

December 2015
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:**
Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:**
Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:**
April 30 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile report:**
Oct. 15 prior to year foaling or
within 15 days of arrival in state

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- Racing and breeding news
- PA-Bred entries/results
- Rules, regulations, forms

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Dedication to family and horses a winning combination for Stites

By Barbara Luna

Twenty years ago quality time with his family meant Flint Stites loading his five young sons into his Ford Ranger every Saturday. Joined by his wife Chris, Stites, then a veterinarian, would make his rounds to Virginia's horse farms.

"It was the only way we'd see each other," said Chris, who met Stites on a blind date set up by a friend. "I met him after he started his own practice. He had a difficult time finding associates who didn't want to move on after a year, but he would never turn down a client who had a horse that was ill or injured, and often didn't care what was owed him as long as the horses were okay."

Stites grew up in Kentucky attending prep school and high school before heading to Tennessee where he graduated from the University of Tennessee's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1984. "After graduation I started working at Woodside Equine near Doswell, Virginia," said Stites. "When I went out on my own I'd go for days on end without seeing my family." On the side he usually kept a few horses in training.

Owner Robert Bause, who has owned horses in partnership with Stites for 25 years, met him as he was juggling both training and his veterinary practice. "Soon after I met Flint he told me he felt he wasn't doing justice to either his veterinary practice or his racehorses and decided he'd rather train," said Bause. "At the time Flint was leasing the training track at Meadow Farm in Doswell."

In 1994 Stites made a life-changing decision to give up his equine practice to train racehorses fulltime. Looking for a central location where he'd have access to other Mid-Atlantic tracks and the ability to spend more time with his family, he chose Penn National in Grantville, Pa. His sons and Chris are an integral part of his racing stable

which fills 46 stalls in Barn 5 on the Penn National backstretch.

Together they reached a milestone 1,700 wins on Oct. 9 with Charles McGill's Blissful Miss and finished out the month with five more victories—the last on Oct. 31 with Chris' own first-time starter, Cherokee Cowboy.

"I never thought I'd reach that number," said Stites, who is the fourth leading trainer at the meet and remains among the top 10 every year. "For a long time we would win 90 to 100 races a year but when the slot machine revenue came in and purses increased the competition got a lot tougher." The Stiteses were up to the task, and slots or not, he has accumulated over \$200,000 in breeder and stallion awards the last four years, according to the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders website.

Bause, who is retired from American Tobacco, met Stites outside of Richmond, Va. "I was in the tobacco business most of my life and got transferred to Richmond from Lexington, Kentucky. I had always wanted to get involved in horseracing and at that time all of the big tobacco farms in Kentucky also had racehorses. I learned a lot about horses from owners and breeders out there."

Bause was attending a tobacco sale when he met former Governor Brereton Jones, longtime Thoroughbred breeder and owner of Airdrie Stud. "He advised me that when I was ready, I should find a trainer who was willing to be partners in the horses with me."

In 1991, Virginia held its first pari-mutuel race at Morven Park. With the anticipated opening of Colonial Downs in 1997, Bause saw a chance to get involved in the state's breeding program and purchased two shares of the stallion Fred Astaire,

who stood in Charlottesville. "I was soon looking for a trainer. Flint is a first class guy, runs a great family operation, and his horses and their care have always been a priority. I can't say enough good about him."

When Stites decided to move to Pennsylvania and train from Penn National, Bause was there alongside of him. "I said 'you are my man' and we've been 50-50 partners ever since. I do try to stay in the background—you won't see my name in the program. All I asked is that we run under the name of Wild Card Stable, with blue and red colors since Flint is an old Kentucky boy and I attended the University of Louisville. Blue is for the Kentucky Wildcats and red for the Louisville Cardinals. All Flint asked for was checks on the sleeves of our silks."

Bause recalls the best horse he had with Stites—a filly named Favorite Wish. "She had tailed off a bit so we sent her to the Camptown Races, an annual fair meet in Ashland," he said. "After that Flint put her in a race at Penn. He never told me about entering her, it was kind of a last minute thing and she went off at 51-1. I never had a nickel on her that day and she went on to win a lot of races for us the next four years before she was claimed. We have had a lot of good horses and a lot of fun over the years."

"Beverly and Bob Bause are like family, they've been with us for so long," said Chris, who along with her husband took a rare

weekend away from the track and farm to attend the Breeders' Cup in Lexington with the Bauses.

Owners Stephen G. and Debbie Jackson are also longtime clients and friends of Stites. Their 2-year-old Artie Thriller broke his maiden versus special weight company at Presque Isle Downs on Sept. 7 and is one of the youngsters in the barn that Stites expects will improve.

With the move to Pennsylvania, Stites no longer worried about finding time for his family as his Flint Stites Facebook page accurately describes his racing stable as a family operation, everyone having a hand in their success. Seven days a week Stites, who has been on the board of the HBPA for 12 years, arrives early joining his oldest son and assistant trainer Owen. With about 20 different owners as well as his own homebreds, Stites depends on his sons and his wife to keep things working smoothly. Chris joins her family at 5 a.m., then returns home to her office where she maintains all the billing and files, then spends time with their six grandchildren.

Robert Martin, Chris' son from a previous marriage, is the stable blacksmith and Will, the middle son, does a lot of everything from assistant training (he has his own trainer's license and small stable), galloping, outriding, rubbing horses, foaling mares, shipping and breaking babies. Youngest boys Corey and Taylor are still in college but fill in as hot walkers when they can. "Taylor has just two semesters

left and Corey attends college full time," said Chris. "They are both into computers and Taylor has already declared there will be no horse business for him," she said. "Although they do seem to forget that the horses have paid their way through school, I don't mind at all that they won't follow their brothers into the business. It is very difficult with its ups and downs."

"From the beginning the boys have understood that there is no free lunch for anyone," said Stites. "Everyone has something they have to do. We have all been working together for a long time and even though we are family, the boys understand what their responsibilities are, who is the boss and who is next in command."

Stites' father Bill, a former farm manager in Paris, Ky., worked for his son when the family first moved to Pennsylvania. He now serves on the backstretch as president of Penn National's Racetrack Chaplaincy, living just down the road from the family. Penn National is a 10-minute commute from their leased 50-acre Whirlwind Farm in Grantville, which Stites says is a "no frill working farm." A training barn to break babies and house older horses who don't tolerate the track atmosphere live in one barn while the broodmares share another.

Astride his stable pony, Stites watches his runners train six days a week. "We send out sets of horses as soon as the track opens and don't stop until 11 a.m. when it closes. Then it is back to the barn to check all of them. We are

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A few words from the Executive Secretary



PENNSYLVANIA
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**PHBA 6th Annual
Stallion Auction**
January 28, 29 and 30, 2016

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**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR SIXTH
ANNUAL STALLION SEASON AUCTION
WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE JANUARY 28th,
29th & 30th ON THOROUGHLYBRED.COM.**



A list of seasons offered will be posted and updated daily on pabred.com and listed in the December and January issues of our Thoroughbred Report.

Proceeds of the sale will go to the PHBA-PAC or a nationally recognized horse rescue program. The auction has been a huge success in the past and a chance for breeders to find a great match for their mares.

If you would like to donate a season please contact our office. We thank all involved for your continued support.

Also remember the deadline for PA-Bred yearling foal applications and stallion registration is Dec. 31, 2015.

Contact Information:

State Horse Racing Commission
Harrisburg, PA • 717-787-1942

Parx Racing
Bensalem, PA • 215-639-9000

Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course
Grantville, PA • 717-469-2211

Presque Isle Downs & Casino
Erie, PA • 866-374-3386

Pennsylvania HBPA
Grantville, PA • 717-469-2970

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association
Bensalem, PA • 215-638-2012

THE PA-BRED PREMIUM EARN MORE!



JOIN THE PHBA

Whether you are currently a breeder or an owner, or if you are just considering getting involved in this exciting industry, there are many reasons to join the PHBA. The PHBA is devoted to those involved in Pennsylvania's Thoroughbred breeding industry. A not-for-profit organization founded in 1948, we provide a number of services to members, including informational assistance, educational opportunities and a variety of social events.

The goal of the organization is to advocate on behalf of the state's breeding industry. We are mandated by statute as administrator of the Pennsylvania Breeding Fund program, and as official registrar of the Pennsylvania-Bred roster of eligible program participants.

Working with industry leaders over the years, PHBA has achieved several goals that have brought reform and benefits to breeders, owners, race tracks and the public. The PHBA is vital to everyone involved in breeding throughout Pennsylvania. Your support and participation can help Pennsylvania's breeding industry continue to grow and prosper.

2015 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule with Results

ALL BREEDING FUND STAKES WILL INCLUDE A 25% PA-SIRED BONUS FOR 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD.
Proposed 2015 schedule – dates and conditions for all the PA-Bred Stakes are subject to change.
Please contact the Racing Offices for the most current schedules.

Sat., May 2	\$75,000 Lyman H , 3 & up, 7 fur.
Parx	1st-A Fleet Attitude, 2nd-Kobel, 3rd-Yougotthatgoinforu
	\$75,000 Foxy J. G. S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 fur.
	1st-Power of Snunner, 2nd-Shoplift, 3rd-Fat Kat
Sat., May 30	\$75,000 Lyphard S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Penn	1st-Royal Renege, 2nd-Lenape Rim, 3rd-Bound
Fri., June 12	\$75,000 Danzig S , 3YO, 6 fur.
Penn	1st-Amplified, 2nd-Instructor Kunu, 3rd-Duff
	\$75,000 New Start S , 3YO fillies, 6 fur.
	1st-Capar Girl, 2nd-C R S Angels, 3rd-Rockin Jojo
Sun., July 12,	\$75,000 Leematt S , 3 & up, 1 mi.
PID	1st-Dynamic Strike, 2nd-Roadhog, 3rd-Forward Thinker
	\$75,000 Northern Fling S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mi.
	1st-Henny Jenney, 2nd-Power of Snunner, 3rd-Bound
Sat., July 25,	\$75,000 Crowd Pleaser S , 3YO, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Parx	1st-Saham, 2nd-Cat Humor, 3rd-Street Fashion
	\$75,000 Power by Far S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 fur., turf
	1st-Kiss the Daddy, 2nd-Previous Honor, 3rd-Royal Renege
Sun., Aug. 9,	\$75,000 Malvern Rose S , 3YO fillies, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
PID	1st-R Frosty One, 2nd-Zig Zag, 3rd-Valued Strike
Sat., Aug. 22,	\$75,000 Robellino S , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Penn	1st-Page McKenney, 2nd-Willy d'Rocket, 3rd-Athelstane
Sat., Sept. 5	\$100,000 Marshall Jenney H , 3 & up, 5 fur., turf
Parx	1st-This Ain't No Bull, 2nd-Chief Exchanger, 3rd-El Seventyseven
PA Day At Races	\$100,000 Roanoke S , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
	1st-Duff, 2nd-Page McKenney, 3rd-Grasshoppin
	\$100,000 Mrs. Penny S-Div. 1 , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
	1st-R Frosty One, 2nd-Al's Gal, 3rd-Devilish Love
	\$100,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial S , 3YO fillies, 7 fur.
	1st-Discreet Senorita, 2nd-Busy Busy Busy, 3rd-Capar Girl
	\$100,000 Mrs. Penny S-Div. 2 , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
	1st-Kitten's Point, 2nd-Emotional Kitten, 3rd-Keystone Kelly
Sun., Sept. 6,	\$75,000 Mark McDermott S , 2YO, 6 fur.
PID	1st-Balk, 2nd-Morning Fire, 3rd-Bella Flor
Sat., Sept. 19,	\$100,000 Alphabet Soup H , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Parx	1st-Uncle Dave, 2nd-Beyond Smart, 3rd-Forward Thinker
Sun., Sept. 20,	\$75,000 Mrs. Henry D. Paxson Memorial S , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
PID	1st-Imply, 2nd-Bella Flor, 3rd-Hey Monba
Sat., Oct. 10	\$75,000 Plum Pretty S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
Parx	1st-Bound, 2nd-Primo Via, 3rd-Maybe Tonight
Wed., Nov. 25,	\$75,000 Blue Mountain Juvenile Fillies S , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
Penn	
Sat., Dec. 5,	\$100,000 Pennsylvania Nursery S , 2YO, 7 fur.
Parx	

Total: \$1,825,000

PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

(January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, rounded to dollars)

LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Owner	Total	Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Owner	Total
Northview Stallion Station Inc.	759	234,203	0	234,962	Xanthus Farms Inc.	126,294	8,290	0	134,584
Michael W. Jester	135,877	95,380	0	231,257	Pewter Stable	104,305	30,018	0	134,323
William J. Solomon VMD	72,305	106,443	0	178,747	The Elkstone Group LLC	122,686	0	4,500	127,186
George Strawbridge Jr.	138,159	22,337	0	160,495	Charles A. Cuprill	87,884	28,987	0	116,871
Thomas G. McClay	150,859	0	0	150,859	Sylmar Farm Inc.	110,843	0	0	110,843
Barlar LLC	91,580	46,466	0	138,045	Arrowwood Farm Inc.	102,514	0	0	102,514

LEADING STALLIONS

Fund Money includes Stallion Awards only

Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total	Stallion Name	Stallion Owner / Manager	No. of Races	Award Total
Jump Start	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	221	92,797	Smarty Jones	Patricia L. Chapman	85	43,317
Fairbanks	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	215	70,046	Ecclesiastic	Walmac Stud Management LLC	157	42,666
Medallist	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	116	61,396	Activist	Judith M. Barrett	106	37,558
Cat Thief	Michael W. Jester	179	47,496	Weigelia	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	96	32,686
E Dubai	Barlar LLC	79	46,466	Congressionalhonor	Pewter Stable	84	30,018
Talent Search	Kenneth L. Ramsey	91	45,266	Southern Success	Barbara A. Rickline	43	29,249

LEADING HORSES

Fund Money includes: PA-Bred Races, Breeder, Stallion and Owner Awards and PA-Bred Owner-Bonus Payments

Horse	Pedigree	Breeder	Races	PA-Bred Restricted Purse	PA-Bred Stakes Purse	Total Breeder Award	Total Stallion Award	Total Owner Award	Total Owner Bonus	Total Fund Amount
R Frosty One *	Southern Success - I'm the Mary	Gayle B. Gerth Trust	9	0	105,000	68,416	22,805	0	14,360	210,581
Discreet Seniorita	Discreet Cat - Seniorita Louisa	Dun Roamin Farm Inc.	7	0	60,000	36,592	0	0	21,360	117,952
Uncle Dave	Langfuhr - Party Queen	Nelson E. Clemmens	6	0	60,000	31,640	0	0	18,400	110,040
Power of Snunner *	Power by Far - Snunner	James M. Courtney	4	0	60,000	31,380	10,460	0	0	101,840
Page McKenney *	Eavesdropper - Winning Grace	James E. Bryant	2	0	65,000	24,375	8,125	0	0	97,500
Grasshoppin *	Cat Thief - Sweetheart Sami	Michael W. Jester	9	0	17,750	41,142	13,714	0	21,840	94,446
Amplified *	Smarty Jones - Queens Point	Thomas G. McClay	3	0	45,000	27,963	9,321	0	10,560	92,844
Kiss the Daddy	Scat Daddy - Kiss the Breeze	The Elkstone Group LLC	11	0	45,000	26,402	0	0	20,460	91,862
Imply *	E Dubai - Allude	Barlar LLC	2	0	45,000	27,459	9,153	0	10,080	91,692
Duff	Candy Ride - To the Brim	Two Sisters' Farm Inc.	5	0	75,000	13,650	0	0	0	88,650
This Ain't No Bull	Holy Bull - Disco Darlin'	Classic Thoroughbred XVIII LLC	3	0	60,000	18,720	0	0	9,600	88,320
Capar Girl	Munnings - Bumble Bee Mama	Lindsay C.F. Scott	6	0	56,000	21,663	0	0	5,389	83,051

Stites *continued from page 2*

here every day although we schedule Sunday as a day with just walkers. It gives everyone a little break."

He credits his help with much of his success, in addition to his sons, exercise riders Angel Gelpi, a former rider from Puerto Rico who has been working with Stites for 15 years, and Tommy Lanzalotti, who has been with him for five years.

Whirlwind Farm is also home to stallions Aisle, a 1999 son of Pulpit, and newcomer Golddigger's Boy, a multiple stakes-winning PA-Bred by Jump Start. Bred and owned by Frances and William Hartwell and trained by

Ramon Preciado, Golddigger's Boy won eight of 27 starts and \$585,985, while racing until he was 6. Currently owned by Baywood Farm, he covered four mares this past breeding season and will stand his first full season in 2016. "Aisle is getting up there in age and like most offspring of Pulpit has a little bit of an edge to him. He can be a little tough to handle," said Stites. "We currently have a couple of his foals out here who have done very well at Penn National."

"Aisle will always have a home with us," said Chris. "He has been here with us through thick and thin," she said. "He got us started in

this end of the business and has sired some real runners. He was meant to be a Derby horse when Claiborne owned him but was injured before he broke his maiden. He was such a hard runner with a big heart that he would have hurt himself if we continued to race him."

In times where most families don't even sit down to dinner together, Flint and Chris Stites have successfully put their family first while excelling in the demanding industry of breeding and racing Thoroughbreds. Next milestone: a winner's circle full of extended family and many longtime owners for win number 2,000.