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Rudi and Lindsay Viviers first opened the doors to their Viviers Stables in 2021. They have now moved their business to the famed Oak Hill Farm.



Viviers Stables Opens AT OAK HILL FARM

BY SARA PIZZUTO | PHOTO BY JENNA LEHMAN, PINE HILLS MEDIA LLC

Viviers Stables has found a new home base in Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Rudi and Lindsay Viviers have moved their training operation to Raymond and Lillian Shively’s historic Oak Hill Farm and are looking forward to continued success in their new location.

Both Rudi and Lindsay Viviers pursued their passion for horses at an early age before joining forces at the helm of their training establishment. For Lindsay, she learned valuable skills under the guidance of the Missouri-based breeder/horseman James “Gypsy Jim” Stewart.

“Some of the best memories I have to this day revolve around the countless hours of saddle time I spent on his farm with my little hunter pony and later, helping Jim with the broodmares and babies,” Lindsay said. “My passion for young horses started at that farm without a doubt. It was almost a collective sense of pride when one of Gypsy Santana’s offspring hit the ring for the first time, or better yet, came home with a blanket of roses after Louisville. Jim encouraged me to pursue a career in the American Saddlebred business, and I haven’t looked back since.”

While Lindsay honed her skills in the United States, Rudi was first introduced to Saddlebreds in his native homeland of Beaufort West, South Africa. A young Rudi would ride his bike several miles every day to attend his riding lessons and spent his free time working for local trainers.

“His desire to learn from the best landed him at Harold Poil’s doorstep,” Lindsay said. “Harold himself, also a Saddlebred hall of famer, learned from the one and only Garland Bradshaw while he was still living here in the states. Rudi’s passion grew from the opportunities he was given while working under the Poil Stables banner. Ultimately, his passion brought him to the United States to pursue a career in training world class Saddlebreds.”

Rudi and Lindsay Viviers combined their talents as Viviers Stables officially opened its doors in September of 2021. They are now looking forward to a new chapter, joining Raymond and Lillian Shively at their Oak Hill Farm in Harrodsburg.

“Raymond and Lillian have supported us from the very beginning by sending young prospects to be trained and sold by Viviers Stables,” Lindsay said. “It was a natural fit for us to join Raymond and Lillian at their historic Oak Hill Farm.”

Jean McLean Davis’ former property sits on over 50 fenced acres of land. It additionally boasts a rich history of Saddlebred greatness with many of the breed’s best having once called the farm their home.

“Yorktown, Man On The Town, and Korageous Kalu amongst many others bred, raised, or otherwise trained at this farm are buried here,” Lindsay said. “The architecture is built to withstand the test of time and is still immaculate on the inside. Every little detail put into the original construction of the barn was very tasteful and extremely well thought out— from the brass stall handles, to the three beautiful cupolas.”

Both Rudi and Lindsay are optimistic for the future of Viviers Stables as they continue the show season in Harrodsburg. In addition to their talented show string of veterans, prospects, youngsters, and sale horses, they are eager to be in close proximity to Raymond and Lillian Shively. With a new location, and the guidance of the Shiveleys, their business will continue to thrive—furthering the tradition at Oak Hill Farm.

“We are most excited and blessed to have the opportunity to run our business alongside two of the industry’s best, Raymond and Lillian Shively,” Lindsay said. “Further, we are honored to continue the legacy of this historic farm.”



Many exciting top Saddlebreds make their home at the new Viviers Stables, including Newline’s The Mandalorian.



Oak Hill Farm boasts a rich history of Saddlebred greatness. It is also the final resting place for Saddlebred legends including Yorktown, Man On The Town, and Korageous Kalu.



The Viviers enjoy many aspects of Oak Hill Farm, including the 50 fenced acres of land as well as the intricate details of the barn’s design.