

Upstate New York



Raymond W. Schnittker

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Ray Schnittker truly found success the hard way; he earned it. Starting out in 1977 when his father owned just two horses, Ray battled among the overnighters for years mostly at Buffalo and Batavia, improving his stock as he went along. His early success was found with horses like Dave Hanover and Keystone Tort. Ray eventually took the leap and relocated in the big Apple where he campaigned the likes of \$1.2 million dollar winner Covert Action. His aggressive “take no prisoners” driving style took many of the regulars off guard as the new kid on the block made his presence known. But it was that same attitude that pushed Ray to the top.

Since then Schnittker has been on a roll making national headlines every year with champions like 2008 Hambletonian winner Deweycheatumnhowe, 2010 Meadowlands Pace winners One More Laugh, Jezzy, Cassis, Make It Happen, Chippewa Street, Last Call At Dem’s, Riggins, Twin B Senorita, and Munis Blue Chip. Although his name is no stranger to the Grand Circuit, his he remains based in New York, and in the process, supports the breeding that makes the New York Sire Stake program so successful and is a regular face at Tioga Downs throughout the entire meet.

Rather than pursuing catch drives, Schnittker has primarily concentrated his efforts on his own stable and developing young stake talent during his career. This strategy has paid off in spades as his lifetime numbers will attest. To date he has posted 2,431 driving wins and \$34 million dollars in purse money. In just the last 4 years, horses he has trained have won in excess of \$16 million dollars and counting!