

2013 directory cost: \$2,791.68 (printing and mailing)
2014 directory cost: \$302.76 (printing and mailing)
2014 cost is offset by \$440 received from people who wanted printed directories. Life members were not charged for printed directories.
2015 directory cost: \$209.96 (printing and mailing)
2016 directory cost: \$207.38 (Printing and mailing) (\$520)

2013 Membership Secretary stipend: \$3,460 (12 months)
2014 Membership Secretary stipend: \$678.56 (Annual meeting expenses)
2015 Membership Secretary stipend: Annual meeting expenses
2016: None

All renewals and new applications are acknowledged by e-mail if they have an e-mail address, and a note via USPS if they do not. At the 2014 AGM I proposed eliminating the membership card; Cathy Blackmon suggested that the membership card be sent as an attachment to the acknowledgment e-mail, and that suggestion was adopted. This saved the cost of an entire mailing to the membership, approximately \$270 plus the cost of cards and envelopes.

Gift memberships are acknowledged by e-mail to the giver and the recipient, plus the Regional Governor and Region Chair, with the membership card included as an e-mail attachment. Contact information for new members and gift memberships are sent to the Regional Governor and Region Chair, and if a junior member, to the Youth Program chairman and the Youth Scholarship chairman. Every effort is made to make the messages friendly and welcoming.

Donations to the ACPS Foundation are acknowledged with a thank you card included with the e-mail. Excel files listing regional members are automatically sent to the Regional Governor and Region Chair periodically, and also upon request.

Anne Moe, Membership Secretary

Report of the Treasurer – Stephanie Fenton-Hickey and Cathy Blackmon

The ACPS is doing well, on track with income and expenses. The USEF gave grants to the ACPS, for a total of \$3,588.00. The grant money is used to fund Junior Scholarships and \$500 is granted to the Annual Meeting expenses. The Vanguard investments have done very well, and the ACPS has realized almost \$50,000 in investment income in the last four years. This year, the program realized \$21,368. The Profit and Loss statement was presented to the group. With total income of \$33,045.22 and total expenses of \$33,005.50, the ACPS had a net income of \$39.72, reaching the goal of balancing the budget. The Treasurers' report was accepted.

Cathy Blackmon also reported on the Insurance programs for the ACPS. There are two policies – one to cover the officers and one for activities. Every ACPS event in every region is covered by the blanket policy IF the dates are given to Cathy who makes sure they are on the overall Insurance calendar. The optimal time to give dates to Cathy Blackmon is December 1 of each year, but even if that date is missed, send regional dates to her, and include the number of days the activity will encompass.

Report of the President – Deb Norman – said “It’s been a fun year, and a great group of people. This is a small, but important meeting here in the Northwest, and I am so happy to see faces from this area that we don’t often get to see. I’ve had a lot of help in doing my job for the ACPS, and we just keep on with our jobs --- we’re a lot like our ponies!”

Report of the Registrar – Marynell Eyles Purebred and Halfbred Stud Book - Registrar’s report – September 8, 2016

The overriding problems in 2016 were the results of two computer crashes – resulting in a hard drive replacement, resulting in loss of some data, and having to re-key/re-enter several stud books’ worth of information. That said – other parts of the process were also somewhat experimental with the addition of micro-chipping, HWSD testing, the Registrar no longer being part of the Inspection process so having to wait to input the “inspected/date” and Premium status if earned.

- Computer – on August 31, 2016, it locked up again, and at the present time it is in the shop being fixed, one hopes. It was also in the shop in March – fixed, and worked just fine until August. Mostly, the issues are results of viruses – and yes, there are two different virus protection programs on the computer, but still it happens. *(Late addition – in actual fact, this crash was due to a broken piece within the computer – and was fixed, and is now working well. The Board voted to buy a new computer for the office, but I have put off spending the money since the “fix” seems to be working.)*
- Process of Registration – I reported these changes in January and it’s still new to many people– Since January 2015, the registration of a purebred Connemara has included a micro-chip. We have now sent micro chips for 50 ponies. After putting the chip numbers on the markings line on the registration certificate, I decided to use the CPBS Ireland method of their numbers, and now the chip number follows the name of the pony. If the foal is by a stallion that has not be HWSD tested, a test for that disease is added to the DNA sample report. That system is: Receive the registration application
 Check \$ paid and signatures
 Go to Cal Davis web site – download DNA sample “kit”
 Put data in pony file, including micro-chip number on form
 Print and send kit along with any requests for missing info
 File application and wait for DNA sample report via email from Cal Davis lab
 Complete TFC or Permanent certificate – in computer/print/affix micro chip sticker to TFC/print DNA results and include a form for vet to complete w/the microchip in mailing.
 Take packet to post office – now costs \$1.29 for each envelope (plus cost of manila envelope which I haven’t included). TFC/DNA/form for chip/chip
 Hope the pony owner has the micro chip implanted in the correct pony!
- Registration numbers – Purebred foals – 13 purebred registrations applied for by September 8, 2015. I am sure there will be more.
- Purebred Stallions registered:
 - 1. Tullymor’s Mountain Steel – S 1979 LIII – chip 96500000391286. By Tullymor’s Mountain Shadow o/f Tullymor’s Kiss of Sun. Bred by May Medley, owned by Kathy Trum-Searah, New Braintree, MA

Halfbred Stallions registered: 1. Wellen Gold Point – HBS 1308 LII – by Greystone Ian McVai out of Good as Gold by Al Marah Lord Elope/Cymraeg Rain or Shine. Owned by Alicia Z. Kline and bred by Gayle Presson.

With the registration of halfbred stallions, we have gone back to issuing HB TFC’s – for colts. If the breeder/owner sends a proof of gelding, I complete the permanent halfbred certificate.

HWSD reports – Find updated list attached. If parentage indicates (not tested), the test is done as the foal is registered.

NEW FARMS – Three new farms registered in 2016 so far

- Empire Sporthorses – Abigail Briggs, Millstadt, IL, farm address St. Peters, MO. Prefix: Empire
- Noville Farms – the Holley Family, Moneta, SC – Prefix: Novill
- Seafield Farms – Mike and Jennifer Keane – Fruitland Park, FL – Prefix: Seafield

Discussion followed the report on how to designate Hoof Wall Disease reports so breeders will have good information upon which to base their breeding decisions. Joanie Webster made a motion to include on the Certificate of Registration, a space to acknowledge HWSD status by testing results or genetics. That motion was rescinded to allow further discussion to write a policy and procedure for dealing with the information.

Report of the Connemara Sport Horse Registry – Megan Harris

There have been 19 registered in total. Three in 2016. The question is how to publicize it. Nationally, most people don’t seem to know about it.

ICCPS – Susan McConnell – the ICCPS held its AGM in Clifden, August, 2016. Scott McGuffin was the ACPS Delegate. The CPBS is slowly coming to grips with the truth of the HWSD, and they are making efforts to deal with testing for it.

Standing Committee Reports:

Arbitration – Fonda Eigel – no activity

Awards – Sally Oxnard and Marilyn Cheek - The Awards Committee had another busy year in 2015. Once again we awarded all 5 of our Hall Of Fame Awards, we offered a Purebred and Halfbred Horse of the Year award, and the Camlin. Most of the trophies and winners made it to the annual meeting in PA and we hope to have them all here this year. Many thanks to all the owners and the cheerleaders who nominated those ponies.

We also work with the USDF to award 28 USDF All Breeds awards, and will continue to do so. These awards go to ponies who are registered with the USDF and the ACPS and have qualified with scores over 65% from different judges and different shows, so it takes work, perseverance, and talent! For those awards the USDF sends out the ribbons and we cover the expenses. We also pay something to participate in the program as a breed society.

We also work with the USEF to give three big trophies and a growing number of Horse of the Year Awards. These are all recognized at the HOTY dinner in January with the USEF Annual meeting. As we have had more and more HOTY awards, we have a bigger and bigger crowd at that banquet which is wonderful. This year we met Macenna Sylvia there as her pony Kynymont Lacey received the First Annual Seldom Seen Award. This new trophy has been donated by Lendon Grey and is given to the Connemara who has accrued the highest scores in USEF Sanctioned Dressage shows with a Junior rider. The USEF also awards the McKenna Trophy to the highest placing Connemara at upper level eventing in the USEF, and the Clifden Trophy to the highest ranking purebred Connemara pony hunter. Tracking down who is purebred and who is halfbred and who is registered or not is a big job for Marynell and the committee.

The Horse of the Year Awards were awarded by the USEF to the pony who accrued the most points in USEF Recognized Connemara shows or sanctioned Dressage shows or Events. They include Purebred Mare and Gelding, Purebred and Halfbred Hunter, Purebred and Halfbred Jumper, Purebred and Halfbred Dressage, Purebred Eventing, and Purebred and Halfbred Open Jumpers.

Next we have the ACPS/USEA Eventing awards which are Gold Medallions sent by the ACPS Awards Committee to the top rider who placed in the USEA Events, and rides a registered Purebred or Halfbred Connemara. These medals are awarded in Beginner Novice, to Purebred and Halfbred to winners. Also to the Novice, Training level, and Preliminary winners. Above that they are qualifying for the McKenna award and they are usually halfbreds! These winners receive a Medal and a letter from the committee, and a membership application if they are not ACPS members (yet).

IN ADDITION of course we have the ACPS Achievement Awards program which Deb Clinch has run very ably for years. In 2015 there were 37 certificates and medallions and Awards of Excellence awarded, and many more ponies “in the pipeline” accruing points. These points follow the pony not the rider, and go to the pony’s owner. Ponies must be registered with the ACPS and owners must be members. Points must be submitted by December 31 to Deb Clinch.

And last but not least are the ACPS Scholarships. In 2015 we awarded 11 Junior Scholarships and had great write ups in the ACPS Magazine about the awardees and their ponies. Getting kids to apply for these scholarships is always a scramble as is the case for our adults applicants as well.

And then all these names get collated and spell checked and sent to Marynell for you to enjoy in the Awards Issue of the magazine in March, or the Junior Issue in May or the Broodmare in the Mares and Foals issue. And the webmaster is looking for the current and correct info to upload onto our website.

So all of these awards are great PR for the ACPS and the winners are delighted when we contact them and ask them to submit a short bio and pix to Marynell for the magazine. Many thanks to the well seasoned committee members who are Chair- Marilyn Cheek. Vice Chair and National Awards- Sally Oxnard. HOF Performance Awards Leader- Kate Denton. HOF Breeding Awards Leader- Deb Norman. Achievement Awards Deb Clinch. Scholarships- Linda Haines and Carol Siebecker. There are various excellent committee members and we need more

as this job is big and getting bigger. And many thanks to Marynell Eyles for her quick answers on the registration, the progeny, the possible name WE know the pony as, etc. Our goal for this year is to look at all the awards policies and application forms which have been woefully neglected, and be sure they are updated and posted on the website as well. And to share the work more with all of you! The Awards Committee budget pays for the USDF Allbreed awards, for the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medallions and the Awards of Excellence engraved frames, and the ribbons and keepers for the Hall of Fame Awards, and shipping the big historic HOF trophies to or from the annual meeting. The scholarships come from the ACPS Foundation.

By Laws – Scott McGuffin – There are a number of minor suggested amendments previously pro-offered to the BOG. We will have a chance to determine the status of these amendments at the meeting. These amendments will need to be circulated to the membership. Also, we will offer the Code of Ethics document for signatures for those who have not already done so. The Committee welcomes any suggestions and input on the By-Laws. Bring them with you or email them to me.

Finance – Cathy Blackmon – had already reported the finances with the Treasurer's Report

Inspections – Gloria LaCroix and Sarah McRae Thrasher - This will serve as the ACPS Inspection Committee report. We had 3, actually 4 sites for inspections in 2016. At Chatt Hills and Fade to Grey Farm Region 4 had 15 ponies presented for inspection, including a mare who was made premium, a stallion at his initial inspection, and a now gelded stallion, a gelding and 11 mares at their initial inspection 6 weeks later we saw 6 ponies at Journey's End Farm in Gardiner New York, where we approved a stallion, a mare for premium and 4 other mares at their initial inspection. The next day, we inspected 13 ponies at the GMHA site, which hosted the 50th anniversary Region 1 show. 3 mares were made premium, and 9 mares were approved at their initial inspection.

A month later, 6 ponies were inspected at the Region 3 show site in Lexington, Va. One gelding and 5 mares were approved at the initial level. The next day, at Greenwood Farm, 2 mares were approved at the premium level and one mare approved at her initial inspection. After a 1.5 hr. drive we inspected 4 ponies at Oakfield Farm. A gelding and 3 mares were approved at their initial inspection.

This gave us a total of 46 Connemara ponies approved at inspection in 2016.

This includes 2 stallions, 1 gelded stallion, 2 geldings, 7 mares at the premium level, and 34 mares at the initial level. All of these sites were in 90+ degree weather and required quite a bit of travel by plane AND car for our inspectors. I would like to applaud Donna Duckworth for DRIVING to Chatt Hills AND NY & VT. from Richmond, Va., Liz Platais, who drove 4 hrs. to Gardiner, NY and a grueling 7 hrs back to Boston, Joanie Webster, who changed her whole family vacation time in Maine to inspect in Vt. Kathy Lucas who sat in in Vt. AND inspected in Va Catherine Mack who sat in in Va. And who we hope we will see more in the future, and Sarah McRae Thrasher who inspected AND judged it Chatt Hills AND Va. To all you ladies, a HUGE THANK YOU. A lot of travel, and a lot of ponies inspected!

And certainly last but not least, a huge thank you to Marynell Eyles who along with the other bazillion jobs she does, keeps the ongoing list of inspected and approved ponies for the ACPS. It is so nice to have an ongoing list of approved ponies! Plans are under way for possible sites for inspection next year, including

☞ northern La

☞ St. Louis, Mo.

☞ Glastonbury, Ct.

☞ Californis (site to be determined).

and some yet to be determined sites.

Also, on the horizon, some hopeful names for inspector candidates to help with the upcoming workload. Connemara numbers appear to be on the rise so there appears to be more inspections on the horizon for the next few years.

Keep 'em comin. We love to see them!

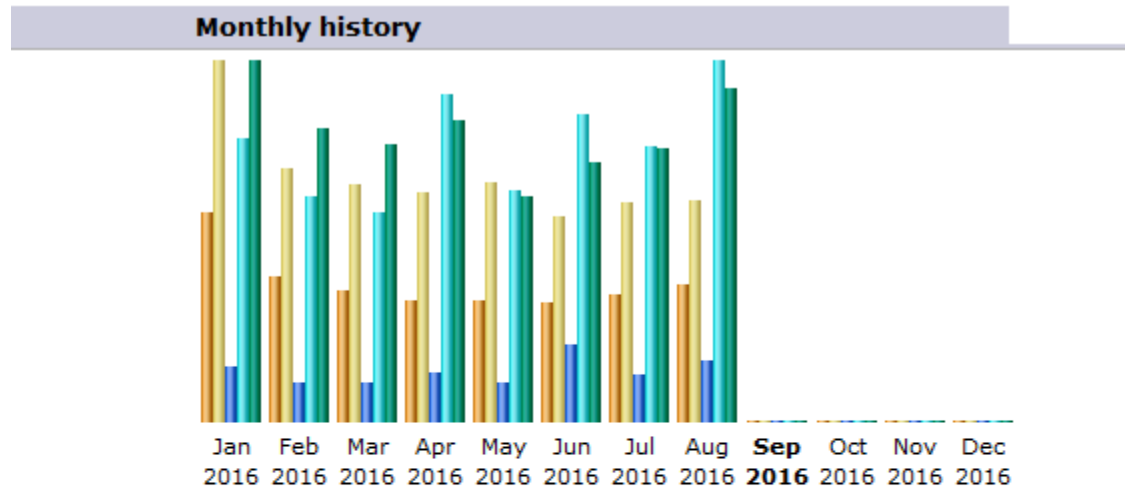
Respectfully

Gloria LaCroix

ACPS Inspections Committee

In discussion on the Inspections program, Donna Miller asked if a standard for Halfbred Connemaras could be written. Especially in light of the fact that halfbred stallions may now be registered, Donna felt it was an idea whose time had come. The Board moved to ask Donna Miller and Megan Harris to write a proposal for this goal and bring it to the Board meeting in January, 2017.

Internet – Amy Plavin - All is well with the website. Cheryl continues to be very easy to work with and posts what I send her rapidly. She gave me some stats on website traffic.



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2016	8,549	14,744	43,734	228,236	8.13 GB
Feb 2016	5,926	10,357	30,982	181,794	6.63 GB
Mar 2016	5,378	9,716	30,956	168,302	6.25 GB
Apr 2016	4,983	9,399	38,894	264,771	6.79 GB
May 2016	4,958	9,810	30,822	186,049	5.06 GB
Jun 2016	4,913	8,408	61,760	248,196	5.84 GB
Jul 2016	5,195	8,956	37,382	222,787	6.16 GB
Aug 2016	5,622	9,017	49,602	290,900	7.52 GB

The above means we have lots of traffic on our website and we really should make it the best it can be. I would love to have a list of inspected and approved ponies on the site, I would love to have achievement award winners on the site and I would love if the regions actually used their page on the website and kept it updated. I am happy to help but can only post what I am asked to post!!

The classifieds continue to be a problem since we switched to the one login system and Cheryl cannot figure out to make the program capable of automatic uploads. I am able to have your ad posted quickly though if you send it to me and then I forward it to Cheryl upon receipt of a check to Stephanie Fenton Hickey.

Cheryl has also done an audit and the amount of time she spends on updates is less than expected (she says she and I are a well oiled machine!!) so she is reducing her fee to \$700/quarter (previously she was charging \$850/quarter). And as always if you have a problem with the website or have suggestions how to improve it please let me know directly!! I am always accessible by email and will respond to you quickly.

Amy Plavin

In discussion, Bonni Kelley noted that the log-in was hard to find --- since it's under Membership. Others also agreed they found it cumbersome. It was suggested that the log-in have a "button" of its own.

Magazine – Marynell Eyles - January 2016 ushered a new "version" of the magazine for the ACPS. A change to a new printer, The Johnson Press of America in Pontiac, IL, gave the pages of the publication a new, shiny, 4-color look. It also gave me, the editor, a very tall order of changing files to accommodate the new pages.

Let's say it's a "work in progress", as all magazines are, and it still shocks me to open the pages and see color everywhere. For so many years, being parsimonious with the use of color was a habit. We were charged for every page that was printed in color, so when I bravely made the cover 4-color --- THAT was a big deal! You can understand now, why this lavish use of photos with vibrant color is like manna from heaven!

There are many issues that came with the change. Being used to one technician assigned to your publication at a printer is like having a partner. When you change printers, you lose that history of how you do things, and you learn what you didn't know. We have a very kind and dedicated tech at Johnson Press who has walked me through the process, and has kindly NOT charged for all the mistakes I made in the first two issues. I think we have figured out what I have to produce now.

The biggest change in using color, is the reproduction value is only as good as the photos submitted. Where the old printer could coax a low-res photo into black and white, and you could "make do" with that reproduction, with the 4-color, high resolution requirements, those photos can no longer be used. It's actually a much better publication without the fuzzy photos.

The Horse Show Issue should have been in your hands by now. We (Deb and Anne Moe and I) made an executive decision to wait until after the Clifden Show and the ICCPS meeting in IRE to send the Aug/Sept issue to the printer. But, then the Region III show happened, and I happen to have been the manager. Not enough hours in our days.

I pushed the finalizing date back until this week, only to try to boot up the computer, and have it refuse to work. It's at the computer doctor as I type. There is no way I can see to get the files proofed and to the printer before I leave for the AGM in WA, so apologize for the delay, but as I hear daily, "It is what it is".

In looking at the overview though, there are some changes in many of the committees, the leadership, the Board, and the membership Chair – so perhaps the Irish fairies were helping us let readers know the most up-to-date information. As soon as I get home – I will chain myself to the desk and get the rest of the pages done with all the new names and faces.

Nominating – Linda Haines -

Promotions – Heather Magnost and Melanie Trimper -Promotions Committee - Advertising Report 2016 •

Placed an ACPS Pony Quarterly Advertisement for the Fall Issue in Conjunction with a Spotlight Feature on the Connemara Pony. PQ also did a write up on the Four Leaf Clover Connemara Team for the AEC's. • Additional Co-Op Ad Placed in the PQ Issue along with 9 Farms/Breeders • Supplied ACPS Branded Saddle Pads for the Adult AEC Team • Connemara Feature in the Young Rider Magazine by Kim Klimek featuring Margo Goldfarb, Annalise Eaton and Brynn Katany) • Sponsorship of the National Dressage Pony Cup along with a High Point Breed Award. o Online Presence and Facebook Mentions and Postings from NDPC, NDPC Ad Featuring the Connemara Pony • Paisley Pony - Stallion Issue Advertisement and possible end of year Ad. • Sent Region I funds to support Equine Affaire but were returned as they were not going to participate this year, we used a portion of the returned funds toward the AEC Saddle Pads. • Equiery – Free Ad (Thank You to Anne Moe) • ACPS Seal and Website Banners were printed and sent out to some of our competing riders including Allie Saksen, Margo Goldfarb and Elliott Blackmon • ACPS Brochures were sent to Averett University for their Annual Horse Festival which is focused on educating and promoting various horse breeds. • ACPS Brochures were displayed at the Intercollegiate Dressage Finals at Centenary College in NJ. We have inquired about support, advertising and sponsorship with numerous other media outlets and events including Pony Club and AEC's. The cost is way out of our budget, in the thousands. Some of the smaller packages available are simply not worth the money for the exposure for the breed. We will continue to look for new opportunities, suggestions are welcome. The Promotions Committee has ACPS Pewter Ornaments \$25.00, Embroidered Patches (Both Saddle Pads Size \$12.00 and Left Chest Size \$8.00) and Vinyl Decals (Both 12" \$12.00 and 6" \$6.00) Available to sale to help raise funds for Advertising. To Order, Contact Melanie Trimper

Promotions Committee- Social Media Report 2016 Reported by: Heather Magnost, September 7, 2016

Facebook: • American Connemara Pony Society Facebook page likes are up from 1,452 in 2015 to 1,730 in 2016. • Post reach varies, but has hit 3,000 at various times, depending on the number of shares a post gets. The top posts of 2016 were: Photos/stories from the AECs, USPC Championships, Lendon Grey's Youth Festival, 8 Things Ireland did for Horse People article, Why Every Parent should buy their child a Connemara article and Connemara of the year award posts. The lowest posts of 2016 were posts for the ACPS stallion directory. • Links and photos of ponies

in the news had the highest reach and engagement. • 137 posts from October 2015- September 2016, up 42 posts from 2014- 2015. • 92% of audience is women ages 25-64, with the majority (21%) ages 45-54. • Messages have a 100% response rate, with a response time of 3 hours. • Audience by country of origin (top seven countries): o USA: 1,359 o Ireland: 123 o UK: 63 o Canada: 42 o France: 34 o Australia: 28 o Germany: 20 ACPS Instagram account started August 2016: @americanconnemara In the month the account has been active it is shared 9 photos and already has 45 followers. Instagram photos shared directly to Facebook have the highest reach since Facebook bought Instagram earlier this year. Recommendations for 2017: Continue relevant Facebook posts and posts photos to Facebook through Instagram if possible. Continue to encourage tagging on Instagram and on Facebook to share others posts. Viewers are more likely to engage if they think their post will be shared. Short stories/captions submitted with photos including the pictures ponies registered name and breeding is helpful. Don't just "share" others posts, write a caption if possible. Do not use all caps, readers tend to pass over it or tune it out.

Region Chair Liaison – Gloria LaCroix for Joan Ervin – reported that a good talk had been enjoyed by the Region Chairs and Governors who were at the meeting. Bridget Barton and Tracey Garland were new in their positions and were appreciative of the support. Julie Keahey said her region in Colorado was talking about financing their representative to get to the meeting. The whole effort is to improve and continue good communication.

USEF Liaison – Susan McConnell was not in attendance, but Debby Howells asked about the scheduled USEF/Connemara judges' clinic at the January meeting. There will be a clinic, on Friday before the Board meeting. Each region was encouraged to find and attend a recognized show with their Connemaras.

Youth Program – Sally Eyles Goldfarb

2016 has been a good year for youth development initiatives. Cathy Blackmon has continued to oversee the USEF Youth Sportsman award which has given the Society \$1500 to award annually to deserving youth. This year Cora Lee Richardson (Joanie Webster's grand daughter) is our 2016 nominee. Whether or not she wins the national award, it is an honor to acknowledge these wonderful youth who are actively competing and promoting the breed. A serendipitous meeting with Wayne Quarles this summer during the Midsouth Mega- Rallies at the Kentucky Horse Park produced our first ever ACPS Performance Awards at the USPC Championships East (at Tryon Horse Park) and Central (in Iowa). Wayne and I wrote the award descriptions, modeled somewhat after the other breed organizations' criteria, and Nora (Goldfarb) designed and ordered the ribbons. I am very grateful to Wayne for not only letting me drop in unannounced, but also for being as excited as I was about creating these awards. This year's winners are:

East

Molly Ryan and Big Bear's Royal Finnegan in Dressage

Emma Keahon and Wil Ya Love Me in Eventing

Brynn Katany and Cady O' Daily Artisan in Showjumping

Central

Zoe Schroeder and Piedmont Sundance in Eventing

Although not a team of juniors, the eternally youthful Four Leaf Clovers organized a Connemara team that recently competed at the American Eventing Championships at the Tryon International Equestrian Center in August. Other than having loads of fun promoting the breed and riding together, Elliot Blackmon, rider of Foothills Field Marshall, said yes to the ring and to her fiancée after her showjumping round in the main arena. A team for Hagyard (at the KY Horse Park) might be in the making for October.

An additional idea is an award to the junior (or anyone?) who participates in the most regional shows in a calendar year. This might be something to add for 2017.

If anyone has any other ideas for awards or promotional type activities for ACPS youth, please contact me at: tandyderi@bellsouth.net

Ad Hoc Committees and other Reports – New Policy and Procedure for Hoof Wall Separation Disease was discussed and was voted upon an approved

1. Purpose – To require owners and breeders of Connemara Ponies to determine whether their ponies possess the genetic characteristics of HWSN, and to minimize the occurrence of affected ponies.
2. Statement of Responsibilities – All Connemara breeding stock (stallions, mares, and foals) purebred, halfbred and Connemara Sport Horses must be Hoof Wall Separation Disease tested and the results placed on file with the ACPS Secretary. If both parents of the animal have negative test results, the test is not required).

3. Procedures

- a. The HWSD test must be completed before any Connemara purebred, halfbred, or Connemara Sport Horse is eligible for registration.
- b. In order to obtain a Certificate of Registration the test must be completed and the results on file with the ACPS Secretary unless both parents have been tested and have negative results.
- c. All purebred, halfbred and Connemara Sport Horses presented for Inspection must possess a HWSD test report.
- d. If breeding stock does not have the required HWSD results on file (as in the case of an imported or gelded stallion, or frozen semen of a deceased stallion) the resultant foal must be HWSD tested prior to being registered.

Old Business – Sally Oxnard brought up the topic of the History Book project. She has completed her part of the book – with the publication of The American Connemara Pony Society A History From 1985-1999. The work was done with Pat Lightbody, and as a celebration of Pat’s history with the ACPS. From now on, recollections for the book should be sent to the ACPS office.

Melanoma Study – Joan Webster reported on behalf of Maureen Loughman Abel who has worked since 2013, very diligently, to find ponies to be used in the study. Joan Webster asked the Executive Board to grant or request a \$5000 gift from the ACPS Foundation for Dr. Alain Theon’s study. The \$5000 would “most likely cover the cost of creating additional data. The Connemara breed will get all of the credit.” After much discussion, Cathy Blackmon suggested a fundraising activity, and match those funds from the Society’s account. Pattie Stalder **made a motion to take \$5000 from the ACPS Society funds for the UC Davis Melanoma Research Project as previously funded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Deb Norman announced that Anne Moe has said she cannot continue to do the Membership Secretary job. The Board agreed that her contribution has been very kind, and very well done. Several names were suggested for possible interest in doing the job, but no decision was reached.

The Connemara Sport Horse Committee asked for any volunteers who might be interested in writing the policies for the registry, concerning Inspection and a standard.

In light of the recent computer problems with the ACPS computer, the Board passed a motion to purchase a new computer, the cost not to exceed \$3000.

The newly elected Board members were announced by Linda Haines. They are Gloria LaCroix, Sarah McCrae, Nancy Kilcrease, Martha Slamer, Christina Keim, Sue Jellum,
The meeting was adjourned to be followed immediately by **the Annual Meeting of the ACPS**

The Annual Meeting of the American Connemara Pony Society was called to order by Deb Norman, President, at 2:20 p.m., on August 10, 2016. Bridget Barton and Tracey Garland were introduced and thanked for the contributions they made to organizing the meeting, and leading a field trip for the attendees.

Joan Latty was introduced as a longtime member of the ACPS who has lived in the area at her Potiquimi Farm. Joan said Sally Green got her started in the breed, when they lived in California, and when they moved to Ashland, Oregon, the program carried on to today, with generations of her Connemaras out in the world.

Tracey Garland said she rode through high school and college. She visited Hideaway Farm, and eventually in 2011 met Elizabeth Platais in Boston. She is pleased to be the new Regional Governor.

Bridget Barton noted that it was so fun to have a meeting in her area, to meet people. She started riding in Virginia on a Connemara, but out ‘West’ there were few to choose from. She hopes to see more divisions for ponies in the shows in the Northwest where children are mounted on horses.

The minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania were approved.
The newly elected members of the Board of Governors were announced again, and congratulated.
Regional reports were given, and will be published in the American Connemara.

An invitation for the 2016 meeting in So. Woodstock, VT was issued by Sally Oxnard. The date to be the third weekend in September – and the location to be the Ascutney Mountain Resort, Brownsville, VT.

Pattie Stalder asked if the ACPS ever considered funding part of a trip to the Annual Meeting, or charging less for regional members to attend? It was noted that some regions do help with the expenses of their representative.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

First Meeting of the New Board of Governors – 2016

Linda Haines opened the meeting and announced that the slate of officers for the upcoming year were:

Amy Plavin – President

Kate Denton – Vice- President

Scott McGuffin – Vice President

Stephanie Fenton-Hickey – Treasurer.

Julie Keahey moved to accept the slate as presented. The Motion was unanimously approved.

The Nominating Committee is elected by the Board, and the committee needs one new person. The Board nominated Sally Oxnard, and she accepted.

The Committee members for 2017 are Linda Haines, Chris Knox, Sally Oxnard.

Deb Norman was thanked for her contributions to the ACPS, and to the “fun for all” spirit of her meetings.

There being no further business, Scott McGuffin moved to adjourn the meeting, Joanie Webster seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted:

Marynell Eyles
ACPS Secretary