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Beyond Pleasant

*Helen and Joe Barbazon
step up for Florida at Pleasant Acres*

BY MICHAEL COMPTON
JOE DIORIO PHOTOS

DESTINY, SOME BELIEVE, is not a matter of chance but of choice. For Joe and Helen Barbazon of Pleasant Acres Farm near Morriston, Fla., it's a little bit of both.

Choice: After 30 years of breeding Thoroughbreds, the Barbazons have ushered in the New Year by opening a stallion division, Pleasant Acres Stallions, just down the road from their flagship farm. Keen to make a difference and encouraged by the bloodstock market's recent resurgence, the Barbazons will stand seven stallions this year.

"When you talk to your clients and you keep hearing that there isn't enough pedigree in Florida, we felt we had to grab the opportunity to bring more pedigree to the state," said Helen. "We wanted to do something about it."

Take action they did, bringing Treasure Beach, the first son of champion sire Galileo to stand in Florida to anchor their inaugural stallion roster.

Produced from the Mark of Esteem mare Honorine, Treasure Beach is a dual grade/group I winner. He captured the 2011 Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby (Ire-I) at the Curragh and won the Secretariat Stakes (gr. IT) at Arlington Park at 3. As a 4-year-old, he finished second in the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic Invitational Stakes (gr. IT) at Belmont Park and retired with a record of

(continued on page 42)



Joe and Helen Barbazon; inset, entrance to their Pleasant Acres Farm near Morriston, Fla.

FIRST

To Hit The Market

First Dude Weanlings

	Colt out of For Carole	7
Filly Hunter Grace out of Glittering Georgia		22
	Colt out of Miss May	77
Filly out of New York Jessica		89
	Colt out of She's Enough	146
Filly out of Double Martini		245
	Filly out of Flareon	510
	Colt out of Mimi's Tizzy	592
Filly out of Native Dasher		612
Colt Fire Fire Fire out of Tigress Express		723
	Colt out of Valid Reward	736
	Filly out of Alamotta	758
	Colt out of Escaping	848

Mares in Foal to First Dude

621	Lovin Spoonful
40	Silvislip
28	Pyrite Grand Slam
58	Libby's Indian
651	Keda B
141	Place Lady
143	Smartybegone
201	Song for Annie

January Ocala Breeders' Sales January 22 -24

“First Dude is a strong imposing specimen with tremendous bone, natural muscle, and substance. He has an aura of class and masculine presence which he is passing on to his offspring. Not only are his foals outstanding individuals with abundant leg and bone they have great minds and temperaments; the full package of elite athletes.” —Mike Ryan



First Dude



DOUBLE DIAMOND FARM Stephen Got Even—Run Sarah Run, by Smart Strike

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WAR FRONT's half-brother

The best
of Kentucky . . .
TOP & BOTTOM!

Son of legendary
STORM CAT



FACTUM

WINNER AND GROUP 2 PERFORMER AT 2

FIRST DAM:
STARRY DREAMER
Stakes-winner,
multiple
Graded-placed (G1)
(100% producer
by RUBIANO)

1st dam

STARRY DREAMER (f. by Rubiano. 6 wins, 2 to 4, \$564,789, Regret S. [L] (CD, \$69,378), Palisades S. [L] (KEE, \$43,766), Gold Digger S. [L] (HAW, \$31,395), 2nd Gazelle H. [G1], Black Helen H. [G2], La Prevoyante H. [G2], Sheephead Bay H. [G2], Long Island H. [G2], etc. Dam of 7 foals, 6 to race, 6 winners--

TEAMMATE (f. by A.P. Indy). 4 wins, 2 to 4, \$618,276, Bonnie Miss S. [G2] (GP, \$90,000), Shuvee H. [G2] (BEL, \$90,000), 2nd Alabama S. [G1] (SAR, \$120,000), Gazelle S. [G1] (BEL, \$50,000), Davona Dale S. [G2] (GP, \$30,000), 3rd Juddmonte Spinster S. [G1] (KEE, \$50,000), Ruffian H. [G1] (BEL, \$30,000), Go for Wand H. [G1] (SAR, \$25,000).

WAR FRONT (c. by Danzig). 4 wins at 3 and 4, \$424,205, Alfred G. Vanderbilt Breeders' Cup H. [G2] (SAR, \$124,820), Princelot S. -R (BEL, \$39,990), 2nd Vosburgh S. [G1] (BEL, \$80,000), Forego S. [G1] (SAR, \$50,000), Tom Fool H. [G2] (BEL, \$30,000), Mr. Prospector H. [G3] (GP, \$20,000), Deputy Minister H. [G3] (GP, \$20,000). Sire.

ECCLESIASTIC (c. by Pulpit). 5 wins, 3 to 6, \$346,472(USA), Jaipur S. [G3] (BEL, \$68,280), Jaipur S. [G3] (BEL, \$66,960), 2nd Santa Claus S. -R (CRC, \$8,000), 3rd Northern Dancer S. [G3] (CD, \$23,240), Fort Marcy H. [G3] (AQU, \$11,034), Kentucky Cup Turf Dash S. [L] (KD, \$9,700). Sire.

RIVIERA COCKTAIL (c. by Giant's Causeway). 4 wins at 3 and 4 in NA, placed at 2 and 3 in FR, \$204,095 (USA), Contested Bid S. -R (HOL, \$30,540), 2nd Emirates Airlines Appleton S. [G3] (GP, \$20,000), 3rd San Marcos S. [G2] (SA, \$18,000).

HALF-BROTHER:
WAR FRONT

Young Sire Sensation of
17 Graded SWs (Six G1)

Lifetime progeny earnings
of \$20 million from 4 crops

Top 5 General Sire in 2013

Leading Second &
Third-Crop Sire of SWs

\$2.5 million KEE SEP
Yearling

(2014 stud fee \$150,000)

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She's very correct and she's got something about her . . . sometimes, they just give you that look.

*William F. Murphy,
Breeder*

"Best foals I've seen in my 40 years in the business."

*Larry King,
Farm Manager*

"We've seen many foals but believe Factum's first crop is the Best of the Best.

Classic horses . . . finest individuals we've had on our farm."

*Gil and Marilyn
Campbell*



Filly, first foal out of winning West Acre mare, The Winner Is.



Filly, out of Seductive Lady (Langfur) multiple stakes producer and dam of 2YO multiple SW SCANDALOUS ACT who swept the three filly divisions of the 2013 Florida Stallion Stakes.



Filly, out of winning Sword Dance (Ire) mare, Queen Geraldine.



Colt, first foal out of Blue Eyed Sweetie, by West Acre - multiple stakes winner of \$181,273.

"Our uncle is the industry-leading sire WAR FRONT who stands for \$150,000.

Our sire won at two, his dam won or placed in 15 stakes (eight Graded) at 2, 3, 4 and 5 and is the multiple Graded stakes-producing daughter of Rubiano?"

FACTUM
Storm Cat / Starry Dreamer,
by Rubiano

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Gilbert and Marilyn Campbell, Owners

2013 LEADING SIRES IN FLORIDA



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	WITH DISTINCTION (01, Storm Cat), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$7,500	188/105	5/7	2/5	(Merit Man, \$208,830)	\$4,589,214	*347	9	1.15	1.22
2	WILDCAT HEIR (00, Forest Wildcat), Journeyman Stud	\$10,000	180/109	4/7	0/4	(Heir Kitty, \$273,472)	\$4,309,028	*405	21	1.47	1.53
3	GRAEME HALL (97, Dehere), Winding Oaks Farm	\$4,000	127/78	2/3	0/2	(Marathon Lady, \$277,100)	\$2,839,301	*404	22	1.46	1.25
4	EXCLUSIVE QUALITY (03, Elusive Quality), Journeyman Stud	\$2,500	96/63	3/5	1/3	(Sr. Quisqueano, \$347,050)	\$2,630,627	153	4	1.13	1.11
5	REPENT (99, Louis Quatorze), Woodford Thoroughbreds	\$3,000	128/63	3/3	0/3	(Crown Polis, \$132,439)	\$2,426,210	*450	24	1.14	1.22
6	VALUE PLUS (01, Unbridled's Song), HallMarc Stallions at Stonewall Farm Ocala	\$4,500	116/62	2/3	1/2	(Sweet Maxine, \$122,470)	\$2,128,938	*306	3	1.00	1.20
7	CITY PLACE (00, Storm Cat), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	67/50	1/1	1/1	(Talent N Passion, \$156,870)	\$1,779,458	209	10	1.36	1.05
8	A. P. WARRIOR (03, A.P. Indy), HallMarc Stallions at Stonewall Farm Ocala	\$4,500	80/38	1/1	1/1	(Hallie Brooks, \$165,380)	\$1,659,159	*135	4	0.97	0.99
9	POLLARD'S VISION (01, Carson City), Pleasant Acres Stallions	\$5,000	89/38	2/3	1/2	(Got Shades, \$134,123)	\$1,475,272	*301	15	1.56	1.31
10	HIGH COTTON (03, Dixie Union), Ocala Stud Farm	\$7,500	75/32	0/0	0/0	(Speak Logistics, \$216,100)	\$1,388,465	*129	4	1.23	1.26
11	CONCORDE'S TUNE (89, Concorde Bound)	Died, 2011	66/39	3/3	0/3	(Wicked Tune, \$136,825)	\$1,346,037	486	29	1.27	1.13
12	HARLINGTON (02, Unbridled), Winding Oaks Farm	\$1,500	52/30	1/2	0/1	(Run a Dubb Dubb, \$151,771)	\$1,276,966	*81	1	1.09	1.62
13	IMPERIALISM (01, Langfuhr), Get Away Farm	\$3,500	83/41	1/1	1/1	(Jan's Perfect Star, \$138,827)	\$1,201,180	159	3	0.83	0.99
14	CIRCULAR QUAY (04, Thunder Gulch), Journeyman Stud	\$2,500	60/25	0/0	0/0	(Reporting Star, \$146,637)	\$1,167,608	79	1	0.99	1.44
15	STRONG CONTENDER (03, Maria's Mon), HallMarc Stallions at Stonewall Farm Ocala	\$3,000	54/29	2/6	0/2	(Miss Da Point, \$152,916)	\$1,158,629	*138	5	0.96	1.12
16	COWTOWN CAT (04, Distorted Humor), Journeyman Stud	\$2,500	44/27	1/1	0/1	(Dreaming of Susie, \$98,670)	\$1,092,308	67	1	1.17	1.34
17	SAINT ANDDAN (02, A.P. Indy), Journeyman Stud	\$2,000	53/29	2/2	0/2	(Italian Job, \$127,515)	\$1,052,737	*95	5	0.99	1.27
18	ROAR OF THE TIGER (99, Storm Cat)	Died, 2010	61/30	1/1	0/1	(Bear Tough Tiger, \$113,617)	\$1,030,272	*306	7	0.86	1.18
19	MONTBROOK (90, Buckaroo), Ocala Stud Farm	Died	82/34	2/2	1/2	(Cape Finisterre, \$66,310)	\$1,029,572	*819	49	1.55	1.55
20	PROUD ACCOLADE (02, Yes It's True)	Died, 2009	44/23	2/3	0/2	(Majestic Marquet, \$154,600)	\$930,696	*124	6	1.25	1.23
21	BLACK MAMBO (99, Kingmambo)	Died, 2009	42/23	0/0	0/0	(Jack's the Won, \$123,680)	\$874,125	*185	2	0.93	1.30
22	IT'S NO JOKE (02, Distorted Humor), HallMarc Stallions at Stonewall Farm Ocala	\$3,000	35/20	2/3	1/2	(Bear No Joke, \$188,544)	\$861,333	63	3	1.33	1.11
23	WEST ACRE (95, Forty Niner)	Died, 2012	35/16	2/2	0/2	(Do It for Don, \$125,065)	\$813,203	305	13	1.41	1.21
24	HEAR NO EVIL (00, Carson City), Journeyman Stud	\$3,000	30/10	2/3	0/2	(Majestic Marquet, \$154,600)	\$793,372	65	4	1.13	1.57
25	DOUBLE HONOR (95, Gone West), Get Away Farm	\$2,500	77/38	1/1	1/1	(So Honored, \$42,800)	\$784,152	*579	21	1.06	1.18
26	INDY WIND (02, A.P. Indy), Journeyman Stud	\$2,500	19/13	1/1	0/1	(A. P. Cino, \$149,823)	\$646,101	33	1	1.13	1.18
27	¶ TWO STEP SALSA (05, Petionville), Get Away Farm	\$7,500	22/10	0/0	0/0	(Dance With Fate, \$155,250)	\$620,716	48	0	1.33	1.08
28	HALO'S IMAGE (91, Halo)	Died, 2010	57/22	0/0	0/0	(Wink At the Girls, \$43,272)	\$580,912	*553	22	1.31	1.30
29	SARAVA (99, Wild Again)	Pnsd	42/18	0/0	0/0	(Coco's Shadow, \$74,575)	\$555,481	168	1	0.68	1.18
30	AWESOME OF COURSE (00, Awesome Again), Journeyman Stud	\$7,500	17/14	2/2	0/2	(Fort Loudon, \$213,850)	\$550,636	48	5	2.88	1.26
31	STRAIGHT MAN (96, Saint Ballado), Signature Stallions	\$6,000	30/16	0/0	0/0	(Italian Nany, \$84,810)	\$536,842	346	11	1.06	1.15
32	WAGON LIMIT (94, Conquistador Cielo), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,000	27/16	0/0	0/0	(Wagson, \$106,076)	\$530,024	182	5	1.30	1.15
33	MARQUETRY (87, Conquistador Cielo)	Died, 2013	31/13	0/0	0/0	(Old Troubador, \$88,518)	\$471,710	*892	34	1.12	1.41
34	LEADING THE PARADE (01, A.P. Indy)	N/A	42/16	0/0	0/0	(Marshall, \$61,960)	\$460,429	72	0	0.63	1.00
35	THE GREEN MONKEY (04, Forestry), Hartley/De Renzo Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	22/16	1/1	0/1	(Dazzle Me Darling, \$65,400)	\$441,109	28	1	1.01	1.10
36	SWEET RETURN (GB) (00, Elmaamul), Journeyman Stud	\$5,000	32/15	0/0	0/0	(He's Hollywood, \$48,619)	\$402,762	60	0	0.59	0.88
37	¶ IN SUMMATION (03, Put it Back), Ocala Stud Farm	\$4,000	26/10	0/0	0/0	(Fazed, \$53,285)	\$380,978	53	0	0.73	1.62
38	UNBRIDLED TIME (98, Unbridled's Song)	Died, 2012	25/13	0/0	0/0	(Dreamy Diva, \$38,782)	\$344,141	198	1	0.77	1.03
39	DARK KESTREL (03, Stormy Atlantic), University of Florida Veterinary Medical Center	\$1,500	3/2	1/1	0/1	(Stormofthecentury, \$277,320)	\$289,260	14	1	1.75	1.39
40	SCORPION (98, Seattle Slew)	N/A	28/13	0/0	0/0	(Score Boyera, \$39,130)	\$287,222	*123	1	0.83	1.09
41	WEKIVA SPRINGS (91, Runaway Groom), Double Diamond Farm	Pnsd	20/9	0/0	0/0	(Long Legged Girl, \$63,355)	\$283,202	405	15	0.87	1.21
42	¶ YESBYJIMINY (04, Yes It's True), Bridlewood Farm	\$2,500	16/6	1/2	0/1	(Flay Mignon, \$112,400)	\$273,361	28	1	0.91	1.49
43	CIMARRON SECRET (91, Tejano)	Died, 2008	21/11	0/0	0/0	(Ms. N. Tarsia, \$75,025)	\$266,099	143	4	0.97	0.81
44	COLONY LIGHT (89, Pleasant Colony), Rising Hill Farm	N/A	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Destiny Joy, \$69,078)	\$255,020	410	13	1.01	1.05
45	LIFESTYLE (00, Indian Charlie)	N/A	5/5	1/2	1/1	(Rambling Richie, \$147,750)	\$252,414	7	1	1.90	1.38
46	SPELLBINDER (01, Tale of the Cat), HallMarc Stallions at Stonewall Farm Ocala	\$2,000	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Quorum, \$52,060)	\$244,964	21	1	1.48	1.14
47	¶ BENNY THE BULL (03, Lucky Lionel), Winding Oaks Farm	\$2,500	19/6	0/0	0/0	(Benny's Bullet, \$43,000)	\$244,722	40	0	0.75	0.99
48	UNTUTTABLE (96, Unbridled)	Pnsd	20/9	0/0	0/0	(Delirious Tide, \$50,570)	\$244,463	192	11	1.08	1.28
49	MARCO BAY (90, Copelan)	N/A	9/8	0/0	0/0	(Diana's Vendetta, \$61,925)	\$240,673	95	2	1.46	0.77
50	GULF STORM (97, Storm Cat)	N/A	23/11	0/0	0/0	(Make My Day, \$39,840)	\$217,396	202	7	0.66	0.93

(continued from page 38)

5-4-2 from 22 starts after bankrolling \$2,435,343. Treasure Beach will stand his initial season at stud for \$10,000 live foal.

"This has to be big for Florida. I think he probably has more miles in the air than I do," said Joe Barbazon, watching the international traveler romp in a paddock at Pleasant Acres on a crisp December morning. "It's going to be an exciting breeding season with him. He is a stallion that could go into any stud barn anywhere in the world."

Helen added of Treasure Beach, "We never really thought we would get a stallion of his caliber. We're thrilled."

Chance: Treasure Beach came to the attention of the Barbazons while the couple was actually focusing on acquiring a different stallion. Seeds to bring the deal to fruition were sown by Jamie LaMonica of The Stallion Company in Lexington, who is helping the Barbazons navigate the commercial stallion market, as is Michelle Hemingway, Pleasant Acres' director of bloodstock.

"We were talking to Jamie, and we were looking at other studs when he came across this son of Galileo," explained Joe. "We had the deal done before sunset the day we learned about his availability. Both Jamie and Michelle have been tremendous assets in making all of this happen."

Added Hemingway: "It's gratifying to be a part of it all from the ground up. I've enjoyed trying to figure out which stallions will work well here."

The Pleasant Acres stallion roster also features Poseidon's Warrior, Pollard's

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 31, 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.

the Stallions at NORTHWEST STUD

Introducing Three Exciting New Stallions of Millionaire, Grade 1 and Champion Status!

NEW
IN 2014



DUKE OF MISCHIEF

Graeme Hall - My Lady Amelia, by Real Courage

MULTIPLE GRADED SW OF \$1.9 MILLION

Winner of the **Oaklawn H-G2, Ft. Lauderdale S-G3, Philip Iselin S-G3** and **Charles Town Classic S-G3**.

Defeated some of the best horses in the U.S. including Game On Dude, Tackleberry, Tizway and Delightful Kiss.

2014 fee: \$2,500 LF/SN

NEW
IN 2014



TURBO COMPRESSOR

Halo's Image - Dixieland Event, by Wild Event

GRADE 1 WINNER OF \$953,960

Distance specialist on both dirt and turf, winning four stakes from 1 1/16 mi. to 1 3/8 mi. by a combined 16 1/2 lengths including the **United Nations-G1**.

Out of 100% producer and a half-brother to a SW of \$200k and 2013 SP 2-year-old.

2014 fee: \$3,500 LF/SN

NEW
IN 2014



WROTE (IRE)

High Chaparral - Desert Classic, by Green Desert

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF CHAMPION

Won or placed in Graded or Group stakes in four countries: United States., Eng., Ire. and the UAE.

By two-time Eclipse Award winner

HIGH CHAPARRAL (Sadler's Wells), sire of more than 75 SWs (26 Group / Graded).

2014 fee: \$4,000 LF/SN



FLASHSTORM

Storm Cat - Kristi, by St. Jovite

**GRADE 2 PERFORMER
BY STORM CAT**

Rich family of millionaire Classic performers including **GERI, A.P. ARROW** and champion 3yo filly **SACAHUISTA**.

2014 fee: \$1,500

First Runner / First Winner
FLASH SONG romps at
Gulfstream, Jan. 5



GONE ASTRAY

Dixie Union - Illicit, by Mr. Prospector

**MILLIONAIRE MULTIPLE
GRADE 2 SW BY DIXIE UNION
Won / Placed in 10 Stakes (6 Graded)**

First dam is half-sister to Champion 3yo filly **SMUGGLER**.

Immediate family of Champions

**INSIDE INFORMATION
and EDUCATED RISK.**

2014 fee: \$4,500 LF/SN



PLEASANT STRIKE

Smart Strike - Colonella, by Pleasant Colony

**RECORD-SETTING
GRADED STAKES WINNER**

Won or placed in 11 stakes

Raced sound from 2 to 7 on dirt, turf and synthetic.

From the family of Horse of the Year **SAINT LIAM**.

2014 fee: \$2,500 LF/SN



UNITED STATES

A.P. Indy - Blith, by Unbridled

**BY A.P. INDY
FOUNDATION FAMILY**

Out of half-sister to Leading Sire & KY Derby winner **FUSAICHI PEGASUS (G1)**.

Second dam is sister to

DEMONS BEGONE (G1)

and half-sister to **PINE BLUFF (G1)**.

2014 fee: Private



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CONFORMATION PHOTOS BY SERITA HULT ©



Treasure Beach, a classic-winning son of Galileo, heads the Pleasant Acres stallion roster

Vision, Passion for Gold, Beau Choix, Anthony's Cross, and City Wolf. Tom Ryan is the farm's stallion manager.

Poseidon's Warrior marks another first for Florida's stallion ranks. He is the state's first son of Speightstown, and a good one at that. Out of the Smarten mare Poised to Pounce and a half brother to two stakes winners, Poseidon's Warrior captured the 2012 Alfred G. Vanderbilt Handicap (gr. I) at Belmont Park as a 4-year-old for owner Swilcan Stable and trainer Robert Reid Jr. All told, Poseidon's Warrior won seven of 21 starts and earned \$701,147. He stands for \$6,500 live foal.

"We really wanted to bring a Speights-town to Florida," said Joe. "We weren't sure we could get one."

Both Pollard's Vision and Passion for Gold stand for \$5,000 live foal. Pollard's

Vision, a multiple graded stakes winner and millionaire during his racing career, has already enjoyed success as a stallion. From five crops to race, Pollard's Vision, by Carson City, is the sire of champion Blind Luck and 14 additional stakes winners including Il Villano, Closing Vision, Air Crew, and Pollard's Boy.

Passion for Gold, a two-time stakes winner in Europe, is a 2007 son of Medaglia d'Oro out of the graded stakes-winning Thunder Gulch mare C'Est L'Amour. Passion for Gold starred at 2 in France, winning the Criterium de Saint-Cloud (Fr-I) in just his third start.

The latest addition to the roster, City Wolf is a grade III winner and a half brother to Horse of the Year Ghostzapper and grade I winner City Zip. The 7-year-old son of Giant's Causeway was produced

from the Relaunch mare Baby Zip, the 2005 Kentucky Broodmare of the Year. City Wolf won the 2011 Durham Cup Stakes (Can-III) at Woodbine for Stronach Stables en route to career earnings of \$293,686. He stands for \$4,000 live foal.

The fee for both Beau Choix and Anthony's Cross has been set at \$2,500. Beau Choix, a son of Elusive Quality—Belle Cherie, by Belong to Me, did his best running on the turf. The multiple stakes winner won seven of 30 lifetime starts and amassed earnings of \$425,694 racing for Belle Meadows Farm and Lael Stable while in the care of trainer Barclay Tagg.

Anthony's Cross, winner of the 2011 Robert B. Lewis Stakes (gr. II) at Santa Anita as a 3-year-old, is a son of Indian Charlie—Screening, by Unbridled. In addition to his lone stakes score, Anthony's Cross finished third in the Sham Stakes (gr. III), and in the Berkeley Handicap (gr. III) at 4. The half brother to graded stakes winner Fugitive Angel retired with earnings of \$230,790.

"Our passion has always been to make the breed better," Helen said. "Our goal with the stallion operation is to increase opportunities for Florida breeders. For us to be able to make this happen is incredible.

"As breeders, we've shipped wherever the good stallions are," she added. "To be able to bring these horses to Florida is a fantastic feeling, and we're happy to do it. It's exciting. It's going to be a fun journey with these studs."

Helen, originally from New York, and Joe, born and raised in a small town in Louisiana, both consider Florida home. Helen moved to Florida with her family when she was 8. Joe arrived following

2013 Florida Sires by Stakes Winners

Sire	Stks Wnrs	Stks Wins
With Distinction	.5	7
Wildcat Heir	.4	7
Exclusive Quality	.3	5
Concorde's Tune	.3	3
Repent	.3	3
Strong Contender	.2	6
Graeme Hall	.2	3
Hear No Evil	.2	3
It's No Joke	.2	3
Pollard's Vision	.2	3
Proud Accolade	.2	3
Value Plus	.2	3
Awesome of Course	.2	2
Montbrook	.2	2
Saint Anddan	.2	2
West Acre	.2	2



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rank #5 on the Freshman Sire List in North America in 2013,
\$603 out of fourth place and
\$54,084 behind WinStar's Colonel John.



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high school.

"I've always loved horses," Helen shared. "I knew I wanted to work with them. I did the college thing for a while, and then I got a job at Tartan Farms. After that I worked with various trainers before landing at Irish Acres."

The couple met in the early 1980s while both worked at Noel Hickey's Irish Acres Farm. They were married in 1983.

"Joe owned 10 acres when we met, and together we decided we would start our own operation," Helen said. "Every time we sold a baby we bought more property."

Originally launched on a 10-acre parcel of land, Pleasant Acres, a full-service commercial breeding facility, today encompasses 225 acres. The Barbazons live on the farm and lease an additional 150 acres. They foal between 60-80 babies each year, both for themselves and clients.

Services offered at Pleasant Acres include boarding and foaling mares, lay-ups, and sales prep. The nearby stallion and training divisions operate on 10 acres that house a 28-stall training barn, a three-quarter-mile training track, and an eight-stall stallion barn.

"We're hands-on in everything we do," Helen said. "We never ask anyone to do anything we wouldn't do ourselves. We have no qualms about getting our hands dirty. We've done this long enough that we know what we're doing, and we know what to expect."

By his own account and once again, an example of choice determining direction, Joe's run of luck in the Thoroughbred industry began decades ago when he left home and secured his first job in Florida at Grosse Point Farm, where he worked for



Ryan Barbazon oversees the training division at Pleasant Acres

nearly 10 years.

"I graduated high school in 1970. Two weeks later I was on a Greyhound bus headed to Florida," said the second-generation horseman (his father was a trainer). "Back when I was little, we were very poor. I slept on a dirt floor, and we didn't have any running water. All I did was think about horses. My small dream when I was young was to have 10 acres and a couple of horses. To have everything we have today is beyond my wildest imagination. I'm living a dream. The horse business has been very good to us.

"I understand the struggles that people can have, and that's probably why I connect so well with working people," Joe added. "I believe that's been a big positive for our operation through the years. We're appreciative of everyone that was there for us when we had a tough time along the way. We will never forget who helped us, and we're happy to pass it on

and help others. We're more than willing to give a leg up to other people who are trying to help themselves."

The Barbazons have one son, Travis, a junior at Trinity Catholic High School in Ocala. Joe's son from a previous marriage, Ryan, 38, oversees the Pleasant Acres training division.

"Ryan always liked the horses," Helen said of her stepson. "Travis is more likely one day to be our accountant or lawyer."

The training center at Pleasant Acres is churning out its share of top-class runners. Among them, multiple graded stakes winner Discreet Marq, winner of last year's Del Mar Oaks (gr. IT) at Del Mar, most recently runner-up in the Matriarch Stakes (gr. IT) at Betfair Hollywood Park and an earner of \$755,900; and General a Rod, winner of the Gulfstream Park Derby Jan. 1.

"We've been lucky in the training division. We've had some nice horses to work with," said Ryan, who oversees 28 head. "With the addition of the training and stallion divisions, we are able to offer clients a complete package. I'm excited that we represent all facets of the industry."

The Barbazons have bred and raised many stakes winners but perhaps are best known as the breeders of the hard-knocking Florida-bred gelding Presious Passion, a multiple Florida champion and 2009 Florida-bred horse of the year.

Campaigned by Patricia and Frank Generazio, longtime clients of the Barbazons, Presious Passion had only one way of going and that was to the front.

The popular runner, a son of Royal Anthem, entertained fans with his all-or-nothing running style, often opening large leads early on his rivals. While he carried that early lick to some dramatic stakes victories for trainer Mary Hartmann, his biggest moment likely came in defeat. After setting the pace in the 2009 Emirates Airline Breeders' Cup Turf (gr. IT) at Santa Anita and looking like a winner on the far turn, Presious Passion was collared by Conduit in deep stretch and lost the \$3 million race by a scant half-length.

"Watching Presious Passion in the Breeders' Cup was such a thrill for us," related Joe. "We were so proud of that horse. It was a wonderful experience just being there. Again, it was like living a dream. We were on top of the world."

Helen added, "We had to pinch ourselves. We recognized that some people in the business never get that far."

In 2009, the same year Presious Passion was named Florida horse of the year,



Barbazon-bred and raised Presious Passion earned more than \$2.6 million

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ANTHONY'S CROSS
Indian Charlie
G2SW by a Champion Sire
Defeated champion Tapizar
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Elusive Quality
Multiple SW of 7 races / G1SP
Out of G2SW half-sister to OCTAVE (G1)
Fee: \$2,500 LF/SN



CITY WOLF
Giant's Causeway
Graded SW half-brother to CITY ZIP
and GHOSTZAPPER
Fee: \$4,000 LF/SN

GALILEO (IRE)

SPEIGHTSTOWN

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY

ELUSIVE QUALITY

INDIAN CHARLIE

CARSON CITY

MEDAGLIA D'ORO



PASSION FOR GOLD
Medaglia d'Oro
2YO G1 Winner / HWT colt in France
Prolific female family
Fee: \$5,000 LF/SN



POLLARD'S VISION
Carson City
Millionaire Multiple GSW
Sire of Champion 3yo filly BLIND LUCK
Fee: \$5,000 LF/SN



POSEIDON'S WARRIOR
Speightstown
Brilliant G1 SW Sprinter
Defeated Shackelford (G1)
Fee: \$6,500 LF/SN



TREASURE BEACH (GB)
Galileo (IRE)
G1 Winner of \$2.4 Million
By Global Leading Sire
Fee: \$10,000 LF/SN

OPEN HOUSE

We welcome you to inspect our stallions during OBS sale week and join us at our stallion barn for coffee and pastries. Sunday, Jan. 19 through Wednesday, Jan. 22 - 8:30 am to 10:30 am.

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2013 Florida Sires by Winners

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
Wildcat Heir	180	109
With Distinction	188	105
Graeme Hall	127	78
Repent	128	63
Exclusive Quality	96	63
Value Plus	116	62
City Place	67	50
Imperialism	83	41
Concorde's Tune	66	39
Pollard's Vision	89	38
A. P. Warrior	80	38
Double Honor	77	38
Montbrook	82	34
High Cotton	75	32
Roar of the Tiger	61	30
Harlington	52	30
Strong Contender	54	29
Saint Anddan	53	29
Cowtown Cat	44	27
Circular Quay	60	25
Proud Accolade	44	23
Black Mambo	42	23
Halo's Image	57	22
It's No Joke	35	20
Sarava	42	18
Leading the Parade	42	16
West Acre	35	16
Straight Man	30	16
Wagon Limit	27	16
The Green Monkey	22	16
Sweet Return (GB)	32	15
Awesome of Course	17	14
Marquetry	31	13
Scorpion	28	13
Unbridled Time	25	13
Indy Wind	19	13
Gulf Storm	23	11
Cimarron Secret	21	11
Hear No Evil	30	10
In Summation	26	10
Two Step Salsa	22	10

2013 Florida First-Crop Sires by Winners

Sire	Rnrs	Wnrs
In Summation	26	10
Two Step Salsa	22	10
Benny the Bull	19	6
Yesbjimminy	16	6
Hello Broadway	4	2

the Barbazons were honored as Florida breeders of the year by the Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' and Owners' Association.

"At that moment we thought all of our hard work had paid off," admitted Joe, a member of the FTBOA's board of directors. "It was a great honor, and it meant a lot to us."

The Barbazons' accomplishments were also recognized in 2008 with the Needles Award, given each year by the FTBOA to recognize outstanding small breeders.

"Without the breeders there wouldn't be stallion farms, and we wouldn't be here today opening a stallion division," said Joe. "Small breeders are a big part of the industry. They are important, and we know firsthand what it's like to be small breeders."

Presious Passion retired to his birth-



Grade I winner Discreet Marq is a graduate of the Pleasant Acres training center

place at Pleasant Acres at age 9 after recording 14 wins in 52 starts and amassing earnings of \$2,694,599. He won the 2009 Clement L. Hirsch Memorial Turf Championship Stakes (gr. IT) at Santa Anita and the 2008-09 editions of the United Nations Stakes (gr. IT) at Monmouth Park. Also numbered among his graded stakes triumphs were the W.L. McKnight Handicap (gr. IIT) at Calder Race Course in 2007-08, the 2008 Pan American Handicap (gr. IIIT), and the 2007 Cliff Hanger Stakes (gr. IIIT). He also won the 2009-2010 renewals of the Mac Diarmida Stakes (gr. IIT) at Gulfstream Park.

The Barbazons, humble and authentic in sharing their story, are grateful for all of Pleasant Acres' clients but single out the Generazios, not only for their business but their friendship.

"Everything just clicked with them right away," said Joe. "They are wonderful people, and they have always been



Pleasant Acres' director of bloodstock Michelle Hemingway

there for us. We owe them a lot. I can't say enough about them."

"They're not just clients to us," Helen added. "They're more like family."

Success in the Thoroughbred business is a moving target. For now, with a loyal client base, a thriving training division, and a stallion roster bolstered by sons of top sires such as Galileo and Speights-town, the Barbazons believe their commitment to breeders will return dividends not just to the farm but to Florida's Thoroughbred industry.

"We've tried to book mares to certain stallions in Kentucky in the past, and sometimes you just can't get to them," said Joe. "We figured, 'Let's bring those types of stallions to Florida.' We've priced our roster competitively for the Florida market, and we think our stallions offer the best pedigrees at the best prices. We don't have a stallion that we wouldn't breed to ourselves.

"This is beyond living a dream," Joe added. "It really is. We've raised the bar. To be a success in this industry, it has to be a passion. A year ago I knew we had as much passion as anyone else in the business, but I wouldn't have imagined that we would be where we are today."

Helen added: "We're lucky, we've been very fortunate in this business, and we want everyone in the industry to make money. We don't want to let anyone down. The response to the stallions we've brought here has been tremendous. Florida breeders know us. They know we are not going anywhere."

That's not by chance, but by choice. **BH**

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Repent - Crowning Touch, by Thunder Gulch Fee: \$2,000 LF/SN

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2YO GRADE 1 WINNER OF THE HOPEFUL STAKES

at Saratoga in his second start after breaking his maiden by six lengths at the Spa in maiden special.

GRADE 2 SW AT 3 . . . in the **Amsterdam S-G2** at Saratoga.

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High Cotton - Echo Bluff, by Pine Bluff Fee: \$3,500 LF/SN

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Sire of **SEVEN SHs in 2013 (37 lifetime SHs / 4 GSWs)**

Progeny earnings of nearly \$18 million with 8 crops to race

Louis Quatorze - Baby Grace (ARG), by Cipayo (ARG) Fee: \$3,000 LF/SN

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GRADED STAKES WINNER AT 2 AND 3

RUNNERUP IN THE 2010 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE-G1

Won Graded stakes on dirt and turf incl. the **Fountain of Youth-G2**
Broke his maiden by three in the **With Anticipation S-G3**, at SAR

War Front - Le Relais, by Coronado's Quest Fee: \$5,000 LF/SN

VINEYARD HAVEN

WON OR PLACED IN SIX GRADE 1 EVENTS AT 2, 3 & 4

At 2 . . . Won: **MdSpWt** first time out at Calder, by 4 1/4 going away, **Champagne S-G1**, **Hopeful S-G1**; 3rd: **Sanford S-G2**.

At 3 . . . Won: **Frank J. De Francis Mem. Dash-G1**;

2nd, **King's Bishop S-G1**; 3rd, **Cigar Mile H-G1**.

At 4 . . . SW and Graded SP in the **Forego S-G1**.

Lido Palace (CHI) - Princess Aloha, by Aloha Prospector Fee: \$2,000 LF/SN



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