

## MIDWEST/CANADA

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# The Doctor Is In

*Dr. George Sikora builds  
Mapleton Farm in Buckeye State*

BY STEVE HASKIN  
PHOTOS BY KYLE LANZER

**ALTHOUGH THOROUGHBRED RACING** has been reduced to a whisper around the country, the sport is actually causing quite a commotion in—of all places—Ohio.

That's right, Ohio, with ThistleDown's Racino humming from 1,100 video lottery terminals and the complete tear-down and redevelopment of River Downs into the new Belterra Park Gaming & Entertainment Center.

In the middle of the Buckeye State's bustle and positioning himself to ride the growth curve is veterinarian George Sikora. Already an innovator, Sikora has taken veterinary medicine to new levels with a veterinary clinic brokerage firm that spans the United States. He also owns an agricultural management firm that runs farms in Ohio, Missouri, and Texas. Sikora's newest venture hopes to take advantage of Ohio's approval of racinos by building a major breeding operation at his Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm near Polk, Ohio.

Although still in its fledgling stage, the 200-acre Mapleton Farm has already attracted new stallions Mobil and Lunarpal and has built its broodmare band to 14, with those numbers expected to increase as the industry in Ohio grows.

At age 71 Sikora remains a visionary and is constantly on the go, whether building up the farm or traveling the country for his brokerage firm, Total Practice Solutions Group.

"I still work six days a week," Sikora said. "When I was 30 or 40, I used to work seven days a week. But I enjoy everything I do every day. People talk about retirement, but I don't want to sit in McDonald's drinking coffee every day."

Sikora, who grew up south of Cleveland, knows about horses, having spent part of his youth as a groom at Darby Dan Farm near Columbus during the summers of 1965 and



From left, Drs. John Bryk, George Sikora, and Terry Ochterski with Mobil at Mapleton Farm near Polk, Ohio

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# 2013 Leading Sires in Canada

Go to [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com) for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>BADGE OF SILVER</b> (00, Silver Deputy), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$7,500	124/74	4/9	1/4	(Silver Max, \$909,193)	<b>\$3,446,253</b>	*253	9	1.28	1.44
2	<b>SILENT NAME (JPN)</b> (02, Sunday Silence), Adena Springs Canada	\$7,500	78/43	5/6	2/5	(Silentio, \$461,000)	<b>\$3,407,062</b>	*202	7	1.46	1.25
3	<b>SLIGO BAY (IRE)</b> (98, Sadler's Wells), Adena Springs Canada	\$5,000	101/48	4/7	2/4	(Paladin Bay, \$361,888)	<b>\$2,811,176</b>	*324	10	1.15	1.48
4	<b>MILWAUKEE BREW</b> (97, Wild Again), Adena Springs Canada	\$7,500	136/65	6/8	2/6	(Procurement, \$164,819)	<b>\$2,325,620</b>	*453	20	1.18	1.60
5	<b>BOLD EXECUTIVE</b> (84, Bold Ruckus)	Died, 2011	88/52	3/4	3/3	(On Rainbow Bridge, \$215,686)	<b>\$2,206,085</b>	779	48	1.64	1.29
6	<b>NIIGON</b> (01, Unbridled)	Died, 2012	58/32	2/2	1/2	(Nipissing, \$340,344)	<b>\$2,203,552</b>	142	7	2.03	1.16
7	<b>OLD FORESTER</b> (01, Forestry), T. C. Westmeath Stud Farm	\$7,500	75/37	0/0	0/0	(Urban Forester, \$126,863)	<b>\$1,676,781</b>	177	7	1.60	1.62
8	<b>WHERE'S THE RING</b> (99, Seeking the Gold), Mapleville Farms	\$4,000	83/37	2/3	1/2	(Spadina Road, \$138,483)	<b>\$1,574,493</b>	233	9	1.46	1.42
9	<b>WILKO</b> (02, Awesome Again), Highfield Stock Farm	\$2,000	64/35	1/2	1/1	(Qiaona, \$383,234)	<b>\$1,517,612</b>	*134	2	0.96	1.33
10	<b>OLMODAVOR</b> (99, A.P. Indy), Dunroven Farm	\$1,250	71/42	1/1	0/1	(Persuasive Paul, \$94,690)	<b>\$1,068,268</b>	*233	9	0.87	1.34
11	<b>BEST OF THE BESTS (IRE)</b> (97, Machiavellian), Peaceful Valley Farms	\$2,000	50/18	2/2	1/2	(Amico Mio, \$245,436)	<b>\$968,990</b>	287	3	0.74	0.96
12	<b>BOLD N' FLASHY</b> (89, Bold Ruckus)	\$2,500	28/14	2/4	2/2	(Paso Doble, \$190,559)	<b>\$957,446</b>	316	16	1.32	1.24
13	<b>FINALITY</b> (99, Dehere), Red Rock Farm	\$2,500	75/38	4/5	1/4	(Ruby Pumps, \$93,890)	<b>\$881,582</b>	195	15	0.66	0.77
14	<b>WANDO</b> (00, Langfuhr), Schonberg Farm	\$3,500	52/26	0/0	0/0	(Run to the Bank, \$69,113)	<b>\$841,683</b>	*128	2	1.22	1.18
15	<b>SAFFIR</b> (02, Unbridled), Spring Farm	N/A	20/13	1/1	1/1	(Langstaff, \$215,873)	<b>\$758,588</b>	39	1	1.70	1.21
16	<b>GILDED TIME</b> (90, Timeless Moment)	N/A	61/30	3/3	0/3	(Silver Baubles, \$78,392)	<b>\$672,424</b>	*1245	54	1.34	1.59
17	<b>PEAKS AND VALLEYS</b> (92, Mt. Livermore)	Died, 2012	39/20	1/1	1/1	(Bear's Gem, \$112,288)	<b>\$666,893</b>	554	35	1.25	1.41
18	<b>STRUT THE STAGE</b> (98, Theatrical), Sam-Son Farm	\$2,500	26/11	1/1	1/1	(Strut the Course, \$159,661)	<b>\$646,544</b>	65	3	1.51	1.24
19	<b>FOREST GROVE</b> (01, Forestry), Canmor Farms	\$1,700	36/20	0/0	0/0	(Zulbaby, \$74,543)	<b>\$599,344</b>	88	2	0.94	1.30
20	<b>GIANT GIZMO</b> (04, Giant's Causeway), Adena Springs Canada	\$5,000	23/6	1/1	1/1	(Spin the King, \$171,400)	<b>\$574,177</b>	38	1	1.43	1.49
21	<b>CAPE CANAVERAL</b> (96, Mr. Prospector), Highfield Stock Farm	\$3,000	45/23	2/4	1/2	(Canaveral Leader, \$136,673)	<b>\$561,117</b>	375	22	1.06	1.27
22	<b>STEPHANOTIS</b> (93, Regal Classic), Canmor Farms	\$1,700	48/21	2/2	2/2	(Wild Crush, \$63,382)	<b>\$519,074</b>	280	14	0.70	0.83
23	<b>SECOND IN COMMAND</b> (00, Silver Deputy), Road's End Farm	\$2,000	30/19	3/4	0/3	(Goldstryke Glory, \$171,580)	<b>\$507,890</b>	52	3	0.89	0.76
24	<b>FORMAL GOLD</b> (93, Black Tie Affair), Esquirol Farms	\$2,500	57/26	0/0	0/0	(Gotta Go Gold, \$56,790)	<b>\$505,931</b>	478	19	1.09	1.31
25	<b>SKIMMING</b> (96, Nureyev), Pacific Stud	\$4,000	49/25	1/1	0/1	(Mah Gellin, \$113,118)	<b>\$497,439</b>	317	15	0.77	1.03
26	<b>MARCAVELLY</b> (04, Johannesburg), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$2,000	35/16	0/0	0/0	(Lia's Miracle, \$54,542)	<b>\$497,003</b>	54	0	0.60	1.09
27	<b>STORM VICTORY</b> (00, Storm Cat), Klimes Farm	\$2,000	42/21	2/2	0/2	(Proud Victor, \$51,435)	<b>\$450,781</b>	144	9	0.60	0.63
28	<b>ROSBERG</b> (01, A.P. Indy), Canmor Farms	\$3,000	27/18	2/2	1/2	(Go for Guinness, \$54,619)	<b>\$445,547</b>	33	2	0.61	0.92
29	<b>ALJABR</b> (96, Storm Cat)	\$3,500	20/6	1/1	1/1	(Laughing Falcon, \$161,565)	<b>\$423,386</b>	*185	10	0.95	1.50
30	<b>GOLD LEGEND</b> (90, Seattle Slew)	Died	28/15	4/7	2/4	(Coyote Legend, \$106,488)	<b>\$418,546</b>	415	23	1.22	1.14

'66 while attending Ohio State University, first as an undergraduate and then during his veterinary studies.

"After I graduated in 1967, I was single and there was a war going on, and I spent

my first two years as base veterinarian at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, south of Kansas City in Belton, Mo.," Sikora said. "When I came back, I started on the racetrack. I followed the horses and

owned some claimers. In those days horses would come to the track in March and April and leave in October and November. I had no desire to follow the horses, so I set up a small animal hospital. After a few years I saw where the money came in from, and I went ahead and developed and sold five veterinary practices, and had three at one time.

"When I got out of the practice, I went into something unique. I started to broker veterinary practices from Chicago up to Maine and down to South Carolina, along with two other doctors. Basically, if you're a veterinarian and want to sell your practice, you'd call me and I will tell you what it's worth. I'll then go ahead and find a buyer for you and charge you a commission."

Sikora just recently returned from visiting a practice in Chicago and had a closing in Kankakee, Ill. Meanwhile, another doctor visit a farm in Effingham, Ill.

"I'll probably get those practices listed and then I'll sell them," Sikora said. "That's basically what I do now. I deal with practices in New England and just listed a



Mapleton Farm, at 200 acres, is home to two stallions and 14 broodmares

**Special Note For Sire Lists:**

For stallions that stand, will stand, or stood (deceased) in North America (stallions exported prior to the 2009 breeding season are excluded), and have runners in North America. All available statistics listed for the Northern Hemisphere through December 16, 2013. As supplied to *The Blood-Horse* by The Jockey Club Information Systems, Inc., earnings exclude monies from Japan and Hong Kong. Current year stakes winners include all N.H.-foaled stakes winners worldwide and any S.H.-foaled horses that won a N.H. stakes. \*Foal counts include Southern Hemisphere. Cumulative stakes winners includes all countries. (A ♯ indicates a sire represented by his first crop to race.)

\*AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX and COMPARABLE INDEX: Lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX indicates how much purse money the progeny of one sire has earned in relation to the average earnings of all runners in the same years; average earnings of all runners in any year is represented by an index of 1.00; COMPARABLE INDEX indicates the average earnings of progeny produced from mares bred to one sire, when these same mares were bred to other sires. Only 32% of all sires have a lifetime AVERAGE-EARNINGS INDEX higher than their mares' COMPARABLE INDEX.

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## **2013's Leading Sires in Canada**

SILENT NAME MILWAUKEE BREW

### **3 of Top 4 General Sires**

SLIGO BAY GIANT GIZMO

### **#1 Juvenile Sire**

MILWAUKEE BREW SILENT NAME

### **#1 Freshman Sire**

GIANT GIZMO SLIGO BAY

### **#1 Third Crop Sire**

SILENT NAME MILWAUKEE BREW

### **#1 Turf Sire**

MILWAUKEE BREW SILENT NAME

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ONTARIO: GIANT GIZMO • MAST TRACK • MILWAUKEE BREW • MUSKETIER • SILENT NAME • SINGING SAINT • SLIGO BAY



# Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders & Owners

## STALLION SEASON TELEPHONE AUCTION

**January 10, 11, 12, 2014 Noon- 4PM daily**  
**8 States 120 Seasons (updated daily-www.otbo.com)**

**MICHIGAN**

**Davidson's Tracks-N-Time - LF**  
 Zulu Magic

**NEW YORK**

**Dutchess Views - LF**  
 Andromeda's Hero, Marsh Side

**Foggy Bottom Farm - LF**  
 Encaustic

**McMahon of Saratoga-NG**  
 Catienus

**Milfer Farm-LF**  
 Golden Missile, Polish Pro

**Rockridge Stud- NG**  
 Pomeroy, Soaring Empire  
 D'Funnybone, Giant Surprise

**Sequel Stallions NY - NG**  
 Noble Causeway, Noonmark

**Saratoga Stud-NG**  
 Bob and John, Congaree, Maybry's  
 Boy, Smart Bid, Cosmonaut,  
 Stonesider

**OHIO**

**Belford Farm-LF**  
 Bold Truth, Public Notice,  
 Beecher CT, Cradle Walk

**Blazing Meadows Farm - NG**  
 Parents' Reward

**Byerpatch Farm - LF**  
 Alcindor, Flagship

**Cedar Brook Farm-NG**  
 Killenaule

**Chumney Place- NG**  
 Family Calling

**Diamond Eyes Farm - LF**  
 William's Kitten

**Fair Winds Farm - NG**  
 Mercer Mill

**M/M Stables-LF**  
 Much the Best

**Mapleton Thoroughbreds - LF**  
 Mobil, Lunarpal

**Poplar Creek - LF**  
 Aeneas, Mr Mabee  
 David Copperfield, King  
 of the Roxy, Kingship,

Louie Villian Mixmaster,  
 Twinspired  
**R & R Racing - LF**  
 Carnack's Choice

**Raimonde Farm - LF**  
 Close Up, Pacific Waves, A Giant Valentine  
 Tropical Storm, Vaquero

**RC Cline Farm LF-** Western Pride  
**Richards Farm LF-** Mr. Sinatra  
**Thornton Farm LF-** Franchise Player  
**Win Row Farm LF-** Big Atlantic

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**Blackstone Farm - LF**  
 Pure Precision

**Dana Point Farm -**  
 NG Wiseman's Ferry,

**LF-Sir Shackleton,**  
 Southern Success

**Diamond B Stables**  
 LF-Mad Flatter,

Talent Search,  
 Doubles Partner, Got

the Last Laugh  
**Godstone Farm - LF**

Activist, Cetewayo, Misbah  
**Mountain Springs Farm - LF**

Turn West

**Pin Oak Lane-**  
 NG More Smoke

**Three Point Farm - LF**  
 Comedy Show

**Woodvale Farm - LF**  
 City Sharpster, Revival Song

**WEST VIRGINIA**

**Beau Ridge Farm - LF**  
 Footnotes, On Eagles Wings

**Blue Spruce Farm-LF**  
 FeartheCape, Reparations

**Naylee Farm - LF**  
 Bittel Road, Global Force, Garnered,

Civilisation  
**Shotwell Farm-LF**

Classy E.T., Your ABC's

**FLORIDA**

**Black Diamond Farm-LF**  
 You Luckie Mann

**Double Diamond Farm- NG**  
 First Dude

**Get Away Farm - NG**  
 Double Honor, Imperialism,  
 Two Step Salsa, Maltese Dog

**INDIANA**

**Breakway Farm - LF**  
 Drewman, Mondavi, Star Cat,  
 Noble's Promise, Timeraker,  
 Skylord

**Indiana Stallion Station - LF**  
 Domestic Dispute, Quarter  
 Given, Lentenor, Mustanfar,  
 Heatshimmer, Dr. Large, Storm  
 Account, Ventana

**R Star Stallions at**  
**Richwine LF-**  
 Charging Indian,  
 Deputy Storm, Saintly  
 Look, Smitty

**KENTUCKY**

**Adena Springs- NG**  
 Tiago, Touch Gold

**Darby Dan Farm - NG**  
 American Lion, Magna Graduate,  
 O'Prada Again, Run Away and  
 Hide

**Darley -NG** Midshipman

**Endeavor Farm - LF**  
 Greeley's Conquest

**Millennium Farms - NG**  
 Giant Oak, Student Council

**Nuckols LF** Monarchs

**Oak Lodge USA -LF**  
 Baryshnikov

**Roseglade LF**  
 Bold Warrior

**Silver Meadow Farm-LF**  
 Aspen Ridge, Irisheyesareflying

**WinStar Farm - LF**  
 Hold Me Back, Sidney's Candy,  
 Kodiak Kowboy

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1. _____	_____
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**Print Bidder's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Return to OTBO, PO Box 165, Miamitown, OH 45041**

# 2013 Leading Sires in Ohio

Go to [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com) for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstret SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>MOBIL</b> (00, Langfuhr), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,500	61/28	3/3	2/3	(Hobnobsnob, \$138,298)	<b>\$1,580,958</b>	*141	5	1.39	1.42
2	<b>LUNARPAL</b> (02, Successful Appeal), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	40/26	0/0	0/0	(Moon Larry, \$86,126)	<b>\$803,165</b>	97	2	0.88	1.03
3	<b>THE CLIFF'S EDGE</b> (01, Gulch), Fair Winds Farm	\$2,500	58/28	0/0	0/0	(Taste the Fortune, \$78,452)	<b>\$787,449</b>	215	4	0.87	1.20
4	<b>KILLENAULE</b> (02, Fusaichi Pegasus)	N/A	40/17	0/0	0/0	(Secondhand Justice, \$72,237)	<b>\$445,819</b>	66	0	0.58	0.92
5	<b>TROPICAL STORM</b> (00, Storm Cat), Raimonde Farms	\$1,500	20/11	0/0	0/0	(Hersilia, \$79,123)	<b>\$335,372</b>	*88	0	0.64	0.79
6	<b>MR. MABEE</b> (01, Storm Cat), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$1,500	24/10	0/0	0/0	(Wave Land Mabee, \$40,615)	<b>\$288,399</b>	35	0	0.69	0.95
7	<b>PACIFIC WAVES</b> (93, Seattle Slew), Raimonde Farms	\$1,000	18/10	2/3	2/2	(Plain Ol' Willard, \$103,114)	<b>\$275,037</b>	73	4	0.75	0.92
8	<b>PARENTS' REWARD</b> (98, Mr. Prospector), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$1,000	12/7	1/3	1/1	(Raise the Reward, \$135,000)	<b>\$235,809</b>	47	3	0.89	0.70
9	<b>AENEAS</b> (99, Capote), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$1,000	35/14	0/0	0/0	(Bee's Buckaroo, \$28,011)	<b>\$208,245</b>	79	0	0.32	0.85
10	<b>MERCER MILL</b> (94, Forty Niner), Fair Winds Farm	N/A	16/7	1/1	1/1	(Pyrite Mill, \$49,876)	<b>\$194,680</b>	211	15	0.69	0.90

practice in Vermont.”

TPSG provides information, consultation, and other professional support on the sale of any purchase or the sale of a veterinary practice. The firm is made up of 10 veterinary, attorney, and long-term professional business brokers who have completed countless successful practice sales and combine more than 100 years of expertise. Many of the associates were owners or still own practices, and are licensed real estate brokers.

“A veterinary practice is 24/7, and at some point in my career I decided I wanted some time off,” Sikora said. “I

started the Group in 2005 with Dr. Len Jones, and we now cover all states from California to Maine, down to Florida.

“I also have an agricultural firm that owns farms in different states. My wife and I have that company. I get involved with the breeding and mating and buying, and I have a partner who is in his 50s and does the hands-on vet work.”

Just when Sikora thought his life's work was pretty much stable, the major changes in Ohio's pari-mutuel landscape made him reassess the future.

“What drove this whole farm and breeding enterprise was seeing Thistledown

and Beulah both sell within six months of each other,” he said. “Thistledown sold for \$43 million, and two or three years before that you could have bought it for \$6 million. I knew then in my mind that the slots were a done deal.”

Sikora's vet practice had been based at Mapleton Farm, which was set up as a bovine embryo transfer center. In 1980, he and two other vets became one of the first veterinarians in Ohio to collect the embryos from valuable cows and place them in surrogates. They had a dozen or so donor cows come in and would have as many as 50-80 recipients on the grounds

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## 2013 Leading Sires in Indiana

➤ Go to [BloodHorse.com](http://BloodHorse.com) for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013		Cumulative		
							Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>STRONG HOPE</b> (00, Grand Slam), Midwest Equine & Veterinary Hospital	\$1,800	80/47	0/0	0/0	(Hattaash, \$103,088)	<b>\$1,152,952</b>	295	5	0.98	1.77
2	<b>DOMESTIC DISPUTE</b> (00, Unbridled's Song), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,000	67/31	3/3	2/3	(Daydreamin Gracie, \$110,112)	<b>\$1,129,672</b>	*306	4	0.91	1.22
3	<b>DESERT WARRIOR</b> (00, Deputy Minister)	N/A	56/28	0/0	0/0	(Thnxntomyuncle, \$116,100)	<b>\$1,097,370</b>	*239	0	0.88	1.00
4	<b>PASS RUSH</b> (99, Crown Ambassador), Swifty Farms	\$2,500	27/17	2/2	2/2	(Facey's Spirit, \$112,699)	<b>\$658,445</b>	50	4	1.48	1.14
5	<b>CHIEF SEATTLE</b> (97, Seattle Slew)	Died, 2011	43/19	1/1	0/1	(Boston Chief, \$48,900)	<b>\$569,295</b>	*416	12	1.15	1.32
6	<b>ARTICLE OF FAITH</b> (04, Storm Cat), R Star Stallions at RichWine Farm	\$1,000	28/14	1/1	1/1	(Joint Tenant, \$122,531)	<b>\$491,035</b>	52	2	0.90	0.93
7	<b>ALLUVIAL</b> (02, Forestry), Still Creek Farm	\$1,500	50/22	0/0	0/0	(Prince Larry, \$53,092)	<b>\$472,283</b>	117	0	0.50	0.84
8	<b>SAINTLY LOOK</b> (00, Saint Ballado), R Star Stallions at RichWine Farm	\$1,000	17/14	2/2	2/2	(Needmore Cash, \$96,398)	<b>\$440,477</b>	22	2	1.58	0.95
9	<b>WILD ZONE</b> (90, Wild Again)	Pnsd	24/8	1/1	1/1	(Te Rapa, \$134,320)	<b>\$420,938</b>	*479	14	0.80	1.07
10	<b>VIBANK</b> (03, Silver Deputy), Hidden Springs	\$1,000	31/18	0/0	0/0	(Virreina, \$46,834)	<b>\$418,093</b>	61	0	0.99	1.31
11	<b>CITY WEEKEND</b> (02, Carson City), Equine Veterinary Hospital of Northern Indiana	\$2,500	35/17	0/0	0/0	(Pretty Cityweekend, \$42,455)	<b>\$393,563</b>	64	1	0.59	1.03
12	<b>ARROMANCHES</b> (93, Relaunch), Buckshot Stables	Died, 2013	21/9	1/2	0/1	(Caixa Electronica, \$265,300)	<b>\$380,067</b>	84	1	1.39	0.60
13	<b>DEPUTY STORM</b> (01, Forestry), R Star Stallions at RichWine Farm	\$1,500	21/10	0/0	0/0	(Video Storm, \$75,260)	<b>\$366,529</b>	55	2	1.17	1.33
14	<b>MANCINI</b> (98, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2012	28/17	1/1	0/1	(Mancini's Goddess, \$39,798)	<b>\$334,728</b>	*140	4	0.72	0.91
15	<b>MORO ORO</b> (93, Moro), Sorrell Farm	Died, 2013	16/9	1/1	1/1	(Ms. Smitty, \$152,609)	<b>\$331,638</b>	128	5	0.71	0.74

## 2013 Leading Sires in Illinois

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013		Cumulative		
							Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>CHEROKEE RAP</b> (01, Cherokee Run)	Died, 2012	44/31	2/2	2/2	(Domain's Rap, \$76,217)	<b>\$771,615</b>	60	5	1.08	1.14
2	<b>ROAD RULER</b> (02, Unbridled's Song), JB Stables	\$2,000	26/18	0/0	0/0	(He'saruler, \$119,189)	<b>\$642,373</b>	51	0	1.05	0.82
3	<b>CASHIEL CASTLE</b> (99, Silver Ghost), Hill 'N Dale Farm	\$1,000	28/13	0/0	0/0	(No Apologizes, \$98,810)	<b>\$536,415</b>	87	1	0.89	0.99
4	<b>INDY SNOW (GB)</b> (01, A.P. Indy), Hondo Ranch	N/A	20/10	0/0	0/0	(Total Immersion, \$62,480)	<b>\$377,784</b>	36	1	1.26	0.87
5	<b>BATTLE STAR</b> (02, Seeking the Gold), Hondo Ranch	N/A	12/8	0/0	0/0	(Distant Mesa, \$80,833)	<b>\$240,742</b>	23	0	0.89	1.55

at one time.

"My veterinary practice was located right on the farm, and when I quit my practice in 2005, we got out of that, but I still had the farm," Sikora said. "We asked ourselves, 'What are we going to do with this?' We started talking about the slots coming to Ohio, and that's when we transformed it into Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm."

The farm, which is owned by Sikora along with partner Dr. John Bryk, and an investor, Dr. Terry Ochterski, is 200 acres, with 85 of them fenced pastures, and the rest used for growing hay.

"Our program was this: We were going

to be competitive in Ohio," Sikora said. "I'm not foolish enough to think I can be competing on a national level. You're competing against billionaires. With that said, I decided I wanted to produce the best-bred accredited horses in Ohio. That is our goal and our focus. Right now we have 17 mares, and we want to get that up to about 24. We have two stallions: Mobil, who we got out of Canada a year ago last November, and Lunarpal, who we got two years ago."

Mobil, a 14-year-old son of Langfuhr, was the champion older horse in Canada in 2004, and won 11 stakes during his career, including the grade III Dominion

Day and Toronto Cup handicaps and the Ontario Derby. In his final career start he was second in the Atto Mile Stakes (gr. IT), now the Woodbine Mile. He retired with 12 victories in 29 starts for earnings of \$1,877,136.

Mobil was represented by 2012 stakes winners Hard to Be Humble, Welloiledmachine, and Mobthearrior (Tri-I). In 2013 Welloiledmachine and Hard to Be Humble repeated as stakes winners and were joined by new stakes winner Hobnobsnob.

Lunarpal, a son of Successful Appeal, raced only six times, winning four, including the grade III Bashford Manor Stakes and Kentucky Breeders' Cup Stakes, and the listed Three Chimneys Juvenile Stakes, all at Churchill Downs. The 12-year-old stallion formerly stood at Le Mesa Stallions in Louisiana.

"I'd like to get one more stallion better than Mobil at some point in time when the state can support it," Sikora said. "Remember, we don't have a lot mares in this state. We had reached the bottom. It was either the slots or you could close everything up. So I think we're on the rebound and we will be as competitive as our neighboring states—Indiana, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania—once these things kick in and the purses increase. If we can get our maiden special weight purses up around



Sikora with some 2013 weanlings by Lunarpal

# 2013 Leading Sires in Iowa

➤ Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2013 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>ADDED EDGE</b> (00, Smart Strike), Special K Stables	\$2,000	59/24	3/3	2/3	(Rudy's Edge, \$97,981)	<b>\$941,066</b>	109	5	0.92	0.87
2	<b>SHORE BREEZE</b> (98, Danzig), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$1,000	65/44	0/0	0/0	(The Elevator, \$58,665)	<b>\$907,252</b>	157	1	0.87	0.77
3	<b>WOKE UP DREAMIN</b> (00, Holy Bull), Madison County Thoroughbreds	\$2,000	35/18	1/1	0/1	(Dreaming of Jazz, \$75,535)	<b>\$542,460</b>	121	6	0.75	0.95
4	<b>WILD GOLD</b> (90, Wild Again)	N/A	29/15	0/0	0/0	(Wild for Glory, \$84,442)	<b>\$358,203</b>	234	4	0.78	0.86
5	<b>COLORFUL TOUR</b> (99, Tour d'Or)	N/A	7/5	0/0	0/0	(I Tour, \$58,104)	<b>\$174,576</b>	14	0	0.70	1.04
6	<b>WINTER GLITTER</b> (97, A.P. Indy)	N/A	22/6	0/0	0/0	(Winter's Wildchild, \$55,552)	<b>\$153,642</b>	102	0	0.51	0.84
7	<b>BRAVO BULL</b> (97, Holy Bull)	Died, 2012	13/3	1/1	1/1	(Haforuhaforme, \$73,054)	<b>\$141,454</b>	54	3	0.62	0.69

\$35,000, we're home free."

As for his current roster of mares, several were claimed off the track, others were purchased at the Keeneland sales, and a few were purchased privately.

"I just bought a Johannesburg filly off Helen Alexander who has a nice grade III filly in her family," Sikora said. "You go wherever you can find value. I just try to put things together where we can be competitive. I bought Alpha Heat from Canada, who was a stakes winner and grade III-placed and earned over \$300,000. I sold her yearling filly last fall at Fasig-Tipton for \$50,000. I have to tell you the Ohio market right now will not support that, but in a couple of years it will. So you can't spend \$100,000 for a broodmare and breed her accredited because they're not going to pay that kind of money for an accredited horse yet, but we're still ahead of the curve and we want to stay ahead of the curve. And within 24 months we believe the accredited will be worth something.

"We spent money like a drunken sailor. The clinic is still here, operated by Dr. David Hadam and an associate, Dr. Dan Moehring, and Dr. Bryk is still a part-owner. Everything else was torn down or revamped to accommodate the Thoroughbred operation. We've got the stallions on one end and yearlings in the middle and the broodmares on the other end of the farm. We're probably going to wind up with 3½ miles of board fence, and we're probably going to put up a new stallion barn next year."

Sikora believes in raising horses the old-fashioned way and keeps them outside most of the time.

"We have to run horses as horses and you can't baby them to the point where they're made out of glass," he said. "We're not as fancy as Kentucky, but our barns are functional. The mares are put in at night in the wintertime and stay outside all day in run-in sheds. We separate them into two to three groups, with seven to 10 in a group. The more space you can give

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## 2013 Leading Sires in Minnesota

➤ Go to BloodHorse.com for daily updated sire lists

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>KELA</b> (98, Numerous), Stillwater Equine Clinic	N/A	78/50	0/0	0/0	(Moonshine Bay, \$144,600)	<b>\$1,564,184</b>	*209	3	1.01	1.00
2	<b>DONERAILE COURT</b> (96, Seattle Slew), Dove Hill Farm	\$2,000	78/41	1/1	1/1	(Scherer Magic, \$70,117)	<b>\$1,234,386</b>	*663	25	1.05	1.34
3	<b>FORD EVERY STREAM</b> (99, Seeking the Gold), Nightmare Stables	\$1,000	45/14	0/0	0/0	(Streaming Live, \$45,800)	<b>\$436,354</b>	130	1	0.56	0.83
4	<b>APPEALING SKIER</b> (93, Baldski)	N/A	17/11	3/4	3/3	(Heliskier, \$95,476)	<b>\$388,849</b>	268	8	0.92	1.08
5	<b>GOLD FEVER</b> (93, Forty Niner)	Died, 2009	15/7	1/1	1/1	(Golden Galaxy, \$132,290)	<b>\$370,689</b>	*437	10	1.22	1.29
6	<b>DEMIDOFF</b> (90, Mr. Prospector)	Died, 2012	43/12	0/0	0/0	(Demis Natedancer, \$32,482)	<b>\$228,797</b>	275	25	0.89	0.81
7	<b>MAGIC CAT</b> (95, Storm Cat), Benz Lake Farm	\$1,250	20/12	0/0	0/0	(Switchen Er Up, \$36,569)	<b>\$183,705</b>	219	11	0.68	0.93
8	<b>SUPREMO</b> (92, Gone West)	Died	21/8	0/0	0/0	(Happy Henrietta, \$56,215)	<b>\$181,344</b>	*461	6	0.73	1.10
9	<b>JOEY FRANCO</b> (99, Avenue of Flags), Osborne Farm	\$1,800	14/10	0/0	0/0	(Bobby Handy, \$41,600)	<b>\$176,340</b>	65	1	0.52	0.76
10	<b>STORMY BUSINESS</b> (02, Storm Creek), Osborne Farm	\$1,500	13/6	1/1	1/1	(B J's Angel, \$55,220)	<b>\$174,562</b>	24	2	0.73	0.74

## 2013 Leading Sires in Michigan

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2014 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	Stakes Wnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2013 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	<b>UNBRIDLED ENERGY</b> (02, Unbridled's Song), Hubel Farms	N/A	93/51	0/0	0/0	(Double the Energy, \$97,034)	<b>\$1,293,513</b>	*206	4	0.94	1.19
2	<b>MEADOW PRAYER</b> (95, Meadowlake)	Died	29/16	2/2	2/2	(Sheza Classy Lady, \$98,497)	<b>\$467,779</b>	148	15	1.01	0.77
3	<b>EQUALITY</b> (99, Mt. Livermore), Dickinson Farms	N/A	35/24	1/1	1/1	(Art I Awesome, \$57,370)	<b>\$444,391</b>	145	7	0.68	0.80
4	<b>THE DEPUTY (IRE)</b> (97, Petardia), Hubel Farms	\$1,000	50/14	0/0	0/0	(Stig's Deputy, \$76,471)	<b>\$390,579</b>	253	4	0.52	0.91
5	<b>FIRE BLITZ</b> (99, Storm Cat)	Died, 2012	24/16	1/1	1/1	(Charlies Fire, \$72,565)	<b>\$383,415</b>	48	3	0.61	0.73



The Ohio racing industry is growing through slots

them and the smaller the group, the better off you are. We try to do things smart. Hopefully, in a couple of years it will pay off.

Over the next 24 months Sikora said he plans to sell his colts and maybe keep only three or four good fillies and sell the rest. He had four yearlings in 2013 and sold them all. At the farm are three newly-turned-yearlings by Lunarpal and 14 mares due this spring that are in foal to Mobil and Lunarpal.

Sikora says he wants to produce 12

to 16 yearlings every year that are for sale. The more the Ohio racing industry grows through slots, the more optimistic Sikora is for the future of the breeding industry.

"They added four more accredited stakes in Ohio, and we're up to 13," he said. "That'll probably get up to about 15 to 20 eventually. That's where our focus is."

As for embarking on this venture at his age, Sikora said, "J.C. Penney set up J.C. Penney department stores at age 65."

Although Sikora's agricultural firm Bonge Holdings lists his wife, Bonnie, as co-owner, Sikora says that is in name only.

"My wife follows the sport passively and is a stay-at-home wife who raised our kids and isn't involved in the business part," he said. "Her name is on everything, but she doesn't work at everything. Of our four children, we have one son who is 50 that helps on the farm full time."

"I've been very lucky in that every day I've gotten up in my adult life since I got out of veterinary school I've enjoyed what I did. It was never work for me. If you love what you do, it's not work. I've been blessed with good health and a good work ethic that is my comfort zone."

"We figure within 24 months Ohio will have enough mares to support the type of stallion we want to get. At that time I'll put a group of people together. We thought when we started this it was a five-year project, and if things progress like we thought they would in the state we would be very competitive. And right now we feel we're right on course."



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