

June 2018
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PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:**
Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:**
Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:**
Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:**
Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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Midnight Poker: a hot hand for new breeders

By Linda Dougherty

For many years, Dr. Lou Bucky has been a member of the partnership group Main Line Racing Stable, which has raced many stakes winners under the guidance of trainer John Servis.

But it wasn't until April 21 that Dr. Bucky could add the title of "stakes-winning breeder" to his already impressive resume. Dr. Bucky, one of the country's top doctors for cosmetic and reconstructive surgery, whose clinical work has been featured on national television programs like *Good Morning America*, *Healthwatch* and CNN, is the breeder of Midnight Poker, an undefeated son of Smarty Jones trained by Servis and owned by Main Line Racing Stable. Midnight Poker's most recent triumph came in the \$85,000 Robert Hilton Memorial Stakes at Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races April 21.

Foaled in Pennsylvania at Lojeski Farm in Emmaus, Midnight Poker has thus far proven to be a very nice surprise, winning all four of his lifetime starts and climbing from the maiden-claiming ranks to that of stakes competition.

The story of Midnight Poker began when Main Line Racing Stable raced his dam, Halo Hollie, a daughter of Halo's Image, from 2010 until early 2012.

"Halo Hollie was a favorite of mine," said Dr. Bucky. "She had a good career with us, and at one point she had won three races in a row. She was versatile and a good athlete—she could go short or long, and run on dirt or turf."

"She was big and beautiful," recalled Servis. "And every time you led her over there, she ran her heart out."



Top: Midnight Poker, with Kendrick Carmouche aboard, wins a Parx Racing allowance in March. Bottom: the son of Smarty Jones as a foal at Lojeski Farm in 2015.

In February 2012 at Parx Racing, Halo Hollie was claimed away from Main Line Racing Stable and then spent the next two years competing throughout the mid-Atlantic region, changing hands several times.

"I kept my eye on her, and offered to buy her back as a broodmare," recalled Dr. Bucky. "I got her for \$2,500 [in August 2013] and then she was retired."

Halo Hollie headed to the breeding shed with a record of 35 starts, 11 wins, and nearly \$260,000

in earnings. The first stallion she was bred to was Smarty Jones, whom Servis nearly won the Triple Crown with in 2004, and in 2015 she foaled Midnight Poker.

"He doesn't look like Halo Hollie, but he is a beautiful horse," said Dr. Bucky. "John [Servis] didn't know what to think of him before his first start, because he didn't show much in the morning, so we decided to put him in a maiden claimer. He won that first race [Sept. 5, 2017, at Parx] and then we brought him back in a starter allowance [Dec. 4], which he won pretty impressively. After he won, John said, 'this horse might be okay,' and after a three-month break we entered him in an open allowance at Parx [March 5] at 7 furlongs, which he won by nearly 6 lengths, even though Kendrick Carmouche said he was getting a little tired after the race."

Servis thought Midnight Poker might do well against stakes competition, so he picked out the Robert Hilton Memorial for 3-year-olds at 7 furlongs, which shared the card with the \$1.15 million Charles Town Classic-G2.

With one of the nation's top jockeys, Irad Ortiz Jr., aboard, the gelding seized the lead right out of the gate and established nearly a 2-length advantage through the first half-mile while basically being under a hand ride. He maintained that lead around the far turn, and then Ortiz went to the stick, urging him along

to turn back the challenge of Threes Over Deuces, who had been steadied early but was rallying strongly under Arnaldo Bocachica. Midnight Poker, however, had plenty left, and began to increase his lead to the wire, winning by 1¼ lengths in 1:25.14 as the betting favorite.

"That was a very impressive race, and he earned a big speed figure, too," said Dr. Bucky. "It was especially exciting because he was the first stakes winner I've bred."

"Midnight Poker isn't a very big horse, and he was a real handful when he was being broken," said Servis. "When I got him, he didn't show much until he ran, so I wasn't real confident going into his first race. He's had a different rider in every one of his races, and every rider loves him."

Four Bucks Racing, the gelding's official breeder, is comprised of the entire Bucky family—daughters Alexandra and Caroline, wife Elizabeth, and Lou.

"This horse keeps proving us wrong, every step he takes," said Dr. Bucky, referring to Midnight Poker's road to an unbeaten record, during which he's amassed earnings of \$144,570. "His next start will likely be in the \$100,000 Danzig Stakes [for Pennsylvania-bred 3-year-olds at 6 furlongs] at Penn National on June 2."

Dr. Bucky said that Halo Hollie foaled a filly by Overanalyze April 28, and is scheduled to be bred back to Mizzen Mast. Halo Hollie has a 2-year-old colt by Jump Start named Defibrillator that will be trained by Servis, and an Afleet Alex yearling filly. Dr. Bucky also has an interest in two other Pennsylvania-based broodmares with Main Line Racing Stable—Whistling Straits, a winning Scat Daddy mare who had a Tapizar filly in early April, and Bai Bai Baby, a winning Unbridled's Song mare who had a colt by Violence in March.

Dr. Bucky said he became a horse owner through his golf outings with the renowned professional Gary Player; Player has received worldwide acclaim for breeding top Thoroughbreds, including Grade 1 Sword Dancer Invitational winner Broadway Flyer, at his Gary Player Stud Farm in South Africa, and he encouraged Dr. Bucky to get involved in the sport.

"My first horse was co-owned with Gary Player in Florida; eventually I met John [Servis] and then other friends got together and formed Main Line Racing Stable," he said. "These are a group of guys who love racing and just love having a good time. They understand the business and take their losses well."

Thus far, Midnight Poker has given the Main Line partners and Four Bucks Racing plenty to cheer about.

A few words from the Executive Secretary

Another Kentucky Derby for the Baffert connections. What a spectacular race for Justify! By the time you read this we'll know if they will be shooting for the Triple Crown, so I'd like to wish them good luck in the Preakness.

The 2018 \$2.75 million PA-Bred Stakes schedule kicked off at PARX on April 28 with the runnings of the \$100,000 Foxy J. G. and Lyman. The Foxy J. G. was won by James Courtney's Power of Snunner who looped the field and nosed

out Trace of Grace. The win brought the Power by Far 8-year-old mare's earnings to over \$600,000. The Lyman went to Grasshoppin, bred and owned by Mike Jester. The 7-year-old gelding by Cat Thief took the lead within the first 70 yards and held on to win. Both races were stacked with talent, and congratulations go out to all the competitors.

The PHBA Annual Meeting was held May 23 at the Kennett Square Country Club. The meeting was well attended and

we'd like to welcome new board members Hank Nothhaft and Tom Reigle. Both gentlemen join the board with many years' experience and success in breeding and racing, and we look forward to working with them in the coming year.



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Grantville, PA • 717-469-2211

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

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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.

2018 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule

ALL BREEDING FUND STAKES WILL INCLUDE A 25% PA-SIRED BONUS FOR 1ST, 2ND AND 3RD. Proposed 2018 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., April 28	\$100,000 Lyman S , 3 & up, 7 fur.
Parx	1st-Grasshoppin, 2nd-Driven to Compete, 3rd-Red Razzo
	\$100,000 Foxy J. G. S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 fur.
	1st-Power of Snunner, 2nd-Trace of Grace, 3rd-Formal Class
Sat., June 2	\$100,000 Lyphard S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Penn	
	\$100,000 Danzig S , 3YO, 6 fur.
	\$100,000 New Start S , 3YO fillies, 6 fur.
Sun., July 8	\$100,000 Leematt S , 3 & up, 1 mi.
PID	
	\$100,000 Northern Fling S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mi.
Sat., July 21	\$100,000 Crowd Pleaser S , 3YO, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Parx	
	\$100,000 Marshall Jenney S , 3 & up, 5 fur., turf
Sat., Aug. 4,	\$100,000 Robellino S , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., off turf
Penn	
Sun., Aug. 5,	\$100,000 Malvern Rose S , 3YO fillies, 1 mi.
PID	
Sat., Sept. 1	\$100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint S , 3 & up, 6 fur.
Parx	
PA Day At Races	\$100,000 Roanoke S , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
	\$100,000 Power by Far S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 fur., turf
	\$100,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 fur.
	\$100,000 Mrs. Penny S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
	Sun., Sept. 2,
PID	
Sun., Sept. 16,	\$100,000 Mrs. Henry D. Paxson Memorial S , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
PID	
Sat., Sept. 22,	\$100,000 Alphabet Soup S , 3 & up, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi., turf
Parx	
Sat., Oct. 6	\$100,000 Plum Pretty S , 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 $\frac{1}{16}$ mi.
Parx	
Wed., Nov. 21,	\$100,000 Blue Mountain Juvenile Fillies S , 2YO fillies, 6 fur.
Penn	
Sat., Dec. 1,	\$100,000 Pennsylvania Nursery S , 2YO, colts & geldings, 7 fur.
Parx	

Total: \$2,750,000

PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

(January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018, rounded to dollars)

LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total	Breeder Name	Breeder	Stallion	Total
Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	104,086	38,476	142,562	Godstone Farm LP	29,705	2,357	32,062
Donald L. Brown Jr.	69,306	18,313	87,619	Charles A. Cuprill	22,297	4,829	27,127
William J. Solomon VMD	40,989	26,024	67,013	Smart Angle LLP	26,211	0	26,211
Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	46,847	11,712	58,559	Estate of Joseph W. Holman Jr.	25,872	0	25,872
Patricia L. Chapman	31,936	24,194	56,130	Barlar LLC	22,360	2,984	25,344
Northview Stallion Station Inc.	0	50,404	50,404	Shirley A. Lojeski	24,250	0	24,250
Arrowwood Farm Inc.	47,092	0	47,092	R H Breeding LLC	23,618	0	23,618
Glenn E. Brok LLC	22,740	18,657	41,397	Maria M. Haire	23,193	0	23,193
Xanthus Farms Inc.	38,528	1,037	39,565	Ney Pessanha	23,100	0	23,100
St. Omer's Farm	37,092	0	37,092	Richard Simoff	22,960	0	22,960
Blackstone Farm LLC	36,113	0	36,113	Sylmar Farm Inc.	22,182	0	22,182
Thomas G. McClay	34,701	0	34,701	Pewter Stable	19,157	2,520	21,677

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
Weigelia	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	54	38,476	El Padrino	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	14	5,419
Jump Start	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	98	32,471	Activist	Judith M. Barrett	17	5,069
Smarty Jones	Patricia L. Chapman	74	24,194	Offlee Wild	William J. Solomon VMD	26	5,030
Messner	Donald L. Brown Jr.	30	18,313	Formal Dinner	Frazier Estate LLC	4	4,097
Petionville	Everest Stables Inc.	42	15,878	Mad Flatter	Glenn E. Brok LLC	20	3,977
Uptowncharlybrown	Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	14	11,712	Silver Train	Henry R. Nothhaft	29	3,582
Any Given Saturday	William J. Solomon VMD	35	11,548	Lite the Fuse	William J. Solomon VMD	16	3,535
Talent Search	Glenn E. Brok LLC	34	10,154	City Sharpster	Charles A. Cuprill	26	3,474
Rimrod	George Strawbridge Jr.	24	9,762	Wiseman's Ferry	Lainey Bug Stables LLC	10	3,021
Fairbanks	Northview Stallion Station Inc.	36	9,421	E Dubai	Barlar LLC	21	2,984
Got the Last Laugh	Glenn E. Brok LLC	12	7,802	Ecclesiastic	Walmac Stud Management LLC	17	2,950
Andiron	Tea Party Stable Inc.	21	6,267	Cat Thief	Michael W. Jester	21	2,924

LEADING HORSES

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

Horse	Pedigree	Breeder	Races	Restricted	Stakes	Breeder Award	Stallion Award	Owner Bonus	Total
Ruby Bleu *	Messner - Ruby Soul	Donald L. Brown Jr.	4	0	0	30,464	7,616	21,760	59,840
Brazilian Symphony *	Fairbanks - Brazilian Bliss	Estate of Joseph W. Holman Jr.	2	0	0	25,872	6,468	18,480	50,820
Chasing My Halo *	Weigelia - Halo Effect	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	3	0	0	26,074	5,930	16,944	48,948
Pink Princess *	Weigelia - Katarica Disco	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	4	0	0	22,848	5,712	16,320	44,880
Risque's Diamond *	Weigelia - Diamonds No More	St. Omer's Farm	3	0	0	21,392	5,348	15,280	42,020
Dixie Serenade *	Uptowncharlybrown - Moonlight Serenade	Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	2	0	0	20,608	5,152	14,720	40,480
Roxbury N Overton *	Andiron - Centennial Cat	Jettany Thoroughbred Corp	3	0	0	19,824	4,956	14,160	38,940
Navy Commander	Poseidon's Warrior - Glenmary Lane	Swilcan Stables LLC	3	0	0	13,776	0	19,680	33,456
Papa Jones *	Smarty Jones - Last Toots	Patricia L. Chapman	3	0	0	20,336	5,084	7,840	33,260
Isabella Swift *	Weigelia - Polar Miss	Wyn Oaks Farm LLC	1	0	0	15,792	3,948	11,280	31,020
Midnight Poker *	Smarty Jones - Halo Hollie	Four Bucks Racing	1	0	0	15,456	3,864	11,040	30,360
Mr Brioni *	Jump Start - First Class Donna	Charlton Bloodstock Agency Inc.	5	0	0	17,482	4,370	7,284	29,136
Ronnie Roam	Afleet Alex - Topeka	Carol G. Zacney	4	0	0	11,760	0	16,800	28,560
I'm Sleeping In *	Got the Last Laugh - Posse in Effect	Ney Pessanha	3	0	0	14,280	3,570	10,200	28,050
Formal Class *	Formal Dinner - Sure Class	Richard N. Miller	3	0	0	16,387	4,097	6,828	27,312
Miss Manatee *	Smarty Jones - Ms. Moscow	Maria M. Haire	3	0	0	18,176	4,544	3,360	26,080
Lydia Sweetie *	Any Given Saturday - Juliette Girl	William J. Solomon VMD	4	0	0	20,644	4,508	0	25,152
Wildcat Combat *	Messner - She Is a Lioness	Donald L. Brown Jr.	1	0	0	12,768	3,192	9,120	25,080
Soaring Rosa	Soaring Empire - Zarzuela	Cavanaugh Breen Farm LLC	2	0	0	10,304	0	14,720	25,024
Pinatubo	Quality Road - Charlie My Girl	Smart Angle LLP	3	0	0	12,636	0	11,884	24,520
Shemakesmehappy	Majestic Warrior - Code Variance	SMD Ltd. LLC	3	0	0	10,041	0	14,344	24,385
Fielder	Sidney's Candy - Karakorum Fugitive	Henry R. Nothhaft	3	0	0	13,103	0	11,040	24,143
Laughing Best *	Got The Last Laugh - Neigh O Me	Pamela Arnold	4	0	0	16,358	4,090	3,656	24,104
Charlybrown's Rose *	Uptowncharlybrown - Ambling Rose	Fantasy Lane Stable Inc.	2	0	0	12,208	3,052	8,720	23,980

*Denotes PA-sired