



Country Life Farm's
"Virtual Preakness Party"
and short film of the Farm's past and present
on Facebook Live, Thursday, Oct. 1, 6:00 p.m.
...watch to the end for a chance to win 2 tickets to the 2021 Preakness



CARRYING ON A MARYLAND TRADITION

When 1961 Kentucky Derby winner Carry Back rolled into Pimlico as favorite for the Preakness Stakes, he was coming home to Maryland. It was here in 1957 at Country Life --- Maryland's oldest Thoroughbred farm --- that Carry Back's mother Joppy was bred to his father Saggy, a locally famous runner who handed 1948 Triple Crown winner Citation his only loss as a 3-year-old.

At Pimlico on the Thursday before Carry Back's Preakness, out-of-town reporters covering the Triple Crown appeared in need of Maryland hospitality, so Joe and Mary Jo Pons invited them to drive 20 miles "up country" to Country Life Farm.

A true Mom-and-Pop operation, Country Life invited not only the working Press, but also all the major and minor breeders in the state, including competitors. The Party brought together people who all had in common a high regard for Thoroughbred racing and breeding: Horsepeople.

In the following years, the Thursday-before-Preakness quickly became known as the night of The Preakness Party at Country Life. Luminaries such as Jack Whitaker, Win Elliot, and Red Smith arrived to gather material for CBS television, or for *The New York Times* sports pages. Smith broadcast a radio show from the front porch in 1965, delivering his opinion that: "The Bluegrass of Kentucky never looked as beautiful as the green grass of Maryland does tonight."

Every year since 1961, Country Life has hosted this event to bring together the players in the Maryland horse industry in a convivial setting. However, with Maryland's Covid-19 restrictions on group gatherings, this year's event will be "virtual" --- beginning at 6 p.m. Thursday evening, on [FACEBOOK LIVE](#).

WBAL Radio's [Scott Wykoff](#) will be our guest emcee. Mike and Josh Pons will welcome you to the farm. We'll broadcast from the front porch, overlooking fields of mares and foals, with a look back at past Preakness', and a look forward to this Saturday's classic, as well as next year's in-person Preakness Party.

And for dessert after Scott signs off, stay on-line for a quick video of the horses in the long history of Country Life Farm --- from our first stallion Ladkin, by Man o' War's sire Fair Play; to Raise You, the dam of champion Raise a Native; to millionaire Carry Back; to Horse-of-the-Year and Maryland-bred Cigar; to Malibu Moon, sire of Kentucky Derby winner Orb; and to our current stallions, sons of Tapit and War Front, A. P. Indy and Pulpit.

So please join us in the country this Thursday evening, 6 p.m., on Country Life's [FACEBOOK](#) page for the LIVE broadcast.

RSVP's are not necessary, but a quick note via e-mail to christy@countrylifefarm.com would be most appreciated. Join fellow horse folks and fans on-line for Country Life's Preakness Party, a Maryland tradition since 1961.

**At end of film, see how to win 2 tickets to the 2021 Preakness.*

Mike and Christy on HRRN Tonight and Saturday



Mike Pons will be live on-air tonight (Wed, 9/30) at 5:30 pm - click above or listen on Sirius 219/XM 201



Country Life General Manager Christy Holden will be live on-air Preakness morning 8-10 - click above or listen on Sirius 219/XM201

Now Forming Racing Partnerships to Buy Yearlings at Next Week's Fasig-Tipton Timonium Sale

COUNTRY LIFE SIRES AT NEXT WEEK'S TIMONIUM SALE

The Monday after the Preakness begins the two-day Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Yearling Sale. Of the 553 yearlings catalogued for the Timonium venue, 27 members of Divining Rod's outstanding first crop will be on display, and 10 yearlings by Maryland's Leading Maryland Freshman sire Mosler will be much in demand.

[*Country Life will be assembling Racing Partnerships to campaign not only young horses by our farm sires, but for other well-bred prospects as well. If you've wanted to get into racing, or would like to add to your inventory, drop a note to Mike Pons (mike@countrylifefarm.com), Josh Pons (josh@countrylifefarm.com) or Christy Holden (christy@countrylifefarm.com) to apprise us of your interest. We'll circle back after the sale with further details.]

Quick introduction to Tapit's son Divining Rod: He ran third to American Pharoah in the 2015 Preakness Stakes, and just missed by a head in the Grade-1 Cigar Mile, a stallion-making race.

Divining Rod is an exciting young prospect for the future of Maryland breeding. Owned in partnership with his breeder, the Lael Stable of Roy and Gretchen Jackson, and with Gainesway Farm, all of whom have supported him at stud, Divining Rod is out of 3-time Grade One-winner Precious Kitten, a 3/4-sister to leading sire Kitten's Joy. What a pedigree. What a sire in the making: Divining Rod.

Breaking into the National Top-20 Freshman Sire List is our War Front son Mosler, with his first crop now reaching the races. Nine of his 13 starters have won or placed, including impressive winners Depository, Miss Nondescript, Heir Port, and Saponara.

Mosler has 73 2-year-olds in this first crop. Waves of his juveniles are beginning to appear on Equibase workout reports, from Florida to Kentucky to New York to Maryland. Make sure to inspect the 10 Mosler yearlings at next week's Fasig sale.

Reserve a piece of a Racing Partnership for the Moslers or Divining Rods we anticipate acquiring at next week's sale.

A sampling of yearlings we're prepping for the sale are below - click the pictures for links to catalog pages or the full catalog at the end



Divining Rod - Reappearance colt



Divining Rod - Happy Refrain colt



Mosler - Laura's Valley colt



Mosler - Laura's Moon filly



Lord Nelson - Keep Right filly



California Chrome - Your Flame in Me filly



MARYLAND MILLION OCTOBER 24th

THE MILLION IS STILL THE MILLION

Despite the pandemic's impact on racetrack attendance and handle, the 2020 Maryland Million is still a million-dollar day. Our hopes are high for offspring of our three stallions with foals of racing age: Friesan Fire, Super Ninety Nine, and Mosler.

A. P. Indy's son Friesan Fire is the only sire to have back-to-back winners of the Maryland Million Classic, with Saratoga Bob and Forest Fire, who both have October 24th on their calendar.

Country Life Partnership runner Let's Play Nine is bringing his 3-for-4 record to Laurel to represent our Pulpit son Super Ninety Nine.

Mosler's 2-year-olds, including several highly-regarded but as yet unraced babies, all have their eyes on the prize of the \$100,000 Maryland Million Juvenile. Stay tuned for updates as Maryland Million Day approaches.



BLUE-BLOODED MARYLAND FAMILY



FIFTEEN ROYALS CARRIES ON COUNTRY LIFE'S FOUNDATION FAMILY

The speedball Allen's Prospect mare Prospective Joy was a stakes-winning mare acquired by Country Life Farm after her racing career.

The first foal Country Life bred from Prospective Joy was Grade-1 winner Hookedonthefeelin, by our farm sire Citidancer.

As a broodmare, Hookedonthefeelin produced Grade-1 winner Pussycat Doll, in turn the dam of Grade-1 winner Aquaphobia and Grade-1 winner Jimmy Creed.

Hookedonthefeelin's full-sister Citiview produced Grade-1 winner Midnight Lucky, whose yearling by Curlin just sold at Keeneland for \$1,200,000. Midnight Lucky and her daughters are now all visiting the books of top Kentucky stallions.

Country Life and our Fifteen Moons Breeding Partnership are presently enjoying the success of Fifteen Moons, the last foal out of Prospective Joy. In foal to Maryland freshman sensation Mosler, Fifteen Moons has produced \$200,000 stakes-winner Mayla and other \$100,000-earners Moon Vision and Lunar Rille.

Three of Fifteen Moons' daughters are currently in the racing stable of "Grade-1 winning trainer" Mike Trombetta (at Saratoga this summer with Win Win Win): Lunar Rille, Fifteen Royals and a very promising Mosler 2-year-old named Moonsafe.

Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

MOSLER

MISS NONDESCRIPT: 9/4 @ MONMOUTH, Maiden Special Weight (owner/breeder Barak Farm, Ky.)

SAPONARA: 9/16 @ PARX, Maiden (breeder Barak Farm, owner Club Risque Stable & Gregory Quick)

FRIESAN FIRE

HOT CHOICE: 9/19 @ LAUREL, Maiden (breeder/owner Skeedattle Associates)

FIYA: 9/20 @ BELMONT, Allowance (breeder Ann Merryman, owner Robert Masiello)

SUPER NINETY NINE

FAIRY WISH: 9/5 @ LAUREL, SOC (breeder/owner Mrs. Janon Fisher III)

SUPER DONNA G: 9/8 @ PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS, ALW (breeder Gregory Gordon, owner RJG Racing Management)

ACE NINE NINE: 9/19 @ DELAWARE, ALW (breeder Country Life Farm, owner Manuel Sepulveda & Maria Rodriguez)

BROODMARE LLC'S

FIFTEEN ROYALS: Daughter of partnership broodmare Fifteen Moons, won Allowance at Laurel on 9/10 for her 2nd lifetime victory.

TWIRLING WIND: Daughter of partnership broodmare Miss Moonshine, won Allowance at Fort Erie on 9/15 for her 2nd lifetime victory.



Fiya, by Friesan Fire

Photo: Adam Coglianese



Hot Choice

Jim McCua photo



Saponara, by Mosler

Bill Denver/EquiPhoto

Farm Visitation Policy

Please adhere to the following Covid-19 protocols when visiting:

Farms are Open from Monday through Saturday, Noon-to-3 p.m. by appointment through office (410-879-1952); on Saturday's, call General Manager Christy Holden's cell (410-808-1325). Thank you for your understanding.

- A sign-in sheet will be located at both farms.
- All visitors **MUST** wear face masks and practice social distancing.

Country Life's YouTube Channel

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