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AMERICAN SADDLEBRED MUSEUM 2007 EXHIBIT TO RECOGNIZE  
HISTORIC BLACK HORSEMEN

LEXINGTON, KY – April 4, 2006 – The American Saddlebred Museum is asking for help in locating photos, trophies, ribbons, newspaper clippings and other memorabilia relating to noted Black horsemen from the days after the Civil war through the 70's. This group of men, from caretakers to trainers of American Saddlebreds, often took a backseat to the other horsemen of their era. We hope to single out and recognize their many contributions to the breed in our upcoming 2007 Exhibit.

Men such as Tom Downing, Walter Murphy, Gray Barham, Tom Butler, Eddie Stivers, Junior Seay and Walk Trot Thomas deserve their chance in the spotlight. These great men, along with others such as the Kennedy brothers and Charlie Hatcher, brought us the show ring stars Stonewall Parfait, Supreme Airs, Stonewall's Crescendo, Glenview's Mandala and many, many others. Though often times they feared prejudice and had white trainers show their horses and collect World's Championship titles for them, these men were the ones who made those horses champions.

If you remember a Black horseman who made an impact to the industry or to you personally, please share your stories with the Museum. We know it is not always possible to locate photographs, paintings, etc., and would be glad to include oral histories of those men in both our exhibit and permanent collection.