

Capitol Region Premier Events:

The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame

The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame is dedicated to preserving and interpreting the entire spectrum of Thoroughbred racing through educational programs, interactive displays, exhibits, and special events. The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame is located in Saratoga Springs, New York, across from the historic Saratoga Race Course, the oldest operating track in the country.

Man o' War, Secretariat, Arcaro, and the Jones Boys are all heroes of the turf and names that evoke the clang of the starting gate and the thunder of pounding hooves. A visit to the Museum is filled with the sights and sounds of racing. As one of America's oldest sports, Thoroughbred Racing has a long and rich history. To tell the story of the sport, the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame relies on a renowned equine art collection, stunning trophies, beautiful silks, and Thoroughbred memorabilia.

While a walking tour captures the flavor of our permanent exhibits, no visit is complete without a trip to the Peter McBean Special Exhibition Gallery. The gallery features unique and exciting collections that are rarely available to the public. The Museum's newest permanent exhibit is a "ready to ride racing simulator." The racing simulator is a mechanical horse synchronized to move with jockey cam videos. The simulator enables visitors to mount up and experience a jockey's point of view. There are three levels of difficulty: Warm Up, Apprentice, and Jockey.

To reach the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, take exit 14 and bear to the right onto Union Avenue from I-87 (the Northway) towards Saratoga Springs. Proceed 1.0 miles on Union Avenue. The Museum is located on the right-hand side at the corner of Union Avenue and Ludlow Street.

Thoroughbred Racing's Hall of Fame

The mission of the Official National Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame is to honor the achievements of those horses, jockeys, and trainers whose records and reputations have withstood the difficult test of time. The National Museum of Racing was incorporated in historic Saratoga Springs, New York, in 1950. In 1955 the Museum moved to its present site on Union Avenue, and the Hall of Fame was created to recognize and honor deserving horses, jockeys, and trainers. Over the years the selection process and criteria have been fine-tuned, but the Hall of Fame remains devoted to the original three categories. As of Hall of Fame Day 2007, members include 176 Thoroughbreds, 88 jockeys, and 84 trainers. All are racing heroes.

Admission fee: \$7.00 adults, \$5.00 students and senior citizens (55 and older); members and children 5 and under are free. For more information call 518-584-0400 or email info@racingmuseum.org Visit online at: www.racingmuseum.org

The Saratoga Race Course is a famous horse-racing track in Saratoga Springs, NY. It opened on August 3, 1863, and is the oldest organized sporting venue of any kind in the United States. John Hunter, the first chairman of The Jockey Club and William R Travers built Saratoga Race Course. The original track was built across Union Avenue from the present Saratoga Race Course, which opened the following year. Since 1864 the track has been the site of the Travers Stakes, the oldest major thoroughbred race in the United States. which is the main draw of the annual summer race meeting. The Saratoga meet originally

consisted of only four days, but over time was lengthened, and for many years, the meet lasted for four weeks. In the 1890s/1990s it was lengthened to five weeks, and [today](#) a six-week meeting is observed, with Labor Day now the last day of the meet. Saratoga Race Course has two well-known nicknames -- *The Spa* (for the nearby mineral springs), and the *Graveyard of Champions* (for the upsets that have occurred there). Man o'War suffered his only defeat in 21 starts while racing at Saratoga; Secretariat was defeated at Saratoga by Onion after winning the Triple Crown; and Gallant Fox was beaten by 100-1 longshot Jim Dandy in the 1930 Travers Stakes. In 1999, Saratoga Race Course was rated as Sports Illustrated's #10 sports venue of the 20th Century. Visit online at: www.saratogaracetrack.com

[The 141st Travers Stakes At Saratoga Race Course](#)

2010 Travers Day

Saratoga's "Mid-Summer Derby"

Date: Saturday, [August 28](#), 2010

Gates Open Early at 7:00 a.m.

Early Post time: 12:00 p.m.

General Admission: \$5.00

Clubhouse Admission: \$10.00

2010 Travers Festival Events: (The festival runs from Saturday [August 21](#) - Sunday [August 29](#))

- Saturday, [August 21](#): Travers Festival Begins
- Sunday [August 22](#): Giveaway Day
- **Saturday, [August 28](#): 141st Annual Travers Stakes Post Time: Noon**
- Sunday, [August 29](#): Last Day of the 2010 Travers Festival

History

The Travers Stakes in Saratoga Springs is the oldest major thoroughbred horse race in America. The first Travers took place in 1864 at Saratoga Race Course. The race began when bare-knuckles boxing champion and US congressman, John Morrissey held a four-day meeting at Horse Haven. The meeting was so successful it was decided to build a racetrack right across the street. John Hunter and William R. Travers were said to be the organizers of building the Saratoga Race Course in 1864. Travers also owned and bred many of the best horses.

Together, Hunter and Travers owned a horse named Kentucky, the first winner of the stakes. [Today](#), Travers Weekend is one of the largest weekends throughout the Saratoga racing season.

Thousands of people travel to Saratoga Springs each year during the racing season, specifically to participate and watch the Travers Stakes. Online go to: www.saratogaracetrack.com/Travers/

[Dressage at Saratoga](#) - Recognized USDF/USEF dressage competition held every Memorial Day Weekend at the Saratoga Racecourse in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Presented by...

Eastern New York Dressage
& Combined Training Association

Saturday, May 29 and Sunday, May 30, 2010

Historic Saratoga Race Course

Saratoga Springs, NY

For more information go to: www.enydcta.org

[St. Clement's Saratoga Horse Show](#): The competition, which runs over two weeks, is billed as the oldest and one of the largest volunteer-operated horse shows in the country. ST. CLEMENT'S SARATOGA HORSE SHOW Saratoga Springs, NY

WEEK 1: MAY 5-9, 2010 WEEK 2: MAY 12-16, 2010

For more information go to: www.saintclementshorsheshow.com

[The Old Chatham Horse Trials](#) is a modified version of the challenging Olympic Three-Day Event and is often referred to as the triathlon of equestrian sports. This event is recognized by the United States Eventing Association (USEA) and sanctioned by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).

[Old Chatham Horse Trials 2010](#)

July 10th and 11th

Old Chatham Hunt Club, Chatham, NY

For more information go to: www.enydcta.org