



The Canadian Connemara

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www.canadianconnemara.org

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Cyndie and Byron Crook have had a very busy summer competing Solaz- seen above- (Bantry Bays Dillon x w/blood) and Kimbles Sierra Wind-see page 21- (Avenns Kimble Wind x TB) in combined driving events. There has hardly been an occasion when they have not won with Solaz at Preliminary level, and Sierra at Training. They are now moving them up to Intermediate and Preliminary level respectively.

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From The President...

August is always the month that Connemara enthusiasts look forward to. Every year hundreds of breeders & pony lovers from all over the world gather in Clifden, Ireland for the annual Connemara Pony Festival. It is a wonderful feast of ponies & related activities. There is much to see & do in Ireland. Add it to your "Bucket List "!

It is great to see our Canadian Connemaras out participating in a variety of activities & shows around the country from Vancouver Island to Nova Scotia. Congratulations to all who are out & about with their ponies & don't forget to participate in our awards scheme !

Our CCPS Facebook Page is proving to be a good place to keep

Continued on page 16

Annual General Meeting

Central Region welcomes you to the AGM at Century Hill Farm on Friday, November 8th, Beaverton, Ontario.

Come to Toronto and enjoy the Royal Winter Fair as well as farm tours and a great presentation by Caroline Nesbitt from New Hampshire.

Details on **page 19!!**

Don't Forget !

Nominations for Directors of the CCPS closes Sunday September 8th!!

See page 14 for details...

Lea Farm - Summer 2013 News

Waterfield Prince (*Coral Bobby x *Kindesella Contessa)

Our young stallion Waterfield Prince has returned home after 2 months with the trainers, now going steady wtc and showing great athleticism. Our trainer said he is a very quick learner and that his canter is a joy to ride, likened it to her large warmbloods. He expressed a keen interest in jumping (trotting poles) just for fun, he will have to wait until he is a little older to explore that interest. He covered his first mares in hand and has left Ellie and Ting confirmed in foal for 2014.



We recently welcomed Featherstone Lauriliath (*Canal Laurinston x *Blossom) to Nova Scotia. Leah, is a lovely 2006 mare, inspected and approved by the ACPS with excellent marks for conformation, movement and temperament. Started under saddle, our oldest daughter Lauren is continuing her training with the help of her pony club coach. She loves children and has a been ridden by Emma (9) and has given Ally (7) some pony rides, gotta love that Connemara temperament:)



Now if we can get the rain to stop long enough to fill the hay lofts we will be all set. Wishing you all a great summer and fall.

A work in progress website : www.leafarm.weebly.com

Scott and Carolyn Longmire and family live in Granville Centre, Nova Scotia

News from Muskoka Lakes

Winter was pretty laid back and quiet here at the farm. Lots of snow but not overly cold! PONies got most of the winter off and with the exception of the the odd winter bareback hack, Tibyl got the winter off too. Spring started off with the sale of Willows WB Yeats to a lovely lady out in Alberta who flew to Ontario to try him out. Pleased to say she adored him and he went off to his new home to be an eventer!

Another big addition to Muskoka Lakes was the import of a stunning young lad from Ireland! Fiontar Mac Tire is by Maumturk Oliver out of Rossaveal Lady and was imported April 2013 just two weeks before his second birthday! The story of him being sourced and subsequently purchased is worthy of at least several Guinness. At any rate, he arrived safe and sound and is currently out in the back 40 being a normal pony and hanging with his buddies. His future will hopefully include inspections as well as the 30 Day Testing for Pony stallions when he is 4. High hopes are on this fellow to make his mark in the pony breeding world! In case some were not aware of my interest in colour, Finn is also a double dilute (perlino) and is currently the only perlino Connemara colt eligible to have his offspring registered as pure bred Connemaras. A HUGE thanks must go to the folks who paved the way for the acceptance of the double dilute colours here in Canada.

As spring progressed, I also sold MLC Belfast Irish Eclipse (Tintagels Tibyl out of Belfast Button) to Martha Younger. They breed and show top quality A circuit and FEI ponies, so I could NOT be more pleased about his new home! I wish them the best in their acquisition of Beaker!

On the showing side of things, the first show attended this year was the revival of the Eastern Canadian Pony Breeders Society show held at Iron Horse Equestrian Complex in



Janet and Tibyl at the ECPBS show

Burlington. I took Tibyl (now gelded) and Brambleridge March Mayhem "Maeve" (2 y/o filly by Moxley Duncan out of Balias Miakoda) to show in the Connemara classes. The judge took quite a shine to Tibbs and he won his 3+ Geldings class, his Mountain and Moorland Pleasure (US) class, Maeve won her 2 year old class and then went on to have Tibbs win the Overall Connemara Championship with Maeve in Reserve Champion spot! Very pleased with the two of them.

Last show was the Canadian National Exhibition where we showed in the Sport Pony Breeders show. The pony I took to this show was the lovely Morning Glories Ilyushin, who I



Morning Glories Ilyushin at the CNE shown by Janet Rowe

am leasing from Caroline Nesbitt and Bob Butcher from Winterville Farm in New Hampshire. It seems to be the Year of the Connemara because Ilyushin won his 3+ Stallions class, went on to win the Senior Championship then went further to win the whole thing with a Grand Championship! I was VERY proud of him and was thrilled with how he just goes out into the ring with that "look at ME!!!" attitude that makes people stop and stare! With our win at the CNE, we have qualified Lu for the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto in November. Hope to see some of you there cheering on our breed and taking part in the AGM!!

I hope you are all having a great summer and are out enjoying your ponies in this lovely weather...

Cheers from Muskoka Lakes!
Janet Rowe



The Adventures of Annie and Ali **Continued**

Once again Annie and I have been busy. Lately Annie and I have been doing some cross-country courses. In the cross-country course there are log jumps, tire jumps, and water/sand obstacle. Annie loves to jump; our favourite jump is the tires and she never hesitates to attempt something new. Our latest adventures was our great alpaca round up. One of the alpaca's of our farm escaped out onto the ranch. Annie was the closest horse by, I didn't have a halter or bridle with me so I had to just jump on her and I knew she would be good. We had to round up the alpaca quickly before it made its way into the bush. She cooperated very well without having a halter or bridle on. This summer Annie, Roxy (my mom's horse), and my mom and I are

going up to my aunt and uncles to going trail riding and swimming. Annie and Roxy both love to swim and love the trails.

*...by Ali Mark ...riding *Tatham Ballinanna*
(dam of Century Hill's Aedan Zodiac)



News from Caraway Connemaras

The most important news from here is the birth of Oliver David Wight, born December 27th 2012 in the midst of a huge snowstorm. Luckily Hilary and Justin managed to make it the hospital in time! Becoming a Grandmother is entering a new era of one's life, and what a wonderful era it is. Life just gets better and better!!

Hilary and I have managed to get some good pony time in as well as attend to everything else and our breeding programme continues, if somewhat toned down. This year saw just the one foal, a dun colt by Finn (Hideaway Sebastian x Avenns Cayley Windsong) and out Pinky (Grange Finn Sparrow x Balius Golden Piper). Kiwi is a big strong boy and appears to have the same fearless and loveable temperament as his siblings. His sister Kate was sold to Vermont this summer and her new owner Midge is totally in love! She came to buy her as she had been out riding with Kate's sister Gilly and was so impressed with her easy going temperament and beautiful movement that she just had to have her sister. I still have another sister here, Poppy, and am hoping to keep her as a future mount for my grandchildren. We also sold Alice, a bay filly by Finn and out of Plum (Hearnesbrook Fastnet x Wensum Honeydew). She is with a family not far from here and they are again impressed with how laid back and quiet a 2 year old can be.

I went to the ACPS Region 1 Connemara show in Woodstock, Vermont this July and thoroughly enjoyed my time there. There was a trail ride on the Friday afternoon which was a benefit ride for Cindy Fletcher who had a horrific driving accident while showing one of her ponies this summer. Luckily she is recovering well and I am sure she hopes to be working with her ponies again soon. I rode with my friend Dianne Crane from Vermont, she brought her mare Caraway Peggy and a QH gelding.. it was a fun ride with lots of hills! I think my ponies would have found it tough going as it is pretty flat around here.

On Saturday we watched the in hand classes and it was satisfying to see a number of ponies from my breeding doing very well. In fact in hand champion was Caraway Brio, (Finn x Hearnesbrook Shooting Star). Violaine Fortin has done a wonderful job with him, and his full brother the gelding Merle who is owned and ridden by her daughter, Jeanne.

There were a lot of really nice ponies there, and my favourite mare was a lovely roan, Indian Summer Bridie, who is by Hohnhorst Branni and out of Ballencrief's Fleur. She may not have won the champion ribbon but a sweeter and more amenable mare you could not wish for, and a lovely mover too. A wonderful example of what a Connemara should be.

Unfortunately we could not stay to watch the ridden classes but it I was glad to have gone and seen old friends and new ponies. Perhaps next year we will show our own ponies there again.

Chris Carey



Get of sire class at Woodstock 1st place, get of Irish Park Caraway Finn from left to right: Caraway Brio, Caraway Merle (both out of*Hearnesbrook Shooting Star), Caraway Gilly (Stonybrook Irish Creme), Tarragon (QH mare)

RILL FARM NEWS SUMMER 2013

We have one foal on the ground now & another due (actually overdue !) Our new colt is a striking chestnut who will roan out. He is very friendly & bold & we are having fun working/playing with him !

We have a trainer coming to the farm this summer to work with the youngsters & do some refresher work with Branni. We are planning to get Branni going (back) under saddle this fall.

We have had news of some of our ponies this year & re-connected with some owners, which has been fun.

It is good to know that they are having fun, enjoying some showing & introducing the Connemara breed to other riders.

We hope everyone is having a wonderful summer & getting lots of time with their ponies !

We have some super ponies for sale. Check our website <http://rillconnemaras.tripod.com> or the Classifieds.

Penny Huggons

Classifieds

Youngstock by *Hohnhorst Branni :

Contact Penny for more details & pictures.

cphuggons@gmail.com <http://rillconnemaras.tripod.com>

Yearling filly, Rill's Manderlay (Layla) grey will likely finish at or over 14.1 h.h. Very sweet filly,nice to handle,doing all the baby basics,ties, good with feet,goes nicely in hand etc. Huge ground covering stride, big flowing trot.

She is a very athletic filly & would be wonderful for a smaller adult.



Manderlay

Striking chestnut (roan) colt available after weaning. Bold & friendly



Colt

2 year old filly, Rills Caprice. Stunning filly with excellent conformation, very nice & correct mover & a super personality. Beautiful mahogany bay will finish around 13.3 h.h. Well handled & enjoys being worked with.



Caprice

2011 Grey gelding by Caraway Brio and out of 16hand TB mare.

contact Guylaine Caza, North Hatley, Quebec.

Tel: 819-842-1412

Email: gicaza@rogers.com





Elodon Maeve running with Brynn Carter in a photoshoot by Garcia Schellhorn. Brynn rode Maeve in Pony Club 2 years ago and they still have a bond.



*Century Hills Aedan Zodiac takes a nap between classes.
Debra Marshall photo.*



*"Samantha and her best friend (Devonridge) Wren. What a great addition to our family!"
(Saskatoon SK)*

Awards Program 2013

Thank you to all the competitors who participated in the Connemara awards program for 2011. It was a great success and we heard good feedback about the awards.

The medal awards run on an accumulative points system. The Purebred and Part-bred high point performance awards do to, but once someone receives a performance award their points start over and are not eligible to receive one for 2 years.

We have many ponies showing the english disciplines and are doing very well. The Lyndfield Cormac MacCarthy high point western award has been dormant for a few years. It would be nice to see some points come in from you western competitors, and lets show how versatile these ponies can be!!!

Please make sure your achievement forms are complete with proof of your placings and scores or a signed copy from the show committee. Incomplete forms will not be accepted to enter points for the program.

Rules about the awards program and forms are available to download on the CCPS Website.

Click on <http://www.canadianconnemara.org/awards.html>

Thank you,
Shirley Sauve
Canadian Connemara Society Awards Committee
Chairperson
Box 2,
53504 Range Road 280
Spruce Grove, AB
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CCPS Logo is embroidered very professionally onto the left lapel

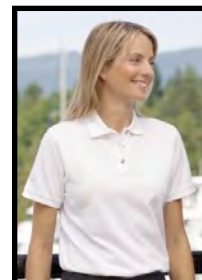


CCPS Store

We are excited to have high quality garments and saddle pads available for purchase.

We have waterproof jackets, ¼ zip fleece pullovers in 3 different styles, polo shirts and saddle pads. If you have a special request, please contact us & we can check with our supplier for possible special orders.

Please contact us at susanmac@uniserve.com for pricing and shipping.



News from Canter By Farm

By Cindy and Amanda Beard - Orillia, Ontario

"Goldie and Friends"

In 2010 we were introduced to Rick and Dale Doner, owners of Century Hill Connemaras in Beaverton, Ontario. They asked if we could put some training on their 5-year-old Connemara stallion, Kippure Cara.

We started working with Cara who had only been lightly driven and backed a couple of times. We found him very eager to learn and he loved any new challenges we set before him. The Doners were lovely people who were easy to work with and they enjoyed watching Cara's progress throughout his training at our Canter By Farm.

Because Cara learned so quickly it was only 8 months before we found ourselves off to a combined show at Grandview Eventing Farm where we entered Cara to compete in the Entry level. This was his first-ever event and out of 14 horses he finished the day placing first on his dressage mark. We took Cara to two other eventing competitions in 2011 and he enjoyed all three disciplines and placed well.

In July 2011, Rick and Dale planned to take Cara to the ACPS Region 1 Breed show in Woodstock, Vermont. We had such a great time at this show and found everyone there so friendly and helpful. Cara was a perfect gentleman and it showed throughout his performances. We were all so proud of Cara as he received the following placing and awards:

- Grand Champion Connemara of Show
- Reserve Champion Stallion in hand
- 1st place Dressage in training level
- 1st place Working Hunter over fence 3'
- 1st place Pleasure Driving
- 1st Place Senior Trial

Cara was a recipient of following:

- Lambay Seamus Trophy Champion
- Working Hunter Sue Dexter Memorial Versatility Award
- Greenway Trophy
- Kilronan Pleasure Driving
- RHF O'Harazan Perpetual Trophy
- Grand Champion

It was a wonderful trip and an experience that we have fond memories of.

In the late spring of 2011 the mares had given birth to that year's new crop of foals. Rea had a lovely colt by Cara and Dale emailed to inform us that he was Amanda's favourite colour. That certainly peaked our curiosity and we were off to Beaverton to see what Dale was talking about. Since the foals' father, Cara and his mother, Rea are both dapple grey, we certainly were quite surprised when we arrived at Century Hill Farm and looked



into the stall to find a gorgeous palomino colt standing next to Rea. Seeing his white mane and tail against his golden colour it was "love at first sight" and we just had to have him! When he was old enough to be weaned, we brought our newest member of the family home to our farm. He fit right in with our other two horses and now is just "one of the boys".

We then began the time consuming and thought provoking challenge of finding a name to suit our new baby. Amanda has a palomino thoroughbred named "Paint Me Gold", aka Trigger, whom she has owned for 21 years. Trigger's job changed from being a racehorse to becoming an eventer. Amanda successfully competed for many years in eventing with Trigger and enjoyed taking him to the North America Young Rider Championship competition in 2002 to Illinois and to Bromont, Quebec in 2003 as members of the Ontario Eventing team. We wanted to include Trigger's registered name somehow into the new golden boys' and with lots of ideas and suggestions to

consider, the one that was the most favourite was "Gold Not Silver" as his registered name and his barn name to be "Goldie". It seemed to be the name that suited our new colt the best as both his



parents are grey and he is definitely a "horse of a different colour".

During his first winter at our Canter By Farm, Goldie got to hang around with his new pals, one of who is Princey, another OTTB, and they are the best of buddies. Since Princey is a gelding that loves to play halter tug of war and play fight, their paddock time together gave Goldie some social skills and manners.



Time has passed quickly and the young foal is now 2 years old and has grown into a playful, robust colt that loves to spend his days romping with Princey or just chilling with 28-year-old Trigger. We have chose to not geld him yet at this point in time, but he is still well behaved thanks to the gentle correction in equine etiquette from his two best pals. Goldie enjoys his 40" play ball we bought for him and he loves to chase it around his paddock. In July 2012, Goldie and his brother West took a short road trip together to Paddock Lane Farm on Concession 13 in Oro-Medonte. After playing, frolicking and eating in the pasture, the two colts

enjoyed a warm bath and it was a great first trip experience.

Amanda has started Goldie's training and he has willingly accepted being lunged, ground driven, and also bridled and saddled. Goldie also trailers, baths, clips and stands for the farrier (most of the time) and he thinks everyone is there to admire him and loves all the attention he gets. This coming winter we are sending Goldie off to Jeff Kohler at Relhok Farm for the start of "Driving 101". If he is going to follow in his father Cara's hoof prints, Goldie should be willing and accepting of the driving training Jeff challenges him with.

We would like to thank Rick and Dale



Doner for giving us the opportunity to purchase such a lovely Connemara, the enjoyment of their friendship and encouragement and allowing us to be able to continue our work with Cara to further his training.

Gold Not Silver's coat has turned into a deep rich golden colour and he is quite a handsome boy with his white mane and tail. The "Palomino Touch" is alive and well at our Canter By Farm!



Elphin Mountain Connemaras – 2013

After twenty-three years breeding Connemaras here at Elphin Mountain Farm, I have decided it is time to downsize. Advancing age and old injuries are catching up with me and that, combined with the still-soft market, has convinced me that I need to sell some of my mares and reduce the breeding program.

When I started in 1990 there were very few Connemaras in eastern Canada. I was fortunate to find Mick in Quebec and my first mares in NY State. The choice in those days was limited, communications slow, and importing ponies expensive and difficult. My first mares, Oak Hills Gold Friday and her daughter SP Mils Breaban (by Aladdin's Owen), were from old-style traditional bloodlines and Mick put more quality on their foals without losing their ruggedness. Later I did import a mare, *Scottsway Lullaby (Kirtling Tam O'Shanter x Hobbans Lark), who has proved to be a true blue hen mare for me.

I couldn't have found a better stallion than Mick for bloodlines, temperament and athletic ability. Now twenty-four years old, he is still siring good foals and managing the farm from his paddock in front of the house. Over the years he must have sired well over a hundred foals, pure and partbreds. He has crossed well with just about any mare from thoroughbreds

and warmbloods to Welsh ponies and Kirsten's part Fjord mare, adding quality, athletic ability and good sense to his foals.

This spring, however, I decided would be the last I would stand Mick. It is increasingly difficult to find the help I need in this area and the stallion station where I collect for AI might also be downsizing. It seemed time to make decisions and changes here.

I have several youngsters and proven brood mares for sale, including two of Abby's fillies, Millie's daughter Rosie, and Aluinn de Haoine's daughter Daisy (all by Mick). Wildwych Clio, who I bought a few years ago, is also for sale along with her two offspring by Mick. All are on my webpage www.elphinfarms.com.

Mick's foals, grandfoals and great-grandfoals are doing well across Canada and the States, both competing and breeding. I would like to see a son of Mick and Abby standing as a stallion, but they seem to be consistently producing beautiful fillies. Since I started breeding, the number of Connemaras and their breeders has increased greatly in eastern Canada although the numbers competing seems to be down from the time Mick was eventing, when there could be up to four purebred stallions all showing together.

by Heather Sherratt

May Girl - From a Brat to a "Star"!

May Girl was Kestrel Fair's second foal. She made an unexpected appearance with her mother one morning, while I was staying at my sister and her husband's Stonewall property. Assorted critters there needed feeding while they made a holiday trip to England. A cowboy friend of mind had agreed to stay at my place near Riding Mountain, to do chores during the time I'd be away. Before leaving for Stonewall, I went to the shelter one last time with Mare and Foal book in hand and advice from experienced horsemen running through my head. I was looking for any "signs" that Kestrel might be thinking of foaling. There was nothing obvious and anyway it should be way too early! My last words to Joe were "Don't worry about Kestrel foaling. I'm pretty sure nothing is going to happen before I get back!" (This must give the Breeder a smile.)

When I returned from Stonewall, Joe said "Come on out to the shelter, I have something for you to look at." A filly foal was peeking out at us from behind Kestrel. She was obviously very pleased with herself and with an uneasy feeling I immediately noticed a cheeky look in her eyes. Devon Ridge's Destiny, her older sister, had a very sweet, innocent look and she loved receiving attention. May Girl, on the other hand, only accepted being touched by mere humans under her own terms. Both ponies also had a different build. While Destiny had a lighter appearance, May Girl looked more like a little tank. Destiny would slow down to gather herself carefully, before elegantly jumping the creek that separated the pasture from the corral. May Girl didn't waste time and boldly jumped the creek. Otters, muskrats and any other hapless creatures had to watch out May Girl was coming and she had no intentions of slowing down!

Expecting a bit of guff from May Girl for haltering, I took advantage one day when she found

herself cornered between a portable feeder and Kestrel. I touched her hind end gently, slowly felt my way along her back, scratched her neck and behind her ears, then quickly slipped the tiny halter on. I braced myself mentally and physically for the big fight - that never happened! Her only evasive action was a half-hearted, partial rear and then she cried "Uncle!" Could it be true that Connemaras are born broke and was this going to be far easier than I expected? She caught on very quickly and followed me obediently in all directions. Kestrel also caught on very quickly that if I arrived with a baby halter, it signaled some free time for her to go and graze in the pasture. Neither she nor baby ever became upset by any distance between them.

let out an unholy, angry squeal and jumped straight up into the air with all four feet off the ground! When she landed, she let fly with both back legs. To my dismay, she began pummeling Kestrel on her hind end with both front feet. Poor Kestrel struggled to her feet. Would mother finally give that willful youngster a good nip for such disgraceful behavior? No ... she placidly reopened the Milk Bar and gazed lovingly at her "little angel."

Kestrel was the "boss" mare within the herd and she allowed that cheeky little May Girl to run well out in front of rest of the herd, when the ponies spotted me in the corral and came running in from the pasture for treats. I found it quite amusing to watch the pint-sized dictator mimic Kestrel's



William Wainwright on Drogheda Captain Cricket (right) and Kieran McCullagh on Kestrel Fair's May Girl(left). Manitoba Pony Club Spring Classic Horse Show, Bird's Hill Park, Manitoba. William and Cricket won Top D/D1 Pony Clubbers and Kieran and May Girl won Top D2 Pony Clubbers. Each of these young riders won a new cooler! Photo by Margie Forbes

The ponies enjoyed resting in the shelter during the heat of the day and Kestrel always seemed delighted to see me coming with my lawn chair and cup of tea. For her, it meant that May Girl would be kept amused for a while with brushing and scratching, giving her a chance to doze off. One day I saw Kestrel lie down with a contented sigh. May Girl didn't appreciate the Dairy Queen being closed down and she quickly made her feelings known! She

methods for keeping the herd in tow. She put her head sideways, ears back, neck stretched out - daring anyone to step out of line. The little pipsqueek also claimed territory and hay piles from the others and nobody dared to retaliate. They didn't want to be on the receiving end of Kestrel's wrath! Destiny wasn't immune to May Girl's bossiness either. A happy day for the rest of the ponies came at weaning time, when Kestrel was loaded up and taken to Triangle Ranch at

Clear Lake. Once May Girl recovered from the initial shock of seeing her mama step into that box on wheels and disappear down the road, the awful truth dawned on her! I was sure I could see a few sly smiles on the faces of the other horses. It was payback time and Little Miss was soon taken to task by Devon's My Fair Lady, a pretty buckskin filly who insisted that she would now take over the role of herd "boss". Every grudge against May Girl was dealt with by the rest of the herd in well-placed nips. While May Girl was learning horse manners within a herd, Kestrel was doing the Connemaras proud at the ranch. She quickly learned to "score" steers in the roping box and chased them with great enthusiasm! I got a lot of satisfaction from that and smiled to myself following each run, seeing her calmly regain her place in line along with the usual ranch horse breeds. Yes, Kestrel was busy out in that arena proving that Connemaras can for sure "do it all!" (and do it well!)

Kestrel Fair's May Gift was the name I originally had in mind for the filly, owing to her surprise appearance. My sister Eddie said "She always seems more like a May Girl to me." She was quite taken with her, so I decided to register her as Kestrel Fair's May Girl and transfer her as a surprise to Eddie. Her Connemara gelding, Drogheda's Owen Grey, originally from Brian Donegan of Strathmore, Alberta, was delighted to welcome May Girl to share his barn and pasture. He smoothed off any possible remaining brattiness with gentle reprimands. Eddie excitedly phoned me one day to report that she had slipped onto May Girl's back from the fence. I asked "What did she do?" knowing what the answer would be. Eddie said "Nothing - she just turned around and looked at me." Hopping onto May Girl's back became the "norm", until the day May Girl committed an unpardonable sin in Eddie's eyes. She bopped the goat a few times on the backside for having the nerve to push his way into her pile of hay. Being very protective of her small critters, Eddie asked me to find a good home for May Girl. My friend, Marilyn Kubinec, came to the rescue. May Girl was picked-up and taken to the 400 acre farm that Marilyn and her husband Mike own. Once there, May Girl was given a choice area in which to live. She was no longer a cocky little brat and had decided that patting and brushing were good things for ponies and that pockets sometimes held something tasty - if you stood back and minded your manners. Mike and Marilyn's granddaughter took a lot of interest in "the filly." When her mother Vera Lynn drove out from Winnipeg to ride her horse, Jane would make a beeline for May Girl. One day

"the filly" discovered a missing top rail and proved that Connemaras make great jumpers! She had spotted the other horses on the property - geldings in another pasture, that included one aggressive young upstart who let everyone know that around that pasture he was "head honcho." I learned about May Girl's shennanigans and drove out to Kubinec's farm. Marilyn excitedly blurted "Jeannie Pie", she jumped that fence!" I was confused - she didn't sound angry; she sounded impressed! Once the railing was replaced there weren't any further jumping derbys, but it was felt that May Girl deserved a herd that she could fit into and hopefully find a rider of her own.

Marilyn phoned Catherine McCullagh of Quarry Ridge Farms to offer "the filly". Marilyn assured Catherine that May Girl was a good pony, nicely built with a friendly disposition - and that she could jump!! Catherine said "I really don't need anymore ponies right now, but perhaps I could keep her for a couple of weeks to see if she fits in here." Arrangements were made for Lee Phobes to pick-up and deliver May Girl to Quarry Ridge. Jane was at Grannys for a sleep-over on the evening that Lee was coming and was very distressed to hear that the filly was leaving. She sobbed "Granny, you can't send the filly away!! Oh boy! I was ready to call out "Unload her; Jane can have her - but the truck and trailer were already pulling out of the driveway. I watched the rig leave and silently called after her - "Go and sell yourself May Girl; please show Catherine that the pig in a poke she has coming is really a little diamond! Strangely enough, Jane's mother Vera Lynn, phoned later that night to express interest in May Girl for herself. Marilyn said "Well, you are too late; Lee Phobes came earlier this evening, to pick her up and take her to Quarry Ridge.

The two weeks "on approval" passed, but each time Catherine mentioned paying me for May Girl, I came-up with another excuse for why she shouldn't yet. (Once the deal was finalized, I wouldn't have any reason to keep going to Catherine's barn, right?) Seeing through my thinly-veiled strategy, Catherine assured me that I would still be welcome at the barn. I happily accepted payment for May Girl! When Catherine told me that her youngest son, Kieran, wanted May Girl for his next mount I was beside myself! Another Connemara out in the Show Ring and all of the fun events at Quarry Ridge to watch them take part in! May Girl was sent to Tiffany Gibbons in October of 2012 to put some of those important first rides on her and it wasn't long before Tiffany phoned Catherine, to say that May Girl was safe for Kieran to get on. Tiffany added "It

didn't take very many rides to get her to that point." I wasn't able to go along to see Kieran's first ride unfortunately, but Catherine e-mailed me that night to say that May Girl trotted and cantered for Kieran like an old pro. Catherine added "She was wonderful!". My friend Fran and I were sitting in the bleachers at Quarry Ridge indoor arena, when Kieran did his second ride on May Girl since bringing her home from training. We couldn't believe our eyes when we saw Catherine lay down some poles. That went fine so a couple of cross-rails came next. Brennan, Kieran's older brother, called out "Wow Kieran, you just got her back and you two are jumping already!"

May Girl has fully morphed from a cheeky brat into a typical kind and gentle Connemara - she is very willing and likes to move it, move it. So in what way has May Girl become a Star? A two day Dressage and Jumping Clinic taught by Kareena Harvey of British Columbia was held at Quarry Ridge last November. I was recovering from eye surgery, so I couldn't attend. An excited message arrived from Catherine on the first night. She



Kieran McCullagh takes his first ride on May Girl.

said "Kareena just loves her!" She added "May Girl is being the absolute Star of the Clinic!"

Over the past winter I thought a lot about the upcoming Show season. Would Kieran and May Girl be ready? A Schooling Clinic in April of 2013 at Eric and Danae Martin's East Ridge Farm, at Oak Bank, Manitoba, went extremely well. May Girl warmed-up with Kieran in the outdoor arena all by herself while leaves and debris blew wildly all about. She went around the course on Saturday without incident. We all held our breath on Sunday as she approached the bank! She jumped up the bank without any hesitation and calmly jumped down the other side. Again she was a Star and she impressed the Clinician! I had my answer -Yes, they are ready!

What May Girl led to:

Watching everyone else riding and taking part in Clinics at the barn made me long to be able to take part myself and not just be an observer. I had broken my back three years prior, so I knew that if there was any hope of my riding again, I needed someone willing to watch over me. Where could one find such an Angel? One day Catherine casually mentioned "You know Jeannie, I think Fran would make a great riding partner for you and I think that Flokie, an Icelandic, would be just the right mount to get you back into the saddle". She softly added "You need to ride."

The first ride on little 14 hand Flokie was terrifying - the ground looked like it was a half mile down! I inwardly chastised myself for being so crazy to try this. However, old habits quickly kicked in and I was soon picking-up my post! Catherine has brought me along to jump 2.3' and I even got a second place ribbon at a Quarry Ridge Clinic and Dressage Show. (Not too shabby for an old girl who has ridden western for most her life - this English riding sure isn't easy, but I love the challenge and the rush of coming up to a jump!)

With gratitude, then, I lift up my glass to Marilyn for finding the perfect home, to Catherine for providing a home barn, a chance to be involved with Pony Club, riding lessons and finally to May Girl herself, for bringing about all of these great things! I have to wonder though.....was the original name of May Gift really a premonition of the exciting things that pony would lead me to in my life?

By Jeannie Walsh

Foundation Broodmare Award

This award has been donated by Tom & Maire MacLochlainn of Ashbrook Stud, Co. Galway, and Doris Jacobi of Avilion Gleann Farm, Alberta.

Criteria for the award:

The mare should be registered with CCPS, ACPS or other recognized Connemara Society.

Be over the age of 20, or deceased.

Have produced at least 5 purebred registered foals, some of which are breeding stock.

Have second and perhaps third generation registered offspring to be considered.

Have been resident in Canada for at least some of her productive years.

The mare may be nominated by her owner or by another Society member with the agreement of the owner.

Nominator must be a member of the CCPS.

Mare owner, if still alive, should be or have been a member of the CCPS or ACPS.

Further information and the application form are on our web site.

Further information and submission of nomination to Chris Carey, 1042-3rd Concession, Elgin, QC., JoS 2Eo Ph: 450-264-4567. e-mail: carawayfinn@gmail.com

Canadian Connemara Pony Society **Nominations for the Board – 2013**

In 2013, we are in pretty good shape with Elsie Priddy agreeing to offer for another term in Prairie, Jennifer Brownlow agreeing to offer for another term in Pacific, and myself agreeing to offer for another term in Central. Prairie region is in need of nominations for a board member and the position of regional chair remains vacant, it would be great if we can somehow fill these positions. This is a great opportunity for new Board members with a fresh approach and new ideas.

To be nominated for the Board, please complete the nomination form below. The nominator, seconder and nominee can all complete individual forms and send them to Scott Longmire to reduce the necessity of mailing one form around the country. Please indicate the name of the nominator and seconder on the form and ask them to complete and send in signed forms themselves. A nominee cannot be nominated or seconded by a family member and must be a member in good standing.

Regards,
Scott Longmire

Canadian Connemara Pony Society

At this AGM we will have 2 Director positions from Pacific region coming up for election as the current incumbents terms have expired.

Below, please find a nomination form for these positions. All three sections below need to be completed in order for the nominee to be accepted. Three separate forms can be sent in. The persons nominating and seconding should not be family members. Please e-mail, fax or mail to Scott Longmire so that it is received on **or before September 8th, 2013**

Nomination Form – Directors

I, _____ a member in good standing of the Canadian Connemara Pony Society, hereby nominate _____

to stand for election for a Director of the _____ Region of the above Society in the elections to be held at the Annual General Meeting on September 8/9 th 2012. To the best of my knowledge my nominee is a member in good standing of the above Society and is willing to stand for election.

_____ (Signature of nominator) Dated _____

I, _____ a member in good standing of the above Society second the above nomination for the position of Director of the above Society.

_____ (Signature of seconder) Dated _____

I, _____ the nominee named above declare that I am a member in good standing of the above Society. I am prepared to stand for election as a Director of the Society and accept the responsibilities of the position of Director if elected.

_____ (signature of nominee) Dated _____

Please scan & e-mail, or cut out & mail to: Scott Longmire, RR 3 Granville Ferry, 11 Southside Drive, Granville Centre, N.S. B0S 1K0. Ph: 902-532-7201. E-mail: longwyn1@gmail.com

Membership Information- Annual Renewals are due Jan 1, 2014!

For Current members of the CCPS : Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRL), 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.**

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 (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 +)	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

Fee Schedule

Temporary Registrations	Member	Non-Member
Fillies and Colts (includes DNA) up to 6 months after date of birth	\$80	\$160
Fillies and Colts (includes DNA) over 6 months after date of birth	\$100	\$200

Permanent Registrations

<u>Geldings and Halfbreds</u>	\$30	\$60
Up to June 30 of the year following year of birth		
After June 30th of the year following year of birth	\$40	\$80
Stallion Registration	\$250	\$500
Fillies over two years of age	\$25	\$50

Transfers

Within 6months of date of sale	\$25	\$50
Over 6 months from date of sale	\$40	\$80
Duplicate Certificates	\$25	

Other

Herd/Farm Prefix	\$25	
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Membership Renewals

We would like to encourage all enthusiasts & owners of Connemara ponies to join. In particular there are many half-bred Connemaras out there competing very successfully; and of which we have little knowledge. One of the advantages of membership is participation in the Awards Program.

All members should have received a membership renewal form from Canadian Livestock Records. Application forms are also available on our web site at www.canadianconnemara.org

Membership Gift

Many of the breeders and owners buy a complimentary first year membership for people who buy their ponies. This custom is one the board would like to encourage, and thanks those who have so generously contributed in the past.

Penny Huggons – President

up with what is happening & see & post pictures . Feel free to also send me photos & articles for the website. I would love some 2013 Foal photos for the Gallery Page as well as Showing photos. We also like to Feature ponies & riders on the Home Page , so don't be shy! Team Connemara will be competing at Spruce Meadows again this Fall & there will be Connemara's at the Royal again too. I think we can all be very proud of how well our minority breed is represented in our very large Country. The AGM is in Toronto in November 7th so save the date. I hope everyone is having a good summer & lots of pony time.

Penny Huggons, President

Canadian Connemara Pony Stallions 2013

Green Line - **Caragh Gaoithe** - ex. Innelan Kestral - ex. Spinway Comet - ex. Thunderbolt - ex. Thunder

Green Line - **Kippure Cara** - ex. Frederiksminde Hazy Merlin - ex. Hazy Dawn - ex. Dale Haze - ex. Tully Grey - ex. Tully Lad

Purple Line - **Elphine Lorcan** - ex. Maplehurst Michael MacDaire - ex. Gilnocky Ard Righ MacDaire - ex. Fox Ridge Starlight - ex. Texas Hope - ex. Little Heaven (tb)

Purple Line - **Century Hills Aedan Zodiac** - ex. Century Hill Frederick McTeague - ex. Maplehurst Michael MacDaire - ex. Gilnocky Ard Righ MacDaire - ex. Fox Ridge Starlight - Ex. Texas Hope - ex. Little Heaven (tb)

Purple Line - **Avenns Kimble Wind** - ex. Lynfields Cormac MacCarthy - ex. Texas Hope - ex. Little Heaven (tb)

Purple Line - **Bien Mallin's Rory O'Sullivan** - ex. Landgates Holy Smoke - ex. Tre Awain Dobh McDuff - ex. Tre Awain Ginger Blue - ex. Gilnocky Ard Righ MacDaire - ex. Fox Ridge Starlight - ex. Texas Hope - ex. Little Heaven (tb)

Orange Line - **Bantry Bay Dillon** - ex. Bantry Bay Ace - ex. Spring Ledge Bantry Bay - ex. Whitewood Galaway Bay - ex. Clonkeehan Auratum - ex. Naseel (arrab)

Orange Line - **Devon Ridge Dundee** - ex. Bantry Bay Dillon - ex. Bantry Bay Ace - ex. Spring Ledge Bantry Bay - ex. Whitewood Galaway Bay - ex. Clonkeehan Auratum - ex. Naseel (arab)

Red Line - **Hohnhorst Brannigan** - ex. Patty Benedict - ex. Bengt - ex. Big Ben - ex. Murrisk - ex. Macdara - ex. Dun Lorenzo - ex. Dun Heath - ex. Heather Bell - ex. Connemara Boy

Blue Line - **Irish Park Caraway Finn** - ex. Hideaways Sebastian - ex. Hideaways Erin Smithereen - ex. Toren Laddie - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Blue Line - **Caraway Brio** - ex. Irish Park Caraway Finn - ex. Hideaways Sebastian - ex. Hideaways Erin Smithereen - ex. Toren Laddie - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Blue Line - **Wilwych Don Juan** - ex. Glenormiston Flurry Knox - ex. Abbeyleix Finbar - ex. Ballydonagh Rob - ex. Carna Bobby - ex. Gill - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Blue Line - **Wildwych Raisin Cane** - ex. Glenormiston Flurry Knox - ex. Abbeyleix Finbar - ex. Ballydonagh Rob - ex. Carna Bobby - ex. Gill - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Blue Line - **Morning Glory's Ilyusion** - ex. Fiddlers Glory Boy - ex. Grange Finn Sparrow - ex. Coosheen Finn - ex. Carna Bobby - ex. Gil - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Blue Line - **Waterfield Prince** - ex. Coral Bobby - ex. Coral Dun - ex. Loobeen Larry - ex. Killyreagh Kim - ex. Carna Bobby - ex. Gill - ex. Innishgoil Laddie - ex. Rebel - ex. Cannon Ball

Note: This is just a quick glance at Connemara Pony stallions standing in Canada and the representation of the 5 native lines in Canada. We have a pretty diverse representation for a country with a very small population of ponies and breeders!!! It is worth noting that some of these stallions are getting up in years and the opportunity to continue their male line is somewhat limited. The sole representative of the red line is concerning, hopefully he will leave a stallion son to continue his line. There is a young Irish import perlino stallion up and coming who will represent the red line in Ontario if all goes well. It is also worth noting the lack of a Carna Dun representative for the red line.

Regards,
Scott Longmire

Century Hill Farm News

Cara is back in training for combined driving at Relhok stable (Jeff Kohler) after having a number of breedings this spring, and planning to show in Combined Driving this fall. Susan Goodhouse's mare, Tower Hill's Meagan, had a lovely Cara foal this spring in Vermont (Rolling Meadows Farm Finnula) and we are getting good reports back from his other foals as they mature!

Maire is being started under saddle by Amanda Beard in preparation for sale and Maelle continues to develop very nicely. Both fillies are out of Eastie by Cara and will make good family ponies with great temperaments & both love to work!

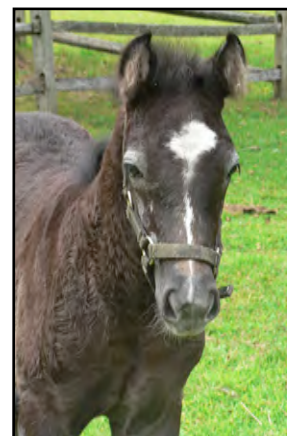
We look forward to hosting the AGM this fall and seeing you then- we hope to have all of our pony family here at home to show you that day!
Rick & Dale Doner



"Bullet" by Cara out of "Miss Jingles", a Welsh mare, being shown at the CNE Sport Pony Qualifier by Jolene Quinn



Cara being trained at Relhok Farm by Jeff Kohler



RMF Finnula (Cara x Tower Hills Meagan)



Dale & Maelle enjoy a moment...



Maelle showing her stuff!



Ali exercising Rea



Amanda preparing to back Maire

AGM 2013 Details

This year's AGM will be hosted by Central region. The attendees will fly into Toronto Pearson Airport on Wednesday, November 6 or Thursday the 7th and can stay at hotels of their choice till leaving likely Sunday the 10th. There will be rooms with better rates available at the Homewood suites by the airport or the adjoining Hampton Inn by Hilton .

Hampton Inn: Please call 1-888-381-4311 (toll free Canada/US) and reference group code CON .Rate at Hampton is \$134.00 for King or 2 Queen Beds www.torontoairportcorporatecentre.hamptoninnbyhilton.com

Homewood Suites : Please call 1-888-381-1194 (toll free Canada/US) and reference group code PON
Rate at Homewood is \$144.00 for a studio or One Bedroom Suite with 1 King bed and pull out sofa
Rate is \$169.00 for a Studio or One Bedroom Suite with 2 Queen Beds and pull out Sofa.

www.torontoairportcorporatecentre.homewoodsuites.com

Please note the group rate **cut off date is October 11th**, also for info on airport shuttles to the hotel ask the hotel at time of booking or contact Rick Doner.

There will be a very informative presentation at the Homewood suites Hotel on Thursday evening by Caroline Nesbitt from New Hampshire. She is presenting a slide show which begins with the history of Connemaras and then goes on to show the bloodlines that have strongly influenced the breed in North America. The AGM will be held at Rick & Dale Doner's farm on Friday morning (Nov 8th) along with a farm tour there (Century Hill Connemaras) and time permitting on to Janet Rowe's farm in the Muskokas (Muskoka Lakes Connemaras).

Saturday will be free for folks to attend the Royal Winter Fair(royalfair.org) Gala Horse Show Saturday night. This is the final night show of the Royal and will be very entertaining. Tickets are available through Margot Watson but will sell out quickly. We hope to get a better group price(10+ people) and will sit together at the evening show. Please email Margot ASAP for your tickets margotwatson@shaw.ca

Sunday morning will be the Sport Pony Star Search Challenge Final and Janet Rowe will be showing Morning Glories Ilyushin, on lease from Caroline Nesbitt. Show starts at 9 AM- come cheer her on!

This will be a great opportunity to meet new Connemara enthusiasts, visit with friends we haven't seen for a while, and learn more about our breed. All are welcome- hope to see you there!!

Please contact Rick Doner with any questions you may have and for directions to the farm: rpdoner@sympatico.ca

The continued adventures of Alex & his pony Rill's Hot Sauce (aka Gus the "wonder pony ")

I just wanted to give you an update on Hot Sauce. Well, to sum it up, everyone is calling him the " wonder pony " I don't even know where to start since the last time I wrote you. He has progressed so quickly, and is so amazing, the only thing holding him back is my English riding skill level. Luckily both Alex and myself are in weekly lessons with a great coach. Alexander has been taking 2 lessons a week, one private and one group lesson every week. He has even been cantering on Hot Sauce since April. That pony takes it all in stride. Of course he moves differently for Alex than me , as we are at a different skill level, and Alexander's legs barely come below the saddle flaps, but he is calm and happy to pack an 8 year old around!

I take one lesson a week and ride him 5-6 times a week. On his day off he follows me around while I muck his paddock and stands at the gate wondering why we are not riding today. Most of my serious riding through out my life was western, so it has been a bit of a learning curve into the English discipline, but I am really enjoying it. He is so supple and moves so nice. His canter is starting to become more balanced, I canter a lot with a light seat, as he is very young, and we want him to learn how to use his hind end. He is so willing, and has such an amazing temperament, ok I know I have said that before, but I just can't say it enough.

Last weekend, we took him to his first schooling show. It was the West Kootenay Dressage Show. First time out of his bubble which is my farm. First time in a trailer since he got here. First bath, first time arriving at a show grounds with horses and trailers, and a people everywhere. I was a little worried that he would be spooky and hot at all the new things, so we took him there a day early to let him settle in. He took it all in stride. I took him in 2 walk trot dressage tests, and Alexander also took him in two walk trot tests. He was actually on the lazy side, because I think he was just so mentally exhausted from everything that had been thrown at him over the past week leading up to it. But I am so happy with how

he did, I would take lazy over hot and spooky for his first show any day. That way we left there with a totally positive experience for him. He actually does have a lot of impulsion, but again, on show day, he was just really tired. Having said that, he still impressed everyone! We each got a first and a second place. He scored 66.7 % on his first test ever!

The judge was Dale Irwin. He is a level 3 dressage coach, but is also high up in the jumping world. He was second in line to coach the USA Olympic jumping team. The two days following the show, Dale taught a clinic. When I told him that this pony has only had 4 months under saddle, he couldn't believe it. He also couldn't believe that he packed an 8 year old through 2 dressage tests at his first show. He had no idea when he was scoring him, that he was only just started recently. He was so impressed with him. He said we are going to have so much fun with this pony. We worked on freeing him up , and engaging his hind end more. He had a lot more energy for the clinic after a good nights rest.

Hot sauce was so happy to come home Monday night. He got out of the trailer and ran into his paddock. He rolled in the dirt and galloped up and down the fence, he just couldn't believe he was home! I'm giving him the rest of this week off. It's raining pretty hard, so riding would be miserable anyway.

Well I could go on and on about this pony... but I better wrap it up! Hope all is good on your farm and take care!

(with permission from Shelann Andersen)



Alex & Gus



Century Hills Aedan Zodiac ridden by Elsie Priddy competing at Ebon Stables Mid Summer Masters August 2013



Elodon Earl Grey ridden by Gayle Smith at the Priddy Farm Hunter Pace August 2013



Rills Topsail ridden by Elan Priddy, X Rail Champion at Ebon Stables Mid Summer Masters, Topper's first show



Elodon Maeve and her new rider Kira at Kingskettle Pony Club, Saskatoon SK.



Sierra and Cyndie Crook doing the cones part of the CDE



This is Sharon Ball riding her horse, Solano Flash, at his first show over fences. 7 yr old gelding partbred son of Elsie's Century Hill's Aedan Zodiac out of a Paint x Thoroughbred mare. This is Aedan's first foal.



Norah Ridley and five-year-old Elodon Torin (Century Hills Aedan Zodiac x Glenn Erinn Emma) take a jump during an Alan Matheson clinic that was held in early July at Kingskettle Farm, south of Saskatoon, Sask. Photo: Myrna MacDonald.

Report from Clifden 2013



The International Connemara Pony Show is an annual event in Clifden, Connemara. The show grounds are in the town itself, and rooms need to be booked far in advance due to the show's popularity. Many exhibitors park their horseboxes outside of town and ride or lead their ponies in as parking is at a premium. There are two grass rings about 60 x 100 metres or so. One end of one ring is festooned with flags of the different Societies including our Maple



Pat Lyne and her god-son at the station house museum

Leaf. There's a small two-storey building where the show organizers work, with outside seating but apart from one line of benches around the ring, there are no bleachers.

On the first day, the in-hand or line classes as we call them are viewed by spectators four or five rows deep so it's sometimes hard to see. I met people from Germany, Sweden, France, Belgium, NZ, Australia, Canada and the U.S. It's a real family affair with everyone on the sidelines judging too, and keen to see the winners strut their stuff after the prize-giving. The Irish men, who mostly do the handling are very fond of their ponies. There were many entries in the catalogue but not all show up, so the classes seemed to run from 12 to 16 ponies.

This show is meant to be a showcase, so with that in mind, the owners are looking to market their animals to suit the taste of buyers. I think that is why most of them are grey, and the young stock a bit fat or what they call "show fit". In fact, the two-year

old colts looked like three year-olds to me. Some of the stallions were very attractive, and I'm glad to say that a bay placed third. I was told that there is colour prejudice in the in-hand classes and ridden classes so that a good animal can be placed down if he's not a grey. Some people told me that breeders were trying to go back to the older style of pony while others said they were trying to suit the present-day market.

The show ran late until nearly 8 pm the first day. It was fun to see some of the ridden classes including



the side-saddle ponies. They are shown in all types of bits from snaffles to Pelhams to double bridles. The second day is for the "working hunter" ponies, so the two rings are joined together by a roped passage. The course is a mixture of nice hunter rail jumps, coloured poles, x-country steps, up onto a sand bank with one stride over a rail and drop, then into the adjoining river on one side of the ring, about twenty feet along the river and into the ring again to finish over a few more jumps. Not exactly what we would call "working hunter"! This went on most of the day with the usual thrills and spills. Not every Connemara likes water!!

We had to leave at 4 pm so we missed the day's highlight of Susan Oakes beating her own record jumping side-saddle, and the pony and rider who jumped easily over 5 ft. in the Puissance, and the German carriage team of four-in-hand. There are pictures of all of these on the Connemara Pony Breeders website.

We visited some of the small bays in the area when we left. Looking out to sea reminded me a bit of Cape Breton and Newfoundland with the scraggy rocks and terrain along the shore. I realized how localized the ponies used to be, many generations staying in the same locality.

Jennifer Brownlow - our Ireland correspondent
(live from Dublin!)

Catastrophic High River Flood Claims CCPS Archives in Alberta

Jennifer Smyth, a founder member who has been collating the CCPS archives since 2006, reports that only a few photographs were successfully salvaged post-flood from the collection and have been re-printed for posterity:

- 1) group photo of board members/participants at 1st AGM, 2006
- 2) photo from tour of broodmare pastures, Devon Ridge, 2006 AGM
- 3) 4 photos from Ottawa area AGM

Although her personal library including Connemara reference books, studbooks, Clifden Show programs etc was lost in its entirety, three photos from one of her Irish albums survived:

- 1) Jane Strick from Bardsey Stud in retirement with her last mare Bardsey Charlotte
- 2) Kingstown Molly II on pasture in Connemara, Aug 18, 2008 (now deceased)
- 3) Joe Gorham's 2/3 yr old colt winner Garryhinch Prince at 1989 Clifden Show

She is now appealing to all CCPS members and their friends and families to review any photos they may have relating to CCPS activities such as AGM'S, pony inspections, stud farm visits, Spruce Meadow's Battle of the Breeds etc. It may be possible to compile another archives retro-actively by pooling all our efforts in an organized and recorded manner. Rick Donner is hopeful he may be able to re-print the series of CCPS newsletters that were lost. Copies of AGM minutes, reports and agendas also need to be replaced, as well as past equine magazine articles featuring Canadian Connemara ponies and their owners.

Jennifer had also been photographing the stallions, mares, facilities and owners at Connemara studs in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec to date, and collecting stallion advertisements and business cards/brochures etc. for display in 3 ring binders for Western and Eastern Canada. As these were also flood casualties, a new set of binders are now needed to assist in promoting Connemara Ponies in Canada.

Please contact Jenny by email with any contributions...

welshpony56@hotmail.com

Canadian Connemara Pony Society

www.canadianconnemara.org

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:

Penny Huggons(Prairies)-President
(term 2012-2014) cphuggons@gmail.com

Scott Longmire (Central)-Vice President
(term 2012-2014) longwyn1@gmail.com

Elsie Priddy (Prairies)-Secretary/Treasurer
(term 2011-2013) de.priddy@sasktel.net
Jennifer Brownlow (Pacific)

(term 2011-2013)

Shirley Sauve (Prairie)

(term 2012-2014)

Scott Longmire (Central)

(term 2011-2013)

Violaine Fortin(Central)

(term 2012-2014)

Regional Chairs:

(also on the Board of Directors)

Vacant (Pacific)

Penny Huggons (Prairies)

Janet Rowe(Central)-(term 2012-2014)

Committee Chairs:

Arbitration – Bridget Wingate

Archives – Jenny Smythe

Awards – Shirley Sauve & Doris Jacobi

HWSS –Jocelyn Davies

Inspections & Registrations– Heather Sherratt

Membership – Jennifer Brownlow & Violaine Fortin

Newsletter – Rick Doner

Nominating – Scott Longmire

Promotions – Susan MacDougall

Website – Penny Huggons

2013 CCPS AGM November 8th will be held in conjunction with the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. AGM to be held at 10.30 AM at Century Hill Farm. Farm tours and a special presentation by Caroline Nesbitt. See page 19! Be sure to mark your calendars and stay tuned for the details in the summer/fall reminders on our website www.canadianconnemara.org



All purebred and half-bred ponies are illegible for the awards program. Details and application forms are available on our website and can be sent to the chairman Shirley Sauve during the season. Forms should be signed by the Secretary at each show, or the official results page downloaded from the internet.