Notes from the Chair

2014 Really flew by! It was an action packed year filled with a lot of excitement! New ponies, foals, shows, and championships our Region members did a little bit of everything!

I enjoyed a trip to Colorado to visit a large Connemara breeder and a wonderful Connemara Trainer/Competitor where we tried and purchased another mare. It was a fun trip and I really got to see how different things are out West! It was fun riding Wildwyxh Peccadillo (who competed at the National Pony Cup at 3rd Level!), a full sibling to my filly Bella! (Pictured above with her Junior ride Lila)

I also went to the Region I show as a spectator (and took some fun photos!), with hopes to bring a few ponies next summer. It’s a great show and as a New York member of our Region, it’s relatively “close” for me!

The ACPS Annual Meeting was another fun time and it looks like Region 2 may be hosting it next year! So pack your bags & come to PA!!

I hope you all plan to enjoy your Connemara in some way this coming season!

-Heather Magnan, Chair/Governor
Connemara Pony Research into Hoof Wall Separation Disease (HWSD)

Helpful information on HWSD

The hoof problem previously known as Hoof Wall Separation Syndrome (HWSS) has been renamed as Hoof Wall Separation Disease (HWSD). HWSD is an unique, verifiable and testable disease. It should not be confused with any other hoof pathology. HWSD is a genetic autosomal recessive condition. Two carrier parents being bred with each other results in 1:4 chance of the foal being HWSD afflicted.

The Blog for In-Depth articles is: http://connemara-pony.blogspot.com/. The ACPS will also be publishing ponies results (with owner’s permission) and a pamphlet with more information.

The 2014 Connemara of the Year was Rosewood Scarlet (Witchcraft) an affected (HWSD/HWSD) filly who lost her battle with the disease (Owned and loved by Darian Hall). She was donated to UC Davis and played a vital role in the development of testing practices and results.

Results from around the globe are being posted on the blog (this is entirely volunteer) as well as being recorded with each countries breed association (again only with permission). Many people are also posting their results on the HWSD Facebook page, which is again entirely voluntary.

They key in fighting this disease is knowledge and the understanding that a pony’s status does not reflect their breeder or owner in any way. The only thing that will reflect breeders is how they conduct themselves from now on, and the ethics of their practices with carrier ponies. Remember to have your stock tested and if you are a stallion owner to be upfront with the results to prospective mare owners! That being said, if you are a mare owner and have a carrier mare you should only breed to a non-carrier stallion now that that information is readily available and refuse any stallion who has not yet been tested.

To get testing information please visit UC Davis’ Genetic Lab Website at: https://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/HoofWallDisease.php

Since testing for the disease has only just become available, it is the hope that the 2015 foal crop is the last crop of foals that should ever have an affected pony. Testing of parents before breeding is vital and carriers should not be culled. Breeding of carrier ponies (N/HWSD) to non-carriers (N/N) has no chance of producing an affected. Two carriers should not be bred together as there is a 25% chance that the resulting foal could be affected and therefore suffer unnecessarily from this disease.

Year-End Champion
Congratulations to Nicole Haas-Perin and her Stallion Erin Terra’s Dream On, on winning championships for Pony Model-ling and Hunter Pleasure!

USDF Champion
Congratulations to Tricreek Greystone Riley on winning USDF Area 2 Second Level

USPC Championships
Congratulations to Margot Miller and Wildwych Cricket on her winning Show Jumping performance at USPC National Championships this summer in Lexington Kentucky!
The 2014 Annual Meeting was a great time! It was held at Pennmyrrl Farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Days of talking ponies, seeing area breeder’s stock and trail riding made it a wonderful time.

Region two was well represented with eight members present! Those included Ginny Winkler whose stallion Tre Awain Dobh McDuff won the prestigious Hall of Fame Stallion “Tooreen Laddie” Award for his outstanding get. Gaelic Holiday a halfbred mare won Hall of Fame “Tre Awain Halfbred” for Performance, and her owner Lyn Blades read a nice letter that Carol Kozlowski wrote about the special eventing mare by Hideaway’s Erin GoBraugh. Pam Liddell’s gelding Kynynmont Gunsomke’s Gideon won Connemara of the year for his stellar Dressage performances.

Guests were invited to Marynell & Walter Eyles’ farm and got to visit with their three lovely stallions. Aladdin’s Denver looked great at age 30 and was very happy to get apples from his dear friend Ginny Winkler. Landgate Bluebeard had a slew of admirer’s and welcomed everyone in his pasture and graciously asked from treats. Kilnefora Windy Isles was as beautiful as ever and enjoyed scratches from Walter as he entertained his admirers. Greenwood Farm is what Sue Antilla of Region I described as the perfect “Happy Place” for horse lovers. Pat Norton-White got reunited with a filly from one of her foundation mares, Cobweb Allison. Federal Hill Zsu (by Windy) was a lovely dapple grey filly and was happily trotting around with her friends. It was a great visit for all.

Trail rides were scheduled at a ranch about 40 minutes away. Let’s just say a four hour trail ride in the rocky Blue Ridge Mountains is not for the faint of heart! The views were gorgeous and the horses were very well behaved. We luckily did not see any bear as the ranch owner said they are numerous in that area!

A presentation on the Melanoma research was given and they are in URGENT need of grey ponies who developed melanomas before the age of six (the ponies can be older, just needed to have developed the melanomas by that age specifically). If you have a pony that fits that bill, UC Davis would like a sample as soon as possible. Many vets will do this service at no charge, as they will be recognized by US Davis for their efforts with the research. If they do not have enough ponies in this category by the end of the year the research might not continue. If you have such a pony please contact: Maureen Loughman Abel at mloughman@embarqmail.com for more information.

A Connemara Part Bred Registry is in the works, led by Megan Harris. This would be for halfbred and quarter bred Connemaras and replace the existing halfbred registry. Many quarter Connemaras are out competing in eventing and other disciplines but until now could not officially own up to their Connemara roots! This is a great way to keep ponies that may otherwise go into sport horse registries in the Connemara world. All existing halfbreds would be grandfathered in and keep their registration numbers, and new foals would be part of the proposed partbred registry. This has not been officially voted in yet, and more information will be proposed at the January meeting in Kentucky.

The last thing is that starting in 2015 foals will need to be microchipped as part of registration. The cost will be $10 for the microchip and will be provided by the ACPS. The microchips are the same as the ones used and recognized by the USEF. The reason behind this new requirement is parentage testing to try to prove a pony is a Connemara is costly and unless you know a direct descendant can be very difficult. This is an effort to help keep ponies in the breed that may be lost due to herd dispersals and auctions or any other transaction in which papers might not follow. If a pony is microchipped it can be identified and even re-united with an owner or breeder.

There is a new webmaster as of October 1st! She is an accomplished design professional in the Equine Industry and has re-designed the ACPS website. So all of the great archives and information we were missing is back! Be sure to Check the Region 2 page for photos and the website link.
Classifieds

Catskill's Lady Liberty

2011 black to steel grey filly. Sire is 2011 ACPS Connemara of the Year and Champion Driving Stallion Greystone Adirondack A’Herne. Dam (Foothills Freedom) is by the winning eventing stallion Balmullos Beacon. Libby will stay pony height and should be a fancy dressage, driving or hunter pony, Ready to start your way! $3500, located in Bloomville, NY. 607-538-9669. patnortonwhite@yahoo.com

Foothills Freedom

1998 Purebred Mare by Balmullos Beacon, Grey, 14.3 HH, For LEASE or Sale
Great Performance Mare. Beautiful dressage and loves jumping! Light and sensitive to the aids. Would be ideal for an intermediate/advanced junior or confident adult amateur. She is a go pony who loves to work! Has had one foal who is gorgeous, but we would prefer a performance home for her. Trail rides. UTD on all vaccinations etc. Contact: Pat Norton-White patnortonwhite@yahoo.com, 607-538-9669

Wildwych Cricket

2001 Purebred Mare, Dun, 14.2 HH
Qualified on multiple venues for the United States Pony Club Nationals in 2013 and 2014. In July 2014, she won her division at the USPC Nationals (Show Jumping) with her junior rider against horses. Currently schooling 3’6”, she excels not only in eventing but was successfully competed in Competitive Trail Riding in 2011. $12,000 Contact Kathleen hullekd@aol.com

To post your pony in the Classifieds or to submit Farm News please email ACPSRegion2@yahoo.com with a photo & information by January 31st
2014 Region II Connemara Hall of Fame Award Winners

Connemara of the Year (Halfbred)

Kynynmont Gunsmoke’s Gideon

2008 15.3 H gelding:

*Gunsmoke x Kynynmont Tara
Bred and owned by Pam Liddell of Kynynmont Connemaras, Conestoga, PA

Hall of Fame Stallion *Tooreen Laddie

Tre Awain Dobh McDuff

1988 14.1H Black S

(Tre Awain Ginger Blue x Tre Awain Rosin Dobh x Clonkeehan Bowman) Bred by Three Creek Farm and owned by Ginny and Joe Winkler, Journey’s End Farm, Gardiner, NY

Hall of Fame

“Tre Awain Halfbred” Performance

Gaelic Holiday

15.2h bay M (Hideaway’s Erin Go Bragh x Vacation Fun [TB]) Bred and owned by Lynn Blades, ridden by Carol Kozlowski
Upcoming Events

Region Tea
We would like to plan a Region Tea in the Cazenovia/Syracuse Area this spring. We are looking for a host, any takers? Is this a location you would travel to? If you have any ideas please let us know before 2/15.

ACPS Region I Show
The Region I Show is scheduled for July 11th & 12th, 2015.

Sussex County Shows
The Sussex County Show Series will again hold Connemara Pointed and Awarded Classes in 2015. It would be great to have more Region 2 participants as this is a great opportunity in our Region!

Jumping Clinic
A jumping clinic with Carol Kozlowski is being organized in partnership with CNYDCTA. It will be held in the Syracuse area. Dates and info TBA

2015 Annual Meeting
ACPS Region II has offered to host the 2015 Annual Meeting! The location proposed is Bethlehem PA in Bucks County at the Sands Casino, it will be held in late September/ Early October. Plan on attending if you can!

Inspections
ACPS Region II will begin its quarterly newsletter once again! The deadlines to submit information are as follows:
2015 Winter Deadline: Jan. 31st
2015 Spring Deadline: April 31st
2015 Summer Deadline: July 31st
2015 Fall Deadline: October 31st

Please submit all information, news, classified listings etc. to ACPSRegion2@yahoo.com

Conmemara Connection
ACPS REGION 2 FALL 2014 Newsletter

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