



American Shetland Pony Club  
American Miniature Horse Registry  
American Show Pony Registry

## For Immediate Release

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## Over 700 Shetland Ponies Trot into Lake St. Louis For Competition

*Morton, IL* — The Annual American Shetland Pony Congress is taking place this week at the National Equestrian Center in Lake St. Louis, MO. The National Congress Show is the longest continually running show of the American Shetland Pony Club, Inc., one of the oldest breed registries in the United States.



With one of the largest group of ponies competing in over 400 classes, moving the show to a centrally located venue may have contributed to the significant increase. The event is free for spectators and we welcome the media to broadcast live from the arena and/or barns as well as interview one of the many exhibitors or fans from across the country.

The official national championship for all divisions of the American Shetland Pony (ASPC) and for the American Show Pony (ASPR) celebrates it's 71<sup>st</sup> year. Competition classes will occur all day, every day, from July 31 through August 5 and will range from beautiful halter and majestic fine harness to thrilling roadster and adorable costumed. The variety of classes highlight the versatility, beauty and personality that make the American Shetland pony an American favorite!

Morning classes typically include classes in halter and highlight conformation and excellence in breeding with driving classes which include fast-paced roadster, carriage driving and western country pleasure, taking place later in the afternoon and evening.

“Make plans now to attend this historic event and see what American Shetland and American Show Pony enthusiasts already know- that these small equine offer something for everyone,” states Jac-Lynn Tyler, President of the ASPC/AMHR. “I personally invite everyone to the arena or to view online and experience the exciting competition, Walk the barns, visit with the vendors, owners, breeders and exhibitors. It’s a great time for the whole family.”

The National ASPC/ASPR Congress will include several other fun activities for participants throughout the week. Tuesday features a multitude of futurity classes, Wednesday includes the fun costume classes and a variety of youth and amateur classes, Thursday night is ladies night – everyone is invited to wear pink during the evening that includes several ladies driving classes and donations will be collected to benefit breast cancer research. Saturday evening is Stakes Night for performance driving classes. There will be youth activities, a variety of vendors, gathering spots and more.

Awards and presentations, both new and historic, will be made throughout the event. Exhibitors will also vie for thousands of dollars in prize money in various competition classes.

The complete schedule for the 2017 ASPC/ASPR Congress Show is on the ASPC’s website - [www.shetlandminiature.com](http://www.shetlandminiature.com) under Shows and ASPC Congress as well as broadcast live on [iequine.com](http://iequine.com).

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The American Shetland Pony Club, the American Miniature Horse Registry and The American Show Pony Registry are non-profit organizations established to preserve and refine the bloodlines of these small equines and promote the enjoyment of small equines. Recognized as the oldest and most versatile registry in the United States, the American Shetland Pony Club offer a variety of programs for Shetland Pony and Miniature Horse enthusiasts of all ages. Visit their website at [www.shetlandminiature.com](http://www.shetlandminiature.com) or 81-B East Queenwood Road, Morton, IL 61550

