



Six Members to Run Unopposed for 2004

Dan Harralson

Dan Harralson has been a member of the CTBA since 1989 and has served on the Board of the CTBA since 1996. Dan bred his first horse in 1971. He began his long involvement with Thoroughbreds on the hunter-jumper circuit in 1973. While continuing to train performance horses, he broke and galloped Thoroughbreds. In 1985, he purchased his first racing interest in a Thoroughbred while in England, and in 1988 began breeding Thoroughbreds for racing. In 1997, Dan acquired Harralson Ranch near Fresno where he breeds Thoroughbreds. Dan bred the undefeated stakes winner Natasha Fatale, whose full sister was the highest priced California-bred filly at the 1997 Del Mar Yearling Sale.



"During my term on the board it has been an exciting and productive time for the Association. The Del Mar Yearling Sale is firmly established as the premier forum for the sale of Cal-bred yearlings. Changes in legislation facilitated by cooperation, as never before seen, between the CTBA, and various other horseman's groups, have led to license fee relief and increased incentive awards. These changes have increased the demand for quality Cal-breds and have led to the acquisition and retention of international quality stallions and broodmares. California Cup and Gold Rush Day provide two great racing days devoted exclusively to Cal-breds. Our award-winning California Thoroughbred magazine provides our breeders with up to the latest information on breeding and veterinary advances, husbandry and management, current news on our stallions, mares and their progeny, along with a myriad of other useful articles. Association-sponsored farm tours, seminars and educational events provide top notch information and the opportunity for all members to learn of new developments and gain invaluable information on farm and bloodstock management. And last, but certainly

not least, our knowledgeable staff is always available to assist our members in achieving our primary goal, to breed and raise winning Cal-breds!

Being involved in both breeding and racing, my interest continues to be a commitment to the economic health of the entire Thoroughbred industry. By implementing ways to attract new investors, owners, spectators, bettors and all others necessary to make the industry prosper, we ensure that breeders will also prosper.

No matter the scale of investment, it is my belief that each and every member must have an opportunity to express his or her opinion about the direction of the CTBA. My efforts will continue to be focused on making the CTBA member responsive and directed toward improving membership benefits.

Finally, I have nothing but praise and admiration for the current board of directors and staff of the CTBA. As a group, the board devotes innumerable volunteer hours working for the benefit of the Association and its members. I am proud to be a part of this enlightening, rewarding, and enjoyable effort, and look forward to serving the membership for an additional term."

Trudy McCaffery

Trudy McCaffery, along with partner John Toffan, has been a solid fixture in the landscape of California's racing and breeding industries for more than a dozen years. Their racing stable has built a tradition of sending out extremely talented and successful racehorses such as Bien Bien, Came Home, Nice Assay and Pacific Squall, as well as the California-bred sensation, Free House. Not only has McCaffery had an impact in the racing world, she has also made a significant investment in California's breeding industry. In the Golden State, she stands both Free House and his sire,



Smokester, as well as Seattle Proud and Six Below, and supports her stallions with a large number of broodmares.

McCaffery has given back to the Thoroughbred community in a number of ways. One of her greatest accomplishments is the founding of the Kids To The Cup. KTTC is a non-profit organization designed to attract, educate and develop young racing fans. As the fastest growing youth group in the Thoroughbred industry, KTTC has given the live Thoroughbred racing experience to over 200 youngsters and their parents. A CTBA board member for the past six years, Trudy is also currently a director with Breeders' Cup Ltd, the Oak Tree Racing Association and NTRA Charities.

"I am committed to the Thoroughbred racing and breeding industries in California. I currently stand four stallions in California, own over 30 broodmares, and

have 24 horses in training at the racetrack, the majority of which are California-breds. I truly believe the Thoroughbred industry in California has achieved a great deal in the past few years and I feel there is still a tremendous opportunity for growth. I would like to emphasize the importance of research to our breeders, as it is vital to ensuring the quality of the horses we are producing.

I am currently the Chair of the committee for our award-winning magazine and I have also served on the sales committee. I have a terrific working relationship with the other members of the board and have enjoyed developing relationships with many members of our association. I believe my experience on the board for the last three years will allow me to be an even more valuable asset to the CTBA board of directors. I am personally committed to the future of the Thoroughbred industry in our state, and look forward to the opportunity to participate in that bright future."

Rosemary Neeb

Rosemary Neeb read *The Thoroughbred of California* and attended the CTBA Del Mar Yearling Sale in the 1950's and 60's. She has been a horse owner the last 55 years, including a Thoroughbred



owner since 1969 at which time she first became a member of the CTBA. She ran a small farm, stood a stallion, bred, foaled, raised, sold and raced California-bred babies, got to know the bank loan department, and has worked very hard for many years. She is ready to work hard again, and is grateful for an opportunity to serve this industry.

"California breeding operations have rivaled the best in the world. This is the most exciting, rewarding, frustrating and

enjoyable business in America's finest state.

Our great days are not over. We are going to make them happen again. With reformed legislation and taxation, crowds at the sales and the tracks, good sound farms, small and large, selling foals from top California stallions, there is nothing we can't accomplish when working with a common purpose.

This industry is going to thrive and we are going to do it together.

I ask for your support to pursue this purpose.

Bill Nichols

Bill Nichols was born and raised in Northern California, and with his wife of 55 years, Lillian, he operates Mares' Nest in Wilton. Located in Sacramento County, Mares' Nest is believed to be Northern California's oldest operating Thoroughbred breeding farm.



After graduating from Sacramento State College, Bill worked for the Sacramento County Dept. of Social Welfare, retiring from an administra-

tive position after 25 years of service.

"I gained my first experience with Thoroughbred breeding by working at Ridgewood Ranch as a teenager. My relationship with Charles Howard, Ridgewood Ranch and Seabiscuit led to me becoming a good friend of Laura Hillenbrand to whom I offered information for her best-selling book. This led to a television appearance on a "promo" for the Seabiscuit movie, and a mini speaking tour dealing with Seabiscuit.

"I have been a CTBA member for 50-plus years. Our first sales yearling sold at the 1956 Del Mar Yearling Sale. This youngster was bred and sold in partnership with my good friend, mentor and former board member Walter J. Thomson of Rancho Felicia.

I have worked with the CTBA for

many years, organizing educational events in Northern California. The organization's Northern California Stallion Tour has been a pet project of mine and held its eighth annual tour this year.

I've also been co-manager, with Dean Parker, for all seven of the Nor-Cal Sales.

My participation in the stallion tours, the sale and the Seabiscuit phenomena has allowed me the opportunity to become acquainted with the majority of the CTBA members in Northern and Central California. I believe that I have a handle on what these breeders need and desire from the CTBA and would appreciate your vote, giving me the opportunity to work for these needs within the guidelines of the goals of this organization."

Suzanne Pashayan

Suzanne Pashayan has been involved in the breeding and racing of California-breds, under the name of Calbourne Farm, for 48 years. She has bred and raced Brown Bess, 1989 Eclipse award winner, California Horse of the Year, and three-time California Champion Older Female. She has also bred and raced several other California-bred stakes horses.



She has been a member of the Association since 1966 and has served as a Director from 1994 to 1996, as well as 1998 to the present. She has served on the following committees: legislative, California Cup, by-laws, membership, magazine, sales, library, and is currently on the audit committee.

"Your Association has accomplished much in the past few years, and I am proud

to have worked with my fellow directors and our dedicated staff to make things happen.

Our continuing promotion of Cal-breds now includes the January showcase of our best, the Sunshine Millions series. Our successful efforts in getting legislation passed that would allow breeder and stallion awards to be paid for certain non-graded stakes races outside of California helped make this happen—and will certainly help in encouraging more Cal-breds to be shipped to other states to bring home additional laurels. Your association will continue to work for positive legislation for the benefit of our members, such as reducing the worker's compensation rates for our farms. We are continuing to work with individuals and organizations to provide second careers for our retired racehorses and bloodstock. I encourage horse riding and breeding participants to go to the link which I started on our web site under "Race to Sport" to find that certain horse for their recreational needs.

Although the board and staff have worked very hard to keep the Del Mar Yearling Sale on a continuing upward trend this did not happen last year. Markets can

be difficult to ascertain and I will continue to work with my fellow directors and staff members to make our sale a positive experience for participants. I always encourage input from my fellow CTBA members about the sale and any other matter which involves our industry, so that I may present their ideas and concerns to my fellow directors for their consideration.

I completely support our series of informative seminars and farm tours to help our members further their knowledge and improve their breeding programs, and will always give serious consideration and support to any other Association efforts to accomplish these goals.

*As a director, I will work with my fellow board members to do our best for California breeders and our Cal-breds. I will continue to set a good example of business principles and strong work ethics. My only goal is to help make your Association an effective tool for each and every member to accomplish **their** goals in the breeding, raising, and promotion of better Cal-breds.*

Thank you for your support, I sincerely look forward to serving another term as a director of your association."



CTBA Directors Election Contd.

Dan Schiffer

Dan Schiffer has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from UCLA and Juris Doctor from Whittier College School of



Law. An active member of the California Bar since 1980, Dan has a civil litigation practice that specializes in equine law.

Dan also has extensive experience in the breeding and racing of Thoroughbred horses. He was raised on the historic Hat Ranch, a cattle ranch in Wyoming, before moving to Temecula when his parents built The Hat Ranch West. There, he worked as a groom at Galway Downs. Thereafter, he worked for trainer Mel Stute. Since 1980, Dan has managed The Hat Ranch West. The ranch is the home to broodmares, yearlings and lay-ups. Dan also oversees The Hat Ranch-owned horses running at all major California racetracks.

Dan has been active in the California Thoroughbred Farm Managers Association (CTFMA), Boy Scouts and 4-H Clubs, etc.

“As a member of the CTBA Board of Directors for the past three years and President of the board this past year, I have become far more knowledgeable of the many issues facing the Thoroughbred industry in California. This knowledge has empowered me to become a strong advocate for CTBA constituency on numerous fronts. If elected for another term I intend to continue to further the interests of our membership. Some of my concerns include:

1. Worker’s Compensation Reform: Increasing Worker’s Compensation rates have narrowed the profit margin for farm owners and breeders of horses. The CTBA has worked as part of an industry-wide effort to bring the rates into a manageable level. Our efforts have and will continue to involve legislative lobbying and attempting to secure insurance carriers who can deal with the problem through proper management techniques;

2. Increased Revenues to Breeders: Our state is being raided by owners and trainers from other states seeking inventory for their barns. As a result, California-breds are being shipped out of state only to

lose breeder’s awards when they race. The California Cup, Sunshine Millions and Gold Rush days are state-bred race days unparalleled in any other state. We are working hard to create opportunities to keep our horses here in California;

3. Education: We provide educational forums for our members, dealing with strategies to breed, raise and sell successful horses. Our seminars, tours, the California Thoroughbred magazine and the CTBA web site give the members detailed and timely information which they can use in making their business decisions;

4. Sales: We strive to provide opportunities for breeders to sell quality Cal-breds. We are continuing to reassess the Del Mar Yearling Sale in order to attract the major buyers in this state. We also work closely with other California sales companies; and

5. Integrated Services: CTBA representation of our industry is not one dimensional. Whether dealing with the welfare of Thoroughbreds after their racing careers or lobbying our legislators in Sacramento and Washington, DC, the CTBA is promoting the interests of its members on all fronts. We fight for purses on the one hand and to attract the best bloodstock to California. We seek to advance the Thoroughbred breeding industry on all levels.”