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NEW BOOK ABOUT SECRETARIAT AND HIS BIRTHPLACE, THE MEADOW, COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Richmond team collaborated on book with Chenery family

Though much has been written about Secretariat's spectacular racing career, the complete story of his Virginia birthplace and the Chenery family who raised and raced him has never been told...until now. And now a Chenery is telling it, with some help from her Virginia colleagues.

Secretariat's Meadow – The Land, The Family, The Legend is by Kate Chenery Tweedy, daughter of Penny Chenery (Tweedy) and granddaughter of Christopher T. Chenery, who founded the Thoroughbred farm in 1936. An author and family historian, Kate

collaborated with Leanne Meadows Ladin, a Richmond writer, to tell not only Secretariat's story, but the story of an enduring piece of land which produced one of Virginia's most famous sons.

Wayne Dementi of Dementi Milestone Publishing in Manakin-Sabot, which specializes in books of regional historical interest, will publish **Secretariat's Meadow** in September. Jayne Hushen, a Richmond graphic designer, designed the 160-page pictorial history.

Secretariat's Meadow comes out just prior to the much-anticipated release of the Disney movie *Secretariat* slated for theatres on October 8, 2010. The movie is based on Penny Chenery's life and turf writer Bill Nack's book *Secretariat – The Making of a Champion*.

Penny Chenery wrote the foreword to *Secretariat's Meadow* and shared over 200 exclusive photos from her private collection for the book. Chapters describe Chris Chenery's humble roots in Ashland; the early champions of Meadow Stable in the 1950s and 1960s; the rescue of The Meadow by Riva Ridge; the forgotten stories of the African-American grooms who helped raise Secretariat, and much more. The narrative is enriched by Kate Tweedy's vivid recollections of The Meadow as a child and her eyewitness account of the magic and the mayhem surrounding her mother and "Big Red" during the Triple Crown races in 1973.

Secretariat's Meadow retails for \$29.95 and is available at Arnettandassociates.com, on Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Borders, independent bookstores and at www.secretariatsmeadow.com. For more information about *Secretariat's Meadow*, please contact Leanne Ladin at laladin@secretariatsmeadow.com or at 804-232-7521.

BOOK BUZZ ABOUT “SECRETARIAT’S MEADOW!”

Frank Mitchell, columnist, Daily Racing Form: *“It is a lovely book, full of color and character, and of course, there are many photos of His Chestnut Perfection. What more could anyone ask? ... It makes a grand and moving story and is told with warmth. Beautifully illustrated and produced, Secretariat’s Meadow is a pleasure for readers and fans of racing.”*

Midwest Book Review: *“Secretariat’s Meadow: The Land, The Family, The Legend is a gorgeous coffee table book, illustrated throughout with black-and-white and color photography and images, detailing the history behind the famous Triple Crown-winning racehorse Secretariat, his birthplace, and the family that raised and raced him... Any reader with an avid interest in the history of championship horse racing is sure to delight in this accessible, insightful, and candid tour.”*

The Thoroughbred Daily News: *“Secretariat’s Meadow is an informative rags-to-riches story, rooted in reality and historical fact. (Secretariat’s Meadow)...benefits enormously by coming from a direct family source, with the series of illustrations and photographs enhancing the overall reading experience. It will ensure that the Chenery family, and their affiliation with Secretariat, will remain etched in the memory for years to come.”*

Horse-races.net: *“This book is strongly recommended to racing fans especially history aficionados, as it tells such an important story of the American turf. Secretariat fans who could tell his story on their own will truly enjoy Tweedy’s first-hand account, as someone fortunate to have personally witnessed greatness in her family, their farm, and their horses.”*

Bill Nack, author of “Secretariat – The Making of a Champion,” and consultant for the Disney movie “Secretariat,” said: *“Kate Tweedy and Leanne Ladin take the reader on a romantic journey filled with stories about the people and the horses who turned this land into a flourishing mecca of Thoroughbred breeding. Well written and beautifully illustrated with a gallery of old prints and photographs, Secretariat’s Meadow is an artful contribution to the history of the America turf.”*

Ron Turcotte, Secretariat’s jockey, noted, *“Many books and articles have been written about Secretariat, but what makes Secretariat’s Meadow unique is that instead of all those dry statistics, it gives you a glimpse behind the scenes at all the human interest stories from the family’s own perspective. It is a book well worth reading and for me, it brought back many a fond memory.”*