

## **ANN STRAATMAN**

Lucan, Ontario

**Nominated as: Breeder Director, Ontario Region**

Third generation, owner/manager of Seelster Farms.

Twenty years of management experience.

Hands on management with three partners (Karen Favacho, Tina-Marie Howard and Walter Parkinson Jr.)

My responsibilities at Seelster Farms as Reproduction Manager:

- new stallion acquisitions (Seelster currently has eight stallions: Camluck, Artistic Fella, Federal Flex, Stonebridge Regal, Western Maverick, In Conchnito and new to Seelster in 2011 are Ponder, Santanna Blue Chip, plus one new stallion to be announced soon)
- stallion and syndicate contracts
- stallion syndicate management
- stallion promotion (with Walter Parkinson)
- hands on breeding management of all mares boarding at Seelster
- Seelster has a 96% conception rate for all mares bred on the farm
- client liaison for all matters including stallion service applications and stallion selection for their mares.
- mare acquisitions, mare selection, mare booking selections each season
- yearling promotion and preparation for sale (Seelster markets approximately 50 yearlings each year)

Owner / Director of Forest City Yearling Sales

-Chair of The Board of Directors of FCYS since 2003

My responsibilities at Forest City Yearling Sales:

- chair meetings of the Board of Directors several times each year.
- select and work with sale managers in preparation for the select yearling sale each fall

Racing Experience

Seelster is and has been an active participant in racing in Ontario.

Currently Seelster has four racehorses with prominent Ontario trainers and we are planning to purchase two yearlings at the Harrisburg sale.

Standardbred Improvement Program Advisory Group.

Recently I was asked to join the H.I.P. Stbd Advisory Group where we discussed the Mare Residence Program and proposed changed to the OSS program.

Education:

-earned two degrees from the University of Guelph in Zoology and Statistics

What I could bring to the Standardbred Canada Board:

-practical, hands-on knowledge of a working breeding farm

-the ability to work well within a group for a common goal

-a common sense approach to problem solving

As for what I would like to accomplish during my tenure; I have a great motivation to work towards creating an industry that has stability and bright outlook for everyone involved. Our business today is filled with such uncertainty that it is difficult for anyone, going forward, to put all of their "eggs in one basket" with any confidence. I want to be an active member and be involved in generating a solution for the problems we face today. And I want to be able to ensure that the fourth-generation of Seelster Farms has a secure future.