



DTHA

Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Journal

Published for the members of the Delaware Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.

Volume 20, Number 4

November/December, 2009

2009 Meet – new faces, new leaders, meet comparisons and results

It came down to the wire...the last day of racing deciding the leading trainer and the last thoroughbred race of the meet to decide the leading owner. In their first full season here at Delaware Park, jockey David Cohen was the runaway leader in the jockey standings with 152 wins from 558 mounts and trainer Cody Autrey dethroned seven-time defending champion Scott Lake, recording 58 trips to the winners circle from 192 starters to record his first-ever leading trainer title, while Lake notched 55 winners from 210 starters. Porter Racing Stable, owned by John and Carol Porter, prevailed in the final thoroughbred race on the card to take the winning owner title with 18 wins. They were followed by Heflin and Driver Racing with 17 wins.

After recording two of our worst years ever for field size, number of thoroughbred races per day and handle in 2007 and 2008, the 2009 meet ended on a much better note. Although we raced 27 fewer days, faced a 10% decrease in slot revenue and endured a declining economy, Delaware Park managed to finish this race meet up in nearly every category. We had an increased number of starters per race and an increased number of races per day. The average number of horses per race was 7.73 compared with 6.94 last year – an increase of 11.29%. The average number of races per day was 9.74 compared with 8.96 in 2008 – an increase of 8.79%. The increase in field size should automatically increase the handle and it did! With 27 less racing days, the comparison of year-end numbers cannot be compared. The all-source handle (live on-track and live simulcasting-out) was \$168,977,878, which represents a 1.9% increase over 2008 of \$165,833,568, but if you factor in the fewer racing days, the average revenue was up 24.6%. Delaware Park reported that the average all-sources handle per day was up 27.17% over last year. In 2009, the average all source handle per day was \$1,550,256, compared with \$1,219,364 in 2008.

As we continue to see handle decrease at every track across the country, we continue to see Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) companies' revenues thrive. Why do you think that's happening? The ADW companies are getting the lion's share at 17-18 % and we, the track, are getting 3-6% (that is split

between the track and purses). So ask yourself, "Why is that?" This is a highly debated topic within the industry. As horsemen, we wonder why purses are on the decline, yet I continue to see owners and trainers pick up their cell phones while at the track to make a wager through their ADW account, rather than get up and walk to the window and make their wager through a mutual teller. I can understand if you are not at the racetrack, but if you are here and don't make your wager at the track you are virtually robbing your own purse account. So please, please, please, if you are here at the track or any track for that matter, walk up to a teller and make your wager!



Bessie Gruwell
Executive Director

The stable area will once again be open for winter stabling. Applications for nearly 500 horses to stable here this winter have been received. Beginning December 1, winter training hours will be Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.; break from 9 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.; closed on Sunday. The starting gate will be open two days, on Wednesday and Friday 7 a.m.— 11 a.m.

Beginning December 1, the Horsemen's Office winter hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and the office will be closed on Sundays. The office will also be closing at noon on Thursday, December 24, 2009 through Friday, January 1, 2010 and will re-open Saturday, January 2, 2010.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Bessie



A \$\$ million thanks and a \$\$ million reasons to get your horses Delaware certified!

The 2009 Racing season set a new all-time high for the Delaware Bred or Delaware Certified Thoroughbred Program (DCTP). A record number of starters, a record number of winners and a record number of bonuses were paid to owners and certifiers this year. The total topped over \$1 million in bonuses paid this year for 921 starters that recorded 105 winners, 120 places and 120 thirds.

Our thanks to everyone who has supported our program. A special thanks to the DCTP farm participants who have shared in our vision and commitment to grow the state's agribusiness economy and thoroughbred racing in Delaware!

Not only are millions of dollars being paid to owners and certifiers of this program, but the state is benefiting by the preservation of farmland and farm owners, feed companies, blacksmiths, veterinarians and stable help are also beneficiaries.

The Delaware Certified program will continue to offer the combined 50% bonus (25% to the certifier and 25% to the owner) during the 2010 race meet.

In order to be eligible for certification, thoroughbreds must complete a minimum of ninety (90) consecutive days on an approved DCTP farm or training facility. Certification applications will not be accepted after December 31st of the yearling

year. For information about the Delaware Bred or Certified Thoroughbred Program, contact (302) 994-2398; email dctp@dtha.com, or visit www.dtha.com and click on the DCTP link to download an application or to find a list of participating Delaware farms. From the website, you can check to see if your horse of racing age is Delaware Certified.



There are a \$\$ MILLION reasons to get your young horses to a Delaware farm and it is not too late to get your yearling to a Delaware farm to be certified and eligible for 2010 bonuses.



Carl Hanford inducted into Delaware Park's Wall of Fame

Carl Hanford, trainer of KELSO, one of the greatest racehorses of all time, joined Delaware Park's Wall of Fame in July.

The plaque honoring Hanford reads in part, "Hanford successfully guided Kelso, owned by Mrs. Allaire duPont's Bohemia Stable, through a career that included an unprecedented five consecutive Horse of the Year titles (1960 -1964)".

Kelso retired as the all-time leading money earner in North America with close to \$2 million in earnings.



Delaware Racing Commission Chairman Bernard Daney, left and Delaware Park President William M. Rickman, Jr. center, congratulate Carl Hanford at the Delaware Park award ceremony.

In Memoriam

CINDY BAULIEU

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009 we lost a long-time friend, Cindy Baulieu. Cindy has worked with horses all her life and for many years was a trainer at Delaware Park. For the last nine years, she worked as an assistant to Michael Zwiesler on Sharp Farm in Middletown.

She is survived by her longtime partner Bobby Grecco. Her friends and family will miss her dearly.



Delaware Park 2009 Leader Board

Trainer

Cody Autrey	58 wins
Scott Lake	55 wins
Tim Ritchey	38 wins

Owner

Porter Racing Stable	18 wins
Heflin and Driver Racing	17 wins
Floreance Patitucci	16 wins
Ben Mondello and Adam Russo	16 wins

Jockey

David Cohen	152 wins
A. R. Napravnik	108 wins
Jeremy Rose	80 wins



Left: James Hammond, Clerk of Scales, presents the leading jockey trophy to David Cohen and his family.

Right: Pat Pope, racing secretary, presents the leading trainer trophy to Cody Autrey.

Backstretch Employee Assistance Program

The Backstretch Employee Assistance Program is preparing for the winter when we will have limited hours. AA and recovery meetings will be held every Wednesday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Horsemen's Office. If you are in need of bi-lingual counseling services please, contact Lissette Alfaro at (302) 576-4136. All other concerns please contact, G. Wesley Jones, LCSW, (302) 383-7233.



G. Wes Jones,
LCSW

Our winter hours will be one day per week and the schedule will be posted in the Wellness Clinic and the Horsemen's Office. Our office is located above the Horsemen's Office with a private entrance on the left side of the building.

DTHA's 7th Annual Horsemen's Classic golf outing and auction was still a success even though we had to cancel the golf twice due to inclement weather but did proceed with the banquet and silent auction. We greatly appreciate everyone's continued support with this challenging situation, which enabled us to raise over \$27,000 this year. As always, all of these proceeds will directly benefit the horsemen at Delaware Park.

G. Wesley Jones, LCSW
Backstretch Employee Assistance Program



Photo: Hoofprints, Inc.

John Mooney, Executive Director of Racing, presents the leading owner trophy to the connections of the Porter Racing Stable.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DTHA Board meeting will resume on the third Tuesday in March 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Horsemen's Office. All owners and trainers are encouraged to attend.

Editor's Note

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





Delaware
Thoroughbred
Horsemen's Association, Inc.

777 Delaware Park Blvd.
Wilmington, DE 19804

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WILMINGTON, DE
Permit #605



Happy Holidays

SEE YOU IN 2010

DTHA BLANKET RACE 2009

DATE	HORSE	OWNER	TRAINER
9/29/09	JOANIE'S JEWEL	M. Pressley, J. Ferris, R. Francis	L. Jones
10/06/09	WEB GEM	Richard Brand	W. Badgett, Jr.
10/13/09	FLIGHT TO EDEN	Home Team Stables	S. Lake
10/20/09	ALEXANDRIA J	Cindy Jones	L. Jones

Barn of the Month 2009

May	Small barn	Randy Martin
	Large barn	Randy Nunley
June	Small barn	Ron Martino
	Large barn	Rowdy Werner
July	Small barn	Gale Patti
	Large barn	Michael Gorham
Aug	Small barn	Wallace Dollase
	Large barn	Todd Pletcher
Sept	Small barn	Paul McClelland
	Large barn	Ferris Allen
Oct	Small barn	Tim Walters
	Large barn	Tony Dutrow



Delaware Soccer Champions

Congratulations to the Delaware Park team for winning the 2009 Fair Hill Football (soccer) championship.
Pictured left to right are some members of the winning team; Reyes Salazar, Danillo Quintero, Edwin Cano, Juan Tejeda, Fernando Rivas and Melvin Hernandez.

Note: your newsletter is online at www.dtha.com