

WEST COAST

# Going Greene

*Sue Greene continues her life with horses on Woodbridge Farm*

BY TRACY GANTZ

**SUE GREENE IS** a Thoroughbred racing evangelist. Besides relying solely on breeding and raising horses to make her living, she's on a mission to spread the word about racing's benefits—particularly to state leaders.

On one visit to Sacramento, Calif., with industry lobbyist Robyn Black to convince legislators of the value of the Thoroughbred industry, she took DVDs of the movie "Seabiscuit."

"Last Christmas I bought several boxes of the DVDs," said Greene. "We walked the floor, passing 'Seabiscuit' out to legislators to say, 'Here's a movie that talks about horse racing, a touch of history, and you get a feel of our industry.' I was surprised that some of them had never been to the races."

Greene has effectively turned a lifelong passion for horses into a career. She owns and operates Woodbridge Farm near Oakdale, Calif. She also has served as president of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association and continues on the board as its secretary.

Without question, Woodbridge is run as a business. But she lights up when talking about her horses, whether its Tannersmyman, the stallion she stands at Woodbridge for owner Jim Eaton, or one of the yearlings she has sold.

"(Trainer) Ron Ellis said that I could come see Sriracha Heat," said Greene of one of those yearlings, now a 2-year-old in Ellis' barn. "When I went to see him at Santa Anita,



Sue Greene, center, with Faye and Art Sherman

he came to the front of his stall and just buried his head in my chest."

Greene bred the son of Unusual Heat—Wild Reflection, by Wild Wonder, in partnership with Dave and Joyce Fastow. She sold the colt to Ellis last year for \$95,000 at the Barretts fall yearling sale.

Another California-bred 2-year-old from Woodbridge, Obey, became a stakes winner at Del Mar. Greene bred the daughter of Desert Code—Spring Vacation, by Wekiva Springs, with Glen Road Racing Stable. She sold the filly privately to trainer Sam Scolamieri for owner Ted Serna, keeping a small percentage "so that I can have some fun," Greene said.

When Obey captured the July 31 California Thoroughbred Breeders Association Stakes at Del Mar, Greene had to attend a rehearsal dinner for her nephew's wedding in an area without cell phone service.

Greene didn't let that deter her. Her 28-year-old daughter, Tiffany Davis, and a cousin accompanied her to a bar with Wi-Fi. Though the bar didn't get TVG, Greene was able to watch the race live on her cell phone.

Davis made the age-old plea to her mother not to embarrass her by cheering loudly. Greene promised to remain quiet.

"Well, I was until she hit the head of the lane," Greene (continued on page 98)



Obey winning the CTBA Stakes July 31 at Del Mar; at right, trainer Sam Scolamieri



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# Big Wins and High Expectations

for **UNUSUAL HEAT** and **HEATSEEKER** 2-Year-Olds!



BENOIT PHOTOS

**TDN Rising Star Pacific Heat (Unusual Heat)** set a :45.54 half-mile fraction on her way to a 13½-length Msw. victory. The Barretts October Sale topper (\$175,000) raised and sold by Harris Farms, was bred by Harris Farms and Donald Valpredo.



The short-priced favorite in his second start, **Record Highs (Heatseeker)** set all the fractions for his wire-to-wire, 3¼-length Msw. win at Santa Anita. The Harris homebred out of California champion **Super High**, is from his sire's first California crop.

## THE 2016 STALLION ROSTER

### UNUSUAL HEAT

*Nureyev – Rossard*

Leading Lifetime Sire in California has an average earnings per starter of \$92,848 and career progeny earnings of \$48,930,720. **Fee: \$20,000 LF**

### SMILING TIGER

*Hold That Tiger – Shandra Smiles*

Three-time **G1** winner of \$1.48 million currently has 71 reported foals (yearlings of 2016) in his first crop. **Fee: \$4,000 LF** (\$3,500 if booked by Jan. 1)

### CLUBHOUSE RIDE

*Candy Ride – Seeking Results*

**G2** winner of \$1.3-million won or placed in 11 graded races and is a complete outcross for **Northern Dancer**-line mares. **Fee: \$2,500 LF**

### TIZBUD

*Cee's Tizzy – Cee's Song*

11 six-figure earners include **Tiz Flirtatious** (G1, \$779,800), **Soi Phet** (\$512,796) and **Ambitious Brew** (\$338,380). **Fee: \$1,500 LF**

### LUCKY PULPIT

*Pulpit – Lucky Soph*

Nationally-ranked by 2015 AEI ahead of **Munnings, Lemon Drop Kid, Scat Daddy** and **Tiznow**. **Fee: \$7,500 LF**

### HEATSEEKER

*Giant's Causeway – Rusty Back*

Sire of graded winners in 2014 and 2015 on turf and dirt, including **Ryan's Charm**, a **G1** winner at 1 1/4 miles. **Fee: \$5,000 LF**

### DESERT CODE

*E Dubai – Chatta Code*

Second only to **Square Eddie** by 2-year-old average earnings per runner (\$31,875) among leading third-crop sires. **Fee: \$2,000 LF**

### LAKERVILLE

*Unusual Heat – Foreverinthegame*

Santa Anita stakes winner of \$318,910 ran a :20 4/5 final quarter at Del Mar and was bred to 40 mares his first year at stud. **Private Treaty**

*Racing Statistics through 10/24/15*



## Harris Farms

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## 2016 STALLION ROSTER



### A Top Twelve Active Sires by 2015 Cal-Bred Earnings

**MARINO MARINI** Storm Cat – Halo America, by Waquoit/ **\$2,500 LF**

- Outstanding 2015 season with SIX Stakes performers including Record-setting Graded performer **SWEET MARINI** (\$411,668), 1-2-3 in 10 of 14 starts incl. 1st \$200,000 Fleet Treat S. by 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lengths, 2014 NTR at LRC, 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>F in 1:01.95, 2015 2nd in \$200,000 **Grade 2** Santa Monica S., placed in **Grade 3** Rancho Bernardo H.); 2014 & 2015 SW **MARINO'S WILD CAT** (\$271,388), 8 wins incl. \$100,000 Harris Farm S. by 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lengths and Lost In the Fog S. in 1:08.92; 2015 SW **ROCK N BUNNY** and 2015 Stakes-placed winners **Silver Sensation**, **Chocolate Caliente** and **Tip Top Lady**.
- Sire of **12% Stakes Horses**, including **SHUDACUDAWUDYA** (\$336,859); **STARLIGHT MAGIC** (\$334,900); etc.

### California's #4 Juvenile Sire of 2015

**SOUTHERN IMAGE** Halo's Image – Pleasant Dixie, by Dixieland Band/ **\$2,500 LF**

- Sire of 2015 undefeated three-time SW **SMOKEY IMAGE** (\$187,000), four wins by a combined margin of victory of nearly 18 lengths, incl. \$150,000 I'm Smokin S. by 4+, Everett Nevin S. by 6+, and Cavonnier Juvenile S. by 2.
- First two California-sired crops incl. SW **BETTER BET** (\$306,372), on-the-board to **CALIFORNIA CHROME** 4-times, winner of the \$200,000 Golden State Juvenile S. besting **Grade 1** SW **TAMARANDO**; 2015 SPW **Image of Joplin**; etc.
- His first crop, now matured to eight, has average earnings over \$77,000 and has produced 11% \$100K+ earners, like **Grade 1** SW **SOUTHERN SPEED** (\$2.9 Million); **G1**-placed **CALIBRACHOA** (\$666,040); etc.



### California's Leading Second-Crop Sire of 2015

**THE PAMPLEMOUSSE** Kafwain – Comfort Zone, by Rubiano/ **\$2,500 LF**

- More than **13% Stakes Horses/Runners** in 2015, incl. **Thermodynamics** (\$98,370) – 2nd \$200,000 Melair S., and **Bullwinkle Babe** – 2nd Arizona Oaks.
- The #1 Freshman Sire outside of Kentucky in 2013, ranked among the Top Ten nationally with a seven yearling average over \$53,000.
- Yearling prices up to \$160,000 & 2YO prices up to \$105,000.
- Won 3 of 5 starts, including the **G3** Sham S. by 6L (**107 Beyer**) and **G3** San Rafael S. at one mile.
- Sire of **\$160,000 BARRETTS SALES TOPPING YEARLING** in his First Crop!

ALSO STANDING:

**Typhoon Slew**

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## HOME OF CALIFORNIA'S LEADING SIRES

### Three-Quarter Brother to AMERICAN PHAROAH's dam

**STORM WOLF** Stormin Fever – Exclusive Rosette, by Ecliptical/ **\$1,500 LF**

- Graded SW full brother to **G1**-performing GSW **MISTY ROSETTE**.
- Won 3 of 5 starts, including the **G2** Lazaro Barrera Memorial S. by 6L in **1:22 1/5**.
- Posted a **104 Beyer** breaking his maiden at Santa Anita and a **101 Beyer** winning an allowance there in 1:09 flat.
- 2013 juvenile sold for **\$95,000** at the Barretts March sale.
- Solid 65% winners/runners in first two crops incl. three-time 2015 Canadian SW **SWAYZE ROAD**, 2015 Stakes-placed winner **Vegas Bound**, etc.



### California's Leading Sire of 2015 Two-Year-Old Winners

**U S RANGER** Danzig – My Annette, by Red Ransom/ **\$3,000 LF**

- Sire of TWELVE 2-year-old winners – TEN Maiden Special Winners, EIGHT first/second start winners, 13 wins by a nearly 51 combined lengths.
- Graded Stakes Sire in each of his first two crops, sire of \$250,000 **Grade 3** Dixiana Bourbon SW **LAWN RANGER**; \$150,000 **Grade 3** Arlington-Washington Futurity SW **SOLITARY RANGER**; Australian **Group 3** SW **GET THE NOD**.
- Champion Miller by Sire of Sires **DANZIG**, o/o 3/4 sister to Leading Sire **DYNAFORMER** and half to dam of Eclipse Champion Sire **OFFLEE WILD**.

### Pedigree Powerhouse – First Foals Arrive in 2016

**NORTHERN CAUSEWAY** Giant's Causeway – Getaway Girl, by Silver Deputy/ **\$2,500 LF**

- Graded Stakes-Winning son of Three-Time Leading Sire **GIANT'S CAUSEWAY**, sire of 174 SWs, 308 SHs & earners of over \$140 Million.
- Out of a half-sister to Leading Sires **GHOSTZAPPER** and **CITY ZIP**, the sires of 112 SWs, 202 SHs & earners of over \$101 Million.
- **NORTHERN CAUSEWAY** is a Graded Derby winner from the foundation family that produces Breeders' Cup Classic & Kentucky Derby winners.



### 2015 West Coast Leading Freshman Sire

**SLEW'S TIZNOW** Tiznow – Hepatica, by Slewpy/ **\$2,500 LF**

- **Over 83% of his first twelve starters hit the board in their FIRST TWO STARTS!**
- Won on dirt and synthetic, including Del Mar's El Cajon S. at one mile by 3 lengths and Hollywood Park's War Chant S. at 1 1/16 miles in a **record 1:40.34**.
- Saratoga maiden winner and 2nd in Keeneland's **G1** Breeders' Futurity at two.
- In his final start, posted a **102 Beyer** in Hollywood Park's G2 Californian S.
- **1st Barretts 2YOs sold for up to \$92,000 – 36.8-Times His Fee!**

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FIRST CALIFORNIA CROP ARRIVES IN 2016

LEADING SIRE OF TWO-YEAR-OLD WINNERS IN 2015  
STANDING IN CALIFORNIA

## U S Ranger



- ◆ Sire of 12 juvenile winners in 2015 – 10 Maiden Special winners, 8 first/second start winners, 13 wins by a combined margin of nearly 51 lengths
- ◆ Graded Stakes Sire in each of his first two crops, sire of \$250,000 **Grade 3** Dixiana Bourbon SW **LAWN RANGER**; \$150,000 **Grade 3** Arlington-Washington Futurity SW **SOLITARY RANGER**; Australian **Group 3** SW **GET THE NOD**

### U S Ranger

- ◆ By Sire of Sires **DANZIG**, O/o 3/4-sister to **DYNAFORMER** & half to dam of **OFFLEE WILD**

2016 Fee: \$3,000

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Woodbridge Farm has been a horse farm since World War II



The wooden bridge that spans an irrigation canal

(continued from page 92)

said. “Then the whole bar was leaning over my shoulder. We’re watching the filly, and I’m crying—it was great.”

Obeys led from early in the 5½-furlong event and scored by three-quarters of a length.

Greene raised Cal-bred Autism Awareness, a son of Tannersmyman, for Eaton and partners. Autism Awareness went on to win the 2008 El Camino Real Derby (gr. III) and 2009 Berkeley Stakes (gr. III) en route to earnings of \$356,732 for owner Johnny Taboada.

With the late Paul Arndt Jr., Eaton raced stakes-winning Tannersmyman, a Kentucky-bred son of Lord Carson—Stanley’s Girl, by Deputy Minister. The stallion moved to Woodbridge after initially standing elsewhere in California, and his personality immediately endeared him to Greene.

“He has been an absolute joy to be around,” said Greene. “He’s an incredibly intelligent horse. He’s really kind in the breeding shed and extremely fertile. All of his horses have been real useful horses. They are very talented athletes.”

Offspring of Tannersmyman have also gone on to do well in the show ring as Grand Prix jumpers and dressage horses.

“This last year I bred a Friesian to him, and so he has a little Friesian baby that the people just love,” said Greene. “They are thinking of bringing another Friesian mare to him.”

Greene especially liked a Cal-bred yearling son of Tannersmyman—Generals Promise, by General Meeting, she sold for breeder Leigh Ann

Howard at this year’s CTBA Northern California sale of yearlings and horses of racing age. Greene raised the colt at Woodbridge, and Jim Atwell’s E-Racing.com bought him for \$42,000, the third-highest price of the sale.

“He was probably one of the nicest-looking Tanners and looked just like him,” said Greene. “I really hope this colt turns out to be something good.”

Woodbridge led all other consignors at the Northern California sale, with 19 selling for \$309,400. Greene’s group included Snow Proof, a Cal-bred son of Idiot Proof bred by Timothy O’Leary and raised by Ellen Jackson at Victory Rose Thoroughbreds. Snow Proof topped the sale at \$72,000.

Sales prep is just one of the services Greene offers at Woodbridge, a 64-acre breeding and boarding facility. Oakdale is located east of Modesto in California’s Central Valley, about 80 miles from the San Francisco Bay Area.

“This property has been a horse farm

since World War II,” said Greene. “It’s been raising good racehorses for many, many years.”

The acreage has changed hands several times, and Greene became associated with it in the late 1980s, when she managed what was then called Sunflower Farms for owner Tammy Moran. Greene and a couple of investors purchased the property in the late 1990s when Moran left the business.

Managing and eventually owning a horse farm were only two steps on the career path Greene has forged for herself.

“My parents love to tell the story that I could whinny and crawl before I started to talk,” said Greene. “Horses were always going to be what I wanted to do.”

Her parents didn’t come from a horse background. Her father, Don Greene, worked for Shell Oil, and his job required the family to relocate occasionally. Sue was born in Park Forest, Ill., outside of Chicago, and moved to the Bay Area when she was 5. Except for a year in Greenwich, Conn., when her father worked in New York City, she grew up near Berkeley during the hippie era.

“Horses saved my life, I’m sure, because I got involved in horses rather than all that business,” she said.

Pleas to her father to buy her a horse didn’t get Sue very far, but she rode as often as she could, pursuing the sports of competitive trail and endurance riding. She and a friend crewed for a competitor in the Tevis Cup, one of the most famous endurance rides in the country. It stretches over a 100-mile course that starts north of Lake Tahoe and west of the Nevada state line and heads southwest to Auburn, Calif.



Tannersmyman stands at Woodbridge

RON MESAROS PHOTOS

Sue wanted to compete in the Tevis Cup herself. She leased a horse and entered the Tevis Cup at age 18 in 1969.

"I told my dad that if I was going to ride in the Tevis Cup, I had to own the horse," said Greene.

In a sport that is dominated by Arabians, Greene's mount was a Thoroughbred-Appaloosa cross. Her father bought the horse and told Sue that she had to get a job to pay for the monthly expenses. She worked on the backstretch at Golden Gate Fields as a hotwalker and groom for such trainers as Earl Mitchell (Mike Mitchell's father), Skip Retherford, and Bruce Headley.

"All year my senior year in high school, we did competitive trail rides and a few 50-mile endurance rides," she said. "The Tevis Cup was going to be my first 100-mile ride."

At that time the race actually began at Lake Tahoe. Greene's friend was unable to finish the ride, but Greene completed it.

"That was a fascinating experience," Greene said. "I still have my Tevis Cup buckle, which I'm very proud of."

Greene attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, a school known for its agricultural program with a good equine management division. She graduated with a degree in animal science while taking every horse-related course possible, and one summer during college showed Arabians across the country.

After graduation Greene returned to the racetrack, working for Retherford and eventually managing his barn.

"I learned a lot—he was a great mentor," Greene said.

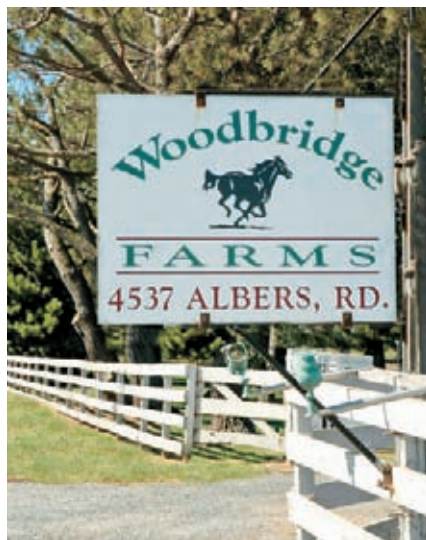
Retherford and Greene bought a farm together in Oakdale that they named Oak Knoll Farm. They stood a couple of stallions there, and Greene experienced running a farm for the first time.

After 12 years of working with Retherford in the 1970s and early 1980s, Greene struck out on her own and moved to Southern California. She owned and operated Eclipse Farm near Temecula for a year, but she preferred Northern California and soon returned.

She leased some property at first before the opportunity at Sunflower arose.

"I thought that it might be nice to get a paycheck instead of being self-employed," she said.

Sunflower was already producing runners such as Lady Maxine D., champion Cal-bred



Woodbridge Farm comprises 64 acres

2-year-old filly of 1985, and multiple stakes winners Misshigh Andmighty and Early Snow. Greene worked for Sunflower Farms for more than a decade, and after Greene bought the property, she converted it to Woodbridge Farm. She named it for a wooden bridge that spans an irrigation canal dividing the farm.

"We're on the highway that goes into Yosemite," said Greene. "We are surrounded by dairies in a wonderful agricultural belt."

Woodbridge's location has a more favorable water situation than many other California farms, allowing Greene to keep 58 acres in irrigated pasture. She has 52 stalls among the five barns. The nine-stall foaling barn has a closed-circuit camera system.

"I attend every birth," said Greene. "I don't feel comfortable leaving that to someone else."

Other amenities include a round pen



Greene with E-Racing's Jim Atwell, right

and a six-horse EquiGym panel walker. Five employees plus a person who helps during foaling season make up Greene's staff. Dr. Jody Hallstrom of nearby Pioneer Equine Hospital does the farm's veterinary work.

Most of the 100-150 horses that reside at Woodbridge year-round are clients' horses. Greene owns about 15 horses herself or in partnership, including Spring Vacation, Obey's dam; and Alpenwald. The latter, a daughter of Swiss Yodeler, has produced stakes winners Sherman Bartlebort and Potentiality, both by Tannersmyman.

In 2009, Greene received a call from the CTBA, inviting her to join its board of directors to fill a vacancy. She has served on the board ever since, being subsequently elected after the term expired.

"I was flattered," Green said. "Here was an opportunity for me to represent the little guy and make a difference. I think people's perception is that many of these groups are run by 'the elite,' and that's not really true."

Greene sees the CTBA's major roles as helping farms stay in business and providing incentives for people to breed quality Cal-breds.

"We can't afford to lose any more farms because they're not going to come back," she said.

She also cited the importance of programs such as the bonus for Cal-breds and California-sired horses that win maiden special weight races and the Golden State Series of stakes for Cal-breds and Cal-sired runners.

Because of her location, not far from Sacramento, Greene has been able to help Black, the CTBA's lobbyist, with visits to legislators. During California Agricultural Day at the state capitol last March, Greene brought a 20-year-old nursemare and an 18-day-old colt by Eddington to the CTBA booth. Legislators spent the day coming by to pet the foal and get their photo taken with him.

"There is such a magnitude of the population that is supported by horse racing," said Greene. "It's not just what you see at the track. It's the farms. It's the veterinarians. It's the guy who grows the hay. It's the truckers who are hauling horses around. A tremendous amount of jobs and labor are involved in getting these horses to the track." 