



George R. "Rusty" Arnold II

Born: March 26, 1955 in Paris, KY

Record at Keeneland

Total wins: 245

Stakes wins: 11

First Grade 1 Win:

1982 Haskell Invitational Handicap
with Wavering Monarch.

First Graded Stakes Win:

1982 Barbara Fritchie Handicap (G3)
with The Wheel Turns.

First Stakes Win:

1976 Neptune Handicap at River Downs
with Fleeting North.

First Career Win:

July 25, 1975, at Delaware Park
with La Yo Quiero.

- Ranks third on the all-time wins list at Keeneland with 245.
- Stable won 36 races and earned \$2,354,583 in 2012; highlights were wins in the Central Bank Ashland (G1) at Keeneland with Karlovy Vary, and the Mrs. Revere (G2), Lake George (G2) and Regret (G3), all with Centre Court.
- Leading trainer at Kentucky Downs in 2012 and finished in a tie for third at the Keeneland spring meet and tied for sixth at Churchill's fall meet.
- Stable won 34 races in 2011 and earned \$1,434,029.
- Won 2010 Maker's Mark Mile (G1) with Karelian.
- Won 2007 Lane's End Breeders' Futurity (G1) with Wicked Style.
- Won Test (G1) at Saratoga in 2001 with Victory Ride.
- Delay of Game and Reflect the Music provided him with a stakes double on March 11, 2000, when Delay of Game won the Tampa Bay Breeders' Cup and Reflect the Music won the Wintergreen at Turfway.
- Won Three Chimneys Spinster (G1) in 1997 with Clear Mandate.
- One of his favorite horses, Divine Warning, won seven of 13 starts on Keeneland's turf course, with two seconds, two thirds and two fourths. In one stretch, he won at least one race at five consecutive meetings, beginning with the spring 1991 and ending in the spring of 1993.
- Leading trainer at Keeneland three times – spring of 1985 and 1986 and fall of 1987.
- His 13 wins in 1986 set a record for a Keeneland spring meeting that lasted until 1999.
- Saddled at least one winner at every Keeneland meeting since the spring of 1986 except for one meeting in the late 1980s when he did not saddle a starter.
- Leading trainer at Churchill Downs in the fall of 1987.
- Other graded stakes winners include Little Missouri, Leprechauns Wish, Come Summer, Tricky Creek, Trapp Mountain, Dreamy Mimi, West by West and Top Secret.

Background:

His roots in racing go back two generations to his grandfather, James Russell, who was broodmare foreman at Elmendorf Farm in Central Kentucky. His father, the late George R. Arnold Sr., co-owned Fair Acres Farm near Lexington, where he bred horses to race or sell. His brother, Terry Arnold, manages Dixiana Farm, also near Lexington.

In an article in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* he said: "When you grow up in Kentucky and your family owns a farm and you're the oldest son, your job is to work there until your father retires and then take it over. But I got really involved in the racetrack and liked it a lot more. I liked the excitement and the moving around, and I just stuck with that."

He worked on the family farm on weekends and during the summers while growing up. Then he began breaking yearlings and went to work for trainer Eugene Euster. He also attended the University of Kentucky where he took pre-veterinary classes. But the racetrack held more appeal for him. He galloped horses for Euster initially and then became his assistant trainer. By 1975, he had gone out on his own.

He went to New York in 1980 and got a big break in 1985 when he was named to train a division of John Ed Anthony's Loblolly Farm after Shug McGaughey left to train for the Phipps family. More recently, he has enjoyed success while training for G. Watts Humphrey Jr.