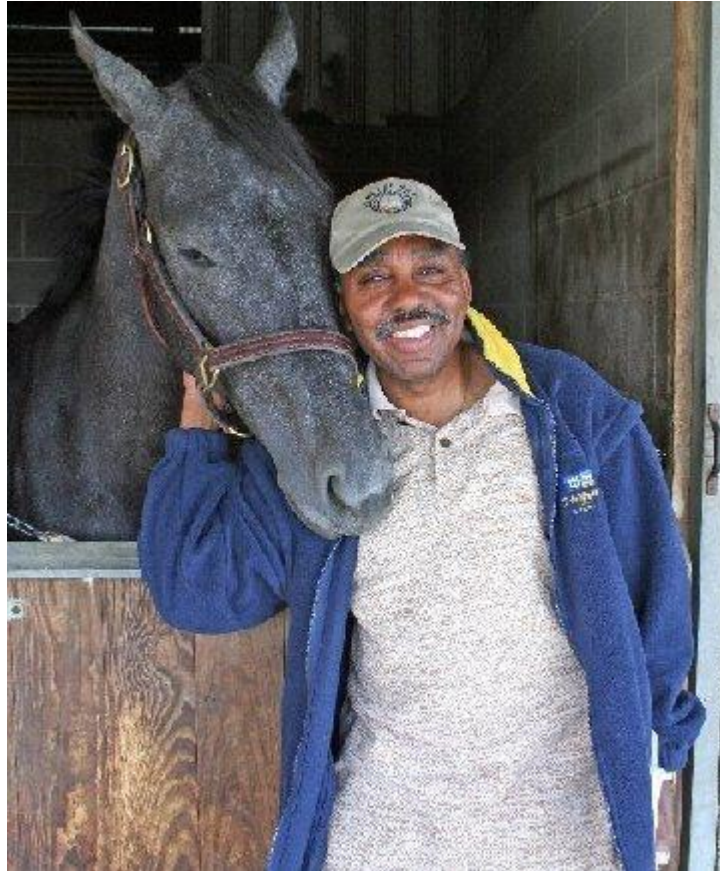


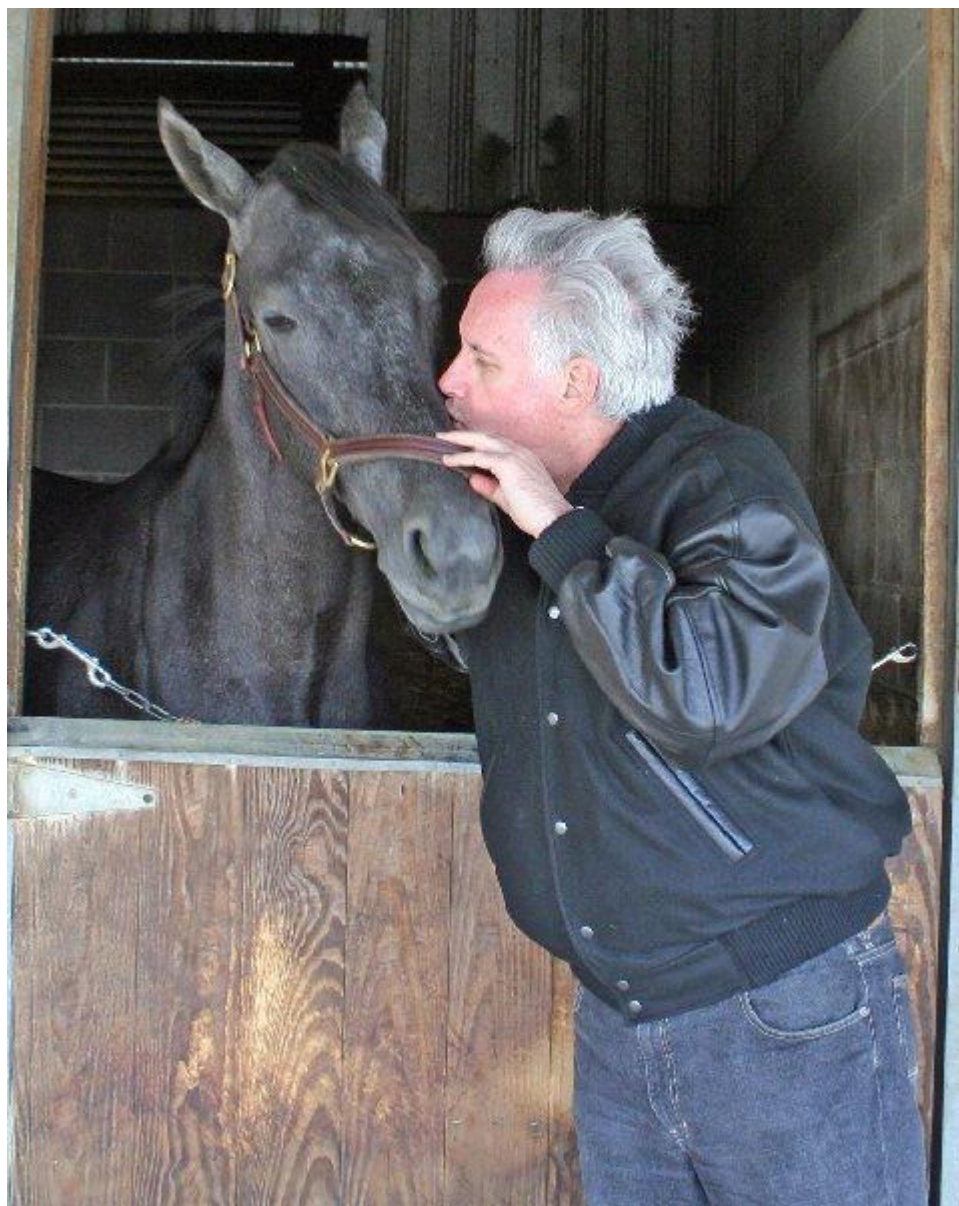
The Life and Times of R Betty Graybull

By Bob Hutt, Fantasy Lane Stable



R Betty Graybull with Clocker Gate, who discovered her in 2008

We purchased R Betty Graybull, the New York bred daughter of the magnificent Holy Bull, for only \$60,000. She was a late-May foal, but that didn't stop her from making her debut in August up at Saratoga before 62,000 screaming fans. She had a very troubled trip that day, but still managed to finish third. We knew then we had something special.



Bob Hutt with Betty on the day we bought her



R Betty Graybull on cruise control breaking her maiden

In her next start against MSW company at Belmont Park, she won easily. She followed that up at Monmouth Park, where she won the \$200,000 NATC Futurity Stakes. She ended her two-year old campaign with a 2nd to eventual Grade-1 winner Just Jenda.



Betty winning the 200K NATC Futurity, beating graded winner Kays and Jays

During a routine end-of-year examination, we discovered Betty had a chip in her knee, which was uneventfully removed arthroscopically. At Fantasy Lane Stable we love our horses to pieces, so we went very slowly with her as a three-year-old. And to make things easier, all we ever did was sprint her.

Betty, like most racehorses, loves the attention but has her own peculiarities. For example, she is very gentle in the stall and around the barn, where she has her own fan club. Just don't saddle her anywhere but on the move we learned that one summer up at Saratoga.



Betty taught us at Saratoga to only saddle her on the move

Unfortunately, Betty's running style is very similar to Zenyatta's, as she does not like to be rushed early. She prefers to lag in the back of the pack, circle the field as wide as she can, and then run them all down. We call her the "Mini Me" version of Zenyatta.



Betty this past summer with her head regally bowed training

Believe me her running style is not made for sprinting. However, Betty has faced some of the best fillies and mares in non-graded sprint stakes. She ran against the very talented NY-bred Grade 1-winning filly Rightly So, who was the morning-line favorite for the 2010 Breeders Cup Sprint before being scratched on the day of the race.



Betty, on the outside, runs out of room against eventual Grade-1 winner Rightly So

When she faced Rightly So at Belmont Park in an allowance at 6 furlongs, Betty went by her like she was standing still, losing by only a head in a bang-bang finish. Betty has also competed against Dr. Zic, a Grade-1 winner, and beaten the likes of Meese Rocks, a NY-bred graded-stakes-placed filly, and Kays and Jays, another graded-stakes winner. Betty is a New Yorker through and through, and loves her New York Yankees.



After she won the 7-furlong Anniron Stakes in September at Belmont Park, and then finishing a troubled 2nd in the Iroquois Stakes, also at 7 furlongs, in October at Belmont Park, we knew the time had come to make a decision. It was either retire Betty to become a broodmare or attempt to stretch her out around two turns.



Betty's saddlecloth in the Iroquois Stakes on NY Showcase Day

So when she went into the gate at PARX on December 4th to race one mile around two turns, she was more or less performing to continue her racing career. She did not disappoint, as she won easily with her patented last-to-first charge.

She followed that up by racing on the inner track for the very first time in the one-mile Leecoo Stakes. Again she made a Zenyatta-like last-to-first, five-wide move to win easily. So Betty was a perfect two-for-two around two turns. Up to then she had always loved going 7 furlongs.

We decided to race her in the Grade 2 Barbara Fritchie Handicap at Laurel. We had just sold half of Betty to Mr. Stronach of Adena Springs with the understanding that FLS would manage her racing career for the duration of 2011.



Just to show she can run inside, Betty wins by a tongue

As luck would have it, there were heavy winds of up to 50 m.p.h. that day. Aqueduct canceled, but the show at Laurel went on.

Betty never left the rail that day, and uncharacteristically trailed throughout. Speed was the order of the day, as they all went around the track single-file. We were very disappointed that the world, and especially our new partner Mr. Stronach, did not get to see what Betty is truly about, as she has the heart of a lioness.

She is so beloved that we at Fantasy Lane Stable have affectionately nicknamed her "The Diva." She has her own NY license plate in front of her stall to prove it. We keep telling her not to chew on it, but she won't listen. After all, she's "The Diva."



Betty is The Diva, as her NY license plate clearly states

During her two route performances, her jockeys both advised us that they had a ton more horse still sitting under them, ready to explode. So we decided to throw caution to the wind and take on open stakes company in the prestigious Ladies Handicap, which happens to be the oldest filly & mare race in North America.

We knew we would be facing the very tough Todd Pletcher-trained Quiet Giant, who had just steamrolled through three straight wins. Betty (as is her preference) sat chilly in last, letting Quiet Giant, at odds of 2-5, have it all her own way up front on the engine.

That is, until the top of the stretch. Once Betty started rolling and got her in her sights, switching to that powerful right cross (lead change) of hers, it was "Katie bar the door."

The job done by her rookie head trainer Linda Ann White, who is winning at an impressive 21% rate, should not go unrecognized. Linda is a hands-on trainer who spends 15 hours a day with her horses. She loves Betty, and the feeling is mutual. Betty is now a perfect three-for-three around two turns. You can say that her sprinting days are behind her.



It doesn't matter who you are – as once Betty sees you, she runs you down!

David Cohen, aboard Quiet Giant, could not believe Betty's relentless charge as she just kept coming and coming. Inside the eighth pole it was all but over as Eddie Castro, Betty's rider, chirped to her and this magnificent NY-bred filly would not be denied.

Betty went by Quiet Giant as if her she was stuck in quicksand, earning the highest Beyer figure of her career (a 94) and a new career-best Equibase number of 110.



Here's Betty easily besting the 2-5 Quiet Giant in the Ladies Handicap

R Betty Graybull is now the second-most proficient filly earner of all of Holy Bull's progeny, with career earnings of \$429,817 (trailing only Confessional). She's moving up the ladder and has a chance to be make his top-ten list of progeny of any sex by year's end.

She's at the peak of her illustrious career, and we at Fantasy Lane Stable love her more than anyone can imagine. One of our wonderful partners put together a YouTube video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfbCUbGdStg>) combining photographs and live action that sums up R Betty Graybull perfectlyō

She's... Simply the Best!



THE LADIES
 Purse \$100,000
R BETTY GRAYBULL
 Quiet Giant 2nd-Linda Ann White trainer-State Treasure 3rd
 Aqueduct, New York
 Fantasy Lane Stable &
 Stronach Stables owners
 March 26, 2011
 Eddie Castro up
 1 1/8 miles time 1:50:2





