

# AMERICAN CONNEMARA

The Official Publication of the American Connemara Pony Society

MARCH/APRIL 2022

EDITION II, VOL. 13 NO. 2

## AWARDS ISSUE

*Hideaway's Special Delivery and Cathy Blackmon*





Producing a New Generation of event ponies and teaching little  
riders to love Connemaras ~

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American Eventing  
Championships  
2014*

*Reserve Champion  
BN 2013 at AEC's*

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Hand ACPS Re-  
gion IV Show 2012*

*Winning at Modi-  
fied and Prelim in  
2021*



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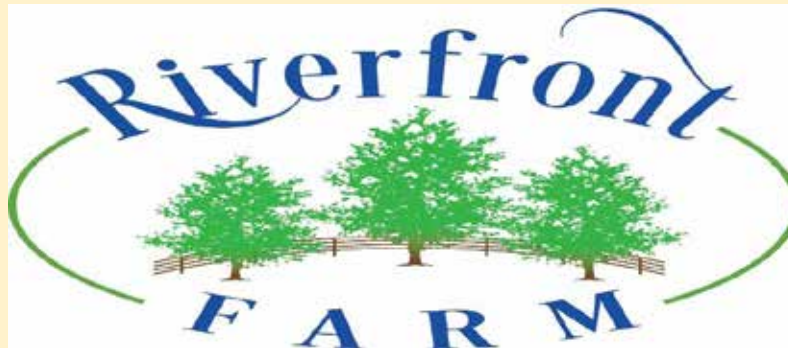
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# American Connemara

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**Terms to expire 2023**

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**Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day!**



**Connemaras and High Fashion!** Katherine Wilkins of Blue Ridge Farm provided a backdrop and a Connemara for the new fashion business, Tuckernuck. Mountain Field's Carna Cricket (by Moxley Duncan) was the very calm and helpful pony who was not bothered by huge light fixtures and umbrellas and fasthion crews as they took many photos at one of the big barns at Blue Ridge Farm, Upperville, VA, for their internet catalogue on a blustery 20 degree day! The "Wildside Collection" is available now!



# President's Page

## Welcome to the Annual Awards edition ~

First, my takeaway from the Board of Governors' Winter Meeting of February 5, 2022. Once again, our BOG meeting took place on Zoom. We had 41 members attending and our USEF representative, Nicole Zerbee sat in as well. All regions were represented, some by the Regional Governor, some by the Region Chair, and some regions had both representatives present. We could not all fit on one screen, and it was hard to tell who was speaking at times, but the body was orderly and collegial throughout. Every committee and every region provided reports ahead of time so our Board members and interested others could review them prior to the meeting. The Region reports, which were all very informative, will be printed in the magazine. For anyone interested in the remaining reports, they will be included with the minutes on the website. The minutes are also printed in this edition of the magazine.

There is an interest in our ACPS history as demonstrated by the requests for the *The American Connemara Pony Society, A History From 1985-1999*, by Pat Lightbody. Sally Oxnard will request another printing. We do need help getting more of our ACPS history on paper. We have much history in the pages of the magazines over the years, it's available to be compiled. Would love to hear some suggestions for next steps.

Lots of good conversation about the website. Members appeared in agreement that we want to make the website easy to use for newcomers (and the rest of us). The highest traffic to the website is the stallion ads and then the classifieds. The BOG voted to make the classifieds free to members for registered ponies. The ads can provide more information than a Face Book post and your social media ad can be linked to the webpage ad. USEF might even link our classifieds to the USEF Connemara page. Our Internet Chair asked for help from members and got some volunteers to fill some important roles!

In February 2018, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 was signed into law. Among the provisions in the law was Congressional authorization for the U.S. Center for SafeSport to ensure athletes could report allegations of abuse to an independent entity for investigation and resolution. The Center works with National Governing Bodies (NGBs), including US Equestrian and other Olympic disciplines, to enforce the SafeSport Code as well as the federal Safe Sport Act, both of which are aimed at protecting athletes from abuse. The Center ensures all NGBs follow the strictest standards for child abuse prevention and detection. As an affiliate of the United States Equestrian or USEF, ACPS is obligated to ensure our BOG, Region Chairs, Inspectors, and competitors comply with the Safe Sport training expectations. Many ACPS members already meet this requirement as a prerequisite to participating in recognized competitions. The training is available on the USEF website and if you are in one of these categories, I will send you the information explaining the process and how to access the training. USEF tracks our compliance, and you can print your certificate as well. The ACPS Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Statement was also reviewed and after deliberation, the BOG voted to make signing, or digitally agreeing, mandatory for all ACPS members. You will be seeing this form in your email, and we appreciate everyone making the effort to sign and return in a timely fashion.

The Inspection Committee treated us all to a premiere viewing of one its completed training videos. This brief delight was well worth the price of admission. The committee is on its way to producing a series of videos that will be a part of the training curriculum for new Inspectors. A huge thank you to all who attended the meeting and huger thank yous to Heather Magnan for hosting us on Zoom, and Kathy Nebel for excellent preparatory organization and minutes in her inaugural role as secretary.

The photos on this page are (lower left) Trout Ranch Malarkey (\*Kingstown Joe x Tower Hill's Killaire) bred by me, Linda Haines, and owned by Beth Adams.

The photo lower right is of the photographer, Susan Irene Correia, pictured with her Cheval Canadian dressage horse. She is an equine fine arts photographer from seacoast, New Hampshire. She often serves as an official show photographer at many USDF events and is available for private work.

Now, enjoy this Awards Edition of the *American Connemara Magazine*.

Congratulations to all our award-winning ponies, horses, owners, and riders.

Linda Haines





## Minutes - ACPS Board of Governors Meeting - February 5, 2022

Linda Haines called the meeting to order at 11:05 and welcomed the participants. The BOG meeting was open to all members. The BOG were on mike, the general members were muted, but the chat function was open to all. Over 40 people attended.

Additional members in attendance: Liz Platais, Pam Liddell, Lauren McKenzie, Allyson Myers, Sarah McRae Thrasher, Alex Piaget, Janet Johnson, Amy Plavin, Gloria LaCroix, Susan McLaughlin, Virginia Winkler and Katherine Forester.

No corrections or additions were submitted to the minutes of the September 25, 2021 BOG meeting. ***The meeting minutes were approved as printed.***

Linda thanked the committee chairs and Region Chairs for submitting their reports. She noted that these were some of the best, most informative reports she has seen. The following reports on the consent agenda were approved as submitted and put into the meeting record:

Report of the Membership Chair - Suzanne Phelps  
Report of the President – Linda Haines  
Report of the Registrars – Marynell Eyles and Megan Harris  
ICCPS- Scott McGuffin  
Arbitration - Fonda Eigel  
Bylaws – Scott McGuffin  
Awards – Marilyn Cheek, Sally Oxnard  
Susan McConnell Foundation for the ACPS – Deb Norman, Stephanie Keen  
Magazine - Marynell Eyles  
Nominating – Joanie Webster  
Region Chair Liaison – Sally Oxnard, Donna Power  
Genetics – Melanoma report – Maureen Loughman-Abel  
Breeding Committee – Kate Denton  
Youth Program – Donna Power  
Digital Library- Linda Haines  
Succession Committee Cathy Blackmon  
USEF Connemara Committee – Chris Knox, Cathy Blackmon, liaison to USEF governing committee  
Regional Reports

### **Finance** - Cathy Blackmon and Report of the Treasurer

The Finance reports were submitted and distributed before the meeting. Cathy said the association is in good health financially and investments have done well during the pandemic. ***The Finance Committee and Treasurer report were approved.***

### **Promotions** - Heather Magnan, Policies & Procedures

Heather met with Marynell and Sharon and formulated a plan to best promote news items and awards using the website, internet and magazine. A system for promoting awards that will make Sally's life easier is planned requiring less duplicate work. The Promotions report will be put in the record. Policy and Procedures are still being edited.

### **History Project** - Linda Haines

Linda thanked Sally for working on the history project. Sally and her aunt put together a book that covers 14 years of the ACPS. Still, there are a lot of years are not covered. We have resources in people and records. Members are needed take on a chapter, a decade, editorship, etc. to keep the project moving. We risk losing information from our senior members if the project falters. Documentation from 1956-1985 and after 1999 is needed. The book was introduced. With shipping it costs about \$13. A few copies are left and it may go into another print. Requests for copies should go to Sally Oxnard.

### **Inspections** - Kathy Sparks

Kathy touched on the items in her report and addendum. She outlined the dilemma with inspections: registrations are increasing so there is a young population of ponies to inspect but there is not a large volume in the age that is appropriate for inspections. It is hard

to find a location with the recommended 10 ponies for inspection. The cost of travel has greatly increased and the reliability of travel has decreased. The Inspection Committee looked at the cost of inspections and the income produced. The last time the fees changed was in 2002. The committee made a recommendation to increase the fee per the schedule submitted to the BOG:

	Current	Recommendation
Mares.	\$100.	\$125
Stallions.	\$200.	\$250
Geldings.	\$ 75.	\$100
Premium.	\$100.	\$125

***The motion to approve the new fees was approved.*** The nomination form with new fees will be in the next magazine.

The inspection Committee has been working on a curriculum for the training of inspectors in the future. There is an online learning program that will eventually be accessible to everyone interested in Connemaras. A prototype of the website being developed was shared at the meeting.

The website will eventually be linked to the ACPS website. Modules include Type, Movement, Conformation, Temperament and Wonderful Pony Stories. Both American and Irish experts are used to present the lessons. There will be a core module and a quiz component which can be graded. The core module includes materials used to train inspectors and judges.

A prototype of the website being developed was shared at the meeting. A video with Caroline Nesbitt, which is part of the training, was aired for the group. The new curriculum was well received by meeting participants.

Insurance for Inspectors is being investigated to determine the best way to provide coverage. The liability waiver is being updated to add language that by signing, participants accept the results of inspections.

### **Internet** - Sharon Jantzen

Sharon, Heather and Marynell met to talk about how to streamline touch points for people to get information. The website needs more of a "newbie" focus so terms are defined. The Facebook page needs a "blast." More in-depth information will be in the magazine.

Sharon is working on a calendar for the year to determine what gets published where. Two stories from the magazine will be on the website, a month at a time, after the magazine is published.

A questionnaire for award winners is being developed to get their stories for publication. It was recommended that there be additional resources for viewers to look into conformation.

The biggest draws to the website, primarily by new visitors, are stallion ads, region information and the classifieds. The Internet Committee would like to grow the the classified advertisements. They are not a money maker, but they do draw people to the website.

***Motion to make ACPS website Classified ads free to ACPS members for registered ponies. Motion passed.*** Sharon will take this back to committee to implement. A classifieds manager will need to verify the owner is a member of ACPS and the pony is registered.

Sharon is working to streamline the main menu on the website. Currently there are 13 menu items at the top of the page. Three buckets are proposed: Get to know the Connemara pony: Connemara ownership info: Jump to quick access

Sharon will try some of these changes. Heather will provide a second set of eyes and others attending the meeting offered to help. It was suggested that testimonials from well-known riders like Karen O'Connor, Lendon Gray and Jessica Springsteen, who got

their starts on Connemaras be published.

The group discussed scrubbing the website of personal email addresses to avoid scams. Some of the Region Chairs are creating google email accounts for their regions that can move with the chair. Sharon and the region chairs can decide how to handle email contacts on the website. A switchboard operator may be needed.

#### **Awards - Marilyn Cheek, Sally Oxnard**

Awards presented motions for Distance awards and Working Equitation:

##### **Distance Awards**

- 1) In our AA program, Add ECTRA and SEDRA and any competitive trail association that has bylaws and a charter as recognized competitions
- 2) Points for placing remain the same, and best conditioned award the same
- 3) Points for finishing a ride will be:  
5 points for 10 to 19 miles  
10 points for 20 to 49  
20 points for 50 to 99  
30 points for 100
- 4) We will contact the AERC before Feb 1 to agree to work with them to offer a Breed Award to the best registered Connemara and Connemara halfbred of the year in their competitions. Qualifications will be developed by us using other breed awards as a reference (Morgan etc) Award may be a certificate or ribbon etc.

##### **Working Equitation points**

In addition to, or in the absence of, points earned for placing at USAWE recognized competitions:

5 points will be awarded for completing at Introductory

10 points will be awarded for completing at Novice

15 points will be awarded for completing at Intermediate

20 points will be awarded for completing at Master

In addition to points awarded for total final placing, points may be earned as follows:

Champion at Recognized Show: 12

Champion at Unrecognized Show: 6

Reserve Champion at Recognized Show: 10

Reserve Champion at Unrecognized Show: 5

***Motion to accept the recommendations for Distance Awards and Working Equitation Points presented by the Awards Committee. Motion passed.***

**Insurance - Becky Jordan - Insurance coverage for clinicians was discussed.**

***Motion that Regions be required to have their events on the ACPS calendar by March 1 so that events are covered by ACPS insurance. Motion passed.***

March 9 is the renewal date for insurance, so the calendar will run March 1 to April 31.

***Motion that Regions be required to ensure their clinicians have professional liability coverage. Motion passed.***

If a clinician is a member of ACPS, the clinician would be covered under our general liability policy. Clinicians can be covered for professional liability by the ACPS policy for \$115.

#### **Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct was originally set up for all members to sign when they applied for membership.

***Motion to require signature of the Code of Conduct by all members. Motion passed.***

Suzanne, Linda, Becky and Sharon will figure out next steps. Becky will track signatures.

#### **Safe Sport**

Safe Sport is a USEF training program. Our insurance company wants to ensure we are in compliance. Board of Governors, Region Chairs and Inspectors should complete the course. Competing USEF members are already doing it.

The USEF Marketing team has passed along a process which will allow our non-USEF member Board of Governors, Region Chairs and Inspectors to take the course. Information will be sent to them.

In additional business, Sally reported that Pat Lightbody's library is available for loan through Mary Lightbody. Additionally, books are being scanned for the ACPS library. Linda is looking for copies of Shrouded in Mist and Out of the Mist by Pay Lyne for digitizing. The books would need to be donated as a hard copy needs to be retained for the digital library.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nebel

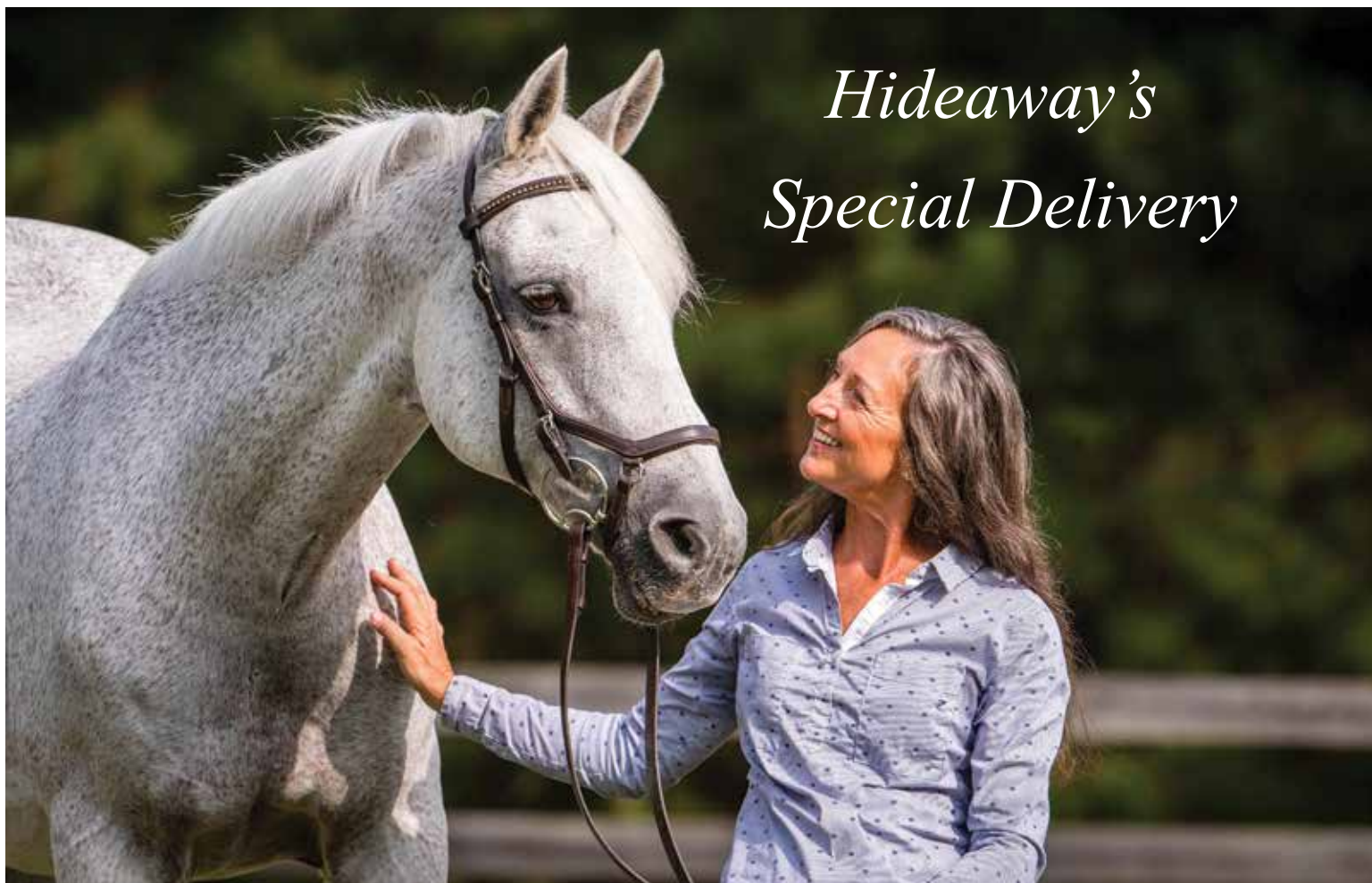
ACPS Secretary



## **2021 ACPS Hall of Fame Award Winners**

- 1) **Crestwood award - Maureen Loughman Abel**
- 2) **Broodmare award-Kynynmont Arianna - Pam Liddell**
- 3) **Tooreen Laddie —Balmullo's Beacon- Vanessa Morgan**
- 4) **Camlin- - Gibby Jasper/Prairie Delaney**
- 5) **Halfbred – Ganymead- Meg Pellegrini**
- 6) **Connemara of the year- Hideaway's Special Delivery- Cathy Blackmon**





# Hideaway's Special Delivery

## Hideaway's Special Delivery

*1995 - Greystone Dallen McMor x Hideaway's Celebration, by  
Hideaway's Smithereen*

***Proud owner/rider, Cathy Blackmon***

**Connemara of the Year 2021**

HOTY Eventing, 4<sup>th</sup> Place

**What an honor to have Special awarded the ACPS 2021 Connemara of the Year!** According to our Awards Policy, Connemara of the Year is primarily for breed ambassadorship, getting the Connemara noticed. This is more than performance, although performance definitely gets our ponies noticed in the horse world. This pony is my heart, he is my soul. Special has taken me places I never dreamed of. He has given me wings to fly, he has taught me about trust, goodness, and reminds me to always be aware of the beauty that surrounds us.

We were an unlikely partnership. My **unknowing** and sweet husband noticed how much time I spent at the barn with my daughter, Elliott and her first Connemara, Pooka Princess which prompted him to say, "Why don't you get one?"

Famous last words!

My search began and I visited Sally Eyles-Goldfarb's farm in Franklin, TN. I knew the moment I saw him, there was a connection. It was his deep soulful eye. He had so much talent, but was not trusting of most humans. I had grown up on a Connemara, Arthur's Lassie Boy, in Germantown, TN, riding bareback all over our town with my friends. We were on our horses all day, every day. So you have the picture, mother of two, only rode bareback her whole life, and extremely talented, yet

not so trusting pony. Sally mentioned, he may not be the one for me, maybe something "a little bit quieter?". The connection was undeniable. I am so very grateful that Sally blessed our partnership, against her better judgement at the time because we were meant to be.

Special and I just started doing stuff. Trail rides, led to jumping all the hunt fences, logs, etc. in the Wayne DuPage Conservancy and the cross country field in Wayne, IL (Lamplight). An old friend told me to "get off the porch" and start competing as I was already going to horse trials with Elliott anyway. So our journey began. I bought Special when he was coming nine. We did our first horse trial when he was eleven. We both were hooked. He loved running across country and jumping. He ran most of his career barefoot. I used to laugh that all I needed was a bridle and a saddle and we were set. He has qualified for the American Eventing Championships 15 years in a row. Special LOVES to compete. This pony! Incredibly athletic, SMART as a whip. His scope, his brain, and athleticism got everyone's attention. In our early years, I was in a clinic with dressage rider, Pierre St Jacques and all of a sudden, Pierre stops the clinic and says to all the women riding the fancy warmbloods, "Unless you are emotionally attached to what you are sitting on, sell it and get yourself one of these (as he points to Special!!!). He can do everything you want and more." I was so proud of Special as I sat on a pony amongst the giants of dressage. Pierre has been a fan of the Connemara since.

Years later, Elliott and I decided to take some lessons with Jenny Brannigan, 5\* event rider. She announced when we showed up for a stadium lesson that today we would be counting strides. I had never counted strides. I only walked the combinations in the show jump and xc courses to make sure I knew how to come in to the jump, Special did the rest. By this time, Special and I were doing 1.10 jumpers, Preliminary/ Training eventing.



I said to Jenny, “Are you kidding? He is 19, I am 53 and we have never counted strides.”

Well, I learned to count strides that day! But at the end of the lesson she was so impressed with Special because he literally flicked his ears as if he was counting and boom, perfect horse strides every time! Jenny asked to clone him that day and she still stops to have a notice of him when we see each other as do so many trainers, riders, and fans where ever he and I go. Another Ocala, FL trainer used to ask me when I was going to retire Special about this time (age 19). She has since stopped asking me when she sees him jump the rounds! I giggle to myself when I see her these days.

Special is nicknamed, The Wonder Pony, by my coach in NC because he always exceeds the challenge put before him. Emeraude asked to borrow Special to earn her USDF Bronze medal when he was 22. I thought that was a brilliant idea, because she would put the buttons on him and maybe I could learn to push them! She rode him six times, took him to a show, rode four third level classes and earned four qualifying scores. One of my proudest moments was earning my USDF Bronze on my Special Pony too!

Special’s can do attitude, incredible scope and athleticism has allowed him to continue to compete up to the age of 26. Which is why he was noticed by Farnam Horse Products and Equus Magazine for their joint advertising campaign called SeniorHorse, SeniorProud when he was 24 years old. He was featured in a Farnam advertisement that ran in many National magazines. He was given the title on his gift wool cooler of “Spokeshorse”, I did not know that was a thing!



Special was included in *US Equestrian Magazine* article about senior horses still competing the same year. And USEA AEC wrap up article as one of the oldest horses at Championships where he was eighth in his division. My vet, Dr. Jack Shuler, said that there were a lot of old horses out there, but not a lot of old horses doing what Special was doing. Special pony is not ready for a rocking chair. He is still bouncing in the xc start box, prancing into the stadium arena at 26. He is a competitor and loves it. I truly think he would jump the rounds without me...he can count the strides for sure!!

Our next journey, which is another story in the making, is his recovery from a severe superficial digital flexor tendon injury in August, 2021 as we were competing on xc at a horse trial near Tryon, NC as our prep for AEC's. But AGAIN, Special is remarkable in his healing, and folks that have had little or no experience with the Connemara are witnessing this amazing pony beat the diagnosis. The veterinary team at Tryon Equine Hospital is amazed, almost disbelief at his healing, the same with my at-home veterinary and support team. Special's attitude is remarkable. I can see in his eye that he and I have more to come. It must be a testament to the Connemara bloodlines. Hideaway's Special Delivery is a treasure in this world and as Elliott always says, he gets all the cute pony points! Thank you ACPS for honoring my amazing Special Pony.







## ***2019 Halfbred Connemara of the Year Award*** ***Kynynmont Gunsmoke's Gideon*** ***(\*Gun Smoke x Kynynmont Tara)***

*Pam Liddell, breeder and owner of Gideon, applied for, and won the 2019 Connemara of the Year award, but an article about him was not written until now. Pam used the Award application form to write her article, so it appears as a Q & A. We are glad to read all the back story on this Connemara halfbred.*

### **What has this pony done in the past year to bring positive attention to the breed?**

In August of 2018, Gideon competed in the US Dressage Festival of Champions in Developing Grand Prix. In order to compete there, a horse must qualify by being among the top 15 horses at that level in the country. Gideon came out 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation at that competition. Next he competed at Dressage at Devon in September, winning both the Intermediaire A and the Intermediaire B classes. In October, he competed at the Region 1 GAIG Championships in Lexington, VA and placed 4<sup>th</sup> at Intermediaire 2. He started the 2019 winter season in Wellington, FL with two regular Grand Prix classes, and then graduated to his first CDI Grand Prix. He is now competing exclusively at CDI Grand Prix, the top level of international dressage (excluding the Olympics and other World competitions). He competes in big venues with

lots of spectators---Wellington, FL in the winter, and Tryon, NC, Lexington, VA, and Dressage at Devon the rest of the year. He did the CDI Grand Prix and CDI Grand Prix Musical Freestyle twice in Wellington, in February and March, and then in Tryon in April, winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall, which entitled him to be in the victory lap. In his CDI-GP classes, he is competing against horses and riders that have competed in multiple Olympics, at the WEG, at the Pan Am Games, etc., and that have years of Grand Prix experience. Gideon has just started competing at Grand Prix. He is a little guy among giants, in both size and competitive experience, and yet he holds his own with a character that shines through in his performances. You can see that he is proud of himself and thinks he is pretty special. He is a crowd pleaser. His musical freestyle elicits laughter and wild clapping in a large stadium full of spectators. He struts his stuff in the award ceremonies surrounded by massive warmbloods. With his unique coloring (dark buckskin) and his petite stature, he is hard not to notice in the crowd. His trainer, JJ Tate, has a substantial Facebook following, and she posts regularly about the "Super Pony." He has fans all over the country. When I introduce myself, the response is often, "Oh, you are the Super Pony's Mom."

# ACPS ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

October 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022



## LEXINGTON DOWNTOWN HILTON

369 West Vine Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507

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**Time to book your Room**

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Registration Fees: Adult \$125 Junior \$35 10 & under: Free

Meeting Registration includes: Welcome Wine and Cheese Reception Friday night, Sat Meeting Lunch,  
Awards Dinner, and Hospitality Room Refreshments

Awards Banquet Only: Adult \$75 OR JR. \$35 OR 10 & UNDER FREE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving: \_\_\_\_\_ Rooming With: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate Wanted: \_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergy: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: ACPS Region V

Mail Registration: Bonnie Reid 1000 Fords Mill Road Versailles, KY 40383

859-312-4971

[Mixedbordersky@gmail.com](mailto:Mixedbordersky@gmail.com)





## ACPS Annual Meeting Lexington KY

OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup>- 23<sup>RD</sup> 2022



Come Wednesday! Stay Sunday! A day at Keeneland Races! Tours  
Require advance sign up? \*Limited space available!! \*Official Tours: (ALL DAY)  
Thursday & Sunday!

ACPS Members - Unique Horse Farm Tours\*

Kentucky Bourbon Trail\*

Keeneland Racetrack - Kentucky Horse Park\*\*

Annual BOG Meeting - Awards Dinner

Guest Speakers - Region Basket Competition

Auction Items\* - Irish Pubs\*\* Garden Tour



\*These attractions will involve a \$ Cost. More details to come!

\*\* Self-Guided & Cost

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<https://www.my-event.hilton.com/lexdthf-pony22-6d7e583f-b11c-4729-82ea-852715b1e296/>

More Info: Bonnie Reid 859-312-4971

[Mixedbordersky@gmail.com](mailto:Mixedbordersky@gmail.com)



*Gideon Continued ~*

**Why should the ACPS be especially proud of this pony's achievements in the past year?**

The ACPS should be proud that a 3/4-Connemara is performing successfully at the top level of the international dressage world in the US---CDI Grand Prix in the large arenas of Wellington, FL, Tryon, NC, Lexington, VA, and Dressage at Devon. He is seen by hundreds of people at each show, and he stands out and is noticed in a positive light. He has been highly successful nationally---8<sup>th</sup> in the country in Developing Grand Prix at the Festival of Champions at Lamplight, first at Dressage at Devon, and in the ribbons every time in the CDI ring at Grand Prix.

**What outstanding attributes of a Connemara Pony has this pony brought to the attention of the public this year?**

When Gideon shows, the attribute that stands out the most is his character. He has charisma and loads of heart. He demonstrates his intelligence, his trainability and his endless willingness. His rider's trainer has said many, many times that what distinguishes Gideon, what allows him to have reached the level in dressage that he has, is his enormous amount of heart. He also demonstrates his physical ability, strength and movement by competing successfully at the highest level of dressage. He demonstrates a Connemara's willingness and ability to perform the most difficult dressage movements and to be able to be competitive doing that. His rider, JJ Tate, wrote the following about Gideon in a post June 2, 2017: "I'm full of joy when I ride this horse; he is smart, athletic, powerful, cheeky, & so talented! So proud of him & his wonderful representation of such a cool breed! Go Connemaras!" That says it all.



*Drybrook's Annika's Angel and Claire Piacentini*

## ***ACPS/USEF Seldom Seen Award***

*The Seldom Seen Trophy is awarded to the highest placed purebred or Halfbred Connemara ridden by a Junior at USEF Dressage Competitions.*

### ***2021 Winner is Drybrook's Annika's Angel***

*(Drybrook's Moon River x Roscommon Annika)*

My name is Claire Piacentini and I am a 16 year old dressage rider from Boston, Massachusetts. This past show season I competed Drybrook's Annika's Angel, owned and trained by Sara Carlisle, at 1st Level and beginning 2nd Level. We are so excited that Annika received the Seldom Seen Award!

She is an amazing mare and truly represents the talent and kindness of Connemara ponies. Drybrook's Annika's Angel, born in 2012, is a 14.3 halfbred Connemara mare by Dry Brook's Moon River and out of Roscommon Annika, bred by Pat Shields of Drybrook Farm.

My trainer, Sara Carlisle, bought her as a 6 year old in 2018 and she has since inspired our love for Connemara ponies! Annika is trained at Lythrum Farm in Acton, Massachusetts. She is currently in training with Sara in Florida for the winter season.

She is an incredibly intelligent mare and has progressed very quickly in her training. We hope to continue competing in the 2022 season, hopefully continuing at 2nd Level. Despite Annika's talent for dressage, she also adores jumping and going on trail rides. She is incredibly smart and very funny, she almost seems human at times! She can be quite spirited at times but is overall, a very sweet and easygoing mare. Annika is a true testament to the amazing versatility of Connemara ponies!

## **Labras Leannon**

***USEF HOTY – Halfbred Eventing, Halfbred Dressage***

*(\*Hayseldon Perseus x Laurel)*

Owner/Rider: Jennifer Garutti

This pony mare has been at the center of my life these last 7 years. I couldn't be more thrilled for Anne, Labras Leannon, to close out her competition career with two 2021 USEF HOTY Year National Championship awards, Halfbred of Eventing and Halfbred of Dressage. As she is easing into retirement I reflect on everything she has brought to my world. The journey has been life changing. The people I have met, the experiences we've had, the places we've traveled too, the opportunities presented to me all because of one "little mare who could". Thank you Anne for everything, seriously everything, all the things, all of them. You have my heart. Enjoy retirement you sassy girl.





# HIDDEN CREEK HORSES

## \* Coud'Poker Tartifume "Cooper"



*Bred in France with a pedigree chock full of International  
and Grand Prix Ponies!*

*Westide Mirah II*

*(Westside Mirah ) x Quitas DeLaLoue (Dexter Leam Pondi)*

*Granddam is Don Juan V x Naughty Van Graaf Janshof. Great Grand-  
dams were Grand Prix Ponies:*

*Neioui Ninon Tartifume and Violene II.*

*N/N Foaled in 2012*

Cooper is excelling in Eventing. He was recently awarded the prestigious 2021 USEF Horse of the Year McKenna Trophy for Highest Ranking Purebred or Partbred at the Modified through Advanced levels of Eventing.

Booking Mares now for 2022

**HIDDEN CREEK HORSES LLC**

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- Two ACPS Gold Medallions
- USDF & All-Breeds Champion
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- German Golden Medal Winner
- HWSD N/N; no grey, dilute genes

### **The Proof is in his Progeny**

**Karen Laden**

<http://www.kingswellconnemaras.com/>

Visit Cliff on Facebook at  
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**719-495-3892**

## **\*TBS DECLAN PONDI**

2012 Purebred Stallion by Dexter Leam Pondi x Dandy Sparrow x Ashfield Bobby Sparrow  
14.3 hds - 9" Bone - Heterozygous grey from buckskin roan

**Awarded his ACPS Premium status in 2021**



Declan has consistently shown that he is an improvement sire. He stamps his offspring with *correct conformation, athleticism* & most importantly, *willing and kind temperaments*.

He is competing and winning at Training Level eventing and is in his sixth season of foxhunting. Shown here happily doing his job on his fifth annual trip to Blue Ridge Hunt in VA.

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## USEF Connemara Horse of the Year Awards 2021

### Halfbred Hunter

1. Prize, Jennifer Daly (Greystone Ian McVai x TB)
2. Bright Star, Lynn Harrington (Greystone Ian McVai x TB)
3. Picturesque Heartbreaker, Marino Frano (Greystone Ian McVai x TB)
4. Morning Glory's Belle Fille, Janet Gunn (Fiddler's Glory Boy x French Letters TB)

### Halfbred Dressage

1. Labras Leannan, Jennifer Garutti (162) (\*Hayselden Perseus x Laurel)
2. MTF Cooley Caliber, Skyeler Voss (42)
3. Dry Brooks Annika's Angel, Sara Carlisle (39) (Dry Brook's Moon River x Roscommon Annika)
4. Talamah Bound, Tammy Lisi and TBF Triton's Rauri, Grette Witt (Tied) (27) (\*Smaragaid Cliff x Tartan, TK)
5. Kynynmont Gunsmoke's Gideon, Pam Liddell (24) (\*Gun Smoke x Kynynmont Tara)

### Halfbred Eventing

1. Labras Leannan, Jennifer Garutti (99)
2. Fate's Patriot, Laura Dehamel (54) (Concord River Roaringwater Bay x TB)
3. Gold to Blue Trapper Jack, Carrie Meehan (36)
4. Big Bear's Cepheus, Tessa Geven (24) (Cor de Lux x Big Bear's Esther)
5. Sparrow's Owen, Megan Harris (14) (\*Grange Finn Sparrow x Savings Carrie)

### Halfbred Jumper (Open)

1. Spoot DeLa Jourlais, Kennedy Chang (522)
2. Ridgetop Royal Locket, Sally Goldfarb (81) (Aladdin's Denver x TB)
3. Fabrianna DR, Shauna Pingrey (69)
4. RR Cool Play, Ryder Richardson (Bentley O'Dea x Corner Oak Penelope)

### Halfbred Hunter (Open)

1. Radiance, Allison Coleman (2682) (JEF Sir Lancelot x Ruby)
2. Molly Bloom, Gabrielle Bernier (342)

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## Bright Star

USEF Halfbred Connemara Hunter HOTY

(*Greystone Ian McVai x Sierra - TB*)

Owner: Lynn Harrington

Bright Star aka Eddie is a 2003 Virginia bred by Greystone Ian McVai and owned by Lynn Harrington. Bright Star has been a competitive show hunter since 2010 with tremendous success most recently in the Adult Hunters division. In 2021 he earned top placings at The Upperville Colt & Horse Show, Loudoun Benefit, and Rose Mount horse shows. He was USEF Horse of the Year, Halfbred Connemara Hunter Champion in 2019, and Reserve Champion in 2021.

His owner shared, “Eddie is one very special horse, and he took me to places I never thought possible. I’m proud to say that Eddie has transitioned from a star in the show ring to doing his more important work of all! He is at [The Sprout Therapeutic Riding & Education Center](#) in Aldie, VA, and recently carried a wheelchair-bound friend for the first time. He did so with such gentleness, a careful step and still searching for treats! He’s 19 years old this year and it is sheer joy to see him thrive in his new career.”

## Oakfields Jansen

USEF Purebred Connemara Hunter HOTY

(*\*Hearnesbrook Dunoon x \*Castle Janet*)

Owner: Hilary Scheer Gerhardt

Oakfield’s Jansen, owned by Hilary Scheer Gerhardt of Catlett, VA, was crowned United States Equestrian Federation’s 2021 Purebred Connemara Hunter Champion. Junior rider Lexi van der Woude, from Warrenton, VA, was on hand to accept the award at USEF Annual Convention in Naples, Florida in January. Bred by Susan McConnell of Charlottesville, VA, the 2009 15-hand grey gelding by \*Hearnesbrook Dunoon, out of \*Castle Janet (Janus), had a fabulous year of showing with 16-year-old van der Woude. The pair was named purebred Connemara champions at both Upperville Colt and Horse Show as well as the Warrenton Pony Show.

They also competed in the limit equitation over fences division at Warrenton Pony Show, securing the reserve championship. van der Woude, a sophomore at Wakefield School, showed Jansen at the fall Warrenton Horse Show in the pre children’s hunter division where they earned top prizes.

Gerhardt has fox hunted Jansen regularly with the Warrenton Hunt for seven years. This year she had van der Woude compete him in popular Warrenton Horse Show Hunt Night, where they received great prizes in the junior hunter hack and the junior fox hunter under 18 classes

“I had so much fun riding Jansen this past year. He has taught me so much with my riding,” said van der Woude.



Gerhardt purchased Oakfields Jansen from Susan McConnell when he was four years old, and developed him into a fox hunter as well as show hunter. He was reserve champion USEF Purebred Connemara with Gerhardt in 2019. “He’s such a wonderful horse in every way. He loves his job, whether it’s fox hunting, trail riding or horse showing. I’m forever grateful he is in my life —so thankful Susan sold him to me! The best part of him is his huge personality!” said Gerhardt “Lexi did such a beautiful job showing him this year. It was so special they won the 2021 USEF award.”

# USEA AWARDS

## Beginner Novice: Purebred

1. \*Abbeyside Waves o/r Faith Dalessandro o/o May Ross by AC-Samson AF Engvang
2. Twilight o/r Isabella Day
3. Ringo Star o: Sharl Talan
- 4.\*Lally Move On o/r Jocelyn Van Bokkelen o/o Lally by Friedrichsminde Hazy Move On Imported
- 5.Roscommon Fagan o/r Gerlinde Beckers o/o Lasrachai's Blue Oak Dunlaith by Balias Malachi
- 6.Labras Leannon o/r Jennifer GARutti o/o Laurel by Hayseldon Perseus

## Beginner Novice - Halfbred

1. Big Bear's Cor Dei Cor o/r Kerry Tracey o/o Big Bears Eliana by Cor de Lux
2. And Justice For All o/r Brenda Myers o/o Choose your Weapon by Aladdin's Denver
3. Poppyfield's Tiger Shark o/r Lara Shelnutt o/o Tiger by Seven Hills Grey Ghost
4. Hazel Rock Sun o/r Constance Sharp imported from Ireland

## Novice: Purebred

- 1.Castleturvin Mungo o/r Beatrice Cassou imported UK
2. New Song's Freedom o Christina Sletten o/o Wildwych Lucy by Smaragaid Cliff
3. Mail Order Rideo/r Sarah Harty o/o Skyview's Altair by Skyview's Orion

## Novice Halfbred

1. Paddington o/r Alyssa Cairo by Yavari
2. Fernhill Prada o. Steve Schroeder unknown
3. Padric o/r Katy Hood o/o Bella Sleek by Ballywhim An Luan

## Training Purebred

1. \*TBS Declan Pondi o/r Megan Harris o/o Dandy Sparrow by Dexter Leam Pondi
2. \* Fernhill Blue Moon o/r Isabel Estes o/o Kilderrt Lass by Kilmore Diamond

## Training Halfbred

1. BT Jump the Gun o:Sheila Lowe o/o Fido Kahlo by Copperfield
2. Ripleigh o/r Lourie Yelton
- 2T. Moxley Leonard o: Sally Eyles- Goldfarb o/o Hip Look by Moxley Duncan

## Modified: Purebred

1. \*Coud' Poker o/r Donna Miller o/o Unedamdepik by Westide Mirah II

## Modified Halfbred:

1. No May Moon o: Nancy Winter o/o Ebony Moon by Catherton Dazzler
2. SS Willow o/r Jennifer Coleman o/o Vegas Alarm by The Quietman
3. HC Celtic Mark o/r Donna Miller o/o Starnmark by Ardceltic Art

## Preliminary Purebred:

1. Caraway Gilly o Amy Plavin r Corrinne Lauze o/o Stonybrook Irish Creme by Caraway Finn

## Preliminary Halfbred :

1. BSF Liam o/r Braden Speck o/o TB mare by Ballywhim An Luan
2. No May Moon o: Nancy Winter o/o Ebony Moon by Catherston Dazzler
3. Bittersweet's Aurora o/r Hannah Smith Ballywhim Luan x Rumor Risky
4. Ridgetop Royal Locket o: Sally Eyles- Goldfarb o/o Secure by Aladdin's Denver

## Intermediate Halfbred:

1. Crystal Crescent Moon o: Nancy Winter o/o Ebony Moon by Catherston Dazzler
2. BT Just a Rebel o: Samantha Tinney o/o Aubusson by Crosskeys Rebel
3. HC Celtic Mark o/r Donna Miller o/o Starnmark by Ardceltic Art
4. Zaboomafoo o/r Anna Stein by Gunsmoke

# USDF AWARDS

1. Fourth Level, Adult Amateur, TBF Triton's Rauri (Skyview's Triton x Bacchea) o/r Getje Witt, breeder Jenny Youngblood. 65.139

1. Second Level, Adult Amateur, Prairie Mulligan (Blue Ridge Jefferson x Dawn's Mary Kate) o/r Michelle Ganno-Sherwood, breeder Carol Siebecker. 65.509

2. Second Level, Adult Amateur, Kynynmont Brianna (Ballywhim Sterling Moss x Kynynmont Arianna) o/r – Madelaine Ford, breeder Pam Liddell 63.972

3. Second Level, Adult Amateur, Penny Lane (Wildwood Hearne Topgun x Balmullo's Matilda) o/r Amy Marrich, breeder Kathy Bridges 62.084

4. Second Level, Adult Amateur, Labras Leannon (\*Hayseldon Perseus x Laurel) o/r Jennifer Garutti, breeder Meredith McGrath 61.922

1. Training Level, Adult Amateur, Roscommon Fagan (Balias Malachi x Lasrachai's Blue Oak Dunlaith) o/r Gerlinde Beckers, breeder Kathleen Fowler. 69.225

2. Training Level, Adult Amateur, MLC Rocky River Morn (Morning Glory's Ilyshin x Brambleridge March Mayhem) o/r Constance Brown, breeder Janet Rowe 67.596

1. First Level, Junior/Young Rider, Rosewood's Better Mouse Trap (Bantry Bay's Dillon x Balmullo's Rhiann) o/r Taylor Gustin, breeder Darian Hall. 60.830

1. Grand Prix, Musical Freestyle, Kynynmont's Gunsmoke's Gideon (\*Gun Smoke x Kynynmont Tara) r. Jessica Tate, o/ breeder Pam Liddell 67.735

1. Third Level, Musical Freestyle, Brambleridge Capability Brown (\*Bobby Brown x Wildwych Cricket) o/r Georgina Ranson, breeder Nancy Buchanan. 64.333

1. First Level, Open, Searah's Ginger Snap (Valley Creek Angileri x Wild Acres Grace O'Maley) o/r Angela Rice, breeder Kathy Trum-Searah. 66.498

2. First Level, Open, Rosewood's Better Mouse Trap, 60.830

1. Fourth Level, Open, TBF Triton's Rauri, 65.139.

1. Grand Prix, Open, Kynynmont Gunsmoke's Gideon 65.422

1. Second Level, Open, Prairie Mulligan,

2. Second Level, Open, Kynynmont Brianna,

3. Second Level, Open, Penny Lane,

4. Second level, Open, Labras Leannon,

1. Third Level, Open, Prada (Ballywhim An Luan x Bella Fleck) o/r Kristi Livingston, breeder Maura Jordan

1. Training Open, Roscommon Fagan, 69.225

2. Training Open, MLC Rocky River Morn, 67.596

1. Training Level, Adult Amateur ,Vintage Cup – Roscommon Fagan, 69.225.



## Kynnymont Brianna

(Ballywhim Sterling Moss x Kynnymont Airanna)

Breeder: Pam Liddell

Owner: Madelaine Ford

I purchased Bryn from Pam Liddell in 2018 as I was being introduced to dressage (after vetting two 17.1 hand imports) and have fallen completely in love with the world of pony dressage. Bryn is the most patient and gracious partner an amateur rider could ask for - she is just as happy to go on a two hour bareback trail ride as she is to teach me to sit the medium trot, and is an incredible professional at shows. Bryn and I have had great success showing together and we are so excited to debut our third level moves this summer as I work towards my USDF Bronze Medal. I would love to continue to move up the levels with Bryn as long as she is comfortable and enjoying showing. We have been lucky enough to ride with some very prestigious trainers and clinicians and Bryn's work ethic, temperament and athletic ability always win over the pony-skeptics! Don't mind all our pink - we are out for the blues!!

## A Forever Home: Part II

By: Gerlinde Beckers

### Roscommon Fagan

In early 2020, I submitted an article, A Forever Home, on Roscommon Fagan a.k.a Fagan (Balius Malachi x Larachai's Blue Oak Dunlaith) after being named purebred Connemara Horse of the Year in Dressage. The last sentence I wrote was, "I cannot wait to see what the future brings in both dressage and eventing with my forever pony Fagan!" As a review, Fagan appeared in my life in October 2017, at the age of 13. His breeder and owner of 13 years, Kathleen Fowler was looking for a forever home for him. I was not in the market for an oversize pony with no show record, a huge-loving personality, who appeared to have been eating a lot of groceries.....and so our partnership began.

Fast forward, it was our goal to qualify for the 2020 American Eventing Championships (AEC) at the beginner novice level. Fagan and I hit the road, we received our qualifying 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in October 2019, in our backyard at Fleur de Leap Horse Trial in Folsom, Louisiana. We were on our quest to complete the two additional required completions with no cross-county faults. Our second completion was earned in February 2020 at Rocking Horse, Horse Trial in Altoona, Florida, then as we all know in March 2020, the country shut down to the COVID pandemic. Upon reopening of USEF competitions in June 2020, we received our third completion at Texas Rose Horse Trials, in Tyler, TX, and we were qualified for the 2020 AEC! Unfortunately, in August 2020, it was announced that the 2020 AEC were cancelled.

The following competition year it was announced that all 2020 AEC qualified riders would be qualified for the 2021 AEC, but they must have one completion with no cross-country faults between April and August. We earned this completion in June 2021 at the Kentucky Horse Park, and we were on our way to the 2021 AEC. Then August 29, 2021, two days before we were scheduled to leave for Lexington, KY, south Louisiana, where we live, was devastated by Hurricane Ida. Following this category 4 hurricane, leaving our farm looked impossible due to the unbelievable number of downed trees, utility poles, and damage. With the help of our neighbors clearing the road, my husband's willingness to stay at home and manage the farm without electricity and my daughter, Emma, who generously offered to go with me, we left on the 14-hour drive to the 2021 AEC arriving one day prior to the beginning of our competition. One of the greatest qualities



*Kynnymont Brianna and Madelaine Ford. 2021 National Pony Cup third place at Second Level end of season award in addition to their USDF awards.*

of competing in a horse trial, is, it's not over until it was over. There were 51 starters in the Beginner Novice Master Amateur division. After dressage, Fagan and I were in 5<sup>th</sup> place with a 28.5. Then after cross-country, we moved up to 4<sup>th</sup> place. This leaving the last phase, show jumping. Show jumping was our weakness, it was pouring, and there was no room for any jumping faults between 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> place. Having a clear round, I was just elated, thinking we finished 4<sup>th</sup> at the AEC on a 28.5. Then the third through first place riders all had jumping faults and WE WON!!!! This was a dream come true.

This competition year led Fagan to be the 2021 purebred Connemara Horse of the Year in Eventing as well as USDF All-Breed American Connemara Pony Society Training Level champion, open, amateur, and vintage divisions. During the USEA podcast interview following our AEC win, I was asked what was next for Fagan? I laughed and said, at 17, retirement to my pleasure horse and MY FOREVER PONY!



*Roscommon Fagan and Gerlinde Beckers*



*(Spotted Horse Photography)*

## **MLC Rocky River Morn**

*(Morning Glory's Ilyshin x Brambleridge March Mayhem)*

Breeder: Janet Rowe

Owner: Constance Brown

MLC Rocky River Morn' (aka Rian) bred by Muskoka Lakes Connemaras, is a 5 year old Connemara. Not my first young horse but he's my first Connemara. I got him as a late 2 year old and after having shown him in Dressage Sport Horse Breed shows, this was his first year competing under saddle. He finds new places & crowds very exciting, but every adventure is a reward- from taking him on his first trail ride (and my first trail ride in nearly a decade) last fall, to finishing this show season at Materiale and Training Level with scores into the low 70s.



## **Brambleridge Capability Brown**

*(\*Bobby Brown x Wildwyck Cricket)*

Breeder: Nancy Buchanan

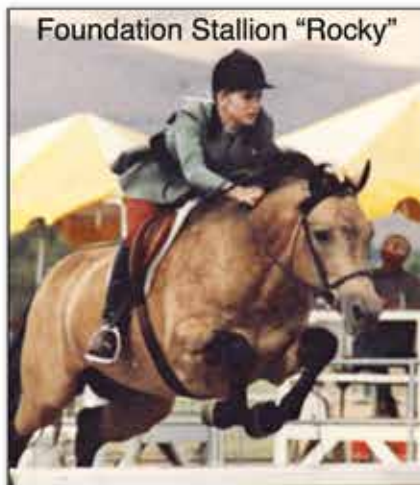
Owner: Georgia Ranson

Brambleridge Capability Brown (aka Charlie Brown) debuted his Third Level Musical Freestyle with Owner / Rider, Georgia Ranson, at Tryon International Equestrian Center in August of 2021. Georgia choreographed the test to music from the animated Peanuts television specials. As the pair enters the arena, they do so to the recording of Lucy pulling away the football at the last minute from poor, gullible Charlie Brown. "AAUGH!" Judge Anne Cizadio loved the choice of music, but even more beneficial were her comments and suggestions for overall improvement. Georgia took these to heart and made both music and movement changes. She and Charlie Brown practiced these in the weeks leading up to Regional Championships in Atlanta where they were, once again, a crowd favorite, as they danced to the jazz stylings of the Vince Guaraldi Trio.

Together the pair also earned Georgia her USDF Bronze Medal in 2021 as well as placed as a Third Level Junior at Regionals. Oh, Good Grief!

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# Skyview's Triton

Custusha's Cashel Rock x Skyview Lady Rigel x Gilnocky Drumcliffe



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# USEF/USEA Horse of the Year Awards



## Abbeyside Waves

### Beginner Novice Winner

Owner: Alisa Syar Rider: Faith Delessandro

Abbeyside Waves is a 7 year old mare, one of many Silver Ice Connemaras that were brought over from Ireland. She came to the US in 2018 and was put to work. She was ready for shows in 2021, and competed at her first event at the spring Twin Rivers Horse Trials at Beginner Novice. She was third and from there on she has continued to grow and improve and get better in her training. She ended the season with a blue ribbon at the Fresno County Horse Park Event. She is a fantastic pony who will do anything you put in front of her. She is super willing, and just wants to please her rider. We are very excited to start the 2022 Season.

## Castleturvin Mungo

Novice Level Purebred Connemara

By: Marina Cassou

Castleturvin Mungo (aka Mungo) is a 15.3 hand Connemara who was imported to the US from Scotland in 2017 as a sale horse. After a few owner situations didn't work out, he came into my life and I became his owner and rider in the Spring of 2019. Unfortunately, I don't know anything about his breeding. He had only done a few in-hand and small jumper shows in Scotland. When I got him I was 14 years old and had been riding a pony that was half Connemara, so I knew the breed a little.

We had a rough start in the beginning because he was very anxious about new situations. When I started eventing him, he was especially worried about the other horses in the warm up and he would bolt when he got nervous. After a few starts at Beginner Novice, most of the events were shut down because of Covid. That gave us a lot of time to be together and to really get to know each other. Mungo had a lot of natural ability and as we formed a bond of trust, things started to get better and better. When the events opened again, we moved up to Novice and competed mainly in Area 2. I was lucky to ride him this year at the Pony Club Champs (and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> out of more than 70 starters) and The AECs, both at the Kentucky Horse Park. It was super fun because I have been to the Kentucky Horse Park several times and watched the KY 5 star, and it was fun to ride at the same place as the top eventing horse and riders. We also finished 2<sup>nd</sup> this fall at the Area 2 Championships at the Maryland Horse Trials. In addition, I got my Pony Club C1 rating on Mungo and we have done lots of show jumping and some fox hunting as well.

Mungo thinks he is a big horse and doesn't mind that the horses he is up against are sometimes 1-2 hands bigger. He is very honest and has a lot of scope and I don't think I will ever run out of jump on him. Mungo has the sweetest personality. The name Mungo means "my pet" and that is what he is. He follows me around the paddock and arena when I am on foot. When I think back at our early troubles, I think he just

wanted to have one owner around all the time that loves on him. I call him "Monkey" because he has a very goofy personality. Whenever he competes, he gets a peanut butter and jelly sandwich at the end of the day, which is his favorite treat. I feel very lucky that we found each other and look forward to our future together.





# \*Kays Moonlight



*Tanzen*  
Willow Farm

\*Kays Moonlight was imported from Ireland in 2018. Registered Class 1 with CPBS in Ireland and ACPS in the U.S Great temperament! Anyone can ride him, he can go alone or with other horses.

\*Kays Moonlight is 14.3h, is a N/N on hoof separation, he is homozygous grey, currently eventing at Beginner Novice and will start Novice next season.

Stud fee is \$750 shipped cooled.

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# Combined Driving



## Willow's Aslan Riley Wiltison

17 year old Oakland, MD, Riley Wiltison and his driving partner, Willow's Aslan, a 13-year-old Connemara gelding by Landsdown Willow's Harbour Boy out of New Heart's Morning Glory, had an amazing 2021 show year. Going undefeated in the Combined Driving Intermediate Single Pony Division, the duo won the 2021 USEF Horse of the Year for Intermediate Single Pony. In addition, they won the 2021 USEF Intermediate Single Pony Championship and the 2021 American Driving Society Intermediate Single Pony Championship. While their winning record is very impressive, equally impressive is the fact that Riley is so successful with a pony that was not previously driven at the levels in which he is competing. To accomplish this, Riley spends many hours training and working closely with her trainer, Tracey Morgan.

Riley and Aslan kicked off the 2022 show season at the Grand Oaks Resort, FL, competing in, and winning, their first show in the Advanced Novice Single Pony Division.

*Photos by PicsofYou*







# **Conformation: How it Impacts Your Training**

## **With Sarah McRae Thrasher**

9 AM – 5 PM, Saturday, June 4, 2022

At Elk Haven Equestrian Center, 321 Elk Haven Rd. Cle Elum WA 98922

### **The American Connemara Pony Society Region 9**

is proud to announce a unique learning opportunity. We invite Connemara owners and/or enthusiasts to join us for an information packed week-end.

Sarah McRae Thrasher is an ACPS Certified Inspector, successful breeder, competitor, instructor and owner of Northern Connemaras in Vershire VT.

Participants will experience learning how to:

- See key points of conformation, effect on movement
- Understand strengths and weaknesses of each pony
- Tailor your training to your pony's needs

Additional topics include:

- Pedigree studies: why important, how to do

**\$100 program fee (includes coffee + lunch)**

**Auditors welcome (\$50)**

**Group trail ride + individual lessons offered June 5th**

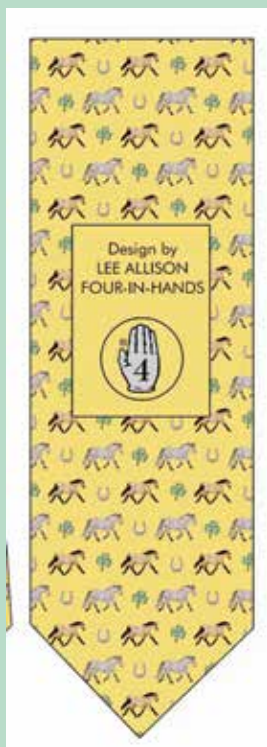
Overnight accommodations available at Elk Haven Equestrian Center

\$15/night camping - \$10/night stabling

**Closing Date** May 5, 2022- Send payment, registration form, and liability waiver to

Tracy Garland at 4759 51st Place SW, Seattle WA 98116. [tracygarland@comcast.net](mailto:tracygarland@comcast.net)

# ACPS FOUNDATION



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## CALENDAR

**Saturday, March 19, 2022 - Region III St. Patrick's Day Meeting, Noon, Thurman Farm, Berryville, VA**

**Sunday, March 20, 2022 - Region I Connemara Tea on Google meet - 10 am to 12 p.m. RSVP to Tracy Roettiger at [t\\_gauvin@yahoo.com](mailto:t_gauvin@yahoo.com)**

**May 14, 2022 - Region I Field Day.**

**June 4, 2022 - Region IX Conformation Clinic with Sarah Thrasher, Elk Haven Equestrian Center, Cle Elum, WA, see page 29 of this issue for Information**

**July 23-24, 2022 - Region I Annual Show, So. Woodstock, VT**

**July 29-31, 2022 - West Coast Connemara Show, Watsonville, CA**

**August 18, 2022 - Clifden, IRE Connemara Show, Clifden, IRE**

**Sept. 2 - 4, 2022 - Region III - Annual Show, Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, VA**

**Oct. 19 - 23, 2022 - ACPS Annual Meeting - Lexington, Kentucky. See Pages 14 & 15 of this issue for information.**

Please send your clinic, show, special events, and meeting dates to [americanconnemara@gmail.com](mailto:americanconnemara@gmail.com)



# 2021 Achievement Awards and Fun With Pony

## Competitive Awards

Dressage Dressage Certificate – Hillcreek Celtic Bug (\*Ardceltic Art x Tre Awain Cashela Bay) O: Lori Johnson  
Ledgewood's Greystone Desiree (Greystone Kellington x Woodchuck Ridge's Fallon O'Flynn) O: Vanessa Morgan  
Dressage Bronze – \*Lishmar Mysty (Westside Mirah x Tawin Hazel) R: Pyper Arnold  
Dressage Silver – Knockmas Finnvara (\*Ardceltic Art x Hideaways Zwenski) O: Cathy Blackmon  
Prairie Mulligan (Blue Ridge Jefferson x Dawns Mary Kate) O: Patty Montana  
Dressage Award of Excellence – MLC Rocky River Morn' (Morning Glory's Ilyushin x Brambleridge March Mayhem) O: Constance Brown  
Piedmont Herman (Balmullo's Beacon x Ruby) O: Gardner Cook  
S.R. Irish Envoy (Greystone Ian McVai x Glenmary Absinthe) O: Marilyn Cheek  
Driving Driving Silver – Cedar's Clarra (JEF Sir Lancelot x Conneleigh Maeve McMor) O: Kay Clements  
Competitive Trail/Endurance Competitive Trail/Endurance Silver – \*Solvstads Ann Mai (Oxenholm Markbook x Ballinrobe Maggie) O: Cindi Weist  
Eventing Eventing Certificate – Cool Springs Mr. Darcy (Blue Ridge Monroe x Zaria) O: Jill McNicol  
Elderglen's Top Secret (Wildwood Hearne Topgun x Cynthia's Secret) O: Lydia McKenzie  
Seaborne's Maritime (Seaborne's Schooner x Double Avenue) O: Vanessa Morgan  
Windover Tarragon (Irish Parks Caraway Finn x De Poco Princess) O: Bridget Kelly  
Eventing Bronze – VSH Tully's Playing With Fire (Tullymor's Ned Devine x Kool Kitten) O: Heather Wu  
Eventing Silver – BDF Tag You're It (Wildwood Hearne Topgun x Running Eagle) O: Carla Jimmerson  
New Song's Freedom (\*Smaragaid Cliff x Wildwych Lucy) R: Emma Sletten  
Event Award of Excellence – Gold to Blue Trapper Jack (Frederiksminde Hazy Match x My Tangos Duchess) O: Carrie Meehan  
In-Hand In-Hand Certificate – BDF Tag You're It (Wildwood Hearne Topgun x Running Eagle) O: Carla Jimmerson  
Clover Hill Golden Ticket (Tullymor's Ned Devine x Glenmeadow Golden Wish) O: Kim Harrison  
Irish Gate's Bold Deceiver (JEF Sir Lancelot x Cedar's Charm) O: Alina Love  
In-Hand Bronze -- Devon Ridge Treasure Hunter (DRF Semper Flexibilus x Devon's Golden Treasure) O: Megan Davis  
Hillcreek Celtic Bug (\*Ardceltic Art x Tre Awain Cashela Bay) O: Lori Johnson  
In-Hand Silver--\*Braemar Peace (Gentle Cascade x Atlantic Promise) O: Nicola O'Connell  
In-Hand Award of Excellence – Isle of View (Duet Farms One Love x Indigo) O: Nancy Roth Hunter  
Hunter Certificate -- \*Braemar Peace Gentle Cascade x Atlantic Promise) O: Nicola O'Connell  
Hunter Gold – Shammer Eagle (\*Canal Laurinston x Shammer Tessie Sparrow) O: Leigh Ellen Ertle  
Jumper  
Jumper Bronze – Big Bear's Cadence of Love (Fergus x Divine Direction) O: Leigh Ellen Ertle  
Big Bear's Esther (Fergus x Big Bear's Aurora) O: Leigh Ellen Ertle  
Big Bear's Faith (\*Canal Clancy x Big Bear's Amazing Love) O: Leigh Ellen Ertle  
Rosewood Little Gem (Foothills Field Marshall x \*Lishmar Topaz) O: Megan Gastel  
Working Equitation  
Working Equitation Bronze -- VSH Divine Alexandra (Tullymor's Ned Devine x Missy) O: Susan Dudasik  
Working Equitation Silver – Aluinn Wyatt (HK's Danny Boy x Aladdin's Star Song) O: Barbara Sullivan  
2021 Non-Competitive Award Winners

4-H 4-H Certificate – \*Lishmar Mysty (Westside Mirah x Tawin Hazel) R: Pyper Arnold  
Foxhunting Foxhunting Certificate – S.R. Irish Envoy (Greystone Ian McVai x Glenmary Absinthe) O: Marilyn Cheek  
Foxhunting Bronze – Windy Isles Quiet Kate (\*The Quietman x Arbor Lanes Bailey) O: Fiona Cheever  
Foxhunting Silver – Miss Madeira (\*Canal Laurinston x Felton Lea Larkspur) O: Nancy Dillon  
New Song's Courageous Son (\*Smaragaid Cliff x \*Glenormiston Rossleague) O: Nancy Dillon  
Foxhunting Gold – Ceili Coral Isles (\*Kilfenora Windy Isles x Coral Misty Ciara) O: Erin Driscoll  
Prairie Madeline (Blue Ridge Jefferson x Tre Awain Ballyclare) O: Carrie Hill  
Sparrow's Zeus (Grange Finn Sparrow x Molly) O: Melissa Town  
Pony Club Pony Club Certificate – Elderglen's Top Secret (Top Gun x Cynthia's Secret) O: Lydia McKenzie  
\*Lishmar Mysty (Westside Mirah x Tawin Hazel) R: Pyper Arnold  
New Song's Freedom (\*Smaragaid Cliff x Wildwych Lucy) R: Emma Sletten  
Pony Club Silver – Ripleigh's Abra Cadabra (Ripleigh x Lean On The Wind) O: Carolyn McEvitt  
Therapeutic Riding/Driving Therapeutic Riding/Driving Award of Excellence – Ripleigh's Abra Cadabra (Ripleigh x Lean On The Wind) O: Carolyn McEvitt

## FUN WITH PONY Fun with Pony Certificate

Blackwing Holden's Thunder (Wildwych Thunder Snow x Wildwych Dreamtime) O: Lili Green  
C.K.C Katie (Hideaway's Erin Go Bragh x Feather in My Cap) O: Carolyn B. McEvitt  
Cedars Stella Star (JEF Sir Lancelot x Glenoak's Keep A Secret) O: Pattie Stalder  
Concord River Fife and Drum (Bantry Bay's Archie x Concord River Kayleigh) O: Lisa Anne Page  
Crib Glas Cymbal (Landgate Bluebeard x Hillside Lynn) O: Tarrah Baker  
Crib Glas Mandolin (Bobby Brown x G.G.'s Dove) O: Carolyn B. McEvitt  
Delta-S Lady Liberty (Southern Defender x Sagewind Dakota Sunshine) O: Hannah Secoy  
Elderglen's Miss Kitty (Gunsmoke x Foothills River Queen) O: Amy Treat  
Hideaway's First Edition (Hideaway's Special Delivery x Hideaway's Centerfold) O: Tracy Garland  
Hideaway's Angel (\*Annuluan Oscar x Hideaway's Celebration) O: Tarrah Baker  
Hillcreek Celtic Bug (\*Ardceltic Art x Tre Awain Cahsela Bay) O: Lori Johnson  
Irish Gate's Scarlet Fire (JEF Sir Lancelot x Legacy's Charming Jasmine) O: Karen Laden  
\*Lishmar Mysty (Westside Mirah x Tawin Hazel) O: Darian Hall  
Macbradaigh's Irish Whistle (Maplehurst Michael MacDaire x Elphin Kookaburra) O: Sally Oxnard  
Nora Rose (Skyview's Orion x Sara Sue) O: Shelley Feldner-Schuerman  
Ripleigh's Abra Cadabra (Ripleigh Go Bragh x Lean on the Wind) O: Carolyn B. McEvitt  
Searah's Sweet Coraline (Tullymor's Mountain Thunder x S/H Cordia) O: Sharon Hirsch  
Sunshine Valley's Minnie (Wildwych Thunder Snow x Mint Julep) O: Aiden Beaubien  
TBF Restricted Airspace (TF Sweet Independence x Wild Acres Malarkey) O: Brickelle Miller  
Tower Hills Breeze (\*Kilfenora Windy Isles x Tower Hill's Kathleen) O: Sally Oxnard  
VSH Devine Alexandra (Tullymor's Ned Devine x Missy) O: Susan Dudasik



### Hillcreek Celtic Bug

(\*ArdCeltic Art x Tre Awain Cashela Bay)

Owner/Rider: Lori Johnson

I am thrilled for HillCreek CelticBug, lovingly known as “Bug” for being awarded the Dressage certificate, Bronze In Hand and Fun with Pony Awards.

Despite the craziness of the pandemic, 2021 was the year that “all the little things” that we struggled with, seemed to come together for us in our partnership. After 2020 was a bust, I decided to do more showing and was pleasantly surprised by how well we did. We participated in a local Dressage show circuit and although we missed two out of five of their shows we went from 12th place to 4th in Training level.

No matter what we do whether it's a dressage show or going on a long trail ride, I feel unbelievably blessed to have Bug as my partner. I look forward to the time I have with him and that's all that matters. He unbelievably affectionate and unapologetically a ham and I wouldn't have him any other way!”



### Devon Ridge Treasure Hunter

(DRF Semper Flexibilis x Devon's Golden Treasure)

Owner: Megan Davis

Devon Ridge Treasure Hunter is a talented young 2018 stallion that has an exceptional pedigree, with movement, jump, willingness, intelligence, level-headedness, and a kind temperament to match. Devon Ridge Treasure Hunter has an incredible pedigree, being bred by Devon Ridge Farms in Alberta, Canada off of their foundation lines known as the Golden Legacy Line out of Devon's Golden Treasure a PREMIUM Awarded / Inspected mare! His Irish Draught Sport Horse Lineage- DRF Semper Flexibilis off of Olympic Jumper Flexible (Cruising x Flex) compliments his Irish Draught Sport Horse sired lines to perfection. For Devon Ridge Treasure Hunter in his first year out his performance has also been outstanding. He was the Half Bred Champion and Open Champion at Midwest Connemara Show 2021, as well as Supreme Champion and Supreme Reserve Champion in the Open Silver Sanctioned at River Valley 2021. He has now earned his Bronze Lifetime Achievement Award with the American Connemara Pony Society in his first year competing in-hand, and will be out competing in ridden competitions in 2022.



### \*Solvstads Ann Mai

#### Endurance Mileage Award

The Endurance High Point and High Mileage Award is presented to \*Solvstads Ann Mai “Gretchen”, awarded by the American Connemara Pony Society (ACPS) and the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC). Gretchen is a full bred Connemara mare bred in Denmark in 2007 (Oxenholm Markbook x Ballinrobe Maggie), and owned by Cindi Weist of Choteau MT.

Cindi purchased Gretchen in Germany as a three-year old and they started endurance when Gretchen was 8. Over the next 5 years in Germany, Gretchen completed multi-day and 100-mile rides, accumulating 1293 miles (2080km).

In 2019, Cindi and Gretchen moved to the United States and Gretchen took time off to have a foal.

Cindi started Gretchen back in endurance in 2021, and after placing first on their first Limited Distance ride in the United States, Cindi handed the reins over to 12-year-old Junior rider Ava Depizzol. Under the mentorship and guidance of Cindi, Ava and Gretchen finished 5 more Limited Distance rides, receiving first place, Junior Best Condition, Best Condition and always placing in the Top 10. Gretchen and Ava also earned the AERC Junior Limited Distance High Mileage award for the Mountain Region in 2021.

*Ava and Gretchen on Day 2 Autumn Sun Pioneer Ride, Idaho Gooding, Oktober 2021  
Photo credit: Merri Melde*



## Windover Taragon

(Irish Parks Caraway Finn x Dee Poco Princess)

Owner/Rider: Bridget Kelly

2021 definitely went by in a blur! My amazing halfbred Connemara mare, Chai (a.k.a. Windover Tarragon, by Irish Parks Caraway Finn and out of Dee Poco Princess), and I had so many incredible adventures this year. We kicked off the new year by performing our first Beginner Novice dressage test in front of a judge and competing in a cross-country derby, which was lots of fun, and, as only our third time riding a full course, also highlighted the things we needed to work on. A few weeks later, we were on the road again, traveling to our first ever USEA recognized event. We had decided to take a step down and compete in the Intro division, as it was our first “real” competition together, and Chai hadn’t been to a competition in quite some time. It felt great to finally be competing Chai after a disappointing 2020. We had a very successful outing, coming away with a dressage score of 27.2 and a 6th place ribbon, following a rider error during the cross-country! After making the move up to Beginner Novice at a few small, unrecognized events and Pony Club horse trials, and having a blast, we competed at another recognized horse trials in late May, our first at Beginner Novice, and ended up qualifying for our Area X Championships. We continued training over the summer and early fall, went to a few unrecognized events, and also made sure to enjoy plenty of bareback hacks! In November, we competed at Champs, and won our biggest ribbon yet. We have been working very hard on straight dressage this winter and are planning on competing in some recognized dressage shows in 2022, as well as continuing to event and hopefully make the move up to Novice. This pony continues to amaze me every single day with what she is capable of and how incredible she is.



*(Peter Kelly Photo)*

## Miss Madeira

(\*Canal Laurinston x Felton Lea Larkspur)

Owner/Rider: Nancy D. Dillon

Miss Madeira (Maddie) moved up to first field with the Thornton Hill Hounds this season and we had lots of fun. On Thanksgiving, we were treated to a near-private hunt, in the Master’s pocket, from where we could see and hear the hound work up close. Here’s a brief excerpt from my notes on that hunt:

“We could see off to our right a lone hound on the “jump trail” that’s closer to the Kennels when that hound spoke confidently several times. The pack lifted their heads and rallied to the hound on our right. As soon as the pack reached the trail, hounds opened as one and began to run. It felt as if we were part of the pack - they took off and we did too.”

It’s wonderful to have a partner like Maddie to share such adventures! We’re planning more in 2022.



*(Dennis Bomar Photo)*

## **New Song's Courageous Son**

(\*Smaragaid Cliff x \*Glenormiston Rossleague)

Owner/Rider: Nancy D. Dillon

New Song's Courageous Son (Courage) had another good hunting season in 2021 with the Thornton Hill Hounds. We were hoping to move up to first field this season but a minor injury requiring time off mid-season meant that we still have that goal ahead of us.

Courage did jump his first-ever coop in a lesson last April (pictured) and we practiced many other types of obstacles as he gained experience through the summer. We'll get back to the hunt field later this spring or next summer and that move-up will happen when we're ready.



*(Beth Opitz Photo)*



## **Piedmont Herman**

(Balmullo's Beacon x Ruby, Percheron mare)

Award of Excellence in Dressage

*By Kathee Cook*

Piedmont Herman and I experienced both highs and lows through the 2021 year. He and I continued to work on our dressage and he has definitely developed some amazing buttons for lateral work. Our trainer, Suzanne Hughes, doesn't believe in gimmicks or fast fixes. She insists that the work must be done to develop the horse's self carriage and push from the hind. This is often times more of a stretch for me as a rider than for Herman.

During the first half of the year, Herman seemed to struggle with an intermittent mystery soreness. My local vet and I tried to troubleshoot what was going on, suspecting, then eliminating, all of the obvious possibilities (we thought). By the summer, I decided to take Herman down to the Equine Medical Center in Ocala, where Aric Adams gave him a comprehensive evaluation. I learned quite a bit watching Herman trot around with bluetooth sensors on his head, back, and legs. With ultrasound, radiographs, and x-rays, I got to know the insides of Herman's skeleton almost as well as I know the outsides. Dr. Adams' take-away? Herman needed shoes.

Well, I have always been a proponent of the barefoot horse, but when confronted with the possibility that something very serious could have been threatening Herman's soundness, shoeing seemed like such a relief! It wasn't a totally easy fix. It took about 3 months for Herman to get used to moving gracefully in shoes. He wears a size 4 shoe, due to his large draft feet. I'll have to say the difference has been pretty amazing. Best of all, is Herman's willingness to move and knowing he is comfortable working.

Piedmont Herman is by Balmullo's Beacon out of Ruby, a Percheron mare. He was bred by Vanessa Morgan and is owned by my son, Gardner Cook. I feel blessed to be able to ride and show Herman, and we have completed another good year. We recently won Grand Champion First Level Dressage for 2021 in Northeast Florida. This year our goal includes competing with our new musical freestyle. Follow Herman @piedmont.herman on Instagram for a journey through HermaNation.





*Prairie Madeline and Carrie Hill, Camargo Hunter Trials, 2021*

### **Prairie Madeline**

(Blue Ridge Jefferson, x Tre Awain Ballyclare)

Owner/Rider: Carrie Hill

Maddie exemplifies a Connemara that “does it all.” Whatever I ask, she’s game to give it a try: trails, endurance rides, dressage, mini trials and best of all, foxhunting!

The highlight of 2021 was attending the Bluegrass Hound Performance Trials qualifier at Long Run Woodford Hounds outside of Louisville, KY in December. At 70 degrees, the first day was too warm for decent scenting, but the top 5 hounds from 6 hunts were able to get familiar with each other and the guest huntsman. The next day, with better scenting conditions, 10 minutes out we were off and running for some hard riding to keep up with the pack, which showed exceptional hound work! At about 45 minutes out, other first field members couldn’t help but note that “the pony” had no trouble keeping up with the horses through large, open fields and over coops! No indeed, placing herself about 7 back from the field master in a field of 35 riders. Up front where the action is is where she wants to be, and she has a not-so-subtle jog to let me know that she’d like to work her way forward please. At the same time, she’s content to be at the back of the field for the slower hunting of more checks between the runs, especially in the more wooded, hilly territory of much of our home hunt.

I feel so fortunate to have this very special pony as friend and partner. Looking forward to more fun ahead in 2022 and beyond!

*Elderglen’s Miss Kitty has been a star at the ACPS Region I show, and is now part of the Fun With Pony program, ridden by Amy Treat. She is by \*Gun Smoke out of Foothills River Queen, and is owned by the Treat family.*



### **Rosewood Little Gem**

(Foothills Field Marshall x \*Lishmar Topaz)

Owner: Megan Gastel

Rider:

My Connemara pony Rosewood Little Gem, who is by Foothills Field Marshall out of \*Lishmar Topaz is really a little Gem. I have been leasing her from her owner/breeder for a year and a half now. Seeing that Gem is only 6 years old I am extremely happy with where we are. We started 2021 in the .65 and .70 Jumper divisions and ended the year in the .80 and .85 winning reserve champion of the .80 in the open rider division at Desert International horse park. I’m honored to have received the bronze in jumpers. We worked extremely hard and we finished on a really high note, making us even more excited for 2022.

Stepping right into the .80 and our big goal for the year is finishing the year off at the Riders Cup in October in Los Angeles, California. I would like to thank Megan Gastel for letting me ride Gem as well as my family Wendy Bunnell (mother) and Gina Scala-Santamauro (cousin) I would also like to thank my trainer for their endless support Kim Baxter of Baxter sport





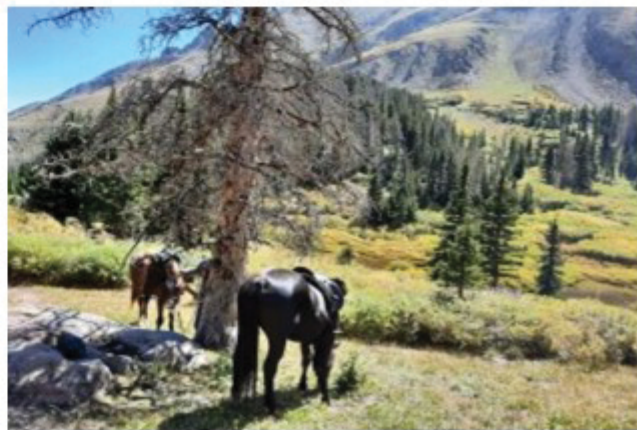
**Cedar's Stella Star**  
**Sire: JEF Sir Lancelot**  
**Dam: Glenoak's Keep a Secret**  
**2013/Black/Mare**  
**Owner: Patie Stalder**  
**Breeder: Eileen Berkley**



# Stella

In 2019 I finally had my own forever horse that was by our Stallion, JEF Sir Lancelot. At 63 years of age I was thrilled to purchase this  $\frac{3}{4}$  Connemara and  $\frac{1}{4}$  Thoroughbred, five year old mare. Cedars Stella Star is a gem. Stella and I have completed 188.75 hours of riding this year! I record our hours for a Horsemanship Rewards program with the Kansas Horse Council so since I already had the information I decided to share it with the Fun With Pony ACPS Achievement Award committee. Stella came to me as a five year old with very limited training or riding; actually just 60 days with a trainer when she was three. So the past three years have been a learning and bonding experience for us both. We've formed a mutually trusting relationship which was particularly demonstrated through two adventures we shared in 2021. We live in a rural part of northeast Kansas called the Flint Hills. Most of our rides are either on and around our farm or within 15 minutes to a couple hours from home but this year we decided to haul to Colorado and ride in the mountains. We are very fortunate to have friends that ride in the Sangria de Cristo Mountains near Westcliffe each year. They joined us for a week of camping at Alvarado Campground. It's a primitive campground located at 9,000 feet. Just getting down to the horse pens and back up to our trailer had me winded! My husband, Bob, was riding his 4 year old halfbred, Irish Gate's Lucky Shamrock, also by Sir Lancelot and out of a Holsteiner mare. We were concerned about the lack of oxygen at the high elevation but the horses never seemed to be effected by it. We were conscious of allowing them to stop whenever they needed a break.

By the end of the week we had logged 30 miles of mountain trails from our camp at 9,000 feet up to Comanche Lake at 12,000. The scenery was special in that it was late September so the Aspens were just beginning to turn. As you can see by the pictures, some of the trails were very steep, narrow and rocky. The bond Stella and I already had was truly cemented throughout the week. Because she was so confident and calm on the Colorado trails I decided our next daring experience would be to ride in the Lawrence Christmas Parade. This parade is one of the most unique in the nation. In its 28th year, this parade features authentic horse-drawn carriages and wagons along with hundreds of mounted riders festively decorated for the season. The parade route is over 2 miles long with massive crowds especially when the weather is mild as it was this year. I worried quite a bit ahead of time that it might be overwhelming for Stella since she's never been anywhere or done anything other than trail riding. I couldn't stop smiling when we rounded the first corner onto Massachusetts Avenue and for the first time she saw and heard the crowd of people lining the route. She took a big inhale and stood motionless for a bit then proceeded on like the amazing Connemara that she is! There were 4 announcers' stands along the length of the parade and the crowds were spilling over the sidewalks onto the road. I couldn't stop smiling and waving to the crowd. We were with a group of 22 riders representing the Kansas Horse Council. I only wished I had a sign or flag so folks would know that she's a Connemara Pony! I don't know yet what 2022 will bring but I've purchased an on-line training program called "99 Challenges" so we will continue to have fun together!





# BSF Golden Snitch



The perfect combination of athletic  
and quiet to compliment any mare

2017 14.2hh

Connemara Palomino Stallion

by Tre Awain Goldsmith x

BSF Indy Lu (Ballywhim An Luan)

HWSD N/N



@ nicmerles



BSF Golden Snitch



[virginiafieldhunters.com/golden-snitch](http://virginiafieldhunters.com/golden-snitch)



[merlesmithsporthorses@gmail.com](mailto:merlesmithsporthorses@gmail.com)



## Our Way Forward

*By Christine Kelton*

*Assisted by Trout Ranch Polly Claire*

*(\*Smaragaid Cliff x New Song's Autumn)*

*"There are only two emotions allowed when riding a horse -  
a sense of humor and patience."*

*-Carol Seaman*

*USDF Bronze & Silver Medalist*

*USDF "L" Graduate*

### Episode 14 - Ride the Horse You Have Today

You can't wait to get to the barn for your next ride because you've got a fantastic new exercise you saw on YouTube that you want to try out on your pony after work. She's been going pretty well, and you think you're ready to notch it up a step. The hopeful anticipation bubbles in your veins all day, and the moment finally arrives when you put your foot in the stirrup and swing over for another good ride.

Except your pony didn't see that video. And she has other plans, which becomes painfully evident within five minutes. What those plans are remains a mystery, but at this moment they don't include circles - or squares, triangles, or serpentine. What happened to that cool "spiral in and out at the trot" exercise you were hoping for to get her shoulders straighter and that lovely inside leg to outside rein connection? Oh, the injustice!! Is my darling, overly smart pony conspiring against me?

The people from LaLuna Farm where I board Polly left for Florida in December, and I found myself unable to ride after work because nobody was there in the evenings. This was my first winter when I was able to ride Polly, and here I was, foiled again! Last year I was injured so she got most of the winter off, and the previous years she was too young in my mind and I turned her out for the cold months. I found myself gazing longingly at the beautiful indoor, unable to use it. Instead, morning and night, here I was, shoveling, hoisting, and scrubbing with my only reward being very one-sided conversations, (they're much more interesting when we're on a ride) and a lot of brushing. Polly didn't mind this arrangement at all, as being groomed is on her Top 3 list of ways to spend her time - eating and dozing in the sun the other two contenders.

What was I to do? I'm an amateur, I have no Olympic or any other showing aspirations, and I don't even want to ride every day - four



times a week is good in this New York winter weather. But I do want to ride, and Polly needs to keep that overly active brain occupied. At first I thought that spending the winter practicing long-lining would be an option, but doing any activity over and over would not sit well with either of us. Something had to change.

I needed to be at a place where there were people around in the evenings and there were varying riding options - both indoor and outdoor arenas and trails would be great - and multiple disciplines represented so we could work on a little jumping. I also have pretty severe boarding anxiety after a disaster several years ago. Wood fencing, a well-maintained barn, and clean water troughs are high on my list of priorities. If a barn offers you a deal that seems too good to be true, it is. Run.

It seemed like a tall order, but last winter when I was recovering from my broken ankle, I had hobbled in to WillsWay Equestrian Center on my crutches to watch Carol Seaman, from whom I had taken a few lessons, as she gave a musical freestyle clinic. The barn/indoor was new and immaculate, but I hadn't seen what else was there. It was worth a shot. And, it was only 10 minutes from my job.

I moved Polly in on New Year's Eve to stay until my LaLuna crew returns from Florida sometime in April. Julie's comment was, "I don't think you'll last two weeks!" I'll admit the first week or so was rough, and at first the owners even offered to install an extra webcam in Polly's stall for me. But I went over every day after work, and everything was fine. Plus, one of my former students works there, so I felt pretty good, and Polly of course walked in like she owned the place, settled immediately, and seemed very content. She's turned out





every day with another alpha mare owned by my hunting friend Angela, and at first I had reservations, but it seems like Polly and Paprika have worked things out. Near as I can tell, they take turns being in charge. I'm glad she has a buddy, and they have formed a bond. We're in a good place.

Back to the pony training. No, your pony is not conspiring against you. They do not have the ability to analyze the way a human does. Although some days you may be willing to bet money that I'm wrong, your pony does not sit in her stall chewing hay, thinking of ways to obstruct your progress.

*Horse Illustrated* published a very interesting article called "Understanding Your Horse's Brain" that explained the differences between the horse and human brains. The link is at the end. First, as a percentage of body size, your pony's brain weighs about 2.5 pounds, which is 1/500th of the size of her entire body. In comparison, a human brain weighs about 3 pounds, which is 1/50th of our body mass! I've read that a horse's brain is about the size of a walnut, but that is simply not the case. In addition, the frontal lobe in human and horse brains is vastly different.

Crissi McDonald states:

"It's not that horses don't think like we do," she says. "It's that they can't think like we do. Without a well-developed frontal lobe, horses cannot hold grudges, plot revenge, try to win, plan a way to get out of working or take pleasure in making us mad—even though these are ideas that generations of horsemen have believed, especially during a frustrating experience with a horse."

Back to the day of the "spiral in and out" exercise I was so keen on. I stopped Polly and stood there for a full 2 minutes looking out the arena window at all the snow on the ground, wondering what I was doing wrong. It was cold - definitely in the mid 20s, but the sun was shining. Patience and a sense of humor. I gave a resigned sigh, hopped off, and headed out the back door into the great, snowy outdoors. This turned out to be one of the BEST decisions I've ever made with her.

There was an icy patch by the outside mounting block, so I sucked it up and got on from the ground. She is "only" 14h, so it is definitely doable, and she stands like a rock. I'll take credit for that. :) I headed her out to the field in front of the farm. Despite the fact that the snow was nearly up to her knees, Polly took off at a passage-trot and danced most of the way around the field, breaking into a gallop for the home stretch back to the gate. I'd be lying if I said one hand wasn't in a death grip in her thick mane. When we stopped, I had a strong chat with her to the tune of, "You know, you panting lunatic, it's a lot more work going through this snow at breakneck speed than it is to do some circles in the nice indoor!" Yeah, Yeah, Yeah.

We mosied around the driveways to the back of the barn where there was more snow covered land to explore. Up the rise to the manure container, down the other side, across a small parking lot. And there it was - a perfect snowbank left by the plow, maybe 2'6". I aimed Polly straight at it, up went her ears, and then we were sailing over, landing in previously untrodden snow. Then



came the exuberant buck I've come to expect and a quick turn back around to the lot. OK. Let's do it again! Rinse and repeat three times. Polly was puffing from the exertion, but joyful from it, as well.

On that note, I brought her back inside, overjoyed for a job well done by her. "I told you so!" she seemed to say with her jaunty walk and toss of her head. She's certainly never been shy about expressing her opinions! It wasn't my original plan, but it worked out to be the best possible plan for that day, and I owed it all to my little buckskin menace.

I learned my lesson: Ride The Horse You Have Today!

Source:

-, Kara L. Stewart, et al. "Understanding Your Horse's Brain." *Horse Illustrated Magazine*, 1 Dec. 2020, <https://www.horseillustrated.com/your-horses-brain>.



## CONNEMARAS SHINE IN WORKING EQUITATION STANDINGS

*By Susan Dudasik*

Over the last few years, the sport of Working Equitation (WE) has been growing in leaps and bounds, capturing the attention of equestrians from a variety of disciplines, riders on many breeds, including the Connemara. WE events include dressage and Ease of Handling, obstacle work, (EOH) in the introductory division. The higher levels include a speed trial on the obstacle course and in some places, may include cattle work. According to Erin Leal from USAWE, the national organization for Working Equitation events, there are currently 17 Connemaras recorded with USAWE and four of them competed in USAWE rated shows. Others have participated in clinics and non-rated schooling shows. The four competing ponies were, from ACPS Region 3: Aluinn Wyatt, Wildwych Benedict Arnold, and Oakfields Sienna Sparrow. From ACPS Region 8, VSH Devine Alexandra,

Recently USAWE posted their National and Regional leaderboard featuring the top 20 equines in each division and the Connemaras were well represented. Leading the Connemaras, was a newcomer to the sport, Aluinn Wyatt, (HK's Danny Boy x Aladdin's Star Song) a gelding owned and ridden by Barbara Sullivan of Maryland. The pair has been to clinics and had taken lessons before diving into actual competition last year. Their preparation and hard work paid off. At the USAWE Region 6 Championship in September the pair won both the dressage and EOH, trials under two judges, earning them the Region 6 Level 1 Amateur Championship. They also won the Amateur high score dressage and were tied for high score dressage of the show. This boosted the pair in the USAWE standings. In the 2021 Amateur L1-Introductory division they finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Nation. They were 1<sup>st</sup> in USAWE's Region 6 and 5<sup>th</sup> in Region 7. They also won the USAWE National High Point Connemara award sponsored by Misfit Farm's Trail Equine Level of Excellence Program. Rounding out their 2021 WE success, the pair also earned their silver medal for the ACPS Working Equitation Achievement Award.

Wildwych Benedict Arnold (Wildwych Thunder Snow x Wildwych Valkyrie) owned and ridden by Jody Fontanetta also finished the year well by placing 7<sup>th</sup> overall in the USAWE Region 6 Open L2 - Novice A. Jody has been competing in WE shows for the past three years, but this was Benedict Arnold's first show season.

Also competing from ACPS Region 3 was the lovely mare, Oakfields Sienna Sparrow (\*Hearnesbrook Dunoon x Oakfields Maria Sparrow) ridden by Elaine Meilhan. The pair showed in the Amateur L1- Introductory division.

Competing for a second year was VSH Devine Alexandra (Tullymor's Ned Devine x Missy) a halfbred mare owned and shown by Susan Dudasik of ACPS Region 8. The pair competed in three rated USAWE shows in the Open L1- Introductory division. At the USAWE Region 1 Championship show, they placed 4<sup>th</sup> in dressage and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the EOH to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in their division at the Region One Championship show. With these successes, they finished 13<sup>th</sup> nationally and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the USAWE Region 1 standings. They also earned their bronze medal for the ACPS Working Equitation Achievement Award.

With the growing interest in Working Equitation, the ACPS has added a WE Achievement Award to their Lifetime Achievement Awards program. USAWE also offers a USAWE National High Point Connemara award sponsored by Misfit Farm's Trail Equine Level of Excellence Program.

*Oakfields Sienna Sparrow and Elaine Meilhan in the dressage phase of a Western Equitation Show in Virginia*

*Aluinn Wyatt and  
Barbara Sullivan*

*4th in the Nation*



*VSH Devine Alexandra and Susan Dudasik*



*Wildwych Benedict Arnold and Jody Fontanetta, 7th overall in the  
USAWE Reg. 6 Open L2 Nov. A Division.*





# *From the Inspections Committee ~*

## *10 Most Common Inspection Questions*

The ACPS Inspections Program has been functioning since the mid 1990s. The ICCPS, the International Committee of Connemara Pony Societies, the global group of Connemara Pony Societies around the world, is dedicated "To develop and maintain the Connemara Pony as a distinct breed in accordance with the aims and objectives of the CPBS by promoting and fostering high standards of breeding". Inspection of ponies by each Society is the means by which breeding animals are evaluated with respect to the Breed Standard. The ACPS became a member of the ICCPS in 2004 and thanks to the work of the Inspections Committee and Inspectors, the Connemara Pony in the US continues to be one of the most popular breeds, being enjoyed by many people in a variety of disciplines. Our ACPS Mission Statement includes "To preserve the unique qualities of the breed".

For the past 28 years, the ACPS Inspectors have inspected many, many ponies. That being said, the majority Connemara Pony population in the US has been inspected. Several years ago, we saw a decrease in foal births, mainly due to economics and therefore the number of ponies coming of age for inspection, has decreased. The reduction in the pool of ponies yet to be inspected, is a good thing actually. But some challenges have arisen when it comes to the Inspection process, that were not present when the program was first established. First of all, one of the policies in place for scheduling an Inspection is a minimum of 10 ponies. This number was determined based on the travel and lodging expenses for the Inspection Team. In today's world, we all know that travel costs have increased and travel has become less reliable, especially air travel - posing another set of challenges when it comes to Inspections. The Nomination of 10 ponies factors into this as we have observed that it is becoming more difficult to find an area where there are 10 ponies ready to be Inspected. Second, with the size of the ACPS Regions and the distribution of members, coordinating a site and date, let alone the ease of travel for the members bringing a pony to Inspection brings yet another set of challenges. Geographic barriers such as mountains or large driving distances between hubs of pony populations, not to mention the rising cost of fuel, stabling and all the other expenses associated with taking a pony away from home factor into the decision whether or not to have a pony Inspected. Recently, questions from pony owners regarding the Inspection process, have been asked and it is a good time to take a look at some of them.

Here are the 10 most commonly asked questions regarding ACPS Inspections.

*1. HEIGHT: "My pony is 15.1 H and when I look up information about the height of Connemara ponies I find 14.3 is mentioned. So I guess my pony won't pass inspection"*

When an Inspection Team looks at a pony they are working through a series of characteristics from the Breed Standard. The categories include: Type, Conformation, Movement, Temperament. Height is part of the Inspection and historically ponies have exhibited a range of heights. If you look back through the Stud Books from both the CPBS and the ACPS, you will find many different heights. The Veterinary Report Form, the document brought on the Day of Inspection and completed by the owner's veterinarian, has a place for the pony's height to be recorded. Another important place where a pony's height is recorded is on the Permanent Registration Papers of the pony. There

are spots for the height to be recorded at 2 years AND at 5 years. So what if a 15.1 H pony is Nominated for Inspection? One of the items the Inspection Team is looking to see is if the pony is "substantially proportionate to the height" - is the bone and substance of the pony enough to support the height? The Inspectors measure the bone of the pony at the cannon bone and this provides a means by which substance can be observed.

My example is.....say you saw a 17H horse and the bone measurement was 6 1/2 inches, then the limbs could not really support the bulk of the body. "Over height" is not a concern as long as there is substance for support, the breed type is present and the other characteristics observed upon presentation for Inspection, are that of a recognizable Connemara Pony type.

*2. REFUND: "I Nominated my pony for Inspection and my schedule changed and I cannot make the inspection. OR I sold the pony I nominated for Inspections. Can I get a refund?"*

No refunds are offered through the ACPS Inspections. However, if a pony dies prior to inspection another pony may be substituted in the Nominated pony's place. If a pony is sold before its Inspection, then the Nomination carries over to the new owner and they have the option to have the pony Inspected. It is very important to make sure the Inspections Committee knows if a Nominated pony has been sold prior to its inspection so that the new owner can be contacted to let them know the pony is eligible for Inspection. If a pony has experienced an injury resulting in lameness, whether permanent or temporary, allowances are made the day of Inspection.

*3. TURNOUT: "Do I have to pull my ponies mane, trim feathers, what equipment do I need? OR.....I'm competing in a show and my pony's inspection will be after my ridden classes. There are sweat marks on my pony or the mane is braided. What do I do?"*

Ponies should be shown in their natural state, that being said, if a pony is being competed and the mane is pulled or "furnishings" (aka whiskers, bridle paths, feathers) have been neatened because of the show discipline, that is fine. If an Inspection is being held in conjunction with a show, then it is understood that a pony might show evidence of a performance class - sweat marks, a braided mane. BOTH the pony and handler should come to Inspections ready to stand the pony quietly for static observation by the Inspection Team, and then be able to walk and trot the pony to and from the Inspection Team. Either a halter or bridle may be used, the handler should wear footwear that allows for the in hand movement of the pony (spurs should be removed). In some cases the pony might be asked to exhibit movement at liberty. This does not involve the pony being chased around but rather the Inspection Team often finds that free movement is a less inhibited way to observe the pony's movement.

*4. STALLIONS: "I have a stallion/stallion prospect. Must he be inspected before it can be used for breeding? I have two registered stallions, and they got into the pasture with my mares? Now I have foals on the way, who's the sire?"*

The ACPS Registers every pony of known parentage and the DNA of a pony is part of its identity. Therefore, no a stallion does not

have to be inspected prior to use as a breeding animal. However, it is good to have all animals used for breeding, inspected. The Inspection Team will provide the Inspection Report Form, providing the owner with the observations the day of Inspection. Once the pony has been “approved”, the pony is listed in the “List of Inspected and Approved Connemara Ponies” which compiles with the requirements for membership in the ICCPS. The parentage of ponies can be determined through DNA, which is part of the ACPS Registration process.

*5. MARE WITH FOAL AT FOOT: “My mare has had a foal and it is not weaned yet. Can she still be inspected? Do I need to halter break my foal and have someone else lead the foal while I handle the mare?”*

The ACPS is a Breed Society and so it is great to see mares and foals. Yes, certainly a mare can be inspected with a foal at foot. No, the foal does not have to be halter trained and a second handler is not required. The foal can move at liberty and be allowed to nurse. The only issue with bringing a foal to inspections is to make sure that the inspection venue is safe and “foal proof” as foals are very curious.

*6. PREMIUM: “I’ve nominated my mare for Inspection. During the Inspection process, the Inspector Team asked me if the mare has ever had a foal? Why.....”*

The ACPS has a Premium program which recognizes outstanding representatives of the Connemara Breed. Being a Breed Society, proceeding offspring is essential. If the Inspection Team feels that the pony being Inspected might meet the criteria for Premium, they will go back to the pony owner and gather more information about the pony on the day of Inspection. If it is the pony’s first Inspection, and the pony is designated Premium, there is no additional fee charged. If a pony was presented for its initial inspection, say before it produced offspring, then the standard Nomination Fees apply. If, at a later point in the pony’s life, once it has produced offspring, the owner feels the pony might be considered for Premium Status, then the pony is Nominated for Premium and an Inspection Team will perform a second Inspection of the pony. There is a fee charged for the second Inspection of a pony for Premium.

*7. RE-PRESENTATION: “I presented my pony for Inspection and it was not approved. I’m devastated and mad. What should I do?”* In many cases, when an Inspection Team asks a pony to be Re-presented (THE TERM FAIL IS INCORRECT) they may feel that the pony is immature and would be better suited to be brought back when older. Connemaras are a late maturing breed. Sometimes owners are excited about having their pony Inspected when they have the opportunity, but often a pony needs a few years to grow into itself and it is best to wait until another opportunity in the future for Inspections. In most cases, the pony will not receive remarks/comments from the Inspection team. The owner will be advised of this decision and the reasons why. IF HOWEVER, in rare cases, a pony is not a good representative of the Connemara pony breed, it is difficult for the Inspection Team to inform an owner, but the results are explained. The Inspection Program’s function is to maintain the Breed Standard and even though careful thought and planning is put into breeding ponies, not all crosses result in the pony of one’s dreams.

*8. HALFBRED: “I have a great halfbred, who is recognizable as a Connemara Pony. Can I have it Inspected?”*

There are many challenges with Inspecting halfbreds, the operative word here being HALF. What is that half? Breed characteristics are expressed in many different ways and it often is a challenge to try and separate out the ways in which genes are combined. Enjoy your halfbred and promote it as a Connemara.

*9. AGE: “I’ve just bought my first Connemara Pony and Inspections will be in my Region. Should I Nominate my 2 yr old for Inspection?”*

Connemaras are a late maturing breed and although some individuals seem well put together as 2-3 yr olds, often times another couple of years makes a big difference in the appearance and maturity of a pony. We get excited when our Connemaras offer to do their job so willingly and cooperate in their training, but physically they are still immature. Ask other Connemara owners and breeders you know or ask an Inspector for their input regarding the timing for nominating your youngster for Inspection.

*10. IDENTITY: “I just bought my first pony or sadly got a pony from a rescue that is a “Connemara”. How can I really know whether my pony is who it is? I have papers but ..... My pony isn’t microchipped. My pony has a brand.”*

As part of the Registration process for the ACPS, the identity/parentage of ponies is verified through DNA. We now microchip foals. BUT many times owners either misplace the microchip or never have it implanted. There are LOTS of grey ponies in the Connemara breed. Part of the Inspections process is to verify the identity of the pony. Early in the history of the program this was done by comparing the facial and leg markings observed on ponies. But as grey ponies mature, often those markings are no longer distinguishable. During the Inspection process, the pony will be scanned to see if a microchip is present. Then the number is compared to the microchip number recorded on the Permanent Registration papers for the pony. If you are nominating an older pony for Inspection who DOES NOT have a microchip, the Inspections Committee recommends you obtain one from the Registrar and have it implanted when your veterinarian comes out to do the Veterinarian Report Form PRIOR to inspection. We would like to think that there is not theft of ponies or cases of mistaken identity that occur, but it is in everyone’s best interest to make sure that we keep our pony’s safe and one way to easily do this, is via a microchip. If a pony has been branded and there is documentation specific to the brand, it is a good idea for a copy to be submitted when the Nomination is made.

The Inspections Committee works together with pony owners, show managers, Regional Chairs, Regional Governors, and other interested parties to schedule Inspections. Locations and dates are arranged with input from many different sources. Early thought and planning allows for the Inspection Teams to arrange travel. If you have a pony you would like to have inspected, have a question or need additional information regarding the ACPS Inspections Program, please contact Kathy Sparks, Inspections Committee Chair. (elmshoot@gmail.com). The ACPS Website is a great place to start if you need information. [www.acps.org](http://www.acps.org).





# ACPS Inspection Nomination Form

**Due date: April 1, 2022**

## I. OWNER INFORMATION

NAME:	
ADDRESS	
E MAIL:	

## II. PONY INFORMATION

ACPS REGISTERED NAME:			
DOB:	BIRTH COLOR:		PRESENT COLOR
PERMANENT REG. #:			
SEX:	(S)	(M)	(G)
DOES THIS STALLION HAVE STORED SEMEN FOR FUTURE USE?	YES	NO	

**\*\*NOTE: GELDINGS WITH STORED SEMEN SHALL BE INSPECTED ACCORDING TO STALLION CRITERIA AND WILL PAY STALLION NOMINATION FEE.**

## III. NOMINATION FEE SCHEDULE:

	BEFORE DEADLINE	AFTER DEADLINE	ORAL PRESENTATION PERMISSION:
STALLION	\$250	\$500	I agree to an oral presentation of this pony's inspection results:____
MARE	\$125	\$250	I do not agree to an oral presentation of the results:_____
GELDING	\$100	\$200	PREMIUM (PREV. APPROVED) \$125

Participants bring ponies to inspection at their own risk. Nomination fees are non-refundable, but inspection of a nominated pony may be postponed until a later inspection due to lameness, illness or other emergencies. Please do NOT bring sick ponies to inspection sites. If a nominated pony dies before the inspection, another pony may be substituted with new documentation. Incomplete forms will be returned. The Inspection Team reserves the right to refuse to inspect any pony who presents itself in an unsafe manner to the handler, observers, or the Inspection Team.

I have read, understand, and agree to these conditions:\_\_\_\_\_

Oral presentations are offered as an educational opportunity for the pony owners AND observers. The ACPS Inspection Team appreciates pony owner's allowing for this opportunity.

**MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ACPS**

Mail forms, Fees and Documentation to: ACPS Inspection Nomination, PO Box 100, Middlebrook, VA 24459

Questions: Kathy Sparks. 812-988-2377. [elmshoot@gmail.com](mailto:elmshoot@gmail.com)

# Region Reports 2021

## Region I

Region 1 Chair's Report  
Tracy Roettiger

In a slightly more normal 2021, Region 1 was able to have a bit of fun! The virtual tea in March was attended by a few members, proving that bravery can be shown not just by tackling that first spring ride but also by navigating Zoom. In June we gathered in person at Gap Mountain Cross Country in Troy NH for our annual Field Day, which this year was a cross country clinic with Lila Gendal, with much enthusiasm from spectators, riders, and ponies alike. The ACPS Region 1 Breed Show was held in July in a modified 1 day format at the Green Mountain Horse Association in South Woodstock Vermont, and what a joyous occasion it was with perfect weather and smiling faces. The in person events were wrapped up in August with a working Equitation Clinic with Kat Walters - what better way to showcase the versatility of the Connemara Pony? The icing on the cake (or the apples in the bran mash) was the addition of new members and their ponies.

## Region II - Christine Kelton

*Editor's Note: A colorful full page newsletter was sent as a report but there were no extra pages in this issue to publish it all, so an annual written report will be included in the next issue.*

## Region III Report

Kim Harrison

2021 saw our region still unable to have our usual in person get-together for March, but we did have a small "zoom" meeting. We also had our region show in July with a good turnout of ponies and even our now traditional exhibitors dinner. We also had inspections at our show. In June and early July there were also exhibitors at the two rated horse shows in Virginia that have Connemara divisions, the Upperville Colt and Horse Show, and the Warrenton Pony Show. Attendance was not great, but we appreciate those that worked hard, cleaned the ponies and got dressed up to impress the audience at these two prestigious shows.

In December a small number of members met together for a small holiday lunch and to visit the resident Connemaras at Merle-Smith Sporthorses in Louisa, Virginia. We have some big decisions to make concerning the venue for our region show in the future, so hopefully we will be able to meet more in person in 2022.

## Region IV

Kim Gates

The 2021 Region 4 Show was held at Foxboro Farm in Thomson Georgia on Sept 11 and 12th. The Region partnered with Bay of Plenty Stables who hosted us for the ridden classes. The highlight of the day was definitely the groups and pairs over the outside course. Some had so much fun they did the course more than once! Saturday evening we had a dinner and meeting. Martin Gates made Lasagna for everyone and others contributed salad, bread and even some good red wine! MFH

Epp Wilson recited his favorite poem on Fox Hunting before dinner. On Sunday we did the breed in hand classes and Maureen

Loughman was our judge. Sunday afternoon Judith Wilson did a tour of the kennels and we watched the hounds be exercised. What a lively bunch! We had several new members come and it was great to get to know them.

The last weekend in October the inspection crew came to two farms and inspected lots of ponies! Thank you to the hosts Fade to Grey Farm and Foothills Connemaras for hosting us. Inspections are a great learning experience for breeders and owners!

On December 16th our new co-Chair, Kristen Sealy, organized a virtual Christmas Party. She sent out little goodie bags with hot chocolate and sweets to the members and we played some fun games. We of course talked about ponies! A good time was had by all!

We are now starting to plan our activities for next year.

Kim Gates

ACPS Region 4

## Region V

The Report of Inspection for Region V 2021

Region V had its first inspection in 10+ years. The inspection site was held at Riverfront Farm in Cynthiana, Ky. The inspectors were Kathy Sparks, Laura Balding and Gloria LaCroix. The owners and Ponies (most importantly) arrived on Friday, Sept 25th. The inspection was held on Sunday, the 26th. It was a beautiful day. Attendees: Fiona Cheever from TN assisted by her friend Noni from Missouri brought Arbor Lane's Bailey & Stoney Creek Nuala, Martha Slammer had her three mares Blue Rock Molly, Prairie Nuala and WCR Brianne Sequin. Lauren McKenzie assisted by her talented and up and coming daughter, Lydia, from Athens, Ohio brought Idlewild's Never Have I Ever & foal. Fonda Eigel presented \*Corha's Dream & RFF The One Eye Love. Great presentation and a diverse group of mares (and lovely foals at mares side). Three mares took Premium.

## Region VI

Region 6 can now report that we have three Connemara Pony breeding farms.

The first is Dayton Ridge Farm. Janet Johnson reports that numerous get of her stallions are competing in the USA. Here are a few. Triton's Rauri was featured in the Chronicle of the Horse October issue. "Amateur rider Gretje Witt teamed up to bring along TBF Triton's Rauri together. The pair recently won the adult amateur fourth level championship at the GAIA/USDF Region 6 Championships, held Sept 23-26, in Portland, Oregon." Owner/Rider Gretje Witt TBF Triton's Rauri 2012 Conn/WB~Skyview's Triton xBecchea (Canadian Warmblood)

Owner/Rider Vera Stock is competing her 2nd generation homebred (Dominion EA) in the local Pony Club HorseMasters program. Vera and Dominion are riding USEF 1st and 2nd level training test with scores in the high 60's and low 70's, earning the Racine County Pony Club Highpoint Dressage Championship. ~Dominion EA Conn/WB (Danny Boy xFinale EA)

Aluinn Wyatt is doing well with owner/Rider Barb Williams Sullivan in Working Equitation. Aluinn Wyatt (HK's Danny Boy xAladdin's Star Song)

Castlebar Gaelic was awarded the 2021 Foundation Broodmare Award by the CCPS. (Skyview's Triton x Starlights Desert Rose) Bred by Lorre Garland, Owned by Elsie and Don Priddy.



Next: Inland Connemaras. Lisa Eztel writes: It was a busy year for us. We had our first foal crop: 2 fillies and a colt. After some ups and downs with 1 getting sick, we've decided to pull back from the breeding aspect. Casper will be standing at Blackwing Connemaras with Raelin Schenck. I also managed to break my hip in August. We have 2 foals coming in 2022. 1 purebred and 1 Appendix QH cross. We will be very excited to see these foals.

Last: Silver Pony Farm. Amanda Smiley reports she has 3 mares and has sold one filly by DRF Dannyboy. Her mares are a Shetland pony, a halfbred Andalusian out of DRF Lulubelle, and halfbred Shetland by Dannyboy.

Tammy Lisi from Anamosa, IA reports her Tali was 4th in the standings for dressage HOY. He attended one recognized show, the National Pony Cup in St. Louis. He placed 4th in Training level with a JR/YR. He attended a schooling shows, and placed first in every class there. (Training and First Level).

We have four new members in our region. Due to distance between members, have not had any ACPS events this year.

Kay Clements, Region 6 Chair

## Region VII

The Midwest Connemara Breeders Show is the highlight of activity in Region VII for 2022. It will be held at Xanadu Farm in Washington, MO on July 30 and 31st with classes including Dressage, Hunter, Jumper and In-hand. Plans are in the works for an inspection on Sunday.

Pattie Stalder

## Region VIII

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

### Region VIII Representatives:

Susan McLaughlin from Colorado is the Region VIII Governor.

Karen Laden from Colorado, is the achievement awards points secretary & Board of Governors - Governors-At-Large

Chris Knox from Chesterfield, ID is on the USEF Connemara Committee & Breeders Committee.

Susan Dudasik, from Salmon, Idaho is the newsletter editor and Region VIII Chair

### Region VIII Connemaras shine in various events:

**JUMPERS:** Junior rider, Ryder Richardson from Parker, CO and his pony, RR Cool Play (Becks), continues to shine in the Jumper events.

**EVENTING:** We have two junior riders competing in eventing. Bridget Kelly from Roswell, NM and her half-bred Connemara, Chai ( Windover Tarragon) have been successfully competing in the Beginner Novice divisions.

Emma Sletten from Larkspur, CO and her pony, Frodo, (New Song's Freedom), are members of the Hunter Hill Pony Club and of the Pendragon Eventing team. They are currently competing at Novice and hope to move up to Training in 2022.

**ENDURANCE RIDING:** Cindi Weist, of Big Sky Connemaras in Choteau, MT, has been competing with her Connemara mare and winning in various AERC rides in Idaho and Utah.

**WORKING EQUATATION:** Susan Dudasik and her halfbred Connemara Pony, VSH Devine Alexandra, of Misfit Farm in Salmon, Idaho, won the Introductory division as well as the High Score of the Day in the EOH. At the WE Under the Big Sky show in Missoula, MT. They also placed 4<sup>th</sup> in dressage and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the EOH to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in their division at the USAWE Region One Championship show.

Misfit Farm will again sponsor a Connemara High Point award for the USAWE national high point breed award. There is also a WE Connemaras facebook page.

**Membership:** From the membership list sent in September, 2021, it looks like we have 26 members. By state, we have, Colorado-14, Southern Idaho- 4, Montana- 2, New Mexico-1, Utah- 4 and Wyoming -1, **Land wise Region VIII is larger then regions 1, 2 & 3 combined. We run from Mexico to Canada.**

**Region Newsletter:** Due to a lack of input, I changed from doing a bi-monthly newsletter to a quarterly one that comes out in January, April, July and October.

**Facebook:** We do have a public Facebook page which can be found at: American Connemara Pony Society - Region 8 that everyone can post to. It currently has 542 followers from across the country. This is up from 279 followers last year at this time. I also started the WE Connemaras FB group for those interested in Working Equitation (WE). That page has 108 followers. I try to repost everything sent out from the main ACPS page to both pages.

**"The Event" at Rebecca Farm:** "The Event" is the biggest eventing competition in Montana and is held each July in Kallespell, MT, which is in ACPS Region VIII. There were ten full and halfbred Connemaras competing, though none were Region VIII members. Many were in the novice divisions and being ridden by young riders attending "The Event" for the first time. All the riders did an awesome job turning out their ponies and by the end of the competition, folks knew the Connemaras were there. On Saturday, we hosted a Connemara Enthusiasts Meet & Greet and had about a dozen folks attend. It was great meeting folks from other areas, many were from Washington, which is Region 9. We also handed out several brochures that were graciously sent by Linda Trimper. All the competitors are planning to return next year.

**Issues:** Region VIII covers a very large, remote area. The nearest member to me is about 2 ½ hours away. With only two or three members in most states, it is hard to try planning a get together or event. Our largest contingent of members is in Colorado.

### A few suggestions for 2022 include:

**Having more ideas for folks that ask: I don't compete at any shows, so why should I join ACPS?**

Find ways to help promote the Connemara pony, ACPS and Region VIII

Reach out to non-competitive Connemara owners through other Connemara fb pages

Reach out to more youth riders

Submitted by :

Susan Dudasik - Region VIII Chair

## ACPS Membership Application Form

**Memberships run from January 1st - December 31st.**  
**All memberships include a subscription to the American Connemara magazine and a Membership Directory.**

Membership (please check one category):

- ☐ Junior (under 18 years, qualifies for awards) \$25  
☐ Associate (adult, qualifies for awards) \$40  
☐ Senior (adult, qualifies for awards, votes) \$50  
☐ Family \$100 (spouse and/or parents, children under age 18; qualifies for awards, up to 2 votes per family, but must have 2 members age 18 or older)  
☐ Life (one individual, senior privileges) \$750  
☐ Check here if this is a Gift Membership

American Connemara Magazine: Subscription Only (i.e., nonmembers) ☐ \$25

There is a \$30 surcharge for magazine mailings to foreign (including Canadian) members and subscribers.

ACPS Foundation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ tax deductible donation

You may designate preference for ☐ Youth Programs or

☐ Education

### Make checks out to "ACPS" (US funds)

For voting purposes, I prefer:

an e-ballot \_\_\_\_\_,

a paper ballot \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive:

an e-directory \_\_\_\_\_,

a printed directory (add \$20 to your membership fee)

I am a new member \_\_\_\_\_ (please complete all contact information below)

I am a renewing member \_\_\_\_\_

and my contact information is unchanged ☐

changes in my contact information are noted below ☐

please do not include my contact information in an e-directory  
\_\_\_\_\_ any directory \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check out to ACPS (US funds) and mail with application to: ACPS Membership**  
**2010 Miracle Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## ACPS Registration Fees

### Member

*Fees double for non-members*

### Purebreds

Purebred within 6 mos. of birth temporary foal certificate good for 2 years (dna, microchip by HWSD tested stallion and out of HWSD mare) **\$ 85**

Over 6 mos. **\$ 100**

**TFC for foals of current year include USEF lifetime recording number**

Purebred within 6 mos. of birth temporary foal certificate good for 2 years (dna, microchip) but by or out of HWSD non-tested Connemara .....\$125

**TFC for foals of current year Includes USEF lifetime recording number**

**Permanent Registration Certificate at 2 years w/TFC - \$30**

**Permanent Registration Certificate at 2 years or above without TFC - \$150. Includes DNA, Microchip.**

### Halfbreds

Halfbred - mares and geldings **\$ 85**

**Includes Microchip and USEF Lifetime Number for foals of current year.**

Halfbred colts - TFC .....\$ 85

**A TFC is issued until colt is gelded. At age 2, Permanent certificate will be issued.**

**Purebred and Halfbred Stallions 2 yrs. \$250**

**Includes DNA, Microchip, and HWSD test**

**Purebred and Halfbred Stallions 3 yrs. and older \$500**

**Imported stallions - same fees.**

**Connemara Sport Horse - \$85 includes Microchip and USEF Lifetime Recording number for foals of current year.**

### Transfer of Ownership

Within 30 days of date of sale **\$30**

After 30 days **\$35**

### Transfer of Imports -mares, geldings

Within one year of arrival **\$30**

**Transfer of imported stallions \$250**

**The seller is responsible for completing the transfer papers, and is encouraged to take out an Associate membership for the buyer.**

**Farm Registration \$100**

**Name Change \$100**

**Duplicate Certificate- issued only to last recorded owner \$50**

**Lifetime USEF numbers will be assigned by the USEF one or two times a year. Since 2019, foals of the current year will get USEF Lifetime Recording Numbers..**

**Send applications (www.acps.org) for registration to: ACPS, PO Box 100, Middlebrook, VA 24459**



## Region Reports Continued

### Region IX

I recently assumed the role of Chair of our Region and have contacted all of our Region's active members via email and Facebook to introduce myself. I am working with Tracy Garland on roles that I will play as Chair. Early planning is underway for an educational event that will build on the success we had in 2021 to be held in June, 2022 in Cle Elum, Washington. I am also open to encouraging local activities among members who live in sub-areas of our Region. I am excited to help build closer links among ACPS Members in Region 9!!

Kaarin Axelsen Forester  
Region Chair  
ACPS Region 9

### Region X New Chair:

#### Lee Webster Ramensky

My name is Lee Webster Ramensky. My husband, Victor, and I live in Pennngrove, California, about 45 minutes north of San Francisco. I am the recently elected ACPS Region X Chair. My passion has always been horses, and I have been fortunate to make a living in the horse world. I have been a trainer and coach in dressage and eventing, and am a USDF Certified Instructor and Trainer, and have been a member with colors of Los Altos Hounds. Because Los Actors Hounds disbanded, I have joined the Santa Ynez Valley Hounds. I have competed actively in dressage, eventing, jumpers, breed shows (Connemara, Morgan and Arabian), driving, and cutting. For over 30 years I helped my mother raise, train and show purebred and partbred Connemaras. I trained and showed two imported Irish Connemara stallions, and also collected and shipped transported semen for our (now discontinued) small breeding program, Stonybrook Connemaras. I have two Connemara geldings at home, one is our last Stonybrook homebred, Stonybrook Belmont (age 18), and "Finn", Brambleridge Finn Sparrow (age 5), bred by Megan Buchanan Lichty. This is my second time being Region X Chair, and I am looking forward to a busy 2022. Our region hopes to hold inspections this summer and also are hard at work planning the West Coast Connemara Show, July 29-31, 2022 in Watsonville, CA.

## NORTHERN CONNEMARAS

Sarah McRae Thrasher  
mcraftthrasher@yahoo.com  
(802) 522-7110

*Live cover or cooled shipped semen*

*If You're Looking for a stallion that produces athletes ~  
Look no further than **Aluinn Durango** by Aladdin's Denver  
out of \*Patty's Meredith.*

*Bay 14.3h N/N 9 1/2" bone ACPS Approved*



# Farm Directory

## REGION I (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)

**CONCORD RIVER CONNEMARAS AT RIVER ROAD FARM.** Liz and Maris Platais, 291 River Road, Carlisle, MA 01741. (978) 369-4380. [plataisee@aol.com](mailto:plataisee@aol.com)

**NORTHERN CONNEMARAS.** Sarah McRae Thrasher, 1410 Goose Green Rd., Vershire, VT 05079. (802) 522-7110. [mcrathrasher@yahoo.com](mailto:mcrathrasher@yahoo.com) *Aluinn Durango S 727XLII*

**PARADOX CONNEMARAS.** Tom and Sally Oxnard, 5 Greenleaf Dr., Exeter, NH 03833. (603) 828-9039. [stoxnard@gmail.com](mailto:stoxnard@gmail.com), [www.paradoxconnemaras.com](http://www.paradoxconnemaras.com)

**SOUTH RIDGE CONNEMARAS.** Kimberly Sterl, 148 Deer Hill Rd., Brentwood, NH 03833. (603) 493-3921. [srfponies@gmail.com](mailto:srfponies@gmail.com). [www.SouthRidgeConnemaras.com](http://www.SouthRidgeConnemaras.com) *South Ridge Aidan S 668 XXXIX*

**TROUT RANCH CONNEMARAS.** Scott McGuffin and Linda Haines, 149 Shaw Road, Northfield, NH 03276. (603) 387-0157. [troutranch@metrocast.net](mailto:troutranch@metrocast.net)

## REGION II (NJ, NY, PA)

**CATSKILL CONNEMARAS.** Heather Magnan and Pat Norton-White, 33 Frisbee Rd., East Meredith, NY 13757. 678-278-5256. [www.catskillconnemaras.com](http://www.catskillconnemaras.com). [hrmagnan@gmail.com](mailto:hrmagnan@gmail.com) *Blue Rock Fintan, S 1975 LII*

**KYNYNMONT CONNEMARAS.** Pam Liddell, 175 River Hill Road, Conestoga, PA 17516. (717) 872-9728. [liddellpam@hotmail.com](mailto:liddellpam@hotmail.com)

**TRIPLE CREEK FARM.** Mary Lou Thall, Winfield, NY 13491. (315) 855-7878. [tricreek@hotmail.com](mailto:tricreek@hotmail.com), [www.tricreek.org](http://www.tricreek.org) *Tricreek Greystone Connor S 718 XLII, Tricreek Greystone Riley S 717 XLII*

## REGION III (MD, DC, DE, VA, WV, NC)

**BALMULLO FARM.** Donna Duckworth, 6494 Charles City Road, Richmond, VA 23231. (804) 507-0269 or (352) 538-0125. [balmullofarm@gmail.com](mailto:balmullofarm@gmail.com) [www.balmullofarm.com](http://www.balmullofarm.com) *Foothills Field Marshall S 1931 XLVIII*

**GLENDALE FARM.** Deb and David Norman, 1318 Old Charles Town Road, Berryville, VA 22611-1914. (540) 955-1995 or cell 225-921-6810. [deb@glendalefarm.com](mailto:deb@glendalefarm.com) [www.glendalefarmconnemaras.com](http://www.glendalefarmconnemaras.com). Purebreds and halfbreds. *\*Rattle 'N Snap Laddie Boy S 685 XL, \*Fernville Matchmaker S 1918 XLVI*

**GLENMEADOW CONNEMARAS.** Margaret E. Long, 104 Water Pointe Court, Midlothian, VA 23112. (804) 380-1022. [glenmeadowfarm@aol.com](mailto:glenmeadowfarm@aol.com) *Day Star's Royal Legacy S 2010 LVII*

**RIDGETOP CONNEMARAS.** Walter and Marynell Eyles, PO Box 40, Middlebrook, VA 24459. (540) 886-2239 [lynneeyles@gmail.com](mailto:lynneeyles@gmail.com)

**SYCAMORE RIDGE FARM.** Marilyn and Leslie Cheek, 9188 Lee's Ridge Road, Warrenton, VA 20186-8659. (540) 341-7104, cell (540) 229-3471. [mzcheek@gmail.com](mailto:mzcheek@gmail.com)

**THURMAN FARM.** Barbara J. Byrd, PO Box 472, Berryville, VA 22611, [Bjb1971@thurmanfarms.com](mailto:Bjb1971@thurmanfarms.com) (540) 955-1215. (540) 931-2983.

**TWIST OF FATE CONNEMARAS.** Melissa and Ryan Mayo, 7992 Ohio River Road, Lesage, WV 25537. (304) 634-9203. [tofph3@aol.com](mailto:tofph3@aol.com) [www.twistoffateeventing.com](http://www.twistoffateeventing.com) *Blackwing Goodnight Moon S 2002 LVI*

**TWO LEFT HANDS FARM.** Donna Power/Yvonne Bach, 51 Hillcrest View Rd. Raphine, VA 24472. (804) 854-9129. [twolefthandsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:twolefthandsfarm@gmail.com) Young Stock for Sale

## REGION IV (AL, FL, GA, MS, SC, TN)

**BRAMBLERIDGE FARM.** Nancy Buchanan, 1953 Bishop Rd., Luthersville, GA 30251. (678) 713-0750. [brambleridgefarm@gmail.com](mailto:brambleridgefarm@gmail.com)

**ELDERGLEN FARM.** Jim and Nancy Kilcrease, PO Box 260, Reddick, FL 32686. (352) 591-4331. [elderglenfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:elderglenfarm@yahoo.com), [www.elderglenfarm.com](http://www.elderglenfarm.com) *WH TopGun S1846 XLIV*

**FADE TO GREY FARM.** Megan Buchanan, 1750 Bishop Rd., Luthersville, GA 30251. (770) 833-5159. [Fadetogreyfarm@gmail.com](mailto:Fadetogreyfarm@gmail.com) [www.fadetogreyfarm.com](http://www.fadetogreyfarm.com) *\*TBS Declan Pondi S 1959 LI*

**FARKLEBERRY FARM.** Kate Denton, 61 Colonial Lake Dr., Camden, SC 29020. (803) 432-9850 or (803) 427-3472 [kdenton53@gmail.com](mailto:kdenton53@gmail.com)

**FOOTHILLS FARMS & PIEDMONT CONNEMARAS.** Vanessa and Charlie Morgan, 738 County Rd. 114, Athens, TN 37303. (423) 744-9071 Text 423-506-6975. Breeding and Sales. [Connemaras9@gmail.com](mailto:Connemaras9@gmail.com), [www.connemaras.com](http://www.connemaras.com) *Balmullo's Beacon, S 545 XXXI, (frozen semen only) Tullymor's Mountain Steel S 1979 LIII (Live Cover)*

**HIDDEN CREEK HORSES.** Donna Miller, 12660 Bethany Rd., Alpharetta, GA 30004-1059. (678) 491-0717. [donna@hiddencreekhorses.com](mailto:donna@hiddencreekhorses.com) [www.hiddencreekhorses.com](http://www.hiddencreekhorses.com) *\*Coud Poker Tartifume S 2004 LVI Fresh cooled for AI, \*ArdCeltic Art S 1766 XLIII - frozen semen, private treaty.*

**KEAHEY CONNEMARA FARM.** Julie Keahey, 1733 N. Fletcher Ave., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034 (970) 581-6120 [keaheyjulie@gmail.com](mailto:keaheyjulie@gmail.com)



**STARTING POINT FARM.** Phil and Melissa Town. 811 Bear Creek Road, Moreland, GA 30259. (404)433-7444. irishjump@gmail.com Sparrow's Zeus HBS

**TANYDERI FARM.** Sally, Michael, Margo, Maya, and Nora Goldfarb. 3030 Old Hillsboro Rd., Franklin, TN 37064. (615) 591-2562. tanyderi@bellsouth.net

**TIR NA N'OG RANCH/SHAMMER CONNEMARAS.** Maureen Loughman Abel, 24 NE 325<sup>th</sup> Trail, Okeechobee, FL 34972. (863) 467-5377. mloughman@embarqmail.com.

#### REGION V (IL, IN, KY, MI, OH)

**HEART AND HORIZON.** Bonnie Reid and David Wittmer. 1000 Fords Mill Rd., Versailles, KY 40383. 859-312-4971. mixedbordersky@gmail.com Young Stock Available.

**ONALARK FARM.** Martha Slamer, 10242 Rocky Road, Middletown, OH 45042. (937) 689-9406. marthas@fairpoint.net Trained Ponies and Pony Training Available.

**RIVERFRONT FARM LLC.** Thomas and Fonda Eigel. 1646 Cook Rd., Cynthiana, KY 41031. 859-576-4027. 859-983-9410. Summerresort3@gmail.com \*Rosemont's Irish Abbey. Boarding, Breeding, Foaling, Breaking and Training.

**SLIPPERY ELM SHOOT FARM.** Tim and Kathy Sparks, 5349 Slippery Elm Shoot Road, Unionville, IN 47468. (812) 988-2377, elmsshootfarm@gmail.com.

#### REGION VI (IA, MN, NE, ND, SD, WI)

**DAYTON RIDGE FARM.** Janet M. Johnson, 25310 Spring Valley Lane, Richland Center, WI 53581. (608) 604-4840. jjay@countrysspeed.com www.daytonridgefarm.com H.K.'s Danny Boy S 700 XLI, Skyview's Triton S 699 XLI

**INLAND CONNEMARAS.** Lisa Etzel and Larry Wied. 27965 510<sup>th</sup> Ave., Kelley, IA 50134. (515) 291-6738, (608) 576-1076. www.inlandconnemaras.com inlandconnemaras@gmail.com \*Patty's Etoile de Paris S 1874 XLIV

#### REGION VII (AR, KS, LA, MO, IL, TX)

**IRISH GATE FARM.** Bob and Pattie Stalder, 10360 Lazy Creek Rd., Westmoreland, KS 66549 (785) 456-3278. www.Irishgatefarm.com backdoor@bluevalley.net. JEF Sir Lancelot S 676 XXXIX

**JAB EQUINE CENTER & CONNEMARA FARM.** Jill Barnes, 11150 South Highway M, Stockton, MO 65785. Jabconnemaras@gmail.com 417- 209-6772 Wwww.jabconnemaras.com JAB General Sherman registration pending.

#### REGION VIII (CO, So. ID, MT, NM, UT WY)

**JARRE CREEK CONNEMARAS.** Kaye Hurley Lefkowicz. 3794 N. Stare Highway 67, Sedalia, CO. (303) 619-0433. grniedldy@gmail.com. Finn's Irish Creame S 2526 XXXIII

**KINGSWELL CONNEMARAS.** Karen K. Laden, 12625 Halleluiah Trail, Elbert, CO 80106. (719) 495-3892. Karen@kingswellconnemaras.com www.kingswellconnemaras.com \*Smaragaid Cliff S 719 XLII

#### REGION IX (WA, OR, Alaska, No. ID)

**EKBERG SPORTHORSES.** Karlin Ekberg. 430 Mansperger Rd., Ellensburg, WA 98926. ekbergsporthorses.com \*MLC Van Helsing

**TANZEN WILLOW FARM.** Ken and Mandy Campbell. 23255 Johanson Ave., Poulsbo, WA 98370. (360)710-1734. www.tanzenwillowfarm.com campbells@tanzenwillowfarm.com \*Kays Moonlight

#### REGION X (AZ, CA, HI, NV)

**GATELY FARM.** Kathy Lucas, 10501 Randall Street, Orange Park Acres, CA 92869. (714) 538-5656, fax (714) 538-5561. gatelyfarm@gmail.com, \*Sydserff Avalon S 679 XL \*Castle Monarch S 1952 L.

**HEAVEN'S RIDGE.** Dennis and Pam Blaha. 9625 N. 36<sup>th</sup> St., Phoenix, AZ 85028. (602) 953-2272. pamblaha@hotmail.com. Bear Creek's Croagh Patrick S 534 XXXI, Heaven's Ridge Tiarnan Donal S 692 XLI.

**ROSEWOOD FARM.** Alan and Darian Hall, 1340 Sanders Rd., Windsor, CA 95492. (707) 481-0728 darianhall1340@gmail.com

#### List Your Farm Here

Annual Listing is only \$100 for 6 issues.

Farm Name:

Owner:

Address:

Phone:

Email

Web site:

Stallion name

Send payment to PO Box 100, Middlebrook VA 24459

# Transfers

HBG 1957 XLV – SWEET BOO from Karen Ubaldi to Sandra Gadberry, 2784 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Ct. E, Edgewood, WA 98341

HBM 2401 XLVIII – SILVER OAKS TRINITY from Susan Senteney to Stacy or Jonathan Myers, 20910 Evans Rd., Tonganoxle, KS

HBG 2121 XLIX – WILDWOOD EARENDEL from Shelah Hatcher to Katherine V. O'Hara, 6304 Interbay Ave., Tampa, FL 33611.

HBM 2453 XLIX – ADELE from the estate of Susan McConnell to Josie Galvin, 4196 Millington Rd., Free Union, VA 22940.

TFC M 6506 LVIII – DUET FARMS FIRST LOVE from Chris and Annie Balotti-Paleen to Vanessa Morgan, 738 County Road 114, Athens, TN 37303

TFC 6505 LVIII – DUET FARMS I LOVE LUCY from Chris and Annie Balotti-Paleen to Vanessa Morgan 738 County Road 114, Athens, TN 37303

M 4118 LI – JFL COLOR ME PERFECT CAMELLE from Nancy Wooten to Darian Hall, 1390 Sanders Rd., Windsor, VA 95492.

HBM 2534 LII – PARKMOR'S ANNIE GET YOUR GUN from Rachel Blandenbuehler to Ann Marx, 33 W 241 Shagbark Lane, Wayne, IL 60184.

HBM 2609 LIII – CEILI FALINE from Vicki Baker to Kim Stucky, 2471 Raywood View Apt. # 532, Colorado Springs, CO 80920.

M 4731 LVIX – GLENDALE'S RUN FOR THE ROSES from Deb Norman to Gillian Clissold, 11804 Colvin Lane, Nokesville,

VA 20181.

TFC M 6379 LVI – DRF BRECKYN from Janet M. Johnson to Lottie J. Hains, 349 East Road, Orange, MA 01364.

M 4681 LVII – HAVEN HILLS WILL O'WISP from Body N Soul (Brittany Foust) to Robin Webb, 1791 Clintonville Rd., Paris, KY 40361.

HBM 3011 LVIII – BWF VALENTINE from Michelle Taylor to Ella Katherine Smith, 88 Quercus Circle, Little Rock, AR 72223.

G 2737 LVIII - \*BEECHMONT BRUNO from Geoffrey Heanue to Amy Miller, 435 Causey Rd., Vass, NC 28394.

HBM 2994 LVIII – DRF AVERY from Janet M. Johnson to Karen Drewell, Uxbridge, Ontario, Canada L9P 1R1.

## Transfer Procedures

The seller is responsible for filling in the blanks on the reverse side of the registration certificate with the new owner's name and address and date of sale

The seller sends the certificate to the ACPS office with the transfer fee (\$25 within 30 days of sale or \$35 after that time) .

The Secretary will record the transfer and send the original certificate to the new owner.

Each pony gets ONE lifetime certificate. A new certificate is NOT printed after each transfer.

Please do not lose the certificate.

## JUNIORS AND SENIORS ISSUE

*Featuring the wonderful young and not-so-young Connemara lovers.*

*Please send a write-up and a high resolution photo telling us about your Connemara and how you became partners - to*

*[americanconnemara@gmail.com](mailto:americanconnemara@gmail.com)*

*If you won a Hall of Fame Trophy, a USEF Horse of the Year Award, an Achievement Award, the McKenna Trophy, the Clifden Trophy, a USDF All Breeds Award.....and missed the deadline for this issue, or the report didn't get into this issue, please send your article by April 10, 2022.*

*We want to read about you!*

*DEADLINE - April 10, 2022*

*The issue will feature the Junior Scholarship winners, young riders who are having fun and doing great things with their Connemaras, and "vintage" owners/riders who have no intentions of hanging up their spurs!*





# New ACPS Members

ACPS New Members (December 11 – February 10)

## Region 1

Casey Doener  
Liliana Green  
Justine Montgomery  
Carol Shaw

## Region 2

Britney Boyer  
Beatrice Cassou  
Shayne Haysom  
Heather Walker  
Leonie Weber

## Region 3

Katy Bucklin  
Karen Davenport

## Region 4

Stella Belmore

## Region 5

Clara Baker  
Megan Davis

## Region 6

Anne Darby  
Danielle King  
Kelsey Jungbluth

## Region 7

Stacy Myers  
Ella Katherine Smith  
Cindi Weist

## Region 9

Danielle Kuipers

## Region 10

Terri Holliday  
Tara Parcella



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*Heather Dewey on VSH Tully's Playing  
With Fire*

*(JJ Sillman/VicsPics Photo)*

