

The San Mateo HORSEMAN



75th Anniversary Year



2014 Horsewoman of the Year

Sharon Butler with Cool

WINTER 2015

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COVER

Thanks to Sue Winslow
for the Cover Photo

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
WINTER 2015**



Cover Photo by, Sue Winslow

By the time you are reading this message, our 2015 Installation Dinner & Gala will be history. We have six new Board Members who each have fresh ideas to bring to the SMCHA table. The welcome mat is extended to Kim Jordan, Deb Padilla, Susan Snook, Deanna Tanner and Nancy Kouchekey, who is our past president and returning board member. Thank you to our 2014 Board Members and to those who are continuing on for 2015. I'm also happy to report that I have been re-elected to be SMCHA president for a third year.

This year SMCHA is celebrating its 75th anniversary and we have many extra special events planned. Check out the calendar which is included in this issue and we also encourage you to check our website often as new items are posted (www.smcha.org).

Our first magazine of the year features an extraordinary friend to SMCHA and to me...Sharon Butler, Horsewoman of the Year for 2014. She works tirelessly for your club and is a caring and talented equestrian. If you haven't had the opportunity already, please join me in congratulating Sharon for her hard work, commitment and accomplishments that led to being selected for this award. Congratulations, Sharon!

There were so many successes in 2014 and that's because we have an amazing team of SMCHA committee leaders, members and donors that pitch in to make these events happen...Horse Shows, Color Guard activities including competitions & parades, General Meetings that include professional presentations, English and Western clinics, Play Day, Trail Rides, socializing and sharing ideas and learning more about our treasured equine friends. Thank you to all the volunteers on an outstanding year!

Get ready for more fun with your horse in 2015...
SMCHA's 75th Anniversary.
Please come on out and get involved with your club.

Happy Trails,

Cheryl Basin
SMCHA President 2015

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association 2015 Officers

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Gina Silva

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Subscriptions:

Subscriptions are available for \$35 per calendar year which includes membership in the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. Please fill out and mail in Membership application on the back page of this magazine.

We invite you to grow with this magazine by promoting your service or product. Please send your ad and your check to San Mateo County Horsemen's Association.

**DEADLINE
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for the Spring 2015 issue
is March 15 2015



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Visit our website at www.smcha.org

The San Mateo HORSEMAN

WINTER 2015

The official publication of
**San Mateo County
Horsemen's Association**

Published quarterly

January (Winter)

April (Spring)

July (Summer)

October (Fall)



MEMBERSHIP
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(Application on back cover)

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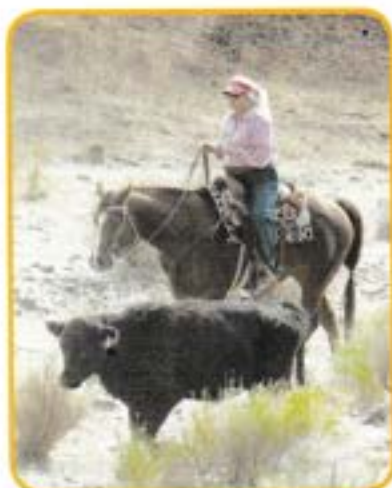
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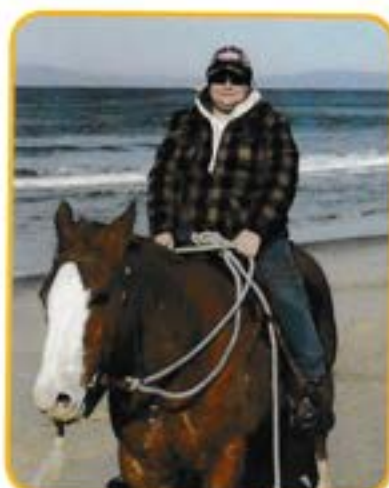


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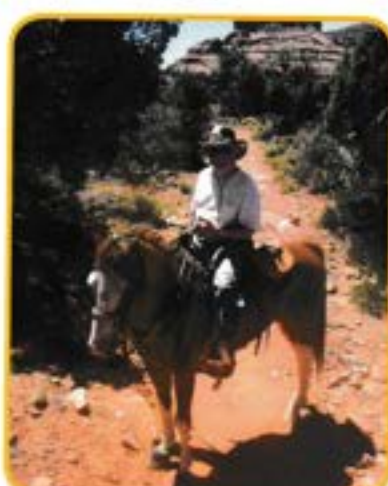
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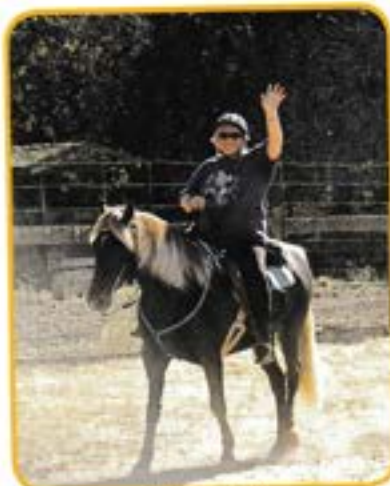
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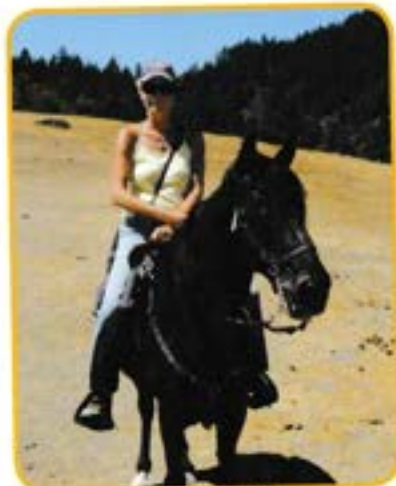
Sharon Butler



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The Creator of the SMCHA Logo

THE CREATOR OF SMCHA LOGO



"There is something very noble in the bearing of this woman who stands in the doorway as you walk up the path. As she graciously extends her hand to meet you one can recognize the self-assurance of someone who has gained a measure of acclaim. But it is the eyes that compel you. They are large and soft and set wide apart. These are gentle eyes but they make a demand that they know you immediately."

These words were written by Al Dunn to describe the artist who designed the SMCHA logo, Elizabeth Mihalyi, a London born Hungarian painter whose favorite subject was horses.

Elizabeth Mihalyi came by her love of fine horses through her childhood days on the family's Hungarian farm where her father always kept about a 100 head.

Clem Carroll remembers meeting Elizabeth in 1965 while she was riding the trails above Canada Road. Ms. Mihalyi was painting her rural mailbox at the time. For years she always introduced Clem as the first friend she had in California.

"The only time we tried to out do each other was in cooking. Her European recipes were shared and printed in the local newspapers whenever a story was written about her", says Clem. This was usually done when she donated a portrait picture for the Peninsula Symphony Fund-raising program or when she held annual Teas for the Woodside Garden Club.

Her studio on Edgewood Road was always filled with paintings and many local people commissioned work from her including the Frank Hoopers, Mrs. Jackie Dawson and Dick Grant.

The reaction to Elizabeth's pencil sketch for the SMCHA logo always brought the same response, "you know, he looks a bit like my horse!".

Elizabeth Mihalyi died on October 2, 1986 at the age of 83.

Our Historical Roots...



1940-1941 President L.C. Smith

During the year of 1939, San Mateo County Officials arranged to have the first FLORAL SHOW AND FANDANGO held at the new Bay Meadows Club House in Hillsdale. A parade was to be held in conjunction with the show starting in the City of Burlingame. L.C. Smith was asked by San Mateo County to organize a group of horsemen to ride in the parade and to display as many different representative types of horse-drawn vehicles as possible. Mr. Smith, as he later stated, anticipated a rather small showing but he underestimated his ability to organize as well as the horse lovers who couldn't wait to show off their old family carriages, buggies and wagons. Horsemen from the southern end of the county (Pescadero) to the extreme north (Colma) were contacted and an estimated 300 horses were in the line of march the day of the parade.

This large showing of horses was truly a credit to Mr. Smith and an inspiration to him to try to find a way of keeping these horse lovers together instead of "being scattered to the four winds". That evening at the Fiesta Dance, L.C. Smith discussed his ideas with Don Facciolle of the Lazy Day Ranch in Portola. It was Mr. Facciolle's suggestion to start an association of horses similar to the one that had already been organized in Santa Clara. One might say that the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association was born that evening. However, it wasn't until the following year that the Association began officially with the election of officers. The first meeting was held in the City Hall of San Mateo with a membership roster of 20 to 25. The first directors were drawn from these first charter members and were: L.C. Smith, John Perata, George Johnson, Don O'Neil, Sr., Don O'Neil, Jr., Creed Haberlin, Patsy Gray, Rolla Watt, Mrs. J. Grepe, Pete Villa, Jack Hara, Harry Tyrell, Lillian Jones, Grace Jones, Colonel Koester, Judge McNutt, Nick Ayers, Brad Melvin, John F. Nyland, Myron Duncan, Lucille Fardon, Roy Waldron, Harold Himseleman and Ed Spillane. Eventually thirty-five directors were elected, some serving one year, two year and three year terms. By-laws were drawn up and officers were later appointed. The first Executive officers were:

PRESIDENT: L.C. Smith
 FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: John Perata
 SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: H. Himseleman
 SECRETARY: R.B. Watt
 TREASURER: Harry Tyrell

75 Years Later...

SMCHA is 75 in 2015

By: Noel Moody

Happy Birthday SMCHA! We owe it all to L.C. Smith and Don Facciolle who formed the club in 1940 to keep horse lovers together instead of scattering to the four winds. This occurred after L.C. Smith had been asked to invite horsemen from around San Mateo County to participate in a parade in Burlingame for the first Floral Show and Fandango at the Bay Meadow's Clubhouse in Hillsdale. The horsemen's reply was so overwhelming that the idea for a club evolved between the two gentlemen. L.C. Smith became the first president of SMCHA. The first meeting was held at the City Hall of San Mateo and had a membership of around twenty-five.

So much can happen again! To start off, we are having a membership drive. The winner will receive a beautiful silver Gist buckle. Let's get at least 75 new members by April 30 (no joke).

Save the date of May 9th. You won't want to miss "*Saddle Up--A Rendezvous with Equestrian Style*". This special entertaining family event features a gourmet luncheon and the opportunity to win fabulous raffle prizes. More details to follow.

Gina Silva will be sending out a flyer for the SMCHA 75th Anniversary Ride to take place on April 25.

SMCHA's General Meeting on September 18 in conjunction with "Friday Night at the Movies" will feature the "SMCHA Hall of Fame." We need your help to nominate members for this honor. It's someone, living or passed on, who has contributed greatly to SMCHA. You will receive a form for nomination of special members. We need your help on this, so start thinking!

Lets get 75 people for the Western Riding Clinic and the English Riding Clinic. It's fun and there will be lots of door prizes! Of course, we're planning on participating in the Redwood City 4th of July Parade. You can ride your "bomb-proof" horse or ride in one of our parade vehicles.

Finally, how about writing up your favorite time at any SMCHA event for our Facebook page. We'd love to hear about it. What do you like about SMCHA? Why did you join? What happened that was funny? Share it with us.

If you would like to help with the 75th year of celebration with SMCHA please call:
Noel Moody (650) 322-6545

Remember so much can happen again! Happy Birthday SMCHA!

Our Historical Roots...

October..November 1971

THE SAN MATEO HORSEMAN

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Senior Play Day

On October 10, 1971, the Annual Senior Play Day was hosted and chaired by ROSS MEREDITH at the Woodside Stables. Due to the VEE shots being given earlier, the Play Day had been delayed for a month and this led to anxious speculation as to the amount and enthusiasm of participants. However, this was short-lived. One hundred twenty entries were in the events and had a great time. The spectators were not only entertained by the show, they also enjoyed the refreshments under the supervision and capable abilities of RUTH MEREDITH. Home-made sandwiches, cupcakes, hot dogs, and the refreshments were sold at fantastically low prices... a cup of coffee for a nickel!!!!

The activity started at 12:30 P.M. with thirteen classes scheduled. A beautiful high-point trophy was donated by ANDY

STAGNARO – new owner of the PEANUT FARM (one of our local night-clubs), ANDY, incidentally, participated the entire afternoon. A special trophy was donated for the 1ST Class, PLEASURE HORSES ON HALTER, TWO YEARS AND UNDER, by FREEWAY FARMS, DON and JERI PABST, who always support the SMCHA events, financially and as participants. The only class that was hard to fill was the OLD-TIMERS CLASS, Over 50. Seems very few people will admit to being OVER 50.

It was a real fun afternoon. Even though it gets a little rough at times, no one got hurt and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. Hap Harper announced the events so the hazard was reduced a little. Don Brown won the High-Point Trophy with 34 Points and RAY CIRELLI

received Runner-Up Ribbon with 17 points. Special thanks to those many people who assisted: JIM DILLINGER, LAURAJANE AND GARY ALVES, BILL ZWIERLEIN, SODDY AND KEVIN WILLETT, HARRIE MONTEITH, BUD ALDIGE, ELSIE VECKERY, SUE BUTLER, TERESA FABIANSO, the judge: SARAH REESE, KYLE KIPNIS, KELLIE HARPER and many others. Most thanks of all to those very nice people... ROSS AND RUTH MEREDITH.

DOTTIE HARPER

Student (at riding stables): "I want to rent a horse."

Groom: "How long?"

Student: "The longest one you have. There are four of us going."

75 Years Later...

SMCHA's Annual Halloween Playday - 2014

By: Annie Tyo

Our Annual Halloween Playday Extravaganza was again held at the wonderful venue of Page Mill Pastures on October 25. We were a little worried about having to cancel it due to the weather and the concern of the footing in the arena. As we were wondering whether to shop for final supplies and food needed, we decided to go for it rain or shine! We did not want to disappoint those who were eager to come have fun and show of their skills.

The morning of the 25th came and luck was on our side as the little rain had actually helped the condition of the arena by taking down the dust just enough to make perfect conditions for the events to take place. The skies were blue and it wasn't that cold. Riders began to arrive and register for the events they wanted to participate in.

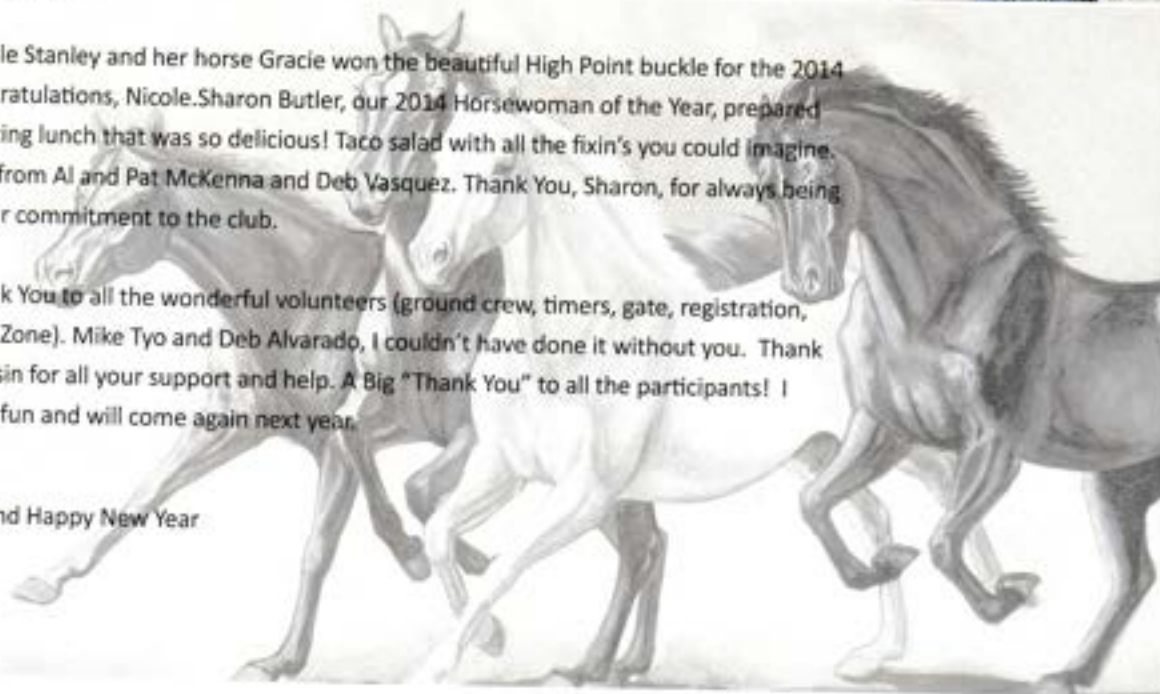
I invited my dear friend Deborah Wilkin who brought her adorable mini horse, Viggo, for the kids to pet and say hello. Sylvia Ruggiero brought coffee and donuts for the early arrivals to enjoy. We had a "Kids Zone" organized by Amy Hublou from Gallop Ventures where the children could decorate pumpkins and do other crafts. Pony rides were provided by my Mustang, Wild Bill. Many thanks to Rainer Schultz and Karen Rowley for assisting.

Participants started off with a challenging obstacle course, and I had the honor of judging along with Larry Pelzner. This was followed by our speed events such as cloverleaf, barrels and keyhole patterns along with the full-cup race and the bandana race where 2 people must work as a team and maneuver some poles without losing their connection. It was exciting to watch!

Nicole Stanley and her horse Gracie won the beautiful High Point buckle for the 2014 Playday. Congratulations, Nicole. Sharon Butler, our 2014 Horsewoman of the Year, prepared another amazing lunch that was so delicious! Taco salad with all the fixin's you could imagine. She had help from Al and Pat McKenna and Deb Vasquez. Thank You, Sharon, for always being there and your commitment to the club.

Thank You to all the wonderful volunteers (ground crew, timers, gate, registration, food and Kids Zone). Mike Tyo and Deb Alvarado, I couldn't have done it without you. Thank You Cheryl Basin for all your support and help. A Big "Thank You" to all the participants! I hope you had fun and will come again next year.

Happy Trails and Happy New Year



Our Historical Roots...



WOODSIDE MERCANTILE 1989

Have you ever longed for the days of the country store? You know, the old-fashioned way to shop where a wide variety of quality merchandise was available under one roof and all at a fair price. And service, that's something we don't see much of in today's hectic retail market.

If this sounds good to you, take a step into the past at the Woodside Mercantile (formerly the Woodside Collectors Guild). Owned and operated by Donna Tozi and Bruce Doran, the Woodside Mercantile has become a cornucopia of treasures both past and present.

Having spent 35 years with horses in Woodside (27 of which have been at the same barn), Donna was anxious to put her knowledge and talents to work. Donna, a long-time member of SMCHA and a former Junior Rider knows the expense involved in outfitting children for riding and showing. On the other hand, she remembers her desire for riding as a child. (She explained her parent's concern that she was able to spell "horse" before her own name.) To keep this kind of interest alive, Woodside Mercantile offers children's riding packages. Starting at affordable prices, parents of young equestrians will be able to outfit their youngster from nose to tail, including the saddle.

And remember "candy in the jar"? Well, at this "Old Country Store" you'll find that too! Above all, Donna and Bruce want the Woodside Mercantile to offer the "best quality merchandise at the right price". Visit them yourself. They're open 7 days a week. Trust me, you'll see a slice of the past unfold before your eyes.

75 Years Later...

SMCHA is proud to introduce the Tozi Youth Scholarship Fund

Donna Tozi was a devoted horsewoman. She began riding in her teens and joined the San Mateo County Horseman's Association as a Junior member at the age of 15. Many years later, in 1996, she served as the SMCHA president. She spent her life committed to SMCHA and was dedicated to supporting young people in their horse pursuits. Donna was known to sponsor many cowboys and cowgirls in her time.

Horses were in her blood. Donna was an aficionado and breeder of paint horses and was a regular participant in horse shows as well as rodeos. As an owner of B&D Tack, she spent most of her weekends setting up shop at such events.

Donna passed away in January 2005 after a three-year battle with ovarian cancer. Her request before she died was that, in lieu of flowers, donations would be made in her name to the SMCHA Youth Program. A scholarship/fund was established in her name and has been designated for assisting youth in their pursuit of horsemanship and learning. SMCHA currently defines a youth member as any person under the age of 18 who is a member in good standing with an individual or family membership; who has permission from a parent or legal guardian, or who is an emancipated minor.

We have created an annual scholarship program for youth interested in developing their horsemanship skills. There is an application process that is based on interest, financial need and the ability to give back to our horse community. The annual winning applicant will receive up to \$500 to be applied towards riding lessons, shows, competitions, and other appropriate equine related activities. In return, the winner

will volunteer for SMCHA sponsored events for a minimum of 10 hours per calendar year, will help raise funds to replenish the scholarship, will take an active role in the SMCHA organization by promoting our youth programs and will be required to present at an SMCHA Board or General meeting at the end of his/her scholarship year.

Donations to the Tozi Fund are accepted in order to continue providing these wonderful opportunities to the youth in our community. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Amy Hublou at amy@hublou.com.

Applicant Instructions:

The deadline for application is April 1, 2015.

All application materials should be sent to

**SMCHA, Tozi Scholarship Program,
PO Box 620092
Woodside, CA 94062.**

To receive an application or ask additional questions, contact Amy Hublou at amy@hublou.com.



Our Historical Roots...

CONNIE & FAY HUMPHRIES



Connie Humphries was awarded the distinguished HORSEWOMAN OF THE YEAR for her many years of service to SMCHA.

Irma Goldsmith described Connie Humphries as "gracious and charming" and the description certainly fit this hospitable woman who opened her door to me despite her feeling a little "under the weather". I promised not to take too much of her time, all I needed was to say hi and thank her on behalf of SMCHA for all her past work and dedication. During our chat, her husband Fay joined us after spending the morning out at his barn at Webb Ranch.

Fay Humphries grew up on a ranch on an Arizona Indian reservation, where he learned to handle horses and mules at an early age. It was while working on the Bear Creek Ranch near Modesto that he became interested in polo and started training polo ponies. He came to San Mateo when it was still "horse country". It was there that he met his wife, Connie. They were married in 1948 and now reside in Menlo Park.

Fay Humphries has been such a great force among polo players on the Peninsula that the Menlo Circus Club has named an annual tournament in his honor. Fay is the man every other horseman comes to when he needs help because he's having a problem with his game or with his horse. He is the elder statesman of polo players on the Peninsula, Mr. Polo himself!

Connie Humphries has always donated her time and energy to the SMCHA in all areas of activities. I reminded her that she was given the DISTINGUISHED HORSEWOMAN of the YEAR Award in 1973 for all her loyal service to the club and one does not win that coveted award easily!

We talked about a lot of things. Mainly about the early days of the Association when both Connie and Fay were quite active. He was called on more than once to lecture on the world of Polo and offered several demonstrations on how to play the game. Although Connie worked on various SMCHA events, she remembers most the horse shows which were quite successful, large and numerous!

Quietly, Fay Humphries listened to our chatting and joined in when I asked him to comment on a thing or two. Oh such memories he must have behind that quiet manner and contagious smile!

We wish you well!

75 Years Later...

Sharon Butler Horsewoman of the Year

My love for horses started long ago as a young girl. Everything I owned or read was horses, horses and horses. When my parents would ask me for my list for Santa the first thing on the list every year would be "A HORSE." On Christmas morning, I would always jump out of bed and run into the living room and check behind couch because a horse would have been too big to fit under the tree. Year after year, no horse but I always put it first on the list nonetheless.

My best friend, Paula de Jager, and I would talk our parents into taking us to Sea Horse Ranch in Half Moon Bay once a month to rent a horse to ride on the beach. We also did the summer camps in Golden Gate Park. This is where I won my first ribbons, 1st place in grooming (this is where I learned to French braid a tail) and a 2nd in riding. It was so exciting and I still have these ribbons today. Our family did a lot of traveling during the summer, we would load the station wagon and off we went for three weeks. My brother, Erik, and I would always be able to have at least one horseback ride on our trips. I was able to ride in some amazing places and I think my favorite was Stateline Stables on the California/Nevada border, great view at the top overlooking Lake Tahoe. Now fast forward to when I am 40 and I was introduced to Page Mill Pastures, owned by Giselle Turchet. I was interested in leasing a horse and first tried one of Giselle's mares named Oakey. I rode her a few times and as we were prancing down a steep hill I realized I might need a horse more suited for a greenhorn, me.

One of Giselle's other leased horses had just been turned back in and she had me try him. This time I spent the first two weeks on the ground with him and then got on and rode. I knew from the start that "Cool Alpine Breeze" was the horse for me! About six months into my lease Giselle mentioned to me that she was selling a few of her horses and Cool was one of them. When Clint got home that night he found me on the bed staring at the ceiling with tears streaming down my face. I told him that Cool was going up for sale, never thinking I could own him and to my surprise Clint's response was "I guess we are buying a horse" and everything for me has changed from that day forward. My life as a true equestrian is something I only dreamed of as a girl and now here it is. I am now a member of three wonderful horse clubs and have had the honor of being on a Color Guard team for about three years. One of my most proud moments was when our team was standing on the dirt at the Cow Palace, holding the American Flag and having my daughter singing the National Anthem. Wow what a moment!!!

I have enjoyed being on the board for SMCHA for many years and being part of this club, helping to put on rides, meetings, horse shows and yes cooking my tail off. This club does so many wonderful activities and events to bring horse awareness to the community and to those that don't have much experience with horses. This group really does care about keeping our horses in our towns. Being selected as Horsewoman of the Year is a wonderful honor. It is truly humbling to me and I will cherish this forever. I am looking forward to riding a lot more in 2015 with all the amazing people I have met through the horse community; you are all like family to me.

Happy Trails to all of us,
Sharon Butler
Horsewoman of the Year 2014



Our Historical Roots...

The SMCHA Colorguard at the Cow Palace Oct. 29, 1990 "Cowgirl For A Day"

by Sharon Lann

When I was little I always thought Dale Evans had the greatest job - she got to dress in fancy clothes and rode around on her horse all day. Easy, right? Well, after trying it for myself (no Roy Rogers, but I did have Lisa, Kathi and Doris) let me tell you: its not as easy as it looks.

Two months ago (at the fall overnight campout - something about fresh air, good food and getting to kiss your horse good night ades the brain) four of us had an idea: the SMCHA needed a color guard. A ladies color guard. And we were going to be it. (Lisa, Kasanjan, Kathi Poppenbers, Doris Lantz and Sharon Lann) And, just to give us something to work for, we decided we were going to ride in the opening of the Grand National at the Cow Palace. (I told you something happens to your brain at these things).

No problem. We had horses. Okay, not matching horses, but hey, maybe they wouldn't notice (2 chestnuts and 2 bays make matched pairs don't they?) All we had to do was practice a little and figure out what to wear. (Keeping in mind that we all had to match, and we all therefore had to agree, that was probably the most over optimistic assumption of all)

Ideas were tossed out. And I do mean **TOSSED OUT**. Spandex, Dolly Parton wigs. Finally our

'costume' was arrived at: Riding Shirts (thanks to my friend Robin who kept repeating 'elegant' and 'dignified' until I thought it was a mantra). A vest to match with white fringe and blue rhinestones (I personally thought we went a little light on the rhinestones, but I do have a weakness for glitter. My motto is if it doesn't move, put something shiny on it), white boots, gloves and hat (with rhinestoneband-guess whose idea that was) and, of course, our gold scarf and 50th Anniversary SMCHA pin.

All of which had to be made or purchased to match in two months. Without Libby Armalino the skirts wouldn't have been - she made four and they were all perfect. Winchester Western Wear got the hats and boots for us, and Kathi found the perfect gloves (at Nordstrom, of course. After all we were going to be dignified and elegant.)

Okay. We had ourselves taken care of, but what were the horses going to wear? All of us trail ride in different saddles so we had to try and beg borrow or steal (that last was Doris' idea, I'll have you know) matching saddles. We finally figured out we could all get Australian Saddles. (Thank you Linda Fried and Kathi's dad.) We used the SMCHA's Western headsets and covered them with blue sequins, and changed to a Peruvian bit (My horse is a Peruvian Paso, and uses only a

Peruvian bit. Now you know Quarter Horses and Morgans can too.) We got English breast collars and covered them with silver beads and conches. We made royal blue velvet saddle pads with gold fringe.

We all got silver glitter for their hooves and glitter gel for their manes and tails.

And believe it or not, when you put it all together, we looked Great!

And we actually managed 5 or 6 practices before the big day (Nida-Doris' horse tried to bite Excalbur and Gunny- excuse me, give them "love kisses," Gunny kicked Mariah and developed a mad crush on Excalbur, but the flags were really no problem) Special Thank-you's to Jackie Polati for the use of her arena.

October 26th came before we knew it and we were on our way to the Cow Palace. Or rather, the Cow Palace parking lot. Thanks to our 'ground crew'- Scott Dancer, Bruce Baker, John Telucci, Lisa's mom Mary, Little Lisa and Robin- were in the saddle by 3:30 on the dot (and boy were we cute.) All the colorguards lined up (and lined up and lined up and lined up- there were literally hundreds of horses there) and we were **third** in line, behind the San Jose and

San Francisco Police Departments.

The actual judging took ten minutes - they checked our tack, our costumes, and flags and watched your actual riding briefly - but the next 4 hours were spent on horseback, lined up, waiting for the opening.

And it was cold. REALLY cold. About 4:30 the wind came up and dropped the temperature way down. I almost didn't mind the bright red lipstick Lisa and Kathi had forced me to wear, figuring it would cover the blue of my lips.

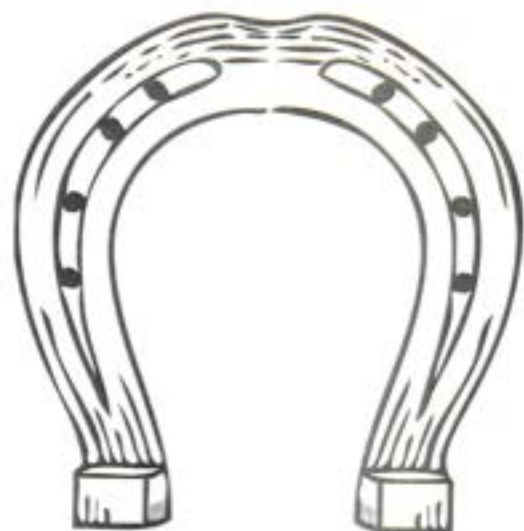
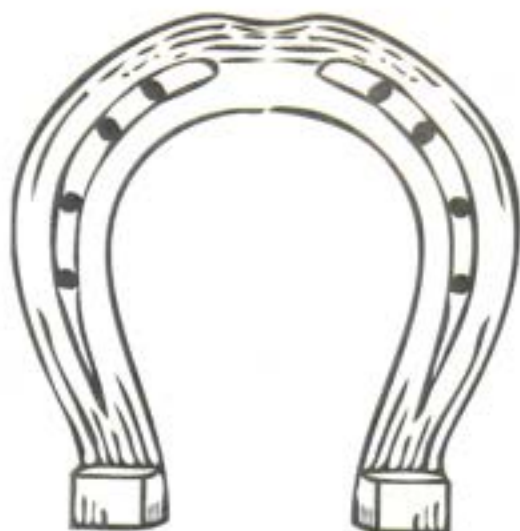
We tried to talk the SFPD out of their nice jackets - so much for protecting the public (well, pro

tection from the elements should count)- but made do with the light ones we'd bought. (Next year we're working ski parkas in somehow)

Finally, it was 7:30 pm and time to go in. The various 'ground crews' left (I found out quite a few of them had done this before and didn't want to witness what occurred when all the riders entered the arena thanks so much for telling me right before our turn and we went in. We had a little trouble with the flags since ours were the tallest and the heaviest. Everyone else had aluminum poles, ours were made of oak. We made it under the overhang barely and took our place in the arena. Our debut as a colour guard was over- and we took a fourth

in the ladies division! (First place was the honor guard of The Shady Ladies of the Mother Lode who rode side saddle in beautiful old west costumes) Not bad for a first time out. We learned alot. What the judges look for, what good precision riding looks like, what kinds of costumes and decorations work best, most of all how important it is that your horses match. . . .

Just wait until next year. We're going to make Dale proud.



75 Years Later...

SMCHA Color Guard at the 2014 Grand National Rodeo

By: Christine Friis

Your SMCHA Color Guard had another fun and exciting year at the Grand National Rodeo (GNR).

Throughout the season it seems the number of scheduled events grows and gets a bit more intense. Our horses and riders get a bit braver with all the sensory we experience throughout the season and by the time we get to the GNR we are ready to be in the middle of a whole lot of sensory!!

Our Thursday started out by heading to the Cow Palace, unloading 4 horses and enough tack, clothing and gear to tire anyone out. We were able to get settled in, have a practice session in the main arena and relax a bit afterwards.

We had a very early morning on Friday getting ready for the competition. Our awesome ground crew showed up bright and early to make sure the horses and all of us were ready to go. Wearing sparkly Red, White and Blue, we walked in the arena with two rookie horses and one rookie rider. The judges looked us over for which seemed like such a long time. The horses pretty much stood still through that entire part of the competition. Next was the compulsory and this team of riders and horses kept glued in formation and we rocked it! It was a "wow" moment.

Later in the day all Color Guard Units and Drill Teams rode back into the arena for the awards ceremony. SMCHA Color Guard was awarded second place, only one point behind the first place winners. We congratulated the United States Park Police for taking first place as they did a great job.

Friday night was SMCHA night at the Grand National and our team would be part of the Grand Entry. We received word that the SMCHA GNR bus had issues (never showed up) and we were saddened to think that the club wouldn't make it. To our surprise, as we rode into that big arena during Grand Entry, we heard all of you out there cheering us on. Despite the bus ordeal, everyone still found their way to the Cow Palace and a fun time was had by all! To those who came, thank you for making the extra effort to support SMCHA and the Color Guard.

I would like to thank our ground crew for their commitment and all their hard work. Jenny Mize, Debbie Padilla, Tina Wuslich, Caprice Tennefoss, Cindy Sidasaris and Sara Esquivel. We couldn't have done it without you all. You are so appreciated and your dedication to this team is amazing! Nancy and Greg Mize, thank you so much for bringing a welcome and scrumptuous lunch.

Cheryl Basin and Kristi Eifert, it's always an honor riding with you both and I thank you for your confidence, which carries over to this entire team. Stephanie Owens, I am so proud of you and Mufasa. You not only nailed your rookie year but you also put on a one-women show in the Grand Entry! These are memories that will last a lifetime!

Thank You to SMCHA and the Board of Directors for your consistent support for your Color Guard Unit.



Casey



Cece



Little Joe



Mufasa



2014 Grand National Rodeo at the Cow Palace



SMCHA's Color Guard Unit in 2014

Caprice Tennefoss, Kristi Eifert, Jenny Mize, Stephanie Owens, Cindi Sidasaris, Sara Esquivel, Cheryl Basin, Tina Wuslich, Christine Friis and Debbie Padilla

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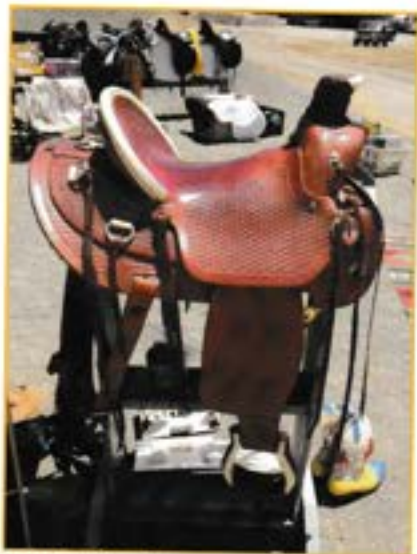


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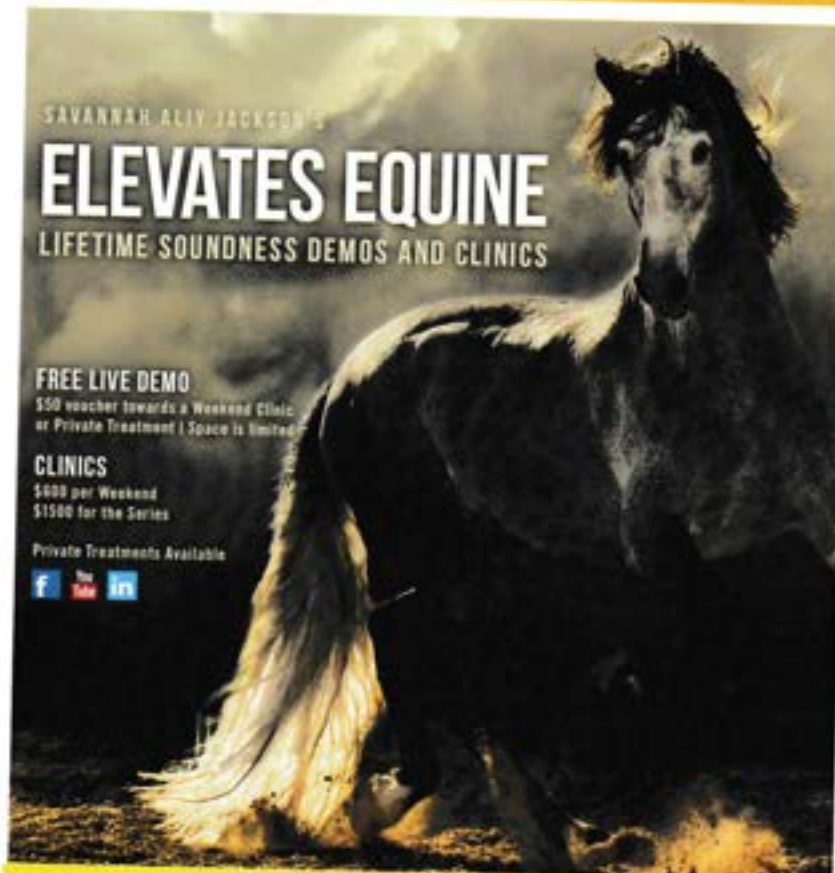
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1. When in doubt, run far, far away.
2. You can never have too many treats.
3. Passing gas in public is nothing to be ashamed of.
4. New shoes are an absolute necessity every 6 weeks.
5. Ignore cues. They're just a prompt to do more work.
6. Everyone loves a good, wet, slobbery kiss.
7. Never run when you can jog. Never jog when you can walk. And never walk when you can stand still.
8. Heaven is eating for at least 10 hours a day... and then sleeping the rest.
9. Remember wide open fields were meant to run in.
10. A good roll on a spring day is worth all of that bad winter weather
11. Eat plenty of roughage.
12. Great legs and a nice rear will get you anywhere. Big, brown eyes help too.
13. When you want your way, stomp hard on the nearest foot.
14. In times of crisis, take a poop.
15. Act dumb when faced with a task you don't want to do.
16. Follow the herd. That way, you can't be singled out to take the blame.
17. A swift kick in the butt will get anyone's attention.
18. Love those who love you back, especially if they have something good to eat.


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Bridles to Boots – Featuring Lori McIntosh, Endurance Rider
By Gretchen King, December 24, 2014

Many of us have had a chance to meet Lori, watch her in a clinic, or hear her talk about her competition in the Tevis Cup ride as an endurance competitor on her 12 year old Arabian "Hot Wheels" (Brumarba Red Shai). The Tevis Cup is a 100 mile endurance ride held in Placer County, CA, near Truckee. It is famous for its extremely difficult obstacles and has a 54% completion rate! Therefore it is no surprise that Lori and Hot Wheels were also the 2012 High Point Champion at SMCHA's playday. In her non-horsey life, she is a photographer who works out of her ranch, "Rancho Nacho", in Morgan Hill. The ranch is named after her husband Nigel in honor of the Latino community who call him "Nacho" as "Nigel" is too challenging to pronounce. Lori and Nigel also own 17 year old "Finn" (Rems Finn Guinness) and a 2 1/2 year old Arabian named "Groovy" (Najm El Nil). The horses live at home with them and they can trailer out to at least 10 different trailheads within an hour's drive for training and pleasure riding along with various equine events.

Lori started riding at age eight at Triple R Ranch in Chesapeake, VA. Her first time there she broke her arm during a trail ride and had to wait until the following summer to get back on a horse. She said she spend that entire year waiting and crying! At Triple R she rode quarter horses and did kids' rodeos, progressing into drill team. Lori attended the University of Texas at Austin and joined the intercollegiate team riding eventing, dressage, show jumping, cross country, and Western and English pleasure. She had no money in college so all of her trainers were other students who were children of trainers.

After college, Lori didn't ride again until she was 35, when she leased a Trakehner at Almaden Equestrian Center. Her husband thought it was strange that she only rode in circles in the arena. He just wanted to trail ride and Lori realized she was bored with arena exercises and wanted more of a challenge! In San Jose, Lori then met Becky Hart, a three-time world champion in Endurance, and her true calling as an endurance rider blossomed from there. Becky introduced her to Don Macintosh (no relation to Lori) in Woodside who had seven Arabians, and she started to train with Don and his horses all over the Peninsula.

In 2007 Lori bought Finn as a ten year old and started her endurance career. Soon she started training for the Tevis Cup, which she had heard was the "ultimate ride" from Heather Reynolds, a world-class competitor in Endurance from Los Gatos who won the 2014 Tevis Cup (her second victory). Lori says her husband never saw her anymore because Finn became her new man! So he was the one who initially bought and rode Hot Wheels, who was six at the time and had been an arena horse. Hot Wheels turned out to be a little too hot and speedy, so they switched horses. With Hot Wheels, Lori began focusing on the Tevis ride since Finn lost interest in the longer distances and preferred to be a model with the ladies (helping to launch Lori's new equine photography business in 2009). Lori and Finn learned how to do Trail Trials and Hunter Pace, earning a second place in each. She credits this latter win to knowing exactly how many miles they were going from memorizing her GPS pace. She also achieved her Level 2 Parelli (nonofficially) and learned several other natural horseman-

ship techniques with Clinton Anderson, John Lyons, and Linda Tellington-Jones. Hot Wheels was ready for Tevis after achieving 1,000 miles with AERC (American Endurance Ride Conference) and 3 years of training on the hills in Santa Clara county. The photo of Lori shows her competing in the Tevis at Cougar Rock. As far as tack, Lori loves Gail Hought custom tack made with zilco, which is biothane rubber rather than leather. All of her bits are simple Myler level 1 and 2 snaffle with a copper roller. She rides with a halter so that after completing 50 miles Hot Wheels can drink and eat more easily. Her reins are a basic Parelli rope with clip-on bridle attachments so she can easily hop off and walk all the downhills. Lori's saddle is an English Reactor Panel and she is also looking for a used Western saddle for Cowboy Dressage. Equipedic pads seem to work best for her after going through about 9 different types of pads. She uses Haf boots on her horses to protect their legs.

For riding, Lori wears all kinds of tights, "whatever fits well with the least amount of seams." In the summer, she rides in shorts and skorts too, and jokes about how equestrians' legs are the whitest of all athletes! She also wears Bit of Britain jackets with zippers and pockets everywhere. She tried a fishing vest but it felt too cumbersome. She even tried a fanny pack but never opened it. She likes super thin t-shirts with a giant Title Nine bra, as she does lots of trotting for 12 hours or more) or a long sleeve shirt if she is at high risk for getting sunburned.

She wears a Tipperary brand helmet with a visor and hiking shoes that are good for running; her favorites are Salomons. She likes compression socks as the repetitive posting does a number on her calves. Lori has never needed spurs with Hot Wheels. She says she "just smiles and he breaks into a trot in seconds. I might die if I had spurs on!"

We will certainly recognize Lori on the trails and hope to see more of her!



Photo of Lori and Hot Wheels was taken by Bill Gore

SMCHA Holiday Barn Party 2014**By: Annie Tyo**

This year we decided to try something a little different for our Annual Holiday Barn Party at NCEFT in Woodside. We thought it would be fun to have a Boutique sale and have vendors come with gift items that members and guests could pick up for those last minute holiday gifts. Instead of having the party in the loft above the barn, we used the covered arena where we had lots more room to spread out. Members brought their favorite dishes to share, which resulted in having some fabulous food. We asked several members what they thought about our new format and their comments are below. Gina Silva: "It was a very nice change for our Holiday Barn Party. Looking forward to celebrating our 75th anniversary all year! Paul and I had fun and having the vendors there was a great way to shop for the holidays. Plus, we enjoyed trying all the different dishes that members brought to share."

Fawni & Larick Hill: "We both thought the SMCHA party was a hit. The food was great, the venue worked out nicely and people really enjoyed socializing. It didn't look like many were buying from the vendors and that was too bad as some brought a lot of merchandise. Thank you for all your efforts in putting on this event. We really did enjoy ourselves." Tanya Rebarchik: "It was a really fun afternoon! I was pleasantly surprised at how many vendors came. I had fun shopping and looking at all the great stuff. I think we should do that again! The fire pit provided warmth and ambiance...the chairs around it filled up fast. All in all, a great way to spend a pre-Christmas afternoon." Ann Kirby: "The Barn Party was way cool! Beautifully set up, awesome vendors. I only wish I had brought more money. It was a terrific afternoon and you're to be congratulated, Annie."

Larry Pelzner: "A wonderful time was had by all. The food selections were very well coordinated by you, Annie. Of course, Bonnie, Jack the Percheron and Santa were added holiday treats that could not be duplicated in any other venue. Job well done!" Gretchen King: "I enjoyed all of it...the vendors, Santa, the fire pit, the music, the people, the sleigh pulled by Jack (so SMCHA-ish). And all 'en plein air!' Horse people love that. I thought there would be way too much food when I saw it all initially, and it miraculously disappeared! Potlucks are cool, there is so much diversity. My favorite dinners. I enjoy all the friendly SMCHA board faces. We have such a great board and great members! Clint was an excellent bartender. Excellent job, Cowgirl Annie! "

Thank you all for these positive and helpful comments.

Traditionally, the Horseperson of the year is announced at the Barn Party and I want to congratulate Sharon Butler for being selected as Horsewoman of the Year for 2014! You deserve it and I am so happy for you!

We hope this event will grow with more vendors, and all of you coming to shop at our next Holiday Party which will be another opportunity to celebrate SMCHA's 75th anniversary.

A Great Big "Thank You" to all the volunteers who made the Holiday Party a success, including Gari Merendino and NCEFT! I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year! We have a lot of fun activities planned for our 75th Anniversary!



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UPDATE ON....**"The Lemonade Stand"
Memorial Day 2014****by Christine Friis**

Remember our story a few editions back about the Lemonade Stand?

Your SMCHA Color Guard was tacking up and getting ready to lead the Hillsborough Memorial Day Parade when the Malouf and O'Sullivan children were drawn to our horses and full of questions. Conversations were had about our local horse community and horses in general. These children seemed quite interested in the topic of therapy horses at the National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy (NCEFT) helping Veterans and children. While walking the parade route we noticed these children hosting a "Lemonade Stand." After the parade these children closed up their "Lemonade Stand," counted their earnings and came up to us with a baggie full of coins and stated, "We would like to donate this \$14.50 to the therapy horses that help veterans and children." Our hearts melted at such a kind gesture from these children that had worked very hard to earn this money only to give it to us to pass on to the therapy horses at NCEFT.

In an attempt to "pay it forward" and match the children's donation, SMCHA reached out to members and asked to kindly donate \$14.50 to NCEFT on behalf of "The Lemonade Stand!"

I am proud to report that our SMCHA members raised \$1,469. This money was given to NCEFT on behalf of "The Lemonade Stand" during their annual Client Holiday Party. NCEFT was very thankful and very touched by this random act of kindness. A special "thanks" to all of you for paying it forward on behalf of these special children and their Lemonade Stand!

For 40 years, NCEFT has tapped into the profound rehabilitative power of the human-horse relationship to change the lives of children and adults, as well as Veterans, with disabilities. NCEFT is dedicated to helping people with disabilities reach beyond their boundaries through equine-assisted therapies, education and research. NCEFT provides clinical hippotherapy, adaptive riding and Carriage Driving, Veteran and School Programs that measurably rehabilitate a patient's quality of life. NCEFT is a registered 501(c)3 organization (ID 94-2378104), a Silver Guidestar.org Participant and a Top-Rated GreatNonProfits.org member with a 5-star rating.

You can visit www.nceft.org for more information or find NCEFT on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nceft.



**San Mateo County Horsemen's Association
General Meeting
Pasta Dinner & Bunco Tournament**



Fun for the Entire Family!

Saturday - February 21 - 5 PM

**Woodside Town Hall
2955 Woodside Rd., Woodside, CA 94062**

Good Food * Good Fun * Good Folks

\$20 per person

(children under 12 are free * non-members =\$25)

**Space is limited * RSVP today
- A reservation made is a reservation paid -**

**RSVP to: Gretchen King 408-406-1331 or
hightechbuckarete@me.com**

Mail your check to: SMCHA * P.O. Box 620092 * Woodside 94062
OR try our new Paypal option on our website!

SMCHA sponsors the San Carlos-Eaton Hills 4H Horse Project

By Amy Hublou

This past Fall, SMCHA was very pleased to partner with the San Carlos-Eaton Hills 4-H Program to support their new Horse Project.

Since 4-H began more than 100 years ago, it has become the nation's largest youth development organization. The 4-H idea is simple: help young people and their families gain the skills needed to be proactive in their communities.

The SMCHA sponsored 4-H Horse Project is intended to be a fun and interactive way to teach kids about horses, and themselves, through their interactions with horses on the ground. Clearly, there is much more to horses than just riding and so emphasis is placed on acquiring basic horse knowledge and the importance of building relationship with horses.

Learning objectives include basic horse anatomy and horsemanship skills such as safety, tying, grooming and leading. As well, an emphasis is made on building trust, developing relationship, making connection and establishing partnership. These skills are directly transferrable to interactions with other people and therefore, the overall goal is to provide a solid sense of awareness, empathy and connection to others.

The San Carlos-Eaton Hills 4-H Horse project is a wonderful opportunity for young people to develop leadership skills while strengthening social and emotional competence and SMCHA is proud to be a part of this learning opportunity!





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Have you ridden in the San Mateo County Parks lately?

By: San Mateo County Director

If you have you must have noticed that the trails are looking well maintained or maybe you have seen the youth groups out working on the trails during the summer. Or maybe you have been at Jack Brook Horse Camp on work day helping get the camp back in shape for the summer. Do you wonder who pays for that? The San Mateo County Parks Foundation uses the funds they get from members to pay for a lot of things we use in the parks. The Foundation helps support the Volunteer Horse Patrol and other volunteer groups that help the parks.

Did you know that volunteers (including the VHP) put in 31,000 hours of time this year? The VHP put in about 1900 not counting the hours of camp hosting which were almost 19,000. The Foundation supports these efforts with tools and supplies as well as a thank you event. Are you a member of VHP and have VHP patches and jackets? Those are purchased with funds from the Foundation. The Foundation has helped with work at Jack Brook Horse Camp, the trail work done in the summer by SCA and a host of other things to help the parks and the volunteers that work in the parks.

Why am I telling you this? As a newly selected Director for the Foundation I looked at the list of members and found very few horsemen on the list. But you say, I donated to the fund for rocking the trails and to the fund for Jack Brook. Thank you, but do you support the everyday functions of the parks? Even a small yearly donation to the Foundation does a world of good for the parks we all use.



SAVE THE DATE
SAN MATEO COUNTY HORSEMEN'S
SPRING RIDE

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015

Register at 9; Trail ride starts @ 10 am

Location: WINDANCE FARMS
WONG WAY, PESCADERO

ONCE IN A LIFETIME GUIDED TRAIL RIDE & LUNCH
OCEAN & MOUNTAIN VIEWS ON CLOVERDALE RANCH



MORE INFORMATION COMING IN THE NEAR FUTURE

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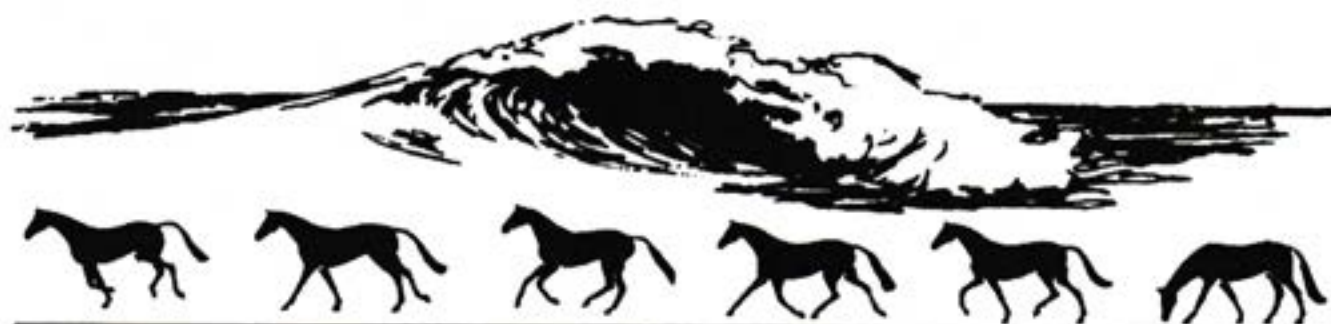
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2015 Calendar of Events

Subject to change - please check website for updates



San Mateo County Horsemen's Association 2015 - 75th Anniversary Year

(CHECK WWW.SMCHA.ORG FOR UPDATES)

January

- 8 Board Meeting
- 24 Installation Gala @ Mounted Patrol

February

- 12 Board Meeting
- 21 General Meeting/Bunco @ Town Hall

March

- 12 Board Meeting

April

- 9 Board Meeting
- 18 Jack Brook Clean-up Day
- 25 Presidents & 75th Anniversary Ride - Garrod Farm

May

- 2 Woodside May Day Parade
- 14 Board Meeting
- 9 San Mateo Cnty Fair Show - Cow Palace
- 9 Saddle Up-a Rendezvous with Equestrian Style @ NCEPT
- 10 Western Schooling Show - Webb Ranch
- 14 Western Riding Clinic - Mounted Patrol
- 17 Spring Ride-Post Cloverdale Ranch
- 21 Western Riding Clinic - MP
- 23-24 AQHA RHV Show - MP (tentative)
- 25 Hillsborough Parade
- 28 Western Riding Clinic - MP

June

- TBD Tack Sale - Horse Park
- TBD Stable Tour
- 4 Western Riding Clinic
- 7 Day at the Races-Golden Gate Fields
- 10 Board Meeting (note: Wednesday)
- 11 Western Riding Clinic - MP
- 13 Summer Trail Ride - Coastside
- 18 Western Riding Clinic - MP
- 6-14 San Mateo County Fair
- 25 Western Riding Clinic - Dinner
- TBD Clarkia Trail Clean-up (Summer)

July

- 3 Mounted Patrol: Rodeo Dinner & Dance
- 4 Redwood City Parade (Color Guard)
- 4 Half Moon Bay Parade
- 4 Mounted Patrol: Junior Rodeo
- 6 English Riding Clinic - Spring Down
- 17-20 The Californios Clinic - MP
- 9 Board Meeting
- 11 General Meeting TBD
- 13 English Riding Clinic - Spring Down
- 18 Reining By the Bay
- 20 English Riding Clinic - Spring Down
- 22-26 Jack Brook Horse Camp
- 27 English Riding Clinic - Spring Down

August

- 2 English Schooling Show - Webb Ranch
- 4-9 Menlo Charity Show-Menlo Circus Club
- 13 Board Meeting
- 30 Open English/Western Show-Horse Park

September

- 10 Board Meeting
- TBD Clarkia Trail Clean-up Day (Fall)
- 18 General Meeting/Movie Night @ Webb
- 27 Fall Ride

October

- 8 Board Meeting
- 10 Woodside Day of the Horse
- 16,17,23,24 Grand National Rodeo
- 16 SMCHA Night/Bus to GNR
- 24 Play Day & Halloween Extravaganza

November

- 12 Board Meeting
- 14 General Meeting - Elections & Bingo

December

- 13 Holiday Boutique & Barn Party

January 2016

- 14 Board Meeting
- 23 Kick-Off Gala & Installation



SMCHA's 75-Year Celebration
Membership Drive
Win a Silver Buckle

Celebrate SMCHA's 75th birthday! We're having a membership drive to get 75 new members. Win a gorgeous silver buckle by earning the most points for new members. The contest runs from January 1, 2015 to April 30, 2015.

Applications and payments must be received by April 30.

Here's how it works:

Youth member @ \$25 = 1 point

Adult member @ \$35 = 1 point

Couple @ \$50 = 2 points

Family with one or more children under 18 @ \$55 = 3 points

Name of New Member: (please print) _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail _____

Check one: Youth _____ Adult _____ Couple _____ Family _____

Sponsored by: (please print): _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Mail to: SMCHA, POBox 620092, Woodside, CA 94062

Membership applications available on www.smcha.org

SMCHA HORSE "SELFIE" CONTEST

TAKE A CUTE PICTURE AND SEND IT TO:
SMCHA@COLORGUARD@GMAIL.COM

WINNERS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A FUTURE EDITION OF
THE SAN MATEO HORSEMAN MAGAZINE!



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<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Annual Dues
Youth Member (17 & Under)	\$25
Senior Member (18 & Older)	\$35
Couple	\$50
Family Membership*	\$55

* Parent(s) & unlimited # children under 18

Please list names and ages of children

We would like to help with the following events/functions:

- Board of Directors
- B - Trails
- C - Western Riding Clinic
- D - Horse Shows/Playdays
- E - Magazine
- F - Trail Rides
- G - Youth Programs/Youth Color Guard
- H - Hospitality/Promotions
- I - Membership
- J - Senior Color Guard
- K - Other: _____

Contributions are always welcome to any of the following events/functions in any amount

B \$ _____ E \$ _____ H \$ _____ K \$ _____
 C \$ _____ F \$ _____ I \$ _____
 D \$ _____ G \$ _____ J \$ _____

Total contribution: _____ Total amount enclosed: _____

Annual dues are for January 1 through December 31 of each year. Join after October 1 and your membership is paid through the following year. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

If you **DO NOT** wish to have your name appear in our membership roster, please check here: _____

To be included in our roster, please remit dues by January 31.

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 EMail: _____

Please make checks payable to SMCHA and mail application to: SMCHA, P. O. Box 620092, Woodside, CA 94062