



Aaron West Stable Named Barn Crew of the Month at Indiana Grand Racing & Casino

Story By Tammy Knox
Pictures By Linscott Photography (unless noted)

Aaron West pictured with Barn Crew of the Month Banner presented by Race Marketing Interns Brooke Kegebein and Riley Golder



SHELBYVILLE, Ind. (Sept. 28, 2018) – There are some stables on the backstretch at Indiana Grand that represent the industry well and one of those outfits is the team behind the Aaron West Stable. Located in Barn 13, the shed row is always neat and clean and provides a picturesque location that is right beside the area used for horses shipping in for the major stakes.

The West Stable was honored for their hard work and dedication at Indiana Grand with “Barn Crew of the Month” Friday, Sept. 28. Aaron and his team were presented with a \$200 gift certificate to Texas Corral, located on Route 9 in Shelbyville. The restaurant co-sponsors the award with the Indiana Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association (HBPA) and is granted to a stable each month. The West Stable is the recipient for the month of September.

Aaron is very hands in the barn at Indiana Grand where he currently has 15 horses. He is joined by assistant Lesalene Pompell, Bernie Vasquez, Hannah Purciful, Jairo Caterellon, freelance exercise rider Esdras Pineda and Kenny Brown, who was a recipient of the Groom of the Week award earlier this year. Aaron keeps his younger horses on track and ships his runners in from his farm, where he has additional staff members. His wife, Ashley, and their daughters McKenna and Addison, are also very involved in the family business. The team has sent many horses to the winner’s circle this season, including multiple stakes winner Marina’s Legacy.

“It’s like any trainer would say, without a good crew and good horses, you would not get good results,” said Aaron. “Our team works very hard both at the track and at the farm, and I appreciate how hard they work.”

Born and raised in Cambridge City, Ind., Aaron was introduced to Thoroughbred racing through family ties. Following graduation from Lincoln High School where he played football, Aaron set out to establish a stable that has grown by leaps and bounds over the past decade. The West Stable purchased the property formerly inhabited by trainer Joe Cain before his passing. The West Stable is now based out of the training center at Russell Springs, Ky.

“We spend our winters at the farm working with the babies and also race at the local tracks around the area and then prepare to come back to Indiana each spring,” said Aaron. “Coming back and having success here in Indiana has been very special to me. I grew up only 40 minutes away from Indiana Grand, so it’s nice to be racing close to home.”

The 16th season of Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horse racing continues through Wednesday, Nov. 7. Racing is conducted Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 2:05 p.m. with Saturday racing beginning at 6:05 p.m.

Indiana Grand Racing & Casino, which is owned and operated by a subsidiary of Caesars Entertainment Corporation (NASDAQ: CZR), holds multiple awards for customer service, entertainment, gaming, dining, and diversity. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile dirt race course and a seven-eighths mile turf course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Winner’s Circle Brewpub & OTB located on the casino floor as well as a Winner’s Circle OTB located in Clarksville, Ind. For more information, please visit www.IndianaGrand.com. Must be 18 or older to wager on horse racing at racetracks and 21 or older to gamble at casinos. Know When To Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-9-WITH-IT (1-800-994-8448) ©2018 Caesars License Company, LLC.