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Fall 2022



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Did you know

By Bob Rosenberg

When the Almighty put hoofs on the wind and a bridle on the lightning,
He called it a horse.

Cover

Happy Holidays!

Cowgirls' Quarterly

A Message from Your Presidents

Deb Alvarado, Sharon Butler, and Deb Vasquez



Stay Excited

Wow, what a year this has been so far! We started 2022 by canceling many activities due to Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1). Then we were off to the races with many activities and something for everyone to be involved in! We held quite a few fun and popular activities this year, and we saw many folks get out and about with or without their horse buddies. Activities are tapering off for the holiday season, but the SMCHA board is already looking forward to 2023 and thinking about future events.

Did you attend an event you would like to be part of next year? Have you thought about an activity or event you'd like to see on our roster? We are your board and want to continue putting on various events for our membership. Those of us who have horses are all on individual journeys with our equine partners. We have dreams about what we would like to learn next, someone we would like to learn from, or a type of competition we would like to participate in. We are blessed to have many different clinicians willing to teach in our area and many open venues. Let's keep this excitement going!

Please note the board members listed here in the magazine. Let any of our board members know what you liked about this past year and what you would like to see next year. If not, write to us and share your thoughts: info@smcha.org. May you have a wonderful holiday season, and we hope to see you in 2023! Ride on!



The San Mateo County Horseman Magazine

FALL 2022

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ASK THE VET

Acorn Toxicity

By Melissa Mazan

Q: DO ACORNS POSE A THREAT TO HORSES?

A: Oak (*Quercus* species) toxicity in horses is uncommon, but it's possible. The parts of the Oak tree that can cause trouble are the immature leaves that appear in the spring, and unripe green acorns, which have the highest level of toxins. The leaves and acorns that fall in the autumn are not as toxic, and horses tend to stay away from them.

While we know that tannins and gallotannins found in the leaves and acorns are toxins, there are likely other toxic principles as well. Horses would have to eat these leaves and acorns steadily over days to weeks to experience toxicity. Together, the oak toxins affect the kidneys and the gastrointestinal system as direct toxins and can also cause impaction colics in horses that eat a very large amount. Typical symptoms include depression, inappetence, colic, diarrhea, ventral edema, apparent straining to urinate, and red-brown urine. The rare horse with oak toxicity often needs sustained fluid therapy for kidney damage, as well as supportive care for the colic or diarrhea caused by the oak toxins.

Like most grazing animals, horses generally won't want to eat oak unless they are hungry or bored. The key to preventing most plant



toxicities is ensuring that horses have plenty of forage, a pleasant pasture to live in, and regular exercise. Occasionally, one horse may decide that oak tastes good and will try to eat available oak buds and acorns despite an owner's efforts. Generally, however, there is no need to cut down oak trees—they are great for our environment and provide needed shade. If they are accessible to horses, keep branches trimmed and put protective fencing around the bark of young trees. Remember that nut trees go through high and low production cycles—you may have to pay more attention in a high-production year.

Dr. Melissa Mazan, V93, is a board-certified internist at the Hospital for Large Animals at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Dr. Mazan completed an internship in equine surgery and sports medicine, followed by a residency in large animal internal medicine at Tufts. She directs the Equine Bronchoalveolar Lavage Cytology Laboratory, and while her research is in equine asthma, she commonly treats colic, enteritis, gastric ulcers, pneumonia, neurologic disease, fevers of unknown origin, and more.

Awareness and Biomechanics Training

By Agi Yother

After a serious riding accident in the late 1990s, I took a break from training and competing in events. I worked with several physical therapists who helped me regain my strength and balance; I also learned biomechanics.

When I returned to riding, my focus was on dressage, and I began riding with FEI trainer and judge Sandy Howard. Sandy encouraged me to work with biomechanics coach Mary Wanless. I update my biomechanics training through yearly Biomechanics Workshops and Teacher Training courses with Mary.

My program, called Healthy Biomechanics from Stall to Saddle, includes various forms of training for all disciplines to create a better partnership between horse and rider:

- Stationary Saddle work
- Groundwork/In-hand work
- Straightness Training
- Cross-training
- Energy Work

At the SMCHA Riding Clinic at the Mounted Patrol Grounds, I presented my Stationary Saddle work to participants who benefited from my in-depth evaluation of their riding

positions. I make adjustments to help build a better seat connection and improve your relationship with your horse. This off-horse method allows for many repetitions to ingrain a new pattern without so much time under saddle for the horse. The use of before-and-after videos and photos gives the rider immediate feedback to take away.

I find it very rewarding to share the knowledge I've gained to help riders with various position issues to find a more balanced and effective position. I am thrilled when my students come to me with something they've been struggling with, and we are able to discover what is going on and how to correct biomechanics to make a positive change.

My program is available for:

- Beginners to advanced riders, trainers, and all disciplines.
- Lessons on your horse or mine.
- Lessons can be on-horse, off-horse, and/or lunge line.
- Lessons are videotaped for immediate feedback

I am passionate about sharing the extensive training skills I've acquired over the past 30+ years of riding and training. My other passions include fitness training, hiking,



surfing, and spending precious time with my husband, CJ, and dog, Bravo. My husband and I help with rescuing and finding forever homes for Pit Bulls.

Contact Agi Yother for more information:

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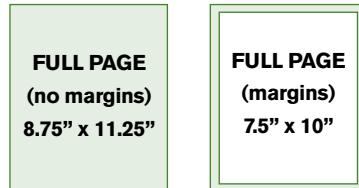
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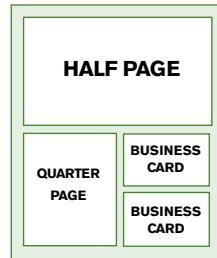
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for the Winter 2023 issue is February 1, 2023.

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10 More Ways to Bond With Your Horse When You Can't Ride

Written by Horse Learner in For Riders

Bonding

Your relationship with your horse affects all your interactions with him. The level of mutual trust, respect, and friendship will largely determine how much you enjoy spending time together. This is why bonding activities are so important and should be integral to your regular interactions. Here are just a few ways you can work on your relationship with your horse right now:

1. Give Your Horse a Massage

Massaging your horse is an excellent way to bond with him and relieve him of stress and tension. Just like for humans, there are different types of massage. Do a Google search for "horse massage" to watch numerous easy-to-replicate massage techniques.



2. Walk or Jog with Your Horse

Need to get in some exercise? Why not take your horse along? Stick to quiet paths and roads and have a different outing together. Walking next to a horse is quite a different experience than sitting on him, and you'll be able to communicate differently with each other.

3. Spend Time with Your Horse in the Field or Paddock with No Agenda

Friends hang out together, so if you want to bond with your horse – go hang out with him on his turf without asking for anything in return. Being together in a space where he is relaxed and happy will help him associate you with those positive feelings.

Bring a book, practice some meditation



4. Find a Toy or Game Your Horse Likes

Perhaps your horse has a little Maradona in his belly? Try gently kicking a ball around the paddock and see if he wants to play. Teach him to come to you, play fetch by picking an object off the ground and giving it to you, or give him a hug (insert the appropriate audience 'aaaawwww' here).

special and use some massage gloves? With massage gloves, you can use both hands and better stimulate the blood circulation as well as those itchy spots.



5. Teach Your Horse a Trick

- Here are a few tricks you can try to teach a horse:
 - Pick up an object from the ground
 - Open a gate (NOT the paddock or stall gate!)
 - Lift leg and place it on an object
 - Smile
 - Play the Hokey Pokey

6. Bathe Your Horse

Has it been a while since the last scrub-down? Does your horse love a good bath? All of these are good reasons to give him one.

8. Practice Braiding the Mane and Tail

Avoid all the pre-show stress of mane braiding by practicing. Practice makes perfect!

9. Find Your Horse's Itchy Spot

If you haven't located it yet, try to find the itchy spot on your horse. Or maybe he has several? Lip growing long and eyes glazing over will be your tell-tell signs you have succeeded in your search!

7. Groom Your Horse

Grooming is something that has several benefits for the horse. Here's an article about how to groom a horse: horselearner.com/how-to-groom-a-horse-all-your-grooming-questions-answered/ Why not make it extra

10. Test Horse Treat Recipes and Discover Your Horse's Favorite Snack

Get busy in the kitchen and experiment with different kinds of treats. Your horse will love you for it, and probably his buddies too.



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2022 Woodside Day of the Horse Makes History

By Nan Meek

Photos by Susan Munroe

With "Horses in History" as its theme this year, the 18th annual Woodside Day of the Horse made history with unprecedented attendance by local residents and support from local equestrians.

Organized by the Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA!), Woodside Day of the Horse events throughout the weekend of October 7 to 9 brought together a wealth of volunteers, sponsors, and participants to celebrate horses, equestrians, and everyone who loves them.

It is the mission of WHOA!, according to steering committee member Anne Van Camp: "To preserve the fundamental role of horses in maintaining the rural character of the Town of Woodside and neighboring foothill communities, to enhance opportunities for equestrian activities, and to promote the enjoyment of horses in all their various roles."

All of that, and more, were accomplished in 2022.

Woodside Art Of The Horse

Friday, October 7, kicked off the weekend of equine fun with an opening reception and youth art show outdoors at Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty on Woodside Road. Guests enjoyed nibbles by the Gilberts' Firehouse Bistro and wine donated by a Friend of WHOA!, along with live music. Local artist Susan Silverman generously donated her acrylic painting "Blue Horses in Park" for a silent auction to support WHOA!'s charitable mission.

Artists from ages five through eighteen submitted their original artwork of equine subjects, which were judged by a distinguished panel: Town of Woodside Mayor Dick Brown, The Horse Park at Woodside Executive Director Steve Roon, and artists Vicki Coe



Continued on Page 32

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SMCHA TRAILBLAZER: Janet Estep

Part 3

By Chris Friis

When Janet was a young girl, she recalls being able to ride her horse on trails from the Carolands Estate in Hillsborough to San Bruno, through the Watershed, and all over Woodside. After World War II, the population in San Mateo County was booming, and a housing shortage ensued. Equestrians in San Mateo County became concerned when large estates and properties were put on the market to be subdivided and sold. Citizen groups formed to protect the internal trail system all over San Mateo County. These groups created general plans for San Mateo County, showing what they wanted to do and where they wanted to go.

Concurrently, the County wanted to move all livestock to the coast, banning it on the bay side. These committees of concerned citizens sat with the Parks Department personnel and said, "Hey, wait a minute, we still want to have chickens, cows, and horses in our area." After many meetings and discussions, the city and county agreed to keep well enough alone.

In the late 1970s, Janet Estep volunteered her time sitting on the Trails Committee (1979-2003) for the town of Woodside. Janet and her friend Sue Boytan were visionaries. The town was getting pressure from individual homeowners to close sections of the interior trail system. At the time, when a Woodside homeowner had a trail running through their property, they could refuse access to the public or dedicate the trail to the town. Once dedicated, equestrians forever retained the right to use the trail on horseback. Understanding the importance of the trail system for current and future equestrians, Janet and Sue made it their business to

convince new homeowners to dedicate the trails to the town so equestrians would continue to thrive.

Today, members of the Trails Committee still go out each time a piece of property sells. If there's a trail on it, they ask the owners to dedicate it, so horse owners can continue to have access.

Simultaneously, another group prepared the Charter for Parks and Recreation and Jack Brook Horse Camp. Jack Brook, a horseman, was the director of Parks and Recreation for San Mateo County. Thanks to his efforts and advocacy, he saved this open space and the trails within Sam McDonald Park. Along with the Charter for the Parks, community, and special interest groups, enough money was raised to develop the entire trail system in San Mateo County Parks.

In the 1980s, our area experienced heavy rains, and many trails were washed out. So, Gene Sheehan, a trail builder, was hired by San Mateo Parks to rebuild the trails; the local horse community and the rangers pitched in to help.

Janet explains, "We could never have achieved so much without the determination, vision, and drive of a few dedicated officers at the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Department: Dave Christy, Harry Dean, and Jackie Spears. While they were planning and devising the county-wide trail system, supporters, our trail committees, and local Clubs (Los Viajeros, SMCHA, the Mounted Patrol, and Los Altos Hills Horsemen's Association) fundraised to finance the work.

Janet would also schedule workdays with the Parks Department and many local equestrians to cut new trails, repair washed-out trails and then rock them. Janet chuckled with wonder as she remembered all the hard work that went into hauling all the rock up from the barn at Wunderlich up to Skyline on those trails. With pride, Janet boasted, "We rocked all those trails.... our horsemen did that!"

Another dedicated horse area we should be thankful for is Edgewood Park. At one point, this park was going to be a preserve with no horses, no runners, and only hikers by permission. Janet found out what was going on, requested documents, wrote letters, and met with the Parks Department, Commissioners, and Board of Supervisors. Janet stated, "It was like a full-time job!" This was done for Edgewood, Wunderlich, Huddart Park and Pescadero. Janet and her fellow horse riders stopped bicycles from riding in these parks too, which is crucial for our horse community. Although Janet was also on the Bike Committee, she knew the dangers of bikes colliding with horses or hikers.

Because of Janet Estep's dedication and the support of our past horse community, we get to enjoy these parks, trails, and horse camp! In turn, we ask you to support our current Trail Committees, horse clubs, and community. Please get involved to ensure we safeguard all the trails we worked so hard to preserve! This will allow you and the upcoming generations to continue enjoying the beauty and wonder of our trail system. Let's all saddle up and follow our dreams.



Janet received the Woodside Trails Appreciation Award in 2006.

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Fall Riding Clinic 2022

By Lee Reed

All the participants and volunteers deeply enjoyed this year's Fall Riding Clinic. As a first-time volunteer of this extended clinic, SMCHA board member, Aleta Reed, cherished every moment, noting the jovial conversations and the undying friendships of our equine community.

There were a total of 20 riders spread out over the four weeks. Each week brought many new experiences to all participants and spectators. On September 17, well-known trainer Chris Ellsworth drove down from Placerville, offering a clinic to seven enthusiastic riders. They all braved the rain Mother Nature provided that particular day. She spared the event with on-and-off gentle showers, timing the worst weather as Chris was wrapping up the lesson.

Three young boys enjoyed Noel Moody's western riding class, which concluded with a roping lesson (ropes donated by Olsen Nolte), and a trail ride through the Mounted Patrol trees. Trainer Joan McLaren taught western horsemanship, balance, transitions, and control with a September 25 lesson devoted to obstacles.

Our fourth instructor was Fiona Bogie. Her lessons were in horsemanship, safety and groundwork.

Thanks to the clinic committee (Sharon Butler, Carey Oberti, and Susan Jakubowski) for their hard work, making this 4-week clinic a huge success. Committee Chair Karen Rowley Shawback extends a special note of thanks to Aleta Reed for registration, decorating, organizing, socializing, and keeping her sane at all 4 clinics. We are already planning for next year!! Happy trails to all!



Noel Moody with Emery, Elwin and Xander.





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LUCK OF THE DRAW!

By Rebekah Witter

The colorful SMCHA email arrived on July 21 with exciting news: a slot for the Chris Ellsworth Horsemanship Clinic was FREE to one lucky member. The Clinic was in two days, and I could make it...IF I won!

Then Deb Vasquez called – the spot was mine! Like a winner of the Super Bowl, I yelled, “I’m going to Disneyland!” (For me, a horsemanship clinic is better than Disneyland!)

My great thanks to SMCHA for making it possible for me and my new horse, Arya to learn from a master!

P.S. The techniques I learned in the Clinic were so helpful that I told Chris I wanted to pay for my spot, but Chris wouldn’t hear of it, but I insisted, explaining it was for value received. He finally agreed to a split – he gave me a day, and I paid him for a day – a good deal all the way around!



A composite image showing two women interacting with a brown horse. On the left, a woman in a maroon vest and grey shirt is petting the horse's head. On the right, another woman with blonde hair in a maroon polo shirt stands beside the horse, looking towards the camera. The background shows a wooden barn structure.

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Mar Vista Memories

By Fran Feldstein

On Skyline Drive, Mar Vista Stables in Daly City, California, is one of the bay area's best-kept secrets. The weathered house, barn, riding arena, and corral have been largely undiscovered locally over the past four decades but changed the course of my life.

I was a Jersey girl who migrated to San Francisco after college. I've always felt alone, the eldest child of Holocaust concentration camp survivor parents. We had no extended family. It was a dark heritage that caused me severe depression mid-life. After trying many options, I ultimately participated in group sessions with others like me. After a year, I withdrew and found myself in an even darker place. I wondered where in life I could find my joy. As a seven-year-old, I recalled thinking I wanted to be a cowgirl, probably a fantasy derived from all the great horse TV shows of the 50s. Then I went for a trail ride at Mar Vista. It was 1990, and at thirty-seven years old, I had found my joy!

After my ride, I went to the stable porch to ask, "who runs this place?" Woody Landry took credit. I asked him if I could volunteer to learn about horses. He liked my curly hair so he told me to show up at 7 am Saturday. I did and never looked back. It was exciting tacking up a couple dozen horses with other wranglers with Woody's sidekick Rich Wood hollering at us to "only brush where the saddle goes; they ain't goin' to no parade!" The experienced wranglers were younger gals who took pity and taught me bit by bit. I was a novice but rode about eight hours a day every Saturday and Sunday for about three years on different horses. My learning never stopped, and I loved that. I took out groups of up to six rent riders; in larger groups a second wrangler rode drag.

So many things could have gone wrong but didn't due to Woody's selection of horses and his safely matching rent riders to them. We wranglers had to test out the new horses Woody would trailer in from Turlock, and that was always fun. We had to break them to the ocean, usually by backing them into the waves...while keeping an eye on the cliffs so as not to get dizzy and fall off while the horse was dancing around in his first experience with big moving water. The first time I looked down at the water, I just about lost my seat and lunch.



Wrangler Fran and Chance.

We generally did not accept reservations. We rode out with walk-up riders. Wranglers rotated so we each got about the same amount of saddle time. We hoped, but tips were scarce. I volunteered for three months and then asked Woody if I was good enough to get paid. He obliged. So, I was earning money doing something I loved! The hour rides were about forty minutes on the beach and the remainder coming and going through the deep sand trails from the stables atop the cliffs. Sometimes, there were early bird two-hour rides. Those were my favorite rides—so peaceful. Some riders wanted to converse about the horses, while others just wanted to ride quietly. With experienced riders who wanted to trot or lope, if everyone agreed, the wrangler led the riders along the waterline at low tide to go faster for a bit. We always walked from the turnaround, a sure way to keep the horses from running home. It was thrilling, and I always took responsibility for the safety of renters and Woody's horses very seriously.

There was camaraderie among Woody's wranglers. Sunday evenings, he frequently cooked up a pot of chili and fed us in the tiny house's living room, where we sat around on the floor and rehashed our rides or commented on the new horses. There was a lot of ribbing and laughter. The sense of belonging I found as one of Mar Vista's wranglers was the substitute for my non-existent family.

A few times, things got difficult on rides with little kids getting scared, needing to be ponied, or adults upset we wouldn't let them gallop. But we tried to make sure

each person enjoyed his horseback ride. There were a few special "wranglers only" rides that were superb as we were only responsible for ourselves. Once, we wranglers rode over to Ocean Beach, parked our butts on the cement sea wall, and had hot dogs while we held our horses by their lead ropes between our knees.

Woody always let me take a horse out on my foggy birthdays in late August. The muted sound of the waves and reduced visibility made me feel like I was riding in my own little bubble of happiness. I never got bored riding the same trails and beach because the sights and sounds of the sky, clouds, ocean color, and snowy plovers running across the sand—were different each time. Sometimes we would see otters, dolphins, or whales offshore that would swim along with us.

A brain tumor ended my wrangling. After surgery, I lost my balance for a while. Woody wouldn't let me wrangle after that, so I went to the barn next door and leased some awesome privately owned horses for about eight years. Ultimately I got my own horse which I boarded coast side for twenty years. After I lost him in 2017, I visited Mar Vista. Rich Wood was still sitting on the porch and told me Woody had said I was the best wrangler he ever had. Wow. I imagine Woody and Rich are now reunited, riding the clouds, swapping jokes. And at sixty-nine, I still ride on my birthday at Mar Vista, these last three years with wrangler David.

I'm looking forward to he and his wife revitalizing Mar Vista and perhaps allowing me to help again become part of a group of "happy horses, happy riders."



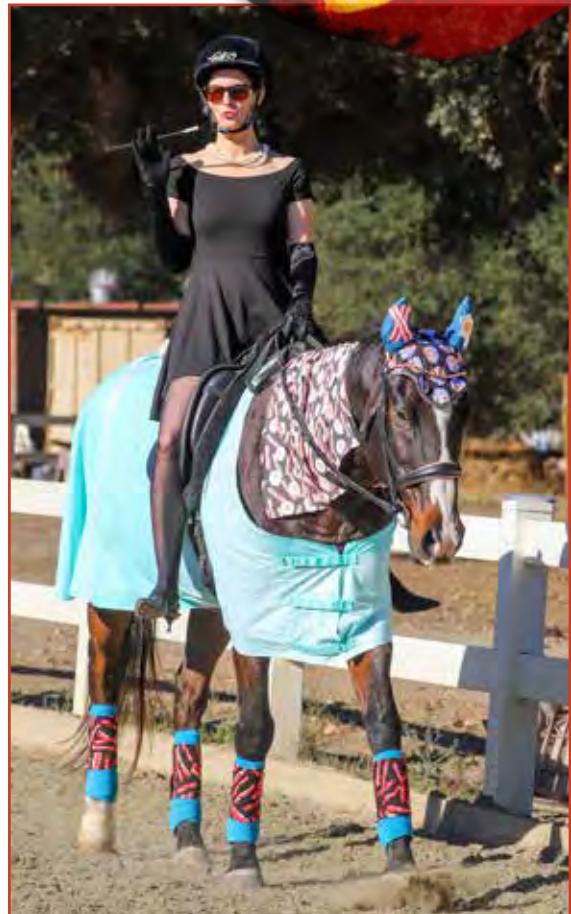
Halloween Play Day 2022

By Mariangela Sonstegard

On Sunday, October 23, 2022, the San Mateo County Horseman's Association held the Fourth Annual Halloween Playday at Webb Ranch in Portola Valley. Last year the Halloween Playday was canceled due to Northern California's most significant rainstorm of the season. This year it was cool in the morning, but as the sun came out, the day heated up and set the stage for a beautiful, fun-filled day!

The event began with the costume contest. The creativity and imagination that went into the costumes exceeded all expectations. The horses were all well-behaved as the parade of colorful costumes with flamboyant accessories passed by. All the costumes were superb, so the judges struggled to place the winners. Every costume won a prize this year, consisting of 1st - 5th place ribbons and a gift basket. The costumes were Bumble Bees sitting on a bed of flowers, Angels and Devils, a Canadian Mounted Patrol, Pippi Longstocking, a witch, and a knight. One of the most imaginative costumes of the day was created by Emily Edwards and her horse Moose, dressed as Breakfast at Tiffany's. Emily was dressed as Audrey Hepburn in the classic movie. She rode in high heels and held a long cigarette holder. Moose was draped in a teal blanket that said Tiffany's, representing the classic Tiffany's gift box. Moose wore an ear bonnet that pictured eggs and bacon and cotton leg wraps with images of bacon. Emily and Moose won 2nd Place. The 1st Place Winners were Annie Tyo and her horse Wild Bill dressed as Alexander the Great, and Andrea Glavas and her horse Maverick. Andrea was dressed as a reindeer, and her horse Maverick as an Elf. It was a very imaginative costume that stole the show! You can see and purchase all of the pictures of the phenomenal costumes on our SMCHA photographer's website: marthagreen.smugmug.com

The next event was Joan McLaren's Spooktacular Obstacle Course. The course was set up in the Webb Ranch Show Arena. The course was fun and challenging for both horse and rider. One at a time, the horse and rider had to slither through pumpkin-lined poles, pick up a candy-filled pumpkin, and circle barrels with a black cat sitting on the top. Once the rider completed that task, they had to jog over poles, work a right-hand gate, jog with a witch's broom, stop in a box and back up between two poles. The 1st place winner was Annie Tyo and her horse Wild Bill. Congratulations on a job well done!



Emily Edwards and Moose dressed as Breakfast at Tiffany's.

During the lunch break of pizza, salad, cookies, and Rice Krispies Treats, riders and horses had an opportunity to rest and fuel up for the afternoon's Ghoulish Games. The lunch break also allowed riders, family, friends, and spectators to play the "Guessing Games." We asked participants to guess the weight of the Giant Pumpkin and the number of candies in the jar. The winner of the Giant Pumpkin was Anita Puccinelli, who guessed the pumpkin's weight within 1 pound and won the pumpkin. The winner of the candy jar was Greg Sonstegard. Amazing guesses! Congratulations to you both!

After lunch, the Ghoulish Games began. All the riders were challenged in balance, coordination, perseverance, and speed as they competed in the Barrel Race, the Egg & Spoon, and the Dollar Bill Race; the winner took all the bills!

The entire day was filled with fun, laughter, light-hearted competition, encouragement, and prizes for riders of all ages and abilities. A special thanks to Joan McLaren, Carin Zeller, Sharon Butler, Maria Fonseca, Lee Reed, Mike Bushue, Bonnie Bertetta, Greg and Jack Sonstegard. These volunteers helped make our Halloween Playday a tremendous success.



Lower left: Ceci Ellis with Riley (L) and Andrea Glavas on Maverick (R). Above: Andrea Glavas on Maverick. Left: Tasha Summers on Asa.

Photos by Martha Greene

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PRESIDENTS' RIDE 2022

By Sharon Butler

The Presidents' ride/luncheon was started to honor our past presidents. Every single president is part of the stitching that makes this club what it is today. Part of this year's conversation was having each president share their most outstanding accomplishments for the SMCHA. We heard some great stories and had some good laughs.

There were 15 past and current presidents and a couple of spouses in attendance representing their husbands who've passed. We are very fortunate these ladies still hold SMCHA so near and dear to their hearts. There were about 35 guests and 8 riders. We missed those past Presidents who could not join us; maybe next year,



Left to Right, Back Row: Sharon Butler, Bonnie Bertetta, Sarah and Al Filice, Cheryl Basin, Bill Ashton, Jenny Mize, Chris Friis, Bruce Baker. Left to Right, Front Row: Noel Moody, Mary Jo Harris, Deborah Vasquez, Deb Alvarado.

we can have 100% attendance.

Our delicious lunch was prepared by Cowboy Paella, a family-owned

business in the Lockford area.

Jennifer and her daughter brought in

Continued on Page 30



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The Mounted Patrol Foundation is working with SMCHA and other local horse organizations towards our common objectives:

- Preserve and enhance the equestrian environment in our area;
- Support, maintain, develop and encourage equestrian facilities, activities and heritage; and
- Preserve horse habitats and trail systems.

We are pleased to announce that grants to the community, from the Foundation's inception through October 2022 have surpassed \$584,000. Over 72 % of this came from generous contributions from many folks and organizations, for which we and our grantees are forever grateful. In 2022 we have awarded a total of \$35,000.

Sheriff's Activity League—Trail Rides for Youths: This program provides horseback training and trail riding in Wunderlich Park for youths from the Sheriff's Activity League. www.mountedpatrolfoundation.org/SAL.htm



Sheriff's Activity League trail riders. From left: Evelyn, Mia, Emily, Diana, Alondra, and George.

Western Heritage Scholarship: This scholarship helps students that support Western heritage ideals, lifestyle and history and who have a financial need. This year it was awarded to Michael Procopio-Santos, who is in his first year at California State University, Fresno. www.mountedpatrolfoundation.org/Western_Heritage_Scholarship.htm

Please help support one or both of the above programs by using the below link.
www.mountedpatrolfoundation.org/DonateNow.htm

Woodside Town Council - Trail Ride, Council meeting and Dinner WHOA, SMCHA, Town Trails Committee, the Town Livestock and Equestrian Heritage Committee, and the Mounted Patrol Foundation sponsored this event. The Woodside Town Council members enjoyed a one-hour trail ride in Wunderlich Park, followed by presentations by 27 equestrian organizations and then a dinner provided by Woodside's own Firehouse Bistro.

The Woodside Equestrian Merit Scholarship: The Mounted Patrol Foundation and the Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA!) awarded their jointly-sponsored \$10,000 Woodside-area Equestrian Merit Scholarship to Iliana Close, a recent graduate of Carlmont High School and San Carlos resident.
www.mountedpatrolfoundation.org/Woodside_area_Equestrian_Merit_Scholarship.htm

Check out our website for more information on these projects and history on others.

www.MountedPatrolFoundation.org



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The Water Trough

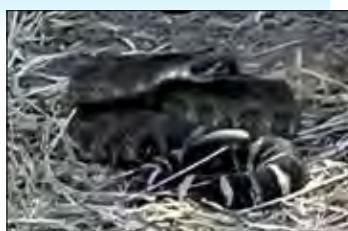
Have fun reading our new column, *The Water Trough* (a rider's version of the Water Cooler!). Let us know what's new and exciting in your lives. Let's bring our community together by sharing news, fun facts and information! Got something to share? Send your info to me, Elizabeth Ouellette @ elizabetho@outlook.com

Webb Ranch has a new little library. Thanks, in part, to generous donations from SMCHA and the late Larry Pelzner; we proudly performed the ribbon cutting on Saturday, October 29th. The library will be open 24/7 as an excellent resource for both youth and adults, new and seasoned equestrians. We have sections on Riding, Training, Horse Care, Veterinary Medicine, Equine-Assisted Learning, Psychology & Spirituality, History, Memoirs, Cowboys & Indians, Fiction, and Free Magazines, and much more. There's still room for additional books, DVDs, and magazines. Donations are gratefully accepted. (Back issues of The San Mateo County Horseman, especially desirable.) Contact Beverley Kane, bkane1@stanford.edu.



The triad, Sharon Butler, John Petro and Gilles Bouchard, was on horseback, peacefully riding to the Shack on a Sunday morning. The day was young, and the sun had just peeked its head from behind the clouds, warming the earth with rays of sunshine. In front of the first rider, a heap of cow manure started to move ever so slightly, rattling quite distinctly.

That was no cow dung! It was a verified venomous rattler, coiled right in the middle of the single-trail track, warning the trespassers off. Without losing a second, Sharon boldly looked it square in the eye and bravely took several photos to memorialize the incident. After a few long moments, the cold-blooded reptile slithered off the path to safer grounds, leaving horses and riders to take up where they'd left off. Thankfully, they all made it out alive, including the angry viper. This is a true story.



Our hearts go out to longtime friend, Guido Nannini, who recently lost his best friend, Shorty. There is little we can write to make Guido's grief disappear, but to remember while time will fade... these hoofprints... the ones left on your heart... will never disappear.



If you all are wondering who the gal is behind our fantastic cartoons in the magazine, well, it's our beloved Chris Romano (center in blue shirt)! The board all agreed to find a way to show Chris gratitude for her time, talent, and commitment to the SMCHA magazine. We presented her with a certificate and a gift card to a local feed store as a small gesture of appreciation. Chris is one of a kind! Thank you.

Our fellow equestrian, Noel Powers, passed away on 8/15/21. Her sister, Jocelyn Dardon, writes, "Noel was fun, energetic, had the most contagious laugh, and was always the life of the party." On Sunday, October 16, 2023 a Celebration of Life was held at Page Mill Pastures (PMP), where Noel boarded her horse, Ireland. In her memory, the 50+ attendees released butterflies, which symbolize change, elegance, celebration, resurrection, growth, and transition.



Queen Elizabeth II was riding by the age of 6. By age 18, she was an accomplished rider, and continued to ride for pleasure into her nineties. For eighteen consecutive years, from 1969 to 1986, her horse was a black mare named Burmese, a gift from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

MOVIE NIGHT: Big Screen Magic

By Mariangela Sonstegard

On September 23, 2022, the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association held its annual Movie Night on the Polo Field at Webb Ranch. The evening began at 6:00 pm, and the weather could not have been more perfect, as it was a warm evening, only cooling down slightly as night set in. Moviegoers drove on to the Webb Ranch Polo Field, parked their vehicles, and set up chairs facing the large outdoor movie screen.

Chico's Grill Food Truck, parked daily at Woodside Road and Alameda de las Pulgas in Redwood City, was there for everyone to purchase dinner. They offered a variety of delicious food to feed the crowd. Their menu offers tacos, burritos, and quesadillas, and they also have tasty hamburgers, chicken wings, french fries, and salads. There was a wide variety of food and something for everyone's palate.

While everyone was settling in and eating dinner, Elizabeth Ouellette and Chris Friis hosted a fun trivia game for the crowd. The horse-related questions ranged from easy to more challenging, and there were prizes to win for all correct answers.

As the sun set, popcorn was handed out as everyone prepared to watch the featured movie inspired by a true story, "Dreamer." This is the story about Ben Crane (Kurt Russell), a horse trainer struggling to connect with his daughter Cale (Dakota Fanning). Ben adopts an injured racehorse, and he and his daughter work together to train the horse to race again.

This SMCHA annual Movie Night Event is an enjoyable night and it provides an excellent opportunity for friends and families to get together or have a date night under the stars.



Lynda Lovingood (left) and Shan Egan.



New SMCHA Board Member Gaby Marquez (left) with her friend.



Help us solve this optical illusion. Is this a frog or ...?

Answer on page 34.

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Sticky Snakeroot

Sticky Snake Root can be fatal to horses and is toxic to animals. Please take a look at the photos in the flyer and if you see it, send a location and photo to weeds@sanmateoRCD.org. *Ageratina adenophora* (synonym *Eupatorium adenophorum*), commonly known as Crofton weed, is a species of flowering plant in the family Asteraceae native to Mexico and Central America. Originally grown as an ornamental plant, it has become invasive into farmland and bushland worldwide. It is toxic to horses, who develop a respiratory disease known as Numinbah Horse Sickness after eating it.

There's a new plant in town, Have you seen it?

From your yard to the park, you can help protect our coast and agriculture from invasive plants like **sticky snakeroot** (*Ageratina adenophora*) by keeping an eye out.



STATURE:
2-6 ft perennial shrub with branched flower clusters of white (sometimes pink) flowers.
(Photo credit: Sheldon Navie)



LEAVES:
Leaves are opposite, triangle-shaped, and toothed.
Young stems have sticky hairs. (Photo credit: Neal Kramer)



FLOWERS:
Blooms Apr – Aug. Slender tiny seeds are topped with ring of numerous white hairs. (Photo credit: Barry Breckling)



THREAT TO COAST AND FARMS:
It is toxic to animals and can be fatal to horses.
(Photo credit: Forest and Kim Starr, USGS)

Report sightings to:

weeds@sanmateoRCD.org
www.sanmateoRCD.org/weeds
650-712-7735 x 115



Fudgy and the Edgewood Fire

By Chris Romano

On June 21 at 2:20 p.m., there was an enormous bang. About a minute later, my phone rang. It was SMCHA board member and neighbor Carey Oberti, and she yelled, "Get Fudgy! There's a fire on the hill!" Then she hung up and called 911. There was a towering plume of smoke on the hilltop above our home. A power pole's transformer had overheated—exploding! With the temperature in the mid-nineties and electricity in high demand, a nearby power pole's transformer had overheated.

Fire engines roared in, and we had to evacuate, along with many neighbors. We'd planned for such an event. Bruce was to take our truck packed with emergency supplies, and I was to lead Fudgy away from danger. The response from the fire department was quick. Our street filled with fire trucks and hoses before Bruce could even drive out of our carport. Thirty-five-year-old Fudgy was stoic, letting me lead him through the fire hoses, crews, and engines. His head only jerked up when a huge helicopter flew directly above him. He had serious priorities and headed to a neighbor's front lawn, where he was allowed to graze. Green grass is a great treat during the dry season.

Carey checked on us several times as she helped evacuate her family, Katie Mini, and other neighborhood horses. Everybody was out of their homes and on the streets, wondering what would happen and asking if Fudgy was okay. While Fudgy grazed, one neighbor hosed him off, another gave him a bucket of water, and the local news media interviewed him.

Even with the fast response, the fire wasn't going out. I'd only had time to grab a bucket of pellets and his medications. The next step was to arrange for him to have a place to stay for a few days. The large animal emergency evacuation group had a place and offered transport, but the site was an hour's trailer ride away. Since Fudgy is so old, I thought it would be too long a ride for him on such a hot day. Neighbors Melinda and Celeste Stoker arranged for him to stay at Jr. Riders and trailered him there. Sixteen years before, Fudgy had been at Jr. Riders for two summers. He definitely knew the place, settling right in. Celeste is the Jr. Riders' instructor, and she and the kids took good care of him. After three days, Don Pugh and Carey trailered him home.

The air smelled of smoke and wet ash. Half of our property is on a steep slope and charred. Happily, his little, lean-to barn and our home were spared. This was thanks to great efforts by fire crews, our maintaining a defensible space, and the windless conditions. Neighbors were relieved that Fudgy was home again. He's become a celebrity because many had seen him on the news or had read about him in the Almanac. We're happy and grateful that Fudgy, Katie Mini, and the other local horses are again keeping the neigh in our neighborhood. Thanks again Carey!



Fudgy and owner Chris Romano found sanctuary on a neighbor's lawn when the fire started.



Webb Ranch Turns 100!

By Krista Kahl

If you live in any of the local Peninsula towns and are an equestrian, then surely you know of Webb Ranch. If you don't currently own a horse like I do, but they are your everything, you've still heard of Webb Ranch. It took me 3 years to finally enter the premises, thanks to one of the many SMCHA events held at Webb. Upon entering the gate off Alpine Road, you are led down a paved road that soon turns into gravel. Eventually, the road becomes earthen, and you are transported to a timeless, Old West-looking place where you can take a deep breath and relax. Do you hear the traffic? No. Do you smell the dirty concrete sidewalks of San Francisco? Never. Do you see skyscrapers blocking your view of the clear blue sky? Nope.

What your senses take in upon entering Webb Ranch is the sound of horses whinnying at breakfast time, the fragrant smell of hay, leather saddles, the crops, and the crisp morning air. You see nothing but happiness, hope, and happenstance in the form of horses, equestrian folks, and a maze of round pens, stalls, dirt paths, barns, trees, riding arenas, pastures, and wide open fields that all flank the property. But wait - there's more. In spring and summer, there are fields full of berries for picking. Autumn offers a pumpkin patch and 'train' rides for kids. And in winter, there are the joyful Christmas tree and the elements. It is all full of this thing we call Life.

The land Webb Ranch exists on is owned by Stanford. Still, this special place of approximately 240 acres has maintained its rural character and charm, despite outer world advances such as technology and urban sprawl. It has been like this for decades—10 decades to be exact.



Yes, that's right—Webb Ranch is a centenarian now! On August 26th, 2022, Webb celebrated its 100th anniversary. This is an amazing feat in today's world, where things often come and go as quickly as the next version of the Apple iPhone or a new retail business in a strip mall.

I spoke with Summer Hensley, Webb Ranch owner, to get her perspective on why she thinks Webb has maintained its longevity so successfully and one of the things she said was that family members simply love the ranch. Growing up on the ranch, her parents, Tom and Lyndal Webb never said, "You MUST stay!" or "You HAVE to do this." She and her siblings Tracie, Gwen, and Atlee were always free to do whatever they chose, including leaving the ranch or choosing another career path or location in the world.



Summer did leave the area to attend Oregon State University (OSU). While there, the environment around OSU reminded her of the environment she'd grown up with, and after finishing her undergraduate degree in biology to become a vet, she felt homesick. Taking time off outside the ranch helped her realize that continuing to be a part of the ranch was what she wanted. She returned to the area and got a master's degree at Stanford. When her parents decided to retire, she knew she would become the next generation to carry on the Webb Ranch business. In her experience, the value of raising families in that environment—a welcoming, close-knit community—has made Webb Ranch a successful business, community, and haven for the past 100 years.

Another person I had the pleasure of speaking to about the success and longevity of the Webb Ranch is trainer Joan McLaren. Joan arrived at the ranch in 1968 as a teenager. When the Webbs saw her talent and seriousness about working with horses, they welcomed her with open arms. They offered her a teaching job, and 54 years later, Joan is still at Webb, training horses and giving riding lessons. The Webb family always encouraged Joan and other riding instructors to build their own careers. They've never been a strict horse stable with arrogant rules and membership. The Webb family always emboldened equestrian students to follow their hearts by becoming lesson instructors with their own personal businesses or simply enjoying the continued education of excellent horsemanship, knowledge, and improved riding skills. At the 100th-year anniversary party, Joan invited several vendors who sold tack, clothing, jewelry, and more. Joan said even students of hers from the 1970s showed up! She's always been a reliable, professional, knowledgeable, and friendly face around the ranch for everyone.

Webb Ranch's longevity truly comes from being there for the community. It's not just the horses - though they are a major part of it now - it's everything else that serves the surrounding areas. For example, in 1922, George Webb began a strawberry patch when he subleased land from James Rolph, the former governor of California. Everything has evolved, of course, but when you keep things simple, fun, open, and consistent, people come to rely on you and return, year after year. For a family-owned ranch such as this, it is no small feat to stay as successful as the Webbs have; it truly takes a village!

At the celebration in August, the family went all out. There were activities for kids and adults alike; bouncy houses, a mechanical bull-riding ring, a dunk tank, roping instruction,

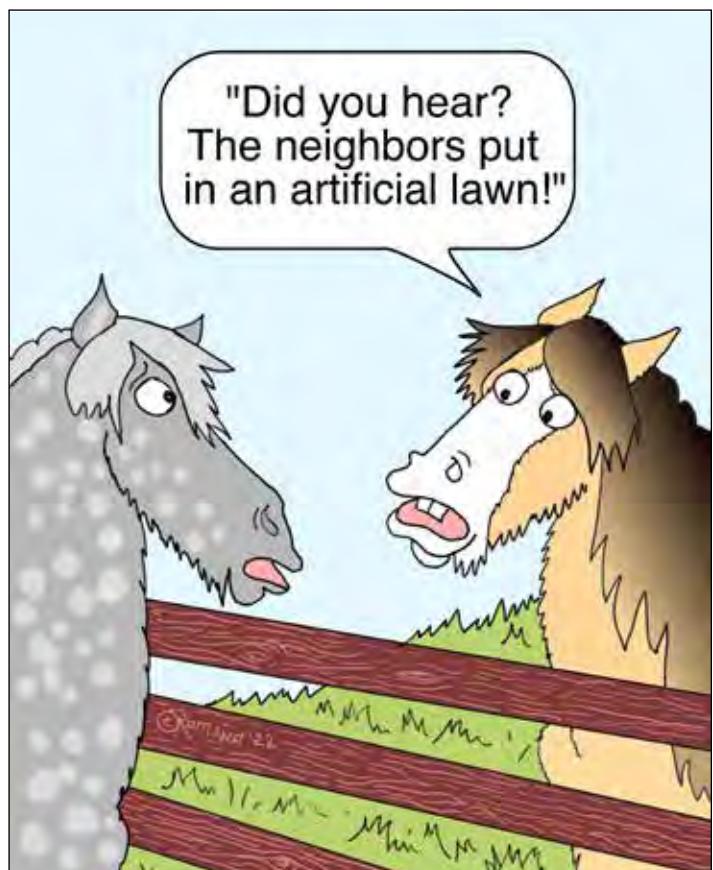


Webb Ranch owners Summer and Nate Hensley,

catered food trucks, and free ice-cream cones. There was live music with AJ Lee and the Blue Summit Band. During an intermission, the Webb family got up on stage, introduced themselves, and then Joan led everyone into singing "Happy Birthday"—it was an incredible event, like a giant family reunion.

So for the last 100 years, people have come to rely on Webb Ranch and return year after year, generation after generation because they feel the love emanating from the owners—the family. They are like an extended family for many folks. At the celebration in August, it was obvious—hundreds of people showed up from near and far.

Photos by Krista Kahl



Presidents' Ride

Continued from Page 20

everything to cook the paella on site; they set up and started cooking a few hours before the guests arrived. Jennifer made a chicken and green olive paella with garlic bread that made us all wanting more! Thank you to Deb Alvarado for introducing us to this gem of a gal. We will be using them again for other events, so stay tuned.

I want to thank everyone and give a shout-out to all those who helped make this event an outstanding success: Carin Zeller creatively decorated and chose gifts for all the presidents. Deb Alvarado and Deborah Vazquez took on the set up/clean up, Elizabeth Ouellette was our gatekeeper extraordinaire, and Tanya Rebarcheck led the riders through the beautiful trails of Woodside. Cheryl Basin donated the cake, while Annie Tyo and Susan Jakubowski made scrumptious appetizers for sharing.

We are grateful to all those who attended, making this a very memorable and heartfelt event. It will not be long before planning next year's event, location, ride, and lunch!



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The logo features a silhouette of a cowboy riding a horse, with the words "Cowboy Paella" written in a stylized font above the silhouette. Below the silhouette, there is a speech bubble containing the text "Catering events and private parties." followed by contact information for Jennifer Jackson, including her name, phone number, email address, and a social media handle #cowboypaella.



Thank you to the Mounted Patrol Foundation for donating a total of \$5,400 to the UC Davis equine program to help support equine veterinarian students and equine research. That came to \$200 for each group with the total donated on behalf of all the organizations. A big shout out to Mounted Patrol Foundation and all our diverse equestrian groups who work together year-round to enhance the equestrian experience! SMCHA is grateful for you!

HORSE BREEDS: AKHAL-TEKE



Description

The Akhal-Teke is a horse breed first found in Turkmenistan. Their main feature is the distinct coat that gleams and this is also what distinguishes them from the other horse breeds. The height of this horse can be anywhere between 14 to 16.5 hands. This horse has large, beautiful, expressive eyes that are almond shaped. The features of this horse enable it to adapt well to any harsh weather conditions. They have a layer of thin skin as compared to many other breeds. Another identifiable feature in this horse is the sparse mane and tail. This breed has a neck which is always upright and the back is long and not heavily muscled. This horse has a slim built and a deep chest with tough and strong limbs. These horses are well known for their endurance and resilience. This breed is a perfect combination of grace and strength.

Size

14 - 16.5 hands

Colors

Though these horses come in almost any color, the most noted colors are chestnut, bay, palomino, black, grey, cremello, golden, dun and perlino.

Suitable for

These horses are well suited for sports. Since they have great endurance capabilities, the Akhal-Teke horses are

used for travelling over long distances. These horses are also used for events like racing, show jumping, endurance riding and dressage.

History

The history of the Akhal-Teke horses dates back to many centuries ago. These horses were bred by nomadic people in Turkmenistan who travelled between Turkmenistan and Russia. The name Teke comes from the tribe with the same name who inhabited the region around the Akhal Oasis. These horses were the pride of this tribe and were bred to serve as war horses and for raiding purposes. Since these horses were prized possessions of these tribesmen, there was no chance for cross breeding them. Hence, most of the Akhal-Teke horses are pure blooded animals.

These horses were found in large numbers in Turkmenistan until the Russians took over this region. During this period, these horses were slaughtered in thousands to feed the Russians. This act of the Russians upset the Turks to a great extent since they felt attached to these animals. Hence, in an effort to prevent them from being killed, a number of Turks vanished into the desert with their horses or just let them free so that they could protect themselves from being slaughtered.

In modern times, the Akhal-Teke horses are found in various countries like the United States of America, Australia, Europe, Asia and many other countries of the world.



DOTH *Continued from Page 9*

and Kit Colman. In addition to awarding participation ribbons to all the youth artists, the top twelve artworks were selected to appear in the 2023 WHOA! Calendar.

"It was a wonderful community event," remarked organizer and WHOA! steering committee member Don DeFranco, "and a great way to start the weekend."

Day Of The Horse Progressive Trail Ride

Saturday's progressive trail ride, from 11 am to 2 pm along the Town of Woodside Trails, further raised awareness that "Woodside Is Horse Country." As cars and bicycles rolled by on the roads, riders and their horses dressed in theme costumes traveled the trails. From groups of Viking raiders, to a racehorse Secretariat lookalike, to "Horses in History" of all kinds, residents and visitors to Woodside witnessed the enthusiasm of equestrians for their horses and their community.

"At each ride stop along the trail, volunteers handed out water as well as snacks for horses and riders," explained WHOA! steering committee member and trail ride organizer Jo Egenes. "The volunteers decorated their ride stops, dressed in costumes, and generally made sure everyone had a great time."

Later that day, all met at the Mounted Patrol Grounds for food truck meals and beverages, music, and costume awards. Shopping opportunities included Day of the Horse merchandise, sponsors' products and services, and education about all things equine.

Individual costumer awards went to: First to Cassidy riding Secretariat, second to Annie as Alexander the Great riding Bucephalus, and third to Sean as the Lone Ranger riding Silver. Group costume winners were: First to Odette, Kathy, Kristen, Beau, and Joaquin as a Viking Clan on Icelandic Horses; second to Suzie, Melinda, Celeste, Emma, and Heather as the Fellowship of the Horse from Lord of the Rings; third to Jessica and Gemma as Circus Performers.

"The costumes were truly inspired this year," remarked WHOA! steering committee member and celebration organizer Fawni Hill. "Be sure to check the photo galleries on our website for a closer look!" www.whoa94062.org.

Woodside Family Fun Horse Fair

Sunday's horse fair on Sunday, October 9, from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm at Woodside's Independence Hall parking lot, marked a return to the traditional walk-through format.





Hands-on activities, always popular with kids and their parents, included face painting, leather crafts, petting mini horses and ponies, and photos with ponies. Demonstrations included youth vaulting, a farrier trimming and shoeing a horse's hooves, a veterinary experience listening to a horse's heartbeat, and identifying where a horse's organs are located inside its body from painted depictions outside its body.

Outside Independence Hall, live music was enjoyed by exhibitors and visitors alike. Inside, children created art, painted horseshoes, decorated horse-themed cookies, and enjoyed traditional carrot cake.

A short walk down Woodside Road, the perennial popularity of small equines with small humans was resoundingly confirmed. Thanks to Chaparral Ranch's ponies and wranglers, hundreds of children got

to ride real-life versions of the ponies they may have previously only seen in picture books. A mini-horse and mini-donkey courtesy of The Caring Cowgirl provided children a chance to pet them up-close and their parents the perfect setting for family photos.

"This year's return to a more hands-on experience was wildly popular," according to WHOA! steering committee member and horse-fair organizer Kristina Chancholo.

Preserving And Protecting Equestrian Life

Through proceeds from Day of the Horse, WHOA! has gifted more than \$300,000 toward preserving and protecting horses through support for the local equestrian community.

There's a long list of projects and programs funded by WHOA! and its Day of the Horse events at whoa94062.org/projects-and-programs/. The list reads like a "who's who" of deserving equestrian recipients, including infrastructure improvements such as trails and stables, along with programs such as equine therapy for youths and veterans, equestrian relief, animal wildfire victims' assistance, horse rescues, the equestrian merit scholarship, and community equestrian programs.

Woodside Is Horse Country

This year's Woodside Day of the Horse celebrated the history of horses in the local community and around the world. It brought together those who love horses through art, trail riding, horse fair activities, and pony rides. "Horses in History" brought horse lovers together where "Woodside is Horse Country."

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Golden Gate Park Ride

By Chris Friis and Cheryl Basin

Sunday morning, August 27, 2022, was a foggy start to our Golden Gate Park (GGP) event as the truck-trailer rigs started rolling into the old barn area next to the polo field. The 11 riders and horses were fresh and ready to see the wonders of Golden Gate Park. Some of our guests came from several different counties, and we were glad to have them join us. As the two-hour ride started, the fog lifted, and we couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day.

It's always such an honor to ride with the San Francisco Police Department's (SFPD) Mounted Unit. This day was no exception. Officers Bob and Wendell led our group through the "backroads" of Golden Gate Park and brought us to places horses are generally not permitted to go.

GGP is often the real proving ground for our horses as the sensory challenges can be high-level. There are bicycles, scooters, baby carriages, double-decker buses, dogs, kites, frisbees, boom boxes, and lots of curious adults and children.

Chris Friis and Cheryl Basin provided a hearty lunch following the ride, and we were joined by the SFPD officers, who invited us to come back soon.

Everyone agreed this was a great day and wanted to return to explore other areas of Golden Gate Park.



Horse Puns

1. Rein it in with the gossip!

You'll stirrup trouble.

2. Have you ever heard of the band Foals?

They have a colt following.

3. Go to bed!

It's pasture bedtime!

4. Scratchy throat?

You sound a little hoarse.

5. Let's skip the opening act.

I only care to see the mane event.

6. What do you call a horse who lives next door?

Neighbor!

7. Just got promoted...

And now I'm saddled with so much more responsibility.

8. Just got paid?

It's nice to be financially stable.

9. I heard you have a new boyfriend.

He's my mane man! My ride-or-die!

10. Can I ask you equestrian?

Neigh.

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SMCHA Trail Obstacle Playday

By Mariangela Sonstegard

It was a hot summer day at Webb Ranch on Saturday, September 3, 2022, but that didn't deter 25 riders from participating in the SMCHA Trail Obstacle Playday. Western riding instructor and horse trainer Joan McLaren and SMCHA co-president Deb Alvarado imagined and designed the course. Together, they created an event and Trail Obstacle Course that would include riders of all abilities, from beginner through advanced, ensuring a fun day for all.

Ann Dennis judged 4 Classes. Each Class offered 1st - 5th place ribbons, and there were also four buckles to be won. The course for each Class was different, and the competition was fierce.

The 1st Class was In Hand. In this Class, 25 people led their horses in halters over poles and through a right-hand gate. They demonstrated their horse could back up, make small circles and walk on a loose lead rope, all while keeping their horse attentive and showing a nice forward walk. The winner of the 1st Place Ribbon in this Class was Deb Scott on her horse, M.J.

The 2nd Class was Walk Only. In this Class, participants rode the horses at a walk only. They had to walk over or through the obstacles: a bridge, a series of poles, and a right-hand gate. While maneuvering through these trail obstacles, they had to show the judge that their horse could back up, stop, stand with a loose rein, and bend through narrow turns and tight circles. The winner of the 1st Place Ribbon and the Buckle in this disciplined Class was Sue Sartor on her horse Violet.

The 3rd Class was Walk/Jog. In this Class, participants had to walk and

jog through the Trail Obstacle Course. This proved to be more difficult as riders were required to change the gait from a walk to a jog at precisely the right moment.

They had to maintain the jog over poles and through tight turns. The riders also had to show their horses could back up, slither between poles and make quick stops. The 1st Place Ribbon and the Buckle winner in this Class was Colleen Smith on her horse Bubbles.

The 4th Class was Walk/Jog/Lope. This Class was the most difficult and challenged all the riders as they moved over and through the trail obstacles. The riders were required to walk over a bridge, walk and jog over poles, jog through poles while navigating tight turns, stop, back up, side pass, and pick up a right and left lead lope, all while maintaining good balance, correct bends and changing gaits at precisely the right moment. The Buckle winner in this Class was Mariangela Sonstegard and her horse Cheyenne.

The last Buckle to be awarded was the Judges' Choice Award. The judge, Ann Dennis, was to pick a rider that had a special rapport with their horse. The rider did not have to win a ribbon or a buckle but had to have a special bond and show mutual respect with their horse. The rider and horse had to have the ability to persevere through challenging situations with a mutual understanding and respect for each other's needs and in any situation. This special Buckle was awarded to Julie Stathis and her horse, Daisy.

It was an exhilarating day for riders and spectators! Thank you, SMCHA Joan McLaren and Deb Alvarado, for such an enjoyable event.



Top left: Cathy Consani and Rowdy. Bottom left: Cheyenne, Mariangela Sonstegard (middle) and Susan Sartor. Top right: Carey Oberti and Swager. Bottom right: Cheryl Basin and Stella.

VOLUNTEER



Would you like to meet new people who share your passion for horses? Do you have a unique talent or an idea for an activity/ride to share? Maybe you've always wanted to put on your own event but needed the support of an equestrian committee. Now is the time to bring your ideas to the forefront. The SMCHA wants to hear from you! If you'd like to join our team, have fun and make your dreams come true, send us an email so we can bring your vision to life!

Email: SMCHA@smcha.org

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RIDES

Adeline Forrest @ 650.743.1665

PROMOTION & PUBLICITY

Open Position

HISTORIAN

Adeline Forrest@650.704.2996

4-H YOUTH PROGRAM

Jennifer Ott @ 650.619.8257

FUNDRAISING

Elizabeth Ouellette @ 650-248-3409

HORSE SHOWS

Horse Show Chair Position – OPEN

FALL RIDING CLINIC

Karen Rowley Shawback @ 510.432.0368

FACEBOOK

Beverley Kane @ 650.868.3379 & Jenny Mize @ 650.380.1574

TRAILS

Adeline Forrest @ 650.743.1665

FINANCE

Cheryl Basin @ 650.722.0606

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Elizabeth Ouellette @ 650.248.3409

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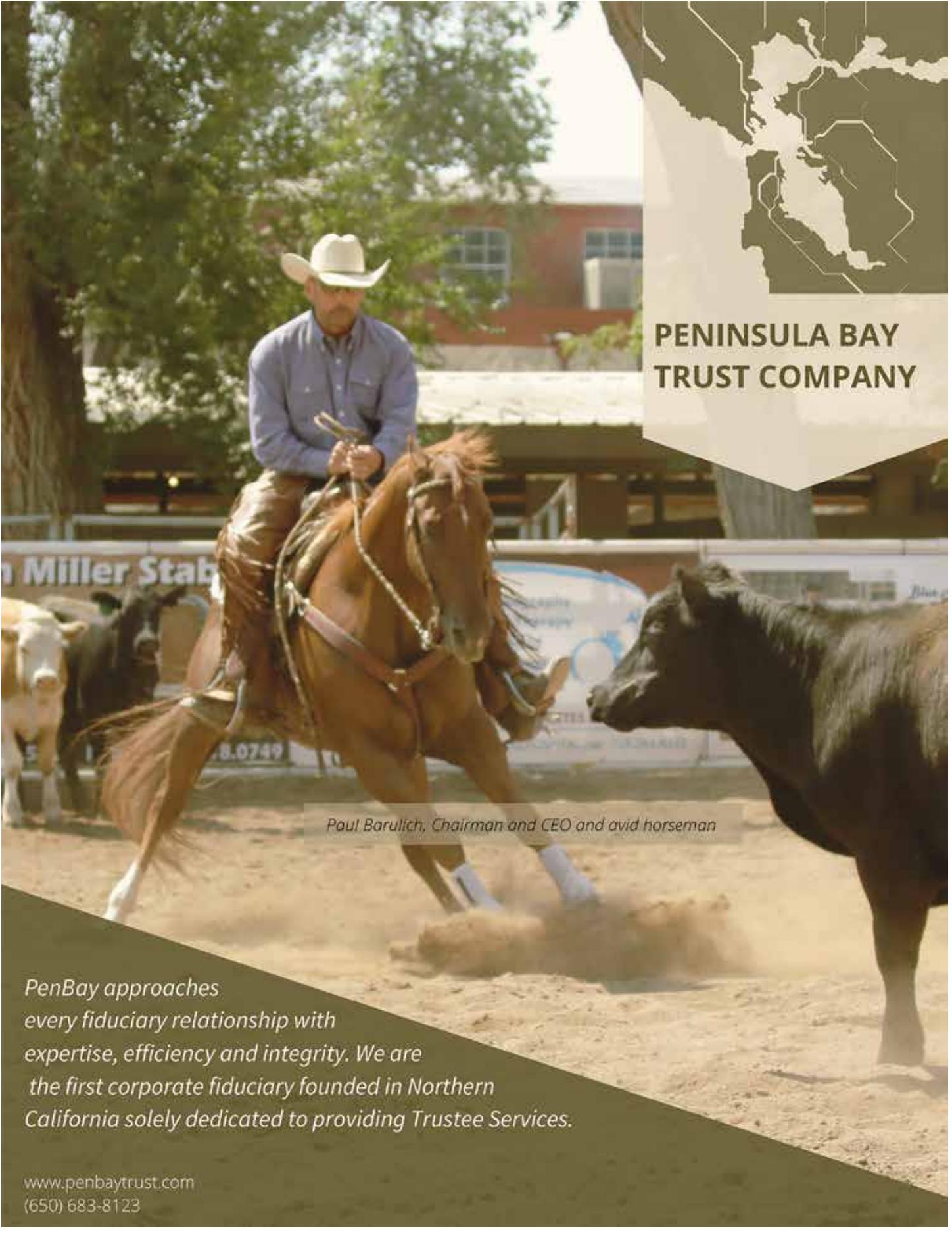
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A color photograph of a man in a cowboy hat and blue shirt riding a light brown horse in a rodeo arena. He is holding a lasso. In the background, there are other horses and cattle. A white banner with the company's name is overlaid on the top right.

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SMCHA: 2022 Calendar of Events

Check our website for updates: www.smcha.org

December

11 – Holiday Celebration – NCEFT

Equestrian Websites

Bay Area Savvy Players: bayareasavvyplayers.org

Backcountry Horsemen of California: bchcalifornia.org

Bay Area Equestrian Network: bayequest.com

BLM Wild Horses & Burros, California: wildhorseandburro.blm.gov

California Dressage Society, California: dressage.org

California State Horsemen's Association (CSHA): californiastatehorsemen.com

CSHA Region 6: csharegion6.org

Disabled Equestrians: disabledequestrians.org

Equestrian Trail Riders Action Committee (ETRAC): www.etrac-equestrian.com

Horse Park at Woodside: horsepark.org

Horsensei: horsensei.com

Into the Light Horse Rescue and Sanctuary: intothelighthorse rescueandsanctuaryinc

Jasper Ridge Farm: jasperridgefarm.org

Los Altos Hills Horsemen's Association: lahha.org

Los Viajeros Riding Club: losviajeros.org

Mounted Patrol Foundation: mountedpatrolfoundation.org

Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County: mpsmc.org

San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation: smclaeg.org

National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy (NCEFT): nceft.org

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association: smcha.org

San Mateo County Sheriff's Mounted Search & Rescue: smcmsar.org

San Mateo County Parks Volunteer Horse Patrol: smcvhp.org

Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association: sccha.org

Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association: sccha.wildapricot.org

The BOK Ranch: bokranch.org

The Square Peg Foundation: squarepegfoundation.org

Veterinary Acupuncture and Rehabilitation Services: www.vetacupuncturesvc.com

Woodside-area Horse Owners' Association (WHOA!): whoa94062.org



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If you do not want your name to appear in our membership roster, please check here _____. Annual Dues are for Jan 1 through Dec 31. (Memberships of new members, joining after November 1, will be paid through the following year.)

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Youth (17 & Under) \$30
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 Couple \$55
 Family and all kids under 18 \$60

Please list names and ages of children:

SMCHA always welcomes volunteers! If there are any events/functions at which you would like to volunteer, please check below and we will contact you.

<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality/Promotions
<input type="checkbox"/> Playdays/Gymkhana	<input type="checkbox"/> Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinics
<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Shows	
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Recruitment	<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous Events	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Programs		

Donations to any of these functions/events are also welcomed!

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