

June 16, 2014

Jeb Hannum to Depart as Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association

The Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA) announced today that Executive Secretary John “Jeb” Hannum will step down from his position with the PHBA in September. Mr. Hannum, who has served in the position for three years, informed the Board that his family is moving to the Washington, DC area later this summer and that he will work with the Board on the transition.

“It has been a great pleasure to work with the PHBA Board over the last three years. I have loved every minute of the job,” said Hannum. “The PA Breeding Program is one of the best in the country and it has been very rewarding to oversee and promote the program. We have worked hard to make the case that a vibrant racing program contributes to the state’s agricultural economy and continued efforts to promote the program will be important.”

Hannum, with the support of the PHBA Board, increased the marketing of the Pennsylvania Breeding Program to attract new breeders to the state and address competition from New York and Maryland. Hannum and the PHBA have worked to ensure the success of the breeding program with the state’s two thoroughbred horsemen’s organizations – the Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen’s Association (PTHA), which represents horsemen at Parx Racetrack in Bensalem, and the Pennsylvania Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA), which represents horsemen at both Penn National in Grantville and Presque Isle Downs in Erie.

“The PTHA and HBPA have shown significant support for the PA-Bred program,” continued Hannum. “They have been instrumental in helping us grow the restricted race program to over 500 races this year and helped to maintain the Owner Bonuses. With their support the program is on a solid ground to continue to grow.

The Board has formed a search committee and will be interviewing candidates over the summer. Dr. Dale Schilling, Chair of the Committee, stated that the PHBA will accept resumes up to July 18th and will then interview candidates during early August with the hope to appoint a new Executive Secretary before Pennsylvania's Day at the Races on September 6th.

“This is a great opportunity for an individual to help the program grow while interacting with the Horsemen, the tracks, and the Racing Commission,” stated Dr. Schilling. “Jeb has done a great job for us and we appreciate that he will help with the transition to a new Executive Secretary.”

Information concerning the position can be found on the PHBA website: www.pabred.com.

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