American Connemara Pony Society
Region VIII ~ Newsletter

Covering: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Montana & Southern Idaho

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July/August 2019 #3

Happy Fourth of July! Hope everyone is having a great summer filled with lots of fun and pony activities. Anyone riding in parades this 4th? We would love some photos of your ponies. We have a great issue this time, featuring a really neat young rider, Ryder Richardson from Colorado. I really loved reading what he wrote about his pony! What a team!

It's so fun sharing everyone's wonderful ponies and adventures. Anyone headed to the big three-day events or dressage shows? What about those backyard fun shows? Any new foals out there? Foal photos are always fun to share. It's been really fun doing this issue as folks have sent in photos and information so we can get to know who's out there in Region VIII. This is your newsletter so if there is something you'd like to see, just let me know. I know there's lots of folks doing stuff with their ponies. I really need the help with information and PICTURES!!! The next deadline for newsletter information is August 17th.

Don't forget the public Facebook page which can find it at: American Connemara Pony Society - Region 8. With everyone's help, we can make this happen. Thanks for all your future help and support. Have a great summer, stay cool and safe, Susan.

Meet our members: Ryder Richardson - Colorado - “I am thirteen and live in Colorado. I have a Connemara named RR Cool Play aka Becks. He is the most amazing pony in the world. I love him so much. We mostly do jumpers and are jumping bigger tracks 1.10m +

In early March we participated in the Mane Event at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo down at the National Western Stock Show. My friend and I did a themed, 4 minute ride to “Braveheart” on our ponies. It was really cute. My pony was brave and we both had a blast. Connemara ponies really are the best.

On May 1st I moved my pony to the Colorado Horse Park. I am doing all of my own care. That means that I am there at 6:30 am feeding and turning out, feeding around noon (when I was in school still my mom did this), bringing in from turnout, mucking, grooming, riding, feeding at 5pm, then returning for night check around 10pm. It’s been really fun, but also a lot of work. I love it.
At Spring in the Rockies I, the first A-rated show of the season, I QUALIFIED my amazing Connemara pony for National Pony jumper Finals by earning points in the 1.05 meter Low Children's jumper division. I was also Champion!! I am not sure if we will be able to attend because it’s very expensive, but I am so happy with my pony and how he stepped up and was so brave.

We also recently competed in the Colorado Horse Park 3-Day Eventing Recognized Horse Trials. We had an incredible dressage round, especially after only stepping into a dressage ring one other time. We were second after SJ but I unfortunately forgot jump #2 in our cross country and got eliminated. It was still an amazing experience and my pony was incredible and we both had fun.

We just finished Week II of Summer in the Rockies and had nice rounds all week with a highly competitive 30+ people classes. My pony was incredible!
**ACPS Merchandise:** Did you know you can purchase some really neat ACPS logo stuff at the Region III Connemara Boutique on Facebook. They have lots of neat clothes, saddle pads, fly veils and much more featuring the “Connemaras “Do It All” logo. Lots of great gift ideas.

New Items
12” Magnetic Decal $18.00
6” Magnetic Decal $12.00
Aluminum License Plate $12.00
Solid Pewter Ornament $20.00
Shipping Additional

**The Event at Rebecca Farm**- Is anyone going to the Event at Rebecca Farm in Kallispell, MT July 24-28? I'm planning to be there Saturday for the cross-country and would love to meet up with you. Please let me know by e-mail if you're going.

**Awards:** Have any of our Region VII members won any ACPS awards or medals? What about any awards or special recognition in open events. Maybe your pony won its first ribbon at a local show. We'd love to hear about any and all your successes. ACPS offers a variety of Achievement awards for various competitive and non-competitive endeavors. Learn more at the acps.org website.
Consummate Connemara Award, Breed Supreme Champion, Reserve Champion High Point Dressage: Congratulations to Cobblestone Sandpiper, *Smaragaid Cliff's purebred daughter out of Four Loch's Perfect Storm and her breeder Pat Ashworth and trainer/rider Leslie Hagberg!! WOW!!

At the 2019 West Coast Connemara Pony Show last weekend, Piper she was selected for the prestigious Consummate Connemara Award!!! This is awarded to the pony that "exemplifies the breed in the following: type, temperament, conformation, athletic ability and movement." It is such a great honor! Piper also was named Breed Supreme Champion as well as earning the Reserve Champion High Point Dressage Score. She had a 73.429 and a 75.694, just hundredths of points off the high point award.

Looking for information: Does anyone know or have contact information on Vicki A. Byrne of Colorado Springs, CO or John A.F. Wendt of Austin, CO. Both are in Region 8 and are listed as life members. It would be great if we could contact them.

Information for the next newsletter is due August 17th.

CALENDAR:
July 19-21 -Working Equitation Clinic – Big Sky Horse Park -Missoula, MT.
July 24 -28 - The Event at Rebecca Farm in Kallispell, MT.
August 17- Newsletter information due
August 17 -Jumper show – Big Sky Horse Park -Missoula, MT.
August 23-25 -Working Equitation Show – Big Sky Horse Park -Missoula, MT
August 23 -25- Pony classes at the Western Idaho Fair in Boise, ID.
September 1- Newsletter out
September 28 – Flying Colors Mini-event - Big Sky Horse Park -Missoula, MT
October 3-6 -ACPS Annual Meeting in Richmond, VA

Big Sky Horse Park: Located in Missoula, MT this park hosts a variety of events for English and Western riders. www.bigskyhorsepark.org

Classes for all pony breeds are offered at the Western Idaho Fair August 23rd - 25th. Ponies must be registered.
There are specific classes for ponies registered with the Welsh Pony and Cob Society. All other ponies compete against their "breed standards". Welsh Ponies have had their own classes for three years now. There will be an association approved judge and points can be earned. There are several classes expressly for young and beginner riders. For more information check the Western Idaho Fair Website, https://www.idahofair.com/enter/registered-light-horses, or contact Jill Marolf at: JLSnaffle@aol.com

CLASSIFIED ADS:

**Pony Wanted:** I am looking for a 14.3 that tracks up at the walk and is safe. I can train some but prefer not to be pushed around by poor ground manners. I appreciate straight legs and must have good hooves. Over three years old is the only age requirement. Contact Kathy Johnson in Coeur d'Alene, ID at trailwagon@gmail.com.

**For sale: New Song’s Freedom**

“Frodo” is a 10 year old 15hh full Connemara gelding. He is smart and talented, and has low mileage, so is perfect for an ambitious individual looking for their next Eventing partner. He is a forward thinking ride, is uncomplicated, and definitely has what it takes to be an Eventer. His last 3 Dressage scores have all been under 30. Snaffle all 3 phases, goes barefoot, and no maintenance. He just completed his first BN at Colorado Horse Park, finishing on his dressage score of 27.2. He is competing at BN, ready for N, with Prelim potential. He finished on his dressage scores in the 20s in his last 3 competitions this year, getting 1st at Intro at Spring Gulch, 2nd at BN at Colorado Horse Park and 1st at the BN combined test at Pendragon. Asking $20k firm For more info, contact his trainer Laura Backus at psequine@aol.com or 720-371-9605 or contact Lee Thomas at leethomasco@gmail.com

Videos:
Sale video: https://youtu.be/53GD0Kk-xBI
Dressage at Spring Gulch (camera unfortunately died half way through): https://youtu.be/fzj5Q2Z8n7g
Show jumping at Spring Gulch: https://youtu.be/PtjRjG-im-U
Show jumping at Colorado Horse Park: https://youtu.be/TRfS4ht-8Fg
Don't forget to renew your 2019 membership!!

Membership by state: We may be few, but we are mighty. From the list I was sent, it looks like last year we had 27 members. Let's see if we can grow that this year. By state, we had, Colorado- 13, Southern Idaho- 5, Montana- 2, New Mexico-1, Utah- 5 and Wyoming -o. If you know any new members, please let me know so I can add them to the mailing list.