

# IRISH RUN FARMS

## March News

**Spring Greetings from Irish Run!!!** After a long winter the barn is waking up from its hibernation. The temperatures are rising, the ice has melted and the horses are frisky. Though the daily news is less than encouraging, the beauty of Irish Run remains untouched. Why not escape from the gloom and doom and enjoy the sunshine with your horse?

We may be getting “Spring Showers” a month early, but I am not complaining! Just remember to bring some rubber boots to slosh through the mud! The horses are all losing their winter coats, so a shedding tool is a bonus too!

No show news to report, but the **IRISH RUN FUN SHOW is next Saturday, March 14!!!** Come enjoy the FUN! There will be FUN classes, great prizes and yummy food. We will celebrate St. Paddy’s day a little early in hearty IRF tradition. If you don’t plan to ride, but feel a calling to help behind the scenes, there is a job for you! See Virginia and your talents will be put to good use!

Remember to **check the board for news**. There are lots of great opportunities in the area to increase your horsemanship IQ. The Iowa State Extension is offering weekly seminars in various topics from judging to feeding. I will post the information on the board and you can choose what interests you. If you are a **Jim Urban** fan you might want to head to Stillwater Stables on March 21 and 22 to watch his clinic. You can participate as an observer and try out his words of wisdom at home. **Check out the 2009 Show Schedule** and talk to Rae if you are interested in showing. Anyone up for a week at **Mason City**? I plan on going in June, so let me know if you would like to join me. The **Two Rivers** shows at the new Maffitt Lake Farms facility in August will be something special as well.

Irish Run is now offering **Dressage with Becky**. If you want to really be humbled, take a dressage lesson. Looks easy? It isn’t! Becky Neitzke has been teaching dressage for 15 years and has done some impressive riding and training. She is also a certified Equine Sports Massage Therapist and has an excellent knowledge base of horse anatomy and movement. Best of all, she believes in working *with* your horse. She even had Porter in a “frame” in a matter of minutes. Dressage lessons are \$45 and will be offered Monday evenings and perhaps late in the day on the weekends when Rae isn’t teaching. Talk to Virginia if you want to try it!

**Spring shots** will be scheduled soon, so watch the board for dates if you wish to be here when the vet comes.

As the weather warms up some pesky insects may emerge as well. If you have adopted a barn cat, you might want to bring down some flea control. I am happy to administer it and very grateful for your contribution!

As always, it is wonderful to see you all riding and enjoying the barn. Please remember to turn off lights, close doors and put your personal belongings away when you leave. **SEE YOU AT THE FUN SHOW!!!**

Virginia