ACPS REGION III OFFICERS:

Region III Governor: Donna Duckworth, 6494 Charles City Rd., Richmond, VA 23231, 804-507-0269, balmullofarm@gmail.com

Region III Chairman: Kim Harrison, 6001 Clayville Lane, Moseley, VA 23120, 804-639-0881, vaharrisons@verizon.net

Secretary: Judy Brescia, 14213 Purcellville Rd., Lovettsville, VA 20180, 540-850-8214, newmont@loudounwireless.com

Treasurer: Linda Trimper, 3277 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster, MD 21158, 410-756-6117, ltrimper5@yahoo.com

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ACPS WEBSITE: http://www.acps.org

CONNEMARA BOUTIQUE.
Melanie Trimper at mmt328@yahoo.com; or visit us on Facebook Region-III-ConnemaraBoutique

Region Meeting

Our region meeting was held Sunday, December 11th at Barbara Byrd’s Thurman Farm in Berryville, Virginia. As we had little business to cover, we enjoyed visiting with each other and Barbara’s ponies. The view of her pasture looks like something right out of Connemara with exposed rock ledges and ponies grazing among them.

One piece of business we did discuss is our need to elect a new region governor at our next meeting in March. Our current governor is Donna Duckworth, and her term expires this year. Each ACPS region elects one governor to serve on the board of governors. There are two meetings of the board each year, one in the fall that is just the ACPS and it is held in a different place each year. The other meeting of the board occurs in January at the USEF meeting in Kentucky.

If you have any interest in serving on the BOG of the ACPS, or know of anyone, you can talk to Donna to learn more about what the office entails. You can nominate yourself or any other member of our region to run for the office. Please send nominations to the region chair, Kim Harrison. If we have more than one nominee, voting can be by proxy, email, or in person.

Behind the Scenes at the Boutique

In 2009, Katherine Wilkens was looking for someone to take over managing the Region 3 Boutique. She had done an excellent job up until then but was ready to pass it on to someone new. I immediately thought that my daughter, Melanie, and I would be the perfect pair to take
on the responsibility as Melanie had extensive marketing skills.

Our first task was to take inventory of merchandise already in stock and decide which new items to add. We also asked Region 3 members for their opinions on what they would like the Boutique to sell.

Fortunately, Melanie is a member of the American Equestrian Trade Association and we attend its Spring and Fall trade shows in Pennsylvania every year. At the trade shows, we can see the latest designs and colors for saddle pads, fly veils, saddle covers, grooming totes, vests, polo shirts and other items that can easily be embroidered with the Connemaras Do It All logo.

On average, yearly sales are in the $4,000 range. However, in 2014, we had an exceptional year with sales exceeding $6,000. Keep in mind these are sales, not profit - though the Boutique has shown a profit every year. When Melanie and I are able to attend the ACPS Annual meeting, we generally have strong sales. We have transported Boutique items to California, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. Members of the other regions are great customers and a few of the other regions that have their own stores have asked for our advice and have ordered items for their own stores through us.

The Region 3 horse show is another opportunity for us to showcase our Boutique. Melanie and I have received many compliments on how professional our Boutique looks and they love the variety of merchandise. For the past few years, profits from the Boutique have been used to supplement the cost of the exhibitors' dinner that is provided to all who attend the Region 3 show at no cost to the exhibitors. It has become a highlight of the weekend.

At present, most sales are now coming to us via Facebook or email. December 2016 was especially busy and I shipped packages to CA, UT, ID, NY and CT. All the Boutique merchandise is stored in my basement and orders are shipped same or next day if the items are in stock. We receive many special requests such as custom colors, pony size saddle pads and we try our best to fulfill all these custom requests.

Melanie and I still enjoy managing the Boutique and would like to thank all who have made purchases over the years. Linda Trimper

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**Region Show**

Mark your calendars now, the region show will be held July 15 – 16, 2017 at the Virginia Horse Center. Thank you to the few who sent in answers to the survey. In the end, we had to take dates that were available at the VHC. There is still plenty of time to make suggestions for the program, sponsor a class, or decide to volunteer.
We need a hostess with the most-est!

Our next region meeting will be held in March, on a weekend close to Saint Patrick’s Day. If you would like to have a friendly group of Connemara fans bring lots of food to share at your house, please let Kim Harrison know the date and time you prefer, and I will announce it in the next newsletter. If I don’t get a volunteer, I will begin to make phone calls of recruitment! We would love to include places we have not ever been, and visit your ponies. Don’t be shy, we all have dog hair under our sofas, too.

Pony Tales

Cynthia Holbrook of Lewisville, NC sends this story:
“My friend Amy Wiseman Miller and I went to Hillcrest Farm Schooling Horse Trials in September this year and ended up 1st and 2nd on our Connemara ponies! **Blue Ridge Breckinridge** (Moxley Duncan x *Hayseldon Persephone), the buckskin, and **Irish Punch** (Tre Awain Delvera x TB , the bay, competed in the training level division at Hillcrest Farm in Mocksville, NC. We had so much fun and the boys enjoyed each other also.”

Cynthia also sent another update of her adventures with “Breck.”
“Breck and I qualified for the Area 2 Training level Championships in Lexington, VA at the Va Horse Trials October 2016. We had stiff competition with a majority of professional riders in the division. But Breck and I held our own and finished 6th (amateur finish was 2nd) running clean on cross country and stadium.”

Vickie Maris sends greetings to her old friends in our region, and this news:
“I'm actually in Region IV but have many friends in Region III from the days I worked in VA and from my many years of serving as photographer for the Region III show (long, long ago.)”
“I have scaled way back on my Connemara business due to the demands of my career. In the past few years, my only pony has been my stallion, **Kerrymor Madison** whom I still have. He's 29, and a happy boy enjoying semi-retirement. I still ride him on the trails around the farm. He's had the company of our llamas until late October when I added a new mare to our farm, **Sooey Annabelle** (*The Quietman X Kilmurray Aisling Owen*). We have continued to use the barn name, Chirico, which she was given by her previous owner, April Christensen of Michigan.

Chirico is a lovely grey mare who has been inspected and approved. She is going nicely under saddle and has fun jumping. I picked her up at an eventing barn near Ann Arbor where she was in an eventing clinic so I got to see her in a lesson and jumping through grids. That was bunches of fun. She's completely in love with Madison and agreeable about living in the pasture with our llamas. We're thrilled to have her at Dawn of Promise Farm. I'm hoping to breed her next year to get one foal, and then use her as my riding partner for future years.”

**Vikie and Chirico**

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**Classified Ads**

**Thurman Farm Offers:**

**Thurman Sileach** (Rattle ‘N Snap Laddie Boy x Thurman Keepsake (Landgate Bluebeard x Tre Awain Sileach))

“Best of The Day” at the Upperville Horse Show and the Region III Show this year. Great over fences.

**Thurman Miss Independence** (Rattle ‘N Snap Laddie Boy x Thurman Raven (Aladdin’s Admiral Byrd x Tre Awain Sileach))

High placing in hand, under saddle and trail classes. Great over fences.

**Thurman Sileach**

**Thurman Miss Independence**
These five-year-old mares are for sale. They are a combination of “old time” bloodlines and a new Irish import. They have 3 years of professional training. They have been successful at the Upperville, the Warrenton and the Region Ill Horse Shows. They also have experience in Combined Training and trail riding.
Thurman Farm – Berryville, Virginia
540-955-1215 – bjb1971@verizon.net

BALMULLO FARM OFFERS:

Offered at Stud: **Foothill’s Field Marshall** (*Gunsmoke x Foothill’s Maybee). Cooled, shipped semen, only. $850.
For further information call 804-507-0269.

CADY O’DALY FARM OFFERS:

Also standing at stud: **Tre Awain Goldsmith** (Tre Awain Ginger Blue x Tre Awain Golden Lily) - 15.2, 1999 dun stallion with an impressive competition record. Winner of the 2015 ACPS An Tostal Award. Known for passing along his lovely temperament, athletic jump, and beautiful movement to his offspring. N/N for HWSD, $800 Located at Cady O’Daly Farm in Lynchburg, VA. Contact us at www.CadyODalyFarm.com; 571-271-9441

GLENDALE FARM OFFERS:

We will once again stand **Rattle 'n Snap Laddie Boy** (Moy Hazy Cove x Castle Strange Sparrow). Stud fee is $800 which includes a $250 booking fee.

Also standing at Glendale Farm is **Fernville Matchmaker** (Fredericksminde Hazy Match x Ross Castle Moya [Abbeyleix Owen]), imported from Ireland. He is a 2006 14.2 grey pony with excellent bone and movement. Stud fee is $600 which includes a $250 booking fee.

Two 3-year old fillies:
**GDF Match Point** (aka Peony)
By Fernville Matchmaker
Out of GDF Rock the Boat (by Rock Point- TB)
$5500.
Bay w blaze and a couple white feet

**GDF Matchless** (aka Iris)
By Fernville Matchmaker
Out of Annie- TB. $5500
Plain dark bay
Both will be over pony size

All of these "ponies" w/t/c in the ring and have been trail ridden.
Call if you need more particulars.
**Deb Norman**, 540-955-1995 or deb@glendalefarm.com.
