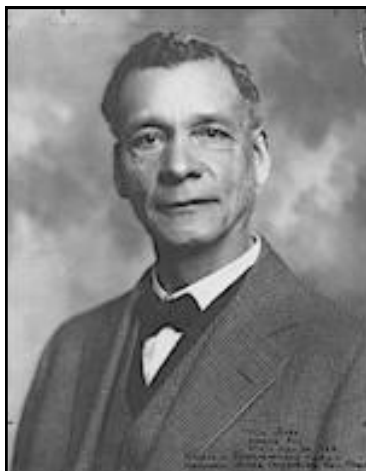




Bass Bit History and Plaque

Written by Valerie Schofield



TOM BASS (1859-1934)

In the late 1800's, a young Tom Bass was a green stable hand at Potts & Clark's stable, having recently transitioned from his position as a groom at the Ringo Hotel. While he was already building his reputation as a gentle and highly skilled horseman, none would make a believer out of his naysayers than the mare simply referred to as the Blazing Black. When she arrived at the stable, a young Bass was instructed not to enter her stall without a pitchfork given her cantankerous attitude. She was a fiery beast that while striking, was too temperamental for even the most skilled horsemen employed at the stable. She could hardly be handled, let alone ridden, but Tom turned the lion into a lamb.

Sometime later, the stable was short of horses one year and Tom was asked if he knew of any stock that could easily be trained and shown to generate publicity.

Having been sent to pasture, Tom took his colleagues to the Blazing Black and amazed them with her finesse under saddle. His secret? A new bit he himself invented. Tom Bass had determined that a good deal of the mare's problems related to a sore mouth from poor biting. The new bit, deemed the Bass Bit, was much gentler on a horse's mouth than its contemporaries.

Tom never attempted to patent his new bit. Being born a slave and by no means a man of wealth, he was often asked why, as he could have been a rich man many times over with his new invention. Time and time again, Tom stated that his bit was a gift to horses everywhere. He did advertise the bits for sale in the early 1900s for the price of \$15 C.O.D., but it was never a money making effort for him. For Tom, it was always about the horses. We decided to honor our International Saddlebred Hall of Fame inductees with a special presentation of the Bass bit because like Tom, their careers have always been about the horses. Whether they devoted their career to breeding, showing, or training, these individuals were selected due to their dedication to not only the industry but to the horse itself.

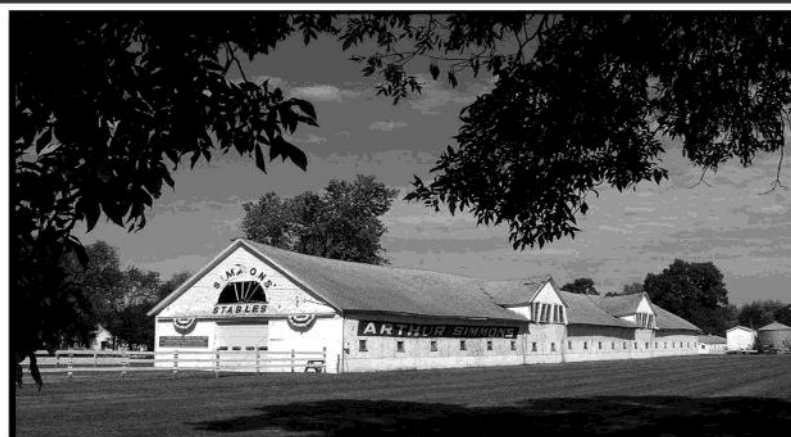
It is only appropriate that we use the Bass bit to symbolize the contributions of one simple act and the cascading significance it can have.

The Bass bit – a legacy honoring legacies.

International Saddlebred Hall of Fame



Mexico, Missouri



International Saddlebred Hall of Fame
warmly welcomes you to our

FIFTH ANNUAL HALL of FAME CEREMONY



*** SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2021 ***

International Saddlebred Hall of Fame

Paulette Schroeder, Master of Ceremonies

Historic Simmons' Stables, Mexico Missouri

Social Hour: 5pm, Dinner: 6pm



Tonight's Itinerary

Welcome: Bobette Balser Wilson

Guest Welcome: Chris Miller (Mayor of Mexico, Missouri) and
Kim Sydenstricker (President of Mexico Chamber of Commerce)

Invocation: Mary White Littrell

Dinner: 6pm

Master of Ceremonies: Paulette Schroeder



2021 Inductees (Missouri)

Lenore "Tony" Weldon & her parents Mr. & Mrs. William Weldon of Callaway Hills Stables of New Bloomfield, MO

On 500 acres near New Bloomfield, just north of Jefferson City, Callaway Hills continues its legacy as one of the top American Saddlebred stables in the country. Callaway Hills was founded in 1944, when Betty Goshorn — daughter of the Jefferson City News-Tribune's publisher and, later, the wife of Bill Weldon — had a training barn built and purchased the first generation of Callaway Hills' horses. The farm, which is divided by old and new Highways 54, includes a breeding barn, a training barn and a portion of land for retired Saddlebreds.

Tony Weldon, a law school graduate, is continuing tradition established by her parents. Although Tony had shown horses for years, she'd never ran the daily affairs of the stables. She'd long overseen an animal shelter on the grounds and had served as publisher of the Fulton Sun since 1996, after a decade of practicing law for Kentucky and Missouri state government.



Callaway Hills Stables' three generations of champions – like WGC CH Will Shriver, WGC CH Caramac and WGC CH Callaway's Annabel Allison – are examples of the seven decades-long breeding program.

Betty Weldon was the first woman in the United States to start a television station and was responsible for getting the United States Postal Service to add American Saddlebreds to the set of horse stamps printed in 1985. Betty received numerous awards including the 1993 Castleman Award presented by the American Saddlebred Horse Association, the UPHA Chapter 5 Distinguished Person of the Year as well as the 1992 Audrey Gutridge Award at the Kentucky State Fair and in 1988 the UPHA Distinguished Service Award. She and the World Champion Five



Gaited Stallion "Will Shriver" were both inducted into the St Louis National Hall of Fame (the first and only time a horse has been so honored).

Janet Green, Janet Green Stables @ Liberty Meadows of Liberty, MO



Janet has trained and shown American Saddlebred Horses for many, many years. She presently operates Liberty Meadows, a 46 stall facility in the Kansas City area, where she offers training, sales and riding and driving lessons. She has trained World Champions and Stake winners including "Magic Supreme", "Sabra Supreme", "Wolfman Jack", "Happy Harlequin", "Georgia Road", "Maiden Missouri" and "Delightful Diamond".

Janet has served as UPHA Chapter 5 Chairman, and on the national board of UPHA as well as Vice President of the American Saddlebred Futurity of Missouri. She was one of the organizers of the highly successful Missouri Breeders' Challenge Weanling Stake held at the

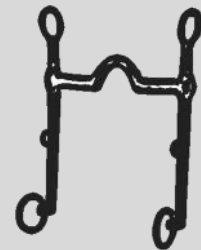
American Royal. Highly respected in the industry, Janet is a Lifetime Member and Registered Judge with the United States Equestrian Federation.

Janet's parents, Ellen Gale and Elbert H. Green, raised and showed world class American Saddlebred horses under the banner of Pinecrest Farms in Springfield MO. Ellen Gale Green also served as secretary of the Missouri State Fair from 1975 to 1977, as well as Secretary of the American Saddle Horse Breeders' of Missouri Futurity.



How are Inductees Selected?

How are the inductees into the International Saddlebred Hall of Fame selected? The Simmons' Stable Preservation Fund, Inc. utilizes past inductees of the previous year to serve on the nominating committee. The nominating committee selects no more than six potential inductees with one or two out-of-state nominees. Potential inductees are selected based on their career longevity with significant contributions to the Saddlehorse industry. The potential inductees or nominees may include a single individual, a partnership, a farm, or an individual who has had an impact on the industry other than training, showing, and/or owning horses. Once the nominees have been selected, a separate committee composed of established horsemen and general members of the Simmons' Stables Preservation organization (having no ties to the horse industry) read the nominees' bios and make selections. The votes are tallied and nominees with the highest number of votes are selected as the inductees. Only posthumous inductees are selected by the Simmons' Stables Preservation Board of Directors.



Special thank you to the donors & volunteers that help make this event possible.

2021 Hall of Fame Ceremony Donors:

Saddle & Bridle Magazine, Cache River Homes, Warren & Bobette Wilson, Jane Norman, Tom Bass, Gareth G. Rouillard (in memory of Marla Louise Brown Rouillard), and Marion VandeWall

Without these special people volunteering their time and talents, this event could not take place. Special thanks to:

Robin & Dan Barker– invitations and decorations; Melissa Purvis- Musical Harpist; Clayton Littrell & Dan Barker– slide presentation; Cassie Collins Borcharding with Storybook Moments- Photographer; Laura Mackey– program design; Lisa Silvers– cake; Warren Wilson, Eric & Julie Bay- Bartenders, Scott Weber & Debbie Trabue, cashiers, cake table, etc. We appreciate their willingness to help with anything we ask them to do.

Photos of the evening will be available for print purchase from: www/facebook.com/sbmoments

ADOPT-A-STALL FUND

The Adopt –A-Stall Fund is a one-time gift of \$5,000 or given cumulative (over a 12– month period) to help ensure the future of the International Saddlebred Hall of Fame. The Adopt-A-Stall Fund gift will be recognized with a bronze plaque permanently placed on the Simmons' Stables horse stall of your choice. More importantly, your generous gift will help to ensure that the Saddlebred horse will always be honored and preserved as an irreplaceable part of the United States' history for present and future generations.

If you are interested in Adopting-A-Stall please contact:

Bobette Balser Wilson: 573-473-5930 -or- Mary White Littrell: 573-473-2521



We would like to thank Jim Stubblefield for taking an idea we had and designing it into a plaque that we present yearly at this event. His wood working and design skills, that he's spent a lifetime honing, are a huge asset to our group. We deeply appreciate you Jim.





Hall of Fame Past Inductees

2019 Inductee: Mike Roberts

2019 Inductee: Sarah & Landon Rowland

2019 Inductee: Raymond & Lillian Shively

2019 Posthumous Inductees: *Annie Lawson Cowgill, James "Jimmie" Hite, Donna Hobbs Moore & Thomas Mitchell Moore*

2018 Inductee: Greenwell Family

2018 Inductee: Hulse Family

2018 Inductee: Smith Lilly

2018 Inductee: Gayle Lampe

2018 Posthumous Inductee: *Shirley Drew Harwicke & Lee Bros; William & George Lee*

2017 Inductee: Jim Simmons

2017 Inductee: Don Harris

2017 Inductee: April Hill Farm - Dale & Glenda Pugh

2017 Posthumous Inductee: *Tom Bass*

2016 Inductee: Skyrim Farm - Alice Neihardt Thompson & Dick Cook

2016 Inductee: Sonny Sutton

2016 Inductee: Virgil Helm

2016 Posthumous Inductee: *Arthur Simmons*



Master of Ceremonies

Master of Ceremonies, Paulette Schroeder of Edmond, OK has a long background with Saddlebred horses and the horse industry in general. She was the first Executive Secretary of the United Professional Horsemen's Association, hired by Chat Nichols in 1970 and working with Presidents Redd Crabtree, Charles D. Smith, Keith D. Bartz, Richard E. Lavery and Charles Crabtree. She coordinated and managed the UPHA annual conventions, designed and implemented all office records and systems. She was appointed to the Horse Show Advisory Committee of the American Horse Council in Washington, D.C. After a stint with a Morgan show and breeding farm in Indiana and a Saddlebred operation in Louisiana, she became Special Projects Administrator with the International Arabian Horse Association in Colorado. Paulette served as Secretary and Newsletter editor for the Colorado Horsemen's Council and represented them on the State Horse Council Advisory Committee of the American Horse Council. Then a stint with the American Hackney Horse Society in Kentucky before moving to Oklahoma and back to corporate America with the International Business Machines Corporation, where she retired in 2008. We greatly appreciate her time for tonight's ceremonies.



2021 PRESERVATION FUND BOARD of DIRECTORS

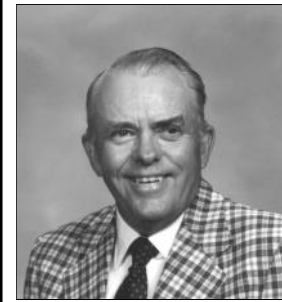
Bobette Balser Wilson and Mary White Littrell, Co-Presidents; Ann Stubblefield, Vice-President; Mary White Littrell, Treasurer; Caprice Leighton, Secretary

General Board Members; Joan Volkmer, Martin Jones, Morgan, Delores Groves, Gene Potter, and Sarah Track



2021 Inductees (Out of State)

Robert Leu, Maple Lawn Farm of Keokuk, Iowa



Bob Leu, along with his family, actively exhibited horses in the 1940s and early 50s in the tri-state area. Upon graduation from Iowa State University, Leu accepted a position with the Iowa Department of Agriculture as field representative of the Iowa Horse and Mule Breeders Association, and in this capacity, he was involved in all horse activities across the state.

In 1968 he was called upon to manage the American Royal horse show in Kansas City Mo, one of the largest and most prestigious shows in the country. For a period of about 10 years, Leu managed other shows as well including Tulsa OK, Tampa FL, Des Moines and Davenport IA. He was advertising manager and feature writer for the Des Moines-based publication

HORSE WORLD, which later moved to Lexington KY. Bob traveled the country attending horse shows and all manner of related meetings. Recognized as a horse show announcer, Bob announced many shows, from the Chicago International to the Indiana and Iowa State Fairs. Bob Leu was also the horse show announcer of the last Audrain County Fair in 1967.

He was one of the founders of the American Saddlebred Pleasure Horse Association, and was a director and president of ASPHA for ten years, from its inception until it was combined with other horse organizations. He was secretary-treasurer of the annual Arthur Simmons Heart of America Saddle Horse Sale starting in 1968, and held membership in many other horse associations. He was a part-time employee of the American Saddle Horse Breeders Association, handling promotional and educational activities. Bob Leu, as well as his father Henry Leu, were both inducted into the Iowa Horsemen's Hall of Fame, only the second father-son combination to be so honored.



Marion "Vandy" VandeWall, Ringmaster & Show Manager of Altoona, Iowa

Vandy's contribution to the horse industry comes in the form of being a show official. He started at the Iowa State Fair as the show secretary in 1961. He has been an announcer, ringmaster and show manager with numerous horse shows in Iowa, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Arizona, Florida, North and South Dakota, and North Carolina.



In 1984 he designed and implemented computer software and services for the operation of horse show offices. His computer software for tabulating the Majority Opinion System judges' cards was used at national championship horse shows. In 1990 he was named "Show Manager of the Year" by the United Professional Horsemen's Association and the American Royal in Kansas City, which he managed in 1990 was named the UPHA Honor Show of the Year.

Vandy resides in Altoona, Iowa with his wife, Bev. He attributes whatever success he has enjoyed in this industry to the advice, guidance and opportunities created by having three great mentors: the late Wilbur Yount of Altoona, Herman Miles of Louisville, KY and Bob Leu from Keokuk, Iowa.



Everyone loves a mystery...so here's one for our gathered group of saddlebred experts this evening. This photo was found by a member who is looking for identification of both the horse and rider. Photo is believed to have been taken in Mexico MO area.



Can you help solve this?

Mexico was home not only to great horses, but to great trainers as well. The door to George & Will Lee's Lee Bros Stable on West Boulevard is said to have had more champion show horses (and trainers) pass thru it than any other barn in the country. Seen here in the early 1900's, the barn was painted red when built 1887 by Cyrus Clark and Fred Panhorst, and in the course of its life as a barn it was also owned by Robert Stewart then managed by Bill Cunningham and BB Tucker. The last owner was Art Simmons.





2021 Posthumous Inductees

Lynn Weatherman 1938-2006 (The American Saddlebred Horse Association)



Lynn Weatherman, equine journalist and longtime American Saddlebred enthusiast, grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa and became interested in horses at a young age. He attended college at Iowa State University majoring in animal science. After college he began working for *Saddle & Bridle* magazine and eventually became its editor. He and his daughter, Wendy, operated a successful training stable in Chesterfield, MO. One of the champions they developed was world champion CH It's Time to Go, whom Lynn bought as a colt in Iowa for the sum of a dollar. Lynn and his family moved to Kentucky in 1985 to work for American Saddlebred Horse Association and he became editor of the magazine *American Saddlebred*. While in Kentucky, Lynn and his daughter continued raising, training, and showing colts at their Warm Hearth Farm in Cynthiana, KY. One of those colts was world champion CH Hayden Fox. Lynn had an amazing memory for Saddlebred history and was one of the greatest authorities on bloodlines and the history of the breed. With his passing, the saddlehorse world lost a wealth of information and a true friend. For his contributions to the American Saddlebred breed and community, he was awarded the UPHA Sallie Wheeler Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998.



RS Palmer 1919-2007 & Ruth Palmer 1925-2011 (Palmer Stables of Columbia, MO)



Born in Columbia, Missouri, RS devoted his life to saddlehorses and was known as an ambassador of the breed. In his younger years, he started hanging out at Stephens College barn with the college eventually putting him to work. He partnered with Stephens College riding instructor, Annie Cowgill Lawson, to win the three-gaited pairs class at the American Royal four consecutive years. After graduating from Hickman High School, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war, he began working at the old Missouri Stables next to Forest Park. Just down the street was a young lady named Ruth Kaufman working as Helen Crabtree's assistant at the Riding and Hunt Club. RS and Ruth took over the Riding and Hunt Club and were married in 1948. Together they often put 18 to 20 horses in a single equitation class at the old St. Louis Show. Later they began Palmer Stables in Frontenac and eventually moved to Columbia. Among the horses trained at Palmer Stables were The Happy Hour, Idle Affair, Pearl of Stonewall, All My Love, Wing Swept Stonewall, Heart of Stonewall and many more. RS bred the Stonewall King line producing many Missouri champions. In 1991, RS rode in the Concert of Champions that featured eight "Missouri Legends". He has been the recipient of the Missouri Horse Show Association as Horseperson of the Year. Ruth and RS received the Royal Exhibitor Award from the American Royal for their participation in the Royal – 70 years for RS and 50 years for Ruth.



Saddlehorse Report, September 12, 2007, "St. Louis National Charity Horse Show Names Gaited Stake"

Jimmy Stewart 1937-2017 (Breeder of Gypsy Santana of Columbia, MO)



At the tender age of ten years old, Jimmy Stewart stole his first horse. Jimmy liked to hang around vet school at the University of Missouri watching the horses graze near the "vat". Knowing the beautiful horse was doomed, Jimmy stole it and rode it to Grant School where his sister was a playground supervisor. There he sold rides on him for 25 cents, then rode the horse home and sold rides to kids in the neighborhood until he was caught and had to return the horse. Stewart, a bricklayer, spent most of his life training and breeding American Saddlebred horses. Jimmy bought his first horse from Alice Thompson and partner Dick Cook at Skyrim Stables in Columbia. Jimmy hit the jackpot with champion stallion, Gypsy Santana. Jimmy was there when the colt was born and knew by the foal's demeanor, he has a winner. Gypsy Santana has sired numerous world champion performance and futurity horses. Glenda Pugh says what makes Jimmy special is

"he started as an amateur, and he's done it on his own. He really, really loves his horses". To quote Lynn Frazee, "Jimmy was a joyous soul who never knew a stranger. He never forgot his friends nor his roots in the Saddle Horse business". In Jimmy's own words, "people say I'm the luckiest person in the world, and maybe I am. But I worked for it."

Columbia Daily Tribune, October 19, 2001, "Dreams of Beauty" by Sara Agnew



2021 Posthumous Inductees (con't)

Marion Brown 1918-2005 (Marion Brown Stables)



Marion Brown was born in 1918 in Curryville, MO, one of 15 children of a farmer and small saddlehorse breeder. Marion showed talent with horses at a very young age and would break horses for his father and neighbors after getting home from school. Brown became a world champion trainer, horse show judge, and also trained riders. His first job was with Jim Hamilton Stables here in Mexico breaking colts. One day he caught the eye of Colonel John Hook and started working horses for the Hooks. John Hook said, "Marion was one of the best boys I ever had work for me." Brown left Mexico to manage Meadow Land Creamery Stables in Eugene, Oregon,



later moved to Bloomington, IL as a trainer for Countryside Stables, and eventually moved to Heartland WI to train horses. On a trip back to Mexico, he purchased King of the Plains and Flying Victory. He had seven World Championships in one year and four World Championships with Flying Victory in the same year. With Flying Victory, Brown won four five-gaited classes at the Kentucky State Fair in one week.

Brown eventually returned to Missouri moving to St. Louis. While there he taught many top riders including Mary Hediger and the remarkable King's Quality, the only horse to win in all three divisions at Louisville. Brown believed all colts training should start out as if the horse was intended for a child. He continued to train and give lessons in his 70's. Those that worked for him called him a perfectionist. He kept a bucket outside his stable to collect rain water to brush the horses' manes and tails. He said the water with no chlorine made for a softer mane and tail. His career spanned more than 70 years and he showed some of the greatest horses that ever graced the show ring and instructed many great amateur and equitation riders. In the hundreds of shows and thousands of classes he showed in, he always said the best time he had was as a young boy showing at the Missouri county fairs against aged trainers and local farmers. He was inducted into the St. Louis National Horse Show Hall of Fame in 1980 and the UPHA Tom Moore Hall of Fame in 1999. He devoted his entire life to the betterment of the American Saddlebred and made positive changes to help build the horse industry to what it is today. Brown passed away in 2005 at the age of 86 and is buried at East Lawn Memorial Park in Mexico, MO.

Sources: Jay Brown; *Saddle & Bridle*, April 1977; www.horseforum.com

John Hook 1878-1960 (Hook & Son Stables of Mexico, MO)



John Hook, known from coast to coast as a trainer, rider, judge, and dealer in fine horses, grew up in Mexico, Missouri and began his career working for the Hisey Livery Stables doing menial jobs. He later was involved with the Public Barn in Paris, MO and managed Longview Farm in Lees Summit. When Carnation Stables in Pomona, California wanted to build the greatest saddlehorse barn in the country, John Hook was selected as the man for the job. After working for Carnation Stables for several years, Hook returned to his hometown of Mexico in 1935 and



bought the barn from the Lee Bros. across the street from the historic Simmons' Stables where Dr. Scott Simmons medical practice is now located. Hook and his son Leonard raised their own string of horses with son, Leonard as chief trainer. Stories have been told that every day at noon the city fathers would gather at Hook's office, located outside the barn, and shoot craps and have a little nip before returning to work. After selling his stables to Arthur Simmons, Hook and his son moved their operation to the Hamilton Bros. barn which was located south of town on Hwy. 54.

Hook was one of the greatest riders and trainers in the country with competitors saying he could ride a stick horse and win the show. After a nationwide search for "the best pony in America" for child actress Shirley Temple, the pony was found at the stables of John Hook. Hook was so famous a letter from Europe was sent with only a newspaper picture of him on it and no address. The letter was delivered to his home here in Mexico. A few of Hook's greatest horses are Bourbon Beauty, My Major Dare, Hazel Dawn, Grand McDonald, Rex Blee, Kentucky's Best, and Easter Cloud. Many great riders rode for Hook such as Lonnie Hayden, Marion Brown, Luther "Splint" Barnett, Chat Nichols, and John "Buck" Field to name only a few.