



**Dr. Olive Kendrick Britt (center) with Penny Chenery and Randy Rouse at The Meadow, new home of the State Fair of Virginia—May, 2005**

*Well known and beloved equine practitioner, Dr. Britt co-founded Woodside Equine Clinic in Ashland, Va., in the late 1960s. Prior to that, Dr. Britt practiced in Richmond, Va. In the mid-1980s, she became associated with Virginia Equine Clinic in Manakin-Sabot, Va. During her career, Dr. Britt also served as veterinarian for Meadow Farm in Doswell, Va. A past president of what is now known as the North American Veterinary Conference, she also served on the Virginia Board of Veterinary Medicine from 1978-1988. Dr. Britt was a member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, Virginia Association of Equine Practitioners, and Virginia Thoroughbred Association. Dr. Britt was 1993 VVMA Veterinarian of the Year.*

**Dr. Olive K. Britt  
1918-2006**



**Eddie Watson at Farriers' Clinic in his honor— Spotsylvania, September, 2008**

*Master of his craft, Eddie Watson inspired through his skill, dedication and forward thinking. A lifetime member of the American Farrier's Association and the Anvil 21 Club, he was inducted into the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame in 1996.*

**Eddie Watson  
1927-2008**



**BRITT-WATSON  
VETERINARY/FARRIER FACILITY  
ROUSE-ARUNDEL HORSE COMPLEX AT  
THE MEADOW EVENT PARK**

**TO HONOR AND RECOGNIZE  
DR. OLIVE K. BRITT, DVM  
AND RENOWNED FARRIER  
EDDIE WATSON**





**To honor and recognize the lives and legacies of  
Dr. Olive K. Britt and Eddie Watson**

In 2009, SFVA (The State Fair of Virginia, Inc.) moved to its new home, The Meadow, in Doswell, Virginia, birthplace of racing legend Secretariat. Now named **The Meadow Event Park**, the property and its history will support the mission of SFVA, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization which is dedicated to the principles of supporting agriculture, youth, education and family values. The Rouse-Arundel Horse Complex is a tremendous asset to equine activity and related business throughout Virginia.



**Dr. Olive K. Britt**

In the late 1960's, Woodside Equine Clinic was founded by Drs. Olive Britt and Milton Kingsbury. They were two of the veterinarians in the state working solely on horses. With the closest referral clinic being five hours away at New Bolton, their services were in high demand throughout much of Virginia. During this time Dr. Britt was one of the pioneers in equine medicine as a female practitioner.

On March 30, 1970, shortly after midnight, Dr. Olive Britt tended to the birth of a foal named Secretariat. She was The Meadow's veterinarian for many years, as she has been for many other farms and horses in the years that followed. She also tended to many horses and events at the Fairgrounds on Strawberry Hill, often at the Virginia State Horse Show, presented and organized by the State Fair, and other shows there requiring an on-site veterinarian. She was well known and respected by all and her compassion and obvious love of the horse was an inspiration to anyone who had the good fortune to be in her presence or have their horse under her care.

Dr. Tom Newton and his wife, Jennifer, bought Virginia Equine Associates in 1981, renaming it Virginia Equine Clinic. They moved from Short Pump to Manakin-Sabot and when Little Hawk Farm became available the Newtons purchased the facility and continue to live and work there today. Dr Britt suffered a serious car accident in 1992 and could not practice for some time. During her time of incapacitation/recuperation, Dr. Newton helped her with her clients and took her on calls with him.. Once she was able to practice again, Drs. Britt and Newton joined forces and practiced together under the name of Virginia Equine Clinic. Dr. Britt passed away in March, 2006, at the age of 88.

**Eddie Watson**

Eddie Watson was a farrier's farrier. He shod horses for more than 50 years and was a much sought after clinician, known for delivering valuable information with a sense of humor and folksy style. A master of traditional farrier skills at the anvil and in the forge, Watson was also known for his open-mindedness and willingness to explore new techniques and technologies. He was a fixture at farrier gatherings, conventions and meetings.

A lifetime member of the American Farrier's Association and the Anvil 21 Club, he was inducted into the International Horseshoeing Hall of Fame in 1996. Equine veterinarian, R. Reynolds Cowles called him "Virginia's leading farrier. His innate curiosity keeps him learning and trying new approaches to problems when most his age would be retired or complacent." He credited Watson as a model for cooperation between veterinarians and farriers. "He had tolerated and educated many a young vet, and at the same time has encouraged farriers to work with vets for the betterment of our clients and patients." In September, 2008, more than 200 people turned out for a clinic in Spotsylvania to honor Watson. Eddie Watson died December 20, 2008.

**The Equine Complex** comprises a significant portion of The Meadow Event Park. Phase I consists of four show rings, one stall barn housing 143 stalls, partial restoration of historic equine structures including stalls that housed Secretariat and Riva Ridge, Check-in/Stable office and a Veterinary/Farrier facility which will serve as a headquarters and work area for these important functions in the Complex. Subsequent phases will include a second stall barn, cover over one of the rings, Museum of the Virginia Horse, multi-purpose arena and steeplechase course.

**It is fitting and appropriate to honor Dr. Britt and Mr. Watson** by naming the Veterinary/Farrier facility in their honor and memory. For this purpose a special campaign is being undertaken for this purpose so that their names will be a permanent part of The Meadow that present and future horsemen will continue to be inspired by their undeniable wisdom and dedication.

**Dedicated to those whose love of horses and their work was unsurpassed**



**Dr. Olive K. Britt-Eddie Watson  
Veterinary/Farrier Facility**

**Part of the Equine Campaign for The Meadow/SFVA Campaign for The Meadow**

**Campaign Co-Chairs:**

**Tom and Jennifer Newton  
G. Dwight Usry**

**Campaign Goal: \$200,000**

**Gift Levels:**

*See pledge form*

**Types of Gifts**

- ◇ Cash – (may be paid over pledge period of five years—\$500/year minimum)
- ◇ Appreciated Stock, Real Estate, Non-cash, Deferred Gifts, Personal Property, Other (consistent with policy and procedures for SFVA's Capital Campaign and Equine Campaign for The Meadow)

**Facility Description**

38' x 52' Structure with three 12' x 12' enclosed areas (stall, vet room, storage/restroom), 3 semi-open work bay areas, porch, clerestory roofline/windows, cupolas.

To serve as work area and "headquarters" for attending veterinarians and farriers during equine events and activities at The Meadow Event Park, located adjacent to Check-in Office and Southern States Legends Stall Barn

**Recognition**—Large historical plaque(s) featuring Dr. Britt's and Mr. Watson's likenesses and biographical information and Donor list.

