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COVER

Members of SMCHA's Blue Ribbon Color Guard, left to right, Cheryl Basin, Christine Friis, Sara Esquivel and Kristi Eifert

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE SUMMER 2013



FALL IS IN THE AIR which brings beautiful colors, cooler temperatures and fabulous riding on our amazing trail network. Saddle up and get out there before winter settles in.

One of our favorite rides of the year turned out to be a great one. On Sunday, September 29, SMCHA hosted our annual Presidents' Ride which took 30 riders through the Rosekrans Sculpture Garden, into Huddart Park and then to Carleen Whittelsey's Fox Hollow Farm. This was one of those perfect days. Thank you, Adeline Forrest for organizing a

terrific event, which included another 20 members, collecting 50 in all, for lunch at Fox Hollow Farm. Thank you, Carleen Whittelsey for hosting our group in your beautiful garden. It just doesn't get any better.

Check out our calendar and flyers in this issue for upcoming events:

Saturday, November 2 - Play Day & Costume Extravaganza @ Page Mill Pastures

Saturday, November 16 - Woodside Town Hall for the election of new/incumbent Board members

Sunday, December 15 - Holiday Barn Party

Saturday, January 25 - Gala & Installation

We've also been invited to: (flyers on our website: www.smcha.org)

Mounted Patrol Pumpkin Festival on October 20, 26, 27.

Mounted Patrol Halloween Party on Friday, October 25

Our Board of Directors has voted to increase SMCHA's annual dues by \$10 for each category of membership. There is a new form on the back of this magazine. Our dues have been at low levels for over 20 years and you all know the drill about rising costs, so we've adjusted slightly. We continue to improve the content of our website, add activities including a new push for our "Youth Program," and of course, we continue to present our long-standing annual events.

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association 2013 Officers

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\$160 per year \$75 per issue

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Subscriptions:

Subscriptions are available for \$25 per calendar year which includes membership in the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. Please fill out and mail in Membership application on the back page of this magazine.

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

DEADLINE FOR ADS AND ARTICLES

for the Winter 2013 issue is December 15, 2013



P.O. Box 620092 Woodside, CA 94062-0092 650-568-0145

Visit our website at www.smcha.org



FALL 2013
The official publication of

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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



MEMBERSHIP Join SMCHA Mail Application Today!

(Application on back cover)

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

I'm always happy to hear from you with suggestions and comments for improving our club so don't hesitate to contact me...We Need You to make SMCHA better!

It's almost time for the Holidays, so I want to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for a wonderful Holiday Season with many memorable gatherings with family and friends...and a few good rides in between rain drops.

Happy trails,

Cheryl Basin

SMCHA President 2013

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ENGLISH SCHOOLING SHOW AT WEBB RANCH - AUGUST 4

By Cheryl Basin, Horse Show Chair

Twenty-seven enthusiastic horses and riders were all decked out in their English attire and tack for our annual English Schooling Show. It was a perfect August day, not too hot.

Our judge, Lindy Dunlap, provided constructive criticism as the competitors walked, trotted, cantered and jumped. Helpful tips were welcomed by all participants. Thank you Lindy, we all learned a lot.

Our professional and dedicated crew included Karen Rowley-Shawback, Mike & Ginger Bushue, Lee Reed, Adeline Forrest, Larry Pelzner, Bonnie Bertetta, Sharon Butler and our photographer, Sue Winslow. SMCHA's Color Guard Cafe gals, Captain Chris Friis, Jen Mize, Sara Esquivel, were on hand with snacks, beverages and lunches all day.



Adult rider at English Clinic



Hazel Hensley at the English Schooling Show



English Schooling Show, Junior

We are so lucky to have wonderful sponsors for this show. Thank you all for your generosity:

- Larry Pelzner, SMCHA Board member, donated five "High Point" cash awards
- Western Saddlery, Pleasanton, provided the "Goodie Buckets" teeming with grooming items
- Portola Valley Feed provided Horse treats and a beautiful halter with lead rope
- Carousel Saddlery, Portola Valley, provided five "High Point" gift certificates
- Custom Covers by Cheryl, Half Moon Bay, provided saddle pads
- Mrs. Conn's provided Pony & Horse Sponges

Awards were presented to:

- Young Rider (11 years and younger)
- Short Stirrup/Rusty Stirrup:
- Beginner:
- Junior (12-17):
- Adult (18 & over):

Hazel Hensley Riding Chanel No. 5
Tania Senter Riding Comin' In Hot
Lauren Malik Riding Casper
Marina Aguinsky Riding Sneak Preview
Pam Daly Riding Lagerfeld



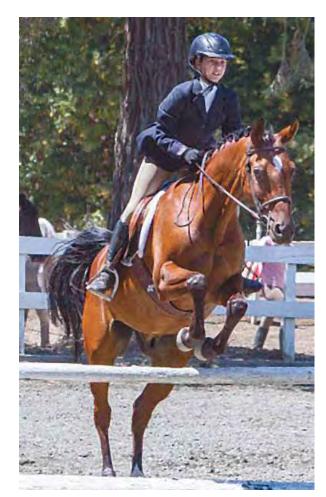
English Schooling Show, Junior







Short Stirrup



Jumping





Short Stirrup



Jumping



High Point



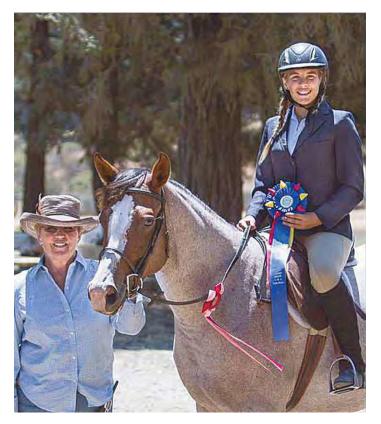
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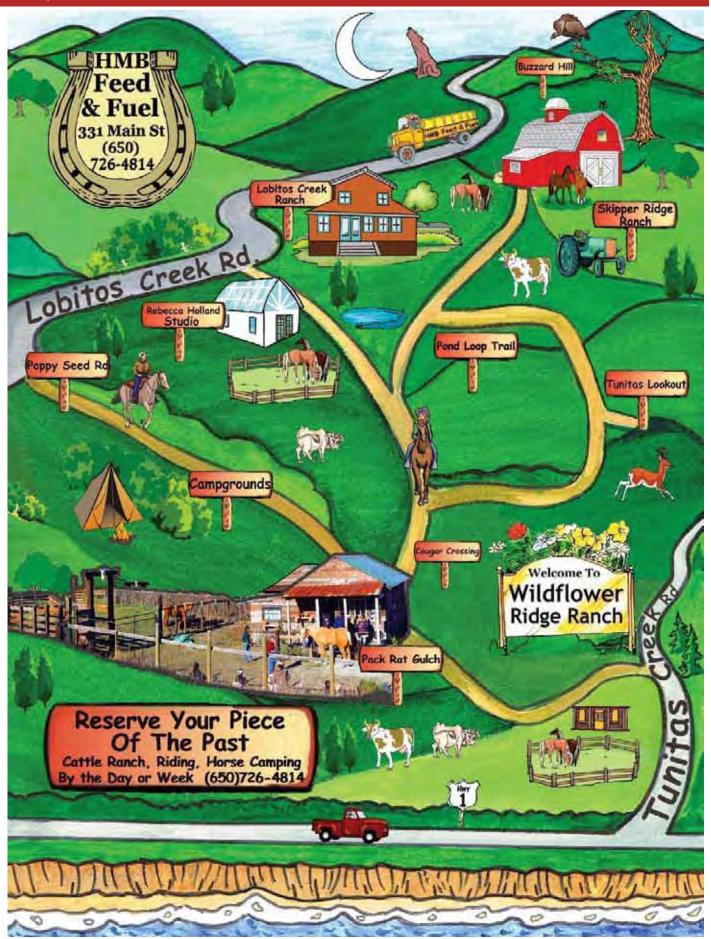
* Cowboy/Cowgirl Trail Course *

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Join the fun & RSVP by Monday, October 28:
Annie Tyo 650-576-9311, atyo@lesleysc.org
Mail checks to: SMCHA, P.O. Box 620092, Woodside 94062





SMCHA OPEN SHOW AT THE HORSE PARK - AUGUST 25

By Cheryl Basin, Horse Show Chair

There's no better venue for a horse show than The Horse Park at Woodside. The site crew is very accommodating, helping us set up the props the day before the show and were standing by to drag and water arenas at a moment's notice. The views are awesome and there was even a sighting of a Bald Eagle soaring over the festivities.

Sixty-two competitors entered in this show of 49 classes. There were classes in English Equitation, Jumpers, Hunters, Western Equitation, Western Pleasure, Halter, Ranch Horse, Trail Horse and Reining.

We had two terrific judges, Peter Larson from Healdsburg judged the English, Western Pleasure and Reining and Irene Davis from Chico judged the Halter, Ranch and Trail classes.

Bee Brown was our Ranch and Trail steward and has a wonderful perspective in her article which is included in this issue. Our entire Horse Show Team is the best and they make it appear that we have a "well oiled machine." Big thanks to the Office Crew: Karen Rowley- Shawback, Ginger Bushue, Jen Mize, Sylvia Rugeiro; the Main arena crew: Lee Reed, Pam Daly, Larry Pelzner, Sharon Butler, Sylvia Rugiero, Chris Friis, Adeline Forrest; the Ranch/Trail arena crew: Liz Sullivan, Terri Lobdell, Bee Brown, Noel Moody, Mike Raynor. Our club photographer Sue Winslow captured wonderful action-packed photos...which are on our website: www. smcha.org









Open Reigning



Open Jumping

A tradition of this show is presenting beautiful silver buckles to "Never-Won-A-Buckle" competitors and here are the winners:

Class	Won By Riding		Sponsored By
English Equitation	Nicole Fava	Cloud Nine	Larry Pelzner
Western Equitation	Arlene Farbstein	Shiny Like Silver	Roberts Market
Western Pleasure	John Regan	Go Ahead Make My Grey	Doug Boucher, DDS
Reining	Diane Nelson	Juan Hot Chocolena	Butch Coggins
Showmanship	Sidney Simpson	Cheyenne	Larry Wohlford, DVM
Model Horse on Halter	John Regan	Go Ahead Make My Grey	Western Saddlery
Ranch Horse	Jen Enbom	All the Right Answers	Alan Steel & Supply
Trail Judy Soloman		Zip Dujour	Bill Ashton

Blg thanks to all participants, crew, sponsors and gallery for making our shows so successful!

SMCHA'S HORSE SHOW CALENDAR FOR 2014:

- Western Schooling Show @ Webb Ranch: Sunday, May 11
- English Schooling Show @ Webb Ranch: Sunday, August 3
- SMCHA Open Show @ The Horse Park: Sunday, August 24







Open Western



Open Show



Open Halter



Open Jumping



Open Trail



Open Reining



Mike Raynor



Open Trail



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ENGLISH RIDING CLINIC

By Annie Tyo

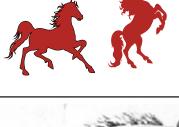


Annie Tyo at English Clinic

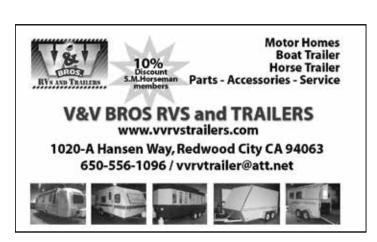
The English Riding Clinic at Spring Down Equestrian Center in Portolla Valley was a success this year! Every Monday night for 6 weeks from July 15-Aug. 19th Carol Goodstien shared her vast knowledge of English riding. We had 12 participants from Kate Kiser and Grace Hart who traveled furthest from the Coast (along with my fellow friends and boarders at Page Mill Pastures and a couple of regular riders at Spring Down took advantage of the clinic) I wanted to say thank you to everyone who participated and came out to show there support it really means a lot to me. We had a lovely dinner on the last night of the clinic prepared by Sharon Butler and went out with a bang, a wonderful thunder storm and rain to end the night, it was great! Happy Trails,

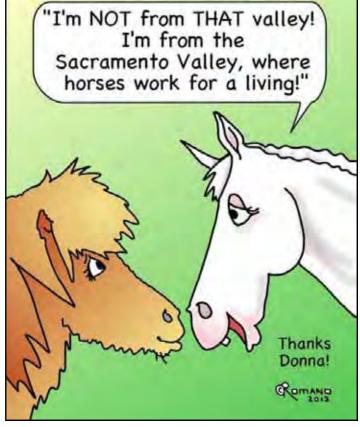
Annie Tyo











INTERNAL PARASITES AND YOUR HORSE

While a very simple practice in theory, knowing when to deworm, with what product and how often can become a very perplexing matter. This page will help to summarize the signs of parasitism, internal parasites of concern to horses, commonly used deworming (anthelmintic) products, goals of deworming and general recommendations for a deworming schedule. It is important to emphasize that variations in individual animals and farm management play a major role in the parasite burdens that our horses experience. While this article addresses the general management practices of our clients it is important to consult with one of the Bayhill veterinarians for a more personalized approach to your deworming program.

Please read below for the following:

Signs of Parasitism, Internal Parasites of Greatest Concern, Anthelmintic (Deworming) Products and Deworming Recommendations.

Signs of Parasitism

- 1. poor hair coat
- 2. pneumonia
- 3. colic
- 4. blockage or perforation of the GI tract
- 5. diarrhea
- 6. anemia
- 7. weight loss
- 8. hay belly
- 9. anorexia

decreased performance

Internal Parasites of Greatest Concern:

Ascarids (roundworms): usually found in horses 18 months of age and younger, can cause lung disease, colic, weight loss, and diarrhea

Bots: flies commonly lay these yellow eggs on the legs, eggs are ingested with regular grooming behavior and establish residence in the stomach, they can cause irritation around/ in the mouth, stomach ulcers, and colic

Pinworms: eggs are laid in perianal region resulting in tail rubbing as the most common indication of an infection

Large Stronglyes (bloodworms): these worms migrate through arteries in the abdomen and can cause damage of internal organs, weight loss, anemia, and colic

Small Strongyles (cyathostomes): considered the primary parasite of concern in equines, this worm is able to dig into

and encyst in the lining of the large intestines, evading the body's natural immune system and anthelmintics

Tapeworms: these worms are very difficult to detect on fecal analysis and also have fewer medications that are effective against them, can cause colic and intestinal blockage

Threadworms: these eggs are passed to foals through the mare's milk and may cause diarrhea in the young

Anthelmintic (Deworming) Products Avermectins

-Ivermectin

- 1. Equell™, IverCare ® , Rotectin ®, Zimectrin ®, etc.
- Effective against: large and small strongyles (not encysted small strongyles), pinworms, ascarids, lungworms, threadworms, bots

-Moxidectin

- 1. Quest ®
- Similar effect as ivermectin and also has some action on encysted small strongyles

Praziquantel - with Ivermectin

- 1. Equimax ™, Zimectrin ® Gold
- 2. Same as ivermectin plus tapeworm control

Praziguantel- with Moxidectin

- 1 Quest Plus
- 2. Same as moxidectin plus tapeworm control

Benzimidazoles

-Fenbendazole

- Safe-Guard ® Paste, Safe-Guard Power Dose, Panacur ® Paste and Panacur Powerpac
- 2. At normal dose effective against large stronglyes, pinworms, ascarids
- 3. At double dose for 5 days also effective against migrating large stronglyes, migrating ascarids, and encysted small strongyles

Oxibendazole

- 1. Anthelcide ® EQ
- Effective against large stronglyes, pinworms, ascarids, threadworms
- Not effective against encysted small stronglyes

Pyrantel Salts

-Pyrantel Pamoate

- Strongid ® Paste, Rotectin ® P, Equi-Cide ®, Liqui-Care P ™, TapeCare Plus ™, Pyrantel Pamoate Paste
- 2. Effective against large strongyles, pinworms, ascarids, tapeworms (at double dose)

Pyrantel Tartrate

- 1. Strongid [®] C, Strongid [®] C2X [™], Continuex[™], and Equi Aid [®] CW-2W
- 2. This product is found in daily dewormers
- 3. Effective against large strongyles, pinworms, and ascarids

Deworming Recommendations

When developing a deworming schedule it is important to understand the goals of deworming. We are not trying to completely remove all internal parasites each time we treat the horse. Instead the goal is to reduce the potential exposure of future parasites by reducing the number that reach the environment and have the potential to be ingested by your horse. An additional goal is selecting the appropriate deworming drug and using it at the appropriate time. Anthelmintic resistance has become and will continue to be a growing concern in equine health. In order to help our clients reduce their impact on anthelmintic resistance and ensure the availability of effective drugs in the future, we are making the following deworming recommendations and will be carrying recommended products for your use:

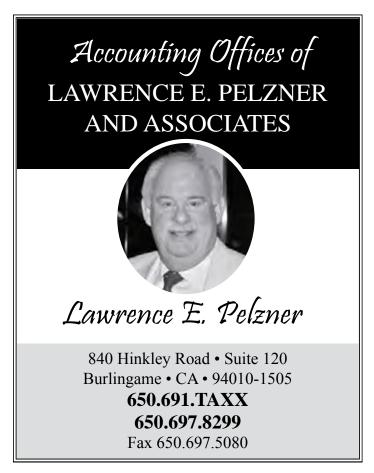
1. Fall Vaccinations: Panacur PowerPac to target migrating and encysted strongyles

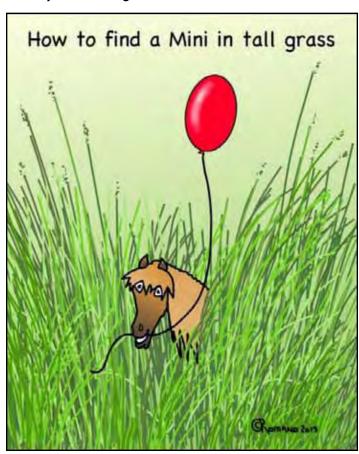
- 2. 3 months later: Pyrantel or Oxibendazole product
- 3. Spring Vaccinations: Ivermectin plus Praziqantel product to target tapeworms
- 4. 3 months later: Pyrantel or Oxibendazole product.
 - *Horses on pasture should receive two additional treatments per year.
 - *Horses on a daily dewormer should also receive the deworming products during Spring and Fall vaccinations as recommended above.

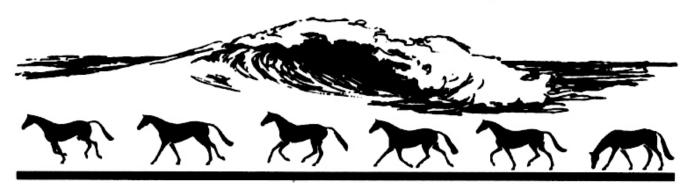
All horses have a natural resistance to parasites, though the individual response varies. The above recommendations are being made for the average horse in our region. Your horse's natural ability to defend against internal parasites may be above or below average, meaning that a fewer or greater number of dewormings per year may be necessary. To tailor a deworming schedule specifically for your horse, a simple fecal analysis will need to be submitted. Please contact Bayhill Equine (650-851-2300) if you are interested in creating an individual deworming plan or have questions regarding this article.

Adapted from "Get Rotation Right: How to reduce parasite burdens and resistance issues in your horse." By Intervet-Schering Plough Animal Health

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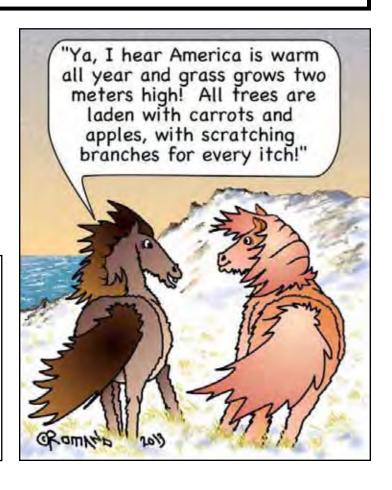




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November 2 - SMCHA Costume Extravaganza and Play Day

December 15 – SMCHA Holiday Barn Party!

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WELCOME TO THE SMCHA JUNIOR PROGRAMS!

The San Mateo County Horseman's Association provides activities that support families and encourage connection with horses in our community!

Whether you are 6 or 16, there are plenty of ways to get involved, learn more about horses and have fun!

Membership to SMCHA provides access to information and events, as well as discounts on selected activities.

Like us on Facebook to learn more about upcoming events!

For more information contact Amy Hublou at amy@gallopventures.com

NOTES ON BEING A RING STEWARD

By Bee Brown



Bee Brown

When Liz Sullivan asked me to be the Ring Steward the **SMCHA** Open English and Western Show, I had to Google "Ring Steward" to find out what the job was essentially, I learned that it was to assist the judge. The first two classes were Ranch Halter, When arrived horses milled around the arena entrance, contestants ranging in age from seven to seventy, quite chaotic, then, like Moses dividing the

Red Sea, our Judge arrived – Irene Davis from Chico. Unlike Halter classes in other disciplines, in Ranch Halter horses are ordered into the ring all together. Irene asked the contestants to line up nose to tail and order was completely achieved. Although Annie Tyo did not win the class, according to the judge, her presentation was very correct. Her little mustang, while perhaps too pasture plump, sported a rope halter, unclipped ears, unshined hoofs, no tail extenders, and no bling. This, I learned, is the standard for Ranch Halter. The class was won by ???

The next class was Ranch Riding. Horses are asked to halt, walk, trot, extended trot and lope. The horses were walking into the ring in an orderly fashion when I heard Irene say, "I don't believe it — a mule!" And indeed, into the ring came Mike Tyo riding Essence, his little black mule who proceeded to steal the class and win hands down. Essence was beautifully collected, framed, responsive, she was outstanding and a credit to Mike who has worked with her tirelessly.







Liz Sullivan

The next class was Ranch Horse Trail. This class requires at least six obstacles the that horse and rider have to maneuver. Obstacles such as opening and closing a gate, dragging a log, side passing over poles, trotting over poles, backing up through poles, walking over a bridge. Mike Raynor was the course designer and he had put together a very well organized and challenging set of obstacles. The riders did an excellent job,

Debbie Cutner Alvarado on her striking bald faced mare, waltzed through most of it until THE BRIDGE! Nothing would persuade her horse to go over it. It was instructive for me to see how Irene encouraged both horse and rider, Debbie was allowed to try again and again, and then move on and finish the course. Of all the obstacles, the gate and the bridge were the most challenging. As a judge Irene wanted everyone to win, and gave the riders as much time as she could to allow riders the opportunity to school their horses over t16 CHRISTINE GREENhese difficult obstacles. Again Mike Tyo and Essence did an outstanding job but, during the course, Mike patted Essence, earning a substantial penalty, but also learning that you cannot touch your horse while showing.

When the classes were over, Irene met with the contestants and gave excellent instruction on how to show and where the pitfalls lie. For me, it was a spectacular learning experience to work closely with the judge. It became clear that, regardless of what your discipline is, teaching your horse to maneuver these obstacles can improve riding skills easily transferable to Reining, Cutting, Western Pleasure etc. So—if you are ever asked to be a Ring Steward, Go for it!



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Please RSVP by November 13 to Sharon Butler 650-720-0513 or missshaa61@yahoo.com



MOVIE NIGHT @ WEBB RANCH - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2013

By Sharon Butler

One of my favorite general meetings has now become Movie Night at Webb Ranch. This year we shock it up a bit and showed a Double Feature. The first film was the everso-classic "Man from Snowy River" and the second film was "Rustlers Rhapsody," which was recommended by our own Rich Boyd. I had not heard of this movie, like most of us, so I previewed it and laughed all the way through it. I wasn't able to choose between the two movies and so the idea of a Double Feature it became.

Once again the Color Guard Café came out and rocked it out of the park with hot dogs and the fixin's, Chicken Cesar salads with homemade croutons and nachos with jalapenos (lots of peppers). After we were done dining on great food and spirits it was starting to get darker so we knew it was "show time!"

We had a little more than 50 join us for SMCHA's version of the good old drive-in-movie. And what movie would not be complete without lots of popcorn, thank you Libby Kurtz, oh yum. I can now see why this has become such a popular event; everyone had a great time. If you were not able to make it out this year be sure to mark it on your calendar for next year as it is one event you won't want to miss.

Now I would like to give a great big thank you to all the amazing people for helping to make this a wonderful event.

Webb Ranch – Thank you for letting us come back year after year, this location is perfect and I hope we can continue to hold our event at Webb Ranch.

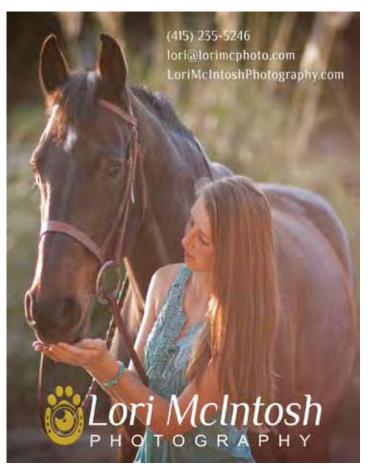
Production crew – Rich Boyd for supplying the BIG screen (truck), Mike and Ginger Bushue for the sound system, wouldn't be as fun as a silent movie, and Bill Jabs for the video equipment.

Food – Color Guard Café, what can I say but thank you, great job, girls..... Jenny Mize, Andrea Carranza, Sara Esquivel, and Sara's friend Amit.

Set/clean up – Annie Holland, Barbara Stogner, Gretchen King, Adeline Forrest and Deb Alvarado, your help was so appreciated; you gals help make it happen.

This is the meeting committee that I knew about but I must say that I did notice that everyone that came out to be with us pitched in with whatever needed to be done. So with that being said I would like to give a great big THANK YOU to everyone for either helping out or showing up and supporting SMCHA Movie Night 2013.

See you next year under the stars, happy trails!





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BRIDLES TO BOOTS - FEATURING CLIF EVANS

By Gretchen King



Clif Evans on Choctaw

Our featured SMCHA horseman this issue is team roper Clif Evans. Clif owns Ravenswood Ranch located in East Palo Alto, a boarding facility with a large arena equipped for roping.

"Our feedbags were hung on the barn door with care, In hopes that St. 'Nicker'us soon would be there."

Clif started riding in Phoenix, AZ at the age of four. He grew up in an Air Force family which meant a lot of moving around, and each place they would reside would find Clif seeking out the nearest riding stable or ranch. He trained with professional ropers and cowboys Ed Cohn, Denny Watkins, and Walt Woodard. His heroes are Fred Whitfield, Clay Tryan and Derrick Begay. Clif belongs to ACTRA (American Cowboy Team Roping Association) and World Series of Team Roping.

Clif is pictured riding one of his fine quarter horses, "Choctaw," in a single ear rawhide headstall made by Weaver. His bit is a Gist 7" cheek (this measurement includes the shank plus the "purchase" or piece between the bit and headstall) with a dogbone mouthpiece. The roping reins he is using are designed to be short to provide more response and control while roping. These are 5/8" leather with water tie ends. Clif likes to use a 31' extra soft Radar rope by Rattler Ropes. After a lot of searching, he found a saddle he highly recommends. It is a roping saddle he purchased through "Steer Gear." This saddle was made by Scott Thomas, with hardware by Jeremiah Watt and conchos by Bob Berg. It has quarter horse bars, a square skirt, and a pencil roll on the cantle. Underneath it all, Choctaw has on a Professional's Choice felt pad (3/4 - 1'')with a wool blanket under it. The breast collar is a steer roper style for pulling, known as a "tugging collar." Clif also uses a rope noseband with a biothane tie-down. He's got a 6' flank cinch and mohair front cinch. Team ropers typically wrap their horns with cotton rope and then multiple layers of rubber. The purpose is to protect the horn from rope abrasion and to assist with grip. Clif uses recycled truck inner tubes that he cuts in approximately one-inch bands. His horse has on"Relentless" (Trevor Brazile's brand) front and hind splint and over-reach boots manufactured by Professional's Choice.

Clif's clothes are classic, timeless cowboy duds. His shirt and jeans are by Wrangler, and he is sporting a Tony Lama straw hat. He's wearing Justin boots and short-shanked spurs with soft rowels by NRS (National Ropers Supply). See you at our next SMCHA ride, Clif!

(Photo courtesy of Sue Winslow)







Ho! Ho! Ho!

SMCHA'S 5TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY WREATH, GARLAND & CENTERPIECE SALE

These are very fine quality Sherwood Forest Farms products. Many of you have purchased these products throughout the years.

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12" diameter mixed greenery centerpiece - \$15
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For anyone ordering 10 items or more (you can mix the items) you will receive <u>1</u> <u>free 22" Noble Fir Wreath</u> for yourself. You can take orders from your friends, family, co-workers or barn mates. These items really sell themselves.

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Delivery Date: 1st Week December

Location: To be Announced



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missshaa61@yahoo.com (subject: Wreaths)

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YOUR 2013 SMCHA COLOR GUARD TEAM HORSES





Clif Evans and Ravenswood Ranch Drill Team Perla Ramos Gisela Vargas Nichelle Barajas and Delia Salas



Cheryl Basin, Christine Friis, Sara Esquivel and Kristi Eifert presenting colors at Reining By the Bay



Buddy, Mitch, Casey and CeCe



Anny Kazmi-Hovland, Sylvia Ruggiero and Amit Waissman proudly carrying our SMCHA banner at the Redwood City 4th of July Parade.



Eagle flying over the arena at Reining By The Bay Photo credit to Alden Corrigan for Equestrian Life



ROUND-UP OF NEW SMCHA MEMBERS - 465

Dues have remained low for years and we are increasing the membership cost by only \$10 in October 2013. Much of SMCHA is self funded through activities and fund raising, but you get the benefit of the Website, Magazine, Flyers in the Mail, and Activities.

Members are what makes us strong. A big "Howdy" to:

The Brown Family
Virpi Portier
Arlene Farbstein
Yvette Killingham
Lindsay Marshall
K.C. Branscomb
Kristina Granlund
Diane Levine and
Richard Reitman
Rainer Schulz
Nobuko Abe
Marie Fox
John Gachina

Sally Dalton
The Waissman Family
The Atkins Family
Sharon Spurlock
Michele Lauck
The Vahdat Family
Mr. and Mrs. Allen
The Rivers Family
Robert Lasher
Carol Darwin
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson
Doug Boucher
Brenda Davis

Cione Neesen
Colleen Daley
Morgan Stogner
Tanya Balland Melo
Teri Stuntz
Samantha Mach
LaVergne Poe
Mary Ferro
Mark Garriga
Dee Tolles
Deb Pugh
Mary Marr
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Terri Trettin-Rios
Grace Hart
Sarah Griner
Jerry Cromarty
Tania Senter
Kim Gair
Judy Coughlin
Dan & Karen Flores
Tania Senter
Jerry Cromarty
Dennis & Dianne Garcia

THE COUNTY MOUNTY

by Bob Rosenberg, VHP Unit Leader

County Mounty is a funny history lesson. It definitely ties in horses at the end:

For you all horse lovers -

Railroad tracks. The US standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and English expatriates designed the US railroads.

Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the prerailroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did 'they' use that gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing? Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (including England) for their legions. Those roads have been used ever since.

And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. Therefore, the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the



original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. In other words, bureaucracies live forever.

So the next time you are handed a specification/procedure/ process, and wonder, 'What horse's ass came up with this?' you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses.

Now, the twist to the story:

When you see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, you will notice that there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah . The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit larger, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains, and the SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, a major Space Shuttle design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass. And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important? So, Horse's Asses control almost everything..... Explains a whole lot of things, doesn't it?

(Reprinted from the VHP Horse Journal, website: http://smcvhp.org)



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JACK BROOK HORSE CAMP 2013

By: Beverley Kane

Dawn on Sunday, July 28th. Overnight, the foggy marine layer had crept in from the coast to enshroud the meadow at Jack Brook Horse Camp. In the peaceful grey morning, the air was cool and redolent of dripping evergreens and damp horses. Little would you know from this hushed, sleepy scene that just a few hours before, the forest rang and rocked with the sounds of the E Ticket Band and the crowd gyrating to the beat.

Over a period of the previous several days, the shelters of our tent and trailer city had sprung up like mushrooms in the meadow for SMCHA's annual 5-day Jack Brook Horse Camping trip. This event is a must for all horse and outdoor people. What's on your bucket list? Trekking in the Himalayas? Flying a Cessna through the Northern Lights? Biking through Burgundy? Riding elephants in Chang Mai? I have done all those things and yet life was not complete: a top item on my bucket list for the last six years has been the Jack Brook Ride. Now that I've done it, I can testify that this local experience is every bit as good for the Soul as those more exotic-seeming foreign adventures. Who needs to go halfway around the world in a plane when you can go deep into the

redwood forest primeval on a horse?

The Camp

Jack Brook is the Ritz Carlton of horse camps. By comparison, the horse camping I have done at remote endurance rides lacked the amenities of Jack Brook: hot showers, picnic tables, permanent corrals, flush toilets, running water, catered meals, horse wash racks. Jack Brook has it all! Nestled in the woods near La Honda in Northern CA, Jack Brook also has an outdoor kitchen with refrigerator, freezer, and microwave, 48 horse paddocks, and six tie posts. Portable corrals are permitted and firewood is available.

The camp is part of Sam McDonald Park. As related by our park historian, **Bob LaBerge**, at a pre-dinner talk, McDonald was born in Louisiana in 1884, descended from slaves. In 1903, he began work as a teamster for Stanford University and remained there some 50 years. McDonald began acquiring the La Honda property in 1917 with the purchase of a two-room cabin and some land along one of its creeks. When he died in 1957, he left the 400-acre parcel to Stanford with the specific request that the land be used as a park for the benefit of young people. Through additional purchases, the park now totals 867 acres with almost 25 miles of trails.

The Ride

Most of the park's beautiful trails though woods and over streams permit equestrian use. No bicycles are allowed off the paved sections. At our event, riders easily found companions for the length and difficulty of ride suited to them and their horses. The numerous trails allow many options for length and terrain, from just a half hour ride to an all day ride. Hiking is great, too.

I had the honor and pleasure of riding the wonderful paint, Jack, kindly loaned to me by Clif Evans. To my usual quizzical apprehension about riding into the unknown on the unknowable, Clif assured me, "Nah. No worries. Jack is a daycare center on four legs." And so he proved to be (luckily I hadn't seen his roping action photos first!), as we went down and up the gorgeous wooded canyons with Boogie and Sue Sheehan, who has been riding in Jack Brook for 35 years and knows every trail. Thank you, Sue!



Breakfast at Jack Brook

By conventional standards that don't begin to measure our subjective delight, the event was a huge success. We had 43 riders from the San Francisco Peninsula and from as far away as Arroyo Grande and Marin and Sonoma Counties. Sixty-seven people sat down to the moveable feast on Saturday night, many who drove up just for dinner, with its wonderful selection of wines, and dancing.

Both children and adults were fascinated to see so many different breeds of horses. Our cavvy included Quarter Horses, Arabians, an Appaloosa, a Peruvian Paso, Missouri Fox Trotters, Rocky Mountain Horses, an Arab-warmblood mix, and at least one Thoroughbred.

Big thanks to our Volunteer Horse Patrol hosts, **Noel Moody**, **Rob Krensky**, and **Bob Rosenberg**, who came up ahead of time to prepare the camp and kept everything running smoothly. A million bows of appreciation to who did an incredible job as chief organizer, emcee, and Energizer Bunny All Night Dancer.

All told, the organizing was seamless, the weather was perfect, the trails and scenery were magnificent, fellow campers were festive and friendly. The cafés of Paris can wait. Put Jack Brook ahead of them on your bucket list for this coming Year of the Horse.



Dancing to the E Ticket Band. Adeline Forrest in turquoise blouse, Bonnie Bertetta in white hat, Robin Whalen, at far right.



Michelle Goodspeed and Tanya Rebarchik with horses Sanka and Sueno



Volunteer Horse Patrolman and Camp Host Rob Krensky and Rudy



Holly and friend enjoying a beautiful day on horseback



Clif and Nancy ready to go out on the trails



Fun for All Age Riders



The Author on Jack



Sue Sheehan and the author Beverley Kane



It's All Downhill Now!



Jack Brook Hikers and Riders



Riders in Meadow



A fun Day!





Beautiful Fall Day

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Band at Jack Brook 2013



Jack Brook Evening



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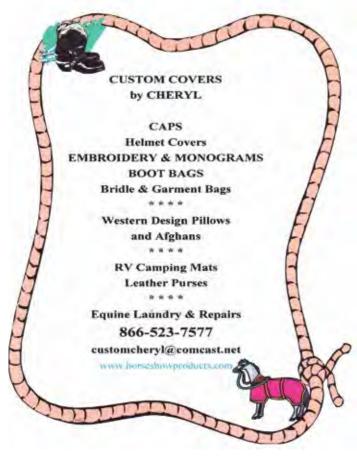
Ginger and Mike Bushue







Christi Heads Out





2013 Calendar of Events Subject to change - please check website for updates

October

10 Board Meeting 12 Woodside Day of the Horse 18, 19, 25, 26 Grand National Rodeo 19 Horsemen's Night/Bus to GNR 26 Play Day & Halloween Extravaganza

November

2 Play Day 14 Board Meeting

16 General Meeting - Elections & Bingo Night

December

6 Board of Directors Dinner 15 Holiday Barn Party

January 2014
9 Board Meeting
25 Kick-Off Gala & Installation Dinner

Safety Thought from Horse Tournal:

Loose Buckets are a potential trap. Never leave a bucket with a handle loose the floor of the stall because the horse can get his hoof stuck in the handle. Followings attach the bucket to the wall and set it high enough so the horse can't get his hoof in the bucket if he paws.

With permission from: horsejournal@aimmedia.com

To see more great pictures from our events, go to www.smcha.org
and check out our Photo Gallery!



Friends

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