May/June 2020 #8

photo: Ryder Richardson and RR Cool Play. Thank you Ryder for always providing such fun photos.

Wow, it sure has been an interesting year. Prayers that everyone is staying healthy. With so much shut down and canceling of events, there's not much for this month's newsletter. Life is kind of a day by day adventure. I know some folks haven't even been able to see their ponies for a while!

How have you all been getting through this? At Misfit Farm, we've been working on the trail course, repairing obstacles and creating new ones. Some folks have been taking advantage of all the free on-line training videos and seminars offered by various organizations and others have tried conquering the tack room beast by organizing and cleaning.

Hopefully we can have a Meet & Greet (M&G) event at the Big Sky Horse Park in Missoula, MT during the Working Equitation clinic June 5-7. If you are interested in this, please let me know so we can set up a time to meet. If you're in the area that weekend please drop by and say “hi”. Call me at 208-940-1186. We're still working on one in July at Rebecca Farm during the Event in Kallispell, MT. As of now, that event is still on. Celeste Rosquist in Utah is also interested in doing something there. For information, see below.

Check out our public Facebook page which can be found at: American Connemara Pony Society - Region 8 that everyone can post to. It currently has 105 followers. Not bad considering there are about 16 Region members. So it's a good place to promote our ponies.

Don't forget to send information for the “Meet the Members” blurb. I need folks to send a photo and a short paragraph about them. 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

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 Celeste Rosquist. Her gift is a note pad and pen with the ACPS logo and a cute coin purse. Congratulations Celeste! Thanks for contributing to the newsletter.

Don't forget to renew your 2020 membership!!

Membership Secretary: Suzanne Phelps (membership) and Cynthia Holbrook (database). Please contact Suzanne for membership questions, renewals and new member applications. Suzanne’s contact information is: 2010 Miracle Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043  (703)244-5731  srphelps@cox.net

Membership by state: We may be few, but we are mighty. From the list I was the beginning of April 2020, it looks like this year we have 16 paid members. Let's see if we can grow that this year. By state, we have, Colorado- 10, Southern Idaho- 4, Montana- 0, New Mexico-1, Utah- 1 and Wyoming -0. If you know any new members, please let me know so I can add them to the mailing list.

Welcome to our new members: Jean Clagett of Kiowa, CO and junior members Bridget Kelly of Roswell, NM and LeeAnne Thomas of Conifer, CO

ACPS Merchandise: Did you know you can purchase some really neat ACPS logo stuff at the Region III Connemara Boutique on Facebook. They have lots of neat clothes, saddle pads, fly veils and much more featuring the “Connemaras Do It All” logo. They also have 3” and 5” embroidered patches that are perfect for saddle pads, vests and tack bags. Check out these Baby Pads - made is USA by Wilkers. We have a nice selection of colors. $26.50 each plus shipping.
Update From Jean Clagett: Here are two shots of the Connemara clay model which I have submitted to the National Western Stock Show for next January which will eventually be cast in bronze or Forton. Wish me luck. I have other models submitted to the National Sculpture Society for their annual show in South Carolina and New York City. I didn't see my name or contact info in your directory. Please add Jean to your copy of the directory. It's jean@atelierwest.com my phone is 720-589-2976 and mail is PO Box 506, Kiowa, CO 80117.

Utah Members: Celeste Rosquist has offered to try and 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

Meet our members: Sure would like some input for this section.

Pony Pre-Inspection Clinic:
Susan McLaughlin, our Region VIII Governor, has been working hard on arranging for an ACPS pre-Inspection clinic our region. This clinic will focus on conformation and form to function of the Connemara pony and helping familiarize participants with the inspection process. Tentative dates are being looked at with the event to be held in CO.

The inspections are for all purebred Connemara ponies, mares, stallions and geldings, domestic or imported, with an ACPS permanent registration certificate. There is an inspection nominating process for all ponies and specific guidelines and criteria must be followed. Currently there are two inspections planed for 2020. The first is July 26-27 in Virginia and the other on October 11-12 in Georgia. If this is something anyone would be interested in, please let us know asap so we know if it is something Region VIII needs to pursue. For complete details about the inspection program, please visit the ACPS page at https://acps.org/inspections-acps
For more information please contact Susan McLaughlin at (970) 749-4332 or e-mail her at duckspringfarm@aol.com
Calling all ACPS Juniors- check out the new ACPS junior run Instagram @acpsjuniors! Tag your photos (with pony’s breeding) for shares. This was posted on facebook and all the information I have on it right now.

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.

Did you know? Only one of two horses to jump a clear round in the entire 1968 Olympics was a 14.1 half bred Connemara, Stroller. Stroller competed in the Olympic games as a member of the British Team ridden by Marium Coakes. They won the silver medal behind the gold medal winners Snowbound and Bill Steinkraus. Stroller cleared an Puissance Fence of 6’10.”

Printed directory of Region VIII members: The directory was sent out last month. If there are any changes or additions, please let me know. I can still add to the directory if you are a new member or you want to include your ponies names, what kind of events you participate in and any other information you wanted to include. verify contact information and anything else you want to include. You can e-mail me at misfitfarms@centurylink.net. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS YOU MUST LET ME KNOW!

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Information for the next newsletter is due June 15th

CALENDAR:
June 5-7 – Working Equitation clinic- Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
June 13 – Flying Colors mini-event - Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
June 15- Newsletter information due
June 12-13 Sage Creek I and II in UT
June 12 – 14- Idaho Dressage Festival -Les Bois Dressage Eagle, ID 208-585-7006
June 27 – 28 – Working Equitation show - Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
July 1 – Newsletter out
July 11-12, Millbrook Summer Dressage Festival in UT
July 22 -26 - The Event at Rebeccaa Farm in Kallispell, MT
July 22 -26 – Tentative- Region VIII Meet & Greet at Rebecca Farm in Kallispell, MT
July 24-25 Sage Creek III and IV in UT
August 15-16 Millbrook Farms Dressage Show in UT
August 15- Newsletter information due
August 22- 23 – Color My Ride trail obstacle show - Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
Sept 1 – Newsletter out
Sept 12 -13 - 27 – 28 – Working Equitation show - Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
Sept 24-27 ACPS Annual Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky
Sept 26 -Flying Colors mini-event - Big Sky Horse Park Missoula, MT
Dec. 31 - Achievement Award reports due

**Utah Dressage Shows 2020** – Thank you Celeste Rosquist for sending this information. If you're competing at these shows, we'd love some photos.
May 30th, Millbrook Short Tour Dressage Show
June 12-13, Sage Creek I and II
July 11-12, Millbrook Summer Dressage Festival
July 24-25, Sage Creek III and IV
August 15-16, Millbrook Farms Dressage Show

**Big Sky Horse Park:** Located in Missoula, MT this park hosts a variety of events for English and Western riders. [www.bigskyhorsepark.org](http://www.bigskyhorsepark.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!** The ACPS Annual Meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites in Lexington, Kentucky on September 24-27th 2020. Keep an eye on the ACPS Region V Facebook page for future updates!

**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
CLASSIFIED ADS: TRAIL EQUINE LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

This certificate program is to provide a progressive guideline for riders to prepare their equines to have a safe, enjoyable experience on the trail, show ring or general riding. There are three levels, bronze, silver and gold in both the in-hand and ridden division. To pass each level, an equine must pass all the requirements in that section. The Bronze riding level is basic ground work and obstacles, Silver focuses on ridden obstacle skills and the Gold level focuses on more advanced work. Certificates will be awarded when the equine passes each level. Equines should be able to do each requirement in a calm, willing, consistent manner, not show ring perfect. Each person will decide what they feel is a good attempt. There is no time limit to complete the levels. Some skills in more advanced levels may be signed off on before finishing the previous level.

There’s a $15 per equine registration fee for the in-hand and first level series if it is done through video on-line. New levels may be added at a $5 fee. All equines must start at the Bronze level and work through Silver to Gold. Many of the requirements can be presented through photos as well as video. Photos and videos may be posted on the Misfit Farm Trail Program facebook page. The goal for this program is for folks to have fun spending time with their equine and try new challenges. Have fun!

For details visit our facebook page: Misfit Farm Trail Program or call 208-940-1186 or e-mail misfitfarms@centurylink.net.