

Don Price, Williamston, Michigan



In December, 2005, Don Price relocated to Michigan. He is currently retired and acts as a part-time steward for the Office of the Michigan Racing Commissioner.

Don has an illustrious career in the Harness Horse World, including service as:

- Chief Harness Judge for the Massachusetts State Racing Commission
- Executive Secretary for the Virginia Racing Commission where he established all administrative functions of the Commission; developed racetrack licensing criteria and promulgated pari-mutuel regulations and racing rules. During his tenure, Virginia opened Colonial Downs (their first track) in 1997.
- Executive Secretary, Minnesota Racing Commission
- Executive Secretary, Harness Horsemen International
- Executive Director Standardbred Owners of New England
- Executive Direction of The Western New England Harness Horsemen's Association

While Don accomplished much outstanding work during all these tenures, most importantly to us in Michigan, Don served as General Manager for the Michigan Horsemen's Association from 1976 to 1985. During this time he was instrumental in coordinating the Michigan Standardbred 4-H Colt program, considered one of the best in North America, as well as many advances to the harness racing industry.

And...in 1983, Don attended the Quarter Horse Congress in Ohio, returned to the Michigan Horse Council, saying "We need to do something like this in Michigan. We need to showcase the size and scope of the Michigan Horse Industry....and we need to do it in downtown Lansing, so we can easily reach the Legislators." Don had a vision, and the end result of his vision and impetus, is the Michigan Horse Council International Stallion Exhibition and Trade Show as we know it today.

In 1984, MHC produced the very first "Stallion Expo" at the "old" Civic Center in Lansing, Michigan. Invitations were sent to all Legislators, as is still done, many attended, again as they still do.....and the MHC International Stallion Exhibition and Trade Show has showcased the Michigan Horse Industry for twenty-five years, celebrating its Silver Anniversary this year. In 1986, MHC honored Don Price with a Certificate of Recognition.

Michigan Horse Council is proud to recognize Don Price with a 2008 Catalyst Award.