

SAROA NEWS

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
RACEHORSE ASSOCIATION

RICHARD STAFFORD - SAROA SECRETARY REPORTS

OWNER OF THE MONTH



Rocket Commander wins
at Morphettville

Our nomination for Owner of the month for September is Wayne and Jenny Francis for their winners – Rocket Commander, Zipnotized and Cyclone Thomas. All three horses are trained by Wayne in partnership with Glen Kent (well known horse-breaker and accomplished rodeo rider). The partnership has had a strong run of success in the last few months from their Finnis Lodge base.

Of the three horses perhaps the most promising is Rocket Commander now a 4 year old (Court Command – Pinot Royale by Red Ransom). She has

won 2 races and run second 4 times in her last six starts. Her full race record is 20 starts for 5 wins, 4 seconds and 4 thirds and prizemoney of a bit over \$120,000. Her most recent effort was a very close second to Okahu Bay in the Gawler Cup. This followed a second at Morphettville and two wins (one in August) on the Parks track, both over 1400m. The stable told us she was “a tough horse, not overly large but very game and has a big heart. Wasn’t expensive and we wish we had more like her in the stable”.

Zipnotized is a six year old mare (Clangalang – Zipnotic by Monolith), she is a home bred, whose grand dam Eastern Charm left two stakes winners for the Francis family, Goodwood winner Zip Zip Aray and Zipanese. Her recent record is quite solid having started 10 times this preparation for 2 wins, 2 seconds and

a third. Her full record is 31 starts for 3 wins, 4 seconds and 6 thirds and stakes of \$48,020. Her win in August was over 1509m at Gawler.

Cyclone Thomas started his career with David Jolly and has more recently transferred to the Francis/Kent Stable – he is part owned by SAROA life member Fred Vella. He is a 5 year old gelding (Dylan Thomas – Concluding by Kenny’s Best Pal) and has won only the once over 1550m in a maiden at Morphettville Park. His record reads 12 starts for 1 win, 3 seconds and a third. He is well related being a half-brother to the four times stakes winner Moment in Time who was raced by other

SAROA members in June and Bryan Terry and won almost \$600,000 before being retired to stud.

Wayne and Jenny have a number of other promising horses in the stable and we wish them all the best for the future and thank them for their continued sponsorship of SAROA.

OWNER OF THE MONTH

**SEPTEMBER
WINNER:
WAYNE AND
JENNY FRANCIS**

**OWNERS OF
ROCKET
COMMANDER
ZIPNOTIZED
CYCLONE THOMAS**

HAPPENINGS WITHIN SAROA

Our Annual General Meeting was held on September 19th in The Chairman's Room at Morphettville Racecourse. During the President's Report our President - Michael Trenerry announced his retirement from the role and from the SAROA committee effective immediately. Michael while performing an excellent job as president had been finding that the time requirements of the role were impacting on his time for his business activities.

We wish Michael all the best with his activities both business wise and in racing and sincerely thank him for his extensive contribution to SAROA. During Michael's time on the committee, with Dean Mann, then with Paul Kristoris as President before taking over the roll himself, the financial position of the organisation has changed from continuous small losses and some degree of financial instability to one of profits and increased financial security.

Michael's efforts, along with those of hard working committee members, has strengthened SAROA's position in both a financial sense and as an effective representative of the interests of race-horse owners within South Australia.

We are indebted to many sponsors who assist us in a variety of ways but in particular we would like to acknowledge the SAJC for providing naming rights for races on our SAROA Race Days and to Cornerstone Stud, Eliza Park International, Goldin Farms and Swettenham Stud for providing stallion nominations to be auctioned at our Horse's Birthday lunches.

An organisation like ours cannot survive without the voluntary efforts of our committee members and the continued support of sponsors who help us in a myriad of ways.

When this article reaches the press, the SAROA committee will have met and elected a replacement president. At that meeting the committee will also welcome two new members - Christopher Kay and Gary Collis who were elected at the AGM.

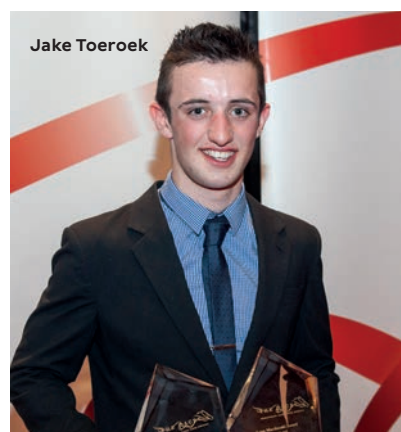
CHRISTMAS PARTY

We will return to the venue of last year's Christmas Party with this year's event planned for November 29th at Victoria Park. The party is free for SAROA members and will include a BBQ lunch and refreshments. We would love to see as many of our members there as possible.

SAROA APPRENTICE AWARD

Members are advised that nominations are now due for the SAROA Apprentices Award. This award is presented to an apprentice who is nominated by an owner for involvement above and beyond the normal duties of an apprentice. This may be in association with a particular horse or just in a general manner with the nominating owner.

Past winners include Libby Hopwood, Lauren Stojakovic and Jake Toeroek with last year's award being made posthumously to the family of Caitlin Forrest.



Jake Toeroek



Libby Hopwood

OWNER OF THE MONTH

Owner of the month nominations can be made by email or letter or even by a phone call to me; nominations should be received by 10th day of the following month. Nominations can come from the owner or a friend, acquaintance or family member but the nominee must be a SAROA member. We also prefer that the application is combined with a good story about the horse involved, as this award is just as applicable to lowly maiden winners as it is to winners of feature races.

Our committee review all nominations then select the monthly winner, who will receive a \$100 voucher, kindly donated by SAROA members Jenny and Wayne Francis to be used at any of the Francis group of hotels - namely the Elephant and Castle, The Port Noarlunga, the OG and the German Arms hotels.

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SAVE THE DATE

SAROA AGM

A reminder to members that the SAROA AGM will be held at Morphettville on September 19th - the function including a light lunch is free to all our members. Details will be forwarded to members in due course.