

July 2016  
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## 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:**  
Nov. 1 prior to year foaling or  
within 14 days of arrival in state

## VISIT PABRED.COM

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

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Brian N. Sanfratello  
*Executive Secretary*  
execsec@pabred.com

Dorothy B. Weber  
*Asst. Exec. Sec., CIO/CTO*

701 E. Baltimore Pike, Ste. E  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-444-1050 phone  
www.pabred.com

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## MarchFore Thoroughbreds

By Nikki Sherman

MarchFore Thoroughbreds was created in the early 1990s by a small group of people who revered the sport of horse racing and wanted the opportunity to experience racehorse ownership. Founding members John Leonard and Pete Shure were roommates at Colgate University and not only spent many afternoons at the nearby Vernon Downs for harness racing, but also planned vacations at racetracks in England and France. When forming MarchFore Thoroughbreds, Leonard and Shure found a unique similarity between them, which they used to name the organization – they were born exactly one year apart on March 4th.

MarchFore Thoroughbreds originally partnered with Terry Finley and West Point Thoroughbreds, allowing them to enjoy the thrill of owning stakes winners like Flashy Bull, High Finance and Sweet Nanette. It was through West Point Thoroughbreds that Bob Graham met the group and decided to join them when MarchFore Thoroughbreds ventured out on their own in 2005. Graham's good friend Greg Newell also became a partner in 2007.

"The original MarchFore stable consisted almost exclusively of horses which ran in New York. When we decided to venture out on our own, John Leonard was very intrigued about racing in his home state of Pennsylvania, especially with purses becoming competitive with the advent of casinos and the buzz created by Smarty Jones," notes Graham. "John knew we needed someone in the horse industry to help us make buying and training decisions, so after a detailed search we decided to team up with John Servis. That relationship is still in place today."

The group first experienced stakes success on their own with 2010 Miss Preakness Stakes winner Vindy City, who they then sold as a broodmare prospect for \$125,000. She has since produced several quality offspring including Tizacity, a filly sold for \$425,000. Last November MarchFore Thoroughbreds also sold stakes-placed Inspired by Grace at Keeneland for \$190,000.

"MarchFore has always tried to buy and race at least allowance level horses, and while that is never



MarchFore Thoroughbred partners Bob Graham (left) and Greg Newell flank trainer John Servis.

always possible, the group has had an opportunity to race at a stakes level numerous times because of that standard," says Graham.

Sadly tragedy struck the group earlier this decade when both John Leonard and another original member, Ed Parry, were diagnosed with cancer. The news hit the team hard, but they followed Leonard's request to buy two horses at the 2010 Keeneland September Yearling sale.

"John [Leonard] was in large part how we were all able to enjoy horse racing at the level we did," says Graham. "He not only ran MarchFore but he also contributed most of the capital to the partnership. Ed Parry fondly referred to the MarchFore group with John at the helm as Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Those two horses [bought at Keeneland] ended up being J K L's Legacy and Adirondack King, both named after John. Sadly he never actually saw them race."

Leonard passed away from brain cancer in February 2011 and unfortunately Parry passed from his own battle with cancer just one year later.

"If there was a silver lining in all this, [it's that] John's daughter Sarah, who loved and enjoyed horse racing with her dad, decided to become a partner of MarchFore and is [now] an integral part of the team," Graham says. "The current group includes myself, Sarah, Greg Newell and original members Bob Schnuer and Pete Shure."

Both yearlings purchased at the 2010 Keeneland September Yearling Sale are extremely well-bred. Adirondack King is out of multiple Grade 1 winner Jostle, who was incidentally trained by Servis for most of her career, while J K L's Legacy is by Pulpit out of a daughter of 1987 Eclipse Award champion 3-year old filly Sacahuista.

However, in the world of horse racing, pedigree doesn't always guarantee a definitive stakes horse; so perhaps it was divine intervention on behalf of Leonard and Parry when both yearlings became stakes horses. J K L's Legacy finished third in the 2013 My Juliet Stakes at Parx Racing and was retired in 2014.

"The current MarchFore group wanted to keep J K L's Legacy because she had placed in a stakes and was pretty well-bred. We also had an emotional attachment to her as she was the last horse we all purchased together before John's death," admits Graham. "We board all of our horses at Shirley Lojeski's farm in Emmaus. She does a great job

caring for all our horses and treats them as if they are her own. We wouldn't go anywhere else."

J K L's Legacy has produced two handsome Pennsylvania-Bred colts—a yearling by Pioneer of the Nile and a Noble Mission (GB) weanling. She is currently in foal to Palace Malice.

Adirondack King, on the other hand, is still competitive at the ripe age of 7. The \$55,000 yearling purchase has rewarded MarchFore Thoroughbreds with more than half a million dollars in career earnings, while capturing the Christopher Elser Memorial Stakes, Auld Lang Syne Stakes and Challenger Stakes. The Lawyer Ron gelding was also on the Triple Crown trail in 2012.

"It has been an amazing experience to own him," says Graham. "He has competed against some of the best horses in the country over the last five years and has taken us on a great ride. He runs hard every time he races. I think at MarchFore the greatest achievement for us in owning Adirondack King is that we purchased him as a yearling in 2010

and have been his only owner since then. We have talked many times over the last few years about that fact and decided that when he tells us he is done competing at a high level, we will just retire him and find him a phenomenal life off the racetrack."

While purchasing stakes horses at auction has been exhilarating, the MarchFore Thoroughbreds partners are truly excited for their first Pennsylvania-Bred racehorses to hit the track over the next few years.

"I can't say enough about the opportunity the Pennsylvania breeding program gives to owners. I do not think it has a peer in the country when it comes to the value and economic return that are available to owners and breeders of PA-Bred horses," notes Graham. "MarchFore Thoroughbreds came to Pennsylvania in 2006 to race because the increase in purses gave us an economic chance to succeed and we are staying because of the depth and opportunities that the Pennsylvania breeding program affords us."

## A few words from the Executive Secretary



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\*\$30m paid to PA-Breds, 450 restricted races

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2015	Pennsylvania	Maryland	PA	MD
Restricted Races*	450	5	✓	
Restricted Race Purses*	\$14,195,251	\$325,000	✓	
Breeder Awards	\$9,327,230	\$3,141,642	✓	
Stallion Awards	\$1,623,852	\$240,125	✓	
Total Fund Disbursements	\$30,840,880	\$8,517,768	✓	

\* Races Restricted To PA and MD Bred Horses Only, Including Stakes Races.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF OWNING AND BREEDING PENNSYLVANIA BREDS PLEASE CONTACT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, BRIAN SANFRATELLO 610-444-1050 WWW.PABRED.COM

A letter was sent to the membership the beginning of May explaining the current hold on fund disbursements and I would like to give you an update on the progress of the breeding fund wording changes. The Senate has voted 49-0 to approve these changes and it is now gone over to the House of Representatives. We will work with the House and the Department of Agriculture to expedite this so that it can be signed by the Governor as soon as possible. We understand how important the awards are and we are committed to doing whatever is necessary to hasten the process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you.

# 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



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## 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.

## 2016 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule

**ALL BREEDING FUND STAKES WILL INCLUDE A 25% PA-SIRED BONUS FOR 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD.**  
Proposed 2016 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 28 Penn	<b>\$100,000 Lyphard S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf 1st-Devilwentogeorgia, 2nd-Rock Me Again, 3rd-Devilish Love
Sat., June 4 Parx	<b>\$100,000 Lyman S</b> , 3 & up, 7 fur. 1st-Roxbury N Overton, 2nd-He's Got Talent, 3rd-Bump Start
	<b>\$100,000 Foxy J. G. S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 fur. 1st-Disco Chick, 2nd-Rockin Jojo, 3rd-Ignite
Sat., June 11 Penn	<b>\$100,000 Danzig S</b> , 3YO, 6 fur. 1st-Rolin With Olin, 2nd-Jaguar Poz, 3rd-Bird of Trey
	<b>\$100,000 New Start S</b> , 3YO fillies, 6 fur. 1st-Behrnk's Bank, 2nd-Authoritative, 3rd-Its a Journey
Sun., July 10, PID	<b>\$100,000 Leematt S</b> , 3 & up, 1 mi.
	<b>\$100,000 Northern Fling S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mi.
Sat., July 23, Parx	<b>\$100,000 Crowd Pleaser S</b> , 3YO, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
	<b>\$100,000 Power by Far S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 fur., turf
Sat., Aug. 6, Penn	<b>\$100,000 Robellino S</b> , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Sun., Aug. 7, PID	<b>\$100,000 Malvern Rose S</b> , 3YO fillies, 1 mi.
Sat., Sept. 3 Parx	<b>\$100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint S</b> , 3 & up 6 fur.
	<b>\$100,000 Roanoke S</b> , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
	<b>\$100,000 Marshall Jenney H</b> , 3 & up, 5 fur., turf
	<b>\$100,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 fur.
	<b>\$100,000 Mrs. Penny S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Sun., Sept. 4, PID	<b>\$100,000 Mark McDermott S</b> , 2YO, 6 fur.
Sun., Sept. 18, PID	<b>\$100,000 Mrs. Henry D. Paxson Memorial S</b> , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
Sat., Sept. 24, Parx	<b>\$100,000 Alphabet Soup H</b> , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Sat., Oct. 8 Parx	<b>\$100,000 Plum Pretty S</b> , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
Wed., Nov. 23, Penn	<b>\$100,000 Blue Mountain Juvenile Fillies S</b> , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
Sat., Dec. 3, Parx	<b>\$100,000 Pennsylvania Nursery S</b> , 2YO, 7 fur.

Total: \$2,200,000



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