



2009 Battle of the Breeds-5th Place Finish

This year the team consisted of Celtic Fyre (Ailsa Atilla - BC); Bantry Bay Dillon (Megan Davies - Ab); Bien Mallin Rory O'Sullivan (Melanie White - B.C); and K.F. Felicity (Phil Knox - Idaho).

The first day started off very well with Megan and Dillon doing a wonderful compulsory skills ridden test, and Phil with an excellent score in the driven section. This placed us first in the class! The jumping was immedi-



Megan Davies & Bantry Bay Dillon

ately afterwards, and neither Megan or Dillon had a chance for a rest or any lunch! Celtic Fyre and Ailsa were in exceptionally good form, and had a faultless round – including the 100 point jeopardy jump. Megan and Dillon had a good round, but were unfortunate enough to catch the pole on the jeopardy jump. This placed us 6th in the class.

We woke on Friday morning still in first place overall at the start of the obsta-

cle driving. Phil Knox and "Flicka" had an excellent round, but had an error in the 3-second compulsory halt.

Melanie and Rory also had a very good round with an error on the same obstacle. Our two competitors were the only ones to successfully complete a difficult maneuver where a wheel had to be driven between two raised poles (pity the score on that one wasn't higher). We ended up 6th in the class. The barrel racing is always late in the afternoon in the



Melanie White & Bien Mallin Rory O'Sullivan

sand ring, with a big crowd. Alisa entered into the whole spirit of the event in full western gear with a lovely green shamrock on Celtic Frye's quarters! Our ponies were comparatively fast, but didn't make the final cut

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Phil Knox & K.F. Felicity



Ailsa Atilla & Celtic Fyre

President's report– AGM and Inspection Tour

Our fourth AGM was held on September 13, in Calgary, Alberta this year, in conjunction with the Battle of the Breeds at Spruce Meadows and our inspection tour with Tom MacLochlainn, past president of the CPBS, judge and inspector.

Tom and his wife Maire arrived in Calgary in time to watch Team Connemara compete in the Battle of the Breeds, coming in fifth this year with some very good results. After visiting one

of the original breeders in the west who had owned ponies that Tom's father had exported to North

America, we got down to the business of the AGM and inspections. The full minutes of the meeting are available on the website and in the newsletter but the highlight was the presentation of a new Broodmare Award from Tom and Doris Jacobi who had combined to honour the mare Ciotog, a foundation mare for



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Century Hill Farm Update centuryhillfarm.com

The majority of the news for 2009 centered around our stallion— Kippure Cara. He enjoyed the winter months being backed and taught to drive by Mary Lee Quinn, a local horse trainer. She took on the job with enthusiasm and became a fan of Cara and the breed. We had a lot of fun testing out a sleigh that I designed and finished just before the snow melted but we'll continue this winter! Cara's first foal arrived May 5— a sturdy colt out of Annie with a lightning bolt emblazoned on his forehead! The Irish Gaelic name "Meallan" means "little lightning" so we thought that was appropriate. He's very intelligent, kind and well built so we're very pleased with him.



Annie & Meallan at 3 wks

Once Cara settled Eastie and Rea in foal, we sent him to Randy Bird for further training in combined driving. He was there for 2 months and seemed to enjoy this work as well. Randy was very impressed with his work ethic and strength. My goal is to be able to take Cara into town and just enjoy country drives— it's me that needs the training more now! Oh yes, I'm looking for a Mustang carriage as well, which can turn 180 degrees inside an 8 foot path— this is what Randy uses. We had to interrupt Cara's training to have him inspected in September and were delighted that he was approved with



Randy, Dale and Cara getting wet!



Century Hill's Hazy Meallan— 3 mo

many good comments. The inspectors also passed Eastie for premium and Rea was approved.

In August, Cara was entered into a sport pony in hand stallion class at the Sutton fair to qualify for the Royal Winter Fair. It was Mary Lee's idea (and we agreed it was a good one) to promote him this way. He qualified since he was alone in his



Rick, Randy and Cara over a bridge

Rea also did well in her first year of showing at National level dressage with Lori Bell averaging 3-5 place of 10-15.



class and we decided to take him to the CNE qualifier as well to introduce him to the Horse Palace! Again, he was the only stallion in his class so he double qualified. The big day finally came on Nov 15th. We prepared our tack room and stall with the banner for the CCPS as well as our farm setup and displayed promotional material for the breed. It was fun to visit with so many people and preach the virtues of the Connemara. Dale and I took Cara to promote the breed and had no intentions of winning, but Mary Lee knew he had the potential to do it. She was right! He won his class against 3 other stallions then went on to win Grand Champion of the North American Sport Pony Star Search Challenge! We are still riding the high!



Kippure Cara(Frederiksminde Hazy Merlin x Kippure Ebony) shown by Mary Lee Quinn

So this has been a very memorable year for us at Century Hill. We wish you all the very best in the new year and a wonderful safe Christmas...

Rick & Dale Doner



photos by Lynn Casells-Caldwell



Cara and the inspections team 2009

Battle continued from pg 1

against the Q.H and Paints. This put us at 3rd equal overnight. There was a very early start to the trail class on Saturday. This is not our best event, but Rory and Celtic Fyre gave it their best. We ended up with a 8th, which put us 5th overall. But for a few unfortunate little faults, we would have been higher in the final standings – better luck next year! I would particularly like to thank all the team members. Phil and Chris Knox drove 17 hours to be there and were invaluable both on the team and with strategy. Melanie White brought a whole crew of volunteers and supporters from B.C. who were wonder-

ful on our booth. The whole team worked extremely well together and we had FUN! Having a booth for the first time was a learning experience, and proved excellent promotion for the breed. We had too many volunteers for the booth to mention them all individually, but in particular like to mention Leslie Moody, Andrea Kuehnie, Kim Shearer, Richard and Morgan Cochrane, Jinny Antilla, Chelsea Brett, Emily and Mahri McCallum, Charlotte & Robyn Feluch and Linda Milne for the countless hours they put in. Bob Davies had photos of the events up on Richard's lap-top within minutes it seemed! We handed out 850 bright green bracelets which said "I love Conne-

maras" and our web-site address. We also handed out our new brochure and the Breeders List. Our ponies in the adjoining stall behaved impeccably, and seemed to enjoy all the attention. We had an additional three young owners ride their ponies in the daily demonstrations namely – Robyn Feluch on Bien Malin's Chinook Wind, Alexandra Horne on Avenns Erinn Bay and Cynthia Malouin on Brock on Broadway. They were joined by Bantry Bay



Dillon ridden by either Megan Davies or Carra Scheiwe.

They soon worked up an excellent drill (which included jumps) to the accompaniment of Irish music. Much to the delight of the crowd, Brock bowed at the end of the performance!

Bridget Wingate
Team Captain.

President continued

...from page 1

Doris. Ciotog was exported to the States by Tom and later moved up to Alberta where she had tremendous influence on the breed, especially in Western Canada. We set up a committee to draw up the procedures for the award and hope we can start taking applications in 2010. The inspection tour moved from Strathmore, to Sundre and then to Devon Ridge Farm where over three days we inspected nine ponies. Tom and Maire then traveled by Greyhound bus over the Rockies to continue inspections in BC. Margot hosted them on a very successful whale watching trip before taking the ferry to Vancouver Island to inspect three more ponies. From there it was a flight to Montreal, and inspections at Caraway Farm, Lissadel Farm near Renfrew, Elphin Mountain Farm and finally Century



Inspection spectators waiting for their feed...

Hill Farm. In four days traveling we inspected a further 15 ponies. In total we inspected 27 ponies and now have three newly approved stallions and the first two premium mares approved under our Canadian program. In Ontario, Gloria LaCroix joined the inspection team as I had to stand down for the inspection at my farm. Gloria stepped into the breach at the last minute as an expired passport prevented the original ACPS inspector from joining us. After a scramble to arrange flights and transportation, I think Gloria enjoyed her first trip to Canada

and working with Tom again. In Ontario we visited a maple syrup museum and decided that pie, in all its variations, must be the national dish of Canada. It was an exhausting but very enjoyable and educational two weeks and we would like to extend our thanks to Tom and Maire for their endless energy and enthusiasm for what must have been a very tiring trip at times. Tom gave his illustrated talk on the history of the breed, type and conformation at least five times, with minor variations every time. We have a copy of the photos he used and Rick Doner

taped, or the latest equivalent of taping, the majority of the talk which will be available for regional meetings if members are interested.

Tom seemed to think we are on the right track with our inspection program and have some very nice ponies right across the country. He emphasized that as a new society we have the opportunity to set a high standard for inspections, especially for our premium mares and stallions. A premium mare, he said, must not only be very correct and typey, but must be the sort of mare you would want as a foundation mare. He appreciated the problems we have with such a huge country, so sparsely populated with ponies, but encouraged us, even at extra expense, to continue moving inspectors across the country so that we can avoid the tendency that has arisen in some countries of standards varying across regions. We worked with several trainee inspectors and Susan MacDou-

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President's address ...continued from page 3

gall has now been approved as a full inspector. Working with Tom was educational for all of us and for our breeders and owners as well as all our owners agreed to have their ponies discussed after inspection.

This tour was a huge undertaking for such a small society but was well worth the

work we all had to put in it and the expense of traveling across such distances. Many



thanks to all who helped, who provided facilities for the inspections, fed us all and found us accommodation and transportation. Without such a cooperative effort right across the country this tour could never have happened. We were also blessed with incredibly good weather for all but one or two days and I hope we showed Tom and Maire some of the sights of Canada in all the glory of our fall colours.

Heather Sherratt
President



Shirley, Doris, Dale, Rick, Margot & Maire



Inspection action at Brian Donnegan's

Our Trip to Canada— by Tom MacLoughlainn

I would like to avail of the opportunity in this short article to thank all whom Máire and I met in Canada on our recent visit and who made that visit so memorable and enjoyable.

The first four days in Canada were spent at Spruce Meadows while being shown around by Doris and driven by Shirley. What an incredible venue! I had often heard of the Battle of the Breeds and now at last I had the chance to see it. I thought it was an intriguing Battle, offering such varied challenges in as many different disciplines, the Connemara Team got off to a dream start when Dillon won the Dressage and Felicity won the Driving.

The next four days proved more difficult with the team slipping from the spot after that first day in the sun. Long after the Battle was over, I kept thinking 'What an incredible MARKETING OPPORTUNITY!'. Here was the perfect platform to showcase the versatility,

athleticism and temperament of the breed. If I were in Canada, I would start NOW for 2010 and make sure that the very best team available would represent the pony in the next Battle. I have never seen such a captive audience. How many thousand? And just waiting to be impressed! Since coming home to Ireland, I've been telling all in sundry just how good the Canadian ponies are. I was very impressed and felt that there is a terrific base for the future. But you've got to breed them! One of the big differences between Connemara and Canada is that the breeders in Connemara are just that – breeders. They breed everything while the Canadians emphasize performance. The ideal situation is in between and of course the market dictates. I feel however that the really good mares should be bred as frequently as possible. Even one outstanding broodmare can have a huge effect on the herd. I also feel that good progeny will always find a home.



I was thrilled to see Ah Lura Laramount at Doris' home. I remember her dam, Lovely Laramount, at home in Moycullen as a young mare. So it was thrilling to see the last daughter aged 27

living in happy retirement. She carries some of the most valued blood in the studbook as her grandsire Macdara was one of the most famous and best looking of the stallions while his sire Don Lorenzo is regarded by the life long custodian Josie Conroy as the toughest and best of them all. It is good to know that Lovely Laramount made the contribution that she did.



At Bar S Ranch: (back) Tom, Maire & Clay
(front) Billy, Doris & Avril

I put this group together to reflect the Bar S Heather connections. Back right is Clay Chattaway, owner of the ranch. His wife Avril is in front of him. Billy Skryne sits front left. Her family started the ranch and sold it to the Chattaways. It was she who picked Heather for them in Clifden 79 as she walked around the ring as a yearling, before she won the class. I had bought her as a foal from my neighbour Padraig Curran the previous Autumn.

Present: Elsie Priddy, Tom MacLochlainn, Margot Watson, Dale Doner, Susan MacDougall, Heather Sherratt, Shirley Sauve, Rick Doner, Penny Huggons, Doris Jacobi, Bridget Wingate, Jocelyn Davies, Jennifer Smyth, Melanie White

Presidents Welcome and Remarks – Heather Sherratt

Heather welcomed Tom MacLochlainn and thanked him for coming to Canada -Logistics of Canada (bigger than Australia) and fewer #'s-Need to encourage more owners to become members. Need more people to be willing to come onto the board (last term coming up for two board members).

Reading and Approval of the 2008 minutes – Jocelyn Davies

Jocelyn read the 2008 minutes, a couple of amendments were made regarding Stallion registration, Change from, "Can be inspected with Temporary Registration" to "Can be inspected with Temporary Registration but cannot receive inspection results until Permanent Registration is obtained and also to remove error (typo) on New Membership (remove the "from 10-20") Bridget moved and Doris 2nd the minutes be accepted as amended.

Welcome to Tom and Maire by Heather and Address from Tom

Tom MacLochlainn congratulated the CCPS for becoming a Society, thanked the CCPS for inviting him and how thrilled he was to be in Canada and to be able to see our ponies. He has prepared two clinics on the History and development of the pony and the different stallion lines and type and conformation.

Treasurers Report:

Margot distributed the Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements as of December 31, 2008. Total Balance of our CLRC and General Account in Aldergrove was \$1,235.74. Doris moved to accept the December 31st Treasurer's report and Penny 2nd the motion. Voted and passed. Margot distributed the Statement of Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursements as of June 30, 2009. Total Balance of our CLRC and General Account in Aldergrove was \$2,109.63. Rick moved to accept the June 30 report and Melanie White 2nd the motion. Voted and passed. CLRC Cost Structure distributed with worst case costs, average and the amount we are charging our members. Errors have occurred, sometimes it is the CLRC's error, are they charging us for this? Margot and Jocelyn to look at the CLRC report and evaluate, possibly will suggest changes.

There was a discussion of changes in the fee structure for membership and registrations. The following was agreed on and passed unanimously:

MEMBERSHIP

Senior	\$40.00
Junior (under 18 years of age).....	\$15.00
Associate (non-voting).....	\$20.00
Non-resident	\$20.00

REGISTRATIONS

Temporary Registrations

	Member	Non-Member
Fillies and Colts up to 6 months after date of birth (includes DNA)	\$80.00	\$160.00
Fillies and Colts over 6 months after date of birth (includes DNA)	\$100.00	\$200.00

Permanent Registrations

Geldings and Halfbreds		
Up to June 30 of the year following year of birth	\$30.00	\$60.00
After June 30 th of the year following year of birth	\$40.00	\$80.00
Stallion Registration	\$250.00	\$500.00
Fillies over two years of age	\$25.00	\$50.00

Transfers

Within 6 months of date of sale	\$25.00	\$50.00
Over 6 months from date of sale	\$40.00	\$80.00
Duplicate Certificates		\$25.00

Other

Herd/Farm Prefix	\$25.00
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Stallion Reports – remind owners/breeders to send a list to the secretary of mares bred in 2009.

Rick Doner moved to accept the above fee schedule (effective Jan 1, 2010), 2nd by Melanie White. Jocelyn to contact Ron Black to make the changes. Problems with Registration needs to be relayed to the CCPS, please contact the secretary to note problem so that we can monitor the costs we are being charged by the CLRC. Rick to make sure that this is put in the next newsletter. Fundraising. Stallion auction is a good idea. Bridget to talk to Tracy to discuss with her the feasibility of putting this on our website. Penny moved and all were favour of doing this.

Pacific Region Report

Susan MacDougall reported on the Irish Extravaganza. Show was cancelled due to cost/logistics. Connemara people decided to have a smaller Connemara Show which went very well.

Prairie Region Report

Penny said our big event was Spruce Meadows team and booth. The Thorsby show was well attended and our ponies did very well. Many ponies in Alberta showed well in open shows as well throughout the year.

Central Region Report - Rick Doner

Rick reported that it has been another quiet year in the Central region. Annual Meeting was held at Elphin Farm. Discussion centered on the Fall AGM and Inspection Tour for the Central Region. Current bank balance for the Central Region is \$1,321.84

Statement of Purpose for the Central Region was reviewed and 1) Organization of Inspection, 2) Promotion of Central Region Ponies, 3) Maintain lines of communication between breeders and owners.

The challenge for the promotion of the Connemaras in such a large geographic area was discussed. The individuals showing in open classes are the ones promoting the breed while showing. It is important to have a printable CCPS brochure, breeders list and ways to investigate the CCPS activities were reiterated. Rick and Dale have qualified their Stallion for the in hand Sport pony show at the Royal Winter Fair in November and plan to promote the CCPS and the Connemara breed while there.

Heather moved that the Central Region donate an annual national award for the Pure or Half bred horse that accumulates the most points at any level in Eventing in Canada. The Horse/Pony is to be registered with the ACPS or CCPS and the owner must be a member of the CCPS. Motion was carried and the details to be finalized at the national AGM. Mary Flynn offered to represent Canada at Clifden in August this year.

Report and Discussion on Inspection Program – Heather Sherratt

2008 we inspected in Langley BC and we used the new CCPS inspection forms the first time with head inspector, Philip Scott. Philip had a brief discussion with the ponies after the inspection. This was very helpful to the breeders and owners as a learning experience. We look forward to having Tom MacLochlainn for our 2009 inspection tour. We currently have two approved Canadian Inspectors, we need to train more.

Also may need a new nomination form for Premium mares. Separate form for vet inspection for mares/stallions. Add a category of Premium to Nomination form. There was a discussion on the feasibility of having a vet on site at inspections to do the vet check before the inspection rather than individual owners having their ponies vet checked beforehand. Doris moved that active inspectors at the age of 75 retire. Melanie 2nd and all voted and motion passed.

Report and Discussion on Awards Program:

Doris Jacobi said only 3 ponies submitted their award achievement report for 2008. There are 50 ponies in this program currently.

Purebred Award: Ally Dunlop - Erin Meadows TirnaNog

Halfbred Award: Nancy Page - Elphin Callisto (see photo page 12)

Western Performance Award: Diane Harding - KD Captain Flynn

Doris has created a lovely medallion for the gold, silver and bronze award winners that has our logo and engraving.

Jocelyn suggested giving the riders in the Demos a similar medallion in appreciation of riding in the Breeds for the World. Doris and Jocelyn will arrange this and Jocelyn will send out to the participants.

It would be best for riders to send their results in as they accumulate their points rather than wait until the deadline of January 31, 2009. This should be mentioned in our next newsletter.

Tom and Doris presented the CCPS with a beautiful Trophy for Foundation Broodmare.

Need to organize an Awards Committee consisting of Chair Susan MacDougall (who were the other members?)

Need to decide on the criteria for this award and present this at the next AGM.

Susan MacDougall - Website has been updated and Tracy Dopko is our webmaster.

Classifieds need to be updated more regularly. Susan has requested that pictures be sent to her to update the pictures on the website periodically. Spruce Meadows... Bridget mentioned that we had a booth at Spruce Meadows and we gave away almost 150 brochures and also almost 1000 wrist bands.

Originally the booth cost us an additional \$1850 but we won enough money (with \$200) to cover these costs.

Brochure - Kirsten Scott produced this brochure and we propose that we send her \$100.00 for her work. Rick to send Susan an updated brochure for the website.

Promotional items: embroidery costs of this needs to be determined. Dale Doner to check into this... Elsie says that Elan may be able to help with some of this.

Report and Discussion on Newsletter - Rick Doner

The Canadian Connemara is published in spring and fall as a part colour 8.5 x 11 small magazine format. All the information is sent to the Editor electronically from breeders and owners across Canada. It is currently produced on Microsoft Publisher, then e-mailed to Gibson Digital Print Design for conversion to a PDF file (which is posted on the CCPS website), printing, folding and stapling. The finished product is mailed out to members of the CCPS that are on the CLRC members list (75 - 80 currently), as well as those non-members who pay \$10 per year for the newsletter only.

The objective of the newsletter is to inform the membership and other interested Connemara enthusiasts, of the activities of the Connemara breeders and owners in Canada. It showcases the achievements, the interests, the history, the breeding stock and offspring of the Canadian Connemaras. Other than the website, it is the only tangible way to know what is happening with our breed and is a crucial lifeline of information and contact within the CCPS.

Currently the newsletter costs the society approximately \$1000 annually and the plan for 2010 is to bring advertisement dollars in to offset this cost.

Ideas for how to reduce the cost and increase the income for the newsletter effort are welcome. Input regarding the format and content is also appreciated.

The Editor has had no formal training in publishing, and the positive comments and support from the membership have been very encouraging! Please continue to contribute stories, pictures, ads, achievements and farm news.

Archives: Jennifer Smythe report on page 7

CLRC Report - Letter submitted by Ron Black

Membership numbers for the CCPS for 2009 (to August 28)

Annual Members 56

Associate Members 4

Junior Members 5

Non-Resident 1

Ron reported that the CLRC registry for Connemaras is working well and no particular problems are being experienced.

Report of Nominating Committee and election of Board of Governors

Penny said 3 people were nominated and elected, one for each region.

Pacific Region - Cheryl Miller

Prairie Region - Jocelyn Davies

Eastern Region - Chris Carey

Melanie motioned to destroy the ballots, Susan and all were in favour.

Next meeting will be in the East at Chris Carey's farm, date and time TBA.

Registration Numbers

2009 (total ponies registered to Aug 28, 2009)

Purebred

Stallions 8

Females 42

Geldings 21

Partbred

Females 18

Geldings 32

Classified Ads



Quinn November '09

Century Hill's Micheal Quinn

(Tatham's Ballinanna x Maplehurst Micheal MacDaire) 14.1 hh 2007 Sorrel Connemara gelding with great gaits, presence and balance. Just backed this fall and ready to start his dressage, eventing or hunter career.

Century Hill's Hazy Meallan

(Tatham's Ballinanna x Kippure Cara) 2009 Connemara colt very intelligent & quiet. With correct type, bone & strong movement (See picture on page 2)

Century Hill's Erin Babatjie

(Eastlands Glendearg x Halselden Perseus) 2006 Connemara mare backed, very quiet and safe for children. Bobbi would make a great driving pony.



Bobbi spring '09

For more information, pictures, pedigree and video, please contact Rick & Dale Doner 705-426-4451
rpdoner@sympatico.ca www.centuryhillfarm.com

Due to my unavoidable absence from the 2008 AGM in BC, this report will update archival matters since August 2008:

2008

Prior to representing Canada at the International Committee for Connemara Pony Societies meeting during Clifden Show Week in August 2008, I took the opportunity to visit Jane and Arthur Strick of the **Bardsey** Connemara Stud while holidaying in Wales. It says much for useful longevity of the Connemara breed that during my visit with the Stricks I also renewed my acquaintance with Jane's last remaining mare from the island, **Bardsey Charlotte** (Whitwell Cockade x Camp Beauty) who I had ridden while holidaying on Bardsey 20 years previously! The Stricks have retired to the mainland across from the island now and Jane still hacks Charlotte around the lanes. She was delighted to hear that the Bardsey bloodlines are represented in both Eastern and Western Canada now, through the imported broodmares at Century Hill (**Eastlands Glendearg** out of Bardsey Trinket; **Tatham Ballinanna** by Bardsey Zodiac) and through Elodon Connemara's stallion **Century Hills Aedan Zodiac** in Saskatchewan, whose pedigree combines the Bardsey Trinket and Bardsey Zodiac influence.

Thanks to being temporarily "adopted" by the Australian contingent at Clifden and carpooling with them, I was able to attend the off-site events such as the visit to the Connemara National Park, the **Canal Stud** open day plus a memorably hospitable visit to see the **Fairyhill** Connemara ponies. I also walked the Sky Road out to Clifden Castle which gave numerous photo ops re: ponies from the **Castle** and **Clochanard** studs. An International "soiree" at the Abbeyglenn Castle Hotel, a visit with Pat Lyne at the Station House Museum, and photographing the colourful "Connemara Pony Work Parade" were all squeezed in around my official duties at the ICCPS delegates meeting. Show day was a sunny spectacular which saw the Gorham family ultimately triumph with their broodmare **Kingstown Dana** as Clifden champion. Twenty years previously on my only other visit to Clifden I had met Joe Gorham and his son Joe Jr. the day before the show, when their remarkable broodmare **Silver Fort** was calmly grazing the showground with her colt foal **Oisin**. It was an honour to witness **Kingstown Dana**, a grand-daughter of the now-deceased Silver Fort, take the show laurels some two decades later. The Silver Fort line is of interest to Canadian breeders as she was by the stallion **Rory Ruaidh**, before he was exported to Scandinavia. Noted for sire performance ponies in Europe, Rory was also the sire of a filly who won her yearling class at Clifden Show in 1979. While in Clifden for the International meeting, I happened to add Libby Petch's informative published record "Connemara Pony Breeder's Society 1923-1998" to my Connemara reference library, and on page 177 she records the following about the 56th annual Clifden Pony Show of August 16th, 1979: *"Joe McLoughlin, Moycullen showed the yearling filly winner who stood reserve to her dam **Queen of the Hills (2449)** for the Confined Championship, she was by **Rory Ruadh (517)** and was also a grand daughter of **Ashe Grey (1673)** who won at Clifden in 1968 for Joe's father, Sean McLoughlin."* This yearling Connemara filly was then exported to the Chattaway family in Alberta, where she was registered as **Bar S Heather**.

Shortly after my return to Canada from the 2008 Clifden Show, I had an email from Tom MacLochlainn, past President of the CPBS, who informed me that he was anxious to trace any information on the yearling filly he had sold to the Chattaways in Alberta three decades ago! From Tom, I discovered that **Queen of the Hills** had been owned by his neighbour, Pdraig Curran, and when her foal (**Bar S Heather**) got a bad gash on her chest, it was Tom who regularly went next door to help dress the wound and ended up buying the filly foal. She was shown just the once, when she won at Clifden in 1979, and was also a full sister to **Kilbracken Queen**, the dam of no less than five Connemara stallions as well as some noteworthy fillies. Tom also revealed that he and his brother were responsible for exporting **Ciotog**, **Lovely Lormont**, **Imbhear Orga** and **Ruta Raithni** to Dr. O'Halloran, some years before they were acquired by pioneering Alberta Connemara breeder Doris Jacobi! A few months later I was able to inform Tom that his winning yearling of 1979, **Bar S Heather**, the dam of noted performance stallion **Bien Mallins Rory O'Sullivan** amongst others, was awarded the 2008 **ACPS Hall of Fame Broodmare Trophy**. I am currently acquiring old photographs of Bar S Heather, and would like anyone to contact me at welshpony56@hotmail.com if they know of any existing photographs that I can copy for the CCPS archives.

2009 Archives Collection:

The collection is steadily growing, and has been organized into the following binders:

- 1) Canadian Connemara Pony Society Binder:** This large 3-ring binder contains items relating to the development of the CCPS as a separate entity from the ACPS. Thanks to old newsletters donated by Bridget Wingate and Rick Doner, the evolution of the Canadian Society is documented, along with annual Connemara Registration reports from CLRC, agendas, minutes and photographs from the first 4 CCPS Annual General Meetings and the first CCPS Inspection Day. During a recent visit to Ottawa I was able to photograph Laura Lee Mills at her desk at Canadian Livestock Records Corporation. Laura is the contact person assigned to deal with Connemara pony enquiries and registrations at CLRC.
- 2) Western Canada Connemara Breeders Binder:** This binder contains business cards, promotional material and photographs from Connemara breeders/owners in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.
- 3) Eastern Canada Connemara Breeders Binder:** Currently contains business cards, promotional material and photographs from Connemara breeders/owners in Ontario and Quebec, and will expand to cover the Maritimes region as required.
- 4) 1988 Clifden Binder:** Contains Connemara Pony photos and reference material accumulated since my first visit to the Clifden Show in 1988. Includes photocopies of articles on Connemaras from scarce and out of print books from the 1940's to the 1980's, old Clifden Show Catalogues, Connemara pony postcards and other ephemera.
- 5) 2008 Clifden Binder:** Contains a photographic record of events during Clifden Show week of 2008, including visits to the Canal Stud, Fairy Hill Stud, Connemara Pony Work Parade, Connemara National Park, studs along the Sky Road, Show Day, the International Societies meeting, Connemara Pony Sale etc. Although Binders 4 and 5 are personal compilations, CCPS members may request information from them for their own researches.
- 6) Research Binder:** contains work in progress (ie the history of Bar S Heather, new additions to the Western/Eastern breeders binders requiring additional research, newspaper items relating to Connemara ponies/breeders in Britain and extended pedigrees relating to Connemara bloodlines represented in Canada)

September 2009 Update:

I made a flying visit to Spruce Meadows to photograph the Connemara Pony information booth (now compulsory for competing in Battle of the Breeds) where the CCPS promotional wristbands proved very popular and were soon out of stock-fortunately Doris Jacobi saved hers to donate to the archives collection-thank you Doris! I also photographed the Connemara Pony display team on Friday evening, composed of **Bantry Bay Dillon**, **Avenn's Eirinn Bay** and **BienMallin's Chinook Wind**.

CCPS 2009 AGM and Inspection Tour: During the AGM I photographed the lovely broodmare trophy donated to the CCPS by Tom & Maire MacLochlainn, as well as the prototype of the new CCPS medallions, and took the annual group photo of AGM participants. While unable to take time off work to photograph all the ponies presented for inspection across Canada in September, I was able to photograph those presented at the Strathmore (AB) and Renfrew (ON) inspection days.

The wonderful old photos displayed during Tom MacLochlainn's captivating presentation on type and bloodlines of Connemara ponies in Ireland only served to underline just how important it is to maintain a comprehensive photo collection from the very beginning of the Canadian Connemara Pony Society, and to preserve them for posterity. The MacLochlain family has strong links to some of the earliest Irish-bred Connemaras exported to western Canada, and the CCPS was indeed fortunate to have Tom and Maire agree to a cross-Canada inspection and clinic tour so early in the history of the Canadian society.

Jennifer A. Smyth

Archives and History Committee

My First Season Eventing with Turfie

Life with Turfie!

In the fall of 2007 I was in the market for a new horse to begin eventing with, having graduated from my Welsh pony, Brenrey Eli. Through friends, we had heard about this very cute Connemara for sale through Foggy River Farm in Mount Albert, Ontario. Evidently, he and his brother had arrived in the summer of 2007 for a trial, and although the school riders enjoyed Turfie, it was decided that his brother, "Irish Park's Diamond", was the preferred animal to keep. We knew nothing about the Connemara Pony but quickly began to learn how suitable they are for many purposes. I rode Turfie twice, and was impressed by his kind nature, his lovely way of going despite being very green and his handsome appearance – he is a striking grey, with black points.

Turfie was a surprise Christmas gift from my parents on December 23, 2007 – my mom drove through a rain storm and slushy wet snow deeper than our truck tires to bring him home to me that day!

During the winter of 2008 we worked on a number of things, mainly teaching Turfie about how to move forward, develop pace in jumper courses and finally, basic dressage. That summer, I showed him in the Central Ontario Region of the Canadian Pony Club, and we finished the season as the Schooling Division Jumper Champion. During this very rainy summer, we discovered that despite his Irish ancestry, Turfie didn't like the rain

– in fact he would bunch up and try to hide his head if he was expected to jump in it and mud was a complete disaster! We also had many successes at the Blue Star Farm Bronze Dressage Shows, placing well in all of our classes, and Champion at least once.

The 2009 season was our first year of real eventing and it has been very successful. We started at the entry level, attended 10 horse shows during the season and placed at all but one. We were 2nd at the OHTA Championships at Headwater Horse Trials in September – and best of all, Turfie helped me win the Entry Level



**Irish Park's Turf Fire
Cedarhill's Reendesert Lass x
Hideaway's Sebastian**
Photo by Andrew Bailini

Rider Equitation Award at Champs. This new award from the OHTA (Ontario Horse Trials Association) was meant to recognize rider safety, effectiveness, knowledge of pace, presentation to the fences and correctness of jumping by animal during the cross country phase. My score placed me tops in a field of 75 riders (juniors, seniors and open divisions). By season end, we upgraded to the Pre-Training level at the Grandview Fall Horse Trials and finished 2nd at that show. During a schooling session with Sarah Irving, owner of Grandview Farm, she noted that Turfie is very intelligent and can always figure out his way over fences and through combinations – she assured my Mom that he will always look after me!

We are a real team on the cross country course. In the true spirit of his breed, Turfie loves to gallop out and take all the fences in stride. He is becoming more and more brave and keen with each course that we do – and is a real pleasure to ride.

My favorite cross country ride this year was at the Mid South Team Challenge in October – we rode at the Kentucky Horse Park – and although we were in the Beginner Novice Division (Entry level in Canada), just the experience of galloping over the terrain that hosts the annual Rolex Event was thrilling!

I am looking forward to the challenges of the eventing season of 2010 – with my best friend Turfie to guide me along!

Jane Stephenson ~ age 15, lives in Cannington, Ontario.

Elphin Mountain Farm 2009

elphinfarms.com

2009 has been a mixed year here at Elphin Mountain Farm. It started disastrously with the loss of our favourite mare, SP Mills Breaban to a bad foaling, the first one in over sixty foals delivered on the farm. It takes a vet over half an hour to get here under the best circumstances and at 3.30 am he made it, but too late. I lost both Millie and her foal. Millie was one of my foundation mares and was a huge presence on the farm. She had a personality to match her jumping ability. Not only did she produce

some wonderful foals, including the stallion Elphin Cronan, but she and Kirsten evented to training level, Pony Clubbed to Kirsten's B test, hunted and was just the most wonderful companion for any teenager. I would never have believed the hole she left in the farm. Luckily I still have her last filly who is the most like Millie of all her foals. Rosie will be staying around here for a while. Things looked up when Abby produced a lovely colt with no difficulty at all. Will has now left the farm to start life as a

stallion with a new breeder in western Ontario. He loaded up and set off like a pro with no problem.

The fall here was very busy with the AGM in Alberta and the inspection tour. At my farm, Abby received her premium status and my two three year olds, Millie's Rosie and Daisy (Aluinn de Haoine) passed their inspections. In total, five of Mick's foals passed inspection on this tour, quite an achievement for the old man!

by Heather Sherratt

The CCPS Awards Program

Achievement Awards: (Certificates of Merit and Medallions Gold, Silver and Bronze). *A reminder December 31st is the deadline date for submitting show/competition results form to Doris Jacobi, #340, 5020-52 Ave, Beaumont, Ab. T4X 1P3.*

Thank you to those early-birds who have already sent their results to me. To date I have received report forms for 10 Connemaras which is much appreciated. For those of you who have not participated in the program, think about it for 2010. It is really very interesting to read about our wonderful breed and what they and their owners have been doing over the show season. Full details are on the CCPS web-page.

Performance Awards: There are three Performance awards.

Purebred Performance
Half-bred Performance
Western Performance

Points received for the Achievement Award (above) are used, therefore it is not necessary to submit additional forms. This automatically allows your Connemara to be eligible for a Performance Award. A "keeper" trophy is awarded each year to the Connemara with the most accumulated points. These three awards may be given more than once - points are carried forward each year. There is one exception - when a Connemara has received the award, they are not eligible the following year. Past points are deleted, and points are recorded from the beginning of the next performance year. (This does not affect the Achievement Awards accumulated total). This ruling is to allow other Connemaras the opportunity to receive one of the awards while keeping the current award winner in the program and eligible for the award again at a future date.

Hall of Fame Award. It is the "Lus na bPog (CPBS 2103)/Sean MacLochlainn Foundation Brood Mare". The first Hall of Fame award has been added to the CCPS program. It is a lovely bronze work of art crafted by an artist in Ireland. It depicts a Connemara mare standing guard over her resting foal. The base has been carefully crafted out of oak by an Alberta cabinet maker. The award is in honor of a well known and respected early time CPBS Connemara Breeder and one of his brood mares. "Citog" (CPBS 3414 X11) a daughter of this mare foaled in 1966 came to Montana in 1969. From this lineage an outstanding group of performance mares has developed (daughter, grand-daughter, great grand-daughter and even great-great) - or first, second, third and yes, fourth generation daughters. Most of these mares have also been brood mares at some time in their lives. Many of "Lus na bPog's" lineage hold the same claim to fame in Ireland and Europe.

This will be a "one time" Hall of Fame award. It was donated by the Ashbrook Stud, Co. Galway, Ireland and Avilion Gleann Farm, Alberta, Canada.

Mares are to be nominated, and this award can be made posthumously. The chairperson is Susan MacDougall, 25909-10 Avenue, Aldergrove, B.C., V4W 2J5. Committee members are Elsie Priddy of Saskatchewan, Dale Doner of Ontario and Chris Carey from Quebec (not confirmed). Further criteria detailing eligibility will be included, along with a nomination form in the next 2010 Spring newsletter.

Doris Jacobi
Chairperson.

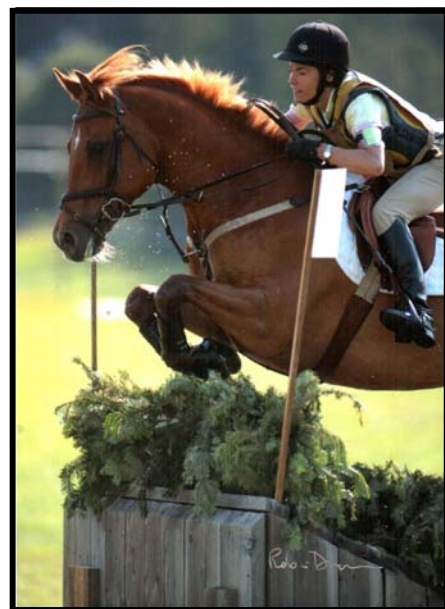
Elphin Eventers

2009 was another great year for Elphin Cronan's eventers in BC. Glynis Schultz has been campaigning Irish (Elphin Cronan x TB) at the Intermediate level in BC and in the States, culminating in winning the BC Intermediate Championships and being the highest placed Canadian rider when they came 4th at the CCI** level at Rebecca Farms, Montana.

KS Priceless (Elphin Cronan x Avenns Diamond Dee) has also been working his way up the levels in eventing, this year competing at Preliminary and winning the BC Preliminary Championships at Campbell Valley. After another successful event

at the Oktoberfest Horse Trials in Maple Ridge BC, Priceless and his rider, Shannon Thompson, set out for Galway Downs in Temecula, CA, Priceless's first international event. Although he finished 11th out of 23 entries, he and Shannon learnt a lot about competing in such a large and high-pressure environment. After a rather tense dressage, Pony, as he is known, flew round a huge cross country course within the time. Two rails in stadium kept him in 11th place. Plans are to move up again next year. Intermediate for a purebred Connemara pony will be something to watch!

Glynis Shultz on Irish



Membership Information- Annual Renewals are Due Jan 1, 2010!

For Current members of the CCPS : Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC), will be sending all current members a reminder form. Please use the form CLRC sends with an addressed return envelope, it will have your membership number to help CLRC's processing and reduce our processing costs. This is the preferred way to register.

For those who are not currently members: Membership dues are to be forwarded DIRECTLY TO CLRC. Please go onto www.clrc.ca then click on associations then list of associations, click on horses then select Connemara Pony, then under printable PDF files click on membership application, print the form, fill in the form and mail the fees as already outlined to CLRC, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1V 0M7

Memberships fees are as follows: Adult membership - \$40

Non resident - \$20

Associate (non-voting) - \$20

Junior (under 18 yrs) - \$15

***Notice* This newsletter will only continue to be sent to paid up members of the CCPS. We really encourage you to keep in touch with the Canadian Connemara events through membership(the price is right!). For those who absolutely do not want to join the CCPS but want to continue to receive the newsletter, please send \$15 annually to Margot Watson at the address below and memo it "newsletter".**

Advertising & Newsletter Information

All ads and articles forwarded to Rick Doner for the newsletter will also be placed on the CCPS website for no additional charge

Please send to rpdoner@sympatico.ca

I need the text in word format 2003 if at all possible (I do have word perfect and can open most other documents as well). The jpeg images can be sent to accompany ads or articles (I need good written descriptions of what picture belongs where). The picture files can each be as large as 1000kB (1mB).. I will shrink them if necessary. The prices for **ads** are as follows...

	Member	Non- Member
Text only ad (1 pony)	free	\$10
Text only (2 ponies)	free	\$17
Text only (3 ponies or more)	free	\$7 per pony
Photo ad (1 pony)	\$20	\$30
Photo update	\$10 per change	

For Classified ads, please make cheques out to "Canadian Connemara Pony Society" in Canadian funds and mail to ...

**CCPS c/o Margot Watson
25966 26th Ave., Aldergrove, BC , V4W 2V9**

Elodon Torin – Reg. 2008 grey gelding, will be a large pony. Torin is a handsome, friendly fellow with the quiet temperament and good movement of both his parents. (Century Hills Aedan Zodiac x G.E. Emma). We love this fella and he loves people. He will be an extremely sensible riding pony for a youth or adult. (for photo see website)



Elodon Earl Grey – Reg. 2009 grey colt, will be a large pony. Earl, like his full brother Torin, has the same unflappable temperament and long stride. He is a fancy looking fellow with the potential to be an excellent show pony.



Glenn Erinn Emma –Reg. 2003 chestnut mare with a dark mane & tail, 14.1H. Emma is very quiet and easy to handle, going well under saddle and started driving. She is a steady trail horse and has done some cattle penning. Well suited for D level Pony Club, large enough for adults, quiet enough for beginners.

Classified Ads



Elodon Neala – Reg. 2009 grey filly, born bay. Neala is an enchanting blend of the best of both her parents. (C.H. Aedan Zodiac x Rills Romany Lace). She is very Connemara in type, moves well and is correct in conformation. She has a future as a talented jumping / dressage pony and as a broodmare with excellent bloodlines



Rills Romany Lace – Reg. 2001 grey mare, 13.2H. Inspected and approved. Lace is a lovely show pony and broodmare. She is a very steady honest hunter with show experience. Lace has produced 3 foals with excellent type, conformation and movement. She is by the imported English stallion *Scottsway Bali Hi out of Tullymor's Caroline.

All our ponies are well handled with regular farrier work, dental care, deworming and up to date vaccinations. Mares can be sold bred to Century Hills Aedan Zodiac.

For more information, photos and video, contact Elsie Priddy at de.priddy@sasktel.net Or phone 306-374-1703

More info on our website: <http://elodon.sasktelwebsite.net/>

Avenn's Golden Legacy

Hello, my name is Gillian Trimbee. I am a student in grade twelve at St Francis Xavier High School. This past summer, I spent many memorable weekends participating at horse shows with a very talented mare named "Fiesta" (Avenn's Golden Legacy). She is a 14.3" HH Connemara pony who has had nine fillies and as the epitome of a successful working mom, still finds time to take me to the shows and compete with style! Fiesta is known for her laid back attitude outside of the ring, and the incredible contrast between that "Senior citizen" and the suddenly young and agile creature in the jumper ring. Quick and careful, a girl could not ask for a better partner in this sport, and passion, of horseback riding. Fiesta is seventeen years old but that certainly doesn't stop her! We participated in many shows and were almost always in the ribbons, if not first place. The more difficult the courses were was when we were able to show

off best. Fiesta, can turn on a dime and maneuver the most difficult course without the 'need for speed'!

The highlight of our show season was probably the Jump With Hope For Kids With Cancer Horse Show, having won five hundred dollars in prize money. The proceeds of the show went towards the Kids With Cancer Society. Pictured below is the cooler she won on the Schwab Pontiac Buick Jumper Classic:

We went to many shows this summer, starting with the Caledonia Horse show and ending with the Gorsline Fall Classic.



One of my favorites was the

Paramount Horse Show in the Calgary/Okatoks area. We won division champions at the 2'9 level and the classic, coming home with a very nice cooler and a complementary stable sheet!

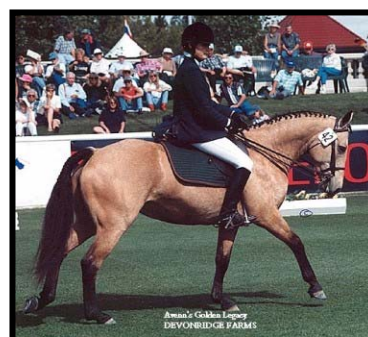
Fiesta's eager attitude shows in her everyday demeanor. Being very smart, I have her trained to associate her sheepskin shipping halter with horse shows and therefore whenever I go to get her in the field with her "fuzzies", she gets so excited! Always ready to show off her stuff, she is usually prancing by the time I take her to the trailer.

Overall, this past summer I spent in partnership with Fiesta was very memorable and I learnt a lot about myself and about the art and passion of riding. The spunky buckskin pony is one of a kind, and a sort of mascot for Devon Ridge Farms. She is the foundation mare, as well as the accomplished riding horse we all know and love. She is a pony you can jump on bareback and simply ride for the sheer joy of riding, through the unique Alberta landscapes we are all so fond of, in perfect synchronization. I love this pony very much and will always cherish the memories I have had with

her this summer, jumping and showing and galloping on the trails! by Gillian Trimbee



"Fiesta", (Avenn's Golden Legacy) is a 1990 mare by Lynfield's Cormac MacCarthy x Avenn's Golden RubyHawk.



Avenn's Golden Legacy also competed for 5 years for Team Connemara on the Battle of the Breeds competition at Spruce Meadows.

Elodon Connemaras 2009 Update

The long 2008-2009 winter was made longer by anticipation of our May foals. When spring finally arrived the mares foaled within a week of each other. Glenn Erinn Emma produced a handsome colt we named Elodon Earl Grey and Rills Romany Lace had a lovely filly we named Elodon Neala. Both foals are by our stallion Century Hills Aedan Zodiac. Earl is an exceptionally bold and quiet fellow who shows great promise of being a terrific riding pony. Neala is a stunning filly with an incredibly pretty head and huge eyes. She shows potential of being either a talented riding pony

or a broodmare with her unique mix of British and American bloodlines. Aedan's first progeny Solano Flash, a part bred 2006 gelding, was started under saddle. His owner tells us she is thrilled with his temperament and how quickly he learns. It will be very exciting to see Aedan's offspring begin their riding careers. Neala's full sister Maeve turned 2 this year and will begin light training this coming winter.

2009 was a training year for Aedan, schooling at home and going to several clinics. One trainer described him as a very brave jumper and wished

more of his horses had that pony courage. We were very pleased when a dressage clinician commented that he has the ability to do upper level



Elan & Aedan
photo by Garcia Schellhorn

dressage.

In September at his first ridden show, Aedan won a Low Hunter Championship with three firsts—one of which was the Hunter Classic. His prizes of two warm-blood sized coolers caused a few laughs.

Other highlights in September included cheering on Team Connemara at the Battle of the Breeds at Spruce Meadows and attending both the CCPS AGM and two inspections. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with fellow Connemara enthusiasts, renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

We wish everyone a warm winter and happy times with their ponies, family and friends.

by Elsie Priddy

<http://elodon.sasktelwebsite.net/>

Some fond memories of 2009...



Thanks to all who contributed to this edition of the "Canadian Connemara". Don't forget to keep submitting farm news, foal announcements, classifieds and other articles for the spring 2010 edition!
Rick Doner ~ Editor ~ rpdoner@sympatico.ca

Connemaras: For all disciplines - For all the family

Board of Directors

Directors are elected by all members for a term of two years and may be elected for a maximum of three consecutive terms. Regional Chairs are elected by the members of their region for a two-year term and automatically sit on the Board of Directors.

Heather Sherratt – Central Region – President (term 2008-2010)
Bridget Wingate – Prairie Region – Vice President (term 2008-2010)
Jocelyn Davies – Prairie Region – Secretary (term 2009-2011)
Margot Watson – Pacific Region – Treasurer (term 2008-2010)
Christine Carey – Central Region – (term 2009-2011)
Cheryl Miller – Pacific Region – (term 2009-2011)

Regional Chairs (also on the Board of Directors)

Susan MacDougall – Pacific Region
Penny Huggons – Prairie Region
Rick Doner – Central Region

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Doris Jacobi with Nancy Page

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Heather Sherratt

Overall Communications

Susan MacDougall

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Tracy Dopko – webmaster

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Rick Doner

Nominating

Penny Huggons

Arbitration

Bridget Wingate

Historical Archives

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