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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

Black or forest green crew neck sweatshirts, S thru XL, $25.00
Pullover hoodies, 100% polyester M thru XL, $40.00 each.

Region December Meeting

Minutes from ACPS Region III Meeting
Sycamore Ridge Farm
Warrenton, VA
December 3, 2017

Attendees: Kim Harrison, Suzanne Phelps, Eileen Peet, Jean Clagett, Rick Hruby, Pat Brescia, Judy Brescia, Elaine Meilahn, Donna Duckworth, Lucy Bernstein, Walter Eyles, Sam Davis, Marynell Eyles, Susan McConnell, Anne C Hindman, Marian McEvilly, Deb Norman, Catherine Mack, Marilyn Cheek, Petrina Thomas

The meeting was called to order by Kim Harrison at 1:22 pm.

It was announced that ACPS dues will be increasing in 2018.

Kim thanked Suzanne Phelps, our regional governor, for the great job she is doing, both at the meetings and writing articles for the newsletter and magazine.

Anne Moe Memorial – an informal group had previously discussed creating a perpetual trophy
in honor of Anne Moe. Because she was so dedicated to starting youngsters, it was decided that the appropriate recipient of the trophy should be the Champion of the Shamrock Green Division. Susan McConnell brought two lovely wood carved statues (one of a mare and foal and the other of two youngsters) that could be used for the trophy. Susan also volunteered to have the trophy made with the appropriate engraving and a base which allows for multiple plates to be added over the years. The group voted on the mare and foal carving. Susan will have it ready for the show. Thank you Susan!

Horse Show Date and Location – Members were asked to comment on whether the show should stay at Lexington or move to a new location. A few commented that moving the show from Middleburg caused us to lose a few ponies. Others commented that moving the show enabled them to come for the first time. Overall the group was happy with the Horse Center, particularly given the amenities available and the fact that the setup is so much easier. It was decided to keep the show in Lexington, at least thru 2018. Marynell had reserved the 3rd and 4th weekends of July but since Region I’s show is traditionally on the 3rd weekend, we will hold our show on the weekend of July 28-29. We also discussed whether to use the facilities that were used in 2017 or those used in prior years. The arena used last summer had a grandstand unlike the ring used in the past. While we pay more, it was decided that it is worth the money and draws in more spectators, so we will continue to use the upgraded facilities. We will also have an art show again in 2018. People are invited to bring art either for pure exhibition or for sale. Region III will take a 10% commission on art sales.

USEF Light – USEF is now offering to sanction classes in unrecognized shows if they meet certain criteria. The show would pay a $50 fee and employ a steward and certain classes which meet a set of standards could be designated as recognized. Winners would receive half of the points that they would receive in a fully recognized show but costs would be lower. We could offer classes not currently being offered at Warrenton and Upperville, such as games and jumpers. Marynell and Susan are going to create a spreadsheet to compare the costs.

Connemara Pony Show, Clifden, Ireland – Marian McEvily asked is anyone who will be attending the Clifden Show in August would be interested in going riding for two or more days around the time of the show. She has a contact with a hotel facility and riders go out on Connemaras and Irish Draughts. Please contact her if you are interested.

St. Paddy’s Day Meeting – Our next meeting is tentatively set for Sunday, March 18 at Deb and Dave Norman’s Glendale Farm. If it doesn’t work out, we will work on another venue. Thank you Marilyn, for hosting another fabulous luncheon and meeting. Respectfully submitted, Judy Brescia, Region III Secretary
Pony Tales
All in the Family

There is nothing better than spending Christmas with family, so it was like Christmas in August when Babe’s Fancipants and Redbourn Thomas, two halfbreds sired by *Balius Brannigan* (Cocum Hawkstone x Cocum Two Star) came to visit their 34 year old father. Suzanne DeSaix, Fancipants’ owner, came up with the idea to bring the three together, and it was finally brought to fruition on a warm August day, said Joanne Hart, Brannigan’s owner. Elaine Meilahn, Thomas’ owner, was up for the adventure, so Suzanne and Elaine trailered their youngsters to Brannigan’s home at Morven Park in Leesburg with great anticipation of how they would behave when they saw each other. The expressions amongst them were interesting; all were most curious about one another, and to their owners’ delight, all behaved extremely well, almost as if they knew they were related. It was a heartwarming experience for all on that sunny August afternoon!

Brannigan was imported from England as a yearling and stood at Fieldstream Farm in Leesburg, Virginia from 1986-2007. Suzanne chose Brannigan to sire a foal out of her grade dun mare “Babe,” after meeting him in 2004 out in his pasture and observing his wonderful temperament as her daughter rode him bareback in the field with his mares. Fancipants was foaled in 2006. Thomas was a surprise baby foaled by an aged TB mare in 2008 when both parents were considered past the age of procreation!

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More Family Ties
From Margaret Long

I borrowed VSH Devine Tullaigh (“Tully”) from Liz Booth this past spring and summer for the sheer fun and love of it. A 2015 dun gelding, Tully is part of a family of ponies I know well, largely because I used to live in Ohio/Region V, and because Liz Booth bought her first purebred Connemara from me 15 years prior. Those two seasons of my life overlapped and voila: Tully!

Liz Booth purchased Tullymors Ned Devine from Kim Gates a decade or more ago, and Liz stands him at Virginia Sport Horses in Montpelier, VA. Most of his offspring are halfbreds. As a purebred Connemara, though, Ned has a tremendous pedigree. His dam, *Bar Bar A’s Rebel Doll*, is actually an import! Bred at the Letterdyfe Stud in the U.K., she came to the US before the rule was enacted requiring that name changes for ponies not remove the original breeders prefix. She was a magnificent mare who also produced some stunning purebreds by Hayselden Perseus. Rebel Doll had model conformation, was beautifully balanced, and was sired herself by Clifden Winner Mervyn Kingsmill.

![](image.png)

*Bar Bar A’s Rebel Doll*
To produce Ned, she was bred to **Tullymors Mountain Shadow**. That means that “my” Tully has a very strong stamp of Tullymor blood; May Medley’s Tullymor Connemaras breeding program had a goal of re-concentrating the Mountain Lad bloodline. To accomplish this, May bred his descendants back to each other. To get Mountain Shadow, that meant breeding great grandson **Montully Man** to great granddaughter **Alta Mhuire**. Generally speaking, Anything Tullymor has a double dose of Mountain Lad.

You can see from the many Tully ponies in our community today what a very strong stamp of native pony type they have, with tremendous bone and marvelous athleticism without resembling the thick heavy ponies that look very Connemara but perhaps are a touch less athletic. The Tully ponies I have known are kind, smart, connected and if they want to be, stubborn. It’s not that they are opinionated; it’s just that if they do say no, they mean it.

Back to the present. Tully’s dam, **New Heart Dancing Winds**, is a very American mare. Bred by Dori Zaidel of Ann Arbor Michigan, “Whinney” has a pedigree with a really nice blend of Greystone and Oak Hill bloodlines.

Just as with Tullymor, the Greystone breeding program targeted opportunities to re-concentrate the blood of descendants of **Little Heaven**, one of the thoroughbreds added to the CPBS studbooks in Ireland to further sculpt the traits and abilities of the breed as a whole. Whinney’s sire, **Cornerstone Indelible**, was a glossy and dappled jet black stallion who stood at Dori’s New Heart Connemaras.

**Cornerstone Indelible**

Both his parents feature Greystone breeding, and Greystone ponies were often over-height bays with sensitive, intelligent dispositions, top shelf athletic abilities, and stunningly beautiful faces. In addition, Cornerstone Indelible or “Indy” also benefitted from the imported English bloodlines of **Rosenharley Laurens**, imported by Marianne Alexander/Greystone Connemaras to diversify her breeding programs bloodlines. Laurens was a stunning dappled grey who produced four stallion sons: **Greystone Adirondack A’Herne** (Cindy Fletchers driving champion “Harry”), **Greystone An Lauren**, **Greystone An Llewelyn**, and **Greystone Tiger O’Toole**, who retired here in our region with Sandy McShea. An Llewelyn is the sire of Cornerstone Indelible, and the great grandsire of my Tully through his dam Whinney. So Whinney brings together Little Heaven and Rosenharley Laurens’ blood in my Tully.

Tully has one more amazing line of ponies in his pedigree: Oak Hill!

Whinney, Tully’s dam, is of course by Indy, but she is out of a darling and exquisitely kind bay mare named **Corner Oaks Moonlight Dancer**. Corner Oaks is the breeding prefix of Ann Bush, who stood **Balius Turlough**. Dancer was sold by Ann Bush to Kim Gates, who then sold her to Dori Zaidel in Region V. Ann reports that Dancer was one of her very first offspring. Balius Turlough evented Prelim and they did everything with him: driving, hunter/jumpers,
trail, and even parades. Dancer’s dam, **Corner Oaks Moonlight Sonata**, was her very favorite. She pony clubbed and evented with all 3 of Ann’s daughters and is featured in their senior portraits. She took care of every single rider, and her exquisitely kind disposition was inherited by her daughter, Dancer. Dancer’s sire Turlough is by **Gilknocky Drumcliffe**, who if I’m not mistaken was highlighted as one of the most genetically well diversified Connemara stallions in the US. He is also a great grandson of the Thoroughbred, Little Heaven. Turlough’s dam is one of my all-time favorite mares, **Tyan Travelers Joy**. Joy is round and curvaceous and baroque and black with lots of feathers. What’s not to love? Last I knew, she was part of Mary Prewitts former Wildwynch Connemaras breeding program. But the most amazing story of all in Tully’s pedigree is in the Oak Hill line. This is purely an anecdotal version of it, and better facts are surely available from others, but here goes:

There was an elderly man who had purchased and imported some purebred Connemara mares, who were turned loose with two Connemara stallions and left to breed freely: Oak Hills was born! One of these stallions was **Blue Hills Red Fury** and the other **Blue Hills Boy**. Amazingly, I have about 20 photos of Blue Hills Boy as he was retired, still feral, to a farm near me in Virginia and I visited him there probably 14 or 15 years ago.

When Ann Bush joined the story, she read an ad in her local paper, posted by a woman who had more or less rescued about 30 of the Oak Hills ponies. The herd had sadly ended up in rough shape at a sale, after the breeder’s wife was placed in a nursing home and the breeder himself subsequently died. This “Peggy” made a deal for all of the ponies and saved them from the sale! She had put the mares in her stalls, turned the rest of the herd loose in her indoor, and ran the ad looking for homes. Ultimately, Peggy trailered 24 ponies over to Ann Bush, who had the very young Turlough as well as some acreage, and was seeking suitable mares. Ann housed all those ponies! “Temporarily” of course 😊. She worked Peggy’s contacts backwards and was, amazingly, able to meet the elderly widow in her nursing home! This woman told her the imported ponies were Rebel bloodlines, and that the Stallion was Blue Hills Red Fury or “Red Boy”. Ann worked with her, and through photographs and recollections they identified 5 of them with certainty, 3 of whom were purebreds. 18 months went by while Ann Bush continued to feed 24 wild ponies and could not reach the “Peggy” who had dropped them there temporarily. Ultimately it was determined that Ann’s compensation for saving the 24 would be the 5 registerable ponies. Moonlight Sonata was one of those ponies, just coming 2. Ann thinks Vanessa Morgan knows what happened to the other ponies in the herd but that is a story to be saved for later.

What is significant to know about Blue Hills/Oak Hills/Arthur’s ponies, is that we again have a breeding program with concentrated bloodlines. And I mean concentrated: something by Camus John bred back to Camus John! The Oak Hill was parent inbreeding, but they must have lucked out with the gene pool as these ponies are marvelous. Many fine US breeding programs featured an Oak Hill mare who could be counted on to truly stamp Connemara type and substance on her offspring.

I am grateful to all these magnificent pony ancestors and their more current descendants and owners, who I count as friends, for their contributions to this story: Dori Zaidel, Liz Booth, Ann Bush, and the books by Pat Lynne which I have enjoyed over and over. Most of all, though, I am grateful to Tully for one of the most fun and rewarding Connemara summers of my
life. It is with no small sadness that I returned him to Virginia Sport Horses to grow up over the winter and find his forever home in the spring.

‘Maddie’ is (at 5 yrs) 15.1h and Taner should mature over 15h. Super smart with a big personality. Weaning now. Ready for someone to share adventures with. $4,500 or Private Treaty to the right home. Joyce Anderson (307)765-9977, farmountainjoyce@gmail.com

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**Classified Ads**

**For Sale:** 2015 Old Soul, beautiful dun gelding. **VSH Devine Tullaigh** (New Hearts Dancing Winds x Tullymors Ned Devine) 14h to finish 14.2. Tully is loving, sane, and packed with potential. He has wonderful conformation and superb manners, with a blue ribbon at Warrenton to prove it. Flat kneed hunter mover with sweep. Tully Tacks up and stands quietly for mounting, gone on bareback barnyard hacks, ground drives and ponies. Carefully started and well prepared to find his person and start life together! Come meet this unflappable, good looking youngster in Powhatan, Va $6500 Margaret Long 804-380-1022

**For Sale:** Far Mountain Tane Big athletic gray Connemara colt (Tullymors Ned Devine x Windy Isles Maid Marian) DOB 05/06/17. Has interacted daily with people since born. Fearless jumping ditches, banks, and boulders. His Dam ‘Maddie’ is (at 5 yrs) 15.1h and Taner should mature over 15h. Super smart with a big personality. Weaning now. Ready for someone to share adventures with. $4,500 or Private Treaty to the right home. Joyce Anderson (307)765-9977, farmountainjoyce@gmail.com

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**BALMULLO FARM OFFERS:**

Standing at stud: **Foothills Field Marshall** (*Gunsmoke X Foothills Maybee), outstanding eventing stallion, now competing at Preliminary. Many beautiful babies on the ground. $850 stud fee includes $200 booking fee. Cooled shipped semen only.... shipping and collection costs paid by mare owner. Further information, balmullofarm@gmail.com For further information call 804-507-0269.
Balmullo Farm offers for sale: outstanding half-bred yearling by Foothills Field Marshall aka Bruiser. **Balmullo’s Moon Dancer** is out of an ID/TB, Rivendell’s Summer Moon, and was bred to event. 15.1 hands at a year, he promises to be large and athletic. He has been well handled, and leads, loads, and stands for bathing and the farrier. For further information email balmullofarm@gmail.com

For Sale or Lease: **Tre Awain Tinker’s Moon** (Tre Awain Ginger Blue x Tre Awain Ballydoon Beauty). 16 year old mare. Has had two foals. She has foundered (although now is ok) so probably should only be considered for breeding. Further information, balmullofarm@gmail.com

**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 [Abbyleix 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.