



The Hambletonian

AMERICA'S TROTTING CLASSIC





CELEBRATING 95 YEARS FULL OF HISTORY.

Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment is proud to be home to America's Trotting Classic, The Hambletonian.



STEADFAST LEADERSHIP

A cast of thousands has contributed to write the history of the Hambletonian. While a small group of trotting horse breeders conceived of the Hambletonian and got it launched in 1926, moving forward has required the support of breeders, owners and trainers of the thousands of horses nominated to the 95 editions of the race.

Over almost a century, one of the keys to the Hambletonian's success has been the dedication of a small group of sportsmen who made the grand trotting race a high ideal. An important development in 1925 was the formation of The Hambletonian Society. The Society continues to own and operate the Hambletonian and over the years its members have never wavered in the support needed to keep the race vibrant.

The 95th Hambletonian will mark the 40th edition of the race held at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J. The race moved there in 1981 after a persuasive proposal from the operator of the Meadowlands at the time, the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. The pitch to bring the Hambletonian to New Jersey was supported by influential horsemen Delvin Miller and Billy Haughton and the New Jersey governor, Brendan Byrne.

In the tradition of leadership set by those before him, today Jeff Gural, a passionate breeder and racehorse owner, operates the Meadowlands and continues to present the Hambletonian with a mix of the race's fair roots and sophistication, all while one can look out over the track and see the Manhattan skyline.

Weather, the Great Depression, World War II, and now in 2020 a worldwide viral pandemic have threatened the Hambletonian and become part of its history.

The race's first host, the New York State Fair in Syracuse, did not have an all-weather track, so when it rained day after day in late August 1927, and again in 1929, the clay racing surface became a quagmire and the race had to be postponed and moved to Lexington, Ky.

The Hambletonian's years at Good Time Park in Goshen, N.Y., spanned World War II. The first Hambletonian contested at Good Time Park took place in 1930 and the track's owner, Bill Cane, quickly became known for his promotional zeal. In 1943, however, there was nothing Cane could do about wartime travel restrictions so reluctantly the race was moved to the Empire City Thoroughbred track near New York City—now Yonkers Raceway.

Three months to the day after Germany surrendered to end World War II, Titan Hanover won the Hambletonian at Good Time Park. His owner E. Roland Harriman was proudly in the winner's circle but his nephew and partner on the colt, Elbridge Gerry, was away serving his country.

The Hambletonian was moved to the Du Quoin State Fair



in Du Quoin, Ill., and when the time of year for the Hambletonian came around, fields of corn served as an appropriate backdrop for the race held at a state fair. The warm hospitality of the Hayes family, which owned the fair at the time, was only exceeded by the heat and humidity of late summer in southern Illinois.

Many questioned if racing the Hambletonian in the shadow of New York City would work. But as promised by its pitch, the Meadowlands was up to the task, creating a fair atmosphere in Paddock Park and at the same time offering air-conditioned comfort and fine dining inside the five-story grandstand building.

One constant since 1939, wherever the race has been held, is the large Revere bowl that serves as the Hambletonian trophy. Over the years the Hambletonian trophy has been presented by governors and celebrities to owners from all over the United States, Canada and even Europe.

The unique silver trophy was originally permitted to travel with the winning owner. That added to Hambletonian lore as some owners threw celebratory parties and permitted their guests to drink champagne from the bowl.

Today the Revere bowl stays on display at the Meadowlands until Hambletonian Day, except for a few special appearances, such as a photo shoot with winning trainer Jimmy Takter holding it aloft in his swimming pool after winning with Trixton, and on more than one occasion a baby being held while standing inside the bowl at a press conference.

And on many a hot summer August afternoon in New Jersey, the winning horse has taken a well-earned drink from the Revere bowl, which may be the most elegant water bucket a horse could have. Winners receive replicas of the trophy, a gleaming memory of their victory in one of America's longest and greatest sporting traditions.





RENO



BAUER



HERVEY



MARKEY

IN HONOR OF THE GREAT FATHER
THE HAMBLETONIAN STAKE
 ESTIMATED VALUE \$50,000
 FOR THREE-YEAR-OLD TROTTERS

For Foals of 1923

To Race in 1926

AN ANALYSIS OF ITS FEATURES

- 1.—The entry fee is \$10.00.
- 2.—The closing date is Thursday, May 1, 1924.
- 3.—For foals of 1923, now yearlings.
- 4.—\$200 to be paid January 1, 1925.
- 5.—\$250 to be paid January 1, 1926.
- 6.—Starting fee, \$500, on eve of race.
- 7.—400 original payments are anticipated.
- 8.—200 second payments looked for.
- 9.—70 third payments is the estimate.
- 10.—\$5000 will be received for the race.
- 11.—\$74,000 should be accumulated.
- 12.—But \$50,000 is a safe estimate.
- 13.—These figures are very conservative.
- 14.—The breeders are given \$5000.

- 15.—First money will be \$30,000 or over.
- 16.—Second money, \$9,000 or over.
- 17.—Third money, \$4,500 or over.
- 18.—Fourth, fifth and sixth horses, \$1,000 each.
- 19.—All money paid in will be raced for.
- 20.—Only the essential expenses deducted.

Consider the Valuation

Consider the increased valuation given your yearlings by making them eligible to the greatest of all trotting events. The first question that buyers will ask is whether the yearlings are entered in the Hambletonian, and you can draw your own conclusions as to their decision if you have to give a negative answer.

Send for Entry Blank, Addressing

H. O. RENO
 4828 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Ill.

DIRECTORS

C. W. LEONARD, President, Boston, Mass.
 W. M. WRIGHT, Treasurer, Chicago, Ill.
 PAUL KILLEN, Vice-President, Terre Haute, Indiana
 J. J. MARKEY, Secretary, Chicago, Ill.
 H. O. RENO, Chairman, Committee, Chicago, Ill.

C. W. LASELLE, Whitesville, Mass.
 T. D. TAGGART, French Lick, Ind.
 HARRY BURGONE, Donora, Pa.
 F. G. WARDEN, Euron, Ohio
 WALTER T. CANDLER, Atlanta, Ga.

Harry Reno was a man full of enthusiasm and ideas. He had never owned a trotter or pacer himself, but he knew something about the sport of harness racing through his brother-in-law, noted breeder Warren M. Wright.

Reno believed harness racing needed bigger jackpots on the stakes schedule to command the attention of the sporting public. America was experiencing economic prosperity after the Great War and Reno felt the sport needed to create a few bonanzas.

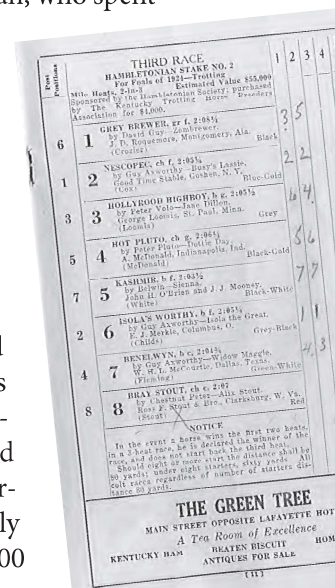
Reno envisioned a race for 3-year-old trotters with a guaranteed purse of at least \$50,000, perhaps even more. One day in 1923 Reno was in the downtown Chicago offices of The Horse Review, then the leading harness journal. Publisher John Bauer and noted writers Joseph Markey and John Hervey were helping Reno with his proposal. They had examined every aspect of how they could make this stake into the biggest in the sport, a race that would attract national attention, serve as a proving ground for the best horses in America, and stimulate breeding.

When seemingly all the details were resolved, Bauer met with Markey, Hervey and Reno and asked what the race should be called. Several names were suggested but quickly discarded. Hanging above Bauer's desk was a portrait of the great stallion Hambletonian by artist Robert Dickey. It served as an inspiration for Bauer.

"I propose we call it the Hambletonian Stake," Bauer said. "The trotting breeding today is a Hambletonian breed. There is no other name in the trotting world that means so much."

Bauer was right. The coarse bay stallion Hambletonian, who was owned by William M. Rysdyk, had come into the world in 1849 when there really was no specific trotting breed—just a patchwork quilt of horses which showed some ability to trot. When the offspring of Hambletonian began to race in the 1850s and '60s, the rival male lines were soon swept into oblivion. They simply could not compete with the descendants of Hambletonian, who spent his entire life in Orange County, N.Y., about an hour's drive from New York City.

Hambletonian was never raced, although he was exhibited on the trot and showed speed and gait. The success of his offspring increased the demand for his breeding services and he ultimately sired more than 1,000 foals.



In Honor of the Great Father
Hambletonian Stake No. 3
Estimated Value, Over \$50,000
For Three-Year-Old Trotters To Be Raced in 1928

THE HAMBLETONIAN SOCIETY,
1421 Harvard St., Evanston, Ill.

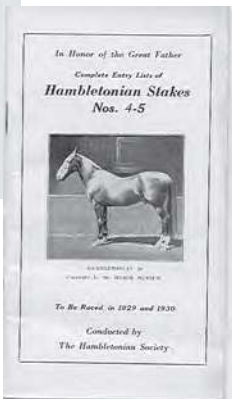
Entered for \$... for the January 1, 1928, owners at \$200 on each colt of 1925 eligible in this event. To be raced under the conditions herein stated.

NAME OF ENTRY	COACH & SEX	SIRE	DAM
Spencer	C. o.	St. Peter	Peterson
Le Man	W. h.	Bayston	Beauty Bell
Hambleton	B. f.	Sagehen	Eartha Fox
H. O. Elliott	B. o.	St. George	Harriet Hall
Hambleton	B. f.	Belton	Stevenson
Ray H. H. H.	B. o.	Ham King	

CAREFULLY NOTE THIS REFERENCE
Owing to the prevalence that has arisen against simulating races on the elimination heat plan where the stakes are large the Hambletonian Society, in response to the universal demand, has changed the conditions of its Stakes and will race these on the best two out of three heats plan. Two heats will be required to be won before first money is awarded. The general conditions governing the race will conform to the prevailing rules of the Association over whose track the race will be held. Preliminary, or elimination heats have become unpopular for the reason that the drivers attempt merely to qualify with their horses, thus destroying interest in such contests.

Make your checks payable to PAUL KUHN, Treasurer.
Signature of owner: *Paul Kuhn* Address: *255 25th St*

been a steady patron of the sport, immediately upon learning of this big event, I purchased six additional yearlings with a view of entering them in it," noted Wright. "The gentleman whose colt or filly wins the Hambletonian will have every reason to feel proud, and I am going to make every effort to be that party."



The point is that we must try new things for the advancement of our sport...

—Harry Reno



which continues to manage the race.

The Hambletonian was promoted with advertisements in various trotting journals and in one published in late March, 1924, the race's "financial possibilities" were estimated to reach \$74,000. To call that sum an educated guess was charitable, but 29 months later when the first Hambletonian was contested, the purse was \$73,451.

It cost \$960 to start a horse in the Hambletonian, with the final entry fee \$500. Interest in the race exceeded expectations as 626 nominations were received.

One other detail had to be determined before the inaugural race. Where would it be held? Many locales were considered based on their ability to draw and accommodate a large crowd.

Bids were accepted from prospective hosts, a tradition that has continued throughout the history of the Hambletonian. Three bids were opened on New Year's Day 1926, and Joe Markey announced that Syracuse, the home of the New York State Fair, had been chosen. Kalamazoo, Mich., and Atlanta, Ga., were the other bidders. Syracuse was awarded the Hambletonian after offering to pay \$8,000 for the privilege of hosting the race, with the "hosting fee" added to the purse of the race.

From its inception in 1926, the Hambletonian has remained the most coveted prize in harness racing.



Hambletonian horse monument, Chester, N. Y.



By 1900, the Hambletonian line dominated trotting with only a few vestiges of the other male lines. These rival lines were ultimately extinguished by the superiority of the Hambletonian offspring.

Now that the race had a name, would it have the support of the people in the sport?

Reno reviewed his concept with a variety of people in the sport.

"Their enthusiasm and optimism quite overwhelmed me, and I confess that I have a pretty fair brand of it of my own," Reno said. "The point is that we must try new things for the advancement of our sport, and while I have a lot of ideas which I believe would improve conditions, I think that the foremost aim at this time should be to stimulate breeding by giving our foals more money to race for."

The cost to nominate a colt or filly to the Hambletonian was \$10, a substantial amount at a time when the sport's best yearlings seldom brought bids of more than \$1,000.

Warren M. Wright of Chicago, founder of the Calumet Baking Powder company and later Calumet Farm in Kentucky, was one of the first supporters of the Hambletonian. "While I have



Rosalind (inside) winning at GoodTime Park.

HAMBLETONIAN HEROES

FILLY ROSALIND PROVIDES ONE OF MANY TIMELESS STORIES ABOUT WINNERS

By Kathy Parker & Ellen Harvey

As its creators intended, the Hambletonian race as a showcase for trotters became an instant classic. By the time the Hambletonian was settled in at Good Time Park in Goshen, N.Y., in the 1930s, the race had become a holy grail for everyone involved with trotting horses.

The leading horsemen of the early days of the Hambletonian did their part to put the race on the schedule of the owners of top 3-year-old trotting stock. Esteemed horsemen such as Tom Berry, Fred Egan, Vic Fleming, Sep Palin, Hugh Parshall, Henry Thomas and Ben White rarely missed a year of starting top colts and fillies from their stables in the race. White, Palin and Parshall collectively won five of the first 10 editions of the race. White won five Hambletonians in the race's first 25 years, stretching his victories from 1927 through 1943.

The next generation of horsemen followed suit. In 1949, the last year White competed in the Hambletonian, 25-year-old Billy Haughton made his first appearance in the race. His horse failed to finish the first heat,

but it didn't derail the young horseman who went on to train five Hambletonian winners—Christopher T (1974), Steve Lobell ('76), Green Speed ('77), Burgomeister ('80) and Speed Bowl ('82).

Stanley Dancer, who competed in his first Hambletonian in 1953, also became a five-time winner, training champions Egyptian Candor ('65), Nevele Pride ('68), Super Bowl ('72), Bonefish ('75), and Duenna ('83).

Over two decades in the 1980s and '90s, when driving became a specialty and the phrase "catch-driving" was rarely a part of harness racing's vocabulary, John Campbell drove six Hambletonian winners. Campbell, who became a legend for his ability as a driver, captured the race with Mack Lobell (1987) Armbro Goal ('88), Harmonious ('90), Tagliabue ('95), Muscles Yankee ('98) and Glidemaster (2006).

While the Hambletonian is foremost a sporting competition, a horse race, it has also become a tapestry of stories which richly show the American spirit. White, Haughton, Dancer and Campbell each had one single victory which stands out for being about so much more

than winning a horse race.

Campbell's victory with Tagliabue put two brothers together in the Hambletonian winner's circle as John's brother Jim trained the colt. Dancer's unexpected 1983 triumph with Duenna came following the death of his top prospect for the race, the colt Dancer's Crown. And few who were at Du Quoin, Ill., for the 1980 Hambletonian will forget Haughton somberly sitting in the sulky as Burgomeister crossed the wire first. The colt had been trained and owned by Haughton's late son Peter, who earlier that year had died at age 25 after a car accident.

An everlasting Hambletonian story of the American spirit came thanks to the filly Rosalind. By 1936, Ben White had won two Hambletonians, with Iosola's Worthy (1927) and Mary Reynolds (1933). In '36, the United States was still in the throes of the Great Depression, which had ensued following the stock market crash in 1929. The nation was living on little more than hope and while

a heart-warming story couldn't fill a stomach, it nourished the soul.

Rosalind was bred by White. She was a daughter of the sire Scotland, who White had driven to a third-place finish in the 1928 Hambletonian. White's young son Gibson had contracted tuberculosis, one of the most dreaded diseases of the time. The Whites lived in Lexington, Ky., but young Gib was sent to other locales where the weather could possibly help him recuperate. To take the youngster's mind off his illness, the father gave the son the filly.

Gib White was healthy enough to be one of the reported 45,000 people at Good Time Park for the 1936 Hambletonian and he got to see his filly win the race.

As Ben White jogged Rosalind back to the Hambletonian winner's circle after winning the second and final heat, his reed-thin teenage son stepped forward and wrapped his long arms around his father's neck. When asked for his thoughts, young Gib said, "I guess I am the happiest

“

I guess I am the happiest fellow in the world. I have a great filly and a great dad.

—Gib White

”

fellow in the world. I have a great filly and a great dad.”

The story of a young boy and a champion filly was timeless and in 1950 it became captured for eternity.

Writer Marguerite Henry had won a Newbery award, the Pulitzer

of children's literature, and was at the peak of her career when her 16th book, *Born To Trot*, was published in 1950. That book, chronicling the life of Rosalind and Gibson White, is still in print, 70 years later. Though elements are created to support the narrative, they're all based in fact.

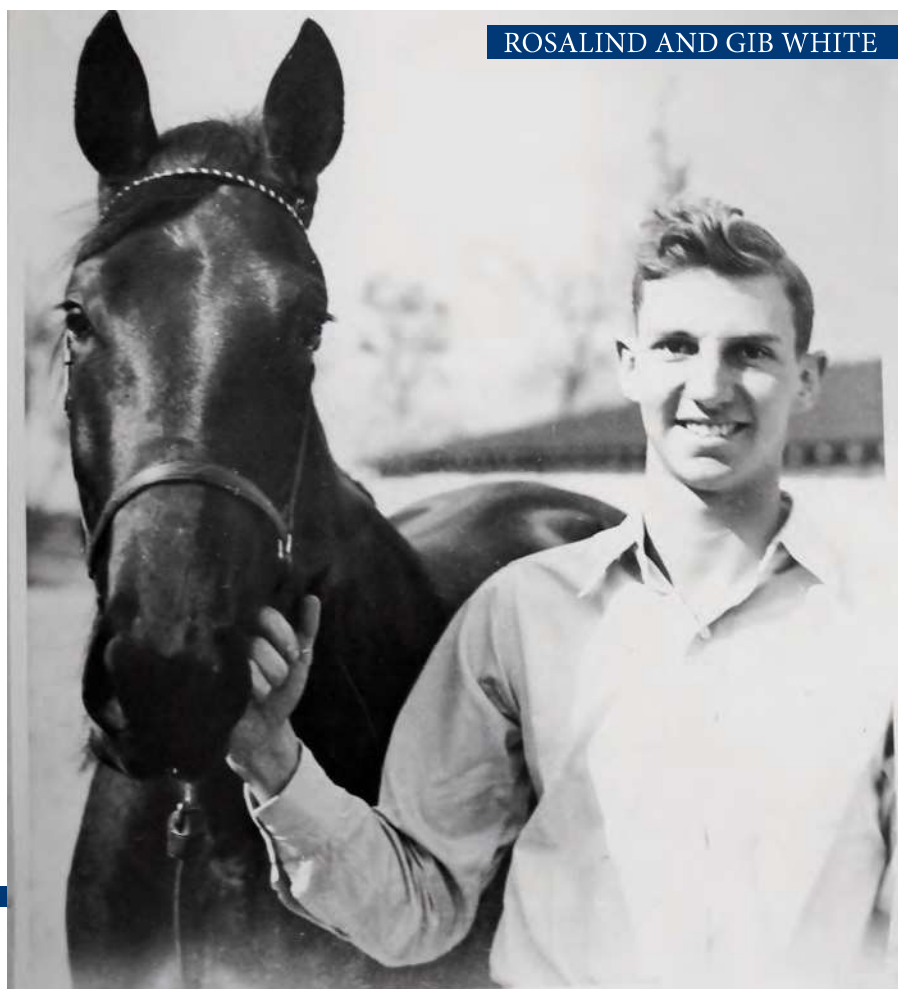
As a teenager, Gib White dutifully jogged his pony, dreaming of the day he'd go the fast way around the track with a racehorse. Diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1931, then a disease with no cure and only a "rest" treatment, he spent the next five years at St. Mary's Sanitarium in Tucson, Ariz.

On May 7, 1933, his visiting father, hoping to boost his son's spirits, gave him a filly, a two-day-old daughter of Scotland and Alma Lee.

Gib said the bright bay filly had ears, "about as high as your heart." Recalling the description of the heroine in Shakespeare's, *As You Like It*, as, "Just as high as my heart," Gib named her Rosalind.

Gib's days revolved around letters about Rosalind. "She bunts the daisies with her nose and nicks the cloud with her heels," Henry wrote. As training progresses, so does the detail of her development:

"Your filly punches her legs up and out until the rhythm



Concourse of 45,000 Sees Rosalind Defeat Field, Making Hambletonian One-Horse Race

Ed Lasater
Bad Third in
Great Event

Ben and Gibson White Share
Fleet Filly's Honors on Goshen Mile Track

By CLAYTON R. SEAGERS
GOSHEN—Rosalind may have had its white Christmas but Gladys had its white Hambletonian yesterday, featuring Ben and Gibson White driving Rosalind, the winner. Gladys, the one, created her and the filly did the rest. She simply made a one-horse race of the Hambletonian, winning six out of it, by leading the two fastest teams (Ed and Gibson White) over in the second year of the event. The entry was placed. Probably the most representative American crowd ever to see a horse race—45,000 persons—watched her run the field for five or six miles. Ed Lasater, favorite which also had been beaten by the same Hambletonian Franklin White, was third today of 1875 by winning his second heat in the first heat and of 1875 was to LAWRENCE SHAPIRO's second heat. Rosalind, the leading second and third.

Hambletonian a Family Affair



ager, came home an adult. He soon introduced himself to a horse he'd thought about nearly every day of her life.

"He had no oats to offer, no sugar," wrote Henry. "He wanted no cupboard love from Rosalind. He wanted her only to accept him...to go on about her business aware of him but not wary."

Rosalind indeed went about her business, winning nearly every race leading up to the Hambletonian.

Aug. 12, 1936, dawned and 40,000 people streamed to Goshen, N.Y., to witness the last minutes of Gib White's three-year-long dream. Watching from the grandstand roof as he spotted for radio announcer Clem McCarthy, White saw Rosalind endure four recalls. When the race finally got underway, she was soon in command, and Ben White was looking back for challengers when he crossed the wire.

The field had a clear shot at the filly in the second heat, "lines flapping, drivers shouting," writes Henry; "Only Rosalind's driver sitting tight, letting his horse alone, letting her do it herself."

So it hadn't been just a dream. The Shakespearean heroine played a new role, this one in a fairy tale. Rosalind had won the Hambletonian, her long black tail streaking past her driver's shoulder down the stretch. Gibson White had become a successful trainer.

Rosalind shadowed Greyhound in late 1930s competition and then became a broodmare. She had six foals, all fillies, but none to match the accomplishments of their mother. She died at Hanover Shoe Farm on Oct. 26, 1950, and is buried there.

To purchase Born To Trot and to learn more about Rosalind, visit the Harness Racing Museum, 240 Main Street, Goshen, N.Y. (845) 294-6330.

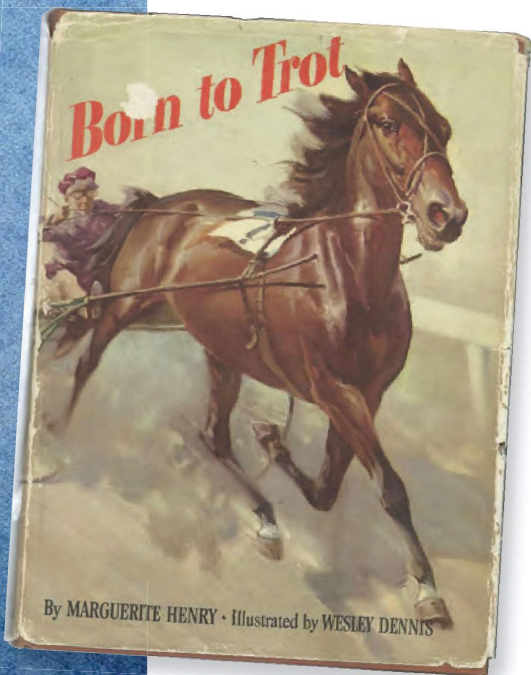
kind of takes your breath."

Henry intersperses the trail of Rosalind's training through a nearly hundred-year-old book she creates as a gift from Gib's physician to tell the story of the filly's ancestor, Rysdyk's Hambletonian, the common forefather of all Standardbreds. Gib's imagination takes flight, and he believes his filly, whose May 5 birthday is shared with Hambletonian, can win the race named for him.

"Every letter brought a dosage of strength with it," Henry wrote, though the elder White's letters carried a common caution of horse trainers. "Rosalind and I are starting out on the Grand Circuit," as Henry described it; "Nobody very high on her now but her owner and trainer."

Their optimism was justified. Though Rosalind raced when fillies competed with colts and every race was a contest of heats, she won six of 10 starts at two, second in those she did not win.

In April 1936, Gib, who left his family a teen-



Hambletonian trophy won by Rosalind

THE EARLY YEARS



The presentation of the 1926 trophy to winning trainer-driver Nat Ray (left).

It was appropriate that the very first Hambletonian was held in New York as the race's namesake had lived his entire life in New York. The race was held in Syracuse in 1926 but in 1927 persistent rains forced a move to Lexington, Ky. The race moved back to Syracuse in 1928 and then back to Lexington again in 1929 before moving to Bill Cane's Good Time Park in Goshen, N.Y.

THE WINNERS

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1926-Guy McKinney | 1942-The Ambassador |
| 1927-Iosola's Worthy* | 1943-Volo Song |
| 1928-Spencer | 1944-Yankee Maid* |
| 1929-Walter Dear | 1945-Titan Hanover |
| 1930-Hanover's Bertha* | 1946-Chestertown |
| 1931-Calumet Butler | 1947-Hoot Mon |
| 1932-The Marchioness* | 1948-Demon Hanover |
| 1933-Mary Reynolds* | 1949-Miss Tilly* |
| 1934-Lord Jim | 1950-Lusty Song |
| 1935-Greyhound | 1951-Mainliner |
| 1936-Rosalind* | 1952-Sharp Note |
| 1937-Shirley Hanover* | 1953-Helicopter* |
| 1938-McLin | 1954-Newport Dream |
| 1939-Peter Astra | 1955-Scott Frost |
| 1940-Spencer Scott | 1956-The Intruder |
| 1941-Bill Gallon | *filly |



THE DU QUOIN DAYS



The Hayes family of Du Quoin, Ill., won the 1950 Hambletonian with Lusty Song, fulfilling a family dream that went much bigger than winning the race. In the 1940s, W.R. Hayes built a one-mile racing oval in the small town of Du Quoin, located closer to St. Louis, Mo., than Chicago. Hayes was intent on bringing Grand Circuit racing to southern Illinois. With a one-mile track, as required by the Hambletonian conditions, the Hayes family bid for and won the rights to stage the Hambletonian, playing host to their first in 1957. The Hambletonian became a crown jewel of the Midwestern state fair circuit and the gracious hospitality of the Hayes family created an atmosphere that endeared the Du Quoin State Fair to all.

THE WINNERS

1957-Hickory Smoke

1958-Emily's Pride*

1959-Diller Hanover

1960-Blaze Hanover

1961-Harlan Dean

1962-AC's Viking

1963-Speedy Scot

1964-Ayres

1965-Egyptian Candor

1966-Kerry Way*

1967-Speedy Streak

1968-Nevele Pride

1969-Lindy's Pride

1970-Timothy T

1971-Speedy Crown

1972-Super Bowl

1973-Flirth

1974-Christopher T

1975-Bonefish

1976-Steve Lobell

1977-Green Speed

1978-Speedy Somolli

1979-Legend Hanover

1980-Burgomeister

*filly



MOVING ^{TO} THE MEADOWLANDS

When Roosevelt Raceway ushered in the era of night pari-mutuel racing in 1940, it revolutionized harness racing. A similar revolution occurred in 1976 when the Meadowlands opened in New Jersey. Almost overnight, the Meadowlands became harness racing's foremost racing facility. The track's management quickly realized one thing was missing: the sport's greatest track did not have the sport's greatest race. Officials of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, operators of the Meadowlands for the state of New Jersey, wanted the Hambletonian and presented an irresistible package of promotions and purse money, all within sight of the Manhattan skyline. After making its Meadowlands debut in 1981, the Hambletonian purse began climbing to levels previously unimaginable. The track became a mecca for trotting devotees from around the world, which continues into the 21st century with a modern grandstand which made its Hambletonian debut in 2014.

THE WINNERS

1981-Shiaway St. Pat

1982-Speed Bowl

1983-Duenna*

1984-Historic Freight

1985-Prakas

1986-Nuclear Kosmos

1987-Mack Lobell

1988-Armbro Goal

1989-Probe & Park Avenue Joe

1990-Harmonious

1991-Giant Victory

1992-Alf Palema

1993-American Winner

1994-Victory Dream

1995-Tagliabue

1996-Continentalvictory*

1997-Malabar Man

1998-Muscles Yankee

1999-Self Possessed

2000-Yankee Paco

2001-Scarlet Knight

2002-Chip Chip Hooray

2003-Amigo Hall

2004-Windsong's Legacy

2005-Vivid Photo

2006-Glidemaster

2007-Donato Hanover

2008-Deweycheatumnhowe

2009-Muscle Hill

2010-Muscle Massive

2011-Broad Bahn

2012-Market Share

2013-Royalty For Life

2014-Trixton

2015-Pinkman

2016-Marion Marauder

2017-Perfect Spirit

2018-Atlanta*

2019-Forbidden Trade

**filly*



TROTTING TRIPLE CROWN CHAMPIONS

Year	Horse	Trainer	Driver
1955	Scott Frost	Joe O'Brien	Joe O'Brien
1963	Speedy Scot	Ralph Baldwin	Ralph Baldwin
1964	Ayres	John Simpson Sr.	John Simpson Sr.
1968	Nevele Pride	Stanley Dancer	Stanley Dancer
1969	Lindy's Pride	Howard Beissinger	Howard Beissinger
1972	Super Bowl	Stanley Dancer	Stanley Dancer
2004	Windsong's Legacy	Trond Smedshammer	Trond Smedshammer
2006	Glidemaster	John Campbell/George Brennan	Blair Burgess
2016	Marion Marauder	Scott Zeron	Paula Wellwood

THE CHASE ^{FOR AN} ELITE ACCOMPLISHMENT

The trotting Triple Crown consists of the Hambletonian, Kentucky Futurity and Yonkers Trot. The oldest of the three stakes is the Kentucky Futurity, which was first raced in 1893. The first Hambletonian was contested in 1926, with the Yonkers Futurity (later called the Yonkers Trot) begun in 1955.

The order of the races on the calendar is not always the same. The Triple Crown was won four times in the 1960s and in those four Triple Crown years, the Yonkers Futurity was contested first, followed by the Hambletonian and Kentucky Futurity.

When Super Bowl won the Triple Crown in 1972, the Hambletonian was back as the first leg. A 32-year drought ensued before Windsong's Legacy captured the Triple Crown in 2004. While the Hambletonian was raced first that year, because of construction at Yonkers Raceway the second-leg Yonkers Trot was contested not on that track's half-mile oval, but on the one-mile track at Hawthorne Race Course in Chicago. Two years later the Yonkers Trot was raced as the third leg, and not until Nov. 25, and Glidemaster took home the trophy.

WINDSONG'S LEGACY

Q: When you woke up the morning of the Hambletonian elims, any inkling Windsong's Legacy had the ability to win the Triple Crown?

A: He already had won the Goodtimes and the Stanley Dancer, so for sure I thought I had a horse that could win the Triple Crown with the right kind of trips.

Q: Do you consider Windsong's Legacy's Triple Crown with an asterisk because the Yonkers Trot that year was instead raced at the one-mile Hawthorne Race Course?

A: I don't think so. I don't think it matters, he could have raced and won at Yonkers. He wouldn't have had any problems there.



Trainer-Driver Trond Smedshammer

Q: Windsong's Legacy's Triple Crown accomplishment erased a 32-year-drought. Your thoughts?

A: It's very, very difficult to do. Being a trainer-driver made it more special. All the previous times it had been won by a trainer-driver so it was special. It will probably never be done again by a trainer-driver. I remember specifically a couple days later that Stanley Dancer called me. He congratulated me and that was a big deal to me.

Q: What are the biggest obstacles to winning the Triple Crown?

A: There are a lot of challenges. You have to have a lot of luck along the way. A lot of things can go wrong. A lot of things went right with him. I remember talking to John Campbell about how hard it is to win the Triple Crown. He tried to win the Triple Crown many times. He had Muscles Yankee and Mack Lobell, and they got beat in the Kentucky Futurity. It could have been bad for me in the Futurity because going up the backside it didn't look very promising as I was locked in.

GLIDEMASTER

Q: On July 29, the day of the Hambletonian elims, any inkling Glidemaster had the ability to win the Triple Crown four months later with the Nov. 25 Yonkers Trot?

A: I always knew Glidemaster was a talented horse. I told my second trainer back around February or March...that this was the Real Desire of trotters. He was a very, very precocious horse.

Q: You had some late concerns before the Hambletonian?

A: He had trouble coming into the Hambo elims because he had a pus pocket in a foot and was lame a few days (and ran a temperature of 103 and 104). We were touch and go to make the elims, actually. We contemplated scratching him. He was second in his elim behind Mr. Pine Chip, which was good considering the horrible week he had. For the final the next week, in the old front paddock at the Meadowlands that I loved, you could tell when a horse is going to be good. He was so chilled and so good, and warmed up so great. He had a crappy post (eight) and it was all if John (Campbell) could work out a trip.

Q: You also had concerns about the Kentucky Futurity?

A: He didn't like The Red Mile. I actually thought he was crappy in the Futurity, and so did John. He won in straight heats but the clay just stuck too much to him. I took off his back shoes to try and help him a little bit.

Q: Coming off a second in the Breeders Crown final, any hesitation to enter the Yonkers Trot?

A: Losing never sits well with me so it was redeeming that he won it. We were a \$60,000 supplement, first time on a half, we were worried about his stallion career, so there were those things.

Q: Any issues coming into the Yonkers Trot, especially since John Campbell was injured and you had to line up a new driver?

A: I went to Georgie (driver George Brennan). He was a Yonkers guy. The horse was so self aware and he didn't know the track and he tried to duck out the draw gate. Watch the replay and you'll see him do a right turn by the paddock the last time when he was first-over parked. Georgie had to correct him and go back down inside. And he still broke the track record.

Q: Glidemaster is the only one of the nine Triple Crown



Trainer
Blair Burgess

trotting winners who captured the Yonkers Trot as the third jewel. How hard was it for you to keep him sharp?

A: I don't know, I love things that are spread out like that. He was a good horse and it gave me more time. The Triple Crown of trotting is a real test, if you can survive that and be good for the 2 1/2 months, although I did it in reverse order and over four months.

MARION MARAUDER

Q: What were you thinking on the morning of the Hambletonian?

A: The Triple Crown at that point wasn't on the radar. The only race was the Hambletonian. It sounds kind of stupid, but it was one of the only races I thought he was going to win. I always thought he was going to win the Hambletonian and called friends and asked them to go to the races, and I never asked them before. I told them they'd want to be there that day because I had an inkling it was going to happen, but the Triple Crown was so far out. The (Kentucky) Futurity became a reality after winning the Yonkers Trot. We had a point to prove at that point so the Futurity was going to be a sure thing to race in. Had he not won the Yonkers Trot there was a pretty good chance we would have not (supplemented to the Futurity). But after he won it, at that point you'd be denying the horse a chance at history, and we would never do that.

Q: Marion Marauder won the Hambletonian elim by a half-length and then the same-day final by a nose over Southwind Frank. After winning the Yonkers Trot elim, you won the final by a head. It was the same margin in the Kentucky Futurity, so in all, Marion Marauder captured the Triple Crown by a neck. Too close for comfort?

A: Yes, it was (laughing). But that was him, having a nose for the wire. It was his style. You always like to win the big races by a lot but winning is the most important part.

Q: What was your biggest challenge in keeping Marion Marauder sharp for the three races over the two-month period?

A: We never trained him very, very hard. It was mostly distance training. He had a set routine and we kept him on his routine and kept him happy. He stayed sound and those were the most important things. No fancy training, no real secrets to it, just keep him happy, healthy and sound.



Trainer
Paula Wellwood



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

By Bob “Hollywood” Heyden

SCARLET KNIGHT—2001 Scarlet Knight stands at stud at Skramsta Stuteri, 30 miles from Stockholm, Sweden, his home country since he was 2 years old. Stefan Melander purchased Scarlet Knight as a yearling colt for just \$17,000 at a sale in Pennsylvania and then had him shipped to Sweden to be trained.

CHIP CHIP HOORAY—2002 Chip Chip Hooray was the fourth Hambletonian winner for Chuck Sylvester, who had previously won the race with Mack Lobell, Park Avenue Joe and Muscles Yankee. After a stud career in Ohio, Chip Chip Hooray is now retired in Deleon Springs, Fla.

AMIGO HALL—2003 Amigo Hall was responsible for the first of two Hambletonian titles in a four-year stretch for Canadian horseman Blair Burgess. He was retired to stud duty at Tara Hills Farm in Ontario, then moved to Ohio for a stretch before returning to Canada. At the age of 20 in 2020, Amigo Hall continued to breed a few mares.

WINDSONG’S LEGACY—2004 Windsong’s Legacy victory was a throwback to the trainer-driver days of the Hambletonian as his trainer, Trond Smedshammer, also steered him to victory. Windsong’s Legacy was purchased by Perretti Farms for stallion duty. The dam of Windsong’s Legacy, Yankee Windsong, died soon after giving birth to Windsong’s Legacy and tragically in 2008 her most famous son also passed away at the young age of seven from a pulmonary event while breeding.

VIVID PHOTO—2005 Trond Smedshammer’s winning double as a trainer-driver was repeated by Roger Hammer, who won with Vivid Photo. Vivid Photo finished his career with a healthy \$3,273,387 in earnings to fund his retirement, which is spent at Hammer’s farm in Bedford, Pa., turned out in a field with his buddy Avenue Of Dreams.

GLIDEMASTER—2006 Glidemaster’s Hambletonian victory marked the first time a breeder-owner had won both the Hambo and the Oaks as George Segal’s Brittany Farms celebrated both Glidemaster and the filly Passionate Glide. Glidemaster was retired to stud at age four under the management of Brittany Farms and currently stands at stud at Winbak Farms of Delaware.

DONATO HANOVER—2007 Donato Hanover became the 10th Hambletonian winner bred by Hanover Shoe Farms, which was founded by Lawrence B. Sheppard and today is operated by his grandson, Russell Williams. Hanover-breds have captured the Hambletonian over a span of 80 years, with the first Hanover-bred winner in 1937 (Shirley Hanover) and the most recent Perfect Spirit (2017). Appropriately, Donato Hanover was retired to stud duty at Hanover where he sired five million-dollar winners. In 2019 Donato Hanover was purchased by Sweden’s Global Farm and continued his stallion career abroad. Earlier this year he nearly died from a small intestine rotation, but made a full recovery.

DEWEYCHEATUMNHOWE—2008 Deweycheatmnhowe, well known as “Dewey,” was another trainer-driver winner of the Hambletonian. Ray Schnittker trained and drove the colt and also co-owned him with several of his longtime friends and partners. Dewey was a two-time Horse of the Year runner-up (2007-2008) and the first trotter to earn \$3 million at ages two and three. He is standing stud at Leatherstocking Equine in New York.

MUSCLE HILL—2009 Muscle Hill became the first undefeated trotter to be voted Horse of the Year and he followed up his championship ways on the track by becoming the sport’s leading trotting sire. His offspring include Hambletonian winners Trixton (2014) and Marion Marauder (2016). He stands at stud at Southwind Farm in New Jersey, where he is visited by trotting fans from around the world.

MUSCLE MASSIVE—2010 Muscle Massive gave trainer Jimmy Takter the second of his four Hambletonian victories. Muscle Massive was retired to stud duty at Hanover Shoe Farms in Pennsylvania but today stands at Victory Hill Farms in Indiana.

BROAD BAHN—2011 Still owned by Leif Alber of Denmark, Broad Bahn stood at stud in Denmark this year after several seasons in Sweden and even a short stint in New York.

MARKET SHARE—2012 Market Share is spending his retirement days as a den mother to yearlings at Southwind Farms in New Jersey. Market Share was gelded so he would be more suitable for his role at Southwind.

ROYALTY FOR LIFE—2013 Royalty For Life holds the distinction of winning the last Hambletonian in front of the original Meadowlands grandstand. Following his racing career he was retired to stud duty at Tara Hills in Canada, where he still lives today.

TRIXTON—2014 Trixton won over stablemate Nuncio in a thrilling stretch drive and gave Jimmy Takter a Hambletonian driving victory. Trixton stands at stud at Deo Volente Farms in New Jersey.

PINKMAN—2015 Pinkman gave Takter back-to-back Hambletonian victories. As a gelding, Pinkman continued racing through age seven in 2019, banking \$2.8 million. He is retired from racing and living at the Ohio farm of co-owners Joyce and Dick McClelland.

MARION MARAUDER—2016 Because of poor fertility, Marion Marauder was not retired to stud duty. He is still racing for trainers Paula Wellwood and Mike Keeling, now with more than \$3 million in earnings.

PERFECT SPIRIT—2017 Perfect Spirit won 2017 Hambletonian via an historic and unprecedented disqualification of the winner What The Hill. Now six and still racing in Sweden with a pair of Grade 1 victories, Perfect Spirit is the 11th Hambletonian winner bred by Hanover Shoe Farms.

ATLANTA—2018 Atlanta became the third filly to win a Meadowlands Hambletonian, and the 14th overall in the history of the classic event. Atlanta is still competing and in 2019 she set a Meadowlands track record of 1:49.1.

FORBIDDEN TRADE—2019 Forbidden Trade also returned to the races at age four. It is an unusual circumstance to have the last four Hambletonian winners all racing.