

Mark of Distinction



Keeneland Club buttons tell the history of Thoroughbred racing

By Mary Simon

Keeneland has honored prominent individuals every year since 1968 with buttons that bear the colors of their racing or farm silks. Easily recognizable by race goers and highly coveted, the buttons adorn the lapels and dresses of Keeneland Club members each spring and fall. Following is a history of the button, as well as the contributions each honoree has made to Keeneland and the Thoroughbred industry:

1968 Hal Price Headley (1888-1962)

Headley's leadership was the driving force behind the founding of Keeneland Race Course and establishment of the Breeders' Sales Company, which evolved into Keeneland's auction house. Served as the first president of the Keeneland Association (1935-51). 7-time leading owner at Keeneland. Campaigned 108 Keeneland winners. Won 8 Keeneland stakes.

1969 Calumet Farm

Established by William Wright in 1924 as a Standardbred farm. Warren Wright Sr. and wife Lucille took over operations in 1932 and switched to Thoroughbreds. Farm adjacent to Keeneland. Leading Keeneland owner fall 1940, '90 (tie). Leading spring owner 6 times. Won spring record 12 races in 1941. Won record 6 Blue Grass Stakes. Raced 5 Hall of Famers at Keeneland: Whirlaway, Bewitch, Real Delight, Coaltown, Alydar. Calumet's 20 Keeneland stakes wins are 2nd all time (tie). Farm purchased in 1992 by Henryk de Kwiatkowski, followed by Brad Kelley in 2012.

1970 Claiborne Farm

For more than 100 years the Hancock family's Claiborne Farm has been one of America's most influential breeding and racing operations. Arthur B. Hancock led a group of Kentucky breeders in establishing Keeneland as a permanent sales site. Keeneland's all-time leading owner by stakes wins (23 in Claiborne's name and 5 in partnership with Adele Dilschneider). Only recipient of Keeneland's gold tray (1957), pitcher (1968), and bowl (2003) — each signifying milestone stakes wins. Won Keeneland stakes with champions Round Table, Blame, Moccasin, Swale, Forty Niner, Doubledogdare. Represented by 154 winners at

Keeneland. Leading owner fall 1956, '99. Leading owner spring 1994 (tie), '99. Leading American breeder 9 times. Claiborne president Seth W. Hancock is a Keeneland director.

1971 Dixiana

Founded in 1877, Dixiana is one of Kentucky's oldest continuously operated farms. Campaigned 133 Keeneland winners. 11 Keeneland stakes wins: 3 for owner Mary Fisher, 8 under Dixiana name. Fisher leading owner fall 1959. Dixiana leading owner fall 1947 (tie), '50, '51. Current owner is William Shively. Farm sponsors Keeneland's \$400,000 Breeders' Futurity in the fall.

1972 C.V. "Sonny" Whitney (1899-1992)

Bred more than 175 stakes winners. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1976). Won 11 Keeneland stakes, including 3 Blue Grass Stakes. Raced 118 winners at Keeneland. Leading owner spring 1950 (tie), '52, '60. Leading owner fall 4 times. 5-time leading American owner. 4-time leading American breeder. Widow Marylou Whitney Hendrickson continues to breed and race.

1973 Greentree Stable

Founded in 1914 by Payne Whitney. Owned and/or run by Whitneys for decades thereafter. John Hay "Jock" Whitney offered to fund the building of Keeneland in 1935 but turned down by Headley, who preferred a local group effort. Raced 90 winners at Keeneland, including 9 stakes winners. Won 1942 Blue Grass with Shut Out and two stakes with Hall of Famer Devil Diver.

1974 Hasty House Farm (Allie C. Reuben, 1894-1975)

Won 8 stakes at Keeneland. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1955). Won 1953 Breeders' Futurity with champion Hasty Road, 3 Ben Ali Handicaps, and 3 Phoenix Handicaps. Early American grass racing enthusiast. Leading American owner of 1955.

1975 Bwamazon Farm (Millard Waldheim, 1904-83)

Established in 1950 near Winchester, Ky. Campaigned 152 winners at

Keeneland. Won 12 Keeneland stakes. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1972) and gold pitcher (1983). Won 5 Lafayette Stakes, 3 Breeders' Futurities. Leading owner spring meet 8 times. Leading owner fall 1961, '64, '82. Bred 40-plus stakes winners.

1976 Louis Lee Haggin II (1913-80)

Second president of Keeneland Race Course (1940-56). Third president of Keeneland Association (1956-70). Keeneland Association chairman (1970-80). Won 5 Keeneland stakes, including 1975 Breeders' Futurity with Harbor Springs. Keeneland's turf course named in his honor. Member of The Jockey Club. Grandson of famed owner/breeder James Ben Ali Haggin of Elmendorf Farm. Son Louis Lee Haggin III is a Keeneland trustee.

1977 Darby Dan Farm

Founded in Ohio in 1935 by John W. Galbreath. Established in Kentucky in 1949 on former Idle Hour Farm property. Won 1963 Blue Grass with champion Chateaugay. Won 1962 Spinster with champion Primonetta. Won 1988 and 1990 Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1988). Bred Kentucky Derby winners Chateaugay and Proud Clarion and Epsom Derby winner Roberto. Darby Dan now run by grandson John Phillips.

1978 William Arnold Hangar (1895-1976)

Owner, breeder, philanthropist. Keeneland trustee and director. Launched the Keeneland Library with a 2,300-volume donation in 1939. Helped secure the famed Cook photo collection. Won 1939 Breeders' Futurity with Roman Flag and 1946 Ashland with Sweet Caprice. Member of The Jockey Club.

1979 J. Graham Brown (1881-1969)

Campaigned 7 Keeneland stakes winners. Twice won Spinster with Bornstar (1957-58). Won 1965 Ben Ali and Phoenix with Gallant Romeo. Leading owner fall 1949 (tie). Leading owner spring 1950 (tie). Received Keeneland's gold tray (1965). Raced as Brown Hotel Stable. Built Brown Hotel in Louisville. Established University of Louisville's J. Graham Brown Cancer Center.

1980 Cain Hoy Stables (Harry Guggenheim, 1890-1971)

Guggenheim raced as Cain Hoy Stable from 1934-69. Won three Ashland Stakes (1957, '59, '63) and '55 Blue Grass (Racing Fool). Leading American owner of 1959 by purse earnings. Won 1953 Kentucky Derby with Dark Star. Helped form New York Racing Association. Member of The Jockey Club.

1981 Michael Grace Phipps (1910-73)

Champion polo player was member of the famed Phipps racing family. Won 5 Keeneland stakes, including 1970 Ashland with Gay Missile and '59 and '67 Ben Ali. Bred and raced eventual leading American sire Raja Baba.

1982 E.P. Taylor (1901-89)

Founded Windfields Farm in Ontario. Bred/raced 1964 Blue Grass and Kentucky Derby winner, Hall of Famer, and legendary sire Northern Dancer. Won 1981 Ashland with Truly Bound. Eclipse Award-winning



breeder (1977, '83). Sold future English Derby winners Secretariat and The Minstrel at Keeneland July. Sold future Irish Derby winner Shareef Dancer for \$3.3 million at 1981 Keeneland July. Sold Northern Dancer colt for \$8.25 million at 1984 Keeneland July. Three-time leading Keeneland July consignor by average.

1983 Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Firestone

Campaigned 8 Keeneland stakes winners. Won 1976 Blue Grass with champion Honest Pleasure. Won 1976 Ashland and Spinster with Optimistic Gal. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1981). 1980 Eclipse Award-winning owners. Raced Hall of Famer and Kentucky Derby winner Genuine Risk.

1984 Spendthrift Farm (Leslie Combs II, 1902-90)

Founded in 1937. Leading consignor by average at Keeneland July sale 18 times. Sold several world record-priced yearlings at Keeneland, including Kentucky Derby winner and Hall of Famer Majestic Prince. Bred and later sold future leading sire Mr. Prospector at Keeneland July. Stood Nashua, Raise a Native, Seattle Slew, Affirmed, Never Bend, Gallant Man. Farm now owned by B. Wayne Hughes.

1985 Hurstland Farm (Nuckols family)

Midway, Ky., operation established in the 1890s by Charles Nuckols Sr. Charles Nuckols Jr. was a Keeneland trustee. Charles Nuckols III is a current Keeneland director. Longtime major Keeneland consignor. Bred and sold dual classic-winning champion War Emblem at Keeneland September yearling sale. Has bred, raised, or sold more than 220 stakes winners.

1986 John O. "Jack" Keene (1870-1943)

Horseman and trainer longed to build America's finest racetrack. Ran out of money during the Great Depression; sold 147½-acre unfinished training center to newly formed Keeneland Association. Keeneland was established on that acreage in 1935. Keene is buried in family cemetery behind Keene Place mansion on Keeneland property.

1987 William S. Farish (Lane's End Farm)

Keeneland trustee and director. Keeneland's all-time leading owner of winners (190). Raced 20 stakes winners at Keeneland (tied for 2nd), alone or in partnership. Won 1992 Ashland with Prospectors Delite. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1993) and gold pitcher (2003). Bred or co-bred 285-plus stakes winners, including Horses of the Year A.P. Indy and Mineshaft. Two-time Eclipse Award-winning breeder. 5-time leading consignor at Keeneland September yearling sale. Sold 4 of the 10 most expensive September yearlings of all time. Sold 3 of the most expensive September sale fillies of all time. Sold at Keeneland (as agent or owner) numerous champions including A.P. Indy and classic winners Summer Squall, Bet Twice. Co-bred \$13.1-million world-record yearling Seattle Dancer.

1988 Duval Headley (1909-87)

Nephew of Keeneland founder Hal Price Headley. President of Keeneland Race Course. Leading trainer at first 4 Keeneland meetings. Owned Crownlet, winner of 1951 Lafayette (2nd div). Bred Racing Hall of Fam-



From left, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Galbreath, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Lee Haggin II, Hal Price Headley, and Arthur B. Hancock Jr.

ers Tom Fool and Dark Mirage. Owned Keeneland neighbor Manchester Farm, where barn is favorite photographic subject.

1989 Warner L. Jones Jr. (1916-94)

Founded Hermitage Farm near Goshen, Ky., in 1935. Keeneland board member, sales company director, major consignor. Bred/sold Kentucky Derby winner Dark Star at 1951 Keeneland July sale. Co-bred and sold world-record \$13.1-million yearling at 1985 Keeneland July. Record Keeneland July average for consignor: \$2,433,750 in 1985. Bred more than 150 stakes winners. Received 1990 Eclipse Award of Merit. Member of The Jockey Club.

1990 Major Louis A. Beard (1888-1954)

Headed scouting committee in early 1930s to find location for Keeneland, deciding on Jack Keene's Keeneland Stud. Major fundraiser in building Keeneland; sold common stock at \$1 a share. Track's 7-furlong and 184-foot Beard Course named in his honor in 1953.

1991 Russell L. Reineman (1917-2004)

Leading owner fall 1980, '81. Leading owner spring 1987 (tie). Won 1980 Fayette with Hurry Up Blue, '86 Lexington with Wise Times, '90 Lexington with Home At Last. Bred/raced 1962 champion Smart Deb. With Charles Nuckols Jr., co-bred champion and Kentucky Derby winner War Emblem. Raced future leading sire Distorted Humor.

1992 John A. Bell III (1918-2007)

Bought first horse at Keeneland in 1940. Established Jonabell Farm near Lexington in 1954. Leading owner fall 1988 (tie). Won Spinster in 1983 (Try Something New, also won Bewitch) and 1988 (Hail a Cab). Raised Hall of Famer Damascus, champion Battlefield, English Derby winner Never Say Die. The Jockey Club steward. Director of Breeders' Cup Ltd. and Grayson Foundation. Chairman, trustee, and co-founder of the American Horse Council.

1993 Sam-Son Farm (Ernest L. Samuel, 1931-2000)

Farm in Ontario, Canada. Owned 11 Keeneland stakes winners. Won 1991 Spinster with Canadian champion Wilderness Song. Leading spring meet owner 5 times. Received Keeneland's gold tray (2005). Bred/raced 8 Canadian Horses of the Year. Sam-Son Farm won an Eclipse Award as outstanding owner; 5 Sovereign Awards as Canada's leading owner and 5 as breeder. Additionally, Ernie Samuel won 5 Sovereign Awards as leading owner and 2 as leading breeder. Bred Hall of Famer Dance Smartly and leading sire Smart Strike. Member of The Jockey Club.

1994 Dogwood Farm (W. Cothran Campbell)

Pioneered racing partnerships in the early 1970s. Has brought some 1,200 people into racing through partnerships. Received Keeneland's gold tray (2011). Raced 8 Keeneland stakes winners, including 1990 Blue Grass and Preakness winner Summer Squall. Leading owner spring 2010 (tie). Has campaigned 77 stakes winners to date, including champions Storm Song and Inlander. Has spent more than \$100 million at Keeneland and other sales. Campbell received the 2011 Eclipse Award of Merit.

1995 Sheikh Maktoum Al Maktoum (1943-2006)

Founded Gainsborough Stud in England and Central Kentucky. Ruler of Dubai at his death. Older brother of current ruler and globally promi-



nent horseman Sheikh Mohammed. Won Maker's Mark Mile in 1999 (Soviet Line) and 2002 (Touch of the Blues). Bred/raced champions Hatoof and Fantastic Light. Raced international classic winners including Shadeed, Shareef Dancer, Ma Biche, Jet Ski Lady, Touching Wood.

1996 Paul Mellon (1907-99) (Rokey Stables)

Won 1969 Blue Grass with Arts and Letters and 1974 Spinster with Summer Guest. Bred/raced Hall of Famers Fort Marcy and Arts and Letters; European Horse of the Year Mill Reef; champions Run the Gantlet and Key to the Mint, Kentucky Derby winner Sea Hero. Eclipse Award-winning breeder 1971, 1986; owner (tie) 1971.

1997 William T. Young (1918-2004) (Overbrook Farm)

Farm in Lexington is home to legendary stallion Storm Cat. Received Keeneland's gold tray (2001). Campaigned 13 Keeneland stakes winners alone or in partnership, including Boston Harbor, Mountain Cat, Cat Thief. Raced 121 winners at Keeneland. 8-time leading or co-leading fall meet owner. Bred/raced champions Flanders, Golden Attraction, Surfside; classic winners Grindstone, Tabasco Cat. 1994 Eclipse Award-winning breeder. Member and steward of The Jockey Club.

1998 Ogden Mills Phipps

Member of prominent racing family. Phipps Stable has won 7 Keeneland stakes, including 1994 and '95 Spinster. Bred/raced Hall of Famer Inside Information, champions Rhythm, Storm Flag Flying, Smuggler, Successor. Bred champion Storm Song (in partnership). Received 1978 Eclipse Award of Merit. Chairman of The Jockey Club. Breeders' Cup director. Trustee/former chairman of New York Racing Association.

1999 G. Watts Humphrey

Owens Shawnee Farm near Harrodsburg, Ky. Keeneland director. Leading owner spring 1989, 2003 (tie), '08 (tie). Leading owner fall 2004, '06, '11. Has won 8 Keeneland stakes, alone or in partnership, including 1997 Three Chimneys Spinster with Clear Mandate. Co-bred 1985 Belmont winner Crème Fraiche, champion Sacahuista, Italian highweight Primary. Member and past steward of The Jockey Club. Trustee of Breeders' Cup Ltd. Wife Sally bred 1980 Kentucky Derby winner Genuine Risk.

2000 Allen Paulson (1922-2000)

Won 13 Keeneland stakes, including 1992 and 2004 Spinster. Received Keeneland's gold tray (1993). Bred/raced champions Cigar, Azeri, Escena, Ajina, Eliza. Raced champions Estrapade, Arazi, Blushing John, Theatrical. 1993 Eclipse Award as leading breeder; 1995, '96 Eclipse Award as leading owner. 1996 Eclipse Award of Merit. Three-time leading American owner by earnings. Raced more than 115 stakes winners. Member of The Jockey Club.

2001 Shadwell Farm (Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum)

Division near Lexington owned by Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, deputy ruler of Dubai. Sponsors Keeneland's Shadwell Turf Mile. 2007 Eclipse Award as leading owner. Won 7 stakes at Keeneland, including 2008 Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup and 3 runnings of Keeneland Breeders' Cup Turf Mile. Bought record \$4.4 million Keeneland September sale filly. Leading September buyer by gross 1992, '94, 2010. Bred/raced champions Lahudood, Nashwan, Sakhee, Nayef. Raced Horse of the Year Invasor.

2002 Michael Tabor

Major Keeneland sales buyer. Races primarily in partnerships. Received Keeneland's gold tray (2008). Has raced 9 Keeneland stakes winners alone or in partnerships, including 1995 Breeders' Futurity winner Honour and Glory and 2000 Toyota Blue Grass winner High Yield. Bought and raced Keeneland sales graduates Johannesburg, Rags to Riches, and Hold That Tiger. Owned or co-owned 1995 Kentucky Derby-winning champion Thunder Gulch, multiple champion High Chaparral, 2012 champion 2-year-old male Shanghai Bobby. Co-bred and raced champion and leading sire Giant's Causeway.

2003 James Tafel

Joined Dogwood Stable partnership in 1983; was Dogwood partner in major stakes winner Nassipour. 5 Keeneland stakes wins include 1998 Three Chimneys Spinster with homebred champion Banshee Breeze. Bred/raced champion and 2007 Kentucky Derby winner Street Sense, second in Toyota Blue Grass. Bought future grade I winner Vicar at Keeneland July.

2004 Josephine Abercrombie

Founded Pin Oak Stud near Versailles, Ky., with father in 1952. Won 8 Keeneland stakes, including graded victories with African Dancer, Broken Vow, and Bedanken. Bred and/or raced more than 100 stakes winners. Bred 1976 Preakness winner Elocutionist. Bred and raced 2005 Canadian Horse of the Year Peaks and Valleys and 1990 champion Laugh and Be Merry.

2005 John C. Oxley

Major Keeneland buyer. Bought future Lane's End Breeders' Futurity winner Sky Mesa at September sale. Bought future champion Beautiful Pleasure and Kentucky Oaks winner Gal in a Ruckus at April sale. Winner of 5 Keeneland stakes, alone and in partnership with wife Debby. Won 2001 Kentucky Derby with Monarchos. Member and steward of The Jockey Club.

2006 Juddmonte Farms (Khalid Abdullah)

Sponsors the Juddmonte Spinster Stakes at Keeneland. Has Kentucky division near Lexington. Raced 13 Keeneland stakes winners, including homebred champions Ryafan and Intercontinental. Received Keeneland's gold tray (2005). Has bred more than 90 grade/group I winners and 23 classic winners, including undefeated 2012 European Horse of the Year Frankel, legendary sire Danehill, and American classic winner Empire Maker. Has won 5 Eclipse Awards as outstanding breeder, 2 as outstanding owner.

2007 Godolphin

Founded in 1992 by the Maktoum family of Dubai. Led by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, ruler of Dubai. Major Keeneland buyer. Won 2008 Perryville Stakes with Hatta Fort. Has won more than 200 grade/group I races worldwide. Runners have included champions Street Cry, Daylami, Dubai Millennium. Eclipse Award-winning owner of 2009 and 2012.

2008 Stonerside (Janice and Robert C. McNair)

Former owners of Stonerside Farm. Won 8 Keeneland stakes, alone or in partnership, including 2007 Darley Alcibiades with Country Star and '05 Ashland with Sis City. Bred and/or raced cham-



pion Chilukki and grade I winners Congaree and Bob and John. Bred champion Midshipman and grade I winners Raven's Pass, The Cliff's Edge, and It's Tricky. Sold \$6.4-million 2001 Keeneland September sale-topper Van Nistelrooy. Bought European champion juvenile filly Elusive Kate at Keeneland September.

2009 Helen Alexander

Fifth-generation member of family that founded the famed King Ranch. Owns Middlebrook Farm near Lexington. Keeneland director. With mother Helen Groves won 2010 Juddmonte Spinster with Acoma. Bred/sold champions Yamanin Paradise and Festival of Light at Keeneland. Sold a \$3.6-million yearling at 2003 September sale. Breeder/co-breeder of champion Althea and grade I winners Ketoh and Acoma. Member/former steward of The Jockey Club. Director of Breeders' Cup Ltd; former president Thoroughbred Club of America and Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

2010 Augustin Stable (George Strawbridge Jr.)

Philanthropist, businessman, sportsman, horseman from Pennsylvania. Received Keeneland's gold tray in 2010. Has won 15 Keeneland stakes, including grade I races with champions Informed Decision and Forever Together. Bred/raced European champion Selkirk, Breeders' Cup Turf winner Tikkanen, English classic winner Lucarno, grade I winner With Anticipation. Member of the American, English, and Canadian Jockey Clubs. All-time leading money-winning steeplechase owner.

2011 In Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of Keeneland

Keeneland opened for racing on October 15, 1936, for a nine-day fall meeting.

2012 Alice Chandler

Owner of Mill Ridge Farm, which she established near Keeneland in 1962. Daughter of Keeneland founder Hal Price Headley. Keeneland director. Received 2008 Eclipse Award of Merit. Bred European champion and famed sire Sir Ivor. Consigned in 2005 a then-record September yearling, Jalil, for \$9.7 million and the 2010 sale-topper, Mr. Besilu for \$4.2 million. Raised champions Point Given, Sweet Catomine, Johar, and 2005 Kentucky Derby winner Giacomo. Member of The Jockey Club. Breeders' Cup Ltd. director.

2013 James E. Bassett III

Following distinguished service as a decorated Marine during World War II, and as Director of the Kentucky State Police, Mr. Bassett joined Keeneland in 1968. He oversaw a period of unprecedented growth during his more than 40 years as president, chairman of the board, director, trustee, and now trustee emeritus. Internationally recognized as one of Thoroughbred racing's foremost statesmen, Mr. Bassett has been honored with the industry's most prestigious awards, among them the Eclipse Award of Merit and Lord Derby Award, for his lifelong service, most notably as president of the Breeders' Cup, chairman of Equibase, a trustee of the American Horse Council, and a steward of The Jockey Club.