



Country Life Press

July 2020 Newsletter

From Maryland's Oldest Thoroughbred Farm

Established 1933



FIYA sells for \$400,000



The newly formed Wanamaker's Monthly Online Thoroughbred Auction company got off to a big start with it's second monthly sale on July 30th. Friesan Fire's promising young son Fiya (out of the Two Punch mare Sista) was purchased for \$400,000 by Robert Masiello. The 3-year-old gelding was bred and owned by Ann Merryman and trained by her son Michael prior to Thursday's online auction.

Fiya's career got off to a crazy start in a dirt Maiden Claiming race at Laurel in November, when he threw his jockey behind the starting gate and ran loose on the track for a 1/4 mile before being caught. Despite that, he led through a half-mile of the 6 furlong race and just faded in the stretch to finish 3rd. His next start was just 2 weeks later in December at Laurel, again on the dirt. Going 5-1/2 furlongs, he led until the stretch once more but finished 2nd, beaten by another Friesan Fire 2-year-old named Whiskey and You.

Given the rest of the winter off, he was switched to turf this year when racing resumed and broke his maiden in his first try June 26th against older horses in a Waiver Maiden Claiming race. Under a confident ride by Feargal Lynch, he drew off by 5 lengths and earned an 82 Beyer. He followed that up with a 3-length Allowance win on the grass at Laurel July 17, which earned him a 98 Beyer Speed Figure (the 2nd highest speed figure for a 3-year-old on turf this year).

Buyer Robert Masiello was happy with his purchase of Fiya and plans to send him to trainer Tom Albertrani. We'll look forward to what might be next for this talented young horse.

2-year-old Racing is ON in Maryland

The Maryland Jockey Club/The Stronach Group and Maryland horsemen have reached an agreement on racing 2-year-olds without Lasix in Maryland. With the impasse now lifted, Laurel Park is expected to start carding Lasix-free races for 2-year-olds soon.

With Mosler's first crop of juveniles training well up and down the East Coast, we expect to see a bunch of them in the entries over the next few weeks. Mosler himself (pictured below winning the Laurel Dash) raced without Lasix as a 2-year-old and through his 3-year-old season.



**MHBA Yearling Show
Sunday, July 19**



The Maryland Horse Breeders annual Yearling Show took place on Sunday, July 19th at the Timonium Fairgrounds. Around 80 Maryland-bred yearlings were exhibited and this year they were judged by Michael Matz, trainer of numerous winners including Kentucky Derby hero Barbaro, Breeders Cup Distaff winner Round Pound and Belmont Stakes winner Union Rags. Matz, a former world-class show jumping rider who won gold at the World Championships and Pan American Games, was part of the silver medal-winning team at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. A six-time U.S. National Champion, he retired from showing in 2000 as America's leading money-winning rider in the sport's history and began training thoroughbreds full time. He has a sharp eye for quality horses and gave each horse in the ring a good look.

Country Life took 9 yearlings to the show and six were awarded ribbons in their class, plus CLF Office Manager Sallyellen Hurst took her yearling by Divining Rod who also ribboned in his class.

Here are the CLF-sired results:

CLASS 1 (colts/geldings sired by MD stallions): 3rd - Bliss This (by Divining Rod out of Blisstikus, bred/owned by Bill Bayne & Super C Racing), 4th - Uncloudy Day (by Divining Rod out of Happy Refrain, bred/owned by Sallyellen Hurst), 5th - 19 Laura's Valley (by Mosler, bred/owned by Mrs. Glenn R. Martin).

CLASS 3 (fillies sired by MD stallions): 2nd - Madame Mosler (by Mosler out of Will Do, bred/owned by Bell Gable Stable), 3rd - 19 So Far Away (by Mosler, bred/owned by Betsy Mead), 5th - 19 Sagamoon (by Mosler, bred/owned by CLF, Lucy Howard & Julie Chlopecki).

CLASS 4 (fillies sired by out-of-state stallions): 5th - 19 Keep Right (by Lord Nelson, bred/owned by CLF & Keep Right LLC). Pictured above.

Breeding Winners



Our breeding partnerships have produced 3 maiden winners in the past few weeks, along with a few repeat winners, headlined by **Yougottabekitten's** gutsy maiden score at Laurel Park on 7/3. The 3-year-old Maryland-bred Kitten's Joy filly out of Broken Trust Fund was making her first start on the turf and showed her sire's propensity for grass runners by going to the lead and holding off the late charge from two rivals to win by a half-length. Coincidentally, the 2nd place finisher was also bred by Country Life Farm. Mayan Queen (#4) is a Temple City filly out of Lucky Nita who romped in the same pastures as Yougottabekitten growing up.

Yougottabekitten was purchased by Nick & Delora Beaver's Bell Gable Stables from the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Yearling Sale in 2018. She made three starts on dirt at 2 and was sent to Merryland for a winter break until turf season resumed. With the shutdown of racing due to COVID, she trained at Merryland this spring and returned to the track and new trainer Anthony Farrior at the end of May. Jockey Sheldon Russell was aboard for the maiden score. Congratulations to all of her connections!

Also in the winner's circle this month were CLF and Partnership-bred runners out of Sassy Molly, Kanani, Smash Review, Fleet and Fancy, Star Magic and Moon Map. On July 1st at Penn National the 3-year-old gelding named **Jebologist (Gemologist - Sassy Molly)** won a Maiden Special Weight by 9 lengths under jockey Inoel Beato for trainer Mark Salvaggio and owner H&P. Then on July 3rd at Pleasanton, the 3-year-old filly **Charging Home, by Take Charge Indy out of Kanani**, broke her maiden by 1-1/2 lengths.

CLF-bred **Ace Nine Nine** scored his 3rd lifetime win, this time at Delaware Park, on July 15th. The 4-year-old Super Ninety Nine gelding out of Smash Review was making his second start off a claim and battled down the stretch with another Super Ninety Nine gelding named Pataz to win by a neck. The tables were turned on him in his next start on 7/29, when **Tommy Shelby (a CLF-partnership bred 3-year-old out of Moon Map)** scored by a neck over a closing Ace Nine Nine. That was TWO Super Ninety Nine exactas in one month at Delaware Park! Another consistent runner was **Earned It, a Cal Nation gelding co-bred by CLF & Mrs. Glennie Martin**. He picked up his 7th lifetime

win on 7/24 at Laurel and pushed his earnings to over \$210,000. The month closed out with another Super Ninety Nine repeat winner when **FortyfiveRocket (out of partnership mare Fleet and Fancy)** took the 2nd race at Laurel on 7/30 for his fourth lifetime win. His earnings now stand at \$120,960.

Partnership filly Bella Aurora returned to the races with a 3rd in the Camptown Stakes at Colonial Downs on 7/29!

Country Life Sired Winners

Here are the latest winners by Country Life Farm stallions:

FRIESAN FIRE

Zeke the Streak - 7/2 @ Thistledown, CLM

On Fire - 7/15 @ Thistledown, CLM

Gallinella - 7/16 @ Charles Town, CLM

Fiya - 7/17 @ Laurel, ALW

On Fire - 7/30 @ Thistledown, CLM

SUPER NINETY NINE

Pataz - 7/1 @ Delaware Park, WCL

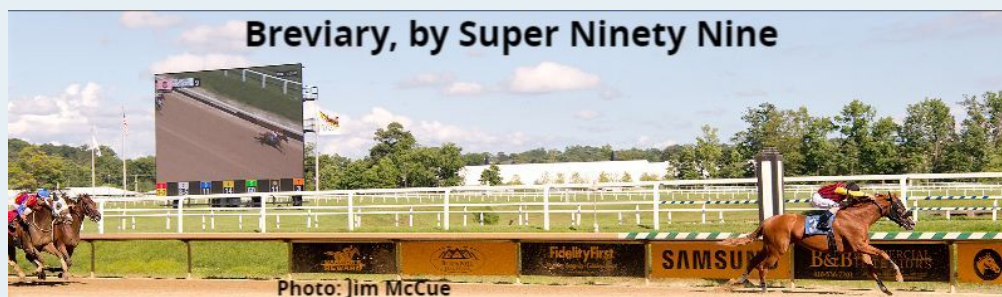
Breviary - 7/10 @ Laurel, MCL

Ace Nine Nine - 7/15 @ Delaware Park, CLM

Tommy Shelby - 7/29 @ Delaware Park, STR

FortyfiveRocket - 7/30 @ Laurel, CLM

Gifted Heart - 7/31 @ Laurel, ALW

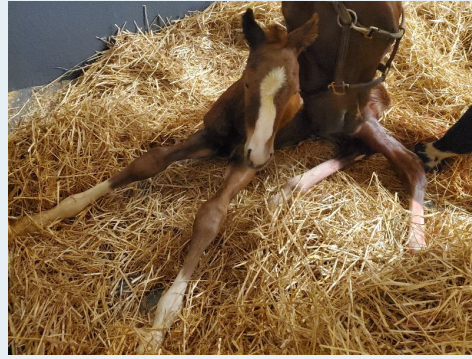


June Foal Gallery

(click on pictures for links to Ellen's photo gallery)



Maid of Cotton filly by Divining Rod,
foaled 6/1; owned by Country Life
Farm



Beau's Trip colt by Freedom Child,
foaled 6/3; owned by Mrs. Glennie
Martin

Foaling Season is over, but you can go to our YouTube channels for videos of all the births this season, as well as videos of horses training at Merryland and "life on the farm" videos to brighten your day! Click the link at right...

Country Life's
YouTube
Channel

Farm Visitation Policy

COVID-19 recovery plans are in place around the country. Please adhere to the following rules when planning a visit to our farms:

- **Visiting hours will be Mondays - Saturdays from Noon-3pm only and an appointment MUST be made ahead of time by calling the office (410-879-1952) or on Saturdays call General Manager Christy Holden's cell (410-808-1325)**
- **A sign-in sheet will be located at both farms, and ALL visitors must sign-in upon arrival. At Merryland Farm the clipboard will be at the main house on the patio under the awning. At Country Life the clipboard will be outside of the office.**
- **All visitors MUST wear face masks and practice social distancing from our staff, maintaining a 6 foot spacing from people and horses.**

- **Please do not go in the offices or barns at either farm. If your horse(s) are in the barn one of our staff will bring them outside for you to see.**

If you can't make the trip out but still want to know what's going on you can go to our YouTube and Facebook pages for videos and photos of farm life. Ellen Pons' dramatic footage of foals being born at Country Life, of stallions at work, and of the many young horses-in-training at Merryland put you virtually on these beautiful farms on spring days (and nights in the foaling barn).

Like us on Facebook and subscribe to our YouTube channels - both the main farm page ([CountryLifeFarm1933](#)) and our foaling channel ([CountryLifeFoalingCameras](#)) to get notifications when we're live and to see the videos once they are posted.

Here are links to some playlists you might enjoy:

[Around the Farm](#)

[Yearlings](#)

We hope everyone stays safe during this unprecedented time. If we all follow the protocols for keeping a safe distance, wearing masks, and washing hands, we'll weather this viral storm.



Share



Tweet



Forward



Copyright © 2020 Country Life Farm, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

