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TOP OWNERS, BREEDERS TO BE HONORED AT 27TH ANNUAL TOBA NATIONAL AWARDS DINNER

LEXINGTON, Ky. – The Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's (TOBA's) 27th Annual National Awards Dinner will be held on Friday, September 7 at the Keeneland Entertainment Center in Lexington, Kentucky.

The TOBA National Awards Dinner honors the achievements of Thoroughbred owners in the four major North American racing regions and breeders in 23 states and Canada. In addition, the Rood & Riddle Thoroughbred Sport Horse of the Year Award is presented to the owner of the ex-Thoroughbred racehorse that excelled in sport horse competitions tracked by the United States Equestrian Federation.

The following regional owners will be honored:

Eastern Region Owner of the Year: Repole Stable Midwestern Region Owner of the Year: Ken and Sarah Ramsey Southern Region Owner of the Year: Team Valor Western Region Owner of the Year: Zetcher Racing Stable

A National Owner of the Year will be selected from the regional owners. The National Owner will only be revealed at the Awards Dinner.

TOBA's State and Canadian Breeders of the Year are:

Kenneth J. Robinette, Alabama
Triple AAA Ranch (Richard Owens), Arizona
Old English Rancho, California
Gardiner Farms, Limited, Canada
Dewey and Karen White, Georgia
Team Block (David Block), Illinois
Robert Gorham and Mast Thoroughbreds, Indiana
Sandra Rasmussen, Iowa
Ralph Lilja, Kansas
Ramsey Farm (Ken and Sarah Ramsey), Kentucky

Allen C. Peltier, Louisiana
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Maryland
Kenneth P. Posco, Massachusetts
Sampson Thoroughbreds (Curtis Sampson), Minnesota
Christine Connelly, New Jersey
Sam E. Stevens, New Mexico
Chester and Mary Broman, New York
Hawk Crest Manor (Hubert Vester), North Carolina
Mesa Farm (Debra Quarne), North Dakota
Dr. Ryland and Jo Ann Harwood, Oregon
Henry Carroll, South Carolina
Estate of Edward P. Evans, Virginia
Michael and Amy Feuerborn, Washington
Jeff and Susan Runco, West Virginia

TOBA's National Breeder and National Small Breeder of the Year will be selected from the above list of breeders and will only be revealed at the Awards Dinner. Additionally, TOBA will honor Oatsee as the National Broodmare of the Year.

National Awards Dinner sponsors include OCD Pellets, AmWest Entertainment, Woodford Reserve, Grey Goose Vodka, John Deere, Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, Keeneland, Daily Racing Form and Blood-Horse Publications. Tickets for the National Awards Dinner may be purchased at www.toba.org.

TOBA, based in Lexington, Ky., was formed in 1961 and is a national trade organization of leading Thoroughbred horse 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, Sales Integrity Program, The Racing Game and Claiming Crown. 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 as a founding member.