Come to the St Patrick’s Day Potluck!

Our region’s St. Patrick’s Day get together will be held at Dave and Deb Norman’s Glendale Farm, 1318 Old Charlestown Rd. in Berryville, Virginia at 12 noon on Sunday, March 15. Please bring a dish to share. To get to the farm from Rt 7 west of Berryville, take Rt 632 north to the “T” at Rt 761 (Old Charlestown Rd) turn right, and the farm is on the left. Call the Normans at (540) 955-1995 if you need help finding the farm.

Some Eclectic Winter Reading Suggestions From Marilyn Cheek

As you and your horse(s) bide your time and dream of better riding weather, here are a few books that may help pass the time. One might help your horse, so I’ll start with that (since horses don’t have long attention spans sometimes).

Reading the Horse’s Mind, by Australian horsewoman Jackie Budd, was first published in 1996 and again in 2003. This fairly short book is a compendium of wisdom on “how to handle and care for a horse and ride with sensitivity” by showing the reader how to use a horse’s natural instincts to his or her advantage. She includes commentary from many other experts, such as Monty Roberts, Mary King, Stephen Hadley, Karen O’Connor and many others. If you’ve read many horse behavior books, much of this will be familiar, but it offers a quick refresher and is easily available, and cheaply, on Amazon.

Although horses definitely play a part in Far Away and Long Ago, written by English author W.H. Hudson in 1918, this is a beautifully written memoir of his childhood in Argentina before the world fell apart in the cataclysm that was World War I. Hudson is a marvelous writer, attested by his fellow greats, Joseph Conrad, John Galsworthy, Ford Madox Ford and many others, and this is his best work. And he is at his best when writing about the natural world and its inhabitants. Engrossing. Available from many sources online, free as a Kindle book on Amazon.

For the mystery lovers, I am still enthralled with the Louise Penny Inspector Gamache series set in Canada. There are now ten books in that series, and while you can easily read starting from any point, it is far more satisfying to begin at the beginning with Still Life. For those who are well into the series, the latest is The Long Way Home. All are available in hardback, paperback and ebook formats. Of course, all my favorite Italian mysteries, by Donna Leon, Andrea Camilleri and Maurizio di Giovanni all have new books coming out, as does Jacqueline Winspear, who writes the excellent Maisie Dobbs books set in England between WWI and WWII.

While you are holed up in the house between barn chores, you can’t forget about food. So, Michael Pollan’s most recent offering, Cooked, may inspire you. Pollan, who has written extensively and entertainingly about many aspects of food and plants in Omnivore’s Dilemma, Botany of Desire and other books, now takes us into the transformative magic of cooking. The book is divided into sections in which Pollan learns (under the tutelage of masters in each specialty) how to cook a single recipe using fire, water, earth and air and through this process, guides the reader through the way cooking links us socially and ecologically and by, the same token. How not cooking disrupts “an essential link to the natural world” and our families and friends.

As always, Pollan is entertaining and through-provoking—and makes you hungry!

Finally, Elizabeth Gilbert who wrote the popular Eat, Pray, Love (and you couldn’t pay me enough to read a book with that title) has written something quite different in The Signature of All Things. This is an engrossing story of a family that rises from obscurity in the early 18th Century to build an empire on botanical pharmaceuticals. While the initial story of the father’s rise grabs your attention immediately, it is the life of his unusual, homely, brilliant daughter that takes predominance in...
the story. And, you’ll learn the most fascinating details about mosses! I will say that Gilbert needs a stronger editor—the best parts flow beautifully, but at times she bogs down in far too much detail and at others whips breezily through significant periods in a paragraph as if trying to make up time.

**Pony Tales**

This is **Callowfeenish Thunder**, “Torr” celebrating his 30th birthday last April at Piedmont Driving Club’s Picnic Drive. He did not drive all the way there as there were several steep hills along the way, but he enjoyed the event, drinking a Guinness to his own health and sharing a carrot cake with all his guests. He plans to celebrate his 31st birthday next month, and sends good wishes to all his friends for a great 2015.

**ArtCeltic Tiara** is a 2011 daughter of *ArdCeltic Art, out of Jasmine and Lace, a TB daughter of Fight Over. In Dec 2012, I had just sold my previous “project” horse, who was Anglo x Irish x French. After attending Anne Frey’s funeral (she first introduced me to Connemaras back in the late 1960s), I decided my next project would be a Connemara cross. I found Tiara in a frozen field in upstate New York, bred by Joanne Vukman. She had seen Art in competition, and was determined to breed her mare to him. As a two-year-old we did one Future Event Horse show and the ACPS Region III show, though her show ring manners left something to be desired. As a three-year-old we did the FEH again, qualifying for the East Coast championships, where she finished fourth. She is a registered ISR (International Sport Horse), as well as a Connemara Halfbred, and a friend convinced me to take her to the ISR Mare Inspection. I was somewhat intimidated when I saw all the famous Warmblood names in the pedigrees of the other mares, but she was one of only two mares approved as “Premium” at that inspection, and one of only four on the East Coast. While inspections are not “shows,” she got a nice yellow ribbon for being the third highest scoring ISR mare in the East Coast. She got lots of compliments on her manners, and on her full, flowing tail. With help from trainer, Colin Fraser, she is now happily walking, trotting, and cantering under saddle, including “courses” of rails on the ground.

Here is a short recap of 2014 from Kimberly Stover:

Lucky (**Tricreek Greystone Laughlin**) is enjoying retirement & being a big brother to the youngsters. I am forever grateful to him for making my dreams a reality at the World Championships in 2010

**Valliantlie**, known to friends as Levie, has had a busy 4 year old year. She traveled to Florida for February & March. A big adventure for our farm raised girl! She spent her time there being ridden. Once home, she spent her spring & summer driving single. This fall, she began driving in a pair. She continued that for a few months until it too was a “no big deal, I’ve got this Mom”, kind of task. She is a very wise girl for her age which we attribute to her Connemara roots. She is by Rattle N’ Snap Laddie boy out of a Greystone McErrill mare (Tricreek Greystone Remarkable).

**Remarkable**, mentioned above, is living with good friends in Easton, MD. She loves her job there as a broodmare & is due in June of 2015. Although Levie is her only Connemara foal, she also has 4 lovely Welsh crosses to her credit. One of them is pictured in harness with Levie.

**Hal**, registered name **Lanie’s Lad**, is our newest addition. He was bred & raised by Louisa Emerick of Fair Hill, MD. He came to us in June, after turning 2 years old. He had a wonderful start in long lines so by July I had him backed. He spent his summer & fall hacking out lightly around the farm. He is on winter break
now but will go back to riding in the spring. The plan is to get him driving single in 2015 & see if he likes it! He is by Ard Celtic Art out of Tricreek B’Elanna (Greystone McErrill).

Two ponies bred by Sandy McShea at Indian Summer Farm won their divisions at the Carolina Horse Park Pipe Opener II last month. **Indian Summer Kaylee** (Kerrymore Madison x Beacon’s Piper) ridden by Colette Leber won the Novice Combined B and **Indian Summer Sage** (Aladdin’s Denver x Auntie Margaret [TB]) with Elizabeth Mackie won the Beginner Novice Combined test 2 division.

Marla Stoner sends the following story about her ACPS Gold Achievement Award winning mare:

It all started many years ago when my Conn/TB mare **Foxview Limerick** (Balus Brannigan xTB) had a very bad case of Potomac Fever one week after being given 4 vaccines together by the vet. Lim got much sicker than she should have been because I couldn’t get any of this group of vets to come out until the third day even though she was running temps of 104-105. By that time Lim had quit eating and her gut had shut down. They then did put her on tetracycline and she started to get better.

Luckily Lim recovered and I slowly started her back into work. But there were still issues and with the help of a holistic vet it was determined that Lim’s metabolism had been messed up and she had become Insulin Resistant (IR). This vet helped me to get Lim’s systems back on track. We continued to work and train and were even able to win USDF All Breed awards at first and second levels. Lim then started to show some pain issues in her hocks. We just thought that it was due to her getting older and the dressage work that we had been doing. I had her hocks injected and things were going well again and we were even able to get the last third level scores that I needed for my USDF Bronze medal. This was a huge goal for me. We even tried the fourth level test 1 a few times.

But then Lim was having soundness issues. She was trying but I could see that she was having hind end problems. We worked unsuccessfully with my vet. Lim continued to get worse until she was even having trouble walking. I took her to Kent Allen’s practice. They did an exam and bone scan. The scan showed issues in almost all of Lim’s joints with the hocks being especially hot though they x-rayed clean. They injected a number of her joints and I took her home.

The treatment helped Lim to improve somewhat. In desperation I started working with a local woman who “fixed” horses that other people had given up on. I don’t pretend to understand how what she does works, but it did help Lim some. In this process, this woman felt that Lim was allergic to soy. All of the IR/low starch feeds have soy as the main ingredient as well as many supplements. This woman also felt that Lim had leaky gut syndrome which is common after Potomac Fever so the toxins from the soy allergy were leaking out and going to her joints. After changing Lim’s feed and taking her off all products containing soy, she slowly started getting better. It was a long slow process before she could build strength.

Now at 20, Lim is going the best that she ever has in many ways and people can’t believe her age. She has had some additional issues that we’ve had to work through that I feel are related to everything that she went through. We are having fun and continue (as the weather lets us) to build both of our strengths back.

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**Classified Ads**

**BALMULLO FARM OFFERS** two coming two-year-old pure-bred fillies for sale at VERY reasonable prices to knowledgeable and kind homes.

**Tullymor’s Annie May** (Tullymor’s Chip O’Perseus x Tullymor’s Anastasia Pearl), Cute as a button, grey. Will mature medium pony. Has been well civilized, leads loads, ties.

**Tullymor’s Gracie Gray** (Tullymor’s Mountain Shadow x Tullymor’s Kiss of Sun), dark grey, Full sister to the stallion Tullymor’s Mountain Sun. Beautiful conformation, movement, and temperament. Leads, loads, ties.

Also offered, **Tullymor’s Clementine Rose** (Tullymor’s Little Admiral [unreg. PB Connemara] x Roslands Carolon), 9 yo, dun. Is a purebred but circumstances of her birth mandate that she be registered as a halfbred. This is an absolutely lovely mare, wtc, jumps, trail rides. Loves to be by herself. Still somewhat green. Needs very loving home.
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:**

**Cady O’Daly Artisan** (Tre Awain Goldsmith x Han/TB), 7 yo 15.3 homebred mare out of a nice jumper. Very athletic, bold, and scopey. A fun ride! Currently eventing at Training level and ready to show in 3’3” jumpers. Also foxhunts and great hacking out. Fabulous personality. $25K neg.

**Puff of Wind** (*Kilenora Windy Isles x Fluvanna Pippin*), 10 yo 14.1 grey gelding. Fabulous all-around purebred with a wonderful temperament and tons of show miles with a child. Cute mover and lovely jumper. Fun and easy! $20K.

**Shenandoah** (Aladdin’s Denver x QH), 8yo 14.3 dark bay halfbred mare. Big-bodied, suitable for a taller rider. Athletic, cute mover, with a lovely temperament. Local show miles and has also hunted. Would be a fun all-around mare for a petite adult or Pony Clubber. $13K.

**Padric** (Ballywhim An Luan [*Rocky] x HB mare), 8yo, 14.1 bay halfbred gelding. Padric is a sweet, talented pony who will excel in any discipline. He could go quite far in straight dressage, though he's a fabulously bold and an athletic jumper as well. Asking $12K, very negotiable.

**Thurman Sileach** (*Rattle and Snap Laddie Boy x Thurman Keepsake*), 3 yo grey filly. Her dam placed Reserve Champion at Upperville for the last three years and was Best Purebred of the Day at the Region III show in 2012. Like her dam, she placed well at Upperville in 2014 and was judged Best of the Day at the 2014 Region III Connemara Show in Lexington, VA. Inspected and approved. A sweet filly; will stay large pony. $9,500.

**Nola** (Tre Awain Dohb McDuff x PB mare by Aladdin’s Denver), 8 yo 14.1 black mare. Nola is a gorgeous mover and incredibly talented jumper. She has local show and eventing experience. Sweet temperament. Would be a fun pony for a Pony Clubber or petite adult. Has been produced by Advanced level eventer Carol Kozlowski. Asking $8500.

**Pippen** (Tre Awain Goldsmith x TB), 4 yo, 14.2 palomino gelding. Sweet, straightforward, and easy. Though he’s green, he’s been ridden by children and amateurs all summer, hacking out on trails and doing basic flatwork and light jumping in the ring and out on cross-country. A lovely all-around fellow with striking features! $7K.

**Thurman Ambrosia** (Aladdin’s Admiral Byrd x Oak Hills Miss Independence), 17 yo black mare. Broken to ride and a proven brood mare. Inspected and approved. 14.1/2 h. $5K.

**Thurman Crescent** (*Rattle N Snap Laddie Boy x Arab*) Very classy, 2 yo bay gelding with lots of performance potential. Will go over large pony. $3K.

Did you know that a Connemara pony named Leprechaun was given to the Kennedy family by the president and people of Ireland? He arrived by air in September of 1963.

Other nice youngstock available in Canada and the Midwest. 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. Known for passing along his lovely temperament, athletic jump, and beautiful movement to his offspring. $800 stud fee.

Located at Cady O’ Daly Farm in Lynchburg, VA. Contact us at 571-271-9441 or email at CadyODalyFarm@gmail.com.

**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.

Several nice two- and three-year-old prospects, all started under saddle. Call if you are looking for a young horse to start.

**Deb Norman**, 540-955-1995 or deb@glendalefarm.com, [www.glendalefarm.com](http://www.glendalefarm.com)

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[http://www.oldmoney.com](http://www.oldmoney.com) has jewelry made from old money, including an Irish half-crown coin that features a figure of a horse.