

American Connemara Pony Society

Region VIII ~ Newsletter



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

Region Chair & Editor: Susan Dudasik: misfitfarms@centurylink.net

Region VIII Governor: Susan McLaughlin (970) 749-4332

duckspringfarm@aol.com

Winter 2021 #12

Hi everyone, Hope everyone is doing ok this winter. We were doing pretty good snow wise until about Feb 13th, then got hit with several days of snow. At least we haven't had the -20 temps we've had in past years. Now it's just ice!

Big news, the ACPS Board has approved the Fun With Pony achievement award. I hope a lot of our members consider doing this. Read more about it below and in the next ACPS magazine.

I've had some computer issues and sent out a request for folks to verify their e-mails as I had many that were suddenly being rejected. If you are getting this newsletter, can you please let me know.

Starting with this newsletter, I'll be going to a quarterly format so it will be coming out four times a year instead of the six. From now on, it will be coming out in January, April, July and October. If I receive anything from ACPS that needs to be shared, I'll send that out in an e-mail.

Thank you to those who sent in photos and information. Just love seeing everyone having fun with their ponies. Sure hope to see more for the next issue.

Don't forget to send information for the "Meet the Members" blurb. I need folks to send a photo and a short paragraph about themselves. Also need folks to let me know who's doing what. Foal photos are fun, too. What about ways to promote our ponies or a barn tip? Anyone attending a clinic with their pony?

This is your newsletter so if there is something you'd like to see, just let me know. I know folks are doing fun stuff with their ponies. I really need help with information and PICTURES!!! The next deadline for newsletter information is June 15th Thank-you to those who have been sending stuff for the newsletter and for all your future help and support. *Susan*



Information for the next newsletter is due June 15th

It's Official !!! Great news! On February 6, 2021, the ACPS Board of Governors voted to approve the Fun With Pony (FWP) Achievement Award for all ACPS regions. The concept for this award was tested in 2020 in Regions I and XI with great results. Sixteen members from youth to seniors participated with 21 ponies, ranging from 8 months to 28 years old. The award is designed to recognize all those who enjoy spending time and having fun with their ponies, not just in the competitive arena. It's a way to highlight those ponies that do other activities besides showing. To participate, the member must spend at least 150 hours a year interacting with their pony. This can include a wide range of things from riding, driving, parading, trail riding, doing groundwork, training, participating in expos or other community events and just spending time bonding with their pony. The sky is the limit on what you can do. Once the hours are obtained, the participant needs to send in a short story telling what they did with their pony and provide some photos of what they did.



They are still working out all the recording details which will be up on the webpage, but folks can start recording their time as of now and then can transfer the information to the official paperwork as soon as it's posted. There will be an electronic form that participants can fill out as well as a FWP template for stories and photos. Jen Garutti has volunteered to serve as the FWP National Points person.

This is a very exciting addition to the achievement awards program as it will give new recognition to those with older ponies can no longer compete, folks who aren't interested in competing and those with a limited ability to participate in events. Connemara folks are so creative, it will be fun to see what everyone is doing with their ponies. It's also a fantastic way to promote the Connemara breed!!!

Meet & Greets: I will be going to the Idaho Horse Expo in Nampa, Idaho on April 9 – 11. While there wouldn't be an ACPS Region VIII booth, I will be around all weekend and would love to meet with folks. I will also be putting out some of the ACPS flyers Linda Trimper sent us. If you would like some of the flyers for your area, please let me know. To find me, just look for my farm logo on my vest or jacket.



Utah Members: Celeste Rosquist has offered to see if she can get something together for a meet and greet in Utah. Thanks Celeste, that's great. Please contact Celeste at (801) 573-7452 or e-mail her at c.rosquist@msn.com



Enjoying a post snowstorm chat: Karen Laden of Kingswell Connemaras in Elbert, CO sent this photo of ACPS Premium Stallion *Smaragaid Cliff (Munkholm Cobbergate x Shamrock Bright Roxanne) and Irish Gate's Scarlet Fire (JEF Sir Lancelot x Legacy's Charming Jasmine) .

ACPS Webpage: Be sure to check out the ACPS website www.acps.org, it has a lot of useful information including a membership Directory. To log into the website the User Name is acpsmember and the Password is ride4fun. They have been working hard to up date the website with lots of new information.

Meet our members: My name is Cindi Weist, I am 43 years old and have lived in Choteau, Montana for 1.5 years. I immigrated to the US in 2019 and brought my Connemara mare Sølvstads Ann Mai with me from Germany. Her nickname is Gretchen. She was bred in Denmark and I have known her since she was 3 years old. Gretchen is a gray horse. She was ridden English and we are together in endurance. In Germany we have started rides over several days up to 400 km and we also have a 100 miler on the clock. This season Grete will start her first rides in the USA. The goal is the Tevis Cup in 2 years. She still has a few years in the sport and after that I would like to continue breeding with her.



Gretchen started her journey to the USA in foal and gave us a beautiful filly in spring. Her name is Ann Joy Elsa. Her sire is a German Riding Pony with a lot of Arabian. She is supposed to be my offspring pony for the endurance sport and as it looks she brings enough joy of movement. I have sent a few pictures of my two treasures. So much for us. I look forward to exchange with Connemara owners. Unfortunately, many here do not know the race (breed) at all. I look forward to news and info.

Greetings from Cindi, Grete and Elsa

Gretchen and I on the home stretch after 65 miles and the win and Best Condition



Grete waiting for her pasture friend.



Grete high carrying in Montana



Elsa a few weeks old.



Elsa about half a year old.



Received this adorable photo from Alina Love from Colorado of Gus (Irish Gate's Bold Deceiver) Bred by Pattie Stalder. He's checking out the painting of himself as a baby just painted by Pattie Stalker. She does great work, both in breeding and painting!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Carol Anderson and VSH Devine Alexandra for earning their Misfit Farm's Trail Equine Level of Excellence Bronze Level One certificate. Lexie also earned the WE United National High Point Connemara for 2019.



To Tower Hill's Breeze owned by Sally Oxnard. Breeze is shown here with her rider, Elizabeth, checking off the last skill on the Misfit Farm Trail Program Silver Level test- drag a rope off both sides at the walk. Lots of other fun skills accomplished. Give it a try.

This fun photo is from our ACPS President, Linda Haines. "Here is another version of skijoring. This is an old photo of my pony, Tower Hill's Leannan and me figuring it out. Leannan was my first Connemara and my all time soulmate pony."



ACPS Merchandise: Great way to start the new show season and promote your favorite breed with one of these beautiful baby pads - made in USA by Wilkers. We have a nice selection of colors. \$26.50 each plus shipping. Did you know you can purchase some really neat ACPS logo stuff at the Region III Connemara Boutique on Facebook.



Region X Fundraiser: Saint Patrick's Day is coming, so get your Irish on! Order your C\$ belt designed for the American Connemara Society. The belts also make great gifts if show prizes! These custom C\$ belts are made of durable, recyclable medical-grade thermo-polymer material and are also waterproof, interchangeable with all C4 buckles and are easily cut to fit up to a 42" waist. Choose from the 4 designs below and three belt buckle colors, white, green or clear. Price is \$40. plus shipping, payable by check, PayPal or Venmo. Proceeds are to benefit Region X, and the belts can only be ordered through Region X. to order, please email: acps.regionx.fundraiser@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!



CALENDAR:

April 9 -11 – Idaho Horse Expo Nampa, ID

May 29-30 Working Equitation Schooling show in Stevensville, MT 406-381-6196

June 12 – Flying Colors Mini Event @ Big Sky Horse Park, Missoula, MT

June 15- Newsletter information due

June 26- 27 - Working Equitation show @ Big Sky Horse Park, Missoula, MT

July 1 – Newsletter out

July 16-18 Karen O’Neal clinic at Big Sky Horse Park

July 23 -25 – Working Equitation show in Belgrade, MT

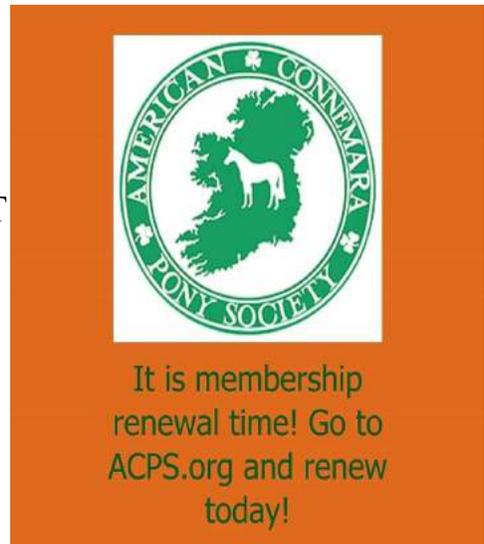
July 20 -25 – THE EVENT @ Rebecca Farm in Kallispell, Mt.

Aug. 14-15- Working Equitation show in Stevensville, MT 406-381-6196

Sept 11-12- Working Equitation show @ Big Sky Horse Park, Missoula, MT

Sept 15- Newsletter information due

Sept. 25 -Flying Colors Mini Event @ Big Sky Horse Park, Missoula, MT



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

Any other folks doing trail clinics, challenges or events? Would love to see photos from your events or if you know of any events happening in the Region VIII area, I'd be glad to put them on the calendar.

To encourage everyone to send in something for the newsletter, the names of those contributing something will be put in for a drawing for a small gift.

This month's newsletter contributor winner is Cindi Weist from MT. Her gift is a green hand towel with the Connemaras do it all logo and a small change purse.



Region VIII Breeders



**A Champion Stallion from
Champion European Lines
successfully passing it on
*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
- HWSD 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

FINN'S IRISH CREAM

ACPS (2526) XXXIII - Inspected & Approved HWSD-N/N
 1996 Dun Stallion 13.3H
 By *Grange Finn Sparrow (659)CPBS out of Matilda (8360)CPBS

Shipped Cooled or Frozen Semen.
 Call or email for pricing.




JARRE CREEK CONNEMARAS
 Kaye Hurley Lefkowitz | Sedalia, CO | 303.619.0433 | grniedldy@gmail.com

To view more photos visit <https://heatherbellphotograp.photoshelter.com/gallery/Finns-Irish-Cream/GooooQOdwrBfrHIE>

Region VIII Representatives:

Susan McLaughlin from Colorado is the Region VIII Governor.

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

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

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