



# Country Life Press

## AUGUST 2023

### Newsletter



*Maryland's Oldest Thoroughbred Farm*

Established 1933: Celebrating Our 90th Anniversary in 2023

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## GUN RUNNER FILLY IN SARATOGA SALE



Country Life & Starr of Quality LLC are excited for the upcoming Saratoga Select Yearling Sale on August 7-8. The yearling Gun Runner filly out of stakes-winning Starr of Quality is entered as Hip 174 on Tuesday night, August 8th.

Starr of Quality earned over \$307,000 in a career that spanned 5 years and 6 wins. She won the Dream of Summer Stakes at Santa Anita as a 5-year-old before being purchased by Country Life at the 2020 Keeneland November Sale for \$72,000 in foal to Bolt d'Oro.

That first foal, a MD-bred colt now named Lumineo, was sold at this sale last year for \$90,000 to Starlight Racing and was 3rd on debut in a Maiden Special at Delaware Park on July 26th. We're looking forward to big things from him in the future, and this 1/2-sister by Gun Runner should be well received at Saratoga next week.

## GALILEI WINS \$125,000 BROOKMEADE STAKES AT COLONIAL



Galilei earned her first stakes victory in \$125,000 Brookmeade Stakes at Colonial Downs on 7/22. Photo: Coady Photography

At the 2020 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Yearling Sale there was a VA-bred filly who caught our attention, not just for her physical appearance but because her catalog page showed no less than 7 major stakes winners under the 2nd dam alone. She was bred to go long on the turf (by Lemon Drop Kid out of a Galileo mare), and with Colonial Downs announcing big purses in store for the future we put this filly at the top of our list and landed her for \$92,000.

The filly's dam, Fairytale Ending, was out of the Champion English filly AIRWAVE. She was unraced but had already produced a stakes-placed filly named Urban Fairytale (who would go on to win the Brookmeade Stakes herself in 2021). Fairytale Ending was also a full sister 3 stakes winners, and a 1/2-sister to 2017 European Broodmare of the Year MEOW.

MEOW herself was bred almost exclusively to Galileo, producing 2 Champions in England and Ireland - successful sire CHURCHILL and

CLEMMIE (the 2-year-old Highweight filly in both England and Ireland) as well as BLENHEIM PALACE (G3 winner and multiple G3-placed) and the stakes-placed Dower House.

With all that Galileo in this filly's pedigree (a total of 7 stakes horses by him under the 2nd dam alone), we knew we had to come up with a name that reflected the magnificent sire. Look no further than the stallion's namesake - Galileo Galilei. The astronomer's feminine sounding last name was perfect for our long legged, elegant filly.

Knowing the family was late-developing, we took our time with Galilei and didn't try to run her at 2. Sent to trainer Mike Trombetta early in her 3-year-old year, she debuted at Woodbine on the Tapeta with a closing 4th, then came south to prepare for the Colonial Downs meet. After finishing 4th again in her first try at Colonial, she broke her maiden there in August and was 3rd in a turf Allowance at Laurel in October.

Given the winter off, she ran twice this year in Allowance company and was off the board but ran good numbers. Seeing an opportunity in a VA-restricted stakes at Colonial, Trombetta entered Galilei in the Brookmeade hoping to earn some blacktype. With a perfect ride by Horacio Karamanos, she stalked the pace and came running in the stretch to win the \$125,000 stakes on Saturday, 7/22. With a blacktype win and a big pedigree behind her (we've hardly mentioned the influence her sire Lemon Drop Kid has as a sire and broodmare sire), Galilei is a shining star in our stable!

Congratulations to our partners Cape Fear Thoroughbreds (NC), John & Marcia Courson (AZ), Dave Johnson Thoroughbreds (TX), Robert Goldman (FL), Guidera McKenney Equine LLC (FL), Robert Kern (DE), Frank Morgan (MD), Harold Rottman (MD) and Mike Stone (VA).

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## More Fun in July



**Covert Kat broke his maiden on 7/8 at Laurel. Jim McCue photo**

**Combat Queen got her 6th lifetime win on 7/8 at Laurel. Jim McCue photo**

We had a daily double of sorts at Laurel on July 8th when Covert Kat broke his maiden in the 1st race, then Combat Queen scored her 6th lifetime win on the dirt in the 4th. Both are trained by Mike Trombetta.

In the 1st, a Waiver Maiden Claiming on the grass, jockey Axel Concepcion kept Covert Kat just off the pace in 4th down the backstretch of the 1 mile race. They started making their move on the turn for home, saving ground on the inside and as they moved up into contention. Hitting the top of the stretch, Axel swung Covert out for racing room and they took command, drawing away to win by 5 lengths. The gelding had been knocking on the door in 7 of his previous 11 starts, finishing 2nd five times before putting it all together here.

The always consistent Combat Queen also made us proud a few races later, taking a Starter/Opt Claimer by three-quarters of a length in determined fashion. It was her 6th win and boosted her career earnings to \$324,850. The 6-year-old mare came back to be 3rd in a similar race on 7/30, running her lifetime record to 6-10-9 in 34 starts.

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Click the link below to see what races we're watching this week!

[Races We're Watching](#)

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## Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

### **DIVINING ROD**

**DIVINING HUMOR:** 7/1 at LS, \$150,000 Texas Thoroughbred Assoc Futurity Stakes (breeder Jayde Gelner; owner Paul Pruetz; trainer Jayde Gelner)

**DIVINE FASHION:** 7/1 at CT, Allowance (breeder Susan Wantz; owner Richard Burnsworth; trainer Anthony Farrior)

**PRECIOUS AVARY:** 7/8 at MTH, \$93,500 Jersey Girl Handicap (breeder/owner Smith Farm & Stable; trainer Timothy Shaw)



**DATTTSAFANCYFOX:** 7/13 at TDN, Allowance (breeder Fox Hill Manor; owner/trainer Javier Suarez)

**WISPERING SPRINGS:** 7/17 at PRX, Claiming (breeder Kathryn Goldenberg, Helen Boynton & Andy Merek; owner Whiskey Run Stables LLC; trainer Edward Coletti, Jr.)

**LIQUIDATOR:** 7/21 at LRL, Allowance (breeder CLF/Stone LLC; owner Not The 1 Stable, Inc.; trainer Linda Albert)

**PARTY MONSTER:** 7/22 at DE, Claiming (breeder Charles Jerome Reed & Henry Hoke; owner/trainer Collie Smith)

**LOOKING FOR WATER:** 7/22 at LRL, Maiden (breeder Franklin G. Smith, Sr.; owner Talbot Run Racing Stable LLC; trainer Hamilton A. Smith)

**RASCALLY REBEL:** 7/23 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Dr. & Mrs. Bruce C. Wells; owner Robert Reidy; trainer Mario Serey, Jr.)

**SWEET TALIA:** 7/23 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Imagistic Broodmare II LLC; owner The Three Amigos; trainer Brandon McFarlane)

**BLISS THIS:** 7/27 at CT, Claiming (breeder William Bayne & Super C Racing; owner Ronney Brown & Shake and Bake Racing LLC; trainer Ronney Brown)

**DIVINE FASHION:** 7/29 at CT, Starter (breeder Susan Wantz; owner Richard Burnsworth; trainer Anthony Farrow)

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## **MOSLER**

**NEED A MARKER:** 7/1 at DE, Claiming (breeder/owner William Bayne & Super C Racing; trainer John J. Robb)

**FULL MOON LOVER:** 7/1 at CT, Allowance (breeder/owner Ronney Brown & Nicole Freeland Brown; trainer Ronney Brown)

**LUV YA BYE BYE:** 7/2 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Winding Creek Farm; owner Jose M. Gallegos; trainer W. Thomas McMahon)

**SAPPHIRE BEAUTY:** 7/8 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Rock Sapphire LLC; owner C and B Stables; trainer Charles Frock)

**GAVICHI:** 7/17 at PRX, Claiming (breeder James Anderson; owner Marco)

Arriaga; trainer Ruperto Perez)

**SAPONARA:** 7/19 at PRX, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm; owner Guadalupe Perez Aguirre; trainer Felix Flores-Coba)

**NOBLE BELIEF:** 7/22 at LRL, Maiden (breeder Sharon Banford; owner Sal Sinatra; trainer Damon R. Dilodovico)

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### **FRIESAN FIRE**

**HOT LOOKIN ROYAL:** 7/1 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Annette Eubanks & Dan Eubanks; owner Rising Sun Stables & Annette Eubanks; trainer Annette Eubanks)

**BOFFO KID:** 7/14 at CNL, Claiming (breeder Donald Wilson; owner Teresa Haupt & Carl Doran; trainer Carl Doran)

**SHADY MUNNI:** 7/21 at LRL, Starter (breeder Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman & Rebecca Davis; owner Robert D. Bone & Edward J. Brown, Jr.; trainer Rodolfo Sanchez-Salomon)

**ANNIKA GOLD:** 7/30 at MTH, Claiming (breeder Richard Simoff; owner Roslyn Ann Davis; trainer Ricardo Bailey)

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### **OTHER COUNTRY LIFE/PARTNERSHIP-bred or OWNED winners:**

**COVERT KAT (Run Away and Hide - Fat Kat)** - Maiden win on 7/8 at Laurel. Bred by High Peak Farm LLC; owned by Country Life Farm & Covert Kat LLC; trained by Michael Trombetta. Career earnings \$86,760.

**COMBAT QUEEN (Congrats - Starsonhershoulder)** - Starter/Opt Claiming win on 7/8 at Laurel. Bred by Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Davidov; owned by Country Life Farm & Combat Queen LLC; trained by Michael Trombetta. Career earnings \$324,850.

**GALILEI (Lemon Drop Kid - Fairytale Ending (IRE))** - \$125,000 Brookmeade Stakes win on 7/15 at Colonial. Bred by Audley Farm Equine; owned by Country Life Farm & Galilei LLC; trained by Michael Trombetta. Career earnings \$125,803.

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