



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DONNA BARTON BROTHERS TO HOST THE 28TH ANNUAL TOBA NATIONAL AWARDS DINNER**

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association announced today that Donna Barton Brothers will host the 28th Annual National Awards Dinner to be held on Friday, September 6 at Fasig-Tipton in Lexington, Kentucky.

Brothers, a former jockey, began riding professionally in 1987. She was leading stakes winning rider in 1995 at Churchill Downs' spring/summer meet and rode Hennessey to a second place finish in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile that year. She rode for over 11 years and retired in 1998 as the second leading female jockey in the country by money earned after having won 1,171 races.

In 1998 she began on-air racing coverage with Television Games Network (TVG), ESPN, Churchill Downs and Fair Grounds Race Course. In 2000, she began working for NBC Sports as their on-track reporter and racing analyst on their Thoroughbred racing shows and has since covered the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, Belmont Stakes, Breeders' Cup and many other top Thoroughbred races across the country. In 2011, Brothers published a book titled, *Inside Track: Insider's Guide to Horse Racing*. In addition to her television duties, Brothers is currently the Chief Operating Officer for Starlight Racing.

"We are honored to have Donna Barton Brothers host the TOBA National Awards Dinner," said Dan Metzger, president of TOBA. "Donna is an accomplished broadcaster and horsewoman and we are excited to be teaming up with her on a special evening recognizing our sport's leading owners and breeders."

The TOBA National Awards Dinner honors the achievements of Thoroughbred owners in the four major North American racing regions and breeders in 21 states and Canada. In addition, the Rood & Riddle Thoroughbred Sport Horse of the Year Award will be presented to the owners of Thomas Edison, an ex-Thoroughbred racehorse that has excelled in sport horse competitions as tracked by the

United States Equestrian Federation. TOBA will also honor Lisa Danielle, the National Broodmare of the Year and Gary Biszantz with the Industry Service Award.

National Awards Dinner sponsors include OCD Pellets, Xpressbet, Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates, Woodford Reserve, John Deere, Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, Flair Nasal Strips, Fasig-Tipton, Daily Racing Form and Blood-Horse Publications.

TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred breeders and owners. TOBA's mission is to "*improve the economics, integrity and pleasure of the sport on behalf of Thoroughbred owners and breeders.*" Projects managed by TOBA include the American Graded Stakes Committee, Claiming Crown, Ownership Seminars, Ownerview.com and the Sales Integrity Program. TOBA provides international representation for U.S. owners and breeders on the International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee, International Cataloguing Standards Committee and International Breeders Federation. Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA) is the charitable arm of TOBA. TOBA is the owner of The Blood-Horse Inc., and is represented on the Board of Directors of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association and the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium as founding members.

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