



January 13, 2012

FOALING AND BREEDING SEASON IS ALMOST HERE

A buzz of activity is noticeable at the farm..... The barns and stalls are undergoing thorough cleaning and disinfecting, foaling kits are organized and put in place and all supplies are ordered. A few of the mares will be approaching their due dates at the end of the month. Many more will be ready to foal in February.

The 'boys' in the stallion barn have that all knowing glint in their eye, as if to say.."I am ready for my mare dates." We will open our breeding shed, appropriately on Valentine's Day. Here are the 'boys' and the 2012 stud fees:



NIAGARA CAUSEWAY('03)
Giant's Causeway / Theoretically

2012 STUD FEE: \$3,000



THE CLIFF'S EDGE('08)
Gulch / Zigember

2012 STUD FEE \$2,500



DEVIL HIS DUE('89)
Devil's Bag / Plenty O' Toole

2012 STUD FEE \$3,500

NAMING DEADLINE FEBRUARY 1

The American Jockey Club requires that a name be submitted for the Thoroughbred by February of his second year. If this is submitted by February 1st there is no fee assessed. Submitting the name after the deadline results in a \$75.00 fee. Changing the horse's name after it is registered is a \$100 fee. The horse's name can be reserved for a period of one year with a \$75.00 fee. The naming process can all be accomplished on line. There are many rules and regulations governing the selection of a name. To find out more about the naming requirements and to view the more than 450,000 names currently in use please go to www.jockeyclub.com. If you need help with the process call the Margaux office.

Linda

Adjusting Feed Rations for Cold Weather – Use Caution!

Wintry winds assaulted Margaux on the first day of the new year, signaling that cold weather has come once again. With the onset of sub-freezing temperatures, careful attention must be paid to the feed schedule. In the December 22nd (2011) article from theHorse.com, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension's equine specialist, Dave Freeman, PhD, discusses basic guidelines for winter weather "best practices". More information is available online, though the article cited below covers the general facts.

Science has proven that horses (much like all other animals) require more energy to maintain a healthy body condition and weight during colder weather, and in order to replace the additional energy used, feed levels must rise accordingly. That increase in rations must be carefully managed, however, in order to prevent founder or a potentially fatal bout of colic.

Freeman recommends that "concentrate composition and amounts should be increased gradually over a period of several days, especially if the horses are already consuming large quantities of grain." Look for concentrates rich in soluble carbohydrates—highly effective at providing energy. Keep in mind the number of feedings a horse is given over the day, and balance a daily ration accordingly.

Nutritionists recommend several smaller meals throughout the day for humans. Not only does this enable better nutrient absorption, but it is also supposed to raise the body's thermic effect (increasing burned calories by 10%), according to Leslie Bonci, R.D., director of sports nutrition at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The same applies to horses—Freeman states that "eating too much of these [carbs] in one meal is a significant contributor to the frequency of colic and founder in horses." A good rule-of-thumb is to feed no more concentrate than five pounds per thousand pounds body weight in a single meal. Keep in mind though that carb density can vary depending on feed companies, so it is best to follow recommendations on the bag, or consult a company representative and/or your veterinarian. Regardless of the planned amount of grain to be fed for the increased energy expenditure, the increase should take place over a period of several days—not overnight. While there are many potential causes of colic, nutritional factors can include:

- Abrupt changes in diet
- Consumption of moldy grain or hay
- Overfeeding energy at a single feeding
- Improper digestion
- Impaction of nutrients brought on by ineffective deworming programs

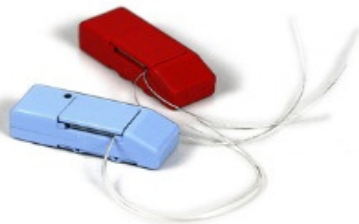
May you have a happy and healthy winter season!

- Dayn Johnson

FOALING ALERT SYSTEM

Mares prefer to deliver in the wee hours of the morning when they think that bothersome humans will not be around to disturb them. But us bothersome humans have managed to outsmart them! Foaling mares are monitored around the clock. How many nightwatchmen (women) do we have? “Three”, reports Farm Manger, Jon Carpenter. “ We have the first shift (4:00 pm – 12:00pm, the second shift (11:00pm – 7:00 am) and the third shift is 24/7.” Jon continued. Mares are carefully watched for all obvious (and not so obvious) signals that delivery is near. Journals are kept from previous pregnancies of each mare detailing the signs and actions that she exhibited. She is likely to exhibit all or some of the same signs at this delivery.

This 24/7 ‘third shift’ is actually an added safety measure to make sure that no mare sneaks into her delivery while our backs are turned. This additional safety measure is a foaling alert system that we have put into place. Although there are different types of systems, the one that Margaux uses is one in which the farm vet sews a transmitter into the lips of the vulva of the pregnant mare 7 to 14 days prior to the estimated due date. This transmitter, which is tied into a phone line, is activated when the mare’s water breaks and the foal’s feet begin to push downward toward the vulva breaking the connection between two magnets located on either side of the vulva. The transmitter then dials the phone numbers that have been programmed into it to alert staff that a delivery is imminent. “We use the best foal alert system that is available,” noted Jon. “This is a good tool during foaling season. But it does not take the place of the experienced staff that closely monitors each mare.” “This (foal alert system) gives us the ability to monitor all mares when night watch waters off other barns (10-15 minutes each) and during the daytime when the mares are turned out in the paddocks or fields,” summed up Jon.



Transmitters are sutured to either sides of mare's vulva

Most of the time mares are fully capable of delivering a healthy foal without our help. But, we will always be there (whether she wants us to or not) to make sure that should a problem arise we can take care of it or call the vet if necessary and that the delivery produces the best possible outcome for mare, foal and owner.

Linda

Margaux Training Program

Over the past few years, Margaux Farm has put increasing emphasis on our yearling starting and training program. As it grows, we are constantly keeping track of our graduates to gauge the impact our early race training has on these horses. Every year we ask for feedback from clients and trainers on how to better our program. This has helped us grow into a very successful program that graduates some of the most well trained Thoroughbreds you will find.

We have also taken our relationships with our clients to the next level by encouraging them to visit their young horse at anytime, sending weekly commentary from our trainer to each individual client on their horse, and having an end of season open house where clients, trainers, and friends can experience the Margaux Program. We have created great relationships with our clients who come back every year; furthermore, they have become friends more than clients.

In order to explain how we track our graduates, I would like to share some statistics. Overall, **91%** of all horses to graduate from our program have made it to the races. This is the most significant statistic to us because it shows that these horses have a solid foundation. So many variables in a horse's race career are out of our hands, but our trainer, Gene Vosler, gives them a great foundation and prepares them for everything they will encounter. Below I have added some additional statistics that will show the significant advantage we hold over the breed average.

Two-Year-Old Racing Statistics			
2011 Margaux Graduates		Breed Average	
Starters	Winners	Starters	Winners
<u>69%</u>	<u>33%</u>	<u>33%</u>	<u>11.50%</u>
2 Year Old Winners/Starters			
Margaux Farm 2011		Top 15 2yo Sires	
33%		36%	

The main point I would like to convey with this information is that these horses are at the top of the standings. Our goal for this program has never been focused on producing early runners; the fact that we have produced so many early runners has been more of a dividend than anything. Horses from this program compete with the Top 15 two-year-old sires for highest average of winners to runners. I'm talking about a list of average of winners to runners. I'm talking about a list of sires that includes; **TAPIT, LION HEART, INDIAN CHARLIE, GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, STORMY ATLANTIC, HARD SPUN, SCAT DADDY, KITTEN'S JOY, ETC.** In my opinion, owners and trainers couldn't ask for a better start for

their horse's career than to send them to Margaux. I encourage each and every person who reads this to spend one day at our farm watching the horses or talking with Gene. I guarantee you will leave with a new outlook on yearling starting, and you will be amazed by the level of training these horses receive.

Josh

HOW LONG WILL YOUR HORSE LIVE?

*The average age for a horse to live is 20 to 25 years. However, one horse was reported to have lived to the ripe old age of 62. 'Old Billy' as he was known was foaled in 1760 in an English village in Woolston in Lancaster County. It is not known what breed Billy was. But he worked as a 'barge horse'. He was rigged to a barge and towed it through the canal as he remained on the land. This was a common way to haul barges in that era. When the steam engine came on the scene the barge horses were no longer needed. There is no record of the work 'Old Billy' did after this. An 1820 lithograph, the only known picture of Billy, is located in the Grange Sports and Social Club in the Warrington Museum in England.

*Information source for 'Old Billy' <http://factoidz.com>

*Who is the oldest horse alive today? It is believed that Cooper, a gelding who served as a police horse in St. Louis for 22 years is possibly the oldest horse in the United States at the age of 52. It is believed that Cooper is a mixed Morgan breed. He is well taken care of at a Horse Rescue Ranch in Missouri, where he has resided since 1996. Cooper's vet noted that he has the infirmities of old age...he has cataracts, no teeth and is being treated for an ulcer. But aside from this the vet believes him to have no life threatening illnesses. Cooper spends his days turned out in a pasture with mares and is reported to have plenty of Ranch volunteers who shower him with attention. Maybe Cooper will outlive Old Billy.



Bucky, a mere
Youngster at 39

Bruce Kline has an "old friend," Bucky, on his farm in Fayette County. At 39 he is the oldest horse in the area that I could find.

Linda

*Information source for 'Cooper' derived from an article in the Columbia Dailey Tribute by Nate Carlisle.

MARGAUX GRADUATES



SOCIAL LOVER f'09 by **Chapel Royal** out of **Misti Moon** won at FG on January 12 by 2 ¾ lengths. The filly was foaled, bred and started at Margaux Farm. Congratulations to owner, Mr. Tony Ottaiano.

YANBIAN EXPRESS f'08 by **Bandini** out of **Classiest Gem** won at PA by 5 ½ lengths on January 3rd. The Bandini filly was trained at Margaux Farm and is owned by Margaux Farm and Mike Lauer.





TRUMPET MAN c'09 by **Lawyer Ron** out of **Singing Year** won at GP on January 1st. The colt was foaled, bred and sold by Margaux Farm.

PHANTOM FURY g'09 by **Devil His Due** out of **Beautiful Vision** won MSW at TP on December 30. The gelding was foaled, bred and trained at Margaux Farm.
Congratulations to owner's Dr. Ira Mersack and Smokey Bare.



LADY SCHILLER f'08 by **Dixie Union** out of **Lady Doms Tiara** won at GG on January 6. Lady Schiller was foaled at Margaux Farm.
Congratulations to owner, Mr. Jack Carey.

OTHER RACING NEWS

YACHT SPOTTER g'04 by **Sledledo** out of **Sarna** won at TUP on January 3rd.
Congratulations to owner/breeder Ms. Jill Heerensperger.

BLACK N BEAUTY c'08 by **Devil His Due** out of **Harbor Girl** won at AGU on January 6.

LESLEY BE JUDGED f'08 by **Devil His Due** out of **Nemisia** won **\$50,000 Useeit Stakes** at Remington Park on December 10.

HOSTILE REACTION m'06 by **Devil His Due** out of **Storm Reaction** won at Los Alamitos on January 1st.

