

The Pony Parade

www.NPSAmerica.org

Chairman's Corner

Welcome to 2009. I'm not sure about you, but I've asked myself often – as June is now a fading memory – where has the year gone? While it may seem like NPS America has been inactive during the first half of this year, the opposite is quite true.

There's been a huge push to increase M&M specific competitive opportunities, focusing mostly on Welsh and Connemara shows throughout the US. (see page 4 and 7). These efforts have met with much success due to the efforts of a variety of NPS America members and M&M enthusiasts.

In addition, we've gained new members and additional volunteers. Many hands make light work, and the NPS America Council has worked hard to court a number of individuals in the M&M community and gain additional supporters and volunteers. I look forward to introducing you to some new names and faces later this year.

I also want to let our membership know that we are holding our first elections this fall. We will be electing a Vice Chairman, a Secretary, and 3 Council positions. There will be some work involved getting the election off the ground, but we are up to the task. If you have questions, please let us know.

Finally ... summer is here!! I hope that you will have the chance to get out there and really enjoy your ponies. I've talked with a number of members about their summer plans. It's been fun hearing the different details – all with the common thread of sharing our lives with ponies and pony people. Some of you challenge yourself to improve your riding skills at higher levels of competition. Others religiously travel to weekend events as spectators and competitors in the quest for not only ribbons but the renewal of old acquaintances. Finally, a few of you (the ones I fully admit to envy!) travel to the places where our ponies originated – for the joy of attending a world famous show like Clifden in Connemara, or in the search to improve their judging knowledge of the breeds. What fun!

Enjoy the summer and your ponies!

Kathryn Rayner Freeman



Crossing the Pond – in Reverse!

As the Andalusian enthusiast covets information from Spain and Warmblood owners look to Europe for news, M&M pony lovers anxiously await “gossip” from across the pond. We love to learn of new champions and Olympia winners. We scan web sites and dream of ponies we’d purchase if only the importation costs weren’t so high. We study and research bloodlines that have their roots from one corner of the UK to the other. Lately, however, it’s been noted that some M&M “tidbits” have been crossing the pond “west to east”, rather than the reverse!

The Native Pony is the magazine of choice for most M&M owners, and if we use it as one way to gauge the exposure of US M&M ponies in the UK, most folks would be pleasantly surprised by the results. Two US based Dales Ponies – **Colliery Alick** from California in 2008 and **Thornville Dan** from Louisiana in 2007 – graced the magazine’s cover. The December 2008 issue had three pages of M&M news from the US, including the Rare Breeds Survival Trust event in Kentucky and a review of the annual M&M event in Northern California.

And most recently, the April/May 2009 issue had two interesting articles about noteworthy stud farms. One article focused on Littletree Fell Pony Stud – complete with six photos, half of which were of ponies now residing in the US. These included NPS America founding member Melissa Kreuzer’s pony **Littletree Bodini** and a 2008 NPS America Champion M&M, **Littletree Tia Maria** from Kentucky. The second submission contained part two of an article on the Croila Highland pony stud – breeder of 2008 Olympia champion **Torrin of Croila** and two Croila stallions standing in the US, **Quartz of Croila** in California and **Roderick of Croila** in Virginia.

In addition, for the first time ever, a report from the US was included in the 2009 NPS Annual Review. This informative NPS report included photos of two founding members and their ponies – Melissa Kreuzer and her Fell stallion and Wendy Rowe and her Highland mare. More great “west to east” exposure for the M&M ponies of the US!

The Best of British Ponies



Star Parade at
Royal Windsor

with Martin Haller



NPS America Offers Three Martin Haller DVDs for Sale!



- The Best of British Ponies
- Shetlands in the 21st Century
- Shetland Pony Teach In

We are proud to announce that Martin Haller’s beautiful and informative DVD “Best of British Ponies”, as well as the two Shetland Pony DVDs, are now available **exclusively** for sale from NPS America for \$39.95 each (plus shipping). 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

Join NPS America Now!

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 including the following:

- 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: \$400

- Lifetime membership is a one time fee for the lifetime of an individual/farm. Lifetime Members receive all of the benefits of a Farm Membership each year.

www.NPSAmerica

NPS America Welcomes Our Newest Members!

Marcy Baer and Susan Cook
(Dales)

Susan Deuterman
(Dartmoors)

Lory Eighme
(Dartmoors)

Dr. Alison Emslie-Smith
(Fells)

Vivian Hall
(Connemara and Welsh)

Ken and Darlene Raspotnik
(Dales)

Gerald and Jackie Verkuyl
(Welsh)

Jack de Vroomen
(Dartmoors)



Dartmoor stallion Hedgehogs Hollow Graceful Eagle (Jack Daniels) munching on daffodils at the Dartmoor Pony Preserve in South Carolina.

Purchase a Gift Membership and Save

July 1 – August 31, 2009 ONLY

Any gift membership purchased by a current NPS America member will be good through December 31, 2010!!

For info: Kelly@NPSAmerica.org

What a Difference a Year Makes!

Last year NPS America worked with two events to promote M&M classes and offer the NPS America Championship & Reserve Mountain & Moorland Pony awards. In 2009, we've increased our efforts and quadrupled our results. From coast to coast, there is a full calendar of events for M&M ponies.

Please support these events in any way you can – as a volunteer, exhibitor, sponsor or spectator. In addition, if you know of other venues that are ripe for the inclusion of M&M classes, please contact NPS America Chairman, Kathryn Rayner Freeman.



Ridden M&M Champion, Bickerdike by Design (Dales mare) at the Pacific Coast Classic M&M event 2008

2009 M&M Event Schedule

ACPS Region IV Show
May 30 – 31, Thompson, Georgia
Show Contact: Carole Moss - carole.moss@wrigley.com
NPS America Championship offered

ACPS Region III Show
July 18 – 19, Middleburg, Virginia
Show Contact: Anne Moe - protem@juno.com
NPS America Championship offered

Dressage Pony Cup
July 31 – August 2, Wilmington, Ohio
Show Contact: Susan Peacock
www.showsecretary.com

WOW Showtime Summer Shows (Welsh)
August 8 – 9, Deerfield, Wisconsin
Show Contact: Katy Hakes - funstepFRM@aol.com
NPS America Championship offered

Welsh Pacific Coast Classic/Western Nationals
September 12, Elk Grove, California
M&M Event Coordinator: Kelly Davidson Chou
DavidsonDales@Mindspring.com
NPS America Championship offered

Additional late summer/early fall events in MD, TX, OK, and NC are in the works!

Elections 2009

NPS America will be holding its first elections for two officers, Vice Chairman and Secretary, as well as three Council Member positions.

We will be sending out ballots to all members via postal mail by mid November 2009. The new term for these five positions will begin January 1, 2010.

Because we are still a small organization, every vote will count, so please do your part to fill out and mail that ballot!





Penmain Heir Apparent, BRP Young Stock
Champion in the United Kingdom

Do You Own a Registered British Riding Pony (BRP)?

Then we need to hear from you! NPS America still needs to fill its BRP Council position. Currently, NPS America has filled or has received nominations for all eight of the non breed specific Council positions but still needs to find a BRP representative (owner or breeder of BRPs) to fulfill its chapter obligations with the NPS in the UK. If you, or someone you know, resides in the US, owns a registered BRP, and can spare a few hours a month for Council business, please contact the Vice Chairman at: Kelly@NPSAmerica.org.

***We would love to hear
from you!***

Introducing Council Member Roger Cleverly

Roger has worked with many breeds of horses, ponies and minis for over 32 years, in both the UK and USA. In Britain, he competed in hunter/jumping, dressage, horse trials, and endurance rides, rode as an amateur in National Hunt steeplechase racing, was an amateur exercise rider and assistant trainer at Cree Lodge Racing Stables at Ayr in Scotland, and rode to hounds with the Lanark and Renfrew, and Eglinton Foxhounds.

Since arriving in California in 1998, Roger has competed in hunter/jumper classes, shown ponies in-hand and under saddle, and has become a skilled whip in carriage driving events. He has formed a formidable partnership with Davidson Dales' stallion Colliery Alick, winning many classes in Pleasure Driving and Combined Driving Events.

Roger is an enthusiastic promoter of British Mountain and Moorland pony breeds and currently serves as NPS America Treasurer. He is also a member of the Dales Pony Society (DPS) and the Dales Pony Society of America (DPSA).

Roger is very excited to get his 2006 Half-Dales gelding, Davidsons Mercury Rising, started under saddle and in harness and looks forward to the day when he competes "Freddie" in his first CDE! For more information on Roger and his training center in Knightsen, CA, visit his web site at www.RogerCleverly.com



Roger and Freddie at the Pacific Coast
Classic M&M event in 2008

What Exactly is an NPS America Affiliated Event?

Many folks have asked what exactly the difference is between an affiliated and a non affiliated NPS America event. The answer is very straightforward. To be an affiliated NPS America event, two criteria must be met:

(1) The event must offer three of the following five classes:

- **M&M in-hand, 3 and under**
- **M&M in-hand, 4 and over**
- **NPS America Champion & Reserve M&M Pony**
- **Ridden M&M**
- **M&M part bred in-hand, all ages**

These classes must be offered, but not necessarily held – for example, if two in-hand classes are combined due to lack of entries. These classes must be open to only the nine NPS recognized M&M breeds and exclude any breed that has its own breed specific classes at the event (for example Welsh classes at a Welsh show).

(2) The event must have qualified judging. At this time, qualified judging will be defined as a judge currently or previously included on the NPS approved judges list. Exceptions to this rule may be given, but must be approved by the NPS America Council. NPS America is willing to help events identify qualified NPS judges and maintains a list of these individuals.

With affiliation defined, it is important to note that affiliation is NOT required for an event to hold M&M classes or to receive NPS America support or promotion. NPS America is designed to support, recognize, and promote M&M ponies. To meet this end, we applaud all events that offer M&M specific competitions, affiliated or not.

Where affiliation DOES make a difference is in the NPS America awards program. Affiliated events (whether affiliated with NPS America or a specific discipline's governing body – for example the USEF, USDF, ADS, etc.) will gain NPS America members higher point levels towards awards than events that are not affiliated. Again, points are awarded for all events; affiliated events simply earn higher point values. It really is that easy!

For additional information on holding M&M classes at an established event, please see the write-up by Chairman Kathryn Rayner Freeman, "Guidelines for Offering Mountain and Moorland Pony Classes" at www.npsamerica.org/competitions/guidelines-for-offering-mm-classes/.



Shetland Pony in Britain. Photo by Tago McLeod

The British Shetland Pony

The smallest of Britain's native breeds, the Shetland has lived on the Shetland Isles for at least two thousand years. In the 19th century, large numbers were exported and bred to work underground in coal mines. Today it is an excellent driving and riding pony and that is where its future now lies. **The Shetland Pony Society of North America** is one prominent group dedicated to preserving the traditional Shetland in the USA. To learn more about their mission visit: <http://shetlandponysociety.org>

- **Origin: Shetland and Orkney Islands, United Kingdom.**
- **Color: All. Height: Up to 10.2 hands.**
- **Conformation: Small head, deep, stocky body, short legs, small feet. The Shetland is very strong for its size.**
- **Character: independent but tractable.**



Jessica Edwards and her Dartmoor mare, Thistledown Juniper, win the 2009 NPS America Champion M&M award in Thompson, GA!



Chris Davison and his Dartmoor mare Thistledown Oreo take first place in the Open Pleasure Driving class at the ACPS Region IV show.



WH Topgun, a 5 year old stallion from Florida owned by James Kilcrease, was the Champion in-hand Connemara at the ACPS Region IV show.



M&M Event at the Region IV Connemara Show in Thompson, Georgia!

The last weekend in May saw the awarding of the first 2009 NPS America Champion and Reserve Mountain & Moorland Pony awards of the season.

The American Connemara Pony Society (ACPS), Region IV show graciously hosted M&M classes for the first time at their event in Thompson, Georgia. The well attended event was held at Pine Top Farm. In attendance were thirteen Dartmoor Ponies who participated in ridden, driven, and in-hand classes. The southern region of the United States has an unusually strong presence of Dartmoor Ponies and the owners and breeders of these ponies look forward to joining other M&M breeds in future ACPS Region IV events. Dartmoor breeder and Dartmoor Pony Registry of America President Susan Deuterman said of the spring event, "The Connemara folks were wonderful and the show was great fun ... a definite must for next year!"

The NPS America Champion M&M Pony award was presented to **Thistledown Juniper** and Jessica Edwards. The Reserve Champion ribbon went to **Shepherd's Purse Sweet Flag** and Chris Davison. These handsome rosettes are awarded to the top two in-hand ponies and are made available to show organizers from NPS America.

Hosting M&M classes at an established event such as a Welsh or Connemara breed show is not difficult, and NPS America wants very much to help organizers plan their M&M classes along with helping to recruit exhibitors.

Special thanks go out to Carole Moss, all the M&M exhibitors, and the ACPS Region IV folks who took this leap of faith to bring M&M ponies together in the beautiful, sunny south. We can't wait to see what happens in 2010!

RETURN ADDRESS

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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*.

Next submission deadline is November 1st, 2009!



Our Mission

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

The M&M breeds are:
British Shetland, Connemara,
Dales, Dartmoor, Exmoor,
Fell, Highland, New Forest,
and all sections of Welsh!

NPS America Council Members:

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