

**IRISH RUN FARMS**  
**November 2016 News**

**Happy November Irish Run!** The calendar says that winter is approaching, but we are having an **Indian Summer in Iowa!** It is difficult for me to accomplish all of the items on my “to do” list, because I want to me riding in this perfect weather. Anyone up for a **hack in the park???**

**Please wish a hearty Irish Run welcome our newest boarders!** **Caty Elgin** is a senior at Urbandale High School and loves riding and showing her horses, **Art** and **Gypsy**. Gypsy is a lovely, black “off the track” thoroughbred. She is 10 years old and Caty has owned her for a year. Art is a 14 year old, bay Trakehner gelding. Caty shows him in hunter classes and has had him for 2 years. **Jackie Kessler** moved back to Des Moines recently after a year hiatus in Iowa City. Jackie is a field agent for Niman Ranch (yummy pork producer!) and either works from home or travels from farm to farm in Iowa. So...you may see her sporadically. She was a star at the fun show though ☺ **Jack** is her 17 year old, bay Arabian gelding. He has several other names (“JackJack” and “The Flying Squirrel”) and is trained through third level Dressage and Beginner Novice (almost to Novice) in Eventing. I am impressed! Jackie says of Irish Run that it is “a lovely barn...and all of the people I have met so far are really friendly.” Thanks to all for the nice compliment! We are thrilled to welcome our friend **Jackie Jensen** and her mare **Daisy**. Jackie is no stranger to Irish Run. She used to split her time between Naples, Florida and Des Moines, and took lessons at the barn when she was in town. She is also a long time friend of Jane Heiny Smith. Thanks for bringing such a lovely soul to the barn Jane! Daisy is the gorgeous big chestnut mare with the blaze currently residing in the back barn. **Alison Herr** has a new horse too ! **Chick** is a quarter horse mare from the south that is a new project mare for Alison (most lkely Hunters and Cross Country). She has already been on two pony club outings, offered a couple leadline lessons and is proving to be a lovely addition for me. Yesterday she was injured and will remain on stall rest for 7 days, attention is welcome but PLEASE do not feed her if you don't own her or work at the barn. So....**two Jackies and a Caty; one Jack, an Art and Gypsy and a Daisy and a Chick. Welcome to all!!!**

We had a **stellar Irish Run Fun Show!!!** Thanks to the many riders and spectators who came out to support the barn. It was wonderful to see the barn abuzz with activity and I am very grateful for your participation. The costume class was especially impressive with great creativity on display! We are still working on totals after expenses, but I think I can safely say we have another thousand dollars to add to the washing machine fund. What's more, it was **FUN, FUN, FUN!!!**

The **Irish Run Pony Club Riding Center has been busy, busy, busy!!!** We had a great time riding out in the open with the Moingona Hunt last weekend at the Ghrist farm in Murray, Iowa. All of the Pony Clubbers handled their horses beautifully! **November**

**will be full of activities.** There will be a **rating this Saturday, November 5** at Walnut Creek. We will have our **regular meeting at the barn on Saturday November 12 at 4 pm.** There will be a **mounted meeting at the barn on Saturday, November 26 at 4 pm.** **Please let Alison know if you plan to attend and ride!!!**

**Barn improvement season** is going out with a bang! Several volunteers joined in on **Barn Painting Day** to paint the fences around the arena and back lot. They look terrific. Thank you all! **Kelly Lauridsen** has been busy planting hosta in front of the barn, cleaning gutters and raking leaves. Thanks Kelly – we love you! Next up is **stall repair.** We will be doing some “musical stalls” during the next few weeks, as we repair the base and mats on several stalls. This involves, completely removing bedding and mats, repairing the lime screenings base if necessary, tamping it down, wetting it and letting it dry. It may take a week for each stall, so thank you in advance for your patience. Daniela will speak to you about relocating your horse while we work on stalls.

**A special thank you to all who helped at the barn during Gilberto’s vacation.** I know several boarders volunteered to do night check and whatever else was necessary. It is always difficult when we have to step out of our normal routine. Thanks for making it possible for Gilberto to get a little R and R!

**Daniela’s doggie day care is up and running in the studio!** If you want your dog to have a day of fun (and come home happy and exhausted) see Daniela. Roi and Lulu love it! Daniela has a great set up with indoor and outdoor play areas, toys and some agility equipment. She is also an accomplished trainer ☺

#### **A few reminders:**

**Please clean up your mess and that of your horse!!!** If your horse decides to decorate the aisle with manure or urine, please CLEAN IT UP IMMEDIATELY! Not after you ride! Before you leave the barn, **please put your personal belongings away, return IRF supplies to the appropriate place and sweep up your mess. A clean barn is a happy barn!**

As winter approaches, we are **storing fans and putting up the storm windows.** If you purchased a fan, **make sure your name is on it or take it home. Take any of your summer horse gear home** and let Daniela know if you would like IRF to blanket your horse.

If you will be **traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday,** or want to schedule an extra lesson, please let your trainer know~

Thank you for making Irish Run such a special place to be. I love coming to the barn. Now get out and VOTE!!!

Virginia