

# Locust Grove: owner's dream come true!

*Kenny Catron  
& Jeff Humble  
form breeding, training  
partnership in KY.*



*Locust Grove Farm, Montocello, KY*

While Locust Grove Farm is a relatively new ASB stable, the dream that has brought the business to reality has been in the making for many years.

Locust Grove owner Kenny Catron, fell in love with the so-called “peacocks” of the horse show ring some 30 years ago when he worked as a 12-year-old mucking stalls and saddling horses for Claudia McHargue, who trained and showed ASBs and also offered riding instructions in the Monticello, KY area. Catron has fond memories of his very first pony, Society Spice, who he bought with money he made at the neighborhood barn.

McHargue introduced him to the horses with the high-stepping motion and he grew to appreciate their strength, coupled with agility, trainability and intelligence. The wonderful characteristics that the top Saddlebreds possess – long necks, impressive depth of shoulder, long front legs, inquisitive perched hooked ears, and expressive alert eyes – are now the things Catron is hoping to develop in his breeding operation at Locust Grove.

He is off to a good start with the impressive, black stallion WC Harlem's Valentino, a welcome addition to the 60-acre farm located in Russell Springs, KY.

“My goal is to be able to make a contribution to the Saddlebred breed in the upcoming years,” said Catron. “I'm truly committed to this.”

Catron's dream has now been expanded into a total working operation in partnership with trainer Jeff Humble, who, with his wife JoAnn, owns Double J Stables, just across Lake Cumberland in Catron's hometown of Monticello. Humble's devotion to the breed and years of experience make a winning combination. Humble's barn has quite a history of award-winning show horses. He and his son, Shane, put immeasurable hours into their business with approximately 90 head in the breeding and training operation.

Currently the team has been training such bloodlines as: Supreme Heir, Catalyst, Fox Fire's Prophet, Rosen Ridge Heir, Worthy Son, Time Out Lovin, Periapator, Oceanfront, Belle Reve's Renaissance Man, Harlem Globemaster, Clay Bank, Classic Memories and Rhythm Ragtime.

Perhaps Catron's entrepreneurship ambitions which he has perfected in the tobacco industry over the past ten years, along with the keen business sense he has demonstrated in the Lake Cumberland area for the for past 25 years, lends itself to the courageous spirit it sometimes takes to be successful in the horse business. His understanding of the industry and forthright determination will keep him from being deterred when the going gets tough.

Like Humble, Catron has passed on his passion for Saddlebreds to his son, Kendall, a senior at Russell County High School where he is a veteran varsity football player. Kendall will be joining the family business after graduation this May.

Contact Double J Stables at (606) 340-8036 and Locust Grove Farm at (270) 343-6649.