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The Grooms Award, Ltd. Honored Jumper and Hunter Grooms at 2021 Lake Placid Horse Shows

Non-Profit Organization Continues Program Recognizing Professional Grooms

Foxborough, MA — July 13, 2021 — The Grooms Award, Ltd., a not-for-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization that recognizes and rewards professional grooms, participated in both weeks of the 2021 Lake Placid Horse Shows. The Grooms Award presented gifts to the grooms of the horses that competed in the first week's \$100,000 Richard M. Feldman Grand Prix and the second week's \$15,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby Presented by Eastern Hay & Grain and Purina Animal Nutrition.

“We were very excited to be part of both weeks of competition,” said Andrea Mewhinney, who represented The Grooms Award, Ltd., along with Corinne Doubleday, at Lake Placid. “We thank the Lake Placid Horse Show Association for allowing us to present gifts to the grooms of the horses in the Hunter Derby and Grand Prix and also for adding extra gifts to what we gave. Recognizing grooms for all they do to keep horses healthy, fit and ready to compete is important and our presence in Lake Placid was very well received.”

Alex Matz, son of Michael and D.D. Matz, won his first Grand Prix, riding Cashew CR to victory in the \$100,000 Richard M. Feldman Grand Prix to culminate the first week of competition at Lake Placid. Shannon Kinsley was honored as Cashew's groom.



Shannon Kinsley and Cashew CR

Amanda Steege rode LaFitte De Muze, owned by Cheryl Olsten, to victory in the \$15,000 USHJA International Hunter Derby presented by Eastern Hay & Purina Animal Nutrition. Tim Delovich was honored as LaFitte's groom.



Tim Delovich and LaFitte De Muze

Both grooms were honored for their contributions and each received a tote bag. Items included a \$50 gift certificate from EquiFit; a tack room pillow from Haygain; a custom belt from Boy-O-Boy Bridleworks; a yoga mat and \$25 gift card from ThinLine; and a cash prize courtesy of The Grooms Award Ltd.

The Grooms Award, Ltd. presented additional gift bags to grooms of all the horses entered in the Grand Prix and Hunter Derby. Those bags from SmartPak included snacks, drinks, an EquiFit facemask, a Haygain monogrammed towel and entry into a drawing for an HG One Hay Steamer from Haygain valued at \$999, a Busy Buddy, insoles and \$25 gift card from ThinLine, Tate's cookies, Himalayan Salt block from VT Salt, and an assortment of Grooms Award items including a lanyard, a pen and a decal!

The Grooms Award Ltd. thanks all of the following sponsors and supporters:

Boy-O-Boy Bridleworks, EquiFit, Friends of Moira and George, GC Ponies and Robin Greenwood, Haygain, Morrissey Management Group (MMG), ThinLine, West Palms Event Management, SmartPak, VT Salt & Stone, and all other supporters of The Grooms Award!

The Grooms Award, Ltd. is scheduled to participate in the following events in 2021:

- Upperville Colt & Horse Show – Upperville, VA – June 12-13
- Lake Placid Horse Show – Lake Placid, NY - July 4 and 11
- American Gold Cup – Traverse City, MI - Sept 19
- Pennsylvania National Horse Show – Harrisburg, PA - Oct 23
- Riders Cup - Del Mar, CA - October 24
- National Horse Show – Lexington, KY – Nov 5-7
- Las Vegas National Horse Show – Las Vegas, NV - Nov 21

Created to recognize the workers “behind the scenes,” the Grooms Award was established in honor of Moira Caffarey (who unexpectedly passed away in 1997) and later George Hennessy (transporter for the USET). Friends of Moira donated a trophy for the first-ever grooms’ award at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show in Harrisburg where individuals and companies donated prizes to be given to the winning groom. As donations increased each year, it was decided that each of the Grand Prix grooms deserved a “Thank You” for their efforts and professionalism. A tote bag was awarded to each Grand Prix groom, filled with goodies and gift cards from generous sponsors.

The Grooms’ Award, Ltd. is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization, recognizing professional grooms at select major horse shows each year. The Grooms’ Award, Ltd. welcomes donations and sponsorships; those interested should contact Marty Bauman at 508-698-6810 or marty@classic-communications.com.

For more information, or to donate, please visit www.groomsaward.org. The Grooms Award, Ltd. is also on Facebook and Instagram. #groomsrock