



DAN PATCH

Newsletter

A Publication of the Dan Patch Historical Society

Number 50 • Spring 2019

www.danpatch.com

DAN PATCH INDUCTED INTO CANADIAN HORSE RACING HALL OF FAME



Dan Patch Day at Toronto Canada

Harry Hersey, the driver of Dan, is seated beneath the beautiful floral horseshoe presented by the Canadian officials. This photograph was taken immediately at the close of the exhibition mile and just after the blanket and long streamers of flowers had been thrown over Dan.

The DPHS has been informed that the Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame (CHRHF) has selected Dan Patch as their 2019 Legend Honoree, in recognition of his significant historical contribution to Canadian horse racing.

The hall of fame (HOF) cites Dan's racing exploits at tracks in Windsor & Toronto and the records he set as the foundation for this incomparable pacer being recognized.

In 1901 Dan began The Grand Circuit Tour as a 5 year old at Windsor, Ontario; a warm up race for the '01 season. M.W. Savage, Dan's owner (one year later), in his International Stock Food Farm publication quotes a turf reporter: "He is a rugged looking stallion with the best of feet and legs ... He has a bold way of going...his manners are simply perfect."

Tim Brady in his The Great Dan Patch states: "Dan faced his first real competition that day in Windsor-a quality pacer from the Rocky Mountain region named Winfield Stratton." Dan did not show any nerves starting his career in big time racing; in the first heat Dan took the geldings measure, and then swept all 3 heats and the \$600 purse.

Dan's 1902 season also began in Windsor where he met the Canadian crowd favorite Harold H., whom the home town fans felt would give the "hotshot American pacer all he could handle" (Brady). In the first heat the first ¼ mile was 30 1/2 seconds, the ½ mile was 1:01; too lively a pace for Harold who trailed at the finish. The second heat also went to Dan in a jog and he took the \$700 purse, over twenty thousand in today's dollars.

In 1905 as a 9 year old Dan was shipped to Toronto in October, where it had been raining for days and the wind blowing off Lake Ontario. The track at the half mile oval was muddy, raw & cold.

As so often occurs in sport, a bit of controversy arose when the Toronto Driving Club, who sponsored the event at the publicly owned track allowed gambling and of all things, the sale of LIQUOR! The Toronto Board of Control, which ran the track, threatened to pull the license of the Driving Club unless it ceased & desisted. Savage, nicknamed The Parson, stated Dan was a good envelope holding member of the Methodist Church and would never appear where gambling was allowed and liquor consumed (Brady).

The Club refrained from its bad habits and after a road scraper pulled by four horses worked the mud back from the track, 5000 shivering people braved the elements and still saw Dan shave the Canadian ½ mile track record by three seconds.

Dan Patch Inducted Into Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame Continued on Page 3



2019 Dan Patch Days Button

DAN PATCH



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.danpatch.com

New/Renewing Membership

- Dawn Bergman, Wilsonville, OR
- Jack & Cindy Bergman, Watersmeet, MI
- Richard Nash, New Prague, MN
- Barry & Lorna Stock, Savage, MN

Donations

- Dan Patch Days Buttons 1953-2017 from Tausha Chamberland
- Monetary Donation from Dawn Bergman
- Monetary Donations in memory of George Augustinack and Jens Bohn

DAN PATCH DAYS

Saturday & Sunday,
July 20 & 21, 2019

Saturdays events include a prize of a Dan Patch Lunchbox with purchase of a program. Sunday is a 5K run and horse-shoes for the kids.



Running Aces Casino & Racetrack
15201 Zurich St., Columbus, MN

DAN PATCH DAYS 2019

Horseshoe Hunt – Dan’s lost horseshoe is hidden somewhere on public property within the City of Savage. Clues of a historic nature written by our very own cluemaster appear in the Savage Pacer and at danpatch.com five weeks before DP Days. The winner **MUST** verify that they have purchased a 2019 Dan Patch Days button to win the \$100 prize. The winner also gets to ride on the float in the parade.

Button - The 2019 official commemorative buttons are on sale for \$5 each at the Savage Public Library, Savage City Hall, and from DPHS board members. Prizes this year will be a quilt created and donated by Cathy Allen Bloomquist, a wine rack made from the original wood and nails from the Savage Depot and the book/DVD “The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage” along with a 1950’s glass from the Savage Municipal Liquor Store. The drawing will be held Sunday, June 23 at 1 PM in the Heritage Museum at the Savage Public Library.

Booth - We will not be having a booth this year.

Parade - The parade will be held once again on Saturday, June 22 at 11am. We will have our float with Dan and Mr. Savage.

Dan Patch Historical Society New/Renewing Membership

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Street Address: _____ E-Mail: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

ANNUAL DUES: Student (\$10) Individual (\$20) Family (\$30) Benefactor (\$55) Corporate (\$250 & more)

Please mail completed form and check to: Dan Patch Historical Society • P.O. Box 1:55 • Savage, MN 55378

Annual renewal date is listed on the address label of your newsletter. Thank you for your support.

NEWS



George Augustinack

George Augustinack, Vice President and founding member of the Dan Patch Historical Society passed away unexpectedly November, 26, 2018 at his home. He was a printer by trade, a real estate manager and long time member of the Savage City Planning Commission. He loved to gather historical knowledge and collect M.W. Savage and Dan Patch memorabilia. He was the one who created the button every year, loved to show and willingly chat about his collection at the Dan Patch Days booth and made sure we had a float for the parade every year. He was the 'go to guy' for information and had time to chat with everyone. He will be missed by all who knew him.

- **The DPHS & specifically the Horseshoe Hunt Clue Master would like to acknowledge the retirement of Kathleen Klehr, the Executive Director of the Scott County Historical Society for many years. We thank her for her service to not only the county but to all the local societies and specifically for her assistance in researching and hunting down facts & figures, she has been invaluable in helping to research clue writing. Her retirement plans include refurbishing a bus into a camper & travel the country. Congratulations & Best wishes Kathleen!**

Dan Patch Inducted Into Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame Continued...

The official un-veiling of Dan Patch's display panel in the CHRHF will take place June 5th at their facilities at Woodbine Racetrack in Toronto. The actual induction will occur at their annual ceremony in early August. DPHS board members will be in attendance and happy to take part in the festivities.

As stated years ago in an ode to Dan by a Horse Lover:

"True greatness, thus, for centuries now passed...

The horse, in history...always greatly prized."

Over one hundred after his passing, the great Dan Patch is still winning accolades.

This article was researched and written by Jim Ross, lifelong resident of Savage, MN and board member of DPHS.

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| • 2019 Dan Patch Days Button..... | \$5.00 | <h1>FOR SALE</h1> |
| Previous years buttons also available | | |
| • Postcards..... | \$1.00 | |
| • M.W. Savage Storyboard..... | \$75.00 | |
| • Dan Patch Storyboard..... | \$75.00 | |
| • 2008 Dan Patch Pewter Holiday Ornament..... | \$20.00
\$10.00 | |
| • Book, <i>International Stock Food Farm</i> | \$25.00 | |
| • Book, <i>Dan Patch Electric Railroad</i> | \$15.00 | |
| • Tim Brady's Book, <i>The Great Dan Patch and the Remarkable Mr. Savage</i> | \$25.00
\$15.00 | |
| • Nancy Huddleston's Book, <i>Images of America, Savage</i> | \$24.00 | |

* Shipping and handling fees apply to all items.

Fundraising helps the society fulfill its mission of collection, preserving and educating. Proceeds from sales as well as membership dues are used to purchase brochures, our bi-annual newsletter, postcards, membership cards and anything essential to continue our mission. We thank you for your continued support of the Dan Patch Historical Society.

Thank You

DAN PATCH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1:55
Savage, MN 55378

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Contact us at: 952-890-1669
Email: questions@danpatch.com

www.danpatch.com

**VISIT: Heritage Room/Museum
Savage Public Library
13090 Alabama Avenue, Savage, MN 55378**

Hours of Operation:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 10am-8pm
Wednesday 1pm-8pm
Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Sunday 1pm-5pm

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

6:30pm

Heritage Room

Savage Public Library

Any members interested in serving on the board
should contact Tom Brennan, President.

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The Dan Patch Newsletter is an official publication of the
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