

Hastings News

June 2009 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.

HBPA NEWSLETTER by Jeannie Spence

Our summer weather has finally arrived, we are racing 3 days a week and the Interior Circuit has begun! At the present time the track is closed every Monday, hopefully this will not be a permanent closure. Since there would not be a first aid attendant on the grounds until 10 A.M every Monday, the HBPA were adamant that we would pay for one as it is too dangerous to have no medical help in the backstretch during training hours.

DON'T FORGET:

The Picnic on July 7th at Confederation Park from noon until 5.

Recycling is Happening: we now recycle plastics, cardboard and bottles on the backstretch. We are also trying to conserve water as well. Thank you HEI for finally getting this necessary project started!

A new face on the racing scene: Chris Curtis has been appointed to be a special advisor for the B.C. Horse Racing Industry by the Provincial Government. He will oversee all aspects of Horse Racing in the province and help to develop a governing body and management committee which will deal with both day-to-day as well as long term issues.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

It is great to see veteran trainer and Backstretch Award Winner, Quint McCabe having such an impressive start this season. Check the breeding of his 2 older horses, Woombroom Express and Destiny's Home. Both are B.C. bred out of the mare Sanich Lady. Norm McLeod from Washington, became friends with the Lesages and he named his yearling filly, Sanich Lady, the first 2 letters of the Lesage children's names, Sarah, Nicole, and Chris. Norm had promised to give her to the Lesage children. As fate would have it, Norm passed away before the deal was consummated and the Lesages lost track of Sanich Lady. When she was about 6, trainer Terry Marshall phoned the Lesages and told them about this nice mare in California that he wanted to claim for them. Mark and Patti were astounded when they discovered it was Sanich Lady because Terry did not know the story behind

her. Thus she came to B.C. to her proper owners; her first foal is the tough filly, Destiny's Home. The next offspring is the speedy Woombroom Express.

Now look at the breeding of Lynda and Quint's 2 year old, Victor's Magic. He is the first foal out of Peppi's Magic who won her second race but due to an injury was retired after that start. Victor's Magic has lots of sentimental feelings to both Quint and Lynda. Victor's Magic's family was the product of Lynda's Aunt Pepsi and Uncle Mel's breeding program. Victor's Magic's pedigree includes the stakes winner Pachena Bay and multi stakes winner Pachena. Although she won many stakes, including The Oaks, her best race was the Futurity. Despite drawing #12 post position and running against colts, Pachena won! After patiently waiting, Quint, Lynda and sponsors are hoping that Victor will carry his Magic and winning ways.



Quint McCabe

SCHOLARSHIPS

The HBPA Scholarships can be obtained at Bryant McAfee's office, Harold Barroby's office, and the Learning Centre. For people in the Interior, please fax the HBPA Office at: 604-254-254-6677 or email at: bmcafee@hastingsracecourse.com,

Hastings News

June 2009 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

When Joe Noga was in the Canadian Forces during World War 2, he spent some time in the ancient town of Coleraine in Northern Ireland. Often there would be dances and at one of these dances, Joe met a beautiful young lady named Alice and fell hopelessly in love. He never forgot her and they promised to write to each other, no texting, e-mailing or twittering in those days. When Joe came back to Canada, he went to work at The Cariboo Gold Quartz Mine in Wells, but he could not stop thinking about that Irish beauty, Alice. Alice did write to Joe, but the letter was lost and Joe did not get it until 6 months later. Joe wrote back immediately and enclosed an engagement ring. Alice's parents, Mary and Bill Morrison wanted to immigrate to Canada so the family came to Vancouver and Alice and Joe were married in Wells.

After several years, Joe and Alice moved to Vancouver where Alice's parents had a boarding house on the corner of Pender and Renfrew. Many people from the track such as Charlie Ulrich, Bunny Johnson, as well as Rae (McLeod) Skuse and her parents rented rooms at the Morrison house. With all their friends having horses, the family started to go to the races for entertainment, which was a blessing for the racing community. Mary and Alice were founding members of the Thoroughbred Ladies Club and until last year, Alice bought and wrapped all the children's Christmas gifts for the HBPA Christmas party, of course she could not do it without the help of her beloved Joe. She was always the first one making hot dogs at every track picnic and whenever there was something to do for the track, or a question to be answered, the usual comment was "Go ask Alice".

Joe, Alice, and daughter Alana went to Hawaii for the Christmas holidays, while sitting on the beach, a young military man named Dan asked them if he could leave his wallet with them while he was swimming. Yes, like Joe and Alice, Alana and Dan fell instantly in love. They were married 2 months later.

Early this year, Alice passed away; there was a celebration of life at the horsemen's kitchen which was overflowing with people. This fitting tribute was conducted by Joe and Alice's son-in-law, Pastor Danny Niccol. We cannot thank this wonderful family enough for the countless hours they spent helping the people in the backstretch. It is so nice to have Joe coming to the track to enjoy the races and visit with his "Race Track Family."

By the way the Great horse Delta Colleen was named after Alice's Mother, Mary.

Check out the following link, it contains photos of a day at the races in Baghdad. www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=4943&page=0

FOALS

Sophia, another granddaughter for Faye and Lorne Embree

London, a daughter for Dustin and Michelle Russell and of course another granddaughter for Wayne and Barb

Finnegan, a son for Meghan and Steve Rathwell. (Even Steven who writes for The Game)

Congratulations to Doris and John Bazo on celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

VETS LIST

Joanne Fisher we are so glad that you are on the mend.

OUR WINNING TRIACTOR!

Congratulations to our three members who were inducted into the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame! They were Sohen Gill in the "builders division" for his many years in lacrosse, Chris Loseth in the "athlete's division" for horse racing, and Archie McDonald for the "media division" for his wonderful articles in the Vancouver Sun.

THE THOROUGHBRED LADIES CLUB by Linda Sentes

The Thoroughbred Ladies Club of B.C. meets the first Tuesday of the month, 10 times a year (excluding January & July). On Saturday, April 11, 2009, the first event they sponsored was "Breakfast on Us!" replacing their annual "Donuts & Coffee Day", with the objective of providing a more substantial and healthy meal to backstretch workers. The Ladies walked the Hastings Racecourse barn area that morning passing out Easter chocolates & coupons to grooms & hotwalkers, to be redeemed for a breakfast of their choice served in The Horsemen's Grill (cookhouse on the backstretch) at anytime that day until closing. Both the workers and their employers met their idea with both surprise and appreciation. Of the

Hastings News

June 2009 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.

228 coupons distributed, 178 meals were served during the course of the day. A few weeks later, the Ladies efforts were rewarded with a thank you note signed by dozens of grateful breakfast recipients, as well as many trainers. If you are a lady of any age and would like to help or join the TLC Club (a fitting abbreviation, don't you think?) Please call Linda Sentes 604-318-7947, Elenore Van Den Born 604-534-2879, or Diane Cardinal 604-524-6793. The next event will be the Annual HEI & HBPA Family Picnic, at noon on Tuesday, July 7, 2009.

NEW STRIDE THOROUGHBRED RETIREMENT FOUNDATION by Catherine Sheppard

On Sunday May 17 Hastings racecourse gave New Stride a special Community Day at the races. We held a silent auction and the frontside kitchen provided us with a three-course lunch for which we sold tickets. The day was a great success as we had many excellent and diverse items donated by backstretch people, horse people out in the Fraser valley and business members from surrounding communities.

THANKS SO MUCH TO ALL OF YOU-ON BOTH THE FRONTSIDE & BACKSTRETCH. A SPECIAL THANKS GOES TO OUR JOCKEYS FOR ALL THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND HELP.



Dancinfor diamonds

Now we are able to carry on and open our doors to some of this year's retirees from Hastings Racecourse, ensuring they end their days much like "Sunrise Serenade"-Joanne Todd & Brian O'Connell's beloved old campaigner.

THE LEARNING CENTRE

Next to our terrific cafeteria, The Horsemen's Grill, (previously Trackers), the Learning Centre is the busiest place on the backstretch. With our helpful tutors, we are open 7 days a week. John will be with us for June, and then we will begin our summer schedule. You can check the door for different hours.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRAN AND CENEK on receiving the Rob Wedel Workplace Literacy award from the Capilano University. The award was given to Fran and Cenek for their hard work and effort they put into their education and the tutoring they do at our Learning Centre!



Fran (left) and Cenek (right)

If the patios and barn areas look brighter, the Learning Centre had its "flower power day" and 40 baskets were added to the flowers of the backstretch.

Juanita has started a backstretch newsletter, called TRACKSIDE, it is very interesting and can be found in the Learning Centre.



The Learning Centre

Hastings News

June 2009 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.

THE ART CIRCLE

by Juanita Sahl

CALL FOR ENTRIES: The Art Circle will be hosting the second annual Backstretch Art Show on BC Derby weekend, September 26/27, and this time the Call for Entries is available for grandstand and Sunrise Community participants. Please see Alvina if you wish to enter artwork from the Backstretch.

Abalone Edwards has offered to host classes in beadwork on Wednesdays, so drop in to the Learning Centre above The Horsemen's Grill between 1 and 3 on Wednesdays.

KIDZ KORNER

The following story was told to me by Sophia Condilenios, the youngest daughter of Lackey and Victoria. She and her brothers and sisters help their Mom and Dad in The Horsemen's Grill.

My name is Sophia and I am 4 years old, do you know when I will be 5? I do! My birthday is October 8th and I will be going to Kindergarten. I help my Mom and Dad but best of all is when I play with my toys and Shane (Gilker) plays with me. We like it when it rains and there are lots of mud puddles outside. We run and splash in them, if a horse comes by we have to quickly stop and go inside. Sometimes it is hard to be quiet but we don't want to scare the horses. I like going to my Uncle Dino's barn, I have a favourite horse, it is brown and has a soft nose. I don't know if it is a boy or girl and I don't know its name BUT I know which horse it is! I like playing games on the computer with Jeannie and sometimes we go for walks. I got to sit on the tractor when I was in the works yard it was fun!



Sophia enjoys her time on the backstretch.

Hastings News

June 2009 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemens Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.