Region I has had a busy 2017 and we will have the Annual Meeting of the ACPS membership behind us when you read this. We are so lucky in this region to have lots of volunteers who enable us to pull off our usual events of the Tea, Field Day, the famed Region I Connemara Show, Equine Affaire, and this year the Annual meeting as well. I really appreciate all of you who chip in to help us get these things done.

One of the people who helps us keep in touch is Hannah Howard who is the editor of this Bits and Pieces and is happy to take material from you as the year goes by. Please feel free to send her things—just say Bits and Pieces in the email subject line so she knows what you are contacting her about.

We have three new Vice Chairs who are helping me coordinate the various activities of the Region. Tracy Roettiger is the coordinator for the B and P; she will remind you if some crucial part of the upcoming edition is missing and has your name beside it. One is Helena Kopczynski—she has take on the Welcome Wagon—so if you know a new Connemara owner or a contact who might like to hear from us or learn more about the Region, please give the name.

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FIELD DAY 2017

Sunday, May 21st

by Sally Oxnard

Cynthia Richards’ Farm in Swansey, NH was an ideal setting for Field Day this year. It was very welcoming for people and ponies. Carolyn McEvitt was outstanding as our instructor for Field Day 2017. The morning began with Carolyn demonstrating how to get ponies straight through their bodies. The ponies all responded and handlers practiced getting the hang of it under Carolyn’s watchful eye. There was no pressure or competition, so there was ample opportunity to socialize and make new friends.

After a lovely lunch and an energizing and effective meeting, riders and ponies made their

continued on page 2
REGION I CHAIR cont.

to Helena. Next is Amy Treat who is managing our updated Facebook page, and also Equine Affaire, so contact her about those topics. These young ladies are part of the western NH area - Helena and Amy ride at Brown Farm where Cynthia Richards has a number of Connemaras and enthusiastic riders!

Amy Plavin was the power and brains behind the Region I Show again, and we had a fine time, great food thanks to George Murray, cheerful secretary on the part of Kelly Cyr and her mother Beth, excellent announcing from Tom Oxnard again, the usual legions of volunteers which Carolyn McEvitt organizes, and plenty of ponies and RIDERS including more juniors than in previous years. Wonderful! Thanks to all of you for coming and to Janet Chayes for keeping the finances straight.

The next event is Equine Affaire in West Spring field Mass on November 9,10,11,12. You can read more about the great breed demos which Amy Treat has scheduled in her article on a different page. Please plan to spend some time in the ACPS booth handing out literature and meeting friends old and new, and maybe to come help me set up on Wednesday?? Thanks also to those of you who have participated in the Region I Connemara Calendar which Sue Antilla produces as a fundraiser for Equine Affaire.

We have not scheduled the Tea or Field Day for the spring yet, so get back to me about your idea for those.

Finally I want to thank Amy Plavin who has been the President of the ACPS for the last year and the webmaster contact at the same time. You do not know what a big a job that is until you do it, and she has done an excellent thoughtful job. Many thanks Amy

See you all around the region! 🍀
way down the hill, over the track and into the jump field. Carolyn inspired riders to use their position to support the ponies over fences. The first group began with single crossrails and then practiced putting together combinations and finally a full course including an uphill and a downhill jump. The second group, with more experienced riders, took on more challenging questions.

Such a fun outing for ponies, riders, handlers and those of us who were inspired by watching. Here’s the list of the participant ponies and their people:

**Morning "straightness" participants:**
Bette Fredrickson,  
*Tullymor’s Clementine Rose*  
Amy Treat, *Elderglen's Miss Kitty*  
Tracy Rottiger,  
*Tricreek Greystone Brielle*  
Muriel Hagan Smith,  
*Cybatina Finn O’Cham*  
Alicia Kinsen, *Cybatina Cian O’Cham*  
Amy Plavin,  
*Windy Hollow Modern Millie*  
Janet Chayes, *Thurman Shammy*  
Midge Dunn, *Maeve*

**Afternoon jumping participants**
Muriel Hagan Smith,  
*Cybatina Finn O’Cham*  
Helena Kopczynski,  
*Cybatina Torranach O’Cham*  
Midge Dunn, *Maeve*  
Tracy Rottiger, *Brielle*  
Alicia Kinson, *Cybatina Cian O’Cham*  
Amy Plavin, *Millie*  🌟

Top: Carolyn working with Clementine and Bette. Above left: Tracy Rottiger practicing with Brielle. Above right: Carolyn working on straightness with Maeve. Right: Carolyn demonstrating “heavy elbows.” Below: Amy Treat with Miss Kitty.
ACORN POISONING! How to Treat your poisoned Horse
Reprinted from “The Rider's Reins” Website

Acorn poisoning is on the rise. So it is important to be aware of the dangers of oak leaves and acorns in horse pastures. There are not enough horse owners who are aware of the risks and do not know what to look for. The symptoms can be very subtle at the beginning but the poisoning moves quickly and will be more severe and harder to treat if it is not caught early. If left untreated, acorn poisoning can be very severe or fatal.

What Causes Acorn Poisoning?
There has been a big rise in the amount of horses to die from acorn poisoning in the last few years. Some horse owners are not aware of the risk and don’t catch the signs quickly enough.

Acorn poisoning occurs when a horse ingests a large amount of acorns or oak leaves and branches. A horse can naturally consume a small amount of acorns or oak leaves from normal day to day forage such as grass and hay but some horses may actually purposely try to find and eat acorns to the point of illness. Acorns contain tannic and gallic acids which can severely damage the kidneys and the gastrointestinal system.

The chances of a horse getting acorn poisoning are a lot higher after a storm when oak leaves are blown into the field and the horse naturally eats it.

What are the symptoms of acorn poisoning?
Horses with acorn poisoning will be fine after ingestion or will be a little quiet. The poisoning will then move very quickly and by 24 hours if left untreated can be fatal. It is important to phone the vet as soon as your horse starts to show any of these signs in case they have been poisoned: Edema (Fluid build up on the legs), Dehydration, Blood in urine, Colic, Constipation, Weight loss, Kidney Damage, Loss of Appetite, Depression, Gastroenteritis, Bleeding in the gut.

How is Acorn Poisoning treated?
It is difficult to diagnose acorn poisoning in horses and there is no medicine made for acorn poisoning which makes things a lot harder.

Activate charcoal is used to treat a poisoned horse because if it is given closely after the horse has ingested acorns, it will soak up toxins in the gut. The horse should also have IV fluid therapy to help with dehydration, Epsom salts and liquid paraffin to help the poison to move through the gut. They may also get pain killers and drugs to control diarrhoea.

The best way is to prevent it!
This is important when fields are close to oak trees or if you notice your horse has taken a liking to oak leaves. You should either sweep them up daily (especially after a storm), fence off parts with accessible oak trees, use a roller to push them into the ground (not overly recommended) or put pigs into the area as they do not get poisoned by acorns. 🌳

2018 Connemara Calendars are now available!

They get better every year and this year is no exception. Last year we sold out in two weeks so don’t wait to order! PM me or send me an email: antilla.suzanne@gmail.com. They are $16.00 each. 3 or more 14.00 each. This includes postage. If you want 10 or more $10.00 each plus $14.00 postage.
Region I Store Transition Time

Lynn Bergeron had another very successful display of elegant emblemized Connemara clothing at the Region I Show—many thanks to all the customers who purchased things and to Bette Fredrickson who manned the store after Lynn drove up Friday to set it up.

Lynn has threatened to relinquish the store for many years and now the time has come. She has ordered vests and saddle pads for the Annual Meeting and we are having trouble with the embroidery company. She also has inventory lined up for Equine Affaire. But after that the boxes need to go home to someone else.

If you have an eye for fashion and a good business head and want to give the Region 1 Store a try, please speak up. The other idea is we can spend down the inventory at Equine Affaire and the petting stall at our booth. If you have an interest in exhibiting your pony please let me know and I can put you on a list to exhibit just in case we have illness, injury or anything else comes up.

What we will need is lots of human volunteers to man the booth. We will be scheduling people for 2 hour time slots and will provide entry tickets for the day in exchange for your time. Please let me know when you are available to work a 2 hour shift and I can add you to the spreadsheet and you will receive your EA entry ticket in the mail. The job is lots of fun and gives us all the opportunity to talk up our favorite breed and sell a little merchandise to benefit our region. Please email me at: eventamy@hotmail.com or call my cell at 774-238-1111.

Equine Affaire 2017

Chair of ACPS Region 1 Equine Affaire Participation

Equine Affaire is coming up fast—November 9 -12. We already have 3 demos scheduled either before or after some “big name trainers” which will hopefully garner us an audience for our wonderful ponies and, in the case of the Hunter/Jumper clinician, provide us with more jumps to use in the demo. We are scheduled in the Mallory South Arena on Friday afternoon at 4:00 with up to 8 ponies for our 10 minute demo, in the other Mallory small complex area with 1 pony for an in-hand demo on Friday at 4:45 and our 5 minute demo in the Coliseum with 6 ponies is scheduled for Sunday at 12:15.

As of right now we have enough ponies going to Equine Affaire for the demos and the petting stall at our booth. If you have an interest in exhibiting your pony please let me know and I can put you on a list to exhibit just in case we have illness, injury or anything else comes up.

What we will need is lots of human volunteers to man the booth. We will be scheduling people for 2 hour time slots and will provide entry tickets for the day in exchange for your time. Please let me know when you are available to work a 2 hour shift and I can add you to the spreadsheet and you will receive your EA entry ticket in the mail. The job is lots of fun and gives us all the opportunity to talk up our favorite breed and sell a little merchandise to benefit our region. Please email me at: eventamy@hotmail.com or call my cell at 774-238-1111.

Region 1 is looking for a special member willing to host the Region I Connemara Tea at their home some weekend in March, 2018. Interested? Want more information? Contact Sally at stoxnard@gmail.com

Show me your horse and I will tell you what you are.

—Old English Saying
I decided to go support Region II in their USEF recognized show, and to get some points for my grey mare Tower Hill’s Breeze. It was a division of the New York State Breeders Show on May 18-21st at the NY State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. I grew up in Buffalo so I am familiar with the Thruway. But I forgot that Syracuse is 7 hours away with a trailer—it was 95 degrees yet we arrived unscathed.

We were met with open arms by Charlene Bennett, a trainer at Triple Creek Farm in West Wingate NY. She was there with three talented young riders and two young stock along for the ride, two big bay halfbred mares, and one purebred gelding. That was the division! Had you joined us you would have placed! The show is VERY well run and sponsored, there are LOTS of classes with few competitors in each class. The farrier and photographer were excellent and the grand old buildings delightful. Kerri Johnson hopped right on Breeze and transformed her into a hunter pony in no time.

Classes were in hand and hunter under saddle- Connemara Hunter, , Bridle path hack, etc. then the jumping was on Saturday. We warmed up on Friday to say Breeze can do it, and then left early Saturday AM so we missed the jumping competition.

Please join me next year- we need to have our ponies in the northeast getting some HOTY points and they can just re accrued at a recognized show. Thanks to Region 2 for putting this on- show up next year! 🍀
A s a new Connemara rider, trainer
and lover, attending the 51st
Region I Show at GMHA in South
Woodstock, Vermont was a real treat.
The weather was fantastic, the arenas
were beautifully maintained, the
volunteers were friendly and working
hard, and who wouldn’t love being
surrounded by so many amazing ponies!
The weekend started for us with a long
trek from Central New York and we
pulled in Friday tired but excited to
meet everyone. We unloaded the ponies
, set up our tack stall, and then attended
the pizza party which was perfect for
all the tired riders and parents. Many
people had the same idea because after
dinner you could see pony silhouettes
in the soft glow of dusk, moving around
the grounds.

Saturday dawned bright and you
could see the Show Manager Amy
Plavin diligently preparing for the day
alongside Kelly Cyr, the show secretary.
Both these ladies were on their feet all
weekend, and I always saw a smile on
their faces. The announcer of the show,
Tom Oxnard did a great job getting us
all ready for the day ahead and keeping
the show running smoothly . Seeing
all the beautifully groomed ponies
lining up for the in-hand classes was
a sight for sure! Judge Mike Maxwell
worked diligently in the ring to get
all the ponies seen. At the end of the
morning it was
Macbradaigh’s
Irish Whistle
( Maplehurst
Michael
Macdaire
x Elphin
Kookaburra)
owned by
Sally Oxnard
and shown
by Christine
Kelton who
took Champion
Connemara Mare In-Hand with Reserve
going to Wintervale Hollywood ( Morning Glory’s Ilyushin x Wintervale
Phoebe {Aladdin’s Denver} ) owned
and shown by Lisa Divoll Painter,
was Champion and Reserve was Big
Bear’s Silver Britches (*Canal Clancy
x Shammer Gypsy Queen {Ballinaboy
Eamonn} ), o/s by Kristey Menner. Also
awarded Saturday morning was the
Champion Halfbred and Connemara
Sporthouse In-Hand with Champion
going to MHD Durango’s Irish
Rose (Aluinn Durango x TB) o/s by
Elizabeth Oellers, and Reserve going to
Caledonia Lucky Clover (Nojoshing x
Hideaway’s Smither’s Girl (Hideaway’s
Erin Smithereen) )o/s by Lisa Divoll
Painter. To wrap up the morning the
Grand Champion Connemara, which
was awarded to Macbradaigh’s Irish

continued on next page
Whistle, owned by Sally Oxnard, shown by Christine Kelton and Reserve went to Wintervale Hollywood, o/s by Caroline Nesbitt.

We had a lovely turnout of Juniors this year and they all did a great job with the turnout of their ponies for the Jr. Showmanship Class. They all deserve a huge round of applause for the sportsmanship and horsemanship displayed all weekend! Standing nose to tail they almost took up half of the White Ring! First Place went to Elderglen’s Miss Kitty, (Gunsmoke x Foothill’s River Queen (Concord River Roaringwater Bay}) shown by Addison Treat. Second place went to Tricreek Greystone Connor (Greystone McErrill x and Agnes Olson). Third place went to Wintervale Mayblossom and Lili Kepner. Fourth Place went to Coastal Tranquility (Hillside Robert Macdaire x Canaela (*Chiltern Colm)) and Stella Marsh. Fifth place went to Tricreek Truly Blue and Rylee Lenning, and sixth place went to Cybatina Torranach O’Cham (Annilaun Oscar x Concord River Chamois (*Chiltern Colm)) and Corrine Kinson. Congratulations Jr’s!

We had one entry in the Fitting and Showmanship this year, and that was Bantry Bay’s Erin (Bantry Bay’s Ace x Kerrymor’s Undun (Lynfield’s Kiltuck)) and Susan C. Perry. Susan may have been a lone wolf for the class but her horse was beautifully turned out and so was she!

To continue on for Saturday we also were able to see the lovely Dales Ponies who had their In-hand classes on the Outside Course. They also had ridden classes in the Walker Arena. Thank you to all the Dales riders and owners for bringing their lovely ponies to the show. We hope to continue seeing them every year!

At 1 p.m. in the White Ring we started off with Lead Line. Such lovely young Connemara riders coming up the Jr. Ranks! Following that was the under saddle classes. They had so many ponies in them you couldn’t watch just one!

After the last undersaddle class the Judge moved to the Outside Arena to place the Hunter Over Fences. Reminiscent of the Foxhunting days, the jumps were set up beautifully in the grass. There were many good horses and riders and the jumping is always a love of the Connemara!

To wrap up the day, there were some great games classes including walk-trot command, egg and spoon and sit a buck.
for the day and were entertained by super costumes. We had Harry Potter and his Nimbus 2000 broom, A lovely Queen, a Firetruck complete with lights and ladder, and a Hollywood movie star in her limousine. It was wonderful entertainment before dinner which was served by our great volunteers. The chicken and vegetables went very fast.

Sunday’s weather was just as nice as the day before, and it was a great start for the Dressage tests being completed in the morning. Dressage was put on by the Central Vermont Dressage Association VDA. It was well attended by the Connemaras! After the regular Dressage tests came the Dressage trail which was judged by our own Carolyn McEvitt. At the same time in the Dust Bowl, the Ridden and In-Hand Trail Classes were taking place. It was so much fun to watch the ponies and their handlers navigate a “picnic at the beach” theme which included wearing a grass skirt, setting up a picnic, going through a “waterfall” and hanging up a towel! Judge Gretchen did a great job with the task of judging all the ponies. It certainly couldn’t have been easy! Over in the Walker Arena the Jumper classes commenced late Sunday afternoon. There was a great array of classes including, crossrails, low jumper, training jumper, a Jumper Derby where the riders had to jump in and out of the ring, and a very exciting Triple Bar class where the height finished out at 3’6”!

All the exhibitors started packing to go while the points were tallied from the weekend. Everyone made their way over to the Youth Center to listen to the Awards Ceremony. Tom Oxnard did his last announcing of the weekend starting with the ACPS Grand Champion which was awarded to Cybatina Cian O’Cham (Annilaun Oscar x Concord River Chamois {*Chiltern Colm}), owned by Cynthia Richards, with rider/handler Gabriella Booth. The Trail Champion was Cybatina Finn O’Cham (Annilaun Oscar x Concord River Chamois {*Chiltern Colm}) owned by Cynthia Richards, and rider/handler Helena Kopczynski. Dressage Champion was awarded to Jr. Cailey Fay and Elphin Kookabura (Maplehurst Michael Macdaire x Scottsway Lullaby {Kirtling Tam O’Shanter}) owned by Sally Oxnard, and Sr. Helena Kopczynski and Cybatina Torranach O’Cham (Annilaun Oscar x Concord River Chamois {*Chiltern Colm}), owned by Cynthia Richards. The ACPS Half Bred Champion of the weekend went to Caledonia Lucky Clover and Lisa Divoll Painter, and reserve went to South Ridge Aileen (South Ridge Duncan’s Honor x TB) and Emily Frazzoni. The Hunter Champion for the weekend was JEF Finn Lad (Tre Awain Dobb Mcduff x Thorn Hill Kurlina) and Amy Atkins, and the Reserve went to Caledonia Lucky Clover and Lisa Divoll Painter. The ACPS Versatility Award was given to Trout Ranch Whimsey (Trout Ranch Malarkey x Elphin Kookaburra {Maplehurst Michael Macdaire}) and Julia Latham, and the Reserve to Cybatina Finn O’Cham and Helen Kopczynski. The ACPS Jr. Champion went to Julia Latham and Trout Ranch Whimsey, and Reserve went to Agnes Olson and Tricreek Greystone Connor. Congratulations everyone!

Finally, the Pete Peterson Sportsmanship Award went to Charlene Bennett from Triple Creek Farm in NY, who helped in countless ways with her familiarity with the hunter routines and brought a bevvy of eager riders and parents and ponies. (editors note)

As a first comer to the show I personally want to thank all the volunteers, judges, secretary and fellow participants. It was a well run and welcoming show and it will for sure be on the Triple Creek Calendar next summer! Listed below are the in depth placings from the show. 🍀
Rolling Meadows Farm news...

During a damp and cool spring the young ponies started their training—lunging and short walks for discipline. I bred Megan last spring to a really nice eventing stallion in Virginia for maybe another sport horse that Brittany can train and bring along.

Summer finally went into a nice stretch of sunny days that made the hay season more bearable; getting in both first cut and second cut so most of orders are being finished. We are up to about 12,000 square bales and have about 3000 in 2nd cut orders to finish. At the show this year I saw a lot of new faces. My ponies did well and didn’t embarrass us with young pony antics. Finny and Aiofe are continuing with their summer training—they both love the trails, go through water, and are very good with the traffic. Finny is doing small courses and it seems to suit her. Aiofe is working on her flat work and trying to stand still for more than a second. My mare, Megan, confirmed in foal, will be due sometime in May. Brittany is hoping for a little colt as she’s getting tired of all the Fillies, she finds them to witchy. Equine Affaire is right around the corner so that’ll be nice to have another New England event back on the schedule. From our farm to yours be safe and take care.

David, Susan and Brittany Goodhouse
Vermont

There’s as much horse sense around as ever. Unfortunately, the horses have most of it.
– Unknown

Brittany and Avoca at the horse show. Eric and Harper helping with grooming chores with Finny and Eric and Harper with Flynn and their new pony cart.

FOR LEASE.
Big Beautiful warmblood mare. 13 year old, 17.1 by Nupasse. Excellent movement and disposition. Was shown as a hunter successfully. has had two beautiful colts so far. Would cross well with a Connemara! also suitable for light riding. For more info call Jodi Fortier at Different Drummer Farm, Candia NH, 603-483-2234.
Teaming up in Aiken...

Teaming up with other Connemaras over the winter in Aiken, SC. From left to right: Janet, Shannon (Thurman Shammy), Judy Thompson and Elphin Mountain Skylark. Judy served as our trail judge at the show for many years. Also rode with Cady O’Daly Amigo, a handsome 6-year old now partnered with Kim McCullough of Aiken and Sharon, MA.

Janet Chayes

Outback Farm News...

Folklore Grainne "Gracie" (*Kilfenora Windy Isle x Folklore Honor Larkin) can now boast of being a two region Grand Champion in-Hand. In 2014 Gracie won Grand Champion in Hand at the Region I Show in Woodstock, Vermont. In July 2017 Gracie won Best of the Day at the Region III show in Lexington, Virginia against an incredible group of Connemaras. She was capably shown by Amanda Reap. Amanda also showed her in a few pleasure classes and did very well. We now await the birth of her third foal next May. The foal is by Marynell Eyles premium stallion Landgate Bluebeard.

Suzanne Antilla, New Fairfield, CT
South Ridge Farm News...

South Ridge Farm in Brentwood NH welcomed a new baby this summer. South Ridge Seacht Shenanigans (South Ridge Aidan - Wildwy Clio, by Castle Baron) was born on 7/7/17, thus the “seacht”, or seven, in his name. My daughter Emily Frazzoni is shown here teaching Shenanigans all about hula hoops. He might be a games pony someday!

Emily and her brother Christopher attended the Region I show with our halfbred mare, South Ridge Aileen. Emily has been working with hard this spring/summer with Aileen and it paid off when she got Reserve Champion Halfbred at the show. Christopher came to the show to help his sister as I was unable to come for the weekend. Christopher has been competing his Morab gelding, Turner, extensively at MGAA (mounted games) alongside our purebred mare, South Ridge Chloe (rider Joy Seymour), honing his crazy athletic riding skills. Emily convinced Christopher to take Aileen in the crossrails jumper class and they got the blue! (Of course, I have yet to see any video.)

Two weeks later, the kids were off again, this time Emily was riding my gelding Elphin Glasdrummon (Maplehurst Michael McDaire - South Ridge Chloe) at an MGAA event in Mullica Hill, NJ.

Christopher Frazzoni with Turner and Emily Frazzoni with Elphin Glasdrummon at a Mounted Games competition in NJ.

Kim Sterl
Brentwood, NH