

# Wisconsin Harness Horse Association



2014 Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet

January 24, 2015

# Super Son of Sandy

8-8-0-0 2:02 Viroqua

360 Points

Robert Larkey



Pacer of the Year

# Top Ten Pacers



Runner-Up Pacer of the Year  
Santanna Long Legs  
7-6-1-0 2:03.1 Mineral Point  
295 Points  
Kerry, Lily & June Long



#3 Mister Jughead  
10-3-4-0 2:04 Viroqua  
250 Points  
Brian McMahon

#4 Maid In The Mist  
10-2-2-2 2:02.3 Rice Lake  
195 Points  
Janice Simmons



#5 Do Me Bliss  
8-2-2-2 2:04.2 Elkhorn  
185 Points  
Richard Vandenbroucke





T#6 Book of Favors  
8-2-2-1 2:03.4 Viroqua  
180 Points  
Katie Horvat—Ben Gald



#8 McFamous  
6-2-2-1 2:06.2 Elkhorn  
165 Points  
Kerry, Lily & June Long



T#9 Khakis Fancy  
10-0-3-3  
145 Points  
Dean & Amber Sawyer



T#6 Fox Valley Ibis  
4-4-0-0 2:03.2 Mineral Pt  
180 Points  
Scott Douglas & Hank Considine



T#9 Cammi Place  
8-0-4-3  
145 Points  
Van Nelson

# Top Ten Pacers



# Chester B

10-4-2-4 2:06.4 Elkhorn

290 Points

Peter Casagranda

Trotter of the Year

# Top Ten Trotters



Runner-Up Trotter of the Year  
Honey's Yankee  
9-4-2-2 2:09 Rice Lake  
270 Points  
Van Nelson



# 4 Absolut Hangover  
7-2-3-1 2:10.2 Elkhorn  
180 Points  
Bob & Gabe Wand

# 3 Hooray Wisconsin  
9-3-4-1 2:05.1 Elkhorn  
260 Points  
Peter Casagranda



# 5 Delco Eclipse  
7-2-1-3 2:07.4 Rice Lake  
170 Points  
Gabe Wand





**#6 Put It On Red**  
8-1-3-2 2:12 Elkhorn  
160 Points  
Archie & Susan Manina



**#7 Joe Mar Dean**  
5-1-3-1 2:08 Richland Center  
135 Points  
Jeanne Marquis & Ben Gald

**#8 Gypsy Dancer**  
8-0-2-3  
120 Points  
Bob & Gabe Wand



**# 9 Wilamar Valley**  
2-2-0-0 2:07.2 Rice Lake  
90 Points  
Jeanne Marquis



**# 10 Fox Valley Bunn**  
4-0-2-1  
75 Points  
Gary Magee

# Top Ten Trotters



# Gabe Wand

Platteville, WI

56-32-11-6 1,860 Points UDRS .716  
6th Consecutive Wisconsin Driving Title

Driver of the Year



# Top Ten Drivers



Runner-Up Driver of the Year  
Rick Magee  
Clintonville, WI  
18-10-6-1 630 Points UDRS .759



#3 Chris Frenzel  
Marshfield, WI  
21-6-6-5 535 Points UDRS .524



T #4 Robert Yohn  
Beloit, WI  
17-3-3-6 395 Points UDRS .490



T #4 Jay Garrels  
Clinton, WI  
12-7-1-3 395 Points UDRS .713

# Top Ten Drivers



**#6 Gary Rath**  
Marengo, IL  
11-4-4-3 335 Points UDRS .657



**# 7 Ben Gald**  
Richland Center, WI  
14-3-5-3 330 Points UDRS .484

**#8 Danny Carey**  
McFarland, WI  
12-3-5-4 320 Points UDRS .593



**#9 Mike Magee**  
Shawano, WI  
14-2-3-4 250 Points UDRS .357



**#10 Clark Whitney**  
Elk Mound, WI  
15-0-4-7 235 Points UDRS .304



Two Year Old Colt Trotter	The French Winner	2:15	Mineral Point	Ben DeLong
Three Year Old Filly Trotter	Missy's Misfit	2:08	Elkhorn	Jesse DeLong & Hamm Family Trust
Three Year Old Colt Trotter	Margin Call	2:06	Rice Lake	Rick Magee
Aged Male Trotter (Tie)	Portfolio	2:05.1	Rice Lake	Daniel Maier
	Hooray Wisconsin	2:05.1	Elkhorn	Peter Casagranda
Two Year Old Filly Pacer	Shining Gem	2:09.3	Elkhorn	Dan Epp
Two Year Old Colt Pacer	Up Front Capital	2:06.2	Rice Lake	Van Otterloo Stables
Three Year Old Filly Pacer	Anything I Want	2:03.4	Elkhorn	Bo & Pat DeLong
Three Year Old Colt Pacer (Tie)	Intrepid Skyway	2:01.4	Rice Lake	Mikaela Delgiudice
	Part Time	2:01.4	Elkhorn	Dave Samuelson
Aged Mare Pacer	Maid In The Mist	2:02.3	Rice Lake	Janice Simmons
Aged Male Pacer	Gooch's Bad Boy	2:00	Rice Lake	Nick Roland

### Jay Eye See Traveling Trophy

Tied for Fastest Trotter in Wisconsin

#### Portfolio

Owned by Daniel Maier

#### Hooray Wisconsin

Owned by Peter Casagranda

### Golden Miss Traveling Trophy

Fastest Pacer in Wisconsin

#### Gooch's Bad Boy

Owned by Nick Roland

**Seasons Leaders**

# Service Awards

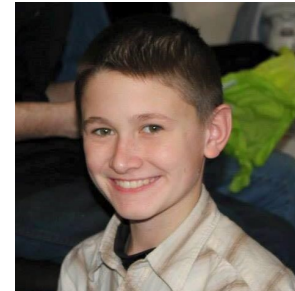
**Sally & Russ Barrington**

In gratitude for all your efforts to help Wisconsin Harness Racing thrive.



**TJ Barnes**

In recognition of your outstanding attitude and efforts for Harness Racing in Wisconsin



**Dave & Tammy Hofacker**

In appreciation for your generous commitment of time and support to Wisconsin Harness Racing

**Richland County Horsemen**

In appreciation for continuing to provide a successful racing program in Richland Center

# Wesenick—Koch Family

## Lifetime Appreciation Award

This story begins with a young man who loved horses. He worked as a teamster for a lumber company that used horses to skid timber where machinery couldn't go. He also happened to be a fan of harness racing. In 1949 he found a young trotter with an attitude that was on his way to an unhappy ending. As the story goes the owner/trainer could not get the horse out of the stall, let alone train him. Ears pinned, head in the corner and two hind feet ready for battle, Westfield Boy needed a new home. Harold Koch bought himself a project horse for the sum of \$150.00. Over time and with lots of patience he was able to not only get Westfield Boy out of his box stall, he was able to train and race him competitively on the Wisconsin fair circuit. Harold was hooked, soon his wife Juliete, and young daughter Mary Lou were traveling to the fairs in Central Wisconsin.



Trips to Amherst, Antigo, Weyauwega, Oshkosh, Sturgeon Bay, DePere, Rice Lake, Chippewa Falls, and others consumed their weekends well into the fall. Even after Westfield Boy's career ended, Harold and family continued to follow the circuit. Harold volunteered his time and truck to help get the tracks ready to race. In those days you didn't stay at the local motel, you camped in your car, truck, horse trailer, or empty stall. Money was short, but the good times were endless. Every weekend was a holiday. You raced with the likes of Phil DePass from Luxemburg, Patty Gray, Leon Laurent, Tommy Tong, and Mike Reinert from Sturgeon Bay, the Hussin boys; Less, Paul, and Johnny, the Cormier brothers, Johnny Brick, the Wilsmans, Abel Prevost,



**Wesenick—Koch Family  
Lifetime Appreciation Award**

the Vercauterans, Doc Herring, and Bud Larsen from DePere and Denmark, Ward Schuette and the Muellers from Manitowoc. The Sheboygan County horsemen like Bobby Searle, Orlando Theil, Roger Radloff, Maurey Hughs, Bill Hasson, and the LaBudde family. The Casagranada's, Ed and Ed junior, Ola, Guy and Bruce from Crystal Falls, Tiny Gustafson from Ironwood, Doc Masterson from Hurley, Hugh and Elwood Magee from Shawano, Dick and Bob Yohn from Fall River. Elmer, John, Ivan Howlet and Johnny Carey from Oshkosh, Marv Davis and John Bull from Marshfield, Elmer and Orval Bronkhorst from Brandon. Full fields, full grandstands, and nice purses, the hay day of Wisconsin racing.

Harold, Mary Lou and Jerome raced Miss Lela, Big Mo Bo, Chow Chow Byrd, Barnacle Bill and others over the years. Mary Lou was a member of the WCHA Board of Directors for eleven years. She also served as the racing secretary for the Marathon County Fair in Wausau. In the 80's Mary Lou, Harold and Jerome relocated to Harvard, Illinois. With the help of Donnie Nolan they begin anew, looking for some quality racing stock. Eventually they hit the jackpot with an Armbro MacIntosh filly named Kmacaroni. Kmacaroni was one of the top two year old fillies in Illinois in 1999. She battled the great mare, Incredible Tilly at Springfield and DuQuoin, pacing miles in 1:51. Kmacaroni was the one that for some of us comes along once in a lifetime. This filly made it all worth it...Jerome, Harold, and Mary Lou also successfully campaigned Egyptian Lace at the Chicago tracks for a number of years, a hard hitting eight claimer that raced tough every week.

The Wisconsin Harness Horse Association is proud to award the Lifetime Appreciation Award to Mary Lou Wesenick in recognition of the dedication she, her father, mother, and husband, faithfully gave to harness racing in the Wisconsin



**John DeLong** comes from a long line of harness racing greats in the State of Wisconsin. His family is one of two families in the Wisconsin Harness Racing Hall of Fame, however, on January 24<sup>th</sup>, John will receive an award for himself—The James Laird Memorial Award For Excellence.

This past season marked a decade that John has been sitting in the sulky. He began his career at the Illinois fairs in 2005 at just the age of Sweet 16. A year later, he made his Wisconsin debut (Mr. Average), and a year after that he won his first Pari-Mutuel race at Maywood Park (Gypsy's Girl). John's career as a driver took off from there as he has posted earnings over \$7 million.

The 2014 racing season proved to be one for the books for John. His 257 wins helped take his season bankroll to almost \$1.95 million. He garnered stakes wins in the Lorna Propes, Maywood Pace, American National, Illinois State Fair Final, Cardinal, Violet, Hanover, Lady Ann Reed and the Review Stakes. Perhaps his greatest achievement came as he piloted Little Warriorette to victory at Balmoral Park en route to his 1,000<sup>th</sup> Driving win. John celebrated the accomplishment in the Winner's Circle with family and friends.

# John DeLong

James Laird Memorial Award for Excellence

## Presidents' Award Horseperson of the Year

**Scott Douglas**, Darlington, Wisconsin, has been named by WHHA President Gabe Wand as the 2014 Horseperson of the Year. Douglas has grown up in the harness racing industry while beginning to train horses at the Lafayette County Fairgrounds in Darlington, WI. Throughout the 1990's he raced at numerous county fairs, Chicagoland race tracks, and the now defunct Quad City Downs in East Moline, IL.

Early in the 2000's, Scott moved his stable to the Iowa County Fairgrounds, in Mineral Point, Wisconsin, where he currently is stabled. Scott is also the President of the Iowa County Horsemen's Association as well as Superintendent of Speed for the Iowa County Fair.

Scott has always had a passion for training horses and has managed a small part-time stable since starting his family (Wife: Lori, Children: Harley, Gina & Matthew) and doing so all while working full time for a manufacturing company in Darlington. Staying true to his Wisconsin roots, he has sent horses postward at the county fairs in Wisconsin which have returned numerous awards. His trainees have garnered 16 top ten pacer awards from the WHHA, which include Runner-Up Pacer of the Year in 2009 with Sue's Blue Jeans.

However, 2014 proved to be a year where horses under Scott's care were almost unbeatable by winning 21 of 26 starts in Wisconsin. His 26-21-3-1 record gave him a UTRS of 0.884, higher than anyone else in the state. Scott had three undefeated horses (Super Son of Sandy, Fox Valley Ibis, and Fox Valley Richrockr). Super Son of Sandy, owned by Robert Larkey of Maquoketa, Iowa, gave Scott his first Pacer of the Year Title while Santanna Long Legs, owned by Kerry, Lily, & June Long, finished in the runner-up slot. With Fox Valley Ibis & McFamous' Top Ten Finishes, Scott Douglas has trained 4 of the Top Ten Pacers for 2014. No other trainer has had more horses finish in the top ten in a single season.





# Wisconsin Harness Racing Hall of Fame



**One Bad Hombre** was a staple to the Wisconsin racing circuit in the late 1990's, capturing numerous awards. He was purchased in 1996 and first campaigned in Wisconsin by Linda Werkheiser. After receiving back-to-back, Trotter of the Year honors, Linda had sold him to John Faust, who continued to race him for the next two and a half years, and continued his Trotter of the Year ways. His three Trotter of the Year titles ties him for 2nd in the State's rich history. Hombre completed his racing in Wisconsin with hitting the board 61 of 65 starts (94%), coming out victorious in 23 (35%) of those races.

During this span, Hombre had set three different track records. Linda Werkheiser had owned and driven him to records in 1996 at Rice Lake (2:07.2) and in 1997 at Amherst (2:08). Under the ownership of John Faust, Hombre had set the track record in Faust's hometown of Marshfield in 2:06.2 with Pat Wolf in the sulky.

In 1997, Hombre not only raced under harness, but under saddle as well. As Racing Under Saddle (RUS) begin to re-emerge onto the harness racing scene, Hombre was chosen by Linda to be a participant. He competed at Hoosier Park as well as racing against the pacers at Westfield and Amherst. He did this all while being raced under harness the same year en route to his first Trotter of the Year title.

One Bad Hombre was also showcased at the Midwest Horse Fair, not only in the demonstration, but in the prestigious Liberty Presentation. He currently is enjoying retirement, and is still owned by John Faust.

When a person thinks about harness racing in the Badger State, there is no doubt that the indelible mark **Robert and Carol Yohn** have left on the sport come to mind.



Bob began his career in harness racing at the age of sixteen on the family farm in Fountain Prairie Township with his father, Richard. His immediate love for the sport and the horses made it obvious that this industry would become Bob's career and lifelong passion. Bob was fortunate to work for industry legends Delvin Miller and Billy Haughton early in his career, first as a groomer and later as an assistant trainer and driver. Bob's early years in the business took him all over the country, including Illinois; Indiana; New Jersey; New York; Pennsylvania; and a special fall season in 1972 when he met Carol in Pompano, Florida.

Upon their marriage in 1977, Bob and Carol began traveling several times a week to the tracks in Chicago and throughout the Midwest racing their horses. Carol immediately took to the sport, learning the lingo and tactics of the industry, while also partaking in the training of the horses on the farm after receiving her license.

Bob and Carol had many wonderful memories in harness racing over the years, and there are a few very special moments they have shared. As owners, Bob and Carol along with Bob's parents, won two Pete Langley Memorial Stake Races with their homebreds Prairie Badger and Prairie Beauty; and Bob drove Prairie Beauty to two Violet Stake race wins. Bob also trained and drove to a record-setting win with Delmonica Hanover at a Pennsylvania Sires Stakes race. Carol did tend to have one bad habit when it came to the horses - getting too attached to her favorite ones, including Prairie Beauty; Prairie Badger; Prairie Nancy; Prairie Walnut; and Cmebatrotter.

Wisconsin Harness  
Racing Hall of Fame

To date on the track, Bob has 2,937 starts with 647 wins and horses he has driven have earned over \$855,000.00. As a licensed trainer, Carol sent one hundred and eighty three horses to the starting gate and her horses finished in the top 3, thirty three percent of the time.

Bob and Carol were very involved with the WHHA over the years and have an earnest commitment to the harness horse industry. Carol loved volunteering and giving of her time to many organizations. She served on the WHHA board for sixteen years, including more than seven years as Secretary/Treasurer. She was the WHHA Horseperson of the Year in 1985 and also spent many years serving on the Wisconsin State Horse Council. Bob received recognition as a Top Ten Driver twenty-four times, more than any other WHHA member and his four Driver of the Year titles rank him third in the organization's history. In addition, Bob is very proud to have represented our region to the United States Trotting Association since 1999. Bob and Carol also organized the Beaver Dam races for several years.

Whether on the home track, or on the back stretch, Bob and Carol participated and thoroughly enjoyed the harness horse industry for decades. After a long trip home following a late race in Chicago; a celebration of a big stake win; or a road trip to a Wisconsin summer fair, Carol and Bob shared the highs and lows of harness racing and their life together - a team in the industry and a team in love.



Good luck training your horses this spring  
We look forward to seeing you on the track this summer



Thank you for attending this years festivities and to all who worked and  
contributed to make this annual meeting and banquet a success.

