

# *THE BUCKEYE* Harness Horseman

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The Official Publication of the  
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association



# Table of Contents

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <b>3</b> Financial Relief for Ohio Horsemen                     | <b>7</b> COVID-19 Updates  | <b>11</b> PROFILE: Kurt Sugg  |
| <b>3</b> Racetracks and Horse Owners Now Eligible for PPP Loans | <b>8</b> USTA Elects New Officers  | <b>12</b> From Draperies to Masks   |
| <b>3</b> Donation Portal Up and Running                         | <b>8</b> Condolences   | <b>13</b> P.A.C.E.R. Contributors   |
| <b>4</b> Cancellations  | <b>8</b> Groom Awards  | <b>14</b> Dick Neville: Have Anvil Will Travel  |
| <b>4</b> Calendar of Events                                     | <b>9</b> Coping with COVID-19 in the Amish Community                       | <b>15</b> In Time of Stress Watch for Ulcers in Your Horses                                       |
| <b>4</b> Discount Feed Available for Horsemen                   | <b>10</b> Rambling Willie Inducted into Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame | <b>16</b> Advertising Opportunities/Ohio Breeders Awards Requirements/OHHA Membership Application |
| <b>6</b> 20 questions with Brady Galliers                       | <b>10</b> Little Brown Jug Makes Future Changes                            | <b>17</b> Regularly Scheduled Meeting Recap   |
| <b>7</b> Be There!  |  |   |
| <b>7</b> Track Notes  |  |   |

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Joe McLead  
Ayers Ratliff, Sr.

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(4) Suanne Kochilla  
(7) Steve Bateson

#### Trainer / Driver

Dan Ater  
Brian Brown  
Scott Mogan

### 2021

#### Breeders

Senena Esty  
R. Kevin Greenfield  
Brad Wallace

#### Owners By District

(2) John Ryan Melsheimer  
(5) Dayle Roof  
(8) Emily Hay

#### Trainer / Driver

Rick Martindale  
Virgil Morgan, Jr.  
Mark Winters, Sr.

### 2022

#### Breeders

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Dr. Randy Hutchison  
Jacob Mossbarger

#### Owners By District

(3) Mary Jo Bross  
(6) Randy Leopard  
(9) Kent Saunders

#### Trainer / Driver

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## THE BUCKEYE HARNESS HORSEMAN

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Cover photo: Shelley Johnson, S.F. Johnson Photos

# FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR OHIO HORSEMEN

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association and Ohio Harness Horsemen's Health Insurance (O.H.H.H.I.T.) trustees, as administrators of the Harness Horsemen's Health Insurance Trust, have announced financial relief for all Harness Horsemen's Health Insurance Plan Participants.

As of March 20th, the first state order canceling racing, each Self-Pay Plan Participant will automatically receive a credit for two months of health insurance plan premiums at their existing coverage level.

For example, if a horseman paid their April premium costs for family coverage, they will receive a credit for their May and June family coverage premiums. If the April family coverage premium had not been paid, the credit will apply to family coverage for their April and May premium costs. The credit is automatically applied to all self-pay coverage classes.

If there have been changes in coverage to a higher level of coverage (i.e., single to family coverage) during the credit time-period, the

credit for the lower level of coverage will apply and the difference between the higher and lower premium cost must be paid.

In addition, during this time, existing breeding farm employees and racetrack grooms that are employed and active in the plan will continue to receive their premium costs covered. Separation for or from any covered employer will be handled as-per the plan's rules.

In addition, the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association and Ohio Harness Horsemen's Health and Retirement Plan (H.H.H.R.P.) Trustees as administrators of the Harness Horsemen's Retirement Trust announce direct benevolent relief for all 2019 Ohio HHHRP Plan Participants.

Due to the April 2, 2020 Order canceling racing until May 15, 2020, each 2019 Qualified Retirement Plan Participant, which includes breeding farm workers, grooms, trainers, and drivers will automatically receive a two-payment benevolent distribution. The distribution will be based upon their full-

time employment status with a breeding farm or racing stable, or individual full-time qualified status and number of starts in 2019 as a driver or trainer. In addition to the 2019 benevolent distribution, all participants will continue to receive a contribution from the statewide breakage fund into their retirement trust account.

Breeding farm workers, grooms, trainers, and drivers will receive an equally calculated benevolent distribution in two payments. Distribution of the first payment will commence May 1, 2020, the second distribution will occur by June 1, 2020. Grooms and breeding farm workers will receive approximately \$500, each payment.

Trainers' and drivers' distribution will vary based upon total starts from the base minimum. All participants will be treated the same and cannot opt-out of the distribution. Seek the advice of your financial professional for individual guidance and financial planning.

## Racetracks and Horse Owners Now Eligible for PPP Loans

An emergency aid package has been signed into law, providing additional relief for small businesses. The Small Business Administration released guidance that will assist the horse industry. The SBA's new guidance clarifies that racetracks and small entities, such as horse ownership entities, are eligible for loans under the Paycheck Protection Loan Program.

### *The new guidance follows:*

d. Part III III.2.b. of the Third PPP Interim Final Rule (85 FR 21747,21751) is revised to read as follows:

Are businesses that receive revenue from legal gaming eligible for a PPP Loan? A business that is otherwise eligible for a PPP Loan is not rendered ineligible due to its receipts of legal gaming revenues and 13 CFR 120.110(g) is inapplicable to PPP loans. Businesses that received illegal gaming revenue remain categorically ineligible. On further consideration, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary, believes this approach is more consistent with the policy aim of making PPP loans available to a broad segment of US businesses.

This guidance makes clear that while the exclusion of entities that receive revenue from legal gambling activities does not apply, the entity must still satisfy the other loan requirement.

## DONATION PORTAL UP AND RUNNING

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association has set up a PayPal donation portal for those that want to help Ohio horsemen in need during the COVID-19 crisis.

All money donated will go to the OHHA Horsemen's Benevolent Fund. Those that donate will be able to earmark their donation for either the Equine Benevolent or Human Benevolent fund.

Horsemen can complete an Equine or Human Benevolent Fund application and submit it to the OHHA Fund Trustees for consideration.

OHHA President Steve Bateson says the Human and Equine Benevolent Funds have been there since 2015 to help horsemen that are having a significant financial hardship or have horses in peril. "OHHA Trustees for the funds will go through the applications as quickly as possible. The Trustees have a simplistic and fair across-the-board system in place to expedite the process."

The benevolent fund application is available on the OHHA website.

# Events Canceled Due to Crisis

The state's "Stay at Home" order and social distancing has forced the cancellation of several equine events.



Equine Affair, scheduled for the first weekend in April, the Hocking County Ag Days (also scheduled in April) and the Spring Mixed Sale slated for May have been canceled or rescheduled.

In a statement on their website, Equine Affair says it is with great sadness and disappointment that this year's event is canceled. "The staff and management

highly value the health and well-being of all who enthusiastically support Equine Affair from year to year, and this cancellation is not something we take lightly." Next year's Equine Affair will take place April 8-11 at the Ohio Expo Center.

The Harness Horsemen Youth Foundation (HHYF) announced that they are canceling all summer events, including youth camps.

The HHYF canceled all events scheduled for May, June, July and August. The organization says it is possible that programs may be set up for late fall. "Our hope is to attach 'mini camps' to existing events to continue to make that all-important hands-on connection of young people and Standardbreds."

The Hocking County Ag Days have been rescheduled for June. "We have rescheduled the event for June, hoping that the mass gathering order will be lifted by then and we can all enjoy the event," said spokeswoman Betty Shaw. The event is scheduled for June 27- 28 at the Hocking County Fairgrounds.

The Blooded Horse Spring Mixed Sale scheduled for May has been canceled. In a statement on its website, there was consideration to move the sale to June. "After much deliberation, we have decided that this is still too fluid to make that decision and have decided to just wait for our August sale." The August sale is scheduled for August 25-26 at the Champions Center Expo in Springfield, Ohio.



## Calendar of Events

MAY 27TH

**Ohio State Racing Commission  
Monthly Meeting**  
Rife Center, Rm 1948  
Columbus, OH

JULY 23RD

**3rd Quarter Board Meeting**  
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association  
OHHA Office, 2237 Sonora Dr., Grove City, OH

OCTOBER 22ND

**4th Quarter Board Meeting**  
Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association  
OHHA Office, 2237 Sonora Dr., Grove City, OH

RACING SCHEDULE

MGM Northfield Park - TBD

Eldorado Scioto Downs - TBD

Hollywood Gaming Dayton Raceway  
September 8 - December 30

## Discount Feed Available for Horsemen

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association in partnership with Centerra Co-op, Champion Feed & Supply, Granville Milling, Heritage Co-op, Nutrena, S & S Feed and Tizwhiz the OHHA has put together a program that will allow members to purchase feed at discounted prices.

Upon verification of OHHA membership, members will receive an identification voucher to present at partner locations and an information packet with locations and available feed. The program is open to all OHHA members residing in Ohio.

"We are very grateful to all of our partners that are assisting us with the program. They understand the situation that Ohio harness horsemen are in and have stepped up in a way that will help them through this difficult time, we cannot express the gratitude we feel for their contribution to our industry" said OHHA Executive Director Renee Mancino.

The OHHA's Benevolence program has also benefited from the generosity of its partners and their participation in the OHHA benevolent feed program has enabled the Association to provide help to more people with the rates offered for that initiative. In addition to those listed above, ASE Feed and Supply Store, Brubaker Grain, J & B Feed, Purina and Tribute Equine Nutrition are generously participating in the benevolent program.

For more information about the feed program, contact Frank Fraas at [ffraas@ohha.com](mailto:ffraas@ohha.com) or 614-569-6404.



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## THANK YOU!

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association would like to thank our partners for assisting us in this time of need with our Benevolent Feed and Discount Feed programs.



# 20 questions with Brady Galliers

## How has the Covid-19 virus affected your stable operation?

It has affected our operation dramatically. With no racing, there is no purse money, nor are there driver or trainer fees. It is a tough time for the whole world right now. Hopefully, everybody will do the right thing and we will be back on track sooner than later.

## How has it affected your personal life?

You wake up in the morning, go to the barn and then come home. I like to go to the gym, play some basketball and hang out with friends, which we are not doing now.

## This year you had your young horses in Florida with Travis Alexander.

We had three 2-year-olds and a 3-year-old. We sold the 3-year-old already and we are going to turn one 2-year-old out to let her mature. The other two arrived in April.

## How many horses are currently in your stable?

We have roughly twenty right now. We bought a couple and had some elsewhere. We play the claiming game, so we prepared for a little bit more. We will get it to around 16. I would prefer to be around 12 because I am more hands on.

## Do you have a preference between trotters or pacers?

I liked pacers at first, and then we bought a couple trotters and did ok with them. To be honest, I like the trotters more; they are a lot of fun, and if you can get a good trotter you can make a lot of money. It is a whole different game.

## How do you handle your 2-year-olds when you do not know when we will be back to racing?

I plan to keep going with the babies more than the racehorses. My racehorses have been turned out and I just brought them back to the barn. I'll jog them a couple weeks, train them back down and be ready when we get back to racing.

## What was your introduction to harness racing?

My grandparents took me to the county fairs and I liked what I saw. We were just fans at

first and I finally begged my parents to buy me my first horse.

## Did you know much about training racehorses?

I did not know anything. I just liked the animal and the sport. A trainer named Bill Webb, from Defiance taught me the ropes. I was taking a business course in my junior year of high school. They had a program where you could leave school early, and they allowed me to go to the barn and work.

## Your first year of driving you went 3 of 25. Do you remember that first win?

It was at Hoosier Park in a Late Closing Series and went off at odds of 35-1. It was mighty cool.

## Who gave you the best advice early on?

The drivers whom I raced against, especially Chris Page. We were roommates and he always told me, "Drive as much as you can in qualifiers and always show up. Always be available and listen to what the trainer has to say."

## Were you able to handle defeat early on?

It is obviously tough. I like winning as much as everybody does. This business takes time; you just can't jump right into it. I kept telling myself that it will come in time.

## Is there an event that sticks out in your career?

I've won some series finals, but I would say winning some Open Events, which were real cool. My parents don't make the races very often, but when they are in the winner's circle it is special. We started out together and it is great having them there.

## What is your favorite sport?

I played basketball and I watch it all the time.

## Where is your favorite vacation spot?

I have been to Florida three times and the Bahamas last fall.

## What is your favorite food?

Steak with a side salad.



Photo: Brad Conrad

## What food do you not like?

There is a lot of food I will not eat. I am as picky as anybody. I definitely will not eat broccoli.

## What was the last movie you watched?

The current season of The Ozarks.

## Who is the most famous person you have met?

I met LeBron James after one of his basketball games.

## Name a person from the past you would like to have dinner with.

Kobe Bryant

## What has been your scariest moment in racing?

At Scioto Downs I had a horse run off with me in the post parade. The race bike was pinching him, and he was kicking excessively and running off. The outrider Cindy Johnson was able to give me a helping hand. She was great. Outriders are very important; we can't do it without them.

# Be There!

BY ROGER E. HUSTON

We are all experiencing something that none of us ever expected in our lifetime. Coronavirus has hit everyone in the world. It makes no difference where you live, where you work, if you are wealthy or poor, all races and religions. It has affected us all in one way or the other.

The results have been death, health issues, loss of employment and a disruption to the way we live our daily lives. It has spread to all parts of the world. In the beginning it was a story that we were aware of, but we never thought it would hit us directly. When it made it to our borders, we were still unaware how fast it would move across the states. Covid-19 really struck home when one of our harness racing families lost five family members to this pandemic.

In one way or another, we have all been affected. Our lives have been turned up-side down. We have altered our daily routines to stop the spread of this silent killer. I want to return to Pennsylvania in the worst way to hug and love on my family. I miss them so much, as I am sure you are too if you are separated from your family. At this time, we must adjust to the new normal for our daily lives.

As horsemen we must do everything in our power to stop the spread of this disease. It has stopped all harness racing in the world, except Sweden. We have no idea when we will return to racing. Will it be May 15, June 1st, July, August, September or 2021? The unknown takes a toll on all of us.

For myself, I wake up every morning with a panic attack. It disappears when I get busy and think of other things. While I am working,

there are times I do not think of Covid-19. I am doing what we love.

All have been affected, from the small stable to the large operation; from the trainers who own most of their horses, to the trainers with owners who pay the bills, but are faced with the inability to pay those bills.

When we return to racing, it will likely be quite different: No fans in attendance, different guidelines for the paddock, social distancing, fewer horses in the paddock. Drivers may have to do without a driver's room and wait outside for their horse and post parade. If we want to get back to racing, we must adjust our operation to fit these new guidelines.

When racing was shut down in March, a few complained about the guidelines that were established. We cannot do this with our next chance to return to racing. It will be a long time till we get back to the old normal, if we ever get back. We must realize that we will have a new normal for our racing operations. We are all in this together.



## TRACK NOTES

### IRON MAIDEN CANCELED

Northfield Park has announced that Iron Maiden Series which was postponed has now been canceled. The series was slated to begin April 14th with the Colt & Gelding Pace.

Northfield Park's Dave Bianconi says no entry checks have been cashed. If you would like your check returned contact Dave at [dbianconi@northfieldpark.com](mailto:dbianconi@northfieldpark.com) or they will be shredded.

### NOMINATIONS POSTED

Nominations for the Buckeye Stallion Series, Ohio Fair Racing Conference and the Ohio Fair Championships are now posted on the OHHA website. Links are available for a listing of 2-year-old colts and fillies, and 3-year old colts and fillies. Lists are by age and gender in alphabetical order. Please check horses carefully. Please direct any questions or corrections to Susan Schroeder at [sschroeder@ohha.com](mailto:sschroeder@ohha.com) or call the OHHA office at 614-221-3650.

### BUCKEYE STALLION SERIES POSTPONED

With no racing in Ohio, the first legs of the 2020 Buckeye Stallion Series were postponed. The first races in the 3-Year-Old series were scheduled for April 30th and May 2nd at Miami Valley Racing. The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association will continue to monitor the situation regarding the COVID-19 virus in the state of Ohio to determine when the first leg of the series can be rescheduled.

### COVID-19 UPDATES

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association will provide updates regarding Ohio racing during the coronavirus crisis throughout the state and nation on all media outlets.

Information will be also be posted on all social media outlets.

For immediate updates, subscribe to the OHHA Emergency and Informational Text Blast Service. To subscribe, text OHHA to 1-888-808-1507 for Ohio's standardbred industry updates and emergency messages.

For the most up-to-date information on Coronavirus in Ohio visit the OHHA web page at [www.OHHA.com/Covid19.html](http://www.OHHA.com/Covid19.html).

# USTA Elects New Officers

Amid the cancellations due to the COVID-19 crisis was the 2020 annual meeting of the U.S. Trotting Association Board of Directors Annual Meeting. The meeting was originally scheduled to be held in March in Columbus, Ohio. Instead, committee meetings, the general session, and elections were held via teleconferences. Highlights included the election of new officers and approval of new rule changes which will take effect on May 1st.

Elections results included Joe Faraldo elected as chairman of the Board. Mark Lowe was elected vice-chairman, and Jim Miller was elected treasurer. Sally Stauffer was unopposed as secretary and President Russell Williams, whose term expires in 2023, remained in that position.

Among the rule changes taking effect in 2020: **GENE DOPING** – Prohibiting the non-therapeutic use of gene therapy to improve performance. **RACERTACK MAINTENANCE**-- which sets specific standards for staffing, grading, material

for surface cushion and conditioning of the track at all extended pari-mutuel tracks with the requirement that race-track operations must ensure that those standards are maintained. **CONTENTS OF APPLICATION FOR TRAINERS LICENSE**-- effective January 1, 2021 will require new trainer applicants to be USTA members and to show evidence of at least three consecutive years of experience as a groom or trainer licensed by a state racing commission, or be issued a limited license.

These approved regulations will now be circulated to the various racing commissions and to the Association of Racing Commissioners International for adoption into their model rules.

The 2021 U.S.T.A. annual meeting will be held March 12-15 in Columbus.



Joy Hawkey with Sectionline Bigry

## GROOM AWARDS

The Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association recognizes Joy Hawkey and Timothy Johnson as Ohio Outstanding Grooms.

Hawkey, who works for Steve Bauder, has been doing it since 1977. "I've loved horses since I was a little kid. I've trained and driven, but I like being a groom the best." Hawkey graduated from OSU ATI and that led her to harness racing. "I used to rodeo, but I couldn't make enough money."

Hawkey says things have slowed down a bit with no racing. "We still have seven horses in training. We are hoping to get back racing soon."

Johnson works for Jim Mullinax and says he loves being around the horses. "There is no hard part to the job. They make me happy and I like keeping them healthy and happy." The 19-year-old Johnson says he has his driver's and trainer's licenses, and plans to be around horses the rest of his life.

You can nominate a groom you think is going above and beyond. Nomination forms are available on the OHHA website or by visiting the OHHA track representative.

*OHHA sends our condolences  
to family and friends of*

Donald Morris

Paul Ciambro Jr.

Carol Ann Scarl-Abbey

Harriett Marie (Buck) Jones

# COPING WITH COVID-19 IN THE AMISH COMMUNITY

BY ROGER HUSTON

“We are in this together.” Those are the words of Enos Slabaugh, a member of the Amish community in Middlefield, Ohio. Like all Ohioans, Slabaugh and his family have had to adjust to changes caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, especially with the closing of schools.

“We do not receive any state or federal money and did not have to shut down, but we felt it was essential to show our support.” Slabaugh says their community has a plan. “My kids go to school on Monday at an assigned time. The teachers are at school, assigning lessons. The kids show up, get their assignments and take them home for two days. They then go back on Wednesday and take two more days’ homework.”

According to Slabaugh, the system has been working well for the family of nine. Slabaugh and his wife Martha have been married for 15 years. They have seven children: five girls and two

boys. Rachael Ann, the oldest, is 13. She is followed by Maria (12), Marcus (10), Savannah (8), 6-year-old twins Marsha and Myron, and three-year-old Kaylene.

“The twins were a big surprise and were born 13 minutes apart, Marsha at 11:56pm on October 29 and Myron at 12:09am on October 30”.

Slabaugh says his wife enjoys the home schooling, as it gives her more time with the children and has drawn them closer as a family. “My wife is not only a baker and housekeeper, but now she is a teacher.”

The COVID-19 virus has also affected Slabaugh’s work schedule. A professional blacksmith at Northfield Park for 15 years, Slabaugh would normally shoe 8 to 10 horses per day. “Some days I do less, which is more friendly to my back. Preferably I like to do 6-8 a day.”

Slabaugh started out shoeing his own horses, then turned it into a profession. “After three years, I quit my construction job and started blacksmithing full time.”

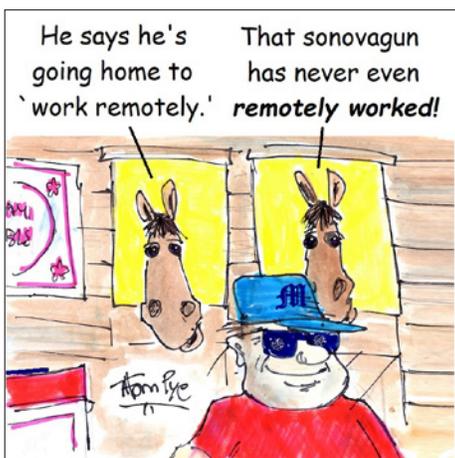
Three years later, he started shoeing at Northfield. “I went to Northfield on Thursdays for the qualifiers. I met some trainers looking to buy horses.” Slabaugh says he started racing horses and people saw him shoeing his own horses. “They asked me to start

shoeing their horses and that got me licensed into Northfield.”

Slabaugh says there is a huge difference between shoeing buggy horses and racehorses. “Typically, it is still putting on shoes, but racehorses have shorter feet. They must be more accurately shod, with precise toe lengths and angles.” He says it was a step into a larger world. “The difference between race and buggy speed is a big difference. At race speed you tend to hit places where I have never seen a horse hit in the buggy world.”

Currently there are fewer trips to Northfield, as almost all the shoeing is for the young horses who continue to be prepped for their two and three-year-old seasons. “They are continuing to train. With everything on hold, I have been put on hold until they open the box again. I plan on being very busy once we start racing again. That will be one way to make up for the days I have not been working.”

Slabaugh summed up his feelings during the Covid-19 virus. “We are all in this together, and when we get back to a normal life it may be a much different normal from what we are used to. If there is one thing that may be for the good, it is that we will have a much closer family life. That by itself will be good for all of us.”



## RAMBLING WILLIE Inducted into Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame

Rambling Willie has been inducted into the Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame in the Veteran Horse Category.

Willie was one of three horses with Ohio connections to be nominated.

Dubbed the “Horse that God Loved,” Rambling Willie earned the nickname after being purchased for \$15,000 in 1973 by Bob and Vivian Farrington of Richwood, Ohio and the late Paul Siebert of Cincinnati. Mrs. Farrington tithed 10% of the horse’s winnings to her father’s church in West Mansfield, Ohio, which totaled over \$200,000. In 1981, a book titled with that nickname was published. Willie and his connections did a promotional tour that included races in 17 cities and appearances on television shows, including 60 Minutes.

The winner of 128 races in 305 starts during the 1970s and early 1980s, Rambling Willie was the leading Standardbred money winner of all time at the time of his retirement. Willie earned over \$2million, with most of his wins coming from overnight and invitational races.

Following his retirement, Willie moved to the Kentucky Horse Park, where he resided until he passed from laminitis in 1995. He is buried near his paddock at the Hall of Champions. Rambling Willie was inducted into the United States Harness Racing Hall of Fame in 1997 and into the Indiana Standardbred Hall of Fame in 2003.

A pair of Little Brown Jug winners were also nominated.

Shadow Play, the 2008 Jug winner, was nominated in the Standardbred Male Horse Category. Shadow Play earned \$1,549,881 with 20 wins in 49 lifetime starts and took a record of 1:47.4 as a four-year-old. Shadow Play is the son of The Panderosa.

In the Veterans category, 1997 Little Brown Jug Winner Western Dreamer was nominated for the hall. Western Dreamer, the son of Western Hanover, won the Jug on the way to winning Pacing’s Triple Crown. Western Dreamer earned \$1.8 million as he won 27 times in 91 career starts.



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## LITTLE BROWN JUG MAKES FUTURE CHANGES

The Little Brown Jug Society has announce sweeping changes for future Little Brown Jugs and the Jugette.

Beginning in 2022, the Little Brown Jug will start accepting supplemental entries with a \$45,000 payment. Supplemental entries to the Jugette will be \$15,000. Horses will no longer have to win either the Cane Pace, the Messenger, The North American Cup, or the Meadowlands Pace to supplement. Supplemental entries will be due using a five-day box and would be the horses eliminated should the field exceed the 24 horse maximum.

Little Brown Jug Society President Tom Wright says the goal is to allow the best horses available to compete for the Little Brown Jug. “Our goal is to make sure we have full fields and put on a great event for our fans.”

The new conditions will start with the 77th Little Brown Jug scheduled for 2022.



## PROFILE: Kurt Sugg by Ken Weingartner, USTA Media Relations Manager

When Kurt Sugg looks back on his childhood, some of his fondest early memories of harness racing involved climbing into the family's Ford Ranchero and accompanying his father, Ivan, on trips to the county fairs in Ohio. Sometimes, they would stop on the way to pick up driver Jeff Fout.

At that time, a pacer named On Bret was the center of Kurt's attention. The reason was simple: On Bret found his way to the winner's circle on a regular basis. The colt won thirteen of nineteen starts as a 2-year-old in 1978, just as 9-year-old Kurt was becoming immersed in the sport.

"I remember going to the fairs and (On Bret) would win all the time; at least it seemed that way when I was there," Kurt said, adding with a laugh, "I guess I got to thinking it was pretty easy back at that time. Being a kid, you don't realize it's not as easy as it appears. But from a child's eyes, that's the way it appeared to me."

Kurt jogged his first horse that same year.

"My toes just barely could touch the stirrups and my butt was just on the edge of the seat," he said. "This is kind of all I ever really wanted to do. After school, we were always down at the barn helping dad when we got old enough to clean stalls and harness horses and things like that. That's kind of where it started.

"And I always liked the competitiveness. That really got me into it. I like being competitive."

Eight years after On Bret's rookie season, Kurt won his first race as a driver. In the ensuing 34 years, he has added 4,319 more, plus 1,067 as a trainer. Not surprisingly, he has cited his father as the biggest

influence on his career. Ivan was the 2003 Trainer of the Year after guiding No Pan Intended to the Pacing Triple Crown and was inducted into the Ohio Hall of Fame in 2006.

"I didn't work for my dad back then (when No Pan Intended raced) so it was



kind of different, but I was happy to see my dad have that success in the business, which I think he deserved," Kurt said. "He did this his whole life.

"When I was a kid, we went to the horse sales and dad would buy some yearlings, but they were always on the cheaper side, and he developed them into good stakes horses. When he got some little better horses, he proved what he could do with his training ability. That was a thrill for me to watch."

Last year as a driver, Kurt won 361 races, the second-highest total of his career and not far from the 375 victories he posted in 2016. His \$2.78 million in purses in 2019, though, were a lifetime best. He was off to a strong start this season, with his

96 triumphs tied for seventh among all drivers in North America, before racing was halted because of the COVID-19 pandemic. He was second in the driver standings at Northfield Park, trailing only five-time national dash champ Aaron Merriman.

"This was by far the best start to a year I've ever had," Kurt said. "Everything was going along very nicely for me. I'm anxious to get back to racing, but I understand we need to do what we need to do to protect ourselves and the whole nation as far as this goes.

"We have a big farm here, so we can get out and move around. But, still, not being able to go and do anything is really tough."

Kurt has 10 horses at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Wooster and another five horses at home.

"We can sit in the living room and look out the window and see the horses in the field, so we really enjoy that a lot," he said.

Although the sport faces an uncertain time, Kurt said people in the industry will work together to come through it.

"We're pretty competitive on the track but when it comes down to somebody needing something and the welfare of the horses, people are going to band together to help them out," Kurt said. "That's good to see."

“Everything was going along very nicely for me. I'm anxious to get back to racing, but I understand we need to do what we need to do to protect ourselves and the whole nation as far as this goes.”

# FROM DRAPERIES TO MASKS

For 40 years, Nancy's Draperies has been churning out window coverings from its store in Marshallville, Ohio. Production of draperies came to a halt when Ohio Governor Mike DeWine closed all non-essential businesses.

"It still seems surreal to me that we are going through this," says Nancy Yoder, owner of Nancy's Draperies. "We've had our ups and downs, but nothing like this."



Not wanting to stay on the downside, Nancy and her daughter Beth Campana redirected their focus from draperies and blinds to making non-surgical masks. "We found there was a great need." Yoder says they have the space and the machines to produce them faster than someone at home can. "We had the materials, so we said why not. We wanted to reach out and help the community the best we could."

"We thought we would be able to help out and give some to the local hospital" said Campana. "But we put it up on Facebook and we have been amazed at how many people have reached out to us."

Yoder says the response to making masks has been crazy. "We have people reaching out to us from nursing homes, different departments in hospitals, cleaning people at the hospitals. We are even getting people calling from out of state."

The company is producing around 100 masks a day and so far they have made well over one thousand masks.

"We found a mask template made a mockup and created an assembly line" said Campana. "One person cuts the pieces for us. The next person does the sewing, putting the pieces together. Finally the last part is creating the mask and the folds the way it is supposed to be"

Yoder says they have made some modifications to the masks as they learned more about the process. "It has



L-R Erin Palmer, Beth Campana

definitely morphed. We have improved our patterns. It is still the same process, but we have gotten new elastic that works the best for making the masks." Yoder says they have also changed the sizing of the masks, "One size does not necessarily fit all. We are making masks for small children, so we have to vary the pattern for them, and we have to adjust the pattern for men." Yoder says just by trial and error they have made adjustments and have become more efficient making the masks.



Beth Campana



Nancy Yoder

As the Governor has started to reopen the state, it will be required that retail store employees wear masks. Campana says that should drive more demand for the masks. "We are seeing it already. Some of the larger orders coming in are from businesses and if employees are going to be required to wear masks then they will have to find them somewhere."

When open, Nancy's Draperies has four full time employees and three part time employees. "Some of our employees have opted to stay at home because of various reasons. We currently have three full employees and one part time employee working on the masks." Yoder says they are also trying to work on draperies and fulfill orders that had already been placed. "We kind of have full days."

Campana says they are also trying to help existing customers in addition to making masks. "If anyone calls in, we can talk to them about product and give them a ballpark quote."

Nancy's husband is Joe Yoder, the manager at Dublin Valley Farms and he says he is amazed at what his family has done. "My wife and daughter are very pleased that they have been able to help. They are not on the front lines. They have found a way to help people and to stay busy and keep their employees active."

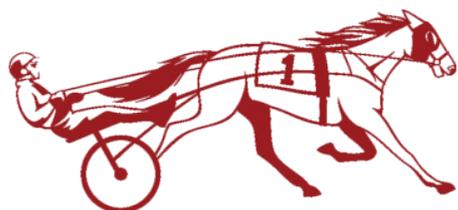
Nancy's Draperies has supplied the horsemen at Northfield Park as well as other horsemen in Ohio.

For more information about Nancy's Draperies visit their website at [nancysdraperies.com](http://nancysdraperies.com)

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**A special Thank You to those who donate!**

# Dick Neville: Have Anvil Will Travel

Columbus, Ohio – Richard M. “Dick” Neville, 75, longtime farrier who plied his trade for over 60 years from Indiana, Ohio and Florida, died March 24th at the Ohio State University Medical Center in Columbus due to kidney complications.

Born in Franklin, Indiana on November 30, 1944 to the late Carl K. and Alice (Fleener) Neville. He began shoeing his own ponies at the age of 14 and would reach the pinnacle of his profession, working with some of the greatest horses in harness racing, many of which are enshrined in the Hall of Fame.

Neville started at the Franklin Fairgrounds and made the decision to go to Louisville, Kentucky, where he was always a busy and sought-after man. He credited Bruce Nichols for getting him his shop on the training side in Pompano in the late '60s. He was approached by Dick Baker, Stanley Dancer's longtime second trainer, who inquired if he “could take on half of these horses of ours?” That evolved into shoeing all of them. Hall of Famers Delvin Miller, George Sholty, Howard Beissinger, Bill Popfinger, Glen Garnsey, Hakan Walner, and Team Nordin, as well as an untold number of trainers from the race side, would journey to his shop. This was the scene of constant activity, as he often worked late into the night.

During the summer months for over 38 years, Scioto Downs was his home base. He added Chip Noble, Terry Holton, Dave Rankin, Gene Reigle and countless others to his client list as he traveled to fairgrounds and farms throughout Ohio.

In his later years Neville would say, “I am so thankful to so many people who gave me all



Photo courtesy of the USTA

the opportunities that I had to work with so many great horses.”

Neville shod many of these champions for their entire careers, and could recite the type of shoes, toe length and angles, as well as their particular idiosyncrasies. He would often have an amusing anecdote to tell about each of them.

Among the list, there are numerous Little Brown Jug and Hambletonian winners includ-

ed. “Not too bad for a short bald-headed guy from Indiana, eh?” he would always say with a laugh

When asked how he would shoe a horse, he would say, “I just keep them comfortable.” Neville worked closely with Doctors John Steele and Edwin Churchill, as they often conferred and asked his opinion. Stanley Dancer once described him as “the best blacksmith in the business.”

An unyielding workload for many years took a toll on his system, and he was plagued with deteriorating knee and shoulder joints. He reluctantly retired from shoeing in 2016.

This past December he was nominated to the Ohio Harness Hall of Fame for consideration in 2021.

A member of the USTA as an owner/breeder as well as the OHHA, Neville had previously operated his farm, sold hay, and was a shrewd Belgium horse dealer out of Mt Sterling, Ohio. He was also a Free Mason.

He was preceded in death by his older brother Larry “Bubba” Neville, a good wrestler and football player in high school. He is survived by 4 daughters, a son, and several grandchildren.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a small private funeral service was held in Mt. Sterling with interment in the family plot at Forest Lawn Memorial Garden in Greenwood, Indiana.

The Neville family asked that any donation in Dick's honor be made to the Standardbred Transition Alliance (<https://www.standardbredtransition.org/donate>) in memory of all the horses that he truly cared about.

As Neville would say: “Stay healthy.”

“ I am so thankful to so many people who gave me all the opportunities that I had to work with so many great horses. ”

Million Dollar Winners Shod by Dick Neville			
Western Hanover	P 3	1:50.4m	\$2,541,647
Troublemaker	P 2	T1:54m	\$1,112,103
Life Sign	P 3	1:50.3m	\$1,912,454
Artsplace	P 4	1:49.2m	\$3,085,083
Leah Almahurst	P 3	1:52.3m	\$1,053,201
Dragon Again	P 5	1:48.3S	\$2,343,428
Albert Albert	P 3	1:52.1m	\$1,237,070
Albatross	P 4	1:54.3f	\$1,201,470
Annicrombie	P 5	1:52.3m	\$1,414,477
Armbro Fling	T 3	1:55.3m	\$1,334,936
Rambling Willie	P 7	1:54.3f	\$2,038,219

# IN TIME OF STRESS WATCH FOR ULCERS IN YOUR HORSES

As daily routines are thrown into chaos because of the COVID-19 virus, stress continues to build for everyone. A walk in the park, a bike ride or a workout can help alleviate our stress. But what about stress in your racehorse.

While routines have changed, horse's routines have also changed and that could bring on stress and lead to an ulcer.

Research has shown that 90% percent of all racehorses and 65% of show horses suffer from gastric ulcers.

Dr. Melissa Milligan, board-certified in equine surgery and the owner of Equine Specialty Hospital in Burton, Ohio says ulcers are a very common occurrence in horses. "A lot of it stems from the fact that horses are being trained and housed in ways that is opposite to the way mother nature intended it. Horses in the wild, eat all the time, are not in stalls and don't have a stressful lifestyle.

Some horse may have ulcers, but there are no outward indications that they are suffering. "Just because a horse isn't colicky or isn't losing weight doesn't mean they don't have an ulcer," says Milligan. She says some horses can be tough enough to hide the ulcer for a time until it worsens too much to ignore.

Milligan says that, much like a human being, stress is one of the biggest reasons for a horse to develop an ulcer. "A change in a horse's daily routine, being in a different barn, at a different race-track, or even a different horse in the next stall can lead to stress. A normally quite barn turns noisy, and the commotion leads to stress." Milligan adds anything that stresses a horse can lead to an ulcer.

In addition to stress, another common cause of ulcers in horses can be medication. Milligan says that overuse of some medications can be harsh on the stomach. "Bute and Banamine are the big ones, especially if they are given in a dehydrated horse that is sick and not eating and drinking well." She says owners need to be careful with those medication and ensure that they are not given at too high of a dose and are given on the advice of their veterinarian.

Unless you own Mr. Ed, your horse cannot communicate that they have an ulcer, so some detective work may be needed to figure out the issue.

Symptoms can run from both ends of the spectrum. A horse can show mild symptoms which could be not performing as you wish, or severe symptoms which can include being overtly colicky, rolling or pawing and looking at their sides, and showing they are visibly uncomfortable. Other signs include weight loss or failing to gain weight. A lack of appetite or picking at their grain can also be a symptom.

Diagnosing an ulcer is the million-dollar question according to Milligan. "Until you do a gastroscopy and go into the stomach and

diagnose where they are and how severe they are there is no other way to find out."

It is important to know for sure the location and the severity of the ulcers before beginning the type, length and medications needed for treatment. Milligan says ulcers at the top part of the stomach can easily heal, but the ones at the bottom of the stomach where it exits into the small intestine are harder to heal and may take longer.

Milligan says there are several different classes of medication for the treatment of ulcers. Some medications help to stop acid production in the horse's stomach, while other medications treat the ulcer allowing it to heal.

According to Milligan, GastroGard is the treatment of choice and the only FDA approved medication to stop the production of acid in the stomach. "It can be quite expensive since it has a special coating that allows the medicine to pass through the stomach and get absorbed by the small intestine." Milligan says the other medication is Sucralfate. It forms a gel coating on the ulcer which keeps it from contacting with remaining acid, hay or grain in the stomach.

Adjusting a horse's diet can also assist with the treatment of ulcers. "The best thing is to always have food in their stomach, it mimics mother nature the best we can" says Milligan. "Having a hay bag or nibble net in front of them so they are always eating helps stimulate the flow of saliva, which is buffering to the stomach." Milligan also suggests a pelleted diet and avoiding sweet feed. She says sweet feeds are too rich for the stomach and is the biggest thing to avoid.

Ulcers in horses can be serious but they are different than ulcers in humans. "You hear horror stories in humans of bleeding ulcers and perforating and people dying. You don't see that in horses." Milligan says horses can have mild to severe ulcers, including bleeding ulcers but they do not perforate the horse's stomach. "The biggest thing is it can cause them to colic significantly and lead to veterinary bills. The sooner you can identify the ulcer and get an exact diagnosis

of the severity and start treatment, the better off you will be in the long run."

The best cure for an ulcer may be preventing them, but that can be difficult. "You have to find out

why the horse has the ulcer in the first place. You can't change the training routine of a racehorse or the show schedule of a horse that will travel all summer showing. Sometimes you need medical management" says Milligan.

"If you are suspicious of the ulcer, the important thing is to get a gastroscopy to look in the stomach and see the severity. If the horse is not performing and the horse is hurting, no one is happy. Better to scope the horse and treat them with the correct medication right off the bat and they can do much better that way."

“Just because a horse isn't colicky or isn't losing weight doesn't mean they don't have an ulcer.”



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## Ohio Breeders Award Requirements

### Mares registered in 2016 (Foals of 2017) mare registration date 12/31/16

Foal Age	Membership Requirement
Bred 2016	Grace Period, No Membership Required
Foal Born 2017	No Membership Required
Yearling 2018	No Membership Required
2 & 3-Year-Old 2019, 2020	Membership Required

### Mares registered in 2017 (Foals of 2018) mare registration date 12/31/17

Foal Age	Membership Requirement
Bred 2017	Membership Required
Foal Born 2018	Membership Required
Yearling 2019	No Membership Required
2 & 3-Year-Old 2020, 2021	Membership Required

### Mares registered in 2018 (Foals of 2019) mare registration date 11/30/18

Foal Age	Membership Requirement
Bred 2018	No Membership Required
Foal Born 2019	Membership Required
Yearling 2020	No Membership Required
2 & 3-Year-Old 2021, 2022	No Membership Required

### Mares registered in 2019 (Foals of 2020) mare registration date 11/30/19 Registrations received from 12-1-19 to 12-30-19 must be accompanied by a \$100 per-mare late fee in addition to mare registration fee.

Foal Age	Membership Requirement
Foal Born 2020	Membership Required

**Registration Fee:** \$20 per mare

**Membership Requirements:** All owners of the mare (including those in businesses or stables) are required to join as Active OHHA Members. All business entities or stables listed as owners are required to join as Associate Members.

**Mare Residency:** Mare must be Ohio resident, foal in Ohio and remain in Ohio for 187 consecutive days.

Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_

## 2020 OHHA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Please Print, \* Fields Required)

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*State \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip \_\_\_\_\_ \*County \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_ \*E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Active Membership includes free sulky coverage up to \$3,000 (wheels & discs excluded). NOTE: The sulky owner(s), driver, trainer & all owners of the horse involved must be OHHA members and sulkies must be registered. Stables/Business Entities require an Associate Membership. All affiliates of any Stable/Business Entity must be full active members

Active \$65 \_\_\_\_ Associate \$25 \_\_\_\_ Please check one:  Owner  Driver/Trainer  Breeder  Groom

Check here if you were a member the previous year \_\_\_\_ USTA# \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_



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# Regularly Scheduled Meeting Recap

Wednesday, February 22, 2020 via Teleconference Call In *By Renée Mancino*

Roll Call, all Commissioners present except Commissioner Patmon.

As a predicate to the meeting, Chairman Borgemenke provided commentary on the COVID-19 live racing closure and information related to re-opening. Due to the unprecedented and unpredictable course of action that the pandemic has taken, it is not possible to provide guidance or a timetable for the continuation of live racing at this time.

In normal business for the Commission, Executive Director William Crawford's report and approval items were introduced, and the February 22, 2020 Minutes were offered for ratification. There were no documents related to the executive director's approvals disclosed or provided to those in attendance. The commission unanimously ratified the executive director's approval items and February 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

The executive director's report items included the 2020 live racing approvals. Belterra Park, Jack Thistledown, and Eldorado Scio-to Downs, submitted requests to (1) Waive their surety bond for 2020 race meets, (2) Approve listed officials, (3) Approve the number of races and wagering format, (4) Approve post times, (5) Approve their simulcasting schedule, and (6) Approve their letters to the fire marshal. No discussion on any submissions after enumerating the list as normal and customary, and no documents were provided to those in attendance. The Racing Commission unanimously ratified all requests.

Resolution 2020-08, in consideration of Belterra Park's extension for closing on

the real estate sale. John Oberle with Ice Miller outside counsel for Boyd Gaming and Gaming and Leisure Properties (GLPI) appeared to discuss the request to continue the extension for an additional thirty-days. Extension was requested to enable Boyd Gaming to close on the Belterra Park real estate sale back to GLPI, because they didn't originally plan to purchase the real estate. Boyd wanted to revert-back to the original plan for the facility, which was to triple-net lease the facility back from GLPI, as landowner. The commission unanimously ratified the extension request. There was no status update on the Permit Holder and Horsemen's Agreement Negotiations between Belterra Park and the Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (OHBPA).

The commission unanimously passed Resolution 2020-09, the distribution of casino tax revenue for the first quarter 2020. Based on total revenue of \$1,500,000 for the first quarter of 2020, the breakdown omitted the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund, Standardbred Development Fund, and Standardbred racetrack purse pool support for the quarter. Included in the revenue disbursement were distributions to MGM Northfield Park for commercial operations of \$74,355. The remaining \$1,425,645,000 of the Casino Commission Fund was placed into an Emergency Fund to use as benevolence to support and protect breeding and racing. The representation made was this modification would revert-back to the prior formula after things have returned to normal.

The monthly commission financial report was provided by Fiscal Officer Sherry White. Revenue shows minimal impact at

the current time. Fiscal year revenues loss is \$16,000 with no revenue for May in licensing, testing, other normal and customary costs related to racing and operations. The operating fund has a little over \$2,454,000, although it fluctuates, the projected fund balance is \$2,200,000 for the fiscal year-end.

Chairman Borgemenke discussed the Governor's Order that all administrative agencies find a 20% cost savings in their operating budgets. In conjunction with the advice as-to the mandatory reduction, the Chairman expressed concern that all General Rotary Funds were potentially susceptible to recapture by the State, dependent upon the continuing nature and circumstances associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic. OHHA Executive Director Renée Mancino requested clarification as-to potential vulnerability for the Casino Commission as approved via Resolution 2020-09 in regards to being swept into the General Fund versus being distributed for the quarter. Chairman Borgemenke provided commentary that there was some statutory protection for those funds versus the Racing Commission's General Operating Fund. However, the commission was cognizant of the concerns expressed in conjunction with the subject.

For a transcript of the meeting contact the Ohio State Racing Commission. The next scheduled commission meeting date is May 27, 2020. The form of this meeting, whether in-person or via telephone conference, is not yet available. Check the Ohio State Racing Commission's website at, <http://www.racingohio.net> for the most current information.



**Enterprise - Anklets Away colt**  
Photo: Dublin Valley Farms



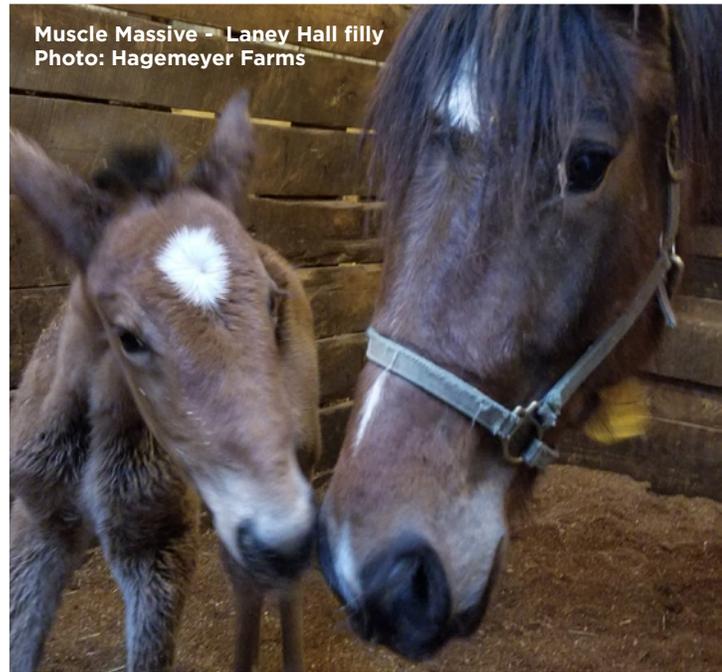
**Western Terror - Real Joy colt**  
Photo: Hagemeyer Farms



**Charley Barley - Extreme Prejudice colt**  
Photo: OSU ATI



**Long Time Eye - Just Expect it colt**  
Photo: Autumn Valley Colt



**Muscle Massive - Laney Hall filly**  
Photo: Hagemeyer Farms



**Enterprise - Tobernett Filly**  
Photo: Dublin Valley Farms



**Bring On The Beach - Gracey Merl filly**  
Photo: OSU ATI

Here's to the Days of the County Fair  
To the trotting horse and the pacing mare.  
To the roar of the crowd when the starter says "Go!"  
And the faces of friends that we all seem to know.  
To the fun and the sun and the laughs that we share,  
And our favorite horse that's always right there.  
To a hot Summer day with the air full of steam,  
To the smile of a child whose heart holds forever the dream  
...Yes, here's to the Days of the County Fair.

— Thom Pye —



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