

Hello Friends,

Our new regional committee has been voted on, and your committee for 2010 will be: Kate Denton, Carole Moss, Vanessa Morgan, Lisa Rease, Stephanie Fenton-Hickey, and myself. I have served my two year term as chair, so Vanessa will be stepping up to take the position of chairperson this year. Lisa Rease is a newcomer to the committee, and she will serve as our secretary. Stephanie was unanimously voted in as treasurer again (thanks Stephanie!).

I wanted to share with you all the news from the 2009 ACPS Annual Meeting in Akron, OH. Donna Miller, and myself, are two of the newly elected members of the BOG, joining fellow Region IV member, Donna Duckworth. We are all honored to represent our region on the board.

Marynell Eyles reported that ads are way down in our much loved American Connemara magazine. Please remember to support our magazine, it's a great way to get out information on your farm and ponies; without advertising we won't be able to continue the production of the magazine. They are looking for "for sale" ads, as well as stallion and farm advertisements. If you purchase several editions worth of ads at a time you will receive a discounted price. The cost is a steal in comparison to other equine publications! Marynell also suggested recruiting other businesses to advertise, for example, real estate agencies, or other equine-related companies.

Youth Council representatives, Cailleigh Bryant and Sean Young, performed two informative demos with borrowed Connemara ponies at the meeting for us. Cailleigh demonstrated riding a young pony on the flat, and Sean talked to us about showing ponies in hand. Cailleigh announced that there is a ACPS Youth Council facebook page, and that she is still collecting stories of youth and their ponies to put in the Connemara magazine. You can find her contact information through the facebook page (or contact me and I will put you in touch). Mary Yeager, who assists the youth council, has requested photos from our region of youth and their ponies (these do not have to be performance photos). Please email your photos to me at fade2greyfarm@yahoo.com.

The ICCPS is currently consolidating a list of all the farm prefixes and suffixes internationally; this list will eventually be available on their website. If you have not already registered your farm prefix, do so now! There is a one-time fee payable to the ACPS. Farm names will not be permitted to be used twice, and unregistered prefixes will not be protected.

Our region will be hosting the 2010 ACPS annual meeting! Our committee is currently working on dates and location so stay tuned. We do know that it will be in the Fall (Sept or Oct) and somewhere close to the Atlanta airport. We will need lots of volunteers to help out; we want to make this an impressive and fun meeting! We are

also hoping to hold an inspection in conjunction with the meeting, so please contact me if you have a pony (or ponies) that you would like inspected; I will start compiling a list. We will have to have at least 10 ponies. Don't forget about our Premium mare and stallion program!

Lastly, but importantly, Connemaras will be represented at the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Kentucky! This event will be a tremendous undertaking for all of those involved. We have a lot of fundraising to do and will need volunteers to work the Connemara Booth at WEG. Please contact me for more information if you're interested in making a donation or would like to volunteer.

Best Regards,

Megan Buchanan Harris