



THE Standardbred — JOURNAL —

Published by
The Standardbred Journal, Inc.
(a 501c3 non-profit organization)
PO Box 185, Mount Hope, Ohio 44660

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ON THE COVER



Trumpstar Yankee and Debbie Foley have been serious competitors since the fall of 2022.

The team has never placed lower than Reserve Champion in both 2022 and 2023, including back to back National Championships.

Photo by Howard Schatzberg

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Letter From The Editor, Mark Yoder

Wow! I believe the winters have started getting shorter, like the older folks claiming that us youngsters have never experienced winter. They are always sharing their stories about “the Winter of ‘86!” or “the Blizzard of 78!” when they had to use a shovel to dig their way to the barn. Needless to say, I don’t believe the winters grow shorter or colder. It is the once in a lifetime experience we remember the most vividly that comes to mind when comparing to similar situations. However, my own winter of 2023-24 has flown by rapidly, largely due to Christopher starting school, along with all the various equine events we were fortunate enough to attend.

The spring season is a favorite to many, I’m sure, with all the different types of growth it displays. The dormant winter pastures and alfalfa fields turn greener, taking their cycle in nature, providing food for our stock. Each day grants us more daylight than the previous, triggering our horses’ annual shedding of their winter coats, as well as the mares’ natural reproductive cycles. This time of year displays to me our Creator’s most amazing gifts.

Once again, our writers knocked it out of the ballpark with great educational articles for the Spring Issue. Personally, one of the highlights is an article demonstrating the attributes of Southwind Serena as a broodmare. This extremely enlightening article by Debarah Little

is loaded with the type of teaching that I was looking for, given this time of year, demonstrating the need for and the power of a great mare family.

While brainstorming and researching prior to this article, I was reminded of the importance of a strong pedigree in a broodmare. Never has it been so apparent to me the value of a depth of pedigree. One example of this was our recent Podcast (Episode # 208) with Amos Yoder Jr. where he shared at length the need for a mare family. All the studying we did in the last few months made me realize that probably the most overlooked link to a nice foal is the mare it is born to. All of this brought me to the next phase of brainstorming: how can someone best promote their broodmares? With the Foal Challenge growing into a highly anticipated event, our summer issue has centered on providing a resource for breeders to advertise their broodmares.

So, spring is in the air, awakening one’s desire to gather the children, fix a picnic lunch, grab a fishing pole and head for one’s favorite pond or lake. These times spent with our families or best friends are the memories that last forever, and as we all know, we have just a moment on this earth to live and enjoy each other. So be sure to make the most of your time on this earth with those you love.

- Mark Yoder

– Our Mission Statement –

“To provide education, news and marketing opportunities to all horse enthusiasts and to raise funds to promote, enhance and protect the Standardbred industry. To continuously enhance integrity and inspire future generations to maintain a respectable environment within the industry.”



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