

IRISH RUN FARMS SEPTEMBER 2016 NEWS

A Hearty “Hello” from Irish Run! Alas, summer is drawing to an end and our fall routines are beginning. School is again in session and our summer holidays are now preserved as memories. However, it is **the best time of year to ride in Iowa!!!** The horses LOVE the cooler fall temperatures and a hack in the park is spectacular with the changing colors. Come down to the barn soon and enjoy the season! We have A LOT of news to report so read on:

Welcome to trainer Melinda Baszczynski who joins our Irish Run staff this month! Many of you already know Melinda from her three years of managing the neighboring stable, Hunters Glen. Melinda hails from Toronto, where she began riding at the age of seven. She began exercising horses as a teenager and by the time she was sixteen she was teaching beginner lessons. Melinda attended the University of Minnesota, where she rode on the college equestrian team and earned a degree in Equine Science. Since graduation, she has taught at Valley Park Stables. She currently owns seven horses, two of which will join us at Irish Run; **Arnee, an aged chestnut quarter horse** (who will join the lesson program), and **Lincoln, a nine-year-old bay Appendix gelding**. Please find Melinda and welcome her to the barn – we are THRILLED to have her at Irish Run!

We also have **New Boarders to welcome!** **Daina Faust** is 14 years old and a student at Valley High School. She owns a **nine-year-old Paint gelding named Mowgli**. They have been showing in the “D” series and hope to travel to some higher rated shows as well. **Linda, Adeline and Annabella Brody** and their two mares have visited Irish Run during “flood season.” Adeline is also a current member of our Pony Club! **Emma is a lovely chestnut mare**, who partners with Adeline in the “D” series shows. She also loves eating and trail rides! **Serena is a black Peruvian mare** that enjoys trail rides with Annabella. **Welcome to all!** Sadly, we wish a fond farewell to Mary Gillen and her mare Lilli, who are moving to the pasture next door. Please wave over the fence line!

With so many new faces at the barn, I would like to thank our long time boarders and their equine friends for being such good stewards of barn hospitality. **Karen Maresh and Ellie and Lacey, Suzanne Hartline and Furst, Jane Heiny Smith and Seven, and Elaine Steinger and Apac** have been at Irish Run since almost its inception. Here’s a shout out to you all! I am grateful for your friendship and kindness to others as the barn continues to grow.

Maeve Cleary has a new horse! Finn is an eight year old, “off the track,” bay Thoroughbred gelding. They make a handsome pair – congrats Maeve and Finn!

We have bragging rights in the **show arena** to report! Several Irish Run Riders showed off their skills at the “D” series show at Valley Park. **Danielle Heagle and Lacey** got into the primary colors with a **3rd and 4th in Barely Verticals over fences** and a **4th in the flat**; **Tori**

Schmalzried and Zoe joined them with **3rd and 7th in Barely Verticals over fences** and **7th in the flat**; **Logan Cooper and Will** were looking good as they moved up to **Junior/Adult Low Hunter 2'** and brought home **two 6ths over fences**; **Jennie Schut and her horse Versace** impressed everyone winning **two 6ths in their second show over fences**; **Olivia Allen and Pride** were stellar with a **2nd place in 2'3" Equitation** and a **3rd and 6th in 2'6" Special Hunter over fences**; **Emily Bowman and Lacey** also earned praise for a fine showing in **2'3" Hunter**. **Rachelle and Kendrick LaPrade** were stars at the Maffitt Lake Equestrian Center's **Two Rivers Festival**. **Kendrick and Rain** came home with two **Reserve Championships**. **Rachelle and Ozzie** brought home the blues with a **Championship and winner of the Classic!** Wow – that is a long list of awards! **Congrats to all!**

The **Irish Run Pony Club Riding Center** enjoyed a **hunt practice** outing at Alison's farm with USEF certified trainer, **Camie Stockhausen**. **September will be busy!** We will hold a **Mock Certification on September 10 from 3-6 at IRF**. This is a great way to get ready for your next rating! On **September 17th** we will haul out to Ro Crosbie's farm for a **hunt practice** with the North Hills Hunt hounds. Finally, on **September 24** we are planning another **mounted meeting** – details coming soon. **Please let Alison know if you would like to participate!!!**

Barn improvement season continues! You may have noticed heavy equipment between the barn and railroad tracks. We are building a **retaining wall** near the manure bunker to help in loading trucks when we haul the manure out. I have purchased **geo-thermal waterers** which will be installed in the turn-out lots. Not only will be save on electricity in the winter months, but we will avoid the danger of cords from water heaters. Gilberto has been busy setting fence posts in the area east of the back lot. We will be **expanding the back lot area**. I have purchased paint to **freshen up the fences**. Please consider joining our "painting party" – details to come!

Judy Hand and Kelly Lauridsen (my daughters-in-law) are been helping **Daniela** spruce up the barn. The tack rooms are looking great 😊 Thank you ladies!

Please, please, please do not graze your horses in the center lawn! Creating a beautiful spot in the center of the property is a pet project of mine and it has taken me 10 years to get it somewhat green! I also fertilize this area of the property which is not good for your horse. There is plenty of grazing area near the fire-pit and in front of the power station.

Thank you all for making Irish Run such a friendly and safe place to be. I hope to see you all at the barn soon!

Virginia

