



# The Ohio Harness Horseman's Association

April 2011 Newsletter

## 2011 Harness Racing Dates

### Lebanon Raceway

March 4-June 11

Sept 23-Dec 30

(50 live days)

### Northfield Park

Jan 1-Dec 30

(214 live days)

### Raceway Park

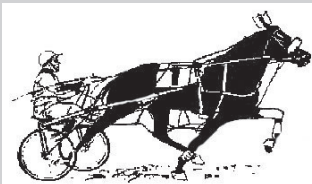
April 30-Sept 18

(46 live days)

### Scioto Downs

May 11-Sept 11

(57 live days)



## OHHA Track Reps

### Tom Blankenship

Lebanon Raceway

Scioto Downs

### Amy Hollar

Northfield Park

### TBA

Raceway Park

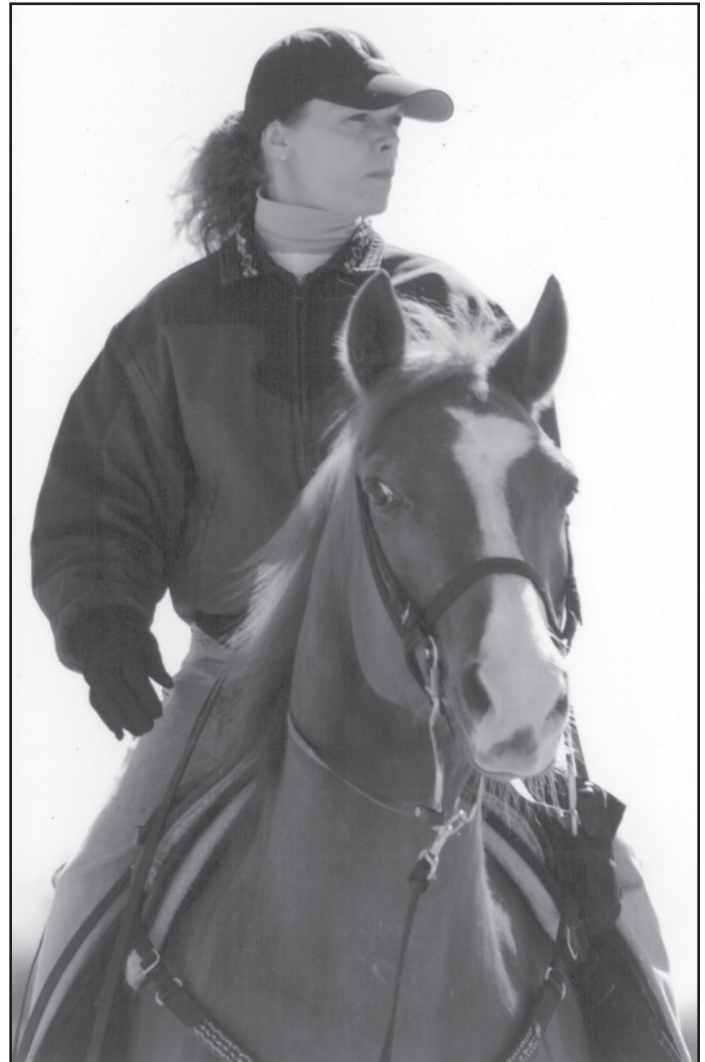
Volume 40, No. 4

## Cindi Johnson Honored

Cindi Johnson~the outrider at Lebanon Raceway, Scioto Downs and Little Brown Jug week during the Delaware County Fair~was honored with the Lee Ann Pooler Unsung Hero Award at the U.S. Harness Writers Association Dan Patch Banquet on Feb. 27 at the Marriott North Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Cindi does her marshalling job superbly, and also assists in many public relations activities at whichever track she serves at, and is considered by many in the industry to be the best at restoring equine calm after a chaotic situation.

Horsemen and fans alike still talk about the time at Lebanon Raceway when after a five-horse mishap, Cindi caught three loose horses single-handedly. For this and many other times of catching loose horses and helping unseated drivers, Cindi was chosen to receive the Unsung Hero award, given annually to a person within the industry who is dedicated and outstanding in their field.



## Please Note~Important Rule Changes

The Ohio State Racing Commission, upon recommendation of the OSRC Medication Committee, adopted these changes, effective immediately:

1~The threshold for phenylbutazone (bute) shall be lowered from 5.0 micrograms per milliliter of blood plasma to 2.0 micrograms per milliliter of blood plasma.

2~The threshold for dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) shall be increased from 1.0 micrograms per milliliter of blood plasma to 10.0 micrograms per milliliter of blood plasma.

3~DMSO overages will be treated as Class IV positives.

4~Slicylic acid (a metabolite of aspirin) shall have a threshold set at 750 micrograms per milliliter of urine.



## OHHA Regional Meetings

The OHHA will hold five regional membership meetings in 2011. Please check the OHHA website for the complete listing of dates, times and locations of these meetings, and plan to attend one in your area. These meetings are open to everyone interested in harness racing, and we will be discussing everything pertaining to the Standardbred industry, both in Ohio and on a national level.

These meetings afford everyone the opportunity to ask questions, and to engage in dialogue and discussions over industry issues. Horsemen, fans and fair board members are all encouraged to attend.



# General Manager's Report

by Jerry Knappenberger

**Expanded Gaming Update**~On March 15, Governor John Kasich released his Blue Book outline of his proposed two-year budget both during a press conference and at a meeting of state business leaders. The Blue Book Budget Outline did not contain language which would allow Video Lottery Terminals (VLTs) at Ohio racetracks.



Kasich's Budget Outline will go first to the Ohio House of Representatives to begin the process of putting the Outline in legislative form. As most often happens, the House will pass their version of the Budget Bill, and the Senate will pass a different version; thus, sending the Budget Bill to a conference committee to work out compromises to send the Budget Bill back to both the House and the Senate for ratification before going to the Governor for his signature. VLT language could be introduced into the Budget Bill

at any point during this process, which must be completed by June 30, 2011, when the current budget expires. Please continue to contact your state legislators and ask them to support any legislation which would assist in placing the agricultural-based Ohio horse racing industry on a level playing field with surrounding states and provide revenue to the state government which it so desperately needs! If you have any questions, contact me at 1-800-353-6442 or 1-614-224-3650 or e-mail me at [JKnappenberger@ohha.com](mailto:JKnappenberger@ohha.com).



John Berry (left) and Jerry Knappenberger (right) present the USHWA Unsung Hero Award to Cindi Johnson.

**National Awards**~The OHHA congratulates Ohioans honored at the U.S. Harness Writers Association Dan Patch Awards Banquet on Feb. 27 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Those winning awards were Dr. Ronald Fuller (Newark) as breeder and co-owner of Buck I St Pat, Aged Trotting Mare of 2010; the Kantzer Stable (Marion), James Koehler (Findlay) and William Robinson (Findlay), as the owners of Won The West, Aged Pacer of 2010; and Cindi Johnson, recipient of the LeAnn Pooler Unsung Hero Award for her outstanding work as outrider, which I had the honor of being a co-presenter.

**May 15 Deadline for Five HTA Scholarships Offered**~The Harness Tracks of America College Scholarship Fund is offering five, \$5,000 scholarships for post-secondary education to students actively involved in the sport of harness racing, or to the children of harness racing professionals (living or deceased), including licensed drivers, trainers, caretakers or management



officials. The scholarship program, begun in 1973, has made 191 grants to 132 worthy students involved in harness racing since its inception with the scholarships totaling \$712,950.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit, financial need and active harness racing involvement. Applications are available now by contacting Harness Tracks of America, 520-529-2525, or [info@harnesstracks.com](mailto:info@harnesstracks.com). The deadline for returning all application materials is May 15, 2011.

**June 1 Deadline for HHI Scholarship Applications**~The Harness Horsemen International Foundation announces that applications for the 25th annual Jerome L. Hauck Scholarship are now being accepted. The \$4,000 award is granted to a son or daughter of a full-time Standardbred groom or of a member of an HHI-affiliated association. The HHI Foundation was organized in 1986 in memory of Jerome L. Hauck, an HHI founder who served as its president for 12 years.

The award is given to a student who has demonstrated exceptional scholarship, citizenship, and leadership, who has completed high school or its equivalent and is entering college for the first time. Character traits are reviewed, and financial need is a consideration as well.

Applications must be received in the HHI office by June 1, 2011. For more information or an application, contact the OHHA office or HHI, 319 High Street, Suite 2, Burlington, NJ 08016 (609) 747-1000 or e-mail [dhartmannhhi@verizon.net](mailto:dhartmannhhi@verizon.net).

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OHHA General Manager



Jerry Knappenberger

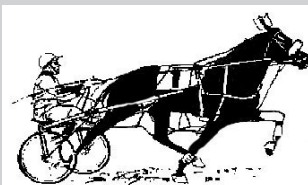
**OHHA Staff**

General Manager  
Jerry Knappenberger

Office Manager  
Linda Nance

Harness Horsemen's  
Health Retirement Plan  
Administrator  
Shirley McCarter

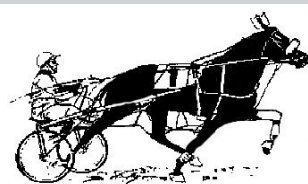
Director of Public Relations  
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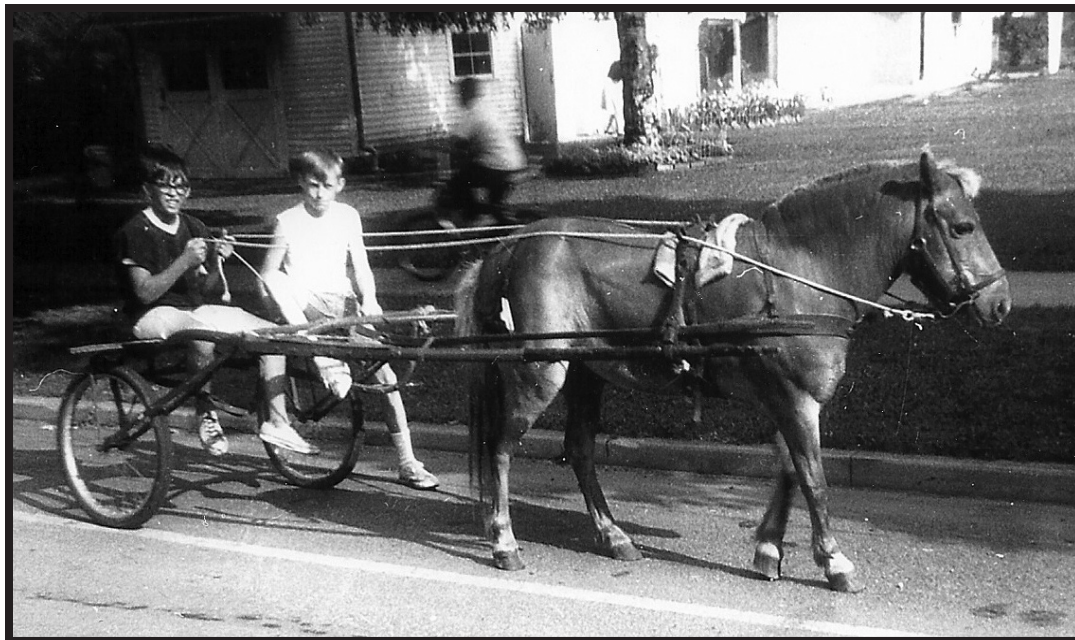


### Matinee Deadline April 15

The OHHA is requesting that all information regarding this year's matinees be sent to our office no later than April 15, 2011. Information should include: racing dates (with rain dates, if possible); location; sponsor; post time; entry fee; photo finish; charted lines; trophies; on-track insurance; call-in dates and phone numbers.

Please call or e-mail Linda Nance at the OHHA office at 1-800-353-6442 or [lnance@ohha.com](mailto:lnance@ohha.com).

If you'd like this information to appear on our web site, please e-mail all of the above to Kim Rinker at [Trotrink@aol.com](mailto:Trotrink@aol.com).



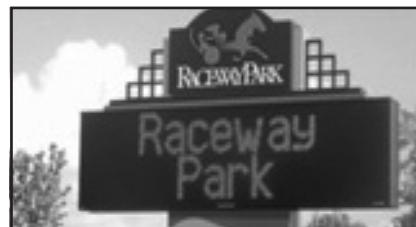
A young Dan Ater (center) and friend Carl Hamman (left) drive Butch (right) the pony down the streets of Clarksburg during the early 1960s. Photo courtesy of Bob Schmitz

**2011 P.A.C.E.R. Contributions**~We encourage members to contribute to our PACER Fund (Political Action Committee for Equine Racing). These monies help fund our legislative efforts to garner industry-wide support for expanded gaming at Ohio's seven racetracks that would positively affect the Ohio horse racing industry. Donate by sending a personal check or money order (corporate checks are unacceptable for PAC fund donations) to: P.A.C.E.R., 800 Michigan Ave., Columbus, OH 43215-1166. Include your employer and nature of business information as well.



**HHI Elections**~The following people were elected to the 2011 HHI Board of Directors: President, Gene Oldford, Michigan; 1st VP, Tom Luchento, New Jersey; 2nd VP, Gabe Prewitt, Kentucky; Secretary, Sal DiMario, Delaware; Treasurer, Mike Izzo, Pennsylvania; At-Large, Kim Hankins, Pennsylvania; At-Large, Ron Battoni, Pennsylvania; At-Large, Jerry Knappenberger, Ohio; At-Large, Tony Somone, Illinois.

**Raceway Park**~The 2011 Raceway Park racing season begins on Saturday, April 30. Post Time will be 7:00 pm on Saturday, 6:00 pm on Sunday and 6:30 pm on Wednesday. The first qualifying races will be held Saturday, April 23 at 10:00 am.

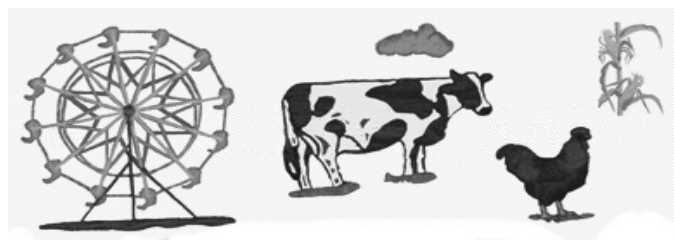


**OHHA Insurance Programs**—OHHA provides members two very important insurance coverages with their OHHA membership. First, the third-party liability insurance provides up to one million dollars of coverage for a member-owned horse, which is racing or in training, doing damage to the person or property of an outside third party.

The Fire and Disaster Insurance, which is in place at all four pari-mutuel tracks through OHHA's contracts with the tracks, provides up to \$250,000 coverage per incident for several named perils, such as fire, tornado and other disasters. This coverage provides up to \$15,000 per horse, based on the market value, for horses racing and up to \$5,000 per horse, current market value, for horses in training, including yearlings.

There is also coverage for tack and equipment of up to \$3,000 per horse with a maximum of \$10,000 for any one individual. The Fire and Disaster Insurance is also available for purchase for all other training centers and farms. Both the Third Party Liability Insurance and the Fire and Disaster Insurance are available to OHHA as a member of Harness Horseman International (HHI). The Fire and Disaster Insurance coverage, which was in place at Lebanon Raceway, provided checks for almost \$200,000 to the OHHA member horsemen who lost horses and equipment in the Dec. 4, 2009 barn fire.

Anyone racing horses in Ohio cannot afford to not become an OHHA member. For information on the training center Fire and Disaster Insurance, please contact the OHHA office at 1-800-353-6442 or [Jlknappenberger@ohha.com](mailto:Jlknappenberger@ohha.com).



**Fair Racing Officials Seminar**~The OHHA, in conjunction with the OSRC and the U.S.T.A., will host the Fair Racing Officials Seminar on Tuesday, April 26. The 2011 meeting will be by invitation and officials will be notified by mail.





*Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association*  
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Columbus, Ohio 43215-1166

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### Important Dates

**APRIL 19, 2011~2nd Quarter OHHA Board Meeting**

**JUNE 21, 2011~3rd Quarter OHHA Board Meeting**

**OCTOBER 20, 2011~4th Quarter OHHA Board Meeting**

### 2011 Ohio Fair Stakes Racing Purses

\$ 500.00	Ohio Fairs Fund base per stake race
\$ 597.00	Ohio Fairs Fund added purse per stake race
\$1,097.00	Total from Ohio Fairs Fund per stake race
\$ 500.00	Mandated fair's contribution per stake race
\$1,597.00	Total mandated minimum purse money per stake race at Ohio Fairs

### *Ohio Racetracks*

**Lebanon Raceway**  
665 North Broadway  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036  
(513) 932-4936  
[www.lebanonraceway.com](http://www.lebanonraceway.com)

**Northfield Park**  
10705 Northfield Road  
Northfield, Ohio 44067  
(330) 367-4101  
[www.northfieldpark.com](http://www.northfieldpark.com)

**Raceway Park**  
5700 Telegraph Road  
Toledo, Ohio 43612  
[www.racewayparktoledo.com](http://www.racewayparktoledo.com)

**Scioto Downs**  
6000 South High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43207  
(614) 491-2515  
[www.sciotodowns.com](http://www.sciotodowns.com)