



## 2020 ELECTION BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENTS

### PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

#### JOSEPH APPELBAUM

---

You elected me President of NYTHA three years ago. I had served one term on the Board and thought I understood the nature of the position, yet the unique challenges (breakdown crisis, trainer indictments, Covid-19) of the last few years demanded attention.

NYTHA's focus is three-fold: delivering philanthropy to our backstretch workers, protecting the business interest of our horsemen, and promoting the safety and welfare of our horses. In this term, we have accomplished a lot:

1. Reduced Worker's Compensation costs by 40%!!!
2. Delivered over \$5 million in health care, childcare, food and spiritual support to backstretch workers.
3. Reduced the Breakdown Rate at NYRA tracks to a nation leading 1/1,000 starts.
4. Responded to the Covid-19 crisis on our backstretch with medical care, testing, masks and food - allowing NYRA to resume racing.
5. Maintaining a 4-5 day per week racing schedule, when most tracks have reduced to only 3 Days.

I am proud of NYTHA's performance and ask you to re-elect me for a second term.

Yet, other challenges persist. The basic cost/benefit equation has been skewed as too many trainers struggle with rising labor costs and owners struggle to stay in the game.

NYTHA must remain active and engaged both in the NYRA Board Room and in Albany.

1. Ensuring the continued flow of VLT revenue.
2. Insisting upon racing date integrity and continuity.
3. Developing new owners.
4. Reducing costs for trainers.

I've been in the industry full-time for 15 years as the founder of Off The Hook - a breeding, racing and sales company. Off The Hook has developed dozens of graded stakes winners: most notably, Breeders' Cup Champions Informed Decision and Spun To Run, Grade I winners El Deal, Turbo Compressor, Zipessa, and Paola Queen. In 2016, I won the Breeders' Cup Betting Challenge.

#### CHAD SUMMERS

---

My name is Chad Summers and I am running for NYTHA President. Many of you might know me, as part owner and trainer of Mind Your Biscuits, but that is not why I am running for this post. I have been involved in racing since 2004 working in every facet of the industry from buying, selling, training, pinhooking, clocking and media. I have witnessed and observed racing and their organizational bodies from all over the country and all over the world. With that knowledge, and the ever-growing lists of contacts in the Rolodex, I am confident we will constantly have assistance from major stockholders in the industry in addition to our deep roster already with NYTHA roots.

On the heels of the COVID pandemic, we as an industry and an association are in the fight of our lives to maintain and improve our standing. The communication between NYTHA and its membership along with the frontside and the backside must rise to an all-time high level. There needs to be confidence within the membership that all avenues are constantly being explored to better the organization and continue to make NYRA and NYTHA the strongest brand in the racing industry.

We need to do this together. If elected I will work tirelessly for each and every one of our members and will not rest until all are satisfied. I will be available always and look forward to working with the group we will put in place as a group. Together and only together can our voices be heard.

## OWNER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### TINA MARIE BOND

---

I have been so fortunate to be able to live such a wonderful life as a breeder, owner, and farm owner. The life style is truly wonderful in that each day I get to be surrounded by these wonderful horses. Breeding and racing has been my passion for over three decades. I own and manage Song Hill Thoroughbreds with my husband, H. James Bond, and our sons Kevin and Ryan are Assistant Trainers to Jim.

I am the managing partner of Bond Racing Stable and have enjoyed much success in winning many stake races at all three NYRA tracks and Finger Lakes and finishing in the top 5 owners in the 2020 Saratoga Race meet. It brings me great joy to share the excitement of thoroughbred horse ownership with my partners and to bring new owners into this sport.

I have served for the past six years on the NYTHA board and as Second Vice President for the last three years. I remain committed to bring stability to our industry and to ensure that year-round racing in New York is vital and thriving. Year-Round Racing in NY is vital to the New York State Breeding program.

I will continue to fight for the future of NY Racing and Breeding because of the wonderful people that we have met and for our two sons who have worked so hard and dedicated their lives to this wonderful sport.

It is crucial we build our sport for ourselves and more importantly for future trainers and owners. I cannot think of anything more important than to make things better for those who follow in our footsteps. My goal going forward is to increase purses, which will increase field size and stabilize year-round racing in New York.

### DAN COLLINS

---

My love for horse racing began nearly 50 years ago. In 1971 I was a summer intern at *The Saratogian* newspaper and the sports editor called in sick one morning. Suddenly I was thrust into covering the races and I was hooked. I spent two summers as the *Pink Sheet* editor and went on to a successful career in newspapers, government relations and Fortune 500 corporate communications.

I bought into my first horse partnership with West Point Thoroughbreds in 1996. In 2005 I established **Bona Venture Stables**, now headquartered in Saratoga Springs, NY. **BVS** is a family business with my wife, Sarah, serving as COO, daughters Claire and Maura, along with sons-in-law Chris and Joe providing ownership assistance and recruiting.

In 15 years, **BVS** has welcomed more than 100 first-time owners to NY racing. We maintain a small string of 8–12 horses with success at the claiming, state-bred stakes, graded stakes and Breeders' Cup level.

My communications experience, focusing on crisis situations, government relations/lobbying and executive media training, positions me to support NYTHA efforts to:

- Introduce a new generation of owners ensuring a vibrant future for the industry
- Continue improving the living/working conditions of backstretch workers
- Aggressively support and grow the dynamic NY breeding program, as well as working to ensure safe retirement for NY racehorses
- Drive forward nationwide medication standards
- Strengthen oversight for racing violations
- Lobby NY legislators to support racing across the state.

I am a graduate of St. Bonaventure University and served 17 years as a Trustee, the last 5 as Vice Chair of the Board. A past member of the Arthur W. Page Society, The PR Seminar and the Council on Communications Strategy. In 2011, *Business to Business Magazine* recognized me as top corporate marketer for the innovative, "*A Day Made of Glass*" video.

# OWNER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

## PETER DORSMAN

---

I am an avid fan of thoroughbred racing and anxious to contribute to the growth and success of the New York Thoroughbred Industry.

Success is often determined by a willingness and ability to change. Whether the change involves:

- Adopting the latest safety protocols to protect jockeys, horses and backstretch workers
- Implementation of The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act (if passed), or
- Identifying new parimutuel revenue models

I'm anxious to play a role.

My horse ownership dates back to the late '90s and continues to this day. Currently, I have 20 thoroughbreds in training with various partners.

In addition to my passion for horses, I currently serve on the board of directors for Applied Industrial Technologies (NYSE:AIT) where I chair the Executive Organization and Compensation Committee and am a member of the Governance Committee; Home Depot Supply (NASDAQ:HDS) where I am Lead Independent Director and a member of the Compensation and Governance Committees; IDEAL Industries where I chair the Compensation Committee and am a member of the Audit Committee; and Aptihealth where I am Chairman of the Board.

I retired after 30+ years with NCR Corporation (NYSE:NCR) a global technology company, where I led global operations and services. My functional expertise includes board governance, strategy, marketing/public relations, government affairs/relations and operations.

My wife Colleen and I reside in Saratoga Springs, New York.

I'd appreciate your vote in this NYTHA Election.

## JONATHAN GREEN

---

My name is Jonathan Green, and I am proud to be a candidate for an Owner/Director position on the NYTHA board.

For 30+ years I have managed one of the largest multi-state racing and breeding stables in the country - the majority of our horses race year-round on the NYRA circuit.

Our racing operation, D.J. Stable, campaigns claimers and Graded Stakes performers, so I thoroughly appreciate the importance of all levels of racing. Our breeding operation has resident mares in New York, so I am well versed in the state's breeding rules and recognize the value of that program.

Aside from my extensive industry involvement, I feel that my experience running a financial planning firm with over 2,000 clients has provided me with the necessary skill set of how to work with a variety of personalities, while negotiating and collaborating with others. As a Certified Financial Planner™ I am familiar with evaluating financial statements and understand how to "follow the money." I recently sold that business to devote more time towards the thoroughbred industry.

Finally, as a regular host on the TDN Writers' Room Podcast, I have a National platform to promote New York racing and breeding.

As a Director, my initial goals include:

- Working with NYRA for the overall betterment of NY racing
- Preserving the welfare of our equine athletes
- Improving pre-race protocols and post-race testing
- Attracting new owners to our sport
- Listening to YOUR concerns

I truly love this sport and want to make it a healthier industry for all - from the bettors to the breeders to the backstretch. I feel that my unique resume and experience would add great value to this board.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you.

## OWNER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### **JEANNE A. LIDDY**

---

#### Biographical Statement

I am a trial attorney in federal/state court and have been around thoroughbreds my whole life. I became involved in racing by riding and retraining off-tracks for new jobs in show jumping and hunter/jumpers. For the past eight years on the NYRA circuit, I have raced one or two of my home-bred horses each year as an owner/breeder. As the owner of a small farm I do all farm work, perform pedigree analysis and maintain a broodmare band to take part in the NY breeding program. The babies are started by me on the farm before they are sent to Ocala to be fully 'broken.' I am also deeply involved in where my horses are retired for their next career although a few are not placeable.

They will always have a home.

#### Position Statement

I love horses and the game of racing. The best times are the early mornings when my horses greet me at home before a quick groom, when I watch the horses train at the track in the morning and when I chat with the people that help care for them at the track. The horses never forget you and each horse has a different personality. We all work well together to harness our knowledge of each one. This is part of the game of racing we all love so much. It also such a thrill to see them blossom into a beautiful racehorse and run in a race!

I am running as a candidate to represent the small-time owner/breeder and racing enthusiast. I also hope to be the voice of the horses and people who work so hard to make the game of racing we love work so well. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

### **ROBERT MASIELLO**

---

It's been a privilege and an honor to serve on the NYTHA board the past three years as an owner. We've certainly faced our share of challenges, starting with the power outages of 2018 up to the COVID outbreak this past spring. One constant has been the incredible work of our backstretch employees who continue to meet every challenge no matter the difficulty. We are all in their debt.

Despite the fact that an abnormally high number of "black swan" events have occurred since 2018, I believe we have still executed well against our longer term goals at NYTHA. Workman's comp rates have dropped substantially the past three years, and there are reasons for optimism that trend will continue. We have worked with NYRA to institute a series of best practices to reduce the rate of breakdowns, and the net result is one of the lowest breakdown rates of any track in the country.

One initiative I am particularly proud of is the Empire Racing Club. We have added hundreds of new club members the past 18 months and given them the experience of horse ownership at a fraction of the normal cost. Ultimately, the goal of the ERC is to give our members a trial period understanding of horse ownership, along with the tools to take the next step in their journey as owners, whether it be through partnerships, claiming, auctions or even breeding. We've already seen several members take that step and looking forward to assisting more in the years to come.

I've really enjoyed my time on the board the past three years, and I want to thank the horsemen that gave me the opportunity to serve. The board can always use new voices and I would strongly encourage any of you to consider running.

## OWNER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### EDWARD J. MESSINA, Ph.D.

---

After obtaining my Ph.D. in medical sciences, I began my career as a medical researcher and teacher. It was at that time that I decided to apply the knowledge I obtained in human genetics and sports nutrition to the animal and sport I had come to love, the thoroughbred horse. Little did I know, at that time, I would have two parallel careers, one as a medical researcher and medical school professor and teacher and one as a consultant in the world of thoroughbred breeding, racing and sports nutrition. To test my theories I formed a racing syndicate in the mid seventies to see if I was on the right track. To everyone's surprise we had some immediate success. Along the way I met trainers that provided me with valuable input that helped me to refine my methods and approaches, that have sustained me for forty years. I am still buying, breeding and racing homebreds, either alone or in partnership. In 2001, trainer members of NYTHA nominated me for appointment to the New York State Racing and Wagering Board, Medication Advisory Committee, on which I served for several years. Today our sport is facing many intersecting factors that threaten its very existence. As an owner board member of NYTHA I should like to add my voice, based on the knowledge and experience I have gained, over these many years, to the potential solutions of the problems that face us. Altruistically, I also want to give back to the sport that has given me so much pleasure.

### ARON S. YAGODA

---

Goals as a Board Member:

I am seeking re-election as an Owner/Director of NYTHA. I feel that we have made great progress to enhance the health and wellness of the backstretch employees and our horses. As a board member, I hope to continue to make positive strides in order to bring our industry back to prominence especially for those who race year-round on the NY circuit. Even though we all technically compete against one another, we must value our industry over any individual and work to safeguard the integrity of our sport. I have actively participated on many committees and look forward to continuing to do so during the next term.

Equine Experience:

I have participated in the horse business in many different capacities: as an owner, breeder and pinhooker. I am very hands-on and can be found at NYRA tracks and horse auctions throughout the year. I make myself very accessible to everyone in our industry, from backstretch personnel, to owners, trainers, and racing executives. There is no better day for me than one that starts on the backside before the sun rises, and ends after a full afternoon of racing. Horse racing isn't just a business or a hobby for me, it's my life's passion.

Personal/Professional:

I was born and raised in New York and have been a face around the NYRA tracks my entire life. I actually attended my first Saratoga meet before I was born, and haven't missed a summer since. My grandfather and father both raced horses on the NY circuit, and I recently entered my 35th year of owning horses. By trade, I am the Executive VP of Streit's Matzos, which has been in my family since 1925.

Thank you for considering me for an Owner/Director position on the NYTHA Board.

## TRAINER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### LEAH GYARMATI

---

I grew up in Forest Hills, Queens and began riding horses at age 8. In 1981 I began a "summer job" with H.A. Jerkens that became a year-round, full-time job as an exercise rider and eventually an assistant trainer.

In 1989 I left the racetrack to continue my education, first in Hungary, and then at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama where I earned a Bachelors in Philosophy and a Masters in Theology. After my studies, I returned to New York and completed 1 year of studies at Drew University in a PhD program in Theology.

In 1996 I resumed working for H.A. Jerkens and subsequently for James Jerkens. I had a brief career as a jockey, lasting 1½ years, during which I was exposed to different approaches to training and racetrack business. I worked with trainers from various backgrounds and perspectives. After riding, I took a full time job with Mike Hushion for 1½ years before beginning to train on my own.

My training career began with one horse for a small partnership. I won my first race in my second start as a trainer, winning the Maryland Million Distaff. I built up a small stable and, since then, I have maintained that stable, being responsible for between 15 and 30 horses at any given time. I have had the privilege to train some great horses, getting to win graded stakes and compete in several Breeders' Cups. I have been on the NYTHA board for 2 terms to date, as well as the BEST board.

I have one daughter, Rachel, a Fordham University graduate, who has worked for the Belmont Child Care Association at Anna House for several years. I live in Floral Park, NY, and remain in New York to race year-round.

### PATRICK J. KELLY

---

I have had the privilege of working with a number of great NYTHA Board members since I was first elected in 1987, and I know what a strong Board and strong President can mean to New York's horsemen. That stability and strength will be more important than ever as we wait to see what NYRA has planned for the future of Aqueduct, Belmont, and Saratoga. The Board has been working to protect the interests of New York's horsemen on a number of issues. At the top of the list is maintaining a year-round racing calendar, and we now have legislation that requires NYRA to have the agreement of horsemen and breeders for any change to the winter racing schedule. We have reduced the cost of doing business in New York, especially in the area of workers' comp insurance for both backstretch workers and riders. Above all, we want to be sure that our racing product is the best it can be.

I have chaired our Benevolence Committee for a number of years, and am pleased that we have expanded our programs, not only with BEST, but also the Racetrack Chaplaincy and our Scholarships. It means a lot to be able to give a helping hand to people on the backstretch who face adversity and hardship. As a member of NYTHA's Aftercare Committee, I am focused on the health and welfare of the horses, supporting retired horses through our TAKE THE LEAD and TAKE2 programs, and safeguarding the horses that are racing through the uniform medication program.

I also served as NYTHA's Vice President, as a member of the Backstretch, Finance and Gaming Commission Committees, and as Director/Vice President of the NY Jockey Injury Compensation Fund.

I encourage you to get involved. Exercise your right to vote.

## TRAINER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### **JOHN C. KIMMEL, V.M.D.**

---

I have been actively involved in the thoroughbred racing industry for over 40 years. I have seen the business from many different perspectives. I have been a practicing veterinarian, a leading trainer on the New York circuit, an owner, a breeder, and a sales consignor. Upon graduation from the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine in 1980, I went to work as an associate veterinarian with the practice of Teigland, Franklin, and Brokken in S. Florida. I have won 7 New York training titles and have campaigned over forty NY Stake winners, an Eclipse Award winner, and a Breeders' Cup Champion.

I am now running for my second term on the NYTHA board. My goal was try to improve the business model for both owners and particularly trainers. There has been a continual decline in our trainer population as the ability to profit has become extremely marginalized. Forced to pay higher wages, pressure from the labor boards, healthcare costs, feed and bedding expense, have made it almost impossible to make a profit from day rate. The super trainers are able to absorb these costs from their purse winnings, but the small trainers can't charge enough and therefore run at a competitive disadvantage and must subsidize their cost of doing business from the personal funds. This is not sustainable.

Now we need to restore and improve our purse structure to help our owners make something back on their equine investments. We need to make New York a better place to race and improve our customer services. We need to market our Winter racing program. If we live in the status quo we will see further declines in our horse population, smaller field size, less handle, and a diminished product for the betting public.

### **LINDA RICE**

---

A native of Wisconsin, Linda Rice grew up in horse racing, learning how to identify and develop a racehorse from an early age thanks to her father Clyde Rice. A third-generation horse trainer, she is the leading female conditioner in North America with over 2,050 wins and \$83 million in purses. Rice was the first female to win a training title in New York, topping the Saratoga standings in 2009, and now owns a total of seven training titles in the Empire State and one in Maryland. Some of her star pupils include Eclipse winner La Verdad, and Grade I winners City Zip, Palace, Voodoo Song, Tenski, Princess Violet, Lucifer's Stone and Things Change. Rice won the 2020 GIII Withers S. with Max Player, who also finished third in both the GI Belmont S. and GI Travers S.

Off the track, Rice has been an active member of the NYTHA board since 2002. Her biggest achievements on the NYTHA board were increasing purse money from VLTs in conjunction with securing live race dates for New York horsemen; minimizing workmen's compensation issues that have plagued the industry; and marketing horse racing aggressively as a national sport. In addition, her position as chairman of the Scholarship Committee has allowed her to help backstretch employees who seek to further their education and promote self-improvement. Rice's goal is to represent all horsemen in her efforts to improve the future of New York racing.

## TRAINER/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

### **RICHARD E. SCHOSBERG**

---

As a trainer based exclusively in New York for over 30 years, I have first-hand knowledge of the issues faced by horsemen in our state. I graduated from Cornell University in 1984, and my love for horses and racing brought me back to Belmont Park, where I had worked during the summers between semesters. I was a groom and then assistant trainer for Sid Watters and Tommy Skiffington before getting my trainer's license in 1988.

I decided to run for the NYTHA Board in 2011 because I felt the need to give back to the community that helped me succeed in my career. Since then, as a Director of NYTHA, the experience has been eye-opening, challenging, and above all, rewarding.

I was honored to be named Chairman of the Backstretch Health and Safety Committee and worked in unison with the BEST team, Chaplain's Office, NYRA Safety Stewards and several state agencies to successfully mitigate the threat of COVID-19 in our backstretch community.

I chair the Thoroughbred Aftercare Committee and have been Vice President and am the current President of the TAKE2/TAKE THE LEAD Thoroughbred Retirement Program. Since 2013 we have successfully and safely retired over 650 horses from NYRA tracks to find second careers.

I chaired the Bylaws Committee tasked with updating and modernizing our association bylaws, and I also sit on the Legislative Committee assisting in communicating with and educating our elected representatives in Albany about our industry and the many challenges ahead of us.

I would very much like to continue to work on your behalf.

***Your ✓ vote is Important!***

VOTING DEADLINE: BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAIL OR ELECTRONICALLY POSTED BY 5 P.M. (ET) DECEMBER 3, 2020