



# Stanley F. Bergstein

1971-1972 AHP President

*Hoof Beats*

*By Dean Hoffman, 2006-2007 AHP President*

Stanley F. Bergstein has been executive vice-president of Harness Tracks of America for almost a half-century and he has certainly been the most important and influential person in harness racing during that same time period.

Stan Bergstein is far, far more than just an association executive. He is a man with an amazing array of talents. He has been a race announcer, race secretary, auctioneer, historian, book and art collector, peerless journalist, among others.

He was among the founders of American Horse Publications and served as its second president.

In all of his positions, Stan Bergstein has been an innovator. He has introduced many ideas and programs into harness racing that are vital parts of the sport decades after Bergstein planted the seed. In 2006, Stanley F. Bergstein received the Equine Industry Vision Award presented by Pfizer Animal Health and American Horse Publications.

Perhaps most importantly, he has been---and continues to be---harness racing's Mr. Integrity. When harness racing began to be plagued by integrity and drug problems, many leaders shrugged them off as merely a sign of the times. Not Stan Bergstein. He took a strong stand against drug violators. Some people in harness racing hated him for his position; others simply ignored him. But Bergstein never wavered in his quest to restore integrity to the sport he loved so much.

His fame spread far beyond the narrow confines of harness racing. He is known and respected in the larger equine world in North America and equally respected overseas. Listen to what the late Joe Hirsch, the legendary *Daily Racing Form* columnist, said about Bergstein:

“Stan is really unique in sports,” said Hirsch. “I don’t think any other sport has a figure to compare to Stan. He’s an institution. He’s played so many roles in harness racing and he’s made so many contributions.”

Stanley F. Bergstein is harness racing's living legend.

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*“I take great pride in my small role in AHP’s early development, and in its present lofty success.”*