

GSCM NEWSLETTER

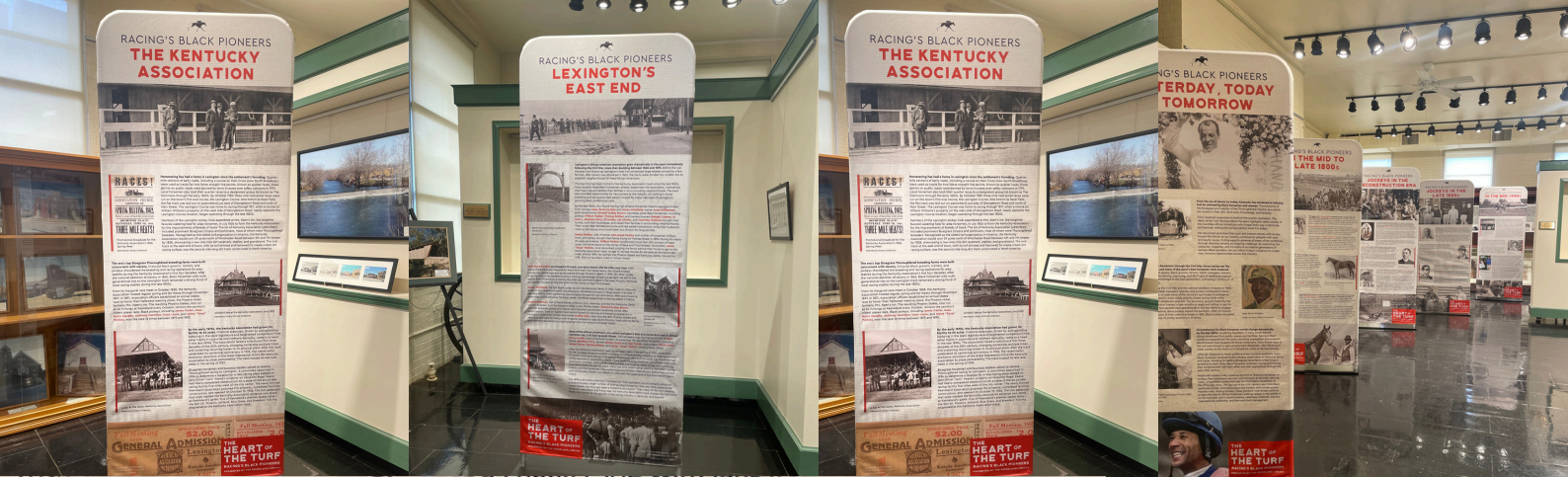


In this month's edition we reflect on how the Museum celebrated Black History Month! Our good friends at Keeneland brought over a traveling exhibit called "Heart Of The Turf", and it was a great success! You can see some of the panels, local jockeys featured, and photos from opening night below!

HEART OF THE TURF: OPENING NIGHT 2/28/25

February 28th kicked off the "Heart of The Turf" Exhibit with a bang. Opening night went considerably well with a fully packed museum and many motivational and influential speakers. The traveling exhibit honored black Kentucky horsemen who made themselves famous in the face of adversity!

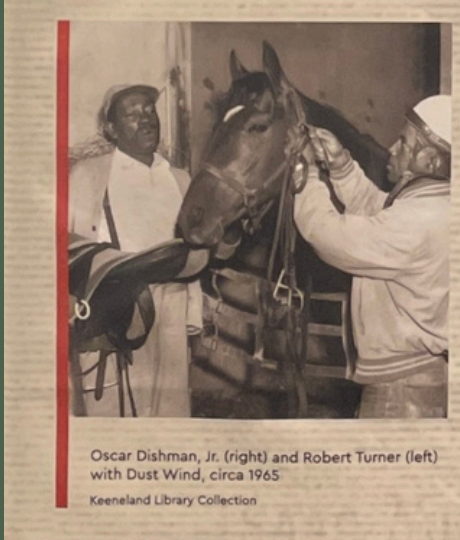




...racing legends John Henry, Cigar, and Funny Cide with...

Although Eugene Carter was never awarded a jockey license, trainer **Oscar Dishman, Jr.** became one of the few licensed African American trainers in the country to run a longstanding stable in the mid-20th century. Born in Scott County, Kentucky, Dishman spent much of his childhood at his grandparents' farm taking care of their horses, while his father worked at the C.V. Whitney Farm in Lexington. He got his start in the industry exercising horses at Keeneland Farm in Lexington. He got his start in the industry exercising horses at Keeneland and Latonia Downs. Dishman pursued a training career in the early 1960s during segregation, overcoming obstacles white trainers would never face. His wife was denied entry through the front gate of Cincinnati's River Downs despite being married to the track's leading trainer, and, at the outset of his career, he could not purchase horses outright. By the 1970s, Dishman was training more than 40 horses at a time, conditioning multiple runners who earned more than \$100,000 a season. His top horse, Silver Series, won the 1977 Ohio Derby, the Hutcheson Stakes in Florida, and the American Derby in Chicago.

HIBIT



Oscar Dishman, Jr. (right) and Robert Turner (left) with Dust Wind, circa 1965
Keeneland Library Collection

"ALTHOUGH EUGENE CARTER WAS NEVER AWARDED A JOCKEY LICENSE, TRAINER OSCAR DISHMAN, JR. BECAME ONE OF THE FEW LICENSED AFRICAN AMERICAN TRAINERS IN THE COUNTRY TO RUN A LONGSTANDING STABLE IN THE MID-20TH CENTURY. BORN IN SCOTT COUNTY, KENTUCKY, DISHMAN SPENT MUCH OF HIS CHILDHOOD AT HIS GRANDPARENTS' FARM TAKING CARE OF THEIR HORSES, WHILE HIS FATHER WORKED AT THE C.V. WHITNEY FARM IN LEXINGTON. HE GOT HIS START IN THE INDUSTRY EXERCISING HORSES AT KEENELAND AND LATONIA DOWNS. DISHAMN PURSUED A TRAINING CAREER IN THE EARLY 1960'S DURING SEGREGATION, OVERCOMING OBSTACLES WHITE TRAINERS WOULD NEVER FACE. HIS WIFE WAS DENIED ENTRY THROUGH THE FRONT GATE OF CINCINNATI'S RIVER DOWNS DESPITE BEING MARRIED TO THE TRACKS LEADING TRAINER, AND, AT THE OUTSET OF HIS CARRER, HE COULD NOT PURCHASE HORSES OUTRIGHT. BY THE 1970'S, DISHMAN WAS TRAINING MORE THAN 40 HORSES AT A TIME, CONDITIONING MULTIPLE RUNNERS WHO EARNED MORE THAN \$100,00 A SEASON. HIS TOP HORSE, SILVER SERIES, WON THE 1977 OHIO DERBY, THE HUTHURSON STAKES IN FLORIDA, AND THE AMERICAN DERBY IN CHICAGO."

OPEN WED-SAT 10AM-4PM, 229 East Main Street, Georgetown KY



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