



The Ohio Harness Horseman's Association

December 2011 Newsletter

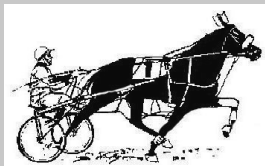
2011 Harness Racing Dates

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 13-Sept 11
(57 live days)



OHHA Track Reps

Tom Blankenship
Lebanon Raceway
(513) 932-9138

Doug Eschedor
Raceway Park
(419) 287-4936

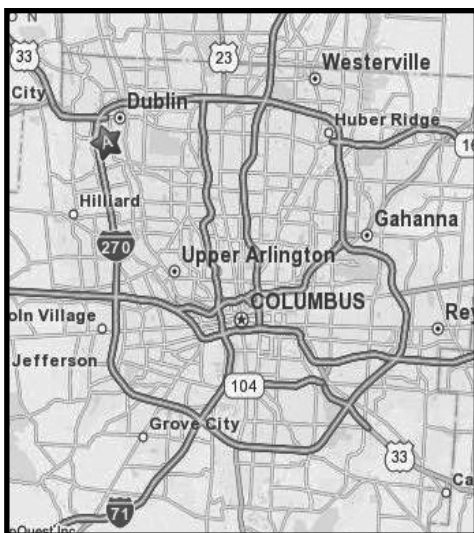
Amy Hollar
Northfield Park
(614) 778-5905

Jim Teynor
Scioto Downs
(614) 497-2481

Volume 41, No. 12

OHHA Annual Awards Banquet & USTA District One Annual Meeting

The OHHA Annual Awards Banquet & USTA District 1 Annual Meeting are Saturday, Jan. 21, at the Columbus Marriott Northwest Hotel. The OHHA Banquet begins at 5:30 pm, where Horse of the Year honors will be announced. Reservations for the Banquet must be made by Jan. 12, and payment for all tickets must reach the OHHA office by Jan 17, 2012. Tickets are \$45 each and can be picked up at the Banquet Reservation Table. **No tickets will be sold at the door!**



January 21, 2012 Timeline

1:00 pm USTA District 1 Meeting
2:30 pm OHHA Membership Meeting
4:00 pm Cocktails Cash Bar
5:30 pm OHHA Awards Banquet

Columbus Marriott Northwest

5605 Blazer Pkwy Dublin, Ohio 43017
Phone: 1-614-336-4705
www.columbusmarriottnorthwest.com

Columbus Marriott Northwest room reservations for Jan. 20 and/or Jan. 21 must be made by Jan. 10, 2012 by calling 888-801-7133. Be sure to ask for the OHHA rate (\$110.00). Rooms or rates are not guaranteed after that date.

Directions to Columbus Marriott Northwest

From the North: Take I-71 south to I-270 West for 15 miles to Exit 15 (Tuttle Crossing Blvd.), and turn left. Travel two miles to Blazer Parkway, turn left.

From the East: Take I-70 west through downtown Columbus to I-270 North to Exit 15 (Tuttle Crossing Blvd.) and turn right. Travel one mile to Blazer Parkway, turn left.

From the South: Take I-71 north to I-270 west for 15 miles to Exit 15 (Tuttle Crossing Blvd.) and turn right. Travel one mile to Blazer Parkway, turn left.

From the West: Take I-70 east to I-270 north for five miles to Exit 15 (Tuttle Crossing Blvd.) and turn right. Travel one mile to Blazer Parkway, turn left.

OHHA Annual Awards Banquet Reservation Form

Saturday, January 21, 2011~Dublin, Ohio

Reserve tickets at \$45 each. Payment must be received by Jan. 17, 2012 at the OHHA office.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

of Tickets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

General Manager's Report

by Jerry Knappenberger

VLТ Update~On October 17, Substitute House Bill #277, containing language for Video Lottery Terminals (VLТ's) at Ohio racetracks, became law. Following Sub-HB 277 becoming law, the American Roundtable dba Ohio Roundtable, led by David P Zanotti, Strongsville, and six other plaintiffs filed a lawsuit in Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. The basis of the lawsuit is the Ohio Legislature did not have constitutional authority to enact legislation for VLТ's at Ohio racetracks, therefore language in the bill is unconstitutional. There are additional claims of unconstitutional items contained in Sub-HB277, including a item



concerning the stand alone casino in downtown Cleveland. The named defendants, in their official capacities, are Governor John Kasich; Ohio Lottery Commission Director, Dennis Berg; the eight members of the Ohio Lottery Commission; Jo Ann Davidson, Chairman of the Casino Control Commission; Casino Control Commission Vice Chairman, June Taylor, Casino Control Commission Executive Director, Matt Schuler and the five members of the Casino Control Commission;

Joseph Testa, Ohio Tax Commissioner and both the State Lottery Commission and Casino Control Commission. Attorney General Mike Dewine will represent the State of Ohio in this lawsuit. It is expected the Attorney General will soon file a response to the lawsuit in Franklin County Court of Common Pleas on behalf of the State. As this is written on November 22, there is no timeline as to how long the court process will delay the implementation of VLТ's at Ohio racetracks. We will keep you updated, on the OHHA website, as new developments become available. Meanwhile, racetrack operators and the two horsemen's groups continue to work on comprehensive agreements to address all issues which need to be settled before the opportunity for the VLТ's at racetracks can begin.



2012 Ohio Sires Stakes~The date for the public meeting of the Ohio Standardbred Development Fund Commission had not been set by press time of this newsletter. The public meeting will be held in Columbus at the Riffe Center soon after Dec. 5.,

2011 Please watch the OHHA, OSRC or USTA websites for the actual date, time and room number of this important meeting. All horsemen who plan to participate in the 2012 Ohio Sires Stakes Program are urged to attend. If you are unable to attend, you may express your thoughts on the 2012 OSS dates and conditions to either OHHA Ohio Sires Stakes Committee Chairman Hugh Beatty, Jr. or myself before the meeting and we can convey those ideas to the OSDF commission at the meeting.



Another Milestone~Ohio native David Miller reached another career milestone with win number 10,000 on October 26 at Harrah's Chester, in Philadelphia.

David became the tenth driver in the history of North American Harness Racing to reach that plateau. Earlier this year, he became the first driver to best seasonal earnings over the \$10 million mark for the tenth time in his career. Congratulations to David Miller on two tremendous career achievements coming in the same year.



Hall of Fame~Robert J "Skeeter" Brown was inducted into the Troy Hall of Fame on November 6, 2011 for his career achievements in harness racing. Brownie, a long time resident of Troy, began his harness racing career in 1951. Still very active at age 87, he has raced everywhere in Ohio and at many racetracks across the country.

Brownie has endured several serious on-track accidents during his career and is one of the few drivers to have been struck by lightning during a race, which occurred at Painesville Raceway in 1968. Brownie had previously been honored by OHHA in 2002 with a "Special Appreciation Award" for his outstanding service to standardbred racing as an owner, trainer and driver and was inducted into the Northfield Park Wall of Fame in 2004.

The USTA computer records for drivers, which goes back to 1977, credits him with over 12,000 starts, 1899 wins, 3,665 seconds and thirds with winnings of over \$2.4 million. USTA computer records for trainers which began in 1991, credit him with 204 wins and \$848,325 in earnings. Thus, Brownie has far more wins and earnings achieved as a driver and trainer since 1951 not reflected in USTA computer records.

Probably his best known horse was C K Adios p,2,1:58.4; 5,1:58, \$195,755 (Greentree Adios – Phyllis Kay by Axland) who compiled an outstanding two-year old season in 1966, during which he made 23 starts with 17 wins, 1 second and 2 thirds in winning \$10,307 for owner Donald Booth, who at the time was President of The Canadian Trotting Association.

OHHA General Manager



Jerry Knappenberger

OHHA Staff

General Manager

Jerry Knappenberger

Office Manager

Linda Nance

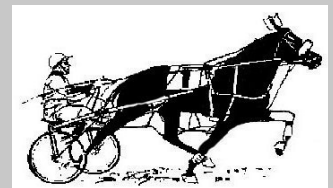
Harness Horsemen's Health

Retirement Plan Administrator

Shirley McCarter

Director of Public Relations

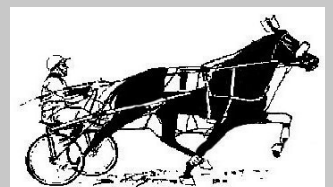
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Hall of Fame~ (continued) C K Adios during the 1966 season won 17 straight heats beginning on August 9 at Wapakoneta culminating on October 7 with a 1:58.4 win during the Lexington Red Mile Grand Circuit meet. Besides helping train at the barn, Brownie stays active playing golf as often as possible. OHHA congratulates R.J. Brown on his induction into the City of Troy Hall of Fame and thanks our good friend on an outstanding career and great service to Ohio harness racing for over 60 years and seven decades.

 **Loss of an Icon~**The entire Harness Racing World lost one of it's all-time greatest ambassadors when Stanley F. Bergstein passed away at his home in Tucson, AZ on November 2, 2011.

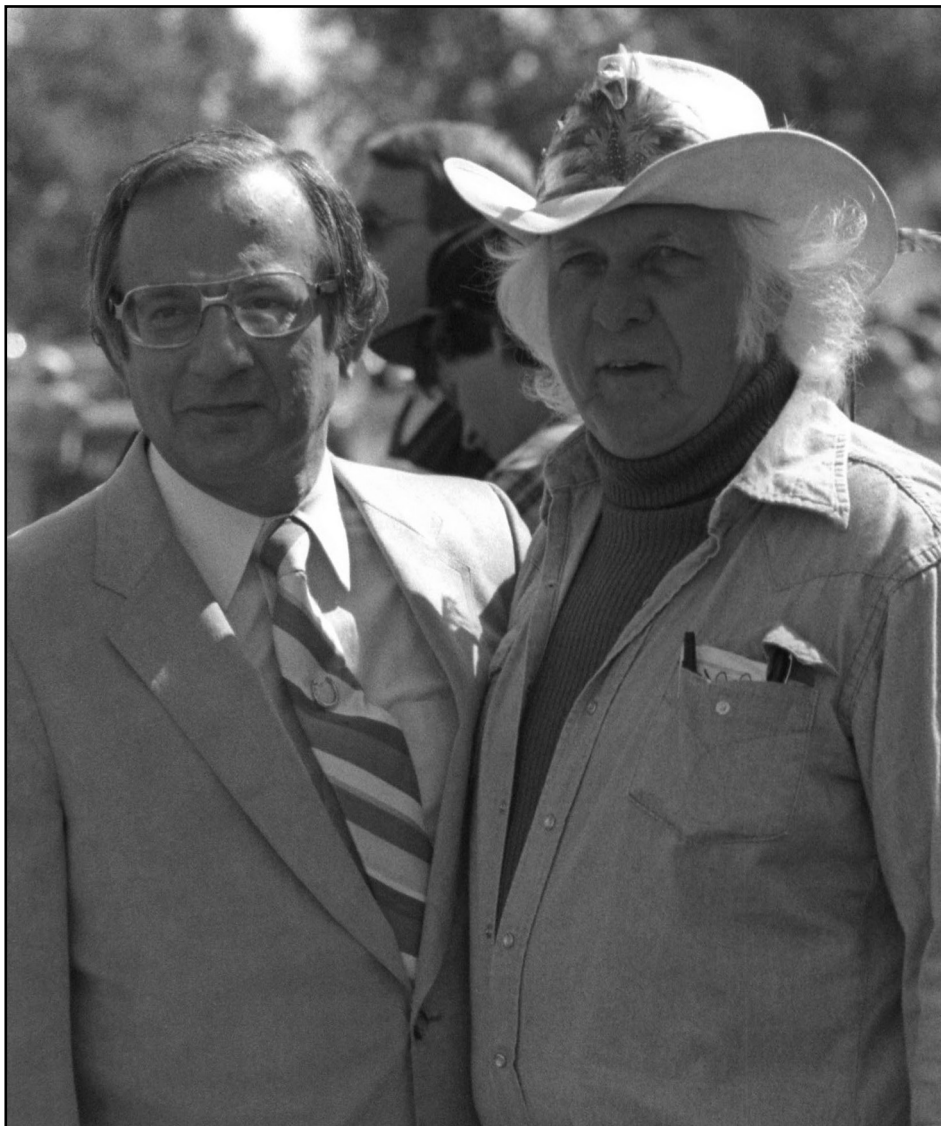
Bergstein is the only person to have been elected to harness racing's Living Hall of Fame and the Hall of Fame's Writers Corner.

Over the years, Stan Bergstein has worked in many facets of harness racing including time as a race secretary, announcer, T.V. show host, auctioneer and as Executive Vice-President of Harness Tracks of America for nearly fifty years, while traveling throughout this country and the world promoting harness racing.


I had the great honor of knowing Stan for nearly forty years and was thrilled to have the opportunities to visit with him during his trips to Delaware, Lexington and during the outstanding Harness Racing Congress programs he organized.

Our industry has never had a more versatile individual with his great character and commitment to the sport than Stanley F. Bergstein. Truly, the entire world of harness racing will miss him and his leadership.

It is said no one is impossible to replace, however, Stan Bergstein may be that one person!



Stan Bergstein (left) and USTA Photographer George Smallsreed (right) in 1984.

 **2012 Membership Dues**

~The OHHA Membership Dues for 2012 are \$65.00 and are due into the OHHA office by Dec. 31, 2011. It's easy to become an OHHA Member: see an OHHA representative at the racetrack, fill out an application and pay your fees, or download our Membership Application online at www.ohha.com/membership.php, and mail it along with a check to the OHHA office, 800 Michigan Ave., Cols, OH 43215-1166.



**The OHHA Staff wishes everyone
Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for
a very prosperous New Year!**

<p><i>Ohio Racetracks</i></p> <p>Lebanon Raceway 665 North Broadway, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 (513) 932-4936 www.lebanonraceway.com</p> <p>Northfield Park 10705 Northfield Road, Northfield, Ohio 44067 (330) 467-4101 www.northfieldpark.com</p> <p>Raceway Park 5700 Telegraph Road, Toledo, Ohio 43612 419-476-7751 www.racewayparktoledo.com</p> <p>Scioto Downs 6000 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43207 (614) 491-2515 www.sciotodowns.com</p>
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The OHHA Newsletter 120-850 (ISSN 0194-7842) is published eight times annually by the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, 800 Michigan Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215-1166. Phone 614.221-3650 or 800.353-6442. Single & back issues, if available, \$2.50 Periodical postage paid at Columbus, Ohio. Postmaster, send address changes to the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, 800 Michigan Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215-1166.



Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association
800 Michigan Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1166

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2012 OHHA Stallion Directory

Pedigree Page Deadline: Dec. 15, 2011

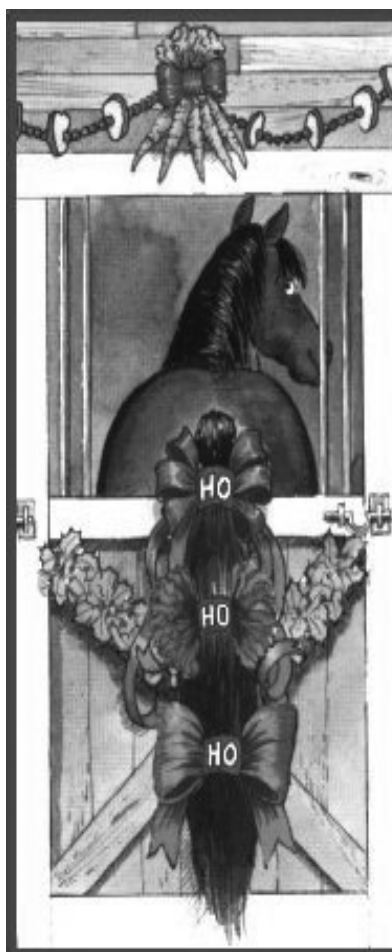
Cost: \$300 (includes full pedigree and progeny information compiled by the USTA)

Ad Space Deadline: Jan. 10, 2012

The Stallion Directory will be produced in-house, and will be included inside the Feb. 2012 issue of the Buckeye Harness Horseman.

Separate copies of stallion pedigree pages~to be used for distribution at sales or other venues~can be produced for a fee of \$25 per 100 copies, which includes shipping.

To reserve your pedigree page and for more information, contact Kimberly Rinker at 708-557-2790 or e-mail Trotrink@aol.com by Dec. 15, 2011. Payment for pedigree pages is due to the OHHA office, 800 Michigan Ave., Cols., OH 43215 by Jan. 5, 2012.



The Buckeye Harness Horseman

The Buckeye Harness Horseman magazine is mailed to all OHHA members and is distributed at equine events & racing venues throughout Ohio and surrounding states. The February issue includes photos and information on Ohio Horse of The Year award winners and photos from the the 2012 OHHA Annual Banquet & USTA District 1 Meeting. It also includes the 2012 Ohio Stallion Directory.

2012 Advertising Rates

- Full page black & white \$300
- Full page black & white with photo \$350
- Full page one color \$375
- Full page 4-color \$500
- Half page black & white \$200
- Half page 4-color \$275
- One third page black & white \$150
- One quarter page black & white \$125

Contact Kim Rinker at 708-557-2790
or e-mail Trotrink@aol.com
to reserve space today!