

# The Pony Parade

[www.NPSAmerica.org](http://www.NPSAmerica.org)

## Chairman's Corner!

As NPS America's inaugural year comes to a close, I realized how much we have truly accomplished. It is worth noting that in the NPS's 118 year history, NPS America is its first International Area (Chapter). This alone is a significant achievement. Add to this the variety of tasks and directives NPS America has also accomplished, including finalizing bylaws, incorporation, the Web site, Newsletter, and membership growth, to mention just a few - and we should all be proud of the progress we have made towards recognizing, supporting and promoting M&M and British Riding Ponies in the United States.

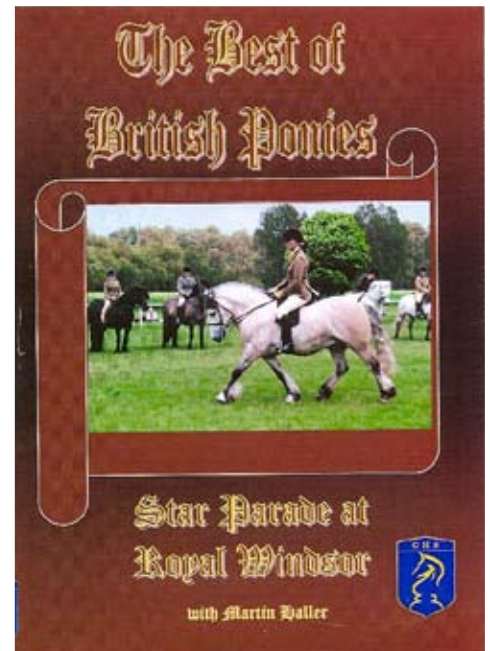
I agree with Caroline Nokes' message (see p. 2) about the importance of qualified judging. It is our goal to help the M&M community in the United States develop a pool of "in-country" judges. This is crucial to the development of M&M competitions and the maintenance of traditional breed type.

As you make plans for 2009, consider volunteering with NPS America. At present, there are three Council Member positions vacant, and in addition, NPS America is in need of a dedicated individual to take on the position of Secretary. If you'd like to know more about these opportunities, please review our Web site and bylaws document where you will find detailed job descriptions. Please feel free to contact myself or other Council members to discuss these opportunities and your interest.

I would like to thank the Council for its dedication to getting work done and the membership for their faith in the Organization. I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

*Kathryn Rayner Freeman*

*Celebrate the  
New Year with*



We are proud to announce that Martin Haller's beautiful and informative DVD "Best of British Ponies" is now available for sale from NPS America for \$39.95. The DVD has wonderful footage of M&M ponies at the Royal Windsor show both in in-hand and in performance classes and includes expert commentary. Running time: 70 minutes.

It's a perfect gift for the M&M enthusiast in your life. Order your copy today!

For more information contact us at [Kathryn@NPSAmerica.org](mailto:Kathryn@NPSAmerica.org)



### A Letter from the NPS Chief Executive

2008 has been a challenging year for the National Pony Society (NPS), with the conflicts of wishing to preserve the best traditions of a Society established in 1893 while ensuring that practices and activities are up to date. We have been working to establish a new Constitution for the Areas, including NPS America. The new Constitution will provide a clear framework of what we wish to achieve for and with the Areas, and also provide clear direction on what the Areas can expect from the NPS.

What has not changed, are the aims and objectives of the Society. There is a reason why we state them at the beginning of the "Review" each year, to remind members why the NPS exists. The Society is constant in its aim to encourage the breeding, registration and improvement of British Riding Ponies and Mountain and Moorland Ponies, and to foster the welfare of ponies in general.

There are many ways in which we can fulfill these objectives, and our Areas have been instrumental in our success. This year we have not only seen many high quality Area Shows promoting our ponies, but there have been stud visits, training days, a Young Judges' Competition, conferences, an assessment day for new Judges and close co-operation with the various Breed Societies. None of this would be possible without our Areas, and we are working to ensure that they all play a part in our activities.

We were particularly excited to have some NPS members from Europe attend the Judges' Training and Assessment and we are looking forward to welcoming them to the Summer Championship Show as Probationer Judges. It would be very exciting to include Judges from the USA in future trainings and I am hopeful NPS America will work towards this goal. Additionally, NPS Judges from the UK have been made most welcome at judging appointments in the US. All of our Judges are committed to working to make sure the Breed Standards are upheld, both at home and abroad, and many of them are very happy to support Shows and Societies overseas.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate NPS America on its very first Council meeting in November and to assure you that where we are able to offer support and assistance we will be very happy to do so. Wishing you all the best from the UK,

**Caroline Nokes**



Section D Welsh Colt Goldhills Brandysnap - 2 years old.  
Photo by Kim Qualls and courtesy of Goldhills Welsh

### Results of the First Council Meeting

On Saturday, November 22, 2008 NPS America held its first Council Meeting. Kathryn Rayner Freeman, Kelly Davidson Chou, Roger Cleverly and Wendy Rowe attended the meeting in person while Caroline Nesbitt voted on matters via e-mail. Meeting Minutes are available on the Web site.

The Council Meeting was extremely productive and the following issues were approved unanimously:

- The NPS America bylaws finalized and posted to the Web site.
- Filing for incorporation will take place in Nevada by December 31, 2008
- A December Newsletter will be published and mailed to members by December 20, 2008
- The NPS America Awards program will be finalized by December 31, 2008

## **NPS America Needs You!**

As you can imagine, we have a lot more work to get our fledgling organization off the ground than we have people to do it. If you think you have the time, energy, and talent to help us out, we would love to hear from you! Currently, we are looking for "people friendly" folks who could act as

- **Secretary**
- **Breed or Area Representative**
- **Council Member**

If you are interested, contact the NPS America Vice Chairman at [Kelly@NPSAmerica.org](mailto:Kelly@NPSAmerica.org).



Davidson Dales champion stallion, Colliery Alick, graces the October/November cover of *The Native Pony* along with NPS America Treasurer, Roger Cleverly.

## **Join NPS America Now!**

Become an NPS America Member! You do not need to join the NPS in the UK to become a member of NPS America. Membership in NPS America has a number of benefits:

- Participation in NPS America awards programs
- Place to network with other M&M and British Riding Pony enthusiasts
- Eligibility for NPS America educational scholarships
- Eligibility to participate in NPS America Committees, hold NPS America Officer positions, and vote in NPS America elections

### **Membership Levels**

#### **Junior (under 18 years): \$25**

- All benefits noted above except will not be allowed to vote in NPS America elections or hold NPS America elected positions.

#### **Standard: \$35**

- All benefits noted above (one individual membership and one vote).

#### **Family/Farm: \$50**

- Family members are the parents/guardians and all children under the age of 18 years living in the same household with said parents/guardians. A family membership shall be entitled to one vote per parent/guardian (limit two). Children under 18 years of age shall be designated as Junior Members.
- Farm membership allows for ponies owned by farm members to earn points for year end awards regardless of the membership status of the pony's exhibitor. Farm membership will be entitled to two votes.

#### **Lifetime – Founders' Circle Special: \$300**

- Lifetime membership is a one time fee for the lifetime of an individual/farm. **Between May 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008, NPS America is offering Founders' Circle membership for a reduced rate of \$300.** Founders' Circle membership is a one time offer, and Lifetime membership will increase to \$400 as of January 1, 2009.

**Please Visit**

**[www.NPSAmerica.org](http://www.NPSAmerica.org)**

**for more information and an application**

**Join Today!**

### Member Spotlight - Newmont Farm

Pat and Judy Brescia of Newmont Farm in Virginia are very excited about the founding of NPS America and are the organization's newest Founding Circle members.

Pat and Judy are both IT Professionals who work in Washington, DC but spend most of their spare time with ponies. While Judy has been riding since she was a kid on a part bred Welsh pony, Pat started a bit later in life as a 30 year old "kid" on an Arab. They purchased their first M&M pony in 1982, the now well known Connemara Blue Ridge Tiger. "Tiger was everything a native pony should be," says Judy, "he was hardy, intelligent, agile and sound". Judy and Tiger did just about everything from eventing to hunting to jousting, and logged over 5,000 miles in distance riding before Tiger was retired at the age of 23. The Brescias currently own two Connemaras who are nephews to Tiger.

Newmont Farm is now also home to M&M ponies of the Welsh and Highland varieties. Judy loved the big movement and flamboyances of the Section D's, and Cyfa-naed Cadr-Brenin and Glenhaven Justin Time helped satisfy her desire. Two years ago, having never even seen a Highland pony, the Brescias went to see the stallion Rob Roy o' the Glens. It was love at first sight, and within a week he had joined their growing family. In the process of buying a second Highland, the Brescias are anxious to introduce as many people as possible to this wonderful breed; whose most outstanding attribute they believe is its wonderful temperament.

The Brescias enjoyed participating in the Festival of Endangered breeds this year and seeing all the rare equines, including their first Exmoor pony. Judy had this to say: "My fear is that if we don't treasure these breeds and celebrate their unique qualities, they will be altered to meet the fickle demands of the America show ring and we will lose a very precious treasure".



Blue Ridge Conor Larkin at Cross Country Camp



Brennin and Dulaney having a ball in the Virginia snow!



### New Founders' Circle Members

- **Indian Summer Connemaras**
  - Lisa Lindholm
- **Lone Tree Farm Highlands**
  - Newmont Farm
- **Stonybrook Connemaras**

See your farm, family name, or enterprise here and on our Founder's Circle Web page at [www.NPSAmerica.org](http://www.NPSAmerica.org).

**You have until December 31st, 2008 to become a Founding Member!!**

### **M&M Ponies Shine Brightly in California!**

**Excerpted from an article published in the December/January issue of *The Native Pony Magazine* in the United Kingdom.**

Thirty-one ponies, five British Native breeds, and spectacular "Indian summer" weather conspired to make the Welsh Pony and Cob Association of California's 2008 Pacific Coast Classic (PCC) Mountain and Moorland event in California an overwhelming success. Represented breeds at the 12 September show included British Shetland, Connemara, Dales, Fell, and Highland ponies. The M&M event at the PCC was one of the most extensive showings of British Native breeds in the United States and certainly the largest ever on the West Coast!

The Welsh Pony and Cob Association of California (WPCAC) has hosted the M&M event since 2006. This year, the performance classes were judged by Ms. Shirley Antrobus from Dixon, California. Ms. Antrobus' classes included: Working Hunter Pony (WHP) 2', WHP 2'6", Novice Ridden Pony, M&M Pleasure Driving, M&M Carriage Driving, and M&M Driving – Obstacles. Connemaras, Dales, and Highlands battled for the blue ribbon in each of the six performance classes. The Dales Ponies, all owned by Davidson Dales Pony Farm, took the top spot in the WHP 2' (Colliery Alick), M&M Pleasure Driving (Bickerdike by Design) and M&M Carriage Driving – Obstacles (Colliery Alick), while the Connemaras enjoyed wins in the WHP 2'6" (Tintern Merry Robuck), Novice Ridden Pony (MGRM Ailish McBriggs), and M&M Carriage Driving (MGRM Brigadoon).

The in-hand classes were judged by Mrs. Joanna Macinnes from Penrith, Cumbria in the UK, and included M&M 3 and under, M&M 4 and over, M&M Part-bred, the NPS America M&M Championship, and Ridden M&M.

The M&M 3 and under class didn't begin until 6 PM that evening, but was well represented by Connemara, Fell, and Highland ponies, with the blue ribbon going to a Fell filly (Braeberry Anne). The 4 and over class consisted of 17 ponies and included British Shetland, Connemara, Dales, Fell, and Highland. The top spot again went to a Fell (Laurelhighland Rose Petal) who went on to win the NPS America M&M Championship, with Braeberry Anne earning the Reserve. Both ponies are owned by Fell Legend Farm.

The winner of the partbred class was a British Shetland cross mare (Thunderheart Woman), a last minute entry who took her win in stride, though her owner/handler Mrs. Ceci Graham Widby was clearly overjoyed with the results. Considered part of the in-hand competition, the Ridden M&M was the last class of a very long day. As the sun faded over the Central Valley, the arena lights were brought up for the 5 ponies entering the ring. Though there were originally 10 ponies competing, the lateness of the hour forced several exhibitors to scratch their entries. The class was ultimately won by the Dales mare Bickerdike by Design, affectionately known as "Dessie" to friends and family.

With the size of the United States presenting a very serious obstacle to getting some of the rarer breeds like the Dales and Highlands together for fun and competition, the M&M event at the PCC was an important victory for British Native Pony enthusiasts in the US. Congratulations go out to all the competitors who came from both far and near to make the event such a success for everyone. You are all winners in the quest to share the joy and satisfaction of owning and competing Mountain and Moorland Ponies in America! *By Kelly Davidson*

For the full article, a complete list of class results, and additional photos visit: [www.NPSAmerica.org](http://www.NPSAmerica.org)



Diana Cooley holds her blue ribbon in M&M Carriage Driving with MGRM Brigadoon's owner, Joan Irwin, smiling for the camera!



Laurelhighland Rose Petal wins the NPS America Championship!



Bickerdike by Design "Dessie" wins the Ridden M&M class!

## M&M Ponies Excel at Equus Survival Trust's Festivale of Endangered Equines & Stewardship Awards of North America

By Victoria Tollman, Executive Director of the Equus Survival Trust

The inaugural year for the *Festivale of Endangered Equines* included a wide variety of opportunities for the M&M endangered pony breeds, not the least of which was its competition component, the Stewardship Awards of North America (SANA).

SANA was designed to be a breeders' show, focusing on the horses and – except as it related to safety – disregarding riders, handlers, drivers, showmanship, tack, attire, grooming, and cosmetic blemishes. Performance and versatility awards were the highest honors.

All the endangered M&M traditional pony breeds were present – Exmoor, Dartmoor, Dales, Fell, and Highland – most competing in the first breed classes ever offered in this hemisphere. The Highland Pony Society, Dales Pony Society, and Fell Pony Society mother registries all sanctioned their respective breed classes and sent rosettes in a wonderful show of support of their North American brethren. The Highlands and Fells considered it their first national breed shows.

The pony judge was Christine Robinson from Cumbria, well versed in judging all facets of M&M's including Working Hunter Pony. Mrs. Robinson undertook this marathon two-day judging assignment and somehow managed to make it look easy and fun. Pony entries were divided into Small and Large Pony classes, competing in-hand, ridden, dressage, hunter/jumper, and carriage driving – each with breed championships whose champions were eligible to compete for the open pony SANA Supreme Championships.

The Supreme SANA In-Hand Champion was a lovely imported Fell mare, bred by Nick and Jane Woolley in Cumbria, \*Littletree Tia Maria and owned by Heather Kyle of KY. Supreme In-Hand Reserve went to a 17 year old Dartmoor stallion of lovely traditional type, \*Senruf Jehad owned by Muffy Seaton of South Carolina. The rosettes were graciously sponsored by NPS America.

The Supreme Ridden Champion was won by a Newfoundland pony. Taking Reserve Supreme Ridden Champion was an Exmoor gelding from NY named Marlyn's Domino, owned by Katie McCaffrey and bred by Anne Homes.

Dartmoors were well represented at the Festivale too. Farnley Song of the South, a bay mare, depicted a pit pony with her owner Jack DeVroomen for the Historical class. The Dartmoor breed demo included Muffy Seaton driving her 17 year old stallion \*Senruf Jehad, followed in-hand by his son 5 month old Tulipking's Emir owned by Jack DeVroomen. \*Senruf Jehad later won the Dartmoor In-hand Championship and then took Supreme Reserve In-hand in a hotly contested open pony championship.

The Dales pony breed had only one participant to represent them at the Festivale, but what an outstanding ambassador she was. Sowermire Rose, a black imported mare owned by Gail Austin-Ellman/Gayla Driving Center in Georgetown, KY proved the Dales adage, "the Great All-rounder" by winning the Large Pony Driven Dressage class under respected driving judge Muffy Seaton and the Timed Obstacle class. She returned under saddle to compete in

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Photo by: Judy Brescia

Highland In-Hand Champion Kellwood Tilly



Photo courtesy of  
Katie McCaffrey

Exmoor gelding "extordinaire" and fan favorite  
the multi-winner, Marlyn's Domino!



Photo by:  
Equestrian Images

Fell stallion Littletree Highwayman,  
Large Pony Ridden Reserve Champion

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dressage under the critical eye of US Olympic winner and judge Lendon Gray. The mare's score in Intro Test B was a very respectable 71.5 and earned her High Scoring Dressage Pony in the SANA competition as well

All in all, the Festivale and SANA competition were well received and the Equus Survival Trust was especially pleased to have met its goals - to raise awareness, to encourage networking, to "Celebrate the Differences" – and to have fun!

The Equus Survival Trust is a 501 (c)(3) educational nonprofit dedicated to conservation of endangered historical breeds. To learn more, visit [www.Equus-Survival-Trust.org](http://www.Equus-Survival-Trust.org). Official photos of the Festivale can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/FestivaleofEndangeredEquines>

\* denotes an imported pony



Photo by: Michelle Fight

The Dales mare and "Great All-Rounder" Sowermire Rose



Photo by:  
Equestrian Images

Driving Judge Muffy Seaton, taking her In-hand Reserve Champion Dartmoor stallion.\*Senruf Jehad out for a spin!

### Introducing Council Member Wendy Rowe

Gwendolen "Wendy" Rowe is a lifelong pony person. Growing up on a remote homestead with no electricity or television, she was in the saddle on a regular basis by the time she was old enough to walk. She spent much of her early childhood aboard an opinionated Shetland named Stardust.

When she was 9 years old, Wendy joined 4-H and graduated to a Welsh cross pony named Chessie who was available "free to good home" due to her interesting habit of diving headfirst off the edge of steep trails at high speed. Wendy enjoyed several years of adrenaline filled trail rides with Chessie, meanwhile developing an independent seat and becoming expert at emergency dismounts in challenging terrain.

During her teen years, Wendy participated in FFA horse training projects and won awards in horse judging competition at the local and state levels. Although her ambition at the time was to ride 17 hand horses, working at a Thoroughbred breeding and training facility cured her of the misconception that big horses would be more fun than ponies.

Today Wendy and her husband Peter Kapp run Lone Tree Farm near Boonville, California, where Wendy spent most of her childhood. For the past nine years they have been breeding Highland ponies on a small scale, standing at stud the stallion Quartz of Croila.

In addition to training homebred ponies, Wendy teaches riding lessons to children and adults and trains a few ponies for clients. Since she is only 5'1" tall and a mere 95 pounds, she specializes in starting small equines under saddle. She particularly loves the Mountain and Moorland breeds and is very excited about NPS America's future. Wendy looks forward to collaborating with other M&M enthusiasts as NPS America grows.



Wendy riding Ceol Beag Calavay at the 2008 Pacific Coast Classic. Calavay is a 3 year old 1/2 Highland bred and trained by Wendy and owned by Mary Merralls.

RETURN ADDRESS

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# Season's Greetings!

## Contact Information:

### Board of Officers

Chairman - Kathryn Rayner Freeman ..... Kathryn@NPSAmerica.org  
Vice Chairman - Kelly Davidson Chou ..... Kelly@NPSAmerica.org  
Treasurer - Roger Cleverly ..... RogerCleverly01@cs.com  
Secretary ..... Position Vacant

### Newsletter Editor - Kelly Davidson Chou

*The Pony Parade* is published twice a year (Winter and Summer)

If you have information to share with other members of NPS America, please send it to the Newsletter Editor at Kelly@NPSAmerica.org. All pertinent articles, stories, Member Spotlights, and photographs will be considered for publication in *The Pony Parade*.

**Nest submission deadline is June 1st, 2009!**

### Our Mission

To support, promote and recognize the Mountain & Moorland and British Riding Ponies in the United States.

### **NPS America Council Members:**

Roger Cleverly  
Kelly Davidson Chou  
Kathryn Rayner Freeman  
Caroline Nesbitt  
Wendy Rowe  
Position Open  
Position Open  
Position Open

and a British Riding Pony Representative TBA!