

AMERICAN CONNEMARA

The Official Publication of the American Connemara Pony Society

MAY/JUNE 2022

EDITION II, VOL. 13 NO. 3

JUNIOR and SENIOR ISSUE



*Pony Club Named In Honor of California Connemara Breeders' Farm,
Darian and Alan Hall's Rosewood Farm*

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*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.

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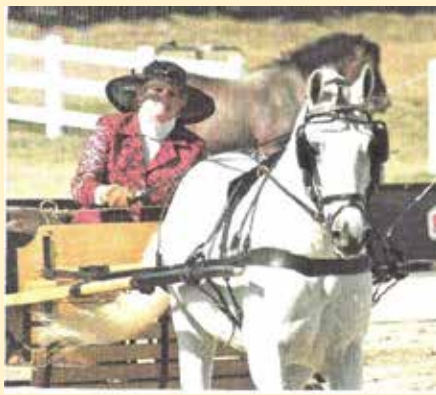
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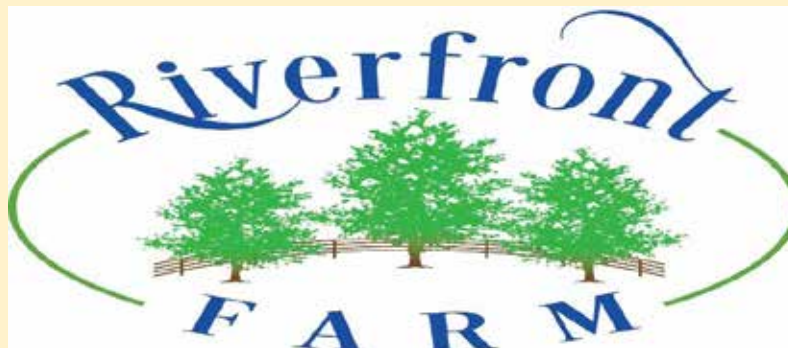
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FEATURES

President's Message	Page 8
Rosewood Pony Club	Page 9
ACPS Annual Meeting	Pages 14 - 15
Junior Scholarship Winners	Pages 16 - 25
Fun With Pony Page	Page 26
ACPS/USEF McKenna Award	Page 28
Achievement Award 2021	Page 29
Prelim Eventing Award 2021	Page 30
Our Way Forward	Page 32
Distance Trail Riding Explained	Page 34
USEF/ACPS Benefits	Page 35
Membership/Registration Info	Page 38
My Fun Riding Lessons	Page 39
Farm Directory	Page 40
New Members	Page 42
Transfers	Page 42



The Cover Story for this issue ~ is a surprise and is in honor of Alan and Darian Hall and their generous contributions to the Pony Club now named in their honor. Thank you Joanie Webster and the Duffys for making it happen.

Caption for cover photo: Left to right - Pat Duffy, District Commissioner, Leah McAvoy, Darian Hall, Donovan Mufson, Maya Malone, Georgia Miller, Mila Arian, Jamie Mulcahy, Pyper Arnold, Mimi Duffy, Instructor, Violet Mufson mounted on Prancer. Seated with banner, Josie Malone and Summer Nelson

The article in the Jan/Feb. issue, Out of Oklahoma By Truck was written by Jill McNicol. Thank you for letting us know and thank you for your refresher course on equine terminology.

President's Page

Welcome to the 2022 Junior and Senior Edition of the American Connemara Pony Society Magazine.

I have close connections to both parties, due to (1) having served as chair of the Junior Scholarship Program since 2008 and (2) I am a senior!

The Juniors have been sending me letters for over a decade telling me what they love about their ponies. They describe their journeys, challenges, successes, surprises, and relationships. I have learned about shared ponies between mothers and daughters and this year between sisters. I have read great tales about ponies that get passed down and have brought along several young riders. Some young writers have described the way that their Connemaras have introduced a new population of horse lovers to Connemara ponies. Some list the naughty behaviors that their smart ponies have shown and whether these behaviors endear or enrage their owners. Our juniors dream about learning to jump, advancing a level in eventing, riding with a famous trainer, or making it to the Olympics. Why not? It can be done!

As a small breed society, we have made it a priority to support this next generation of Connemara enthusiasts with our scholarship program. Thanks to our affiliation with the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), we have been able to bolster our scholarship program from its modest beginnings of \$300 a year to more than \$1500 each year. (By the way, this is enhanced when members renew their membership on the USEF website and list Connemara as your first connection. You can help us by renewing this way.) Scholarships help juniors participate in clinics, take lessons from leading trainers, or in one case, host a clinic with a respected trainer for a group of excited juniors. Our Connemara riders have been able to be creative in their educational choices.

Juniors—check out what our winners submitted in 2021 in the following pages. New applications are due by September 1st. You can apply a second or third time, no limits, or give it a shot for your first submission. You can find the Junior Scholarship form on the website, look in Awards.

I suspect that we can all relate to the life lessons inspired by the relationships with Connemara ponies. It is certainly not limited to the young. We seniors have our own examples of meaningful connections to our ponies. They provide our bodies and minds with many benefits. They keep us young through exercise and their shenanigans. They

provide mental well-being and put smiles on our faces. Read more from contributors to this issue about what ponies do for their owners.

If you are not a junior, there are some scholarship opportunities for adults. There is an adult scholarship application and one specifically available for riders interested in continuing education in eventing. These applications are also in forms on the website under Awards.

Winter can be long in New England. And there can be a lot of snow. And the cold makes riding less fun. What to do? Well, here's one answer from Skowhegan Maine. A ski-joring competition at the local fairgrounds. You make ski jumps out of snow on the track. Then you find horses, riders and skiers that want to combine their riding and skiing skills in front of a big, loud crowd. It's a fast combination of gymkhana and water skiing with the horse and rider pulling a skier through the course. The skier slaloms over the jumps and tries to stay upright. If he can grab the rings on the jump, he takes a half a second off his time. The whole thing is over in less than 60 seconds.

I got to watch as Julia Latham and Trout Ranch Whimsey pulled Julia's fellow ski patrol friend, Cullen, through the course. This is not a sport you can really practice. Few people have tracks with ski jumps set up in their pastures. Whimsey and Julia are always game for a new adventure. Cullen, to his credit, said, "why not?" The picture does not show the whole course, or the grandstand filled with people and a deafening announcer. They made it through the course and Cullen snagged a ring on the last jump.

Pony Power!

Linda

Trout Ranch Whimsey is by Trout Ranch Malarkey out of Elphin Kookaburra (Maplehurst Michael MacDaire)



The Rosewood Riders and Connemaras

Connemara Ponies Create Lasting Friendships

By
Pat Duffy, District Commissioner
Rosewood Riders Pony Club, Novato, CA

It's amazing and delightful that my friendship, which began with members of the ACPS has thrived through several generations. My husband, Mike, and I, met the Connemara pony breeders, Joan and Larry Ervin, Merry-Go-Round Manor, Morgan Hill, CA, more than 20 years ago. Larry and Joan drove two of their granddaughters 1 ½ hours north to our farm for Pony Club instruction in the Sierra Pacific Region to compete in rallies as members of our Pony Club team.

We moved on to take part in USA Pentathlon competition at the Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, CO. In 2005, Joan and Larry's daughter, "Mom" Jean Ervin Duarte, accompanied our contingent. She ran alongside our athletes, giving coaching assistance while running the prescribed 3,000 meters! Several years later, Joan Ervin introduced us to her very special friends, Darian and Allen Hall, Rosewood Farm Connemaras, Windsor, CA.

Fast forward, in 2012, we reconnected with Darian and her beautiful Connemara ponies, visiting her farm many times with Pony Clubbers, and of course, making a Wish List. After many conversations with Darian, she and I agreed upon a leasing program to give "working homes" to six of her Rosewood Farm ponies.

Now, days and months later, we recall several evening arrivals of Darian's ponies being delivered by Billy Brucker, owner of "Blew by U" Horse Transportation, who is a very good friend of Darian's and also shares a 22-year friendship with our family. He drove our California ponies east on our first trip to the USPC Championships at the Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, KY. The "welcoming committee" is always on full alert as Billy's van arrives, with all arena lights on, the property completely lit up, and a crew of youth, waiting for Billy to walk-off a Rosewood Farm pony, ready to pass the lead rope into the hands of a young rider, face ablaze with a look of sheer wonder and instant love. The children have connected with Darian, her breeding program, and her knowledge, while learning to keep Health and Maintenance Records and Bring part of Darian's plans for the breeding of several mares. Those mares will be bred this year, and we're all looking forward to



Alan and Darian Hall have been stalwart supporters of a US Pony Club now named in their honor

two foals in 2023. Being part of the Connemara extended family is truly a journey beyond their wildest dreams. Everyone looks forward to Darian and Allen's visits to share every detail of their connection with them, while getting to know the Rosewood ponies and enjoying all opportunities to celebrate their friendship. We all refer to Darian as "The Rosewood Riders Guardian Angel."

As the ponies arrived, we started riding them and noticed that two of the ponies had some issues with bending. One of the ponies, Rosewood Ode to Joy, ("Odie"), always buked into the canter. Darian and I decided to send the ponies to be evaluated by a performance veterinarian, Dr. Marty Gardner, DVM, Ione, CA, who diagnosed their issues and developed a treatment plan to be carried out under the supervision of my daughter, Mimi Duffy, RN, and David Ospital who are Masterson Method Certified Practitioners. This involved months of required body work, but what a learning experience it has been for all of us, with incredibly positive results. During the recovery time for the two ponies, the Rosewood Riders have learned bladder meridian lin. technique and are assisting with the treatment plan. Both Mimi and David are well-qualified to work with the ponies because both of them had previous experience teaching the required methods at the Kentucky Horse Park Pony Club Festival 2021. Several of our Pony Club students were also present as Junior Ambassadors for teaching the Bladder Meridian



Rosewood Ode to Joy and Maya Malone, USPC HB, halt at the end of his daily lunging - part of a strict and successful rehab routine. 9





*From left: Pat Duffy, DC; Donovan Mufson with Duffy's Little Mikey; Georgia Miller with *Kylemore White Legs; Josie and Rosewood Ode to Joy; Summer Nelson with Color Me Perfect Caramelle; Pyper Arnold with *Lishmar Mysty; Lea*
(Karen Preuss Photo, Lynda Banks, Art Direction)



*e Malone with MGRM Mariade; Mimi Duffy, Instructor, with Jamie Mulcahy and Rosewood Twilight; Maya Malone
h McAvoy with Rosewood Rumor Has It; and Teagan Grimmer standing with *Lishmar Topaz and Darian Hall.*



The celebratory cake for the Pony Club re-naming

Technique.

The two ponies who incurred significant neck/poll fracture injuries are currently recovering beautifully, and USPC HB graduate, Maya Malone, Sebastapol, CA, is rehabbing them under saddle. For your information, the USPC “HA Level of achievement” is the highest level of Horse Management achievable in the U.S. Pony Club. HB is a very significant achievement, as well, in Pony Club Horse Management. Those two levels are sought-after by serious equestrians, and it takes an enormous amount of studying to achieve at both of these levels. The plan is to have these recovering ponies ready to partner with their Rosewood Riders for the Pony Club Western Championships at Twin Rivers Ranch, Paso Robles, CA, July 1 – 8, 2022.

Our riders and ponies will then join other ACPS Region X Purebred Connemara and Halfbred Connemara owners and families for the West Coast Connemara Show at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, July 29 – 31, Watsonville, CA. Dressage Day on Friday is recognized by the California Dressage Society and open to all breeds.

In honor of Darian and Allen Hall, we re-named our Pony Club, now known as the “Rosewood Riders Pony Club.” We have a total of 11 Connemaras, several owned by us, our students, and their families, and including the six Rosewood ponies being leased and ridden by our members. All of us are very proud to be members of the American Connemara Pony Society! This article is written as a surprise for Darian and Allen Hall, to recognize them with gratitude and heartfelt thanks for all they have so generously given to us and our longtime equestrian youth riding program – this amazing opportunity to know, ride, and love Connemara ponies! If you are traveling in Northern California, please call and come for a visit! The Duffy Family and Youth Equestrian Programs

In Pat Duffy’s words, “Supported by my husband, Mike, we started our California family youth equestrian program in Novato, CA in 1977. The day after we arrived from Fairfax, VA in Novato, I contacted the Marin County Director of 4-H, Elizabeth Sandlin. Soon, she came to our H Lane Farm for a first 4-H meeting with neighborhood families and children, mounted, of course! The name we chose for our new 4-H Club was H Lane Vaqueros, established in honor of the Dominion Valley Vaqueros, the 4-H Club we had belonged to before moving to the West Coast.



*Jamie Mulcahy on *Kylemore White Legs being timed at the gate. They were allowed 15 seconds for the task and finished “right on the money”*

The very same month, girls in our new club connected with the Redwoods Pony Club in Glen Ellen, through Ms. Sue Laidlaw, who was the founder of The Redwoods Pony Club, and whose name many of you will recognize as a longtime Connemara pony owner and competitive driver of her Halfbred Connemara mare, Pallie. Sue had just retired as a USPC District Commissioner. We were active in that club for eight years, and then rejoined 10 years later – an association that continued for 18 years. We then took a break, but re-started two years ago.

These years have been exciting, enjoying several generations of family and friends. Working with Sue Laidlaw we received a 25 year plaque honoring Sue and the Riders Pony Club. It was a unanimous decision to honor the interest and generosity of Darian and Allen Hall for providing six of their trained ponies to be ridden by our youthful club members. As Darian said, ‘I am giving them jobs to do.’ Our young members and their families are so proud to be caring for and riding handsome Rosewood Ponies bred and raised by Darian and Allen on the property of their Windsor, CA, Rosewood Farm.

Our daughter, Mimi Duffy, who instructs the Rosewood Riders, is a longtime equestrian herself. She began to ride as a 10-year-old in Virginia and continued instruction when the family moved to Novato. As a junior rider, Mimi rode in both Pony Club and 4-H programs. While in high school, she completed in international vaulting as Team Captain of California’s Shoreline Vaulters. She also served as Trot Team Coach for the team. Recently, in 2019, Mimi was presented the Distinguished Alumni Award by Marin County, CA for her leadership. Mimi continues her own training with Michael Cintas, Olympic Coach, Rancho Mirage, CA.

Another milestone occurred in our lives in 2003. We undertook a new adventure. A number of the Redwoods Pony Club families joined us, and we began our Connemara pony “shopping sprees” in Ireland. That year, going home to California with us, was a 4 year old pregnant mare, *Kylemore White Legs, (aka Angel) bred by Vincent O’Toole, Clifden, IRE. Angel produced a colt, registered with the ACPS, as Duffy’s Little Mikey. Both ponies are still an important part of our instructional equestrian program, and over a period of several years following the first shopping expedition in 2003, we have been responsible for importing 21 Irish Connemara ponies to California homes during our travels, often accompanied by students and their families who also “believe in Connemara Ponies!”



Ride with Five!

ACPS Region V

June 4 & 5, 2022 Weekend Clinic

At Riverfront Farm

1646 Cook Rd., Cynthiana, KY 41031

Fleur Bryan Equine Clinician/Consultant—Jumping

Linda Konst Ret. Nat'l PC Examiner— Q & A Clinic

\$125 Daily or \$200 Weekend Rate

(includes lunches & coffee) Discount available to ACPS V Members!

“Fun with Pony” Weekend TOO!

Group Trail Rides offered both days.

Obstacle Course Pony Games Best Tail Competition

Connemara Conformation Clinic- Sun.

Trail in Hand Fun Offerings thru-out the Weekend.

Ribbons & Prizes. Free with paid Clinic Entry.

“Fun with Pony” only is \$50 for both days.

Auditors welcome for the weekend! \$50 (includes lunches)

Closing Date: May 17 CONTACT for registration:

Lisa Graham shamrocklanefarm@outlook.com 859-983-9112

Lauren McKenzie lhmck@icloud.com 740-398-5508

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ACPS ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

October 19th – 23rd 2022



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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

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ACPS Annual Meeting Lexington KY

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Guest Speakers - Region Basket Competition

Auction Items* - Irish Pubs** Garden Tour



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

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RESERVATIONS \$149 PER NIGHT (EXPIRES 9/19/22)

Registration Link

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1-



More Info: Bonnie Reid 859-312-4971 Mixedbordersky@gmail.com

Junior Scholarship Winners 2021



Aiden Albert Beaubien

Junior Scholarship \$500 USEF/ACPS Grant Winner

I am Aiden and my Connemara's name is Minnie Mouse. Minnie and I are both very young. In fact I am ten and she is three. Even though she is only three and will throw a fit sometimes, there are so many traits that I love about her. Minnie and I are also accomplishing so much together and yet there is still so much we want to do if we win this scholarship.

There are countless things that I love about my Connemara. First I love that wherever she goes she can adapt very quickly. For example, she has gone to hydrotherapy and all she did was look around. Minnie even tried to make a few friends by neighing. After she took the scenery in, I walked her to the grooming station for the people to clean her feet before she went in the water. Then Minnie went into the water like she had done this her whole life. Lastly, I love Minnie because of how she is so loving towards me. For instance, if I put my hand or head near her face she will lick me like a puppy. Minnie just has so many lovable characteristics but the ones mentioned are my favorite ones.

There are so many things that Minnie and I are doing to this day. Minnie and I go to Whispering Oaks pony club together once a week. She and I are learning dressage test B. Minnie and I also go cross-country schooling quite a few times. We have gone to Fresno horse park and Galway Downs. We even practice show jumping where we jump 2'3" - 3'. Minnie and I even practice jumping random objects. Such as logs, gates, flower boxes, with leaves and branches sticking out. I even found a tire that we practiced jumping over. In conclusion, there is a great deal that Minnie and I do but there is so much more we want to do together.

If Minnie and I win this scholarship it would help us to progress in our training. More specifically the fund would help us by allowing us to go to more lessons. It would also help us financially to go to our first clinic. I would like to win this scholarship so that Minnie and I could go to a hunter jumpers clinic and build a better partnership. This scholarship could really help Minnie and me progress to reach our full potential.

This grant can open more doors for Minnie and me. I really want us to advance and compete at a higher level. In order to do so we need to make sure that we have a solid foundation. With that being said, winning this award could really help Minnie and me.

Rose Vinson

Junior Scholarship \$200 Winner



I have a cheeky little halfbred Connemara mare named Denver's Nora Foley, but we call her Girlfriend. She's not always the best behaved, but she has made me a better rider. Not by always doing what I ask, but by challenging me. One of my favorite things about Girlfriend is that she knows who is riding her. If she is being ridden by an experienced rider, she will jump and fly to her heart's content. If a novice is on her, however, she will go much slower and become a perfect angel. Well, maybe not completely perfect. She is a Connemara, after all. Girlfriend has the most amazing personality. She's funny, sweet, and doesn't mind being dressed up for Halloween. She's a great horse to have a lively conversation with, and she'll tolerate all kinds of human nonsense.

Before my family got Girlfriend, my idea of a really good rider was someone who jumped high. I am a very nervous rider, and jumping terrifies me. Until my family got Girlfriend, the majority of horses that I had ridden were ancient ponies who wouldn't spook if an alien spaceship landed next to them. When my family first got Girlfriend, I was scared of riding her. She was the first "real horse" I had ever ridden. Somehow, I think she understood that. She went slowly at first, and step by step we progressed. Soon, I was ready for something more. So we started trotting. Then ground poles. And now, cantering. Sure, we have setbacks now and then. Like when she cantered away with me. But I know it will all make me a better rider in the long run.

I still don't jump Girlfriend. At first this bothered me. I thought, "How can I ever be a good rider if I am too scared to jump?" When my mom suggested I try dressage, I said, "No Way." I didn't know much about the sport, just that it was flatwork. But finally, this summer, bored out of my mind of trotting in aimless circles around the ring, I relented and started dressage lessons. Again, I was lucky to be riding Girlfriend, as she is trained up to third level dressage by an expert trainer. And even now, as I flounder around in the saddle, attempting to get my core in and my seat bones down, Girlfriend is forever patient with me. That said, she is a very strongly opinionated horse and is not afraid to tattle on me if I'm doing something wrong. As the summer drew to a close, I was so grateful to have started dressage, and on such an amazing horse. Dressage has

helped me improve my position and confidence, and even better, it has strengthened my relationship with my horse. Girlfriend has taught me that you don't need to be clearing 4-foot oxers to be a good rider. There are so many ways to use your skills. Girlfriend has extended my perception of horseback riding beyond just jumping, and I am so glad to have her.

I got the scholarship money, I would use it on the entry fees to go to my very first dressage show. Girlfriend and I have worked so hard, and it would be a great opportunity to show what we have learned and to have a fun time. I could also use it to take lessons and clinics with dressage riders I admire. And, of course, I'll continue to take dressage lessons with Girlfriend in the future. No matter what happens, no matter how naughty or greedy or spooky or needy she is, I love Girlfriend so much and I know that I couldn't have a better horse.

Lydia McKenzie **Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner**

When reading the requirements for this scholarship, and presented with the question: "What do you like about your Connemara?", so many positive ideas swirled around in my brain, and not just about my Connemara, but about the wonderful breed itself. To start off, my horse, Elderglen's Top Secret (Sadie) is a Connemara/Thoroughbred cross by Wildwood Hearne Top Gun and out of a Thoroughbred mare, Cynthia's Secret. I have had Sadie for just under a year, but she has already won my heart. Sadie is only 6-years-old, but is well beyond her years in her attitude and her willingness to adapt and take on new challenges. We are currently competing Beginner Novice in Eventing, but she has proven to be more than capable and ready to move up to Novice in the upcoming season. She has shown her true Connemara colors at USPC Festival this year where she caught the eye of multiple renowned equestrians.

I have previously ridden three Connemara ponies: WCR Brianne Sequin, owned by Martha Slamer, Gabriel's Wings, and Perseus Popp Star, owned by myself and my mother. From the very beginning of riding a Connemara, their agility, brain, talent, and personality have been everything and more that you could ask for. I love walking into the barn to be greeted with their kind, eager faces – happy to see me. I love that when you ride them, they always try their hardest to please you, no matter what type of work you are asking of them that day (sometimes with some sass added in). I love how smart they are, and how fancy they can be when they think that somebody might be watching them. I love so many things about this breed, and I love how all of these things are generally true for each Connemara pony.

I am a C-2 traditional member in Pony Club, and I have competed up to Training level Eventing with my previous Connemara, Bree. As I said, I have only had my current mare, Sadie, for less than a year. During this year we have mainly been figuring each other out, and learning about each other as we have progressed. To start out our partnership, we competed at Winona Horse Trials this spring and were very fortunate to have placed first on our Beginner Novice Division. Since our first event together, we have attended our Pony Club camp, competed in one mini-trial in the Beginner Novice division, competed at a Pony Club Show Jumping Rally, and attended Pony Club National Festival where we were able to improve our partnership and begin to prep for our upcoming horse trials including Stone Gate and Hagyard Team Challenge. With lots of continuous hard work, Sadie and I have been able to improve our partnership in dressage since our first competition. We have also improved our confidence in both the show jumping ring and cross-country. I am planning to take my H-B and C-3 rating in Pony Club next year, which will require much more improvement on both of our ends, but I believe that both of us will be ready and very capable to pass the national level ratings.

If Sadie and I were to receive this scholarship, I would put the funds toward entering the Lendon Gray Dressage for Kids program, as well as furthering our education in order to prepare for our national C-3 rating. I would be able to improve my partnership with Sadie by attending riding clinics and camps, therefore bringing more attention to Sadie when we attend competition, which would draw more acknowledgement to the Connemara breed.



**Find Information on the Junior Scholarships on the ACPS
Website**

www.acps.org

Skylan Rayne Nelson Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

My name is Skylan Rayne Nelson. I am 12 years old. I live in Loudon, TN. The halfbred Connemara I ride is named Elderglen's Iriel, but for short, Iriel. She is a 13.2 ½ hand, grey Connemara cross mare, 15 years old, bred by Jim and Nancy Kilcrease and owned by Marie Martin of Florida. I am leasing her, so right now, she is at my grandmother's Foothills farm. Iriel is by Ballencrieff's Brogan (Landgate Bluebeard x Aladdin's Winter Promise) out of Calendar Girl (Grade pony mare).

Some of the things I love about Iriel as how she takes care of me and listens to me. Yes, we have a disagreement every now and then, but I could not have asked for more of a perfect cross. I like how she loves her job and how she does not like to touch the jumps with her back legs and that is what makes her the best jumper. I also love her personality even though it makes me mad if Iriel breaks the crossties because she wants to turn around. I still love her personality. The main thing is, I just love her.

I am in Pony Club and Pony Club teaches people more about riding and horse management. I am a D1 on a traditional track and a D2 on horse management so the scholarship would provide funds for me and Iriel to get better together and for me to excel in my riding.



Elderglen's Iriel, ridden by Skylan Rayne Nelson

I am learning how to event and canter comfortably and I am also going to a lot of Pony Club clinics and little local shows. We also like hacking on the farm and I am looking forward to hitting the trails. Thank you for considering me for the ACPS Junior Scholarship!

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Ava Hamlett and South Ridge Aileen

Ava Hamlett Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

South Ridge Aileen

I am applying for a scholarship from the ACPS for attending the Daniel Stewart Clinic. I just got my first Connemara Cross. She is half Connemara and half Thoroughbred. Her name is South Ridge Aileen and she is 22 years old. I have fallen in love with the breed. I like Connemaras because they are very athletic, have good brains, and love to jump.

I have been Eventing this summer with my horse, Aileen. We are competing at Elementary Level and hope to go Beginner Novice next year. I have also been learning dressage with her. Aileen also loves to trail ride and loves anything sweet, especially fresh apples off the trees.

The Daniel Stewart Clinic is a great opportunity for Aileen and me to continue learning about each other. It helps me build confidence in her and my own abilities. It also teaches me how to stop being so anxious and worried and have fun with my horse. I learned a ton at the clinic and hope to go to another next year. We also met another girl who has a Connemara too!

Ava Hamlett

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Katherine Forester Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

My Connemara is Gately's Neala Finch, or Neala. We bought Neala when she was three years old with only 45 days in training and I was 9 years old. Many of our equestrian friends thought my Mom was crazy buying such a young, green horse for me. But Neala was already kid-safe and wise beyond her years. Neala is eight this year and I am 14. Before Neala, my first pony was a Quarter Pony who was about as crazy and unpredictable as they come. My mom always said that pony would either make me an amazing rider or make me find a different sport. I am very glad it was the latter! Neala and I compete in 2'6" equitation hunters, .80-.85 jumpers, and first level dressage. We show in our local hunter/jumper show and the local dressage league. We belong to High Lakes Pony Club and have done some Eventing and Pony Club camps. We plan to attend our first Pony Club Rally this fall. This June for my middle school graduation present, my mom took Neala and me on a 1200 mile road trip to the West Coast Connemara Show in Watsonville, California. We had an amazing time meeting all of the ponies and their people, and we had a very successful show. We won an overall high-point award, high-point purebred mare, high-point performance Connemara, and high point junior championship!

Although Neala is a wonderful pony to show, I think the most amazing thing about her is how calm, smart, and well-minded she is. There is almost nothing she is afraid of or won't try to do for me. She is the most confident horse I know and, because of that, several of our other horses rely on her to soothe them and calm their fears. My mom has Thoroughbreds and we refer to Neala as their "emotional support pony." During COVID-19, when schools were closed and we had to isolate here on our farm, I was really sad that I was missing my last year of middle school and I missed my friends a lot. Neala was my emotional support pony too, and I often sat on her bareback and did my schoolwork. We have had so many fun rides and just hanging out during this time, riding bareback in the snow and going on our first trail ride with my Mom and her Thoroughbred.

Earlier this year I went to a dressage clinic with Neala, we had a great time and learned a lot. If we are awarded the scholarship money, I would like to use it to attend an eventing clinic with her. Neala is my best friend. I can't wait to begin more adventures with her!



Kate Coffee Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

Roughly a year ago I was given the honor of meeting Megan Harris and her farm full of Connemara ponies. Before this meeting I had never ridden or spent time around this unique breed and I believe that introduction was life changing. After meeting *TBS Declan Pondi, Megan's accomplished stallion, I got to meet another legend, Sparrow's Owen. After contracting COPD in 2015, he was retired from eventing where he regularly took ribbons in the upper levels and was now living a quiet life on Fade to Grey Farm. Megan explained that she wanted him to have a job and asked me if I was interested in exercising him in exchange for lessons. Having just quit leasing my hunt horse of three years, I eagerly said yes. I was getting on this 20 year old horse expecting him to act like a 20 year old horse, but boy was I wrong. Something I have since learned and have a great appreciation for, especially after leasing off the track Thoroughbreds with their endless joint problems, is the Connemara's incredible soundness and hardiness even in old(er) age. "Owen" was not feeling his age that first day and before I knew it, we were flying around the arena jumping everything with great ease and grace. Immediately, I fell head over heels for him. I like Owen's love for eventing. I like how hard he tries for me. Having jumped a handful of horses consistently over the years, Owen was the first one who felt like we were flying over the jumps, there was little to no effort from him. I like how jumping comes as naturally as eating for him. I like how he's the best teacher I've ever had the pleasure of knowing and I like how I get to continue to learn from him over the next few years.

I had had no experience eventing when I started riding Owen and Megan quickly introduced me to the sport. After explaining the basics to me and helping me through my first dressage lesson, she assured me that if I could get Owen back in shape then I could run him Beginner Novice at a schooling show that spring. After numerous trot and gallop sets; a love/hate relationship with dressage, and my first cross country schooling, Owen and I were ready as ever for my first schooling show. We entered in the Poplar Place Farms Spring Schooling show at the Beginner Novice level and Owen acted as if he had never missed a beat. We scored a 28.0 on our dressage test and came out double clear in show jumping. Cross country was what really grabbed my attention though and was the most fun I think I've ever had thanks to Owen's natural ability to keep his footing and his love for the sport. We came in second place and later took the blue at a Chatt Hills show a couple months later.

Despite being new to the sport, I want to do it for the rest of my life and I want Owen to be the horse that taught me everything. I'm attending

the University of Georgia this fall and bringing Owen to Athens with me so that we can join the UGA Eventing Club and he can continue to show me the ropes. This scholarship would greatly contribute to the financial side of boarding and showing a horse in college. The UGA Eventing club requires their members to attend monthly clinics, the first of which is a dressage clinic with Beanie Crowe. It is also required that members have at least one lesson per month. This scholarship would help me fund both clinics and lessons, assist me in adapting into a better equestrian and allow Owen to continue to succeed at the sport he loves.



Sadie Vinson (MD) Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

Even before I bought Denver's Nora Foley (G for Girlfriend), she was my favorite horse. My mom rode her once a week and I got to groom her. All the other horses at the barn were Quarter Horses. Old, slow, lazy and perfect for learning on. She was a fancy Connemara Thoroughbred cross. She was NOT a lesson horse and had actually been removed from the lesson program after many riders had fallen off. Last June, I was looking to lease a horse, but there was nothing available. I only knew G as the horse my mom rode. But when she mentioned to my trainer that we couldn't find a horse her response was, "How about G?"

Those three words changed my life forever.

It took a little under two weeks to finalize the details, and on June 14, 2020, G came to my barn. She saw the trailer coming and whinnied to the "horse" inside. When she realized that there was no horse, that she was going somewhere else, she whinnied again, but a 'save me' whinny, not a "hello friend" whinny. The first thing she did when she arrived was roll. That's when I knew she was at home.

I rode her for the first time the next day. I was really scared because until that day I had only ridden lesson horses. As soon as I sat on her, her back went up and she was in frame! By the end of the month we had progressed further than I had thought was possible and we were cantering and jumping small crossrails.

Because I had a horse, it only made sense to join Pony Club, especially because all my friends did it and it would be something fun for me and G to do. Even though I had never been cross country before, I decided I was going to get my Eventing D2 (where I had to jump 18" out on cross country). I gave her lots of baths and we prepared by riding in the fields and jumping in the ring. When the day came she was covered in dirt and mud, but I remember she seemed excited to go

somewhere new. Even though she had been dirty in the morning, we passed all of our horse management sections and exceeded standards on turnout and appearance (meaning she was REALLY clean!) She was really good in the flat and jumping parts, leaving me hopeful for cross country.

Right after we jumped the first mini log she bucked. And not a tiny buck. A massive buck. Not just one buck. Seven bucks. In a row. All of the parents were yelling, "SIT UP" but I was just smiling and enjoying the ride. That's when I realized that G and I were the perfect pair and after that moment, our riding quickly progressed. We had our first event (as a combined test) last October and placed fourth. Even if the dressage left something to be desired, although the judge didn't think so and we got a respectable 32, and there was a war at the last fence in stadium, I was still so proud of G for staying kind of calm and being a total Rockstar the whole day, even when I was freaking out. She was very happy to stay by the trailer and eat hay and cookies, while trying to shake off the ribbon she had just won.

By the winter we were jumping 3 foot courses and I was feeling ready to take her to more shows in the spring. I had wild hopes of winning everything and moving through the levels quickly although I soon learned that those fantasy thoughts wouldn't be possible. An outbreak of EHV-1 in my state cancelled our events in March.

By July, we were able to go out cross country and jump whole courses at novice. We were able to get a consistent frame in hard dressage tests. I was able to slow her down and set her up properly for doubles and triples in jumpers. She was still the same smart, sneaky, and sassy pony I had been riding all along, but I realized that she is a teacher too. She taught me not to sit and be a passenger, but how to be a good rider.

My favorite thing about G is her personality. She loves food and will do almost anything for it, although she refuses to cooperate when I try to teach her tricks. She likes to roll as soon as she is turned out and when that is done, she will gallop across her field like a maniac. She loves tipping over her water trough in her field on hot days to make her own mud, and she loves to jump. Her ears are pricked forward the whole course, and she tries her best not to listen to my directions, instead trying to make up her own course and find the "scary monsters" that live at the edge of the ring. She also makes a lot of funny faces. She has her scared face, her curious face, happy face, sad face, angry face, and my personal favorite, the cat face which she makes whenever she sees a cat.

I have been working on getting her back in dressage, having 20 meter circles that are actually 20 meters, and staying straight on our center lines. We have worked on jumping courses WITHOUT galloping, running out, refusing, knocking rails, or cutting corners, but it is still a work in progress. Out cross country, we have been learning how to put jumps together and keep an even pace the whole time, no matter how much she wants to gallop and have fun. If I got the scholarship I would use it to help me become a better rider for G. I want to go to recognized events next year, and I would use the scholarship to help me achieve that goal. Whether it would be from taking more lessons or getting G a USEA membership so I could ride her at recognized shows, I know that it would help G and me keep improving and progressing further in the Eventing world, as there is always more that I can learn from other riders. G is the best teacher and she has brought me further than I ever thought possible. From our first Training fence out cross country, to the 4 a.m. show morning baths, finally getting her over a spooky jump and all of the snuggle sessions, I owe all of my improvement and happiness in riding to my little Connemara mare.



HK's Danny Boy

M.G.R.M. Brigadoon x *Blossom x Mirah Samson



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Alex Girard

Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner

My name is Alex Girard and I am 13 years old. I am the proud owner of Deegan. My family purchased a farm two years ago and I have been wanting a horse of my own since we moved. I fostered two miniature horses to make sure I was responsible enough to take on the care of a horse I could ride. In six months, I was able to get both the miniature horses back to health so they could be rehomed. Although I was sad to see them leave, I knew we would end up with a different rideable horse someday. That's how we ended up getting Deegan.

We looked at Deegan knowing he was lame and needed extra support to get back to health. We instantly loved his goofiness and demeanor. We ended up buying him even though we knew how much work we would have to do as his lameness was unexplainable. Besides that, we ended up buying him hoping it wouldn't be anything too serious and we could work it out. The first week was better than expected as we thought he would be on stall rest, but the vet said he was ready for walk, trot, and canter! After the first week, I was so pleased with how we were coming along and so happy to finally have a horse of my own.

About five months have gone by now and through that time we have bonded so much and our riding has gotten extremely better since that first week. We found out that what we thought was lameness in his leg actually ended up coming from his right SI joint. The lameness wasn't serious but it was definitely something we wanted to fix even if it wasn't yet too serious. He got an injection (on his right SI) a few weeks ago and his progress is phenomenal even though it's only been a few weeks. When we first got him he was a bit overweight as he hadn't been ridden due to his lameness. He has gone up four holes on his girth which shows how much he is progressing. He has also gained so much more muscle and we have both gained more confidence as the week go by.

Deegan is an absolutely amazing Connemara aside from his funny little quirks! He is always wanting food and attention no matter who it's from. Everytime I go to the pasture or stall to get him he always gives me a little hello (whinny) as he knows I'm coming for him. I love how he is never afraid to tell his opinion and always makes sure he is safe around everyone. He also always tries to please me even if he might not want to! One thing I forgot to mention is that Deegan is a hunter/jumper horse who can jump up to 3'6". I jump him once or twice a week which really helps him build muscle without putting too much pressure on him as he is still getting back what he lost over the few months of stall rest. I am hoping to show him in the hunter ring someday when we are both ready and have the confidence.

Lastly, winning this scholarship would provide new and better opportunities for Deegan and me to take on together. We have a



Alex Girard and Deegan

few options that the money could go towards. The money could go to more lessons which will help Deegan and me become a better team (even though Deegan is already amazing). Putting it towards the lesson would really help build our confidence together as a team.

A second option would be more for Deegan but would also improve and benefit our riding. The money can go towards his chiropractor appointments and massages which help his SI heal better and become a little less sore. Finally, the money could go towards new jumps for our arena at home. He is currently boarded at Boulder Brook Stables as our farm is in the process of getting ready for him to come next Spring. The arena is almost finished so we can trailer him over once a week to get him used to the new environment that he will be living in. Going along with this we will need to purchase some jumps for the arena. We want to paint the poles ourselves but the money could go towards a few standards. This will benefit our jumping by creating new exercises with the jumps that help us build up our riding and bond together.

Overall I am so happy that Deegan was able to join the family and that we even had this opportunity to write this essay. I love Deegan and would be so happy to be able to put this money towards something that will improve us as a team! Deegan is an amazing Connemara and I can't wait for our new adventures ahead.

Alex Girard and Deegan



Clara Beck with her sister Annika, and Castle On The Hill

Clara Beck (PA) **Junior Scholarship \$100 Winner**

After this year's current Olympics, and the amazing feats displayed by all of the teams, I couldn't help but remember my favorite quadruped athlete to ever participate in the games. Stroller competed in 1968, being the smallest equine to ever actively compete in the Games. At a mighty 14.1 hands, he was by far the most brave and willing horse in Mexico. He won the Silver Medal, after floating effortlessly over oxers as high as 7'3", while suffering a decayed tooth. Afterwards he received pounds of fan mail, asking for a few hairs from his tail, so that people around the world would have tokens of great luck. Stroller is arguably the most famous Connemara crossbred to have ever lived, and I am extremely proud and thankful to have one of my own.

My halfbred's name is Castle on the Hill, affectionately known in our barn as "Soren." Soren is a gorgeous sooty Buckskin gelding sired by *Rattle 'N Snap Laddie Boy. His mother, my childhood pony "S'Mores", is an unregistered Connemara/Welsh cross. Although I love S'mores, Soren has untapped athletic potential that his dam never expressed to me, despite winning The Youth All American Hunter Pony Championship in Columbus, Ohio. He has a ground covering stride, and does lead changes, and jumps the stream in his paddock just for the fun of it. He has a doughy soft eye and wants nothing more than to be showered in love. He hasn't formally started under saddle yet, but will be after Labor Day this year.

Currently our favorite activity is to walk on a leadline with my younger sibling, Annika, riding him under saddle. Annika and I were there when he was born and Annika sang songs to S'mores to calm her down while she was giving birth to Soren and was the first person to ever pet his velvety muzzle. Ever since May 14, 2019, Annika and Soren have had a special bond that will last for a lifetime. He is patient, caring, and always does his best to please her. Her dream is to take him to Pony Finals and have the "kindest and sweetest horse there."

Even though Soren is my pony I am so happy to be able to provide a best friend for my sister, in the way that his dam was for me. He is going to take her very far and I cannot wait to watch her bring home ribbons and memories of her and her Buckskin. This scholarship will provide numerous opportunities for my sister and me to help bring him further along in his training, such as being broken with Traci Wade and Keystone Horsemanship at the Serenity Equine Center in Warren, PA.

This breed is very special to me, especially Halfbreds. Even though my pony isn't in the show ring yet, I know he will go far and exceed any expectations laid before him. No other breed of horse has the heart, kindness, generosity, and love of a Connemara. I know that after he conquers Pony Finals with Annika, that we all can expect to see them compete in the Olympics, just like Stroller.

Blackwing Holden's Thunder
Sire: Wildwych Thunder Snow
Dam: Wildwych Dreamtime
2013/Grey/Gelding
Owner: Lili Greed
Breeder: Raelin Schenk

Holden



This year we had a lot of fun and went to our first recognized dressage show! We also got a new saddle and did a lot of dressage clinics. In 2022 we will work on the FEI Children's test, 1st level and a 2 foot course

We learned shoulder in and 10 meter circles. We did a counter canter and worked on ground manners. We accomplished so much this year! We even got a first place ribbon!



Coud'Poker Tartifume (Cooper) McKenna Award Winner



By Donna Miller

The journey started long before I made the connection with Nicolas Hervé the owner of Cooper's sire, Westide Mirah II. I had been looking for an older purebred stallion for many years but had not found one that met all my criteria. In early 2019, I sent a FB message to Nicolas asking about a video he posted. The video happened to be of a mare, however Nicolas (who is a long-time breeder/stallion owner in France) mentioned he knew of a super nice stallion by WMII, and he would investigate for me.

With Nicolas's help I was able to do my required due diligence and ultimately buy Coud'Poker, the then 7 year old stallion that had never been backed and lived in a field with his gelding friend his whole life. His name in French means "a lucky gamble" and honestly, it was a seriously lucky gamble!

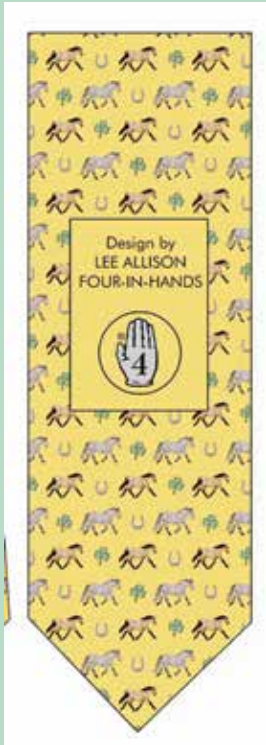
When Cooper arrived, he exceeded my expectations and we never looked back. Fast forward three years and during that time, Cooper not only easily went under saddle, but he quickly progressed through the eventing ranks to Preliminary. He is a super fun ride and a cross country machine. He loves going to work and jumping is what he loves most!

2021 was a very fun and successful year for Cooper He did several horse trials at the Modified level (between Training and Preliminary) and several FEI events at the one star level. Had it not been for his stable mate, HC Celtic Mark running several events at the 3* we probably wouldn't have done so many, but if you're taking one horse, you might as well take two, so away we went! Following are the year end awards he and I were able to accumulate in 2021:

- *The McKenna Trophy for highest nationally placed Connemara or halfbred at the Preliminary through Advanced levels of Eventing
- *ACPS high point Nationally, purebred Connemara at the Modified level
- *8th overall USEA Area III Modified Horse
- *2nd Place Nationally, USEA Modified Master Amateur Rider of the Year
- *3rd Place USEA Nationally, Modified Master Rider of the Year
- *1st Place Area III high point Modified Senior Amateur rider

Cooper has now completed several Preliminary events and is competing very successfully at the 2* level. It's really been a great ride with this kind hearted and hard working pony!

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CALENDAR

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

June 12, 2022 - Upperville Colt and Horse Show Connemara Division, Upperville, VA

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

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

August 8-12, 2022 - Clifden, IRE Connemara Show, Clifden, IRE

Aug. 17-21, 2022 - Royal Dublin Show, Dublin, 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



ACPS Achievement Award of Excellence In-Hand, was earned by Isle of View, shown by Amy Burkemper and owned by Nancy Roth Hunter.

Isle of View

I am very proud of my Connemara halfbred gelding, Isle of View, aka Aengus. He is a 2020 grey gelding by Duet Farms One Love, out of Indigo, a daughter of the Oldenburg, Ideal. He is my first homebred Connemara. I chose One Love for his conformation and temperament, and his damline has two crosses to my all-time favorite Connemara, Tre Awain Roderick O'Conor.

Aengus had a successful 2021 showing in-hand in the Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes that culminated in his receiving an Award of Excellence from the ACPS and USDF All Breeds DSHB Champion Yearling Colts/Geldings for the American Warmblood Society & Sporthorse Registry.

He was Colt Champion at the Xanadu Farms Spring Spectacular Show in Washington, MO, as well as the Cornhusker Classic in Lincoln, Nebraska. He was Reserve Colt Champion at the Cornhusker Classic II show and Halfbred Reserve Champion at the Midwest Connemara Breeders Show.

Aengus is a very sweet boy who travels and shows well under the management and handling of Amy Burkemper who also manages his sire. I am a veterinarian and former Eventing competitor. I am in my mid-60s, and cheer him on from the sidelines. I thank the ACPS for the opportunity to recognize his achievements.



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*Smaragaid Cliff

(Munkholm Cobbergate x Shamrock
Bright Roxanne) 14.3h, brown

- ACPS Premium Stallion
- Two ACPS Gold Medallions
- USDF & All-Breeds Champion
- USEF Leading Eventing & Dressage Sire, HOTY
- German Golden Medal Winner
- HWSN N/N; no grey, dilute genes

The Proof is in his Progeny

Karen Laden

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

Visit Cliff on Facebook at
Kingswell Connemaras

719-495-3892



Braemar Peace

2011 (Gentle Cascade x Atlantic Promise)
Bred by Sue Gillingham, England
Nicola O'Connell

I'm so lucky to own this beautiful, kind, mare. She never ceases to amaze me and having her in our family every day is just a joy. We try a little bit of everything and in 2021 we did a couple of CT classes which were fun and our very first FairHill starter Trial! She amazed me that day earning the highest score in dressage out of 60 + entries in a tropical downpour, just getting on with the task at hand no fuss! The judge even congratulated us for doing such a good test in those weather conditions! We got round the SJ and a bit of a sticky x country but having never done it before she tried with all her heart and I was thrilled when we crossed the last jump!!!

We then made it to the region 3 show which we always love where she amazed me again by earning Champion of the day in the breed class which was just overwhelming! Every day is a pleasure with her, she's my best friend and very much loved! We are looking forward to more adventures in 2022!



*BSF Liam
and Braden Speck*

Our 2021 Eventing Season -

BSF Liam is a Connemara/Thoroughbred cross by Ballywhim An Luan out of the Thoroughbred mare Rumor Risky, bred by Maura Jordan. He is 16.2 and was foaled in 2013

Liam and I began our 2021 season down south at the first and second Pine Top Horse Trials in February, brushing off the rust after a vacation in December. These two shows help kickstart our season and help prepare for the CCI-2Star at Stableview near the end of March. Even after pulling a shoe in show jumping and thus being forced to be a bit more careful out on cross-country, we still managed a top third finish in a huge division with many professionals on their up-and-coming horses.

Stableview marks our return back home after almost four months in Aiken, SC. Luckily, I was able to stay down in South Carolina for the majority of the time because of my school offering remote learning options.

Continuing our success, we finished 4th in the Open Preliminary division at Fair Hill International in April, then 3rd just a month later in the Preliminary Rider division at Fair Hill as well. Unfortunately, I'd break my ankle a few weeks later, so the summer was somewhat boring since I wasn't able to compete. My sister Kaelen, who has two of her own Thoroughbreds at the 4* and 3* levels, was able to take over while I couldn't ride.

By late July, I was back and preparing for a Preliminary run at Fair Hill in early August, followed by a trip to the Great Meadow International CCI-2Star, where we would finish in the top third again in a large division filled with professionals.

Our highlight of the season came at the September Plantation Field International in the CCI-2Star. After a solid dressage test and a double-clear cross-country run, Liam and I were in 7th place going into show jumping on Sunday. We put in a double clear round on a tough course where many riders had multiple rails and secured 4th place for ourselves (1st Under 21). We finished off our 2021 season with another CCI-2Star run at Morven Park in mid-October, placing 8th in a tough division with a tough Cross-Country course.

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

BALMULLO FARM

Richmond, VA



Standing

FOOTHILLS FIELD MARSHALL

13 year old stallion by *Gun Smoke x Foothills Maybee by Balmullo's Beacon ~ N/N for HWSD

*Cooled
shipped semen
only in 2022*

*\$1000 stud fee,
payable when
booking is made*

*For more infor-
mation call
(352) 538-0125*

Or email

balmullofarm@gmail.com



*10th Place, Novice
Division USEF
American Eventing
Championships
2014*

*Reserve Champion In
BN 2013 at AEC's*

*Grand Champion In
-Hand ACPS Re-
gion IV Show 2012*

*Winning at Modi-
fied and Prelim in
2021*

Our Way Forward

By Christine Kelton

Assisted by Trout Ranch Polly Claire

(*Smaragaid Cliff x New Song's Autumn)

*"Two roads diverged in a wood and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference."
Robert Frost*

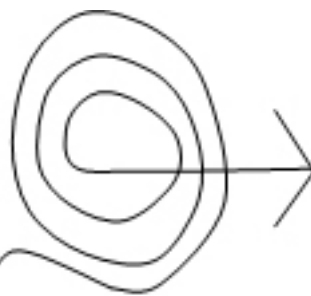
Going Backward to Go Forward

February and March have been interesting and unexpected months. New York has been coated with ice since sometime in January, so outdoor riding has been limited to short jaunts around the plowed farm driveways, and at times even they had spreads of ice floes as snow melted, ran across the driveway, and froze in the most inconvenient places. That left our only option: the beautiful indoor arena. Poor me, right? I'd be super happy in there for a few days at a time, but my 4-legged partner has other opinions about that. And really, I can't blame her, my thinking pony. What's the point of all those circles?

I did get away to visit my daughter in VT for a week, so Polly also had a little vacation. By the end of the week, I was anxiously anticipating my return to the saddle. Imagine my dismay when that moment finally arrived, only to discover an injury. I was brushing Polly's belly when she had such a strong reaction with ears pinned, head thrown up, and a left hind hoof that came whistling perilously close to my right knee. Oh, boy. That's out of character. I reached down carefully and ran my hand across her belly, and I could feel a swelling, left of her midline, just behind where the girth would go. But that wasn't all. I looked to see the extent of the damage and to my horror discovered a huge, softball-sized swelling, also on the left, just in front of her udder. Now what?

How many times have we wished our ponies could talk? I brought her in the ring to see how she moved, and she was sound in hand at the walk and trot. My first thought was a dose of Banamine to alleviate any discomfort and bring the swelling down, but Polly had an ulcer last summer and I didn't want to give her anything that might upset her digestive system unless absolutely necessary. Veterinary opinions were needed. I shot off a quick text to Amy Plavin, then to my regular vet.

I figured the swelling on the lowest part of her belly was caused by gravity from where the real injury was, in front of her udder. Fluid sinks to the lowest point. This was confirmed by my



regular vet, Sandra Fatone, the following afternoon when she stopped by to check it out. It was easy enough to figure out how it happened. Polly and her pasture mate, Paprika, are both rather dominant mares. 98% of the time they hang out amiably, but then there are those moments when their "estrogen poisoning" takes control and neither will give in. Sigh.

I did not want Polly back out with her frenemy. The owners at WillsWay were very accommodating, and within 24 hours they had figured out a way for Polly to have her own private paddock. It was really too bad in some ways. Polly would stop by Paprika's stall and the two would touch noses so tenderly. They really did like each other, but they also both wanted to be in charge, as well. Sorry girls, you can't have it both ways. Safety first.

In front of an udder we thought was a very tricky place to get kicked, but Sandy said it could happen if they're standing back to back and one kicks and its back leg goes between the receiver's legs. Or if they're messing around, and one rears up as the other kicks. Yikes. Anything is possible with horses. If you look in the picture, you can see the abrasion, curved like a horse hoof.

Well, Polly was sound, but I couldn't put a girth on her. I spent ten days hand walking her and doing some TRT groundwork like we used to do before she was being ridden. It's not as if we're headed for the Olympics! And doing something different is always good for her. After 10 days, the belly swelling was gone, but the hematoma was still there, though maybe slightly smaller. Sandy said to go ahead and ride her and see what happens.

I was loath to put a girth on her yet. On the other hand, my other option, to ride Polly bareback, also was not something I wanted to do. I grew up riding mostly bareback, but at this point, really, I'm past that age. No more injuries! I did ride her bareback once last summer in VT when we went swimming in a creek. Yes, we did it, but she was not happy at first and oh, my poor nerves! I gave myself a pep talk and came back the next day with my neck strap.

Aside from that one day last summer, it's been over 30 years since I rode bareback. OK, I'm dating myself. So be it. I walked Polly up to the mounting block and inserted one sugar cube, as is our custom. She's like one of those mechanical horses in the mall that don't move until you put the quarter in. There she stood. There I stood, looking down at that wide, golden, furry back. It's a tall mounting block, and she's only 14 hands. How hard could this be? Do you know that feeling when you're at the top of a ladder and now have to maneuver off and onto the roof of a house? That's where my stomach was. And my brain was not far behind, its synapses sending warning signals. The word "funambulist" went through my head and I started to laugh. It means a tightrope walker, but I think of it as somebody having fun, and then a bystander has to call, you know, an ambulance. Which I suppose works for both tightrope walkers as well as 55 year-old women who decide out of the blue to ride their opinionated ponies bareback.

Enough. I put my leg across and eased on. Oh, Polly! *What foul thing is this!* She immediately pinned her ears, hollowed her back, and tried



to snake her head around at me. She felt my seat bones for sure, but trust me, I have ample padding. I also had that grab strap and she has a shrub of a mane to hold onto. But she didn't leap or anything - she just showed her extreme displeasure at this new sensation. I squeezed lightly with my calves and immediately released to urge her forward, and that earned another fierce ear pinning, head shaking dragon imitation. Oh ho! Now you can really feel my legs and I hardly have to touch you, my little cherub! She marched forward, and in 30 seconds, all was well. We "no-tack" walked around the indoor for 20 minutes

and she was perfectly happy, ears forward, watching all the goings on in a busy boarding facility.

The next day was much the same, except I asked for a trot. Polly is a very sensitive mare, and our first trot was met with her first showing her opinion, but then she settled right in and before long I made some very important discoveries. The first was that I could really fine tune my driving aids without a saddle. There was no doubt that she knew when my leg was on, and I could immediately reward her by taking it completely off - and there wasn't even girth pressure, so she was completely free when she was moving forward and doing the right thing. We practiced moving forward to the slightest pressure. Some days it worked quite well. The second discovery I made was that muscle memory, even from 30 years ago, doesn't forget, and before long, riding bareback lost its scariness.

I'm always asking for more trot from Polly, but without a saddle, I couldn't do that. One day I picked up my outside "contact rein" and asked for a little flexion on the inside, and she stretched into it beautifully. I practiced stretching into the rein at the walk. I was thinking how Isabell Werth says you should be able to do everything at the walk, and here was an opportunity. We did walk serpentine around the ring - not a lazy walk, but a march- practicing changing the bend in the middle. Then I pushed her into the trot and let her just go around the outside of the ring, and this is when it happened.

Her trot was lazy, but remember, I was bareback and not confident in staying on. I'm always bugging Polly about her non-forwardness, but without a saddle, there wasn't a lot I could do. This turned out to be a blessing. She was "too slow" and strung out. I picked up the outside rein, pushed a little with my seat, and gave a slight inside flexion. That girl went beautifully into the bridle, stretching and pushing from behind. Slow, but correct. I had hocks in my hands, and she was light and carrying herself. Big praise for Polly, and I let her walk. Then I tried it again, and off she went, and a few times later, she was looking for that contact. And her ears were forward, her back felt like a little trampoline, and her big, fluffy tail was swinging like a hula skirt. I shortened my reins, and Polly turned into a little bouncing beach ball with real suspension and a springy back. The feeling was as magical as it was addictive. We practiced this for several days. Some days we got it, and others we didn't have as much success, but the improvement was real and her happy attitude genuine.

Every pony is different. It pays with Polly to let her come out and walk for 10 minutes before asking her to trot, and then NOT getting after her right away to brighten her trot. I can let her do what seems like a pokey trot at first, because often - but NOT always - once I pick up the contact rein, her body changes and she's together and with me. Then I can start walk-trot-walk transitions to get her reacting to my forward aid. It doesn't always work, and on those days, we go outside. And on

the days when she comes out ready and eager, I might get off after 15-20 minutes so she doesn't associate every schooling session with breaking rocks. This is life with a very smart, thinking pony who is as firm in her convictions as I am in mine. We have to work together, and some days I have to be the smarter partner and know when to quit while I'm ahead, push a little when she is in a more giving mood, or just go do something different.

I was truly enjoying our bareback rides, and one day we ventured out and around the farm, followed by another day out on the trails. This is a true testament to Polly, whom I know I can take anywhere by herself and she will be the same sane, safe pony in and out of the ring. Here's my chance to brag - even when it pours for two straight days and the horses don't get turned out, I can always count on Polly to be *exactly* the same. I enjoyed riding bareback so much that I ordered a Thinline bareback pad, and I love it. I think Polly is even more appreciative as evidenced by her much improved demeanor when I first get on. If that thing had stirrups, I might never use a saddle again. It even has rings in the front so I can attach my air vest

. We've taken a few lessons with Carol Seaman, and I've had a few takeaways. One is that my patience needs a tune-up, and Polly and I do much better when we find a common ground where we can work together. Not easy with two "alpha mares." We are truly mirror images of each other. Another is that I shouldn't worry so much about her pokey trot that she starts out with, because often as soon as she comes into balance by going into my contact rein, she goes forward into the bridle and her trot becomes quite lovely. Maybe it's a confidence thing with her, and she needs to know that I'm there through the reins because if I leave them loose, she struggles. She needs that contact rein to get herself together. Once she's there, we can work on moving forward with quicker reactions from my leg

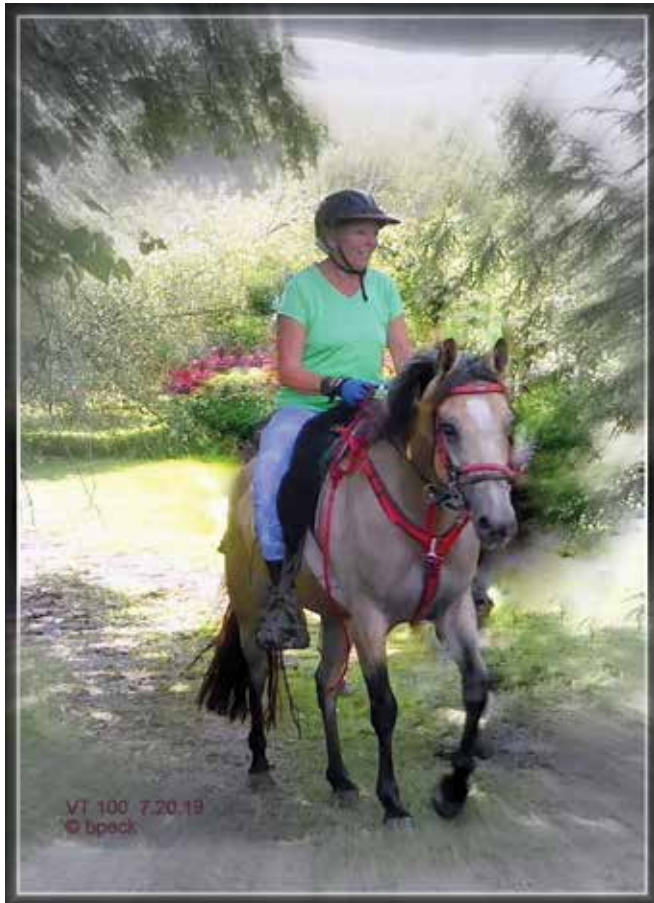


and without losing that balance. We're both finding joy in our work together, but it's an organic process. And some days it just doesn't happen, and we go out for a hack.

By the end of March we were back riding with the saddle, and on the same percentage of days I have the same good as well as "questionable" :) rides. Whenever I feel myself getting frustrated, I think back to when I didn't have the saddle on and I try to relax and allow Polly to stay slow and get her balance before asking for a more forward trot. I'm just as much a work in progress as she is, and maybe even more so. If I have a ride that leaves me frustrated, the next ride I ditch my saddle and go to the bareback pad to get that balance back, when we are so connected and our ride gets soft and easy.

Sometimes we have to go backward to move forward. Think *balance* rather than speed, look up, and feel.

Hitting the Trails



Distance Riding

What Is It!

By Susan Niedoroda

Distance riding can be divided into three categories: Competitive Trail Riding, Limited Distance Riding, and Endurance Riding. CTR is a timed distance with an optimum speed and points are deducted if you come in too fast or too slow. The horse is checked before and after the ride and all signs of wear and tear are points deducted from your score. A distance of 25-35 miles is the norm for one day, but multi-day rides are popular as well. LD's are a shortened version of an endurance ride. Sometimes called Luxury Distance by folks who like to say they are done, showered, and having lunch in time to watch the other distances finish. LD's are more than 25 miles and less than 50. The winner is determined by how quickly the horse can reach a pulse of 60 bpm at the end. During the LD there will be one hold period where the vets will check the horse for lameness, and metabolics. Once they have passed the vet check and are cleared to continue, they have a mandatory hold to rest and replenish food and water. Endurance is anything 50 miles and over. Distances are commonly 50, 65, 75, or 100 miles. To win an endurance ride it truly is the first one over the finish line as long as the horse passes the vet checks. To get a horse to the 100-mile level can take a good three years. The first year is a lot of long, slow miles, working up to doing a number of LDs. Second season my start with an LD or two then a two-day 50 mile ride and then on to slow 50 milers. The third season should be a series of 50s and if all the stars have aligned, ready for that first 100. During training season, walking 12 to 15 miles three days a week is common. Two days of speed work, and two days off round out the week.

Getting through a 100 mile ride is not easy feat. AERC (American Endurance Ride Conference) rules give you 24 hours to complete but FEI only allows 18 hours. 100 mile rides generally have 5 to 6 loops of varied lengths (but not more than 25 miles). At the end of each loop the horse must pulse down to 64 bpm, trot soundly, and pass a metabolic check by a vet. Holds last usually 40 to 50 minutes. Riders usually preload the horse with electrolytes. The day of the race, horses will get a variety of things at each hold depending on the speed, the weather, and particular needs of each horse. Electrolytes as well as additional sodium, magnesium, calcium, potassium, and date syrup are most common. Hay, sometimes multiple kinds as well as grain are also given.

Not all endurance horses make good 100 miles horses. There is a certain mental toughness needed that not all horses have. Arabians are the most common breed seen in endurance. They are strong, sound horses with superior stamina. Arab crosses are becoming more common and other breeds are finding success as well. Connemaras have been quietly doing endurance rides for years. With their athleticism and versatility as well as fantastic temperaments, an Arab/Connemara cross checks all the boxes!

(Left) TLC Chatta (Big Bear's Special Order x Big Bear's Georgia Whiskey) has more AERC miles than any other Connemara at 2245 miles. She completed the Florida 100 CTR, FITS 75, and Blazing Saddles 100 as well as the 2012 AERC National Championships. She is owned and ridden by Susan Niedoroda.

(Below) M&M's Gabriella (Connemara/Thoroughbred) owned and ridden by Sacha Edgell, has an impressive 1050 AERC miles. She completed the Tevis Cup in 2016 and then again in 2019. Tevis is considered one of, if not the, hardest 100 mile race in the country.



For the Love of the Pony

ACPS, USEF & Your Foal's Lifetime Horse Recording Number

By Janet Johnson

As of 2019 ACPS has been partnering with USEF. Foals registered with ACPS within their calendar year of birth will be issued a Lifetime Recording Number by the USEF. Since 2018 Microchips have also been issued by ACPS upon registration as a form of identification.

What does this mean to you as a breeder/owner of a newborn foal? In the information age that we live in, this means a lot, and lasts a lifetime.

Your foal's lifetime recording number with the USEF is used to track your foal throughout its lifetime. Anyone can track the foal by searching the foal's name in the USEF database. This search can provide you with verification of the foal's age, color, breed, Sire, Dam, Breeder and current or last known owner. As our foals come of age we hope they will compete. To be eligible for USEF/ACPS awards your horse must have a recording number. This number comes automatically with timely registration of your Connemara foals. Your foal must be fully registered with ACPS by December 31st of the year of birth. (ie: fully – hair pulled, DNA & HWS done and back to the Register by December 31st in the year of birth.) ACPS & USEF partnering in this endeavor is a real plus for our young stock.

Your foals microchip number, and how does it tie into their USEF lifetime recording number? Microchips are issued upon registration with ACPS for the purpose of identity. We can take this one step further by adding the microchip number issued with ACPS registration to our foals USEF number. This can provide an extra measure of security for our ponies in times crisis, such as loss due to natural disasters, theft, unknown identity due to death of the owner, or for any reason your pony may get lost in the shuffle throughout its lifetime. Tying your foals microchip number to its USEF number will tie that foal to you, the breeder, for its lifetime, in the USEF national data base. Meaning if someone at a sale barn or rescue scans a horse's microchip and searches that number in the USEF database, at the very least the breeders name should come up. A peace of mind for breeders who like to keep track of their horses throughout their lifetime.

Your personal USEF member ID... many of us have a USEF member ID, and many of us don't even know it, or remember that we once had one. Your USEF member ID stays with you for a lifetime. If you have ever been a member of USEF, you have a number. If you have ever participated in a sanctioned show or rode on an Interscholastic team in college, you have a number. Anyone can get a USEF member number, just by creating an account online at www.usef.org. It's easiest to just join on line and become a fan member, however you do not need to renew your membership every year to make use of

USEF RECOGNIZED AFFILIATE



your USEF member number for Lifetime Recording purposes. The advantage to having an online account with USEF is your Member Dashboard, where all of your horses with a Lifetime Recording Number will be listed. From your dashboard you can manage you horses. This is where you can add your pony's microchip number to the Lifetime Recording Number. This is also where you go when selling your pony to release their Recording number for transfer to their new owner. Knowing the new owner's USEF member number is helpful, as with it the transfer will post directly to their account.

We live in an age of information. Data in = Data Out. Data going out is only as good as the data going in. Keep current with the ACPS & USEF. Let them know when you change your address. Let them know when you change your name. Include your USEF member number on your registration application, so your new foals will be listed directly to your dashboard. Proofread your Registration papers, pull up your USEF dashboard and make sure all new foals are correctly entered. Be diligent as a breeder. Register your foals promptly. Be timely. Be accurate. Be helpful to those who are just learning the ropes. Stallion owners keep in touch your mare owners. Encourage them to complete the registration process on their new foals in a timely manner. Inform them about the foal's lifetime recording number. Guide them if necessary.

For the Love of the Pony... take the time to keep up with the paperwork, from Stallion Service certificate to Registration, to USEF numbers. While what I've tried to convey here might be clear to many of us, to others I'm sure it's clear as mud. I apologize. If you have questions, ask. Our Register (Marynell) is always happy to answer questions. USEF has staff on hand to answer questions and they also have a wealth of information about Horse Recording and Microchipping on their website. While I am no expert, I'm happy to help walk you through the process of tying all this info together. My contact info is listed in our member directory. We all know of ponies who've lost their identity due to no fault of their own, and have been lost to the Connemara world. For the Love of the Pony...keep up with the paperwork. This is something we can all do to help every pony we put on the ground retain their identity throughout their lifetime.



2022 RECOGNIZED AFFILIATE

AMERICAN CONNEMARA PONY SOCIETY

4763365

Thomas F.X. O'Mara
USEF President



Mares and Foals Issue

July/August 2022 - Deadline is June 10, 2022

Make sure you take lots of photos of your newborn foals and send the best high resolution jpg to americanconnemara@gmail.com

List sire, dam, breeder, and owner.

We look forward to many pages of great foal photos!

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

 merlesmithsporthorses@gmail.com




MERLE-SMITH
SPORTHORSES

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**



*My name is June Scott and I live in Washington, Vermont. I ride at Northern Connemaras with Sarah Thrasher. This is my story about me and my experience with Connemara ponies. My experiences are really fun with my teacher, Sarah Thrasher. My favorite thing is to do trail rides. Some of my trail rides have been cold and some have been warm. Some have been on Dexter (Aluinn Dexter) and some on Misty (*Coral Ballerina) and some on Ruby (*Rusheen Anneka). I am 5-years-old. Connemaras are really fun to play with. If you are looking for a horse you might want to try a Connemara. Next summer I want to do a lot of obstacle courses. My experience with Connemaras has been really fun and all my lessons have been great. Some when it's windy and some when it's hot.*

That's the end of my story.

**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. plataise@aol.com

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

PARADOX CONNEMARAS. Tom and Sally Oxnard, 5 Greenleaf Dr., Exeter, NH 03833. (603) 828-9039, stoxnard@gmail.com., www.paradoxconnemaras.com

SOUTH RIDGE CONNEMARAS. Kimberly Sterl, 148 Deer Hill Rd., Brentwood, NH 03833. (603) 493-3921. srfponies@gmail.com. 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

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. 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

TRIPLE CREEK FARM. Mary Lou Thall, Winfield, NY 13491. (315) 855-7878. tricreek@hotmail.com, 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 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 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 *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

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

THURMAN FARM. Barbara J. Byrd, PO Box 472, Berryville, VA 22611, 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 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 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. bramblerridgefarm@gmail.com

ELDERGLEN FARM. Jim and Nancy Kilcrease, PO Box 260, Reddick, FL 32686. (352) 591-4331. elderglenfarm@yahoo.com, 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 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

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, 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 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 keahey.julie@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 325th 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, elmshootfarm@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@countryrider.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 510th 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 Lefkowitz. 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 Halleluia 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. 36th 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

TELESIS CONNEMARAS. Megan Gastel, 2817 Valley View Ave., Norco, CA 92860. (909) 782-2816. telesisequestrian@hotmail.com www.telesisconnemaras.com. Telesis Carraig Rua, *Swanview Mirah's Shadow.

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ACPS New Members (February 11-April 10)

Region 1

Emily Belanger
Alexandra Girard
Melissa Hamlett

Region 2

Caitlyn Coryell
Heather Schubert

Region 3

Gillian Clissold
Amie Collins
Alexandra Houck
Jessica Swezey

Region 4

Joan Ehrhart
Laurie Gloor

Region 7

Vickie Castellano

Region 10

Cat Benson
Judy D'Arpa
Leslie Kennard
Skyler Lee
Diana Wisltermann

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.

TRANSFERS

S 1907 XLV (GELDED) KYNYNMONT STERLING O'GRADY from Allison MacLean to Lainey Green, PO Box 800, Shingle Springs, CA 95682.

M 3888 XLVI – CRIB GLAS CASTANET from Kimberly A. Salm to Sally Tracy, 657 Xenia Place, Ames, IA 50014.

HBM 2323 XLVII – CADY O'DALY TINKER TOY from Alicia Daily to Emily Nace, 19419 Ebenezer Chursh Rd., Round Hill, VA 20144.

HBM 2106 XLVIII – CINNAMON TWIST from Amy Dutzmann to Heather Sallie, 206 Huckaberry St., Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

HBM 2343 XLVIII – COMMOTION from G. Suzanne Harper to Daniele Kuipers 111 SW Hurbert St., Newport, OR 97365.

M 4080 L – TRE AWAIN CASHELA'S BELLE from Kathy Lucas to Christina Garloff, 3149 Riverside Terrace, Chino, CA 91710.

M 4091 LI – IRISH GATES ROSIE THE RIVERTER from Jill Stefanelli to Roxanne R. Kennedy, 149 Dancy Ave., East Palatka, FL 32131.

HBM 2614 LI – NEW HEART'S HOTSHOT from Sally Cunningham to Nancy D. Dillon, 350 Fodderstack Rd., Washington, VA 22747.

HBM 2382 LII – ORION'S STARFIRE from Mary Dye to Katie A. Hoff, 14206 253rd Ave. E., Buckby, WA 98321.

HBM 2615 LIII – POINT AND SHOOT from Deborah Brady to Elizabeth Rodrigues 1056 Green Hill Trace, Tallahassee, FL 32317.

HBM 2706 LV – LAMBORN MERLYN from Carol Lund to Katie Roosa (2019).

SAME to Melissa Hamlett (2022) 120 Center Hill Rd., Landaff, NH 03585.

S 1997 LV – FARKLEBERRY'S SMOKEY LAD from Nancy Kilcrease to Hedgerow Farm LLC, 13550 Triadelphia Mill Rd., Clarksburg, MD 21029.

SAME to Nicole Byars, 34 W 191 White Thorn Rd., Wayne, IL 60284.

G 2714 LVII – COOL SPRINGS JUSTIFIED from Jill McNicol, DVM to Stacey Coe, 1440 Neptune Ave., Akron, OH 44301.

HBM 2814 LVII – ROCKIT QUEEN from K. Mackie to Bertha Turnbull, 239 Mount Eden Rd., Kirkwood, PA 17536.

HBM 2834 LVII – TOTALITY DFEN from Sarah McCarthy DVM, to Chelsea Salisbury, 466 Trumpeter Rd., BC Canada V1W 5K6

M 4649 LVII – FARKLEBERRY FROLIC from Kate Denton to Kristin Sealey ,9807 NW 261 Terr., High Springs ,FL 32643.

TFC M 6512 LVIII – ROCK ARIA from Kitty Mackie to Danielle Garbaty, 42679 25th Sideroad, Mono, Ontario, CANADA L9V 1E2

HBM 2967 LVIII – BLACK DOG'S SHENANIGANS from Beth Davidson to Racheal Horton, 523 Wendel Ave., Lithia, FL 33547.

M 4699 LVIII – DARK HORSE VIVA LA VIDA from Kelly Windus to Life and Liberty Equestrian Center, 383 Private Main Lane, Wheeling, WV 26003.

M 4703 LVIII – CLARECASTLE HIGH JINX from Clarecastle Connemaras to Judy D'Arpa (2021)

SAME to Kelsey Jungbluth/Jungbluth Valley Farm, E 5347 Ohio Rd., Loganville WI 53943.

TFC G 6509 LVIII - LEDGEWOOD'S LOKI from Janet M. Johnson to Conner Keepers, 26550 Grays Lane, Richland Center, WI 53581.

M 4726 LVIX - SEARAH'S SUPER NOVA from Kim Denton to Heather Schubert, 1 McIntosh Drive, Peru, NY 12972.

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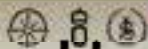
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*Rosewood Riders Pony Club member Maya Malone with Rosewood Ode to Joy, instructor Mimi Duffy, and Darian Hall with *Lishmar Topaz.*

(Karen Preuss Photo)