

IRISH RUN FARMS WINTER NEWS

Hello from Siberia! Well, maybe it just feels like I am an extra in Dr. Zhivago. The snow is beautiful, but the frigid temperatures and ice pack have made life at the barn a little quieter. Never fear, all of the horses are happy and healthy. They don't seem to mind winter at all!

Welcome to Ava Eagles and Sue and Regan Cople! We all know Ava as Tati's "hot" young mom, but did you know she is an accomplished rider in her own right? In fact, rumor has it she used to train Tati! Ava will be half leasing Heidi this month so look for her in the saddle. Also look for two new "half-leasers," Sue and Regan Cople. Like Ava, Sue has an extensive equestrian background, although it took a little nudge from her 9 yr. old daughter Regan to get going again. Sue and Regan will be half-leasing Lacy for the next six months. Please welcome them and answer any questions they may have.

Congrats to Karen and Ellie!!! I was trying to sell Ellie on equine.com and her new mom was right across the aisle! If you haven't seen Karen on Ellie yet, you need to – they are a lovely pair. Lacy remains Karen's eldest barn child, but has a new job helping Rae teach new riders.

The **Show Season** is coming up! We start with our first **Irish Run Fun Show on March 15**. A St. Paddy's theme, naturally! Rae has a great list of classes, so come ride or sit in the cheering section. The **Moingona Hunt** schooling show is **March 30** in Slater. Rae has assumed the show steward duties for Moingona, so you can be sure it will be well done. Please join the Irish Run gang for that one too. As always, you can check the board for details on shows. Tati is going to Tucson next month, and Kristin and Virginia are going to Tulsa in April. **Mason City Summer** is not far off, so time to leg up your horse and work on flat work in the arena. There is a **Bobby Dreyer Clinic** at Valley Park Feb. 15-17. All are welcome to watch and learn from the sidelines.

Sunday Lessons with Rae are a blast!!! Just show up and have a group lesson with your friends. You will be charged for a regular lesson, but it will be twice as long. The "smaller jumps" group will work from 2-3:30 and the "bigger jumps" group from 4-5:30. Not jumping yet? No problem, there is plenty of flat work to do and lots to learn by observing. Talk to Rae if you have any questions.

Congrats to all of the Irish Run riders who won awards at the "D" show banquet. Ava acted as announcer and Tati and Trevor passed out ribbons. Rae, Kristin, Katie, Karen, Claire, Josh

and Virginia all took home prizes. The **Hunt Ball** was loads of fun for the Irish Run foxhunters; John and Nancy Smith, Kristin and Chris, Judy and her beau Steve, Virginia, Michael, Claire and Mick all danced the night away. The band was great and so were the silent auction items! Kristin got a sweet deal on a lesson package and Chris has a new "friend" to cuddle up to (that's all I am saying) . Next year we need an Irish Run table or two!

Many thanks to those of you who sent photos for the website. I have spent several hours searching for the perfect shots and organizing them for our web designer Camie Stockhausen. Thanks Camie! Our new internet look should be up this week and I am thrilled. Let me know if I missed something.

I think ole' man winter has just about sung his last song, so come down to the barn for some riding and socializing. Time to get in shape for Spring park rides!