



Piper Hanover (Father Patrick-Personal Style-Yankee Glide)

After racing in last or next-to-last for the first three-quarters of the mile, Piper Hanover was able to fan out in the stretch and kicked home in 27.3 to finish fifth in the second Hambletonian Oaks elimination. She was two lengths behind winner Awesome Trix and was clocked in 1:53.1.

Winless in seven starts as a 2-year-old, Piper Hanover came back this season to win three legs of the Pennsylvania Stallion Series and a division of the Reynolds at the Meadowlands. She has a mark of 1:52.4 taken at Pocono, owns a record of 4-2-4 from 14 attempts, and shows earnings of \$93,439.

Quote

Prior to the elim, trainer Tony Alagna said: “She was a filly that had a lot of talent last year, but she was just immature. A lot of it was just her mental focus. She’s got that [focus] this year. We brought her back at 3 because we thought she would transition well from 2 to 3. She’s progressed even more than we anticipated. She’s been great.”

Breeding Notes

Piper Hanover would be the first Hambletonian Oaks champion for sire Father Patrick and is his lone representative this year. Her dam, Personal Style, won the 2012 Hambletonian Oaks final at odds of 57-1, and Piper Hanover is her fourth foal.

Bred by Brittany Farms and Mel Hartman, Piper Hanover was consigned to the 2019 Standardbred Horse Sale in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and fetched \$120,000 as HIP 286.

Brittany Farms is second on the list for wins by a breeder in Hambletonian Oaks history with six - Manchego (2018), Ariana G (2017), Lifetime Pursuit (2014), Passionate Glide (2008), Marita’s Victory (2000), and Lookout Victory (1995). Hartman hasn’t bred a Hambletonian Oaks victor but was a winning co-owner with Bee A Magician (2013) and the earlier-mentioned Personal Style (2012).

Driver Bio

ANDREW McCARTHY

Born: 3/31/1986 – Birthplace: Bathurst, Australia – Resides: Swedesboro, NJ

Hambletonian wins (1): Ramona Hill, 2020.

Andy McCarthy won the 2020 Hambletonian with filly Ramona Hill, trained by Tony Alagna. It was McCarthy's second appearance in a Hambletonian final. Ramona Hill became the fourth filly trotter to win the Hambletonian since it moved to the Meadowlands in 1981 and the 15th overall to capture the sport's premier event for 3-year-old trotters. She received the 2020 Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old filly trotter.

A native of Australia, McCarthy has raced regularly in North America since 2007. He has won more than 2,800 races and \$55 million in purses during that time.

McCarthy is a third-generation horseman. His brother Todd, who moved to the U.S. last year, and Luke, who raced in the U.S. in 2009, are successful drivers and his father John is a highly regarded trainer.

Trainer Bio

TONY ALAGNA

**Born: 6/8/1972 – Birthplace: Champaign, IL – Resides: Manalapan, NJ
Hambletonian wins (1): Ramona Hill, 2020.**

Tony Alagna won the 2020 Hambletonian with filly Ramona Hill, driven by Andy McCarthy. She became the fourth filly trotter to win the Hambletonian since it moved to the Meadowlands in 1981 and the 15th overall to capture the sport's premier event for 3-year-old trotters. She received the Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old filly trotter.

In 2012, the Alagna-trained My MVP finished third in the Hambletonian, only a neck behind winner Market Share. Later that season, My MVP won the Kentucky Futurity, which is the third jewel in the Trotting Triple Crown (with the Hambletonian and Yonkers Trot).

Alagna trained 2016 Hambletonian Oaks runner-up Caprice Hill, who was an O'Brien Award winner in Canada at ages 2 and 3.

In 2020, Alagna's stable topped \$5 million in purses for the second consecutive year. His stable ranked third in earnings in 2020 and second in 2019. He is second again in 2021.

A native of Illinois, Alagna followed his mom, Donna Lee, into the sport. He had a pony at the age of 3, was reading up on pedigrees at 9, and solely responsible for his first horse at 10. Soon after graduating from high school, Alagna was assisting his mom with her stable.

For his career, Alagna has won more than 1,600 races and \$51 million in purses.

Among his other accomplishments was training Captaintreacherous to Pacer of the Year awards in 2012 and 2013. "The Captain" became the first pacer to win that honor in consecutive years since Jenna's Beach Boy in 1995-96 and joined Niatross as the only horses to accomplish the feat at ages 2 and 3 since the award was first given in 1970.

Owner Bio

Brittany Farms LLC, Versailles, KY; Marvin And Lynn Katz, Toronto; Al J. Libfeld, Pickering, ON

Marvin Katz and Al Libfeld are tied with Castleton Farms for being the most successful owners in Hambletonian Oaks history, having won the race on four occasions - Fern (1998), Creamy Mimi (2008), All The Time (2016), and Ariana G (2017).

George Segal's Brittany Farms is right behind them with three - Passionate Glide (2006), Personal Style (2012), and Lifetime Pursuit (2014)