racing and breeding industries
- Thoroughbred buyers, sellers and consignors and their clients may participate by contributing ¼ % of the price of a horse sold at Fasig-Tipton, Keeneland and OBS
- **NEW!** Owners and breeders also may participate by contributing to The Foal Fund, the NTRA's new voluntary funding program – visit www.TheFoalFund.com for more information
- LAC endows the American Horse Council to represent NTRA on issues endemic to all horse breeds
- LAC produces advocacy pieces for NTRA members to use at state level government
- Participants automatically become NTRA members who may then receive preferred pricing from NTRA Advantage, offering products and services from companies like John Deere, UPS and others

Visit www.SupportHorseRacing.org for more information or contact Joe Bacigalupo, director of membership development at joeb@ntra.com or (800) 792-6872, ext. 677.



Sam Houston Thoroughbred Meet Opens November 27

Sam Houston Race Park will open its 63-day 2009/2010 Winter/Spring Thoroughbred Meet on November 27. The meet will run through April 3, 2010 and features a \$1.19 million stakes schedule.

The biggest night of the meet will be on Saturday, December 5 with the running of Texas Champions Day, which consists of seven stakes races with total purses of \$400,000 restricted to accredited Texas-breds. In addition to the Texas-bred stakes that night, Sam Houston will also offer the new \$100,000-guaranteed Gallery Furniture Distaff for fillies and mares, three years old and upward, going 1 1/8 miles on the main track. Nominations for all of the December 5 stakes will close on Wednesday, November 25.

The second biggest night of the meet will be on Saturday, January 30 with the running of the prestigious \$200,000-added John B. Connally Turf Cup (Gr. IIIT) - the only graded stakes race for Thoroughbreds at Sam Houston. The same night of the Connally, the track will also offer the \$50,000-guaranteed Jersey Lilly Stakes. Nominations for both close on Wednesday, January 20.

On Saturday, February 20, the track will offer the

\$125,000-guaranteed Jim's Orbit Stakes for three-year-old colts and geldings going one mile, as well as the \$125,000-guaranteed Two Altazano Stakes for three-year-old fillies going one mile.

Saturday, March 27 will feature the \$100,000-guaranteed MAXXAM Gold Cup for older horses and the \$50,000-guaranteed Sam Houston Distaff for older fillies and mares. Nominations for both close on Wednesday, March 17.



New 123racing Wager

Starting on November 9, Sam Houston started offering the new 123racing pari-mutuel wager. Similar to a Pick Six, the 123racing wager is a \$2 base bet allowing the bettor to one pick in each designated race, after which they are awarded points for selecting the first, second and third place finishers. As bettors accumulate points, they are ranked on a dynamic leader board, essentially competing against one another for the top leader board spot and a share of the pari-mutuel pool. In addition, the top three scorers take a share of the pool at the conclusion of the event. The track says this type of wager combines the excitement of fantasy sports with live horse racing. 🐾



THE TEXAS
HORSEMEN'S NEWS

DEC. 2009 ISSUE ADVERTISING DEADLINE

ADVERTISING SPACE RESERVATIONS:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009

AD MATERIALS DUE:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
TO RESERVE SPACE, CALL:

(512) 467-9799

OR E-MAIL

THPNEWS@AUSTIN.RR.COM

2010 Race Dates for Texas

Gillespie County Fairgrounds

Mixed Meet: July 3, 4, 17, 18, August 14, 15, 28, 29 (8 days)

Laredo Race Park

Mixed Meet: August 28-29 (2 days)

Lone Star Park

Thoroughbreds: April 8-July 18 (60 days)

Quarter Horses: September 17-November 13 (29 days)

Manor Downs

Mixed Meet: March 6-April 18 (14 days)

Retama Park

Thoroughbreds: August 27-November 6 (30 days)

Sam Houston Race Park

Thoroughbreds: January 1-April 3 (45 days)

November 26-December 31 (16 days)

Quarter Horses: April 30-August 14 (45 days)

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TRAINING CENTER NOW OPEN!

Retama Park Is Open For Training
November 16, 2009 – August 15, 2010

EACH BARN INCLUDES

- Outward Facing Stalls • 12 Tackrooms
- 2 Interior Feed Rooms • Horse Walkers
- 4 Wash Racks with Hot and Cold Water
- Coin-operated Laundry Room

DORMITORIES

- 5 Dorms (100 Rooms) • Air-conditioned
- Restrooms in Each Dorm
- \$30.00 per Week

STALL RENT FEES

- \$5.00 per Day
- \$4.50 per Day for 28 or More Stalls
- Official works not published unless copy of foal certificate on file in race office.
- Current negative Coggins and Health Certificate required.



RETAMA PARK™

(210) 651-7041 **(800) 473-8262**
James Leatherman Amber Doege
San Antonio, Texas



LONE STAR PARK
at Grand Prairie®

A MAGNA ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

The Horses Are Ready. Are You?

2010 SPRING THOROUGHBRED SEASON

April 8 - July 18 (60 Racing Days)

| April | | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

| May | | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

| June | | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

| July | | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

■ = Live Racing

2009 FALL MEETING OF CHAMPIONS FOR AMERICAN QUARTER HORSES

SEPTEMBER 17 - NOVEMBER 13, 2010 (29 RACING DAYS)