

Horses and the horse industry have been a guiding force in Charlie O'Connor's life. He grew up in the Curragh, Ireland where he started riding at the age of 8. He then started exercise riding for local trainers such as Con Collins, Liam Brown and Paddy Prendergast at the age of 15. He attended Multifarham Agricultural College for two years. He was then taken on by Coolmore Stud at age 20. He worked at the farm in Ireland with the horses and shuttling stallions to Australia. He then took time away from the horse industry to explore his other love, the restaurant/bar industry. He opened a fine dining restaurant with his sister in the west of Ireland and then a restaurant/pub with her in Dungarven, Ireland. Ultimately, his love for the horse industry brought him to Coolmore America in 2000 to work in their sales office. He has served as the Director of Sales there since 2012. He has also enjoyed being both a breeder and owner of thoroughbred race horses. He has served on the board of the Thoroughbred Club of America for a two year term. He has also been on the board of the Markey Cancer Association Golf Classic for 10 years. He is happily married to his wife, Debbie, since 2005. They have two sons together, Jack age 9 and Max age 8. Two years ago he got back to his other passion and opened The Amsden Bourbon Bar in Versailles with some very good friends.