



E-NEWS AND E-NOTES FOR FRIDAY, MAY 16th, 2025

A TALE OF THREE CITIES

DARKE SHED ROWS

Greenville is hosting their 18-racematinee Saturday June 17th at 12 noon. There are several two-year-olds expected to be in the 2:05h range. Home of **The Great Darke County Fair** that sends the Ohio Colt Racing Association youngsters to post in August on Friday the 15th , Saturday the 16th before their finale of Thursday the 21st ...we can hardly wait for that 6:30 post time!



WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE

At the Fayette County County Fairgrounds on Sunday the 18th a 14-race card is being held for the area horsemen. It's always a fun time in Fayette and it's the start of another great Season!

'MILEY BUCYRUS

Saturday the 17th brings another Bucyrus Matinee for the Crawford County area horsemen. With refreshments available as well as a 50/50 drawing and several giveaways the two-year-olds and three-year-old "time bar" 11 race card should be well-attended.

A "Time Bar Race" is when a time is set for the horse to go in (ie. mile in 2:25 - two minutes and 25 seconds) The horse must go as close to that time – without going over – to be declared the winner and it really keeps the drivers on their toes. Remember that a fifth of a second when horses are going that fast is just a blink of an eye... at the end of a mile.

DRIVERS... CHECK YOUR WATCHES, PLEASE!





Our first 2:00 mile: Readville Race Track

Hyde Park, Massachusetts 1896-1937

Originally known as the **Readville Trotting Park**, it was located half in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Boston and half in Dedham. It was part of **Camp Meigs**, the Union Army camp where regiments from Massachusetts trained during the Civil War, including the all-black 54th Regiment commanded by **Robert Gould Shaw** immortalized in the movie "**Glory**."

After the War the site was used for agricultural shows for much of the late 19th century along with its



a half-mile track [a "twice around"] built for harness racing. In 1895 construction began on a

mile track with grandstands, stables, & a hotel.

"The Little Red Horse" Kansas-bred **John R. Gentry** had just missed the World Record when he paced a mile in 2:00 ½ at Rigby Park in S. Portland Maine in 1896 and then sold the next year to E.H. Harriman, owner of the Union Pacific Railroad and founder of Arden Homestead Stables. Readville, now known as the premier racing venue in the North America attracted the best and in August of 1897 **Star Pointer** circled the mile track in 1:59 ¼.

John R. Gentry was conditioned and driven by Illinois-bred **Myron McHenry** (1856-1911) who, although being denied the honor of the first 2:00 mile, made a statement with another World Champion: **Dan Patch**. Dan equaled "the Pinter's" world record in September of 1902 at Readville which was front-page news throughout the country. Dan then became America's first "sports celebrity" as McHenry guided him to a mark of 1:56 and would obliterate every existing pacing record. A tip of the cap & a "how do you like me now!"

Weekend at the movies



Home In Indiana hit the Big Screen in 1944. It was a good escape from the horrors of WWII that was still raging in the Europe and the Pacific Theatres. Audiences were drawn to the more relaxing time of the story of a "bad" city boy who finds his true calling with the horses as he brings his disillusioned uncle out from his doldrums and breaths new life into the old farm. It is the movie that was the basis for *April Love* 13 years later and, if you're like me, can watch a good movie about horses & replays of great races again & again & again.

See all the replays, the miles, & the smiles:

Harnessracingohio.com