

Thoroughbred Racing Association of Oklahoma

1 Remington Place

Oklahoma City, OK 73111

Office: 405-427-8753 Fax: 405-427-7099

"Horsemen Helping Horsemen"

www.traoracing.com

APRIL 2014

Randy Blair

TRAO BOARD MEMBER OF THE MONTH

I have been involved with horses my whole life. I raised horses with my father and showed as a youth in Creston, Iowa. Horses have been a family affair with my daughters training and showing horses and now include my grandchildren. Amber chose a career as a race horse trainer which has given me a good understanding of the race horse industry and the needs of the industry from breeding to sales to racing.



My wife, Annie and I moved to Oklahoma in 1977 to manage a breeding farm near Fort Gibson, OK. The last 11 years I have managed Mighty Acres, one of the leading breeding farms in the state of Oklahoma, being involved with the breeding and the raising of a Breeders Cup Winner and several Oklahoma Classics Winners. I am a former board member of the OTA and was appointed to the Breeders Advisory Committee

when OTA merged with TRAO. I believe in and support the Oklahoma Bred Program and I am proud of the strides that have been made to better the industry through this program. I will continue to work to improve racing and quality of Thoroughbred Breeding Stock in the state.

TRAO 3rd Annual Awards Banquet and Silent Auction

The third annual Thoroughbred Champion Awards Banquet and Auction will be held Friday, May 9th, 2014 at the **Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel and Casino** located at **777 West Cherokee St. Catoosa, OK 74015**.

Hosted by the TRAO, we will be honoring Oklahoma Bred Champions of 2013 and the Oklahoma Thoroughbred Industry. Cocktails begin at 7 P.M. in the Sky Room on the 18th floor.

Invitations have been sent out. If you did not receive one, please email Mmayfield@traoracing.com

STALLION STAKES UPDATE BREEDING SEASON OF 2014 FOALS OF 2015

The Oklahoma Stallion Stakes, Breeding season of 2014, nomination forms have been mailed out. Please keep an eye open for this form!

If you did not receive one, you can obtain a copy on our website at traoracing.com, or call the TRAO office at (405) 427-8753. The deadline nominate your stallion must be postmarked no later than June 30th, 2014.

REMEMBER: All progeny of the nominated stallions for the breeding season of 2014 will be eligible, with no nomination fee.

SPORT OF KINGS

Sport of Kings will be held at Remington Park on the 21st and 22nd of June!

It is a horse event to honor the second careers of RETIRED RACEHORSES.

Event Judges will be Maggi Moss and Stuart Pittman.

Events include English/Western Flat Classes, Barrel Racing Futurity, Dressage, and Jumping.

For more information contact Lynn Sullivan at lynn@thoroughbredathletes.com or (405) 802-1312

DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOR THE TRAO SCHOLARSHIP!!

Contact Tammy Wright for more information at (405) 427-8753 or by email at twright@traoracing.com

REMINDER OF THE NEW SIMULCAST BUILDING AT WILL ROGERS DOWNS

This facility is for Owners, Trainers, Grooms, and other interested persons stabled at Will Rogers Downs. This building is used STRICTLY for simulcast viewing. *Remember: this is your building. TAKE CARE OF IT.*

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

*There will be **NO** alcoholic beverages or alcohol consumption allowed on the backside at Will Rogers Downs race track. This is an absolute*

ZERO TOLERANCE policy, effective immediately.

TRAO OFFICE IS MOVING!!!!

The TRAO is pleased to announce the opening of our new office building on the backside of Remington Park!

The new building will be open and ready for regular business traffic on or before the first week of April.

"We look forward to being able to serve the horseman even more quickly and effectively with this new building," says Danielle Barber, Executive Director of the TRAO.

"We wish to extend our gratitude to everyone who has helped make the opening of the new building a quick success, and we are very eager to move in," says Tammy Wright, Administrative Assistant to the TRAO.

The TRAO's new address is 1 Remington Place, Oklahoma City OK 73111.

Investment Incentives Reinstated and Increased for 2013

As part of the American Taxpayer Relief Act, Congress reinstated and improved certain business investment incentives that can benefit those in the Thoroughbred industry.

1. 50% BONUS DEPRECIATION – Substantial write-offs on new property!

- For new property purchases; the original use of the property must commence with the taxpayer
- Examples of qualifying property can include yearlings and new tractors/farm equipment
- Qualifying property must be purchased and placed in service before 1/1/2014
- The full 50% bonus depreciation write-off is allowed regardless of when during 2013 the qualifying property is purchased and placed in service
- Can be used in conjunction with the expense allowance

2. \$500,000 EXPENSE ALLOWANCE – Write off up to \$500,000 in new or used property!

- To qualify, property may be new or used
- Qualifying property must be purchased and placed in service before 1/1/2014
- Can only be used to reduce taxable income derived from the horse business or any other business from which taxpayer has income, including salaries
- The expense allowance is reduced dollar for dollar once qualified investments exceed \$2 million
- Can be used in conjunction with bonus depreciation

Additional information

- The expense allowance and bonus depreciation can be used together – they are not mutually exclusive
- How do the benefits apply to bloodstock purchases?
 - Yearlings – bonus depreciation and expense allowance
 - Two-year-olds in training – possibly both (consult your tax advisor)
 - Pregnant broodmares – expense allowance
 - Barren broodmares – possibly expense allowance (consult your tax advisor)
 - Weanlings – neither because too young to be “placed in service” in horse business
- How do the benefits apply for farm equipment and other essentials?
 - New tractors or other heavy farm equipment and new farm facilities (barns, sheds, fences and associated construction costs) – combine benefits
 - Used tractors or other heavy farm equipment – expense allowance

Don't forget about accelerated depreciation!

Through 2013, taxpayers will be able to depreciate all racehorses on a 3-year schedule. During this time, taxpayers may use the accelerated depreciation schedule on any remaining balance that is not written off when taking the tax benefits described above. This information is provided by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association as a courtesy to the racing industry. For more information, please consult your tax advisor or visit www.IRS.gov.

<http://ntra.com/en/legislative/tax-center/2013/02/07/2013-investment-incentive-summary/>

TRAINER PREP CLASSES SCHEDULED

Do you have aspiring trainers looking for a leg up to pass the Trainer's Exam Test?

Dr. Reid McLellan has classes scheduled around the country.

CLASS DATES

April 2, 3, 4 Lone Star Park, TX
April 15-18, Gulfstream Park, FL

Contact Reid as reid@purplepowerracing.com
Website: Purplepowerracing.com

March/April issue of Southern Racehorse now online

The March/April issue of *Southern Racehorse* magazine is now available online at southernracehorse.com.

This issue features extensive coverage of the Run for the Roses with a look at the Georgia artist who painted the official Kentucky Derby poster, a preview of some of the horses from around the region aiming for Louisville, the story of Great Redeemer's improbable start in the 1979 Derby against Spectacular Bid and news about the Mine That Bird movie "50 to 1." Other features in this issue include an article on how racing partnerships have changed over the years and how genetic testing can help predict future success on the track and in the breeding shed. As always, the issue also includes stakes recaps, stallion news and important updates for members of the Texas, Oklahoma, Georgia and South Carolina associations.

If you are not a subscriber or a member of the Texas, Oklahoma, Georgia or South Carolina associations, you can get a full year of the magazine (six issues plus the Stallion Register) for only \$39 at www.southernracehorse.com/subscribe.

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NATIONAL HBPA OWNERS & TRAINERS LIABILITY PROGRAM

This program has been designed to protect your assets in the event that you are liable for bodily injury or damage to property arising from your equine activities (including breeding, racing, sales, and training).

We have a new insurance policy as of November 1st, 2010-StarNet, they are "A+" rated by Best & Company.

- November 1st, 2012-November 1st, 2013
- The rate is \$90.00 per horse (3 or more) subject to \$180.00 minimum premium (1-2 horses) on an annual basis.
- After May 1st to November 1st—2013
- The rate is \$50.00 per horse subject to a \$100.00 minimum premium

You must include ALL owned or trained horses in your calculation unless approved otherwise by Stone Lane, LLC.

Please visit Lavin Insurance Website for the correct application.

For more information, please direct all inquiries to Jennifer at Lavin Insurance at 1-800-446-3112

NTRA Top Thoroughbred Poll - March 24, 2014

Week three of the 2014 NTRA Top Thoroughbred Poll conducted by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association (NTRA), covering racing performances through March 23. Current Horse of the Year ranking of the Top Thoroughbred on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-1 basis with first place votes in parentheses, 2014 record and total points. Poll Concludes Monday, Nov. 3. A-S: Age-Sex, Sex: C-colt, G-gelding, H-horse, F-filly, M-mare, R-ridgling.

	HORSE	A-S	STATS	PTS	PVS
1	Game On Dude (23)	7-G	2-1-0-0	463	1
2	Will Take Charge (3)	4-C	2-0-2-0	404	2
3	Lea (4)	5-H	2-2-0-0	347	3
4	Wise Dan (19)	7-G	0-0-0-0	328	4
5	Mucho Macho Man	6-H	2-1-0-0	278	5
6	Palace Malice (1)	4-C	1-1-0-0	253	6
7	Sahara Sky	6-H	2-1-0-0	158	7
8	Winning Prize	5-H	2-2-0-0	133	8
9	Beholder	4-F	1-1-0-0	95	9
10	Close Hatches	4-F	1-1-0-0	50	10

<http://www.ntra.com/en/news-media/press-releases/2014/3/24/ntra-top-thoroughbred-poll-march-24-2014/#sthash.INJZV51f.dpuf>

FEDERAL BILL WOULD BAN INTERNET GAMBLING

Blood-Horse

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Two Republican members of Congress have introduced legislation that would ban Internet gambling by restoring the original interpretation of the federal Wire Act.

Sens. Lindsay Graham of South Carolina and Jason Chaffetz of Utah sponsored the bill, which would not impact online pari-mutuel wagering. The industry's activities are legal under the Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978 and were reinforced under the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006.

The National Thoroughbred Racing Association said its lobbying team was successful in securing inclusion of the pari-mutuel horse racing language in the latest bill.

The measure has bipartisan support in Congress. It targets an interpretation by the United States Department of Justice that allowed Internet gambling to expand. A few states have legalized online casino gambling in attempt to generate revenue; some lawmakers oppose the measure because of states' rights issues.

The bill was pushed by casino operator Sheldon Adelson, who opposes an expansion of casino gambling through the Internet.

"The (Department of Justice) opened the door for massive change in policy without significant public input," Chaffetz said in a release. "These fundamental changes need to go through Congress. By restoring the original interpretation of the Wire Act, we are putting the genie back in the bottle and allowing for an open debate to take place."