

Tour of the Bluegrass – Bourbon + Horses + Racing

LEXINGTON, KY / April 12 – 15, 2018

February 5, 2018

Dear Friends,

We've had a hiccup in our giddy-up for the Spring Fling..... But, I'm serious when I say that I truly think it's for the better.

Our intent, without having to pay thousands of dollars for a corporate suite at Keeneland, was to purchase public tables in the 4th Floor Kentucky Room overlooking the track. But, when the tickets went on sale this past week at 8:30 am, they "apparently" sold out 572 seats in less than 3 minutes. I was completely in shock, but, hence, our hiccup.

Ironically, on the same day, I enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Thoroughbred Club – one of our favorite, little jewels of Lexington's horse industry. The good news is that we now have the upstairs Conference Room reserved for Saturday, April 14 at 1:30 pm with the remainder of the dining room seats coming available for reservation on March 1st.

I know many of you have booked your reservations to the Lexington Spring Fling Drive on the notion that you are actually going to Keeneland. So, please give me the opportunity to explain.

The Thoroughbred Club of America is nestled less than a mile west of the Keeneland Race Track and is a private Club that offers an exclusive & beautiful venue adjacent to the Keeneland Campus. Once owned by the Firestone family (who enjoyed many Rolls-Royce's back in the day) this Club is now owned by Keeneland and offer its members and their guests the convenience of on-site betting along with 2 shuttles (front-door to front-door service) that run every 20 minutes on race day. My husband, David, actually helped restore the home for the Firestone's.

The house boasts an excellent staff, many sitting rooms, elegant dining rooms with grand windows, a newly renovated large bar, dozens of TV's everywhere, along with the upstairs Conference/Social Room with private bathrooms. The buffet lunch runs from 1:30 pm – 3 pm and weather pending, the Dining Room French doors open up to the side lawn where our cars are placed together with Reserved Parking for our group on a beautiful grass field.

Imagine (and cross your fingers for good weather) as we are dressed up, enjoying good food and drinks and then stroll outside to revel in our cars while we hear the echoes of horse racing from across the track. Normally, the track can break record attendances on Saturday's (like 25,000 – 28,000 people), but at the Thoroughbred Club, we will be in the hundreds.

This is a unique and unparalleled race day experience, BUT, if you still choose to sneak over to the track to watch a race on the rail, we can accommodate the best of both worlds. I'm

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happy to arrange early Saturday/Sunday morning track tours, or I'll gladly ride the shuttle over with a group and walk you out to see a race. Fun, fun, fun!

I sincerely apologize for the change in plans, but I am completely excited to share the TCA with all of you. It's a wonderful venue, we have other members (and car enthusiasts) willing to help host us for our party size and I'm confident that the entire weekend will make special memories overall. Please advise if you have any reservations, concerns or would like a refund at this time.

Otherwise, here are some venue pictures to get you excited about the Thoroughbred Club of America.

Thanks for your understanding,

Carrie Trapp

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