

VOTE DANCER FOR NEW JERSEY HALL OF FAME

Harness racing Hall of Famer Stanley Dancer is competing for a spot in the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

Voting ends on June 7, 2015.

Dancer is a nominee in the sports category.

The Hall of Fame was created to “honor New Jerseyans who have made invaluable contributions.”

Dancer, one of the premier harness drivers and trainers in North America, passed away on September 9, 2005 at the age of 78. He grew up on the family farm in New Egypt, NJ and converted it into a showcase training center called Egyptian Acres. He campaigned many of the sports greats on his way to induction into the harness racing Hall of Fame in 1969.



Stanley Dancer



Stanley Dancer and Nevele Pride on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*.

Dancer earned \$1 million in purses in 1964, becoming the first driver to win that much in a single year, and drove Cardigan Bay, the first standardbred horse to win \$1 million in career prize money. He campaigned four Hambletonian winners.

His 3,781st and final winner came in 1995, bringing his earnings as a driver to more than \$28 million.

Dancer trained and driven horses won the Triple Crown three times: trotters Nevele Pride in 1968 and Super Bowl in 1972, and with Most Happy Fella in 1970.

He trained and drove the harness Horse of the Year seven times: trotters Su Mac Lad in 1962 and Nevele Pride in 1967 through 1969, and pacers Albatross in 1971 and 1972 and Keystone Ore in 1976.

Cast your vote for Stanley Dancer online: www.njhalloffame.org/2015-nominees

From the Desk of President Tom Luchento

Once upon a time, the SBOANJ was engaged in the responsibility of negotiating contracts and presenting trophies.

While we still are called upon now and then to perform those duties, our role has grown as our industry has shrunk.

Not many of the members we represent understand what our small staff tackles on their behalf.

The scope of tasks includes dealing with the problems of individual horsemen, mediating issues with the racing secretary and developing racing programs that support our New Jersey people without being exclusionary.

We administer the health, welfare and pension programs, attempting to balance the needs of the membership with the requirements of participation for eligibility. We have held the line on rates for more than a decade. Anyone who has priced health insurance knows what a monumental task this has been.

Through Harness Horsemen International, we offer third party liability insurance and the SBOANJ provides race bike insurance for members.

Nearly every day we are in Trenton, meeting with legislators, or on the phone with them, to urge their support of initiatives that will help our racing and breeding programs, and position us to be part of the future of North Jersey gaming. Toward that end, we are raising and distributing TrotPAC funds to support the candidates who support us.

We also donate to horse causes, including the Standard-

bred Retirement Foundation, Standardbred Pleasure Horse Organization, Harness Horse Youth Foundation, the Harness Racing Museum and our Benevolent Fund, which comes to the aid of down-in-their-luck horsemen. When help is needed, we are there to intervene on behalf of the horses and the horsemen of New Jersey.

The directors on our Board are not mere window dressing. They work hard on committees to organize fundraisers like the golf outing and support our scholarship program which benefits the children of our industry.

Contributions to our political action committee, TrotPAC, have never been more important as we head into what should be a referendum in November to expand gaming into North Jersey. We need to push this to the finish line so we can resurrect the great racing tradition of New Jersey with funding for our purses and our breeding programs.

Some of our farms are breeding for the future, eyeing what could be a very lucrative sire stakes program before the end of this decade.

It has been 54 years since Anthony Abbatiello and the other men and women who founded the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association gathered to form this organization. From humble beginnings, they watched the industry soar in this state with the opening of the Meadowlands in 1976.

There is no reason we cannot experience another renaissance in New Jersey racing. We can only promise that we will keep working to try to achieve this goal.

STANDARD BRED BREEDERS & OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

64 Business Route 33, Manalapan, NJ 07726 **Phone:** 732-462-2357 **Fax:** 732-409-0741

Email: info@sboanj.com **Website:** www.sboanj.com

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Linda Goss

Meadowlands 201-842-5075

Freehold 732-252-2323

Ext 4365

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

AJ Sabath

LEGAL COUNSEL

Dennis Dowd

PACESETTER EDITOR

Carol Hodes

carolsboanj@gmail.com

IMPORTANT

PHONE NUMBERS

New Jersey Sire Stakes

609-292-8830

Harness Horsemen

International

609-747-1000

License/Fingerprint

NJ Racing Commission

Trenton—609-292-0613

Freehold — 732-462-3800

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FAIR WINDS TO HOST 2ND OPEN HOUSE ON JUNE 28



June is the Month of the Horse in New Jersey and for the second straight year Fair Winds Farm will showcase the standardbred breed with an open house on Sunday, June 28, 2015.

The Fair Winds Open House, which drew hundreds of visitors last year, will feature programs that included presentations by the Rutgers Equine Science Center, Future Farmers of America, the 4-H, Harness Horse Youth Foundation, and demonstrations by riders from the Standardbred Pleasure Horse Organization and farrier Tom Mulryne shoeing horses.

There will be a meet and greet with retired trotter Indy and other friendly horses along with rides around the farm on a horse drawn wagon,

Equine surgeon Dr. Patty Hogan will provide guided tours of her clinic on the grounds of Fair Winds.

Driver-trainer Jacqueline Ingrassia will demonstrate harnessing a horse for the races.

This celebration of horses in New Jersey is free and runs from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Food will be available for purchase.

Guests are asked to leave dogs at home and wear sensible footwear. The event is rain or shine.

Fair Winds Farm, a 600-acre equine boarding and breeding facility, is located at 74 Red Valley Road in Cream Ridge, NJ. For directions, visit the farm's website, fwfnj.com.

Month of the Horse activities also include two appearances by retired race horse Independent Act, aka Indy, and his owner, Suzanne D'Ambrose, at area libraries.

Indy and his mustang friend, DeFazio [handled by Kate Vogel], will be at the Howell Township Library on Wednesday, June 3 at 4:45 p.m. Indy and his 24-year-old standardbred friend, Ozzy (Osborne's Shy Cam) will be at the Monmouth County Library in Shrewsbury on Wednesday, June 24 at 11 a.m. Ozzy was adopted by Terry Keynton through the Standardbred Retirement Foundation. Indy & Ozzy share a field at Whispering Winds Equestrian in Howell Township.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE HORSES & FARMS GONE?

After signing the law to officially designate the horse as New Jersey's state animal in 1977, Governor Brendan Byrne said: "The founding fathers of our state thought so highly of the horse that they included it in our state seal. Today there are 4,654 horse farms in New Jersey, of which 888 raise racing horses. The horse industry makes a contribution to the preservation of Green Acres at a time when great demands are being made for the preservation of our land."

2015 GOLF OUTING SET FOR JULY 13



The annual golf outing to benefit New Jersey horsemen will take place this year on Monday, July 13, 2015.

The Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey's fundraiser will once again take place at Gambler Ridge Golf Course in Cream Ridge, NJ, featuring a round of golf, a prime rib dinner and chances for door prizes, silent auction items and a 50-50.

The fee is \$180 per golfer. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m., preceded by registration, starting at 11:30 a.m., and buffet lunch. Dinner is at 6 p.m. and is available to non-golfers for \$75.

The money raised through the golf tournament supports the SBOANJ Horsemen's Benevolent Fund and TrotPAC.

The Benevolent Fund has assisted struggling New Jersey horsemen with funeral expenses, rent, medical and other essentials.

Sponsorship opportunities are available, ranging from a golf hole sponsorship at \$250; putting, longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contest sponsorships at \$300 each; drink cart and lunch sponsorships at \$500 each and dinner and hole-in-one sponsorships at \$750 each.

Additionally, there are four levels of playing packages: \$2,000 **Platinum Sponsor** [eight rounds of golf, hole sponsorship with name on cover and full page ad on inside front cover of the program], \$1,500 **Gold** [four rounds of golf, hole sponsorship and full page ad on inside front or back cover of the program], \$1,000 **Silver** [four rounds of golf and full page ad in program] and \$500 **Bronze** [two rounds of golf and half page ad in program].

For more information, contact Leo McNamara or Polly Hartzell at the SBOANJ office at 732-462-2357.

2YO TRAINING OFFERED ON THURSDAYS IN MAY

Two-year-olds will be able to train over the Meadowlands track on Thursday mornings in May.

There is a charge of \$1,000 for an unlimited number of two-year-olds or \$50 per horse. All payments will be added to the Meadowlands purse account after expenses.

The list of horses training must be submitted to the Meadowlands Race Office by Tuesday of the week of Thursday training, through the end of May.

The Meadowlands is also moving qualifiers to Friday, May 1 at 9:30 a.m. but will return to Saturdays the following week.

APPLICATIONS FOR HHYF CAMP IN NJ DUE MAY 15



Applications for the Harness Horse Youth Foundation summer program at Gaitway Farms are due by May 15, 2015.

The "day" camp will take place on July 27 to July 31, 2015 at Gaitway in English-town, NJ, and is open to applicants ages 12 to 14. The \$150 registration fee includes meals and the camp program.

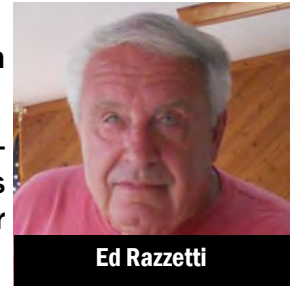
For further information, contact Ellen Taylor at ellen@hhyf.org or visit www.hhyf.org.

SBOANJ BIDS FAREWELL TO VP ED RAZZETTI

Edward R. Razzetti [October 9, 1935 – April 5, 2015], first vice president of the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey and a board member for nearly three decades, passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2015.

Razzetti, 79, of Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, formerly of East Rutherford, was born in Passaic to Edward and Florence Razzetti

“Ed was one of the finest men I ever knew,” said SBOANJ President Tom Lu-chento. “He always provided good counsel to me and to the SBOANJ. He was my right hand man. I will miss him dearly. All of us at the SBOANJ send our condolences to his family.”



An Army veteran, he was the owner of Fairmount Car and Truck Leasing in Hackensack for 50 years.

Edward was a devoted horse owner and breeder for many years, racing horses at various tracks, including the Meadowlands. The longest serving member of the SBOANJ, he was also an active member of the United States Trotting Association.

The beloved husband of Joanne (nee Meyer) Razzetti, he was the devoted father of James Razzetti of New York City, and Jill Bovino and her husband, Dean, of Saddle River. Loving grandfather of Connor and Devin.

Funeral arrangements by Costa Memorial Home, Boulevard and Central Avenue, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ. Memorial contributions may be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

The SBOANJ Board of Directors will greatly miss the wisdom and kindness of Eddie Razzetti.

DEADLINE JUNE 15 FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey and the Backstretch Community Assistance Program will once again offer college scholarships in 2015 to the sons and daughters of New Jersey horsemen.

The deadline for applications is June 15, 2015.



Scholarships, valued at a total distribution of \$7,500, are for qualified students who plan to attend a two or four-year college or university, who are the son or daughter of a full-time participant in New Jersey harness racing or are themselves a full-time participant in New Jersey harness racing. Only one candidate per household will be considered, and there is a lifetime cap of \$10,000 per individual.

The applicant must have taken either the SAT or ACT test, be accepted to or attend a college or university and fill out the SBOANJ's Scholarship Award application. Financial need, student involvement in community work, extracurricular academic activities, evidence of strong character and leadership and interest in the equine industry will all be considered.

Applications and requirements are available on the SBOANJ website – www.sboanj.com – or at Freehold and the Meadowlands [see Horsemen's Rep Linda Goss], the Backstretch Community Assistance Program offices at the Meadowlands and Showplace Farms [see Dr. Chris Samaha] and the SBOANJ office at 64 Business Route 33, Manalapan, NJ 07726.

PACING STALLION BREEDING INCENTIVE ANNOUNCED

Rebates are not only for new cars

The Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey, acting on a recommendation of its Breeders Committee, has announced a rebate program of up to \$100,000 for 2015 breeding fees for pacing stallions standing in the State of New Jersey

The New Jersey Pacing Stallion Breeding Incentive offers a rebate of the full advertised stallion fee [up to \$2,500 maximum] for New Jersey resident mares and 50 percent of the stallion fee [up to a \$1,250 maximum] for non-resident mares.



Lis Mara

“Essentially, this will result in a heavily subsidized breeding with the strong likelihood that when the resulting foals reach the races, New Jersey will have a much improved purse structure,” said Michael Gulotta, chairman of the SBOANJ Breeders Committee. “With expectations growing for a positive environment for racing in the next couple of years, these foals could very well be highly valuable assets.”

The rebate will coincide with the stud fee payment.

A requirement for participation includes the nomination of the resulting foals as well as two-year-old sustaining payments for the New Jersey Sire Stakes program. The New Jersey Sire Stakes payments will be deducted from the rebate. Additionally, to be eligible, stallions must be enrolled in the USTA’s STARS program.

“We want to incentivize breeders who have not as yet bred their broodmares this year to consider New Jersey’s pacing stallions,” said SBOANJ President Tom Luchento. “With the number of pacing mares booked so far in 2015, we foresee a limited number of two-year-old pacers competing in the New Jersey Sire Stakes in 2018. This is a pilot program for 2015, but if it proves successful, our Breeders Committee will review the possibility of renewing it.”



Great Vintage [Photo by Lisa Photo Inc.]

Eligible stallions are Great Vintage and Hurrikane King Cole, who are standing at Walnridge Farm; If I Can Dream and Lis Mara, who are at Deo Volente Farm, and Philos Hanover at Last Cance Farm.

Support New Jersey racing with your donations to TROPac

ON THE ROAD WITH PETE & JASON

Don't be surprised if Meadowlands CEO & General Manager Jason Settlemoir and Director of Racing & Racing Secretary Peter Koch show up at your barn this spring.



Peter Koch and Jason Settlemoir were scouting racehorses when they posed with Tom Cancelliere's Clydesdale at Magical Acres. Contrary to some opinions, the Clydesdale was not tapped to fill a race or two.

Settlemoir took a break from his travels to share some answers to questions from the **Pacesetter** about visiting training centers, bringing people and owners back to the business and the state of racing:

Pete Koch, Brice Cote and I have been going to the farms for the past month in Central New Jersey. Nick Salvi joined us this past week. We have visited Gaitway Farm, Showplace Farm, White Birch, and Magical Acres. so far. We plan on visiting the majority of them here in New Jersey and will continue doing so for the foreseeable future. It is nice to get out of the office for the morning and see all the horses and horsemen/women. I enjoy it!

Getting out there and letting the horsemen know we as track management want to hear their feedback whether it be good or bad is a good thing. The relationship between horsemen and track management has to be a team effort in my mind. These visits help foster better working relationships between both sides. Yes, some of the suggestions have been immediately acted upon by our race office and others are being given strong consideration for now and in the future.

I am most pleased by the openness the horsemen feel in discussing the many issues that keep people from racing here in New Jersey. There are many more obstacles than just conditions and purses. For example, the health insurance and pension plans that other states are able to provide their horsemen.

We have done many things outside of the box here at the Meadowlands from conditions of races offered, and we have used some pretty unique ideas to move forward with what we have. We make do! Am I happy with the direction the sport is headed? No! The abundance of racing in the region at this time of year and the number of races everyone tries to put on does not make any long term sense for our sport. Everyone is short of horses right now, and I don't necessarily think the problem is going to be corrected anytime soon. A horse shortage, as I predicted five years ago, is just now coming at us like a runaway train. It's basic math! Everyone will have to cut back on the number of race dates, number of races; we might even lose some tracks. We know the problem and we need to act quickly to try and fix the problem or everyone will be fielding five and six horse overnight races and that makes the product everyone is trying to sell to our customers unappealing.

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Jim Doherty

FAREWELL TO GENTLEMEN JIM

Harness racing lost one of its greats, Hall of Fame driver-trainer James Francis Doherty of Clifton, NJ, on March 14, 2015.

Born in Saint John, New Brunswick on September 27, 1940, Doherty raced in the Maritimes and New England before relocating to the newly opened Meadowlands in 1976 and ranked among its top horsemen for nearly four decades.

Elected to the New England Harness Writers Hall of Fame, Saint John Sports Hall of Fame and New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame in Canada, he was voted into the United States Harness Racing Hall of Fame in Goshen, NY in 2002.

In 2002, Doherty received the Glen Garnsey Memorial Trainer of the Year Award from the US Harness Writers Association. The New Jersey Sports Writers Association honored him as Harness Racing Man of the Year in 2007.

He was known as "Gentleman Jim" for his honesty, integrity and consideration of others. Funeral Services were held on Friday, March 20, 2015 from the Bizub-Quinlan Funeral Home, Clifton. Doherty is survived by his wife, Marianne (Cinek) Doherty, and sons James III and Michael; grandchildren Christopher, Laura, Jamie, Cadence and Clancy as well as a brother and five sisters.

ON THE ROAD WITH PETE & JASON—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

I have said it for as long as I can remember we did this backwards. For example, an owner buys a horse for \$30,000 and then has another \$ 25,000 to \$ 30,000 in training and staking payments before the horse even hits the track. Then they qualify and hit the track in a NW of 1 that goes for \$8,000 while claimers race for a purse equal to their claiming price. For example, a \$15,000 claimer has been seen to race for a purse of \$15,000. How much sense does that make for someone who wants to get in the business and buy the dream of yearlings? Not much. They are better off from a pure ROI [return on investment] standpoint to buy or claim racehorses. That does nothing to help the breeding business. It makes no sense to me and that is part of the problem that's been hurting the breeding business. We are making changes to our purse structure here at the Meadowlands to address this problem. We are trying to increase purses for those NW1, NW2, and NW3 races for "green horses", and also coming up with a mini series for them with a small entry fee. The problem for us at the Meadowlands is obviously the money; we depend on racing revenue only. What we increase here has to come from somewhere. It is a delicate balancing act that Pete Koch does on a daily basis. A healthy harness racing business starts in the breeding sheds and then all other parts fall in line from a horse shortage standpoint.

I do agree that many people took a hammering after the near collapse of our economic system when the stock market plunged and the housing crisis hit. I like the idea of going to Wall Street and offering seminars on how to get into harness racing. I also like the fractional ownership programs. We should have been exploring these types of ideas years ago, so we have a lot of work ahead of us as we try to play catch up. We should be working with any organization that helps our sport move forward including those benefits that come from the American Horse Council. On the downside many horsemen and women still talk about drugs and drug trainers in our sport. If we are going to attract new owners of our horses we have to clean up the sport on the inside. I think some people like racing with us because we actually try at our three properties (Meadowlands, Tioga and Vernon) to put on a clean product and others steer clear of us as well. It's a double edge sword!