



THE Standardbred — JOURNAL —

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ON THE COVER



Breakout The Gold is our annual cover stallion, owned by Elmer Lantz, Elam Stoltzfus and Daniel Riehl, standing at Lan-Chester Equine in Pennsylvania.

An entire article is on page 74.

Photo by Summit

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial: Mark Yoder	Page 3
Utilizing Your Talents	Page 4
<i>Column by Steve Jones</i>	
Caring For Newborn Foals.....	Page 18
<i>Gabe Middleton, DVM</i>	
Muscles Yankee	Page 28
<i>Debbie Little</i>	
Designing For The Future	Page 46
<i>Beth Miller</i>	
Hunterton Farms.....	Page 58
<i>Kimberly French</i>	
Cover Article: Breakout The Gold	Page 74
<i>Judy Brodland</i>	
Silver Brook Stables: The Unshakeable Debbie Foley ..	Page 96
<i>Judy Brodland</i>	
A User's Guide to Broodmare Care.....	Page 114
<i>Jeff Pratt</i>	
The American Royal Championship Show	Page 148
<i>Bob Funkhouser</i>	
Podcast Archive	Page 159
Sale Results	Page 160
Show Results	Page 190
Canadian Royal Winter Fair	Page 214
<i>Wayne Allison</i>	
Advertising Rate Sheet.....	Page 225
Calendar of Events	Page 226

Letter From The Editor, Mark Yoder

THE FALL SEASON IS PAST—winter is here. It is so hard to believe that just a few months ago we were anticipating the upcoming busy season fall brings us, and now it's gone. Grand memories of the past few months were created, which we will hold in our minds forever. That is why the horse family is so interesting to be a part of.

These winter months are perfect for you breeders to be thinking and booking your mares to the stallions of choice. We all are a part of a challenge, trying to create the next “great one”. Breeding horses is an “art” and not a systemized process where you breed a nice mare to a nice stallion and you get a nice foal. It is clearly different from manufacturing products on an assembly line.

At the conclusion of the first paragraph, I wrote about being part of a family. This was very apparent to me the last few months. This past summer there were a few cases, one of which concerned a young family going through a traumatizing time with one of their children regarding a health issue. Seeing the reaction of people pitching in and helping this family and others in need has confirmed my thinking that we are part of a very strong “Horse Family.” After speaking with one of these individuals, his words were simple: “I knew the horse people we rub shoulders

with are great, but being on the receiving end, I never knew my equine family to be this gracious.”

Speaking of our equine family, our personal own little family here has grown! We welcomed a sweet little Benson Lavon on November 9. This little guy came to us right in the heat of our busiest time of the season. With that being said I am ready to slow down and “log in” some wood stove time!

So, in this season's issue, what can you expect? Above all, with foaling season just around the corner, our featured podcast article this issue is based on and around foaling mares. We sat down with two veterans—one in breeding and raising horses—the other a very respected equine practitioner. Personally, the most important insight I gathered from our guests is the importance of “a million little things” we do when it comes to foaling and breeding mares.

Coming into the new year makes all of us wonder what 2024 will bring. Reminiscing over the past year inspires me to stop and appreciate the “friendship seeds” that were planted over the last year. Now as the new year unfolds, my hope is to nurture these young friendships to see how deep their roots grow.

- 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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