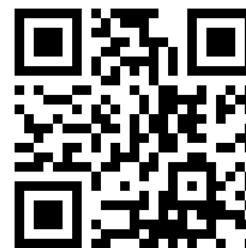


MQHRA

NEWSLETTER

MINNESOTA QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION



President's Report

By Rosemary Higgins

Welcome to 2016! With the New Year comes change. I write this letter with a heavy heart because Kelvin Childers is now your Past President. Kelvin and his wife Nancy are making plans to move to Colorado and as his term was up on the MQHRA board at the end of 2015, he chose to not run again. Kelvin has been the heart and soul of MQHRA for many years. His leadership and knowledge cannot be replaced. Acting as our Past President, he has generously offered his continued assistance to support our organization. I know that I will be reaching out to him quite often for advice and guidance! The next time you see Kelvin, make sure you tell him how much you appreciate everything that he has done to promote Quarter Horse Racing in MN and also at the national level within AQHA.

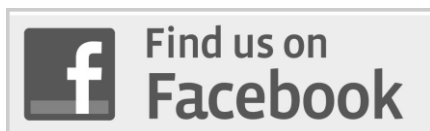
I would like to welcome Cindy Besser and Paul Luedemann as new board members. Also re-elected for another three year term were Steve Kane, Ken Quade and me. At the January Board of Directors meeting we elected the Executive Committee for 2016. I was named as your new President, Bob Petersen as Vice President, Tom Pouliot as Treasurer and Cindy Besser as Executive Secretary. Thank you to Nathan Sommers for his service on the Board of Directors. Nathan chose not to run for re-election this year. I would also like to thank Willa Dailey for her service as the Secretary this past year. It is no easy feat to keep the minutes of our meetings!

The Stallion Service Auction is going on now. Ralph Haglund has taken over the reins on the MSBF auction and is doing a wonderful job. A new easier to navigate auction website was created and there are over 40 great stallions to choose from. The auction runs from Jan. 15th to Feb. 14th. You can find a link to the auction on our website.

The 2016 Stakes schedule has been released by Canterbury Park. The condition book should be coming out soon! We have added two AQHA Challenge races to the schedule. The Bank of America Canterbury Park Challenge Championship stakes race will be held on July 17th with \$65,000 added. The Merial Canterbury Park Distaff challenge will have \$30,000 added. Total purse money for the 13 stakes races is estimated to reach \$600,000 making it a record quarter horse stakes season.

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Look for us on the Internet



Our Facebook page name is:
Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing
Association

www.mqhra.com

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2015 Stakes Race Review

Race Name	Date	Horse	Trainer	Owner	Jockey	Time	SI
Gopher State Derby	Sunday, June 7, 2015	Panther Prize Me	Robert Johnson	Legacy Ranch	J. Shepherd	20.309	89
Skip Zimmerman Stakes	Saturday, June 13, 2015	Eye A Spit Curl Girl	Stacy Charette-Hill	Stacy Martin	J. Torres	17.880	91
Bob Morehouse Stakes	Sunday, June 28, 2015	Irish Brew	C. J. Livingston	Paul Knapper & James Olson	S. Smith	20.203	84
Great Lakes Bonus Challenge	Saturday, July 4, 2015	This Wagons Okay	S. Charette-Hill	Larry. J. Kist	J. Torres	20.13	84
Canterbury Park Quarter Horse Derby	Sunday, July 5, 2015	Fortune In A Wagon	S. Charette-Hill	Terry & Marie Louise Pursel	C. Smith	20.500 Dead Heat	84
Canterbury Park Quarter Horse Derby	Sunday, July 5, 2015	Feature A Runaway	E. Hardy	Reliance Ranches LLC (Micah McKinney)	D. Pinon	20.500 Dead Heat	84
Mystic Lake Northlands' Futurity	Sunday, July 5, 2015	Eagles Span	J. Olmstead	Tom and Bill Maher	B. Packer	18.155	87
Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Quarter Horse Futurity	Sunday, July 12, 2015	A Mighty Fortune	E. Hardy	Bob Hardy	D. Pinon	18.287	83
Dash In A Flash Stakes	Saturday, July 18, 2015	Defiant Red Rooster	S. Charette-Hill	Randy L. Hill, Bobbie Joe and Vickie Hammer	J. Torres	6.968	102
Canterbury Distaff Bonus Challenge	Sunday, August 2, 2015	Send Me This Wagon	S. Charette-Hill	Stacy Charette-Hill and Randy Hill	J. Torres	20.216	91
North Central Quarter Horse Racing Association Furturity+A12	Sunday, August 9, 2015	Eagles Span	Olmstead	Bill and Tom Maher	C. Smith	17.949	93
Cash Carvan Stakes	Sunday, August 20, 2015	Little Bit Brandy	R. Johnson	Lowell Schrupp	J. Torres	22.235	95
Minnesota Quarter Horse Derby	Sunday, September 6, 2015	Fishin In The Brook	S. Miller	Cynthia M. Besser	D. Beaty	20.366	87
Minnesota Quarter Horse Futurity	Sunday, September 6, 2015	Streak N Diamonds	D. Haglund	Dale Haglund and Chuck Kaim	J. Torres	18.035	90

Congratulations Emily Schimnich, MQHRA Youth Day Participant

Congratulations to Emily Schimnich for finishing third and earning \$1,000 in scholarship funds at the AQHYA National Youth Day Racing Experience in Grand Prairie, TX. Schimnich, from Sauk Rapids, MN was one of the kids that participated in MQHRA's Youth Day at the Races this summer.

According to the AQHA website, "the awards were given to the high-scoring students who completed two workbooks and a practical test during the Bank of America Challenge Championships at Lone Start Park. The winners were determined through evaluation of each participant's workbook, quiz and test score from throughout the educational experience."

2016 Canterbury Park Quarter Horse Stakes Schedule

Run Date	Race Name	Conditions	Distance	Purse
June 12, 2016	Gopher State Derby	Elig. 3yo	400 Yards	\$20,000 Added
June 19, 2016	Skip Zimmerman Memorial	3yo & up	350 Yards	\$20,000 Added
June 26, 2016	Bob Morehouse Stakes	3yo & up s	400 Yards	\$25,000 Added
July 10, 2016	Canterbury Quarter Horse Derby	3yo	400 Yards	\$50,000 Guaranteed
July 10, 2016	Mystic Lake Northlands Futurity	2yo	350 Yards	\$100,000 Guaranteed
July 10, 2016	Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Futurity	Elig. 2yo	350 Yards	\$20,000 Added
July 16, 2016	Dash in a Flash	3yo & up	110 Yards	\$20,000 Added
July 17, 2016	Bank of America Canterbury Park Challenge Championship	Elig. 3yo & up	440 Yards	\$65,000 Added
July 17, 2016	Merial Canterbury Park Distaff Challenge	Elig. 3yo & up f/m	400 Yards	\$30,000 Added
July 31, 2016	Cash Caravan Stakes	3yo & up s	440 Yards	\$35,000 Added
August 7, 2016	NCQHRA Futurity	Elig. 2yo	350 Yards	\$20,000 Added
August 21, 2016	Minnesota Derby	3yo s	400 Yards	\$45,000 Added
August 21, 2016	Minnesota Futurity	2yo s	350 Yards	\$45,000 Added

Important MRC Registration Deadline-January 31, 2015

Registrations form will NOT be mailed by MRC this year

January 31, 2016 is the deadline date for registering your Quarter Horse Stallion and/or Broodmare (and her foal) for the Minnesota Breeders' Fund program with the Minnesota Racing Commission (MRC). This year, the MRC will **NOT** be mailing the registration forms to owners. The forms are available at the MRC office and on the MRC website. Here is the link to their website. <https://www.mrc.state.mn.us/Breeders%20Fund/default.html>

To qualify for payment of awards and for entry into restricted races, all foal certificates must have Minnesota registration seal affixed upon them. The seal shall be proof that the requirements of this part have been met.

The following is an excerpt taken from forms that explains in more detail what is required in completing the registration.

2015 Broodmare Registration Application

NOTE: In order for this mare and her foal to be registered with the Minnesota Breeders' Fund program the mare must be in Minnesota and this form must be received by the Racing Commission previous to foaling but no later than January 31st of the foaling year. The first time a mare is registered or whenever there is an ownership change the mare's ORIGINAL foal certificate must accompany the mare registration form. A current copy of the foal certificate must be on file with the MRC prior to the payment of any Breeders' Fund awards.

2015 Stallion Registration Applications

NOTE: In order for a stallion to be registered with the Minnesota Breeders' Fund program the stallion must be in Minnesota and this form must be received by the Racing Commission by January 31st of the breeding year. The first time a stallion is registered or whenever there is an ownership change the stallion's ORIGINAL foal certificate must accompany the stallion registration form. A current copy of the foal certificate must be on file with the MRC prior to the payment of any Breeders' Fund awards.

Please don't miss this opportunity to register your horses. It is important to the Minnesota Quarter Horse industry!

2016 ONLINE STALLION SERVICE AUCTION

January 15 - February 14

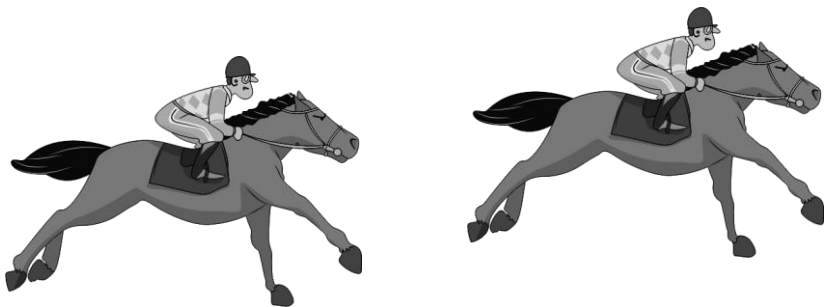
MQHRA invites you to place bids on your favorite stallions in the online **Minnesota Stallion Breeders' Futurity Auction!**
Visit the MQHRA Website

- Auction dates are January 15 - February 14, 2016
- Foals born in 2017 are eligible for the 42nd running of the **2019 MN Stallion Breeders' Futurity**
- All Quarter Horse foals sired by all eligible stallions are eligible for this race. The owner of the foal nominated must be a member of the MQHRA at the time of nomination.
- 2015 Winner: A Mighty Fortune; \$42,500 Purse
- \$20,000 Minimum added
- \$2,000 Stallion Owner Award
- \$2,000 Breeders Award
- A minimum of \$5,000 additional in breeders' money will be awarded to horses bred and foaled in Minnesota with papers stamped by the Minnesota Racing Commission

If there is a particular stallion service that you would like to purchase and that horse is not on our auction, we encourage you to contact the stallion owner to make a donation. Or you can let us know and we will contact them for you!

Don't delay! Submit your bids today!

Ralph Haglund
MSBF Chair
drhaglund5960@hotmail.com



(President's Report continued from page 1)

The Minnesota Racing Commission has been moving several rule packets through the process. The non-medication rule packet contains several rule changes that we have been following. They are excluding cloned horses from racing in MN and specifying that Quarter Horses have a 60 day work out rule which is change from the previous 45 day workout rule. The rule change for claimed horses regarding "jail time" was suggested to accommodate owners of horses who may be restricted from racing in other states even though the Canterbury mixed meet has ended, except for final weekend stakes races. The rule now reads as follows: "No claimed horse shall race at any other racetrack until the last scheduled overnight race for that breed at the meet has been drawn or for 60 days, whichever is shorter, except to fulfill stakes engagements." To obtain more information on rules go to www.mrc.state.mn.us

Please remember to pay your 2016 membership. You will find the membership form in this newsletter. We are only as strong as our membership, so I hope that you will join and support your organization.

Respectfully,

Rosemary Higgins



Remembering Marlyn Estenson and MQHRA history



In late November, the MQHRA was made aware of the passing one of its former and founding members, Marlyn Estenson. Estenson played a vital role in the beginnings of the Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing Association. Bobbi Morehouse was kind enough to put together a little write up on Estenson. As a longtime former Executive Secretary of the MQHRA and a friend to Estenson, she was happy to summarize Estenson's legacy with her family and with MQHRA. She remembers a lot about Estenson and she dug through her family win pictures and through MQHRA archives still in her possession to try to substantial the facts and recognize his contributions as well as others involved in the beginnings of MQHRA. Thank you Bobbi for sharing your memories and knowledge of MQHRA's history!

Marlyn Estenson photo courtesy of Washburn-McReavy in Shakopee.



By Bobbi Morehouse

MQHRA THANKS YOU, Marlyn Estenson!! Trainer, husband, father, friend, pioneer and huge contributor to our Minnesota racing industry-- along with his wife of 46 years, Mary Jean. THANK YOU BOTH!

The Minnesota Quarter Horse Racing Association (MQHRA) was incorporated in the State of Minnesota in November 14, 1972. The stated purpose: "To promote the breeding, raising, and racing of quarter horses in the State of Minnesota." The Incorporators are listed as Herbert J Alves, James J. Jeffords, and Carrol Balfanz. The First Board of Directors: Herb Alves (President), Jim Jeffords (Vice President) William Kennedy, William Anderson, Louis Klugman, Marlin Baker, Carl Robeson, Pat Cina, Robert Howard, Harvey Arvidson, Carrol Balfanz, James Balfanz and Mary Jean Estenson as Treasurer.

Marlyn Estenson was probably down south training horses (I don't know) or maybe he was just being his quiet and unassuming self, but his wife, Mary Jean and her sister Carrol Balfanz and Carrol's husband Jim Balfanz are listed on the first official documents of MQHRA and we know they were never far apart in spirit. The very next year, Marlyn Estenson was elected to the Board a year later at the November 16, 1973 MQHRA Annual Meeting.

In that short year this dedicated group of amazing dynamos and other notables such and Jack and Mary Hanley, Ralph Stevens, Ted Warhol, Barb and Gaylord Ahrens, Kay Baker and many unsung dedicated horsemen and women were already well on their way to organizing, sponsoring, and pulling off the nearly impossible: A race meet at the Wadena County Fair Grounds with Quarter Horse races approved by the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). The steady stream of work went on month after month until the meet was successfully held June 21, 22, 28, and 29. Complete with the Land of Lakes Futurity, North Star, and Paul Bunyon run. Stewards, out riders, photo finish equipment, electric starting gate, a half mile oval with a 400 yard straight-a-way! What an achievement and labor of love! Horses came (with their trainers and owners) from all over the country! It was quite amazing!

The MQHRA also embarked on its first year of sponsoring and implementing the Minnesota Stallion Breeders Futurity in 1975. Minnesota stallion owners nominated their stallions for a payment of \$200 and then their foals bred that year and foaled in 1976 were eligible for the first running of the futurity in 1978--if the foal owner made all the nomination payments. The race was a big success as well, and the race is still being held at Canterbury to date. The first running

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was won by Carrachick owned by Walt & Kay Horton. I apologize for not having the other connections here. Please send the info in to us, or comment somewhere.

Here is where this story gets VERY specific again to Marlyn Estenson: Marlyn trained the winners of the MQHRA Minnesota Stallion Breeders Futurity for the next FIVE YEARS in a row!!!!

- 1979: Magnifijet, owned by Bob & Dee Morehouse, trained by Marlyn Estenson, ridden by Otis Fetters. The race was held at Glendale Downs in Hillsdale Michigan.
- 1980: Jet A Rockette, owned by Gary & Kathie Strom, trained by Marlyn Estenson, ridden by Carter Riley. Race held at Quad City Downs East Moline Illinois.
- 1981: Jet A Flame, owned by G. Galarneau and R. Morehouse, Ridden by Joe Garren. The race was held at Beulah Park in Ohio.
- 1982: Jets Jigalow, owned by Robert Reddick, ridden by Joe Garren. The race was held at Beulah Park in Ohio.
- 1983: Sonoitan Jet, owned by Tony Mandan, ridden by Joe Garren. The race was held at Beulah Park in Ohio.

You might notice something strange. The Minnesota Stallion Breeders Race being held in OTHER states.

Of course we didn't have racing in Minnesota for quite some time after this, and the MQHRA Board Member and General Members we working continuously to bring pari-mutuel wagering to Minnesota, and to foster American Quarter Horse racing and Thoroughbred racing in the State of Minnesota to be able to see our horse race "at home". We finally made it thanks to all the unbelievable effort and capability of our members past and present.

Marlyn and Mary Jean Estenson are a fantastic team who have brightened the world where ever they have been.... And they HAVE been everywhere, man, as the song says.

Marlyn Estenson was finally able to win races in his home state at Canterbury with Mary Jean by his side. He trained so many horses, and the horse always came home from his program sound, and sane, and eager to start a new career.

Marlyn was a wonderful man! Kind, good, strong, a horseman and an artist. A great example. He is loved and missed! Thank you Marlyn and Mary Jean!



In addition to Bobbi Morehouse's information, Ralph Haglund made contact with Marlyn's brother Wayne Estenson and his widow, Mary Jean. Haglund was stabled near Estenson in the early Canterbury Downs days and he substantiated much of the information provided by Morehouse.

Recently, Marlyn's widow, Mary Jean sent us some additional information about her husband and she included news clippings about Minnesota's early racing history. Watch for more of this information in the next newsletter.

Thank You

By Kelvin Childers

Thank You!

I think those are the best words to describe what I would like to say as your new Past President. After having the opportunity of serving on the Board for 21 years, I decided it was time to give others the opportunity of experiencing what I have with the association. During that time, I have served as your president for a total of 15 years, been a member of the AQHA Racing Committee since 2005, completing my 2nd three-year term on the AQHA Racing Council and elected in 2008 as an AQHA Director representing Minnesota.

(Continued on next page)

I first joined MQHRA to learn about the industry and meet the people involved. The people I have met and worked with during this time will be remembered for a lifetime many of whom have become friends. The horses, both mine and others are the ones I hold the most affection for. Breeding, raising and racing these magnificent animals has afforded me many very memorable experiences – both good and not so good.

I plan on maintaining my involvement in the industry and I see an opportunity now to help transition MQHRA into a better place as I step away from the board but will remain involved on the executive committee to whatever extent the Board of Directors wishes. Yes, I do plan on a move to Colorado in the future as Nancy and I plan building on the land we purchased 20 years ago. At this time, I am not sure of any timeline of the move so I plan on staying on as an AQHA Director until I leave Minnesota.

Again, thank you for all your help and support in moving MQHRA forwarding during my tenure.

Thanks,
Kelvin

Thank You!

2016 Calendar of Events

Date	Day	Description
JANUARY		
1/31/2016	Sunday	MRC Registration Deadline (forms will NOT be mailed to owners)
TBD		The following events are yet to be determined.
TBD		Youth Day Application deadline
TBD		4-H Boot Camp and racing presentation
TBD		Youth Day at the Races
TBD		Leg Up for Jockeys
TBD		MQHRA celebrations
TBD		Backside Appreciation Party

The MQHRA Communication Team is working diligently to provide members with regular updates regarding issues and events concerning the Minnesota Quarter Horse racing industry via its newsletter, website and Facebook page. While the information contained within these communication tools is believed to be accurate, we will not be responsible for errors. If we are notified about an error in writing, we will gladly publish a correction. All PAID members will receive the MQHRA Newsletter.

Contributors to this edition of the newsletter:

- ⇒ Kelvin Childers
- ⇒ Ralph Haglund
- ⇒ Rosemary Higgins
- ⇒ Lori Locken
- ⇒ Bobbi Morehouse



Photo credits to:

- ⇒ Washburn-McReavy in Shakopee



**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
MINNESOTA QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION**

RENEW MEMBERSHIP
 \$25 SINGLE

NEW MEMBER
 \$40 FAMILY (does not include adult children over the age of 18)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE (Include area code) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Send membership dues to:
MQHRA, Rosemary Higgins, 8396 321st Ave. NW, Princeton, MN 55371

January 31, 2016
**MRC Deadline date for registration of Quarter Horse Stallions
and Broodmares (and foal)**



1100 Canterbury Road
Shakopee, MN 55379

YOUR NAME HERE