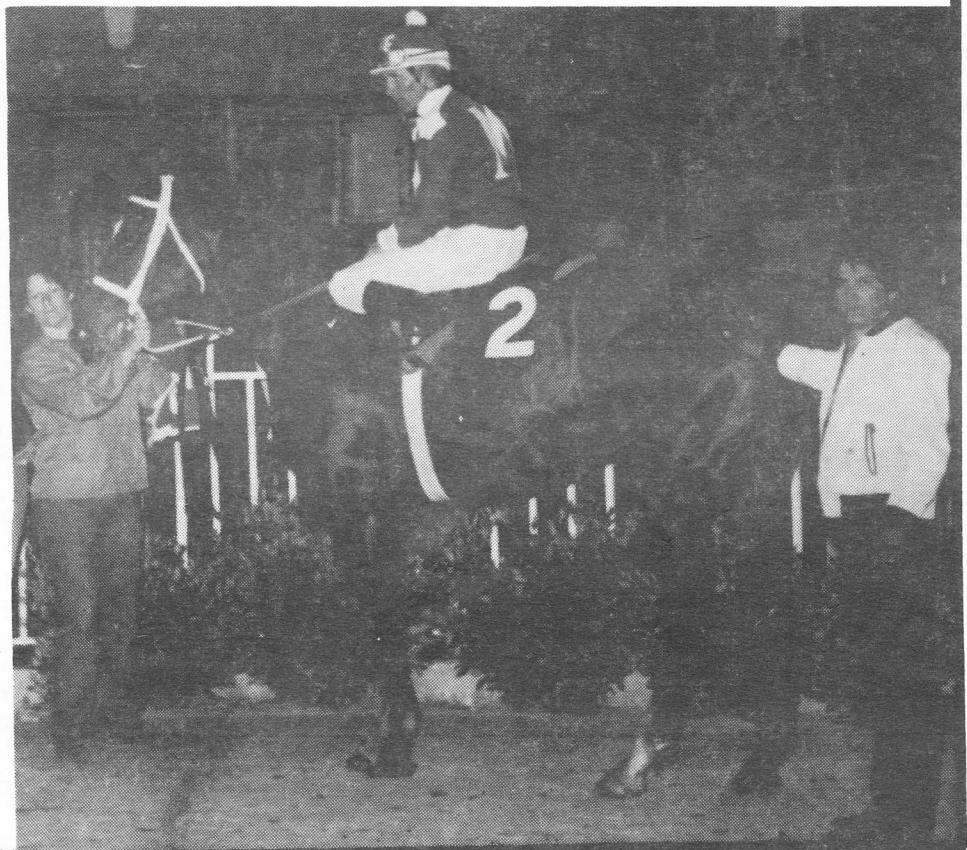


The San Mateo **HORSEMAN**



SAN MATEO COUNTY HORSEMAN'S ASSN.

1984 OFFICERS

President	Katie Kane
First Vice President	Brandy Cocker
Second Vice President	Noel Moody
Secretary	Barbara Bergman
Treasurer	Janet Estep
Sergeant at Arms	Tom Miller
Registrar/Membership	Tanya Servaas
Historian	Mary Lee Counts

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One Year

Carol Anderson	Walter Kirk
Steve Annus	Barbara MacDonald
Debbie Beebe	Tom Miller
Carol Fisch	Noel Ruhberg Moody
Nancy Hofer	Carol Tague
Carol Goodstein	Jan Yaroslav

Two Years

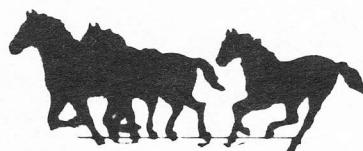
Andy Anderson	Kim Lewis
Barbara Bergman	Bob Nehez
Janet Estep	Tanya Servaas
Sharon Himebrook	Carol Sweeny
Gordon Jennings	Harry Wellman

Three Years

Vicki Bohacs	Ross Meredith
Susan Bosse	Lewis Reed
Brandy Cocker	Marv Twisselman
Mary Lee Counts	Nancy Van Zwol
Jim Estep	Jill Worman
Katie Kane	

ON THE COVER

Night at the Races
Presidents: Past & Present
left to right: Dale Ryman, Katie Kane, Harry Wellman, Phil Ray, Pat Grady, Noel Moody and Harold Zweirlein.



SMCHA 1984 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY	4	NO CLINIC
	5	NO CLINIC
	11	English Clinic
	12	Western Clinic
	14	Equestrian Festival
	18	English Clinic
	19	Western Clinic
	22	SMCHA English Show
	25	English Clinic
	26	Western Clinic
	29	SMCHA Western Show

AUG	2	Final Western & English Clinics
	18	SMCHA Pony Show
	19	SMCHA English Show
	25	Overnight Ride
	26	Overnight Ride

SEPT	16	Autumn Ride
	21	Welcome Autumn Party

OCT	21	President's Ride
	26	SMCHA Night at the Grand National

NOV	14	General Meeting, Elections & Insurance Program
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DEC	8	Installation & Christmas Party
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SMCHA ANDERSON'S RIDE



On May 20th 29 riders left Ross Meredith's Woodside Stables and leisurely traveled through downtown Woodside to the CTETA Horse Park (formerly the Guernsey Field), and on to the east side of I-280 via a tunnel. After crossing Woodside Road at 280 a luncheon was enjoyed in the Anderson's rose garden.

Our SMCHA trail horses all maneuvered the obstacles met and proved themselves one again.



NEWS FLASH!!!

June 8th Vanity's Beauty, a yearly Golden American Saddlebred was delivered at Woodside Stables to Andy and Caroline Anderson.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



By Vicki Bohacs
of Redwood City, CA

With mixed emotions I am writing this column. My husband, 2 children, 4 cats, 1 horse and I will be leaving California for Connecticut sometime the first half of July. Being a native of Connecticut it will be nice to be back among relatives, (the children need to be with their Grandmother more than once a year), but I'll be leaving all the wonderful friends I've made over the 12 years we lived here.

I have been a member of SMCHA a little over a year, but everyone I've met, talked to over the phone, or worked with on various projects I've liked, and that says a lot about SMCHA.

Being Editor of the magazine has been a wonderful learning experience. I got to talk to many delightful members about writing articles or sending pictures for the magazine. But most of all I had lots of fun, I am glad I had the opportunity.

At the risk of sounding like an Academy Award acceptance speech, I would like to thank Katie Kane, Annie Simich, Clem Carroll and Harry Wellman for having faith in me to do the magazine. Thanks to all of you that contributed articles, especially the "Memories". They are a personal history of the area that could not be found in any book. I really enjoyed them tremendously. I know other people enjoyed "Memories" too because so many have told me so. Thank you Noel Moody for your encouragement and the great ideas that just keep "popping" up. And thanks Janet Estep for just listening and laughing with me. I'm going to miss you all.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By Katie Kane of San Carlos, CA

I wish to dedicate this message to a person who has made an enormous contribution to the association--The San Mateo Horseman Magazine.

Vicki Bohacs made an innocent telephone call about a year ago volunteering to help with the magazine. Since that time she has developed the publication to a point that so many of you have applauded.

Vicki has dedicated many hours finding a typist, locating a printer and soliciting for advertisements to defer the cost of printing.

It is with much regret we must say goodbye to Vicki who is moving to Connecticut with her husband Al and two children, Alicia and Hagan.

Vicki, from the entire club, thank you. We will miss you and wish you much success and happiness in your new home.

FLY WIPE WARNING



Harry Wellman, a SMCHA past president, put on an oil-base fly wipe and then interference boots on his horse, Tezron.

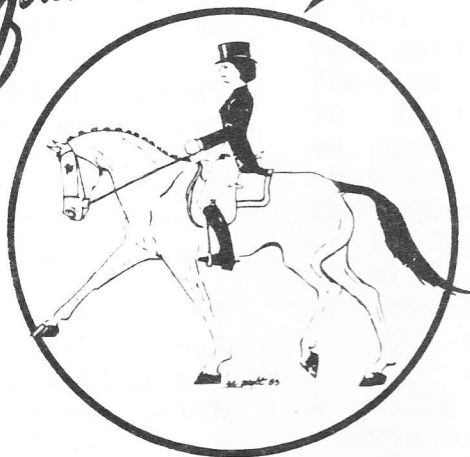
After a pleasant 2 hour ride, Harry cleaned and put away Tezron for the night without noticing anything unusual. The next day he went to ride again and noticed his horse had severe chemical burns on both front legs in the exact outline of the boots.

Tezron is still off work, but the hair is coming back and he is doing fine. Harry is going to contact "Equus" magazine about this to find out if anyone else had this problem. Is it the oil-base wipe with the boots causing heat to be generated or because the wipe was more than a year old--thus a chemical breakdown or a combination of both??

Harry will let us know.

San Mateo County Horseman's Association
Presents
A Benefit for U.S.E.T.
United States
Equestrian Team

Equestrian festival



JULY 14, 1984
SATURDAY

PERFORMANCE STARTS AT 1:00 PM
GROUNDS OPEN AT 11:30 AM

MOUNTED PATROL GROUNDS
KINGS MOUNTAIN ROAD, WOODSIDE, CA

FEATURING

- Los Altos Hunt
- Peruvian Pasos
- Vaulters
- Dancing Thoroughbred
- and much more

A WINE AND CHEESE TASTING PARTY FOLLOWS THE PROGRAM.
SOFT DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

DOOR PRIZES: INCLUDING AT&T's OLYMPIC COMMEMORATIVE EQUESTRIAN
TELEPHONE

DONATIONS \$10.00 Adults
 5.00 Children 5 - 12 years
 FREE Under 5 Years

ONE-HALF OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE UNITED STATES
EQUESTRIAN OLYMPIC TEAM

SMCHA NITE AT THE RACES



By Lew Reed of Woodside, California

Once again Chairman Bob O'Neil arranged for the annual event of SMCHA Nite at the Races for Thursday, April 26th and once again it turned into a fine enjoyable evening for the 65 people who attended in our group. Lots of old familiar faces and introduction to new ones. The buffet dinner was superb - did you try the short ribs? - outstanding. The horseshoers were there enforce and Pat Grady started off his Big 6 ticket with two winners, but, alas, two out of six does not pay off. Most of the betters (both cash and on paper) had #4 who was leading by a length when he pulled up lame only 20 feet from the wire.

The seventh race was named for the San Mateo County Horsemen with the traditional presentation by our president and appropriate picture taking in the winners circle. President Katie Kane was backed by past presidents in the arena this year. Noel Moody, Dale Ryman, Harry Wellman, Pat Grady, Harold Zweirlien and Phil Ray. There would have been seven but Jim Estep left too early to get into the picture.

No reports of any big winners but the night was a winner as we heard several guests remark "I'm coming again next year."

MID PENINSULA TRAILS COUNCIL NEWS

The council had a special event planned for Saturday May 5th; it was labled Wine Tasting and Snappy Conversation. Members representing clubs received two extra tickets for members of their boards. Accompanying Lew Reed were Noel Ruhberg, past president of SMCHA and Katie Kane as current president. They reported having a great time at Ridge Winery in Cupertino.

IN PRAISE OF THE WESTERN SADDLE

The Western saddle is simple, easily cared for, can be torn down with a minimum of special tools, can take a great deal more punishment and rough usage than its more refined cousin the English saddle, and is more adaptable to a wider variety of uses than the English saddle. (Let's see you put a week's supply of camping gear into the sandwich box on your English saddle.)

For trail riding the Western saddle has no peer. It stands alone as a piece of equipment that is adaptable to all forms of equine endeavor. As a matter of fact, if you're willing to saw the horn off, it can be a respectable jumping saddle, allowing the rider to remain in his seat at a five-foot wall jump rather than being thrown forward by the momentum of the horse's landing. By the same token a Western saddle is the most comfortable for horse and rider over long distances. While it is true that the Western saddle can weigh from 20 percent to 50 percent more than an English saddle because of its greater weight distributing ability, the rider is able to shift his weight more often, without costing stamina on the part of the horse. Due to the use of heavier leather and the minimum of stitching, a Western saddle is easier to care for and repair.



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HOME OFFICE - BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

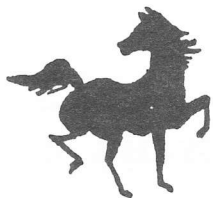
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CLEM'S CORNER



By Clem Carroll of Woodside, California

Just when we can sit back and enjoy a newsy magazine, what happens, our Vicki, present Editor, is moving to Connecticut. We will be terribly sorry to see you go!

Hugh Bryson passed away quite suddenly. All horsemen, who read the news, felt very sad to read his writeup in the local papers. He was a person to be admired, having participated in many endurance rides, from 50 milers, the 100 mile Tevis, and to a 300 mile experience in Nevada. He did the Levi Strauss Ride 'n Tie, and also ran in several marathons, all this while in his late 60's.

The Los Viajeros May ride stated at Fort Kronkite (just North of the Golden Gate Bridge). Sue Sheehan and Rob Krensky led 28 of us on a new circle, riding directly to the beach and up a deserted road to one of the look-outs built during W W II, used for guarding the entrance into the Bay. Then we rode north into the Tennessee Valley area and stopped at the Ranger Station for lunch. Well, this repast was a different one. We were requested on our ride notice, several weeks before the day of the ride, to bring fancy and specially wrapped lunches so that we would have an auction, and all monies earned to go into the treasury of the Los Viajeros. What a fun time we had - Donna Tozi Doran was the auctioneer and Doug Moody acted as he "spotter." The lunches were packed in most attractive boxes, baskets and two outstanding bags made in the shape of horse heads, with ears, forelocks, the faces of the horse painted on the bag, and inside, of course, a great lunch - this done by Noel Moody, who is an expert 3rd grade teacher. We raised over \$132.00 and thank you, Joe Fennesh, for driving around the "mountain" and delivering the lunches and serving ice cold Cokes and beer.

A big, big "thank you" to Bill Holmes for killing a three foot rattlesnake in the Edgewood Park south entrance area. For the past month, a number of women riders have been frightened to death (let alone the horses) trying to ride down the sunny and rocky slope to the south entrance of Edgewood Park. Bill was told where to look for him, and sure enough, right along the horse path, the rattler was coiled and ready to strike. Bill hit him several times with the knotted end of his lariat, stunned him enough so he didn't try to get away, then Bill got off his mare and with a large rock, finished the job. His souvenir - a 9 rattle. What a marvelous horse you have, to stand by while all this was going on! Bill mentioned that he killed some nine rattlesnakes in the past five years, and said that this last one was a blue color, blending in with the blue grey rock he seemed to call his home.

It is a good idea, when riding through rocky terrain, to look ahead and along the side of a trail. It's better to be prepared. This reminds me of Jean Brook telling me that last year while she was riding her Appaloosa mare on the American River trail, her "Polly" stopped dead on the trail, and nothing could get her to move on. Jean discovered a rattler stretched across the path, and had to dismount, find some rocks to throw and get the snake to move into the bushes.

Lita Barber and yours truly take off in the later half of July to ride the Grand Tetons in Jackson's Hole, WY. I have heard for years that the most scenic trail rides in the USA are near Jenny Lake. In the days before the white man took over the land this was hallowed ground for the American Indian. Evelyn & Milton Eberhard lived for years in Idaho, just across the border and they knew every part of that beautiful land. We have reserved horses and will take one of the pack trips that circle the area, passing a number of lakes (at high altitude). I must remember to ask if the wranglers take fishing gear that - - - - -fresh trout for breakfast sounds great, will keep in touch, see ya!!

THE S.M.C.H.A. SPRING RIDE OF 1984

"Spring Rides are the givingest, breeding Friendships out of the void, mixing Memories and desires, stirring Dreamy minds with fantasies."



Date.....April 28, 1984
Trail Boss.....Lew Reed
Drag Rider.....John Oliver
Riders.....Approximately 30
Food.....Sack lunches prepared by Janet Estep
Route.....From Woodside Stables through Edgewood Park; to the picnic area in the San Francisco Water Department's lands; then back to the stables.

Memories of the Ride

.....the trail boss, frantically riding past the riders, looking for the five or six members who became disengaged from the group

.....the stallion slowly, cautiously inching his way toward the front of the group

.....the words of the rider describing what was probably on everyone's mind as they rode through Edgewood Park - "This may be our last ride through this park. Change is threatening to diminish in a few years what has been cherished by horsemen for many generations."

.....the wide trails that make it possible for two people to ride abreast and get well acquainted

.....Doni Hubbard, riding in front of the trail boss, taking pictures of the group - pictures that may appear in her second book on trails

Memories Revisited

.....when passing Runnymede Rd. - the Spring Ride of 1952 was an introduction to the site of the proposed grounds of Huddart Park planned for the horsemen

.....when riding down Canada Road - the Spring Ride of 1968 had more than 90 riders, strung out single file stretching more than a mile

.....when entering the San Francisco Water Department lands - the Spring Ride of 1979, 65 horsemen and 10 carriages with a chuck wagon

Desires (Or are They Fantasies???)

.....to recapture the enthusiasm and seeing the opportunities available to horsemen by having a ride that is an introduction to the newly acquired open space lands, such as the Purisima Creek Canyon Open Space Preserve - a 1600 acre Moorshead of unincorporated San Mateo County

.....to reactivate the comradery between horsemen by having a joint ride of all horsemen groups in the Bay Area - a ride in which the riders are strung out single file stretching for miles and miles

.....to gain understanding between all trail users by having a joint event that includes bicyclists, carriage drivers, horsemen, joggers, runners, and walkers

Spring Rides are the givingest, breeding, mixing, and stirring the elements that give the organization its sense of continuity and its sense of a future.

(Thanks Janet Estep, John Oliver, and Lew Reed for your time and effort in making the Spring Ride of 1984 a reality. Where would the SMCHA be without such volunteers?)



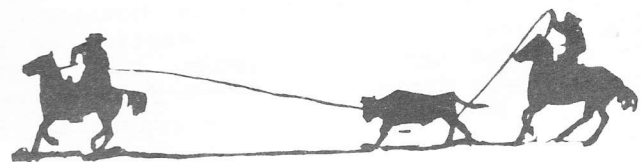
THE MAY 27TH SMCHA WESTERN SCHOOLING SHOW

Fun and hot. Those words sum up the Western Schooling Show. The riders deserved at extra ribbon for wearing chaps in 102° weather. The judge, Robin Fisk, spent time explaining thing to the juniors which was greatly appreciated. (The trees at Webb Ranch are growing rapidly, so one of these years there will be shade!) It was a smooth running, good show. Thanks again to all the SMCHA workers for their help. Also, thanks to Webb Ranch for having the ring in such good shape, for watering, and for bringing the picnic tables.

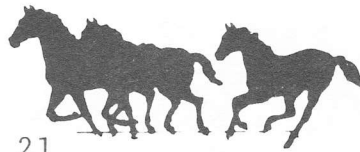
Results:

1. Model Stock - 1st, My Daddy's Gold - Joan Loftin; 2nd, The Big Bunny - Lisa Ernst; 3rd, Fire Bar Express - Debbie Gerdau; 4th, Too Many Zeros - Kim Borzone; 5th, My Kinda Tiny - Kate McCarthy
2. Showmanship - 1st, Midnight Music - Charlene Polati; 2nd, Too Many Zeros - Kim Borzone; 3rd, My Daddy's Gold - Joan Loftin; 4th, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 5th, Colita - Stephanie Owens
3. Beginning Equitation - 1st, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 2nd, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani; 3rd, Midnight Music - Charlene Polati; 4th, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 5th, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott
4. Beginning Pleasure - 1st, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 2nd, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 3rd, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 4th, My Daddy's Gold - Joan Loftin; 5th, Miss Fancy Paige - Kathy James
5. Gimmick Pleasure - 1st, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 2nd, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis; 3rd, My Kinda Tiny - Kate McCarthy; 4th, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 5th, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani
6. Maiden Equitation - 1st, The Big Bunny - Lisa Ernst; 2nd, Midnight Music - Charlene Polati; 3rd, San Francisco Star - April Turner; 4th, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 5th, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis
7. Green Pleasure - 1st, My Kinda Tiny - Kate McCarthy; 2nd, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 3rd, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis; 4th, Milliron Bandy - Sandra Dancer; 5th, Mr. Mo - Denise Fisher
8. Novice Equitation - 1st, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 2nd, Up Two Par - Kristen Peter; 3rd, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 4th, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 5th, San Francisco Star - April Turner
9. Novice Pleasure - 1st, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 2nd, Milliron Bandy; 3rd, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis; 4th, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani; 5th, Colita - Stephanie Owens

10. Limit Pleasure - 1st, Up Two Par - Kristen Peter; 2nd, My Daddy's Gold - Joan Loftin; 3rd, Heart of Dixie - Sherie Welz; 4th, Milliron Bandy - Sandra Dancer; 5th, Zaharkhan - Robin Hahn
11. Amateur Non-Trainer Pleasure - 1st, Super Bar III - Lisa Dixon; 2nd, Zaharkhan - Robin Hahn; 3rd, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis; 4th, Miss Powder Kitten - Nancy Burr; 5th, Mr. Mo - Denise Fisher
12. Color Pleasure - 1st, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 2nd, Check Mate - Debbie Whitlow; 3rd, Zaharkhan - Robin Hahn; 4th Mr. Mo - Denise Fisher
13. Non Color Pleasure - 1st, Miss Powder Kitten - Nancy Burr; 2nd, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 3rd, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani; 4th, Super Bar III - Lisa Dixon; 5th, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis
14. 17 & Under Equitation - 1st, The Big Bunny - Lisa Ernst; 2nd, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 3rd, Zaharkhan - Robin Hahn; 4th, Up Two Par - Kristen Peter; 5th, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani
15. 17 & Under Pleasure - 1st, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 2nd, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 3rd, The Big Bunny - Lisa Ernst; 4th, Ahmad Jamal - Grant Davis; 5th, Miss Powder Kitten - Kim Smith
16. Open Pleasure - 1st, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani; 2nd Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott; 3rd, Mr. Mo - Denise Fisher; 4th, Super Bar III - Lisa Dixon
17. Open Equitation - 1st, Rio Good Joe - Kris Blasing; 2nd, Zaharkhan - Robin Hahn; 3rd, San Francisco Star - April Turner
18. SMCHA Pleasure - 1st, Miss End Zone - Jill Fasani; 2nd, Up Two Par - Kristen Peter; 3rd, The Big Bunny - Lisa Ernst; 4th, Cinnamon - Linda Haar; 5th, Shaddock - Cathy Tozzi
19. Warm Up Trail - 1st, Cover Charge - Jim Crider; 2nd, Check Mate - Debbie Whitlow; 3rd, Up Two Par - Kristen Peter; 4th, San Francisco Star - April Turner; 5th, Pocos Tama - Lisa Long
20. Open Trail - 1st, Check Mate - Debbie Whitlow; 2nd, Cover Charge - Jim Crider; 3rd, San Francisco Star - April Turner; 4th, Pocos Tama - Lisa Long; 5th, Flapjack Barmaid - Jennifer Ott



HORSE-LOGY



Gemini - The Twins
Foaled May 21 - June 21

The Gemini engagement stone is the pearl. Herb teas sooth the nervousness common to this sign. Fancy footwork is natural with him. Special care must be taken to see that he eats conservatively. He wants short cuts for everything. He adores babies, his flower is the daisy. Gemini finds it difficult to believe what he hasn't seen for himself. He's very susceptible to insomnia.

Cancer - The Crab
Foaled June 22 - July 22

Beware--Cancer is easily hurt. His crazy "lunar laugh" is inescapably contagious. A devotion to exercise is not one of his strong points. He senses what others are thinking sometimes before they are aware of it themselves. His days are haunted by a vague sense of nameless dangers. This sign is ruled by the moon. The Crab indulges in a rich fantasy life. When cornered, he becomes stubborn, but ultimately yields to pressure. Black-Strap molasses is suggested to keep Cancer's hair glossy.



PASTE WORMER WARNING

Some of the paste wormers can be very dangerous to other animals, i.e. dogs, cats, etc., no matter how small the amount. See your vet immediately, your pets can die without treatment.



The Old cavalrymen always carried spares, too. Two extra horseshoes in their saddlebags. One for the front, one for the hind.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL TRAIL STUDY

Previously reported was local activity regarding Juan Batista De Anza trail from Nogales to San Francisco. Howard H. Chapman, Regional Director, Western Region, National Park Service under the United States Department of Interior, on March 28, 1984 reported that the Notice of Initiation for the Study has been filed and accepted.

National Historic Trails are one of the several categories of trails included in the National Trail System. National Historic Trails are intended to commemorate historically significant trails or routes and must have potential for public recreation use or historic interest based on historic interpretation and appreciation. Congressional authorization is required for the establishment of any National Historic Trail.

It is proposed that the route of De Anza be designated such a National Historic Trail.

Preliminary work has commenced in San Mateo, San Francisco and Santa Clara counties. The schedule now calls for preparation and distribution of an analysis by the fall of 1984, completion of draft study report and environmental document in early 1985 and transmittal of a final report to Congress by the end of 1985. Locally Lew Reed has submitted preliminary information on San Mateo County. Workshops come next.

If ultimately adopted the De Anza route will be a tremendous gain for the State of California.

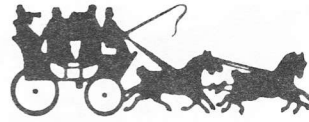


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BUYING YOUR HUSBAND A HORSE



By Sherri Helm
* Reprinted from Horsemen's Yankee Pedlar

So, he's finally conceded those large, smelly animals you spend all your time with may not be so menacing. You've enticed him on a trail ride (post flies, prior to bitter cold). He enjoyed the scenery and felt like the Marlboro Man. He wants a horse of his own. Happy hunting.

When shopping for a husband's first horse, patronize a reputable dealer. Now is not the time to take a chance on the unknown.

Test driving is a principle most men understand, yet some will be reluctant to show off their riding ability in a strange place. It may fall to you to back the prospects. Do not be impressed with lovely gaits, super responsiveness or great possibilities. Do be impressed with a calm eye, exceptional surefootedness and a quiet disposition. Hell hath no fury like a husband unceremoniously unloaded from the horse **you** bought him.

Horse fever may affect husbands in strange ways. While viewing candidates, be aware of the Lone Ranger Syndrome which may creep up on even the most urbane man. He pictures himself on a white steed riding into the sunset; this immediately makes any thug-headed, evil-tempered fugitive from pulling a milk wagon appear to be a fitting companion as long as he's sort of white.

This malady has several other strains known as the Roy Rogers Concept and the Black Stallion Disorder. The latter is precipitated by a wife or children having forced certain movie viewing on the unsuspecting male parent. The former strain makes all slightly yellow-colored horses shine like gold.

Mentioning lack of training to someone so afflicted may bring out the macho affirmation, "I'll train him!" from even the most sensible man. An absurdly high price tag or a sharp blow to the head seem to be the only instant sanity restorers.

After color, husbands may also be impressed with size. Most men see themselves majestically astride a large horse. If his previous contact with your 16-hand hunter has been pleasant, it will be well nigh impossible to convince him to buy the 15-hand Quarter Horse you know to be eminently suitable.

One final important detail when buying your husband a horse - he must like it. If you find the perfect horse (sane, sound, priced right and presentable) and if your mate is not enthusiastic - don't buy it. It will never work. The horse will either become unsound (i.e. unrideable) or will step on your spouse's foot, breaking bones, turning him into an instant non-riding martyr.

In conclusion, my personal experience in this area features the purchase of a 14-hand black gelding of indeterminate breeding with longish ears, a longer tail and an evil look in his eyes (or so I thought). Against my judgement we bought the animal because my husband "liked" him. We gave him a star's name, Benson. Thunder (as he was formerly called) has carried my husband over any obstacle, pulled a sleigh complete with jingling bells and has proven to be every bit as debonair and clever as his TV counterpart. I have had to eat a lot of crow about the horse I didn't want and am seriously considering buying my next hunter solely on the length of his tail, and renaming him Magnum.

EQUINE INSURANCE

Is it worth the risk to be without it?



* Reprinted from California Horse Review

A raging fire sweeps through a Northern California boarding stable, reducing the barns to charred rubble and killing 11 horses in one of the worst ways imaginable. Thanks to a swift-reacting employee, many other horses were saved by being turned loose to run away from the inferno, and were rounded up later, some of them miles away. What if that stable fire had happened in your barn? What if it had been your horse that was killed?

Literally thousands of horses are killed or maimed each year, some accidentally, some through ignorance or stupidity, some through over-zealous competitors. Whatever the reasons, the loss of a valued animal is a tragic event, both from an emotional stand point and a financial one.

Have you ever stopped to think how much your horse is worth? I'm not talking about putting a price on all the time and effort you've spent on your animal: grooming, riding, training or showing--(Lord knows, if someone would pay us for what we've invested in those areas, we could all retire and move to Texas). No, I mean in good old American cash, what is your horse worth?

If you're like most of us, your animal represents a sizeable financial investment. Have you ever considered what would happen if your horse suddenly died? Or was injured seriously enough to have to be destroyed? How would you recoup even a portion of what you have invested?

Horse mortality insurance is one way to protect your investment; in essence, a life insurance policy on your horse. In the event your horse dies or has to be destroyed, you, the owner, receives a settlement for the face value amount of the policy. This amount is based on the value of your particular animal.

Who writes insurance for horses? A number of companies specialize in horse and horse-related insurance. Many companies advertise in trade magazines, local phone directories and newspapers. Those companies that are not local usually have a toll-free number you can call for information and rates. Don't be shy about shopping around; most companies are more than willing to provide information and answer questions.

There are essentially two types of policies you can take out to insure your horse: 1) a floater or rider that is added to your existing homeowner's policy, and 2) a separate policy, called horse mortality coverage. Each policy has similarities and some interesting differences.

The floater type is an endorsement or form that is added onto a homeowner's policy. It is the simplest type of coverage, and many times the least expensive. It covers your animal for a specific amount (predetermined when the floater is written) and it lists the perils for which you are covered. These perils are generally limited to fire or lightning; wind-storm and hail; explosion; aircraft; smoke; vehicles (except vehicles owned or operated by the insured or the insured's employees); riot and civil commotion; earthquake; artificial electricity; flood; drowning; collision (meaning upset or overturn of conveyance while the insured animal(s) are being transported thereon); collapse of structure, bridge, wharf, dock, platform, or culvert; stranding, sinking, burning, or collision of a regular ferry; attack by another animal; and accidental shooting (except by an insured or an insured's employee). Theft is usually included but does not cover escape or mysterious disappearance. An important note: this type of policy does not cover your horse mortality. In other words, if your horse is burned in a stable fire, you would have coverage. If your horse dies from a twisted intestine during an attack of colic, you would have no coverage.

The cost for the floater type of policy averages approximately \$2 per \$100 of coverage. (For example: if your horse is worth \$2,000, you would pay about \$40 per year for this coverage.) Ordinarily, it makes no difference what type of horse you have, or what you use him for, although professional breeders and race horses are usually not eligible for coverage. You should check with your insurance agent that handles your homeowner's policy for specific rates and restrictions. Remember, not all companies that write homeowner's insurance offer a floater for horses, so it's best to check it out.

The other type of policy, the horse mortality coverage, offers much the same coverage as a floater policy, with some important additions: your animal would also have coverage for

sickness resulting in death, or injury of sufficient severity the animal must be destroyed, i.e.--the twisted intestine during a colic attack we discussed above would be covered under the horse mortality policy.

Obviously, since the horse mortality policy offers coverage for a wider range of situations than the floater policy, it follows that the cost for the mortality policy would be higher. It is here we see one of the major differences between the two types of policies: mortality coverage costs are based on a number of factors, including age of the animal, breed, sex and usage.

Rules and rates vary slightly from company to company, but for the most part, Arabians used primarily for pleasure use had the lowest insurance cost--approximately 3 1/2 percent of value. (Insurance for a horse valued and \$2,000 would be \$70 per year.) Quarter Horses used for light showing (western pleasure, equitation, halter, etc.) would follow at 4 1/2 percent of value. (\$2,000 valuation = \$90 per year.) The more strenuously a horse is used, the higher the cost for insurance. Cutting, roping, hunter/jumpers, etc. had costs ranging from 5 to 9 1/2 percent of value. Race horses were either ineligible for coverage, or the cost was very high. Put simply, how you use your horse is a big factor; the more likely it is to suffer an injury in its regular activity, the more you must pay to insure it.

1. A veterinarian's certificate attesting to the current state of your horse's health must be obtained each year before the policy is written or renewed. Some companies require a complete health history of each animal, while others want a current status only. The fee for these veterinarian examinations are paid for by the owner, although in some cases (such as a horse with a high value, usually over \$5,000) the insurance company will reimburse the owner for a reasonable expense for the veterinarian examination.

2. The horse to be insured must be under daily care and supervision, and must be fed and watered daily. In other words, no coverage will be written for pasture or range horses. Most companies require that adequate stabling be provided, and many want photos of your barn or stalling facilities.

3. Almost all companies have an age limit on mortality coverage; it is usually 12 years, although some companies will extend coverage to 15 years. None of the companies would guarantee renewal of the policies, regardless of age, so you may be able to insure your horse this year, but be turned down next year if your horse has developed a chronic condition the insurance company doesn't want to cover. With most of the companies, newborn foals must wait 24 hours before they can be covered.

4. Prior approval must be obtained from the insurance company before an animal may be destroyed, except in instances where the immediate destruction will prevent extreme pain or suffering. Most companies have veterinarians on call at all times; your veterinarian must call the company before the animal is destroyed. Failure to do so may render your policy null and void.

Now that we've discussed the different types of policies available, you're probably wondering how to establish a value for your particular animal. There are a variety of ways to accomplish this.

Perhaps the simplest way is a recent bill of sale (for a new purchase) or a written appraisal from a qualified source, such as a professional breeder, trainer, or appraiser. But suppose you've owned your horse for a number of years, or it was a gift from someone. Then the problem of establishing value becomes slightly more involved.

For example, in the case of broodmares, what a mare has produced can also have an effect on her value. With some companies, if a mare with an original purchase price of \$10,000 produces a foal that sells for \$20,000, the mare's value might be increased to \$16,000-\$18,000.

Stallions who find their get are winning or producing winners will find their value increased accordingly. Show records and judges' opinions are valuable in this situation.

Newborn foals are slightly more complicated; various companies use different methods for determining value. Some base worth on what the mare or stallion has produced before, i.e. the selling price of any previous offspring. Still others use the stallion fee as a valuation factor--several companies use 2 1/2 times the stallion fee for the first year. (Stallion fee of \$1,000 x 2 1/2 = foal value of \$2,500.) Estimated training fees are also taken into account, as finished training will affect the overall value and performance of the mature horse.

Known bloodlines for any horse is also a way of establishing a value. While not a guarantee, the prior performance history of a particular bloodline may be used as an individual animal's likely potential, thus increasing his or her worth.

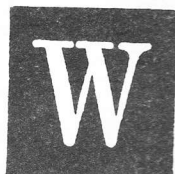
For the few companies that covered race horses, prior track record and winnings were taken in to account, as well as potential future earnings.

Obviously, if you have a registered animal with easily traceable bloodlines and a proven show record, it is much easier to establish a value on him. But that doesn't include the thousands of grade or non-registered horses out there that regularly participate in shows or performance events such as endurance rides or gymkhana. For these horses, the same rules can be applied: purchase price, written appraisal, judge's opinions and show results can all be used as ways to figure the net worth of your animal. And for those who don't show, but use their horses for an occasional pleasure ride or pack trip, your horse can also be insured for the value it holds in your life. The point is, establish your value and protect your investment before something happens to it. Don't wait until it's too late.

A few of the companies surveyed gave a rate discount for associations or clubs, so if you belong to a horseman's association or riding club, you could be eligible for cheaper insurance rates. All of the companies did have one thing in common, however, and that was they required the full annual premium or price of the policy up front--no payment plans were available.

In the final analysis, it's really up to you, the horse owner. Does your animal represent enough of an investment that you should consider protecting him financially? You know you're doing all you can to protect your horse from physical dangers--good stabling, balanced feed, reliable vet care--but accidents do happen. What if one happened to you?

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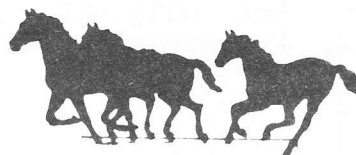
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BRAND IT

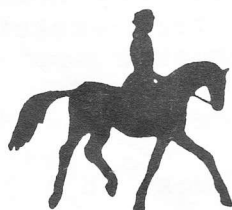


* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

Among the shady characters of the horse world (and they do exist, even in our fair kingdom), are the tack thieves who are not just stealing saddlery and tools for their own use, but in mass quantities to peddle in their own sordid version of the retail trade. You can put a crimp in their plans by branding everything in your barn, including brushes and buckets (easy to get mixed up in other people's equipment at shows and clinics).

Early Winters, a mail order company that specializes in outdoor gear, sells a miniature branding iron that's just the ticket for labeling items around the barn - it works on almost any surface.

The Fireprint refillable branding iron weighs just 3 ounces and is heated with a dual-flame. It comes with 41 capital letters, any combination of which you just snap in to form your two initials. Order the gadget (number 14-0517 in the catalog) from Early Winters Ltd., 110 Prefontaine Pl. S., Seattle, WA 98104 or call (206) 624-5599. Added bonus: Early Winters offers a guarantee under which you can order a product and test it under actual conditions for a month. If you're not satisfied, you can return it within 30 days of receipt for a full refund or exchange.



GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

"Yes, it is possible for a horse to be crazy, but only if, somewhere along the line, he's had a crazy owner."

ELBOW GREASE



The most important thing to remember when cleaning saddlery is to use top quality cleaning products. "Prime neatsfoot" oil is the best. Saddle soap comes in thousands of different forms and brands. It too may or may not be any good, but then, why risk ruining a good saddle to save thirty or forty cents? Your tack shop carries both the kind that comes in a neat little round can, and the kind that comes in a bar, called glycerine saddle soap. Buy the glycerine.

When soaping a saddle use a soft sponge, warm water, elbow grease and lots of patience. Water will never hurt leather, so rather than attempt to scour out the dirt, float it out, using lots and lots of soap, (glycerine) and warm water. Don't be too concerned by all the suds; they'll absorb right into the leather, keeping it soft and pliable. Dry your tack before oiling in a warm, not hot, dry place. The best is in the middle of a bedroom or living room heated to shirtsleeve comfort (about 72 degrees) for 24 hours.

Thorough cleaning twice a year as described above and wiping down after use with an oily cloth keeps your leather looking new and shiny for years.



THE PEARLY GATES

...and when the next candidate got to the gates and St. Peter asked what he had done in life, he said he had been manager of a horse farm. St. Peter motioned him in without further questioning: "Come on in. You've had your share of hell."

Coming soon---a new trail book by Doni Hubbard featuring Peninsula trails, Wine Country trails, Gold Country trails and Santa Cruz Mountain trails, all mapped and photographed with the horseman in mind. A special feature of the book is a complete mapping of the Lake Tahoe Rim Trail, a gorgeous 150 mile trail ridden for the first time in its entirety last summer by a group of Bay Area horseman led by George Cardinet. Five riders are assisting Doni in the research, including our own San Mateo County trail boss, Lew Reed!

EQUESTRIAN CENTER FOR SALE



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159 acres, site of Olympic tryouts! Total 60-animal boarding capacity. 105 x 171 riding arena w/30 stalls, grandstand. 32 x 150 barn holds 22 horses & year's supply of hay. Other buildings. Late 1700's home with 5 bedrooms, 2 baths. 130 acres used for hay, artesian well, brook, 2 ponds. \$375,000, owner financing.



SMCHA WESTERN AND ENGLISH RIDING CLINICS

Saddle up everyone! It's clinic time! Where else can one get six weeks of instruction for only \$25.00 but at the SMCHA Clinics? And from very qualified instructors! Western will be held every Wednesday evening at 6:45 until 8:00 p.m. English will be held every Thursday beginning at 6:45 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Both last for a period of six weeks. The last evening, Aug. 1, will feature a combined show for participants only and a really fun Bar-B-Q. Tell your friends. They can join SMCHA at the clinic to be eligible for the classes, because of insurance, all participants have to be SMCHA members. Bring your baby horses, I'm bringing mine, it's a great way to educate them inexpensively. What are the other requirements? Western; you must wear boots, no side saddles, and no bareback riding. English; boots are required, and if you are jumping, you must wear a hard hat with a strap.

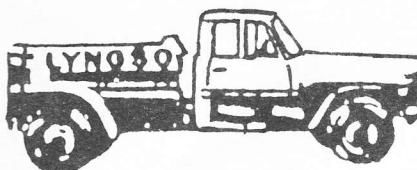
The cost? \$25.00 for 6 lessons or \$5.00 per class. Call Katie at 593-3520 or 583-6343 for information.

It starts June 20th & June 21st, Mounted Patrol Grounds.

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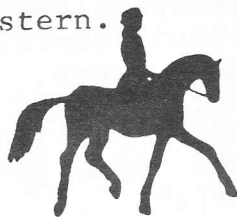
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FITTING A SADDLE



* Reprinted from Bay State Bugle

Take a couple of old coat hangers and open them up at the twist. Place one on the horse's back and mold it to the spine from a point well up on the withers to well back on the loins. Now, take three other wires and place them across the back; one at the withers, one fifteen inches back, and one at the loins about thirty inches back. After moulding them to the shape of the horse, trace their outlines on a piece of paper. This is so that you can reshape them at the tack shop if they become bent out of shape in transit. Using these wires as templates you can get a fairly accurate fit on most saddles, English or Western.



STRANGE MENUS

* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

The strangest horse feeds in history appeared in arid countries where horses were often forced to live on diets of dried fish and vegetable mold. In parts of India, salt, pepper and other spices were mixed with flour and butter, made into balls the size of a billiard ball and thrust down the animal's throat.

The leaves from ash, birch, linden and alder, in that order, were compared favorably with ordinary hay in the mountain regions of Europe. Since hay was in short supply, these leaves were gathered in the early stages of growth and let dry in the same manner as hay is cured.

In many other parts of Europe, crushed twigs with molasses were used in the mixed feeds. Even various types of oil cakes and beans became a part of the horses' feed.

HANDYMAN CATALOG



* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

Here's another booklet that might come in handy. It's called the Midwest Plan Service Catalog.

The 28-page catalog gives brief descriptions, prices and illustrations for MWPS's 19 handbooks which include the Horse Housing And Equipment Handbook, Farm Accident Rescue, New High-Tensile Wire Fencing and many more applicable to the horseman. It also lists the 108 building plans available.

For a **free** copy of the catalog, write to Midwest Plan Service, 122 Davidson Hall, ISU, Ames, IA 50011.

HOW TO FIX A SCRAMBLER



By Sheila Varian
* Reprinted from California Horse Review

"Horses don't scramble when they go into trailers after my training. If they do, they are really a problem. I never haul a horse in a trailer with a solid partition because a horse wants to get his feet out where he can feel secure. Often, people with a horse that scrambles will put boots on the horse to protect his legs. The more things you put on him the more enclosed and anxious the horse will feel.

"If you have a horse that scrambles, the first thing to do is take out the solid partition and put in a bar. Then take all the boots off. If that doesn't work, you're almost forced into the position of giving him the whole trailer. Once a horse scrambles, you really have a difficult time getting him to feel comfortable again, even using light tranquilizers and driving very slowly. Often horses that scramble do so because the owners drive too fast around corners, don't drive defensively, or drive offensively."

THE SHACK RIDERS' EIGHTH ANNUAL CRAB EXTRAVAGANZA



By Margaret Barbara of
Redwood City, California

Sunday, May 6th was the day of the Great Crab Feed for the Shack Riders, their wives and guests. Chairman of the event was Roy Gianotti and hosted by Shack Boss Harry Williams. Selling tickets were Shack Treasurer George Pottorff, Zandie Monteith, daughter of Michael and Patrick Kelly. The two bars were tended by Stan Schlicting, SMCHA's 1950 president, and Walt Cole. While Walt was serving drinks he told us he started riding at the age of twelve in Ottawa, Canada where he was born. Working in the kitchen were Dale Ryman, SMCHA's 1971 president, Marie Payne, Sherry Welz and Joanne Gianotti. At the serving table heaping the crabs on to the anxiously awaiting plates were Shack Boss Harry Williams, Fred Bottino, Bill Sereni, Ed Dallara, Mello Agostini and his guest and son-in-law Ken Leek.

The guests of honor were San Mateo County Sheriff Brendan Macguire and his wife Margo. Enjoying the day was Pete Towne, SMCHA's 1945 president and Charles Griner, the 1978 Shack Boss, who arrived on his horse "Handy".

A great big thanks to Chairman Roy Gianotti, Shack Boss Harry Williams and all the volunteer workers!



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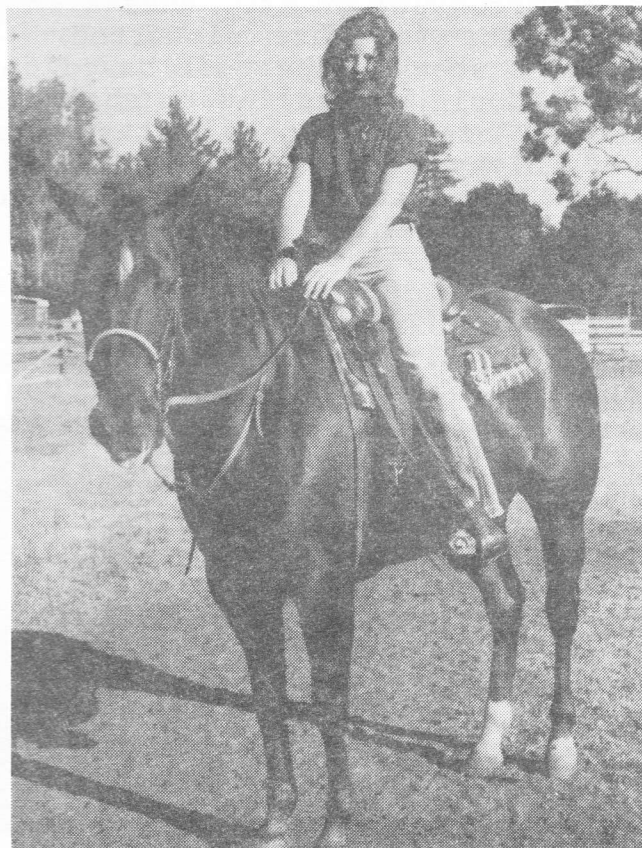
THE HAPPY HOOFERS NEWS



We have schedule 11 rides for this year, some of the upcoming rides include Point Reyes, Jack Brook, and Tennessee Valley. We're also looking forward to the Oktoberfest, which was such a great success last November ... yes, November, so set aside Friday, November 9 on your calendar for another great evening of German food and dancing. For more information on the Hoofers and their rides, call Stephanie Anise at (415) 326-4630.



To Patti Cooley, a very special thank you for all the creative typing you did for the magazine. For putting up with the time demands, the many, many format changes, the artwork you were asked to do with your machine and, of course, the "always last" last minute article to come in, sometimes read to you over the phone, you would always come through. I'm going to miss working with you, we made a great team, Vicki.





By Cynthia Standley, D.V.M. of Portola Valley, California

In the last issue, definitions were given for the afflictions of the horses foot. In this issue, I will address the treatment of these afflictions in general terms.

In the first category of treatment, all the lamenesses of the foot can benefit from antiinflammatory medications. This may include any number of medications (butazolidin, aspirin, Arquel, corticosteroids) or physical therapy (ice, cold hosing, bandaging).

In the second category of treatment, all lameness of the foot can benefit from rest. There is a tendency to make this period of rest too short. Two months to twelve months, depending on the condition, may be the necessary period of rest. Rest may be defined as confinement to a stall, a decrease in the difficulty or duration of work, or a change in the routine of work.

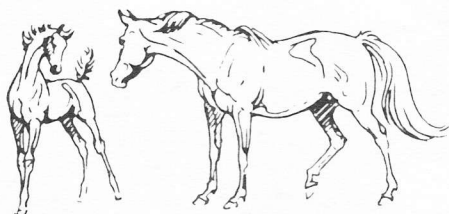
The third category of treatment and prevention of foot lameness is providing support. This is the most important category because it treats the cause of the lameness (not the symptoms) as well as providing the basis upon which medications and rest can work. Support of the foot insures that a horse will stay sound after treatment for lameness.

Shoeing is the major way in which support can be provided for the foot and consequently is the major way support can be taken away from the foot. Shoes that are too small, that cause improper breaking over of the foot, or cause the foot to strike the ground in an unlevel manner can cause lameness.

The hoof wall is a flexible substance that takes a shape dependent upon the forces put on it. When a shoe is applied forces which would normally shape the foot are distorted. For these reasons it is misleading to apply a shoe to the foot based only on the shape of the wall. Rather, a shoe should be applied to the foot in accordance with the position of the coffin bone and the pastern bones. After studying the anatomy and physiology of the foot, a farrier can make a very accurate estimate of where the bone sits within the hoof wall. For difficult cases an X-ray can provide this information.

The most important offense of shoeing resulting in lameness is the inability of the wall to wear at the toe. This results in a shoe being set too far forward, thereby decreasing the support of the coffin bone and the ankle. Shoes left on too long compound the problem. The results can be laminitis, bruising, navicular disease, etc.

As a guide in assessing the support provided by your horses shoes, you can make these observations: 1) The hoof wall as viewed from the side should not have a dished appearance, and 2) a plumb line dropped from the bulb of the heel should hit the back of the shoe.



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MROSD TOUR



The Board of Directors and staff of Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District invited local town officials to a special SPRING TOUR OF OUR OPEN SPACE RESERVES on May 12. Representing Woodside were Town Manager Les Doolittle and Council member Lew Reed. They report thoroughly enjoying their all day bus tour of the various preserves operated by MROSD and the description of the facilities offered at each. A scrumptious luncheon (with wine) was served at the headwaters of Stevens Creek on the Monte Bello Open Space Preserve. Some other highlights were a visit with the animals at Deer Hollow Farm, walk thru the wild-flowers with docents, preview tour of Skyline Ridge (the subject of an exciting new master plan for recreational development), Windy Hill, Pichetti Winery, and most importantly a chance to meet the Open Space board and staff and representatives of other governmental agencies.

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is now 10 years old. Supported by a special taxing area of southerly San Mateo and northerly Santa Clara counties they have spent most of their funds on the acquisition of land for preservation while it is still available in large chunks. Slowly now they are devoting more energy and planning and expenditure to the opening of their preserves for recreational enjoyment and particularly trail systems within each preserve and linkages between preserves. As the acreage and number of preserves has grown so has the demands of user groups to utilize the various areas. MROSD is endeavoring to accommodate all uses commensurate with preserves as distinguished from parks.

Areas within San Mateo County involving MROSD are Edgewood Park, Hassler, Whittemore Gulch and adjacent Purisima Creek property and Thornewood.

PENINSULA CARRIAGE DRIVING CLUB

Marsha Jo Hannah, newly elected Vice President of the Peninsula Carriage Driving Club is sending regularly to SMCHA notes of their meetings and activities and we thank her. Should you desire direct information please contact her at Star Route 2, Box 403, La Honda, CA 94020.

Club members recently volunteered and accomplished the cleaning of the carriages at Filoli.

She reports that she has copies of the new catalog put out by The Harness and Pleasure Driving Association available for sale.

Briones Regional Park near Lafayette with over 5000 acres now welcomes carriages to use their park for drives. Use of the CTETA Horse Park (Gurnsey Field) has been extended by Bob Smith, Manager.

SMCHA members Travis and Phyllis Reid gave a driving clinic on May 12th.

The Peninsula Carriage Driving Club has a long list of coming events and a listing of carts, etc. for sale. Membership is \$10 for single and \$15 for a family. Contact Peninsula Carriage Driving Club, c/o Carole Mercer, 251 Yerba Santa Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022.



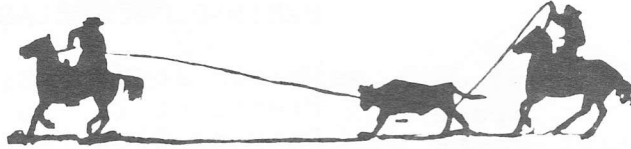
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RIGHTS TO USE TRAILS



* Reprinted from Trail Links

PRESCRIPTION: IN GENERAL - In addition to creating easements by an express grant or reservation, an easement to use the property of another can be created by prescription upon proof that the property has been used in a certain manner for a prescribed period of time.

According to California law a claimant to prescriptive rights must prove that the easement has been used: Continuously and without interruption for a period of 5 years. (Many California cases have confirmed that the requirement of continuous use is satisfied as long as the claimant has made use of the easement as frequently as necessary for his purposes.)

In a visible, open, and notorious manner so that anyone looking at the burdened property would discover the easement.

In a manner that is hostile and adverse ("The use is adverse" means that "the use is not in subordination to the rights of the owner.") to the rights of the owner of the burdened property in that the use is being made under a claim of right. ("The use is under a claim of right" means that "the user denies that he is using the easement with the permission of the property owner.")

Furthermore, a claimant must prove that: He paid those property taxes that were separately assessed to the easement. (If the easement has not been separately assessed the claimant need not prove the payment of taxes.)

Prescriptive rights cannot be acquired in real property owned by a city, county irrigation district, or a public or municipal corporation. A prescriptive use may create a private easement or a public one, or both.

Once a claimant satisfies the burden of proof by establishing the essential elements of prescription, the burden shifts to the property owner to establish that the use has been with his permission.

Upon establishing the required use for the prescribed period, the user of a prescriptive easement acquires a vested enforceable and defensible right against the property owner to the same extent as if the easement was created by an express grant.

A user can establish his interest of record easily by either an appropriate judicial proceeding and a recorded *lis pendens* or merely by recording an instrument disclosing his claimed interest. If the user fails to do so the existence of the easement may not appear in the public records. Thus, a bona fide purchaser may have no knowledge of its existence. In that case, since public policy is in favor of certain and predictability of record titles the California courts would probably favor the purchaser.

PRESCRIPTION: PREVENTION OF - One of the easiest ways of preventing acquisition by a prescriptive right is to give the user express, revocable permission to use the property. The mere posting of a sign that states, private property, no trespassing, or permission to pass is revocable, is not, by itself, sufficient to establish that the use is permissive. The posting of such signs is persuasive evidence of the permissive nature of the use, but it is not conclusive.

There are two separate statutes that provide methods by which a property owner can effectively protect his property against loss by prescription.

One statute permits the landowner to post a sign at each entrance to the property or at intervals of not more than 200 feet along the boundary. The signs should read substantially as follows: **RIGHTS TO PASS BY PERMISSION AND SUBJECT TO CONTROL OF OWNER: SECTION 1008, CIVIL CODE.**

The second statutory method of preventing the acquisition of easement rights by prescription permits a landowner to record a notice of his revocable consent to the particular use of his land for the purposes described in the notice. The recordation of the notice is evidence that all subsequent use of the property is permissive. If the use is by specific persons other than the general public, the notice must also be served upon the particular user by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. This consent can be terminated by the property owner recording a notice of revocation.

CALLING ALL WOULD-BE ENDURANCE RIDERS!



By Cynthia Kennedy of
Boulder Creek, California

Have you hesitated from taking the plunge into the exciting sport of endurance riding? Does the thought of vet checks, taking P & R's, pacing yourself and trying to stay on a long trail in unfamiliar territory make you balk from sending in your entry?

Well, FEAR NO MORE! The Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Assoc. has created a separate division for Novice/First Time endurance riders on their second annual Fireworks 50 & 25.

"Greenies will complete (think positively!) a 25 mile trail led by one of the founders of the American Endurance Riding Conference and member of the organization's Hall of Fame, Julie Suhr. This special group will camp together in a choice location at S.C.C.H.A.'s showgrounds. There they will have a pre-ride clinic the afternoon/evening before the ride, with Julie Suhr and the head ride vet leading the discussion and answering questions. Packets of information regarding feed, vet checks, conditioning, gear and pace will be given to each participant. The next morning the Novice group will be the last to leave the grounds (avoiding any horse traffic snarls) on a controlled start behind their leader Julie. She will set a moderate "completion" pace and novice group members will stay behind her at all times. At the vet checks, extra care will be taken by P & R crews and veterinarians to answer any questions and ensure all horses and riders are in good shape.

The SCCHA Fireworks trail is one of the most beautiful in the country. It winds through redwood forests, fords the San Lorenzo River, and climbs up to beautiful meadows with

vistas of the Pacific Ocean. They have a campground comprised of several hundred acres just minutes from downtown, so access and parking are no problem.

At the banquet after the ride, when everyone has had their fill of the best BBQ in Santa Cruz and before the Country Swing band starts to play, awards will be given to all winners (entries who complete the ride). Members of the 25 mile Novice group will each receive a special award for their efforts.

The Fireworks 50/25 endurance ride is Saturday, August 4. The Clinic/Ride is limited to the first 25 entries. The cost is \$65 and includes the clinic, info packet, ride, dinner and award. Of course if endurance riding is not a new subject, you're invited to enter the regular 25 or 50 mile rides. for more information contact: SCCHA, P. O. Box 1014, Santa Cruz, CA 95061, or call (408) 476-6495.



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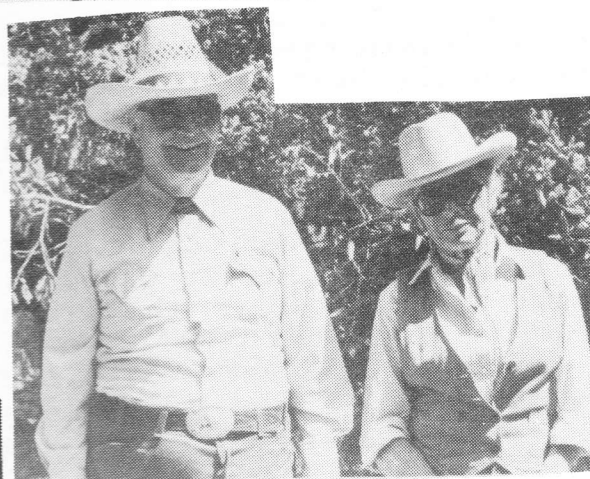
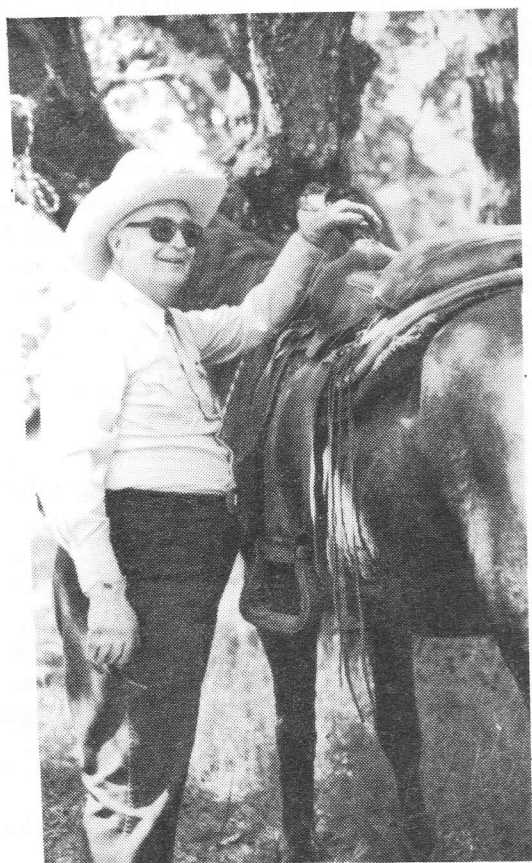
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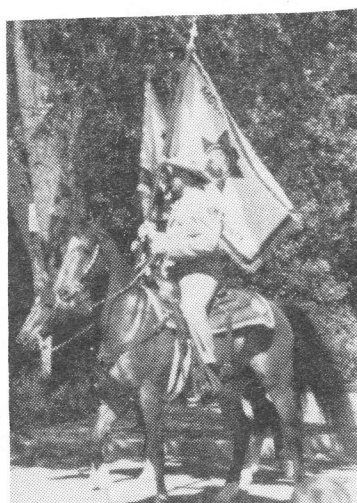
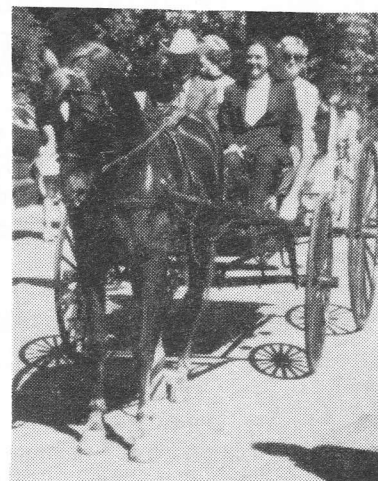
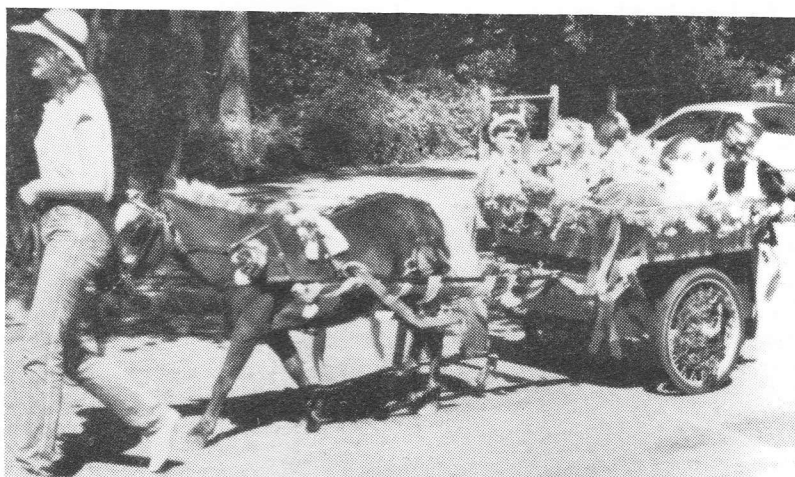
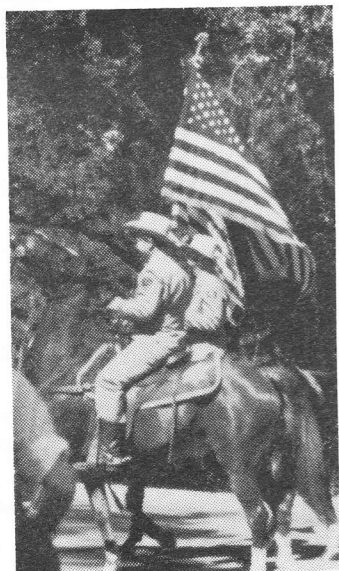
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PHOTOS BY VICKI BOHACS, MARY LEE COUNTS, DONI HUBBARD, SUE SHEENAN

YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND



* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a wise friend that you could rely on for free advice and answers every time you had problems or questions concerning your horses, pasture or farm equipment? A dream come true, right?

Salvation, and a friend, are at hand in your county extension agent. You'd be surprised at how indispensable he can become to your operation, whether you have just one pony in the backyard or a 25-head training stable.

The Smith-Lever Act passed in 1912 gave birth to the United States Department of Agriculture Extension Program. The program was instituted to get the agricultural information that had been accumulated by state universities since the Land Grant College Act of 1865 out into the field, literally where it would benefit the small farmers who needed it.

Every county in the country has an extension staff that, in most cases, includes an agriculture agent. Ag agents are a wealth of free information about horse and pasture management. For example, you can have your pastures tested for as low as \$5 and get advice on what types of seed to plant based on those results.

Another good free resource is your local 4-H extension agent. Instead of paying for expensive private lessons for your kids, why not see if the local 4-H has a horse and pony program? In most cases, kids have more fun learning in a group, and they'll learn more about taking care of a horse in such a program than they would in private riding lessons.

You pay for the USDA extension service with your taxes, so you might as well take advantage of the program.. You can't lose, and you may stand to gain much through your agent's knowledge and contacts.

BLUE COLLAR HORSE



By Heather Smith Thomas
* Reprinted from Horsemen's
Yankee Pedlar

The vast majority of Quarter Horses in our country are used for pleasure. Another big percentage are used in competitions - shows, timed events, racing.

People in agriculture today are such a small percentage (less than one percent are in ranching), that "ranch" Quarter Horses are also a small percent of the equine population, but it is here that the main characteristics of the breed were originally developed and are still very much appreciated.

The calm and easy-going nature of the Quarter Horse stands him in good stead as a ranch horse, for he has to take a great number of different jobs in stride.

He also has to be willing. With his muscling and his ability for a quick burst of speed, he's quick as a cat and fully able to head that cow before she darts into the brush or "ditches out" down the mountainside.

For most ranch work, he also needs stamina and endurance, especially if he's working cattle all day or checking mountain pastures. This means that the preferred horse for the job carries some Thoroughbred blood in his veins. The short and powerful (bulldoggy) Quarter Horse may be good at quick bursts of speed for a little while, but he just can't take the work hour after hour, or climb the hills on a 30- or 40-mile ride looking for cattle. The ranch horse has to have the endurance to travel 40 miles a day and still have the energy and zip to head off a wild cow, if necessary, on the way home. Most ranchers prefer the modern Quarter Horse which is part Thoroughbred - with more "staying power" for the long, tough jobs.

15 MYTHS OF CONDITIONING



* Reprinted from
California Horse Review

MYTH 4: Drugs can improve a horse's performance.

There is no evidence that any athlete, human or animal, has ever improved his performance with the aid of any kind of drug. Pain killers, stimulants, anti-inflammatories and depressants all tend to cover up symptoms of otherwise debilitating injuries. All tend to result in further, more serious injury -- sometimes in the destruction of the horse and the death of his rider.

MYTH 5: Quality performance horses are born, not made.

If there is a single overriding purpose for this article, it is to make owners, breeders and trainers aware of the dangers inherent in the unquestioned acceptance of this myth. Each year, millions of dollars and thousands of fine horses are lost to the combined equine performance industries because owners and trainers have been sold on the idea that a horse is born with his athletic abilities intact and that the training process merely awakens in-bred qualities.

The truth is, while breeding and conformation play an important part in the equine athlete's ultimate performance - may, if not most, of these athletes are lost to injuries caused by simple lack of proper conditioning. Of those who survive the uniformly inadequate conditioning methods of today, few (if any) ever reach their true athletic potential.

MYTH 6: A few minutes of exercise per week is sufficient for the equine athlete.

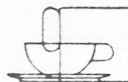
Cardiovascular fitness in the horse can only be achieved by raising his heartbeat to 60 percent of its maximum for at least 30 minutes,

three times a week. Slow jogging and walking produce no training effect. In order to maintain a high level of fitness, the conditioned athlete must be able to raise his heart rate to 80 percent of maximum for an extended period of time. Cardiovascular fitness is only one of several factors involved in the proper conditioning of the performance horse.

To be continued in following issues.

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CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION



By Lew Reed of Woodside, California

Do you know about the California State Horsemen's Associates? Have you heard of it? Sometimes we get so involved with our own club we forget that the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association is a member of a much larger and all encompassing statewide organization that has a multitude of benefits and programs to offer. CSHA has available club memberships (SMCHA is such a member), individual memberships (several members of SMCHA belong individually) and commercial memberships (we recall Olsen Nolte has a commercial membership).

One of the biggest advantages of CSHA membership is liability insurance available at an economical cost. CSHA investigates insurance policies offered by various carriers and locates a cooperative knowledgeable broker and then arranges a master policy for member clubs. We obtain our SMCHA insurance this way through Harry Wieck, Horsemen's Insurance Services, 3820 Auburn Blvd., Suite 81, Sacramento, CA 95821, phone (916) 488-8897. His full name and address is furnished because he also has available to all clubs and individuals horse related policies such as medical and mortality insurance for your horse. And trailer insurance and general liability insurance. Please note that he recommends that especially apartment dwellers with horses should carry a special medical payment and liability insurance coverage like homeowners do on their homes.

Individual memberships are \$15 and along with the regular full benefits of CSHA one receives a monthly magazine, HORSEMEN'S NEWS, that carries items of general interest, statewide news of horses and is the official news letter of CSHA.

A list of some of the many benefits and programs offered by CSHA are:

Junior Horsemastership Program -- a program of competition in horsemanship in each of the CSHA Regions with winners competing in finals at the State Championship Horse Show. Winners are awarded scholarships to the college or university of their choice. Special Note: San Mateo County Horsemen's Association has a special safety valve fund of \$10,000 set aside to backstop the awarding of the scholarships if the state program becomes financially inadequate.

Senior Horsemastership Program -- same as Junior Horsemastership except Seniors win awards rather than scholarships.

Championship High Point Program -- CSHA recognizing a real need for a statewide high point competitive system covering English, Western and Gymkhana has set forth their present program for competitors.

Miss CSHA Queen Contest -- one of the latest junior programs for girls and proven to be one of the most popular among young equestrians. A memorable and worthy experience in the lives of the young ladies who have already served and the opportunity is open to all qualified contestants who wish to compete. Ages 14-17.

High Point Endurance Riding -- recognizing the popularity and importance of distance riding and horsemanship, sponsors a high point award program to stimulate more rides and rider competition.

Equestrian Trails Patrol -- a statewide organization of trail riders deputized by CSHA, entitled to wear the Patrolman's badge, and dedicated to the promotion and perpetuation of good trails and knowledge regarding adequate trail rules and laws governing the use of trails in California.

Program for Licensing Judges -- instituted to bring about uniformity of the presentation of judging covering Gymkhana, Parades and Horse Shows.

Parade High Point Competition -- a parade program for mounted units.

CSHA Championship Horse Show -- an annual event in August of each year at Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa. A full 7 day show of Quarter Horse, Western, Hunter and Jumper.

Regional Team Competition -- horseshow and gymkhana competition annually designed for competition among the Regions of the CSHA.

Color Guards at the Grand National -- opening night of the Cow Palace Grand National Show.

Legislative Committee -- CSHA has and will continue through its regular channels to furnish its members with accurate and complete information regarding legislative matters urging their members to express their views to their elected representatives.

Drill Team Competition -- Junior and Senior competition at local events, street parades and rodeos. Winning teams are declared State Champions in their respective divisions.

Offices of California State Horsemen's Association are located at 897 Third Street, Santa Rosa, 95404, phone (707) 544-2250.



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LOS VIAJEROS RIDES



The Los Viajeros Riding Club has already embarked upon their riding program for 1984. The opening ride was held on April 1st in the San Francisco Water Department lands above Millbrae. Trail Boss Lew Reed led some 47 riders on a 4 1/2 ridge ride and returned to a fine feast at the Sawyer Camp Ranger Station. Highlight of the day besides the fine weather was our elder member, Joe Petri, now 99 years old joining us along with his lovely bride, Maria. What a guy!! Full of vim and vigor and with lots of stories of his past years riding with the Club.

Future rides include:

June 21, 22, 23, 24 Four Day Ride at Point Reyes.

July 8 Ana Nuevo

August 4, 5 Santa Cruz Mountains

September 1, 2, 3 Labor Day Weekend

at Jack Brook Horsecamp in La Honda

October 6, 7 Overnite at Mount Diablo

November 4 Trails of Mid Peninsula Open Space

Rides are open to all LV members and their guests. Los Viajeros has a tradition of fine rides in great areas with delicious meals at reasonable prices. Social Adjustment Hour at best prices available anywhere.

Come and join us. Call Sue Sheehan at 851-0296.



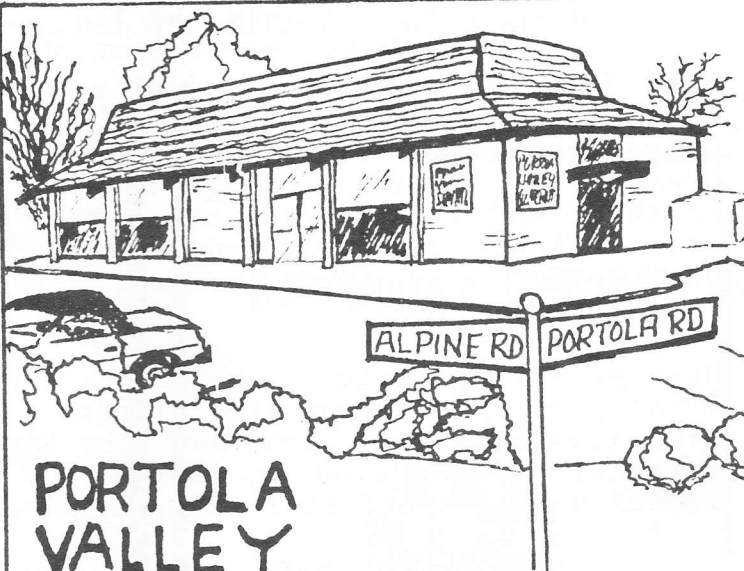
HEADS DOWN, HEELS UP



* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

If you're poring over stallion issues in search of the perfect mate for your mare, or studying conformation shots of horses that you're thinking about buying, look at the photos upside down.

The opposite side of your brain will view the upside down horse as a set of lines and angles rather than what it should look like. The conformation faults that may have been hidden in the photo by a skillful photographer (such as calf-knees) will be revealed to you during your upside-down scrutiny.



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INTENSIVE STUDY OF COLIC PLANNED



* Reprinted from California Horse Review

Sixteen of the nation's leading scientists in the equine field met October 24, 1983 in the Morris Animal Foundation's Englewood, Colorado, headquarters, to discuss colic and establish priorities for its study. G. Marvin Beeman, DVM, of Texas A & M University, were co-chairmen. Partial funding was provided by Peter Rhulen, Foundation trustee.

It was the second such panel to be called by the Foundation. The first was in August 1982. If funding can be obtained, the group plans to meet annually.

To determine the pattern of colic, the panelists agreed that an epidemiological study is the first priority. Information of colic cases will be collected from universities and private practitioners in the form of a questionnaire. Veterinarians will be asked to respond to questions concerning feeding practices, parasite treatment, use of the horse, age, sex, breed, and information on the illness - its duration and onset, the appearance of pain, the heart rate, the color of gums, rectal examination results, treatment and results of surgery if performed. Material on approximately 2,000 horses will be tabulated and entered into a computer. Such an epidemiologic study was conducted by the American Cancer Society and confirmed the relationship between smoking and lung cancer.

Data from colic cases treated at universities and in private practice will provide the panel much information. Many colic cases referred to universities become surgical, and during surgery, or during post mortem examination by a pathologist after a colic-related death, the exact location and type of colic can be identified. In these cases the data will indicate which portion of the animal's gastric system was involved, and whether a ruptured stomach, strangulated intestine or other factors caused the colic.

Most private practice colic cases are milder, and do not require surgery locally or in a university clinic. The horses recover spontaneously or with treatment and represent the majority of all colics. Because no surgical intervention is needed for these horses, the exact cause and location of discomfort remains unknown.

The study hopes to have several results. First, from the information compiled, certain feeds, pastures, parasites, or management practices may be implicated as causative. Secondly, by assigning points to the animal's symptoms (heart rate, pain, rectal examination, etc.) on the basis of known results from similar cases, and adding up these points, a "colic score" for horses will be established to rate the severity of the colic. This will help practitioners decide whether an animal can be treated by medication or should be taken to surgery - a decision which now is largely subjective, based on the practitioner's individual experiences.

In addition, the data will provide a "survivability index." The horse with the twisted intestine might have a 10 percent chance of surviving surgery. This information allows the veterinarian and owner to make decisions on the basis of the individual case. For the average owner the costs involved in surgery might outweigh the slim chance of survival given the animal.

Panel member Nat T. Messer, IV, DVM, of Littleton Large Animal Clinic, said, "Survivability is important not only to the clinician, but to the client. I'm not going to load up a sick horse and send him five hours in a trailer if I know he's going to die from shock before he gets there."

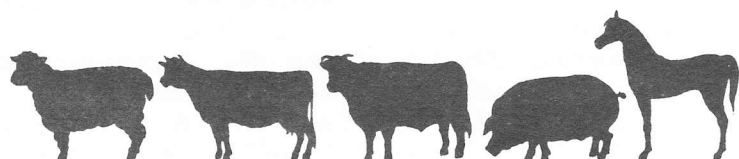
Through the epidemiological survey, vital information can be gained even from the death of a horse. Statistics will show, through surgery and autopsy, which forms of colic kill the most horses. These will be the areas targeted for highest priority in future studies. Further data collection will show if new techniques rising from the studies are, indeed, saving horses.

An additional benefit of collecting data will be standardization of terminology. Now, what one veterinarian calls "toxic colic," another might call "spasmodic colic."

Once all data is collected and examined, priorities for research will be established, proposals for funding written, and estimates made of how much money will be needed to make a real impact on the problem of colic, panelists decided.

"The colic problem is of such magnitude that all available dollars can be consumed for the next five years," co-chairman Beeman said.

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TREAT HORSES FOR BOTS



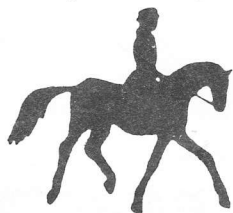
By Dr. Frederick Harper,
University of Tennessee
* Reprinted from California
Horse Review

Horse owners have traditionally dewormed for bots in the fall after the second killing frost. Deworming at the first of the year and again in about 60 to 90 days is a better practice.

The bot larvae, after being ingested, take a few weeks to several months to reach the horse's stomach. All currently available products are not effective while the bot larvae are in the mouth or migrating to the stomach. Deworming a horse before the bots reach the stomach may be a waste of money and time.

If your horse was not dewormed for bots this fall or winter, do it now. The most commonly recommended drugs for bots are the organophosphates. If the horse was previously dewormed with an organophosphate, wait at least 60 days before using this active ingredient again.

As with all medication, follow the directions when deworming the horse yourself since organophosphates have a narrow safety margin. Pregnant mares in their last month of pregnancy should not be dewormed with an organophosphate. You may want to consult your veterinarian to establish a complete parasite control program.



HOT STUFF

* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

Sprinkle red cayenne pepper around your barn - in cupboards, inside tack boxes, etc. - to get rid of mice anxious for a nice, warm habitat with plenty of food available.

HORSE BARTERING



* Reprinted from Horseplay

The Equestrian Trading Centre (ETC) in Memphis, MI, operated like a real estate firm, matching buyers and sellers of horses for cash or other considerations.

An organized business exchange set up by horseman and CPA Willis Clark, ETC serves customers in a bartering economy, where horses are traded for virtually anything.

Each customer is serviced by an Account Executive, and a computer system keeps detailed pedigree and performance records of horses. The service is free to the buyer. The seller pays a commission.

For more information, contact: Willis G. Clark, 712 West 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067 or call toll free 1-800-621-5183. In Michigan, call 1-800-ETC-MICH.



HORSE VACATIONS IN EUROPE

* Reprinted from Horseplay

Horse Holidays in W. Europe 1984, an international guidebook to riding facilities in 16 countries, includes maps, costs, and "useful addresses," such as tour agencies, museums, and horse societies. A chart of symbols indicates type of horses and instruction, accommodations, rental and tour trips, adult/child preference, type of riding terrain, and languages spoken.

Each description appears in four languages: English, Danish, German, and French. Available exclusively from Bonnie Birch, 6119 Alstead, Houston, TX 77041, (713) 896-9254.



DARLING DAUGHTER



Oh Dad, Please buy a pony, for I've wanted one so long, I saw one in a field today, we can get him for a song. His tail is long and shiny, his coat is black and white, He's what I've always wanted, I just know he'll turn out right.

He doesn't need a barn, Dad, we can keep him in the yard. If you'll only buy him for me, Dad, I'll work so very hard. I'll curry him and feed him, he'll only need a little hay, If you will only buy him, Dad, I'll ride him every day.

Oh, Dad, the mare is lovely, could I have her, could I, Dad? She's only had six foals, you know, her tummy's not that bad. If I had her I would train her, she would truly be a treasure, But she'll need a little shed, Dad, to protect her from the weather.

Dad, she'll need another saddle, for the pony one's too small, And more hay to feed the mare on, through the winter and the fall. And a nylon brush to clean her, and a bucket for her feed, And a halter, bridle, blanket...is really all she'll need.

Oh Dad, I saw a filly, could I have her? Please say yes! I think that we could get her, for a thousand bucks, or less. Her top-line is perfection, and her legs are straight and true. If you'll only buy her, Daddy, I will lend the mare to you.

The filly has her papers, I have checked them and they're right. If you'll run and buy a trailer, we can pick her up tonight. The shed is much too small, you know, she'll need a large box stall. We might as well get plans made, for a barn to house them all.

Oh Dad, I won a trophy, see the ribbons on the wall. If I only had a show case, I could then display them all. And now we'll have to build a room, to show the new ones right. Maybe after supper, we could start the room tonight!

We'll have shelves to show the trophies, and a keen rug on the floor. And a velvet wall for ribbons; yes, I plan to win some more. And a frame to hang her pedigree, in just the perfect light, Let's not spare the money, Dad, we want to do this right!

Oh, Dad, now what's the matter, he has fainted dead away, When I started in to tell him of the boy I met today. He is simply go-terrific, and as groovy as could be. I think he's ultra-super, and he's interested in me.

Billy says he's most allergic, to a horse and horse's hair, So I'll have to just stop riding, I think that's only fair. Billy just adores a Honda, it's a thing he's never had--Oh, I see your eyes are open--Buy a Honda for me, Dad?

MEMORIES - MY FIRST SMCHA EVENT



By Noel Moody of Palo Alto, California

As one becomes an adult, it becomes harder to experience a "first" in one's life. Less and less are there "the first time I did...."

SMCHA allowed me a first. It happened in 1967. I didn't know anyone in Woodside except Marilyn Maggi-Silva, who kept her horse Fame Beaumont, at Ross Meredith's. Through her, I had started boarding Miss Gingerbell at Woodside Stables. Ginger was four and had been there approximately two weeks, when I decided to go on a SMCHA ride in order to meet people to ride with.

I was not familiar with Woodside. The ride was to go to Skyline. I didn't know where it was. And to some ranch which I didn't know where it was either. Eighty-five riders showed up. It was warm and sunny, so I wore a short-sleeved shirt. How did I know Skyline was on a mountain top and could be foggy and cold?

In my two weeks in Woodside, I had only been up and down Canada Road. This SMCHA ride introduced this stranger to the pristine forest. It was a first; a "oooh and aaaah," "wow!," and "Look at this!" experience. I fully expected Robin Hood himself to emerge from behind one of the fantastic redwoods.

We ascended the old Jackie Trail. It was the steepest thing I had ever been on. I talked a lot with Marge Winterhalter-Pearson. Everyone was very friendly. Up and up we went. We crossed a busy road. It was Skyline. We descended a steep hill of deep dark black soil. The SMCHA leader (who I knew as Lew somebody) did a good job getting us through a large bog. We ended up at an old huge barn in the forest. Then we sat down to a lunch that was as terrible as the ride had been wonderful. It was watered down beef stew.

We descended the mountain paradise and returned to civilization. I wanted to ride with this group again.

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Thomas B. Farley
Sandra M. Farley

BARTER: PILGRIMS' PROGRESS



* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

You learned something in your fourth grade history class that could save you some bucks as a horseman now. Remember how the Indians used to barter goods and services with the early American settlers instead of using cash? That principle is coming back into vogue now that cash is harder and harder to come by. Just think: you could trade a few bales of hay for a trim by your farrier every six of eight weeks. Here's a few tips on the mechanics of barter:

- Decide what you have to barter with. What can you do or make that other people would find of value? (Give lessons, repair or clean tack, grow hay, groom, train young horses, braid manes and tails, etc.).

Make a list of practical items of value that you might trade for services -- an extra saddle, a bit you don't use anymore, an old tack trunk, a show coat or helmet.

- What do you need for a fair trade? Perhaps you need someone to clean your stalls, feed your horses on certain nights, exercise them when you're away.

- Locate your market. See if other horseowners in the area are interested in setting up trades. Post notices in local tack shops or in your riding club newsletters. Ask your farrier and vet if they know of anyone who is interested in trading goods and services. If they don't offhand, they'll remember you when someone else asks them the same question.

- Negotiate a fair trade. Determine your hourly rate for services you are offering. If you're trading goods, set a fair trade-in value for it.

- Put it in writing. Even if you're bartering with friends, avoid future trouble and draw up an agreement that both parties sign.



U. C. DAVIS EQUESTRIAN CLINICS

* Reprinted from Venture

Western Equitation, Pleasure, and Trail (841V34) Davis

This clinic is structured for riders interested in improving equitation and performance on the trail as well as over various trail class obstacles. Video taping will be used throughout the clinic to help analyze performances. Participants should have some basic knowledge in these areas.

Event (841V33) Davis

This clinic is designed to improve dressage performance. Problem solving on cross-country course as well as stadium jumping will be covered. Video taping will be used throughout the clinic to help analyze performances. Approved, animal science department, UCD. X401.8

Hunter/Jumper (841V32) Davis

This clinic is designed for persons interested in working over fences to help establish better style and performance for the horse and rider. Video taping will be used throughout the clinic to help analyze performances. Approved, animal science department, UCD. X401.4

The instructor for the clinics is Fran Walter Frank. Call the Equestrian Center U. C. Davis for complete information at (916) 752-2372.

FIRE

A few preventive measures can help avoid tragic blazes.



By Lisa Chipolone

* Reprinted from California Horse Review

At a horse show not too long ago, exhibitors were saddened to hear of a barn fire that killed nearly a dozen show horses and left the facility of a well-liked trainer in ruins. "What a shame," everyone said, quite sincerely. Others verbalized what many silently thought: "That's my worst fear - a barn fire." Rumors were rampant regarding the cause, extent and consequences of the tragedy. As with most disasters, it was spoken of in hushed, excited whispers for days.

A small group of riders and grooms were seen talking about it, gathered in the aisle of one of the temporary show-stabling tents, "That's awful," one said, shaking his head. Then he casually flicked away his cigarette butt, onto the straw-strewn ground. No one seemed to notice this all-too-familiar action, nor noted its sadly ironic relationship to the subject at hand.

One can fairly hear the scores of horse people now reading this, who will huff indignantly: "Well, I am careful when I smoke in the barn." Perhaps they are. But that is not the issue. Fire, for one thing, could not care less if you are careful or not. One may start, even if the slightest breeze brings a stray piece of hay in contact with an almost-but-not-quite-extinguished cigarette. The real issue is not smoking in the barn, but fire safety and awareness.

Awareness begins with confronting the facts. Occasionally we hear about barn fires, sometimes significant ones are reported in the equine press, and less often, in the general news media if it is a "major" blaze. No one particularly cares to read or hear about the dozens of other "minor" barn fires that occur with much more frequency. We just aren't interested when only a tack room is damaged or an office is gutted or some hay burns, but all the horses and people are safe. And so we garner a false feeling of security about the number of barn fires - and remain ignorant. But for every large tragic blaze there are many, many small ones.

When a fire starts in a barn there are an enormous number of reasons for it to be hard to control. Take a look around. Nearly everything you see is highly inflammable: hay, straw, wood, flooring, jumps, cabinets, tack trunks. Even when floors are concrete and aluminum and other non-flammable materials are used for buildings, the hay, straw and shavings are enough to stoke a small fire into a large one.

Think now about the elements of nature - fire's friends. In particular, think about the hot, dry weather of summer, and wind at any time of the year. If a "brush fire" can begin when one single spark comes in contact with a flammable substance, then spread with the wind into an area dense with other flammable materials, instantaneously becoming a blowing, ball of fire - moving miles in just seconds - then imagine how fast a wind-assisted fire can tear through a barn.

Not all fires happen this way, nor do all happen because of carelessness, such as a discarded cigarette or an unattended wood-burning stove. There are other possible culprits: faulty wiring, blown fuses, arson, lightning and spontaneous combustion. Most of those causes either cannot be prevented to any reliable degree, or cannot be predicted at all. But

you can take a step toward prevention by being aware of, for example, when weather conditions are ideal for quick-starting fires. Fire danger is high when the hay feels exceptionally dry or the thermostat has you doing barn chores in a bathing suit and it hasn't even drizzled in months. One firefighter in a rural, dry area even warns "When it's hot and dry, a fire can start just from the friction of clicking together a rake and shovel, or from hitting a shovel against a wheelbarrow."

Educate yourself - for the sake of yourself, your horses, your barn, your boarders. Fire safety education requires more effort than merely reading some guidelines and slapping up an extinguisher. Fortunately, local fire officials are more than willing to help. Go to them and ask about what type, size and quantity of fire safety equipment you should have in your facility. This includes smoke alarms, exit signs, extinguishers that go beyond the bare minimums of building fire codes. Perhaps with a large facility you may want to install an alarm hooked directly into the fire station. Yes, these things cost money, but relatively little in comparison to the huge losses a fire could cause. Investigate what is available at what price. Standard smoke alarms are sometimes found at around \$15 - but how do they stand up to the dust and dirt in a barn? Better to spend more, and know you are protected.

Ask your fire officials to explain what course of evacuation and fire-fighting procedures they would use if called to the scene. Find out about existing state, county or local fire laws or guidelines concerning halters, locks on stall doors, etc. Then follow them. Yes, sometimes they seem inconvenient or time-wasting, but ask a firefighter about them and you'll likely hear a dozen reasons why they work.

Of course, you may think you have been quite fire-safety conscious in your barn. And maybe you have. But let's look at fire extinguishers and hoses. Are they in the right spot? Can they reach far enough? Have you placed them nearest the most likely spot for a fire? Well, then what happens if one does start there, and no one can get close enough to use the extinguisher? Does every one of your employees and boarders know exactly how to use them, exactly where they are? And can they - or you - find them - even in the dark?

Are you sabotaging your barn's chances for surviving a fire? Do you know exactly where the nearest fire hydrant is? Can it clearly be seen at night? To hide an ugly hydrant on an otherwise picturesque hunt course, a barn owner painted it green. He griped when a fire official ordered him to repaint it "ugly" glowing orange. At night, in the confusion of a fire, where seconds matter, no firefighter can go hunting for a hydrant.

Perhaps the most important reason to have a working knowledge of fire-safety awareness is not so that you can prevent the possibility of a fire - no one can - but so that if one does start, it can perhaps be put out sooner, equine lives can be saved, damage kept to a minimum and order restored faster.

Here are some other things to think about:

- Have you checked any existing fire alarms in the last six months to be sure they work? Smoke alarms need frequent battery checks, too.
- Can extinguishers and water hoses be seen in the dark? If not, how about using some phosphorescent tape or paint?
- Have you run a fire drill for horses as well as people? Boarders and

employees should know how to most efficiently get horses and themselves to safety, particularly when conventional exits are blocked.

- Do you have all original copies of important documents, such as Coggins, registration and insurance papers locked in a fireproof container or metal box?
- Does your barn and/or equine insurance cover fire? What about losses of equipment from fire?
- If no one lives on the barn premises, is the owner's or manager's phone number on file at the police and fire stations?
- Is there a phone number for every boarder, plus an emergency number for each, located somewhere other than in the barn?
- Do you and your boarders have a list of all equipment stored in the barn, complete with estimated value, for insurance claim purposes?
- Do you have up-to-date information about how many horses are in residence, in which stalls?
- If vehicles are kept on the grounds, is there a set of keys somewhere other than in the barn? They may have to be moved quickly to prevent gasoline tank explosions.
- Do you know the locations and approximate quantities of ignitable substances, such as propane tanks?
- Do you have up-to-date photographs and floor plans of the facility for firefighters to consult? Current photos can also help document insurance claims.
- Do you have legible "no smoking" signs? And if smoking must occur in the barn, think about designating one and only one location, such as an office, lounge, etc.

The hope is that this list raises a few eyebrows, makes the brain start to click with questions, has you making notes about things to check into, things to fix up, things to do. It is not a complete list, but it is a start. don't put barn fires into the same category as violent crimes on the 11:00 news, thinking they only happen to "other people."

Yes, it is certainly easier, less costly and less time-consuming in the short run not to bother. but what of that long run? When you think of the tremendous amount of responsibility we all shoulder for our horse's care, the hours and hours of training, the financial commitment, the emotional investment - how can we delude ourselves into thinking we are safe, that we can "get by?"

Ignorance is bliss, but it won't put out a fire.

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BUYER'S GUIDE: STIRRUP LEATHERS

By Kim Kaplan

* Reprinted from The Horse Digest

Stirrup leathers: How much can there be to know about them? Considering that stirrup leathers are often the suspension point of a rider's full weight, there is much to know about this important, albeit oft-forgotten piece of tack.

Because they are stirrup leathers, they are obviously cut from hide. It is important that both leathers on your saddle be cut from the same spot on that hide. Since one of leather's properties is that it stretches, you want stirrup leathers that will stretch at the same rate. "Paired" leathers will stretch evenly throughout their useful life.

To identify leathers which have been cut and sold in tandem, look for a number or letter ID stamped on the tip of the tapered end. Leathers without such identifying marks are better avoided when buying fittings.

The hides used to cut leathers should have a high grease content, something added during the tanning process. You can easily feel the difference in grease content by running your finger down the strap; better leather feels much softer and smoother. Trust your touch for quality.

Although it makes a prettier picture when the "smooth" or outside of the hide is the facing out surface of the stirrup leather, the smooth side should be the inside. The smooth side can take more friction from the movement of the irons without fraying. Look for leathers with the flesh side on the top.

The edges of the leathers also have to bear up to the friction of irons and buckles. To minimize wear, all four edges should be beveled. After they have been beveled, leathers should be stained and

polished to provide the smoothest and most wear-resistant edges.

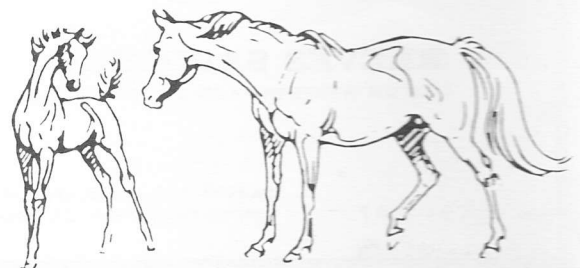
An edge that is not beveled or polished will feel sharp to the fingertip. Some leathers will only have one edge on each side beveled; others are not beveled at all. This workmanship or lack of it is usually reflected in the price.

Scars and blemishes on the hide are not a cause for concern and do not represent weak spots as long as they are not actual cuts in the leather. Few hides are completely free of scars - especially in long strips that are required for stirrup leathers.

Try to start out with leathers that are of a length that will accommodate you without jury-rigging via hole-punch. One of the four sizes - racing, children's, regular, extra long - should suffice. If you must punch new holes, center the new hole exactly and use the right-size punch.

Examine used leathers carefully before purchasing. Bend the leather back and look for cracking and dry rot in the stitching. If the leather changes color (appears lighter where it is folded) it needs soaking in neatsfoot oil. Measure the leathers against each other to check for uneven stretching. Holes should line up the entire length of the leather.

Whether you buy new or used leathers, take good care of them. Think about how much you depend on them and what can happen if one of them fails. They never fail in pairs.



TRAIL INFORMATION AND VOLUNTEER CENTER



COAST TO COAST TRAILS BENEFIT

Win a New England mountain trip and help the TIVC expand programs for volunteers to build, maintain and beautify trails in open space and county and state parks in the Santa Cruz Mountains, from San Francisco to Santa Cruz.

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Second prize is an overnight horseback trip for two, guided by Jodi and Paul Storaasli, owners of Skyridge Ranch. The Storaasli's will provide horses if you need them, as well as free camping and sumptuous meals.

Third prize is a Sphinx 1 tent donated by Sierra Designs. Fourth prize is a weekend for six at the Sierra Club Hiker's Hut in Sam McDonald Park, donated by the Loma Prieta Chapter.

The drawing for the COAST TO COAST TRAILS BENEFIT will take place at the Trail Fair on Saturday, September 8, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., location will be announced later. Between now and the Trail Fair, get your tickets from the TIVC office, located at the Peninsula Conservation Center, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto. Tickets can also be purchased from TIVC members, or at one of the local retail stores volunteering to take donations. TIVC will also have tickets available at county and local fairs throughout the summer. Donations are \$2.00 per ticket, \$5.00 for three or \$10.00 for six.

For more information about the COAST TO COAST TRAILS BENEFIT, or about the Trail Information and Volunteer Center, call Georgia Perkins at (415) 324-8482 between 1 and 5.



MEMORIAL DAY MESSAGE

By Tom Miller of
Moss Beach, California

Every year in May there is one day set aside for the purpose of Memorial Day. Many people take this holiday for granted as just another 3-day holiday. A lot of you do not stop to realize the sacrifices made by our men in uniform during the last three wars, W W II, Korea, and Vietnam. You take it for granted that you have a nice show horse to ride in the many A shows and all the good things that come with it. While men were getting killed in places like Danang a lot of you did not even realize the blood that was shed. I hope that we do not forget our honored war heroes this Memorial Day.



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CLYDESDALE

History: First bred in the Clyde Valley, Scotland; earliest studbook dates circa 1745.

Average height: 17 hands.

Color: Bay, black, roan, tobiano; generally with white socks.

Conformation: Heavy and powerful with an overall impression of quality: generally the longest-legged of the draft breeds; known for good feet and legs; lower legs adorned with "feathers" of long hair; mane full with tail generally docked.

Traits known for: Good action and temperament; feathered legs.

Main use today: Heavy farming and logging; hitching for show; crossbreeding for hunters, coach horses, jumpers and dressage horses.

HOLSTEIN

History: A great German war and tourney horse whose breeding dates from 1225.

Average height: 16 to 17.2 hands.

Color: Usually brown, bay or black.

Conformation: Strong and heavy; muscular neck; deep girth; good bone.

Traits known for: Versatile ability; good action.

Main use today: All-around riding, hunting, show, jumping, dressage; crossbreeding.

PONY OF THE AMERICAS

History: Pony breed developed for youth and family.

Average height: 11.2 to 13.2 hands.

Color: Appaloosa-colored with various coat patterns.

Conformation: Athletic and refined; head with clean-cut features; round, heavily muscled body; well-sprung ribs; short back and loin; long, level, muscular croup; deep and muscular gaskins and quarters.

Traits known for: Versatility, good disposition; smooth gaits essential because, except for halter and driving, they are shown exclusively by children.

Main use today: English and Western pleasure, trail, reining, jumping, driving, and speed events.

HANOVERIAN

History: Dates back about 400 years although breeding was not organized until 1735 when George II, King of Hanover, established a stable of select breeding stallions. Studbooks were started in the 1820's.

Average height: Breeding stallions 16.1 to 16.3 hands; for riding, horses close to 16 hands are preferred.

Color: Black, brown, bay, chestnut, gray; solid colors preferred.

Conformation: Powerful and athletic; intelligent expression, noble head; well-proportioned neck; strong, well-made torso.

Traits known for: Jumping ability, excellent temperament, willingness to work, versatility, distinctive movement.

Main use today: Dressage, jumping, hunting, eventing.

PINTO

History: Founded in 1956 primarily as a color registry based on conformation types.

Average height: 14.1 to 16.3 hands; ponies 12 to 14 hands; miniatures under 34 inches.

Color: Two color patterns; tobiano and overo.

Conformation: Four classes of types. Stock type: Western horses of predominantly Quarter Horse breeding and conformation, ponies of Shetland breeding. Hunter type: English horses or ponies of predominantly Thoroughbred breeding. Pleasure type: horses of predominantly Arabian or Morgan breeding. Saddle type: English horses or ponies of predominantly Saddlebred, Hackney or Tennessee Walking Horse breeding.

Traits known for: Colorful, versatile and intelligent.

Main use today: All categories of competition; race, show, eventing, and endurance.

MORGAN

History: Developed in America in late 1700's for driving, pulling, riding and racing.

Average height: 14.1 to 15.2 hands.

Color: Bay, chestnut, brown, black.

Conformation: Well-muscled; medium-size, clean-cut head; medium-length, well-crested neck; strong shoulders, back and hindquarters; good bone; full mane and tail.

Traits known for: Versatility, endurance, disposition, stylish action.

Main use today: Show and pleasure riding and driving, competitive trail riding and carriage driving.

DANISH WARBLOOD

History: Originated in Germany. Most Warbloods were bred as cavalry horses. Danish Warblood society formed after World War II.

Average height: 15.3 to 16.3 hands.

Color: All colors.

Conformation: Good bone; sturdiness; attractive head.

Traits known for: Dressage and jumping ability; good, docile temperament, even in stallions.

Main use today: Dressage, eventing, jumping, all-around horse.

HAFLINGER

History: Old Austrian breed traditionally used in the agricultural forest industries and for mountain packing.

Average height: 14 hands.

Color: Predominantly chestnut or palomino with flaxen mane and tail.

Conformation: A thick look; head tapers to muzzle; broad chest; deep girth; long, broad back; short legs.

Traits known for: Hardiness, especially in mountainous terrain; frugal, tough, surefooted and long-lived.

Main use today: Riding, driving and mountain pack work.

BURRO BARN MUSEUM



* Reprinted from California Horse Review

The Burro Barn Museum is a place where children and adults can learn all about donkeys, mules, and hinnies. A video tape presentation tells visitors the history of the donkey and its relatives.

The Burro Barn Museum is a favorite among kids, with live donkeys to pet and also to sit on for picture-posing.

Learn about California missions, Death Valley, the Grand Canyon and other great treasures. A knowledgeable curator is available to answer questions.

The Burro Barn Museum is located at 5315 Soquel Drive, in a picturesque old barn, an easy walk from the historic village of Soquel.

Admission is free. For more information call (408) 475-0618 or write Daniel Ambrose, c/o Burro Barn Museum, 5315 Soquel Drive, Soquel, CA 95073.



END BROKEN CROSSTIES

If you're tired of replacing broken crossties, try a pair of bicycle inner tubes. Loop one end of each tube around a sturdy upright or through a well-anchored ring--whatever you normally attach your crossties to. At the free end of each tube, tie a length of webbing or rope with a snap.

When your horse pulls back, your bicycle-tube crossties will stretch; the ties, themselves, are virtually unbreakable, and they'll save you many broken halters, too. If your horse is the type that fights when he comes to the end of a rope, the give in the tubes may provide just enough of a sense of freedom to break him of the habit.

IS YOUR HORSE AN ALPHA?



* Reprinted from Practical Horseman

Horses who are pasture mates naturally arrange themselves into a hierarchy from top horse on down. The top horse eats first, goes through the gate first, and generally calls the shots. Psychologists who study animal behavior refer to the top horse as the alpha horse.

If you'd like to know where your horse ranks in the pasture hierarchy, take a bucket of feed out to the pasture. Set it down and make sure the horses know it's there; then walk away and see what happens.

Several horses may reach the bucket simultaneously, but after a little jockeying for position, the one who actually settles down to eat first is the alpha horse. When you've identified him (or her), remove him and see who eats next. That's the beta horse...and so on through the Greek Alphabet.

A word of warning: This is an interesting experiment in a situation where the horses all get along reasonably well, and no one is wearing hind shoes. It may not be worth getting your horse repeatedly kicked to find out he's omega.

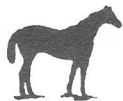


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WATER AND YOUR HORSE



By R. D. Scoggins, D.V.M.

*Reprinted from Western Horseman

Horses require a constant supply of fresh, clean water year-round. While hot weather increases the emphasis on a fresh, clean, and constant supply, horses also need plenty of water in cold weather. If they do not receive adequate water to aid in food digestion, impaction and colic can result.

Physiologists tell us that horses need up to four pounds of water for every pound of dry feed eaten. That means that a 1,000-pound horse that eats 18-25 pounds of dry feed per day needs 75-100 pounds of fresh water per day, or 10-15 gallons. However, the amount of water needed will vary depending on exercise, environmental temperature and variation in the amount and kind of feed.

In addition to supplying the proper amount of water, the water's condition is important. Fresh, clean water in a clean container is necessary to encourage horses to drink sufficient amounts.

Water containers come in many shapes, sizes, and materials. As long as you keep the containers clean and available to the horse, it doesn't matter what type you choose.

Many horse owners use large bulk tanks of concrete or metal. Algae is a common problem in these. Some people keep fish in their water tanks to keep the tanks clean. The fish will eat the grain spilled in the water by horses. Fish will also eat mosquito larvae and other water-breeding insects. To be effective, however, this method usually requires a fairly large tank. The tank should be shaded during the hottest part of the day and shouldn't be overstocked with too many fish.

Chemicals such as copper sulfate also help control algae growth. One teaspoonful of copper sulfater

powder is used per 150 gallons of water. Do not use this if sheep, goats, or even cattle use the same water supply, however. Ruminants are easily poisoned by copper.

Horses should not have to depend on farm ponds or drainage ditches for their water supply. On the other hand, spring-fed ponds that have sufficient flow so they do not become stagnant are satisfactory sources of water.

Stabled horses depend on waterers or buckets for their water supply. this supply should never be allowed to run out. Frequent cleaning (daily in warm weather) is required to keep water fresh.

Metal pails usually stay the cleanest. Plastic pails are very good and can be quite inexpensive. Rubber pails are popular because of their durability. However, they can be difficult to maintain in a fresh condition in hot weather. The roughness of the rubber pail's construction allows many crevices for bacteria to grow. Frequent scrubbing will be needed to maintain freshness.

The best rule of thumb for judging the quality of your horse's water? If you wouldn't drink it yourself, don't expect the horse to.



HANDY CLIPPER

We all dread the possibility of having to go into an enclosed place to free a thrashing or hung-up horse. A large pocket knife takes two hands to open, and there's a chance of you and the horse getting cut or stabbed.

So keep a straight-jaw hedge clipper handy. This can be used with one hand, and will cut leather or nylon halters, or up to a 3/4-inch rope with one "snip." The clipper is 1/2 inch thick and 8 inches long, and fits in a pocket.

SOME BITS ABOUT SNAFFLES AND CURBS

By Phil Ray of Palo Alto, CA

There are two basic types of bits: snaffles and curbs and many varieties of each. What confuses too many people, however, is the fact that a snaffle is a snaffle because of the rings (round or D) which join the mouthpiece and to which the reins are attached--not because of the fact that the mouthpiece is hinged. A snaffle may have many different kinds of mouthpieces other than the hinged variety. It may be a straight bar, mullen, ported, even a type of spade which is made for horses with the bad habit of hanging their tongues over the bit.

If a bit has a hinged mouth, but also has cheeks and shanks (sometimes miscalled a "training snaffle") as opposed to rings, it is a curb, not a snaffle. The basic difference is that a snaffle provides direct contact with the horse's mouth and exerts pressure only on his mouth, while a curb has leverage and provides pressure at three points: the poll, the chin or lower jaw (where the curb strap makes contact) and the mouth (tongue and bars).

The headstall for a curb bit is attached to the rings at the end of the cheeks (as is the curb strap) and the reins are attached to the rings at the end of the shanks. The amount of leverage provided depends on the ratio of the length of the cheeks to the length of the shanks.

Unlike the curb bit, the snaffle can be used to give direct pressure with either hand (plow reining) without causing pain because it will not twist in the horse's mouth. The curb bit, whether low or high port, full spade, halfbreed or grazing variety, should never (barring emergencies) be used with two hands. The curb is for finished horses who know what a neck rein is and who can go on a loose rein.

It is possible to exert enough leverage with a curb bit to force your horse's mouth open. The curb is not only for finished horses, it is for finished riders. The snaffle is for green hands just as it is for green mouths.

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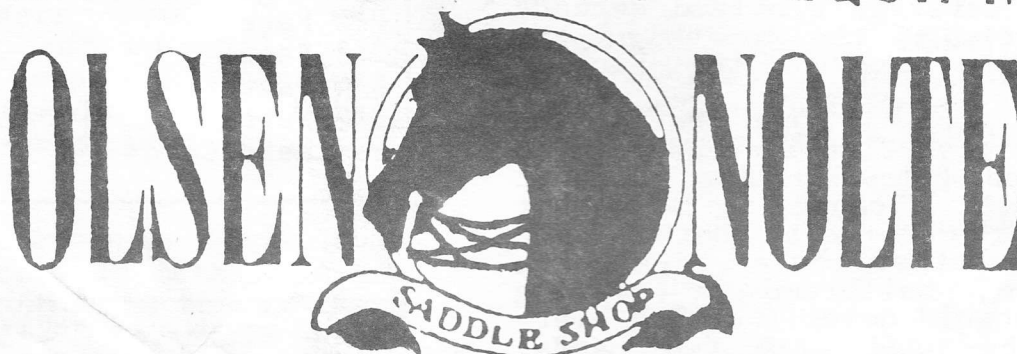
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Vol. 42 No. 3 May/June 1984

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