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National Awards being
revealed during
the ceremony:

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**NATIONAL BREEDER
OF THE YEAR**

**NATIONAL OWNER
OF THE YEAR**



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President's MESSAGE



Welcome to the 32nd annual TOBA National Awards Dinner at historic Calumet Farm. It is an incredible honor and privilege to welcome our guests to one of the most successful farms in the

long and storied history of Thoroughbred racing and breeding in the United States. The remarkable accomplishments of the Calumet Farm racing stable in the 1940s and 1950s is unmatched in the record books and the recent resurgence of the farm offers a promising future.

The hallowed and elegant grounds of Calumet Farm claim two Triple Crown winners, Whirlaway and Citation, as well as eight winners of the Kentucky Derby and eight winners of the Preakness Stakes. Add to that 11 horses in the National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame and five Horse of the Year titles and the magnitude of the Calumet dynasty is much better understood and appreciated.

As we pay tribute to tonight's winners, we must remember and acknowledge the contributions from the great owners and breeders from the past, as they helped establish the foundation for future generations. The winners of tonight's TOBA awards represent a wide cross section of owners and breeders from across the United States and Canada. The four TOBA Regional Owners of the Year, which include Spendthrift Farm (B. Wayne Hughes), Juddmonte Farms (Prince Khalid bin Abdullah), Klaravich Stables (Seth Klarman) & William H. Lawrence, and John Oxley enjoyed banner seasons with grade I winners in their stables. We will also celebrate the achievements of 22 state breeders and a Canadian breeder of the year for their outstanding achievements in 2016. An extraordinary broodmare will be recognized for producing one of the sport's immortal heroines of the turf, while a blue-collar horse will justifiably be accorded the honors which so often evade those in the claiming ranks.

Now in its sixth decade of representing the interests of owners and breeders, TOBA is the national voice and conscience for those who breed and own Thoroughbreds. Our sport has endured dramatic changes in the last decade and TOBA will continue

its purpose as the primary advocate for our constituents with matters relating to economics and integrity. TOBA programs include the American Graded Stakes Committee, TOBA Owners Concierge, Claiming Crown, OwnerView, Thoroughbred Charities of America, as well as ownership seminars and breeding, pedigree and conformation clinics. TOBA represents U.S. owners and breeders on the International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee, International Cataloguing Standards Committee and the International Breeders Federation.

Our most significant and valuable asset is our membership. The TOBA members provide us with the resources and encouragement to continue our advocacy role in an industry where conflicting interest groups more often than not, consistently undermine efforts to build consensus and unite all stakeholders for the betterment of all.

Congratulations to all of the TOBA award winners. Your successes are well-deserved.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Metzger



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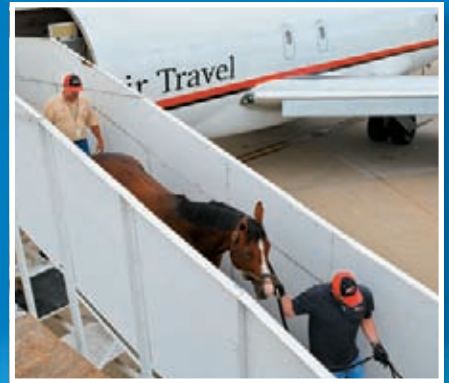


TOBA'S MISSION IS TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMICS, INTEGRITY AND PLEASURE OF THE SPORT ON BEHALF OF THOROUGHBRED OWNERS AND BREEDERS.

- TOBA manages the **American Graded Stakes Committee**. Graded Stakes races provide owners and breeders with a benchmark for quality of races and horses.
- TOBA is the only national organization that coordinates **Thoroughbred Ownership Seminars**, effectively recruiting new owners and breeders to the Thoroughbred industry.
- TOBA coordinates **Pedigree & Conformation Clinics** as well as **Breeding Clinics** to further the knowledge of industry participants, thereby helping them make informed decisions.
- TOBA provides member benefits such as the **TOBA Owners Concierge**, a unique service and website that provides owners with exceptional customer care and access to local resources.
- TOBA created the **Claiming Crown**, racing's \$1.1 million showcase for the country's best claiming horses.
- TOBA co-created **Ownerview.com**, a website for prospective, new and existing owners to obtain relevant information about ownership as well as statistical data.
- TOBA hosts the annual **National Awards Dinner**, a formal event recognizing the outstanding achievements of owners and breeders in the Thoroughbred industry.
- TOBA owns *The Horse* magazine and **Eclipse Press**, and is co-owner of *BloodHorse*.
- TOBA's charitable arm is the **Thoroughbred Charities of America**, whose mission is to provide a better life for Thoroughbreds, both during and after their racing careers by supporting rescue, retirement and research and by helping the people who work with them.
- TOBA is a founding member of the **Racing Medication and Testing Consortium** which develops policies to ensure the welfare of racehorses and maintain fairness among the betting public.
- TOBA manages the **Sales Integrity Program**, a project designed to improve the opportunity for buyers at public auction sales to feel informed, understand the various aspects of the process and be confident that they are treated fairly.
- TOBA is an influential voice in the **American Horse Council**, the national trade association representing the horse industry in Washington, D.C. TOBA provides international representation for U.S. owners and breeders on the International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee, International Cataloguing Standards Committee, and International Breeders Federation.
- TOBA provides various **member benefits** including a subscription to *BloodHorse* and its two annual supplements, a subscription to *The Horse*, **free clubhouse admission** to most North American racetracks, affinity discounts and more.

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In the early years, the sport of horse racing seemed simple. There was no simulcasting, discussion of appropriate marketing strategies, super testing or betting via direct computer links. There was no NTRA, THA, TOC, TOBA, UTTA, AQHA or other organizations representing horsemen's interests.

Horsemen have a habit of taking care of their own. If someone was sick or down on his luck, they "passed the hat," taking up collections, which is a time-honored tradition among racetrackers.

It was in 1940 in New England that a group of committed horsemen brought into existence what is now known as the National Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. From this meager beginning the National HBPA has developed into an organization representing the horsemen's interests on a myriad of issues.

Today, there are approximately 30,000 owner and trainer members throughout the United States and Canada focused on a common goal—the betterment of racing on all levels.

With this purpose in mind, we welcome and encourage all horsemen to join the National HBPA, and we urge our members to take an active role in the direction and policies of our organization. It is our members who make a difference.

We horsemen are the National HBPA.

We are Leading into the Future and we are..... Horsemen Helping Horsemen

The National HBPA Inc.

Eric Hamelback, CEO

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2016 ROBERT N. CLAY CONSERVATION AWARD

The Heubeck Family

In 2014 the Equine Land Conservation Resource launched the Robert N. Clay Conservation Award to increase the awareness of the importance of land conservation to the Thoroughbred industry. This year's recipient—the Heubeck family—is a first for Central Florida and a bit ironic since the late Elmer Heubeck Jr. managed Rosemere Farm, the first Thoroughbred farm in Marion County.

Heubeck, along with his wife, Harriet, helped to build and manage Hobeau Farm for Jack Dreyfus and during that time started their own farm, Quail Roost. Having sold the original Quail Roost, Heubeck started building a new farm, Quail Roost II.

Both Heubecks passed away in 2003, and their son Kerry sought to protect the 1,000 acre Quail Roost II as a memorial to his parents in accordance with their wishes. Kerry, along with new owners James and Lee Windham, worked with Busy Shires Byerly who was working with the Conservation Trust for Florida to protect and limit development on approximately 600 acres of Quail Roost II. Two hundred acres of the farm were conserved under a conservation easement. The remaining 200 acres were



Elmer and Harriett Heubeck

sold as a Thoroughbred breeding/racing farm and continue to function in the same capacity as Four Roses Training Center.

“In selling the farm we put some funds into a foundation to honor our folks, which is the Quail Roost Foundation,” said Kerry Heubeck. “Part of the reason for this is I grew up on Rosemere Farm, which at the time was also about the same acreage. It was stunningly beautiful, and the whole place now is asphalt and concrete and development.

“In the process of growing up, I was under the assumption it would always be like that. Going back to Ocala and seeing what happened, it really woke me up quite a bit,” he said.

Lee Windham was especially enthusiastic about protecting their new farm from development for the future, and the couple worked with CTF and Kerry Heubeck on the language for the easement and deed restrictions. Upon Lee's passing in 2016, James decided to place the farm up for sale. With the easement and deed restrictions, along with the well-developed facilities and equine heritage, the farm is expected to remain open land.

By Evan Hammonds

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2016 ROOD & RIDDLE THOROUGHBRED SPORT HORSE OF THE YEAR

Zine Dine

For a match that shouldn't have happened, it seems Hailey Rogge and her then 13-year-old gelding Zine Dine were meant to be.

Amid coaching clients at the 2008 U.S. Equestrian Pony Finals in Lexington, Rogge found time to visit a barn to look at Thoroughbred show jumping prospects. She spotted Zine Dine, then named Omnipotent (Unbridled Time—My Belle, by Buckaroo), a freshly gelded 4-year-old, who wasn't actually for sale.

"They said, 'Oh, no, you can't have that one,'" Rogge said, but after trying the other available horses, she kept going back to Zine Dine. "I said, 'I really want to try that one; that's the one I'm interested in.'"

The owners were reluctant to sell, but Rogge convinced them to part with him, and she took him home to Lafayette, La., that same weekend.

Zine Dine didn't blink at the career switch because just months later the pair showed in the Gulf Coast Classic Company, where Zine Dine was named hopeful jumper circuit champion. Zine Dine later won a Rood & Riddle Thoroughbred Sport Horse Rookie of the Year award.



SPORTFOT - BILLET THIERRY

After six years together the two took home their greatest victory so far in the 2014 Pin Oak Charity Horse Show 1.45 meter Welcome Stakes.

Zine Dine and Rogge have stepped it up even more, and Zine Dine got his FEI passport last year, enabling him to compete internationally and against Olympic-level horses and riders.

Perhaps the highlight of the duo's career occurred last summer when they competed in the \$130,000 Ariat

Grand Prix CSI 3-star at the Tryon International Equestrian Center in North Carolina, their first 3-star event as a team. Rogge isn't daunted by the fact she had the only Thoroughbred at the competition.

This helped Zine Dine snatch the 2016 Rood & Riddle Touch of Class Thoroughbred Jumper Award.

This August, Zine Dine competed in a couple of \$30,000 Grand Prix events in Des Moines, Iowa.

"I'm so proud and so excited that he's being acknowledged," Rogge said. "He shows that Thoroughbreds can be with the best of the best of them in these competitions. He competes just as well as the Warmbloods."

By Callie Miller

2016 NATIONAL BROODMARE OF THE YEAR

Leslie's Lady

Leslie's Lady, the pride of Clarkland Farm near Lexington, earned the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's coveted Broodmare of the Year award for 2016 for one very good reason: Beholder.

In her swan-song season at age 6, Beholder continued her exploits on the racetrack, winning three times and finishing second three times, earning \$1,720,000 for the year. By Henny Hughes and out of Leslie's Lady, Beholder won her third Breeders' Cup event and her fourth championship in 2016. Her Hall of Fame plaque is ensured on the first ballot. Beholder won the Adoration Stakes (G3) in her first 2016 outing. When she won the Vanity Mile Stakes (G1), she became the first horse in North American history to win a grade 1 race at ages 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

There was drama during the season, however, as Beholder finished second three races in a row, twice to champion Stellar Wind and once when racing against the boys to champion California Chrome. That set up a showdown with not only Stellar Wind, but 3-year-old undefeated sensation Songbird in the Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1). Beholder and Songbird ran down the stretch together, neither giving an inch, before Beholder reached the wire a nose in front. She was named cham-



ANNIE M. EBERHARDT

pion older mare for the second consecutive year and had previously been crowned champion 2-year-old filly and champion 3-year-old filly. She ended her career with earnings of \$6,156,600.

Clarkland's Nancy and Fred Mitchell took home Leslie's Lady on a \$100,000 bid out of the 2006 Keeneland November mixed sale, in foal to Orientate. The then 10-year-old daughter of Tricky Creek had been a minor stakes winner, and a year after that purchase,

Leslie's Lady's 2005 foal, Into Mischief, won the CashCall Futurity (G1).

Also in 2016, Leslie's Lady's Scat Daddy colt, named Mendelssohn, was sold by the Mitchells for \$3 million at Keeneland's September yearling sale.

"You don't think that a small farm like ours will have a mare like Leslie's Lady," said Nancy Mitchell's daughter, Marty Buckner. "It's an honor to have her here. She means everything to the farm. She's a once-in-a-lifetime horse."

Now 21, Leslie's Lady is in foal to Triple Crown winner American Pharoah with what will likely be her last foal. Additionally, Into Mischief finished 34th on the general sires list for 2016 with progeny earnings of better than \$5.6 million. *By Lenny Shulman*



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2016 NATIONAL HBPA CLAIMING CROWN HORSE OF THE YEAR

Royal Posse

How's this for a claim? Trainer Rudy Rodriguez tabbed New York-bred Royal Posse for his main owner Michael Dubb for \$20,000 in May 2015 and since then the bay gelding has earned \$885,675. Not only did Royal Posse win the Claiming Crown Jewel Stakes at Gulfstream Park in 2015, but he won it a second time in 2016. For that he's been named the Claiming Crown horse of the year by the National HBPA.



Racing for Dubb, Mike Caruso's Bethlehem Stables, and Gary Aisquith, Royal Posse had been on a tear in stakes races against open company and against state-breds. In 2016 alone he went 5-4-0 in nine starts and earned \$569,000. To make Royal Posse's stat line even more impressive, his four second-place efforts came in his first five starts and all came in stakes company in New York, running second in the open Jazil Stakes and Haynesfield Stakes for New York-breds.

After breaking through to the win column in the open Mr. Sinatra Stakes, he ran second in the Commentator Stakes during a New York-bred showcase program on Memorial Day weekend and was second in Belmont Park's Saginaw Stakes.

Saratoga was the "summer place to be" for the son of Posse as he dusted off foes in the Alydar Stakes and the Evan Shipman Stakes, then added \$180,000 with a score in the state-bred Empire Classic Handicap, the top race for state-breds during the fall showcase day. The streak ran to four when he took the nine-furlong Claiming Crown Jewel, which added an additional \$110,000 to his coffers.

Bred by Richard J. Troncone and Richard J. Troncone Jr., Royal Posse is out of the Cryptoclearance mare Struckbylightning. The Troncones have also bred multiple stakes winner Greed Is Good.

Dubb, a major owner in New York who also serves on the board of the New York Racing Association, is involved in many partnerships. The founder and CEO of the Beechwood Organization, one of the nation's largest residential home builders, had some major wins in 2016 with grade 1 winner Wake Forest and grade 3 winner Heaven's Runway. Bonita Bianca, another state-bred stakes winner for Dubb, Bethlehem Stables, and Michael Imperio, was named New York-bred champion 2-year-old filly of 2016.

By Evan Hammonds



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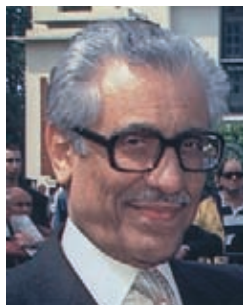
2016 EASTERN REGION OWNER OF THE YEAR

Juddmonte Farms

To sum up Juddmonte's 2016 season in the United States and in the eyes of the world, just one word is needed: Arrogate.

But before the colt's record-setting Travers Stakes (G1) coronation, homebred Flintshire turned in exceptional performances of his own, galloping to victory in the June 11 Woodford Reserve Manhattan Stakes (G1T) and doubling back to win the Bowling Green Stakes (G2T) in July. Remarkably competitive throughout his career at Longchamp, Chantilly, Epsom, Saint Cloud, Sha Tin, Meydan, and in the U.S., the son of Juddmonte stallion Dansili brought down the curtain with his final grade 1 victory in the Longines Sword Dancer Stakes (G1T) on the Travers undercard, his dazzling success on turf mirrored one race later on the main track by Arrogate's blitzing Midsummer Derby score.

Five-time grade/group 1 winner Flintshire carried the banner as a fourth-generation Juddmonte homebred. He concluded his season with runner-up efforts in the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Stakes (G1T) and Longines Breeders' Cup Turf (G1T) and before he was retired to Hill 'n' Dale Farms, Arrogate closed 2016 with a Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) score. The sport relayed its appreciation



Prince Khalid bin Abdullah

for both efforts when Flintshire was given an Eclipse Award as the outstanding turf male of 2016, and Arrogate was named champion 3-year-old male.

"Arrogate's success in 2016 epitomized the quality that Juddmonte has always strived to maintain while building the legacy for Prince Khalid (Abdullah)," said Juddmonte general manager Garrett O'Rourke. "Arrogate has risen to iconic status by producing unparalleled performances in breaking the Saratoga track record then running down champion California Chrome in the Breeders' Cup Classic. Prince Khalid has been the architect of Juddmonte, and Arrogate has developed into a masterpiece."

Of Flintshire, O'Rourke added, "He is from one of our best families, one of the soundest and most honest horses we have ever raised. We are very proud of him." Homebred Suffused won the Belmont Coronation Invitational and Glens Falls Stakes (G3T).

Juddmonte concluded the year as the leading owner in the U.S. by purses earned (\$9,485,055). As owner, the operation was represented by a 22-18-13 record from 93 starts, for a 24% win rate. Their well-placed runners finished in the top three 57% of the time.

By Claire Novak

2016 SOUTHERN REGION OWNER OF THE YEAR

Klaravich Stables and William H. Lawrence

With eight graded stakes winners on the season, it is easy to understand why Klaravich Stables and William H. Lawrence were named 2016 southern region owners of the year. Klaravich (the *nom de course* of financial adviser and author Seth Klarman) and Lawrence teamed up with Eclipse Award-winning trainer Chad Brown and enjoyed tremendous success throughout the year, which continued into 2017 when the team won the Preakness Stakes (G1) with Cloud Computing.

Practical Joke was the stable star of 2016. The then 2-year-old colt by Into Mischief swept the Champagne and Hopeful stakes (both G1) on his way to earning \$739,800 for 2016 and has continued to be a top 3-year-old in 2017. Paid Up Subscriber won the Fleur de Lis Handicap (G2) in 2016 and earned better than \$450,000 on the year. Annals of Time, a 3-year-old of 2016 by Temple City, won the Hollywood Derby (G1T) and banked \$247,000 for the season. Three-year-old Deeply Undervalued, by top sire Kitten's Joy, won the Commonwealth Derby presented by the Virginia Equine Alliance at Laurel Park (G2T) and brought home \$212,800 in purse money.

Klaravich and Lawrence frequently name their horses



Seth Klarman



William H. Lawrence

after financial lingo, evident with Priced to Perfection, another by Temple City, who won the Sweetest Chant Stakes (G3T). Takeover Target, a son of Harlan's Holiday, scored in the Longines Dixie Stakes (G2T). Flexibility won the Jerome Stakes (G3), and the son of Bluegrass Cat earned \$152,500. Life Imitates Art, by More Than Ready, won the Dania Beach Stakes (G3T) and the Sophomore Turf Stakes.

Klarman has owned Thoroughbreds for 25 years and joined forces with Lawrence beginning in 2006 after the two men met through a mutual friend at Saratoga, near Lawrence's hometown of Schenectady, N.Y. Klarman, a native of Baltimore, lives in the Boston area. Klarman began handicapping in his teens and entered ownership through a small partnership.

"I was a big fan of racing as a kid and attended the Preakness many times," said Klarman. "I never imagined one day I'd own a horse."

Lawrence said the partnership fits both men well. "It's nice to look around and have somebody to enjoy the good days and with whom you can talk about the horses. So that's been really good for us."

By Lenny Shulman

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2016 MIDWESTERN REGION OWNER OF THE YEAR

John Oxley

As much success as John Oxley has had in his lifelong career in Thoroughbreds, 2016 clearly was one of his best years, and for that he has been named Midwestern Region Owner of the Year by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

Beyond the sport of kings, the Oklahoma native is an accomplished horseman—he's a five-goal polo player who won the U.S. Open Polo Championship and has served as president and chairman of the United States Polo Association. He's also a member of the Museum of Polo and Hall of Fame.

However, he is best known in the Thoroughbred world as the owner of Monarchos, who not only won the Kentucky Derby (G1) in 2001, but along with Secretariat, is the only other horse to have won the Run for the Roses in under two minutes.

No one-trick pony, Oxley, and his wife, Debby, have been well represented in winner's circles from coast to coast since they have combined with trainer Mark Casse.

In 2016 Oxley raced five graded stakes winners, one of which earned not only a Breeders' Cup victory—Oxley also won the 1999 Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) with Beautiful Pleasure—but a championship as well.



John Oxley

Classic Empire, plucked out of the 2015 Keeneland September yearling sale for \$475,000, was the star 2-year-old male of his crop after wins in the Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1) and Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) after famously wheeling at the start of Saratoga's Hopeful Stakes (G1), dumping Irad Ortiz Jr.

Classic Empire, a son of Pioneerof the Nile, is showing good form at 3, winning the Arkansas Derby (G1) and dropping a head decision to Cloud Computing in the Preakness Stakes (G1).

Oxley and Casse also combined with Pretty City Dancer, winner of Saratoga's Spinaway Stakes (G1). Hard-knocking Noble Bird won three stakes in 2016, including the grade 2 Hagyard Fayette Stakes and Pimlico Special Handicap (G3).

Diva Express took Churchill Downs' Winning Colors Stakes (G3), and La Coronel won the JPMorgan Chase Jessamine Stakes (G3T). The latter has won two graded stakes on the turf this year against 3-year-old fillies.

Oxley, who heads Oxley Resources, owns Fawn Leap Farm outside Midway, Ky., and is a member of The Jockey Club. His Oxley Foundation has been a generous donor to the Grayson-Jockey Club Research Foundation. *By Evan Hammonds*

2016 WESTERN REGION OWNER OF THE YEAR

Spendthrift Farm

Repeated success at the highest level in 2016 makes B. Wayne Hughes' Spendthrift Farm a more-than-deserving winner of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's Western Region Owner of the Year award.

Racing primarily at Santa Anita Park, Spendthrift sent out four graded stakes winners that captured eight graded stakes last year. Five of those graded wins came in grade 1 company.

The star of the stable was four-time champion Beholder. The then 6-year-old daughter of Henny Hughes, bred in Kentucky by Clarkland Farm and trained by Richard Mandella, was first or second in six graded stakes in 2016. She started the year strong with consecutive victories in the Adoration Stakes (G3) and the Vanity Mile Stakes (G1). The mare lost no respect in her next three losses. She was a half-length behind champion Stellar Wind in the Clement L. Hirsch and a neck behind the same foe in the Zenyatta Stakes (both G1). Beholder also took on males in the \$1 Million TVG Pacific Classic Stakes (G1) and finish second behind Horse of the Year California Chrome. Her losses only escalated the drama heading into the Longines Breeders'



B. Wayne Hughes

Cup Distaff (G1), where Beholder chased down previously undefeated sophomore phenom Songbird to win by a nose.

Three-time grade 1 winner Lord Nelson also added a lot of excitement to the 2016 season.

Trained by Bob Baffert and bred by Clearsky Farms, Lord Nelson was undefeated last year in four starts that included three consecutive grade 1 wins in the Triple Bend Stakes, Bing Crosby Stakes, and the Santa Anita Sprint Championship Stakes. An infected cut on his right leg kept Lord Nelson out of the Breeders' Cup World Championships and likely cost him championship honors, as the son of Pulpit

was a finalist in the Eclipse Award balloting for champion male sprinter and champion older dirt male. Lord Nelson retired with seven wins from 13 starts and \$958,271 in earnings.

"There are so many good and talented people in this industry, especially in a deep pool like Southern California, this award is a real feather in your cap," said Ned Toffey, general manager of Spendthrift. "The breeders of Beholder and Lord Nelson certainly deserve to share in this award. It is not easy to come by horses like these." *By Eric Mitchell*



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2016 ARKANSAS BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Bill McDowell

Bill and Mary McDowell are no strangers to Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association breeders titles. As a matter of fact, they've "gotten kind of customary to it," Bill McDowell said. The farm earned its first breeders award in 2001, and has scored 11 more since then.

Bill McDowell, now in his mid 50s, followed in the footsteps of his father, Don McDowell, now retired, and started breeding horses after he graduated high school in 1981. His farm in Sparkman, Ark., covers about 950 acres.

McDowell estimates he foaled about 45 mares last year, 17 of which were his own. This year he bred 69 mares and foaled out 66.

His leading earner for 2017 to date is Glacken's Ghost, with \$119,700. The gelding is 3-1-0 from seven starts this year. Stakes winner Maize Road earned nearly \$120,000 last year. The Afleet Aflex gelding hit the board in five out of six starts at Oaklawn in 2016 and scored a victory in the \$100,000 Rainbow Stakes for state-breds. Another horse McDowell co-bred with Dr. K.K. Jayaraman, Five O One, won the Rainbow Stakes this past March.

McDowell also bred grade 3 winner Comedero and stakes



winner Fifty Acres and Lookin Lucky.

A Majestic Perfection filly he sold at Keeneland as a weanling was resold and brought \$70,000 at this year's Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July yearling sale.

Horses the farm bred earned \$827,000 last year, escalating to \$842,000 this year thus far.

"We're very fortunate," McDowell said. "Our horses this year have earned more already than what they won all of last year."

The farm stands four stallions: the unraced Double Irish, by Tapit; stakes winner Laurie's Rocket, by Bluegrass Cat; grade 1 stakes-placed Just a Coincidence, by Forestry; and grade 3 stakes-placed Tekton, by Bernardini.

Regarding the industry in Arkansas, "It's decent because of the purses at Oaklawn have been so big the past couple of years," McDowell said. "That's given it a boost."

According to McDowell, the maiden special weight purses reached \$80,000 this year, and he expects them to start at that next year.

McDowell reckons he is the only major breeder in Arkansas, so he is not surprised to be the recipient of the award again. "I'm glad we're in this situation," he said.

By Callie Miller

2016 CALIFORNIA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Heinz Steinmann

Owner/breeder Heinz Steinmann and trainer Mike Harrington have collaborated successfully for decades. The partnership, which has resulted in numerous stakes winners, includes Steinmann's extensive family and Harrington's wife, Patty, also a trainer.

Creative Cause and Swiss Yodeler are Steinmann's most famous racehorses, and their prowess as stallions has led to Steinmann's being named the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association California breeder of 2016. Swiss Yodeler, whose name derives from Steinmann's Swiss roots, did it by standing in California for most of his career while Creative Cause stands in Kentucky but has sired good California-breds.

Cal-bred Theonewaitedfor resulted when Steinmann bred the Eastern Echo mare Yolo Lady to Creative Cause. Harrington had purchased Yolo Lady for \$65,000 at the 1996 Keeneland September yearling sale. She earned \$349,240 for Steinmann under Harrington's tutelage. Yolo Lady won the 1998 Arbor Vitae Stakes, and her stakes-placings included a second to Manistique in the 1999 Vanity Handicap (G1).

Harrington liked Yolo Lady's Creative Cause filly so much that he named her Theonewaitedfor. She won her first time



out last year and came right back to win the \$125,000 Landaluce Stakes at Santa Anita.

"It's very special seeing a daughter of Creative Cause winning," said Harrington.

Harrington trained Creative Cause for Steinmann. The colt won the 2011 Norfolk Stakes (G1) and Best Pal Stakes (G2) and 2012 San Felipe Stakes (G2). His stakes-placings included a third in the 2012 Preakness Stakes (G1).

Two of Steinmann's winners as a breeder last year came from his homebred mare Alpine Echo, a daughter of Swiss Yodeler. Swiss Minister, Alpine Echo's 2013 foal by Lucky Pulpit, placed in the 2015 Graduation Stakes for Steinmann, who lost him off a win in a claiming race midway through 2016. Alpine Echo's 2014 foal by Empire Way (a graded stakes-placed horse raced by Steinmann), the filly Alpenhorn, broke her maiden last year in her second start for Steinmann and most recently captured an allowance optional claiming race at Los Alamitos.

Not all of Steinmann's homebreds come from Creative Cause and Swiss Yodeler. He bred Yodelsong, a Cal-bred daughter of Thorn Song, from his homebred Speightstown mare Laugh N Yodel. Yodelsong is in her third season of racing and has earned \$140,555.

By Tracy Gantz

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2016 CANADIAN BREEDER OF THE YEAR

David and Adrian Munro

Electing to the Jockey Club of Canada in 2016, horseman Adrian Munro serves as president and a national director of the Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society (CTHS), Alberta Division, and vice president of the organization's national office. In the name of Highfield Stock Farm, Munro—also named the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's 2016 Canadian breeder of the year—and his father, David, have bred and stood a number of prominent runners.

They own stallion Cape Canaveral, a grade 3 winner (by Mr. Prospector out of grade 1 winner and producer Seaside Attraction, by Seattle Slew) who stood the 2017 season at Highfield, located near Okotoks, Alberta, for \$3,000 (Canadian), as did fellow Highfield stallion Exhi. A multiple graded stakes winner, Exhi (by Maria's Mon) bears a close connection to Canadian equine royalty. His third dam was legendary Canadian champion Fanfreluche. Former Highfield stallions include 2004 Bessemer Trust Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) winner Wilko.

In addition to its star studs, Highfield, whose regular operations are conducted by Jennifer Buck, regularly breeds standouts on the track. For the second consecutive year Highfield finished



Jenn Buck

2016 as the top breeder of Alberta-bred runners by earnings; highlights include last year's Alberta Breeders' Fall Classic Weekend at Northlands Park, in which Highfield-breds by Cape Canaveral shone brightly.

On Sept. 17 Onestaratime registered her fourth straight stakes win, tallying a victory in the Alberta Oaks Sponsored by True North Holding. On the same day Ginger Smash finished third in the Highfield-sponsored Fall Classic Distaff Handicap. And that very weekend Highfield continued its domination in the Western Canadian Thoroughbred industry; the Munros bred and consigned the CTHS Alberta sale's top yearling (a filly by Exhi), whom they sold for \$38,597 to Riversedge Racing Stable. She's a full sister to 2016 stakes winner Norm's Big Bucks, also owned by Riversedge and bred by Highfield.

Another Highfield-bred offspring of Cape Canaveral, multiple stakes-winning gelding Capitalism, continued his winning ways in 2016. He won the July 1 Three and Four Year Old Sales Stakes, also at Northlands, after finishing second in that race the previous year. Highfield also acquired a portion of classic-placed Destin last year.

By Carly Silver

2016 FLORIDA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Gilbert Campbell

For nearly 20 years Gilbert Campbell and his wife, Marilyn, have helmed Stonehedge Farm South near Williston, Fla. Last year proved to be another solid one for Campbell, president of the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' and Owners' Association between 2007 and 2010. In 12 months Campbell-bred runners earned more than \$2.7 million; their number includes 91 Florida-bred winners, highlighted by grade 1 winner Noted and Quoted.

A gray/roan daughter of The Factor, Noted and Quoted won the Chandelier Stakes (G1) over 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ miles before finishing seventh in the 14 Hands Winery Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1). Consigned by Summerfield, Noted and Quoted went under the hammer to Quarter Pole Enterprises at the 2015 Ocala Breeders' Sales August yearling sale; Eddie Woods pinhooked her the following year at the OBS March 2-year-olds in training sale, where eventual owner Speedway Stable purchased her for \$375,000.

Another standout was Campbell's homebred Always Sunshine, winner of the 2016 Maryland Sprint Handicap (G3), whose sire, the unraced Forty Niner horse West Acre, stood at Stonehedge. West Acre repaid Campbell's faith many times over,



getting grade 2 winner Ivanavalot and Tampa Bay Derby (G2) winner Watch Me Go. The last-named homebred became Campbell's first Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands (G1) starter in 2011, finishing unplaced. Two other highlights include Campbell's homebred gelding Abiding Star, a son of Uncle Mo, capturing the Private Terms Stakes and Parx Derby, and Campbell-bred 7-year-old Dad'z Laugh, who conquered the Peeping Tom Stakes.

Besides the millionaires and graded stakes winners he's bred, perhaps Campbell's most notable product is homebred winner Ivanavalot. Champion Florida-bred juvenile filly in 2002, she produced dual champion Songbird, a four-time grade 1 winner in 2016. Campbell sold Ivanavalot, in foal to Mineshaft, for \$625,000 at the 2004 Keeneland November mixed sale.

Massachusetts resident Campbell, two-time Florida breeder of the year, stood Irish-bred Sword Dance, a grade 2-winning turf runner, at Stonehedge. He bred two of the stallion's best Florida-bred progeny: Marlin, who captured four grade 1 stakes on the turf, including the 1997 Arlington Million Stakes, for owner Michael Tabor; and homebred gelding Blazing Sword, a multiple graded stakes winner.

By Carly Silver



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2016 ILLINOIS BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Barney and Anne Gallagher

Barney and Anne Gallagher have been at this game for a long time, having established their farm, Gallagher Farms near Walnut Hill, Ill., in 1971. A farrier by trade, Barney was given a Thoroughbred mare by Lone Oak Farm's Earl Rosen in 1974 and was told he was wasting his talents on show horses. With a background in rodeo and Quarter Horses, that was a good starting point, but now as they reach "semi-retirement," they are being honored with their first Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's award for the state.

"As you go through life, it is a good thing to set goals—this wouldn't have been one of them, but it's a great way to go out," said Anne. "We were so surprised to get this award."

While the Gallaghers have been on the receiving end of several Illinois divisional champions, they are most proud of their clients who have been named breeders of the year, including Richard and Gail Radke (four-time winners); Noel Hickey (three-time winner); Richard and Nancy Randolph; Barry Shipp; Ron Magers and Bob Marcocchio; Dana Waier; Joe and Carolyn Freedberg; and Pam Davis.

"Our clients have had great success over the years with their homebreds," Anne said.



Anne, who is a retired schoolteacher, served on the Illinois Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Fund for 23 years and on the Illinois Horse Council for 26 years.

The couple is responsible for breeding Recount, a son of Limehouse—Lucky in Love, by Bold Badgett, and sold him to agent (and trainer) James DiVito for \$40,000 at the 2013 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky October yearling sale. Recount has earned more than \$550,000 for Doubledown Stables, winning the grade 3 Arlington-Washington Futurity in the fall of 2014. Since then, Recount has added seven more stakes wins, including 2016 victories in Churchill Downs' Bet on Sunshine Stakes and Arlington International's Addison Cammack Handicap.

While they have cut back on their business, Gallagher Farms used to offer everything—boarding, foaling, and sales prep. And the Gallaghers have sold almost every horse they'd raised.

"The horses have been good to us," Anne said. "But it seems like the small people are getting squeezed out. We're a little unclear about the future, but when you watch racing from Fairmount Park on television, you see a lot of families with kids. Kids love horses."

By Evan Hammonds

2016 INDIANA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Michael and Penny Lauer

Business is booming for Michael and Penny Lauer as they add to their handful of Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association state titles with the help of homebred Badabing Badaboom, who earned \$185,488 in 2016.

The couple bred, own, and train the son of Spring At Last, who triumphed in the \$100,000 Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Stakes and placed in the \$150,000 Governor's Stakes last year, both at Indiana Grand Race Course. Badabing Badaboom has had 15 career starts.

The Lauers' leading earner this year is Whistle Stop, by Into Mischief, owned by Penny and trained by Michael. The 3-year-old filly placed in the City of Anderson Stakes in 2016 and won the Hoosier Breeders Sophomore Stakes earlier this year. She's earned more than \$100,000 this year so far.

As Michael was growing up, his father always had a few mares he used for breeding and the younger Lauer started training horses during his studies at The Ohio State University. After



finishing school, he worked in Lexington for six months before settling at his current farm in Shelby County, Ky.

The 130-acre farm is based near Churchill Downs where Lauer trains. The Lauers foal in several states, including Ohio and New York, but primarily in Indiana. Lauer estimates he foaled a dozen mares last year at his Indiana stable and 14 in 2017. He bred around 15 mares this year. Most of the horses Lauer breeds and trains are his own though he does have a few for outside clients.

Homebred stakes winner Prize Winner's (by Pure Prize) first foal, Obsolete, broke her maiden her first time out and placed in the My Dear Stakes in Canada this year.

Other horses of note are homebred Cake Pop, winner of the Hoover Stakes last year and two stakes in 2017; Tequila and Salt, who won the Ellen's Lucky Star Stakes and placed in two other stakes last season; and 2017 stakes winner Evader.

By Callie Miller

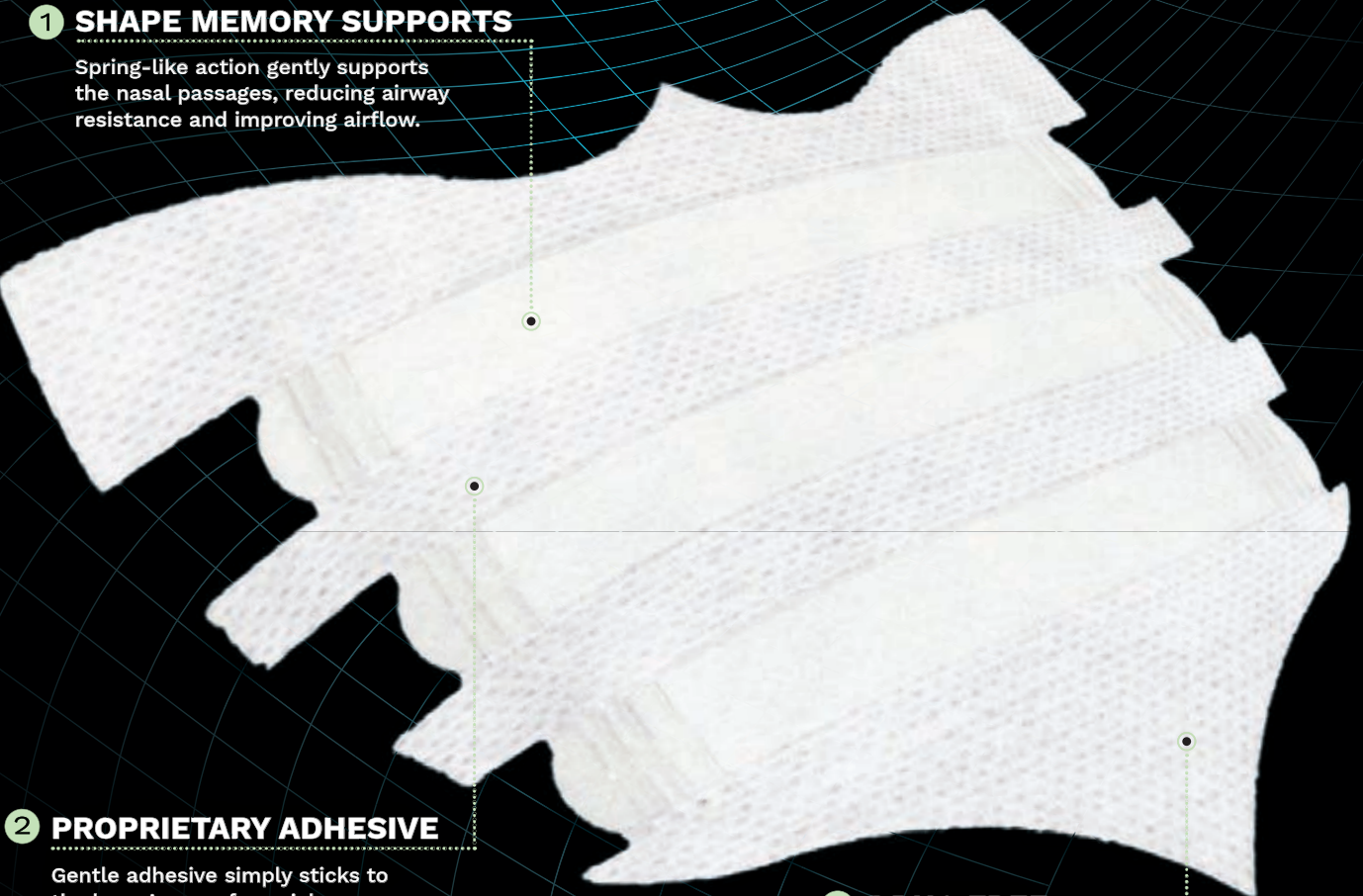
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2016 IOWA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

H. Allen Poindexter

H. Allen Poindexter, a board member for the Iowa Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, can multitask like few others. Poindexter bred and owns star filly Chanel's Legacy, who won the E.L. Gaylord Memorial Stakes at 2 last year. This year she's captured three stakes and earned her first graded-placing.

Missouri native Poindexter, who runs the mechanical firm Allen's Mechanical, owns a spread near Rogersville, where he also lives. But he utilizes Kentucky stallions to produce horses bred across the country. He is the breeder of 2016 graded-placed Isotherm, who won the Pilgrim Stakes (G3T) at 2 in 2015 and then the San Marcos Stakes (G2T) this year.

Poindexter retained the Iowa-bred Chanel's Legacy but relinquished another other up-and-comer, a sophomore colt named Rockin Rudy. Taylor Made Sales Agency sold the son of Midshipman, bred in the Hawkeye State, to Dickman's Legacy Ranch for \$100,000 at the 2015 Keeneland September yearling sale. Now owned by Reddam Racing and trained by Doug O'Neill (the team behind Kentucky Derby Presented by Yum! Brands, G1,



winners Nyquist and I'll Have Another), Rockin Rudy achieved stakes-placed status this year before running off the board in the Arkansas Derby (G1).

Horses that Poindexter sold in 2015 have gone on to run big. The Fasig-Tipton Saratoga yearling sale was a banner period for him. At that auction a handsome son of Pioneer of the Nile, bred in Iowa by Poindexter, sold for \$500,000 to China Horse Club. At that same sale Poindexter's Kentucky-bred son of Into Mischief went under the hammer for \$120,000 to Grand Oaks; eventually named Cool Arrow, the colt won two stakes at Remington Park last year at 2 and has continued his success sprinting in stakes at 3 in 2017.

Just a month earlier, at the 2015 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky July sale, a gray son of champion Hansen, bred in Iowa by Poindexter, sold for \$125,000 to Bowling Bloodstock; eventually entering the stable of his sire's namesake and owner, Dr. Kendall Hansen, Han Sense won the Iowa Cradle Stakes first time out at 2. He placed in multiple graded stakes last year before recently finishing off the board in the July 15 Indiana Derby (G3).

By Carly Silver

2016 KANSAS BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Rocking G Horse & Cattle

The measure of success for Lance and Valerie Gabriel within the Thoroughbred industry is not determined by wins and losses but by paying it forward.

With no breeding incentive program in their home state of Missouri, the Gabriels have routinely foaled the Thoroughbred mares who reside at their Rocking G Horse & Cattle in Kansas. As the Woodlands racetrack in Kansas City has been shuttered since 2008, the Gabriels have diversified their operation to be more focused on servicing clients through prepping and hauling horses.

When Lance Gabriel started Rocking G in 1989, the bulk of his business centered around conditioning roping horses. A client of his in the early 1990s had some Thoroughbreds that needed to be legged up and from there, Gabriel began branching into the commercial breeding side of the business in addition to breaking babies.

"When I got into the Thoroughbred business in the early 1990s, I was training a lot of team roping horses and that's kind of how we evolved," said Lance Gabriel, who along with his wife was previously recognized as the Thoroughbred Owners and



Lance and Valerie Gabriel

Breeders Association's Kansas Breeder of the Year for 2013. "We had a customer that had Thoroughbreds and nobody to break their yearlings, so we started doing that. The same customer had a need to have horses hauled to Kentucky because they were breeding a lot of mares there, so we started transporting as well."

The cattle side of their operation has become the more prominent part of the Gabriels' farm in recent years though they still maintain about 10 broodmares and stand the Thoroughbred stallion Cocky, a graded stakes-placed son of Valiant Nature. Helping

others and doing right by their loyal base of customers remain the Gabriels' primary source of professional pride.

"We're just not near as busy with Thoroughbreds as we once were. I'm just fortunate that we have some in training that will be running at Remington Park," Lance Gabriel said. "I'm kind of more on the back burner now, more in the service side of it. But we still continue to have some great customers in the Thoroughbred industry. That is rewarding for me, if I can help someone get started in this business." *By Alicia Wincze Hughes*



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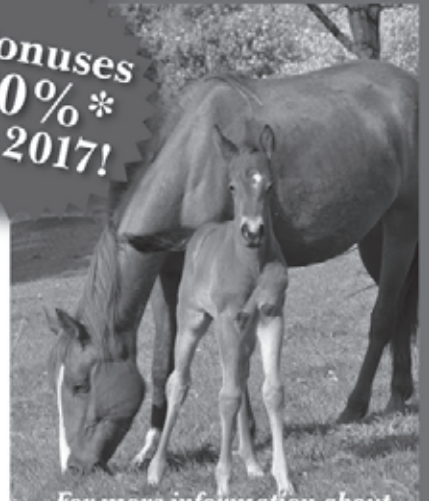
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2016 KENTUCKY BREEDER OF THE YEAR

WinStar Farm

The first order of business for WinStar Farm president Elliott Walden when he stepped to the podium at the 46th annual Eclipse Awards this past January was to acknowledge how many individuals went into producing the result he was there to accept.

The 2016 season provided the ultimate reward for owner Kenny Troutt's dedication to improving the breadth and depth of WinStar's breeding program in recent years. The operation just outside Versailles, Ky., led all other breeders in earnings last season with \$10,516,427 generated from 239 winners, including breeding 17 black-type stakes winners for the year.

Though WinStar had been among the top five breeders every year since 2012, last season saw them honored with their first Eclipse Award for outstanding breeder. Among the top-level winners carrying the green and white banner was homebred Tourist, who backed up his victory in the Fourstardave Handicap (G1T) with a triumph over champion Tepin in the 2016 Breeders' Cup Mile (G1T).

"I think the breeder is one of the most collaborative efforts,



Kenny Troutt

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because you have the stallion team, the broodmares, the yearlings, the owners that buy our horses at the sales, the trainers that they give them to," Walden said. "And Kenny and Lisa Troutt have given us the resources to get up every morning and work hard and make the dream possible."

Tourist entered stud for 2017, becoming part of the WinStar stallion roster now 22 strong. His sire, Tiznow, has been among the backbones of WinStar's breeding shed for years, and the farm has continued to bolster their ranks the last few seasons with the additions of multiple grade 1 winner Constitution, classic winner Exaggerator, and multiple graded stakes winner Commissioner, himself a WinStar homebred.

Other WinStar-bred horses that prevailed in 2016 include grade 1 winner Constellation—whose dam, stakes winner For Royalty, was purchased by WinStar under the Maverick Racing banner for \$87,000 at the 2010 Keeneland November mixed sale—Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1T) victor New Money Honey, and American Patriot (also raced by WinStar), who has gone on to become a grade 1 winner in 2017.

By Alicia Wincze Hughes

2016 LOUISIANA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Irwin Olian

Irwin Olian of Tigertail Ranch has proved that one doesn't have to look outside his or her own stable to come up with some winning bloodlines. He's earned his very first well-deserved Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association award for Louisiana as the top breeder in the state.

Olian grew up riding bareback on his family's Welsh pony, Shetland pony, and mule. He showed horses and gave other young riders lessons as a teenager, then started working summers at Aqueduct in New York while he attended Princeton University in New Jersey.

After graduating, he moved to California to work for the late Noble Threewitt at Santa Anita for several years. He currently resides at his farm near Benton, La.

Olian has been breeding Thoroughbreds for 30 years. His Sunshine Special, a foal of 1997, is the dam of his Lone Star Special, who has sired two graded stakes performers from 35 foals. Both were last year's leading earners in the state of Louisiana: Mobile Bay, who earned \$302,150, and Wheatfield, an earner of \$220,694 last year. The Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders' Association



named Mobile Bay Louisiana's 2016 Horse of the Year for the second consecutive year, as well as the champion 4-year-old and up male. Wheatfield was named top 4-year-old and up filly or mare.

"I am proud that I was able to accomplish this with relatively modest bloodstock," Olian said.

Mobile Bay won the 1½-mile Super Derby (G2) at Louisiana Downs in 2015 and a handful of other stakes since then. Wheatfield, the first foal out of Thistle Bear, ran second in this year's Inside Information Stakes (G2) at Gulfstream Park.

"Both of those horses are competing in open company races now, and Mobile Bay is on a short lay-up, getting freshened up, and he'll be back this fall," Olian said.

Olian foals about a dozen mares a year, and he's optimistic about the future for his 2- and 3-year-old groups.

"I tend to be very patient," he said. "I don't generally race very many 2-year-olds. I try to let them grow up more."

Other top performers include stakes winners Deep Bottom, who is also by Lone Star Special, and Stormdriver (by Discreet Cat).

By Callie Miller

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2016 MARYLAND BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Robert Manfuso

While Bob Manfuso did breed a “big horse” in the form of 2016 Longines Kentucky Oaks (G1) winner Cathryn Sophia, his lifetime commitment to breeding and raising good horses and supporting the state program in Maryland is the key reason he was announced the state’s Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association top prize. He’s served in just about every capacity in the industry, not only in the state but nationally.

Manfuso and trainer Katy Voss run Chanceland Farm, a 195-acre farm that is, according to Manfuso, “an ideal spot about 30 minutes from Laurel Park and 30 minutes from Pimlico.” While they don’t stand stallions, they do just about everything else. Half of the farm is devoted to breaking and training, and the other half is for foaling and raising young horses. While Chanceland has a few outside clients, the main focus is on Manfuso’s 15 mares. The fortunes of Chanceland, and the Maryland-bred program, have brightened some over the last few years thanks to the revenue enhancements to the racing and breeding programs from the state’s slots program.

“The breeding game in the state is a reflection of how well the



JIM MCQUEE

tracks are doing,” Manfuso said. “We’re blessed in Maryland because we have the people that have a passion for racing. They’re doing a heck of a job trying to energize the game in our state. As a consequence, as a breeder, I do my best to foal my mares here in Maryland.

“Fortunately, I have a great team at the farm,” he said. “It’s your team at the farm that helps develop horses such as Cathryn Sophia and stakes winner Corvus and others that turn out to be nice horses.”

Manfuso was responsible for breeding two stakes winners in 2016. Cathryn Sophia, a daughter of Street Boss out of Manfuso’s Mineshaft mare Sheave, won the Oaks and two other graded stakes after being sold to Cash is King for \$30,000. She was later sold for \$1.4 million last fall. International Star won the Louisiana Stakes at Fair Grounds. Corvus, bred by Manfuso and Voss and raced with Wayne Harrison, won the 2015 Maryland Million Nursery Stakes at Laurel Park.

“There’s no question the arrows are pointing in the right direction in Maryland,” Manfuso said. *By Evan Hammonds*

2016 MASSACHUSETTS BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Kenneth Posco

A self-professed “small fish in a small pond,” Kenneth Posco was named the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association’s Massachusetts Breeder of the Year. His statement comes with a touch of humor, but there is some truth to it as racing in New England has been reduced to just a few race dates at Suffolk Downs outside Boston.

Learning the game from his father, who had some success as an owner, Posco raced under his High Hopes Farm banner in New England. While he didn’t have a farm, the tax accountant and financial planner from Fitchburg ran a claiming stable and bought a few yearlings along the way. He reports that one year High Hopes Farm ranked 20th in the nation by wins and had a 29% win percentage.

He then bought a farm in 2008, brought in five stallions, and set up shop as the New England Stallion Station.

“I was getting excited about the prospects in Massachusetts. They had all of this casino talk,” Posco said.

One of the stallions was Zong. At \$1.7 million, Zong (Unbridled’s Song—Zing, by Storm Cat) was the highest-priced weanling of the year after selling to Aaron and Marie Jones at the 2005



Keeneland November mixed sale.

Racing for the Joneses with trainer Todd Pletcher, Zong made only one start, finishing unplaced in June 2008 in a maiden special weight race at Belmont Park. Retired to Posco’s New England Stallion Station, he stood four seasons in Massachusetts before being sold to Indian Creek Thoroughbred Farm in Louisiana.

The Posco-bred Jeb, by Zong out of the Marquetry mare Never Neverland, won Suffolk’s First Episode Stakes in 2016 for Cappy-Tavey Stable and trainer Dylan Clarke. Jeb is a winner in 2017 as well, taking an allowance optional claiming race at Suffolk July 9. Posco is the breeder of three other stakes winners: 2008 stakes winner Wheely; multiple stakes winner Never Know; and Pete, winner of Suffolk’s Norman Hall Stakes in 2013.

After the casino plans fizzled, so, too, did Posco’s initial investment. He has since sold the farm and moved the stallions but still believes racing in New England is viable.

“Boston is a sports town, and racing was always supported,” he said. “There’s no reason the area can’t support a limited-meet racetrack.” *By Evan Hammonds*



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2016 MICHIGAN BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Lisa Campbell

It's been just five years since a devastating barn fire killed 28 of Jerry and Lisa Campbell's horses, including their three stallions, yearlings, the best half of their 2-year-olds, and three mares, but the farm has already found a way to bounce back.

"We had 20 mares at the time, and they were all pregnant so we had a three-year span to kind of build the team back up," Lisa Campbell said.

Campbell Stable now has eight broodmares, 10 yearlings, and 18 horses of racing age at the track. Most run in Michigan, but several are at ThistleDown Racino in Ohio. The Campbells bought Gun Power, by Unbridled, five years ago, who stands as their lone stallion for \$1,000.

Gun Power is the sire of Gun Powder, Campbell's leading earner last year. He won the Michigan Sire Stakes two years in a row, and this year he placed in the Michigan Breeders Cup Governor's Cup Stakes.

Their wins at Hazel Park last summer cannot be overlooked. Campbell Stables bred and sold Pink Pajamas, who won the Regret Stakes for 3-year-old fillies and the Michigan Sire Stakes.



Gelding Synclines Trip romped in the Lansing Stakes for sophomore males, and homebred Valid Offer sailed to victory in the Larkspur Stakes.

Lisa Campbell grew up in the Thoroughbred business: Her father was a jockey and her mom was a trainer, but Campbell said she wanted more of a stable lifestyle when she had her two kids, so she started retiring and breeding racehorses, though she trains too.

Now she's trying to downsize out of the racing side so she can focus on just breeding, but she's waiting for Michigan legislation to pass regarding advance deposit wagering to boost the breeders awards.

This is Campbell Stables' sixth breeders award in the past seven years though Lisa Campbell has been winning owners awards since before that.

"It's a nice award. I waited a long time to receive it the first time. We were owner of the year for several years, but breeder is a lot harder," Campbell said. "You don't know what you're going to get, three legs, four legs, crooked legs, so I was very pleased when I won it."

By Callie Miller

2016 MINNESOTA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Richard Bremer and Cheryl Sprick

After shifting to more of a breed-to-race operation, the husband-and-wife team of Richard Bremer and Cheryl Sprick finished as leading owner by earnings in 2016 at their home track, Canterbury Park.

The stable registered a 15-11-10 record from 56 starts at the meet, a performance that helped the couple earn their third Minnesota Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association award in the past five years as the state's top breeder.

The top 2016 runner bred by Bremer and Sprick was Shipmate, a juvenile daughter of Midshipman out of Thigh High Boots, by Storm Boot. Shipmate won three of four starts, including the Iowa Stallion Futurity at Prairie Meadows and the Northern Lights Debutante Stakes at Canterbury, earning \$104,790 on the season.

Over the years Thigh High Boots has been a top producer, boasting six winners, including stakes winners Bet Your Boots and Bet Your Life, as well as stakes-placed Sun Country and Bet Your Socks. All of those horses were bred by Bremer and Sprick. Bremer purchased Thigh High Boots for \$5,500 at the 2007 Fasig-Tipton Kentucky February mixed sale.



Bremer and Sprick are the breeders of 10 other 2016 winners, including Native Princess, by Native Ruler—Dracken, by Millennium Allstar, who placed in four stakes at Prairie Meadows.

Their Thoroughbred breeding operation is based at Steepwood Farm near Lake City, Minn. Bremer said they try not to rush young horses, which might allow horses they breed to continue to race well at older ages. He also said

the land contributes to developing sound horses.

"We feed them high-quality grasses and hay," Bremer said. "The farm is in Southeast Minnesota, and it's on rolling hills with a limestone base. It's really similar to Central Kentucky, and I think there is something to that idea about limestone and minerals in the ground."

Last year Sprick told the Canterbury Live Blog that it's been a long process to build up the Steepwood breeding operation.

"We've become a 27-year overnight success," Sprick said. "It's taken that long to put everything together. With the horse business, you have to be willing to problem solve."

By Frank Angst



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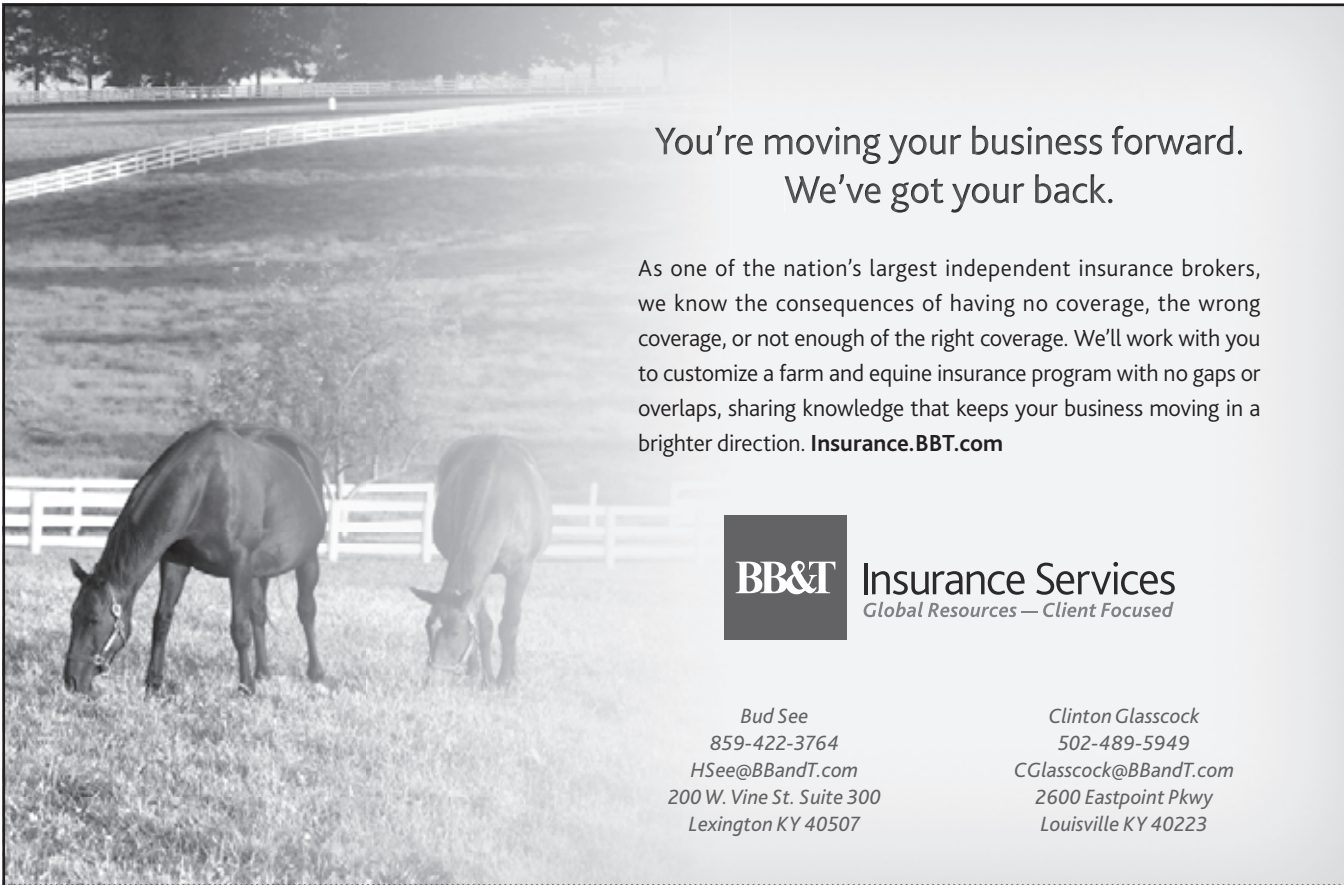
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2016 NEW JERSEY BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Daniel J. Lopez

The year 2016 has been a banner one for Daniel J. Lopez and his Medford, N.J.-based Joe-Dan Farm.

The success the farm experienced is largely due to their homebred son of Carson City, Hey Chub, who stands at the farm. His 18 runners, most of whom carry the distinctive “Chub” moniker somewhere in their name, captured \$662,847 on the racetrack this past year, much of which was on the New Jersey circuit. All but two of those runners were bred by Joe-Dan/Lopez.

Headlining that group is homebred Chublicious. The gelding is out of the Arch mare Sassy Broad and captured the John J. Reilly Handicap, Mr. Prospector Stakes, and the New Jersey Breeders Handicap during his 2016 campaign, earning \$149,414. Chublicious repeated in the Reilly July 30 at Monmouth Park. Sassy Broad should have four foals by Hey Chub make starts in 2017. In addition to 6-year-old Chublicious, there’s the 5-year-old gelding Brother Chub, the 4-year old gelding Chub Scout, and the unraced 3-year-old filly Sassy Chub. Sassy Broad also has a yearling gelding by the stallion.



BILL DENVER/QUIPHOTO

Lopez’ relationship with Hey Chub and New Jersey racing goes back much further than 2016.

Aside from running Joe-Dan as a breeder, Lopez has been a fixture on the New Jersey circuit as a trainer for decades, with career earnings of more than \$17.6 million.

Horses campaigned by Lopez include multiple stakes winner Geeky Gorgeous, who earned New Jersey-bred horse of the year honors in 2013. Lopez trained Hey Chub himself for the first 26 starts of his career. Lopez has also trained both Hey Chub’s first and second dams, Donna Doo and Nasty Affair, respectively.

Lopez has also served as the director of the Thoroughbred Breeders’ Association of New Jersey in 2015 and 2016. When asked about Lopez’ involvement and what he means to the New Jersey Thoroughbred industry, Mike Campbell, the executive director of the NJTBA, said, “He’s been involved with breeding and racing in the state for an exceptionally long time, and we can’t thank him enough for his dedication and his support of the industry in New Jersey.”

By Julie Witt

2016 NEW YORK BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Chester and Mary Broman

Chester and Mary Broman were named New York breeders of the year for 2016, and for good reason. The Bromans continued to enjoy success with the homebreds they breed, raise, and race off their Chestertown Farm. They have bred at least one black-type winner each year from 2003 clear up to 2017.

Highway Star was the Bromans’ biggest success in 2016 as she won the Go for Wand Handicap (G3) and New York Stallion Series Stakes at Aqueduct late in her 3-year-old season. Out of Stolen Star, a Broman homebred mare, Highway Star won five races in 2016 and earned \$369,000 for the season. Highway Star has earned \$689,000 in her career. Bar of Gold was another dual stakes winner on the year for the Bromans. Out of their homebred Khancord Kid, herself a graded stakes winner, Bar of Gold took the Critical Eye Stakes for state-breds at Belmont Park and five months later won the Empire Distaff Handicap there, both state-bred “Showcase” events. She has banked a whopping \$818,500 in her career.



Homebred Cloud Control took honors in the New York Stallion Stakes on the turf at Belmont in 2016 and ran third in the New York Stallion Series Stakes at Saratoga. Haul Anchor was the fourth homebred stakes winner for the Bromans in 2016, winning the Damon Runyon Stakes at Aqueduct, en route to earning \$143,000 for the year.

“I think it means the world to Chester when he not only wins a race, but wins one with a horse he’s bred and raised on his farm,” said Chestertown

Farm manager Gregg Falk. “It’s more rewarding when you have them from the ground up, and in many cases he’s bred the dam and the second dam of these stakes winners as well, and that means so much more to him than going out and buying one.”

Chestertown Farm, located on 160 acres in upstate New York, bred 54 mares in the current season.

“We’ve got a lot going on,” said Falk, “but we’ve got a good staff, and the farm is well laid out and organized, so it’s easy to work.”

By Lenny Shulman

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2016 NORTH CAROLINA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Nancy Shuford

Nancy Shuford good-naturedly chalks much of her success up to luck, but there is undoubtedly more to it as she has once again been named North Carolina's outstanding Thoroughbred breeder for 2016. Although she jokes that could be because of a lack of competition in the Tar Heel State, her results would play extremely well no matter her locale. Shuford bred 2016 grade 1 winner Beach Patrol and grade 2 winner Pretty N Cool.

"It's very flattering to receive this recognition," Shuford said. "But it takes a lot of luck, and I've been incredibly lucky."

Shuford has enjoyed good fortune by selecting the right broodmares at auction as when she purchased Stayclassysandiego, the dam of Pretty N Cool, for \$120,000; and Bashful Bertie, the dam of Beach Patrol, for \$90,000.

"I sold something pretty well a few years ago, so I went and bought five gray mares, including Stayclassysandiego," she said. "My husband was helping load them up and said, 'Do they make them in any other color?' I just happen to like grays."

"I try to buy younger mares out of relatively young mares that are still producing. With Bashful Bertie, they announced



she was a cribber, which she isn't, and that she had had colic surgery, which she hadn't. So sometimes I wait for something to slip through the cracks."

Pretty N Cool was bought as a yearling for \$160,000 by Bob Baffert, who trained her to win the C.E.R.F. Stakes in 2016. The filly won graded events in 2015 and 2017. Beach Patrol fetched \$250,000 as a weanling and took the Secretariat Stakes (G1T) in 2016 and the 2017 Arlington Million XXXV Stakes (G1T).

"Pretty N Cool, being by Scat Daddy, was a real racy-looking filly, a cute package," said Shuford. "Beach Patrol was a big, handsome sucker."

Bashful Bertie has continued to produce good-looking horses; Shadwell purchased a Speightstown weanling colt out of her for \$400,000, and Shuford will sell a full sister to the colt in November. She had bred Bashful Bertie back to Flatter and Stayclassysandiego to California Chrome.

Shuford has some 25 mares at her North Carolina farm and refuses to cull any of them. With her good luck, why should she?

By Lenny Shulman

2016 OHIO BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Tim Hamm/Blazing Meadows Farm

Ohio native Tim Hamm can be summed up by two words: dedicated and jack-of-all trades.

Hamm grew up in the Warren/Youngstown area and started with one horse when he jumped into the industry in 2009 after working in construction. He hasn't looked back, now owning and operating Blazing Meadows Farm, which has locations in Ohio and Florida.

The Ohio division sits on 40 acres and is home to a band of 15-20 broodmares. Hamm and his team handle every aspect of raising Thoroughbreds, from foaling to breaking them after they are weaned and sent to the Ocala division.

Hamm reached the 1,000-win milestone as a trainer late in 2016. Homebred success has been led by Leona's Reward (raced in partnership), winner of the Ohio Debutante Handicap and the Bobbie Bricker Memorial Handicap; and Eightthehardway, winner of the Catlaunch Stakes and the Ruff/Kirchberg Memorial Handicap. Both are by the Hamm-trained Parents' Reward. The year also saw a growth in a partnership with WinStar Farm, and the farm currently has two promising 2-year-olds in addition to nine weanlings and 12 broodmares.

Hamm also pinhooks with his biggest success being multiple



grade 1 winner and 2006 champion 3-year-old filly Wait a While.

In 1996 he purchased Rose Colored Lady as a 2-year-old, and she became the dam of Too Much Bling, a colt Hamm trained and co-owned. After racking up multiple stakes wins he's made a name for himself as a sire in Texas.

"We owe a lot to her (Rose Colored Lady). She's been our foundation mare and continues to be an important part of our operation," Hamm said. Though they sold Rose Colored Lady in 2006 for \$750,000, Hamm has found success training progeny of Too Much Bling, including homebred Significant Bling, the 2012 Ohio horse of the year, the first 2-year old filly to earn that honor. Hamm also trained 2014 Ohio horse of the Year Needmore Flattery, whom he bred and raced in partnership.

Hamm has also served the Ohio Thoroughbred industry as the president of the Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners and the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association over the years. "I always liked the structure of Ohio racing; there's a full set of stakes races for every division. I've always believed in it."

By Julie Witt



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2016 OREGON BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Neil Knapp

A trainer since the 1950s, Neil Knapp only began to breed horses in the mid-2000s and at the age of 81, homebreds now play a significant role in his barn.

Highlighted by four victories from Oregon-bred stakes winner Gracie Gold (by Soft Gold, out of the Speed Jaro mare Sudden, who is owned, bred, and trained by Knapp), his 2016 season included 10 wins as an owner to go along with 19 other placings in 51 starts, for \$77,571 in earnings.

It's also added a little spice during trips to the winner's circle (a trip he's made 1,133 times through Aug. 11), knowing he's had a hand in every step of a horse's development.

"It's a little extra since you've done it yourself," Knapp said. "I even bought a stallion a while back, which I would have never imagined doing."

Moving forward, Knapp is most excited about that stallion acquisition, Car Talk, an Irish-bred son of Bernardini who stood for a \$1,000 fee at Bar C Racing Stables in Oregon in 2017.

"This breeding business is still new to me, but hopefully this stud will do well, and I can be a bit happier," Knapp said.



Living just across the Columbia River in Washington state, Knapp bred three of the four stakes winners in Oregon (Washington-bred Jen's Jag, by Timber Legend, won the 2015 Stallion Stakes at Portland Meadows). Of the Oregon-breds, Gilly Gone (by Harbor the Gold) won the Oregon His Stakes in 2015, Gracie Gold won the Oregon Hers Stakes in 2016, and Suddenly Adele (by Harbor the Gold) won the Oregon Hers in 2014.

As an owner, his top earner is stakes-placed Oldtimers Vision, who had a 2-2-2 record in nine 2016 starts and already has two wins from seven starts in 2017. Knapp purchased the Pollard's Vision gelding for \$4,000 from the 2012 Washington Thoroughbred Breeders' Association yearling and mixed sale.

Oldtimers Vision's \$98,000 in earnings puts him at No. 2, just behind 14-time winner Itstufftobegood (\$168,128), on the list of Knapp's top earners.

Overall, Knapp has earned more than \$5.4 million from 8,434 starts, even though he admits, "early on, they didn't keep very good records of how many wins all those horses had."

By Jeremy Balan

2016 SOUTH CAROLINA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Franklin G. Smith Sr.

For the fifth time in the past seven years, Franklin Smith Sr. has earned the title of outstanding breeder in South Carolina.

Smith jokingly acknowledges he doesn't have a lot of competition on the breeding side but is proud of the steady stream of top-notch racehorses coming out of his Ellore Training Center, which he opened in 1976. The training center breaks and trains young horses for a number of successful stables, including Donegal Racing, which campaigns grade 1 winner Keen Ice, and Coffee Pot Stables, the owner of multiple graded stakes winner Farrell.

"When you're working with nice stock, it gives you the chance to come up with a headliner," Smith said. "It makes it worth getting up in the morning and go do it."

Besides runners, Ellore Training Center also produces riders.

"I take in kids from all over the country who want to come here to become jockeys," Smith said. "We school them a little bit. Chris Antley was here and a number of others, like Malcolm Franklin, who is riding in Indiana." Franklin celebrated his 1,000th winner Feb. 4 at Turfway Park.



Smith's family has been a key part of South Carolina's Thoroughbred breeding and racing scene since the 1940s. His father raised cattle on a farm six miles from the Ellore Training Center and decided to add a few Thoroughbred mares into the mix and stood a stallion or two.

Today Smith stands Straight Talking, an unraced son of Dixieland Band, and Done Talking, winner of the 2012 Illinois Derby (G3). Done Talking's dam, Dixie Talking, is a full sister to Straight Talking.

Gin Makes Ya Sin, a Smith homebred that was trained by his brother Hamilton Smith for part of his racing career, was Straight Talking's chief earner of 2016, having garnered \$98,709 in purses. Done Talking, by Broken Vow, is a freshman sire who has had one starter to date.

"They all look like Broken Vow," Smith said of Done Talking's 2-year-olds. "They are good, sound-looking horses. We'll continue to breed eight to 10 mares to him, and we get a few people who breed around here. Hopefully, they'll get lucky with some of them, and we'll go back in time to when we had some decent studs in this part of the country."

By Eric Mitchell



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2016 TEXAS BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Craig Upham

For the past three seasons one particularly bright light has shone in the Lone Star State's Thoroughbred firmament, and his name is Texas Chrome. The 2015 champion Texas-bred juvenile colt, bred by Craig D. Upham and owned by Keene Thoroughbreds, exploded onto the national racing scene last year, capturing the Super Derby (G3) and Oklahoma Derby (G3). Pocketing four black-type victories, the colt earned honors as the 2016 Texas-bred Horse of the Year and champion 3-year-old male.

In the name of Stoneview Farm, Upham and his wife, Sue Dowling, sold Texas Chrome as a yearling for \$10,000 to eventual owner Danny Keene at the 2014 Fasig-Tipton Texas summer yearling and mixed sale.

Most recently Texas Chrome (Grasshopper—Margarita Mistress, by Naevus) won the July 22 Assault Stakes at Lone Star Park; having also placed in three graded stakes this year, he has become just the second Texas-bred millionaire in history, behind champion sprinter Groovy.

Texas Chrome's sire, grade 3-winning Grasshopper, is a leading young stallion in the Lone Star State; he currently ranks second on its list of top sires by earnings. That echoes the success of



Texas Chrome's broodmare sire Naevus, who, before his death in 2005, was a perennial standout in Texas. This connection is personal for Upham: his father-in-law, Al Gerrans, owned Naevus under the name APG Holdings, and Upham and his wife stood the horse for many years at their Stoneview Farm near Hempstead.

Dowling mindfully names her stock—Texas Chrome boasts a flashy white stripe down his face—but she took a meaningful tack with a Stoneview-bred gelding by Lost Soldier. Dowling dubbed the horse Ranger Heartley, commemorating Army Staff Sergeant Jeffery L. Hartley, a soldier from Hempstead who died in Iraq in 2008; Ranger Heartley made his breeder proud by winning the 2010 California Derby.

Besides her champion son, Margarita Mistress produced other quality runners for Upham. Her 2-year-old daughter Patrona Margarita (by former Stoneview stallion Special Rate) broke her maiden first time out at Churchill Downs June 9, running as a homebred for Upham and Dowling. On the same day as Texas Chrome's Assault victory, Patrona Margarita finished third in the fillies division of the Texas Thoroughbred Futurity, also at Lone Star.

By Carly Silver

2016 VIRGINIA BREEDER OF THE YEAR

William M. Backer

Ann Backer and her late husband, William M. Backer, have been named the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's Virginia breeder of the year title as their stable saw three stakes winners in 2016.

William Backer, who penned "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing" in 1971 for Coca-Cola, died in May 2016 at the age of 89. The Advertising Hall of Fame member turned his attention to breeding and racing Thoroughbreds and was a member of The Jockey Club.

The Backers founded Smitten Farm near The Plains, Va. They led all other Virginia breeders in 2016 with 35 wins.

The 2016 stakes winners for the Backers include Moon River, who won the Punch Line Stakes sprinting on the turf at Laurel Park; turf runner Rose Brier, who took a pair of stakes at Laurel—the Henry S. Clark and Bert Allen stakes—and just missed a grade 3 win when he was disqualified to second after reaching the wire first in the Tropical Turf Handicap; and turf



ANNE M. EBERHARDT

filly Sweet Victory, who closed the season with three straight wins, including the Honey Ryder Stakes and Penn Oaks.

Stakes-placed fillies Brainchild and My Dinah Lee added to the success of the Backers' breeding operation in 2016.

Gelding Moon River is by Bluegrass Cat—Hepburn, by Capote. Gelding Rose Brier is by Mizzen Mast—Mexicali Rose, by El Gran Senor. Sweet Victory, who was purchased for \$285,000 by George Bolton at the 2014 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga sale of select yearlings, is by Blame—My Mammy, by Came Home.

Some of the all-time top horses bred by the Backers include Her Smile, an Include half sister to Moon River who captured the 2011 Prioress Stakes (G1) at Belmont Park for owner Bobby Flay and trainer Todd Pletcher. Other stakes winners for the Backers include Art Fan, Art Show, Baileys Beach, Frost Princess, and Pink Pallet.

By Frank Angst

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2016 WASHINGTON BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Jean and Jeff Harris

Mother and son Jean and Jeff Harris are breeding Thoroughbreds near Naches, Wash., on land that has been in their family for four generations. The most recent top competitor to come from the property, now called Clemans View Farm, is Kaabraaj, champion Washington-bred sprinter of 2016.

Jean's grandfather, A.E. Penney, built a house on the Clemans land in 1906. He was a founder of the Washington Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association. His son, A.J. Penney, was a founding member of the Yakima Valley Turf Club. A.J.'s children—veterinarian Dr. Robert Penney, Jim Penney (a trainer and member of the Washington Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame), and Jean Harris—were all active in the Washington Thoroughbred industry.

Upon Robert's death in 1984, the family sold the property. A schoolteacher, Jean also had bred and raised horses and stood stallions with her father and later her husband, Jerry.

"Jeff said he wanted to buy the house, so my husband and I bought the acreage around it, and Jeff bought the house and a couple of acres," said Jean.

The Clemans View name comes from the view of the nearby



mountain range. Jerry died in 1999, and Jean, now retired, quickly says that "Jeff does all the work." But she is still very involved in their breeding program.

Jean and Jeff bred their River Special mare Kaaaching to the stallion Abraaj to get Kaabraaj. They started Kaabraaj as a 3-year-old at Emerald Downs in 2015, losing him for

\$10,000 in his first start to trainer Jeff Metz, who now trains the gelding for Warlock Stables and Horseplayers Racing Club 240. Kaabraaj last year won the Bienvenidos Stakes and Luke Kruytbosch Stakes at Turf Paradise, finished third in the Governor's Stakes at Emerald Downs, and ran fourth in the Bing Crosby Stakes (G1) at Del Mar.

Jean and Jeff raced their homebred Don'tbeshywillie last year. Trained by Howard Belvoir, the Washington-bred son of Understatement—Bearlee Naked, by Old Trieste, finished third in the Washington Cup Two-Year-Old Colts and Geldings Stakes and the Emerald Express Stakes, both at Emerald Downs.

Kaabraaj is Jean and Jeff's first state champion.

"That was exciting," said Jean, "especially since there were so many other good horses in that category." *By Tracy Gantz*



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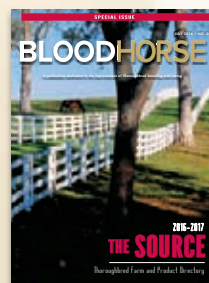
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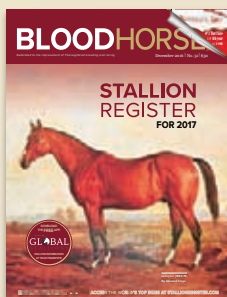
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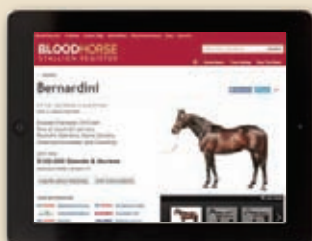
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