



Connemara Connection

Inside this issue:

Equine Affaire	1
Dressage at Devon	2
Newsletter Info	2
Member News	2 - 4
Pony Calendars	3
Classifieds	5

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Here We Go Again!

Equine Affaire; November 8-11,2007

Here we go again!!! Our busy summer's winding down, bringing us to another Equine Affair at the Springfield, MA Exposition site. For those of you who have never attended Equine Affaire, it is a HUGE celebration of the horse with clinicians, breed demonstrations, and unbelievable shopping for people who like everything for and of the horse. And of course you can even buy a horse at Equine Affaire! There is something for every discipline from therapeutic riding to three day eventing, competitive trail and all things western. For first time visitors, be warned: sensible, comfortable walking shoes are the first rule!

The Connemaras will be in the same booth as previous years, 2109 in the Stroh Building and we will have the stall for pony ambassadors. Our emphasis this year is educating the public about our grand ponies; handing out membership forms, sales and breeding information.

Cindy Fletcher is putting up a special display in C barn with two stalls for ponies and a stall for display and equipment. Her stallion Greystones Adirondack A'Herne (Harry) will divide his time between the ambassador booth and the C barn as well as being the champion driving pony for the demo. Kathy Trum-Searah will also have Connemaras in C barn stalls; her Connemaras will also spend time welcoming crowds in the breed booth.



The Demo will be in the Mallory Building on Saturday at 1:00. We would have preferred the Coliseum but there is a big equipment glitch this year and there are not many demos in the Coliseum during the weekend thanks to Monty Roberts and his round pen. It takes too much time to move it for the demos so the organizers are trying to have the breeds use a different arena if possible.

Cindy and Gene Fletcher have also designed and produced a terrific Connemara stallion calendar featuring most of the stallions of Regions One and Two. This will make an important reference tool for people interested in breeding, as well as a very handsome souvenir of our 2007 Equine Affaire. The Calendars will be on sale in the booth and in C barn, or can be ordered directly from Cindy.

Because of Cindy's efforts with the calendar, and the support of those breeders whose stallions grace its pages, we have not had to ask for additional money to cover our Equine Affaire expenses, even as ACPS National cut back its support this year. As in the past, there will be other items for sale to support the booth expenses. Come on down, and see what's up!

We still have spots for Breed Ambassadors and ponies for the Demo on Saturday. Stalls are provided for your pony ambassador, as well as the use of a shared tack/feed stall. You will need to make your own arrangements for a hotel room. There are a lot of hotel/motel suggestions on the Equine Affaire Web Site, as well as maps of the area.

For information regarding our booth, pony ambassadors, or demo or to volunteer call Dianne Crane, Raven Brook Farm, 802 933 4083.

For information on the calendars call Cindy Fletcher, Hidden Meadow Farm, 607 693 3555

Dressage at Devon

For the first time in many years, there was no rain at the US's biggest breed show for the year! Warmer than usual temperatures and mostly sunny skies made the show even more enjoyable for the 600+ horses and ponies that trotted the triangle the last week of September.

Although there wasn't a Native Pony (Mountain & Moorland) class held this year during the Breed show, the show still attracted a fair amount of the native ponies throughout several classes offered in both the breed and performance classes. Perennial Connemara class winner Pam Liddell graced the winners circle once again, this year with a different pony: Kynymont Kerrigan (*Gunsmoke x Kynymont Arianna). Kynymont Moira (Ballywhim Sterling Moss x Greystone Erin Moireen), the long time class favorite finished in second, followed by Nicole Haas Perin's *Hohnhorst Madeline (Patty's Benedict x Norlund's Madigan) in third.

The Performance section of the show also included repeat winners with Tatianna Turcotte's Serenity's Dream On (Greystone An Llewellyn x mare) traveling all the way from Canada to win the FEI Team Test for Ponies and the FEI Individual Test for Ponies. Lendon Gray's stallion Ballywhim Ardan Mor (Tre Awain Dobh McDuff x Ballywhim Ethelyn) placed Fourth with Micaela Mabragana riding him in the FEI Young Rider Team Test.

Good Earth Farm

In the last issue I reported on Cristina Garafola and Good Earth Erin's Nighthawk who have been eventing Open Preliminary and Young Rider Preliminary Divisions this year. Cristina and Hawk were 4th in Open Preliminary at GVRDC Horse Trials, Geneseo, NY Sept. 8 & 9th, and were 9th out of 32 horses in Young/Junior Rider Preliminary at the American Eventing Championships in Wayne, IL Sept 14 -16. Overall for 2007 Hawk is tied for 8th place on the Preliminary Horse Leaderboard. Cristina is now a freshman at Hamilton College, in Hamilton, NY which is a two hour drive to Avon, where she visits Hawk regularly. Carol Kozlowski, Mothersfield, Inc. Avon, NY will be training and piloting Hawk (owned by Lynn and Cristina Garafola of Sparta, NJ) for the rest of 2007, along with her own Good Earth Bit O Honey, halfbred out of Bonnhenry Sandpiper whom she is competing Beginner Novice.

In other news Good Earth Farm has sold Glendale's Mayday (2005), two year old grey filly by Rattle'N Snap Laddie Boy out of Glendale's Mary Magdalene back to Deb Norman of Glendale Farm for riding and breeding. Mayday left Good Earth Farm Sept. 16 to join Glendale Farm's other wonderful Connemara's (including her sire and dam)and beautiful Gypsy Vanner mares in Berryville, VA. Good Earth Farm still has a nice group of Connemara purebreds and half-breds for sale.

-Bob & Sarah Booher

Region II Member News

Hideaway Farm

News from Hideaway Farm: It's been a busy summer and a dry one. We were very happy to have a good steady rain just in time for cross country at our Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club Horse Trials. The event was well represented by GoBragh's get as well as many other Connemaras. Hideaway's Magic Carpet (aka Maggie) now four, took third place in the Open Beginner Novice Division. (Not bad considering it was only her second horse trials and her cousin, Patrick GoBragh owned by Lynn Blades and ridden by Carol Kozlowski took first place.) Two weeks ago Maggie walked away with second place in her first event, also with double clear rounds. She is definitely showing that "can do" attitude we know and love in the breed. Between our local horse trials, fox hunting and the Genesee Valley Hunt Race Meet only four weeks away it makes us feel very grateful to have such an active Conservancy protecting over eight thousand acres of land for our use. It's a privilege that we will never take for granted. All the best from Hideaway Farm.

-Beth Anne Harris

www.hideawayconnemaras.com

Avelene

Avelene is excited to announce the arrival of Wildwych Cricket! Thanks to Megan Buchanan Harris at Brambleridge Farm in Brooks, GA, Cricket joins our northern Connemara herd in Upstate New York. We plan to put her right to work and send her as an ambassador for the ACPS at the Equine Affaire in Mass. this November! She has hit the trail and will condition over the rest of the season to begin her competitive career in Distance Riding in 2008. We will also continue Megan's work training her in eventing and dressage. Wildwych Cricket was bred by Mary Prewitt of Wildwych Connemaras.

Our other very exciting news...JEF Bonnie Lass just returned from The Burnt Hill 25 mile Competitive Trail Ride taking home a 4th place ribbon in a field of 22 horses with a score of 95%! Best of all, Bonnie won the coveted BEST TRAIL HORSE AWARD!!!! She was the ONLY pony at this 25 mile distance ride located in the Fingerlakes National Forest hosted by The Newell Farm. Bonnie Lass was bred by Ginny and Joe Winkler at Journey's End Farm.

-Kathleen M Hulle

www.avelene.com

Region II Newsletter Info

The newsletter will be coming out each quarter starting with Winter 2008. Please think about news and events you would like to share with our members and feel free to send it or any pictures at any time. The publish dates will be the following:

Quarter 1 - Beginning of February

Quarter 2 - Beginning of May

Quarter 3 - Beginning of August

Quarter 4 - Beginning of November

I will also send out reminders as well.

Looking forward to receiving all your news and pictures in the future.

Your editor, Nicole

Celtic Pines Farm

We have had a filly this year that is absolutely perfect! She is a liver chestnut with a blaze and white hind sock. She is already 13.1hh at 5 1/2 months old. She is going to be big and is gorgeous! She is a keeper and I will eventually show her and then breed her. She is out of Loughrea's Macaela x Baileus Turlock. We are so proud of her and cannot wait to see how she develops.

Other news our TB/Connemara, Good Earth Sound of Liberty is doing a course of 2'6 in Equitation. He has accumulated several points and will compete in 3' equitation next year and 3' Adult Amateur Hunter. I will be trying for the finals next year and if all goes well he will enter into the Big Eq for the following year. The horse can jump!

My other TB/Connemara Good Earth Katies Sundown is coming along very nicely. He has been diagnosed with cataracts and so far they have remained translucent. With any luck if there is no change in 2 years he should have no change ever. He is 4 and is very bulked up with muscle and like his brother loves to jump! He should enter the shows next year.

My 2 mares Loughrea's Macaela and Clove Anna are entering back into training and I will try to lease them next year. Celtic Pines is reorganizing and down sizing and will do a token breeding a year to a very select line.

-Cindy Rosen

Claddagh Stables

We've had a busy summer keeping all the ponies going. Thank goodness for the pony club riders from the Genesee Valley Pony Club.

We sent Casi out for more jumping training and he turned out to be quite a packer like his sister Bea who is showing and doing very well. Our 4 yr old filly "Rosie" went under saddle in Aug and took it all in stride - including being pastured with a bull! (but of course a friendly bull). "Star" came back from driving training with Bill Long in Southern Pines and as Bill said "That little girl will drive anywhere."

I'm busy with Fox Hunting now and Michael is still on the road transporting horses all over the country.

- Mike & Sue Arney



Email Address Change

Pat Norton-White our Region chair, has a new email address. You can now contact her at:
patnortonwhite@yahoo.com

Sunny Slope Farm (East)

It has been a fun filled and busy year here in eastern Pennsylvania. First we headed back "home" to St. Louis for the Midwest Connemara Breeders Show where Erin Terra's Rockette aka Nellie won the Yearling Futurity and then she and her half sister Izzie won the Produce of Dam class. After that we trekked to the Region III show with three ponies and three dogs to enjoy the scenery and some family down there! For the finale to the year we attended Dressage at Devon with *Hohnhorst Madeline who strutted her stuff to a third place finish.



My sister (who was visiting for the show) and I also watched some of the performance classes and had the pleasure of seeing two Connemara representatives show in the performance divisions. I am probably done with showing for the year although I am tempted to head out to Indy for the Region V show in two weeks. No foals due in the spring means I will get to ride all winter for the first time in a couple years - hopefully the weather cooperates!

-Nicole Haas Perin
www.erinterra.com

Cool Connemara Calendars!

The new year and holiday season are both rapidly approaching!
2008 calendars featuring Connemara stallions from both Regions I & II are available for yourself and/or to give as a gift.

Show your support for the ACPS at the Equine Affaire.
Proceeds from the calendar sales go towards supporting the Connemara booth (#2109) in the Breed Pavilion.

To purchase your calendar(s) please use the following information:
Make checks payable to: Dianne Crane, ACPS
Mail your check with your mailing/postal address and quantity of calendars desired plus shipping costs to:

Cindy Fletcher
Hidden Meadow Farm
399 Welton Street
Harpursville, NY 13787

Shipping
1-2 calendars - \$2
3-5 calendars - \$5

Connemara
Calendars
\$20 each

News From Kestrel Farm

So here's the situation. You know exactly what you ought to do. You know what you should have done. There are a lot of reasons why you didn't do any of those things. All of them seemed like excellent reasons at the time, but now that it's time to show up, all those reasons seem like something you should have done and definitely will do the next time. Nope, next time you will do it all the way it should be done.

What am I talking about? I am talking about showing horses. And what are the things that should have been? Oh you know.. practice more at home even when it is storming or 100 degrees out. Condition your horses so they can handle the long day on the trailer, in the ring, on the trailer. Make sure you get them out to several events so they are relaxed and focused when it matters. Hey, don't forget the simple things like making sure your horse will actually load, cleaning your tack, or even better taking the sales tags off of your hunt coat before you put it on for the dressage test.

There are a thousand things that can be done to make the showing experience restful, fun, exciting, inspiring etc. I don't know if anyone actually does them but I do know that I never do. The reasons are of course those of time, money, energy, life and the all powerful permission one has to give oneself in order to do something as expensive, exhausting and time consuming as working with horses.

In spite of all this experience and wisdom I am always completely surprised at how totally unprepared I am for the Region 1 ACPS horse show. It is the ONLY show I go to because I run a beef/pig/sheep/turkey/chicken/hay/horse farm and I somehow haven't given myself the permission to leave all I should be doing to go play horsey with my ponies.

The Region 1 show is an exception because I have found myself in love with a Connemara Stallion, Ripleigh Go Bragh and thus with his offspring and inevitably with the breed and the people who have them. It makes sense for me to bring Ripleigh to the show because I have to promote him, otherwise why have a stallion?

So I go and I always have a blast. I always say I am going to do more of this and come away feeling that being with my horses and partner are all I've ever wanted in life. Well, occasionally chocolate cake and cherry pie are also necessary. But more than anything, the reason I go to the Regional show is the reason EVERYONE who has a purebred, a half bred or just an interest in the breed ought to go.

Because it is the kind of show you can bring a screaming mess of a youngster (the one you should have given a little more experience), ride your very first dressage test with hay in your hair, tags on your coat and nylons sticking out the back of your boots (43%!!! thank you very much), drive your stallion in an ADS unapproved cart with a bitless bridle for the first time in public, around other horses, in the same ring with another stallion, in shorts (Ripleigh was brilliant and thank you everyone in that arena) and while you are at it why not see how well your horse can handle an enchanted forest trail class (just what will the Evil Queen come up with next year)?

You can do all these things and at the other side of the screaming horses and the exhausted handlers are some of the most supportive, kind, helpful people who have the best sense of humor, who totally understand that the words "chaos" and "horses" are often best put together in the same sentence and who really want you to succeed no matter what it is you are doing. These are people who understand that you are doing your best, that you want to do better and above all, these people are GRATEFUL. Grateful you came, grateful that you tried something new, grateful you helped, grateful you were nice, grateful you have Connemaras or half-breeds or just happy you bought a ACPS t-shirt. All that and it is fun to boot.

The problem is that Region 1 is loosing money on this show and I don't know what I am going to do if I don't have this show to look forward to every year. It keeps me going, it gives me a place to stretch and learn and to meet some very cool people. I need this show because there is no where else I would feel safe bringing a stallion or young stock for experience without judgment and censure. These days you can't bring a horse to many events unless you are showing because the associations insurance won't cover non competitors.



The Region needs the show because it is a great way to support and promote the breed but mostly because otherwise you would never meet most of the people in your region. And believe me, these are some people you want to meet.

But most of all, the Region 1 show is cool because it is really your show. There are rules and you have to be a member of the ACPS, but the main function of this show is to do as much with your pony as is possible to squeeze into two days. Western or English, flat or jumping, in hand or driven, trail or dressage. Your input is considered and valued. Not many show managers would ask you what you thought needed improving and then invite you to take care of it yourself. That's how I found myself in charge of the trail class this year and the next and the next...

So if you have a half bred- register it and go for the versatility award. If you are a back yard trail rider, come show us your stuff- don't worry about your outfit. If you show at the big time shows, come and have fun. Yes it is time, money, energy and maybe its far from home. But you will be surprised at how much you will get back from what you give. I always am. And next year, I will be better prepared. After all, I have removed the tags from my hunt coat already.

-Renee Vaughn

Classifieds



Good Earth Morning Star

**Horses for Sale by Good Earth Farm,
585 335 5094 or email gefbooher@stny.
rr.com**

Connemara/TB Mare, 8 yrs, Bay, 15.3h
Morning Star is easy to handle, bathes,
farrier, vet, trailer. Great mind and tempera-
ment, brave and sensible, 2nd in local Horse
Trials open beginner novice. First in hunter
show 2'6". Versatile for dressage, jumping,
trail riding, suitable adult or youth. \$9,000.



Jillian's Mahogany Surprise

Connemara Mare, 3 years, 13.2h grey, pony,
Jillian's Mahogany Surprise, registered pure-
bred. Started under saddle. \$2,500.

Victory Go Bragh, Connemara Filly 2 years,
14.1 dark dun registered purebred, by Hide-
away's Erin Go Bragh out of Bonnhenry
Sandpiper (by Grange Finn Sparrow), started
under saddle. \$6,000.



Good Earth Rising Star



Good Earth Victory Go Bragh

Connemara 3/4 bred gelding,
Rising Star. 1 year, 14 h. bright bay, \$3,000.

CLADDAGH STABLES

(585) 658-9586 Mike & Sue Arney ma828227@frontiernet.net

GREYSTONE AN LAUREN

ACPS Approved stallion, 17 yrs. 13.3h, bay w/star.

We are ready to retire - Andy is not!

He comes in a compact package with all the great Connemara qualities, a kind, friendly, correct gentleman who consistently produces ponies who are athletic, correct and cute. His get are driving, riding, showing, producing babies and winning ribbons. Andy is green broke and does trails alone and in company. He has done live cover only, in hand or in the pasture. He can be turned out with mares and foals and some geldings. \$6500 or BO

Upcoming Events

ACPS Annual Meeting

Marriott Hotel

Rancho Cordova, CA

October 18-22

USEF Judges Clinic for Connemara/Welsh Ponies

Marriott Hotel

Rancho Cordova, CA

Starr Vaughn Equestrian Ctr.

Elk Grove, CA

October 20

ACPS Region V Show

Hoosier Horse Park

Edinburgh, IN

October 27 & 28

Equine Affair

Eastern States Expo Center

Springfield, MA

November 8 - 11

USEF Annual Meeting & ACPS Meetings

Louisville Marriott

Louisville, KY

January 9 - 13