

## MC CEDES CAPTURES CLASSIC; REPEAT FOR RYDER & MANZI

Success struck a second time in the \$500,000 Anthony Abbatiello New Jersey Classic for trainer Chris Ryder and driver Cat Manzi on May 31 at the Meadowlands.



Cat Manzi wins the 2008 NJ Classic with McCedes.

Red River Hanover]. Harley D Hanover [Western Ideal] held on for third.

"I was sitting fourth, not a bad spot because I was pretty sure once Daley Deposit Only got used up hard. I would get Yannick Gingras [Harley D Hanover] to give him a try," said Manzi. "It happened to work.

"I went into this race with a great feeling because the last two weeks this horse has stepped up this game," Manzi added. "I came in with a positive note."

It was McCedes sixth win in 17 starts for Ryder and co-owner Jerry Silva of Long Beach, NY.

Ryder was rewarded with two breedings to McArdle, a winner of \$2.5 million, and his search for a broodmare yielded an unraced daughter of The Panderosa named Only Gossip, whose first colt was McCedes.

"I bred this one myself and it's a great feeling," Ryder said. "I came in pretty confident. The horse was really sharp last week and never got racing room."

McCedes is not the first son of a previous New Jersey Classic winner to capture the event. Cam's Card Shark, the 1994 victor, sired the 2000 winner Riverboat King,



The connections of McCedes are joined in the winner's circle by the SBOANJ's Al Ochsner, Thomas D'Altrui and Dennis Lane [left to right on the far right]. Former SBOANJ president and current NJ Racing Commissioner Anthony Abbatiello is center of this group in the tan jacket. The New Jersey Classic is named in his honor.  
Photos by Lisa Photo.

The team behind 2002 champion McArdle was back in the winner's circle with his son, McCedes, who won the richest of state-bred races in 1:49.4, three-fifths of a second off of the stakes record.

The New Jersey Classic, which is restricted to New Jersey-sired three-year-old pacing colts and geldings, is sponsored by the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey.

In the final turn, Manzi hustled the pacer to a length and a quarter victory over the fast-charging Rudy Rednose [by

the 2001 winner Bettor's Delight and the 2007 winner Fresh Deck. Matt's Scooter, who won the Classic in 1988, sired the 1996 winner Falcons Scooter.

[See Page 8 for the Thomas D'Altrui Miss New Jersey results].

For All the News of the SBOANJ, Visit [sboanj.com](http://sboanj.com) Daily

# From the Desk of President Tom Luchento

Testifying before legislative committees is a little like drawing the eight-hole at Freehold every week.

There doesn't always seem a point to the effort but somewhere along the way it bears some fruit.

So there I am, stuffed into a suit and tie, trying to make state legislators understand why it is important that those "guys in the buggies" get some financial relief. Sometimes I'm a little blunter than they're used to, but they seem to appreciate the fact that I don't drone on and usually they're paying attention to me!

And so it is that we continue to make the case for New Jersey's horsemen and are beginning to see some rewards for our efforts.

On May 9, our lobbyist, Leon Zimmerman, and I, along with other racing representatives, spoke to the members of the State Senate Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee at hearings held at Monmouth Park.

Thanks in part to these efforts, horse racing was included along with the casinos in the legislation signed by the governor on June 27, which designates us as industries that will not shutdown if the state's budget is not approved as was the case in 2006.

Some of our meetings still entail working out the details on the casino supplement. There are still differences of opinion that need to be resolved between the casino representatives and the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority, which will administer the funds, as well as discussions SBOANJ has been holding with the NJSEA

over the allocation of those funds.

We are hopeful that one byproduct of these meetings is that Freehold will receive a substantial sum of money to dedicate to its fall meet purses, specifically to benefit the horsemen who have raced there in 2008, positioning the track to compete for better quality racing in overnights and possibly special stakes series.

We continue to make the point to the audiences we get to address that not only is a billion-dollar industry in jeopardy but so also are the green spaces that New Jerseyans so treasure. If they let racing falter, open spaces will turn into paved spaces.

Part of our pitch is to let the legislators experience our business first hand. Whether it is a tour of Perretti Farms, or presenting trophies, as several did the night of the \$700,000 New Jersey Sire Stakes Night of Champions, it all serves to provide the human - and equine - connection that helps our cause.

Speaking of causes, our Horsemen's Benevolent Fund will benefit greatly if you have a day of golf and good food at the 13th Annual SBOANJ Golf Outing on July 14 at Gambler Ridge in Cream Ridge. Your sponsorship and purchases of raffle tickets will all help your fellow horsemen. Why not have some fun on behalf of the Fund [See more on page 4 of the *Pacesetter*]?

The SBOANJ golf outing is the middle gem of the New Jersey Golf Triple Crown that also includes the Standardbred Retirement Foundation's event on July 1 and the Hambletonian Tournament on July 28. Why not support them all?

## STANDARD BRED BREEDERS & OWNERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY

64 Business Route 33, Manalapan, NJ 07726 Phone: 732-462-2357 Fax: 732-409-0741

Email: sboanj@optonline.net Website: www.sboanj.com

### OFFICERS

**Thomas F. Luchento**

*President*

**Ed Razzetti**

*First Vice President*

**Martin O'Hare**

*Second Vice President*

**Kelvin Harrison**

*Third Vice President*

**Alfred B. Ochsner**

*Treasurer*

**Anthony Romano**

*Secretary*

**Leo McNamara**

*Executive Administrator*

### DIRECTORS

**Robert Baggitt Sr.**

**Gary Bergmann**

**Robert Boni**

**Stephen P. Dey III**

**Mark Ford**

**Jacqueline Ingrassia**

**Dennis Lane**

**Mark Mullen**

**Paul Wojtowicz**

### TRENTON LOBBYIST

**Leon Zimmerman**

609-394-8303

### RACETRACK REPRESENTATIVES

**Paul Consol**

At the Meadowlands  
201-935-8500 x2105

**Linda Goss**

At Freehold Raceway  
732-462-3800 x365

### PACESETTER EDITOR

**Carol Hodes**

*Printed By*

### NEWPORT GRAPHICS

**John DiSomma**

212-255-2727 x305

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**New Jersey Sire Stakes**  
609-292-8830

**Harness Horsemen International**  
609-747-1000

**License/Fingerprint NJ Racing Commission**  
Trenton—609-292-0613  
Freehold — 732-462-3800  
Meadowlands—201-460-4137

**NJ Trailer Ban—NJTP**  
800-336-5875



## FREEHOLD'S POPULAR SIGNAL LIFTS STATS; RACING RESUMES AUGUST 7

Freehold Raceway's 2007-2008 meet ended June 14 with decreases in both on track attendance and live handle, but increases in live transmissions.

Average attendance was 1,250, a decline of 7.1 percent from the 2006-2007 average of 1,345. Live handle for 2007-2008 was \$20,239,684 compared with \$24,036,105 for the previous meet, a decrease of 15.8 percent.

Total live transmissions - wagering on Freehold's live races at other locations - increased 4.2 percent from \$100,114,042 in 2006-2007 to \$104,319,913 for the recently completed meet.

MAJOR FREEHOLD STAKES IN AUGUST			
8/08	10,000	Helen Smith Elims	Trot
8/09	114,000	Molly Pitcher	Pace
8/15	85,000	Helen Smith - Final	Trot
8/23	41,000	Battle Of Freehold Elims	Pace
8/23	99,000	Cane Pace - Elims	Pace

"While we're never satisfied with a decline in on track business, the shift in handle was not unexpected with the expansion of off-track wagering in the state," said general Manager Donald Codey.

"It used to be that you tried to bring the people out to the track. Now with account wagering and off-track wagering, we're attempting to bring the racetrack to the people," Codey added.

Highlighting the spring portion of the meet was the third annual Frank Rubinetti Memorial Trot, the Lady Suffolk Trot, the Helen Dancer Memorial and the Dexter Cup.

Cat Manzi was honored on closing day for winning his 20th driving title at Freehold. In addition, Carmine Fusco and Chris Marino shared the leading trainer title.

Freehold opened New Jersey's third off-track wagering facility, Favorites at Toms River in April.

Live racing returns to Freehold on August 7.

## FAVORITES AT TOMS RIVER OPENS



The SBOANJ was well-represented by many of the directors at the grand opening festivities for Favorites at Toms River, the third off track wagering facility in New Jersey, which opened for business on April 29, 2008.

Among those attending the April 28 event were [left to right] Tony Romano, Eddie Razzetti, Dennis Lane, Assemblyman Ronald Dancer, Jacqueline Ingrassia, Al Ochsner, Racing Commissioner Tony Abbatiello, Tom Luchento and Leo McNamara.

## SUMMER 2008 NEW JERSEY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 4	4th of July – SBOA Office Closed	August 2	Hambletonian Day/ Big M Closes
July 8	SBOANJ Board Meeting	August 7	Freehold Opens
July 14	13th Annual SBOANJ Golf Outing Gambler Ridge Golf Club, Cream Ridge Benefits Horsemen's Benevolent Fund	August 10	Mare & Foal, Yearling Show Sponsored by SBOANJ At the New Jersey Horse Park
July 22	NJSS Board Meeting, Trenton	August 13	New Jersey Racing Commission At Monmouth Park
July 29	Insurance Meeting	August 26	Insurance Meeting

## SBOANJ DONATES "CRAZY GOOD" TO NJ LIBRARIES

The Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey has donated three dozen copies of the book, *Crazy Good: The True Story of Dan Patch, the Most Famous Horse in America* to major county and college libraries throughout the state of New Jersey.

A hundred years ago, the most famous athlete of his day was a horse named Dan Patch, a pacer who was so iconic he became the first celebrity sports endorser.



Karen Moench, head librarian at the headquarters branch of the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan, accepts a copy of *Crazy Good* from SBOANJ President Tom Luchento.

Photo by Ken Weingartner, HRC

His name appeared on breakfast cereals, washing machines, cigars, razors, and sleds. At a time when the highest-paid baseball player, Ty Cobb, was making \$12,000 a year, Dan Patch was earning over a million dollars.

Charles Leerhsen's book, *Crazy Good: The True Story of Dan Patch, the Most Famous Horse in America* [Simon & Shuster, May 2008], tells the story of Dan Patch, who was born crippled and spent his early days pulling a grocer's wagon before he became the most celebrated racehorse of the early 20th century.

"Harness racing is a truly American sport and so it's fitting that the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey would support their communities by giving a book about American sporting history to their local libraries," said Leerhsen, an executive editor at *Sports Illustrated*. "I'm honored to be a part of their generous gesture. I hope the book helps people understand how important Dan Patch was in his day, and how valuable the standardbred was—and is—to the economy and the ecology."

"This is a book that should appeal to all readers and seems especially appropriate for libraries in New Jersey, where the state animal is the horse," said Tom Luchento, president of the SBOANJ. "We hope that this book, which celebrates the great Dan Patch, finds a prominent place on the bookshelves of these libraries and inspires many to read it. At a time when libraries cannot afford to buy every book that is published, we wanted to make sure that this one was available to the citizens of New Jersey."

### BIG M STAKES FOR JULY & AUGUST

7/5/08	50,000	WR HAUGHTON MEM ELIMS
7/11/08	25,000	DEL MILLER MEM ELIMS
7/11/08	35,000	STANLEY DANCER MEM ELIMS
7/12/08	50,000	MEADOWLANDS PACE ELIMS
7/12/08	625,000	WR HAUGHTON MEM
7/12/08	100,000	PERRETTI MATCHMAKER
7/16/08	125,000	COUNTESS ADIOS
7/17/08	125,000	NIATROSS
7/18/08	350,000	DEL MILLER MEM
7/18/08	150,000	TARPORT HAP
7/19/08	1,000,000	MEADOWLANDS PACE
7/19/08	350,000	STANLEY DANCER MEM
7/23/08	20,000	PETER HAUGHTON MEM ELIMS
7/24/08	20,000	MERRIE ANNABELLE ELIMS
7/24/08	20,000	SWEETHEART ELIMS
7/25/08	25,000	MISTLETOE SHALEE ELIMS
7/25/08	20,000	WOODROW WILSON ELIMS
7/26/08	35,000	HAMBLETONIAN OAKS ELIMS
7/26/08	70,000	HAMBLETONIAN ELIMS
7/31/08	400,000	MERRIE ANNABELLE
7/31/08	400,000	PETER HAUGHTON MEM
8/1/08	30,000	DUENNA
8/1/08	425,000	SWEETHEART
8/1/08	50,000	TOWNSEND ACKERMAN
8/1/08	400,000	WOODROW WILSON
8/2/08	350,000	MISTLETOE SHALEE
8/2/08	300,000	NAT RAY
8/2/08	275,000	OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES
8/2/08	350,000	US PACING CHAMPIONSHIP
8/2/08	750,000	HAMBLETONIAN OAKS
8/2/08	1,500,000	HAMBLETONIAN
8/2/08	175,000	GOLDEN GIRLS

### SBOA GOLF OUTING ON JULY 14

Play for the Fund — the Horsemen's Benevolent Fund — on Monday, July 14.

There are still foursomes and sponsorship opportunities available for the 13th Annual SBOANJ Golf Outing at Gambler Ridge Golf Club in Cream Ridge, NJ.

Raffle tickets are available for \$10 each for a chance to win a Pennsbury Sport Trainer jogcart [\$1,595 value] donated by Allen Eggert of Pennsbury

The player's fee of \$135 remains the same as last year. Those wishing to partake of the dinner only may do so for \$50. Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$2,000.

Registration for the event will begin at 11:30 a.m. Luncheon will be offered from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. and the shotgun start will be at 1 p.m.

For additional information on the golf outing, visit [www.sboanj.com](http://www.sboanj.com) or contact the SBOANJ office at 732-462-2357/ [sboanj@optonline.net](mailto:sboanj@optonline.net).



## 2008 NJSS NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS



Photos by Lisa Photo Inc.



The \$700,000 New Jersey Sire Stakes Night of Champions [June 20] — a showcase for all four \$175,000 finals for three-year-olds — drew several legislators to festivities at the Meadowlands, hosted by the SBOANJ as well as the state's major breeding farms: Perretti, Fair Winds, Bluestone, Hanover Shoe and Kentuckiana.

This was the richest single night offered by the New Jersey Sires Stakes.

In the photo on the left SBOANJ Directors Dennis Lane [far left] and Eddie Razzetti [far right] joined State Senators Loretta Weinberg and Robert Gordon in the winner's circle.

Among the legislators attending the Night of Champions were [left to right] Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttle, Assemblyman Fred Scaleria, State Senator Loretta Weinberg, Assemblyman Ronald Dancer, Assemblywoman Joan Voss and State Senator Robert Gordon.

## FINISHING LINES...NEWS & NOTES

SBOANJ President Tom Luchento [left to right], SBOANJ lobbyist Leon Zimmerman and New Jersey Sire Stakes Executive Director Chris Castens were among the racing industry leaders who testified before the State Senate Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee on Friday, May 9, 2008 at Monmouth Park. In the second row were Freehold GM Don Codey and NJ Racing Commission Executive Director Frank Zanzuccki.



Photo courtesy of Barbara DeMarco  
\*\*\*

Historic Roosevelt Raceway is the focus of a three phase project being conducted by the Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame in Goshen, NY. The museum has begun to record and digitize the more than 8,000 photographs, videos, programs and posters that were rescued from the raceway prior to its demolition in 2000. Support is being

sought from individuals, corporations and organizations for the Roosevelt legacy project. For information: call 845 294-6330, email [hrmdir@frontiernet.net](mailto:hrmdir@frontiernet.net) or visit [www.harnessmuseum.com](http://www.harnessmuseum.com).

\*\*\*

The roster of 225 yearlings entered for the 2008 New Jersey Classic Sale on September 7, 2008 is available at [www.gardenstatesales.com](http://www.gardenstatesales.com). The sale will take place at the Horse Park of New Jersey. Catalogs will be available August 1 and may be ordered online or by calling the Garden State Horse Sales Company at 717-637-8931.

\*\*\*

The 16th Annual Hambletonian Charity Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, July 28, 2008 at the Montclair Golf Club in West Orange, NJ. The event is sponsored by the Hambletonian Society and the Meadowlands to benefit the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame, and the Standardbred Retirement Foundation. To participate as a golfer, sponsor or donate a prize call John Mayo at 845-294-6330 or email [hrmoper@frontiernet.net](mailto:hrmoper@frontiernet.net).

\*\*\*

We note, with sadness, the recent passing of:

- Norma Campbell, 55, of Wayne, NJ on June 16, 2008. She held various posts in racing administration at the Meadowlands between 1977 and 2006.
- Rev. Thomas J. O'Connor, 78, of Freehold Township, NJ, on June 11, 2008. He bred and raced horses including 1981 NJ Standardbred of the Year Caramore.
- Martin J. Craven, 93, of Pennsville, NJ on June 1, 2008. He was a former SBOANJ director and racing official.

## DIRECTORS SPOTLIGHT: ED RAZZETTI

For Eddie Razzetti, the racetrack is as much about friendships as it is about horses.

The veteran SBOANJ board member has more than 30 years of harness racing memories.



"The first date I ever had with my wife was to Roosevelt Raceway," he recalled, adding with a laugh, "I don't know if she fell in love with Roosevelt or with me."

The Razzettis still spend "date night" at the Meadowlands which is not far from their home in Hasbrouck Heights.

"I'm there almost every Saturday night," he said.

"I'm in Trackside, same seat every Saturday night, with my wife [Joanne] for the last 12 years."

Razzetti, who is on the owners, insurance and special events committees of the SBOANJ, grew up in the town of East Rutherford long before there was a racetrack.

He found his way to Yonkers in those days and fell in love with the sport of harness racing. It was not long before he became an owner as well as a fan.

"A friend of mine, an accountant, had a few horses with Tom Malibashka," Razzetti noted. "He introduced me to Tom, and we went to the sale and I bought a yearling. That was Kristietron, a Most Happy Fella mare. Unfortunately, while she made a good broodmare, she never made a racehorse."

Among Kristietron's offspring was Whatatron, who produced many of Razzetti's most successful horses, including \$183,000 earner Mercedes Spur as well as Undercover Man and Undercover Woman.

"The best thing that came out of owning horses is that Tom Malibashka, we became lifelong friends," he added. "His whole family and my kids grew up together. We are the best of friends. Tom retired; he just has a turnout farm now."

Razzetti, 72, an infectiously happy person, is the president of Leaserent Corporation of Hackensack, NJ, which does business as Fairmount Car and Truck Rental.

"I'm probably the only independent car and truck rental agency in North Jersey, probably not many left in the state," he explained.

His son, James, is his business partner in the rental company. Daughter Jill, who is in sales, has provided him with grandchildren: Conner, 10, and Devon, eight.

Razzetti's business acumen has been put to good use for 15 years on the SBOANJ board under presidents Tony Abbatiello, Tony Parenti and Tom Luchento.

"All three of them have done a great job but the first two weren't facing the problems we have today," he said. "Tom is like the CEO of a corporation, fighting for horsemen every day."

Currently Razzetti has his horses, Martha Brown, a yearling named Devon Hall and a weanling called Lucky Lucky Leo, in the care of trainer Bob Baggitt Jr.

"I don't regret anything I did," he said. "I've had a lot of fun in the sport. – and a lot of friendships."



State Senator Jennifer Beck and Assemblywoman Caroline Casagrande affirmed their support of the New Jersey racing industry and the need to find a permanent solution to the funding of purse money when they met with the board of directors of the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey on May 13, 2008.

Beck and Casagrande, both of whom are Republicans and represent District 12, including Monmouth County's numerous horse racing communities, said they would champion efforts to bring slots and other forms of gaming to the racetracks.

SBOANJ President Tom Luchento welcomed Senator Beck [left] and Assemblywoman Casagrande [right] in photo.

Photo by Carol Hodes



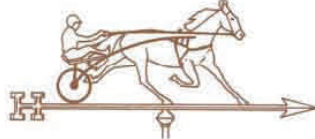
# MEADOWLANDS RACETRACK CHAMPIONSHIP MEET

'08



Saturday, July 19  
First race 7:00 p.m.

HAMBLETONIAN  
ELIMINATIONS



Saturday, July 26  
First race 7:00 p.m.



Saturday, August 2  
First race 11:30 a.m.

it's all about being here<sup>SM</sup>

**MEADOWLANDS RACETRACK** 

MEADOWLANDSRACETRACK.COM

(201) THE-BIG M

## MISS NEW JERSEY MEETS MISS NEW JERSEY WINNER



Miss New Jersey Amy Pumbo meets Miss New Jersey winner Knock Three Times. Photo by Lisa Photo

Knock Three Times captured the \$200,000 Thomas D'Altrui Miss New Jersey, the filly companion event to the Anthony Abbatiello New Jersey Classic, on May 31 at the Meadowlands.

As the field turned for home, driver Brian Sears tipped Knock Three Times three-wide to nip Ideal Newton by a head in 1:51.4. Good News Lady closed for third. All of the top three finishers are daughters of Western Ideal.

"I was behind Ideal Newton and knew she was pushing it up front," Sears said. "My filly was pretty aggressive and I worked my way up there hoping to catch some cover, which I did. Everything worked out from there. My filly was a handful, and I was three-deep. She was very aggressive, so I had to move her. It was a great finish."

Ross Croghan trains Knock Three Times, who has earned \$294,846 for the Mentally Stable of Delray Beach, FL and Robert Cooper Stables of Boca Raton, FL.

"She made most of her money last July here and was just disappointing the last half of the season," Croghan said. "She was pretty disappointing in her first start this year and we found she had a little heart arrhythmia. We corrected it, and she's been effective ever since."

The reigning Miss New Jersey, Amy Nicole Pumbo, presented the trophy to the winning connections.

For All the News of the SBOANJ, Visit [sboanj.com](http://sboanj.com) Daily

Standardbred Breeders & Owners  
Association of New Jersey  
64 Business Route 33  
Manalapan NJ 07726