

AT THE POST



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

135 Queen's Plate Drive, Suite 370
 Toronto, Ontario M9W 6V1
 Telephone: 416-747-5252 or
 1-866-779-3067
 Fax: 416-747-9606
 Email: general@hbpa.on.ca
 Hours of Operation:
 Monday to Friday
 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

WOODBINE TRACK OFFICE

P.O. Box 156, 555 Rexdale Blvd.
 Toronto, Ontario M9W 5L2
 Telephone: 416-675-3802 or
 1-800-268-9967 ext. 2249
 Fax: 416-675-5569
 Email: cep@hbpa.on.ca

Hours of Operation:
 Tuesday to Saturday
 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
 Sunday
 7:00 am to 2:00 pm
 Monday
 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

FORT ERIE TRACK OFFICE

P.O. Box 1130,
 230 Catherine Street
 Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 5N9
 Telephone: 905-871-3200
 or 1-800-295-3770 ext. 3249
 Fax: 905-871-0446
 Email: forterie@hbpa.on.ca

Hours of Operation:
 Monday to Sunday
 7:00 am to 3:00 pm

THE HEALTH AND BENEFIT PLAN FOR HBPA MEMBERS & THEIR EMPLOYEES

Here in Ontario we are fortunate to have provincially funded health coverage (OHIP) provided we meet the eligibility requirements. Those of us in the Thoroughbred horse racing industry are even more fortunate that we have access to a supplemental health insurance plan through a comprehensive Health and Dental Program which is subsidized by the HBPA of Ontario.

Currently the HBPA subsidizes approximately 70% of the costs of health and dental plan for Class A, which includes Hot Walkers, Grooms, Exercise Persons and Assistant Trainers and approximately 50% for Class B which includes Owners and Trainers. In 2009, in order to ensure that Members and their employees were in the correct rate class, the Administrative staff began verifying the licensing status of plan participants and will continue to do so, on an annual basis. This is to ensure that those who were least able to afford the supplemental health insurance plan continue to receive the much needed subsidy and also in an effort to keep the costs of the plan from escalating beyond what we are all able to afford. Every participant who is the wrong benefit class means increased costs for others.

Since the introduction of the Health and Dental Plan in 1998 the cost of providing the plan for members and their employees has steadily risen and each year we negotiate for the lowest increase possible with the insurance carrier. Health care is one of the most expensive items on the Province of Ontario's Budget, so it is not surprising that it is also one of the most expensive items on the HBPA of Ontario's budget. In 2009 the HBPA Health and Dental Insurance Plan cost was over \$820,000.

As a result of the inevitable rising costs of health care, the Board of Directors is faced with a dilemma; whether to absorb the entire increase or to pass it along to the participants in the plan. In July 2009, the cost of the Health and Dental Plan increased by 16%. The HBPA of Ontario absorbed half of the proposed increase and the other half was passed along to the participants.

Commencing July 1st, the costs of the Health and Dental plan will rise by 10.2%. Once again the Board of Directors of the HBPA of Ontario has voted to absorb a portion of the proposed increase.

Generic Drug Pricing

The Province of Ontario announced June 7 that it is moving ahead with its plan to provide fairer drug prices and strengthen pharmacy services for all Ontarians effective July 1st, 2010. Manulife Insurance the carrier of the HBPA Health and Benefit Plan for Members anticipates these changes will have a positive impact on the cost of drug plans.

Travel to Cuba

Effective May 1, 2010 all visitors travelling to Cuba will require proof of out-of-country travel health insurance upon landing. If visitors do not hold insurance from an approved carrier/assistance provider at the point of entry into Cuba, they will be required to purchase insurance for the duration of their stay. Plan members are encouraged to carry with them a copy of their Manulife ETA and/or combined Manulife ETA/drug (One) card, along with a letter from Mondial Assistance confirming travel insurance coverage. To access the Mondial Assistance letter please visit: <https://hermes.manulife.com/canada/wmReference.pub.nst/public/gb BB042010cuba>



LOCAL HORSEMEN CHALLENGES FELLOW OWNERS TO SUPPORT THE DAILY BREAD FOOD BANK

Discovery Racing Stable has thrown down the gauntlet in their challenge to raise awareness and support for a very worthy cause, the Daily Bread Food Bank. Despite an upswing in the economy the Daily Bread Food Bank reported a 15% increase in client visits from citing on their website that there were 1,187,000 visits to the GTA food bank from April 2009 to March 2010, the largest one year increase since the 1990s.

Discovery Racing Stable will be donating 10% of their horses winnings to the Daily Bread Food Bank and are hoping that other Thoroughbred race horse owners will match their donation.

In response to the challenge, Woodbine Entertainment and the HBPA of Ontario will be donating \$15,000 to the Daily Bread Bank.

If you are interested in taking up this challenge to feed fellow Torontians please contact the Horsemen's Bookkeeper at Woodbine Race Track.

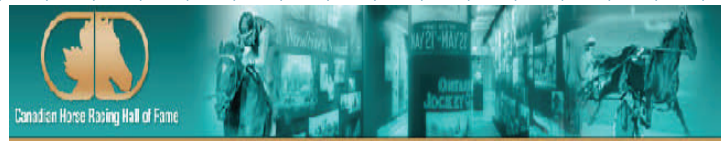


LONGRUN HOSTS A FUNDRAISING BBQ AND HOE DOWN AT WOODBINE— SEPTEMBER 20TH

LongRun Thoroughbred Retirement Society is celebrating their 10th Anniversary with a Fundraising BBQ and Hoedown at Woodbine Race Track in Toronto. The event is presented by the Krembil Foundation and will feature *Zahava* a Shaniah Twain tribute artist, along with line dancing and a DJ. There will be a Silent Auction and all proceeds will benefit LongRun. Tickets for the event are \$56.50 and are on sale now. For further information or to obtain tickets, please contact LongRun at 416-675-3993 ext. 3440 or visit their website – www.longrunretirement.com.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES!

In 2009 the HBPA of Ontario distributed \$1.1 million to Owners of Ontario bred foals who won races. The HBPA will continue to award this bonus but in order to do so we need to know who you are. As a participant in Ontario's Thoroughbred racing industry (as an Owner and/or a Trainer, the HBPA has a mandate to look after your interests. To ensure that you are an HBPA registered member and have access to all the benefits, programs and awards, please complete a Membership Confirmation form available on our website or by contacting one of our offices. We look forward to hearing from you.



CANADIAN HORSE RACING HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES 2010 INDUCTEES

On August 19th at the Mississauga Convention Centre, The Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame honoured the 2010 inductees.

The Thoroughbred class of 2010 is headlined by Belmont Stakes' winner *Victory Gallop*, along with *Lady Angela*, one of the most influential dams in breeding history, and multiple stakes winner *Victorian Era* in the Veterans category. They join Builder *Mel Lawson* and West Coast trainer/jockey *Frank Barroby*. The Standardbred inductees include *Mister Big*, the second richest pacer ever. He is joined in the HOF by the outstanding broodmare *Classic Wish* along with trainer *Robert McIntosh*, builder *Peter Heffering* and *A Worthy Lad* in the Veterans category.

If you are interested in previous inductees you might want to visit the Hall of Fames website—www.canadianhorseracinghalloffame.com

HBPA OF ONTARIO LAUNCHES A NEW WEBSITE

The HBPA of Ontario recently launched a new website featuring important information for Ontario horse people updated on a regular basis. Members can now download application forms directly from the site and will have access to our newsletter, podcasts and event calendar. Please visit www.hbpa.on.ca and let us know what you think as we would be interested in receiving your feedback.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The HBPA of Ontario will hold its Annual General Meeting on Sunday, September 26th @ 11 am in the Munnings Room at Woodbine Race Track. Members planning to attend must show their 2010 Ontario Racing Commission license.

OWNERS' APPRECIATION DAY AT WOODBINE

Owners' Appreciation Day will take place at Woodbine Race Track in the Trackside Tent directly following the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, September 26th. Festivities begin at 12:00 noon and Owners wishing to attend the event should contact the Administrative Office at 416-747-5252 ext 24 or 1-866-779-3067 to obtain tickets.

NEW OPPORTUNITY BRINGS HOPE FOR BIG YEAR

Story and Photo by Stacie Roberts

Now that Ralph Quaranta has a foot in the barn door of prominent owners Firestone Farms, the 58-year-old Fort Erie based trainer is hoping that this new opportunity could be his big break.

Born and raised in Niagara Falls, Ralph was bitten by the horse racing bug in 1982 when he purchased his first racehorse for \$1500 from a local trainer. At the time he was the finance manager for Niagara Falls Nissan and Hyundai and when his horse, Master CR (named after jockey Chris Rogers) won its next race back, Ralph knew he was hooked.

For the next decade Ralph claimed a few more horses and eventually traded in his corporate wear for barn clothes working with his own horses under trainer Anthony Adamo. In 1992 he became Adamo's assistant and his horses, Proud Judge, Classy Devil and Benteer were winning in the afternoon which provided him with the confidence to go out on his own as a trainer in 1996.

Since then Ralph has had his share of successes training horses for his wife of 21-years, Debbie and partners, as well as Woodbine based trainers Audre Cappuccitti, Sandy McPherson and Jim Day along with a four year stint training up to 17 horses for Colebrook Farms under the tutelage of Frank Passero and Norm McKnight.

Today, Ralph has seven horses in his barn at Fort Erie with room for more, space he is hoping will be filled with horses owned by prominent owners like Firestone Farm. Owners Richard Moylan, Greg Avery, Paul Cooper and Dan Ferro, have also entrusted Ralph with their young horses this year and Firestone Farms has recently sent a three-year-old City Zip filly, City Splash, to his neatly groomed barn.

"I'm hoping to have a few more from Firestone Farms," says the well known trainer who mentioned that he is working closely with Hugh Graham and Woodbine trainer David Bell, "Hugh's very knowledgeable and I am hoping that this could materialize into something good."

With more than 400 top three finishes, including 122 winners, Ralph has done well with his charges considering that his horses are rarely sent off as the favourite in each race.

"I've not always had a lot of horses in my barn," says Ralph who is proud of his accomplishments thus far, "This year I have a lot of younger horses which is a change for me. It's exciting because the potential is there that any one of them could become a special horse."



*Trainer Ralph Quaranta & wife Debbie
with Firestone Farm's three-year-old filly,
City Splash*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, September 12th

HBPA Day at the Races, Woodbine Race Track

Sunday, September 26th

Annual General Meeting

Munnings Room, Woodbine Race Track

Sunday, September 26th

Owners' Appreciation Day, Woodbine Race Track

Sunday, October 3rd

HBPA Day at the Races, Fort Erie Race Track

Tuesday, October 5th

Thanksgiving Dinner for Backstretch Workers

Woodbine Race Track

Thursday, October 7th

Thanksgiving Dinner for Backstretch Workers

Fort Erie Race Track

Friday, October 22nd

Fort Erie Dinner and Dance, LeisurePlex in Fort Erie

Saturday, November 13th

Backstretch Appreciation Day, Woodbine Race Track

Sunday, November 21st

Fort Erie Christmas Party, LeisurePlex in Fort Erie

Tuesday, November 24th

Woodbine Christmas Party, Backstretch Kitchen

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE IN WOODBINE STABLE AREA

Woodbine Entertainment, issued the following memo clarifying procedures for medical emergencies in the Woodbine Stable Area, not including the Main Track or Training Track incidents. We are circulating it again just as a reminder for horsemen.

Minor Incidents

Horsemen are individually obligated to adhere to the First Aid Requirements as set forth by the Workplace Safety & Insurance Act under Regulation 1101.

Incidents that are non-life threatening should be handled at the Horsemen's individual discretion. It is the decision of the Trainer (or his/her designate) whether injured staff should be transported to healthcare and by whom (public ambulance or personal vehicle). It is also the Trainer's (designate) decision whether to report the incident to WEG Security (416) 675-3993 ext 2200) in order to enact the services of a Target Responder.

Severe/Critical Injuries— Call 911 Immediately and then call WEG Security

WEG Security will immediately dispatch a Target Responder and on track Ambulance Service (when available and during training/racing hours.)

WEG reminds all Trainers and Tradesmen (employers) of their obligations to Health & Safety standards as set forth in the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE HBPA OF ONTARIO PENSION PLAN

The HBPA of Ontario Pension Plan was established as a result of the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association Business Plan, which was approved by the Ontario Government in 1996. The Plan is funded solely with proceeds from wagering. Members are not permitted to contribute to the Plan they are however required to complete a Record of Employment (ROE) form every year and submit it to the HBPA. These forms assist us in keeping track of each plan Member's service in order to calculate pension benefits. The HBPA must receive completed ROEs by January 31st each year.

Members will soon begin receiving an Annual Statement of Benefits for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. It is particularly important that Members take the time to read the statement when they arrive and the accompanying letter which will detail the years the HBPA of Ontario has not received a Record of Employment form. **Members will be given until December 31, 2010 to submit ROEs, for years they have not previously reported. After this date, ROEs for unreported years will not be accepted.** For further information regarding this policy please contact the Administration Office at 416-747-5252.