



From the *EXECUTIVE CORNER*



DOUG BURGE

CTBA PRESIDENT

AG DAY SHOWCASES OUR INDUSTRY

Through the initial encouragement of the late Leigh Ann Howard, each March the CTBA participates in Ag Day held on the lawn of the California Capitol. This provides the perfect forum to educate and remind legislators of the history and magnitude of breeding and racing in California. With many new legislators now in Sacramento, events such as this are extremely valuable.

Typically, we bring a mare and newborn foal from nearby Daehling Ranch, which as the featured attraction draws a lot of attention. Unfortunately, this year's date, March 21, brought inclement weather that made it to unsafe to include them as

part of the CTBA booth.

Representing CTBA at Ag Day was longtime employee Loretta Veiga. She was joined by Jordyn Egan of the Thoroughbred Owners of California and Amy Zimmerman of Santa Anita, both also representing the newly formed California Horse Power Coalition. Founded by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Santa Anita Park, and the TOC, with CTBA joining as an early member, the California Horse Power Coalition is a growing partnership among Thoroughbred associations, organizations coming from a wide spectrum of the Thoroughbred industry, including backstretch workers, jockeys, and animal wellness advocates.

The day's program included honoring Nancy Easton, the event coordinator at the California Exposition and State Fair, with a resolution outlining her many contributions to the agricultural and equine industries. Karen Ross, the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, presented the resolution to Nancy. Other speakers during the program included Jennifer Siebel Newsom, wife of California Gov. Gavin Newsom, who spoke on the importance of agriculture to the state, as well as Anthony Rendon, the Assembly Speaker.

Loretta captured the day in photos, shown below as well as on the CTBA working for you section (page 12). **CTB**



California Ag Day included speeches from Jennifer Siebel Newsom (top left), Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (top right), and Senator Melissa Hurtado (bottom right); a presentation to Nancy Easton (red coat) from Karen Ross (bottom left); and visits to the CTBA booth by Senator Brian Dahle (top center) and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva (bottom center).

LORETTA VIEGA PHOTOS