



SOUTHWIND WOODY

Bay, C, 3 by Muscle Hill – Winky's Star by Pine Chip

OWNER: Burke Racing Stable, PA; Our Horse Cents Stables & J & T Silva Stables, NY; Weaver Brusceci, PA
BREEDER: Southwind Farm, NJ
SALE INFO: \$130,000 Lexington Selected
TRAINER: Ron Burke
DRIVER: Matt Kakaley

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2017	14	1	0	0	\$31,707	1:55.1 M
2016	11	1	1	2	\$46,863	1:59.1 Fhld
LIFETIME	25	2	1	2	\$78,570	3, 1:55.1 M

Southwind Woody is a son of 2009 Hambletonian winner and Horse of the Year Muscle Hill out of the mare Winky's Star. He is a half-brother to multiple-stakes-winner Southwind Wasabi and his family also includes 1993 Hambletonian Oaks winner Winky's Goal.

In his most recent start, Southwind Woody finished fifth from post 10 in the Reynolds Memorial at the Meadowlands.

"Woody is steadily improving and I think deserves a shot," trainer Ron Burke said.

J&T Silva Stables is Jerry and Theresa Silva. Jerry Silva has been a partner on four Hambletonian winners: Continentalvictory (1996), Self Possessed (1999), Deweycheatumnhowe (2008) and Muscle Hill (2009).

He shares the record for Hambletonian owner wins with Guy "Sonny" Antonacci.

Our Horse Cents Stables is Marcia Gingold, Gene Kurzrok, Scott Kurzrok, Stephen Springer, and Richard Taylor.

Weaver Brusceci is the partnership of Mark Weaver and Mike Brusceci.

RON BURKE (Canonsburg, PA)

Ron Burke, 47, took over the family's training stable from father Mickey, the 2006 Trainer of the Year, in late 2008 and pushed the operation's success to record-setting heights.

Burke is in the process of leading all trainers in wins for the ninth consecutive year. He has won no fewer than 762 races a year since 2009 and twice topped 1,000 victories, with 1,090 in 2013 and 1,093 in 2014. He is the only trainer in history to win 1,000 times in a season.

Already the sport's all-time leader in training wins, Burke in July surpassed 8,000 career victories.

Burke also is in the process of leading all trainers in purses for the ninth straight season. His \$177 million in lifetime earnings leads all trainers in history. He has topped \$20 million each of the past four years, including a record \$28.4 million in 2014. He is the only trainer in history to reach \$20 million in a season.

He was named Trainer of the Year in 2011 and 2013.

In addition to Burke's success as a trainer, his Burke Racing was named Owner of the Year (with partners Mark Weaver and Mike Brussemi) in 2013.

Burke is seeking his first win in the Hambletonian after finishing twice the past two years. Last year, Burke's Southwind Frank was nipped by a nose by Marion Marauder, who went on to capture the Trotting Triple Crown.

In 2015, Burke entered filly Mission Brief to take on the boys in the Hambletonian. Mission Brief, a world-record-holder at ages 2 and 3, won her elimination before finishing second to Pinkman in the final.

Burke's other stars have included 2014 Pacer of the Year Sweet Lou and 2011 Pacer of the Year Foiled Again, who is the richest harness racing horse in history, with \$7.52 million in lifetime earnings.

MATT KAKALEY (Mountain Top, PA)

Matt Kakaley, 29, has driven finalists in the past two Hambletonians, with a best finish of fourth last year with Waitlifter K.

Kakaley is nearing 4,000 lifetime wins and recently topped \$56 million in purses.

In 2009, at the age of 21, Kakaley became the then-youngest driver to reach 1,000 wins. He also was the youngest driver to 2,000 wins, at age 23, but later saw Scott Zeron eclipse the mark.

A third generation horseman, Kakaley followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, Joe, who owned horses and spurred the family's interest in harness racing, plus dad, driver John Kakaley, and mom, trainer Linda Kakaley.

He lived in Michigan, but spent his teen years around Pompano Park in Florida before moving to Ohio in 2007 and embarking full time on his career as a driver.

In 2010, Kakaley was given the Rising Star Award by the U.S. Harness Writers Association.

He is the regular driver of \$2.4 million-earning-pacer All Bets Off.