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Liberian Freighter at Betfair Hollywood Park
Photo: John Chun



Ridden by Kristin Hardin, Liberian Freighter winning the 2'6" Hunter Over Fences *Photo: John Chun*

Liberian Freighter, Winner of \$759,090 Begins New Career at Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show

More than 75 Off-Track Thoroughbreds compete for more than \$4500 in prize money at the Siegel-CARMA Foundation's inaugural Thoroughbred horse show.

Arcadia (May 10, 2013) — The Thoroughbred Classic Horse Show (TCHS) Series, sponsored by the Siegel-CARMA Foundation, debuted in style on April 20-21. More than 75 horses participated in two days of competition in variety of disciplines featuring more than \$4500 in available prize money.

Liberian Freighter, beautifully ridden by Kristin Hardin, was one of the notable winners over the weekend. He completed his very successful racing career - starting a total of 33 times, with 10 wins, 2 seconds and 3 thirds for a total earnings of \$759,090 – a mere seven months ago. He showed off his talent in the hunter ring, winning one over fences and one under saddle class, demonstrating he's well on his way to being a star in the show ring as well.

"I find that at breed shows people are more passionate, more forgiving, and show they have a love for that particular animal. When you hear people speak of their horse using "he" or "she", it tells a lot about the love they have for their animal," said Hardin, when asked about her experience at a Thoroughbred-only horse show.

Stone Cold Angel (aka Noah), who was, by all accounts, an unsuccessful racehorse at Los Alamitos, showed considerable promise as a jumper by placing first in the .95M division and was the Jockey Club's Thoroughbred Incentive Program's (TIP) High Point Champion for Jumper High Point Thoroughbred, Jumper High Point Young Thoroughbred, and Jumper High Point Thoroughbred – Low (below 1.20 M) Junior Division.

“From dead last on the track to first in the show ring, it’s so great to see these horses competing successfully,” said Karin Wagner, Founder of Neigh Savers Foundation, Inc., the aftercare organization in California that helped “Noah” find his new job.

The show featured competitors from as far away as Las Vegas, there to participate in classes such as Hunters, Jumpers, Equitation, Dressage, Combined Training, Conformation, In Hand, and Western Dressage. The Spirit of a Champion class featured horses whose injuries precluded them from actively participating in show careers. Horses and handlers were honored and celebrated for their spirit, love, and bond and were the Ambassador to the Thoroughbred. Susie Harris and Blaze N Waggin participated in the class. The 2005 gelding raced seven times before a fractured sesamoid ended his racing career.

"I believe we have developed a deep bond. Although Blaze will never be a show horse, I don't mind. Just being able to lead him into a ring at a trot is a great accomplishment that might not have been possible if not for his previous owner and wonderful trainer who gave him a chance. I would like to celebrate him overcoming his injury and celebrate finding the horse of my lifetime," Harris said.

Two more shows are scheduled for this year, one July 27-28 in San Juan Capistrano and one in November with dates to be determined. The show series is recognized by the Orange County Horse Show Association, California Dressage Society, and Dressage Association of Southern California.

“This series will go a long way towards shifting the way Sporthorse trainers and owners view the Thoroughbred and open up more opportunities for Off-Track Thoroughbreds to find second, or third, careers in new disciplines,” said Nicole Schwartz, Event Director for TCHS, “And that has always been a major goal for us.”

Any proceeds will be used to support aftercare organizations in California. Information on Thoroughbred aftercare organizations that care for horses that have raced in California can be found on CARMA's website at www.carma4horses.org. For the latest show schedule and updates visit www.thoroughbredclassic.org.

About California Retirement Management Account (CARMA)

CARMA is a charitable 501 (c)(3) organization formed to assist Thoroughbred rehabilitation and retirement organizations that care for and retrain horses who raced in California and whose racing careers have ended. CARMA ensures the racehorses have retirement options by managing and disbursing funds to qualified charities. Since its inception in 2008, CARMA has granted more than \$1.08 million, and more than 80 percent of the funds raised are used in the day-to-day care of these horses.

About The Siegel CARMA Foundation

The Siegel CARMA Foundation was created in 2009 thanks to a major gift by Mace Siegel, an owner, breeder and recognized leader in Thoroughbred racing. Breeding and racing under the stable name Jay Em Ess Stable, with his wife Jan and daughter Samantha, Siegel was known for his dedication to the sport and his commitment to charitable causes both in and out of racing. Samantha Siegel is a member of the CARMA Board of Directors and is the Secretary of the organization.