

# the MAINE SPIRIT of the TURF

Volume 1, Issue 1 February 2012

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**From the Editor:** I welcome you to the first issue of *The Maine Spirit of the Turf*. My intention is to publish an issue each month. Hopefully, "The Maine Spirit" will serve as a communication tool for stakeholders to share their stories and concerns. To accomplish this I will need your help.

The periodical's purpose is to provide timely articles that promote Maine's agricultural history, Maine's Fairs, and the Standardbred horse. To gather content for "The Maine Spirit," Maine fair organizers, leaders in the field of agriculture, horse breeders, and horsemen need to support this initiative. "The Maine Spirit" will be distributed as an 8 1/2 by 11 inch formatted PDF document through an e-mail distribution list and as a downloadable PDF from selected websites.

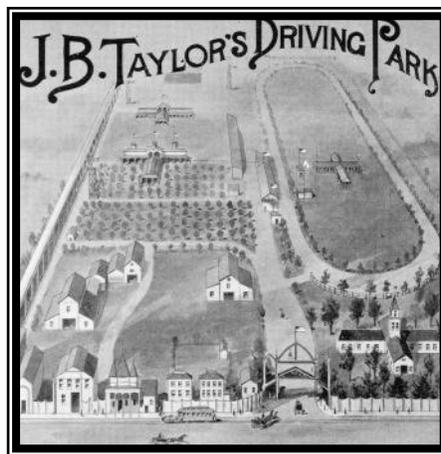
I will contact individuals to write articles or to provide content that can be shaped into articles. If you have an idea for an article or a column contact me by calling 207-623-3076 to discuss the content. I encourage the submission of articles with relevant content. Submitted articles that are not included in the PDF version will be posted to *The Maine Spirit of the Turf* Blog: <http://themainepirit.blogspot.com>. As we publish more issues, the reader will see "The Maine Spirit" with defined columns and special articles presenting monthly events and emerging issues. Share your ideas!

## Maine's Agricultural Museums: A Best Kept Secret Celebrate Your Agricultural Heritage

**Windsor Fair Museum** -- In May of 1973, Peachy brothers of Augusta, poured the slab and erected a 40x100 building on the fairgrounds which was the first building to start the Windsor Historical Society. Before that, the artifacts were in the fair Exhibition Hall. One of the first acquisitions was the original Windsor Post office, along with a steel postage stamp from Mabel Charles. It was also home to a country store, kitchen, parlor and bedroom. The rug design that Rosa Prime and Dot Baker stenciled on the bedroom floor is still visible in what is now the sewing room. The kitchen has since been replaced by a Tin Shop. There are many other interesting rooms. Walking through the museum is a well remembered experience!



The Windsor Fair Museum is now a complex hosting 13 buildings set in the image of a small Maine village. The first building, however, still holds interesting artifacts. Demonstrations are held at the printing press and tin shop during Windsor Fair. **Visit the Museum in 2012 : Fair Dates -- Augusta 26 to September 3, Labor Day**  
-- excerpted from the Museum's web page --



**Circa 1890's Sketch of Taylor's Driving Park, Freeport, Illinois**

## KVCC's Campus Expansion -- Not Just Another Campus -- a True Destination --

Sometimes we can see possibilities that others don't see. We call these folks the "idea people" or perhaps "the visionaries." Often they just see things differently or see things just as everyone else, however, they have that ability to provide that idea that brings added value. KVCC's expansion will be located at the property of the historic Goodwill Hinckley School. [Continued Page 2](#)

**KVCC's New Expansion--  
Not Just Another Campus  
-- a True Destination --**  
- Continued from page 1 -

In the second half of the 19th century, George Walter Hinckley purchased the farm owned by the grandparents of Margaret Chase Smith. Hinckley purchased the farm to establish a school for youth focused on the principles of home, education, discipline, industry, recreation, and religion. The Good Will-Hinckley School opened its doors in 1889. Although financial hardship has been part of the school's history, the school has maintained its mission. In recent years Good Will Hinckley almost was required to close its doors due to its financials. In January of 2012, the Harold Alfond Foundation and Governor LePage announced a ten million dollar donation that would expand KVCC's campus to the campus of Good Will-Hinckley.

It is the historic character of this school tied to Maine's 19th century agricultural heritage that shapes the idea to design and build KVCC's campus expansion to celebrate and honor the early agricultural history of the greater Kennebec Valley. The new KVCC campus will be adjacent and perhaps supportive of Maine's new Academy of Natural Sciences.

As part of KVCC's expansion, plans were also announced for the addition of an agricultural sciences program. With the expansion placed on a historic property and in an agricultural setting, it just might be a great opportunity to design the campus in honor of Maine's agricultural heritage.

The image of Taylor's Diving Park on page 1, presents a design idea that

## HISTORIC AGRICULTURE IN MAINE STARTED IN THE KENNEBEC VALLEY

Historic agriculture in Maine had its commencement in the county of Kennebec. The records of all first things pertaining to its improved agriculture, the importation of thoroughbred stock, improvement of seeds and fruits, organization of agricultural societies, diffusion of information by means of books and journals, invention and manufacture of improved farm tools and implements, plans for the industrial and agricultural education of the people—all had their origin in this county. The early farmers of Kennebec—themselves from the best families of the Old Colony—were men of intelligence, anxious for improvement. The soil and natural advantages of the county were of the best, and the settlers took up their farms that they might make homes for themselves. They came into the new territory of the District of Maine for this purpose; they came to stay; hence whatever promised development of agriculture was eagerly sought. But in agriculture as in everything else it was the few leaders who, carrying forward plans for improvement, stimulated others to higher endeavors and organized forces for the development of the county's resources.

**Text by S.L. Boardman, History of Kennebec County, 1892**

could be modified for the KVCC campus. Kennebec and Somerset Counties were known for their contributions to agriculture, horse breeding, and their early agricultural societies. In addition to their traditional and emerging courses, KVCC can also create its agricultural sciences programs to include courses in farm management, crop selection/management, livestock management, and equine studies. To support this coursework the campus would require fields for crops, pastures for livestock and horses.

The Taylor's Park image includes barns, pasture space, an orchard, housing, and administrative buildings. The image also introduces the addition of a trotting park. It is through the inclusion of aspects of Taylor's Park that we can bring the past to present and make the new KVCC campus more than a new college campus, but a destination for all who visit to learn about KVCC's programs and at the same time become steeped in Maine's agricultural heritage. - continued page 3 -

**Mohr & Seredin, a landscape architecture firm in Portland, has been selected to design Kennebec Valley Community College's new campus on U.S Route 201.**



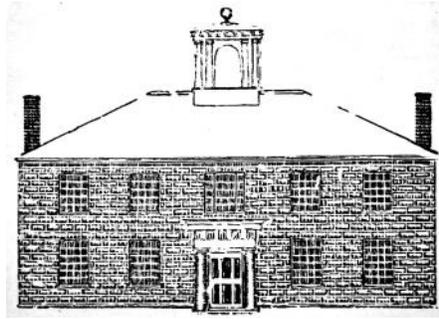
**Google Earth Aerial of Good Will Hinckley**

**KVCC's New Expansion--  
Not Just Another Campus  
-- a True Destination --**  
- Continued from page 2 -

As we move forward into the 21st century, our consciousness will be far removed from our agricultural heritage of the 19th century. Beginning in the 18th century our ancestors cut down forests to create open land for our cities, our homes and our farmlands. Early settlers imported livestock, plants, and flowers that established the beginning of the American agricultural movement. Maine was a leader in this movement.

Early leaders in Maine's agricultural history included Benjamin Vaughan, Robert Gardiner Hallowell, Hall C. Burleigh, and Governor Joseph Bodwell. Other leaders were members of the Skowhegan-based Pooler and Hight families. Agricultural societies were formed throughout Kennebec and Somerset Counties. Most societies purchased land for fairgrounds that generally included a trotting park -- the horse was king!

Through properly placed storyboards and a history room located in one of the buildings, Maine's agricultural heritage can be presented and preserved for future generations. Buildings and fields can be named after early agricultural leaders, buildings, and fairgrounds. Within each building storyboards would be displayed explaining the building's historic name.



**Gardiner, Maine's Gardiner Lyceum -- 1822 -- The First Successful Agricultural School in the United States founded by Robert Hallowell Gardiner.**

**Examples**

**Residential Housing:**

- The Elmwood -- Waterville
- The Gerald -- Fairfield
- The Brewster -- Skowhegan
- Hotel Coburn -- Skowhegan

**Academic Buildings:**

- The Gardiner Lyceum -- Gardiner
- Benjamin Vaughan Union -- Hallowell

**Agricultural Buildings:**

- Hall C. Burleigh Barn -- Fairfield and Vassalboro
- Sunnyside Stable -- Waterville

**Trotting Park, Horse Ring, and Organic Gardens:**

Fairview Park -- Original name of Skowhegan Fairgrounds (a grandstand would be built that would include a conference center and classrooms. The infield of the Fairview Park would consist of a horse ring, a reproduction of a vintage judge's stand, and organic gardens.

**Alfond Foundation Gift Allows The Maine Community College System to Purchase 690 Acres including the Central Campus of Good Will-Hinckley**

"The Maine Community College System bought the central 690 acres of Good Will-Hinckley's 2,450-acre campus for KVCC; the \$4.5 million purchase was made possible when the college system and Good Will-Hinckley received a \$10.85 million gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation. Good Will-Hinckley was a residential school that closed in 2009. Part of the campus reopened in September as a science and technology charter school. Thirteen buildings were part of the sale, including Averill/Alfond School, an organic farm, Alfond Recreation Center, Nutter Field House, Moody Memorial Chapel, six residential houses and a garage." *Morning Sentinel*

**Fields and Orchards:**

- An organic farm is part of the purchase
- Vaughan Orchards
- Bodwell Fields

**Recreation Center:**

Facilities part of the purchase (integrate use of the grandstand into recreational use and outdoor concerts.)

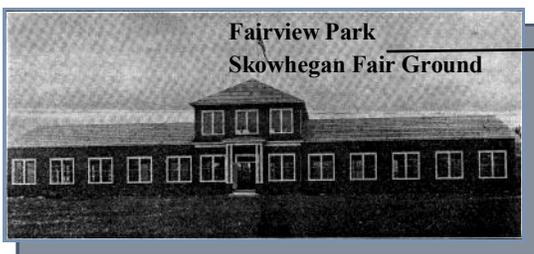
**Chapel:**

Part of Purchase

**Create the Kennebec Valley Agricultural Society:**

Creating an agricultural society placed on the KVCC campus would allow students to demonstrate their work through displays of produce and presentations. Through this process, KVCC would participate in the recruitment of future generations of fair organizers.

The idea of making the expanded KVCC campus a destination is unique. By bringing the past to present to create the future, we create lasting images that reminds all who attend or visit KVCC that our agricultural heritage must be understood and appreciated.



**Images courtesy of the Skowhegan History House**



THE LOST TROTTING PARKS HERITAGE CENTER & CART STUDIOS  
 OFFER ART QUALITY CURRIER & IVES PRINTS,  
 COMMISSIONED ART WORK & SPECIALTY FRAMING



Commissioned artwork by Christopher Cart -  
 Fathers & Sons at Berry Mountain Lake in the middle of the Gaspé Peninsula



**Occasional Framers:**  
 3 Page St.  
 Hallowell, ME 04347  
 Owner: Jennifer Cart  
 Business Hours: 10

The Occasional Framers, a custom frame shop offers hundreds of frame and mat samples to choose from with friendly knowledgeable service.

Jen also offers professional fine art giclée printing of your art and photos for collectible prints and greeting cards.

Christopher Cart is a painter, printmaker and sculptor focusing mostly on figurative work. In 2008 Cart, a native Maine, completed a 8 x 32 foot mural for the Brunswick Trinidad Sister City Association. The mural on the wall at 11 Pleasant St in Brunswick, entitled “A Dance of Two Cultures”, is a celebration of the cultural exchange between Brunswick, Maine and Trinidad, Cuba.

Another recent major work is a 40 by 6 foot mural, a composition of color and movement with 22 almost life-sized dance figures showing strength in human form. Throughout his career he has painted other murals, countless watercolors and oils, portraits in both oils and watercolors and illustrations for many books and periodicals.

Christopher Cart studied art and art history at the University of Washington, Seattle and Coker College, South Carolina. After leaving school he began selling his paintings and sculptures at several galleries in the Seattle area. Now he is represented by galleries in his native New England region.



Currier & Ives prints available for sale can be viewed online at the Lost Trotting Parks Heritage Center.  
 To explore commissioning a painting by Chris Cart call 207-621-0817.  
 Visualize your painting -- On the farm, In the stable, At the track!

## Exploring A Slice of Maine History: Family Day Trips on Maine's Trotting Horse Heritage Trail

Throughout Maine you will find an occasional display related to the "Age When the Horse was King." This age could be defined by when Lady Suffolk broke the 2.30 mile in 1845 and 1925 when the automobile began to outnumber the horse and carriage.

To understand the significance that the horse played in our agrarian society, we need to remember that the horse was our mode of personal transportation (on saddle and by carriage), our worker in the field, our mover of the economy, our warrior in the battlefield, and our entertainment on the streets and on the trotting tracks. In this age, Mainers loved their horse and they loved a fast horse. The newspapers and specialized periodicals of the day gave front page coverage and columns called the Horse Department to satisfy their readers' desire for information about horses throughout Maine and the United States. As the focus moved away from our fascination with the horse, front page coverage moved to the specialized horse columns, and eventually to an occasional article. The age of the automobile had replaced our dependence upon and fascination with the horse. Throughout the 1930's Maine farmers still tended their fields from planting to harvest with horses as they transitioned from horse pulled equipment to gasoline run tractors and trucks.

To appreciate our agricultural heritage and the historical value of the horse, a family day trip on Maine's Heritage Trail with the guide written by Clark P. Thompson will provide you with historically accurate information as you travel on your chosen route. Inscribed granite markers have been placed at each historical site. Prior to your day trip, you can

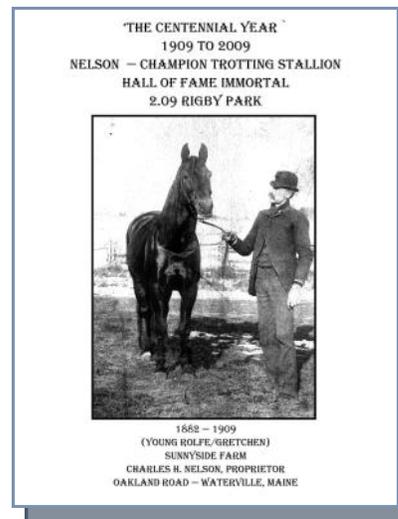
review each destination. When you arrive at a location and find the marker, let your imagination take you back to days when the horse was king. What would you see at this location? If you were sitting on the side of the road, what would you see as people on their day's business passed by on the road? Would you see a single rider on a horse or a couple sitting in a horse-pulled carriage? Would a team of horses be pulling a wagon on the way to market? If on the way to market, what would they be hauling?

The Trotting Horse Heritage Trail covers the period of 1819 to 1893. Quoting the Trail's founder, "the 'Trail' consists of various granite markers located about the State from Old Orchard Beach to Dover-Foxcroft. The 'Trail' is meant to be representative only, as it does not include many noted horses, persons and places that also played an important part in Maine's trotting horse history." The following chart groups the "Trail's" destination into three day trips.

\* The granite monument for the 1890 Champion Trotting Stallion Nelson is located at the Sterling Street Playground. The land from Carver Street to Nelson Street was once Sunnyside Stock Farm, a seventy acre farm owned

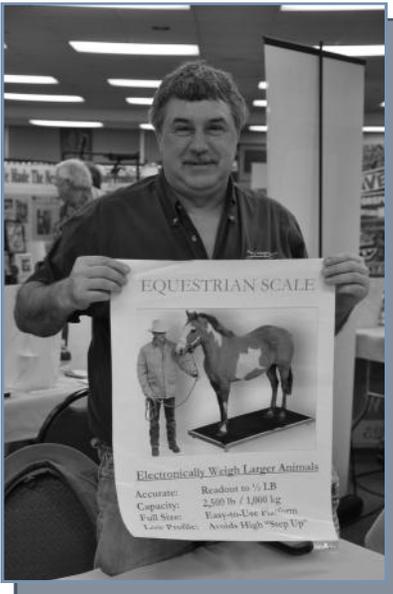
by C.H. Nelson.

In future issues of *The Maine Spirit of the Turf*, a list of restaurants and overnight accommodations will be provided for each day trip. You can purchase a copy of the book, Maine's Trotting Horse Heritage Trail for \$26.00 including sales tax, shipping and handling. Mail your order and check for \$26.00 to the Lost Trotting Parks Heritage Center, P.O. Box 263, Hallowell, Maine 04347. Proceeds from the sale of this book help fund the annual educational scholarship sponsored by the Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association. To learn more about Maine's Trotting Horse Heritage Trail visit <http://losttrottingparks.blogspot.com> and enter the words Heritage Trail into the keyword search.



Day Trips – Exploring A Slice of Maine's History		
<b>Day Trip 1</b>	<b>Day Trip 2</b>	<b>Day Trip 3</b>
Old Orchard Beach	Canton	Dixmont
South Portland	Livermore Falls	Stetson
Portland	Winthrop	Levant
West Cumberland	Augusta (Togus)	Bangor
Hiram	North Vassalboro	Dover-Foxcroft
Auburn	Waterville*	

SAMPLER OF PHOTOGRAPHS FROM  
THE 2012 MAINE FAIR CONVENTION  
PORTLAND, MAINE



Each year Maine's agricultural fair organizers, presenters, vendors, and interested parties gather for workshops and networking at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine.

# RECRUITING THE NEXT GENERATION OF HARNESS RACING OFFICIALS

A time comes with most positions in a given industry that requires the next generation of workers to step up and take over. For the harness racing industry it may be time for a new generation to look at the administration and running of harness racing at our agricultural fairs and private harness racing tracks.

For the next generation to take a serious look at becoming harness racing officials, individuals need to understand what is required of each job. This article describes the tasks and duties required of harness racing officials. The text is taken from a document produced by Maine State Government.

The following licensed officials shall be employed by the association conducting a race.

- A. Charter
- B. Clerk of Course
- C. Horse Identifier
- D. Paddock Judge
- E. Patrol Judges
- F. Program Director
- G. Race Secretary
- H. Starting Judge
- I. Presiding Judge

**Presiding Judge and Associate Judges. Presiding Judges and Associate Judges shall have the authority to:**

- A. Determine all questions of fact relating to racing.
- B. Impose penalties as prescribed by these rules.
- C. Decide any difference between parties to the race or any contingent matter which shall arise that is not otherwise provided for in the rules.
- D. Declare pools and bets "OFF" in case

of fraud, malfunction of the starting gate, or other situation which is in the public interest or declare any horse a non-starter and direct the refund of all wagers made thereon from which no appeal will be allowed.

E. Declare no contest in the event there is a malfunction in the starting gate which prohibits the horses from proceeding in a normal fashion.

F. Declare a dash or heat of a race no contest in the event the track is thrown into darkness during the progress of a race by failure of the track lighting system.

G. In determining whether to cancel a race or races, the Judges shall have due regard for the lives and safety of the drivers and the horses. Where it is impossible for the Judges to observe the finish of a race from the Judges' Stand and it is impossible to properly place the horses by the photo finish camera, the race or races may shall be canceled.

H. Control the conduct of the horses, drivers, grooms, and every person or machine engaged in any portion of the racing program to protect the betting public, ensure compliance with the rules, and protect the integrity of racing.

I. Investigate every apparent or possible interference or rule violation and examine all parties connected with a race under oath as to any such violation of rules or complaint.

J. Closely observe the performance of all horses and drivers competing at the race meeting.

K. Determine the result of every race contested before them and place the horses competing therein in the order of their finish. Decisions in with respect to pools and bets shall be made at the conclusion of the race upon the observations of the Judges and upon such other facts as an immediate investigation will shall develop. A reversal or change of decision after the official placing at the

conclusion of a heat or dash shall not affect the distribution of the betting pools made upon such official placing.

L. Whenever the judges call for a photo-finish picture to determine the order of finish, they shall cause the word "Photo" to be flashed on the infield board and to remain there until the order of finished is determined.

M. Investigate any act of cruelty to a horse on the grounds of the Association whether seen by them or reported to them and fine and/or suspend any person found guilty of such cruelty.

N. Investigate all accidents on the track to determine the cause thereof and promptly make a full report to the Commission and the U.S.T.A. and record same in the Judges' Book.

O. Exclude from any race a horse which is improperly equipped, dangerous, unmanageable, unfit to race (which shall include sick, weak and extremely lame horses after consultation with a Department veterinarian, or horses liable to cause an accident or injury to another horse or driver in the race.

P. Conduct a prompt inquiry where a violation of any rule is committed, take such action as may be appropriate and render a report to the Commission. Such inquiry must be conducted by the Presiding Judge and at least one Associate Judge and must be conducted in a manner consistent with these rules and the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

Q. Grant a hearing at a designated time before a penalty may be imposed upon any person. All three Judges should be present if possible, and at least the Presiding Judge and one Associate Judge must be present at all Judges' hearings. The Judges may impose the penalties prescribed by these rules. Failure to appear at a Judge's hearing may result in a default judgment against that person. The Judges may reschedule a hear-



**The Grandstands at Fryeburg Fair**

ing for good cause shown. All Judges Hearings will be conducted in a manner consistent with these rules and with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

R. Submit in writing a complete list of all witnesses questioned by them at any hearing, which list of witnesses, along with the testimony of such witnesses, shall be forwarded to the Commission along with the reports required by these rules. The testimony of all witnesses questioned by the Judges shall be recorded by one of the following methods; written, signed statements, tape recorders or court reporter's transcript. At all pari-mutuel tracks Judges shall use tape recorders to record their hearings.

S. No decision shall be made by the Judges in such cases until all of the witnesses called by the Judges and the person required to appear before the Judges have given their testimony. Any person charged with a rule violation shall be given at least until 12:00 noon of the following day to prepare for his or her defense, upon request.

T. The Associate Judges shall assist the Presiding Judge in advancing driver's licenses to a higher category. Advancement shall not be unreasonably withheld if the driver meets all of the criteria stated in Chapter one.

#### **4. The Judges shall:**

A. Be in the Judges Stand at least fifteen (15) minutes before the first race and remain there until the last race has been declared official and until their duties pertaining to the races have been completed.

B. Have unrestricted access to the grounds where a licensed meet is being conducted.

C. Advise the Paddock Judges of the schedule of post times for the program.

D. Be responsible for locking the pari-mutuel machines immediately upon the horses being given the word "go" by the starter.

E. Maintain telecommunication with the Patrol Judges from the time the Starter picks up the field of horses until all horses pass the finish line. Cause a written record to be made of every "break", violation of rules or incident observed by them or reported by the Patrol Judges.

F. Cause the appropriate signs to be posted on the tote board to indicate objection or inquiry in the event of a rule violation or complaint and notify the public address announcer of the horses involved and the nature of the objection, post the order of finish of the 1st first four horses as they passed under the finish wire and cause the offending horse's number to flash. When the decision is made, cause the objection or inquiry sign to be removed, correct the order of finish and cause the "Official" sign to be shown.

G. Display the "Photo" sign if there is less than 1/2 length between contending horses at the finish line or if a contending horse is on a break at the finish. Examine the photo finish before rendering a decision on the placing thereof and cause copies of such photos to be displayed for public inspection immediately after the result has been announced. In the event of an electrical or mechanical failure of the photo-finish camera, or if a distorted, deceptive, or otherwise inadequate picture is developed, the Judges shall decide the order of finish and such decision shall be final.

H. Sign the Judges' Book after each race verifying the correctness of the information contained therein.

I. In the event of an accident, turn on the accident warning lights.

J. Check the validity of all drivers licenses.

#### **5. Times**

A. Time Error. In any case of alleged error in the record, announcement or publication of the time made by a

horse, the time so questioned shall not be changed to favor said horse or owner, except upon the sworn statement of the Judges and Timers who officiated in the race.

3. Misrepresenting Time. Any person who shall be guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation of time or the alteration of the record thereof in any public race or performance against time shall be suspended or expelled, and the time declared not a record.

#### **6. The Race Secretary.**

**The Race Secretary shall:** Receive and keep safe the eligibility records and, when applicable, the registration certificate and claiming authorization of all horses competing at the racetrack and return name to the owner of a horse or his representative upon written request. Check each eligibility record and certify to the Judges as to the eligibility of all the horses. Be familiar with the age, class and competitive ability of all horses racing at the track. Write conditions and schedule the daily racing programs to be presented at the racetrack and post same at least 12 hours before declarations close. In any event, the original conditions shall not be changed. Examine all entry blanks and declarations; verify all information set forth therein; select the horses to start and the "also eligible" horses from the declarations in accordance with the rules governing these functions. Advertise early closing, late closing, and stake events in accordance with the rules governing these races.

Examine nominations and declarations in Early Closing, Late Closing and Stake Events; verify the eligibility of all declarations and nominations and compile lists thereof for publication. Post a list of all horses that may race only in preferred, invitational, and open classes at that track and make that list available to the Presiding Judge on a weekly basis.

#### **7. Clerk of Course.**

**The Clerk of Course shall:**

1. Maintain all official race summaries,



**Calumet Elam Winning at Fryeburg  
c. 1930 -- Wendell Wathen Up**



**New Grandstand Caribou, Maine  
Late 1920's**



**Ice Racing - Town Pond - Limestone, ME  
Roy Thompson Up -- In the 1920's**

records, suspensions, protests and fines; prepare and serve or cause to be served all notices relating thereto; and provide daily copies thereof to the Commission, the licensed harness race association and to the U. S.T.A.

2. Verify the ownership and trainer of all horses entered in races.
3. Assist the Judges in drawing positions, at the request of the Presiding Judge.
4. Keep the Judges' Book and cause to be recorded legibly therein:
  - A. All horses entered and their eligibility record numbers.
  - B. Names of owners and drivers and their license numbers.
  - C. A record of each heat, giving charted lines and money won.
  - D. Notation of any drawn or ruled out horses, and any placing of horses.
  - E. Record time in minutes, seconds and fifths of seconds.
5. Check eligibility records before the race, and after the race enter all information provided for thereon, including the horse's position in the race as it was charted. In the event a horse has been placed on the Steward's List, such fact and the reason therefore shall be recorded thereon.
6. Make a record of all protests, fines, penalties and appeals and see that the Judges' Book is properly signed.
7. Forward the Judges' Book from all pari-mutuel meetings the day following each racing day to the Department and to the U.S.T.A.
8. Notify affected parties of any penalty assessed against them by the Judges, Steward, or **Starter and post a copy of such notice in the** Racing Secretary's of office.

#### **8. Starting Judge:**

#### **The Starting Judge:**

1. shall be in the starting stand or starting gate fifteen minutes before the first race of the program;
2. shall report to the Judges, in writing, all rule violations observed;
3. shall notify in writing the Judges and the drivers of the penalties imposed by him;
4. shall make recommendations, in writing, to the Presiding Judge for the placing on the Steward's List of all horses which do not perform properly at the start;
5. shall conduct such school sessions as are necessary to train horses to the method of starting adopted at the racetrack;
6. may request a Presiding Judge to substitute a driver, who fails or refuses to obey his or her instructions, for the heat or race;
7. shall have control of the horses from the formation of the parade until releasing the horses by giving the word "go" at the official starting point;
8. shall bring the horses to the starting gate within one minute after the official post time for that race unless a longer time is prescribed by the Presiding Judge;
9. shall position the starting gate, with its arm extended, on a 1/2 mile track as near 1/4 mile before the starting point as the track will permit. On a mile track it will be stationed at the head of the stretch;
10. will cause the gate to move towards the starting point, gradually increasing the speed of the gate but maintaining a speed which will average:
  - A. for the first 1/8 mile, not less than 11 miles per hour,
  - B. for the next 1/16 mile, not less than

18 miles per hour;

C. from that point to the starting point a gradual increase to the appropriate maximum speed;

11. shall post on the inside of the track the official starting point which shall be not less than 200 feet from the beginning of the first turn;

12. may sound a recall in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 7, Section 37.

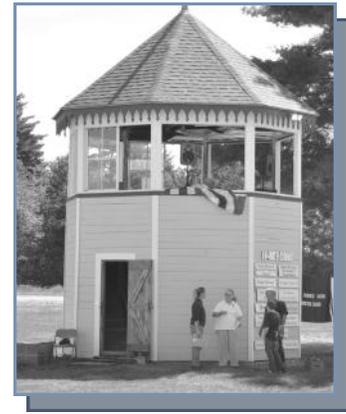
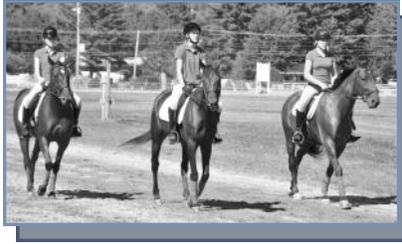
13. shall endeavor to get all horses away in position and on gait, but no recall shall be had for horses not in position, or not on gait, or for a bad acting horse.

14. shall not sound a recall after the word "go" has been given

#### **9. Paddock Judge.**

#### **The Paddock Judge shall:**

1. Publicly announce the closing of the paddock as prescribed by the Presiding Judge or the State Steward
2. Prohibit unauthorized people or things from entering the paddock.
3. Supervise the identification of all horses coming into the paddock, including the tattoo number.
4. Supervise the checking in and out of horses, grooms, owners, trainers and drivers.
5. Supervise the Gate Security Officer assigned to the paddock.
6. Supervise the activities of the Paddock Blacksmith.
7. Supervise the inspection of equipment and shoes; and the head and saddle numbers of each horse during warm-ups and before parade.
8. Notify the Presiding Judge of any incident that could in any way change, delay, or affect the routine progress of the racing program.
9. Obtain permission from the Presid-



ing Judge for any change of racing equipment or shoes before the race.

10. Notify Judges of all trainers, drivers and grooms who leave the Paddock in an emergency.
11. Report any act of cruelty to any horse that he observes to the Presiding Judge.
12. Notify Judges of the reason for any horse returning to the Paddock after having entered the track for the post parade and before the start of the race.
13. Supervise the assembling of the fields of horses in the race for the post parades in accordance with the schedule given to him by the Presiding Judge.
14. Inspect and supervise the maintenance of all emergency equipment kept in the Paddock.
15. Report to the Presiding Judge any threatening or abusive language or conduct used within the Paddock enclosure.

#### 10. Patrol Judge.

1. The Patrol Judges shall report to their assigned stands 15 minutes before post time for the first race and remain until the last race is posted official
2. The Patrol Judges shall report to the Judges
  - A. Any action on the track which could improperly affect the result of a race.
  - B. Every violation of the racing rules.
  - C. The lameness or unfitness of any horse.
  - D. Any lack of proper racing equipment.
3. The Patrol Judges shall submit individual daily written reports of their observations to the Presiding Judge.
4. The Patrol Judges, when directed by the Presiding Judge, shall attend hearings or inquiries on violations and testify under oath.

#### 11. Horse Identifier.

##### The Horse Identifier shall:

1. check the tattoo, by having the licensed owner, trainer, groom or designated agent roll the lip, or show the freeze brand of all horses programmed to race;
2. check the color and markings of all horses programmed to race;
3. report to the Paddock Judge any discrepancies noted by inspection;
4. report to the Paddock Judge any act of cruelty observed;
5. report to the Paddock Judge any foul threatening or abusive language; and
6. report to the Paddock Judge any horse which appears unfit to race

#### 12. Charter

The Charter shall cause to be recorded a complete and accurate chart of each race which shall include:

1. Horse's name,
2. Driver's name;
3. Date and place of race;
4. Size of track if other than a half-mile track;
5. Track condition and temperature;
6. Type of race (trot or pace);
7. Classification of race;
8. Distance;
9. The fractional times of the leading horse, including the race time,
10. Post position, position at the quarter, half, three quarters, and head of the stretch together with lengths at the finish and any other designated positions for all the horses in the race;
11. Official order of finish;
12. Individual time of each horse;

13. Closing dollar odds, where applicable, with favorite designated by an asterisk;
14. The standard symbols for breaks, park outs and free legged pacers where applicable. When a horse is "parked out" for at least 1/4 mile it shall be recorded and included in the published performance lines;
15. The beaten lengths and individual time of each horse,
16. In claiming races, the price for which the horse is entered to be claimed less including any allowances for age and sex; and
17. Notations of placings, disqualifications and claimed horses.

#### 13. Program Director

##### The Program Director shall:

1. verify the correctness of the owner, trainer, driver, earnings past performances of each horse that is to be published in the official program;
2. verify the correctness of all other information relating to the conduct of racing which is to be published in the official program; and
3. provide to the printer all necessary corrections and authorize final publication of each day's official race program.



In The Paddocks -- Fryeburg Fair



person at each race meeting conducting simulcasting and shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to simulcasting.

**20. Paddock Security Officer**

Each association offering pari-mutuel wagering must employ, at the expense of the association, a paddock security officer.

**21. TV/Video Operator**

**The TV/Video Operator shall:**

1. upon request, display for the Judges the video tape of each race;
2. provide video tapes of each race suitable for reviewing the race to determine any violations of the Commission's rules which may have occurred during the race.
3. report to the Presiding Judge any malfunction of the TV/Video equipment;
4. not provide video tapes of the race to anyone without the express permission of the Commission or its designee; and
5. keep the video tapes of each race for a period of 90 days following the close of the meet or such longer time as may be designated by the Commission.

**22. Paddock Blacksmith**

**The Paddock Blacksmith shall.**

1. Be on duty and provide services within the paddock one half-hour before post time of the first race until the completion of the race program.

**23. Security Guard**

All persons employed by an association or an off-track betting facility to provide security for the pari-mutuel area or the track during any activity regulated by these rules shall be licensed as a Security Guard pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 1. This section shall not apply to full time law enforcement personnel or persons already licensed as Gate Security or as a Paddock Security Officer acting in their license capacity.

*The descriptive text of harness racing officials courtesy of Henry Jackson, Maine Department of Agriculture*

**14. Timers.**

**The Timer shall:**

1. be in the stand fifteen minutes before the first race and remain there until the final race is completed.
2. start their watches when the first horse leaves the point from which the distance of the race is measured.
3. record the time of the leading horse or horses at the quarter, half, three-quarter and finish pole.
4. record the fractions of odd distance races accordingly.
5. sign the Judges book for each race verifying the correctness of the records in fifths of seconds.

**15. Equipment Clerk**

**The Equipment Clerk shall:**

1. maintain a record for each horse competing at the race meet;
2. identify, on the record, the type of harness, shoes, and sulky normally used by the horse;
3. check each horse prior to its scheduled race and verify the correctness of the equipment;
4. notify the Paddock Judge of any changes which differ from the official record;
5. change the official record only with approval of the Paddock Judge;
6. report to the Paddock Judge any equipment which appears to be in disrepair and/or dangerous;
7. report to the Paddock Judge any horse which appears to be unfit for the race; and
8. report to the Paddock Judge any threatening or abusive language.

**19. Simulcast Coordinator.**

The Simulcast Coordinator shall be the

**16. Photo-Finish Operator.**

**The Photo-Finish Operator shall:**

1. display for the Judges the developed photo-negative strip of the finish of each race;
2. provide such finish prints as may be required by the Presiding Judge;
3. report to the Presiding Judge any malfunction of the photo equipment;
4. not provide finish prints to anyone without the express permission of the Commission or its designee; and
5. keep the photo-negative strip for each race for a period of 90 days following the close of the meet.

**17. Marshal.**

**The Marshal shall report directly to t**

**18. Gate Security**

The Marshal shall report directly to the Starter and perform such duties as may be ordered.

**The Gate Security shall:**

1. Refuse admission to the Paddock to all persons not authorized to enter;
2. identify all persons and horses entering the paddock;
3. report to the Paddock Judge any persons attempting to enter the paddock who are not authorized to be there;
4. report to the Paddock Judge any foul abusive or threatening language; and
5. report to the Paddock Judge any cruel or abusive treatment of horses.

**For Maine Harness  
Racing Statistic.  
MEHARNES.COM**

THE ARCHIVES ROOM AT THE GARDINER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
SEEKING COMMON GROUND AND WORTHY IDEALS  
DAWN THISTLE, ARCHIVES LIBRARIAN

The Gardiner Driving Club from the *Gardiner Journal* -- September 8, 1921 -- see page 20



Gardiner Public Library's Community Archives Room (CAR) opened in 1985, and is committed to the discovery, collection, preservation, and provision of access to local historical records, artifacts, books and other printed materials concerning Gardiner and surrounding towns, the Kennebec River Valley, and the state of Maine. The CAR collection consists of a variety of local historical

and genealogical records, including books, manuscripts, newspapers on microfilm, photographs, and maps.

The CAR is staffed by a special collections librarian, Dawn Thistle, and long-established volunteers. Dawn has a long history with both Gardiner and libraries. She grew up in the area and graduated from Gardiner High School, worked at the Bobst and Gray Fine Arts libraries when attending NYU, and earned her Master's in Library and Information Science from Simmons College. She has worked as the director at the Vassalboro Public Library since 2006 and has also dabbled as a bookbinder's ap-

prentice in recent years. Dawn is passionate about history and preservation and is delighted to be entrusted with the charge of maintaining the CAR's rich local heritage collection so it may be shared with generations to come.

The CAR is open Tuesday through Friday each week and welcomes visitors. Read more about the collection at

To plan a visit or ask research questions, contact the librarian at 207-582-6890.

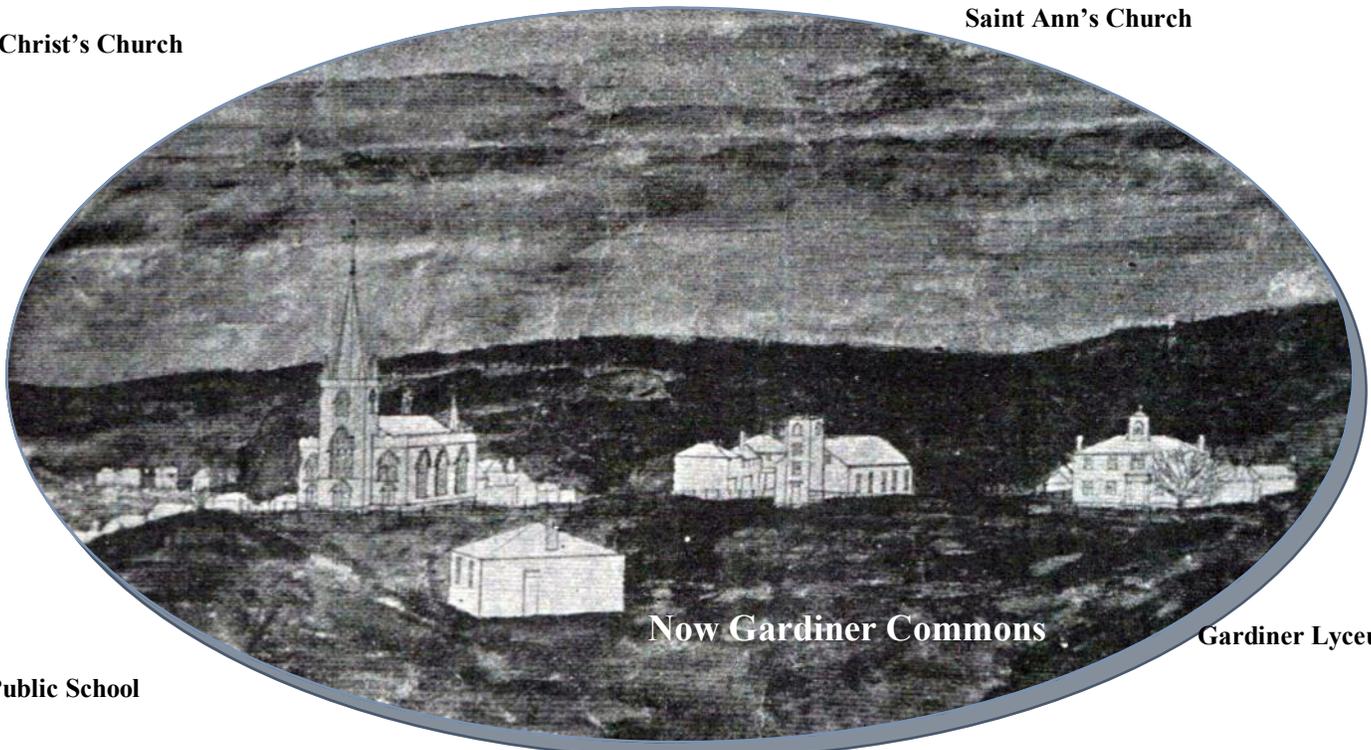
E-Mail the Archives Room

[archive@gpl.lib.me.us](mailto:archive@gpl.lib.me.us)

**1829 Sketch -- Gardiner, Maine**

Saint Ann's Church

Christ's Church



Now Gardiner Commons

Gardiner Lyceum

Public School

RECOGNITIONS AT THE 2012  
MAINE STANDARDBRED BREEDERS AND OWNERS WINTER BANQUET

**Outgoing MSBOA President Recognizes the Contributions and Life Work of Bill McFarland and Jack Kelley.**

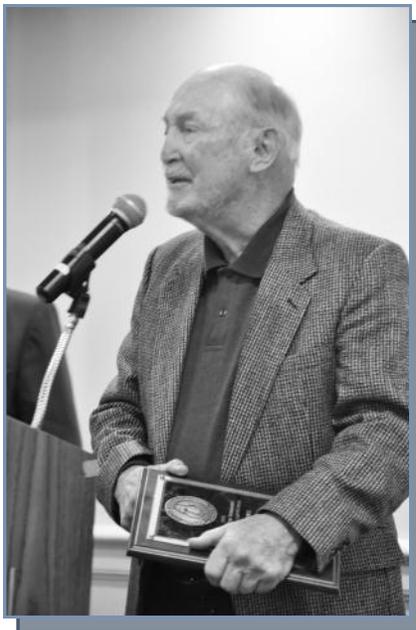


**Bill McFarland of South China addresses the audiences after receiving his President's Award from Mike Andrew.**

**Photo by Michael Newman**

*Text taken from Andrew's prepared comments at the banquet.*

The President's Awards go to people who have supported the industry and the Maine Sire Stakes or the MSBOA. The first award is to Bill McFarland. Bill lives in South China with his wife Jill Tobey. He works for the Maine Department of Transportation. He is immediate past president of the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs and First Vice President of the Windsor Fair. He has done it all -- parked cars, sold tickets, initiated Children's Day activities, chaired the 100th year celebration and is a Fair Trustee and member of the Executive Board. He managed the concessions and Midway and has been Race Director since 2001. We are honoring Bill because he has been a loyal and articulate supporter of racing and the Maine Sire Stakes Program.



**President's Award winner Jack Kelley speaks after receiving his award from Mike Andrew.**

The second President's Award goes to a long-time owner/breeder, Mr Jack Kelley. Jack has bred or owned more than 40 horses- Most recently "The N'oreasterbeast, the Bandfrom-boston. There are other memorable ones and others he'd probably rather forget. There may be some things about Jack that you didn't know. Jack was a standout hockey player, first at Belmont High School and then later at B.U. where he was an All-East Defenseman MVP in 1952. He coached hockey at Colby for 7

years and was named "NCAA Coach of the YEAR"- the first small college coach ever to be so honored. He became the B.U. coach in 1962 and won the NCAA National Championship in 1971 & 1972. He had a winning percentage of .720. He then became coach and General Manager of the New England Whalers where he was again "Coach of the Year" He became President of the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1993. Jack and Virginia have 3 sons and a daughter. Their daughter, Nancy, is very involved in the Maine Sire Stakes Program. As you might guess, Jack is a **fierce** competitor. He **loves** the sport. He is a gracious winner *and* an gracious loser Those things are the mark of a true sportsman! to give this President's



**NEPLAINS.COM**  
**Your online source for harness racing memorabilia including postcards, photos, programs, books, Stock Farm Catalogs, and other vintage items.**

A SAMPLER OF DEFINITIONS FROM  
THE HANDBOOK OF THE TURF  
A TREASURY OF INFORMATION FOR HORSEMAN (1910)  
BY SAMUEL L. BOARDMAN

**Standard.** A horse is standard when his breeding meets the requirements of the rules controlling admission to standard rank. Down to and including volume third of the American Trotting Register, (1879), no standard of blood had been requisite to admission, the aim having been to ascertain and record the facts regarding a pedigree without reference to the trotting inheritance. But with volume four, (1882), the pedigrees commenced to be numbered consecutively; and appeared, based upon a standard, the rules of which had the sanction of the National Association of Trotting Horse Breeders. These rules were formulated in order to define what was meant by a standard bred trotting horse, and to establish a breed of trotters on a more intelligent basis than had then existed. This standard was fixed upon a trotting record of 2:30, or better; and the original rules were so framed as to embrace and admit all animals that were believed to have a sufficiently well-defined trotting inheritance to justify the expectation that they would transmit the ability to trot. Equality between the sexes was purposely ignored from the beginning. A mare was given admission by a performance of 2:30; but a stallion was obliged to have other qualifications besides performance. This greater stringency with stallions grew out of the purpose to discourage badly bred stallions from being kept for breeding purposes. The standard rules now in force, with the changes to go into effect January 1, 1895, follow:

*First:* Any trotting stallion that has a record of 2:30 or better; provided any of his get has a record of 2:35 trotting, or better; or provided his sire or dam is already a standard trotting animal.

*Second:* Any mare or gelding that has a trotting record of 2:30 or better, [whose sire or dam is already a standard animal]. The words in brackets will be added and in force after January 1, 1895.

*Third:* Any horse that is a sire of two trotters with records of 2:30 or better.

*Fourth:* Any horse that is the sire of one trotter with a record of 2:30 or better, provided he has either of the following additional qualifications: 1, A trotting record of 2:35 or

better; 2, is the sire of two other animals with trotting records of 2:35; 3, has a sire or dam that is already a standard trotting animal.

*Fifth:* Any mare that has produced a trotter with a record of 2:30.

*Sixth:* The progeny of a standard trotting horse when out of a standard trotting mare.

*Seventh:* The female progeny of a standard trotting horse when out of a mare by a standard trotting horse.

[After January 1, 1895, rule seventh, as above, will be displaced by the following: *Seventh:* Any mare whose sire is standard and whose first and second dams are by standard horses.]

*Eighth:* The female progeny of a standard trotting horse out of a mare whose dam is a standard trotting mare.

*Ninth:* Any mare that has a trotting record of 2:35 or better whose sire or dam is a standard trotting animal.

[After January 1, 1895, rules eighth and ninth, as above, will be abolished.]

**Standard Bred.** A horse is standard bred when the produce of a standard trotting mare, by a standard trotting horse. The distinction of the terms "standard" and "standard bred" grows out of the manner in which animals become standard. Blue Bull became standard by the performance of his progeny, and not in virtue of his inheritance, hence he was not "standard bred." A mare comes into the standard by virtue of her performance in 2:30 or better, and nothing known of her pedigree, hence it cannot be said she was standard bred. But the progeny of Blue Bull out of this mare would be "standard bred" as soon as it was foaled, as both sire and dam were standard.

**Trotter.** A horse kept for speed; a trotting bred horse; a fast horse; the noblest equine product of the modern, highly developed American civilization. The American trotter of to-day usually traces to one or more of the following ancestors; Messenger, True Briton and Diomed, all thoroughbreds; Bell-founder, a Norfolk trotter; Grand Bashaw, a Barb; Pilot, a Canadian pacer; Blue Bull, an Ohio pacer. In his conformation he should be without blemish, harmonious and well constructed in body and limb. If the loins are slightly weak and the withers rather low these are not grave defects and may be overlooked; but he must have a powerful croup, thighs, buttocks, legs and hocks; also, long neck, shoulders and fore-arms; he must not be too horizontal in the croup; the inclination of the superior segments of the legs must be normal; he must have width, height and depth of chest; wide, thick, neat and clean joints; in a word he must possess all the characteristics of a beautiful conformation. It is when in motion that a trotter can be best judged. By the action, lengthened, hugging the ground and regular; by the extent and complete projection of the fore legs, and by the energetic action of the hind legs, he will show to the best advantage his spirit and characteristics as a trotter.

The American trotter is now practically a thoroughbred.—Prof. Robert Wallace, University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

The truth seems to be that great trotters, like great men, inherit from their mothers what has aptly been termed the subtle ambition to succeed.—Road, Track and Stable, H. C. Merwin,

The uniformity with which the trotting-bred trotter trots, and trots fast, shows how completely the intelligent and scientific breeding of the past ten or twenty years has tended to eliminate elements of uncertainty and to establish a breed which is attracting purchasers from every country of the known world for our trotters.—The Horseman.

**Trotters.** There were in the United States, to the close of the year 1893, about ten thousand trotters in the 2:30 list; one thousand and eight in the 2:20 class; one hundred and eighty with records of 2:15 or better; six with records of 2:08 or better, and one with a record of 2:04.

**Trotting-bred.** A term meaning that the horse so bred has a trotting inheritance, not a running inheritance. It is a specific, definite term, easily understood, legitimate, expressive and appropriate.

**Trotting Equilibrium.** A perfectly balanced action; the smooth, even gait of the horse when in rapid motion.

**Pacer.** A horse whose natural gait is the pace. All families of pacers lack hock action and go close to the ground; hence the pacer is utterly unsuitable for cross-country riding. He is not a jumper and his action is too much of the gliding nature, and too near the ground, to ever think of his becoming a hunter.

Pacers are ordinarily not as handy in recovering from a break as are trotters, but even at that it is only once in a long time, that, with ordinary care on the part of the driver, a pacer that has the speed of his field need be distanced simply because in some particular heat he is unsteady.—Wallace's Monthly.



# PINE TREE PERFORMERS

## Pine Tree Performers A Review of Maine Horses and Their Work for 1897

By G.M. Hatch

Tuesday, Dec 21, 1897

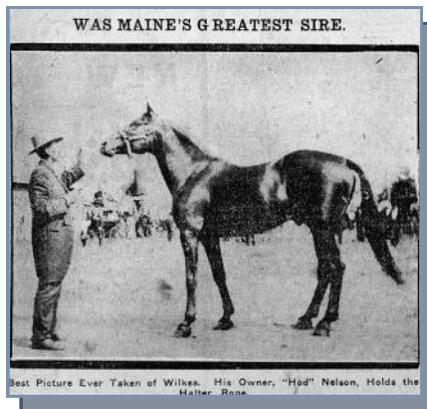
### The Horse Review

“Since Pelham obtained a record of 2:28 in 1849, Maine has had a death of champions. This Pelham was a converted pacer, and was a wonder in his day. His record held good for four years, when Highland Mald, another converted pacer lowered the mark a full second, and it was more than three years before Flora Temple cut the mark to 2.24 ½ and successively to 2.23 ½, 2.22, 2.21 ¼, and 2.19 ¾, where it staid for nearly eight years, when Dexter appeared upon the scene.

The next champion, and Maine’s greatest sire, was Nelson, which had acquired a three-year-old mark of 2.26 ¾ on a half-mile ring, a five-year-old mark of 2.21 ¼. In 1890 Nelson began to show championship form, reducing the stallion record from 2.12 held by the three-year-old Axtell, to 2.11 ½, 2.11 ¼, and 2.10 ¾. When Rigby was nearly completed Nelson trotted to a mark of 2.09, his present day record.

The writer was present on that day, and when big clods of earth were brought to the stand, which the great horse had thrown up in his rapid strides to beat old father time, no one there but regarded the performance as a most wonderful one. Nelson was shown the shown the past season at some of the principal New England tracks and seemed to have all his old time speed.

There has been nothing in sight to threaten the supremacy of Nelson as the Maine



champion until the present season, when the pony stallion Bismarck (recently sent to Europe), a son of Bayard Wilkes 2.11 ¼, son of Alcantara 2.23, out of Annie D. 2.36 ¼, a daughter of Glenarm 2.23 ½. In his day one of the greatest and gamest of Maine race horses appeared. In one of his first races of the season Bismarck showed halves of 1.03 ¾, and lapped out the winner in time better than 2.15, and this after running in a pen all winter. He was sold before the race was concluded, and went into the hands of Barney Demarest. His mark was 2.23 ½ in 1896, and this was reduced to 2.13 ¼ in 1897. Though he was “saved” for 2.14 classes, he has been a good money-winner. His mark is 2.13 ¼, but he has shown a full mile in 2.10 and fractions much faster. Bismarck comes rightly by his speed, as he represents the Wilkes-Almont-Morgan combination. Bayard Wilkes, his sire, has a mark of 2.11 ¼, and has shown an eighth in 15 seconds, a 2.00 gait, at the Maine State Fair in an exhibition.

Wilkes by Alcyone, dam of American Clay, is the sire of the greatest number of Maine 2.30 performers for the year, having five. Wilkes is one of the Sunnyside stallions and a stable com-

panion of Nelson 2.09. His performers are King Wilkes 2.25 ½, out of a daughter Locomotive, son of General Knox; Lula Wilkes 2.23 ¼, dam by General Withers, son of Almont; Pilot Wilkes 2.22 ½, dam by Black Pilot 2.30; Phillip 2/27 ½, dam by Hambletonian Knox 2.28, and Ned Wilkes 2.22 ½, dam by Black Sultan. In addition to this, the get of Wilkes have reduced records as follows: Hazel 2.28 ¼ to 2.26 ¾, Starling 2.26 ¼ to 2.25, and China Boy 2.27 ½ to 2.24 ¾.”

*To read the full article, enter “Pine Tree Performers” in word search on the Lost Trotting Parks Blog.*



**Engraving of Wilkes from the 1890  
Sunnyside Stock Farm Catalog**

**Pine Tree Performers will be a featured column in each issue of The Maine Spirit of the Turf. The intention is write articles that focus on current Pine Tree Performers.**

**Text for this column may be submitted by breeders and horseman as text within an e-mail or as a Word Document. Send your text to lifework50@gmail.com**

## A PERSPECTIVE FROM MICHIGAN HARNESS RACING IN STEEP DECLINE BY GEORGE PETREDEAN



It is a period of time in Michigan where our horse racing program is in steep decline and unfortunately there may not be much we can do to change this direction. Our colt stakes program has been drastically reduced and unless something changes most probable will be dropped next year. Our specific problem is we can not get the runners to agree to do anything in unison, something all of the politicians see as being necessary to accomplish something legislatively. These individuals are so far removed from any equine knowledge they believe all horses are the same (for the most part) and do not understand the varying interests within the equine world....

I myself have a hard time understanding why the Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horse racing groups do not want to come to the table with us. It is true the Standardbred Michigan community is the strongest, but even within this casual organization there is constant fighting and bickering between the racetracks, drivers, trainers and owners.....

Then throw in border crossings into Ontario where many US horses go to race....9/11 has made the Canadian border not really a nightmare, but a bad dream as one can be detained for just about anything now a day....

....Then add that the politicians from Indiana, Pennsylvania and now I have heard even Ontario politicians are trying to take those earmarked funds away from the horsemen in those various states and province.



Photo by Michael Newman  
**Trainer of the Year**  
to Wallace R. Watson  
presented by  
outgoing MSBOA President



**Hambletonian 10**

## STABLE "TWEETS"

**"Stable Tweets" will be a regular column. This is an opportunity for a breeder or horseman to provide a quick status report of on what is happening in the stable.**

**Buxton** -- "Family of horses, retired, returning to races or just plain growing! All happy here!

*Cyndie Bowie*

**Old Orchard Beach** -- "Bamps has his horses back in training with daughter Gretchen and family in Cumberland. Returning for another year. From the Matty Athearn Stable are favorites AAJ and "You're a gambler's son."

*Edd Rohr*

**Cumberland Fairgrounds** -- Trainer Gretchen Athearn preps her aged race horses and young stakes contenders for another wonderful season. Young up-and-comer Matthew jogs and now has begun training his own horses and those of his brother Kyle, including family favorite Sea Dog Time!

*Gretchen Athearn*

**Cumberland Fairgrounds** -- Marston Stable preps its aged race horses for the early New York race season. Young Stakes colts continue to prepare for two-year-old season. *Emily Marston*

HARNESS HORSEMEN'S ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2012  
BY WENDY IRELAND



**Wendy Ireland**

**Augusta** -- Maine horsemen and women turned out for the annual dinner and awards gala of the Maine Harness Horsemen's Association at the Calumet Club in Augusta on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. In the afternoon and before the evening festivities, the annual meeting of the MHHA and the USTA District 9 meetings were held. With two positions open on the board, the membership elected David Crochere and Robert Mars-ton to one year terms. At the conclusion of the meeting, nominations were held for the officers on the board. All of the officers were re-elected for a one year term, Dr. Timothy Powers, President; Wallace Watson, Vice-President; Amy Taggart, Secretary; and Patricia Varnum, Treasurer.

The Board of Directors handed out fourteen scholarships

totaling \$7,500 to deserving students continuing on with their secondary education. The highlight of the evening was acknowledging the top individuals and horses in Maine in 2011. Some of the individuals who were honored with top awards included: MHHA Trainer of the Year, Steven Vafiades; Driver of the Year, Kevin Switzer, Jr.; Rising Star Award, Dan Deslandes; and Distinguished Service Award, Ernie Lowell. The top horse awards of the evening included: Outstanding Pacer, Thunder's Toy; Outstanding Trotter, Share Your Dreams; Claimer of the Year, Texas Shootout; and Outstanding Dash Winner with 15 wins, Misfit Warrior.

The most prestigious award of the evening was awarded to Malek Hanover, 2011 Horse of the Year. Malek Hanover is owned by the Estate of Allison Derrah of Arnprior, Ontario and trained by Philip "Bo" Sowers. Throughout the 2011 racing season, Malek Hanover ruled the winners over class all over the state. He won the Windsor Fair Invitational in the mud on Labor Day, the Mountain Skipper Invitational at the Fryeburg Fair, and the

Paul Bunyan Classic at Bangor Raceway in a time of 1:55.2. He had a seasonal best mark of 1:53.3 taken at Scarborough Downs on June 4<sup>th</sup> winning by over an impressive 11 lengths. This eight year old gelding pacer by Western Hanover ended the racing season with 14 wins and earnings of over \$70,000.



**Ernie Lowell receives the Horsemen's Distinguished Service Award.**



**Maxine Ball Accepting 2011 Horse of the Year Award**



**-- Bringing the Past to Present --**

**Presentations by the Lost Trotting Parks Heritage Center**

The Lost Trotting Parks Heritage Center was founded in 2009. The purpose of the center is to preserve the quickly vanishing stories and memorabilia of the age when the horse was king. The 19th century for many may ring a romantic notion, however, the was life of 19th century men and women was a hard life. The many conveniences and high tech devices we accept as part of our everyday life did not exist. The telephone, the telegraph, electricity, the light bulb, and the automobile were in the process of invention during this period. Most homes may have had a horse and a carriage. Farmers would hitch their horses to plows and other horse drawn equipment.

Stephen Thompson with the help of Clark Thompson and many others from historical societies, libraries, town offices, agricultural fairs, the University of Maine, and professional associations has compiled the stories and images of the early agricultural societies, fairs, and trotting parts. This research has been posted to the Center online Lost Trotting Parks Blog.

This history is also available through slideshows and PowerPoint presentations. Thompson can gear his presentations for students and adult groups. Through song, lecture and slideshows, Lost Trotting Parks Presentations can take you back to the day when the horse was our transportation to the market, our worker in the field, the mover of our economy, our warrior in the battlefield, and our entertainment on the trotting tracks throughout the State of Maine.

**If your school, agricultural fair, historical society, club or organization believes that Mainers need to gain an understanding and appreciation of this period of Maine history, call Stephen Thompson at 207-623-3076 for details.**



**Lakeside Park -- Princeton, Maine**



**Rigby Park -- South Portland, Maine**

**BREEDING STANDARDBRED IN MAINE 2012**  
**BY DR. MICHAEL ANDREW**



Photo by Michael Newman

**At the Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association winter banquet, Mike Andrew at right receives industry recognition for his dedicated leadership promoting the Standardbred and harness racing throughout Maine. Doug Hutchinson (L)**

There are only a handful of serious breeders of standardbred in Maine at the beginning of the 21st century. Less than 10 breeders have more than 4 mares. These mares are used for two markets.- The Maine Sire Stakes and the National market. About half of the horses bred are for the owners own use in racing. Between them, these breeders probably breed about 40 horses for the Maine Sire Stakes and half that many for outside of Maine.

Beyond this handful of breeders there are 60 small breeders who breed almost exclusively for the Maine Sire Stakes.

The total number of breeders and mares bred is at one of the lowest points in the past 30 years.

174 mares were bred in 2011, down from 441 in 1989. This seems peculiar when the purses in Maine and in Pennsylvania, New York, Indiana, and Ontario are the highest they have ever been.

The reasons for the downturn in breeding are many.

First, the downturn in the National economy has caused many non-commercial breeders to cut back. Costs for grain, hay and bedding in the Northeast have actually risen while prices for yearlings have declined. Second, with the rise in purses the level of competition has risen. To be successful, breeders need to upgrade their mares and stallions. Many have been finan-

cially unable or unwilling to upgrade. Some are sentimentally attached to homebred mares and stallions. When they are unable to be competitive, they cut back on breeding or drop out.

In Maine there is a third reason - a reluctance to pay a fair price for any horse. By fair price I mean something slightly above the cost of breeding and raising the animal. In Maine it costs about \$8,000.00 to raise a horse to 18 months of age. This assumes the stud fee and cost of getting a mare bred at \$2,000.00; keeping the mare for eleven months at \$2,000.00; foaling and vet fees of \$500.00 and raising the foal to 18 months at \$3,000.00; and stakes fees and vet bills of \$500.00. This cost does not count the cost of the broodmare, labor or overhead costs. At our farm the costs are closer to \$12,000.00 per foal due to labor costs, standard of care and mares without live foals.

A fourth reason in Maine is the perception that the best horses are kept by the breeder for their own racing stable. This is largely true. Only two or three breeding farms sell all of their stock. Another reason for relatively low prices for Sire Stakes horses is that the abundance of cheap claiming races in Maine cheapens all of the horses. A person who wishes to get into the racing business can claim a pretty good horse in Maine for \$3,000.00. A good \$3,000.00 claimer can make \$20,000.00 in Maine. A Sire

*Continued page 20*



Stakes prospect costs 3 times more plus months of training and is an unknown quantity with only 10-15% making \$20,000.00 a year in the Sire Stakes program. Another strike against the Sire Stakes horse is that few races are written for 4 year old graduates of the Sire Stakes and those that are written as condition races are often for very low purses.

It is no wonder that the enthusiasm for breeding Maine Sire Stakes horses in Maine is low. Only those that love the sport and love working with young horses persevere.

Breeding for the overnight market in Maine is obviously not viable as cheap claimers keep the price too low for any breeder to break even. No one would buy an overnight prospect at 1 or 2 years of age for \$8,000.00

Breeding for out of Maine is a tough and very competitive market. Only a few breeders in Maine have been successful at this in recent years. William Varney of Bangor, Maine has been relatively successful racing homebreds out of Maine. At Three Crow Farm in Gorham we have had some success. With only four mares used for out of Maine breeding we have produced one World Champion and seven horses earning over \$100,000.00 outside of Maine. Two have sold for over \$100,000.00 at Harrisburg with one setting the Wednesday sale record of \$250,000.00. Our

horses have won 4 Pennsylvania Sire Stakes, 3 Pennsylvania Stallion Series, 2 New Jersey Sire Stakes, and several major stakes races. In 2011 the 2-year-old Little Brown Fox (Muscles Yankee x Malvictorian) won \$105,122.00 for Jimmy Takter. The 2-year-old filly Chilitodayhotamale (Muscles Yankee x Miss Molly Tamale) won \$136,268 trotting in 156.2. The mare Wild Pine ( Pine Chip x Wild Royalty) has produced 3 foal winning \$430,320.00; and Miss Molly Tamale (Final Score x Molly Also) has produced 7 live foals, all racing in 2:00 or better and winners of over a million dollars.

Likeabatoutahell (b.g. 9, \$755,248, 1:51.3) was the first world champion bred and raised in Maine since Nelson in the 1890's. Likeabatoutahell (S.J.'s Caviar x Miss Molly Tamale) tied the World record of 1:52.4 on a  $\frac{5}{8}$  track at Chester, PA on 6/12/2008. He later trotted in 151.3 in winning the Vincennes Stakes on Hambletonian Day 8/7/2010 and still holds the the all-age track record of 1:52 at Chester, PA. He has 30 wins including the Vincennes, Singer Memorial Finals, Joe Ricci Memorial Trot Final, 8 Invitational Trot opens at the Meadowlands, 4 opens at Chester and 2 opens at Pocono. He is now in training to return to racing in April 2012.

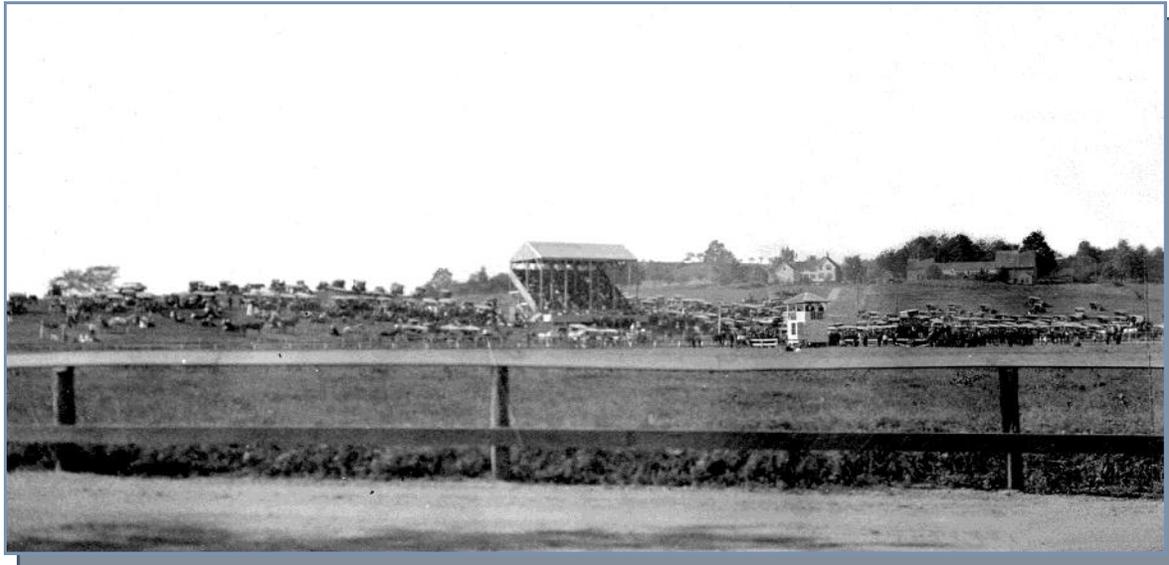
In spite of this modest success, one or two abortions, a barren mare, or a deformed or dead

foal can turn a small breeding program into a losing one in just a few weeks.

Mainers trying to compete outside of Maine are at a disadvantage due to the short pasture season, severe winters, high price of grain and hay and high transportation costs. Still, artificial breeding and shipped semen make it possible to attempt to compete in the U.S. and World marketplace.

A stable political environment without the threat of the State taking slots revenue away from racing would encourage an expansion of breeding operations in Maine. That is not likely to happen. If the Maine Legislature and/or Penn National reduces the slots revenue to the race industry, especially the Maine Sire Stakes Program, one can expect the breeding business in Maine to virtually disappear. On the other hand, a second racino with funds dedicated to racing would be a boom to the horse breeding industry in Maine.





Merrill's Park on Cobbossee Stream in West Gardiner, Maine

# GARDINER DRIVING CLUB'S LABOR DAY RACES

Gardiner Journal  
September 8, 1921  
Courtesy of the Archive Room

If some doubting Thomas was born with an admiration for the fast "Harness Horse" and races where seconds are clipped close to the 2-minute mark, thought the very general celebrations on Labor Day would allow but light attendance at Merrill's Race track; and if by design or accident he found himself out there, he was due to change his mind when he came down the hill and saw the people.

Two thousand four hundred admission tickets were sold, and the automobiles were parked four or five deep, a quarter of a mile along the rail.

There were large fields of horses in each class, the total number of entrants being sixty-three. Heats were split enough and were fast enough to make it an afternoon of interest, and people did not leave until the racing for the day was over.

Automobiles when reaching the highway went quite as many one way as the other way, showing that the attendance came from widely scattered sections. There is without doubt no race track out of doors, where so many persons can view every inch from start to finish, and too, it is considered exceptionally fast.

The grandstand cares for a lot of people, and the stable accommodations accommodate forty horses. Water has been introduced and the whole enclosure of 10 acres well fenced. Next year it is proposed to hold a real old fashioned fair on these grounds. The Gardiner Driving Club has accomplished wonders during its short, but snappy life in the light harness, racing game, and Labor Day was its biggest, best equipped event.

2.20 Class, Purse \$400	
Merlyn, br m. Geo. Bachelder, Rockland	1 1 1
Sonora, b m, A. H. Crossman, Gardiner	3 2 5
Peter C., b g. L. W. Burbank, Alfred	4 4 2
Indiana Dillon, b g. E. L. Whitney, Gardiner	3 3 3
Time—2.21½; 2.20½; 2.20.	
2.15 Class, Purse \$500	
Tom Donahue, b g. Parker & Brown Gardiner	1 1 1
Mary H., b m. A. Richardson, Jr., Waterville	2 2 2



President Littlefield, Driving Club

## The Race Score

2.30 Class, Purse \$250	
Trey Burns, b g. Bachelder of Rockland	5 1 1 1
Manrico Bel, br s. Bachelder of Rockland	1 3 3 3
Inward Bingen, b g. A. H. Potter of Gardiner	3 6 2 2
Fanny Etta, br m. Savage of Gardiner	2 4 5 4
Susie, ro m. Brown & Brady of Gardiner	6 2 4 ro
Storm King, ch g. Wm. Welch of Hallowell	4 5 6 ro
Time—2.22½; 2.23½; 2.22½; 2.22½.	

2.25 Class, Purse \$300	
Pafrika b m. Harry Hayes, Rochester, N. H.	1 1 1
Frankfort Boy Jr., W. G. Quint, Topsham	2 4 3
Modotte, b m. A. M. Wheeler, Gardiner	3 2 5
Teddy Marshall, b g. Roy Harris, Gardiner	5 3 2
Mona C., b m. H. Cummings, Augusta	4 6 4
Silver Boy, b g. W. G. Quint, Topsham	6 5 6
Third and fourth money divided between Modotte and Teddy Marshall. Time—2.23½; 2.23½; 2.23½.	

Billy Bogush, b g. Harrington, Gardiner	3 3 3
Sol Direct, blk g. F. E. Potter, Gardiner	4 4 4
Dr. McKinney, b g. A. M. Wheeler, Gardiner	5 5 dr
Time—2.15½; 2.15½; 2.17.	

## Farmers' Race—1-2 Mile

Alex Bradeen, Alexander	1 1 1
Ambulator, Alexander	2 2 2
Chummy, Jr., James	4 3 3
Gray Fox Wheeler	3 4 4
Time—1.31; 1.18; 1.14.	

## The Race Score

# 2012 MAINE FAIR DATES

## 2012 MAINE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION PARI-MUTUEL RACE DATES

### June:

2nd & 3rd  
Maine Fiber Frolic -- Waldoboro

### July:

4th - 8th  
Houlton Fair -- Houlton

12th - 15th  
Ossipee Valley Fair -- South Hiram

20th - 22nd  
Waterford World's Fair --  
North Waterford

26th - 29th  
Pittston Fair -- Pittston

27th - August 5th  
Bangor State Fair -- Bangor

27th - August 4th  
Northern Maine Fair -- Presque Isle

### August

1st - 4th  
Monmouth Fair -- Monmouth

7th - 12th  
Topsham Fair -- Topsham

9th - 18th  
Skowhegan State Fair -- Skowhegan

18th - 25th  
Union Fair -- Union

23rd - 26th  
Piscataquis Valley Fair --  
Dover-Foxcroft

23rd - 26th  
Acton Fair -- Acton

30th - September 3rd  
Blue Hill Fair -- Blue Hill

31st - September 3rd  
Springfield Fair -- Springfield

### August

31st - September 3rd  
Harmony Fair - Harmony

### September

6th - 9th  
Clinton Lions' Fair -- Clinton

7th - 9th  
Litchfield Fair -- Litchfield

12th - 15th  
Oxford County Fair -- Oxford

14th - 16th  
New Portland Lion's Fair  
North New Portland

16th - 22nd  
Farmington Fair -- Farmington

21st - 23rd  
Common Ground Fair -- Unity

23rd - 29th  
Cumberland Fair --  
Cumberland Center

30th - October 9th  
Fryeburg Fair -- Fryeburg

**Non-Licensed Fairs**

September 15th  
Cornish Horseman's Day -- Cornish

### 2012

### Harness Racing Dates

**Cumberland Fair:**  
September -- 23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30  
**Fryeburg Fair**  
October -- 2,3,4,5,6,7

### Total 2012 Race Days

222

### Scarborough Downs:

March -- 31  
April -- 1,7,8,14,15,20,21,22,27,28,29  
May -- 4,5,6,11,12,13,18,19,20,25,26,27  
June -- 1,2,3,7,8,9,10,14,15,16,17,21,22,  
26,27,28,29  
July -- 1,5,6,7,8,12,13,14,15,19,20,21,  
22,23,24,28,29,30  
August -- 2,3,4,5,9,10,11,12,16,17,18,  
19,23,24,25,26,30  
September -- 1,2,6,8,9  
October -- 12,13,14,19,20,21,26,27,28  
November -- 2,3,4,9,10,11,16,17,18,23,  
24,25,30  
December -- 1,2,8,9,15,16,22,23  
*Total Days at Scarborough: 111*

### Bangor Historic Track:

May -- 7,8,11,14,15,18,21,22,25,28,29  
June -- 1,4,5,8,11,12,15,18,19,22,25,  
26,29  
July -- 3,4,6,9,10,13,14,16,17,20,21  
September -- 5,7,10,11  
October -- 8,9,12,15,16,19,22,23,26,  
29,30  
November -- 2,5,6,9  
*Total Days at Bangor: 54*

### Northern Maine Fair

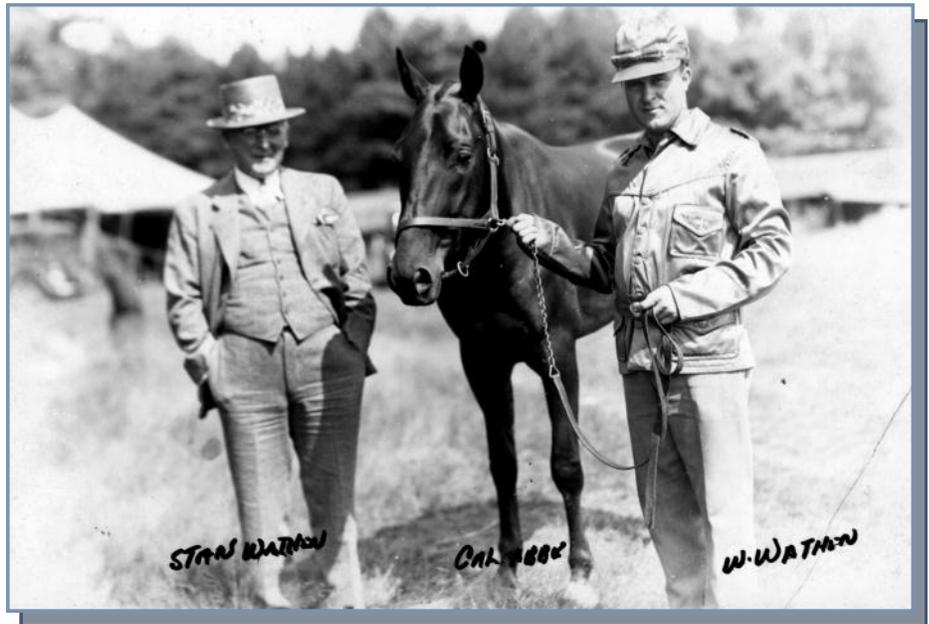
July -- 29,30,31  
August -- 1,2,3  
**Topsham Fair**  
August -- 5,6,7,8,11 (9&10 Rain Dates)  
**Skowhegan State Fair**  
August -- 12,13,14,15,16,17,18  
**Union Fair**  
August --- 19,21,22,24,25  
**Windsor Fair**  
August -- 26,27,28,29,30,31  
September -- 1,2,3  
**Oxford County Fair**  
September 12,13,14,15  
**Farmington Fair**  
September -- 16,17,18,19,20,21,22

# PROFILES OF MAINE HARNESS HORSEMEN

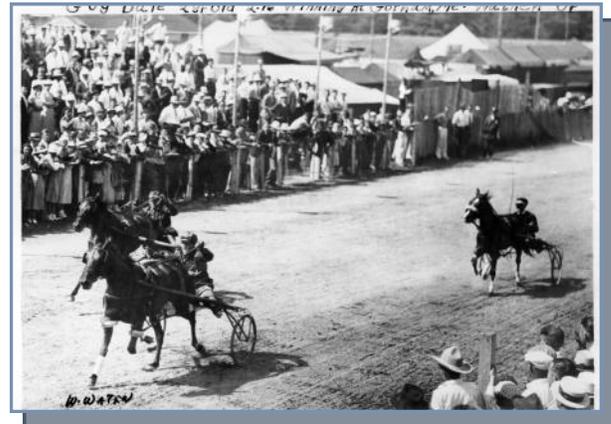
## S.A. Wathen & Son -- Fort Fairfield, Maine

Stan Wathen started in the horse business in the 1930's. His prize mare was Eula H.

His son, Wendell, joined him in the business. In 1945, Wendell Wathen was recognized as horseman of the year with the most wins. Two of their horses trotted in the Hambletonian: Scotch Fez (2.04 1/4) in 1946 and Vic Song (207.4/5) in 1950. Scotch Fez was sold and eventually won France's most prestigious trotting race.



Calumet Elam winning at Cornish



Guy Dale winning at Gorham



Eula H



Alloway Winning in Skowhegan

Images courtesy of Wendell (Red) Wathen, Jr.

# CREDITS

**Contributors:**

Dr. Michael Andrew

Dawn Thistle, Archives Room

Henry Jackson, Maine Department of Agriculture (Harness Racing)

Archives Room, Gardiner Public Library

Waterville Sentinel

Princeton Historical Society

Maine Historical Society

Skowhegan History House

South Portland Historical Society

Windsor Fair Museum

Maine Fair Association

Wendy Ireland, Maine Harness Horsemen's Association

Maine Standardbred Breeders and Owners Association

Clark P. Thompson, The Maine Trotting Horse Heritage Trail

George Petredean, Michigan Horseman

Christopher Cart -- Banner Design

**Photography:** Michael Newman and Stephen D. Thompson

Image of Caribou's new grandstand courtesy of Caribou Public Library

Images of S.A. Wathen & Son courtesy of Wendell Wathen, Jr.

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Image of Taylor's Park courtesy of the Freeport Historical Society, Freeport, IL.

Currier & Ives black and white images courtesy of Lost Trotting Parks.

*Image corrections for this publication by Stephen D. Thompson (Photoshop)*

*The publication was designed using MS Publishing software.*

# WWW.MAINEFAIRS.ORG

## MAINE FAIR CONTACTS

### Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs -- MAAF -- 100 Years -- 2012

#### Acton Fair

Lista Staples  
178 Nason Road  
Shapleigh, ME 0207-324004076  
207-324-1250

#### Bangor State Fair

Mike Dyer  
100 Dutton Street  
Bangor, ME 04401  
207-947-5555

#### Blue Hill Fair

Robert Eaton  
P.O. Box 390  
Blue Hill, ME 04614-0396  
Fair Office: 207-374-3701

#### Clinton Lions

Jon Whitten, Sr.  
12 McNally Road  
Clinton, ME 04927  
207-426-8013

#### Common Ground Fair

P.O. Box 170  
Unity, ME 04988-0170  
207-568-4142

#### Cumberland Fair

Michael Timmons  
140 Bruce Hill Road  
Cumberland, ME 04021  
207-653-9783

#### Farmington Fair

Neal Yeaton  
P.O. Box 652  
Farmington, ME 04938-0652  
207-778-6083

#### Fryeburg Fair

June Hammond  
Box 78  
Fryeburg, ME 04037  
207-935-3268

#### Harmony Free Fair

Mel Chadbourne  
177 Chadbourne Road  
Harmony, ME 04942  
207-683-5873

#### Houlton Fair

Paul Cleary  
P.O. Box 403  
Houlton, ME 04730  
207-694-1298

#### Litchfield Fair

Charles Smith  
279 Main Street  
Lisbon Falls, ME 04252  
207-353-8105

#### Maine Fiber Frolic

Nancy E. Williams  
13 Robinson Road  
Waldoboro, ME 04572  
207-832-5162

#### Monmouth Fair

Laura Foulk  
P.O. Box 327  
Monmouth, ME 04259  
207-933-2249

#### New Portland Lions Fair

1480 Long Falls Dam Road  
Lexington, ME 04961  
207-628-2916

#### Northern Maine Fair

Kevin McCartney  
P.O. Box 804  
Presque Isle, ME 04769-0804  
207-492-4766

#### Ossipee Valley Fair

Kathleen Haley  
Box 548  
Limington, ME 04049  
207-793-8434

#### Oxford County Fair

Jackie Young  
P.O. Box 193  
Norway, ME 04268  
207-739-9411

#### Piscataquis Valley Fair

Deanne Merrill  
P.O. Box 197  
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426  
207-943-2650

#### Pittston Fair

Sharon Fairfield  
P.O. Box 351  
Gardiner, ME 04345-0351  
207-582-8861

#### Skowhegan State Fair

Rebecca Turner  
P.O. Box 39  
Skowhegan, ME 04976-0039  
207-474-2947

#### Springfield Fair

Kevin Ritchie  
P.O. Box 342  
Lee, ME 04455  
207-738-2888

#### Topsham Fair

Leon Brilliant  
30 Valhalla Drive  
Topsham, ME 04086  
207-798-0892

#### Union Fair

P.O. Box 421  
Union, ME 04862  
207-785-6482

#### Waterford World's Fair

Renee Fitts  
P.O. Box 174  
North Waterford, ME 04287  
207-890-2169 or  
Box Dixon 207-743-9246

#### Windsor Fair

Lincoln Orff  
P.O. Box 971  
Jefferson, ME 04348-0971  
207-549-7171 or  
207-549-5249

#### NON-LICENSED FAIRS

#### Cornish Fairgrounds

Dianne Perkins  
P.O. Box 246  
Cornish, ME 04020  
207-625-3281