

Developments

Industry News • Announcements • People & Events

TOC Racing Club Debuts

The latest in TOC's ongoing efforts to recruit new racehorse owners, the TOC Racing Club, will debut during the Del Mar meet. The Racing Club is designed to mirror actual racehorse ownership, providing prospective owners an opportunity to experience the excitement of owning their own racehorse without the actual financial investment. Racing Club members will experience "the life of an owner," from attending morning workouts and visiting the barn area, to paddock access and the ultimate goal of the winners' circle. Club members will receive simulated monthly training and veterinary bills, giving them as much real-life exposure as possible. The goal of the TOC Racing Club is to open the door and guide the way to becoming a fully licensed California Thoroughbred owner.

The horses "owned" by Racing Club members will be "loaned" by individual TOC board members. No ownership will actually change hands, but participating TOC Directors agree to allow the Racing Club limited and supervised access to the horses – as if they belong to its members.

To cover the basic costs – including website creation and maintenance, administration, and various events – participants will be charged \$300 for a one-year membership.

Marsha Naify Receives "Outstanding Women in Racing" Award

TOC Chair, Marsha Naify, was honored as one of California's Outstanding Women in Racing for 2008 in a luncheon event held in the Director's Room at Santa Anita on April 11th. Sponsored by California Senator Bob Margett and Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, it was the 5th annual celebration to honor distinguished women who have had a significant impact on California horse

racing.

Naify has been a member of the TOC Board since 2005, and Board Chair since 2007. As chair of the Medication & Integrity Committee, she has worked tirelessly to develop recommendations aimed at enhancing the integrity and competitiveness of Thoroughbred auction sales and to improve the overall health of the business. Naify is also a member of the board of directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA), the first woman to serve on that board. A Thoroughbred owner and breeder since 2000, she has campaigned many graded stakes winners, including Dublino, Blackdown, Surf Cat, and Amorama.

Naify's co-honorees were Mary Ellen Locke, CTBA; Patricia Prospero, Golden Gate Fields and Bay Meadows; Laura Rosier, San Luis Rey Downs; Mary Saenz, Santa Anita Park; and Dr. Susan Stover, UC Davis. Each received a framed Legislative Resolution.



Siegels Honored by Gregson Foundation

TOC Vice President, Mace Siegel, and his daughter, Samantha, were honored at an evening gala on Tuesday, April 15, hosted by California Thoroughbred Trainers to benefit the Edwin J. Gregson Foundation. In a program hosted by track announcer, Trevor Denman, the Siegels were "roasted" by guest speakers Pat Day, Billy Koch, and Ron Ellis.

A founding member of TOC, Mace Siegel has been tireless supporter of California racing for more than 30 years.

He shared his love of racing with his wife, Jan, and since her death in 2002, their daughter, Samantha, has played a major role in the stable's operation. The father and daughter renamed their operation Jay Em Ess Stable (for Jan, Mace, and Samantha) in Jan's memory.

Congratulations, Mace and Samantha!

Celebrity Golf Classic at Del Mar

The 7th annual Celebrity Golf Classic benefiting the California Equine Retirement Foundation (CERF) is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 5, at Del Mar Country Club. Returning as honorary host at this year's event is world-famous jockey, Alex Solis. The day includes scramble tournament golf, lunch on the course, on-course contests, an awards dinner, and a silent and live auction with Trevor Denman as master of ceremonies and Jack Van Berg as auctioneer.

All proceeds from the day will go to CERF, dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of retired racehorses. For tickets and information, contact CERF at (951) 926-4190, or at www.cerfhorses.org.

TOC Member Wins "Pick 6" Corvette!

A longtime California owner, Joseph Scardino, not only had the only winning Pick Six ticket at Santa Anita on April 10th, but also won an all new, fully loaded Chevrolet Corvette as part of a promotion Santa Anita conducted throughout its 2007-08 meet. He was one of two lucky on-track patrons selecting the only winning tickets in the Pick Six during the promotion; James Michiel of Duarte was the first to take home a Corvette on March 24th.

Scardino wagered \$1,008 and tabbed the winning ticket worth \$105,208. He noted that the money will come in handy, saying, "Alex Solis Jr. picked out a 2-year-old filly in training at Keeneland, and we just bought her."

Scardino is a retired drywall contractor who lives with his wife of 50 years,



Josephine, in nearby Glendora. An owner for the past 35 years, he has employed Julio Canani as his trainer for a number of years. Scardino has experienced considerable success with his runners, including Silver Circus, winner of the Hollywood and Del Mar derbies, and Bruho, winner of the Bing Crosby and Pat O'Brien handicaps at Del Mar.

CMC Shipping Subsidy Now Available to CA Horsemen

Effective May 1, 2008, the CMC (California Marketing Committee) shipping subsidy program was expanded to include California owners and trainers shipping pre-approved horses to California from out of state. The program was designed primarily to bring new stables to California, and encourage those stables to remain in the state and participate in racing. CMC pays up to \$2,000 of the cost of transport for pre-approved horses to California – paid after the horse starts in California.

In order to qualify for the shipping subsidy, horses must have started outside of California and have recent races or works. The number of 2-year-olds per owner/trainer may be restricted, and maidens or claiming horses will be considered individually. In addition, shipped horses must start in California within 30 days, unless restricted by claiming rules from another state. California horsemen utilizing the subsidy will be restricted to five horses per year per ownership. All horses must be pre-approved prior to shipping to California to qualify for the program.

For further information, contact Gayle Van Leer at (858) 794-6262, or gayle@gaylevanleer.com.

Faster Depreciation for Younger Racehorses Signed into Law

The Farm Bill, which became law in late May, includes a change to the depreciation rules for racehorses. Beginning in 2009, all racehorses can be written off over three years, regardless of age when the horse is acquired and placed in service. Under the current law, a racehorse 24 months or younger when placed in service is depreciated over seven years, and any racehorse older than 24 months is depreciated over three years.

Depreciation begins when a horse is placed in service as a racehorse – normally when the horse begins its training to race. Under the new schedule, 62.5% of the original cost of the horse can be written off by the end of the second year, as compared to only 29.85% under the old schedule. Also, horses may be eligible for expensing in the first year, which would mean an even higher percentage is written off by the time the horse becomes a 3-year-old. Expensing is taken before depreciation deductions are taken.

The new depreciation schedule is effective January 1, 2009.

Ali LaDuke Joins TOC Staff

The newest addition to the TOC staff, Alison LaDuke, came on board in March, 2008. She joined TOC after graduating with a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Arizona's Race Track Industry Program. A sixth generation Californian, she considers the state's horse racing the best there is!



As project coordinator, Ali rounds out the staffing at the Southern California offices, providing project assistance to the president and other executive staff members and customer service to members, overseeing the membership database, and generally helping keep our very busy offices ship-

shape! She also serves as staff liaison for TOC's Owner Relations Committee. Stop by and introduce yourself during live racing at Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, or Del Mar.

AHC 2008 Horse Industry Directory Available

The American Horse Council's 2008 Horse Industry Directory, a comprehensive national directory of breed and sport organizations, equine publications, state resources, and racing and gaming organizations, is now available for purchase. This year's directory contains 1,000 listings – including 714 equine publications, 345 state agricultural resources, and 166 breed registries and associations.

The publication costs \$25, and can be ordered online at www.horsecouncil.org, or by phone at (202) 296-4031.

In Memoriam

Harry J. Aleo

December 7, 1919 – June 21, 2008



A native and lifelong resident of San Francisco, Harry's support of Northern California Thoroughbred racing, for more than 30 years, provided joy for thousands of local fans. A veteran of World War II, a true gentleman, and a man of integrity, Harry's lifelong love was horse racing. He was a credit to the sport, and he will be dearly missed.

"They don't make people like Harry Aleo anymore, but why would you want to? He was one of a kind."

– Greg Gilchrist.

Harry requested memorial donations be made to GEVA Equine Retirement Horse Foundation, P.O. Box 2101, Glen Ellen, CA 95442.