



NEWSLETTER



November 2016

Volume 1, Issue 1

The official Newsletter of the Harness Horse Youth Foundation.

Welcome to the 2016 Harness Horse Youth Foundation recap of our activities – and another chance to thank our continuing supporters!

As we mentioned earlier this spring, the Drive For Youth fundraiser has been discontinued so the timing of this newsletter coincides with our fall request for your financial support.



Ann-Mari Daley

HHYF at Harrisburg!

In case you missed these two important announcements:

1. Stunning artwork by Amy Pruner, one of our graduates, will be sold in a live auction of 2 lots on Monday, November 7 after the last horse sells (hip #174). Please take time to inspect these brilliant graphite works on display near the Harness Racing Museum booth.
2. Walsh Harness and Big Dee's will each be donating \$5 (\$10 total) to HHYF for each complete set of Walsh harness purchased in November and December! Buy now to help support HHYF!

▼ Lot 1 ►



◀ Lot 2 ▼



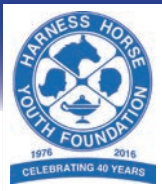
Summer Programs 2016

With summer assistant John Reames and intern Travis Ceppaluni, HHYF again had a whirlwind summer! With a camp in Delaware, OH on our way east in mid-June and additional stops in Ahoskie, NC, three in MD, several events in Goshen, NY, a week at Vernon Downs (camp and 4-H group), and a couple of weeks in NJ plus more visits to Ohio as we concluded the "tour" on August 10 – and even better, at EACH location, we had former campers join us to assist in the daily tasks!

Lots of miles, many dedicated volunteers and numerous individual stories about how HHYF and our wonderful stable of Trottingbreds change lives year after year. At one location, after a long day working with the horses, the participants boarded the bus to go home and FORGOT to pick up their phones out of the cell phone bucket – *how is that for capturing interest!*



Victor Blue



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Hoosier Park Bicentennial Project – Wow



Lots of team work proved to be a successful strategy for the Hoosier Park staff in cooperation with the Harness Horse Youth Foundation when the track recently hosted 600 Madison County 4th graders and their teachers. The event was part of Indiana's Bicentennial Legacy Project.

Groups were divided into two days of morning and afternoon sessions and then into smaller groups named for significant Indiana Standardbreds.

Five informational stations were then developed to cover a broad overview of harness racing including: "Meet The Athlete", "Dressing The Racehorse", "A Bike, Not A Buggy", "Heaps of Hoosier Harness History" and "It's All Related". ▶▶



After rotating through the stations, both the morning and afternoon groups joined for lunch in the clubhouse where they watched racing videos and participated in a question/answer session with drivers in colors.

All students left with gift bags consisting of t-shirts, horse shoes, souvenir cards, and career information. All teachers were provided resource guides including links and reference information related to the day's activities.



Becky Young, Vice President of Marketing at Hoosier Park, was very pleased with the effort. "Watching so many students gathering a new appreciation of racing and the track was delightful. We had nothing but praise from the educators and the kids with many saying it was the best field trip they had ever taken."

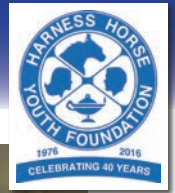
Horsemen volunteers included Jessica Barnes, Brandon Bates, Tabitha Canaar, John DeLong, Julee Dunagan, Sally Gilbert, Rachel Klotz, Marie Konieczki, Jamie Macomber, Kristen Putnam, Lexie Sarkine and Laurie Younkin.

The marketing effort also included the production and distribution of coloring books to kindergartners in the county as well as an invitation to all students, parents and teachers to attend Community Night at the track.



Dean Gillette photos

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Open Space Pace

Open Space Pace at Freehold Raceway was again well attended with a special post parade by Sweet Karen for the race in memory of Leo McNamara Jr.

HHYF representatives participated in the parade and handed out copies of *Youth Beats* to young potential fans along the route.

Immediately following the parade, everyone made their way over to the track to enjoy races, commercial booths, food and entertainment.

In addition to Nicola Abrams, HHYF Vice President and Keith Gisser, HHYF Media Manager, the event was coordinated and supported by Shannon and Riley Ceppaluni, Madison Lofgren, Bianca Miceli, and Joanna Ricci who kept spreading the enthusiasm!



40th Celebration Highlights

June 5 was a special day for HHYF.

Not only did we present Service To Youth Awards to Chris Wittstruck and Callie Davies-Gooch but also we celebrated our 40th year of service!

Standing room only in Houghton Hall at the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame with guests like Dr. Patty Hogan (former scholarship recipient) and Montrell Teague (HHYF camp graduate) created revitalized energy for our mission - plus the added surprise of our beloved Sweet Karen joining us for the party - fun times!

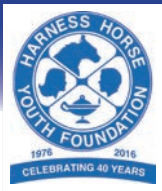


Chris Tully photos

Service To Youth Nominations Please

The trustees of HHYF are requesting nominations for our annual Service To Youth Award. Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to host field trips or dedicates time to explain what harness racing is and raise the public awareness or is an outstanding mentor?

Please visit our website to download the nomination form and return to HHYF no later than December 1.



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Fostering Education

Gallo Blue Chip

Gallo Blue Chip continues to hold the record as the most generous pacer in history. With the Harness Horse Youth Foundation's (HHYF) announcement of this year's Gallo Blue Chip Scholarship honorees, more than \$200,000 in scholarships have been awarded in his name.

The 2016 \$15,000 Gallo Blue Chip Scholarship has been awarded to **Garrett Chellis** of Honesdale, Pennsylvania.



The son of Drew and Wendy Chellis, Garrett will attend Millersville University of Pennsylvania where he will study Technology and Engineering.

He graduated from Commonwealth Connections Academy with a Straight-A report card. In addition to helping in his parents' stable, Garrett has worked as a carpenter second assisting in various aspects

of the trade. He hopes to combine those skills, along with his college education, to become a teacher. He also has a wide background of volunteer activity with the local 4-H program.

Natalie Martuscello will receive the \$5,000 Gallo Blue Chip stipend. A resident of Latham, New York, she will attend Temple University to study Psychology and Neuroscience.



She graduated this spring from Shaker High School and was named to the Honor Roll.

She has a long resume of extracurricular and volunteer activities, ranging from cheerleading to attending leadership conferences to working with a regional food bank.

Curt Greene Memorial

The Curt Greene Scholarship honors an individual who has demonstrated a passion for harness racing, as did Greene.

HHYF found that individual in **Maja Bown**.

Currently in her second year at the University of New Hampshire, the West Orange, NJ native is studying Dietetics.

She has volunteered with the Marshall Stable and although her parents, John and Nancy, are deceased, both were well-respected Standardbred trainers.

"I have always taken a big interest in following a healthy lifestyle and I want to help others do the same thing," Bown explained regarding her course of study.



Sweet Karen

Sweet Karen, the HHYF's Trotting-bred Ambassador, has a special relationship with **Amy Pruner**.

Pruner was commissioned to create a set of note cards for the HHYF 40th anniversary this spring, and the only color rendition in the set was of the regal palomino with her own Facebook page.

Amy has attended several HHYF camps and was informed of her scholarship while attending the 2016 leadership camp at Goshen, New York. A recent graduate of Nonnewaug High School in Woodbury, CT, she is attending the University of Connecticut to study Equine Science.

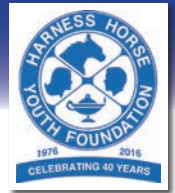


Alleysha Reynolds just finished her second year at Delaware Valley College, where she is majoring in Equine Science and Management with an eye toward becoming a veterinarian.

During the summer, she works as a caretaker for the Chris Oakes Stable.

She has attended HHYF camps in Lexington, KY and Saratoga, NY.

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MORE MILESTONE MOMENTS: *HHYF is publicly proud of all our graduates as they pursue their personal paths with horses and racing. Examples like these exemplify our efforts and our mission. We love sharing stories from our former participants!*

From the time he was a little boy, **Travis Ceppaluni** has been bitten by the racing bug; he first wanted to be a jockey and then, as he grew too tall, a driver.

With a very supportive but non-racing family, he has worked hard to gain the necessary experience with a variety of respected New Jersey stables and even job shadowed with Tim Tetrick all the while maintaining his connection with HHYF.



When the Freehold Raceway meet opened in late summer, Travis with his qualifying license in hand, hung out in the paddock politely pursuing warm up opportunities. Each week, with his increased visibility, he gained more drives and more confidence. On September 15, Travis realized a dream come true when he drove Virgin Mary in his first qualifier.



Justin Irvine, age 14, has deep roots in harness racing. Yet he realizes the importance of HHYF which provides him the comradery and feeling of connection that comes from sharing a common interest in racing with his peer group. On June 5th, with the cooperation

of the Mark Ford Stable and George and Rose Bonomo in providing the horseflesh, he competed in his first "charted line" matinee at Goshen Historic Track winning by 25 lengths over a sloppy track!



Through a girl scout program, **Katie Eick** wrote a winning essay to attend an HHYF camp at Gaitway Farm several years ago.

Since then, she has attended numerous HHYF activities and happily volunteered at other events to share her newfound enthusiasm for harness racing.

This summer she spent 3 weeks on the road with HHYF and upon her return home, applied for and received her grooms license!



Molly Goldberg and her family were involved with racing when she attended HHYF camps in the past. With busy schedules, high school graduation and college decisions, Molly never lost her horse passion – this fall she was even selected as a member of the Clemson University Western Equestrian team!

Heartiest congratulations to **Mollie Fenwick** on her recent acceptance to St. George Vet School in Grenada – the fulfillment of her lifetime dream!

Vikki Gomes (right) is studying Child Psychology at Alfred University and is enjoying her second year participating on the school's equestrian team. Also a HHYF graduate with little day-to-day equine contact, nonetheless Vicki's love of horses perseveres.



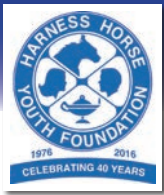
Besim Odza (in his own words)

"Four years ago I was standing near the rail of the track at The Meadowlands questioning if I could ever sit behind "one of those" - one of those being a Standardbred race horse. Doing my fair share of research, I worked my butt off trying to find a way to accomplish what I wanted to do. Four years later I am proud to say that I now a licensed Q/F driver! Not many understand the obstacles I had to go through just to obtain this license. Not being born into the business only made things harder and there were many moments when I asked myself "is it worth it". But the love I had for the business was too strong and I wasn't going to let any negative occurrences bring me down.

Someone who has been on my side during the bad and good was my father who is my biggest supporter; he has traveled thousands of miles just to see his son take an opportunity and run with it. If it weren't for him, I wouldn't have my Q/F license in my wallet today! An organization that started me off was the HHYF (Harness Horse Youth Foundation). They taught me the horse from ears to toes and something that many others don't get a chance to learn and that is integrity. In a short time, I will be heading behind the gate at Freehold in my first qualifier. I plan to absorb as much as I can from the track and further my knowledge about the race horse and gain the trust of trainers and owners



that may one day let me drive their horses!"



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Heartfelt Appreciation To Our Donors

(November 1, 2015 thru October 1, 2016)

Alumni: Dr. Patty Hogan, Susan Looney, Chris McErlean, Heather Vitale, Kelly Young

Drivers Mentor Initiative: Dumain Haven Farm, Tim Tetrick Racing, Walnut Hall Ltd.

Owner & Trainer Booster Club: WJ Donovan Enterprises, Dumain Haven Farm

Stallion Breedings: Brittany Farms Stallion Management, Casie Coleman, Pinske Stables, Sugar Valley Farm, Winbak Farm

Stan Bergstein Writing Award: Team Valor International, Chris Wittstruck

Scholarship & Education Projects: Walnut Hall Stock Farm

Summer Programs: Ada Jean Ackerman, Kevin Banting, Jean Clearwater, Ross Croghan, Ed Gold, Jake Leamon, Cathy McNamara, Robert Mondillo, Carol Morrison, Mac Nichol, John & Terri Reames, Ray Schnittker, Adriano Sorello, Diane Urlich, Thom & Joanne Young, American Racing – Vernon Downs, Antonacci Family Foundation, Birnam Wood Farms, Bluegrass Staking, Bluestone Farm LLC, Brittany Farm, Cameo Hills Farm, Cane Run Farm, Cunningham Livestock, Diamond Creek Farm, Fair Island Farm, Friends of Maryland Racing, Gaitway Farm Inc., Greg Schuler Interactive, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, CW Henderson & Associates, Horseman Publishing, Hunterton Farm, Indiana Standardbred Association, Joe Holloway Stable, John Campbell Inc., Maverick Enterprises, Meadows Standardbred Owners Association, New York Ag. & Breed Development Fund, Open Space Pace, Perretti Farms, Pinske Stables, Southern Oaks Training Center, Standardbred Breeders & Owners of New Jersey, US Trotting Association, Val D'or Farm, Walnut Hall Ltd., Weiner Scholarship Fund, White Birch Farm.

40th Celebration: Abbatiello Racing Stable, A & G Pharmaceuticals, Rene Allard, Bamond Racing, Jason & Kristen Bartlett, Blindswitch Racing, Blue Chip Farms, Dr. Stephen Bokman, Bongiorno Family, Richard Banca, George & Tracie Brennan, Tyler & Amber Buter, Eric & Michelle Carlson, George Casale, Darran Cassar Racing Stable, Russ & Maureen Crawford, Dr. Barrey Danvers, Jeff Dauplaise, Daniel Dube & Kim Richard, Fanning Racing LLC, Mark & Kelly Ford, Arthur Giambrone, Golden Shoe Training Center LLC, Jeff & Helene Gregory, Gilbert Herrera, Marcus & Nancy Johansson, Paul Kelley Racing Stable LLC, Patrick & Megan Lachance, Billy & Anne Mackenzie, Andy & Julie Miller, Marcus & Sara Miller, Ocean Feed, Preferred Equine Marketing, Regency Livestock, Kevin & Dorothy Reynolds, Jen Sabot Racing Stable, Ray Schnittker, Robert Siegelman, Steve Smith, Jordan & Danielle Stratton, Triple D Stables, Ted & Jackie Wing



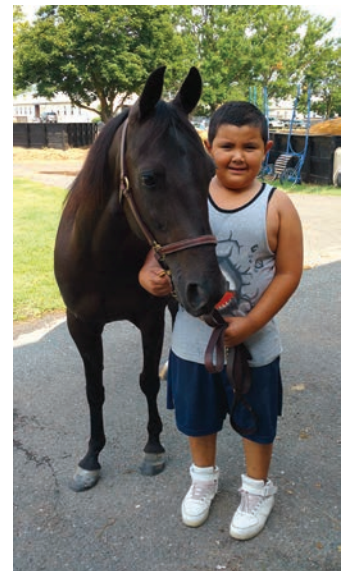
2016 HHYF Stable Care: Brittany Farm, Bobby Clark Stable, Chuck Connor Stable, Eddie Dennis Stable, Julie Miller Stable, Joe Morris, Perretti Farm, Chris Ryder Stable, Andrew Stafford Stable, George Teague Stable, Jeremy Delagrange, Maria Klein.

Thank You!

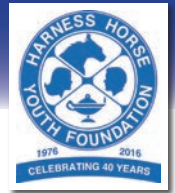
To everyone who continues to support HHYF and the next generation of Harness Horsemen & women



Dean Gillette photo



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Heartfelt Appreciation To Our Donors

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2015 Drive For Youth: Alagna Racing LLC, William Allender, Anvil & Lace Farm, Jim Arledge Stable, Brandon Bates, William Becury, Bongiorno family, Harold Breidenbach, Brian Brown Stable, BRW Insurance Inc., Ron Burke Stables, Corey Callahan, John Campbell Inc., Tom Cancelliere, Tom Charters, Charles Coon & Sons Inc., Crawford Farm LLC, Cunningham Livestock, Shannon DiPinto, Diamond Creek Farm, Dockside Stables LLC, Eash Racing Stable, East Coast Equine, Jay Farrar, James Fielding, Paul Fontaine, Gies Enterprise LLC, Yannick Gingras Stable, Jeff Gural, Harmony Oaks Racing Stable, Max Heath, Calvin Hollar Stable, Kakaley Racing LLC, Let It Ride Stables Inc., John Merkel, Ron Michelin, Andy Miller Stable, Brett Miller Racing Stable, D & M Miller Racing Stable, Charlie Norris, Chris Oakes Racing Stable, Dave Palone, Pinske Stables, Ron Potter Stable, Gabe Prewitt, Marie Robertson, Donald Robinson, Nick Salvi, Jason Settlemoir, Perry Smith Racing Stable, Ron Southall, Paul Spears, Ron Steck, Ake Svanstedt Inc., Tim Tetrick Racing, Trace Tetrick, Tim Twaddle, Walco Farms, Weaver Brusceci LLC, White Birch Farm, William Wiswell, Scott Zeron

In honor of Carson & Carder Conrad: Melody Burkett, Collier Stable

In honor of Davies-Gooch/Krauth wedding: Carol Hodes

In honor of J & J Pinkerton: Lawrence Parker

In honor of Chris Wittstruck: Scott Steinberg

In memory of Sherry Adams: Brittany Farm

In memory of John Eades: Brittany Farm

In memory of Jessica Marie Hamather: Jean Clearwater

In memory of Leo McNamara Jr : Susan Arcy, Susanne Armstrong, Sharon Berger, Lauren Burr, F. Caldwell, Jean Clearwater, Midge & Roger Cone, Sal DiMario, Donna Duffy, Katherine Greifeld, Carol Hodes, Karyn Malinowski, Karen & Paul Mindich, Brian Moran, Susan Onaitis, Meghan Roberts, Mimi Ryan, Amy Rymer-Sheets, Catherine Vazquez, Donna Watson, Brittany Farm, Central Ontario Horsemen's Association, DI Farms, Fair Island Farm, Fair Winds Farm, FR Park Racing, Kentucky Harness Horsemen's Association, friends at US Trotting Association, Lexington Selected Yearling Sale, New Meadowlands Racetrack, Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, Standardbred Owners Association of New York, Whitecaps Manor, William Carter Sunshine Center

In memory of Mike Parisi: Brittany Farm

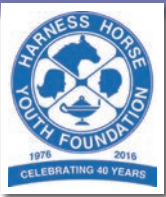
In memory of Richard Taylor: Nicola Abrams, Ada Jean Ackerman, Susanne Armstrong, Susan Askren, Healan Barrow, Robert Benson, Marilyn Bertera, Larry & Carol Bond, Tom Charters, Jean Clearwater, Gerald & Jan Danielson, Callie Davies-Gooch, Linda Degrand, Jay Farrar, Diane Figueroa, Ernie & Darla Gaskin, Keith Gisser, Kathleen Gluch, Cheryl Gomes, Ellen Harvey, Jack & Jeri Kieninger, Walter McBee, James Parshall, Frances Smith, Mel Smith, Jerry & Martha Snyder, Robert Snyder, Leona Steven, Janet Terhune, Dennis & Diana Theurer, Donna Walton, Thom & Joanne Young, Brittany Farm, Fair Island Farm, Hoosier Horse Review, Andy Miller Stable, Lynn Wilfong Family, Pinske Stables, Rainbows End LLC



Victor Blue



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Harness Horse Youth Foundation
16575 Carey Road
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HHYF Mission Statement:

To provide young people and their families information and experiences with harness horses in order to foster the next generation of fans and participants



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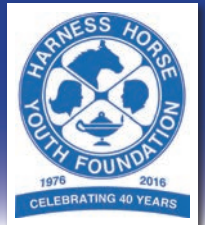
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- Nicola Abrams – Vice President
- Leah Cheverie – Secretary
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Please note: HHYF will soon be moving our office.

CURRENT CONTACT INFO (remains the same):

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web address: hhyf.org

Stay tuned for changes to mailing address, office phone and fax numbers.

We appreciate your patience during this process!

