

Hastings News

Sept - Oct, 2008 :: Written and produced by Jeannie Spence for the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association of B.C.

HBPA NEWSLETTER

By Jeannie Spence

**DATES TO REMEMBER:
SEPTEMBER 25 (THURSDAY) AGM MEETING
GEORGE ROYAL ROOM AT 7:00
NOVEMBER 15 (SATURDAY) AWARDS NIGHT**

As September is quickly closing, it is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the 2008 racing season. We have many stakes coming up and it is so exciting when you see our 2 and 3 year-old stars maturing. It is great to see management including the Oaks with the Derby on their invitation to their Presentation and Derby Draw. Another step forward for the "girls". Hopefully our fantastic weather will stay for another 6 weeks. With the opening of the main slot floor, the court cases ending, purses up-this has been a giant step for the future of horse racing in B.C.

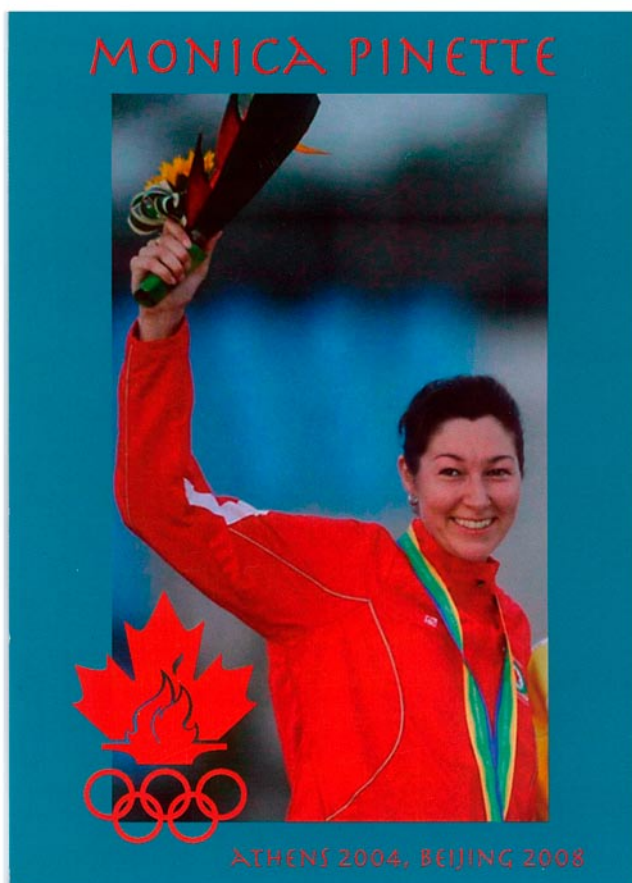
THE FLYING START PROGRAM

It was so interesting to hear from Sorrel Schoenberg, she said she would keep us in touch, this is particularly important for all the younger advocates of racing to try out for this "Dream of a Lifetime". "Everything is going well here in Ireland. I'm really enjoying the course so far-the trainees are all great and I think the next two years will be a lot of fun, in addition to being a great learning experience. On Sunday we all went to Leopardstown where we watched New Approach win the Champion Stakes and Lush Lashes win the Matron Stakes both Group (Grade) 1 races. We have been attending Anatomy and Physiology lectures at the University College of Dublin (which are excellent), in addition to other lectures here at Kildangan Stud. We started working in the yards with the yearlings this week, where we will be helping with the breaking process for the next six weeks. Our first work placements will be in England (where we head to in November). Here we will go our separate ways for a few weeks. I met with Carolyn Costigan, and she gave me great advice and insight into the program. I can't believe how lucky I am to be such a part of such a great program! The past three weeks have already flown by!"

OLYMPIC MEMORIES

The HBPA had a lovely picture and note from Monica Pinette thanking us for our support. She started out her 5 events with a second in the shooting, but had a bad round with the fencing (which is one of her best events),

she did well in stadium jumping, running, and swimming but had lost too many points in the fencing (sounds like horse racing). We are all so proud that she qualified and is world ranked!



A SAD REMINDER

Our racing world encompasses many people in our province; the latest was the tragic arson fire, which took the life of an innocent victim, Wilene Wah Ying Chong, who was the wife of the late Ming Chong. Ming and Wilene had a corner store at Slocan and East 22nd and had raised 5 children, Bernice, Jerry, Linda, Joseph, and Daniel. They had come to Canada to give their children, a good life and believed that education was so important. Each sibling completed a university education. Ming loved the races and he even won the Longacres Mile with Silver Double, his trainer then was Tom Witts. After that, his long time trainer became Terry Marshall. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family on this senseless death.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Cindy Barroby and her horse Jessie, for the excellent job as outrider. She and Jessie maneuvered a filly, which was going the wrong way during a race and kept her contained on the outside wall! The HBPA presented a halter and a bronze plaque with Jessie's name on it in appreciation for a great job.

Steve Rathwell and Megan Hanriha on their recent marriage. Steve gallops horses at the track and he also writes for the Game under "even Steven".

Denis and Sharon Terry on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

VET'S LIST

Niles Larson so glad you are recovering from your broken ankle.

Wayne Hurlberg, you have to watch out when you are riding those 2 wheeled mustangs, maybe you should start on the 4 legged ones.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO:

Debbie Boyd on the loss of her Mother Doreen Taylor, also to Chad Hoverson as Doreen was his "Canadian Mom".

Lee Haslam and Yosh Kimura and the family on the loss of Lorraine.

NEW STRIDE THOROUGHBRED RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

We would like to thank all the donors and participants in our Silent Auction at the CTHS Sale on Sept 9th. Hopefully you had a lot of fun and the purchasers got great items. We hope to see you there in 2009!

RANGER GORD AND MAJOR RUCKUS

by Catherine Sheppard

These pictures are a heartwarming example of retired racehorses becoming loved and trusted family members. Ranger Gord and Major Ruckus were donated to New Stride about 3 1/2 years ago. Gord was a rig and could be quite a handful. Major Ruckus was a rambunctious 3 year old colt. Gord found a home soon after in Alberta as a ranch horse but was sent back about 2 months later-

Gord didn't like cows and did not see himself doing that kind of work for the rest of his life-so back he came to New Stride! Then we gelded Gord and he became quieter and friendlier. Major Ruckus was turning out to be a friendly, sweet guy with lots of athletic ability. A family from Sea Island saw Gord and Ruckus on the website and came over to Judy and John Knighton's place in Surrey to visit them. They liked both the horses but thought that they would only take Major Ruckus but later they phoned and said that they had fallen for Gord and would take the two of them. Gord and Major Ruckus (who is known as Zim) settled happily into their new home. The family phoned and reported on their experiences training them as pleasure and show horses.



Ranger Gord (above and below)



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These recent pictures and messages from Gord and Zim's family are a heart warming example of retired racehorses becoming loved and trusted family members. These two guys have found a permanent loving family home through our New Stride Adoption Services. This is what we aim to do for all the horses that are donated to New Stride. In the letter accompanying the pictures, the family states that the people at the horse show were very impressed with the fact that Gord and Zim ex-racehorses and showered them with lots of positive comments. The little girl's grin as she holds up her blue ribbons says it all. New Stride continues to survive, rehabbing, retraining and adopting our beautiful Thoroughbred racehorses.



Major Ruckus (above and below)



THE THOROUGHBRED LADIES CLUB (TLC)

We are very sorry to hear that May Jaeger will not be running for President again. She is a great asset and we know she will be still working for the backstretch. September has been a busy month for the Ladies, they had an appreciation luncheon in the Sky Box, sponsored by HEI and the HBPA for these hard working ladies. The ladies were also busy with the Old Timers' Luncheon and helping in the Beer Garden at the CTHS Sale. Their next big endeavor will be the Children's Christmas Party in December. We all owe such a debt of gratitude to these ladies!

SCHOLARSHIP GRADUATES

Often you wonder what all the people who were helped by the HBPA and Ladies Club scholarships are doing. I will try to find one for each newsletter.

NICOLE CLARK

Nicole's families on both sides are long time horse people. Her Mother, Gabrielle, was the daughter of Hugh and Anna Byrne. Hugh was a successful trainer with wife, Anna, and all three children Patrick, Gabrielle, and Helen helping out at the barn. Nicole's father, Glen's family, Ron and Dorothy Clark are involved as owners at the track. In past years, when they had their farm in Aldergrove, they were also breeders. Nicole received scholarships from the Thoroughbred Ladies Club and the HBPA and is now a successful lawyer! The following is a picture of Nicole, with both grandmothers, at her ceremony when she was called to the bar. CONGRATULATIONS!



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THE LEARNING CENTRE

We had a big surprise when the Government of B.C., finally gave us a grant to help us run our Learning Centre! This is so important because they finally recognize all the great work that is happening at the Learning Centre. This is happening because of Capilano University (John Brooks), HBPA, HEI, and all the wonderful tutors and students. Now we need more room as we are bursting at the seams and have to go forward! It was good to see Megan Kerford, she had been severely injured in a gate schooling accident in Ontario. It was at a racing quarter horse farm. She is amazing and she is even riding already. We wish her the best of everything in her future endeavors.

THE ART CIRCLE

by Juanita Sahl

On Saturday, September between 12:30 and 2 the Learning Centre will be hosting an art workshop to commemorate World Peace Day. Everybody is welcome to come and make art to honour this year's global theme of 'Peace One Day'. (Unfortunately the global peace committee didn't recognize that this weekend is also B.C. Derby weekend, or else I'm sure they would have changed the date.) Come and enjoy if you can.

KIDZ KORNER

My name is Fraser Morison and the backstretch at Hastings Racecourse is my second home. My Mom, Shelly, gallops horses and my Dad, Mike, used to work on the starting gate. I love watching the horses break out of the gate during a race. I also love watching the young horses get gate schooled in the morning, but sometimes it can be very scary. My Dad is now a steward, often times my brother and I come in with my Dad and we help Darren or go to our Grandma and Grandpa's tack room and watch

videos or play games. We have to be quiet because we don't want to scare the horses if we are yelling. My favorite horse is Frasersview, he is a big chestnut and loves eating peppermints. I used to help my Dad walk him.

I am in Grade 6 at Langley Meadows and I like most sports especially football, hockey, and baseball. When I get older, I don't know what I want to do. I love the track but I also am very interested in birds and reptiles, they fascinate me. I have 2 budgies right now, Niblet who is blue, white and black and Emma, who is yellow, white and black. They are lots of fun especially when I take them out of their cage and they sit on my finger or my head; and they don't take up as much room as a horse!

