



OHHA NEWS



**BREED, BUY & RACE IN OHIO!
OHIO IS FOR WINNERS!**

December 2018

Foiled Again, Final Ohio Stop



© CONRAD PHOTO

Foiled Again made his final stop in Ohio on his Farewell Tour at Hollywood Dayton Raceway November 10th where came home with the victory, win number 106.



Mark Lowe, Nick Turley, Chris Page, Carlee Comer and Gregg Keidel celebrate with Foiled Again!

Aaron Merriman Becomes First Driver in History to Post Multiple 1,000-Win Seasons

By Ayers Ratliff

Aaron Merriman became the first driver in the history of harness racing to achieve multiple 1,000-win seasons when he scored in the twelfth race on Saturday (November 24) at Northfield Park. The triumph was a gate-to-wire victory aboard Zumba in 1:57.3 over a sloppy surface.

Harness Racing fans have been counting down Merriman's victories all over social media, tracking the well-traveled reinsman across the Midwest at racetracks near Cleveland, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Dayton, Ohio.

Merriman raised his whip with elation as he crossed the wire to celebrate his historic achievement.

"It was such a good feeling to do something that has never been done before," explained Merriman. "I definitely got caught up in the moment as I neared the wire and knew I had it won."

Last year Merriman became only the fourth driver in harness racing history to score 1,000 wins in a single year, posting a total of 1,095 victories. It took him only a year to become the first ever to repeat that feat.

"I love to win and I don't try to look much further ahead than the next race," said Merriman. "I figure that I will just win as many as I can for as long as I can and keep driving day-to-day."

Merriman, now just 40, keeps a torrid schedule, driving in over 4,000 races during each of the last five seasons.

"I'm definitely tired, not of winning, just tired," stated Merriman. "I don't know how long I can or will keep this schedule. But I am for now. Who knows what the future will hold?"



Photo by JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc.

**Note as of 12/4/18 Merriman has 1,044 wins in 2018 and \$9,757,957 in winnings.*

Ohio Fair Managers Association Convention January 3-6, 2019 Harness Racing Related Sessions

Friday, January 4, 2019 at the Columbus Convention Center

- 9:30-11:30 am Harness Racing (Room: Fairfield)
- 2:00-4:00 pm Ohio Harness Racing Workshop and Roundtable (Room: Marion)
- 4:30-5:00 pm Managing Your Harness Racing Funds (Room: Marion)

2019 OHHA Banquet information, reservation form and P.A.C.E.R. Stallion Service Auction information are on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.



Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association

2237 Sonora Dr. | Grove City, OH 43123 | 614-221-3650 | www.ohha.com | Facebook: OhioHarnessHorsemensAssociation

2018 Racing Dates

Northfield Park
Jan. 1- Dec. 30

Hollywood at Dayton
Raceway
Sept. 10- Dec. 29

2019 Racing Dates

Northfield Park
Jan. 1- Dec. 30

Miami Valley Gaming
Jan 4- May 6

Eldorado Scioto Downs
May 7- Sept. 7

Hollywood at Dayton
Raceway
Sept. 10- Dec. 28

Upcoming OHHA Board Meetings

January 18th

1st Quarter OHHA Board Mtg
Marriott Columbus Univ. Area
3100 Olentangy River Rd.
Columbus, OH, 43202

April 25th

2nd Quarter OHHA Board Mtg
at OHHA Office.

July 11th

3rd Quarter OHHA Board Mtg
at OHHA Office.

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

Dates to Remember

January 3-6

Ohio Fair Convention
Hyatt Regency
Downtown Columbus

January 19

OHHA Annual Awards
Banquet/USTA District 1
meeting.
Marriott Columbus Univ. Area
3100 Olentangy River Rd.
Columbus, OH, 43202

2018 Director Meeting

Attendance	1/12/2018	1/13/2018	4/26/2018	5/17/2018	7/12/2018	10/24/2018
Jim Arledge, Jr	√	√	√	√	√	√
Dan Ater	√	√	√	EX	A	A
Steve Bateson	√	EX	√	√	√	√
Hugh Beatty, Jr	√	√	√	√	√	√
MaryJo Bross	√	√	√	√	√	√
Brian Brown	√	√	EX	√	√	√
Roy Burns	√	√	√	√	√	√
Scott Cox	EX	EX	EX	A	EX	√
Senena Esty	√	√	√	EX	√	√
Dr. Al Gabel	√	EX	√	A	A	√
Kevin Greenfield	√	√	√	√	√	√
Randy Haines	√	√	√	√	EX	√
Scott Hagemeyer (1/15)	√	√	√	A	√	√
Emily Hay (4/16)	√	√	EX	A	√	√
Amy Hollar	√	√	√	A	√	√
Don "Skip" Hoovler	√	√	√	A	√	√
Dr. Randy Hutchison	EX	EX	√	A	EX	√
Cheri Johnson (10/15)	√	√	√	√	√	√
Suanne Kochilla	√	√	√	A	EX	√
John Konesky, III	√	A	√	A	√	√
Deborah Martinez-Morales (2-17)	√	√	√	√	√	√
Randy Leopard (4/15)	√	√	√	√	√	√
Renee Mancino	√	√	√	√	√	√
Rick Martindale	√	√	√	A	√	√
Regina Mayhugh	√	√	√	√	√	√
Steve McCoy	√	EX	√	EX	√	√
Joe Mclead	√	√	√	√	√	√
John Melsheimer	√	√	√	A	√	√
Brett Merkle	√	√	√	√	√	√
Scott Mogan	√	√	√	√	√	√
Virgil Morgan Jr.	√	EX	√	A	A	√
Jacob Mossbarger (1/17)	A	A	√	√	EX	√
Dr. John Mossbarger	√	√	EX	√	√	EX
Linda Nance	√	√	√	√	√	√
Michael Polhamus (10/15)	√	√	√	A	A	EX
Ayers Ratliff	√	√	√	A	√	EX
Dayle Roof	EX	EX	√	√	√	√
Susan Schroeder	√	√	√	√	√	√
Steve Sexton (1/16)	EX	EX	√	√	EX	A
Kent Sherman	EX	√	√	A	EX	A
Robert Sidley	√	√	A	A	A	EX
Kurt Sugg (1/17)	EX	EX	√	A	EX	√
Brad Wallace	√	√	√	EX	√	EX
Mark Winters	√	√	EX	A	EX	√

√ Present

A Absent

Also in attendance May 15, 2018

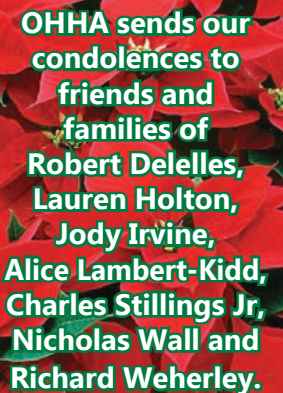
To special meeting for Ohio Owner and Ohio bred
Jay Mossbarger - Dave Elliott - Doyle Bross - Jim Pollock
16 Present with 21 Absent - 4 Excused - 7 Employees

CELEBRATIONS!

Luke Hanners took his 1st driving win 11/5/18 at Dayton Raceway.

Man He Can Skoot, nine year old pacer, won his 50th career win at Northfield Park on 10/30/18. He is trained by Brian Loney for Bradly Schwartz of Chicago, Illinois. Aaron Merriman was in the sulky.

Ohio-bred Super Schissel won his division in Matron Stakes at Dover Downs November 8th.



OHHA sends our condolences to friends and families of Robert Deelles, Lauren Holton, Jody Irvine, Alice Lambert-Kidd, Charles Stillings Jr, Charles Stillings Jr, Nicholas Wall and Richard Weherley.

Western Ohio Colt Racing Association Fairs Join the Ohio Colt Racing Association

by Lisa Schwartz

The Ohio Colt Racing Association is pleased and proud to announce that the 9 member fairs of the Western Ohio Colt Racing Association have joined our circuit. All 20 fairs are excited for the new opportunities that lie ahead for both the member fairs and the horsemen. Together both circuits held an awards banquet on Sunday November 11, 2018 to celebrate 2018's achievements and enjoy a wonderful dinner with beautiful awards and great door prizes from all over the horse industry. The evening was a tribute to all the dedication and hard work in the history of both circuits and to kick off a terrific 2019 in the Ohio Colt Racing Association, our 86th season of county fair colt stakes, with 20 total fairs.

OHHA Office Staff

Renée Mancino
Executive Director

Cheri Johnson
Office Administrator

Deborah Martinez-Morales
Senior Accountant

Regina Mayhugh
Communications Director

Linda Nance
Benefits Administrator

Susan Schroeder
Project Coordinator

Amy Hollar
Northfield Park
(614) 778-5905

OHHA Track Reps

Brett Merkle
Scioto Downs, Miami Valley
Gaming & Racing, Hollywood at
Dayton Raceway
(614) 354-1601

Breeder's Awards Updates

Renée Mancino

The Breeder's Award program requirements have undergone finetuning by the OHHA Board by year of mare bred and registered since the program's initial introduction in the OHHA's September 2016 Buckeye Horsemen's magazine. The Program Rules were clarified in the January 2017 OHHA Newsletter, updated again and posted in the April, 2017 OHHA Newsletter, September 2017, and September 2018 Buckeye Harness Horseman.

There are four key criteria that must be complied with to be eligible to receive a Breeder's Award Distribution. (1) Mare Registration, (2) Mare Registration Deadline Date, (3) Association Membership, and (4) Mare Residency.

Mare Registration:

For Ohio Standardbred Horses by an Ohio Standardbred stallion born from 2013 to 2016, all are eligible to earn Breeder's Awards. Those born in 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016 were eligible for Breeder's Awards without their dams being registered.

Beginning in 2016 forward, the dam bred is required to be registered with the Breeder's Awards program by a date certain in the year of conception.

Mare Registration Deadline Date, Year of Conception:

In 2016 and 2017, the Deadline Date for Mare Registration was December 31st.

For mares bred in 2018, that deadline date was moved to November 30th for the 2018 mares bred to more closely follow the List of Mares Bred submission dates with the United States Trotting Association and Ohio State Racing Commission. In 2018 only, as a transition year on the November Deadline Date, the drop-dead date for Mare registration is December 31, 2018.

For mares bred in 2019 there will be no mare registrations accepted after

the November 30, 2019 Deadline Date without a late fee payment accruing and being made in conjunction with the Mare Registration. The drop-dead date for Mare registration remains December 31, 2019. However, if the Registration is not post-marked (with an official U.S. Postal Service Postmark) or received at the OHHA Offices by the November 30th Deadline Date, a late fee of \$100 per Mare in addition to the Mare Registration Fee of \$20 must be paid for valid registration.

Association Membership:

When Mare Registration was implemented, Association Membership was also required. The requirement for Breeders' Membership is and has always been for all Breeders of a Mare (USTA registry's owner(s) of the mare at the time of conception). If a Mare was legally owned by a stable or business entity then the business entity or stable must pay for an Associate Membership and all Members or Affiliates of the entity or stable are required to be Full-Active Members of the Association. There are three different ways the Membership requirement has been treated thus far for registered mares. The Membership requirements differ depending upon the mare's registration year.

For mares registered in 2016, all Breeders had to be an Association Member as follows: 2016 – First-year implementation grace period provided, no membership required. 2017 - No membership required. 2019 and 2020 - Membership required.

For mares registered in 2017, all Breeders are required to be an Association Member in the following years: 2017, 2018, 2020 & 2021.

For mares registered for the Breeders Awards Program in 2018 (foals born in 2019), all Breeder are required to be an Association Member as follows: 2018 no membership required, 2019 membership required.

In the case of a Deceased Breeder, the Association's Membership requirement for that Breeder was waived from the year of the Deceased Breeder's death forward.

For all divisions and all years, the award earned by each horse as calculated is based on the purse dollars earned by that horse in Ohio stakes races each year compared to the total purse dollars earned by all the horses in its division in Ohio stakes races that year that are eligible to earn breeder's awards, expressed as a percentage. That percentage is then multiplied by the total dollars that are allocated to breeder's awards for the horses in that division, with the result rounded to the nearest whole dollar. Any breeder's award that calculates to less than \$50.00 is treated as \$0 earned and not paid.

Ohio Standardbred Horses sired by an Ohio Standardbred stallion born from 2013 to 2016 had the formula above applied by division for all horses that earned stakes money in Ohio. Checks were mailed out to those Breeders by the first quarter of the following year.

For foals of 2017 forward, a 187-Day Ohio Mare Residency is required.

Breeder's Awards for Ohio Standardbred Horses sired by an Ohio Standardbred stallion born from 2017 forward will be paid out to those that met and continue to satisfy all the criteria as outlined above including, Mare Registration (includes deadline date and/or late fee compliance) and Association Membership. **From 2017 forward**, in addition to those requirements, the Mare must reside in the State of Ohio for a minimum of 187 days in the year of foaling.

To maintain eligibility for receipt of Breeder's Awards, strict adherence to the complete Program Rules for any of the criteria outlined above and in effect for any given year, is necessary to continue eligibility for the Breeder and ultimately receipt of the Breeder's Award.

Assignments in Interest Relating to Breeder's Awards

Consult with your attorney on how to handle legal transfers of Breeder's Awards. Every year, the Breeder's Award Program Rules required correspondence with and ultimately payment (at the time of distribution) to the first listed Breeder of record in the United States Trotting Association's Breed Registry.

The Association does accept validly executed, legal, Powers of Attorney for the purposes of corresponding with or sending documents to anyone other than the first listed Breeder. A Power of Attorney is only recognized if used for the purpose of correspondence. As with any Power of Attorney, they automatically terminate when the individual granting the power of attorney dies.

The Association also recognizes validly executed, legal, Assignments of Interest. Assignments of Interest put the Assignee in the shoes of the USTA Registry first-listed Breeder (Assignor) that will ultimately receive the Breeder's Award Distribution. It is used to completely and legally transfer the right to receive Breeder's Awards at the time of Distribution from the official United States Trotting Association's first listed Breeder to anyone else. This process requires that the Assignee continue to pay any obligations that remain to be paid to continue eligibility from the point of Assignment forward (i.e., Membership Fees). An Assignment provides a way to transfer the right to have the property (Breeder's Award) distributed to another third party, as long as the third party fulfills any remaining obligations for receipt of the distribution.

At the time of acceptance of a Power of Attorney or Assignment, the Breeder's Award must be valid and in effect, with all program requirements met as-of the date of Assignment. Neither document will be accepted unless that is the case.

As always, with any programs administered by the OHHA, contact us with any questions.

Farewell Message from Your President

R. Kevin Greenfield

As my four year tenure as President of your Association comes to an end in January, I want to take a moment to reflect upon the last four years and what we have to look forward to in the future.

It has been my privilege to serve as your President. The last four years have been a challenging transition period marked with the advent of VLT's in Ohio. I have always viewed my role as President to be lead and steer the course of the ship, so to speak, thus allowing those who have the requisite knowledge and expertise to manage the day to day operations of the Association. This has been successfully accomplished by your OHHA Board, Executive Director, OHHA Staff, Vice President Steve Bateson (soon to be your new President), our Lobbyists and all our volunteers, all of whom have unselfishly given their time and efforts to better the Ohio program for our members.

Without question, Ohio has developed into the finest regional program in North America. This would not have been possible without the initial support of VLT legislation by Governor John Kasich which was spearheaded by the current Chairman of the Ohio State Racing Commission, Robert Schmitz, along with retired

legislator and Ohio harness racing's biggest fan, Jim Buchy, and then Speaker of the House William Batchelder.

We are deeply indebted to all mentioned above as well as our racetrack partners and, of course, our members to get to where we are today. Why? Here are just a few of many reasons: During the last four years we have seen:

1. Over 200% increases in purses for the Ohio Sires Stakes program.
2. Implementation of new racing initiatives for Ohio horsemen and women in the forms of the lucrative Buckeye Stallion Series, the Ohio Fair Racing Conference, the Ohio Breeder's Championship and Ohio State Fair races and implementation of late closer series by our partner racetracks and racing secretaries for Ohio sired horses.

3. Implementation of a lucrative Breeder's Awards program to reward Ohio Breeders and supplemental funding to Ohio's 67 exceptional racing Fairs. 2018 funding to Ohio's Fairs of \$5.6 million overall included \$12,000 to each of the racing fairs in grant monies. Both are initiatives that have spearheaded additional

growth and jobs for Ohio Agriculture.

4. The arrival of several significant stallion prospects, many the best in North America, which has opened up more lucrative racing opportunities for Ohioans on the regional and national level.

5. Substantial increase in benefits for our horsemen and women in the form of retirement and health and sulky insurance, the very best in the industry.

6. We have dramatically increased our presence before the Ohio legislature through our PACER program with the assistance of our lobbyists employed with Byers, Minton & Associates, LLC. in Columbus, Ohio, so much so that OHHA is now recognized as an important Association within the Ohio legislature. Thank you for your continued contributions each year to PACER.

As we start a new era in 2019, Ohio's Harness Racing star is shining bright. Maintaining and growing our programs will be an OHHA priority. I leave as your President knowing our Association is in good hands thanks, to all of you. See you at the races!

The Buckeye Stallion Series Year Two

By Steve Bateson

A nice fall evening October 6th at Northfield Park capped year two of the Buckeye Stallion Series. This new racing opportunity in Ohio has been embraced with open arms by owners and trainers of Ohio Bred horses. The Buckeye Stallion Series has provided an added racing opportunity we needed in Ohio for our many quality 2- and 3-year old's.

Recapping some highlights from the 2018 Stallion Series. In 2018 the guaranteed purse was raised to \$15,000 from \$12,500 in 2017. The series added an extra leg to match the Ohio Sire Stake program with 4 legs. In 2018 the Stallion series expanded to a few fairs (Painesville, Urbana and Delaware) that helped complete the schedule for 2018.

I have a few personal highlights from the 2018 Buckeye Stallion Series I would like to share:

Good competitive three old races to start the series off at Miami Valley Gaming on a Saturday night! Thank you, Miami Valley for the opportunity.

The cookout provided for all horsemen at Painesville following the races. Some of the best roasted sweet corn I had all summer was there. This was all compliments of Robert Sidley, former OHHA President and Lake County Speed Superintendent.

The many awesome afternoons and evenings this season at Scioto Downs. Stacy Cahill and Jason Roth were very generous allowing The Buckeye Stallion Series to hold 15 events at their facility this year. Thank you, Stacy and Jason!

What can I say about the effort Champaign County Fair put forth in hosting an entire leg of 2-year-old races. Horsemen came from all over the state to support this event. 17 Buckeye Stallion Series races that evening with the great Roger Huston calling the races.

A huge crowd enjoyed this special evening of racing which saw two track records shattered and broke the record for most money ever handled at the Champaign County Fair. Job well done by Randy Leopard (Speed Chairman and Champaign Co. Fair Board President) and your team!

Our fourth and final leg this year was hosted by the Delaware County Fair. I feel the Buckeye Stallion Series helped make for a great week of racing at Delaware. The Stallion Series fit quite well with the Ohio Fair Racing Conference races and the Ohio Breeders Championship races that were already hosted that week at Delaware. I've termed the week of racing at Delaware as the World Series of Ohio Bred Racing. They do have one other big race that week at Delaware too. Thank you, Tom Wright, for the opportunity to showcase The Buckeye Stallion Series at the Delaware County Fair.

Championship Night at Northfield Park! What a beautiful evening hosted by

Buckeye Stallion Series Continued from Page 4

Brent Reitz and his excellent Northfield Park team, along with help from several staff members from our OHHA team. Many great stories that evening starting with Ilianora, a two-year-old filly trotter trained by Jason Hanna bought just five weeks earlier at the Blooded Horse Sale in Springfield, OH. She won coming out of post position eight. Not to be out done Buckeyeonbroadway, a two-year-old colt trotter trained by Jeff Edwards, also won coming out of post position eight. Atlantic Star won the championship in the two-year-old filly pace. This filly came from down the road in Wooster, Ohio from The Ohio State farm at ATI. Yankee Boots, this two-year-old colt pacer knocked everyone's boots off with an eye-popping track record performance of 1:51.3. This colt, trained by Steve Carter, was impressive and that's an understatement for his performance. The three-year-olds had some interesting stories as well. Infrontandforgetit, a three-year-old filly trotter trained by Jim Arledge Jr., won her final in 1:56.3. This filly made less than \$3,000 last year and never won a race as a two-year-old. Not to be out done three-year-old filly pacer Velocity Mcsweets, trained

by Steve Carter, picked up her 11th win of the season with a winning mile clocking in 1:52.3. This filly also failed to win a race as a two-year-old. Let's make it a trifecta! Showboat wins the three-year-old colt trot with a winning trip of 1:55.0. This colt also had zero wins as a two-year-old because of injury and only had one start as two-year-old. Virgil Morgan has guided this three-year colt to earnings in excess of \$50,000 this year. The grand finale was the three-year-old colt pace won by Rock on Creek, trained by Calvin Hollar. Rock on Creek drowned his competition with a half of 53.1 and a finishing mile of 1:51.1 pulling away. The win left his trainer Calvin Hollar speechless in the winner's circle.

As we looked to 2019, the final schedule isn't set yet, but I do have some highlights to announce that have been approved by OHHA for the Buckeye Stallion Series:

Four legs and a Final again for 2019, each of the legs having a guaranteed purse of \$17,500 per race.

Northfield Park will be back hosting legs this year, along with Miami Valley Gaming and

Scioto Downs. The Delaware County Fair will host the entire final leg again this year. Hollywood at Dayton will be hosting the increased Championship Final for \$60,000 on Sunday September 29th as a matinee event.

In closing I want to thank the many owners and trainers that have supported the Buckeye Stallion Series by nominating and racing in the series. Without you we wouldn't have a series. I also want to thank our commercial racetrack partners and county fairs that agreed to host events in 2018.

Best regards to all of you for a safe and happy holiday season along with a safe successful 2019 race season.

OHHA Participated in Helping Horses Helping Kids Event

By Regina Mayhugh

On September 7th, OHHA participated in the 11th Annual Great Pairing Event as a donor for the Helping Horses Helping Kids charity event put on by PBJ Connections in Columbus.

Beth Rolland, Development Director of PBJ Connections, INC. shared below about the charity PBJ Connections.

PBJ Connections is a non-profit mental health organization based in Licking County, Ohio that serves all of Central Ohio. PBJ Connections' mission is to **provide professional behavioral health therapy to children, adults and families through horses, counseling and nature**. They have worked over the years to maintain a professional quality of care with high ethical standards, and are Central Ohio's leading provider of EAGALA model equine-assisted psychotherapy and other innovative behavioral health services. Over the 12 years they have been operating, they have established partnerships that allow them to serve clients regardless of their ability to pay. In some cases, PBJ Connections is a family's only hope to access professional mental health services in their rural area. They have added programming and service locations over the years to meet

the changing needs of the community, and also educate the community on mental health needs and treatments that may be beneficial to people from all walks of life.

PBJ Connections was founded in 2006 by two Central Ohio residents. One was a social worker and the other was a corporate manager; both were horse lovers. They had ties with Otterbein University, who was getting ready to build a new five-million dollar equine facility in Westerville. Otterbein approached the women about starting a therapeutic equine program. In 2007, PBJ Connections served their first clients through a relationship with St. Vincent Family Center, and the Advisory Team that formed the organization also formalized into a Board of Directors.

By the end of 2017, PBJ Connections has provided more than 10,000 client hours to youth and families in Central Ohio, serving clients out of four locations including Otterbein University, The Ohio State University, and two private farms in Licking County. This was in the form of individual, group and family therapy following the EAGALA model of equine-assisted psychotherapy (EAP). Today PBJ Connections continues to serve Central Ohio and approximately 200 individuals per year at these four locations, using this model of therapy.



Rocky, the therapy horse.

Photo by A. Kasarjian Art and Photography

The EAGALA model is a non-riding method of providing therapy that relies on the horses as team members, assumes the client has their own answers and with our help can access those answers to build a story that enriches their lives. There is a licensed mental health professional and a horse behavior specialist in every session, along with a strong ethical component. Research has shown the model to be an effective and creative way to address mental health diagnoses and issues.

PBJ Connections needs support to be able to keep providing much needed services, visit their website to find out how you can help at www.pbjconnections.org.



OHHA Annual Awards Banquet & USTA District 1 Meeting



Rose Run Sydney, 3-Year-Old Trotting Filly of the Year was the 2017 Ohio Horse of the Year!

Join us to celebrate 2018 at the OHHA Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 19th at the Marriott Columbus University Area. The USTA District 1, OHHA member meeting and First Lady's Luncheon are also planned for January 19th.

- Reservations and payment for tickets for the banquet must be at the OHHA office by Friday, January 4, 2019.
- Tickets are \$30 each and can be picked up at the Banquet Reservation Table. No tickets will be sold at the door.
- There will be reserved tables available. If you would like to reserve a table, please indicate that and the name to be displayed on the table on your reservation form. Minimum reservation for a reserved table is 8 and can seat up to 10.

January 19, 2019 Agenda

- 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. USTA District 1 Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. OHHA Annual Membership Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Cocktail Hour- Cash Bar
- 5:00 p.m. Stallion Auction Closes
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Seating
- 6:00 p.m. OHHA Annual Awards Banquet
- 9:00 p.m. After Party with live entertainment and cash bar.

Room Reservations must be made by January 4, 2019, by calling (614) 447-9777. Ask for the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association Block to get discounted rate of \$125 or book via the reservation link on the OHHA Website <https://ohha.com/ohha-awards-banquet.html>.

Annual First Lady's Luncheon

Ladies are invited to join First Lady Nancy Greenfield for a luncheon and charity project. The ladies will making Welcome blankets for the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) and a representative will speak at the luncheon.

The ladies will be gifting to those families that visit the RMH instead of having a gift exchange. If you would like to participate, bring a gift bag with items for the families. Their welcome bags usually include a stuffed animal, a toiletry kit of some kind, small toys, and a book or two, but feel free to bring anything you would like.

Other items that the RMH are in need of include: Paper towels, gas gift cards, liquid dish soap (i.e. Dawn), HE laundry soap (PODS preferred), 55 gallon heavy duty trash bags, kitchen hand towels (new), copy paper, disinfecting spray (i.e. Lysol) or disinfectant wipes, gallon sized storage bags, wet cloth pads for Swiffer mops, individual hand soap, Scrubbing Bubbles or similar for bath tubs, double scrubber bowl brushes, plastic zipper bags (sandwich-sized), small boxes of cereal, postage stamps (forever & postcard), disinfectant cleaning wet wipes, gift cards to Petco, Mutts & Co., or Pet Supplies Plus. Linens are always needed: flat sheet – full-sized, white, fitted sheet (full-sized, white, deep pockets), white washcloths and white hand towels.

Banquet Reservation Form

Tickets are \$30 each. Reservation and/or payment must be received by the OHHA office by **January 4, 2019.**

Name of Guest(s) & Meal Preference:

(Please note beside name B- Beef, C- Chicken, F- Fish or V- Vegan)

Reserve your own table? Y or N

Tables can be reserved for 8 to 10 guests only per table. Please let your guests know the name on the table that is reserved.

Table Reservation Name.

Phone Number:

Total Tickets: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Annual First Lady's Luncheon

Please RSVP if you would like to attend. The luncheon is free of charge.

Attendees:

Political Action Committee for Equine Racing (P.A.C.E.R.) 2019 Ohio Stallion Service Auction

Bidding opens January 5, 2019 online at wedoauctions.net/ohha.

Bidding by phone opens on Saturday, January 19th at 10:00 a.m. by calling 1-800-353-6442 or 614-221-3650.

Auction closes Saturday, January 19th at 5:00 p.m.

Ohio Stallion Service Auction Rules

Bidding Rules For Stallions

- Horsemen may bid on an unlimited number of stallions, with a \$50 minimum raise.
- All bids are confidential, and bidders are responsible to raise their bids either online or via phone.
- The winning bidder must make a deposit for 10% of the bid, with \$100 minimum. Make all checks payable to P.A.C.E.R. Checks must be on personal or LLC accounts. If a check is not received at the OHHA office by Monday, January 28, 2019 the credit card that you have on file will be charged the 10% deposit.
- The balance (90%) is due upon the birth of a live foal.
- All contracts are subject to P.A.C.E.R. and farm approval and are not transferable to another mare or individual.
- Failure to present your mare to the stallion without justifiable cause will result in forfeit of entire deposit.
- If there is no live foal, the deposit, less \$25, will be refunded upon receipt of a veterinarian certificate, or the deposit may be donated to P.A.C.E.R.
- There is no return privilege.
- No ownership change on a mare is permitted until service is paid unless a statement from a licensed veterinarian declaring the mare not in foal is provided to P.A.C.E.R.

<i>Stallion</i>	<i>Fee</i>	<i>Donated By</i>	<i>Standing At</i>
PACERS			
Art Director	\$2,500	Kovach Stables, Jerry Kovach	Abby Stables
Beachtrea	\$2,000	Beachtrea Enterprises	Dublin Valley Farm
Big Bad John	\$3,000	Big Bad John	Midland Acres
Bigrisk	\$2,000	Andy Burkholder	Andy Burkholder Farm
Bring On The Beach	\$2,500	Moira Gunn	Cool Winds Farm
Domethatagain	\$3,000	Rene Allard	Abby Stables
Fear The Dragon	\$6,000	Bruce Trogdon	Midland Acres
Lost For Words	\$2,500	James Koehler	Cool Winds Farm
McArdle	\$4,000	R Kevin Greenfield	Hickory Lane Farm
Mister Big	\$2,000	Muscara Racing Trust, Robert Muscara	Abby Stables
Mr Wiggles	\$4,000	George Teague	Sugar Valley Farm
Nob Hill High	\$2,000	Scott Hagemeyer	Hagemeyer Farms
Pet Rock	\$6,000	Joe Bellino	Midland Acres
Racing Hill	\$6,000	Tom Hill	Hickory Lane Farm
Rileys Luck	\$ 750	Don Gibson	Noah Wengerd Farm
Rockin Amadeus	\$3,500	Sue Grange	Cool Winds Farm
We Will See	\$2,500	Shannon DePinto	Abby Stables
Well Said	\$5,000	Well Said Syndicate	Sugar Valley Farm
Western Terror	\$4,500	Scott Hagemeyer	Hagemeyer Farms
Western Vintage	\$3,500	Perry Soderberg	Abby Stables
Woodstock	\$2,000	Billy Walters	Sugar Valley Farm
Yankee Cruiser	\$3,500	Jay Mossbarger	Midland Acres
TROTTERS			
And Away We Go	\$2,000	Alvin Yoder	Rose Run Farm
Cash Hall	\$3,500	Alan Levitt	Cool Winds Farm
Coraggioso	\$2,500	Joe Spadaro	Cool Winds Farm
Creatine	\$4,000	Diamond Creek LLC	Sugar Valley Farm
Credit Fashion	\$1,500	Martin D Yoder	OSU ATI Equine Center
Deep Chip	\$3,000	Bradley Wallace	Hickory Lane Farm
E L Rocket	\$2,500	SRF Stables	Abby Stables
Long Tom	\$3,000	John Mossbarger	Midland Acres
Lucky Chucky	\$3,000	Randy Haines	Cool Winds Farm
Nothing But Class	\$2,500	Tobias Stallions Global	Dublin Valley Farm
Southwind Pepino	\$2,000	Hugh Beatty	Autumn Lane
Stormin Normand	\$3,000	Christina Takter	Abby Stables
Triumphant Caviar	\$5,000	Jim Gallagher	Abby Stables
Uncle Peter	\$6,000	R Kevin Greenfield	Hickory Lane Farm
What The Hill	\$7,000	R Kevin Greenfield	Hickory Lane Farm
Winning Fireworks	\$2,000	Daniel & Wayne Schlabach	Pine Grove Acres



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We must support those legislators who support us.

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

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

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

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

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

Cash is limited to \$100 contribution per year.

A special Thank You to those who donate!

A Pye In The Eye

Column by Thom Pye

A Flair for the Fair....

It started this past June after a winter's worth of preparation when we ventured from the home office in Grove City loaded with the tent, the table, and the wheel. We also brought along new t-shirts, a collection of trivia questions, and sharply-designed set of prizes and headed up to the **Paulding County Fair in Paulding** in northwestern Ohio. The very first of Ohio's 67 County Fairs with harness racing.

My journey of over 10,000 miles had begun.

Driving into the now familiar fairgrounds we waved at and were greeted by numerous people remembered from last year. "There's the guy with the Tent," was often overheard.

We were pleased to see that the press releases which we'd sent out as well as the whole of the three days of racing in its entirety was covered by The Paulding Progress along with pictures. In the midst of the evenings races I poised a question to Judge/Clerk/Announcer (and a hundred other duties) Bill Peters about an idea Susan Schroeder and I had been bantering about.

"A simple question," I offered, "something that they could find in the program like... who's the oldest driver racing tonight?" "The oldest driver?" Bill answered immediately. "That's Dave Swazey... he's 85." "Yeah," I agreed, "something easy that the fans could look up in the program and text their answer to me." "Okay," agreed Bill. "When do you want to do it?" And that was the start of our Text Trivia contest.

As a crew of us descended upon the **Pickaway County Fair in Circleville** the next week we decided to give the Racing With The Stars fan contest a trial run. OHHA Executive Director Renée Mancino had said to "see how it goes." Admittedly it was a bit of a sell to explain it to people and

even those involved but when it brought contestant Tom May into the Winners Circle for the "very first time" in his life, his smiles and excitement made us realize we had a winner.

The Circleville Herald graciously covered each racing day's recap just like when harness racing was king and the RWTS contest really made great copy as almost every contestant had a story to tell.

At **Ottawa** in Putnam County we were greeted as old friends and made welcome at Marion in their second year that racing had returned. An unexpected gust of wind at Marion lifted the unsecured (the first and only time) tent and flipped it over a six-foot high fence and onto the track upside down. As several other people sprang into action and grabbed the tent I stood slack-jawed as I had never seen anything like that in my life. It came through when a deluge of water drenched us. It was comical to think back on it and was the story repeated by many fans throughout the summer.

On to **London, Bellefontaine, Wellston, Oak Harbor, Hilliard, Washington Court House, Lebanon, Marysville**, and by now we'd gotten a good harmony going between the Wheel, the RWTS contest, and Text Trivia. Bill Peters, along with the other announcers at the Fairs (Ayres Ratliff, Chris Patterson, and Doug Ballinger) were now starting to play it up a bit. When Chris Patterson would roll out "RACING... with the Stars!" I would do my best Power Ranger stance.

The prizes were well-received... top item on the list (other than a t-shirt) were the horse can koozies ("I want one of those" was heard all summer) and I believe RWTS went through 1,500 of them. The kids went crazy over the Pony Bags with the USA's "A Standardbred Star" coloring book and crayons included. The squeals of joy and the wide grins made even the grumpiest of old curmudgeons smile.

There were long lines and fun times at **Eaton, Bowling Green, Wapakoneta, Xenia, Croton, Celina** (what a great turnout for Foiled Again), **Troy, Attica** as fans would sign up for the RWTS contest, spin the Wheel, and be quick on the cell phones for Text Trivia.

We traveled through towns almost like a whirlwind campaign tour so quick that we never saw the good press that we got along the way. I'd like to take this opportunity now to thank the Editors for

giving us copy.

The only bad stretch of weather we had all summer was in August as we went from **Hicksville to Lima** to Hicksville as rain seemed to follow us back-and-forth. Hicksville was able to get its program out but despite all the valiant efforts Lima had to cancel.

Greenville hosted the most impressive crowd when Foiled Again made his appearance at the Great Darke County Fair and brought back memories of the good times we all once shared. Mike, our RWTS contest winner, and his family has had box seats along the rail for the fair since 1986 and when he journeyed out to the Winners Circle and saw the packed grandstand before him he said somewhat in awe "this is the first time I've ever been on this side of the fence... Wow." And don't you think 2018 won't be remembered as his best fair ever?

Mt. Gilead fans were really involved with the RWTS as was the crowd at **Van Wert, Wauseon, Richwood, Montpelier, and Upper Sandusky**. The mutual folks became part of the contests as they would always stop by for a visit.

The fair regulars who traveled the circuit would always come by and always entered the RWTS contest. They became quite adept at playing Text Trivia too often, guessing the answer before I even asked the question. It became an effort for me to try and outsmart them but usually I only outsmarted myself. Once I had scoured my brain for a tougher one: "what is the only horse that has been 'on the board' - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd - for all of his 2018 starts?" called out Ayres Ratliff.

"Good question!" said perennial player Ron C. as he leafed through his book. He then calmly informed me "but there's TWO of them." "Either one's acceptable," I snapped with a shake of my head.

When we reached **Delaware** for Jug Week we had worked out most of the kinks (hopefully) and were able to give announcer Jason Settlemoir some error-free questions.

"Is this that trivia thing?" he grumbled as he sorted through stacks of his paperwork (like he didn't have enough to do already) "Okay," he consented, "I'll do a couple."

By Tuesday Jason had gotten into the spirit of it and was even playing theme songs to various quiz shows just before questions such as "Who was the first trainer/driver to win back-back Little Brown Jugs?"

Longtime Delaware horsewomen Terri M. said of the contest: "it was pretty cool to see everyone looking in their program all at



once in search of the answer" ...which was: John Simpson Sr. in '57 and '58.

OHHA gave away a lot of prizes to a lot of visitors at the Jug and the entire crew from the home office put in a very full week.

With the final fairs at **Dover, Coshocton, and Lancaster** the 2018 fair season was over and the RWTS (western division) had visited 45 Fairs.

A thank you to all the track photographers who shared their space with me: Brad, Ken, Jake, Annette, Ali, and Bob. By the way, in case you forgot: I was that guy over your right shoulder.

While we were treated so very well at all the Fairs by the Officials and crews and so many others who put in one heck of an effort to entertain the fans, I do want to give a tip of the well-worn red cap of mine to **Henry County** for going that extra mile. Not only did they keep everyone involved with music and giveaways between the races but for the six weeks leading up to their two days of racing in August sports editor Tyson Agler in the Northwest Signal ran articles about their hometown horsemen. It is press like this that shows how involved harness racing is in the community and introduces the sport to your friends and neighbors. The adage about news runs true: keep it simple and keep it local.

Added to the fact that Jeanne Gerdeman and her Speed Committee cleaned up and resurfaced the track, so the **Napoleon** fans were treated "as promised" to numerous new track records and an exciting evening of fun.

It was an example how it can be done right so that it keeps the fans coming back.

Thanks to everyone who made it a great year for Harness racing in Ohio and thank you for bringing back the thrills, the smiles and the laughter to us all.

Addendum - when we arrived for the WO-CRA/OCRA awards banquet in November we were warmly greeted by several of the Fair Directors. As one shook my hand I kiddingly asked, "where do you want me to put the tent?" "We've got a spot for you right over there by the wall," he said without missing a beat.



Sue Hackett, a RWTS contestant at Madison County, turned out to be the wife of Senator Bob Hackett and she introduced us to a campaigning (and now Ohio Governor-elect) Mike DeWine. Who knew?



Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association
2237 Sonora Dr.
Grove City, OH 43213

Have a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Fun holiday photos submitted by horsemen on the OHHA Facebook page [OhioHarnessHorsemensAssociation](#).

Old Man River, stabled/trained by Dan Ater and owned Jack Froschauer of Vandalia, OH. Submitted by Jack Froschauer. (Top Left)

Miss Liv. Submitted by Steiner Stock Farm. (Top Right)

Double Negative and E R Myron. Submitted by Kelley Gower (Bottom)

Ohio Ladies Pace Drivers Recognized at Pacing For The Cure Banquet

By Emily Hay

In 2018, a few of the Ohio Ladies Pace drivers signed up to support Pacing for the Cure. Each driver donated \$1.00 for each win throughout the season. The ladies wore a special jersey, given by Jeff and Jeanie Gesek to promote Pacing for the Cure at the races. The jerseys were designed by Ryan Macedonio and resembled each driver's colors. The jerseys will be raffled off with the proceeds going to Pacing for the Cure.

Along with the jerseys, Ohio Ladies Pace printed calendars. They were designed by Missing Link with photos by Chris Gooden. Printing was paid for by Nick Surick, Aaron Merriman, Team Allard, and Midwest Harness Magazine. These calendars were taken to various venues throughout the summer and funds from them are also going to Pacing for the Cure.

Ohio Ladies Pace received an



Pictured L-R Jeff Gesek, Emily Hay and Jeanie Gesek.

award for efforts they put forward as a team at the 2018 Pacing for the Cure Banquet, held in Harrisburg, PA. I would like to send a special Thank You to Mary Birkhold, Mariah Wright, Sierra Graham and Rosy Weaver for being part of this team.

Pacing For The Cure is a non-profit charity who helps those in need with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). The funds they receive each year go toward helping a person with MS get a scooter and funds also go toward research to help find a cure. Pledging just a \$1.00 a win can make a difference!

Want to share fun stories and/or photos? Post them on our Facebook page [OhioHarnessHorsemensAssociation](#) and our groups [OhioHarnessRacingHistory](#) and [YouthInOhioHarnessRacing](#) or send an email to rmayhugh@ohha.com.