

IRISH RUN FARMS
January/February 2017 News

Happy New Year from Irish Run!!! Somehow the January newsletter escaped me. Perhaps because I was fighting a nasty upper respiratory infection. I hope all of you had an enjoyable, restful and *healthy* holiday. Unfortunately, groundhog Punxatawney Phil saw his shadow this morning and predicts six more weeks of winter. Oh well, if it is like the past six weeks then I guess it won't be too bad! Here's to 2017 and exciting opportunities for fun with friends and horses at the barn!

We have a member of our staff! **Amy Wilson** is helping on Sundays with chores. She is an experienced zookeeper and has worked in the contact area at the Blank Park Zoo. She is currently the Manager of Animal Care for the education department at the zoo. Amy attended Simpson College and was actually a student in my World Music class ☺ She is trying to get to know everyone, so introduce yourself and your horse if you see her on Sunday!

You are all invited to a **Birthday Luncheon Potluck for Gilberto this Saturday, February 4 at 11:30 a.m. in the studio.** Stop by for some yummy food and wish Gilberto a happy day. He is VERY important to us all. Drinks and dessert will be provided, but bring a dish to share.

We will be having a **Barn Fire Safety Meeting on Monday, February 13 at 6 pm in the studio. This is VERY IMPORTANT!!!** We were all horrified by the tragedy at Maffitt Lake and want to do all we can to ensure the safety of Irish Run against fire. Our own Suzanne Millman's husband Ross is a Des Moines firefighter and will be on hand to discuss fire prevention at the barn and answer any questions you might have. **Please put this on your calendar.** If you absolutely cannot make it, let Daniela know. This is information we all need to have.

The annual **Irish Run Spring Fun Show** is planned for **Saturday, March 25th.** It will be FUN, FUN, FUN!!! Come down to the barn to enjoy the day and practice for show season!

There will be **Kathleen Lindley Beckham clinic at Wildwood Hills Ranch in St. Charles, Iowa on April 7-9.** Kathleen is a friend of our own Sue Hughes and is an expert in horsemanship. If you would like to participate, or audit (only \$10!) let your trainer know. We will definitely have some IRF riders and horses there!

A friendly reminder to **“scoop your poop” in the indoor.** Also remember to put away your personal belongings and turn off appliances and lights when you are the last to leave. I count you all as blessings and look forward to 2017 at Irish Run!

Virginia