

AWARDS & HONOURS

2012 British Columbia Awards Gala

Hastings Racecourse ~ Photography by TREVOR REYNOLDS ©
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Taylor Said..Vanderbilt Award :: Appleby Award:: Horse of the Year Open and BC-bred:: Champion Older Handicap Horse

The winner of both the Open and B.C. bred Horse of the Year trophies was Taylor Said. The homebred son of Stephanotis closed his amazing 2012 campaign with six consecutive wins including the Grade III Longacres Mile. He captured four stakes at Hastings, the Longden, Churchill, Lieutenant Governors and the B.C. Cup Redekop Classic shouldering a hefty 128 pounds to an impressive victory in a season's best time of 1:47.91 for a mile and an eighth. He earned a total of \$259,583 for owner North American Thoroughbred Horse Company and was also named champion older male. He was bred by Clive and Linda Lytle and Can-A- Mex Farms. *Pictured left to right are Joel Mena (Can-A-Mex Farms), Linda Lytle, Karen Mena (Can-A-Mex Farms), and Glen Todd.*



Class Included..Champion Older Handicap Mare – Open Division

The aptly named Class Included ventured north from her Emerald Downs home base and cruised to comfortable wins in the Delta Colleen and the Grade III Ballerina earning champion older mare in B.C. The daughter of Include dominated her northwest rivals throughout much of the year losing just once in her first seven starts of 2012. After winning the Ballerina, her owners Mike and Amy Feuerborn and Hall of Fame trainer Jim Penney decided to face the best fillies and mares in the world in the Breeders' Cup Ladies' Classic where she fought gamely but finished seventh behind Eclipse Award winner Royal Delta. She finished 2012 with \$204,528 in earnings. *Pictured is Class Included winning the Ballerina.*



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P.S. Touch Down...Champion Older Handicap Mare – BC-bred Division

P. S. Touch Down started out the year as the second stringer in the Cindy Krasner barn behind former champion Wando Woman, but after a game victory in the B.C. Cup Distaff and good tries in the Delta Colleen and Ballerina she stamped herself not only the top mare in the Krasner stable, but as the top B.C. bred mare in the province. Owned by Shirley Telford and bred by her partner Pat Gormley the daughter of Stephanotis showed grit and determination throughout the year and finally earned a much deserved stakes victory on B.C. Cup day. *Pictured are Shirley Telford and Pat Gormley.*



Herbie D...Champion Sprinter

The champion sprinter Herbie D was as dynamic as any horse in 2012. After a nine month layoff, he returned to win an allowance race for trainer Rob Gilker in a scorching time of 1:15.22 just one-fifth off the long standing track record set by Torque Converter in 1996. He followed that impressive performance with a win in another incredible time of 1:15.43. He closed out his season with a victory in the Derby Bar and Grill Express keeping his record unblemished in 2012. His perfect season for his owner/breeder George Robbins saw his lifetime record balloon to six wins from eight starts and his career earnings soar to \$137,322. *Pictured is trainer Rob Gilker accepting the award.*



Finality..Champion Sire

It was another outstanding year for the stallion Finality as he sired four more stakes winners in 2012 and earned the top sire award in British Columbia. His son Almost Time got the season started off with an impressive win in the George Royal. His daughter Gosailgo was an upset winner of the B.C. Cup Dogwood. Also on B.C. Cup day his two-year-old filly Bamboo Dream came from last to first to win the Debutante and Racing for Gold was able to capture the C.T.H.S. Sales (Fillies Division) later in the year. Finality had some good allowance winners including former B.C. Derby champ Majesticity and impressive two-year-olds Tracker and Major Dundee. He continues to stand at Red Rock Farm in Westwold, B.C. *Pictured from left to right are Gladys and Ed Dittloff and Lillian and Bob Talbot.*



Storm Victory...Champion Juvenile Sire

The sire Storm Victory made quite an impression with his two-year-olds in 2012. His sons Proud Victor and Regal Legacy finished first and third respectively in the rich Jack Diamond Futurity. Proud Victor also captured the B.C. Cup Nursery on his way to being crowned two year old colt champion. His sons Bridge Jumper and Gambino ran first and second in the New Westminster Stakes in July. The son of Storm Cat resides at Frank and Helen Klimes' farm in Kelowna, B.C. *Pictured are Mark and Toni Cloutier.*



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Bahrain Star..Champion Broodmare

The champion broodmare in the province for 2012 is the Danzig mare Bahrain Star and is owned by Wally and Terry Leong's Canyon Farms. She had an amazing year as her colt Strait of Dover first captured the Marine Stakes stamping himself a legitimate Plate contender and would then go on to become the first B.C. bred to win the prestigious \$1,000,000 Queen's Plate at Woodbine Racetrack. Bahrain Star is also the dam of former B.C. bred filly and mare champion Starlite Strike who took home the award in 2007. *Pictured from left to right are Wilfred Leong, Laura Leong, Richard Leong, Ken Leong and Patti Leong.*



Canyon Farms...Leading Breeders

The trophy for leading breeder in British Columbia was deservedly handed to Wally and Terry Leong's Canyon Farms. The Leongs have been long time contributors to the thoroughbred breeding industry in B.C. and have bred such stars as Aero Duchess, Stratoplan and Illusive Force to name a few. The Leongs have gone outside the province to breed some of their mares in an effort to improve their chances as they do breed to race. A successful cross of Smart Strike and their Danzig mare Bahrain Star did produce a B.C. champion in Starlite Strike but with the stud fee for Smart Strike now at a hefty \$150,000 the Leongs decided to go with a more affordable English Channel, a son of Smart Strike, to breed to Bahrain Star and that mating produced Strait of Dover who became the first B.C. bred ever to win Canada's most coveted prize, the Queen's Plate. Well done Wally and Terry. *Pictured accepting on behalf of Wally and Terry is their niece Patti Leong.*



J.C. Stables...Jack Diamond Futurity Winning Breeders

The Jack Diamond Futurity is one of the most sought after prizes of the Hastings season. The award for the breeder of the 2012 winner went to J.C. Stables who bred the talented two-year old Futurity champ Proud Victor. J.C. Stables wisely matched their six time winning mare Proud Bella with the top two-year-old sire Storm Victory and the result was Proud Victor who also captured the B.C Cup Nursery earlier in the year. *Pictured is Proud Victor.*



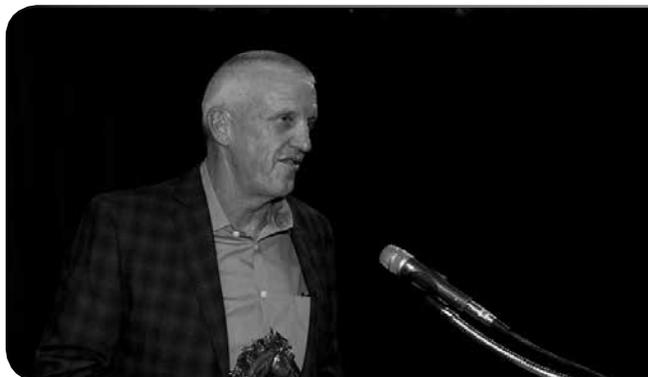
Red Rock Farm...Sadie Diamond Futurity Winning Breeders

The trophy for the breeder of the Sadie Diamond Futurity went to Bob and Lillian Talbot's Red Rock Farm as their homebred I Want to Dust Her came from last to first for the win. This was the second year in a row for the breeder's Red Rock Farm as Sunnyside Gal won in 2011 and amazingly Red Rock Farm has bred four of the last eight Jack and Sadie Diamond Futurity winners. *Pictured are Bob and Lillian Talbot.*



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Proud Victor...Champion Open & BC-bred Two-Year-Old Colt or Gelding



The champion in both the B.C. bred and open two-year-old category was Proud Victor. The son of Storm Victory was originally campaigned by his breeders the J.C. Stables and trained by Jodie Rawson, but after his initial win in a \$20,000 maiden event he was claimed by Robert Vargo and Norm Castiglione's Riversedge Racing Stables and moved to the Greg Tracy barn. He used his blazing speed to win the B.C. Cup Nursery and the Jack Diamond Futurity in wire-to-wire fashion on his way to earning the top two-year-old honours. *Pictured is Norm Castiglione.*

I Want To Dust Her...Champion Open & BC-bred Two-Year-Old Filly



Nick and Pauline Felicella continue to support the C.T.H.S. yearling sale and successfully picked out another star in I Want to Dust Her who was voted top two-year-old filly in the province. After breaking her maiden in July, she ran second in the CTHS Sales Stake and then excited her connections by coming from last to first to win the Sadie Diamond Futurity with Richard Hamel at the controls. She is trained by Lenore Dubois and earned \$89,566 for the Felicellas. *Pictured from left to right are Nick and Pauline Felicella, and Lenore Dubois (trainer) with her daughter Holly Murray.*

Second City...Champion Open Three-Year-Old Colt or Gelding



The champion three-year-old was Second City who overcame plenty of trouble to win the 2012 B.C. Derby. The undefeated Second City was purchased out of Charles Town, West Virginia by long time B.C. owner Peter Redekop in August. His spies spotted the son of Distorted Humor beating up on allowance runners and Mr. Redekop cut the cheque to purchase him. He raced once more in West Virginia before heading west to the Craig MacPherson barn to prepare for the B.C. Derby and after some anxious moments early in the race he settled nicely and looped the field to win going away under Richard Hamel. *Pictured accepting the award is Craig MacPherson, trainer.*

Taylor's Deal...Champion BC-bred Three-Year-Old Colt or Gelding



The top B.C. bred three-year-old award went to Taylor's Deal owned by the North American Thoroughbred Horse Company and trained by Hall of Famer Troy Taylor. He locked up the award on B.C. Cup day when the son of Second in Command crushed his rivals in the Stellar's Jay winning by five lengths. Earlier in the year, he romped in the \$75,000 Turf Paradise Derby and combined with his runner-up effort in the Chris Loseth Stakes and a good fourth in the rich B.C. Derby he ended 2012 with earnings of \$111,915. He is a half brother to the 2012 Horse-Of-The-Year Taylor Said and was bred by Clive and Linda Lytle and Can-A-Mex Farms. *Pictured is Karen Mena of Can-A-Mex Farms.*

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Evelyn's Dancer...Champion Open Three-Year-Old Filly

One of the most dominating horses in their respective division was the gifted three-year-old filly Evelyn's Dancer. After a narrow defeat in her first start of the season, she rattled off four consecutive stakes wins concluding with the B.C. Oaks. In her final race of the year, she took on older rivals in the Ballerina and it took a champion mare like Class Included to beat her so she had to settle for second ending a great campaign that saw her bank \$180,577 in 2012 for her owners Mark Dedomenico and the North American Thoroughbred Horse Company. *Pictured is Glen Todd of NATHC.*



Racing For Gold...Champion BC-bred Three-Year-Old Filly

The champion B.C. bred three-year-old filly in 2012 was Racing for Gold off of her solid season that saw her hit the board in all nine of her starts. Owned by Rob and Bruno Fiorvento, Blair Law, Bill Randall and trained by Phil Hall, the daughter of Finality scored in the C.T.H.S. Sales Stake and was stakes placed in the B.C. Oaks, Hong Kong Jockey Club and the B.C. Cup Dogwood at Hastings as well as the Arizona Juvenile and Chandler Stakes at Turf Paradise. She was an amazingly consistent filly that racked up \$94,869 in 2012 earnings and was bred by Mr. & Mrs. E.M. Dittloff & Karen Dittloff. *Pictured accepting the award is Bill Randall.*



One's Own Accord...Top Performing Lower Claimer

The bread and butter of the racing game are the claiming horses and it is fitting that these hard working soldiers are also given recognition for their achievements. The recipient of the award for lower performing claimer is One's Own Accord. His first of eleven starts at Hastings in 2012 was on opening day and fittingly his final race was on closing weekend. In that six month span, he won three, finished second three times and was third three more times. He was owned for all of his wins by Travis Henderson and trainer Monica Russell. *Pictured from left to right are Monica Russell and Travis Henderson.*



Bearrock N Roll...Top Performing Upper Claimer

The higher performing claiming award went to Bearrock N Roll who is owned by Bob Leffler and trained by Craig MacPherson. He earned the trophy by starting nine times in 2012 and took home the top prize on four different occasions and also had two runner-up efforts which boosted his career earnings over the \$175,000 mark. He has the coveted combination of speed and stamina which aided him in his four victories all of which were going a mile and a sixteenth and oddly enough were all in timed 1:44 and change. *Pictured is Bob Leffler.*



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Mario Gutierrez ...Diamond Award of Excellence



There were co-winners of the Diamond Award of Excellence in 2012 and one winner was jockey Mario Gutierrez. He had the type of season every jockey dreams of having. He was in the irons for wins in the Kentucky and Santa Anita Derbies, as well as, the Preakness Stakes. Mario was all class in his numerous interviews with the media and gave thanks to his supporters at Hastings Racecourse every chance he got. It was great to see an athlete give back to the sport of thoroughbred racing; he was a great ambassador for Hastings making him a deserving recipient of the Diamond Award of Excellence. *Pictured is Mario Gutierrez*

Strait Of Dover...Diamond Award of Excellence



Also receiving the Diamond Award of Excellence was the horse Strait of Dover. The talented son of English Channel is owned by his breeder's Wally and Terry Leong who race as Canyon Farms. He started his career under the tutelage of Cindy Krasner as a two-year-old in 2011, but failed to realize his potential and with his turf pedigree was sent east to Woodbine. He took a liking to the synthetic track and won the Marine Stakes then made history by being the first B.C. bred to ever win the \$1 million Queen's Plate and was ridden by B.C. born and raised Justin Stein. *Pictured from left to right are Wilfred Leong, Laura Leong, Richard Leong, Ken Leong and Patti Leong.*

Amadeo Perez..Leading Jockey



The leading jockey for the 2012 season was Amadeo Perez who earned his first riding title at Hastings. This hard working pilot managed to visit the winner's circle 95 times from his 456 mounts giving him and his agent Travis Barroby a tidy 21% winning average and \$1,385,088 in total earnings. Each of the past three years Amadeo's numbers have steadily improved winning 52 in 2010 which was good for fifth in the standings and in 2011 he moved up to 3rd with 69 victories before his breakthrough season last year. *Pictured is Amadeo Perez.*

Marlo Dunn...Leading Apprentice Jockey



For the second consecutive year, the leading apprentice was once again the amiable Marlo Dunn. She and her agent Daryl Snow had another good year in a very tough jock's room as she was able to guide 39 winners home which were good for sixth in the standings. Her mounts earned \$617,892. She also had 31 seconds and 54 thirds. She lost her apprentice allowance later in the year but continued to have success without the five pound break. *Pictured is Marlo Dunn.*

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Troy Taylor...Leading Trainer

For the sixth consecutive season Hall-Of-Fame conditioner Troy Taylor took home the leading trainer award at Hastings Racecourse. Under his watchful eye the North American Thoroughbred Horse Company had another amazing year winning 40 races and of that number 18 were stakes victories. The stake victory total of 18 smashed the prior record of 15 at Hastings which was set in 1997 by another Hall-Of-Fame trainer Lance Giesbrecht. Things got a little interesting late in the year as Craig MacPherson was quickly narrowing the gap in the standings, but after the final race was run Craig ended up in second with 37 wins. *Pictured is Mario Gutierrez accepting on behalf of Troy Taylor.*



Glen Todd...Leading Owner

The leading owner at Hastings in 2012 was once again Glen Todd's North American Thoroughbred Horse Company. The gameplan from the outset was to target the stakes races at Hastings and to run his overflow of talent in Edmonton and Seattle. The plan worked to perfection winning 18 of the 39 stakes at Hastings. The Longacres Mile and the B.C. Derby have been major goals for Glen's horses and in 2012 Taylor Said struck gold in the Mile, but the coveted B.C. Derby eluded him for another year as he finished second, third, and fourth with his three entrants behind Peter Redekop's Second City. But as sure as the sun will rise tomorrow you know Glen will be back in 2013 with more talent to try and win his first B.C. Derby. *Pictured is Glen Todd.*



Ed Dittloff...CTHS Ambassador's Award

The C.T.H.S. Ambassador Award is given to those who have dedicated many years to breeding thoroughbreds in British Columbia while contributing to the industry by maintaining exemplary standards and mentoring others. Ed Dittloff is a 49-year member of the CTHS and has 65 years in total devoted to breeding and raising racehorses. In 1958, the Dittloffs, Ed and his wife Gladys bought 320 acres in Grindrod, B.C. and that farm operation continues to this day. They have bred and raised such stars as Summer Lil, High Reserve, B.C. Derby winner Fleet Reserve, and more recently B.C. bred champ Racing for Gold. *Pictured is Ed Dittloff.*



Merv Nelson...CTHS Ambassador's Award

The C.T.H.S. is pleased and honoured to hand out a second Ambassador Award to long time B.C. breeder Merv Nelson. Merv has been a C.T.H.S. member for 42 years and at his Winsome Ranch has stood stallions Marcellini, Screaming Fife and outstanding two-year-old sire Feu D'Enfer. He has bred stakes winners Jay R. Free, Good Ole Gal, Devil's Princess, Sales Model, Feutoomany, Rich R Gold, Win A Feu Work Visa, Napa, Feu Express and the Thesaratogaexpress. *Pictured is Jane Foxwell accepting on behalf of Merv Nelson.*



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Alex Murray...HBPA Backstretch Award



The annual HBPA Backstretch Award had two worthy nominees in 2012. The first being trainer Alex Murray who has spent most of his adult life on the racetrack. He is in the legal profession and anytime a backstretch employee ran into a scrape with the law his services were readily available despite many being short on funds. Generous is an understatement. Our Award winner has for many years stepped up without regard for compensation to help anybody who has ever asked him. He has made time to serve on the HBPA nominating committee as well as being a tireless worker for the New Stride Thoroughbred Adoption Agency. He is a tremendous contributor to the backstretch and is a deserving winner. *Pictured is Alex Murray.*

Linda Sentes...HBPA Backstretch Award



The annual HBPA Backstretch Award also went to Linda Sentes. For many years the Thoroughbred Ladies Club has been a significant part of the racing community and Linda Sentes has played a key role in helping sick or injured workers, providing scholarship assistance, meals for grooms and hotwalkers and hosting Oldtimer's Luncheons where past trainers, owners and workers can get together to chat about the past. She leads the way in organizing HBPA summer picnics, Christmas parties, and willingness and ability to sell raffle and draw tickets designed to raise funds for the great work done by the Thoroughbred Ladies Club. Linda and her husband Jim have owned horses for many years and continue to do so. Congratulations to Linda Sentes another deserving backstretch award winner. *Pictured is Linda Sentes.*

