

# Midwest/Canada

CANADA ILLINOIS INDIANA IOWA MICHIGAN MINNESOTA  
NEBRASKA NORTH DAKOTA OHIO SOUTH DAKOTA WISCONSIN

## *From the Ground Up*

**With Blazing Meadows,  
horseman Tim Hamm  
enjoying success  
in Ohio and beyond**

BY MEREDITH DAUGHERTY

**IN THE LIFE** cycle of any construction project, there always are five key phases: initiation, planning, implementation/execution, performance/monitoring, and closing.

While there always are unforeseen variables—setbacks, changes in design or direction—each piece is necessary to ensure that the final product, once completed, is successful.

For trainer Tim Hamm, this model is as familiar as the steps are reliable. The former owner and operator of a successful construction company, Hamm has spent a lifetime moving from one phase to the next, building a career in the Thoroughbred industry that has helped him, his partners, and their horses reach the highest peaks of the game.

### **INITIATION**

A native of Ohio, Hamm did not grow up with any particular designs on becoming a Thoroughbred trainer.

Growing up on his family's farm, he spent most of his youth helping his parents raise Arabians and showing Saddlebreds. Through the week he'd help his father, who worked full time for General Motors, train a



**Tim Hamm's first purchase broke her maiden by nearly 10 lengths**

handful of horses he ran at nearby Mountaineer Park in West Virginia.

While Hamm's father would campaign close to 100 winners in his lifetime, Hamm drifted away from horses in high school as his interests shifted to football. He pursued the sport through college at Youngstown State, from which he graduated in 1989 with a business degree before going on to start his construction company.

But in the early 1990s, with his business off the ground, and having a little disposable income waiting to be spent, Hamm decided that a return to his equine roots was finally—and fiscally—in the cards.

"I just decided at one point that I needed to buy a young racehorse, so we did," Hamm said.

### **ADVERTISERS' INDEX**

Raimonde Farms LTD ..... 55



“The sport of horse racing provides excitements and adrenaline rushes that I hope all aspiring owners can one day feel. The beauty of the equine athletes mixed with the thrill of competition provides an experience that is hard to beat.”

WALKER HANCOCK  
CLAIBORNE FARMS  
TOBA Member since 2014



**#TeamTOBA**

Join our team of owners and breeders at [toba.org](http://toba.org)

THOROUGHBRED OWNERS AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

859-899-8480



## 2020 LEADING SIRES IN OHIO

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

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2020 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>ITSMYLUCKYDAY</b> (10, Lawyer Ron), Maro Veterinary Services	\$2,000	96/53	0/0	0/0	(R U Lucky, \$122,480)	<b>\$1,632,608</b>	170	2	0.92	1.08
2	<b>COWTOWN CAT</b> (04, Distorted Humor), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	41/24	0/0	0/0	(Flora Fantasy, \$132,650)	<b>\$1,213,989</b>	234	5	1.16	1.16
3	<b>INDY WIND</b> (02, A.P. Indy)	N/A	12/5	1/5	0/1	(Starship Jubilee, \$921,682)	<b>\$1,074,464</b>	84	2	1.53	0.99
4	<b>DANZA</b> (11, Street Boss), Fair Winds Farm	Private	70/32	2/2	0/2	(Pitching Ari, \$111,077)	<b>\$1,042,161</b>	126	2	0.66	0.93
5	<b>MOBIL</b> (00, Langfuhr), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	34/16	1/2	1/1	(Mobil Solution, \$202,030)	<b>\$1,039,168</b>	*212	6	1.27	1.26
6	<b>FORT LARNED</b> (08, E Dubai), Duncan Farms	\$2,000	54/28	0/0	0/0	(Sir Sahib, \$84,520)	<b>\$962,237</b>	*155	2	0.90	1.29
7	<b>DRILL</b> (09, Lawyer Ron), Raimonde Farms	\$2,500	53/23	1/1	1/1	(Drillit, \$137,560)	<b>\$957,373</b>	91	1	0.91	1.01
8	<b>BIONDETTI</b> (08, Bernardini)	N/A	51/21	0/0	0/0	(Strike That, \$199,408)	<b>\$862,093</b>	147	1	0.77	1.25
9	<b>AWESOME PATRIOT</b> (08, Awesome Again)	N/A	62/21	0/0	0/0	(Motayammen, \$105,866)	<b>\$736,196</b>	*202	1	1.01	1.02
10	<b>KETTLE CORN</b> (07, Candy Ride), Fair Winds Farm	\$2,500	34/17	0/0	0/0	(Corn Off the Cob, \$96,530)	<b>\$722,831</b>	67	0	0.91	1.17
11	<b>KISS THE KID</b> (03, Lemon Drop Kid)	Died, 2020	11/4	1/1	1/1	(Extravagant Kid, \$224,996)	<b>\$450,978</b>	57	1	1.21	1.43
12	<b>CORFU</b> (11, Malibu Moon), Duncan Farms	\$1,500	18/6	0/0	0/0	(Cory Gal, \$164,400)	<b>\$373,429</b>	40	0	1.03	0.93
13	<b>CITY WEEKEND</b> (02, Carson City), Meadow Springs	\$2,000	22/13	0/0	0/0	(Ting Tang, \$78,821)	<b>\$332,209</b>	119	1	0.74	0.93
14	<b>MEDAL COUNT</b> (11, Dynaformer), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	44/16	0/0	0/0	(Hissy Missy, \$61,752)	<b>\$314,016</b>	79	0	0.36	0.89
15	<b>TIDAL VOLUME</b> (06, Tapit)	N/A	28/9	0/0	0/0	(Mustang Willie, \$38,744)	<b>\$286,213</b>	80	0	0.57	0.79

Hamm made the trip to Ocala for the 1994 Ocala Breeders' Sales' spring sale of 2-year-olds in training sale where he purchased a filly named Willow Proof for \$13,500. When he was informed that the filly's Pennsylvania-bred status meant she could earn more money in her birth state, Hamm sent her to Philadelphia Park where she made her debut July 25 of that same year.

"I just wanted to have fun with her, but she won her first out by close to 10 lengths at Philadelphia Park and that spurred my interest even more," Hamm said. "It just went on from there."

## PLANNING

Riding high on what he would now describe as beginner's luck, Hamm returned to OBS in 1996 where he purchased four more fillies who went on to stakes success. Working with his brother Tom, who acted as his assistant trainer, they expanded the program and the wins continued to roll in.

With so many hard-knocking fillies in his barn, Hamm decided it was time to invest in a larger training space and eventually purchased a property in Florida that would become what is today Blazing Meadows Farm.

"From early on, I think from '95 when I bought the training center in Florida, we have broken all our own horses," Hamm said. "We've probably had a couple of horses over the past years that have come from

other places, but we break them all and start them from scratch. That was something we really did from early on—breaking the babies and getting them ready to run. I like doing it all."

Taking a page from his experience as a successful businessman, Hamm made the decision early to partner on as many horses coming through his program as possible. While the arrangement was practical in terms of spreading the risk and costs that accompany training racehorses, it also functioned as a networking

tool. Working to make a name for himself on the backstretch, Hamm quite literally offered to put his money where his mouth was to attract clients with horses to train.

"I didn't come up under a big name, so it became the issue at first of if you want to train horses, you have to own them," said Hamm. "I'm not sure how many people are going to knock your door down to ask you to train their horses until you can prove that you can do it."

"After I started training the horses we owned, we had enough success doing that that to me, I like partnering because I like to make that financial investment. It's like investing in stocks or real estate. I like to put my money in and be able to enjoy the upside with my clients. That has become my philosophy. Of course, now we have a lot of outside clients who also do not partner on horses so we do both, but I'm not afraid to partner on a horse."

Those partnerships, which encompass nearly 85% of horses under Hamm's care, set the trainer apart from his competition and continue to inspire a certain confidence in clients looking to extract the greatest possible return on investment.

"When your trainer has a vested interest in the horses he trains, you know he will do right by you," said John Engelhardt, former executive director of Ohio Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders. "And you know if he feels strongly enough in



Tim Hamm, with his father, Ed, at Belterra Park near Cincinnati, Ohio

JOHN ENGELHARDT

# 2020 LEADING SIRES IN CANADA



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

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2020 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>FED BIZ</b> (09, Giant's Causeway), HIGHFIELD	\$4,000	153/86	3/4	1/3	(Inthemidstofbiz, \$269,650)	<b>\$3,299,080</b>	*272	9	1.03	1.32
2	<b>POINT OF ENTRY</b> (08, Dynaformer), Adena Springs North	\$7,500	135/59	5/5	0/5	(Emro, \$261,400)	<b>\$2,959,745</b>	*258	10	1.21	1.70
3	<b>SILENT NAME (JPN)</b> (02, Sunday Silence), Adena Springs North	\$7,500	106/38	4/6	2/4	(Silent Poet, \$353,762)	<b>\$2,553,439</b>	*462	27	1.46	1.25
4	<b>OLD FORESTER</b> (01, Forestry), T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm	\$4,000	91/33	4/7	3/4	(Pink Lloyd, \$268,387)	<b>\$2,027,661</b>	484	21	1.44	1.41
5	<b>SOUPER SPEEDY</b> (09, Indian Charlie), T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm	\$5,000	61/28	1/1	1/1	(Checkerboard Floor, \$112,675)	<b>\$1,508,422</b>	107	7	1.87	1.52
6	<b>SOCIETY'S CHAIRMAN</b> (03, Not Impossible)	N/A	44/17	0/0	0/0	(Last American Exit, \$105,312)	<b>\$870,181</b>	104	6	1.81	1.31
7	<b>MILWAUKEE BREW</b> (97, Wild Again)	Pnsd	53/21	1/1	1/1	(Dragon's Brew, \$182,253)	<b>\$748,104</b>	*622	25	1.16	1.38
8	<b>SIGNATURE RED</b> (06, Bernstein), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$5,000	35/17	0/0	0/0	(Red Hierarchy, \$99,950)	<b>\$631,773</b>	93	5	1.44	1.06
9	<b>FRAC DADDY</b> (10, Scat Daddy), Park Stud	\$5,000	29/11	1/1	0/1	(Derzkii, \$98,407)	<b>\$598,565</b>	52	1	1.42	1.17
10	<b>BIG SCREEN</b> (09, Speightstown), Spring Farm	\$3,000	34/12	1/1	1/1	(Told It All, \$110,810)	<b>\$558,684</b>	44	2	1.06	1.34

his ability to break and train and campaign a horse that he is willing to partner, he is doing whatever he can to keep that horse safe and help it succeed. I've never seen anyone partner on horses with the number that he's done."

## EXECUTION/IMPLEMENTATION

In the late '90s Hamm established a branch of Blazing Meadows Farm in Ohio, hoping to parlay his on-track success to the breeding shed while taking advantage of the lucrative state program.

Among his first broodmares was one of those fillies purchased in 1996, Rose Colored Lady, who produced four stakes winners from her first four foals for Hamm, including Too Much Bling (by Rubiano).

Hamm would campaign Too Much Bling through his first two starts before selling the majority share to Stonerside Stable who placed him with trainer Bob Baffert. A grade 2 winner, Too Much Bling was named Ohio Horse of the Year in 2006. He remains among the leading sires in Texas.

With his breeding program in full swing, Hamm was still running his construction business and training part time on the side. Conditioning horses to run primarily in Ohio and Pennsylvania, Hamm

continued to rake in the wins.

Still a frequent visitor to the sales, he continued to pinhook young horses.

Among those to pass through Hamm's hands was Wait a While (by Maria's Mon), who was purchased for \$50,000 at the 2004 Keeneland September yearling sale. Offered the following year under the Blazing Meadows banner at the OBS selected 2-year-olds sale, she was purchased for \$260,000 by Ocala Horses.

Campaigned by Arindel and trained by Todd Pletcher, Wait a While earned Eclipse Award honors in 2006 as champion 3-year-old filly.

While he sells the occasional horse through the ring at a 2-year-old sale, Hamm's main model, like he had done for Too Much Bling, became to campaign many of his talented runners through their first few starts on the track before selling

them to new ownership.

"We have a lot of young horses, but we typically keep a lot of the stakes horses in Ohio," Hamm said. "We sell a lot after their maiden win or a stakes win. It's just part of the business plan as well. A lot of people sell their horses as yearlings, but we prefer to take them to the races first. We want to be able to sell our young horses when they show promise."

Despite the demands of balancing his entrepreneurial efforts in construction with his love of training, it wasn't until 2007 that Hamm decided it was time to hang up his hard hat for good.

"We've always had a lot of good help, and I was always able to take my mornings and get to the track so I could hold it all together," Hamm said. "But at some point it becomes too much, so I decided it was time to go all-in on the horses."

## 2020 ILLINOIS SIRES BY WINNERS

<b>Sire</b> . . . . .	<b>Rnrs</b> . . . . .	<b>Wnrs</b>
Forest Attack . . . . .	33 . . . . .	14
Ghaaleb . . . . .	20 . . . . .	13
Road Ruler . . . . .	25 . . . . .	9
Well Positioned . . . . .	16 . . . . .	8
Three Hour Nap . . . . .	14 . . . . .	5
Hero's and Crooks . . . . .	8 . . . . .	5
Country Be Gold . . . . .	11 . . . . .	3
Smoke Warning . . . . .	6 . . . . .	3
Live From Appollo . . . . .	3 . . . . .	3



# DRILL

First Ohio Foals Arriving NOW!



2021 Fee \$2500 LFSN  
SPECIAL CONSIDERATONS  
TO APPROVED MARES.  
MULTIPLE MARE DISCOUNTS

GRADE 1, 2 & 3 WINNER  
PRECOCIOUS G1 DEL MAR FUTURITY WINNER  
WINNER OF OVER 1/2 MILLION DOLLARS  
DURABLE WITH 28 CAREER STARTS  
SIRE OF DRILLIT, HE'S SMOKIN NOW, AND R PREROGATIVE - ALL 2020 STAKES HORSES  
PROGENY EARNINGS OF NEARLY \$2.5 MILLION DOLLARS



Contact: Brian Raimonde 330-621-6531

2017 South Elyria Rd. Wooster, Ohio 44691

## PERFORMANCE/MONITORING

Once able to devote all of his resources and attention to horse racing, Hamm doubled down on his efforts to expand his breeding and training business. His ability to identify or breed young stakes winners consistently in Ohio caught the attention of central Kentucky-based WinStar Farm.

For years Hamm had been doing business with the commercial farms, sending his mares to their stallions during the breeding season before returning them to foal out in Ohio. They offered Hamm a chance to partner on a handful of mares, and later, expanded that partnership to include stallion National Flag (by Speights-town). The 6-year-old stood the past three seasons at Blazing Meadows Farm at Meander Creek in Ohio.

The partnership branded their alliance WinBlaze.

“I think this is now the fourth or fifth year running that we have had the 2-year-old champion in the state of Ohio,” Hamm said. “We’ve had a lot of success doing that.

“Ohio has two levels of Ohio-breds. You have the Ohio-foaled, which means that the stallion stands anywhere; or you have Ohio-accredited, where the stallion and the mare are both in the state. Because WinStar had access to National Flag, we felt that he would make a very good accredited stallion to stand in the state. That being said, we decided that if we were to stand him, we needed to purchase mares to support him so we purchased 15 mares for him specifically.

“Twenty-five percent of the money in the Ohio program is restricted to accredited-breds. They’re eligible for 100% of the money, and they can run in any open race they want. The stallion gets a 10% bonus too, so if any of the babies win, there are stallion awards as well as broodmare awards. So if a horse makes \$20,000, the stallion gets \$2,000 so that is added incentive to stand stallions in the state. It’s just a really good program, and WinStar jumped in full go once they got to experience it a little bit and see the rewards.”

## 2020 INDIANA SIRES BY WINNERS

Sire	Rnrs.	Wnrs
Notional	64	27
Ready's Image	42	22
Unbridled Express	38	21
Fort Prado	37	15
Victor's Cry	36	15
Sangaree	24	12
Hunt Crossing	29	11
Duke of Mischief	24	10
Greeley's Conquest	22	10
Pass Rush	22	10

“That’s a huge advantage to have those horses running in the Ohio program,” said Engelhardt. “It reflects well on Ohio and speaks to Tim and WinStar’s foresight that they are taking advantage of this. I think it’s great that WinStar has put their faith in him. Tim has a lot of business acumen and that is important. There are really good trainers out there, but sometimes, all they know is the horse and not how the horse business works. Tim sees it from ‘Go’ to ‘Woah.’”

## CLOSING

In addition to WinStar, in recent years Hamm also has partnered with operations such as Three Chimneys Farm, where his brother, Tom, is director of stallion seasons; and Fred Hertrich III of Watercress Farm. In 2015 he entered into yet another concord with Anthony Manganaro, Ignacio Patino, and David Pope’s Siena Farm, for whom he has trained a handful of yearlings each season and campaigned on a 50/50 partnership share.

“It was actually through Taylor Made that we met,” Pope said. “Taylor Made consigns our yearlings for us, and we happened to have a filly that wasn’t a ‘sales horse,’ but we felt like she deserved a chance to see if she could be a real race horse. Taylor Made suggested to us that we talk to Tim about doing a deal, and the rest is history.


“The dynamics of the yearling sales is that the market will be hot on some horses and not on others. But when you work with your yearlings, sometimes they show you something that makes you think they really deserve a chance. Realistically, we know that the vast majority of horses might not be that good, but you don’t know until they get to a track.”

Siena and Hamm’s most recent young runner has been among the most successful. Named Dayoutoftheoffice, the now 3-year-old daughter of Into Mischief gained acclaim at 2 when she won the Schuylerville (G3) and Frizette (G1) stakes. She finished 2020 with a close second in the Breeders’ Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) and will likely make her next start in a prep race for the Longines Kentucky Oaks (G1).

“She was part of a group of three we sent to Tim that year,” Pope said. “When I was in Ocala, you could see that Tim was high on her. When you get horses like her, it makes sense to give them to a trainer like Tim.

“The best part about being a partner with him has been being able to share in his success. With Dayoutoftheoffice being his first grade 1 winner, we know when he has that type of success that we get to stand there next to him. When you have that kind of opportunity like we have with him where you can structure a deal to be a win-win, you can’t go wrong.”

Busier than ever, Hamm finds his free moments are rare and precious. With more than 98 juveniles at the training center—of which nearly 20 are homebreds—and a new racing year on the horizon, Hamm’s program has been structured for future success.

“The Ocala farm is 70 acres and 104 stalls. We do a lot out of it here,” Hamm said. “We broke nearly 100 yearlings this winter, and it’s all going well. We have about 60 older horses that are legging up and in different stages ready to go back to the tracks, so we have a lot going on. It’s exciting times.” 

### Special Note For Sire Lists:

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in the selected region (stallions that have died or been exported prior to the 2015 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. Listed below are all available Northern Hemisphere statistics through December 31, 2020. As supplied to *The Blood-Horse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems, Inc., earnings 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 2019 is \$25,300 or 53% of the 2019 average purse in Japan. To put earnings on par, all Japanese progeny earnings are multiplied by 53% before being credited to a sire’s progeny earnings. Hong Kong earnings are adjusted by 17%; Singapore by 85%. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled black-type stakes winners worldwide. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners include all countries. (A ¶ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race).