

The Mane Thing

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Alberta May Newsletter

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Next Deadline May 15, 2009

Dear Members,

I guess most of us are doing the same thing, waiting for spring and foals to arrive so we can start doing fun things with the ponies again.

Congratulations to all our members who were awarded CWPSC Western Regional and Canadian National Awards. A large percentage of the awards were won by Albertans, mainly due to the fact that we have so many qualifying shows and effective secretaries who send the results to Tracy Dopko for compilation.

The AGM minutes are enclosed and you will notice that we have offered to Host the Canadian Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Canada 2010 AGM. We will have to wait until after their April meeting to find out if we are hosting it or not. Also there is mention of having a "Meet and Greet" day with our Judges on the 29th of August. Tentative plans are to have a pot luck meal and people could bring their ponies if they would like. Brenda Harder has suggested that we could use this opportunity to have a learner's clinic so we are wondering how many of you would be interested in something like this? It could be hosted at our place as we have a large, flat yard and quite a bit of stabling.

Thanks to Brenda Harder for donating a great set of walkie-talkie's for use at the show. These should help things to run even smoother.

Speaking of the show, we are looking for someone to commit to handling the gymkhana events on late Saturday afternoon. This would involve setting the courses, having people time the events, keep track of times and then awarding the ribbons. If you are willing to do this, please let Monty Gwynne or myself know.

Did you notice club news is now in Prairie Horse? Photo taken by Rick Kroll. If anyone has a photo or two they would like to send me for it, please do so. Not necessary a show photo but it could be one you've taken.

Congratulations to Rachael Alves for winning first with her photo in Prairie Horse. It says. "It's almost like an optical illusion, as Section B Welsh Colts Legend's Ring of Fire and Legend of the Bow Bells nibble at the toes of Photographer Rachael Alves of Okotoks, Alberta". I understand that I had sent it in and forgot to let Rachael know so it was a surprise for her.

Just a reminder, this will be your last copy of The Mane Thing if we do not receive your membership by March 31st. Benefits of being a member: ponies are automatically entered in the Alberta High Point Award Point program, your name and address, phone number and web mail on the web site, free classified ads on the web site, four issues of The Mane Thing, a chance to show your animals at the Stampede and spruce Meadows, show dates, etc.

RE: NEW WELSH PONY WEBSITE DESIGN

Hi all,

With Pat and Monty's input, we are in the process of revamping the Welsh Pony Website. We're trying to make it a little more modern and easier to navigate around. We would like to offer an individual page for each of the Breeders, but need your help filling in the blanks or adding up-to-date information. Would you please take a look at the new format, which at the moment is not 'live' on the internet. Click on this link:

<http://www.albertawelshponyandcob.com/mysite16/> and follow the links to your 'page' if it is there, or send me some information so that I can create a page for you. The fonts and coloring has yet to be 'fixed'. We will fine tune all the little things, but for now you can help please by sending along your up-to-date information and photos. Any ideas and comments are always appreciated...

Please send your information and pictures (.jpg format please by attachment) to Carolyn. Just take a look at the Breeders pages to know what information we'd like to receive. I will cut and paste from your emails.

Thanks Carolyn

I'm sure we will all agree that Carolyn is doing a great job for us on the web site and deserves a big Thank You.

Show Dates. these are what we have so far.:

The Mane Event April 24 - 26, 2009, Red Deer, Alberta

Once again, Parkland Welsh Pony and Cob Association will participate in The Mane Event. We will have a booth with excellent examples of all the Welsh Pony and Cob Sections, and will once again participate in the Demonstration Rides. This is a great chance for everyone to learn about Welsh Ponies and Cobs. We hope to see you there! Contact Brenda Harder for further information.

Manitoba All Welsh Pony and Cob Show is July 4th and 5th in Virden Agric Grounds. Full slate of classes and Lisa Shelabarger from Sheldon ND will be our judge. Ribbons Beautiful ribbons, prizes , two fun filled relaxed days. For a prize list call Marg Allen @ (204) 352-4324

2009 Wild Rose Welsh and Open Pony Show. This show will be held July 3rd, 4th and 5th at Olds, Alberta in the brand new Mega-Dome. All stabling and the arena will be under one roof. The Wild Rose Youngstock Futurity for foals, yearlings and two year olds will be Friday evening.

Calgary Stampede July 3rd to 12th. Sheila is looking for anyone interested in bringing animals down for display or members who would like to come and help out by visiting Stampede guests. There is no cost involved but she does need to know if you are coming in lots of time in order to get your parking passes and tickets.

All Breed Pony Show, August 8th and 9th at Cochrane, Prize list will be ready mid-May and will be posted on the club web site www.albertawelshponyandcob.com as well as will be mailed with the May issue of The Mane Thing.

Parkland Welsh Pony Show, Thorsby The show dates are August 1/2, 2009, at the Thorsby Haymakers Arena. We are hoping it will be double judged; at this time we have Scott Benjamin booked. The show format is different this year, and as soon as the class list is finalized, it will be posted on the Parkland Welsh Website (www.parklandwelsh.com). There are some new and interesting classes that will change the show and hopefully open it up to many more competitors than in past years.

Spruce Meadows is Sept. 8th to 13th.

President's Message.

Happy New Year All. It was nice to see some new faces new (to me anyway) out for the meeting and some members from a fair distance as well...always nice to get to see folks when there is time to visit, it never seems to happen at the shows!

I'm looking forward to my year as president and our show with some new classes (we discussed a lot of different options for classes and did try to make everyone happy but as we all know that is never possible) and hope that you will support these classes . We are hoping to attract more kids and get them more involved. Looking at the demographics at the meeting we really need to work on getting the younger set more involved!!

I'm still not sure how many shows I'll get to show at , what with Darcie doing the A circuit jumpers, but hope to drop by and at least visit with everyone and cheer you on.

Have a great year and promote those ponies. Monty Gwynne

News from Foothill's.

Foothill's Welsh is now back in Alberta (for good this time). We are currently renting a farm, not the greatest set up, but at least we can have all the horses here with us.

We have been enjoying some nice warm days lately, it has given us a chance to do some work on the barn, to prepare for foaling season, however i am sure winter is not finished with us yet.

We were very pleased with our WPCSC awards, Noggin (Foothill's Distinguished Man) was National, and Regional Champion for cob geldings, and Menai Step On, was National Champion, and Reserve Regional Champion for section A colts. Our Cob stallion Sunny (Welsh Dreams of Springsong), won Reserve National Champion, for 2 year old section D stallions in the U.S

Our website is now up and running, foothillswelsh.com, I still need to add more pictures and text but at least it is a start.

We are expecting 5 foals this spring, first ones due in April, so we are hoping for a nice early spring. Our plan is to make it to more shows this year, and look forward to meeting everyone.

Julie Foot

Daventry Farms News

Goldhills Brandysnap won eight Canadian National Welsh Titles in 2008 - Section C/D Stallion, Senior Hunter, Senior English Pleasure, Senior Western Pleasure, Senior Trail, Ridden Welsh Classic C/D, Senior English Equitation and Senior Western Equitation. He was also named the WPCSA US NorthWest Adult C/D Hunter Champion. We look forward to an exciting 2009 show season with him while also standing to outside mares for the first time in 2009.

We're in the process of flying up a well-known Equine Reproduction Specialist from the US so that we can get frozen semen done on Brandysnap, as well as doing more frozen semen on Alvesta Picasso, so that we have another option available to our Mare Owners.

I have been asked to do a seminar at the American Welsh AGM in Fort Worth, Texas on marketing and website design the middle of February. As well, I've also been asked to take part in the Judging Clinic on the Sunday and will be doing a presentation on the Ridden Welsh Classic classes for both judges and exhibitors.

I'm excited to have been asked to judge Welsh shows in Virginia, Maryland and Minnesota in 2009 and has be the judge and clinician for the Alberta 4-H Challenge!

I just got my ribbons in the mail. Thanks so much!
Tracy Dopko

From Vanessa Quartly,

I do not have much to report in the way of news as things have been pretty quiet around here but I do have a couple of sales and purchases to mention. First of all I would like to congratulate Shelly Snyder of Shell Crest Welsh ponies on the purchase of "Young's Heart Breaker". Section A mare. Res. Hi point section "A" mare for the W.P.C.S.A. as well as the Western Regional Res. Champion.for 2008 .

And we also would like to give a big Thank You to Sherri Brandma of Willowbrand Welsh Cobs for letting us purchase "Willowbrand Ffiona" 2007 Section D Welsh Cob filly.

Stonecountry Welsh

Thanks so very much for the VERY NICE Super Pony Awards!! The ribbons are very nice as well. The kids were so happy! Suzanne Bryson

News from Memory Lane Ponies

The weather has been great and the ponies are thriving. Foaling season is very near and the mares are round looking very motherly.

We are celebrating a new web site that Carolyn Orton has helped to design and host this for me and so far she hasn't told me to eat dirt and die yet as I can be ana. But it is a work in progress and final editing and a few adjustments still need to be done. Our site address is [www. memorylaneponies.com](http://www.memorylaneponies.com) please check it out.

We are expecting foals from the Black Welsh A stallion Young's General Lee and from our young palomino stallion Memory Lane Golden D ' Nile this spring from a wide range of horse and pony mares, the resulting foals will be for the pure and hunter market.

Not much news other than that working on purchasing 2 more fillies but nothing yet to report.

Annie wants you all to know that she now owns the majority of the ponies at Memory Lane. She out right owns Flirtatious, Nefertari, General Lee, Ebony Eyes Hamermiesters Gold, Pharaoh's Savanna and Devine Design. I own Freaky Tiki and Pharaoh's Hotspot and share ownership with Annie on Black Magic and Golden D' Nile Emerald Jewel and Pizazz. Hence my desire to acquire a couple more either to lease or own.

My prayers go out to the judges and that their place is spared from the raging fires that are ½ mile from their place, temperature of 48 C and 100 kms. winds. I'll take snow and winter any day!! I love our seasons.

We hope everyone has had a good winter thus far and wish you all the best in the next few and last weeks of winter. Spring is on its way.

Tom and Annie Aiton

Kiltie Welsh

Kiltie's Royal Edition (Flare's Royal Signature x *Glynwyn Demelza) Section C gelding has been sold to Jane and Lyle Nisi of Priddis. Currently Edition is taking everything in stride as he learns all about being ridden while getting a good basics for his further career as a combined driving pony.

Sheila McLellan

Sweettalk Stables

Hope Enders is competing in a youth riding event in Costa Rico (I'm not sure just which one) but I know everyone wishes her all the best and look forward to a report on it when she returns.

Coyote Run Welsh

Brenda Harder has purchased Young's Golden Fascination, (foaled 1988) by Lister Star Design. She is currently in foal and the foal belongs to Lesley Rhys Williams. Brenda has been wanting to purchase this mare for several years and hopefully Fascination will have a few more foals for her.

NEW CALGARY RULES OF THE ROAD:

1. The morning rush hour is from 5:00am to noon. The evening rush hour is from noon to 8:00pm. Friday's rush hour starts on Thursday morning and ends on Saturday night.
2. The minimum acceptable speed on most freeways is 130 kph. On the Deerfoot 500, you are expected to match the speed of the airplanes coming in for a landing at the airport. Anything less is considered "Wussy".
3. Forget the traffic rules you learned elsewhere. Calgary now has its own version of traffic rules. For example, cars/trucks with the loudest muffler go first at a four-way stop; the trucks with the biggest tires go second. However, Calgary, SUV-driving, cell phone-talking moms ALWAYS have the right of way.
4. If you actually stop at a yellow light, you will be rear ended, cussed out, and possibly shot.
5. Road construction is permanent and continuous in Calgary. . . Detour barrels are moved around each night to make the next day's driving a bit more exciting, but nothing ever gets finished, and more new construction starts everyday.
6. For winter driving, it is advisable to wear your parka, toque, fur lined mittens and mukluks. Make sure you have a shovel, food, candles and blankets in the vehicle, as snow removal from the city streets is virtually non-existent until the spring thaw.

Ponies, Harness and Carts for Sale

2006 triple registered Welara Dun filly ."V.L.Q.Dunnin Gold" .Should mature about

15:H .W.P.C.S.A. 2008 Hi point reg.1/2 Welsh two years and under, Res Western Regional Champion and Res .Canadian National Champion 1/2 Welsh 2

and under for 2008.Special consideration to show home .

2007 Registered .Half Welsh {Half Arabian} Filly. Black {going Grey} .Should mature about 13:H.Will be a show stopper. Beautiful conformation and movement. Will make a super Sport /Hunter type pony. Asking 1000.00.Special consideration to show home.

Brand new easy entry cart .Amish made in Illinois. Black with wood basket {very pretty}. 22" spoked wheels. Will fit a pony 11 to 12 H.H. .Asking 500.00 O.B.O.

Call 224-3295 or e-mail: littleq@telusplanet.net..

For sale coming 5 yr old reg Quarter Pony, 3 months professional training by Judy Owad.. Shown twice including over fences and took it all in stride. Needs a job..she is ready to work (driving me crazy..first one over wanting to be worked!) pictures available

single harness, brand name, great shape, black leather with patent leather..Too small for my ponies but.will fit Sec A's...Asking \$500.00

Contact Monty 932-4989

Annual General Meeting 2009 Minutes Welsh Pony and Cob Society 1999 Alberta

The meeting opened at 1:00 p.m January 20th, in Strathmore with Monty Gwynne in the chair.

Members present were: Monty and Darcie Gwynne, Vanessa Quartly, Rick and Lea Kroll, Pat and Jim Clay, Tim Aiton and Annie, Brenda Harder, Mary James, Sherri Brandsma, Donna O'Neil, David and Grace Langford, Sheila McLellan, Dorothy McAleesa, Julie Foot, Lesley Rhys-Williams.

Regrets received from Kathleen Alves, Brian McClelland

- Moved by Donna, seconded by Sherri that the minutes of the 2008 meeting be approved. Carried.

Old Business:

- Sheila reported on the Stampede, with thanks to Joyce Enders for supplying two ponies. There was a noticeable drop in visitors to the booth this year. Kathleen sold two ponies due to being at the Stampede.
- Monty reported on the 2008 Pony Show. It was another successful show with over 80 ponies taking part. Even though the show lost \$442.45, there is over \$450.00 in ribbon inventory and many of this years trophies are already purchased.
- Sherri reported on Aggi-Days, and said due to health problems she would be unable to do them this year.

Financial Reports:

Welsh Pony & Cob Society 1999 Alberta financial statement for 2008

Opening Bank Balance January 1, 2008	\$ 347.23
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Income \$ 1415.00	Expenses \$ 1220.04
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Closing Bank Balance December 31, 2008	\$ 542.19
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Moved by Brenda, seconded by Tim that the financial report be adopted as presented.

Carried.

All Breed Pony Show Financial Statement for 2007/2008

Opening Bank Balance October 1, 2007	\$ 7,134.26
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Income \$ 9,129.01	Expenses \$ 9,571.46
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Closing Bank Balance September 30, 2008	\$ 6,691.81
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Moved by Donna, seconded by Vanessa that the financial report be adopted as presented.

Carried.

Reports:

➤ President's Report: 2008:

Another year has come and gone, looking back to review 2008, shows it was a busy year. Sheila McLellan did a fantastic job organizing the Stampede. Rachel and I took a day in the booth with LS Harley, and he got a lot of attention. It was fun visiting with people that I had met volunteering at the booth as a child. The club was also busy participating at Spruce Meadows, and although numbers seemed to be down, there was a lot of interest in the ponies, especially when Rachel and I took the mare and foal in.

The show held at Cochrane was a lot of fun. I didn't take ponies this year, just helped and its interesting watching from the sidelines. It gives you a completely different perspective on showing and just how tolerant and wonderful the Welsh breed really is.

I believe interest in the club has grown this year, with particular interest being in the High Point Award program. This is something that is an extremely good promotional tool and really gives people a reason to show province wide. The more we show and take ponies out, the more we encourage new or old owners to participate with their stock. I do think that it would be a good idea to implement something to encourage the use of ponies outside of the show ring. Maybe a rider/drivers hourly log to collect points to small achievement awards.

As we begin a new year, let's remember why we own Welsh Ponies. Its not for the people, or the status of the ribbons we win, but for the genuine love of the Welsh. If we bring that forward, with our activities and our encouragement of other owners then we should have a productive and fun year. There are so many venues to promote your ponies and so many quiet trails to ride down, I encourage you to have as much fun as possible!

➤ Web Site Report:

In 2008, the Welsh Pony Website had 5, 413 unique visitors, visiting a total of 7500 times, on 16,000 pages!! The most visited page was the Information on Welsh Ponies Page (2300), followed by the Breeders (1700) and the the classifieds (1700).

There were 3 times more visitors from the US than fromCanada. We had visits from Europe and Asia and all over the world! We're FAMOUS!

The members wished to extend a Thank You to Carolyn for doing such an excellent job.

Monty reminded everyone to send news, photos, ads, etc. to Carolyn for inclusion on the Web Site. Ads are free.

➤ High Point Awards Report.

46 ponies participated in the High Point program in 2007 with a total of 44 Champion and Reserve Champion awards given out.

In 2008, a total of 61 ponies participated and a total of 58 Champion and Reserves were given out. 3 new Championships (Super Cob, Super Half Welsh and 2 & Under Half Welsh) and 1 new Reserve Championship (Reserve 2 & Under Half Welsh) were added to the roster in 2008 though. 2008 saw a 35% increase of ponies and eligible winners in the awards program...and that's with the poor economy. I definitely think having the year-end awards helped the shows this year!!

The members wished to extend a Thank You to Tracy for doing such an excellent job with the High Points. Lea mentioned that she had heard we would be getting quite a few more new members who wished to take part in the program.

Elections:

Jim chaired the elections.

President – Monty Gwynne, Vice- President – Sheila McLellan, Secretary/Treasurer – Pat Clay, Directors – Mary James, Vanessa Quartly (AEF representative), Lea Kroll, Tim Aiton, Kathleen Alves. All went in by acclamation.

New Business

- 2009 membership fees. Moved by Lea, seconded by Vanessa that the family/individual membership fee be \$30.00. Carried.
- 2008 AEF club membership of \$75.00 has been paid.
- 2008 Club insurance of \$500.00 has been paid.
- CLRC 2009 membership of \$42.00. Moved by Brenda, seconded by Sheila that we join this year. Carried.
- 2009 Stampede, July 3rd to 12th – Committee to be Sheila (403 852-8878) and Frank Anderson.
- 2009 All Breed Pony Show, August 8th and 9th – Committee Monty and Pat – co-managers, Kathleen, Natalie, Sheila and Tracy.
- 2009 High Point Awards –Committee – Tracy and Pat. Moved by Tim, seconded by Dorothy that a pony must a minimum of 3 points in order to qualify for a High Pony Award. Carried.
Vanessa offered to sponsor the High Point Awards for 2009.
- 2009 AEF representative Vanessa,
- 2009 Mane Event by Brenda. April 24th – 26th at Red Deer. (403 782-0229)

Stabling is \$25.00 per day and clubs can have their brochures handed out for free.

Parkland members will get a discount on their brochures.

- 2009 Aggi-Days, We hope to find someone willing to take a quiet pony there for the five days.
- 2009 All Breed Pony Show.

Your show committee has been very active in looking at all the suggestions that were made and incorporating as many of them as we could. There will be a half-Welsh class, any age, any sex this year and we look forward to more half-Welsh being shown. The combination ride and drive was dropped due to lack of entries. Also the youngstock classes for Welsh will be split to foals and yearlings plus two year olds for all Sections.

In the Western division, there are two classes for those who ride with a snaffle and two hands on any age of a pony with no cross entry to the high point counting classes. Also for juniors under 12 we have an In-hand trail/Showmanship class.

We have a new Beginner Hunter Division with a 12" Crossrails division, a 18" division and a 2' division. Each of these divisions will have their own Championship.

Once again we will be having the Welsh Pony & Cob Society medals and ribbons for the performance Champions donated by the Rosedale Stud, Wales. Mr. & Mrs. Deane are bringing Australian Ribbons for the halter Champions. There will be trophies for each class and ribbons to sixth.

There will be medics on the grounds as long as the classes are taking place, hopefully we will not need to use them. We encourage everyone to act in a responsible manner. A new rule in the rules and regulations is that proper footwear must be worn at all times while on the show grounds – this includes the barn and parking area.

We have listed the rules in front of each division or the specific class they apply to. We encourage everyone to be sure to read them and follow them at the show.

We are looking forward to a wonderful 2009 show season for everyone, young, old, experienced or just starting out with their pony.

- 2009 Show Photos, Rick suggested that the show photos be posted on a password protected web site for members to look at their photos and order from. This was felt to be a great idea.
- 2009 Judges Clinic – there seemed to be no interest in having one. Instead the idea of a Meet & Greet the Judges Potluck would be held August 29th. Some discussion took place as to location (perhaps Kroll's or Clay's and whether or not you could bring ponies). Further details will be sent out.
- 2010 CWPCS Annual General Meeting. Moved by Tim, seconded by Sherri that our club extend an invitation for April 2010. Carried.
- 2009 Spruce Meadows, Lea reported that she is the only remaining committee member left from last year and it is uncertain as to the Welsh taking part. There seems to be no financial report for 2008 so it questionable as to whether or not there would be enough funding to have a booth.
- 2009 The Welsh Show Association Report.

The plans for the 2009 Wild Rose Welsh and Open Pony Show are well under way. This show will be held July 3rd, 4th and 5th at Olds, Alberta in the brand new Mega-Dome. All stabling and the arena will be under one roof. The first day of the show will host the pony hunter halter, under saddle and over fence classes. There may be some driving on this day as well and the dressage classes might be moved to Friday.

The Wild Rose Youngstock Futurity for foals, yearlings and two year olds will be Friday evening. We are working on where to place the English, Western and Driving

Stake classes and they may be moved to the late afternoon after the pony hunter classes. A social get together will follow the futurity.

Saturday will include double judged halter, Ridden Cob, Ridden A/B, and other performance classes. Sunday will be performance including trail and the gymkhana. We are hoping to add a few more driving classes including a cones class.

Our judges are confirmed. Friday's hunter and futurity judge is Gail Fuller from Priddis, Alberta. Saturday and Sunday's double judged halter and the performance will be judged by Gary and Gretchen Aiken of Family Partners Welsh in Oregon, USA.

We will be looking for volunteers for ring mastering, hitching ring and announcing. These come with a monetary honorarium or a discount in stabling fees. Details to follow.

- 2009 Learn to Drive Program. The Foothills Carriage Driving Club is hosting an excellent program covering all aspects of driving. Further information from Carolyn Orton, 403-938-5070 or Kathleen Winfield 403-931-0389
- New Livestock Identification information was handed out by Vanessa. If you wish a copy, please contact Vanessa 403-224-3295.
- Lea requested that we look at adding a Walk/Trot Adult Class but Monty explained that with the added classes for this year, there wasn't enough time to run any more classes.

Moved by Grace that we adjourn at 3:20 p.m.

High Point Awards were handed out by Darcie Gwynne. Photos should soon be on the club web site.

Door Prize donated by Sheila and Pat, winners were Tim and Darcie.

Raffle Halters were donated by Vanessa, winners were Donna and Pat.

Brenda donated a walkie--talkie set for the show.

Jim was the caterer for lunch.

2009 Membership Application
for the
Welsh Pony & Cob Society 1999 of Alberta

Please find enclosed the membership fee for:

_____ Welsh Pony & Cob Society 1999 of Alberta in the amount of \$30.00 per individual or family.

Make Cheques payable to: Welsh Pony & Cob Society of Alberta
c/o Box 4, Site 2, RR #1
Strathmore, AB, T1P 1J6

Your membership will give you four issues of The Mane Thing, show dates and prize lists, clinic information, fun days, a chance to display your ponies at the Calgary Stampede, web site services with FREE classified ads.

PLUS - Every pony you own is automatically entered in the Alberta High Point Awards program.

NAME

FARM NAME

ADDRESS

POSTAL CODE PHONE ()

EMAIL ADDRESS

WEB SITE

If you do not wish to have your name, address and phone number made public please check here. _____

NOTE: Entry in any activities we have requires that you have AEF insurance for liability reasons.

_____ I would like to receive my copy of The Mane Thing via email

at

or

_____ I would like a printed copy of The Mane Thing mailed to me.

