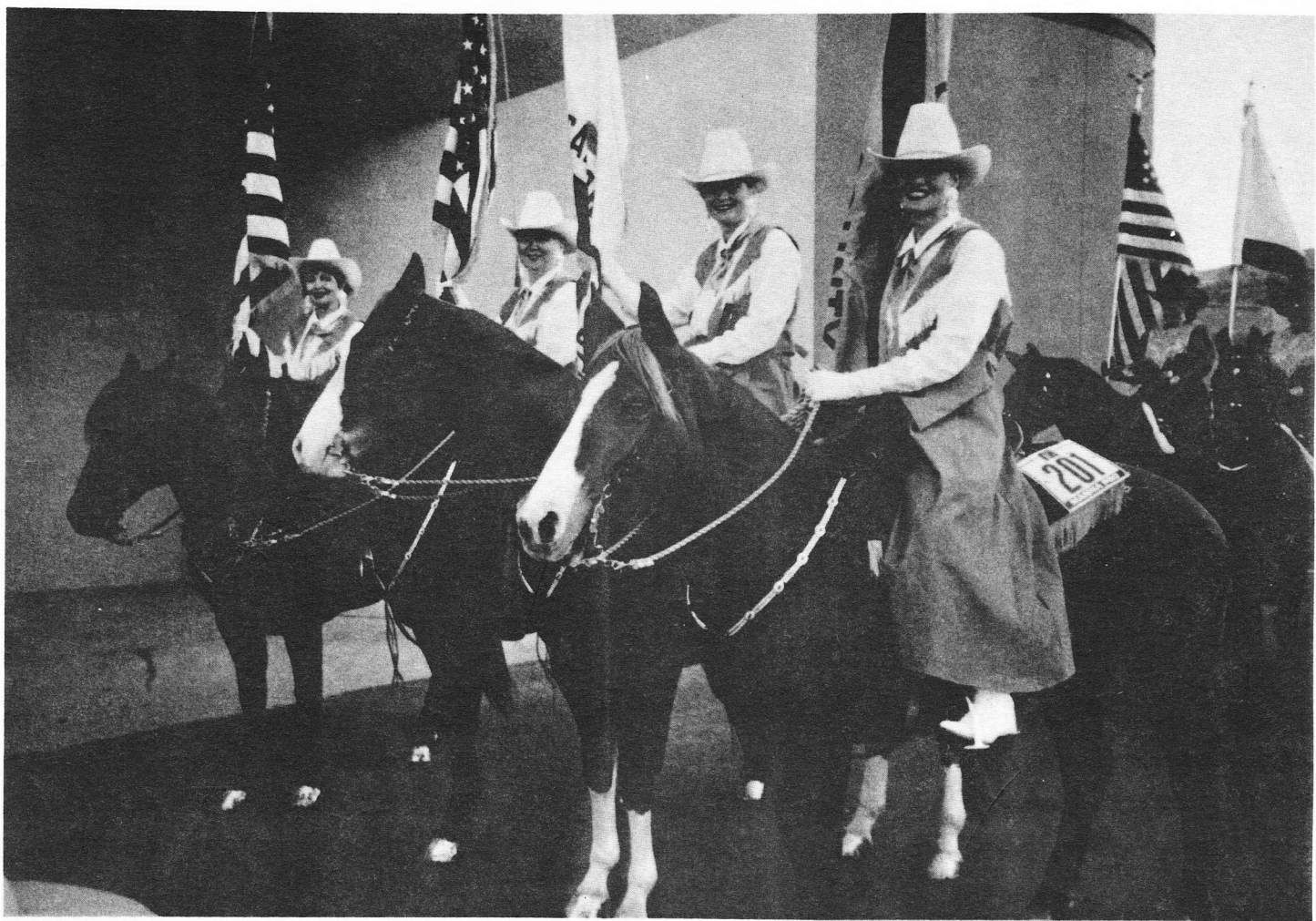
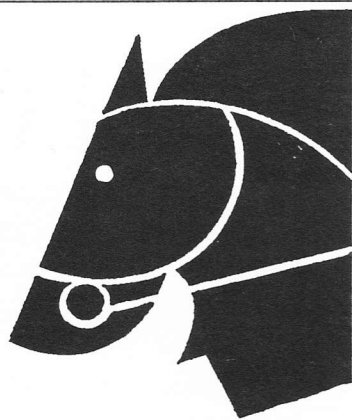


the San Mateo **HORSEMAN**



Fall 1990

A Horse Is A Horse Until...



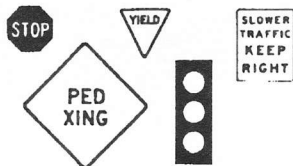
A horse is a horse—until it is ridden on a street or highway. Then the law defines it as a vehicle, and the rider is subject to all the duties of a driver.

Among laws most frequently misunderstood by equestrians.



Ride right... ride RIGHT

All vehicles, including horses, must be operated on the right-hand side of the road. And, slower moving equestrians must ride as close as practicable to right-hand edge or curb — which means that single file is correct if there are two or more horses in a group.



Signs & Signals

Equestrians rarely travel at speeds which exceed posted limits, but the resulting tendency to ignore speed limit signs can extend to the dangerous habit of violating other official traffic controls. Stop signs, signals and other regulatory signs require strict compliance.

Center Dividers

The center strip of an divided highway is neither a legal nor a safe place to ride—in either direction. Stay off dividers and ride to the right.

Turning Movements

The law requires a vehicle to be as far right as practicable when making a right turn, and to the left side of the innermost lane when turning left. Practically speaking, a left turn from the roadway is hazardous for an equestrian. Proceeding crossing the other roadway at right angles, is a safer procedure.

Right Of Way

When riding up to an uncontrolled intersection, you must yield to cross traffic which enters before you do. If you enter the intersection at the same time, yield to the vehicle on your right. Equestrians often are unexpected by motorists - be particularly alert at every intersection, and avoid those with heavy traffic flows.



When approaching a stop sign, make a full stop and continue yielding to vehicles on the through road until all cross traffic which is close enough to be a hazard has cleared. On horseback, crossing or turning onto a through highway demands extreme caution. A better practice is to plan a route which does not require you to cross through streets.

Riding Tips

- Stay off the paved or main-traveled portion of the roadway if possible.
- Ride on the right shoulder when space and footing permit.
- Constant alertness is a good companion.
- Motorist seldom see an equestrian on the road — their reactions may be confused.
- Be prepared for the unusual or the unexpected.

Laws dealing with driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs apply equally to equestrians.



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Presidents Ride
page 5

Cover Story

SMCHA COLORGUARD

COW PALACE GRAND NATIONAL 1990
by Lisa Kazanjian

October 26, 1990, opening night of the Grand Nationals, San Mateo County Horsemen was represented by Lisa Kazanjian, Sharon Lann, Doris Lantz and Kathi Poppenburg. They rode matching pairs, two chestnuts and two bays. Many hours of thoughtful planning and fun practicing went into this event. It was the first try for all the parties including the horses. The group placed 2nd in ticket sales and 4th for the women's division. The serious judging was based on various items: formation, matching equipment, matching horses, uniqueness of dress, cleanliness and so on. Libby Armanino was kind enough to make the stylish riding skirts, thank you Libby. It was a very trying event for all due to the severe cold weather. The four women were on their horses for six hours, the bitter cold wind kept all alert. Overall forged the quartet to be better friends and honored to be part of The Color Guard.

For More . . .

See *Cowgirl For A Day*, page 6



50th Banquet
page 8

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SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

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to San Mateo County Horse-
men's Association
C/O Doris Lantz(editor)

**Deadline for Ads and articles for
the Winter 1991 issue is
December 15, 1991.**



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Sharon Lann

**1991 MEMBERSHIP
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Message from the President

We are now through three quarters of our 50th year and heading for the next 50 years. The final night of the Western Riding Clinic Barbecue was used to recognize the founders of the event. Honored that evening were Dale Ryman, Ross Meredith, Bill Holmes, Harry Conley and Harold Zwerlein. They were each given plaques honoring their contribution to trail rides and trails. A special 50th ride was held September 16th through Huddart Park. We had a tremendous turnout of 71 riders. Lew Reed was honored with a plaque for his contribution to trail rides and trails. A champagne toast by the members was given to our 50th year along with a special birthday cake. Ron Harris who organized the ride was unfortunately sick and unable to attend, but

his wife, Mary Jo, filled in for Ron and did a great job. The culmination of our 50th anniversary was the banquet at the Villa Hotel in San Mateo. From the advance publicity this was one grand night for the Horsemen. The English and Western Horse and Schooling Shows were well attended this year and my thanks to all those hard working members who put them on. Our NIGHT AT THE GRAND NATIONAL was November 1st with the Barn Dance on November 9th. Our membership has grown to 540 members, this has well exceeded my goal of 500 for this year. We welcome all of the new members to our organization and hope you will enjoy and participate in our events. Looking forward to meeting each of you at our next event.

Dick Convery

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MOUNTED PATROL PLAYDAY

by Mary Jo Harris

The 3rd annual Mounted Patrol playday was held Saturday, August 18th, at the beautiful patrol grounds in the heart of Woodside. Thanks go to Joe Putnam and Rick Corso, who are the sponsors and organizers of this fun filled, action packed event. This years turnout was the largest to date. Approximately 20 contestants were entered in both the women's and men's events, which consisted of key hole racing, pole bending, handkerchief race, barrel racing, and the ever popular team penning. At days end, everyone gathered in the clubhouse for a fantastic dinner and the presentation of awards. Again this year, one of San Mateo County Horsemen's own, galloped away with top honors in the women's division. Kathy Bryan, aboard her paint mare Cameo, did a consistently fine job all day, capped off with a 1st place win in the team penning. She and her partners penned all 3 in under a minute! She went home with a beautiful blanket for Cameo and gorgeous buckle for herself. Congratulations Kathy.

Wunderlich Park Ride

Mary Jo Harris

Saturday, June 16th was our second ride of the year. 38 riders turned out to enjoy the beautiful weather, good company and the scenic trails of Wunderlich Park. Ron Harris served as Trail Boss and drag for the day was

Bruce Baker. We suffered a radio communications failure, due to the loss of one antenna, but luckily Bruce Doran was along and he filled in quite nicely as relay man in the communications department. The ride consisted of a leisurely 2 hour trek from the Wunderlich parking lot up to Skyline Blvd., culminating at the Skywood Restaurant for lunch. Joining us for lunch were Melissa Convery's parents, Bob and Maxine Mettler who were visiting from Oregon. Melissa was surprised with a birthday muffin, sporting a single candle and a Happy Birthday chorus from the lunch bunch. This was Melissa's first group ride aboard her brand new 3 year old paint gelding, Michael B. He conducted himself like an old pro. Congratulations Melissa!

Lunch was delicious and almost everyone chose to eat outdoors on the deck in order to enjoy the fine weather and the spectacu-

lar views. This also enabled everyone to keep an eye on their horses while enjoying lunch. Ron Harris and Bill Hopper had come up Friday evening to set up tie lines, so there was plenty of room for all. We can always count on Bill to lend a helping hand at a moment's notice.

During lunch, Ron was observed getting the address and phone number of our pretty blonde waitress. Seems she is a horse owner and would like to join our organization. At least that's the story Ron told his wife. After lunch we returned to the parking lot via the Alambique Trail. It was a fun day and everyone seemed to have a great time.

Special thanks to the whole Hopper family, Bill, Jan, Michele and Beth, for assisting with the pre-ride and also to Don Palus for his help with the parking.



Annual President's Ride

By Ron Harris

Just three weeks after the 50th Anniversary Ride, 70 riders turned out for the President's Ride October 14, which was the last ride of the year. This was a tremendous ride, which started on Runnymead, and continued through the Rosecrans Sculpture Farm and into Huddart Park. The two and one half hour ride took us through some beautiful areas, and was led by Ron Harris, with Marv Twisselman as the mid-ride boss and Bill Hopper riding as drag. The ride ended at the home of Rod and Libby Armanio, where lunch was served. We really thank Rod and Libby for allowing us to use their home, which is adjacent to the park, and is really in a park like setting.

The lunch was another tremendous effort by Jill Silva and her helpers, John Hagan, Jan Hopper, Rod and Libby. Served was ham and turkey, with Jill's homemade cranberry sauce, dressing and gravy. For dessert Jill made some delicious special cakes. Everyone had plenty to eat and drink. One of the reasons for this ride is to recognize the S.M.C.H.A past presidents who are in attendance. Our current president, Dick Convery, introduced seven past presidents who were present.

Past Presidents present on ride

Cheryl Kreuzer
1978

Jim Estep
1979-80

Noel Moody
1981 & 87

Harry Wellman
1982-83

Mary Lee Twisselman
1986

Ron Harris
1988

Rick Payne
1989

It was great to get all these past presidents together and talk about the old times, and see how great the club is going.

It has been a great year. We have enjoyed many great rides and I appreciate your participation, which makes them successful, and especially the help of all those members who assisted me in organizing each ride. See you all next year on more enjoyable rides.



PAST PRESIDENTS

(Left to Right) Rick Payne, Jim Estep, Mary Lee Twisselman, Harry Wellman, Cheryl Kreuzer, Ron Harris, Noel Moody, Dick Convery

The SMCHA Colorguard at the Cow Palace Oct. 29, 1990

"Cowgirl For A Day"

by Sharon Lann

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

San Francisco Police Departments.

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

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

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

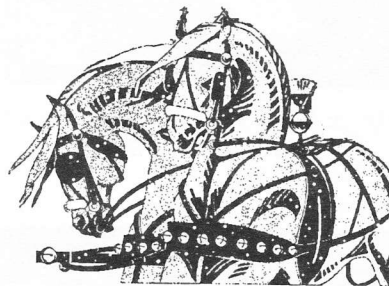
tection from the elements should count) - but made do with the light ones we'd bought. (Next year we're working ski parkas in, somehow)

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

Our debut as a colour guard was over - and we took a fourth

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

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



TIPS FOR TOWING

On long trips put a deep layer of straw on the floor. Some horses will not urinate in the trailer otherwise.

Adapt your cornering technique. . . neither accelerate or brake IN a corner. Brake on the straight, take the corner at an even speed then accelerate again only when you're back on the straight.

Keep a sharp knife in the trailer in some spot where you have easy access to it. There have been emergencies where it was vital to free the horse quickly but where even a quick-release

knot has tightened beyond human ability to untie it.

Wrap but don't tourniquet. . . Legs are optional, especially if a horse is traveling alone, but ALWAYS wrap tails. This not only protects the hair (and looks) but stops the underside of the tail rubbing raw should the horse manage to get his tail over the tailgate.

NEVER travel in a trailer with a horse.

If you must trailer a stallion with another horse, smear the stal-

lion's nose with Vicks Vaporub. . this stops him from even detecting a mare in heat.

When you are loaded and ready to head home, take a quick walk around both car and trailer. I remember running after a departing rig one day shouting at them to stop. They didn't hear me, and while I'm sure that the people and horse reached home safely, I have my doubts about the new cowboy hat left on the trailers hitch.

50th Anniversary Banquet Dinner

By Dick Convery



Mr. & Mrs. William Callaihan
President 1956



Jill Silva & Bruce Baker



**Bill Jabs, Fran Jabs,
Melissa Convery**

After two years of planning and ten months of celebrating we held our 50th Anniversary Banquet at the Villa Hotel in San Mateo on Saturday the 6th of October 1990. This was a culmination of fund drives from a pancake breakfast, fashion show, tack sale, to the selling of raffle tickets and commemorative pins. All the efforts of the 50th Committee and the membership helped make the banquet so successful. There were 160 members and guests in attendance at the banquet. The program went off smoothly, starting with the continual showing of videos in the hall by Paul Bjoring and photographs of the members by Tanya Galvin. The banquet hall was gaily decorated by our committee members, with blue and gold Horsemen balloons at every table tied to the flowers. At either end of the room there was a ten foot screen showing slides of the past 50 years, put together by Harry Wellman and Laurie Fieguth. The videos and slides were a big hit with all those who attended. Barbara George and Doug Moody shared the Master of Ceremonies spot and did a great job. Awards were presented to six members who did an exemplary job for the Horsemen over the past 50 years. Those recognized were Noel Moody, Polly Swinerton, Dale Ryman, Ross Meredith, Rich Delucchi, Harry Williams and Lew Reed. Supervisor Mary Griffin presented a County Resolution recognizing the achievements of the Horsemen over the past 50 years with one from the State forthcoming. Mayor Joan Stiff of Woodside sent a floral arrangement for the head table. The dinner itself was great and the band got everybody up and dancing. It was so nice to see so many old members and past presidents attending to help celebrate our Anniversary, it gave everybody an opportunity to exchange old stories. Special thanks to Libby Armanino for all of her time and effort in editing and putting together our Historical book, everybody loved it and will cherish the book for years to come. To Barbara George for all of her organizational abilities in arranging all of the many details for the banquet with the Villa Hotel, great job! I cannot forget Melissa Convery for putting up with all of those endless meetings at our house and the goodies. Lastly, to the members of the 50th committee who worked so hard over the past two years to put this together and what an outstanding job they did. The best luck to the Horsemen in the next 50 years and may it continue to grow and prosper with a horse in every back yard.

The 50th Committee

Amos Dana
Patty Dana
Noel Moody
Rick Payne
Ron Harris
Barbara George
Don Palus
Nancy Crowley
Jill Silva

Richard Convery
Melissa Convery
Walt Kirk
Doris Lantz
Bruce Baker
Ken Lansdowne
Cheryl Chandler
Laurie Fieguth

Karen Rowley
Eileen Borzone
Libby Aramanio
Bob Hydorn
Mary Hydorn
Gay-Lynn Mann
Marv Twisselman
Mary Lee Twisselman

Is Your Horse Ready For Winter?

Before the winter months come, your horse should be vaccinated, teeth floated and wormed. This will give the horse's internal system a jump on fending off colds and flu's. By following a yearly program of teeth floating and worming, the horse's digestive system can better utilize the feed given him. A worm free horse will have a smoother finer textured coat and by having a better coat the horse will be warmer and healthier.

What about pasture? . . . some winter pasture horses come through the months in better shape and with less colds than barn stalled horses IF they have adequate care that provides enough to eat, and protection from the elements as well. So if a horse is in pasture make sure the animal has adequate cover in which to stand. Ideally an open south faced three sided shed is the best protection. Cold wind is the biggest enemy of horses in the winter. It tends to chill rain wet horses and causes drafty breezes on stalled horses. It ruffles the long protective hair of the dry horse allowing escape of vital body heat. That is the one reason why horses will lie down a lot in colder weather. By lying down they curl up feet underneath and preserve body heat. At least once a week the pasture horse should be brought in for inspection. Hooves should be cleaned and he should be checked for open cuts. Excessive hairs around the ankles should be cut to prevent collec-

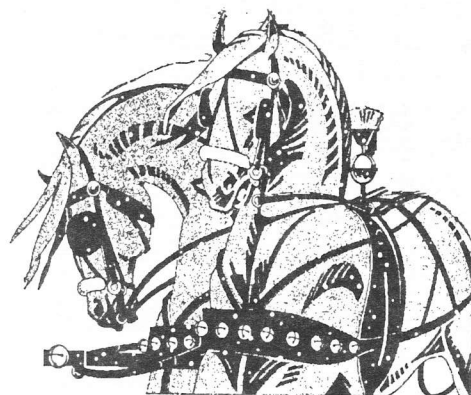
tion of mud. If you pull shoes off a pastured horse there is less chance of ice and mud balling in the hooves. Check the layer of fat over the horse's body to make sure the horse is receiving adequate feed. This layer of fat is very important because it provides body heat and protection.

What about a stall? . . . The barn should be airy enough to allow fresh air in but to avoid drafts. The bedding should be adequate to provide a soft footing for horses that spend long hours standing on it. Plus absorbent enough to keep hooves dry, avoiding foot problems and giving the horse a place to lay down. The barn horse should be exercised every two to three days. Muscle condition is important to any horse during the winter months.

What about a blanket? . . . Blankets are designed to keep a horse warm not dry and not to replace the horse's hair. A pasture horse should never be turned loose with a blanket on. In addition to a horse rolling and getting a foot hooked, a horse will sweat under the blanket as the sun beats down on him. If the horse is caught in the rain, the blanket will get soggy and wet. The blanket then becomes a cold damp covering. The horse then comes down with the flu and you wonder why he had a blanket on . . . no blanket is better than a wet blanket. . . stalled horses that are blan-

ketted should have the blankets removed at least twice a week. Then the horse should be thoroughly brushed. Blankets are excellent when used for what they are intended for, to keep the horse warm. Blankets are not needed if the horse has a healthy winter coat.

What about feed? . . . The average 1,000 pound horse eats about 15-18 pounds of feed per day. The same horse eating the same amount of feed in the winter will slowly begin to lose weight. Not from being ridden but because he must burn extra calories in order to heat his body. To keep weight on a horse his total amount of hay should be increased or grain added to the feeding program. You should pay attention to your horse's weight and condition. The easiest way to determine if a horse is maintaining or losing weight is to FEEL him, not just look at him. Looking at a horse under all that winter hair can be deceiving. Run your fingers along his ribs, if they feel bony, he is losing weight. The winter horse should carry a layer of fat over his ribs.



Jack Brook Horsecamp Overnight Ride

by Ron Harris

Another great overnight ride was enjoyed by SMCHA members and guests in July. There were 40 horses on site at Jack Brook Horse Camp, and 60 people who attended the Saturday night dinner, which was out of this world. Jill Silva did her usual great job, and was assisted by John Hagan, Walt Kirk and Billy Dee.



Several members arrived at the Horsecamp during the week, prior to the weekend overnighiter. There was Ron and Mary Jo Harris, Amos and Patty Dana, Doug and Noel Moody, and Bob and Mary Hydorn, all who arrived on Monday and Tuesday. One evening, the Moody's hand wrote some invitations and invited everyone for cocktails at their camp, which they called the "Moody Mansion." Everyone had a great time and enjoyed a pot luck dinner. By Friday evening, most everyone was in camp. Our hard working cooks prepared chicken for everyone for the Friday night pot luck dinner.

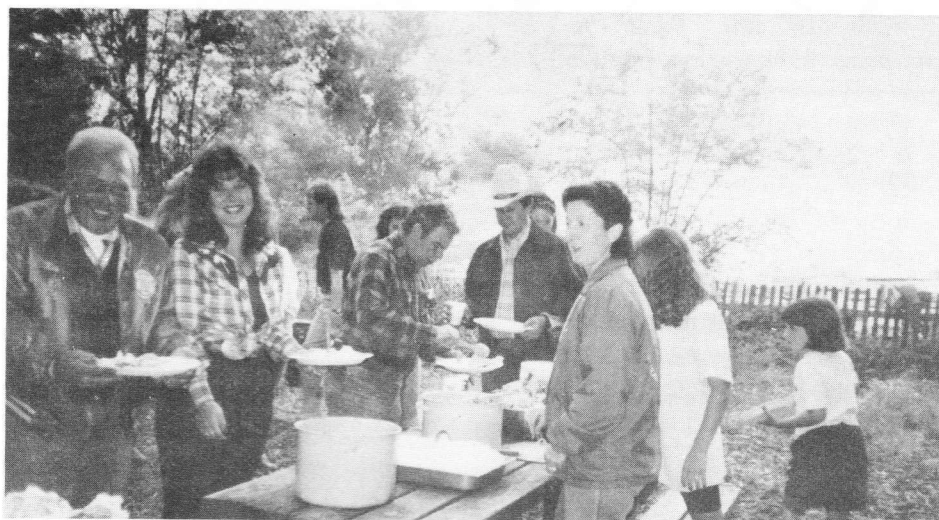
The long ride on Saturday was led by Ron Harris, who took the riders on a beautiful ride to the Tarwater Loop, which passes by an old shack which is the remains of a blacksmith shop of yesteryear. This trail also takes you by the site of an old shingle mill, with boiler parts and platforms still in place. After a bag lunch on the trail, overlooking the old blacksmith shop, the ride continued back to camp. Bill and Roni Turnbow served as the drag riders on this five hour ride. This was their last Horsemen's function for awhile, as they are leaving the area. They have purchased a mini

ranch in the Petaluma area and moved in August. We hope to continue to see them at some of our activities. There was also a shorter ride on Saturday, which was led by the Hopper family and Jeanette Rettig. Needless to say, all the showers got a workout when everyone returned to camp, in preparation for the Saturday night dinner and live entertainment.

The dinner and other meals were prepared on our new cook trailer. A few months prior to the overnighiter the club had purchased a used cook trailer, which needed a lot of work done to it. Bill Hopper had

spent countless hours remodeling, refurbishing and finally giving it a new blue and gold paint job. He even managed to get it done in time to be entered in the July 4th Parade in Redwood City. It looked fantastic. Jill loves it and it has made her job a lot easier. Jill and her helpers, which also included Jan, Michele and Beth Hopper, prepared a fantastic dinner, including oysters, clams, salmon, cheeses, dip and many other hors d'oeuvres, followed by steak, giant shrimp, salad, baked beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, and apple strudel for dessert. What a meal.



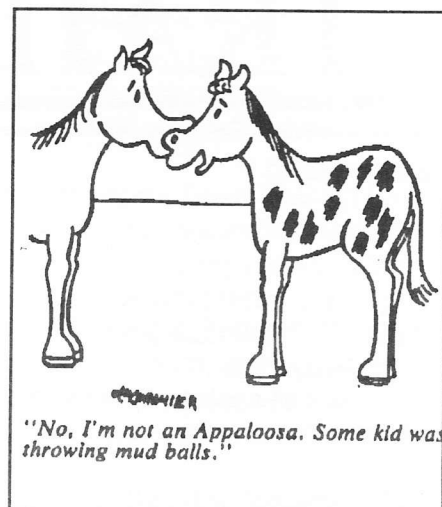


After dinner Jill Silva thanked everyone who had helped her, then she presented Bill Hopper with huge cooking pan and lemon meringue pie for all of his help. Some of us can attest to the fact that this is one of Bill's favorite dessert. He graciously shared it with other pie lovers in the group.

Our entertainment was presented by Tod Holcombe and Gary Potterton, which was a merging of Texas Chainsaw Band and Hearts On Fire. Tod sang the National Anthem at an A's baseball game the week prior to the Overnighter, and he performs at the Saddlerack in San Jose. They made a lot of music for two people, singing and playing their guitars. We also enjoyed the music of one of our guests, Bob Webber, who sang and played his guitar.

Sunday's ride was attended by a small group of riders, probably because of the lateness of the night before. Ron and Mary Jo Harris led the 3 hour ride, which ended the overnight ride activities.

SMCHA President, Dick Convery, and his wife Melissa were on the overnighter, and Dick was pleased with the turnout and great weekend. He is doing a great job this year as president, and also coordinating the many additional activities to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. We thank you, our members and guests, for participating in these functions, and making this organization bigger and better every year.



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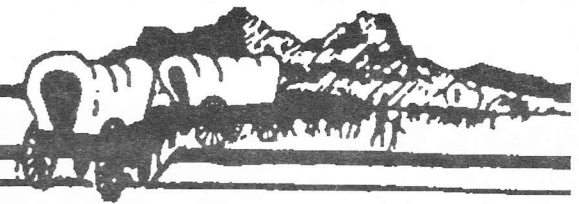
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TRAIL TIPS



by Lew Reed

Nearly all the trail organizations are working hard to continue to provide a trail system to serve all trail users in the entire Bay area.

San Francisco Bay Trail (that is the trail around the Bay adjacent to the water) continues to report progress as additional segments are improved and dedicated. On August 12th over 400 people attended a dedication ceremony at Candlestick Park. Committees are working to clean up the wetland area. It is reported that 20 tons of debris were removed in a single day with 90% of the materials recyclable. We are throwing away material that should go the recycling centers. One of the segments is permission to pass thru Moffett Field area with a trail next to the water. This has been a stumbling block ever since the project was proposed. The City of Albany is studying a potential trail around Golden Gate Fields. China Camp in Marin County has completed 2.8 miles of the trail at China Camp State Park. Alameda is funding a 10' trail adjacent to the San Leandro Bridge.

The Tahoe Rim Trail (that is the trail around Lake Tahoe on the ridge tops) is progressing rapidly. Peninsula Times Tribune on September 3rd carried a full page story reporting that the trail is already more than halfway around the lake. This is basically a volunteer project with volunteers actually doing construction, working to solicit donations and publicity, and public and private support. Over 150 miles of

trail are included in the project with hikers, campers and equestrians sharing summer use and snow campers and cross country skiers in the winter. For more information contact Tahoe Rim Trail at P.O. Box 10156, South Lake Tahoe, Ca 95731 or call (916) 577-0676.

Bay Area Ridge Trail county committees continue to meet regularly continuing their efforts to plan and negotiate rights of way for the planned trail around the Bay thru 9 counties and many cities. San Mateo County is setting up meetings with Mayor Art Agnos soliciting his cooperation in obtaining permission for the trail thru the San Francisco Watershed along with other trails included in the San Mateo County plan for trails across the county. The Technical Committee met and is meeting continuously to develop a landowner handbook explaining the benefits of the trail, pros and cons on landowner liabilities, methods of acquiring title by easement, dedication, fee title purchase, leases, and as last resort, a friendly condemnation. It is hoped that it will become a working tool in negotiations with landowners--public or private. Some counties are faced with negotiating with may private landowners who are not always receptive to a trail across their property.

San Mateo County Trails Advisory Committee meets monthly to address local trails problems and to promote better use of all trails by all users. At the last two meetings the idea of Whole Access Trails was

reviewed for trails for persons of all abilities. The variations of capabilities are being studied and a sub-committee was formed to bring the latest information to the committee. Much discussion was had about possible amendment of the County ordinances relating to the use of vehicles and especially bicycles on the trails. Presently bikes are not allowed on county trails except if on paved or especially designated as a bike trail. The problems seem to be how to manage bikes on trails where they are not allowed on. Presently the ordinance says riding a bike on unallowed trails is subject to a citation by a Ranger. But generally the rangers do not see the biker actually riding so the committee is suggesting an amendment to include "in possession of a bike on a trail where not allowed." This idea will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission shortly for possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Park Department now has available and is distributing postal card forms for reporting of conflict incidents on the trails. It is hoped that all users will start filling out any reports of problems noted on the trails and will send it in such a postal card.

Are you familiar with the Trail Center? They have so much information available about the trails and where they are that it is amazing. Some maps are free and there is a small service charge for others. They have available a special map on Peninsula Parklands as a guide to outdoor recreation in Santa

Clara, San Mateo, Santa Cruz and San Francisco counties. Almost informative map that highlights in green the various public parks and preserves in the area. While trails are not outlined on this map it leads to maps of the particular park of your interest and you may obtain a trail map for that park. This map costs \$6 including sales tax and mailing. Contact the Trail Center at (415) 968-7065.

All their funding comes from private donations of money and from their membership fees. Their printing costs are tremendous. Much of the office labor is done by volunteers who spend hours folding, stuffing, addressing and stamping the boxes of daily mail. Some computer experts come down evenings and program their computers. Others come and data process and another individual comes and enters the financial transactions. Volumes of mail must be processed and if you desire to spend a few hours there being of assistance please call the Trail Center. Lew and Vera Reed recently helped to send out a recent flyer and while putting on the address labels noted a large group of San Mateo Horsemen who are paying members of the Trail Center. The recent mailing included an 8 page listing of outdoor activities on the peninsula for September including trail work projects, exhibits, lectures, slide shows, hiking events, bicycling events, equestrian events and running events. This is distributed monthly to all members. Lots and lots of information for you.

The Town of Woodside Trail Committee has finally improved the trail on Greer Road in Woodside. Greer Road paving was so slippery that many horses were in danger of slipping and falling. Now there is a trail most of the way on the right of

way between the paving and the fence line. Some of the trail immediately adjacent to the paving has been scraped clear, bulkheads have been installed and some of the deeper paths have been rocked. More work will be done after the rains start. This is an example of a good use of your stable permit monies. The committee has also asked the town to enforce their ordinance against plantings in the road rights of way and recent plantings have been removed.

The Woodside Trail Club is reporting receiving calls about users on the trail from Phleger estate residence to Skyline. This trail is exclusively under the jurisdiction of the Woodside Trail Club and they pay to maintain it. It seems now to be invaded by runners apparently climbing over the gates or cutting the fencing wires. Horsemen are indicating that they are receiving a bad time from such trespassers. Possible Phlegers will have to take their own action. We just hope that it does not become such a problem that they close the trail to all users. This is one of the better horse trails and one of the oldest in Woodside.

The Town Trail Committee is reviewing the stable permits paid and unpaid as is the Woodside Trail Club. All horsemen should realize that the fees and dues paid go to the maintenance of our trail system and we need every dollar available.

Some questions have arisen concerning the availability of Woodside Trail Club membership to those who board at Webb Ranch and live outside the Woodside Portola Valley Fire District. Presently those in this position are not eligible for membership. The club is now studying the status of those who were qualified at the time of joining

the club but are no longer eligible. The discussions seem to indicate that they may be grandfathered into the club somehow. The club will report more on this later.

The Woodside Town Trail system seems to be slowed down and few new trails are being added. This is due to the fact that there are only a very few new subdivisions being proposed and not too many variances being requested where the town might condition the variance upon the dedication of a trail. This is being constantly monitored by the committee in cooperation with the planning department.

Due to the financial crunch, San Mateo Parks is reviewing their park fees and in many instances raising the fee to adjust for the \$125,000 cut in their budget. Jack Brook Horse Camp fees will be reviewed later in the year and the Park Department has promised to involve the ad hoc committee that has worked so closely with the department to maintain an equitable and fair fee. A suggestion that the fee be based on the vehicle with a separate fee for the horse might work. Have you any thoughts on this? Please contact Lew.

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Huge Turnout For Anniversary Ride

By Mary Jo Harris

Sixty seven riders rode the trails of Huddart Park in celebration of SMCHA'S 50th year. President Dick Convery, with a little help from his friends, did a great job of filling in at the last minute for trail boss Ron Harris who was unable to ride due to illness. Once again Bruce Baker most graciously agreed to be our drag. On a large ride this is an important position and Bruce always does a fine job.

Thanks again Bruce and sorry about the dust. Thanks also to Bobbi Petrov for serving as traffic controller and Rick Payne for the use of his radios and filling in for Bruce on the ride home.

Joining us on the ride was Art Hansen, a member who makes his home in Fairbanks, Alaska. Word of Jill Silva's cooking has really spread far and wide! Also joining us were several members of the San Francisco Horsemen's Association, Suzanne Guyton and guest from San Jose and Bob and Kathy Bryan from Morgan Hill.

After a leisurely ride through the park, we arrived at the Toyon Camp Area where Jill, John Hagan and Walt Kirk had been hard at work preparing a barbecue lunch for 75 members and guest. We began the meal with champagne and Jill's world renowned hors d'oeuvres, followed by steak, chicken and all the trimmings. Joining us for

lunch from Oregon were Melissa Convery's parents, Bob and Maxine Mettler. Also in attendance were Lew and Vera Reed. Lew was presented with a plaque honoring him for his many years of hard work and dedication to the preservation, maintenance and improvements of our local trail systems. Lew is also very active in the planning and development of new trails for the future enjoyment of horsemen, locally and throughout the state.

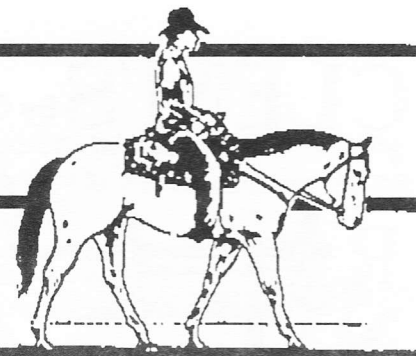
The Horsemen's Association was not the only birthday celebrated that afternoon. Seems Doris Lantz is now another year older. Bruce Doran made a presentation, consisting of jokes and gifts. Congratulations Doris. Special thanks go out to Bob Hydorn and John Hagan for stepping in at a moment's notice

giving Ron Harris a hand with all the last minute details. And once again, hats off to Jill Silva and crew for all their dedication and hard work.

It was a fun day and everyone seemed to have a fine time.



VOLUNTEER HORSE PATROL



by Stephanie Anise

Finger-Lickin' Good Fall BBQ Sunday, September 9

We had one of those glorious, late summer days on Sunday, September 9th, for our fall barbeque at the Toyon Camp Site in Huddart Park. Approximately 30 people from our ranks came, joined by Dave Moore and other rangers from the San Mateo County Park staff. Lynne Fritz, Pescadero Creek Supervisor, came to address us but had to leave unexpectedly. As usual, we combined the pleasures of eating and visiting along with some announcements to keep the membership feeling connected and informed.

If you weren't there, here are the folks you missed seeing: **Stephanie Anise, Cynthia Baird, Linda Cummins, Gina Davis, Cindy and Ralph Elliot, Karen Flores, Maureen Hagan, Ron and Mary Jo Harris, Nancy Hay, Marcia Keener, Walt Kirk, Sharon Lann, Doris Lantz, Lon Mattman, Carolyn Rathbun, Donna and Gene Richeson, Sonya Sokolow, Marian Vandenbosch, Carleen and Stuart Whittelsey.**

Our hard-working cooks, Walt Kirk and John Hagan, gave us a good start in the eating department with delicious barbecued

chicken. Everyone else chipped in with the delightful assortment we usually have at our potlucks.

In the "update department," **Dave Moore** informed us about:

- A first aid kit assembled in a fanny pack that will be available to any member completing first aid/CPR training (see below).
- Radios have been acquired to use in Huddart Park. Radios are already being used in Pescadero County Park successfully. Each park should have its own budget for radios. Training dates for radio operations in Huddart Park are expected to be scheduled after the first of the year.
- Include in your post-ride call the amount of time you spend in the park on your patrol. This allows Dave Moore to document the number of hours and the advantage provided to the county by the Volunteer Horse Patrol. The county is more likely with this information to allocate us the support we need, i.e., radios.

First Aid: One of our members, Lon Mattman, is a Certified First Aid Instructor. Lon is arranging for first aid instruction sessions for all interested members. A

sheet for sign-ups was passed at the barbeque. Sessions will begin around early November.

Stuart Whittelsey Represents VHP
Septmeber 24 and 25, 1990

Stuart Whittelsey represented us at the 1990 International Open Space Conference held in Palo Alto. He made a 15 minute presentation at the special sessions held at Huddart Park on Monday and Tuesday, September 24 and 25. The audience's level of interest was indicated by questions they asked and the round of applause for the speaker. On Monday, Stuart had time to combine his speech with a patrol ride. Many thanks to Stuart and Tex for an outstanding job!

Welcome To New Members Pescadero Creek Park

Please join me in welcoming our newest volunteer!
Rick Payne

Rick has qualified as a participant in the program at Pescadero Creek Park. Karen Flores and her mother, Marian Vandenbosch, already members of the VHP, have also qualified to patrol in Pescadero Creek Park.

The Tevis Cup Ride of 1990 was won by Hal Hall, Auburn, his 16th buckle in 18 tries. 239 riders started, 101 finished within the allotted time. This year the riders battled through scorching heat, over 110 degrees in the canyons, and quoting Jim Humphrey, ride director, "It was the highest humidity I've remembered." Our local rider, Richard Mesak, finished in 60th place, winning his second buckle. Julie Suhr of Santa Cruz earned her unprecedented 20th buckle. At the awards ceremony she was honored with the Tevis first ever 2000 mile buckle before announcing her retirement from the ride. "I'm basically a coward and I can never face up to the day when I can't (do it). To the members of SMCHA who don't know - the Tevis 100 mile ride is held once every year, now starting from near the Truckee river, over the pony express trail to Auburn. Those finishing within 24 hours receive a well earned silver and gold buckle. Local riders who wear them are Danica Piers, Ulla Jaeger, Jesper

Petersen, Roger and Joe Piers, Kathy Martin Piers, Linda Walker Bachman, Darlene Frase, Mary Shimmick, Tommy Mein, and Dr. Tom Schulte. Jesper has eight of them!

Rosemarie Allen just returned from Las Vegas, \$1400 dollars richer, and sweet husband Bob always nearby with her wheel chair when she tires. Not only has she fought multiple sclerosis, but other complications. She can still laugh, saying her hair is coming back in three colors. In one month she has had some seventeen doctors check her out. How she loved her Mr. Ed, a beautiful white gelding. Talk about equipment, Rosemarie had a half dozen of everything for him, silver trimmed bridles, reins, breast plates, and saddles! He was a very special friend. After Mr. Ed passed on, Rosemarie continued to work our shows, doing the awards bit. One year, in the trail classes, Mr. Ed was loaded with a pair of enormous stacks of straw, the test being that he was to be led

across the ring by each contestant. He never refused a command.

Shrimp and Cream Cheese Dip

1 Large cream cheese
2 tbs mayo
Worcestershire sauce
1 lb. shrimp
chopped green onion
chopped celery
chopped parsley
cocktail sauce - 1 jar
garlic powder

Mix together mayo, cream cheese and worcestershire until smooth. Spread in bottom of serving pan 1/2". Mix together remaining ingredients and spread over cream cheese. Serve with crackers. Shrimp mixture can be made ahead of time.



"I'm too tired to walk to school, so I decided to ride."

QUICK BITS

Latest figures show the Bay Area Ridge Trail at 25% complete. Total completion is projected for 1998. To volunteer your help or services call the Bay Area Ridge Trail council at 415-543-4291.

When covering hay for the approaching winter remember the heat that

stacked bales of hay can generate. Regular inspections can reduce the potential for fire.

Did you know that there are three areas in the horse's hoof referred to by the term Frog? First is the horny frog which is the exposed hard portion visible to the eye. Below the horny frog lies the sensitive frog and below that the fatty frog (or plantar cushion). This fatty frog is one of the elastic structures of the hoof which enables it to absorb shock.

Horses teeth can provide a good indi-

cation of age. Just the same as our teeth are classified, the horse has incisors, canines, and molars. They number from 36 in the adult female to 40 in the adult male.

From one of Norman Thelwell's book of cartoons, "If your pony is hard to catch, take sugar lumps with you-- and eat as many as you can, because you will need the energy."

For the horse that likes to take off down the trail during mounting, try pulling the head in towards you as you mount. He may still move but only in a tight circle.

Bits

Methods of Control

Since the horse has such an advantage over man in strength, weight, and height; methods of control have been devised. By application of pressure to certain sensitive areas of the head, man has gained power over the horse. Consider these pressure points of the head and you will better understand the proper use of bridles, bits and other paraphernalia. Pressure points of the head used to control the horse are: the lower jaw, the bars of the mouth, lips, tongue, curb groove, nose and the poll. Since horses vary in sensitivity in different areas you may have to experiment before finding the device or bit best suited to a particular horse. As horses age they may become less sensitive to pressure in certain areas making it necessary to experiment with other

sensitive areas of control. These pressure points are highly sensitive and must be respected and not abused. Incorrect bridling can cause pain and permanent injury to your horse. The insensitive, uninformed rider can damage a horse's mouth so severely that it will affect the bone structure of the lower jaw.

Horses may require different bits because of differences in tongue thickness, head size and jaw width. The type of bit that you use will depend upon the horse's temperament, training and previous experiences. Proper selection is very important; the wrong bit can cause setbacks in training, and may also cause behavioral problems.

Check the Teeth

The horse's upper jaw is wider than the lower; consequently, sharp points develop on the teeth due to the side to side movement of the jaws as the horse eats. Outer edges of the upper molars and the inner edges of the lower molars develop sharp points. Laceration of the cheeks and tongue will cause discomfort and may also cause slobbering of grain. Poor physical condition and tilting of the head when chewing are also indications that the horse should have his teeth floated (filed) to remove these points.

Canine teeth erupt at four or five years of age, but these teeth very seldom erupt in mares. They are also referred to as tushes or tusks

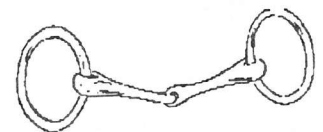
and are located in the interdental space between the molars and incisors. Canine teeth are often mistakenly called wolf teeth. (Wolf teeth are frequently found directly in front of each first molar, they may develop during the first six months and may be shed about the same time as the milk tooth behind it, but some remain indefinitely.) Canine teeth sometimes become infected and irritated by a bit. A veterinary surgeon can easily remove these teeth and may also check for other possible problems of the mouth and jaw area.

Bit Classifications

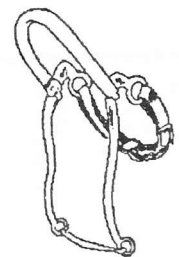
Bits are classified as snaffle, hackamore and curb. The regular snaffle bit as rings to which reins are attached; the mouthpiece has no port and it may be jointed or solid. A regular snaffle bit has no shanks and therefore no leverage.

The hackamore bit is often confused with the true hackamore. Hackamore bits do not have mouthpieces but usually have long shanks so a great deal of pressure can be applied to the nose and chin groove with very little pull on the reins. This type of control is used if a horse will not accept a bit or if it has mouth injuries.

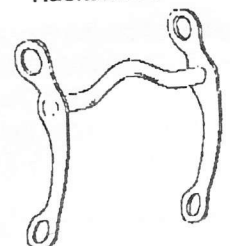
Curb bits have hundreds of varying mouth pieces and shanks. Solid mouth pieces usually have a rise (port) that will receive pressure on the tongue and will apply pressure to the roof of the mouth.



Snaffle Bit



Hackamore



Curb Bit

English Bits

English bits can be placed into three categories: the curb, the snaffle or a combination of both.

The snaffle is a direct action bit that is usually considered the basic bit. It is considered the ideal training bit for young horses but is also used in other levels of schooling. Most snaffles are jointed causing a nutcracker action but this bit is safe, mild and effective if used wisely. Always check the round rings to see that they are large enough to avoid being pulled through the horse's mouth.

Many riders use the cheeked snaffles, such as the Fulmer model. The straight cheek pieces press against the outside of the mouth and may help the horse respond. This particular snaffle (Fulmer) has loose rings attached outside of the cheek piece.

The twisted wire snaffle can damage a horse's mouth if used harshly. The double

twisted wire mouthpiece is less severe than the single, as pressure is distributed over a larger area.

Copper is often used for snaffle mouthpieces to keep the mouth moist and more responsive. Copper encourages the horse to salivate.

Experienced horse people sometimes used a "gag bit" if they have a horse that is especially hard to control. This type of bit slides on the reins and creates a pulley action which puts pressure on the corners of the mouth and also pulls downward on the poll.

Snaffle Bits

Snaffle bits differ in thickness and in shape. Some have a straight bar, some are slightly curved, and some are single or double-jointed. Snaffle bit control requires two hands on the reins while the curbs requires only one hand.

The rubber mullen mouth loose-ring snaffle may be flexible or hard; some have a metal core, others a chain or cord center. The mullen bit

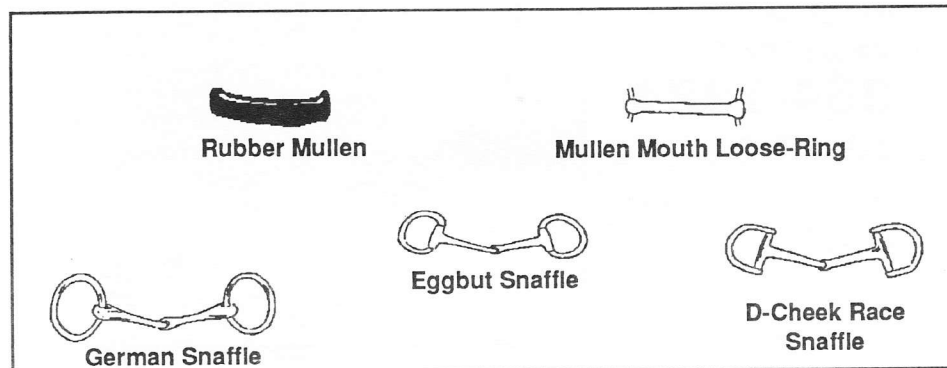
puts pressure upon the tongue, bars and lips. The pressure will first be felt on the tongue and then on the bars.

The mullen mouth loose-ring snaffle also puts pressure on the tongue bars and lips. The loose-rings pass through holes at each end of the mouthpiece; this may cause rough edges and a tendency to pinch.

The single jointed eggbutt snaffle is mild and cannot pinch, but has the disadvantage of allowing very little movement of the mouthpiece.

The German snaffle has a hollow, jointed mouthpiece which is light and thick. This bit is often used for young horses because it is comfortable and works well for tender mouths.

The D-cheek race has large D-shape rings which prevent pinching and will not allow the bit to be pulled through the mouth. This bit usually has a jointed mouthpiece with thin arms which provide greater control on racehorses and other mounts that are difficult to manage.



English Curb Bits

Many varieties of the snaffle are available, but there are fewer varieties of the English curb bit. The curb is used most often with the bradoon in the double bridle. The bit presses on the bars and tongue, the curb chain acts on the chin groove, and the crown piece pulls down at the poll. The rider can position the horse's head by using the snaffle to raise the head and the curb to lower it. Advanced riders will ride mainly with the snaffle, and only gently use the curb to keep the horse responsive.

The double bridle which uses snaffle and curb action simultaneously or separately is called a Weymouth set. This type of bridle is used primarily on gaited horses, but is also used for dressage and sometimes on hunters.

Curb Strap

Curb straps are used with curb bits to help direct the action of the bit. The strap lies in the groove of the lower jaw and the adjustment will limit the rise of the port. A curb chain or strap should lie flat under the chin and should be loose enough to allow two fingers to be placed under it. Do not use straps which might injure the horse. Wire excessively thin straps are not allowed at most horse shows.

Western Bits

Western bits differ very little from the English types described before. The curb and snaffle bits are also used by both English and Western riders. Most curb bits have a fixed mouthpiece on which cheek pieces are either riveted, bolted or welded. The leverage and pressure applied will increase with the length of the cheek pieces. The curb bit provides much more control because it exerts pressure, not only on the mouth, but also the curb groove and poll. Depending upon the use of accessories, the tongue and sensitive nose may also receive pressure. Keep in mind the following points as you shop for a bit.

1. Bits with larger ports are usually more severe than low ports.
2. Rollers may help calm a nervous horse — it seems to enjoy the noise as it moves the rollers back and forth.
3. Copper makes the horse salivate and keeps the mouth moist and responsive.
4. Longer shanks are more severe than shorter shanks.
5. The spade bit is the most severe Western bit and should be used only by an expert rider and only on a well-trained horse.
6. As mentioned earlier, the port (rise) in the center of the mouthpiece will relieve pressure on the tongue, but the "half breed" has a high port with a roller and as with the spade bit, the port can damage the roof of the mouth.
7. Do not use a thick mouthpiece on a thick-tongued horse or it will have difficulty closing its mouth.

The thickness of a horse's tongue will determine how much pressure will be exerted in this area.

Curb bits for Western riders are available in hundreds of varieties.

Consider the bit not only means of control, but also as a means of communication. When selecting a bit for a horse consider: its temperament, its age, degree of training, and the work it will be doing. You will want the bit to be as mild as possible, yet effective and comfortable.

Keep in mind the following:

1. The curb bit is more severe than the snaffle.
2. The snaffle is usually used when starting a young horse.
3. The hunting (eggbutt) snaffle can be used on jumpers and hunters.

4. The Pelham is one bit used with two sets of reins and is a combination curb and snaffle.

5. The very best bit for any horse is the one least severe to which he will respond.

It may take some experimentation on your part to find the perfect bit for your horse. Carefully watch your horse's reactions to various bits. Bits should be carefully selected and should never be used in an abusive manner. Care should be taken to keep the bit clean; dried particles can cause damage to a sensitive mouth.

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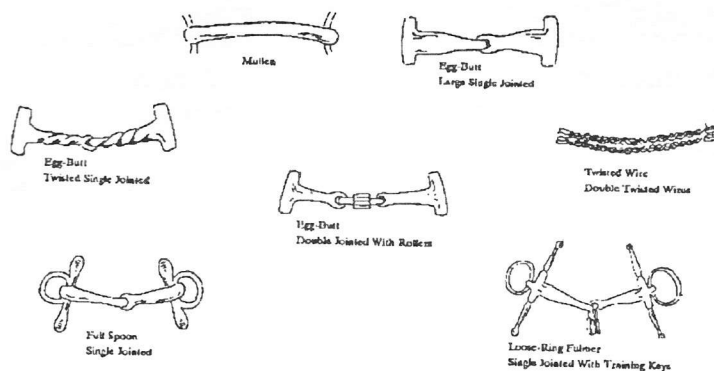
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Snaffle Variations

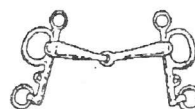


Bit Action

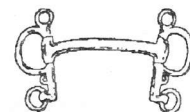


Snaffle bit acts on lips, tongue and bars.

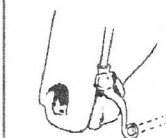
Kimberwick and Pelham



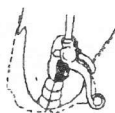
Jointed Mouth Pelham



Mullen Mouth Egg-Butt
Pelham

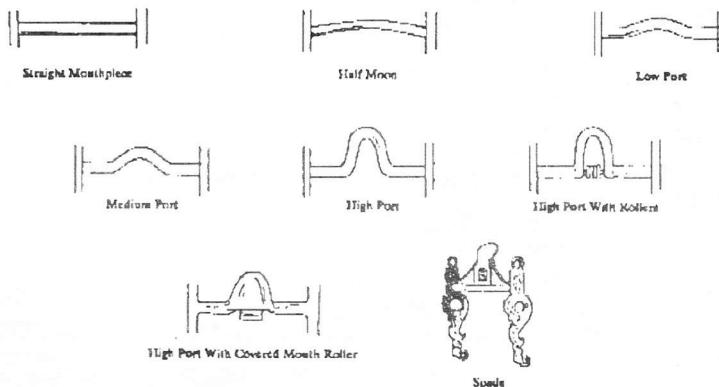


The curb bit acts on the mouth, curb groove, poll, and with some accessories, the tongue and nose are also affected.

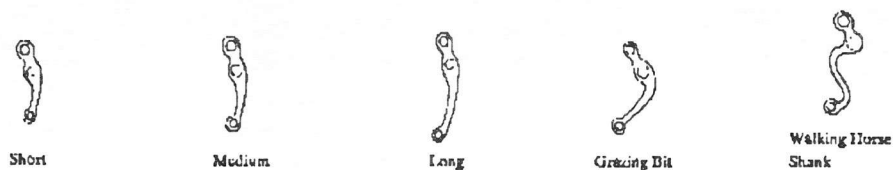


Note snaffle and curb difference. Use all bits with care. Harsh use of bits can cause permanent damage to tender mouths.

Curb Bit Variations

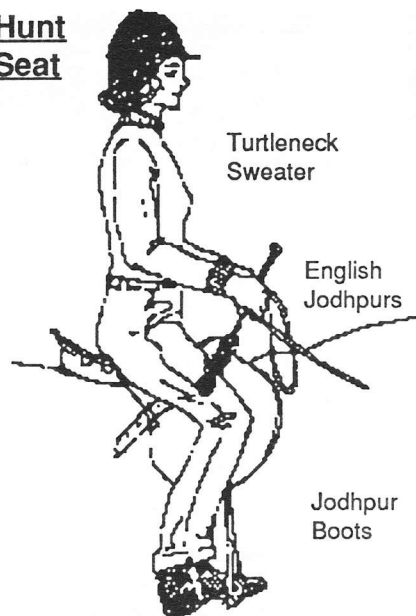


Variations In Shanks

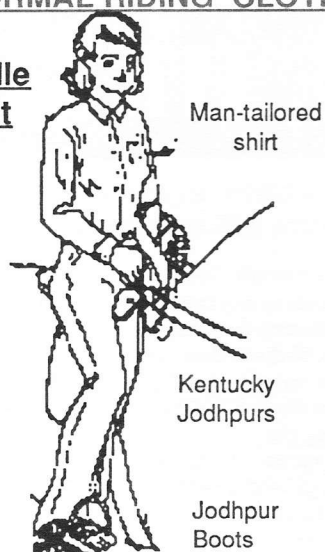


INFORMAL RIDING CLOTHES

Hunt Seat



Saddle Seat



Western Hat

Western

Western Shirt

Blue jeans or Frontier Pants

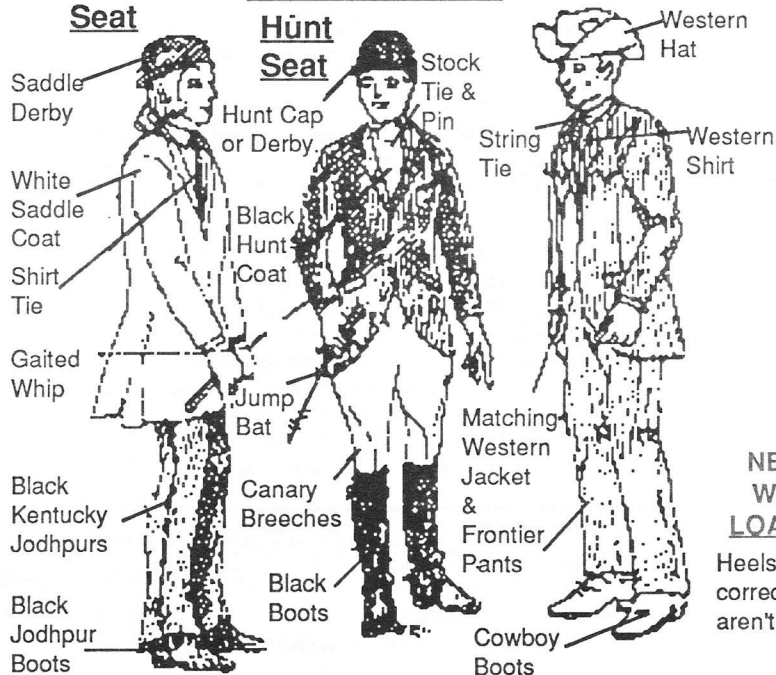
Cowboy Boots

Saddle Seat

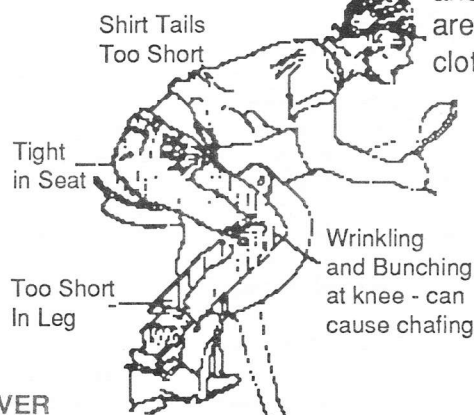
FORMAL DRESS

Western

Hunt Seat



Blue Jeans and Blouses are NOT the Best clothes for riding!



NEVER WEAR LOAFERS

Heels look correct but aren't

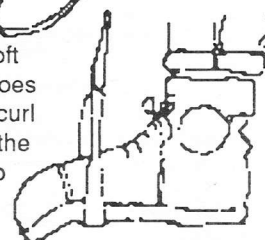


NEVER WEAR SNEAKERS

They slip through stirrups!



With soft soled shoes toe can curl around the stirrup



Be sure there are at least 1/2" of extra width in the stirrup



Always wear a protective hard hat or safety helmet for jumping or hazardous riding.

Riding Pants

English Jodhpurs



Breeches



Strap Style Jodhpur Boots



High Boots



Kentucky Jodhpurs (saddle seat only)



Elastic Style Jodhpur Boots





ARE YOU A MEMBER?

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

(please indicate number of each)

	Annual dues
___ Junior Member	\$10.00
___ Senior Member	\$20.00
___ Mr./Mrs. Member	\$30.00

Total amount enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please check activities of which you have a special interest in:

☐ Western Riding Clinic
☐ English Horse Shows
☐ Western Horse Shows
☐ Magazine
☐ Trail Rides
☐ English Riding Clinics
☐ Playdays
☐ Publicity/Mailing
☐ Other _____

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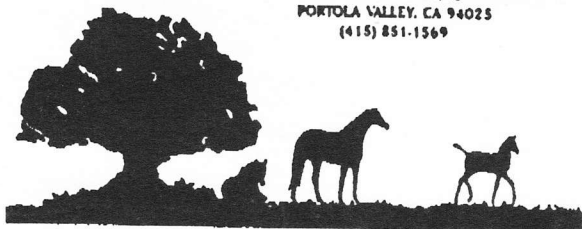
There are many decorating ideas to please horsemen.

369-5285

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HOT NEWS

Coming Events

General Meeting

Friday, November 29th

Woodside Elementary School Auditorium

7:30 pm

FREE Ice Cream Social

Nominations & Election of Board of Directors for 1991
Videos and Slide Show of 50th Banquet at the Villa Hotel
Last Chance To Pick Up Your Copy
of the SMCHA History Book **FREE**
See You There!

