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Royal Colors Racing March 2014 Newsletter

Let's Talk About the Good in Horse Racing

A Message from RCR Managing Partner, Mike Rose

Despite some recent press to the contrary, the vast majority of individuals involved in horse racing maintain both passion for the sport and compassion for the equine stars. Without exception, I have seen complete professionalism among the trainers, veterinarians, grooms, and owners we have worked with since Royal Colors Racing began competing as a stable in 2008. Trainers make tough decisions every day, but I have never had one hesitate to tell me both the good news and the bad. If soundness is an issue, the horse does not compete.



Veterinarians are in a tough position. The professional athletes they serve cannot talk, so if a horse needs an antibiotic to address the flu or a topical solution to address an ailment, the vet has to discover the issue and determine a solution. They all know the rules of the game and my exposure has been that they respect the rules and are focused on the animals they support.

If abuses exist, they need to be addressed. But don't place the vast majority of professionals involved in racing in a bad light, the respect they have for the dignity of the sport is great and their respect for the horses in their care even greater.

Following is an example of the caring hearts of a few Royal Colors Racing owners who recently

ensured that a former RCR horse, claimed from us midway through his racing career, was not forgotten, but instead was placed in a great new home and a second career away from the track.

Legacy Horse Update - FORTY WINKS



A day after his evening arrival, Forty bonding with Dr Leslie Franklin, sister of an RCR partner, who had seen Forty race in April 2012 and recently started a horse rescue in RI. He is their first horse.

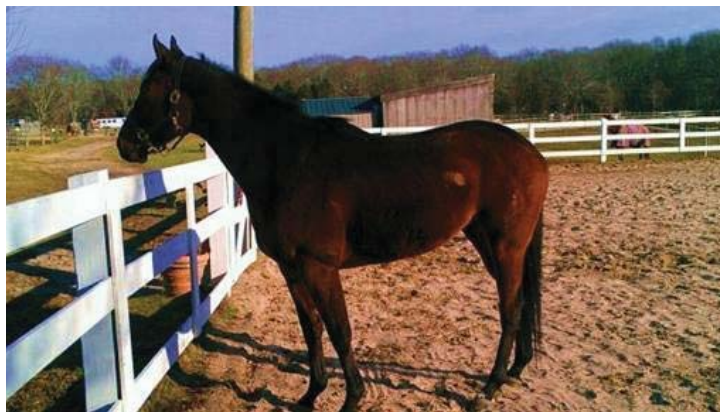
He's settling in quite well says his rider Tess "He loves everyone and everyone loves him. He's thoroughly enjoying having his own paddock where he gets to just be a horse and roll around in the mud". Bonnie decided to rename him Kingsly in honor of his royal bloodlines and the

fact that he's such a celebrity around the barn-- he's treated "like a king!" The first photo shows him the day after he arrived with Dr. Franklin who rides at Smithbridge and helped connect RCR with Bonnie as the first horse handled by her newly-formed Rhode Island horse rescue, Second Chance.

When first turned out in his paddock across the gravel path from the lesson and show ring, he was apparently puzzled about why he was left to roam on his own and what on earth was up with the farm mascot, a donkey, who is now one of his best buddies. At the racetrack, the horses are used to being led by hand and guided—or in the stall and rarely if ever turned out.

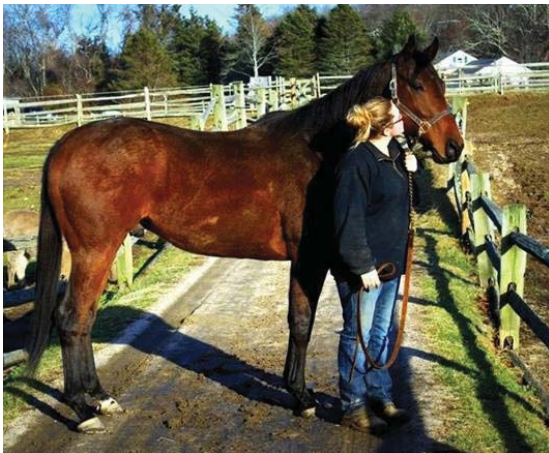
Forty Winks Embraces New Name, New Home, Friends and Mission in New England

Several RCR partners worked together to locate Forty Winks after he had been claimed and it was clear his racing career was over. They secured him from his current owner and set out to find a riding stable interested in giving him a second career. Thanks primarily to the efforts of former owners Marilyn Franklin and Scott Miller, Forty Winks (renamed Kingsly) is settling into his new Wakefield, Rhode Island home at hunter lesson and show barn, Smithfield Stables. Owned and run by Bonnie Smith, the stable is highly-regarded as a lesson and show stable often participating and winning at the regional levels. On just a few days notice, Bonnie offered to take Kingsly in, sight unseen, and retrain him for a new career.



Kingsly, in his paddock watching a lesson in the ring across from his paddock

Bonnie says that he watches lessons with interest and amusement, and catches quite a few head scratches, peppermints and carrots from all the students and staff going to and from the barn. Dr. Franklin said "Kingsly has a way of touching the hearts of the people he meets. When we go into his paddock, he follows us around like a puppy and is already known for being one of the sweetest, cutest personalities in the barn. He is also wowing people with his elegant movement."



Enjoying a bonding moment with his rider and best bud Tess looking happy and relaxed

now. Come spring, he'll eventually do longer more involved training sessions learning to go more in a hunter frame, do figure eights and canter in slower collected strides. If all goes well, he'll be introduced to jumping fences in the ring and others that are set up on an outdoor cross country course in the fields.

Although he is blanketed and has a double stall in the barn at night, you can see from the photos that "Kingsly" has grown a bit of a winter coat to weather the snowy New England weather and is filling out quite nicely.

A special thanks goes out to partner Scott Miller who took the initiative to find Kingsly's racing trainer in his last several months of racing last Fall and ensure that the horse would have a good home once retired from racing.

He has pleasantly surprised Bonnie and Tess with how quiet and relaxed he is since arriving that, instead of giving him the winter to 'let down' from racing life, they felt it would actually be healthier for the horse to transition into life on the farm by keeping him on a light schedule.

Tess gets him out most days of the week and says "he is brilliant, learning quickly and seems to love having a new job that he is good at." When there isn't 2 feet of snow— she says he loves to go for walks around the beautiful 28 acre farm and light walk/trot training rides in the ring for



Dr Franklin says that his charisma especially engages the kids and heard from Bonnie that he has a number of riding students in line to ride him when he's ready. Even beyond the stable, her teenage daughter Leah has decided to do her school community service project on Kingsly and Second Chance horse rescue.



Forty Winks had 25 total starts, 12 as a RCR racehorse primarily at Southwest tracks Remington Park in Oklahoma and Lone Star Park in Dallas TX. He had 2 wins, 2 seconds and 1 third. His pedigree includes two triple crown winners - Secretariat and Seattle Slew.

Dr Franklin's daughter Leah visiting Forty back in 2012 after his April win at Lone Star Park.,TX. His successful rehoming has inspired her to do a community service project about him and the new horse rescue, Second Chance, started by her mother.

One of Kingsly's other young fans, a little 5 year old girl, who heard about the rescue horse, asked that all the little girls who came to her early January birthday party bring donations for Second Chance Horse Rescue in lieu of birthday presents!

Who knew that it would be life after the race track where Kingsly would find his true celebrity and inspire a new generation of caretakers of horses in need.

(Special Thanks to RCR Partner Marilyn Franklin for sharing this article)

Two-Year-Old Sales in Full Swing

Several Select Sales in the Books

With the Barretts California, Fasig-Tipton Florida, OBS Select in Florida now complete, it is clear the demand for quality horses remains strong. Claiming activity across many tracks appears to be up year-over-year. On Thursday at Oaklawn there was an 11-way "shake," or 11 parties attempting to claim a \$7,500 claiming horse. Royal Colors Racing staff will be in attendance at the upcoming Fasig-Tipton Texas sale. If you are in the area, come out to the sale as they are open to the public. Respond to this email and let us know you plan to attend and we will arrange to show you around. The Breeze Show is at Lone Star Park (Dallas) on Sunday March 30th at 11:00 a.m., the sale is on Tuesday, April 1st at noon.



Stable Update

Sassy Kiss Continues to Train Well, Looks for Next Race

Our four-year-old filly, Sassy Kiss, continues to remain race ready at Oaklawn Park. She recently completed a five furlong workout in 1:02.60, ranking 3rd of 14 at the distance. We continue to look for the right spot for her and at this point are focused on a race on April 4th.



Springboard Should Breeze this Week

Springboard is currently at Evangeline Training Center and everything is going great. He should record his first breeze any day. We plan to ship him back to Churchill Downs within the next thirty days. More than likely, he will make his next start at the scene of his last win under the shadow of the twin spires.

Divine Decree is Back on the Track

Divine Decree is training well at Twin Oaks Training Center. After a healthy layoff, our filly looks sharp and ready to get back to business. She is improving her conditioning each day and will be two-minute-licking (running at a two-minute-mile pace) very soon.



Slew City Lou has Returned to Training

After a 75-day freshening, Slew City Lou looks physically and mentally ready to get back into her racing groove. We placed her in the Eurocizer for a week and returned her to the Twin Oaks Training track this week. It is great to have all of the horses of racing age in the stable back in



training.

Time Catcher is Loving the Spring

As planned, we continue to give our young colt time to grow and mature. He looks bigger and



Time Catcher on right

better every day. He has been thoroughly enjoying the spring weather. Currently he is sharing a field with two other colts and they are keeping each other busy 24/7. At this point, we plan to bring Time Catcher into a very gradual training program on May 1st.. Shares remain available in this colt, [.click here to see his current pricing and profile.](#)



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