

IRISH RUN FARMS

October News

Greetings from Irish Run! It is a rainy October morning and I fear that the languid days of summer are but a distant memory until next June. Oh well, we can all hope for a long autumn – especially since it always brings wonderful riding weather. A park ride in the crisp autumn air amidst the fall color is heavenly! Here is the latest news from the stable....

Irish Run had a strong presence at our **September shows**. Novice show riders **Ann Braverman** (with **Jess**), **Kelsey Steele** (with **Casey**), **Martha Davis** (with **Lacey**) joined **Latta Camp**, and **Regan Cople**, **Karen Maresh** and **Kennen Burhart** to bring home lots of “primary colors” from the Prairie Moon show at Valley Prak Stables. Congrats ladies!!! Last week several of us enjoyed riding at the *gorgeous* Maffitt Lake Equestrian Center in Cumming. This facility is a real boon to our area – we can all participate in an “A” show for a fraction of the previous costs. **Kennen with Sky**, and **Karen with Ellie** looked fabulous in the Low Hunter and Hunter Derby classes. **Rae** was of course exhibiting her skill as a rider as she picked up LOTS of ribbons (every color) on Ellie and Sky and a **Reserve Champion** on **Flash**. I am also eager to report that **Porter was a star!!!** He won **Adult Jumper Champion** with yours truly in the irons (that can be a liability!). Congrats to all and let’s make the trip over again next year. If anyone is interested in riding at the Wildwood “D” series show on Oct. 10-11, please see Rae.

Mark your calendars for the **Irish Run Halloween Fun Show on Saturday, Oct. 31st!** This will feature many fun classes; Ride-A-Buck, Foot-N-Hoof, a new game called Odds-N-Ends and of course a costume class- not to mention a great lunch! Last year we had fun with a “chili cook off” – anyone interested in entering their famous recipe? Additionally, Theresa will be giving us a dressage demonstration – thank you in advance Theresa! Everyone needs an Irish run Fun Show ribbon, so start thinking about your costumes now. We will have **fun, fun, fun!!!!**

Welcome to our newest boarder **Karen McLean** and her two mares **Penny** and **Bunny**. Both are 6 yr. old quarter horses that Karen has done cutting with. Wow – sounds fun. Maybe she can give us all some lessons! Karen is the new provost at DMU and has recently moved here from LaCrosse, WI. You may see her joined by her lovely daughter. Welcome to the McLeans!

Many thanks to all who helped move the boards on the outdoor arena. We now have a safer place to ride! With a little extra help from Doug Carey (Heather’s fiancé) the arena looks great! We won’t be able to paint the treated wood until next year, but at least we won’t be hitting our knees on the posts any more.

Speaking of volunteering at the barn – do we have any **fence builders** and **painters** out there? I will be replacing some fencing in the paddocks Oct. 22-5 and would welcome any help! For those of you more artistically inclined, I will be painting the jumps that same weekend (Oct. 24

and 25). Bring some old clothes and help spruce up the ring for the fun show. I will provide brushes, paint and snacks!

Anyone up for a **foxhunt**? I just couldn't help myself and joined **The Moingona Hunt** as a riding member again this year. If you have an interest in "capping" at a hunt, please let me know and I will get you there – it is a blast!

Our own beloved **Katie** (the thoroughbred) is home from Iowa State and doing much better! Unfortunately, her owner **Kelly** just had surgery on her ankle so she is convalescing as well. Katie still needs to be walked three times a day – at least until Oct. 13th when she returns to ISU for a check-up. Anyone willing to help? I have posted an October "Katie walking calendar" on the board. Please sign up if you are able to help and **thank you!**

Attention all riders who open and close the gate to the back lot. **Please be sure to latch the gate!** I came out last Sunday morning to find all of the outside horses happily grazing in the center lawn. By a stroke of luck, all were accounted for, but it wouldn't take much to spook one and have the whole group go for an unsupervised romp in the park.

A friendly reminder that if you have extra tack and/or supplies stored at the barn, could you take it home? The barn is getting full (a good thing) and thus space is at a premium. If you need help finding a place to put your tack and/or trunk here at the barn, please see me and I will find a place for you.

Thanks to everyone for making Irish Run such a fun place to ride.

Virginia