



# GREAT COMEBACK

*Tragedy leads to triumph  
for Barry and Sheryl Schwartz*

BY PAUL VOLPONI  
SKIP DICKSTEIN PHOTOS



**ON A RAIN-SWEPT AFTERNOON**, through a temporary window of calm, Barry K. Schwartz, 76, strides into the Belmont Park paddock. The oversized umbrella he carries remains furled and tucked beneath one arm. Schwartz has come to observe the fruits of his Stonewall Farm—a 2-year-old New York-bred filly sired by Scat Daddy about to make her racing debut.

At 750 acres Stonewall Farm is the largest parcel of open land in Westchester County. It is also home to Schwartz and his wife, Sheryl, with the couple residing there approximately six months out of the year.

“I got into racing in 1978. We bought the farm the very next year and have had horses there ever since,” said Schwartz, former CEO

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# 2018 LEADING SIRES IN NEW YORK



For daily updated sire lists visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2018 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>FREUD</b> (98, Storm Cat), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	147/64	5/9	1/5	(Fourstar Crook, \$911,400)	<b>\$4,903,488</b>	*1224	49	1.56	1.25
2	<b>BELLAMY ROAD</b> (02, Concerto), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$6,000	159/78	4/6	2/4	(Diversify, \$1,190,000)	<b>\$4,125,288</b>	*627	30	1.21	1.27
3	<b>FROST GIANT</b> (03, Giant's Causeway), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$5,000	114/60	4/4	4/4	(Giant Expectations, \$695,900)	<b>\$3,181,738</b>	*409	13	1.20	1.17
4	<b>MISSION IMPAZIBLE</b> (07, Unbridled's Song), Sequel Stallions New York	\$7,500	79/43	1/1	1/1	(Starlite Mission, \$114,920)	<b>\$2,253,492</b>	142	3	1.28	1.10
5	<b>BIG BROWN</b> (05, Boundary), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$6,000	134/54	2/3	0/2	(Hard Study, \$164,000)	<b>\$2,044,974</b>	*721	21	1.09	1.53
6	<b>COURAGEOUS CAT</b> (06, Storm Cat), Questroyal North	\$6,000	96/45	4/5	3/4	(Lady Joan, \$171,990)	<b>\$2,011,673</b>	189	5	1.01	1.13
7	<b>DESERT GIANT</b> (06, Street Cry), Irish Hill & Dutchess Views Stallions	\$2,500	94/47	2/2	2/2	(Party Like Grandma, \$139,900)	<b>\$1,886,283</b>	224	6	0.94	1.38
8	<b>BUSTIN STONES</b> (04, City Zip), Waldorf Farm	\$5,000	74/40	1/1	1/1	(Fair Regis, \$152,520)	<b>\$1,646,522</b>	198	7	1.30	1.38
9	<b>BOYS AT TOSCONOVA</b> (08, Officer), Questroyal North	\$2,500	33/21	2/3	2/2	(My Boy Tate, \$146,600)	<b>\$1,086,625</b>	62	2	1.31	1.23
10	<b>DISCO RICO</b> (97, Citidancer) Died, 2014	\$2,500	25/13	1/2	0/1	(Disco Partner, \$351,000)	<b>\$846,452</b>	268	12	1.40	1.20
11	<b>¶ CENTRAL BANKER</b> (10, Speightstown), McMahon of Saratoga Tbred	\$7,500	23/8	2/3	2/2	(Bankit, \$249,625)	<b>\$709,236</b>	70	2	1.48	1.27
12	<b>D' FUNNYBONE</b> (07, D'wildcat), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	32/17	0/0	0/0	(Wegetsdamunnys, \$88,770)	<b>\$630,981</b>	*77	2	1.09	1.26
13	<b>SOARING EMPIRE</b> (07, Empire Maker), Rockridge Stud	\$2,500	28/15	0/0	0/0	(Reason to Soar, \$110,675)	<b>\$619,811</b>	55	0	0.94	1.10
14	<b>TEUFLESBERG</b> (04, Johannesburg), McMahon of Saratoga Tbred	\$5,000	40/17	0/0	0/0	(Good Bye Greg, \$88,400)	<b>\$611,180</b>	128	4	1.31	1.11
15	<b>COSMONAUT</b> (02, Lemon Drop Kid) Pnsd		29/12	2/2	2/2	(Kreesie, \$168,608)	<b>\$577,846</b>	97	4	1.03	1.04

# 2018 LEADING SIRES IN NEW JERSEY

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2018 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>HEY CHUB</b> (00, Carson City), Joe-Dan Farm	\$1,000	19/11	2/2	1/2	(Brother Chub, \$139,695)	<b>\$548,911</b>	40	3	1.70	1.42
2	<b>DON SIX</b> (00, Wild Escapade), Greenfields Farm	Private	18/12	0/0	0/0	(Evil Monkey, \$95,073)	<b>\$388,245</b>	83	3	1.17	1.28
3	<b>DEFERERE</b> (92, Deputy Minister) Died, 2017		16/7	1/1	0/1	(Oak Bluffs, \$160,600)	<b>\$340,029</b>	*590	22	1.20	1.17
4	<b>IL POSTINO</b> (06, Distorted Humor), Colonial Farms	\$1,000	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Postino's Vow, \$60,320)	<b>\$211,046</b>	16	0	0.94	0.85

of Calvin Klein and chairman of the New York Racing Association from 2000-04. "We built the whole place up (including a Colonial-style residence that has graced the cover of *Architectural Digest*). The previous owners raised a lot of hay and some Holsteins, but it wasn't a horse farm, so the roads weren't there. There was no

fencing. No paddocks. We basically built it from scratch.

"A farm was something I always wanted, even as a kid. When I was a teenager, I went through Kentucky and visited Calumet. I remember the gates were open, and we just drove inside. No appointment. No tour. We just drove right in and looked

at the horses, some of the stallions. I really liked it and developed a great love of farms."

Of course, that has been Schwartz' method of operation throughout his life. No invitation. No standing appointment to wealth or success. Just the overwhelming desire to make something of himself, to work diligently at something he truly loved.

Schwartz grew up in the borough of the Bronx, in a one-bedroom apartment with his parents and sister. His father was a hard-working Harlem grocer, and for a while it looked as though the son might follow in his father's footsteps.

"I spent a lot of time in pool rooms (as a teen). I grew up in a neighborhood where the biggest vice wasn't crime; it was gambling," Schwartz said. "Everybody seemed to have some action going. Whether it was the racetrack, betting on sports, playing cards, shooting pool—everything was for money."

Schwartz met his future wife, Sheryl, on a blind date where the couple spent the



Stonewall Farm is the largest open parcel of land in Westchester County, N.Y.

**Special Note For Sire Lists:**

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the states featured in this section (stallions that are dead or exported prior to 2014 are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available statistics for the Northern Hemisphere through October 28, 2018. As supplied to *BloodHorse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems Inc., lists include adjusted money from Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Adjusted earnings are put on par with average North American earnings from the previous year. For example, the average North American purse in 2017 is \$22,593 or 47% of the 2017 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 47% before being credited to a sire's progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 15%; Singapore by 68%. Current year stakes winners include all Northern Hemisphere black-type stakes results from all available countries. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners include all countries.

\*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.

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2019**

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**AT 2 TDN Rising Star** in 4 1/2-length debut win  
**1st Marylander S.** in 2nd start

**AT 3 1st Holy Bull S.-G2** by 3 3/4 lengths  
(101 Beyer) defeating Champion Classic Empire  
**1st Wood Memorial S.-G2** by 3 1/2 lengths  
(101 Beyer) defeating Cloud Computing  
**2nd Belmont S.-G1**, by 2 lengths, after  
setting a pressured pace to 1/16th pole

**AT 4 1st Pimlico Special S.-G3** by 4 1/2 lengths



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## 2018 LEADING SIRES IN PENNSYLVANIA

For daily updated sire lists  
visit [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2018 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>JUMP START</b> (99, A.P. Indy), Northview PA	\$10,000	154/78	4/4	2/4	(Startwithsilver, \$174,900)	<b>\$4,346,248</b>	*1368	45	1.43	1.29
2	<b>WEIGELIA</b> (01, Safely's Mark), WynOaks Farm	\$3,500	41/29	2/2	2/2	(Smooth B, \$194,778)	<b>\$1,741,704</b>	*111	7	1.50	1.02
3	<b>DUBLIN</b> (07, Afleet Alex), Mohns Hill Farm	Private	69/36	0/0	0/0	(Dr Blarney, \$178,010)	<b>\$1,500,709</b>	171	2	1.05	1.19
4	<b>EL PADRINO</b> (09, Pulpit), Northview PA	Died, 2017	42/21	1/2	0/1	(Whereshetoldmetogo, \$231,320)	<b>\$1,191,633</b>	107	1	1.32	1.29
5	<b>FAIRBANKS</b> (03, Giant's Causeway)	Pnsd	45/17	1/1	0/1	(One Go All Go, \$363,550)	<b>\$1,022,440</b>	228	3	1.06	1.22
6	<b>TALENT SEARCH</b> (03, Catienus), Diamond B Farm	\$2,500	47/23	0/0	0/0	(Tara's Talent, \$86,760)	<b>\$927,373</b>	*144	2	1.03	1.22

## 2018 LEADING SIRES IN WEST VIRGINIA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2018 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>FIBER SONDE</b> (05, Unbridled's Song), Beau Ridge Farm	\$1,000	78/46	3/6	2/3	(Late Night Pow Wow, \$335,720)	<b>\$2,189,328</b>	210	10	1.24	0.80
2	<b>WINDSOR CASTLE</b> (98, Lord Carson), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$2,000	85/47	1/1	0/1	(William and Mary, \$111,691)	<b>\$1,327,438</b>	341	12	1.00	1.01
3	<b>LIMEHOUSE</b> (01, Grand Slam), O'Sullivan Farms	\$2,500	80/36	3/4	2/3	(Sandy'z Slew, \$217,805)	<b>\$1,294,147</b>	*445	23	1.18	1.15
4	<b>CHARITABLE MAN</b> (06, Lemon Drop Kid)	Died, 2016	73/39	0/0	0/0	(Martin Man, \$55,533)	<b>\$882,416</b>	170	2	0.90	1.04
5	<b>DENIS OF CORK</b> (05, Harlan's Holiday), Taylor Mountain Farm	\$750	54/30	1/1	1/1	(B's Wild Cork, \$77,750)	<b>\$875,203</b>	*127	5	0.71	1.07
6	<b>MR. SIDNEY</b> (04, Storm Cat), Beau Ridge Farm	\$6,500	33/19	1/2	0/1	(Lady Sidney, \$146,225)	<b>\$728,997</b>	118	1	1.00	1.75

evening at Long Island's Roosevelt Raceway, a prestigious harness track that operated from 1940 to 1988.

"I wouldn't say my dad was cold to horses," Schwartz said. "But he worked six days a week running the store. And in those days we didn't have Sunday racing. He was very smart, though, and taught me a lot about life and business. My father used to say about great pool shooters, 'Their skill was the outcome of a misspent youth.' But me, I'm just a decent pool shooter."

Schwartz sidesteps a paddock mud puddle before crossing the walking ring filled with freshmen fillies. He speaks for a while with trainer Todd Pletcher. Then Schwartz steps back, taking in the sight of the future Hall of Famer saddling his dark brown homebred.

The breeder/owner has spent a lot of time in the Saratoga winner's circle recently. His homebred Voodoo Song (by English Channel) won four races during the 2017 Saratoga meeting and this season stylishly captured the Fourstardave Handicap (G1T) in a catch-me-if-you-can front-running style that has built the 4-year-old colt an avid following among fans.

Schwartz still owns Voodoo Song's fleet dam, Mystic Chant (by Unbridled's Song).

Since the yearlings have shipped out, there are currently 27 mares, 20 foals, and several boarders (of close friends) at Stonewall Farm, which is managed by Peter Moore, a native of Ireland who has

been with the Schwartzes for 13 years and studied at the Institute of Technology, Carlow in his homeland.

"I can't tell you that I love to inbreed or that I love to outcross. It all depends on the horse. Peter Moore and I take a long time to discuss each mating. So I can't say that I have a singular philosophy about breeding," said Schwartz. "I'm still active at the sales. I go to Keeneland every year. But the horses we've raised have far outperformed the horses we've bought.

"I think that's because of the way they're being raised. Peter is really a top-class horseman. He's changed my philosophy on training the horses—how they're handled. Every foal is handled every day. There was a time I wanted them outside from day one, as soon as the mare recovered from foaling. To have them out in the summer. Now we get a lot of time indoors during the hottest days, and they get turned out at night. Peter really has a great touch in raising horses."

As the horses head onto the sloppy-sealed track, Barry Schwartz ascends a staircase to the owners' boxes where he meets Sheryl. Together they watch their horse splash away after the post parade, discussing her on-track appearance.

"My wife's not much on handicapping or reading the *Racing Form*. But she has a great eye for a horse," said Schwartz.

There is also a filly in the field sired by The Lumber Guy (2013 New York-bred Horse of the Year), who was a homebred

of Barry and Sheryl's, with his roots tied to Stonewall Farm as well.

Perhaps Stonewall Farm's most looked-after resident is 30-year-old retiree Boom Towner, a multiple graded winner who went to post 82 times, winning 29 races and nearly \$1 million for Schwartz.

"Boom Towner, he's the best," said Sheryl Schwartz. "He's like a dog that hears his owner coming home. He hears Barry's voice and his tail starts to swish."

Unfortunately, not every Thoroughbred is blessed with that type of longevity.

Belmont Park is where the couple endured their worst day in racing. It occurred in late June 1999, when their uber-talented sophomore filly Three Ring, winner of the grade 1 Acorn Stakes, was setting her sights on the New York filly Triple Crown. Tragically, she perished in a freak paddock accident while being saddled for the Mother Goose Stakes (G1). Three Ring is buried at Stonewall Farm, her grave marked by a small headstone.

The enduring couple, married for more than a half-century, has always been able to face the misfortune in their life and then build something positive from it.

"I remember my father would say, 'In the worst tragedy, there's always some good that comes out of it,'" said Barry Schwartz.

That axiom was mournfully put to the test when Schwartz' father, Harry, was murdered during an armed robbery in his grocery in the fall of 1964.

Less than four years later Barry

# Multiple **Grade 1 SW**

Won/Placed in **19 Graded Stakes** Earned **\$4,712,625**

**NEW for 2019**

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## 2018 LEADING SIRES IN MARYLAND

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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2018 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2018 Earnings	Cumulative			
								Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>GREAT NOTION</b> (00, Elusive Quality), Northview Stallion Station	\$5,000	94/55	7/10	5/7	(Ruby Notion, \$266,380)	<b>\$3,222,346</b>	313	19	1.53	1.22
2	<b>FRIESAN FIRE</b> (06, A.P. Indy), Country Life Farm	\$4,000	99/54	4/5	1/4	(Army Mule, \$266,400)	<b>\$2,953,901</b>	176	5	1.23	1.27
3	<b>NOT FOR LOVE</b> (90, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2016	70/36	0/0	0/0	(Stolen Love, \$93,520)	<b>\$1,437,781</b>	975	81	1.65	1.43
4	<b>ORIENTATE</b> (98, Mt. Livermore), Northview Stallion Station	Pnsd	62/35	0/0	0/0	(Sonic Boom E Jet, \$83,926)	<b>\$1,337,564</b>	*834	32	1.24	1.59
5	<b>STREET MAGICIAN</b> (04, Street Cry), Legacy Farm Stallions Stands at Roland Farm	\$3,000	58/24	0/0	0/0	(Up Hill Battle, \$86,803)	<b>\$1,218,547</b>	127	3	1.13	1.31
6	<b>REDEEMED</b> (08, Include), Northview Stallion Station	\$3,000	40/19	0/0	0/0	(She's Achance Too, \$99,843)	<b>\$906,103</b>	76	0	1.03	1.06
7	<b>PETIONVILLE</b> (92, Seeking the Gold), Murmur Farm	\$4,000	50/24	0/0	0/0	(Graves Island, \$73,874)	<b>\$700,699</b>	*741	42	1.26	1.26
8	<b>FREEDOM CHILD</b> (10, Malibu Moon), Country Life Farm	\$3,000	26/15	1/1	0/1	(Limited View, \$89,750)	<b>\$682,492</b>	55	1	1.35	1.40

Schwartz loaned close friend, and then unknown, designer Calvin Klein \$10,000 to start a fashion business. Not long after, Harlem became racked by civil unrest due to the April 4, 1968, assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis, Tenn.

As the intense heat of the summer raised tensions in the neighborhood, the Harlem Riots (July 16-22) saw looters destroy the supermarket Schwartz had looked after since his father's passing.

"I was glad to be out of that business. I hated it," said Schwartz. "Martin Luther King was killed three weeks after Calvin and I opened up the company. When the store was wrecked and everything was looted, I looked at it as an opportunity to do something different, to join Calvin in the fashion business full-time. Losing Martin Luther King was a horrible national tragedy. But it actually set the course of my life."

As the field of runners breaks from the starting gate, the Schwartzes become intensely focused on their filly's progress. She's away well and pressing the early pace, while racing in between horses.

The chatter between her breeders is constant as the filly, who received her education at Stonewall Farm, is now vying for the lead.

The term "broken" is never used at Stonewall Farm. Instead, the yearlings are "educated."

Racehorses thrive on their spirit, and that's something the Schwartzes and Moore never want to discourage.

A yearling's education at Stonewall begins with a saddle blanket. Then a practice girth. It advances to a bit and a bridle before being driven under harness. Finally, a saddle and a rider are placed upon its back. It's a steady and balanced progression of learning what will be expected of

them on the racetrack.

Moore has been responsible for raising four grade 1 winners—Affirmed Success (when he worked for owner/breeder Albert Fried), and from Stonewall Farm—The Lumber Guy, Princess Violet, and Voodoo Song.



Sheryl and Barry Schwartz at Saratoga

As the field advances toward the far curve of the one-turn mile event, the Schwartzes' filly begins to tire, and their black-and-white-halved silks lose ground. The couple watches the remaining few furlongs, dealing with the disappointment of the impending off-the-board finish.

Barry Schwartz designed his own silks. He had originally asked Klein to do it, but the designer was too busy getting ready with an emerging line. So Schwartz patterned the silks after his partner's early black, white, and gray showrooms.

"The TV in the boxes aren't synced up to what's happening out on the racetrack. There's a slight delay. That's not good. I wonder if anyone at NYRA realizes that?"

pondered Schwartz, the consummate businessman, putting himself in the place of the customer.

Barry Schwartz was the CEO of Calvin Klein for 35 years.

"People always wanted to know what made me qualified to sell dresses and jeans. Well, business is business. It doesn't matter what you sell. My father taught me that," said Schwartz. "Toward the end (at Calvin Klein), I knew it wasn't exciting anymore to me. At that point I had just become chairman of NYRA, and it was very exciting. I was working six days a week and loved every minute of it. I reached out to the fans. They told us what they wanted. We lowered the takeout dramatically and changed to colored saddle cloths. We did lots of little things, too, through feedback we got from running online polls."

The just-concluded race was a high-priced claiming event. So when the slopsplattered runners make their way back to the front side of the racetrack, Barry Schwartz watches closely to see if his filly has been claimed away.

The answer is no. She still belongs to her breeders.

"He hasn't changed at all from the day I met him," said Sheryl. "His values have always remained constant. He has been faithful and loyal to people to a fault. And he's instilled incredible values in our two children."

As the Schwartzes get ready to leave the racetrack and return to Stonewall Farm before an upcoming extended trip to California, the rains begin to fall again. Not to worry. The umbrella Barry Schwartz had been dutifully toting for the past half-hour is big enough for two. **BH**

*Paul Volponi is a freelance writer based in New York.*

# PEACE AND JUSTICE

WAR FRONT - STRIKE THE SKY, SMART STRIKE | 16.2 HH

## THE FASTEST SON OF WAR FRONT

STANDING IN PENNSYLVANIA

Winner from Coast to Coast  
incl. a **5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Length Romp @ SA** &  
was named a **"TDN RISING STAR"**

Wire-to-wire Mile Victory Over **G1W DRILL**  
3/5 Sec. Off **HOY WISE DAN's** Course Record  
**1:32.36 (22.47, 44.55, 1:08.05, 1:20:20)**

Ran Multiple **96+ Beyers**

1/2 Brother to **G2W HUDSON STEELE**  
and the dam of **G1P My Man Sam**

**1st-crop** will be yearlings in 2019



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at Northview Stallions PA open house!

**\$100,000  
BONUS**

to the breeder of his first  
non-restricted stakes winner  
in his crop of 2020 foals.

\*see website for details

Standing At

 **Northview PA**  
A Division Of Northview Stallion Station

163 Little Britain Church Road | Peach Bottom, PA 17563

\$3,500 LFSN

[PeaceAndJusticePA.com](http://PeaceAndJusticePA.com)

Paul O'Loughlin: 443.566.2996 | Property of A1A Racing