



Managing Editor's Welcome

The Long Run

Longevity; now that's a trait becoming more and more rare in the Thoroughbred world: but this February 2008 issue of *California Thoroughbred* proves that the Golden State is a leader when it comes to producing industry players who have succeeded in the long run.

Donald and Karen Cohn's Ballena Vista Farm in Ramona is one prime example. Established almost two decades ago, the spacious 220-acre operation boasts both an impressive stallion roster and a successful list of graduates who have benefited from the excellent range of facilities and services that this pristine location offers.

Besides this cover story, another editorial that features some longstanding stars is our annual analysis of the California-breds who made the ballot for the 2007 California Champions Awards. Alongside all the new names are a host of venerable performers, led by the 2005 and 2006 California Horse of the Year, Lava Man.

Maintaining this theme of stability is our review of the leading local sires of last year, featuring a second overall money-won championship for Bertrando, a fourth turf earnings title for Unusual Heat and a second-crop victory by Tribal Rule to add to his freshman triumph of 2006.

This month's CTBA Member Profile spotlights Ralph and Aury Todd, whose multiple stakes-winning Cal-bred of 2007, Ducky Drake, is just one of their many success stories that also include the multiple grade I winner The Tin Man.

We also feature an update on two of the Golden State's most popular geldings of the past few years. Currently residing at NexStar Ranch in Temecula are the aforesaid seven-year-old Lava Man, who is being given a well-deserved break before attempting a comeback to top competition, and the year-younger Texcess who is enjoying his retirement after making a great recovery from a life-threatening injury.

However, nothing exemplifies longevity more than our Cal-Bred Millionaires' Row and Guest Forum pieces for this month. They feature 13-year-old Full Moon Madness, who reached this plateau back on Aug. 17, 2003, while also making it to the winner's circle last year, and 90-year-old John Forsythe, the famed actor who first became a CTBA member in 1978, and who still maintains a finger on the pulse of the breeding and racing industry.

This issue also includes reviews of the Barretts January Mixed Sale, Johnny Eves' and Final Fling's graded stakes victories and the other recent black-type wins by fellow Cal-breds Bob Black Jack, Spring Awakening, Now Victory,



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In the Company of... Eve Kuhlmann, who with her husband, Kim—in partnership with Lonnie Arterburn—are the breeders of two-time California Horse of the Year Lava Man, during the CTBA's Annual Awards Dinner at The Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel & Spa in Pasadena on Feb. 5, 2007.

Somethinaboutlaura and Italian Rules, a Down on the Farm article titled "Colostrum For Foals," as well as all the magazine's other regular columns, features and departments.

Until next time, may you breed the best to the best and not just have to hope for the best!

—Rudi Groothedde
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