

**IRISH RUN FARMS**  
**December 2015 News**

**Happy Holidays from Irish Run!** Alas, Thanksgiving has come and gone and we are all getting ready for a season of celebrating. We are decorating the barn and preparing to “Make Merry.” Don’t forget your favorite equine in this festive time!

**A hearty Irish Run Welcome to our new boarder Cathy Sandle and her horse Dolly!** Cathy comes to Irish Run through our mutual friend Judy Hand – thanks Judy! Cathy has been a horse love for decades and especially enjoys trail riding. Her mount is a 13 year old registered Appaloosa named Dolly whom she got as a 2 week old foal! Dolly is currently residing in the back barn – stop by and welcome Cathy and Dolly!

Sadly, we wish a **fond farewell to Dago Sanchez**, who is moving on to another job. His last working day at Irish Run was Sunday, November 29 but he will still be around this week. Please wish him well and thank him for his help at Irish Run. We will be interviewing candidates for part time work this week.

**Irish Run Pony Club Riding Center members all passed their recent rating tests!** Congrats to **new D1 member Elise Cooper**, and **new D2 members Kendrick LaPrade, Kathryn Owens and Sarah Turri**. Don’t forget the **Pony Club Christmas Party on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm**. Members will make horse treats in the Grey Dog Media test kitchen – thanks for arranging Alison! Check your email for more info.

We have finally **moved the office to the studio barn**. We will continue to rearrange the old space to make room for tack and trunks, but Daniela will use the new space as her office. **Please continue to use the lockbox on the old office door for payments to Irish Run**. Payments to trainers should be made directly to the trainer.

You may have noticed a **wound on Ducky’s cheek**. She recently had minor surgery at Iowa State for an abscessed tooth. Poor gal! She has been a trooper though and now that the tooth is out the wound can finally heal. Thanks for your considerate thoughts.

It’s that time of the year – time for the **Irish Run Holiday Happening!** Please join us on **Monday, November 14 at 6 pm at my home** to celebrate the season. Check out the board in the aisle for more info. Hope to see you there!

**Need a fun gift for a friend who is interested in riding??? How about an Irish Run gift certificate!!!** Daniela has created a great gift card. Our Beginning Riding classes are only \$150 for five classes. We use the Pony Club curriculum and riders learn about horse management and

care along with riding skills. Lots of fun! Our next session starts on **January 13 for youth and January 14 for adults.**

Beginning **January 1, 2016, we will be adding a fourth hay feeding to stall boarded horses.** We are hoping that this feeding will reduce boredom during the long interval between dinner and breakfast and be a healthier lifestyle for our horses as it more accurately aligns with the horses natural lifestyle as grazing animals. **Please do not give extra hay to the horses in the evening – we will be doing it for you!!!**

A few reminders for the cold weather: **Please close barn doors behind you** – let's conserve that precious heat! **Make sure the door to the indoor arena is closed if you are the last to leave.** Also check to see if anyone is riding before you *open* the door. It can be pretty scary to a horse 😊 Ironically, the halogen barn lights don't last as long if they are turned on and off frequently, so we will leave them on during the day, but **please turn off the barn lights if you are the last to leave.** During the winter months, we will add magnesium chloride flakes to the footing to control dust and keep the sand from freezing. Still, frigid Iowa temperatures can defeat our efforts, so please keep the doors closed as much as possible. We know that the arena door has been sticking but are working to have it repaired quickly.

If you wish to add **blanketing service for the winter** or **change turnout or feeding needs** please contact Daniela. Feeding and turnout times remain the same during the winter months.

Thank you all for making Irish Run such a special place – it is always at the top of my list at Thanksgiving dinner. I hope to see you at the barn soon and have a wonderful holiday season!

Virginia