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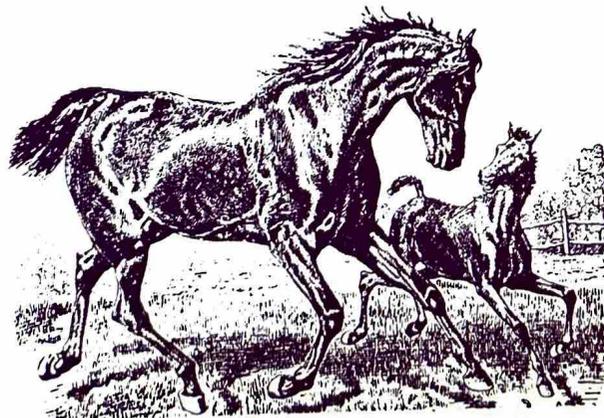
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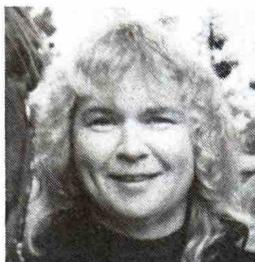
1994 SMCHA President, Doris Lantz with her horse, Conan.
Photo: Todd Glycer

Magazine: *Linda Menon*

Photographs: *Sue Sheehan, Ron Harris, Tanya Rebarchik, Cynthia Stagner*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by *Doris Lantz*



This year is going to be another exciting year with lots of things happening. The first general meeting of 1994, our white elephant, is one of the most fun events where everyone brings a wrapped gift to exchange with another member. The date for this is Thursday, February 24. Our first ride of the year, the Spring Ride will be Sunday, April 24.

This is always a great time with a BBQ and lots of good food. The Family Picnic in May is also another fun event. Everyone that came last year had a great time. This is something that you don't want to miss. There are lots more things happening later on in the year also: the Western Riding Clinic, the English Shows, the Western Shows, the Fourth of July Parade, the outdoor general meeting, the overnight ride at Jack Brook Horse Camp, Night at the Races, the Presidents Ride, and much more. What a great club to be a member of! I hope everyone will participate in these events and help make this club the great club that it is. I am looking forward to being the President this year and keeping this club active and fun as in all the past years. 🐾

MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

by *Amos Dana*



I want to extend my sincere congratulations to the new officers and Board members and to assure the membership the Association is in extremely capable hands. Doris Lantz, our new President, has been involved at every level of Association business and has excellent experience for a very successful term of office.

As I stated in my first message, it is now time for another member to take the "point" and for this fellow to go back to the rear of the formation. I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation for the support of so many during the past two years. I always felt a couple of you left the formation to be with me during my recuperation and I will never, never forget that. Thank you all! 🐾



San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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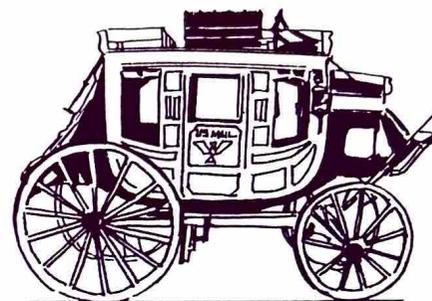
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Winter Issue 1994

The official publication of the
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Horsemen's Association

Published quarterly
January (Winter)
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July (Summer)
October (Fall)



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No paid political or religious advertisements will be accepted; all articles submitted are subject to editing; all articles or items reprinted from another source must be cited as to source and permission to reprint; items or articles submitted for publication that are not printed will not be returned to the author or persons submitting them. Editing will be reviewed by a review committee of the President and two board members.

COLOR GUARD AT GRAND NATIONALS

SMCHA was well represented by our color guard again this year at the opening night of the Grand Nationals at the Cow Palace in October. Our thanks to Laurie Fieguth, Nancy Crowley, Claire Rittenhouse (the "regular" Color Guard) and to Noel Moody and Lisa Dixon who helped us qualify to ride by being the "4th rider" (Lisa rode during the day competition and Noel rode at the evening ceremony). 🐾



HORSE LOBBY GROUP FORMED

by *Adda Quinn Sublett*

Last fall the San Mateo County Park and Recreation Department held hearings on whether horses and riders should have access to the beach for recreational riding. Apparently, a concerned citizen had raised issues about the dangers posed to humans from horses. While it appears that County officials and horse groups may be arriving at an acceptable solution on this issue, the situation has become complicated by land developers and local government officials who have initiated efforts to harass equine property owners in an apparent attempt to free these properties for other uses.

A grass roots not-for-profit organization has recently been formed by over one hundred concerned citizens who call themselves the West Coast Horse Association. They have been meeting at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of every month through February above the Farm Bureau in Half Moon Bay. Monthly meetings are planned from March on. They intend to lobby appropriate local county and state governmental entities to preserve rights and access for horse owners and riders on public lands. They seek to assure responsiveness of elected officials empowered to consider such issues in public meetings, and to counter the general erosion of rights pertain-

ing to equine ownership and use. Of particular concern are proposed "stabling ordinances" which could mean restrictions and taxation on horses kept even on private property.

On the issue of beach access, San Mateo County Park and Rec has tabled further consideration of this issue until its meeting on May 4. There has never been a problem with injuries from horses, or to human health from horses which use the beach in San Mateo County, so no data exists. A six month trial period is now about half over, during which period such data is being collected for the first time. Kendall Simmons of Park and Rec reports that the horse people have been very cooperative, that the process is working well, and that he doesn't expect major changes for equine access. An agreement is being worked out between the public stables and the County to specify guidelines for beach use and to set up patrols. If you have interest in this process, you are encouraged to contact Bob Emert at San Mateo County Park and Rec (363-4099).

The CEO of the West Coast Horse Association, Willa Chapman, a SMCHA member, has been invited to speak at an upcoming San Mateo County Horsemen's Association Board of Directors meeting. Anyone interested in preserving and expanding our riding environment who can actively support this group should contact Don Harring 415-728-7065 or Willa Chapman (415) 726-6013. 🐾

MESSAGE FROM CSHA—



REGION 6

by Don Rumsey

I want to wish everyone a happy new year! This year Region 6 will have separate Board of Directors meetings to include Region 6 officers, the immediate Past President, com-

mittee chairmen, and representatives from member clubs. These meetings will be work sessions with a standing invitation to any individual members or commercial members wishing to attend. A general membership meeting will be held at least quarterly and located throughout the region.

If you know of any clubs or individuals who would like to know about C.S.H.A., please contact one of the Region 6 officers.

The make-up of Region 6 is unique in its vast diversity from rural farm communities to one of the largest, most sophisticated cities in the nation, to the highest technologically advanced area in the world (our own Silicon Valley). Region 6 was once known as the "Region of Champions" and was one of the most active regions in the state. Well . . . we have rested long enough! It is time to go to work again! And why not? In these very difficult and trying economic times the horse lovers still have their horses and still want to do the very things that CSHA was set up to do when it was founded over 50 years ago. Let's support our clubs and share the message with every horse owner or lover in the region. **THERE IS A PLACE FOR EVERYONE IN CSHA!**

In the 1st quarter of 1994, Region 6 will have one of the finest dinner dances you have ever attended. This is the most important function in the Region for it will support and fund all of the

awards in all of the Region 6 programs for the year. Please support this event when it comes up. The success of this fundraiser will determine the quality of our awards. When you work hard to train yourself and your horse in one of our programs all you want is a chance to compete and if you win, you want some recognition. You bet you do! Let's give our winners the best for being the best!

Don Rumsey, President, Region 6
P.O. Box 361718
Milpitas, California 95036
(408) 263-1823 🐾

COMING SOON . . . TO A SUNDAY IN MAY THE 2ND ANNUAL S.M.C.H.A. FAMILY PICNIC

by Aleta Reed

If you missed last year's picnic, as most of you did, you may want to give it a try this year. The main goal of this gathering is to have an enjoyable time where the entire family can participate. Many of our S.M.C.H.A. families have only one or two members who actually ride and/or have an interest in horses. This day is set aside for ALL to come and play together with other S.M.C.H.A. families and friends. This year we will try to reserve an area where horses are allowed, since for some of us, our family is our horse. Once again, we will offer a variety of games and activities for children and adults. Last year's participants had a blast competing against each other. As with any picnic, you bring your own food and drink which eliminates any complaints that the menu was not satisfactory and the price was too high. Watch for future updates. 🐾

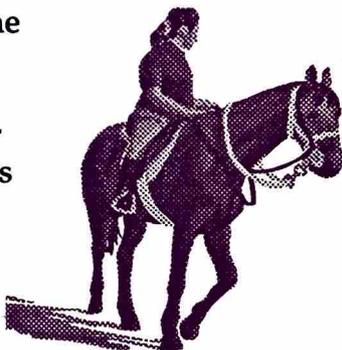


TRAILER LOADING

by Len Judd

Many people every day, every year load their horses and travel to and from various destinations. Then one day they go to load their horse to attend a show, cow sorting, etc. They are running late, in a hurry, or just plain need to get there and suddenly their faithful old horse will not go in the trailer. They use all different forms of coercion i.e, feed in the manger, oats in their hands and still the horse won't go in. As their time runs shorter they resort to more drastic measures to get the horse in. The most common is getting someone to lead the horse while someone gets behind the horse urging the animal forward. A very dangerous situation can arise for the person who is doing the leading as often times they walk into the trailer ahead of the horse, the person behind gives a bit to much giddy-up and the person inside finds themselves quite often trapped in the trailer with an extremely agitated horse. The horse usually exits from the trailer as quickly as he/she came in, quite often either hurting themselves or their handlers. Then the butt ropes come out and more forceful coercion comes into play with the result the horse then takes to kicking at the ropes — more opportunities for the horse and handler to get severely hurt and they do. The final result, that horse does not even want to go near the trailer, let alone get in the thing. So if you have found yourself in any of the above situations, please stop now before you or your horse get badly hurt.

For a horse to go into a trailer it has to be a non-threatening environment for the horse. Horses by nature are claustrophobic animals and many times we are asking them to go into these confined situations with no preparation on an emotional level (ours, not theirs — we get emotional when they don't go in!)



To prepare a horse to go into a trailer:

- (1) Don't take them straight to the trailer.
- (2) The horse has to be taught to move forward and lunge around you on an understandable cue. You have to give them a direction left/right and ask them to move. To go to the left, give them a direction with your left hand, cluck to them and gently swing the end of the lead rope. When they move, cease swinging; they soon get the idea to move.
- (3) Once you have them lunging freely around you ask them to stop, turn, and face you and ask them to disengage or move their hindquarters away from you as you move toward their rear end. As you move to their rear, their head will come around to protect their hind end and then you can ask their front end to move away from you. To move their forequarters, if you hold both hands up and move toward their head and "push" (with energy, not touch) their head away, they should then in effect be turning over their hindquarters.
- (4) Get them to back up. Send energy down in the lead rope by waving it like you have a snake by the tail. Shake it and if they don't move put more energy into it and they'll move back.
- (5) Teach them to drive away from you. Get them going away from you by lunging them and then send them down a yard/fence, or barn wall. Let them get used to going ahead of you. (Don't use too short a lead line or you could find yourself getting kicked. A 20' lead rope is ideal.) When they get used to having you behind them and are moving forward freely, see if you can drive thru your barn, between sheds, etc., and see if you can drive them thru confined spaces.
- (6) If they are conversant with the above, time for the trailer. Describe a half circle around the back of the trailer at about 6' to 8'. This is a "Free Zone." Ask your horse to lunge to the left and right about 30 to 40 feet in a half circle away from

Continued on page 6

TRAILER LOADING, continued

the trailer with your back to the trailer. Slowly move toward the trailer, obviously as the horse gets closer, the 1/2 circle will get smaller. When the horse enters the "Free Zone" stop, pet the horse and let him/her know it is a safe place to be. If it shows fear and can't stay there long, don't worry, lunge them some more away from the "Free Zone", when they enter it again stop, pet them, let them know it's O.K. to be there. Let them stay there until they are obviously calm standing there. They may even look in the trailer, reward them with petting, stroking, talking to them, show them you are calm and don't have a worry in the world.

(7) Now comes the big moment. Stand by the back door or ramp, give them a direction with your hand with the lead rope line in it, with them looking toward the interior of the trailer. With the other end of the lead rope gently but persistently swing it and cluck them forward. It's at this point you find out whether or not they understood part (2), but if you have got them lunging freely to the left and right and they understand the cues, they will move forward. If they move any foot even a 1/2" toward the trailer reward them by stopping, petting, etc. Remember they have to feel safe. They will usually move forward and sniff the trailer floor. At this point become positively effusive in your praise of them. Then they will attempt to put one hoof in and usually pull it back out. Remember at that point it is a big effort for them to overcome that fear. Stop, praise them again, then their front hoofs will go in and quite often they will stand their front hoofs in, back hoofs out. Quietly get in with them, give more lavish praise because now they are really trying. Leave them that way for 5 minutes or so, all the time petting and calming them. Then ask them to back out. This point is important because they have to know that they can get out when they need to. Half a dozen times of half in and half out and backing them out and usually they will just step right in. Once again quietly get in there with them and reassure them that they are O.K. If they run

out backwards then bring them back to the "Free Zone" and start again, quietly. Once they go in and out freely, leave them in there for longer periods, but be there with them and pet them, talk to them, reassure them and then they will relax and feel safe. Now you can take them out and start driving them to the trailer from further and further away, and it's not uncommon to be able to get a horse who was a problem loader to trot in the trailer on the end of a 40' line and load themselves with no real effort from the handler. They do this because they know it's a safe place to be.

(8) Now you can introduce the butt chains, but first pat them on the legs and tail where the butt chain is going to go. Once again, make sure you are where the horse can't kick you. When they are comfortable with that then hold up the butt chain and gently rub it on them and put a little pressure on them like they will experience when moving. When they are accustomed to this and are still standing quietly then hook it up and quietly close the door. Your horse is now loaded and ready to go.

One last point: Most people when arriving at their destination jump out of their truck and let their horses out. This can set up the scenario where every time you stop, the horse thinks it's time to get out. When this doesn't eventuate a lot of them get impatient and take to trying to demolish the back door of your trailer, when all you did was to stop at a stop sign.

When you arrive at your destination go and have a cup of coffee, you most probably need it by then anyway, and let your horse stand patiently in the back for a while, whilst the vehicle is not moving and this will help them not to anticipate when and where they are going to be taken out and can save a lot of damage to a valuable piece of equipment - your trailer.

And remember, the nicer you drive, the nicer your horse will travel and the more comfortable

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TRAILER LOADING, continued

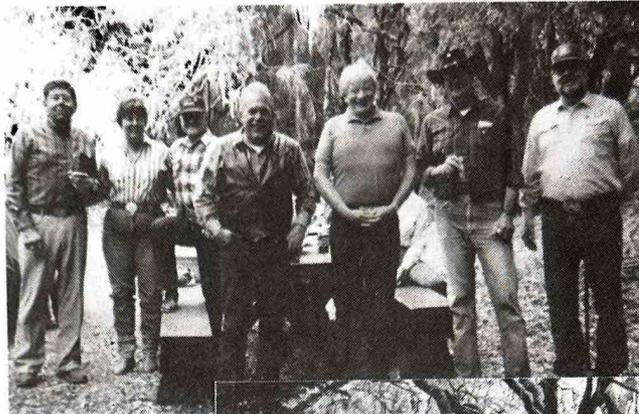
they will be, and next time you come to load your horse he/she may just step right on in safe in the knowledge that it is an O.K. place to be. 🐾

Len Judd, who spent most of his life in the Australian outback, riding, working horses and mustering cattle, is now living in California and training horses (and the people who belong to horses) using the techniques of "natural horsemanship." Building on this basic foundation of communication and response, the horse-rider team can then go on to specialize in a particular type of riding — dressage, trail, reining, etc. If you have questions regarding "natural horsemanship" or if you need advice on a specific problem, you can reach Len Judd at (209) 868-3600.

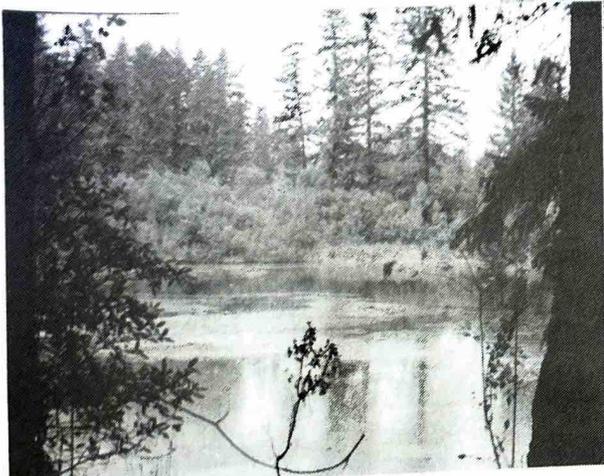
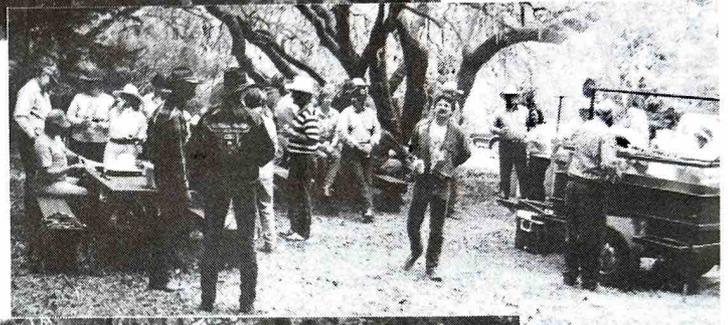
PRESIDENTS' RIDE

by Doris Lantz

The Presidents' Ride in October was another great ride, led by Jack O'Shea, through watershed lands not usually open to the public. We left from the Trousdale gates and rode to Mudd Dam where we had a delicious lunch. There were about 26 riders and 50 for lunch. 🐾



SMCHA Past Presidents:
Jim Estep, 1979-80
Mary Lee Twisselman, 1986
Ron Harris, 1988
Rick Payne, 1989
Dick Convery, 1990
Harry Wellman, 1982-3
Amos Dana, 1992-3



BOARD DINNER & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In December, Board members were treated to a delicious dinner catered by the Stanaways at the home of Rick Payne. Congratulations to the new officers elected:

President Doris Lantz
 First Vice President Sharon Lann
 Second Vice President ... Donna Tozi
 Secretary Larae Akland
 Treasurer Deanna Tanner
 Sargeant-at-Arms Walt Kirk
 Historian Sue Sheehan
 Registrar Harry Wellman
 Parliamentarian Carolyn Rice



Mary Jo and Ron Harris, Walt Kirk, Doris Lantz,
Amos & Patti Dana



Bill Hopper, Donna Tozi, Bruce Doran, Bruce Baker,
Doris Lantz, Nancy Crowley

LOS VIAJEROS

(Compliments of *Equine Magazine*)

By Norma Tucker, 1993 Los Viajeros President

The year was 1941. It all started with ten good friends enjoying an early morning breakfast in a lunchroom near Mar Vista Riding Stables in Daly City just south of San Francisco. Tethered nearby were their horses, and near them sat a dog named Narrow Gauge. Inside, the group talked about an annual festival, Boulder Creek Days, which was going on sixty miles south of the stables. What better way to travel to the celebration than by horse? So the ten good friends, their horses and Narrow Gauge set out for Boulder Creek, riding southward, crossing the numerous open lands to Skyline Boulevard — the most direct route. That night the weary travellers bedded down at the Condron Ranch. On the second day they arrived at their destination. They were greeted with such enthusiasm that they decided to make that particular ride an annual event.

World War II broke out shortly after the 1941 ride. Since plans had to be revised for the duration, only seven riders joined the group in 1942. In 1943 the rank increased by 23 and the group took a different route. After stopping off at the Deeney Ranch beside Pescadero Creek, they rode through the Butano Forest. It took three days to get to Boulder Creek.

Something new was added to this ride. This was the first time the group hauled its own chuckwagon and the first time that one person served the meals, thereby relieving the riders of a burden that in the past they had taken on themselves.

The club was formally organized in 1944 when 38 people got together. In keeping with California's Spanish heritage they adopted the name, "Los Viajeros" (the travellers) Riding Club, and incorporated, with a set of bylaws. Until 1960 mem-

Continued on page 9

LOS VIAJEROS, *continued*

bership rides were mainly from Mar Vista Stables to Boulder Creek. Sometimes the route varied and occasionally so did the destination. One year Los Viajeros rode to Watsonville instead.

By the early 1950's subdivisions had replaced some of the ranches that were nightly stopping spots. Gone also were some of the trails that led to Boulder Creek. It was at this time that the riders started to use Memorial Park in San Mateo County for a base camp, which continues to this day. Other base camps have included Etna Springs (Northern California), Jack Brook Horse Camp, Pocket Ranch (Geyserville), Stewart Ranch (Point Reyes), Flying H Ranch (Paso Robles), Kelty Meadows — Texas Flat (Sierra National Forest) and Grant Ranch in Santa Clara County.

It was these first overnight rides that formed the basis for the annual four-day ride in June. In the bylaws are written, "No person shall be eligible for membership in the club unless he or she shall have reached the age of twenty-one and has ridden on the full four-day qualifying ride as designated by the board of directors."

Although the club has chosen the first Sunday of each month for their ride day we also have a three-day ride on Labor Day in September and several overnights. We ride from March to November. In December we leave our horses home, dry and warm in their barns, and have a Christmas party. January marks our only general membership meeting. The board of directors meets each month to take care of business; that way, other members can just ride! By March we are back on the trails again.

Our rides are organized group rides; we use trail bosses and drag riders. There is a faster group for faster-moving horses, and their ride usually lasts a little longer. Our club policy requires all guests to have a sponsor. If you are interested in

joining us sometime, please contact Norma Tucker (408) 268-0318, Ed Drotleff (415) 592-4426 or Jean Hansen (415) 851-2508. We do not allow dogs, stallions or ponying of another horse. All riders must be twenty-one years of age. Since the rides are catered each rider must honor his or her reservation.

Currently we have about eighty members, ranging in age from thirty to eighty. They live from the coast to Sacramento, from Napa to Los Gatos. One member lives in Southern California.

Please give us a call and try to join us sometimes for a fun ride, good conversations and a chance to see what we are all about. See what ten good friends and a dog named Narrow Gauge would think of us now, fifty-two years later. 🐾

Dates for the Los Viajeros rides in 1994 are included in the calendar on page 16.



Wanted:



Your photos
of 1993 SMCHA events

Reward:

Long lasting memories
of fun times

You can turn in your captive photos
by calling Sue Sheehan, SMCHA Historian,
at (415) 851-0296.

JUNIOR TEAM PENNERS!

by Cynthia Stagner

In September, Sunday mornings were reserved for junior riders to introduce their horses to some spunky young cows. Kate Deeney, Chelsea Staff, Mary Schwabel, Tina Campbell, Trinity Baze, Brandy Baze, and Cassie Baze, ages 8-13, attended cattle sorting and penning classes at the Mounted Patrol Grounds. The Sunday sessions were especially geared for young riders, as well as adults, to learn the skill of working cattle.

Each rider learned to select, sort, and pen calves, as well as drive a herd. It is one of the best activities to improve riding ability. It requires a horse and rider to work together, with the horse doing half of the thinking. The participants also practiced teamwork. Soon they became proficient "Team Penners."

Team penning is a fast growing humane sport of sorting out a small number of cattle as a timed event. Up to three cows are persuaded to enter a pen. Team penning is a non-contact sport where a rider is severely penalized for bumping or even touching a cow. The cows naturally move away from horses, so there's no reason for any roughness.

It is best to start with a well-trained horse, especially a mount that can rein, stop, and back up quickly. After just a few sessions with the cattle, the horse begins to understand his job. That's where the fun and learning begins. These riding lessons are filled with unpredictable action and laughter. The calves actually buck and play, as if to say, "Ha ha, we got away," after out-maneuvering your horse!

What will the young riders do with these skills? They will respect their horse a little more, understand cattle and the concept of "herd instinct," and acquire better horsemanship and competence through teamwork. What's in it for the horses and cows? The horses become superb athletes while developing an even temper and the cows

get a little exercise! Note: A very special thanks goes out to John Mossman for making this activity possible!

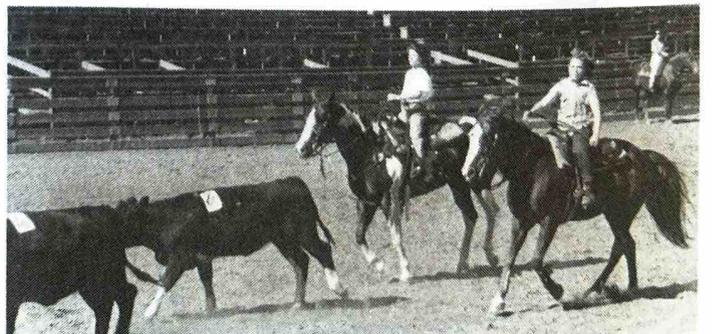
For more information about learning or competing in team penning or team roping, call Cynthia Stagner at (415) 593-9940 or send a S.A.S.E. to Box 2541, Menlo Park CA 94026 to receive flyers regarding upcoming activities.

A point/awards program for the CSHA Region 6 Stock Team is currently in the works. We will offer lessons and competition in team penning and roping. You can qualify for the State Show of Champions! The top teams of Region 6 will compete with riders from all over California this coming October.

The Show of Champions also includes Western, English, Gymkhana, Miss CSHA Pageantry, Horsemastership, and more! To qualify, start now by participating in local competitions within Region 6. To get in contact with division chairpersons, call Region 6 President, Don Rumsey at (408) 263-3336. 🐾



Chelsea Staff of HMB and Tina Campbell of Woodside prevent the herd from scattering during a cattle drive



Trinity Baze of Woodside and Kate Deeney of HMB working as a team

CLEM'S

by Clem Carroll

O
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R

Permission granted by the Coastside Journal, Half Moon Bay, to print the following story, entitled "A Horseman Untouched By Time" by Bruce Davis:

Ralph McNamer is a horseman. His life spans nearly a century — but his story goes beyond longevity. His story is rich — about a spirit connected to horses, and a life connected to the past. No sign of the fight at Little Big Horn remained on that famous battlefield when McNamer came into this world in 1901. Custer died at Little Big Horn — McNamer lives in Half Moon Bay. Yet, if Custer and McNamer could meet, they would know one another — like two countrymen meeting in a foreign land. McNamer and Custer shared a way of life — daily routines, bugle calls, the smells of dust, leather and manure, a language spoken only by horsemen, the kinship of men who rode horses into battle. Both served in the United States Cavalry, and what Custer knew, McNamer learned — because the Army, bound by its ways, changed but slowly over time.

So talking with Mac, as he prefers to be called, is like talking with Custer, or any other horse soldier who rode the plains. Mac is a live connection to another century — a world unknown to a generation who grew up with Ninja Turtles in place of Red Ryder. Mac remembers life in the cavalry with crystal clarity. "About once a week, at two or three in the morning, they'd blow, 'Boots and Saddles', and you had to be down and saddled in five minutes — saber and all," he explained. Custer might have had the same experience. Both men knew about sabers and what to do with one in a charge. "Wave 'em around in the air?" Mac asked, incredulous. A gob of brown juice hit the dust near his boot. "Why . . . you held the saber right on the horses neck so you could stab forward or chop." As he demonstrated, Mac's hand thrust forward, gripping a saber real enough to see. "I liked the people — I met all kinds. There was corporals had 25 years in. That's all they were." And they were all horsemen.

Horsemanship came naturally to Mac. "You can teach anyone, but you have to be a born horseman. It's got to be born into you," he said.

Mac started riding at age 4 or 5. His way with horses showed up early. His folks were teamsters in Columbus City, Iowa, hauling dirt, transporting commodities and operating horse-drawn harvesting equipment for a living. "We drove 32 (horses) to a combine then. But you only drove two, the rest were buck-lined back to the double trees," he explained. Early on, Mac handled horses his older brothers and experienced riders avoided. "They'd have those big horses half broke and I'd hitch them up and drive them. I just got along with them," he explained. He rode a horse named Tony to school. "I'd ride him to school and turn him loose and he'd go home. About 3 p.m. my mother would turn him loose and he'd come and get me. I'll bet that pony traveled 40 mile a day. Every day. I'd go to a show — wouldn't even tie him up, just drop the reins. And when I'd come out, he'd be right there waiting for me. I wouldn't trade him for all the horses on this place . . . if he were alive today."

In 1918, while the rest of the country began an obsession with the automobile, Mack joined the cavalry — perhaps the only place for a young man who had a special way with horses. He found himself in Germany, serving in the army of occupation.

When Mac mustered out three years later, he remembered, "I couldn't stand civilian life. After about three months, I re-enlisted." Each hitch lasted three years. Mac re-enlisted over and over again, staying with the Calvary into the

CLEM'S CORNER, continued

1930s when a gang cut his throat in Manila. The army cashiered him out. The surgeon said Mac had six months to live — maybe less. Mac served hitches with the Fourteenth Calvary at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, the Thirteenth Cavalry at Fort Riley, Kansas, then signed up at Fort Robinson, a remount station in Nebraska. He broke horses and trained recruits there until 1927. Mac re-enlisted in a different cavalry outfit each time his hitch ended. "Hell I didn't want to stay in the same place all the time." His career took him to China and finally the Philippines.

Stateside, when he could get a three-day pass, Mac rode the rodeo circuit — saddle broncs, bareback and trick-roping. Then there was Hollywood. "I was down there when they had real cowboys." He rode under the name of Tex Star and did stunts for movies such as "They Died With Their Boots On," "The Charge Of The Light Brigade," and "The Harolds of Virginia." Mac stood in for stars like Errol Flynn and Cary Grant, who were too valuable to risk on stunts like riding a horse off a cliff. The horse's name was Buster, and Mac rode him over the 62 foot precipice, plunging into a lake. It was Buster's last ride.

Mac grieved. He lost a friend. When he told the story, it was not about a stunt, or about Hollywood or about movie stars — Mac's version spoke of sorrow, and his responsibility for killing Buster.

If Tony and Buster lived today, they would whicker, toss their heads, and pace impatiently at the first sound of Mac's battered old van coming up Columbus Street in El Granada — just like all of the other horses anxious for their daily dose of attention from the man who knows them so well.

The routine begins when Mac climbs out of his van. Epithets, curses and a steady stream of insults fall on alert pairs of uncomprehending, but loving ears. Mac walks up to the fence. Greetings pass in the manner of horses, nose to

nose, cheek to cheek, man to horse — a message passed in a gesture, not in words.

Although he claimed to do "as near nothin' as I can," 92-year-old Mac regularly bucks bales of hay, feeds horses, drives his van and moves with an agile and lively gait. His opinions are as lively.

When Pumpkin Festival organizers decided to charge \$5 to ride in the parade, Mac quit riding in the parade. "Them old women down there ought to be bakin' biscuits — but they're the directors. Now they want to collect \$5 to clean the streets. I told her I wouldn't pay \$5 to ride in the parade, but I'd donate a hundred to clean the streets."

Would he do it over again? "I wouldn't trade my life — if I was a young man, I'd do 'er all over again. I don't owe a son of a bitch a dime."

Mac and his wife, Tomasina, just celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. "I met her in El Paso one day, and married her two days later," he said. Together they raised two boys of their own, 29 foster children and countless horses.

When Mac crosses his own Little Big Horn, a last link between two centuries and two cultures — one driven by horse, the other by technology — will vanish. It will be a damn shame.

C.C. note: I've met Mac and observed how he watches a person mount a horse. He will tell you in ten seconds what kind of a rider sits that horse. Many airline stewardesses board their horses with Mac. Most of them are aware of his critical eye, but if shown sincere interest in doing the "right thing," his kindness and patience is unending.

CLEM'S CORNER, continued

Because of the increasing incidence of horse thefts, the following is provided by Morris Weisbart of Horse Theft Prevention.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR HORSE IS STOLEN!

First important steps to recovering a stolen horse:

1. Report your horse(s) as stolen — Call local Law Enforcement.
2. Call Bureau of Livestock Identification Brand Inspector office at (909) 628-7370.
3. Call your breed registry to red flag your papers, if your horse(s) is registered.
4. Phone area newspapers — get them to run a story with pictures of your horse.
5. Phone local TV station(s) — get them to do a story.
6. Make up flyers of your horse(s) picture, description, date stolen, city stolen from. List your phone number. List reward if you can afford. Specify, reward for information that leads to the recovery of the horse(s).

7. Fax flyers to slaughter houses and auction yards.
8. Call Nancy Kerns, Editor of Ride magazine, at (916) 343-9994. Nancy will print horse(s) description & pictures in next issue.
9. Call friends, family, and neighbors tell them what happened and ask for help in passing out flyers, go to auctions etc.
10. Mail flyers to everyone you can think of — tack stores, feed stores, vets, shoers. Go to your local feed/tack store who carry free horse publications. Mail to advertisers, get the word out! Your horse could be anywhere!

For information call HORSE THEFT PREVENTION at (916) 432-2485.

We can't guarantee the recovery of your horse. We offer these suggestions from our experience. Best wishes in your efforts. 🐾



705 MILES—REVISITED

by *Linda Menon*

Remember the brief article in our Summer 1993 edition about Lisa Woods and her horse Cotcho who passed through this area on their ride from Los Angeles to the Oregon border? Well, they made it! On August 21, just before sunset, they crossed the Oregon border, just as J. Smeaton Chase did almost 80 years ago. This time, however, they celebrated with family and friends who had thoughtfully brought smoked salmon and champagne. 🐾



Lisa Woods and Cotcho



EQUINE HEALTH CARE

"Spavin and Arthritis of the Equine Hock"

by Larry Wohlford, DVM

The term "spavin" is used broadly to indicate an abnormality in the equine hock. Horses with a distended hock joint have a "bog spavin." If the large vein coursing over the front of the hock is swollen, "blood spavin" exists. Horses with bony arthritis in the hock are said to have "bone spavin." This article will focus on the arthritis (joint inflammation) which occurs in the lower hock joints. This condition has been called "tarsitis" (inflammation of the hock), "jack spavin," or simply "spavin."

The hock is the anatomical equivalent of the human heel. It is formed by the junction of a fused tibia and fibula, three rows of small irregularly shaped bones and three metatarsals creating four joints. The joints are named, from top to bottom, tibial tarsal, proximal (upper) intertarsal, distal (lower) intertarsal, and tarsal metatarsal. Arthritis most commonly occurs in the lower two, the distal intertarsal and tarsal metatarsal joints.

The arthritis can be the result of a congenital weakness, trauma or repeated stress on the hocks of athletic animals. The latter is most common and is a frequent cause of hind leg lameness. The clinical signs (symptoms) of spavin are short stepping and toe dragging a hind foot, swinging the leg inward or outward as it is advanced, hip hiking and abnormal wear on the outside branch of the shoe or hoof wall.

Veterinarians diagnose spavin using comments by owners, gait observation, a special hock flexion test ("spavin test"), radiographs and injections of local anesthetics into the joints (joint block). Occasionally special tests such as nuclear scanning or thermography are necessary if the

condition is not obvious ("occult spavin").

Treatment depends to some degree upon the severity of the arthritis. When joints are simply inflamed and degeneration of the bones and joints has not occurred, anti-inflammatory drugs such as bute can be helpful, as may shoeing the hind feet with square toes and trailers on the outside branches. When joint degeneration is present, it is often necessary to inject medicants into the joint(s). Cortisone is a powerful anti-inflammatory drug inside joints. Hyaluronic acid, a normal component of joint fluid, can improve the joint environment and may have a local anti-inflammatory effect. Adequan is a large, complex molecule which helps maintain the integrity of joint fluid in the presence of inflammation. Some horses respond to systemic treatment, either intramuscular Adequan or intravenous hyaluronic acid (Legend). Occasionally, the degeneration is so severe that fusion of the joints is necessary to stop the pain. This can be done surgically or chemically by injecting sodium monoiodoacetate (MIA) into the affected joint.

Although arthritis is generally a progressive condition with a poor prognosis for soundness, horses with spavin can often be successfully managed. The lower two hock joints contribute less than 10% of the total range of hock motion. When they are painful, however, horses do not want to flex the hock at all, so there is more than a 10% loss in range of hock motion. Motion in the hock and stifle are interdependent due to the reciprocal apparatus (two tendons which help lock the leg so horses can sleep standing). When the hock flexes or extends, so must the stifle. If significant hock flexion is lost due to spavin pain, there will be a corresponding loss in stifle flexion. Quieting the spavin pain with medication restores the range of motion in both the hock and stifle joints and alleviates many of the signs of lameness. Those who have had their horse's hocks injected see a tremendous improve-

Continued on page 15

Trading Post

Sell or Trade:

Ω Need to put a little zip in your life? Ready to move up from your aging but healthy steed? Trade in your baby, for our baby or buy. She is a seven-year-old sorrel Quarter horse with a sweet disposition, excellent health, medium size, 2+ years of dressage training but used exclusively for trail rides. Owner is a novice rider approaching a mid-life crisis who needs gentle but willing older medium sized hack of any breed who will take care of her until that glorious day in the future when (and if) she ever learns how to ride. Call George Sublett (415) 592-0722.

Ω Thoroughbred mare, Queen's Hustler bloodlines, proven brood mare, dressage jumping, reschooled natural horsemanship, 13 years old, no beginners please. \$2,500 OBO. (209) 868-3600.

Ω Arab gelding, 7 years old, started and ridden with natural horsemanship principles, great on trails, great stopper, loads, etc. \$2,000 OBO. (209) 868-3600.

EQUINE HEALTH CARE, *continued*

ment in performance. If the joints must be fused due to severe degeneration, the amount of motion lost from the fusion is minimal (less than 10%) compared with the willingness of the horse to bend the leg again once the pain is gone.

As with most medical problems, early

NIGHT AT THE RACES

SMCHA members changed from riding gear to party duds, enjoyed a delicious dinner in the Turf Club, and got a chance to try their luck at betting on the horses at Bay Meadows in September — we understand that Lisa Dixon and Eileen Borzone were especially big winners! 🐾



Lisa Dixon and Eileen Borzone show off their winnings



detection and treatment of spavin can prevent chronic lameness. If you suspect spavin as a cause of lameness in your horse, call the vet! 🐾

Larry Wohlford, D.V.M., a local Woodside resident, has specialized in the treatment of horses for 11 years. You can reach him at (415) 851-1214.

1994 CALENDAR

TENTATIVE

JANUARY

- 12 SMCHA Board Meeting
22 SMCHA Installation Dinner

FEBRUARY

- 9 SMCHA Board Meeting
24 SMCHA White Elephant General Mtg

MARCH

- 6 LV Woodside Restaurant Ride
9 SMCHA Board Meeting

APRIL

- 10 LV Half Moon Bay Ride
13 SMCHA Board Meeting
17 SFHA Golden Gate Park Ride & BBQ
24 SMCHA Spring Ride

MAY

- 1 SMCHA May Day Parade
7, 8 LV Carmel Valley Ride
11 SMCHA Board Meeting
15 SMCHA Family Picnic
20-22 SFHA Napa Overnighter

JUNE

- 5 LV Almaden/Quicksilver Ride
8 SMCHA Board Meeting
5 SMCHA Western Show
9, 16, 23 SMCHA Western Clinic
12 SMCHA Restaurant Ride
12 SMCHA English Show
26 LV Marin Headlands Ride
26 SFHA Golden Gate Park Ride & BBQ

JULY

- 4 SMCHA Parade
7, 14, 21 SMCHA Western Clinic
10 SMCHA Western Show
13 SMCHA Board Meeting
14-17 LV Silver Lake Ride
17 SFHA Golden Gate Park Ride & BBQ
24 SMCHA Western Schooling Show
29-31 SFHA Jack Brook Overnighter
31 SMCHA Western Show

AUGUST

- 6-7 LV Santa Cruz Ride
7 SMCHA English Show
TBA SMCHA Outdoor General Mtg.
10 SMCHA Board Meeting
14 SMCHA Norcal Show
21 SFHA Golden Gate Park Ride & BBQ
22-29 SMCHA Jack Brook

SEPTEMBER

- 3-5 LV Jack Brook Ride
9 SMCHA Night at Races
14 SMCHA Board Meeting
16-18 SFHA Jack Brook Overnighter

OCTOBER

- 1-2 LV Rustridge Winery/Napa Ride
2 SFHA Golden Gate Park Ride & BBQ
9 SMCHA Presidents' Ride
12 SMCHA Board Meeting
28 SMCHA Grand Nationals Opening Night

NOVEMBER

- 6 LV Progressive Ride
9 SMCHA Board Meeting
17 SMCHA General Meeting

DECEMBER

- 2 SMCHA Board Dinner

SMCHA San Mateo County Horsemen's Association activities
LV Los Viajeros rides (for information contact Carleen Whittelsey at (415) 851-4000
SFHA San Francisco Horsemen's Association rides



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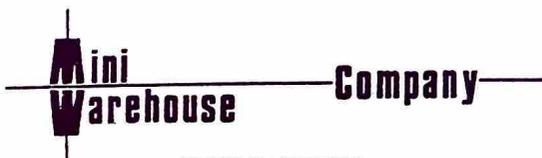
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Member of California State Horsemen's Association

President: Doris Lantz

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San Mateo County Horsemen's Association 1994 Membership Application

	Annual Dues	I would like to help with the following events/functions:
_____ JUNIOR MEMBERS (17 or under)	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> A. Board of Directors
_____ SENIOR MEMBERS (18 or older)	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Trails
_____ MR./MRS. MEMBERS (married couple)	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> C. Western Riding Clinic
_____ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$45.00	<input type="checkbox"/> D. English Shows
(married or single parent and unlimited number of children 17 or under)		<input type="checkbox"/> E. Western Shows
		<input type="checkbox"/> F. Programs
		<input type="checkbox"/> G. Magazine
		<input type="checkbox"/> H. Trail Rides
		<input type="checkbox"/> I. Junior Members
		<input type="checkbox"/> J. English Riding Clinic
		<input type="checkbox"/> K. Playday
		<input type="checkbox"/> L. Hospitality
		<input type="checkbox"/> M. Membership
		<input type="checkbox"/> N. Publicity

Annual dues are for January 1st through December 31st of each year.

Other: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SMCHA. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH. MAIL APPLICATION TO:

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