

What's New at the Stables?



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Our 4th International Saddlebred Hall of Fame 2019 was held on Saturday June 29th at the stable. Attendees from all parts of Missouri, and the states of Kentucky, Illinois, Wisconsin, California and Oklahoma attended the event. Paulette Schroeder served as Master of Ceremonies. Inductees honored for 2019 were: Raymond & Lillian Shively, Mike Roberts, and Sarah & Landon Rowland. We posthumously inducted James "Jimmie" Hite, Donna Hobbs Moore, Thomas Mitchell Moore and Annie Lawson Cowgill at the event.
- ◆ Men's and women's handicapped-accessible climate-controlled restrooms were completed this summer. Boards from the historic John Hook barn (now the site of Dr. Simmons medical practice) were repurposed and used on the restroom walls, dividers and stall doors.
- ◆ MHS students were invited to the stables to take memorable Prom pictures on April 27th.
- ◆ Mexico Business After Hours was well attended at the stables on June 25th.
- ◆ We are continuing to research information to erect a historical sign honoring famous horse trainer Tom Bass. The sign will be located across the street from the original Tom Bass property.
- ◆ May thru August this year, the stable was the sight of one bridal shower, one graduation reception, and seven weddings and/or wedding receptions. Dates of availability and rental prices are available upon request. Call for more information. (Mary: 573-473-2521) (Bobette: 573-473-5930)

IN LOVING MEMORIAM

RUTH KENT 1927—2019

Ruth, a long-time advocate of the Simmons' Stable Restoration project, passed away June 21, 2019. Ruth was one of the main forces behind our modern handicapped restrooms. She suggested we apply for a Grifin Foundation Grant and not to waste time as the deadline was within a week. With the push from Ruth, we applied and received the grant. With that success, we then applied for a grant from the Green Foundation and received it. Funds from the two grants plus additional private donations enabled us to install our handicapped, climate controlled restrooms.

Ruth also aided the project by adopting a window and purchasing state tax credits. She always spoke fondly about hanging on the fence to watch Art Simmons train horses. We truly appreciate Ruth's support over the years and regret she was not able to see the finished bathrooms.

Thank you Ruth for your guidance and push-forward advice of our restoration efforts.

DOUG BALSER 1927—2018

Douglas Pierce Balser was one of our favorite people and strongest supporters. He and wife, Betty, married in 1946 and moved to Mexico, Missouri in 1948 where they lived for 62 years and raised their four children. Doug operated a family farm where he grew crops, livestock and raised registered Gelbvieh cattle. He passed his love of farming and barns to his children. Daughter Bobette is a founding co-president of Simmons' Stable Restoration and Doug proudly attended every event supporting us. His generous donations throughout the years have helped fund numerous projects and events. How dearly we will miss his twinkling blue eyes, infectious smile and steadfast encouragement.

He is survived by Shirley, his four children and their spouses, Sharon and Jim Jones, Tom and Mary Balser, Joan Balser and Linda Stefack, and Bobette and Warren Wilson, his 10 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Thank you Doug for being a champion of our restoration efforts.

We warmly welcome you to our 17th ANNUAL AUCTION & BARN-B-Q



Rex McDonald 833, owner Ben Middleton up. Circa 1911

Sunday, September 15, 2019

Barbeque Pork Steak, Sides and Homemade Pies

Lunch served at 12:30 with Auction to follow

All proceeds today benefit the International Saddlebred Hall of Fame to preserve & rebuild the Big Barn on the Boulevard.

Thank you for joining us today at the Barn



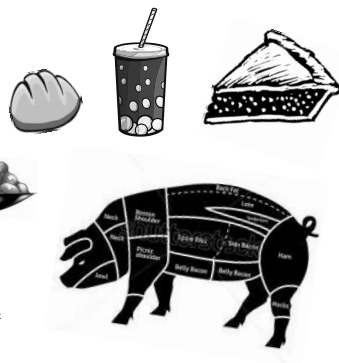
The Menu

BBQ Featured: Pork steaks grilled by Steinman's

Sides: Baked beans, slaw & homemade rolls

Desserts: Variety of homemade pies

Beverages: Tea, water & lemonade



Proposed Officers & Board Members

- ◆ **Co-Presidents**.....Bobette Balser Wilson & Mary White Littrell
- ◆ **Vice-President**.....Ann Stubblefield
- ◆ **Secretary**.....Caprice Leighton
- ◆ **Treasurer**.....Mary White Littrell
- ◆ **Proposed Board Members:** Gene Potter, Martin Jones and Morgan
- ◆ **Returning Board Members:** (1yr terms)...Delores Groves, Joan Volkmer & Mary White Littrell (2yr terms)...Bobette Balser Wilson, Ann Stubblefield & Sarah Track
- ◆ **Graphic Artists:** ...Martin Jones & Laura Mackey

A short business meeting will be held during the meal, special guests will be honored, then our live auction will begin.

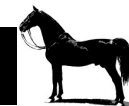


2019 Upcoming Community Events

- ◆ September 27- Tyronn Lue Service Day-30 middle schoolers will be volunteering at the stable to paint the fence
- ◆ September 28- Wedding
- ◆ October 5- SSM Hospital Soirée
- ◆ October 12- Bridal Shower
- ◆ November 9- Wedding
- ◆ December 15- Christmas Event

MISSION STATEMENT

Our missions is to preserve the historical significance and physical integrity of: to offer for community use; and to present Simmons' Stables-a nationally significant historic site- to current and future generations that Mexico, Missouri was known as the "Saddlehorse Capital of the World".



2019 Honorees

LANCE LEIGHTON & KEVIN JENNINGS

Lance and Kevin, fondly known as "those boys" began with this project in 2008. At that time, they were employed with Five Oaks of Centralia, the crew hired to restore the stable. Little did they know 11 years later, they would still be involved with restoration efforts! Not only were they involved with the initial restoration, but they continue to be part of the project finishing stalls, pouring concrete, installing the flagpole, building the bathrooms, etc. Their sons have even been involved with moving lumber, hanging the lights, and carpentry work. We appreciate their wives, Caprice and Tonya, for their patience as their husbands have spent late hours and weekends working at the stable. It is not always easy to find people that will "go the extra mile" and without Lance and Kevin's dedication and loyalty, it would have been a challenge to continue restoration efforts.



They make for a fun work environment by keeping us laughing with their wit and humor. They are always willing to answer our phone calls and texts, we can always depend on "those boys" to be there when we need them!!

DALE & PATTI CONE



Dale and Patti have been long time members and advocates of Simmons' Stable Preservation. They consistently donate funds for restoration efforts and attend events at the stable. Their loyalty and support has bolstered our confidence and encouraged us during the challenging times. We very much appreciate their devotion and continued support! Thank you Dale and Patti.

THE ST. LOUIS CREW

The Rosenthal Packman St. Louis Crew of Laura Stefacke, Joan Balser, Neil and Mari Packman, Barbara and Phil Wagner, Maureen Thomas-Murphy, Barbara Floreth, Linda Wallace, and Helen (Lu) Sturm have been loyal attendees of the BarnBQ for the past 16 years. Not only do they donate items for the auction, but they purchase items (sometimes at high dollar amounts). They also come early to help cut pies, serve food, and clean up. Their enthusiasm, interest, and continued monetary support of this project has aided our restoration efforts.



We extremely appreciate their willingness to make a 200-mile round trip to demonstrate their loyalty for this historic project.



Mike Groves and Richard Henke are our esteemed Auctioneers today.

Thank you!!

