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Pride of Pa.

Houghton family's Sylmar Farm early home to Princess of Sylmar

BY STEVE HASKIN

THE HOUGHTON FAMILY can best be described as straight out of a Norman Rockwell painting, portraying a slice of Americana many people can only imagine and long for-the home fires burning bright, Ron and Betsy's four children and 11 grandchildren gathered around at the holidays or helping celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, swift Thoroughbreds running free right outside the house, Amish horse-drawn buggies clippity-clopping down the road, and a 200-year-old log cabin newly restored by their daughter and her husband as a bed and breakfast about a mile away. Add to that, raising one of the finest 3-year-old fillies of her era, Princess of Sylmar.

It should be obvious by now that the Houghtons' Sylmar Farm near Christiana, Pa., is unique among Thoroughbred breeding establishments in that it has prospered over the years in an idyllic setting not known for raising Thoroughbreds, while maintaining its close-knit family ties.

The Houghtons' oldest son, Bernie, who is a former steeplechase rider, trains 30 horses at Hollywood Casino at Penn National Race Course and lives on the property adjoining the original farm with his wife, Shannon, and their four children.

"Bernie basically lives right on the farm," Betsy said. "What Ronnie does is switch them (horses) back and forth all the time. Bernie will send a couple home that need a rest, and Ronnie will take four or five up to Penn National."

The next oldest is their daughter, Robin Perry, who lives up the road on part of the farm and works in the office.

Next is another daughter, Wendy Kinnamon, who also is heavily involved with the

"Wendy and her husband, Travis, have two boys, and they live about a mile and a half



Betsy and Ron Houghton at their Sylmar Farm near Christiana, Pa.

2014 BREEDERS' CUP

Two Tickets to the 2014 Breeders' Cup

Airfare and Hotel | \$6000 value

Drawing to be held at the end of the 2014 Breeding season

Breed to a Saratoga Stud Stallion to be eligible



*Eligibility Restrictions Apply





2014 Leading Sires in New York

So to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2014 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	BLUEGRASS CAT (03, Storm Cat), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	77/9	0/0	0/0	(E B Ryder, \$30,000)	\$315,263	*438	18	1.35	2.03
2	CONGAREE (98, Arazi), Saratoga Stud	\$7,500	23/4	3/3	0/3	(Jeranimo, \$120,000)	\$268,244	*306	15	1.36	1.47
3	POSSE (00, Silver Deputy), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	45/7	0/0	0/0	(Ocean Bertie, \$25,800)	\$184,755	*537	20	1.40	1.38
4	DISCO RICO (97, Citidancer), Keane Stud Operations	\$5,000	17/5	0/0	0/0	(Marriedtothemusic, \$31,200)	\$141,149	238	9	1.30	1.23
5	FREUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	36/4	0/0	0/0	(Your Time Is Up, \$31,200)	\$133,158	*617	35	1.77	1.27
6	POMEROY (01, Boundary), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	28/5	0/0	0/0	(Papa's Paisley, \$18,000)	\$108,888	*228	9	1.16	1.32
7	STONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway), Saratoga Stud	\$3,500	16/3	0/0	0/0	(Hey Kiddo, \$36,000)	\$106,083	*158	2	1.11	1.25
8	UTOPIA (JPN) (00, Forty Niner), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	35/2	0/0	0/0	(Princessbellaoncal, \$18,167)	\$96,863	228	5	1.08	1.29
9	NOBLE CAUSEWAY (02, Giant's Causeway), Sequel Stallions New York	N/A	25/7	0/0	0/0	(Julesco, \$27,800)	\$93,512	195	5	0.70	1.09
10	BOB AND JOHN (03, Seeking the Gold), Saratoga Stud	\$6,000	27/6	0/0	0/0	(Dimples, \$16,800)	\$89,952	*167	7	1.02	1.41
11	FROST GIANT (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud Operations	\$10,000	15/2	0/0	0/0	(Loki's Vengeance, \$31,200)	\$81,200	*105	4	2.50	1.16
12	HERE'S ZEALOUS (97, Dehere), Kaz Hill Farm	\$1,000	21/3	0/0	0/0	(Green Gratto, \$24,000)	\$67,310	162	0	0.81	0.97
13	CATIENUS (94, Storm Cat), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	28/4	0/0	0/0	(On the Same Page, \$12,000)	\$57,225	*528	26	1.15	1.29
14	TEUFLESBERG (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	12/3	0/0	0/0	(Hundred Acre Wood, \$13,400)	\$51,900	66	4	2.13	1.22
15	ANDROMEDA'S HERO (02, Fusaichi Pegasus), Dutchess Views Farm	\$1,500	14/2	0/0	0/0	(Andromeda's Risk, \$20,500)	\$51,323	76	2	0.95	1.03

2013 Leading Sires in New York

	•				Rstrct				Cumulative			
Rauk Sta	allion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E	Comp Index	
						, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,						
	LUEGRASS CAT (03, Storm Cat), Rockridge Stud	\$7,500	224/120	9/10	1/9	(Percussion, \$294,800)	\$5,498,097	*387		1.35	2.03	
	REUD (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$10,000	150/82	9/14	6/9	(Effie Trinket, \$368,628)	\$5,254,489	*480	35	1.77	1.27	
	OSSE (00, Silver Deputy), Rockridge Stud	\$5,000	169/106	4/5	2/4	(In the Fairway, \$136,034)	\$4,005,912	*503		1.40	1.38	
	TOPIA (JPN) (00, Forty Niner), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbre		118/51	2/2	2/2	(Sally's Dream, \$315,132)	\$2,492,056	206		1.08	1.29	
	OB AND JOHN (03, Seeking the Gold), Saratoga Stud	\$6,000	100/63	3/3	1/3	(Jonrah, \$115,267)	\$2,424,431	*162		1.02	1.41	
	ONGAREE (98, Arazi), Saratoga Stud	\$7,500	87/48	4/7	0/4	(Don't Tell Sophia, \$334,276)	\$2,066,097	*286		1.36	1.47	
	OMEROY (01, Boundary), Rockridge Stud	\$3,500	91/51	5/6	0/5	(Brooklyn Cowboy, \$116,255)	\$1,826,717	*201		1.16	1.32	
	ROST GIANT (03, Giant's Causeway), Keane Stud Operations	\$10,000	34/16	3/6	3/3	(West Hills Giant, \$261,996)	\$1,673,093	*80	4	2.50	1.16	
	ATIENUS (94, Storm Cat), McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	110/60	0/0	0/0	(Glamour Puss, \$86,130)	\$1,539,854	*518		1.15	1.29	
	OBLE CAUSEWAY (02, Giant's Causeway), Sequel Stallions New Yo		95/51	3/2	1/3	(Samraat, \$133,200)	\$1,530,677	171	5	0.70	1.09	
	ISCO RICO (97, Citidancer), Keane Stud Operations	\$5,000	62/28	1/1	1/1	(Vicki's Dancer, \$226,050)	\$1,500,811	235		1.30	1.23	
	OLDEN MISSILE (95, A.P. Indy), Milfer Farm, Inc.	\$3,500	82/45	0/0	0/0	(Estrada's Girl, \$163,581)	\$1,400,983	*606	15	1.06	1.57	
	TONESIDER (03, Giant's Causeway), Saratoga Stud	\$3,500	49/20	2/2	2/2	(Stock Fund, \$180,580)	\$1,356,566	*124		1.11	1.25	
	EUFLESBERG (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga T'breds	\$5,000	35/22	3/4	1/3	(Girl Code, \$130,120)	\$1,240,549	62	4	2.13	1.22	
	ERE'S ZEALOUS (97, Dehere), Kaz Hill Farm	\$1,000	52/32	0/0	0/0	(Flying Zealous, \$126,050)	\$1,186,821	162			0.97	
	UNRIVER (03, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2009	59/28	1/1	0/1	(Suilleabhain, \$98,674)	\$1,107,678	107		1.07	1.45	
	USTIN STONES (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	30/20	0/0	0/0	(Keep Bustin, \$208,425)	\$1,014,911	43		1.40	1.59	
	NDROMEDA'S HERO (02, Fusaichi Pegasus), Dutchess Views Farm		38/19	1/1	1/1	(Go Get the Basil, \$127,740)	\$1,005,789	74	2	0.95	1.03	
	IR. SEKIGUCHI (03, Storm Cat), Mole's Hill Farm	\$2,500	43/19	0/0	0/0	(Lotosblume, \$67,950)	\$619,661	*76	1	0.91	1.30	
	ONGRESSIONALHONOR (01, Forestry), Sandy Way Farm	\$2,500	39/16	0/0	0/0	(Anhourofhonor, \$67,676)	\$564,570	159			0.96	
	LTISH (92, Cox's Ridge)	Died, 2012	35/12	0/0	0/0	(Patron's Heidi H, \$49,415)	\$520,844	301		1.18	1.27	
22 Al	LEX'S PAL (99, Valid Expectations), Centennial Farm	\$3,500	19/7	1/3	0/1	(My Pal Chrisy, \$366,100)	\$512,800	86	2	1.32	0.95	
	AY FLORIDA SANDY (94, Personal Flag)	Pnsd	33/16	0/0	0/0	(Sandyinthesun, \$62,738)	\$392,587	*187	1	0.81	1.13	
24 ¶	COSMONAUT (02, Lemon Drop Kid), Saratoga Stud	\$5,000	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Marvin's Miracle, \$100,000)	\$214,166	18	0	1.51	1.14	
25 J	ADE HUNTER (84, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2011	14/5	0/0	0/0	(Jade Run, \$101,178)	\$195,542	*958	44	1.36	1.55	
26 A .	. P JET (89, Fappiano)	Died, 2010	12/4	1/1	0/1	(Strong Impact, \$122,926)	\$188,268	451	16	1.14	1.25	
27 U	NCLE CAMIE (00, Abaginone)	Died, 2012	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Uncle Smokey, \$76,600)	\$146,715	25	0	0.79	0.75	
28 M	IAYBRY'S BOY (99, Broad Brush), Saratoga Stud	\$2,500	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Sweet Moon, \$47,590)	\$140,445	14	1	1.59	1.64	
29 N (ORTHERN SPUR (IRE) (91, Sadler's Wells), Foggy Bottom Farm	N/A	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Fall Colors, \$24,175)	\$108,468	97	4	1.17	1.16	
30 CF	ROWN DELITE (99, A.P. Indy), Kathleen Babcock's Farm	\$1,500	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Empedrado, \$43,530)	\$80,632	30	0	0.73	1.33	

down the road and have their own farm," Betsy said. "They do exactly what we do, and we send a lot of horses over there when we get overfull. They use our racetrack, so she's very involved with the farm. She has two boys, and her oldest, Macaulay, goes to Temple University, and in the summer he gallops horses for trainer Shug McGaughey. He just came back from five weeks in Florida with Shug during his time off from college."

Ronnie added, "Macaulay was tempted to stay in Florida, but I told him he's got to get his butt back to college."

Wendy and her husband have restored the log cabin into a bed and breakfast,

called Kirkwood Cottage. The cabin, with a wood-burning fireplace, is secluded and surrounded by beautiful vistas and, of course, horses and a lovable dog named Phoebe, adding to the homey, rustic world of the Houghtons.

"Our youngest boy, Michael, and his wife, Melissa, have three young boys,"

Special Note For Sire Lists:

For 2013 lists: stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in North America (stallions exported prior to the 2009 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. All available statistics listed for the Northern Hemisphere through Dec. 31, 2013. For 2014 lists: stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in North America (stallions exported prior to the 2010 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. All available statistics listed for the Northern Hemisphere through Jan. 29, 2014. As supplied to The Blood-Horse by The Jockey Club Information Systems, Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. *Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ¶ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.)

^{*}AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX and COMPARABLE INDEX: Lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00; COMPARABLE INDEX indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX higher than their mares' COMPARABLE INDEX.



NY Grade I winner HERE COMES BEN Ranked higher than all other sires in the state by yearling average at OBS. Averaging \$21,667, the first crop trio was led by a \$38,000 colt out of a half-sister to NY Grade I winner ARTEMIS AGROTERA



HERE COMES BEN Street Cry (IRE) - Chasetheragingwind, by Dayjur | \$7,500



2013 Leading Sires in Pennsylvania

Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks		Comp Index
1		Died, 2013	224/132	13/18	4/13	` , , ,	\$7,293,317	356			
2	ROCKPORT HARBOR (02, Unbridled's Song), Pin Oak Lane Farm JUMP START (99, A.P. Indy), Northview	\$10,000	146/88	9/15	2/9	(Ria Antonia, \$1,156,140) (Prayer for Relief, \$436,188)	\$4,486,402	*658	36	1.40	1.49
3		\$5,000	166/91	4/4	0/4	(Show Some Magic, \$247,879)	\$4,334,560	*366			1.51
4	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	\$5,000	71/41	2/7	0/4	(Wise Dan, \$2,751,972)	\$4,088,199	*269	-	1.71	1.08
5	* * * ***	\$7.500	124/73	9/11	0/9	(Better Life, \$678,635)	\$4,012,386	*365		1.70	2.16
6	377	Died, 2013	172/101	5/5	0/5	(Nevada Kid, \$209,565)	\$3,520,751	*309		1.08	1.36
7	CORINTHIAN (03, Pulpit), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	199/99	1/1	0/1	(Justoneathequys, \$122,299)	\$3,454,863	*335	6	0.92	
8		\$4,500	108/56	2/5	0/2	(Flashy American, \$286,380)	\$2,475,442	165	4	1.21	1.21
9	OFFLEE WILD (00, Wild Again), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$4,000	110/60	4/7	0/4	(Hogy, \$339,500)	\$2,450,507	*279	9	1.31	1.28
10	PETIONVILLE (92, Seeking the Gold), Penn Ridge Farms	\$6,000	102/55	2/3	1/2	(Tomorrow's Tale, \$125,365)	\$1,900,222	*647	46	1.35	1.26
11	FAIRBANKS (03, Giant's Causeway), Northview	\$3,500	68/30	1/1	0/1	(Synapse, \$127,960)	\$1,582,231	108	1	0.99	1.34
12	REAL QUIET (95, Quiet American)	Died, 2010	69/31	2/4	1/2	(Norman Asbjornson, \$193,250)	\$1,456,816	*623	15	1.20	1.23
13	ALBERT THE GREAT (97, Go for Gin), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$2,500	60/35	0/0	0/0	(Chicharito, \$157,450)	\$1,340,194	*345	9	1.15	1.16
14	EUROSILVER (01, Unbridled's Song), Penn Ridge Farms	\$3,500	84/38	0/0	0/0	(Blues and Silvers, \$181,160)	\$1,306,025	*290	7	0.97	1.34
15		\$2,500	51/31	1/4	0/1	(Pelican Cove, \$98,770)	\$1,178,719	165	6	1.32	1.45
16		\$3,500	70/27	1/1	1/1	(Line of Best Fit, \$151,565)	\$1,172,348	353	14	1.10	1.36
17	LOVE OF MONEY (01, Not For Love)	Died, 2012	57/26	0/0	0/0	(Wire Funds, \$97,170)	\$1,159,828	100		1.08	1.24
18	(-)	\$2,500	50/27	1/1	1/1	(Lisa Stannard, \$138,020)	\$976,796	525	23	1.24	1.20
19	(,	\$4,000	59/30	0/0	0/0	(Whatthecatdrugin, \$188,934)	\$976,490	*443	18		1.63
20	3/,	\$1,500	50/21	1/1	1/1	(Vianney Lane, \$109,410)	\$898,562	426		1.23	1.35
21	(,, -,, -,,	. ,	64/37	0/0	0/0	(Pallium Prize, \$65,313)	\$865,802	*185			1.10
22		\$1,000	32/14	1/1	0/1	(Tightend Touchdown, \$427,000)	\$817,310	155		1.17	1.03
23	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	\$2,000	41/22	0/0	0/0	(Coco Point, \$65,100)	\$648,683	268			1.25
24		\$3,500	25/15	2/2	1/2	(Isabella Swift, \$96,153)	\$642,025	36		1.18	1.04
25	- (-) - 3))	N/A	36/16	0/0	0/0	(Paliuli, \$76,530)	\$620,295	166	3	0.96	0.86
26	SIR SHACKLETON (01, Miswaki), Dana Point Farm	\$1,000	37/22	0/0	0/0	(Sir Newcastle, \$75,550)	\$602,357	*90	1	0.66	1.12
27	FORMAL DINNER (88, Well Decorated), Mountain Springs Racing State		40/24	1/3	1/1	(Caviar N Champagne, \$94,400)	\$585,212	*631			1.10
28		Died, 2011	24/14	1/1	1/1	(Adios Nardo, \$120,560)	\$581,466	*108		0.88	1.21
29	SNOW RIDGE (98, Tabasco Cat)	Died, 2012	50/22	0/0	0/0	(One Diego, \$46,122)	\$553,553	*273			1.17
30	3),	\$1,500	26/13	1/2	1/1	(Lenape Rim, \$100,150)	\$516,199	71		1.53	1.18
31	SOUTHERN SUCCESS (03, Dixieland Band), Dana Point Farm	\$1,000	18/14	0/0	0/0	(Southern Parfait, \$71,596)	\$439,953	38			1.17
32	(,,	\$1,500	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Power of Snunner, \$166,740)	\$433,505	106		1.23	1.21
33		\$2,500	19/12	0/0	0/0	(My Emma, \$83,800)	\$420,433	30			1.15
34	MORE SMOKE (02, Smoke Glacken), Pin Oak Lane Farm	\$1,500	24/11	0/0	0/0	(Raging Smoke, \$75,720)	\$417,547	45	0	0.98	1.27
35	¶ TALENT SEARCH (03, Catienus), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	15/7	0/0	0/0	(Hollywood Talent, \$110,685)	\$286,095	31	0	0.99	1.42

Betsy said. "Michael has a huge trucking business of his own, and he's the one who trucks all the straw and hay here from Ohio and upstate New York. And they live on the place, too, across the road from Bernie. So three of the kids basically live right here, and Wendy is just down the road. Shannon and Melissa also work in the broodmare barn and assist with the foaling."

"We're a very close family and pretty much do everything together," Ronnie added. "Christmas time is a real treat with all the grandkids. It's big doings around here with the brothers and sisters and all the relatives. We're surrounded by Amish farms. There are lot of horses and buggies on the road, but that's what keeps this country so rural."

From this 300-acre piece of heaven



Sylmar Farm encompasses 300 acres

2013 Pennsylvania Sires by Winners

Sire	Rnre	Wnrs
Sire	224	132
Silver Train	172	101
Corinthian		
Any Given Saturday		
Jump Start	146	88
Smarty Jones	124	72
Offlee Wild		
Flashy Bull	100	60
Petionville	100	50
Wiseman's Ferry	71	55
Eurosilver		
Gimmeawink		
Albert the Great		
Medallist	51	21
Real Quiet		
Fairbanks		
Cat Thief		
Trajectory	70	27
Lite the Fuse	50	27
Love of Money	57	26
Formal Dinner	40	24
Snow Ridge	50	22
Delaware Township		22
Sir Shackleton		
Partner's Hero		
Activist		
Weigelia	25	15
Pure Precision	22	1/
Invisible Ink		
Southern Success		
Rimrod	26	14
Cot the Last Lauch	10	10
Got the Last Laugh	19	1∠



Bluegrass Bred to be a racehorse. Bred to be a sire.

New York's Record-Breaking Champion General Sire in 2013

Nearly \$5.5 million in progeny earnings last year, shattering the single-year mark by a NY sire.

Storm Cat – She's a Winner, by A.P. Indy • \$7,500

111 two-year-olds race in 2014.

2013 Leading Sires in Maryland

So to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	E DUBAI (98, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	195/106	3/4	0/3	(Fort Larned, \$790,086)	\$4,806,569	*742	31	1.37	1.23
2	ORIENTATE (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	185/99	8/10	2/8	(Great Hot, \$180,960)	\$3,639,354	*716	38	1.33	1.80
3	NOT FOR LOVE (90, Mr. Prospector), Northview Stallion Station	\$15,000	130/60	2/5	1/2	(Eighttofasttocatch, \$354,155)	\$2,922,319	848	74	1.73	1.44
4	DANCE WITH RAVENS (02, A.P. Indy), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	118/57	1/1	1/1	(Maddy's Dance, \$153,140)	\$2,485,288	284	9	1.22	1.48
5	GIACOMO (02, Holy Bull), Heritage Stallions	\$5,000	109/57	6/7	2/6	(Disposablepleasure, \$170,360)	\$2,105,575	*237	13	1.19	1.32
6	OUTFLANKER (94, Danzig), Shamrock Farm	\$3,000	67/37	3/4	1/3	(Javerre, \$208,434)	\$1,915,606	*481	23	1.41	1.16
7	GREAT NOTION (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,500	56/29	3/4	2/3	(Havelock, \$154,023)	\$1,587,603	147	8	1.65	1.23
8	LION HEARTED (96, Storm Cat), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	102/45	0/0	0/0	(Irish Lion, \$104,190)	\$1,533,605	*529	20	1.24	1.31
9	LOUIS QUATORZE (93, Sovereign Dancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	69/38	1/3	0/1	(Ribo Bobo, \$306,935)	\$1,456,563	*924	24	1.15	1.35
10	TWO PUNCH (83, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2011	72/32	1/3	0/1	(Bold Affair, \$195,000)	\$1,307,498	*1091	56	1.43	1.40
11	ROCK SLIDE (98, A.P. Indy), Shamrock Farm	\$2,500	59/28	1/1	0/1	(Rockinonthewater, \$153,362)	\$1,173,529	234	7	1.05	1.23
12	SCIPION (02, A.P. Indy), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	45/26	0/0	0/0	(Pitch N Roll, \$125,605)	\$1,147,315	77	2	1.18	1.08
13	GATORS N BEARS (00, Stormy Atlantic)	Died, 2012	51/23	3/4	1/3	(Ju Ju Eyeballs, \$169,280)	\$1,027,899	144	5	1.08	1.22
14	SHOWING UP (03, Strategic Mission), Heritage Stallions	\$3,000	44/19	2/2	1/2	(Eye Love Jeanie, \$133,806)	\$789,837	*84	2	0.82	1.40
15	CHEROKEE'S BOY (00, Citidancer), Murmur Farm	\$2,500	29/11	0/0	0/0	(Who Dat Boy, \$66,680)	\$543,569	69	1	1.24	1.09
16	GREEK SUN (01, Danzig), Marathon Farm	\$1,500	17/11	0/0	0/0	(Periwinkle, \$69,002)	\$371,126	28	0	0.90	1.19
17	GO FOR GIN (91, Cormorant)	Pnsd	33/10	1/1	0/1	(Shaunna Alexandra, \$42,000)	\$272,592	*398	14	1.26	1.41
18	SEEKING DAYLIGHT (98, Seeking the Gold)	Died, 2009	11/6	0/0	0/0	(Queen Chatanika, \$43,102)	\$144,867	*201	1	1.32	1.34
19	M EIGHTY (99, Lite the Fuse)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Fran's Buckaroo, \$53,160)	\$122,396	13	0	1.27	0.91
20	MOJAVE MOON (96, Mr. Prospector)	N/A	11/3	1/1	0/1	(Moonsox, \$21,600)	\$70,480	186	5	0.82	1.18

has come the magnificent filly Princess of Sylmar, owned by Ed Stanco, who lives in Malvern, Pa., and he and the Houghtons have become close friends since Stanco sent his first horse to them in 2010.

"Ed had a Catienus filly, Storm Dixie, and he didn't want to run her anymore because she bled a couple of times," Betsy said. "We were recommended to him, and Ed called me and we said we'd love to have her. He sent her here the next week right from Todd Pletcher's barn. When she got here, she must have thought she was back at the races because it took us a while to get her to settle down. Then he sent another broodmare named Raise the Kitty, who Todd's father, J.J., said to definitely breed because she was by Kitten's Joy."

In 2010 Storm Dixie dropped a chestnut filly by Majestic Warrior that Stanco named Princess of Sylmar after the farm where she was born. It was Bernie who actually foaled her.

"Princess of Sylmar was wonderful right from the beginning," Betsy said. "Of course, we didn't know if she could run back then, but she was the sweetest, nicest filly to be around. She wasn't a big filly. When we were working her in June and July, we weren't going fast with her because Ronnie doesn't like to rush the 2-year-olds. But we did notice that every time she worked with another horse or two she was always going a whole lot better than they were. We got to thinking this filly can run a little.

'When we sent her to Todd Pletcher, we sent him a note that she had to have cotton in her ears. She was always scared of the noise when she was in the gate. We put her on the van, and stupidly we just didn't think of that. She didn't like all the clanging of the van, and we realized we had forgotten the cotton. We ran back and got some and put it in her ears and she was fine. We did tell Todd that she had been going better than everything else on the farm. Of course, I never thought she'd turn into what she did. She wasn't a big filly but was always a beautiful mover. We have another filly for Ed out of Storm Dixie, by E Dubai, and you can already see she's a beautiful mover. She just stands out."

Ronnie said of Princess of Sylmar, "Raising her from a foal, it's like watching your own child grow. You love to see them do well and behave and not have any problems, and then go on to be successful. And it's so nice to have Bernie train our horses and Robin in the office and Wendy coming over to use the track, and Michael having his own business and delivering hay and straw to the farm. We're very lucky and very blessed."

The Houghtons and Stanco have been a perfect match and have remained close through the highs and the lows. The latest low was Princess of Sylmar's uncharacteristically poor performance in the Breeders' Cup Distaff (gr. I) when it was obvious the filly was not herself and never put in her run.

"I think Ed should have gotten the owner of the year award just for being as wonderful as he is and doing the sporting thing by running in the Breeders' Cup," Betsy said. "He loves his horses and always wants to do the right thing by them and never rushes them. A year and a half ago Princess of Sylmar's brother by Honour and Glory broke his leg out in the field



Multiple grade I winner Princess of Sylmar is named for the Houghtons' farm

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2013 Leading Sires in West Virginia

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J			•	Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	lative	
Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E	Comp Index
_	Statituli (Futergii tuateu), (TOB,Site), Wilete Statius	Stuu Fee	WIIIS	WIIS	DIOW	(Giller Earlier, Earlilligs)	Latilliys	гиатъ	MIII 2	IIIuex	IIIuex
1	LIMEHOUSE (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$3,500	128/71	8/14	1/8	(Sandy'z Slew, \$112,423)	\$2,751,821	*312	18	1.25	1.25
_ 2	WINDSOR CASTLE (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$3,000	77/38	2/5	2/2	(Down Town Allen, \$113,860)	\$1,539,266	180	9	1.20	1.13
3	LUFTIKUS (96, Meadowlake), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$1,500	59/26	2/5	1/2	(Amherst Street, \$195,316)	\$1,231,654	261	9	1.03	1.10
4	BOP (97, Rahy)	Died, 2012	41/18	0/0	0/0	(Bomber, \$93,140)	\$663,557	*150	5	1.03	0.91
5	PRIZED (86, Kris S.)	Pnsd	48/19	0/0	0/0	(Premio Loco, \$91,948)	\$618,820	*752	30	1.37	1.32
6	FIBER SONDE (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	20/13	1/2	1/1	(Hidden Canyon, \$109,005)	\$609,826	34	2	1.39	0.72
7	REPARATIONS (96, Forty Niner), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,500	32/21	0/0	0/0	(Fast Punishment, \$69,335)	\$581,344	115	3	1.08	0.83
8	BLACK TIE AFFAIR (IRE) (86, Miswaki)	Died, 2010	47/19	0/0	0/0	(Marvelous Chester, \$64,010)	\$529,040	*914	38	1.28	1.40
9	DURING (00, Cherokee Run), O'Sullivan Farms	\$1,500	30/12	1/1	1/1	(Jake N Elwood, \$109,450)	\$488,437	151	4	0.86	1.18
10	YARROW BRAE (95, Deputy Minister), O'Sullivan Farms	\$750	22/12	1/2	0/1	(Margaret High, \$66,108)	\$463,510	278	10	1.13	1.01
11	PEAK DANCER (97, Mt. Livermore), Householder Farm	N/A	22/13	0/0	0/0	(Pacmango, \$53,710)	\$461,587	54	4	1.21	0.94
12	FEAR THE CAPE (01, Cape Town), Blue Spruce Farm	\$1,500	12/5	1/2	1/1	(Fear the Facelift, \$184,757)	\$352,011	22	1	1.25	1.00
13	PERUVIAN (92, Conquistador Cielo), Fox Run Stallion Station	\$2,000	4/3	1/4	1/1	(Saginaw, \$228,000)	\$297,089	85	2	1.02	0.87
14	GHOSTLY MINISTER (97, Deputy Minister), Buckstud	\$2,500	23/7	0/0	0/0	(Spooky Story, \$52,410)	\$252,271	59	1	1.01	0.97
15	MEDFORD (95, Meadowlake), Maple Valley Farm	Pnsd	24/8	0/0	0/0	(Perfect Cross, \$67,250)	\$250,665	85	1	0.65	0.82
16	DEVON DEPUTY (96, Deputy Minister)	Died, 2009	14/6	1/2	1/1	(Red Hot Diva, \$117,090)	\$236,755	50	3	0.75	0.76
17	PANA BRASS (92, Dixieland Brass)	Died	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Clink Clink Clink, \$79,440)	\$201,300	30	1	1.05	0.61
18	CIVILISATION (98, Gone West), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Follow the Whales, \$54,520)	\$199,466	165	0	0.60	0.71
19	GARNERED (98, Holy Bull), Naylee Farm	\$1,000	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Holy Boom, \$40,610)	\$198,685	64	0	0.72	0.73
20	FOOTNOTES (04, Storm Cat), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Just a Trick, \$55,906)	\$167,381	11	0	1.16	0.81
21	MESOPOTAMIA (93, Deputy Minister), Matilda Bay Farm	N/A	19/6	0/0	0/0	(Don'tmesswithallen, \$38,480)	\$152,024	106	2	0.72	0.99
22	DEPUTY ROKEBY (01, Deputy Minister), Shotwell Farm	\$1,000	12/6	0/0	0/0	(Ileen's Star, \$42,817)	\$148,031	*33	0	0.56	0.87
23	INNER HARBOUR (97, Capote), O'Sullivan Farms	N/A	10/6	0/0	0/0	(Balto More, \$53,595)	\$140,265	44	0	0.58	0.70
24	¶ DENIS OF CORK (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$4,000	7/2	0/0	0/0	(Celtic Moon, \$67,690)	\$134,375	14	0	0.94	1.35
25	PROSPECT BAY (92, Crafty Prospector)	N/A	15/4	1/1	1/1	(Practical Ideas, \$51,690)	\$129,278	275	8	0.94	1.49

as a baby. We have no idea how it happened. He was in a big field with six other horses he'd been with all his life. I had to call Ed, and that was the hardest call I ever made. He said, 'Betsy, I'm sorry you had to call me for it. Those things happen; that's horses and we just go on.' A lot of owners would want to know why and how it happened, but we didn't know. It happened in the middle of the night. Ed was so good about it and never complained. I love him dearly; I really do. He's been a wonderful person to know, as has his entire family.

"After the Breeders' Cup, Ed told me, 'Betsy, I still have her, and we're looking forward to this coming year with her.' He

had a good time at the awards and that's all that counts. I saw that she looked broken out in the (Santa Anita) paddock, and that's one thing she's never done before."

Despite the Breeders' Cup debacle, Stanco and the Houghtons still are on cloud nine after Princess of Sylmar's amazing campaign, in which she won two stakes at Aqueduct over the winter and then rattled off victories in the grade I Longines Kentucky Oaks, TVG Coaching Club American Oaks, Alabama Stakes, and Beldame Invitational Stakes, What has made her racing career even more special was her breaking her maiden at Penn National.

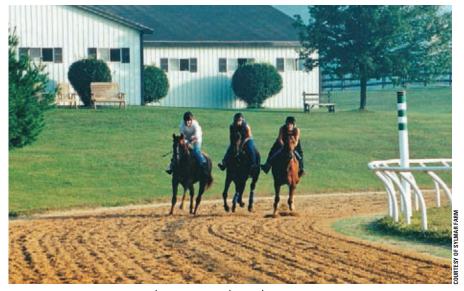
Ronnie has all her races on his cell phone and still watches them constantly, as if cherishing and reliving the dream.

"Just the other day I was sitting on the front porch, still wearing my coveralls, and was re-playing the Alabama, and it was such a pleasure seeing so many people enjoying her," Ronnie said. "I never saw a filly that drew a crowd around her like she did. When she was running, you couldn't move in the betting parlors around here. She's just a very popular filly, and people enjoyed everything she did."

The Houghtons have been around horses most of their lives and met in a pony club, in which they were members.

"My mother and father always had horses, and we did a lot of foxhunting, not so much racing," Betsy said. "I was born in Chestnut Hill, Pa., and Ronnie was born in New Jersey, but he's lived in Pennsylvania most of his life. We knew each for a long time. He rode steeplechase and timber races, and we sort of got together at that time. I would be at the races and watched him ride when he rode timber races."

After they were married in 1962, they lived in a small house in Camden, S.C., and kept several horses, mostly jumpers. During the summers they would head to Delaware Park, Belmont, and Saratoga. With two kids and Bernie ready to start school, they realized they needed a larger place and purchased a 59-acre farm near Rising Sun, Pa., not far from Fair Hill, Md. With the farm being located on Sylmar Road (which got its name because one end



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of the road was in Pennsylvania and the other in Maryland), they decided to name it Sylmar Farm.

They spent seven years there before expanding even further, purchasing a larger farm near Christiana. And being a corporation they kept the name Sylmar Farm.

"Our first farm was a beautiful place," Betsy said. "We built a training track and were breaking horses and training at the same time. We started getting so many yearlings to break, most of them owned by Ben Cohen, owner of Pimlico, we decided we needed a bigger place.

"We just had too many horses, and by then we were more into the flat horses. After seven years we just plain outgrew it. It wasn't big enough, and we couldn't expand on it. We found this place, which was 167 acres. Eventually the farm next to it came up for sale, which gave us a total of 300 acres."

Their first big break came when they began breaking horses for Robert Meyerhoff. Among the young future stars at the farm were major stakes winners Broad Brush, Concern, and Include.

"We loved Broad Brush," Betsy said.

"Bernie wasn't married yet, and he was the one who did everything with Broad Brush. When Broad Brush was here, he did all his early work in the woods. He would jump over the logs and trees and through the stream. Princess of Sylmar did the same thing. We've had so many horses by Broad Brush and the other big horses. We'd have 20-25 horses every year for Mr. Meyerhoff. He's cut way down, but we still have four colts and four fillies for him right now."

When Bernie grew older, he began riding steeplechase races, following in his father's footsteps.

"We didn't have Internet back then, so it was basically nothing but horses right in my face," Bernie said. "Dad was the trainer and I was the rider, and then I left to work as an assistant to Barclay Tagg. Barclay and Dad were roommates at Penn State, so he got me a job as assistant, and I worked there for about a year and then one day Dad called me and said, 'Look, I'm getting older and I don't feel like training these horses anymore. I don't want to go to the races. You want to do it?' And I told him, 'Yeah, I'll do it.' That's how I got started. Dad makes sure the horses get broken

2013 Maryland Sires by Winners

SireRnrs	Wnrs
E Dubai 195	106
Orientate	99
Not For Love 130	60
Dance With Ravens 118	57
Giacomo 109	57
Lion Hearted 102	45
Louis Quatorze	38
Outflanker	37
Two Punch72	32
Great Notion	29
Rock Slide	28
Scipion	26
Gators N Bears 51	23
Showing Up	19
Cherokee's Boy	11
Greek Sun17	11
Go for Gin	10

2013 Maryland Sires by Stakes Winners

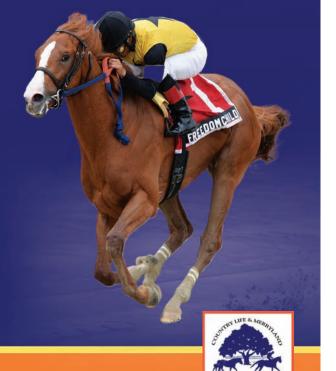
Sire	. Stks Wnrs	Stks Wins
Orientate	8	10
Giacomo	6	7
E Dubai	3	4
Gators N Bears	3	4
Great Notion	3	4
Outflanker	3	4

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2013 Leading Sires in New Jersey

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				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumı	ılative	
Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	DEFRERE (92, Deputy Minister), Walnford Stud	\$2,000	64/31	0/0	0/0	(Peri Whan, \$113,520)	\$1,403,445	*562	22	1.24	1.19
2	DON SIX (00, Wild Escapade), Greenfields Farm	N/A	30/16	2/2	1/2	(My Place Anytime, \$131,410)	\$811,840	67	2	1.25	1.21
3	MO MON (98, Maria's Mon)	Died, 2011	32/12	1/1	1/1	(Elba, \$116,485)	\$562,759	122	3	0.78	1.18
4	UNBRIDLED JET (96, Unbridled)	Died, 2011	21/11	1/1	1/1	(Pinot Grigio, \$102,838)	\$453,158	*250	9	1.04	1.25
5	PRIVATE INTERVIEW (92, Nureyev), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Tactical Saenz, \$79,925)	\$250,452	219	4	1.10	1.23
6	IRON DEPUTY (99, Silver Deputy), Walnford Stud	\$1,500	6/2	1/1	1/1	(Gunfighter, \$128,450)	\$213,590	26	2	1.57	1.30
7	PARK AVENUE BALL (02, Citidancer), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	13/4	0/0	0/0	(Park Avenue Appeal, \$66,960)	\$206,591	30	0	0.64	1.36
8	MASTER PHONE (94, Phone Trick), Red Valley Farm	\$2,000	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Smart Phone, \$37,110)	\$123,811	14	0	1.04	1.06
9	COZY DELL (97, Cozzene), Hidden Acres 4-D Farm	\$500	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Champagne Rain, \$73,375)	\$114,555	8	0	1.29	0.92
10	HEY CHUB (00, Carson City), Joe-Dan Farm	\$2,000	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Tubby Chub, \$38,775)	\$97,192	10	0	1.53	1.69

2013 Leading Sires in Virginia

				Stakes	Rstrct				Cumu	ilative	
Bank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Wnrs/ Wns	SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
	MR. EXECUTIONER (93, Deputy Minister)	Died, 2012	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Devlish Trix, \$12,670)	\$26,996	35	0	0.39	0.70
	2 CAPTAIN RED (97, Mr. Greeley), Morgan Mills	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Pitching Pennies, \$23,420)	\$24,391	28	0	0.85	0.98
	B BIG PICTURE (02, Pioneering)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Emily's Cabochon, \$18,057)	\$19,357	6	0	0.32	1.19
	4 UP PERISCOPE (00, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	4/0	0/0	0/0	(Surfing Up, \$13,400)	\$16,640	9	0	0.21	0.61
	5 PLEASANT DANCER (91, Pleasant Colony)	Died, 2012	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Ballet Dancer, \$11,845)	\$11,845	33	0	0.78	0.68

and legged up and then sends them to me when they're ready. I have 30 horses right now. The folks have about 10, and the rest are owned by clients.

"My sister-in-law Melissa had a nice horse we won four races with in allowance company. Mom had given her the mare and she bred the horse. We helped her out and I did the training."

One of Meyerhoff's homebreds, the 3-year-old colt Starry Moon, finished third in the Frank Whiteley Jr. Stakes at Laurel Jan. 4, and then romped by 11 lengths in a one-mile allowance race at Penn National Jan. 25.

Bernie had his best year ever in 2013,

winning 48 races for earnings of \$1.5 million. He won stakes with Classy Coco and Uptown Boy. So far, in 2014 he's run seven horses and finished in the money with five of them.

The Houghtons have about 150 horses counting broodmares, yearlings, and 2-year-olds. Of the 40 broodmares on the farm, they own 12. Their client list continues to expand. West Point Stable gave them a filly named Lioness of Hearts, by Lion Heart, who had come to the farm for a rest. But her ankles were in bad shape. and it was obvious she was not going to make it back to the races. The Houghtons said they would love to have her, and she's now in foal to Rockport Harbor.

One of their top mares is a homebred daughter of Bowman's Band named Outlaw Dancer, who won stakes at Parx Racing and Penn National. She is currently is in foal to Jump Start.

"When we bought this farm, we built everything," Betsy said. "We built a beautiful home, and there was a big cow barn by the house that we redid so you could ride inside. But all the other barns on the farm and the five-eighths of a mile training track we built ourselves."

An important member of the team is Kim Eshleman, who breaks the yearlings and has been with the Houghtons for 36 of the 37 years they've been in business.

For a Pennsylvania operation, the Houghtons certainly have had their hands on a number of grade I winners, raising and breaking the winners of the Breeders' Cup Classic, Santa Anita Handicap, Wood Memorial, Meadowlands Cup, Suburban Handicap, Pimlico Special, Arkansas Derby (then grade II), Californian Stakes, Kentucky Oaks, Coaching Club American Oaks, Alabama Stakes, and Beldame

They have fond memories of all of them, but they have a particularly soft spot in their heart for Princess of Sylmar and their friendship with Ed Stanco.

"The Princess has been quite an experience," Ronnie said. "The ride of a lifetime."

For Ronnie and Betsy Houghton, sharing the horses and their way of life with their family has also been the ride of a lifetime. BH



A number of grade I winners have gotten their start on Sylmar Farm's training track

The Stallions at ROCKRIDGE

New for 2014

Eclipse Champion
Sprinter

TRINNIBERG

By Teuflesberg

\$7,500

Winner of Four Graded Stakes incl., **Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1**



By Jump Start

\$2,500

Graded SW of 10 Races including the Philip H. Iselin S.-G3



BLUEGRASS CAT

By Storm Cat

Leading Sire in NY by Earnings, Winners & Repeat Winners

\$7,500



FUNNYBONI

By D'wildcat

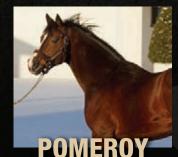
Five-time GSW at 2 & 3. 1st Yearlings in 2014 \$2,500



GIANT SURPRISE

By Giant's Causeway

Impressive Saratoga Debut Winner 1st Yearlings in 2014 \$2,500



By Boundary #2 by SWs #7 by Earnings

\$3,500

DOCCE

By Silver Deputy 3rd on the NY General Sires List, 2nd by Repeat Winners \$5,000

SOARING EMPIRE

By Empire Maker

GSW from the GSW Family of Verrazano, First Foals in 2014 \$3,500



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