



# Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Journal

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August, 2004

## Exciting Racing, DTHA Events and News!

**W**hat a difference a day makes! July brought us much excitement and many changes. Who knows, maybe it was the "Blue Moon" this month, but here is the scoop.

July 17 and 18, Delaware Park hosted its festival of racing. On Saturday, July 17, the finish of the \$100,000 R.R.M. Carpenter, Jr. Memorial Handicap was only separated by three necks. ANGELA AURA finished a neck in front for local trainer Steve Klesaris and just behind THE LADY'S GROOM for our other local

trainer Michael Gorham. Next came the 3-year-old fillies 43<sup>rd</sup> running of the Delaware Oaks. Favorite YEARLY REPORT shipped in to win for trainer Bob Baffert, owner Golden Eagle Farm and jockey Jerry Bailey.

The Robert G. Dick Memorial Breeders Cup was also another close finish. It ran at 1 3/8m on the turf. Favorite ALTERNATE hung on to win by a head for local connections Graham Motion and leading rider Ramon Dominguez. LADY OF THE FUTURE came flying late to just miss for local trainer Tom Greene.

ESPN televised live on Sunday in the pouring rain as part of its "Racing to the Breeders Cup" show. The rain was less than cooperative and the sloppy track forced the Light Hearted Handicap to scratch down to three and ex-claimer NICLIE beat out odds-on-favorite BRONZE ABE by 2 1/4 lengths. The Cape Henlopen race was taken off the turf and also scratched down to three starters and was won by CHOPPER WON. Next, the Grade III Leonard Richards for three-year-olds was won by Kentucky Derby starter and favorite POLLARDS VISION.

The rain finally subsided for the 69<sup>th</sup> running of the Delaware Handicap. SUMMER WIND DANCER traveled 3,000 miles to make her first start outside of California a winning one for trainer Jeff Mullins, owners Linda Vetter and Richard and Yvette Wira and jockey Victor Espinoza. Another shipper, ROAR EMOTION,

finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and local contender MISTY SIXES finished third for Steve Klesaris.

It's now

time to prepare for our next big event – Owners Day – so clear your calendars for Saturday, September 11, 2004. We graciously ask that you refrain from taking balloons and decorations until AFTER the last race as we had several complaints in the past that horses were being spooked in the paddock and while walking over for their race. All flowers on the tables will be donated to local nursing homes. We hope you have a great day of racing and fun.

On September 13, 2004 ballots for our next election will be mailed. They are due back by October 4<sup>th</sup>. Results will be announced October 11<sup>th</sup>. On October 18<sup>th</sup>, the new board will officially take office and the DTHA October board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. This year we are losing several valuable board members, so please be sure to read the bios and make your selections thoughtfully.

Golfers get ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Horsemen's Golf Classic. It will be held at Frog Hollow Golf Course in



Bessie Gruwell  
DTHA President

### Mark Your Calendars!

Join us on Saturday, September 11th,  
by the Paddock for a  
"Heroes Welcome" Luncheon!

**OWNERS ARE HEROES AT DELAWARE PARK!**



Continued on page 2

## Delaware Certified Thoroughbred Program



**D**elaware Certified horses that finish first, second or third earn an extra 10% bonus to the owner and to the certifier. For more details regarding the Delaware Certified Thoroughbred Program please see our website [www.dtha.com](http://www.dtha.com) or call Lynda Furlong at (302) 994-2521 ext. 7289 or (302) 994-2398.

DATE	HORSE	FINISH	OWNER
6/20/04	Formal Spirit	Third	Childs & Childs Stable
6/27/04	Carlyssilvercharm	Second	The Elkstone Group LLC
6/29/04	Parade Band	Third	William S. Farish
7/10/04	Charian	Third	Fisher Wallace Stable
7/10/04	All Rise	Third	Mrs. W.S.Farish & Mrs. W.S. Kilroy
7/14/04	Queen's Hero	First	Candy Stable
7/14/04	Dixie Chixie	Third	Blue Willow Stable
7/27/04	Carlyssilvercharm	Third	The Elkstone Group LLC
7/27/04	Miss Goodie	Second	A-1 Stable
7/27/04	Jazz Legend	Second	Sarah S. Farish
7/27/04	Bay Citi Girl	Second	Richard Horwitz
7/28/04	Pilot Point	Third	D.Scott Peck
8/02/04	Weeks	Win	Andrew Simoff
8/02/04	Gotta Rush	Win	Inwood Farm
8/03/04	Harley's Road	Third	Smart Start Stables LLC

Continued from page 1

Middletown, Delaware on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Anyone interested in golfing or sponsorship should contact Wes Jones at (302) 994-2521, ext. 6532 or cell (302) 383-7233. The money raised will go to the Delaware Horsemen's Assistance Fund.

On July 5, 2004 Pennsylvania passed their slots bill. There are many concerns among local horsemen about the impact that it will have on purses and racing days. This will certainly be our hot topic in the days and months ahead.

Last, but certainly not least, was my biggest surprise of the month. Executive Director, Robin Metz, resigned after 12 years of service. She has elected to move to Florida after serving our organization for well over a decade. Robin has been involved in every step of our growth from a one-room office to our present facility with over 2000 members.

"The Delaware Horsemen's Assistance Fund has been well served by Robin and she will be sorely missed by all of us," stated Pete Alexander, President of the DHAF.

We all wish Robin "Bon Voyage" as she embarks on her next journey, and know she will find success in whatever activity she may choose.

*Bessie*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**August 17** DTHA Board Meeting  
**September 2** Wellness Clinic Health Fair  
**September 11** 12th Annual Owners Day  
**October 4** Election Ballots Due

DTHA Board meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the Horsemen's Office.

**Note: Your newsletter is now online at:**  
[www.dtha.com](http://www.dtha.com).

### Substance-free Housing Partnership

**D**elaware Park recently marked the opening of a new substance-free bunkhouse on the backstretch of the Stanton, Delaware track. The facility is one of twelve new housing units for seasonal employees.

Participants at the ribbon-cutting event included, left to right, Pete Alexander, President of the Delaware Horsemen's

Assistance Fund; Wesley Jones, a certified counselor and coordinator of the Backstretch Employment Assistance Fund; Herb Moelis, President of Thoroughbred Charities of



America, donor of a grant to furnish the bunkhouse; and Bill Fasy, Chief Operating Officer of Delaware Park, who built the bunkhouse.

The new living quarters can accommodate up to 11 persons "who have established sobriety and want a supportive environment during the meet," said Wesley Jones. The substance-free housing and counseling program are modeled after the successful "BEAT Program" at Belmont Park in Elmont, New York.

The substance-free counseling program, together with a backstretch wellness clinic and recreational activities, are provided through the Delaware Horsemen's Assistance Fund (DHAF) a partnership between Delaware Park and the Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association. The DHAF was established in 1966 "for the benefit, aid, assistance and relief of horsemen, trainers, exercise riders, grooms and stable attendants."



# After Hours

*Play...Pray...Travel Away*

Here we are again enjoying the beauty of summer and all the activities that go along with the season, not the least of which is the annual Paddock Party. As usual, everyone at this event held on Friday, August 6<sup>th</sup> was not disappointed.

This celebration held exclusively for our backstretch employees and their families featured a Latino music band, food, contests, games and raffles.

We also enjoyed our first Horsemen's B-B-Q and Health Fair, which was on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> in the recreation pavilion by the stall office. I am very grateful to volunteers from St. Marks United Methodist Church who donated, cooked and served some delicious Texas style beef brisket that everyone raved over. We also served hamburgers, fiesta dogs, potato salad, cole slaw, rice and beans and dessert.

I also would like to thank the Latin American Community Center for their collaboration and the Wellness Center staff for the success of this event.

Many thanks to Brother Chris Posh, St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of Wilmington for

I want to take this opportunity to let everyone know three positive developments during the 2004 meet. First, this is the first year Delaware Park is offering substance-free housing for its backstretch employees. On July 16<sup>th</sup>, Herb Moelis, Bill Fasy, Pete Alexander, along with many others and myself were on hand for the Substance-Free Housing ribbon cutting ceremony.

This was made possible by the support of Delaware Park, the Delaware Horsemen's Assistance Fund and the Thoroughbred Charities of America (See article on page 2).

Secondly, Wednesday night is "Movie Night" in the kitchen and has been up and running for over a month, providing over 200 backstretch employees with entertainment on a Wednesday night. Each week a new movie is selected and the DHAF supplies pizza and sodas.

And finally, I'm also excited to announce that the second Annual Horsemen's Golf Classic will be held at Frog Hollow Golf Course in Middletown on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in playing or joining on the golf committee, please contact me as soon as possible. It will be a great opportunity to participate in a special event that will raise money to support programs that help the backstretch employees. For more information about any of the above-mentioned services, please call me at (302) 994-2521 ext. 6532 or (302) 383-7233.

*G. Wesley Jones*



G.Wesley Jones, MSW



Pete Lizarzaburu

everything they do to make Delaware Park a welcoming place for many of our workers. On July 1<sup>st</sup> they sponsored a trip to St. Anthony on the Hills in Avondale, Pennsylvania. An Olympic size pool and a miniature golf course made for a wonderful afternoon in the sun. Other events planned by Brother Chris are a trip to Lums Pond on August 12<sup>th</sup> and a beach trip in late August. Brother Chris offers Mass every Wednesday night at 6:30 pm in the Wellness Center.

Our 2004 Volleyball Tournament got under way on June 27<sup>th</sup> with 8 teams competing and should culminate around mid August.

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, we took the first of our day trips to Dorney Park in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Many new attractions were featured this season and over 60 backstretch employees enjoyed a day of thrill rides.

I would also like to mention we have many other ongoing recreational, educational, and spiritual activities such as English as a Second Language every Tuesday and Sunday nights. On Friday nights there is a Bible-based seminar that teaches how to be successful in life.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at (302) 994-2521, Ext. 7285.

*Pete*



Chris Sobocinski, Delaware Park Publicity Director, places FIRECARD in the eighth post position at the draw for the Grade II, \$750,000 Delaware Handicap.

## Editor's Note

The Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Journal is published bi-monthly. Members are invited to submit suggestions for future articles and letters to the editor. Contact the Horsemen's Office, at (302)994-2521 ext. 7284; Fax (302) 994-3392.





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# Applause!

**SEE YOU IN THE WINNER'S CIRCLE!**

## *DTHA OWNER BLANKET SERIES II*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>HORSE</b>	<b>TRAINER</b>
6/23	Michael Gill	Tell No Tales	T. Hooper
6/30	William Farish	Marching Band	M. Zwiesler
7/07	Dale Lucas	Dante's Rocket	G. Preciado
7/14	Timothy Cunningham	Madge's Prize	M. Petro
7/21	Greg Warren	Nicely Accepted	T. Ritchey
7/28	Win More Stables, Inc.	Cheque Marque	T. Ritchey
8/03	Maggi Moss	Strodes Commander	J. Zimmerman

## *GROOM OF THE WEEK*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GROOM</b>	<b>HORSE</b>	<b>TRAINER</b>
6/02	Jerry Thurston, Jr.	Casey Jones	J. Thurston
6/08	Suzanna Ranger	Kinematics	G. Preciado
6/09	Filemon Parajas	Poker Faced	M. Rogers
6/21	Jesus Garcia	A Vision In Gray	T. Ritchey
7/10	Mauricio Madrid	Bounding Zeal	A. Hall
7/14	Ruben Arredondo	Z Cliffnotes	A. Stauffer
7/20	Sergio Hernandez	Hallie Laredo	M. Gorham
7/31	Herman Robinson	Forces Command	D. Furr