

THOROFAN VOICE

Vol. XV

Sept 10, 2008

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Fans,

The focus of Thorofan is in another development mode. We are calling all troops to pitch in on committees and participate in think-tank sessions. We are adding growth rings as we move on into other stages and we need your help. A first priority is to complete the framework around our first local chapter, Saratoga. We poured the foundation during the meet and now we are building up, adding rooms. As we discussed during the foundation stage, racing tends to be primarily centered on home tracks. We all have an interest in the national leaders, international races and so forth but what makes racing so embraceable is often the things happening closer to home. We need to nurture and develop all of the little voices so that later we can come together in a larger, louder voice.



Hook a shank on a project and lead it into the winners' circle.

The Saratoga chapter will be a little different from some of the others because of the bond with the downstate NYRA tracks. But the basic concepts should not vary that much. I am working from a different angle to try to prompt NYRA into making the work-outs more accessible at Oklahoma. If I at some point succeed on that front I think it would be nice to think about each of us bringing a friend to the rail on designated mornings. We could share our knowledge about the training routine and initiate an interest in racing in people who may otherwise not be inclined to take in the Thoroughbred scene. Our educational arm need not limit itself to formal settings, with the right prompts we can be an ever-active ongoing educational force.

I would like to seek a volunteer to put up our own Thorofan balloting for year-end division titles. If you're interested please e-mail me at mlane@thorofan.com.

My plans to travel to the shore for Big Brown's race have fizzled. I have a writing job to pound out. My deadline is Monday so instead of a mini vacation I will be involved in a big effort to please a new client. I hope some of you will be there and will in turn feed back some first-hand opinions of what you see to Thorofan.

Niki will be e-mailing a business outline very soon. Please clip a lead shank on any projects you feel you could lead into the winners' circle. And don't be discouraged if some of them are still months away from a race.

Look in on my latest article on the newsletter titled 'Reflections'. How about that Barry Bornstein photo—does it reflect the Saratoga meet or what? And on the second page you will find Dennis Hogan's Curlin photo—is he all racehorse or what? I can't thank our contributing photographers enough. Your work is fabulous and your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Marilyn Lane

Editor

QUOTABLE

"The task of the writer is to seize the reader by the back of the neck and force him to love life" ~ Leo Tolstoy

This editor's task is to take fans by the forelock and lead them back to the traditions and joys of horseracing.