



September 2024

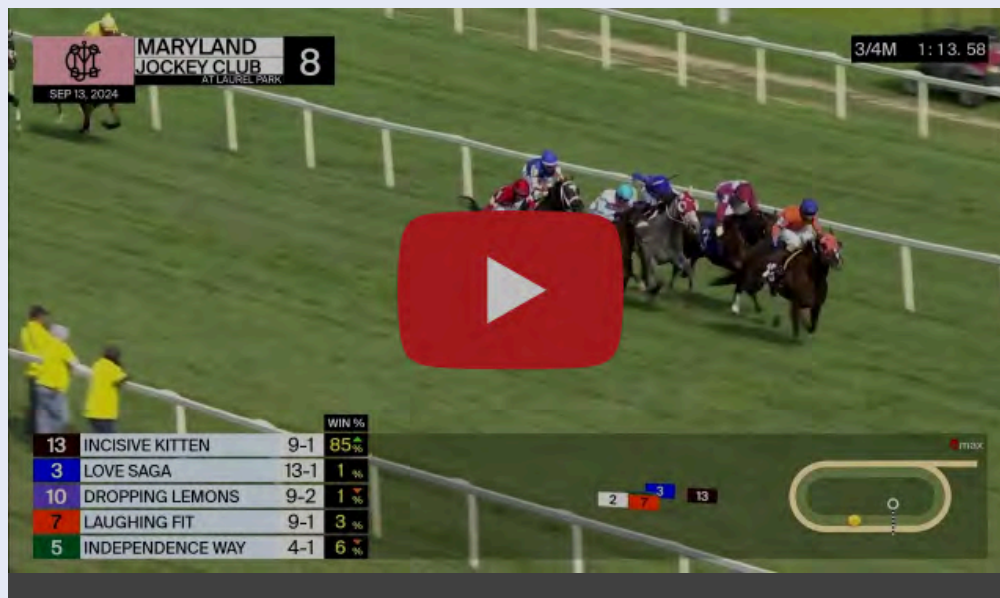
MAIDEN WIN FOR INCISIVE KITTEN



Nothing like a win before press time to get the month of September off to a great start! Partnership filly Incisive Kitten (Kitten's Joy - Athenian) broke her maiden at Laurel on Friday, 9/13 going 1-1/16th miles on the turf.

Ridden by Victor Carrasco and trained by Mike Trombetta, the 3-year-old filly was making her 4th start. Stalking the pace in 3rd early, she assumed the lead in the stretch and put away her rivals in deep stretch to win by a length.

Congratulations to our partners: Mike Stone (VA), Karen Butler (VA), Tom Esposito (CT) and Steve Walsh (NY). The Virginia-certified filly earned them a nice VA-Certified bonus on top of the \$19,800 purse.



NEWS TODAY: "RACING AUTHORITY" ENGAGES STATE ARCHIVIST TO PRESERVE PIMLICO HISTORY

A complicated transition of ownership of Maryland's racing industry --- from Canadian-based The Stronach Group to the state of Maryland --- continues progress on multiple fronts. On Friday, Sept. 13, the MTROA (the Authority) announced it has retained the Maryland state archivists' office to preserve the valuable history of Pimlico Race Course and the Preakness Stakes. Pimlico was founded in 1870, and its' venerable classic, the Preakness Stakes, will be run for the 150th time on May 17 of 2025.

As a foundation for rollout of a \$400-million bond issue to modernize Maryland racing, the "Authority" has been busy assembling a difficult puzzle: Negotiating pari-mutuel contracts, selecting a site for a new training center, timing the demolition of the ancient Pimlico grandstand to build a new one following the 150th-anniversary, among other monumental tasks. To control our future and respect our past, those are paramount goals of state-ownership.

The Maryland horse industry prides itself on its "firsts." The first racing association in the Maryland Jockey Club (founded in 1743); the first state-bred awards program (1962); the first state-sired event in the Maryland Million (1985); the first state horse magazine in the *Maryland Horse* (1936). And now,

the first state to appoint a professional panel of archivists to preserve its racing and breeding history.

**OUTSTANDING PAIR OF COUNTRY LIFE
YEARLINGS AMONG
23 MARYLAND-BREDS AT KEENELAND**



Bolt d'Oro - Lunar Rille colt
[Hip #1672](#)



Improbable - Starr of Quality colt
[Hip #3482](#)

From Saratoga to Keeneland soon back to Maryland, Country Life's breeding partnerships continue to offer outstanding Maryland-breds --- the future racehorses upon which the industry relies. Consider this: one-half of the entries on a Laurel or Pimlico daily racing program is comprised of Maryland-breds. Our partnerships strive to breed the best.

At Saratoga, we sold a Maryland-bred colt by Uncle Mo's first-crop son Yaupon for \$200,000. Upcoming at Keeneland on Sunday, Sept. 15, is our Maryland-bred Bolt d'Oro colt out of Lunar Rille, a granddaughter of our famous stallion Malibu Moon.

Bolt d'Oro is the sire of Country Life-bred Fulmineo, winner over the summer of the \$125,000 Boston Stakes at Colonial Downs. At Keeneland on Thursday, Sept. 19, we offer Fulmineo's 1/2-brother by 2024 Freshman sire Improbable, out of the stakes-winning mare Starr of Quality. Her 2023 Gun Runner yearling filly, presently in training at Woodbine, brought \$775,000 for our breeding partnership at Saratoga last summer.

Click the links to their Hip Numbers below their photos. Our well-bred pair of youngsters are among 23 Maryland-breds being sold over the 12-day global marketplace venue of Keeneland September.

RECENT RACING FUN: FROM SARATOGA TO LAUREL TO COLONIAL TO TIMONIUM



Divine Works partners at Saratoga



Covert Kat partners at Laurel

When "Call to the Post" rang out in emails this summer, Country Life racing partners hopped planes, trains, and automobiles to get to the races. At Saratoga on August 30, Maryland-bred Divine Works went off as the 2-1 favorite against Maiden Special Weight company for an \$80,000 purse. Partners who had never been to Saratoga stood awestruck in the ancient tree-shaded paddock and asked each other: "How long has this been going on?" To which Country Life General Manager Christy Holden replied: "Like since 1863."

Divine Works finished a very credible second, earning \$16,000 and setting her up for the October 12, \$100,000 Maryland Million Lassie as her next start. Country Life's partners in Divine Works: Randy Blurton (TX), Tom Brannock (VA), Dave Callan (MD), Dave Nathans and Alex Munroe (NC), Allen and Alma Garst (MD), Jonathan Johnson (CT), P.A. Keating (MD), Guy Pastore (DE), and Don Walsh (MD), and Kay Minton (VA).

At Colonial over the summer, partnership runner Galilei ran third in the \$125,000 Brookmeade Stakes, adding black type to her pedigree page already in boldface type after her win in the 2023 Brookmeade. Galilei has been entered for the Nov. 4 Fasig-Tipton "Night of the Stars" sale. Country Life's partners in Galilei: Dave Nathans and Alex Munroe (NC), John and Marcia Courson (AZ), Dave Johnson (TX), Bob Goldman (FL), Guidera/McKenney (FL/VA), Bob Kern (DE), Frank Morgan (MD), Harold Rottman (MD), and Mike Stone (VA).

On the local scene, Covert Kat cruised to a 2-length win on Sept. 7 at Laurel to boost his career earnings to \$176,970; and Ariel Moon finished first by five lengths in a Timonium maiden event but was disqualified for cutting the turn too close to a rival. Oh, well, that's racing....

CLOSE RELATIONS AT KEENELAND



Maxfield - Kenda filly
Sold for \$310,000



Maxfield - In It For the Gold colt
Sold for \$400,000

Sometimes buying a broodmare is like buying a car: It depreciates the moment you leave the lot. Occasionally, though, the opposite occurs: an increase in value.

How excited our partners are in our 2023 acquisition of Kenda, a \$70,000 Keeneland 2023 November mare carrying her 2024 colt by Olympiad. For her former owners, Kenda's 2024 yearling by Maxfield sold for \$310,000 at Keeneland on Wednesday, Sept. 11.

On Thursday, Sept. 12, our partnership mare In It For The Gold, a \$75,000 Keeneland 2023 mare carrying her 2024 Authentic filly, appreciated in value when her 2024 yearling by Maxfield brought \$400,000.

Kenda benefitted from two huge updates when her "nephew" (out of her 1/2-sister Goods and Services) named Domestic Product won the August 24, \$500,000, Grade One, H. Allen Jerkens Stakes at Saratoga. Domestic Product is now Breeders' Cup-bound. Less than a week later her 2-year-old City of Light colt named Filoso broke his maiden impressively at Saratoga in his second start. Filoso is pointing for the G1 Claiborne Breeders Futurity at Keeneland on October 5th for his next start.

Kenda's partners: Dr. Peter Bloom (CT), Randy Blurton (TX), Guidera/McKenney (FL/VA), High Peak Farm (John Stuart) (KY), Jim Kuhlman (VA), Dave Nathans (NC), David and Diana Sedney (VA), John Seigel (FL), and Nathan White (AK).

In It For The Gold's partners: Dennis Bartos (MD), Dr. Peter Bloom (CT), Randy Blurton (TX), Tim Burr (MA), Joe Fonte (MD), Guidera/McKenney (FL/VA), David and Diana Sedney (VA), and Mike Stone (VA).

UP NEXT: OCTOBER 1st FASIG-TIPTON MIDLANTIC YEARLING SALE

Being hand-walked in full sales prep daily at our Merryland Farm Training Center are our seven entries for the upcoming Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Yearling Sale in Timonium on Tuesday, October 1.

Enhancing the value of several offerings, Country Life's sales prep includes early lessons in yearling breaking and training. The Divining Rod yearlings out of 2020 Maryland Million Lassie winner Miss Nondescript and out of \$115,000 allowance winner Fifteen Royals will be announced as having been under tack for 30 days.

At last year's Timonium yearling sale, we bought Divine Works from Maryland breeder/trainer Katy Voss in part on Voss' enthusiasm having broken Divine Works prior to the sale. Divine Works came to hand quickly for us this summer to make her debut at Saratoga as outlined earlier in this Newsletter.



Divining Rod-Miss Nondescript colt
Will have 30 days training under tack



Divining Rod - Fifteen Royals filly
Will have 30 days training under tack



Known Agenda-War Value filly



Higher Power - Playful Love colt



**Rock Your World - E Dubai's Humor colt
Rockyhumor**

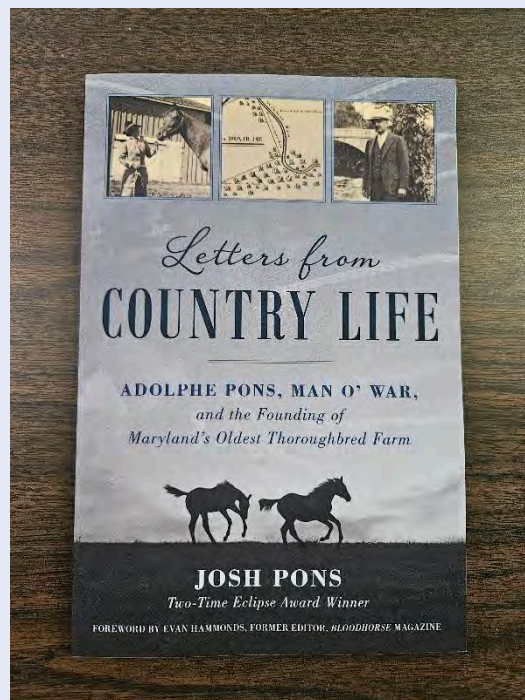


Bolt d'Oro - Missy Rules filly



Divining Rod - Kat's in Charge colt

**"LETTERS FROM COUNTRY LIFE"
Josh Pons' 3rd book now available**



A 200-page history of one Maryland's fine old horse farms is "hot-off-the-press" this summer: *Letters from Country Life: Adolphe Pons, Man o' War, and the Founding of Maryland's Oldest Thoroughbred Farm.*

Two-time Eclipse Award-winning author Josh Pons spoke about his latest book at the prestigious Keeneland Library Lecture Series on August 29 to a capacity crowd, enhanced by a slideshow of 75 images of horses and history produced by his wife, photographer Ellen Pons.

To learn more, click this link to [Letters](#).

Country Life Bred or Sired Winners

DIVINING ROD

MEGEEZER: 8/1 at CNL Maiden (breeder O'Sullivan Farms LLC; owner Doris Tummillo; trainer J Huffman)

STICKWITHTHECOLORS: 8/4 at LRL, Allowance (breeder/owner John "Jay" Williamson, III; trainer John Salzman, Jr.)

LOOKING FOR WATER: 8/10 at MTH, Claiming (breeder Franklin G. Smith, Sr; owner Albert Dilello; trainer Oscar Gonzalez)

NEXT GIRL: 8/11 at LRL, Allowance (breeder Country Life Farm & Fleet and Fancy LLC; owner WWCD, LLC; trainer W. Robert Bailes)

WATERING: 8/13 at CNL, Maiden (breeder Mr. & Mrs. M. Roy Jackson; owner Lael Stables; trainer Michael Stidham)

NIGHT NURSE: 8/17 at TDN, Maiden (breeder Reifsnyders Ag Center & Danielle Marie; owner Jason DaCosta & Calypso Stable; trainer Jason DaCosta)

MR. MOX: 8/17 at CT, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Mrs. Glennie Martin; owner Larry Brafman; trainer David Walters)

MOSLER

LUV YA BYE BYE: 8/3 at LRL, Claiming (breeder Country Life Farm & Winding Creek Farm; owner Jose M. Gallegos; trainer W. McMahon)

NEXT EPISODE: 8/3 at CNL, Allowance (breeder Country Life Farm & Rue de Rivoli LLC; owner/trainer Niall Saville)

FULL MOON LOVER: 8/24 at CT, Allowance (breeder/owner Ronney W. Brown & Nicole Freelund Brown; trainer Ronney W. Brown)

WAR HUMOR: 8/31 at CNL, Maiden/Stakes Win (breeder Nancy M. Riser & Eric A. Rizer; owner Eric A. Rizer; trainer Ollie Figgins, III)

FRIESAN FIRE

PRINS FIRE: 8/23 at MTH, Claiming (breeder/owner Edwin C. & Janice Jenkins; trainer Mario Serey, Jr.)

DON'T GET CAUGHT: 8/25 at TIM, Claiming (breeder Barak Farm; owner WWCD, LLC; trainer W. Robert Bailes)

OTHER COUNTRY LIFE/PARTNERSHIP-bred or OWNED winners or Stakes Results:

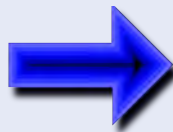
WICKED PRANKSTER (Mosler - Broken Trust Fund) - 3rd in \$75,000 Find Stakes on 8/18 at Laurel. Bred by Country Life Farm & Broken Trust Fund LLC; owned and trained by Samuel G. Davis. The multiple stakes winner has earned \$324,531 so far in his career.

SCHRADER (Mor Spirit - Grecian Maiden) - 1st in Maiden Special at Colonial on 8/22. Bred by Country Life Farm & Grecian Maiden II LLC, owned by Sola Dei Gloria Stable and trained by Hugh McMahon.

SIR MICK (World of Trouble - Hiding) - 1st in Maiden race at Timonium on 8/31. Bred by Country Life Farm & Huron Racing Ventures LLC, owned by Marla Salzman and trained by John Salzman, Jr.

BLIND SPOT (Cross Traffic - Your Flame in Me) - 1st in Allowance at Woodbine on 8/31. Bred by Country Life Farm & Your Flame in Me LLC, owned by Stefania Farms LLC and trained by Saffie Joseph, Jr. This stakes-winning filly has amassed \$157,056 so far in her career.

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stallion videos,
training videos and more!**



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