



D. Wayne Lukas

Born: Sept. 2, 1935 in Antigo, Wis.

D. Wayne Lukas' record at Keeneland
Total wins: 275
Stakes wins: 50

- Inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in 1999.
- Four-time Eclipse Award winner as leading trainer (1985, 1986, 1987 and 1994).
- North America's leading money-earning trainer 14 times (1983-1992, 1994-1997). Career earnings a record \$256.5 million.
- Trainer of a record 24 champions—Althea, Azeri, Boston Harbor, Capote, 1999 Horse of the Year Charismatic, 1990 Horse of the Year Criminal Type, Family Style, Flanders, Folklore, Golden Attraction, Gulch, 1986 Horse of the Year Lady's Secret, Landaluce, Life's Magic, North Sider, Open Mind, Orientate, Sacahuista, Serena's Song, Steinlen (GB), Surfside, Thunder Gulch, Timber Country and Winning Colors.
- Won his 4,000th race on May 7, 2001, at Delaware Park with Added Spice.
- Four-time winner of the Kentucky Derby (G1)—1988, Winning Colors; 1995, Thunder Gulch; 1996, Grindstone; and 1999, Charismatic.
- Won the Preakness Stakes (G1) five times—1980, Codex; 1985, Tank's Prospect; 1994, Tabasco Cat; 1995, Timber Country; and 1999, Charismatic.
- Won the Belmont Stakes (G1) four times—1994, Tabasco Cat; 1995, Thunder Gulch; 1996, Editor's Note; and 2000, Commendable.
- Won a record 18 Breeders' Cup races, including three in 1988.
- In 1995, became the only trainer ever to win all three Triple Crown races in one year with different horses (Thunder Gulch, Kentucky Derby and Belmont, and Timber Country, Preakness).
- Beginning with the 1994 Preakness, he won seven of eight Triple Crown races (1994 Preakness and Belmont with Tabasco Cat; 1995 Kentucky Derby and Belmont with Thunder Gulch and 1995 Preakness with Timber Country; 1996 Derby with Grindstone; 1996 Belmont with Editor's Note).
- Three-time leading Quarter Horse trainer by earnings (1974-1976) and races won (1970, 1974 and 1975).
- Inducted into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame in 2007, becoming the only person who is in both it and its Thoroughbred counterpart.
- Keeneland's all-time leading trainer by stakes victories (50), races won (275) and meets won (16). At the 1989 fall meeting, he set a still-standing record for wins during a meet with 22.
- Leading trainer at Churchill Downs 11 times.
- Received the United Thoroughbred Trainers of America's Trainer of the Year Award in 1999.
- Honored by the Thoroughbred Club of America at its 67th annual testimonial dinner in 1998.
- Received the John W. Galbreath Award from the University of Louisville's Equine Industry Program in 1998.
- Keynote speaker at the 2004 Racing Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Since having switched to Thoroughbreds from Quarter Horses in 1978, D. Wayne Lukas has experienced unprecedented success. He has topped the nation's trainers by earnings 14 times, has received four Eclipse Awards, has trained a record 24 champions, including three Horses of the Year, has won a record 18 Breeders' Cup races, and he's won 13 Triple Crown races, tying him with "Sunny Jim" Fitzsimmons for most Triple Crown victories.

For his remarkable achievements, Lukas was enshrined in the Racing Hall of Fame in the summer of 1999. Yet the man who has revolutionized racing continues to work hard.

"We're very aware of what we've done before," Lukas said recently. "We use it as a benchmark. We've had a long successful run and we want to keep up that level of success or exceed it."

He said "a love of the sport" keeps him going. "I love the main arena. I love the competitive atmosphere of racing. You're only rewarded if you win, as opposed to drawing a paycheck. I just like it. We don't want to have a real job."

Lukas says he plans to continue training "as long as my health stays good and I still have a good energy level. I'm more enthusiastic now than I was 20 years ago. This game is built on experience, so as long as my health stays good, then I should only get better each year."

The instantly recognizable Lukas has done much to raise public awareness of racing. "We try to represent the industry as best we can," he said. "We want the sport to flourish."

Lukas grew up on a farm in Wisconsin and gained exposure to horse racing at the Antigo County Fairgrounds, where he raced his pony. After

graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a master's degree in education, he coached high school basketball and served as an assistant coach at his alma mater. During the summers, he began racing horses at Park Jefferson in South Dakota.

After moving to California in 1972, he quickly made a name for himself as a trainer of Quarter Horses, conditioning 23 world champions and dominating the sport as he later would Thoroughbred racing.

Lukas surpassed Charlie Whittingham as the all-time leading money-winning trainer in 1988. He exceeded the \$100 million mark in 1990 and the \$200 million mark in 1999.

In addition to Keeneland and Churchill Downs, he's won training titles at Santa Anita, Belmont Park, Oak Tree, Hollywood Park, Turfway Park and Saratoga.

In 2000, he had graded stakes winners Surfside (champion 3-year-old filly), Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) winner Spain, Belmont winner Commendable, Toyota Blue Grass (G1) winner High Yield, Cash Run, Shawnee Country, Duality, Yonaguska and Katz Me If You Can in his barn.

In 2002, Lukas developed Orientate into the nation's best sprinter, his 22nd champion and his 17th Breeders' Cup winner. He also had Spain in his shedrow, who became North America's leading money-winning mare during that year.

Michael Paulson transferred Azeri to Lukas for her 2004 campaign and she earned her fourth year-end honor to become Lukas' 23rd champion. Lukas also had Grade 1 winners Stellar Jayne and Consolidator in his barn.

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) winner Folklore became his 24th champion in 2005, during which his stable won 72 races and earned \$4,585,321 to rank 15th.

After the deaths of two of his primary patrons, W.T. Young and Bob Lewis, his operation shrank in size dramatically. In 2006, he won graded races with Dance Daily and With Distinction. The following year, he was inducted into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame. His runners won five stakes that year, including the Louisville Breeders' Cup (G2). In 2009, his runners included Dublin, winner of the Hopeful (G1), and Grade 3 winners Decelerator and Be Fair. His stable's 40 wins and \$2.3 million in earnings for the year boosted his career totals to 4,546 wins and \$253.9 million in earnings.

Well-known for his sharp eye for yearlings at auction, Lukas has picked such future champions at Keeneland as Capote (1985 July, \$800,000), Serena's Song (1993 July, \$150,000), Timber Country (1993 July, \$500,000) and Winning Colors (1987 July, \$575,000).

On behalf of a four-man syndicate made up of himself, Bob French, Eugene Klein and Mel Hatley, he was the underbidder on the world-record \$13.1 million yearling that sold in 1985.

On his Hall of Fame induction, he said: "To me, it is the ultimate honor. I think it recognizes more than 25 years of achievement and it recognizes a lot of the people you've been connected with. It's those people—my owners and my assistants who went out on their own to become successful trainers—that are a source of great pride to me."