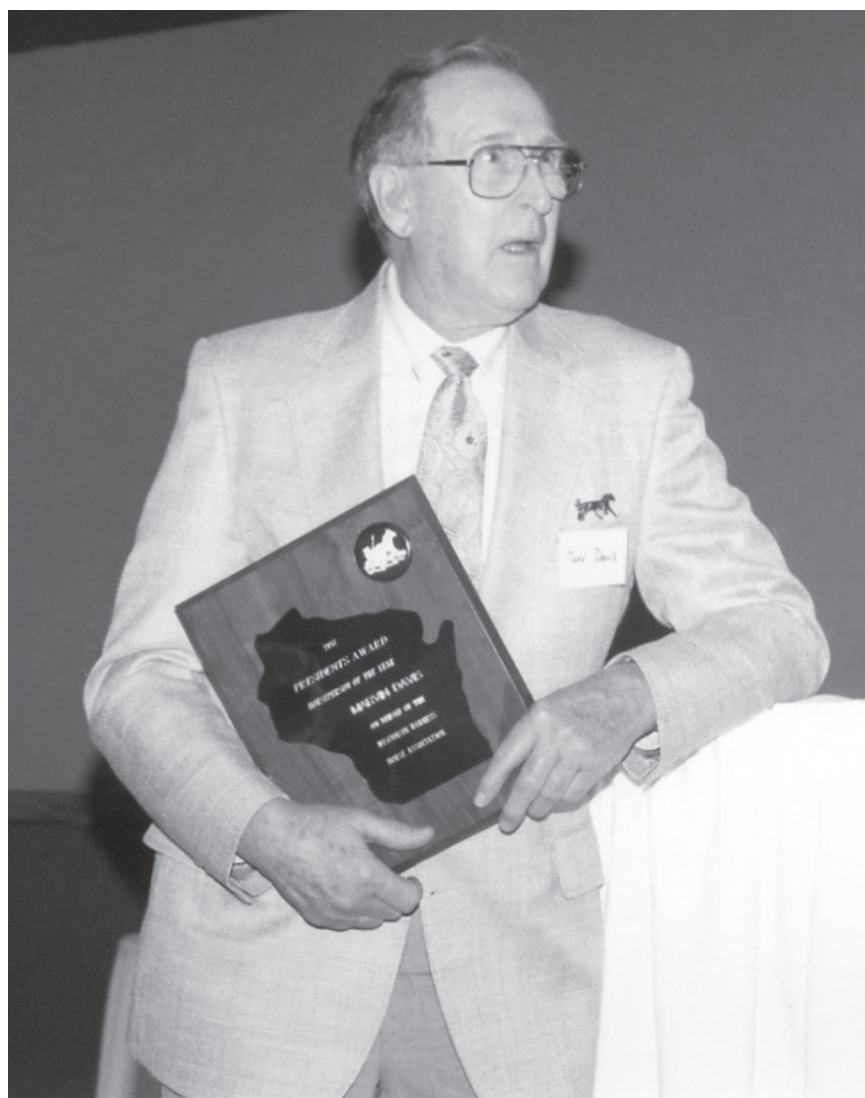




WHHA's Wisconsin Harness News



**Marv Davis - The Newest Member of the Wisconsin
Harness Racing Hall of Fame - Immortal Category**

**A publication of the Wisconsin Harness Horse Association
Volume 18 Number 1 ~ Winter 2006**

Harness Our Experience To Go The Extra Mile For You.



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vhill@vangundy.com

President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful and cheerful holiday season. I'm sure the New Year will bring many triumphs and perhaps a few disappointments. All I can do is wish everyone much success!

First off, I must congratulate and thank Jessica Schroeder for taking over the duties as Editor of the Wisconsin Harness News. I am sure she will bring a fresh new look to the newsletter.

Later in this issue you will find an annual meeting recap. We had a great weekend all around. The WHHA business meeting was filled with information and suggestions that the board will be dutifully working on in 2006. As we thanked Carol Yohn and Scott Douglas for their tenure on the board, we welcomed Jeanne Marquis and Basil Remley to our team. Their contact information is also found in this issue in case you need to get a hold of either of them. We are also very lucky to keep Susan Schroeder on the board for another term. I want to express my gratitude to Carol & Scott for all they have done, and I am very excited to begin working with Jeanne and Basil!

Although our attendance for the banquet was down from the previous year, we do have good news—the fund raising efforts of the auction and 50/50 raffle proved to be awesome! We took in more money this year than we have since the year 2001! THANK YOU to all the members who participated and donated and an extra special thank you goes to Becky Swinehart for her hard work in all the fund raising efforts this year. Ata girl Becky!

In the midst of 'annual meeting recovery', we learned that Bob & Carol Yohn had a tragic barn fire that took the lives of nine head of horses. Our hearts go out to them as they endure this loss. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they begin to rebuild their stable.

Remember to renew your membership early! This will be your last issue until you renew for 2006. Dues will stay the same. Condition books this year will be sent to all owners, trainers, and drivers who competed in 2005 free of charge. For those who wish to have a condition book, please make a note on the membership form when sending it in and Jess will make sure you get one.

As I type this, time is running out for the IHHA and the owners of Balmoral & Maywood to sign a contract for 2006. It seems once again that they are at a standstill over recapture, among other things. Although I don't have anything racing, I try to keep on top of things as many in Wisconsin are faring well in Chicago. Hopefully, by the time you read this, they have signed a contract without a stoppage in racing. If not, cross your fingers . . .

~ Gabe Wand



For Sale
Too many horses, Too little time!
Boneire's McGuire, currently racing
 Armbr Mackintosh - Bon Eire's Camfire - Cam Fella
 1/2 brother to Boneire's Bubba 1:54.2,
 \$80,889 **SOLD!**

Paradise City, broodmare - OPEN

No Nukes - Tropic Town - Big Towner

Dam of: Bon Eire's Squire 1:54.2 \$57,000

1/2 sister to: Bahama Bunny 1:52 \$578,338,

Bunny Town 1:56 \$118,141

Tropic Trick 1:54.2 \$84,692

Contact:
Becky Swinehart 608-868-4874
or
Cliff O'Beirne 608-868-4496

Bits & Pieces

Congratulations!

Bravo to WHHA member Rick Magee, Clintonville, who got his **first pari-mutual driving win** at Maywood Park on November 14th with Lil Miss Hilkris, a 10-year-old, who also broke her maiden that night.

Congratulations are also in order to member Ben Gald, Richland Center, who got his **first pari-mutual driving win** at Maywood on January 12th with Barus Oxford Lady.

Letter from the Yohns

W.H.H.A. Board & Members:

The last couple of weeks have been difficult but the friends we have make a huge difference. The cards, emails, offers of help, offers of hay & straw and donations have been overwhelming. Your donation was very much appreciated. We are a part of a very special industry and we both are grateful for the support.

~ Bob & Carol

Midwest Horse Fair

"Horses of the World" is the theme for the 2006 Midwest Horse Fair. Held in Madison, Wisc. the expo will be held April 21-23. The WHHA again will be representing the Standardbred with a booth and horses in the barn area. Our co-coordinators this year will be Becky Swinehart and Rick Davis. We have already had two horses sign up to be presenters: MHF-pro Jimmy Champion & rider Maggie Steiner and new-be Javalina & the Nebgen family. Please contact racing@whha.info if you are interested in bringing a horse or want to volunteer a couple hours during the weekend.

Website Links Available

If you are a WHHA member or advertiser in this newsletter, you are eligible to have a link on our website to your website! Whether you have your own business or want to promote your farm, the WHHA online directory is for you!

Board of Directors Meeting

The next WHHA meeting will be held Saturday, February 4th at 10:00am at the City Library in Portage.

Thank You from the MACC Fund

On behalf of the MACC Fund and children with cancer, please accept and extend our thanks to the members of the Wisconsin Harness Horse Assn., the Vernon County Agricultural Society and The Walsh Co. for your generous donation of \$1000.00 in support of childhood cancer research.

Your contribution will help the MACC Fund continue to support research in to the effective treatment and cure of childhood cancer, which is the leading disease related cause of death in children after the newborn period. The primary beneficiary of MACC Fund support is the Midwest Children's Cancer Center with research conducted in the MACC Fund Research Center of the Medical College of Wisconsin. We are also pleased to be able to support research at the University of Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Center in Madison.

Thank you once again for your special gift of hope to children with cancer. We are proud and grateful to have you on the MACC Fund Team.

Gratefully,

Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer, Inc.

Colleen E. O'Neil Moran

Development Officer

www.maccfund.org

WHHA/Kwik Trip Team Up

When you opened this issue of *WHN*, an application for a Kwik Trip credit card may have fallen out. Don't throw it away! WHHA has signed up to receive benefits from every person who applies for the credit card and puts WHHA as its designated organization.

Everyone buys gas/fuel, whether it's driving to the Weyauwega or Viroqua fairs, or down the street to a friend's house. Now you can help support the WHHA by donating your quarterly rebates of \$.03 per gallon or five percent of in-store purchases! It doesn't get much easier than that!

Visit www.kwiktrip.com or contact the WHHA Board Members at racing@whha.info for more information.

Membership Stickers

Next to your address label is a colored sticker.

Green - you are a 2006 WHHA member

Yellow - you were a 2005 WHHA member but not renewed for 2006

Red - you were a past WHHA member, please join us again!

2006 Membership Form

Wisconsin Harness Horse Association

Membership Form for 2006

*Please fill out the following information completely. ** fields are for those requesting 3rd party liability*

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

USTA Membership # & Driving Colors _____

E-mail address _____

**Name of Facility You Train At _____

**Address of Training Facility _____

**City, State, Zip of Facility _____

Active Membership - \$20.00 _____ I want a Condition Book _____

3rd Party Liability Insurance - \$15.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

**Make checks payable to WHHA.
Return this page with your check to:**

**Jeanne Marquis
6651 Hyslop Road
Dane, WI 53529**

Nukes Himself

Nukes Himself

(No Nukes – Herself – Best of All)

p, 3 , 1:55; 5, 1:53 (\$358,394)

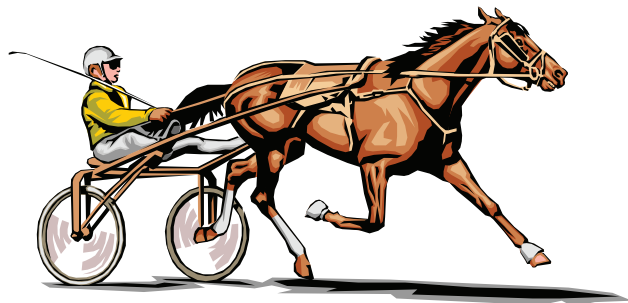
Sub-1:58 Winners

Four Star Mike	p, 4, 1:50.4 (\$41,193)
Nananukes	p, 5, 1:52.3 (\$47,661)
El Gees Mr Q	p, 6, 1:52.4 (\$213,385)
C Don	p, 4, 1:54.0 (\$29,002)
Prairie Would Ya'	p, 6, 1:54.2 (\$107,457)
Uknowwho Iam	p, 4, 1:54.4 (\$53,806)
Tiny Oh	p, 3, 1:57.1 (\$37,819)
Lookiere Bluegrass	p, 4, 1:57.2 ((\$17,877)
Granny Mare	p, 4, 1:57.4 (\$22,505)
Sweet Amber	p, 4, 1:58.0 (\$20,478)

Nukes Himself is the sire of 33 starters, 17 of which have taken racing marks under 2:00

Of those 33 starters, Nukes Himself is a **sire of over \$741,000**

Nukes Himself **stands just six miles south** of the Wisconsin – Illinois border



****2006 Stud Fee - \$1,000****

**Shipped semen available
Call for details
Cedar Knoll Farm
14005 Durkee Road
Harvard, IL 60033**

2005 Annual Meeting & Banquet

The 2005 WHHA Annual Meeting & Banquet was held at the Holiday Inn East - Madison, November 4th and 5th.

Much discussion was had about the future locations and dates of our annual meeting. We talked about the pros and cons of having our meeting in November. After much deliberation, we took an advisory vote on whether or not we should move our meeting and banquet back to January. Of the 42 members present, we only had 4 members vote that they would not be in attendance if it was held in January (due to weather and traveling.) Although we hate to go against 4 valued members, we have to look at what benefits the entire membership. We are seriously thinking of moving back to January. It is not set in stone—it will depend a lot on location and facility rates. For those who did not attend this year, please let the board know your opinion! (Email us at racing@whha.info)

I have once again mapped out our annual meeting and banquet attendees. When we look at the entire state of Wisconsin, I drew a line at Portage, straight across the state. I have included total attendees this year, as we had numerous non-members in attendance at the annual meeting and banquet. I also added a very important column

when I did this comparison last year - I not only tracked the people who bought dinner tickets, but I also tracked the total people in attendance for the awards banquet and auction. This gives us a true sense of how many horsemen and friends show up for the evening's festivities. And of course, you can see how the extra people helped the auctions! The following is what I found when comparing the significantly larger upper portion to the lower portion of the state of Wisconsin.

Once again, we sent out scouts for locations. I have already turned down the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc and the Comfort Inn & Hilton Garden Inn - Madison due to price. Jeanne Wendricks is compiling information from a few hotels in the Green Bay area, and Margie Clausen did great legwork on the Radisson in Green Bay. The Holiday Inn - Madison (our current location) wants our group back as they let me know how low maintenance we are compared to most of their events. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about the data above, or about the location or date of the 2006 annual meeting and banquet. A decision will be made at our February 4th Board of Director's meeting.

~ Gabe Wand

	Attendees ABOVE Portage	Attendees BELOW Portage	Total Attendees
WHHA Business Meeting	22 (52%)	20 (48%)	42
Banquet Dinners Bought	30 (44%)	38 (56%)	68
Total Banquet Attendees	37 (44%)	47 (56%)	84
Live/Silent Auction Dollars	\$575.50 (20%)	\$2,320.50 (80%)	\$2,896.00

Thank you to everyone who donated and bought auction items!

Thank you to our corporate auction donors!

The Walsh Company
 Jerald Sulky
 Featherweight
 Hoosier Park
 Big Dees
 The Horseman & Fair World
 USTA
 Nutramax (Cosequin)
 Uncle's Sports Agenda (Happy Horse)

Harness Racing Hall of Fame
 Valley Vet Supply
 Maywood Park
 Springtime
 Seigel Turf Supplies
 United Vet Supply
 Rainyday Saddlery
 Davis Lane Equipment

2005 Award Winners

Top Ten Trotters

Crafty Sailor
Ryan's Victory
Tri-Mar Tini
Dancin' In Dakota
Caper
Larkspurs Star
Carry The Mar
Muskiemar I
Beaucoup Hanover
Yankee Action

Dave Carter
Rick Davis
Don Laufenberg
Gabe & Robert Wand
Richard Beere
Myron Kauppi
Jeanne Marquis
Jeanne Marquis
Richard Beere
Robert Grismore



Top Ten Pacers

Overmaster
Dancer's Shiann
Silver Lotto
Challs Go-Get-Ter
Prairie Zeke
Lipstick Don't Lie
Audrey's Queen
Hugogrl Bluebrass
Badger Beauty
Wand's Little Gypsy

John & Nancy Remley
Rick Davis
Del & Diane Schmeichel
John Sandquist
Robert & Carol Yohn
Robert Grismore
Brian McMahon
Ron Riley
John & Nancy Remley
Robert Wand

Top Ten Drivers

*Jay Garrels
Ben Gald
John Remley
Rick Davis
Wayne Weaver
Gary Magee
Charlie Wolf
Robert Yohn
Adam Turnbull
Gabe Wand

Clinton, Wisc.
Richland Center, Wisc.
Evansville, Wisc.
Marshfield, Wisc.
Harvard, Ill.
Shawano, Wisc.
Harvard, Ill.
Columbus, Wisc.
Sharon, Wisc.
Platteville, Wisc.



* Congratulations to Gary "Jay" Garrels who was **#14 in the nation for 2005** leading drivers by UDR! Jay had a 143-33-34-17 record, which gave him a .402 UDR.

2005 Award Winners

Service Awards



Walworth County Fair Board
Ed Loymeyer, President

Wisconsin Harness Racing Hall of Fame Inductee



Marv Davis' family accepts his Hall of Fame Award



Cindy Noack & Donna Magee



Many WHHA Members who donated their horses earnings to the MACC Fund were on hand at the banquet. Rick Davis (bottom right, holding bridle) owns Ryan's Victory, who raised the most money this summer and received a free harness from the Walsh Company in Brookfield for his generosity.



James Laird Memorial
Award for Excellence
Susan Schroeder

**Check out the WHHA website for
more information on our
award winners!**

Industry Happenings

USTA Introduces County Fair Initiatives

The U.S. Trotting Association will embark on two initiatives in 2006 to support county fair racing by providing publicity support and funding some local marketing and promotional projects.

"The USTA recognizes the importance of fair racing in developing and sustaining new fans and providing diverse racing opportunities for our horsemen and breeders," said USTA Executive Vice-President Eric Sharbaugh. "The fairs are the foundation our sport is built on and we think these initiatives will strengthen them and benefit us all."

The first initiative is a revival of a program discontinued some 20 years ago in which county fairs receive assistance in publicizing their racing through summer publicity associates hired, subsidized, trained and supervised by USTA staff. The associates will do advance and race day coverage of fairs in all regions through developing, writing and pitching feature and news stories and photos.

The second aspect of the program provides matching funds up to 50 percent of the total project budget and a maximum of \$500 per fair for projects designed to raise awareness of and attract fans to the races at local fairs. Local fairs will determine the projects and they will apply to the USTA with a proposal and budget for the marketing or promotional activity.

"Virtually all our fairs are run by hard working, conscientious volunteers to want racing to keep its foothold in their county," said Robert Yohn, chairman of the USTA Fair Committee. "We can't afford to lose a single fair and wanted to come up with projects that would complement the good things that go on right now. Both the publicity associate and matching funds programs have been used in the same settings in the past with success. We're optimistic these programs will have a positive effect."

~ Harness Racing Communications
www.ustrotting.com

24 Hour Accident Insurance For U.S.T.A Licensed Trainers & Drivers

24 Hour Accident Insurance, On or Off the Job, gives you an Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit and a Weekly Disability Benefit. You may select the plan that works best for you. There is also a family option available.

Here is what Charlie Norris of Pennsylvania has to say: "Buying the insurance offered by Van Gundy through the U.S.T.A. for drivers and trainers was one of the best decisions I have ever made. It really came in handy after my accident. I don't know why every horseman doesn't have this coverage. It's like insuring your paycheck. For what it costs, you would be a fool not to have it."

Licensed U.S.T.A. Drivers & Trainers may select one of the following:

- ~ Option 1 - \$300 Weekly Disability & \$100,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Annual Premium \$96
- ~ Option 2 - \$500 Weekly Disability & \$250,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Annual Premium \$240

Family coverage may be purchased with either of these options. Spouses will be covered for 60% of the selected Accidental Death & Dismemberment benefit amount and each eligible dependent child would be covered for 15%. The cost to add family coverage to option one is \$168 and for option two is \$420.

There are of course exceptions that would disqualify the insured from being covered. Please contact Van Gundy Insurance for more information.

**For Sale
2 Jog Carts**



**Contact Roy Kline
262-736-4409**

From The Backstretch

Editor's Note

I hope everyone is having a good winter thus far. With the seemingly warmer than usual temperatures, training (and racing) is much more enjoyable! Racing this winter has been an incredible challenge for my family - never before have we 'utilized' the catch-driver this much (my dad usually drove our horses), and between going to school full-time and racing three horses at Maywood, there wasn't time for much else!

As you can (hopefully) see this newsletter is taking on a new format, to coordinate with the WHHA's website and create a cohesive identity. If you have any topic suggestions for articles, announcements you would like to share with the membership or would like to place an ad in the newsletter, please email me at wiharnessnews@yahoo.com or call me at 608-772-5600.

To reiterate what is in 'Bits & Pieces': next to your address label, if you have a green sticker you are a 2006 WHHA member, if you have a yellow sticker you were a 2005 member who has not renewed their membership and if you have a red sticker this is a complimentary issue of the newsletter - please join and support the WHHA with a membership! Also, those of you that ordered condition books last year will receive them again and those of you that raced in the state last year will also get them, all at no extra charge!

Every issue, next to the Editor's Note, will have a member profile from the membership. If you have a story about how you got involved in harness racing, a family tradition within harness racing or are new to the sport and would like the membership to know you, please write me and you may be up for selection in the next newsletter! Our first profile is about a Board of Directors member who many of you may not have recognized until our annual meeting.

I look forward to serving you as your Editor of this newsletter and as Webmaster of the WHHA website. Remember, this is your newsletter and website. If you believe there should be something in here/on the site, let me know!

~ Jessica Schroeder

Member Profile

The father-daughter, driver-trainer team of Cliff O'Beirne & Becky Swinehart base their operations in Milton and Elkhorn, Wisc. They not only race their own horses but they breed them as well. You may have seen them racing their horses in Chicago or on the Wisconsin Fair Circuit, or you may have seen Becky and her husband Mark at the various Wisconsin fairs. Becky was voted onto the WHHA Board of Directors in 2003, but she has been involved in the promotion of the sport for many years while volunteering at the Midwest Horse Fair, Harness Horse Youth Foundation day camps and the Harness Racing Youth League in Indiana.

Cliff and Becky operate under the name "Bon Eire Stable," which means "good Ire," an affectionate term for Ireland. Bon Eire also incorporates all the letters of O'Beirne. "When we started raising our own horses they were named Bon Eire in grandpa's honor," Becky says. "Grandpa did not race horses but he used the name for his cabin in Hayward. The very first "Bon Eire" was his airdale dog - Sir Briar of Bon Eire.



Next Issue Notes

The deadline for the next issue is March 5th. If you have any advertisements, an article or letters to the editor, please email or mail them by that date.

The New WHHA Website

www.whha.info

New website departments include:

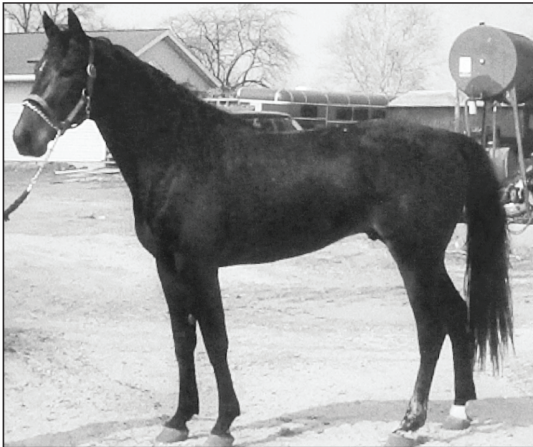
- Hall of Fame
- Logowear
- WHHA History
- List of Wisconsin Trainers
- Youth Page

Please check out the website and give us your feedback!

*One of the strongest pedigrees of any
Valley Victory stallion standing anywhere.*

DECISIVE VICTORY

Valley Victory - Michelle's Crown - Speedy Crown



2006 Stud Fee \$1,000

Michelle's Crown is a full sister to Pegasus Spur 2,1:58f; 3,1:54-1:53.2f (\$1,296,683). Decisive Victory is out of a record Speedy Crown daughter of the Hickory Pride matron, Ima LuLa 4,1:57.1 (\$638,921). She won 12 of 16 races as a two-year-old including the Review Futurity and Matron Stake. At 3 she won the Hambletonian Oaks, The Buckette, Castleton Farm, Lexington Filly S. And won the Maple Leaf Trot, and several aged trots.

Decisive Victory's first crop are yearlings in 2006 and they look exceptional.

Shipped semen available.

Also available, hay cubes by the bag or by the load

George Conley Farm • 18143 Capron Rd., Capron, IL 61012 • 815-569-2602

Wisconsin Harness News
2125 Oakdale Drive
Waukesha, WI 53189

