

## Groom Appreciation Awards Presented

Congratulations to Shane Mogan and Lori Strah for being the latest Groom Appreciation award winners.

Shane is employed at Scioto Downs by trainer Scott Mogan. "He puts his heart and soul into it. When it is time for vacation he doesn't want to be gone for too long because he feels there would be a burden on everyone who works there," shared Scott.

Lori Strah is a groom at Northfield Park and is employed by Kent Sherman. "Lori has a take charge attitude. She has the desire and heart to make sure all the horses in her care feel their very best," shared Sherman.

NOTICE to trainers and anyone else who would like to nominate their favorite grooms, there has been a change to the program. The Groom Appreciation Awards in the past have been chosen by entering all nominations into a drawing. Grooms will now be chosen monthly based on merits of their application. In addition, this application will also be used to determine the Outstanding Groom Award that will be presented

at the 2019 OHHA Annual Banquet. If your groom works at the fairs, they will be included with the track they are closest to, so you can still nominate them. On your nomination form you may include up to one more sheet of additional information if needed. Please be thorough, the more comprehensive the nomination is, the better chance your nominee has of being chosen. The monthly awarded amounts will remain the same.

Nomination forms can be picked up from your OHHA track representative or can be printed from the OHHA website (http://www.ohha.com/groom-appreciation-award). Please use one form for each groom and turn forms into your OHHA track representative. You may also mail, email or fax forms to the OHHA office.

Thank you for recognizing your grooms!



## Harness Family Adds Third Generation Driver Submitted by Cindy Austen

Kolton Noble, 14 year old son of Dan Noble and grandson of Chip, drove in his first matinée race May 20<sup>th</sup>.

The matinée was held at the Darke Co. Fairgrounds in Greenville, OH. Kolton drove Light Up The Sky to a win in the Open Pace.





Photos by Brad Conrad



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

2018 Racing Dates Northfield Park Jan. 1- Dec. 30 Miami Valley Gaming Jan 5- May 7 Eldorado Scioto Downs May 8- Sept. 8 Hollywood at Dayton Raceway Sept. 10- Dec. 29

#### Dates to Remember

June 23- Charity Night at the Races at Scioto Downs

June 27 - 10 am OSRC Meeting Riffe Center, 77 S. High St, Columbus, Ohio 43215

**August 28, 29**- Summer Mixed Sale, Champions Center in Springfield, OH

#### Upcoming OHHA Board Meetings Held at the OHHA Office 2237 Sonora Dr.

Grove City, OH

Thursday, 7/12/18 Wednesday, 10/24/18

Members are always welcome. If plan to attend, RSVP by calling the OHHA office 614-221-3650

## Ohio Business Offers Fair Race Simulcasting and Race Playbacks

Did you know last summer many fairs races were being recorded so race playbacks could be seen via the Trot and Pace Marketing website (www.trotandpacemarketing.com)? This service will be available again this summer at many fairs. I asked the owners of Trot and Pace Marketing to share about how they started the business and wanted to make sure that horsemen were aware of the opportunity to watch some of their Ohio fair races via their site. Trot and Pace Marketing is a small, family owned and operated business consisting of Teresa Maddox, her husband Clyde, and her son Donald Holden.

## Trot and Pace Marketing

By Teresa Maddox

The idea came to us when we were filming our own race horse at the Michigan fairs in 2010. We wanted to be able to watch the race over and over. We decided to share the few races we filmed on our website, and it sparked a lot of interest. So, in 2011, the Michigan Standardbred Breeders Association approached us with a proposal allowing us to film more races. Unfortunately, it was shortlived due to the state of the Michigan program.

We moved to Ohio in 2013. When we decided to buy a yearling and start racing in Ohio, we started filming again. We saw a need and desire for filming harness racing at the fairs, so we contacted OHHA about it and they were on board right away. OHHA saw it as a great service we could provide for the horsemen and fans of harness racing.

OHHA decided to move forward with us on the project in 2017 as a trial referring to it as a "pilot program" enacted to gauge the reaction by owners, drivers, trainers and fans. As such, we only filmed eleven fairs in 2017, limited to the OFRC circuit. The reaction from the horsemen and fans was remarkable, but what we didn't expect was how important it became to the judges, drivers and trainers.

Several times last year we were asked by the judges to let them review our footage in slow motion so they could make the ruling on possible infractions or inquiries. Also, the replays were found very useful to drivers and trainers who wanted to see how their horse looked in case they wanted to change their rigging, or to see how they could improve their own skills. We were thrilled with the response.

The only negative comments we received were people disappointed that we didn't film at their fair, or in their circuit. So, in response to that, we are hoping to film more fairs in the OFRC as well as branching out to other circuits. We're really looking forward to traveling this summer and filming as many races as we can.

We work as a team. It's a group effort. Donald and I film the races, while husband Clyde is the chef and runs the Trot and Pace Cafe. Donald and Clyde built the food trailer from the ground up and our main intention was to provide the horsemen with food while they are working. We noticed in 2016 while attending races before we began filming in Ohio that there were many instances where the horsemen didn't have food and drinks available to them in the barn area. Last year, we attempted to fix that with our food trailer, Trot and Pace Café, but also added an extra flare.

We came up with an idea we call "local simulcasting." We have a TV mounted on the backside of our concession trailer which displays a live feed from our camera in the grandstands filming the races, providing horsemen a better vantage point to see races than they are typically able to achieve from the backstretch. Before and after racing for the day, we also show replays from previously filmed fairs. We provide a canopy to get away from the heat or rain, and a table and chairs for horsemen to relax and grab a bite to eat while they're watching replays. We only brought our concession trailer to a few fairs last year, but it was an instant hit. We hope to serve horsemen at many more fairs this year!

Anyone can visit our website and view races for free at www.trotandpace.us.

# **Youth and Standardbreds**

The Defiance County Area Horsemen Association sponsored this drawing in The Crescent-News (of Defiance, OH) 28th Annual "Kids' Design an-ad" contest. It won first place for fifth-graders. The artist was Aicha Diaw of Fairview Elementary of Sherwood, OH. Thank You, Bill Peters for sharing!



The Friendly Farmers 4-H Club had a field trip day at the Darke County Fairgrounds on May 20<sup>th</sup>. JP Silver Spur, trained by Chris Hope, is also in the photo. Special Thank You Tom Hope for talking with the 4-Hers. Amy Hanes is the group's advisor.



## **Meet Gestin Delelles**

Gestin Delelles is a young man from Delaware, Ohio who doesn't mind a little hard work and really enjoys his time working with horses. Delelles has been involved with harness horses for two years. He is fourteen years old and grooms for Brian Brown Stable.

Delelles has been in 4-H for five years

and enjoys riding and showing. He first became involved with Standardbreds when he started riding Fireside Chat. "I wanted to learn more about what he did and fell in love with harness racing," shared Delelles. "I have been riding and showing my entire life, but I also groom and jog horses at the Delaware County Fairgrounds." He also enjoys trimming and shoeing horses. What he enjoys most about harness horses is being in the cart and the excitement he feels before the race begins. His goal is to become a trainer and driver and to represent the USA in the World Driving Championship.

He travels to many fairs in Ohio as well as Scioto Downs. "My favorite racetrack is probably the Delaware County Fairgrounds. Yes, that is where I am all the time, but it is the home of the Little Brown Jug," Delelles said. When asked about how to attract other youth to the industry he shares that not every child has the opportunity of having a parent involved in racing so horsemen need to reach out to everyone that has an interest and get them involved. He also shares that you have to be a hard worker to succeed. "It is very fun, but it is also hard. The harder you work, the better you will become."

Thank you, Gestin for becoming a part of Ohio harness racing. We look forward to watching you continue to grow in the industry!



## Adventures with Colton Burris

Photos submitted by Tyler Burris



Colton watching the baby monitor waiting on is foal to be born.

Colton sharing a treat with his friend!



Join the Youth in Ohio Harness Racing Facebook Group and tell us about youth involved in harness racing or retired Standardbreds. Post in the group or send in information/photos by sending an email to rmayhugh@ohha.com. They could be featured next! www.facebook.com/groups/YouthInOhioHarnessRacing

## **Regularly scheduled Racing Commission Meeting Recaps**

For a transcript of the meeting contact the State Racing Commission.

## Wednesday, March 21, 2018

In normal business for the Commission the Executive Director's Approval items for ratification were introduced and the February 21, 2018 Minutes were offered for ratification. No documents relative to the approvals were provided or disclosed to those in attendance. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the Executive Director's Approval items and February 21st Meeting Minutes.

In normal business Scioto Downs. Thistledown, and Belterra Park had live racing related requests on the agenda. All three requested a waiver of their Surety Bond for 2018, approval of their Officials List, Number of Races and Wagering Format, Post Times, Simulcasting Schedule, and Letter to the Fire Marshall for their 2018 race meets. There were no documents disclosed or discussion surrounding the applications. The Racing Commission unanimously approved all requests.

Eldorado Scioto Downs' Vice President and General Manager, Bill Gustafson appeared to provide an update on the facility plans. They provided an architects rendering of the expected temporary amenities that are being put in place for the 2018 Live Meet. The drawing showed a split bleacher covered seating area with concessions and mutual windows on the upper level of the structure. There will be approximately 300 covered seats. They have two portable restroom trailers that are climate controlled and will be located near the standalone bleachers. The

restrooms will provide three Ladies' Room and two Men's room stations. The restrooms under the patio will also be available for use this year. Commissioner Book asked whether additional seating could be brought in, Mr. Gustafson replied that it could if the Patio-Clubhouse, and 200 of the 300 seat bleachers were occupied regularly on a non-special event day basis. Commissioner Koch asked about the Hotel's Occupancy, Mr. Gustafson relayed that the hotel is doing well above the level of occupancy for a standalone hotel.

In addition to the temporary bleacher system they are anticipating closing the backstretch and becoming a ship-in only facility under the Two-Party terms with the OHHA. They have converted four barns into ship-in barns, have rewired, re-plumbed, and re-roofed the four barns. They are adding mats to the stalls and anticipate they will be fully operational during the race meets to ship into. Upon being asked about the long-term plans for the facility they represented that GSA Engineering was due on the property next Monday-Tuesday and they are tracing the source origin for the properties' utilities. They cannot do an assessment and determine what direction they will be March 6, 2018. The shipping bans going in until they complete this full evaluation. It was anticipated that the evaluation would enable them to return next month and provide details of what is planned for the property. Commissioner Winters and Chairman Schmitz both gueried as-to why the plans were not further along, commented regarding the "showplace" reputation of Scioto Downs over the last 40 years, and how they were anxious to see that continue. Chairman Schmitz requested monthly updates as-to the plans and progress going forward.

A recap on the horse racing fatalities was provided from February 19th to March 21, 2018. It was noted

that the numbers reported are for training and racing related catastrophic breakdowns both analogous to the Jockey Club's reporting requirements. There were six Thoroughbred and two Standardbred fatalities. Year-to date totals were eleven Thoroughbred fatalities and five Standardbred racing related fatality statewide.

#### An EHV-1 update was provided by Dr. James Robertson. In Ohio the single EHV to EHM case was

the initial positive horse from Pennsylvania that was shipped from the Meadows into guarantine at Ohio State University. That horse was transferred to an isolation facility in New York and has made a full recovery. In Ohio the confirmed Standardbred EHV cases included one horse each at a training center in Jamestown, the Tuscarawas County, Dover Fairgrounds, a private farm in Londonderry, and the Warren County, Lebanon Fairgrounds. Of these hoses all but one had raced in Pennsylvania and all were asymptomatic. All the Ohio guarantined horses are in good health with no pending tests. There were no additional positive test results outside those outlined above. The guarantines for all facilities noted above were released on put into place in Pennsylvania and Indiana have been lifted although the Meadows still has some portion of the facility under quarantine.

A Thoroughbred training center in Lexington, Kentucky also had two horses test positive for the wild strain variant of EHV-1 and six horses tested positive for EHV-1 at the same facility. Those horses have all tested negative as-of this date and the guarantine lifted on that facility.

#### The Monthly Racing Commission financial report was provided

with revenue in line with this time last year. Although revenue is commensurate with last fiscal

year, expenses are up 8% over the previous Fiscal Year. On the expense side Medication and Testing Costs, Office Supplies, and Miscellaneous Expenses are up. Medication and testing costs are up \$278,000 due to the increase from the testing lab and the biennial audit has Miscellaneous Expenses up 200% with the audit cost being \$15,000 overall. Office supplies are due to stocking the racetrack office locations for the year. In conclusion the Casino Commission revenue is due next month and will be detailed in April's meeting.

The Chairman's comments included an update on the Ohio Facilities Commission providing a Capital Expenditures number for Belterra Park relative to the Permit Holder and Horsemen's Agreement Negotiations between Belterra Park and the Ohio Horsemen's **Benevolent and Protective** Association (OHBPA). In April's Racing Commission meeting the Ohio Facilities Commission will be present at the monthly meeting to provide the details on the numbers they have calculated for Capital Expenditures. In May's Racing Commission meeting the fiscal calculations provided by the OFC will be applied to the statutory formula.

In the Matter of Sean Mapes. Mr. Mapes received a high TCO2 blood sample collected at Northfield Park on November 13, 2017 from the horse Just Plain Luck. The test showed the TCO2 concentration to be 39.1+-0.9 millimoles per liter of serum. This exceeds the Regulatory Threshold of 37.0 millimoles per liter adopted by the OSRC. All purse money must be returned (\$4,500.00), \$500 Fine ,and 15-Day Suspension. Mr. Mapes appealed, at the hearing represented himself, and did not contest the facts. Mr. Mapes contested the suspension and fine arguing that it wasn't commensurate with penalties levied

for the same offense at Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway. After hearing with the Presiding Judge it was determined that Mr. Mapes' penalty was commensurate with the same penalties levied at Northfield Park where he received the positive test. Hearing Officer recommendation was to uphold the original Judges' determination. **OSRC Staff recommendation** concurred with the Hearing Officer. The Racing Commission Motion to ratify an unanimously upheld both decisions with the suspension to commence April 15, 2018.

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

#### Wednesday, April 24, 2018

In normal business for the Commission the Executive Director's Approval items were introduced and the March 21, 2018 Minutes were offered for ratification. No documents relative to the approvals were provided or disclosed to those in attendance. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the Executive Director's Approval items and March 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes.

The Racing Commission unanimously passed Resolution 2018-03 the distribution of casino tax revenue. Based on total revenue of \$2,135,150.52 for the first quarter of 2018 the breakdown was \$405,678.60 to the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund and Standardbred Development Fund for the quarter. Standardbred racetrack purse pool support included: Miami Valley Raceway \$112,636.01 Northfield Park \$308,798.81, Dayton Raceway \$94,836.74, and Scioto Downs for \$107,259.15. Also, included in the revenue disbursement were distributions to each of the Standardbred permit holders for commercial operations of \$80,068.15. A distribution to the Ohio State Racing Commission of \$106,757.53 (5%) to pay administrative staff that support the OSDF and TRF, costs or fees associated with, Miami Valley Gaming and Racing, Northfield Park, Belterra Park, Scioto Downs, and an additional \$106,757.53 (5%) to support the increase in testing costs at the racetracks.

Joseph MacNeil with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission was present to provide the details on the Capital Expenditures under O.A.C. 3769-2-43 spent by Belterra Park. Mr. MacNeil certified the number calculated and concurred with by the Lottery Commission as, \$265,283,060, which includes the Racino Lottery Agent's License Fee.

Eldorado Scioto Downs' Racing Operations Manager, Stacy Cahill appeared to provide an update on the facility plans, the representation was made that there was no update for the meeting due to having worked out-of-state and not having been back at the facility yet, but the representation was made that there will be an update soon. The Chairman excused Ms. Cahill and requested they appear for another update at next month's meeting.

## A recap on the horse racing

fatalities was provided by Dr. James Robertson from March 21 to April 20, 2018. It was noted that the numbers reported are for training and racing related catastrophic breakdowns analogous to the Jockey Club's reporting requirements, sudden deaths that occur during or after a race. There were two Thoroughbred and one Standardbred fatalities. Yearto date totals were, fourteen Thoroughbred fatalities and three Standardbred racing related fatalities statewide.

## The Monthly Racing Commission

financial report was provided with revenue in line with this time last year. Although revenue is commensurate with last fiscal year, expenses are up \$26,000 over the previous Fiscal Year. On the expense side Medication and Testing Costs, Computer Equipment, and Miscellaneous Expenses are up, with the leasehold office space reduction having not yet occurred. Expenses will go down within the next six weeks on the lease if the Racing Commission makes a decision today on what is being proposed on the office lease. The Ohio State Racing Commission Operating account balance is slightly over \$2 Million.

In the Matter of Edward Telle and Peggy S. Dupler-Telle. The Racing Commission received a Certified Judgment pursuant to O.A.C. 3769-12-32 for financial responsibility related to a racing debt for 5% winnings and Commission against the earnings of the racehorse, Big Bad John, Assistant Attorney General Charles Febus set forth that the Judgement was Certified from the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas and Court of Appeals, against both licensees for responsibility on the amount payable by Judgement of \$38,590.65 to Brett Merkle. Mr. Telle appeared with his attorney to request that the Racing Commission not take action against either licensee based upon the facts as he presented them, pending appeal, and the new filing of a case by Plaintiff,

Winchester Baye Acres, LLC. Mr. Merkle appeared without his attorney present. In discussing the two separate business entities, Mr. Telle set forth that Winchester Baye Acres was Mr. Telle's LLC and Winchester Baye, LLC was Mrs. Telle's business entity with both parties residing in Florida at this time. The OSRC Staff recommendation was to suspend both Telle's licenses pending payment of the judgement in full. The Racing Commission adjourned into private session to take the matter under advisement, discuss, and return with a decision pending consideration. Upon return to the public meeting, a Motion was made to adopt the Staff Recommendation, confirming the certified judgement, that it was related to a horse racing debt, with suspension of both licensees to commence if the Judgement isn't paid in full by June 1, 2018. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified the Motion.

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

Next Ohio Racing Commission meeting will be held June 27.

## Thank You to our 2018 P.A.C.E.R. Contributors- OHHA Pacesetters 5/24/18

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

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

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

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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. LLC checks only are acceptable for PAC donations. Cash is limited to \$100 contribution per year.

A special Thank You to those who donate!

#### Horsemen's Event Held

Nearly 100 horsemen attended the Horsemen's event on at Fun N Stuff in Macedonia on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.



# 2018 Foals of the Month!



**It's a colt!** Mr. Wiggles - Arion Submitted by Tyler Burris



**It's a colt!** Woodstock - Friskie Darlin Submitted by Jayme Laing



**It's a colt!** Dejarmbro - ML Cupcake Submitted by Shelley Johnson -Correction from May issue-

Send your 2018 foal pictures to rmayhugh@ohha.com. Each month will showcase one or more foals. Next month's photo could be yours!

## Facebook Sharing Time! Fair Time Favorites.....

Fair time is just around the corner. On the OHHA Facebook page followers were asked to share their favorite fair food, activity (besides harness racing), animal, ride/game and favorite fair to attend.

#### Favorite Fair Food

Pork Tenderloin- Olivia Bennett Ribbon Fries- Elizabeth Cheesman Pork-O-Lean Sandwich- Tyler Ann Burris French Fries with Vinegar- Gary Schmidt & Gestin Delelles Bowman's Texas Tenderloin- James Byers & Matthew Whited Bologna Express- Larry Nibert Greasy Fries- Ginny Harness Steak and Chops Tent- Paul Morrison Funnel Cake- Steve Fissell Corn Dogs- Colton Hay This year the favorite drink will be hot coffee or chocolate- Fred Gumina - Thank goodness it finally warmed up since

this was asked, otherwise I would have believed it!

#### Favorite Fair Activity Besides Harness Racing

Rabbit shows- Olivia Bennett Fair Concerts- Elizabeth Cheesman, Gary Schmidt & Matthew Whited Horse shows- Gestin Delelles & James Byers 4-H projects- Larry Nibert Pig show- Paul Morrison Demo Derby- Steve Fissell

#### Favorite Fair Animal

Rabbits- Olivia Bennett Horses- Elizabeth Cheesman, Tyler Burris, Gestin Delelles, Matthew Whited & Colton Hay Goats- Tyler Burris & Gestin Delelles Swine- Gary Schmidt Draft Horses- Steve Fissell

#### Favorite Fair Ride or Game

Fish Game- Olivia Bennett & Colton Hay Ferris Wheel- Elizabeth Cheesman Scrambler- Tyler Burris Shooting Range- Gary Schmidt Top Gun- Gestin Delelles Skee Ball- James Byers & Steve Fissell

#### Favorite Fair to Attend and Why

Delaware/Little Brown Jug- Olivia Bennett

Upper Sandusky because it was home and Delaware because of the excitement- Elizabeth Cheesman Wood County, my hometown fair and I am a 4-H advisor there. Also Delaware for the Little Brown Jugl- Tyler Burris

Wayne County and Delaware County are tied. I lean toward Wayne County being my favorite, but Delaware is a very tight second. I love both because I can see old friends, the racing is great and I like eating like the swine. – Gary Schmidt

Delaware because it is my home track, I work there and because of the Little Brown Jug. -Gestin Delelles

Darke, Delaware and Champagne. I like these fairs. They have great 4-H programs and the harness racing at these fairs is top notch and exciting to watch. – James Byers

Richwood, it is the place to be. - Larry Nibert

The Great Darke County Fair because of the Parshall Futurity Stakes and visiting with folks you only see at fair. – Paul Morrison

Greenville, Urbana, Croton, Delaware and Wooster- Steve Fissell

Darke- Grandma and Grandpa camp there. – Colton Hay

Thank you to those who participated! Watch for questions and opportunities to be a part of OHHA publications on the OHHA Facebook page OhioHarnessHorsemensAssociation.

## **Tips For Ohio Fairs Hosting Harness Racing**

The month's tips are from: Racing Promotion Idea Center on the USTA website http://fairs.ustrotting.com/promotions.cfm. Be sure to visit this page to find samples and items that you can use by downloading.

#### <u>Billboards:</u> Many fairs are choosing to purchase billboards to promote their fair and include harness racing as one of their featured entertainment.

Be sure to utilize their Billboard Design Tips file. These are great to promote your fair racing. Place these billboards in areas that will get you the greatest exposure. Emphasize the races as much as you can when promoting your fair.

# <u>Promote Your Drivers:</u> Utilize the drivers and trainers that come to your fair and get them in front of your grandstand audience.

Check out the Promote Your Drivers Idea sheet on the USTA site. You can make up trading cards or post cards of your drivers and have them sign and hand them out before or in between races. <u>County Fair Harness Racing Logo:</u> The USTA has created a county fair harness racing logo that any fair, colt circuit, horsemen's association or individual may use to help promote harness racing. Advertisements are also available to promote the logo, it's slogan "Where It All Begins" and participation in county fair harness racing.

Some counties have also created their own logos that they use on promotional items. Be creative. A logo that represents harness racing and your county can help identify your program.

<u>Race Schedules:</u> Create a double-sided business card sized race schedule to promote races in your area. Partner up with other fairs in close proximity or race dates or within your colt circuit to split costs and

#### cross promote your fairs!

Share these! Leave them at local businesses. Hand them to friends and friends of friends. Market your racing program with these cards. Get them circulated.

Another note, those who dedicate their time to host harness racing at their fair work hard to make sure everything runs as smoothly as possible. If you have the opportunity to tell the speed committee members, horsemen's association members and members of the fair boards what a good job they did and thank them for their dedication it would mean a lot to them. They do what they can to put on good entertainment for the fans as well as a good program for horsemen. Best of luck for a successful 2018 Ohio Fair season!

# Horsin' Around Witheee Do you have any family/friends involved in racing? My brother-in-law Jeff Mayle helped

Sam Clark Owner in Beverly, OH (Morgan County)

How many horses do you currently own? I am racing three this season. I also have a brood mare and a retired mare.

How long have you owned Standardbreds and who was your first horse? I stated in 2012, with Soprospurus, a homebred filly from Kay Sea Spur and SOHO.

What horse(s) have been your favorite? Here Comes Stubby was probably my favorite. He was named after my late father and was ornery just like Dad was. We raced at him as a 2- and 3-year-old and sold him last year. He is currently racing at The Meadows and still making pretty good money.

Share something about one of your current

horses. Hezashiningknight, he is a 3-yearold that will be racing this year. He won the Southern Valley Colt Circuit Pacing Horse of the Year last season and always raced his heart out. I bought him for \$3,000 at a sale because he was so dangerous that they couldn't walk him for buyers to look at. It took about ten minutes for them to get him in the sale ring. He turned out to be a handful, but made over \$23,000 last year, and hopefully will make more this year.

NORTHFIELD PAR

#### Do you have any family/friends involved in

me get started. I didn't know a lot about racing and he had been a groom for several years. We were co-owners on everything until last year. Now my brother Everett is co-owner on two horses. Our wives are also supportive and very helpful around the barn.

#### Any experience training and/or driving?

Last year I received my trainer license after a couple of years of doing most everything myself. I love to jog, at least when it is above 25 degrees. It is very rewarding to see a young one develop into a race horse. I do like going fast, training with 2- or 3-year-olds, but I think you have to have a screw loose to get out there with 8 or 10 horses in a race.

#### Do you breed? Any stories you can share? I try Any other hobbies besides harness racing?

to raise one of our own every year. Our last colt was born in the pasture, like the other four, but he kept rolling under the fence. For three mornings in a row we would find him on harness racing songs that I have recorded: "I the other side. We had to bottle feed him for two days. That bonding process made him a very gentle colt. DarLyn's Toy is his name and he will be racing this year.

Share some fun facts about yourself: I loved to go to the local fairs as a kid and bet a quarter among friends on the races. I loved the smell of Black Diamond Horse Liniment in the barns, which you never smell anymore. My dad was a pony puller throughout my childhood, so I was at all the local fairs where I would sneak off and go to the horse barns.



What is your favorite food? Steak and shrimp

I am a musician and songwriter. I play guitar, dobro and harmonica. I normally stick to 70's and 80's country music. I also have three am a Standardbred", "Featherlite Trailer" and "Faster Than Yours." They can be heard on facebook.com/samuelclarkmusic. I have four more harness racing songs written that I have not yet recorded. My goal is to have a full album of horse racing songs before fair racing starts this year.

How can horsemen do a better job of promoting harness racing? I am hoping my songs can impact the racing community in a positive way and bring more fans to the track.

# **Track News-**

## Feelin Red Hot Breaks World Record at Northfield Park

By Ayers Ratliff

Feelin Red Hot crossed the finish line faster than any other five year-old-and-up pacing mare on a half-mile track in the history of harness racing when she won the \$16,500 F&M Open Handicap in 1:50.1 on Saturday, May 5. In fact, the clocking tied the all-age record for distaff pacers on a half-mile oval which was held by Call Me Queen Be (3, 2016, Dela, Scott Zeron). The former five and-up world record was held by Mach It Par (6, 2016, YR, Brian Sears) and the Northfield record was held in a tie by Beyonces Rockin (5, 1:51, Ryan Stahl) and Olivia V (6, 1:51, Aaron Merriman).

JJ Zamaiko Photography, Inc. The partnership of Burke Racing Stable LLC and Weaver Bruscemi LLC own Feelin Red Hot. Ron Burke is her conditioner and Ryan Stahl was in the sulky for the winning drive.

Feelin Red Hot (Feelin Friskie-Red Rapid Girl-Red River Hanover) started from post five. She left from the gate and led the entire mile through times of :26.4, :55, 1:22.2 and 1:50.1, besting her competition by three lengths.

Feelin Red Hot now has five wins in 12 starts this year. Saturday's victory represents her ninth career score and bolstered her bankroll to \$119,739. She was heavily favored and returned \$3.20 to win.

# **Track News-**

#### Scarlet & Gray Invitational Winners By Brad Conrad

The track was lightning fast at Miami Valley Raceway the last weekend of April. Four divisions of the Scarlet & Gray Invitational were contested, and three of them produced track records and national seasons marks.

On April 27<sup>th</sup> Looking For Zelda set the mark for 3-year-old filly trotters at 1:55.2. Baron Remy paced home in 1:52 in the 3-year-old filly pace division.

On April 28<sup>th</sup> Mission Accepted won the 3-year-old colt trot division in 1:54.3. Rockathon turned in a 1:51.3 mile in the 3-year-old colt pace field. The weekend was highlighted by Nuclear Dragon becoming the all-age, all-time track record holder. He blew away the open pacers on Saturday night by stopping the timer in 1:49.

#### **Top Driver and Trainer Awarded at Miami Valley** *By Brad Conrad*

The 2018 meet at Miami Valley Raceway wrapped up on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The awards for Leading Driver and Trainer were awarded. Dan Noble used a very hot month of April to surge to the lead and take the honors for Leading Driver. Ohio Hall-Of-Famer, Dan Ater was the Leading Trainer for the meet.

Noble's family was there to share in the presentation. Kyle Ater accepted on behalf of his dad and was joined by members of the Ater Stable crew.

Congratulations to Dan Noble and Dan Ater!!

#### Photos by Conrad Photo



OHHA sends our condolences to friends and families of James "Bill" Dailey, Norma Huber, Theodore Poorman, Bobbi Jean Reed and Charles Sells. Grismore Scores 7,000<sup>th</sup> Win By Michael Carter, for Northfield Park

Northfield, OH --- Greg Grismore scored his 7,000<sup>th</sup> career victory aboard Nehemiah on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Grismore and Nehemiah didn't get the easiest of journeys to score his milestone victory. Nehemiah was parked every step of the mile and had to sustain a three-wide bid around Lucky Match (Ronnie Wrenn Jr.) before clearing at the top of the stretch and fending off late pressure from Dundee Dan (Wes Hershberger). Nehemiah (\$17.00) is owned by Ohioans Rosy Weaver Curtis Grismore. Weaver also trained the winner.

After the race Grismore said, "It's a huge thrill doing it on my son's horse. It was probably the biggest thrill of my career."

Grismore grew up in Pandora, Ohio, and started in the business as a teenager working with his father, Mark. He has driven at many racetracks throughout his illustrious career including stints at tracks on the East Coast. Grismore scored his first driving victory in 1987 and to date, 2007 was his winningest season with just over \$5 million in earnings.

Grismore's biggest scores include victories in the Cleveland Classic (Won The West, 2007) and the Jugette (Good News Lady, 2008).



Looking for Zelda



Mission Accepted



**Baron Remy** 



Rockathon



Nuclear Dragon



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



He is a good horse to be around. My brother Randy Ehrardt is his groom. Provenance was laid off for about four months after he was claimed and seemed to be off. Blood work showed that his liver enzymes were high. After some time off, training and qualifying, it was still unsure what this new horse would do. Once race day came, they saw the race horse he is. When he sees horses in front of him, he wants to beat them. These are the horses that make it fun. He started back in a 5K claimer and has now beaten 125K claimer and working his way up. Owned by Black Magic Racing, LLC. Trained by Greg Luther. *Conrad Photo* 



Touching Little Lives, Inc.

### Ohio State Fair Volunteers Wanted for July 25 - August 5!

Join us in the OHHA booth at the Ohio State Fair located in the Land and Living exhibit in the Nationwide Ohio Farm Bureau building to promote harness racing in a fun environment. Connect with fairgoers from all over the state and even out of state! There are children's activities and trivia for the bigger kids! Great leadership opportunity. To learn more about volunteering call the office or send an email to rmayhugh@ohha.com.