



From the *EXECUTIVE CORNER*



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CTBA PRESIDENT

California Chrome Leads the Way

The California-bred champions of 2016 are featured this month, and once again California Chrome graces the cover of this publication. Since his dramatic Triple Crown run in 2014, he has arguably been featured in *California Thoroughbred* more than any other horse ever bred in the Golden State. Having been crowned the national and California Horse of the Year two of the past three years, he is now off to his new career at stud in Kentucky. He carried the banner for California racing and breeding the past three to four years, and his racing exploits and popularity will be very tough to replace.

As I have mentioned on numerous other occasions, the recent resurgence in the breeding trends, both with the number of mares bred and resulting foal crops, can be attributed to Chrome's accomplishments and fame. The entire world has been put

on notice as to the quality of horse that can be bred, raised, and raced in the Golden State.

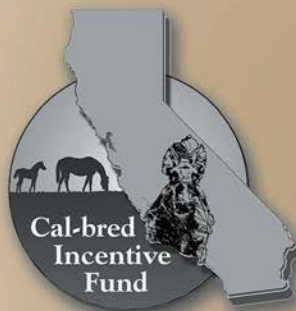
On a somber note, the recent unexpected passing of Chrome's sire, Lucky Pulpit, will leave a major void in the state. As the leading California sire last year with a whopping \$10.78 million in earnings, he will also be very difficult to replace. Our thoughts go out to owners Larry and Marianne Williams as well as to all associated with the stallion at Harris Farms. A tribute to Lucky Pulpit appears on page 16.

Besides the outstanding accomplishments of California Chrome in his last full year of racing, Cal-breds as a whole had an amazing year, with a total of 17 graded stakes wins.

Multiple graded stakes winner Ashleyvssugar was named champion California turf horse while graded stakes winners Lost Bus and

Masochistic were crowned champion older female and champion sprinter, respectively. The other divisional winners include several multiple stakes winners that are chiefly racing for their breeders. They include the Nick Alexander homebred 3-year-old female champion Enola Gray, the John Parker homebred 3-year-old male champion Gold Rush Dancer, the promising undefeated Joe Turner homebred 2-year-old female champion Sircat Sally, and the 2-year-old champion male California Diamond. Last year was indeed remarkable for Cal-breds and will most definitely be a challenging one to top.

All of the divisional awards are featured beginning on page 24, as well as coverage of the awards dinner (page 50), which included the most recent inductions into the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association Hall of Fame. **CTB**



It Pays To Be Cal-Bred