

In Memoriam: Trudy McCaffery



Benoit and Associates

“Trudy exemplified all that is great in Thoroughbred horse racing. Her first consideration was always the welfare of the horse, and she was rewarded by owning many outstanding Thoroughbreds. She will always be remembered for her boundless enthusiasm for racing... her usual winners’ circle reaction was a huge hug for the horse!”
– Mace Siegel, Vice President, TOC.

Trudy McCaffery, a former TOC director, died February 12 after a lengthy battle with cancer. She leaves behind a legacy of caring and tireless advocacy for all segments of the Thoroughbred industry – animals and people alike – that will remain an inspiration for years to come.

As a new member of the TOC board in 2002, she spoke of her goals: “I will work toward bringing new owners and fans into the industry, while protecting the interests of our existing California thoroughbred owners. I believe we must do whatever is necessary to protect our beloved sport and ensure that owners receive their fair share.” She did all that, and more.

McCaffery served on TOC’s board from 2002 to 2003, and was honored as 2002 Owner of the Year, along with co-owners of Came Home, John Toffan, William Farish, and John Goodman.

She also served on the boards of California Thoroughbred Breeders Association, Breeders’ Cup Ltd., NTRA Charities, Oak Tree Racing Association, Tranquility Farm, and as a trustee with the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association. In 1999, she founded Kids to the Cup, a charitable organization dedicated to developing young racing fans by bringing them to major events.

An accomplished competitive equestrian, McCaffery entered racing in 1989 with partner John Toffan, with whom she bred and campaigned Free House and Came Home. They also sent two horses to all three Triple Crown races – Mane Minister (1991) and Free House (1997). McCaffery also campaigned such remarkable runners as Bien Bien, Del Mar Dennis, A.P. Assay, and Squall. In 1997, TOBA named McCaffery and Toffan *Owners of the Year*.

McCaffery was awarded the NTRA Commissioners Cup for extraordinary contributions to the Thoroughbred industry in 2002, the Race Track Industry Program’s Clay Puett Award recognizing outstanding contributions to the racing industry in 2004, and was named Outstanding Woman in Racing by California Assembly Resolution in 2004.

A native of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, she is survived by her mother, Maxine Hanson, and three sisters – Alix Bauce, Marilyn Hoffman, and Paula Weber.

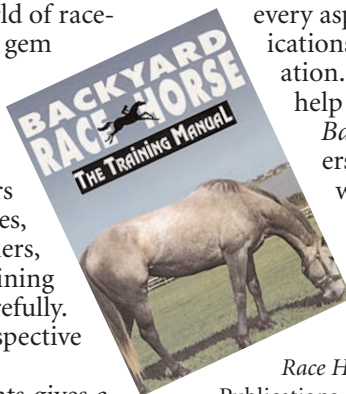
McCaffery also served on the board of directors of the Edwin J. Gregson Foundation, which raises money to help backstretch workers and their families. Donations may be made in her name to the Gregson Foundation, P.O. Box 660039, Arcadia, CA, 91066.

Backyard Race Horse a Very Useful Manual

Book Review by Madeline Auerbach

Anyone wanting to learn more about the world of race-horse ownership and training will find a real gem in *Backyard Race Horse: The Training Manual*, newly released in its fourth edition by authors Janet Del Castillo and Lois Schwartz. Within its pages are nuggets of useful and essential information for all members of the horse community. As the title indicates, the book is a primer for would-be horse trainers, and anyone wanting to try their hand at training would be well advised to read this book carefully. But the book will be of interest to owners, prospective owners, and race fans as well.

A glance at the very detailed table of contents gives a quick overview of all the valuable information contained therein. The writers take much of the mystique out of horse ownership. They discuss claiming (how to), sales (how to read a catalogue, the importance of a qualified agent), and almost



every aspect of ownership. The book also instructs on medications, vet bills, common ailments, and rest and recuperation. Along the way, the authors provide anecdotes that help the reader form his or her own conclusions.

Backyard Race Horse will not only fascinate new owners, but seasoned owners will find many insights as well. The rich glossary is a quick fix for any unfamiliar horse terminology. Every horseman needs a quick reference for the myriad of situations that surround racehorses. This book qualifies as that guide.

Del Castillo, Janet, and Lois Schwartz, 2003. *Backyard Race Horse: The Training Manual*. Winter Haven, FL: Prediction Publications & Productions.

Borrow this book, or choose from a selection of other racing related volumes, at the new lending library at TOC’s Santa Anita office, 285 W. Huntington Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007.