

# The San Mateo HORSEMAN



WINTER 2011

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



I so look forward to this year. After being a part of this wonderful organization for over 8 years, serving two years as 2nd VP and one year as 1st VP I was asked to consider the position of President. After being elected, for me it was an overwhelming honor and yet with so many wonderful and strong presidents before me it is equally humbling.

I love this organization and feel with my dedication and the strong support of all the board members we will make this a successful year.

My commitment is to make this organization one that you the member will be proud to say you are

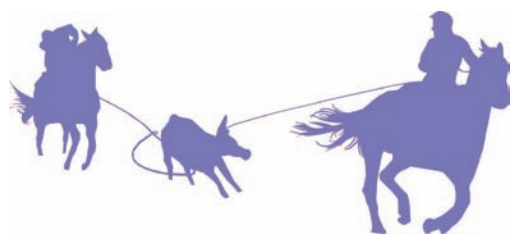
a part of and want to volunteer and participate in not only our organization but throughout the horse community.

I look forward to seeing you all at the numerous events that SMCHA will offer throughout the year.

*Nancy Kouchekey*

SMCHA President 2011

**PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



WOW! What a ride...

It's been a wild 3 years since becoming President in January 2008. Working together with our dedicated Board of Directors as well as many member volunteers, we have accomplished an extraordinary array of events and activities.

We initiated the now popular tradition, Spaghetti Feed & Bunco Tournament, as our first General Meeting of the year. We've organized numerous clinics with skilled trainers – such as Kathy Torres' Ranch Versatility, Don Douglas' "7 Basic Exercises Every Horse Should Know" and Jason Attard's

clinic for men, "Cowboy Up". The Senior Color Guard was revived and has performed at numerous local parades including the opening at the Grand National Rodeo at the Cow Palace. Just this past August we re-initiated the English Riding Clinic. We also enjoyed fun evenings of music and dancing at our Square Dance held at Rosekrans' Runnymede Farm and the California Cowboy event held at and benefitting NCEFT. Mike Raynor led us through the fun at our PlayDays held at Mounted Patrol grounds. We learned how to sort cattle at our Cow Sorting Clinics led by Rich Braun and Joan McLaren. Our ever popular annual horse camping at Jack Brook Horse Camp was sold

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**COVER**

SMCHA 2011 President  
 Nancy Kouchekey

## San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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**FOR ADS AND ARTICLES  
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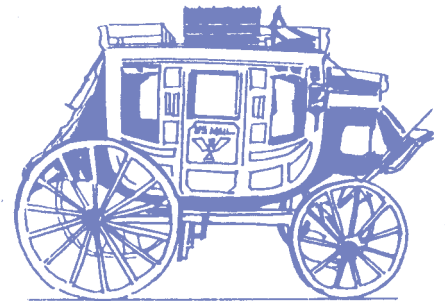
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## The San Mateo HORSEMAN

Winter 2011

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

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



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(Application on back cover)

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**Past President's message, continued**

out for 2 years.

Increasing our membership has always and will continue to be a priority for me. My goal is to have 1000 members in SMCHA. As I've said before – it's not for the sake of numbers alone. It is the power and voice that a large membership can give us. SMCHA having a strong voice serves ALL equestrians in protecting and preserving our trails and the equestrian life we hold so dear. During my three years as President we have taken our membership from just under 400 to nearly 600 at one time. It is so very important that not only YOU renew but that you invite and encourage your horse friends, barn mates and any equestrian you know to become a member of SMCHA. Continuing to work together to have 1000 members will make SMCHA a force to be reckoned with in assuring that horses will be a part of San Mateo County for decades to come.

Three years ago at the Kick-Off Gala & Installation Dinner I declared my intention to create community among our members. I do feel that SMCHA members are more in touch now that this is YOUR horse club. More importantly than whether I say this has happened is that you, the members, say that this has happened. That YOU feel more a part of the organization and connected to each other as members. That you have a sense of belonging. I am so very proud to have been your president.

Along the trail I have found friends in so many of you. We have shared good times and lots of laughs. Some of you have sat at my table for holiday meals. Some have shared sorrow and tears. This year some have sat with me while I got my chemo treatments. So many of you will remain friends for life.

I am honored to be named SMCHA HorseWoman of the Year. I will wear my buckle proudly!

Thank you for three of the best years of my life. I want you to know that I am honored to share the trails with YOU!

It is my pleasure to hand over the reins to our new President, Nancy Kouchekey. She will lead us through 2011 with grace and style. All the best to you, Nancy. Enjoy the ride!

*Barbara Stogner*

SMCHA President 2010



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## Welcome New Members

Mr. & Mrs. Kyle McDevitt & family- Woodside  
 Nancy Cummings- San Jose  
 Alexis Day- Campbell  
 Jessica & Chandler Harrell & family- Los Altos  
 Caroline Mameesh- San Mateo  
 Ellen Melkesian- Redwood City  
 Kristin Praly & family- Ben Lomand  
 Tracy Russo- Mountain View  
 Maurisa Sommerfield & Bob Dvorak  
 & family- Atherton  
 Chris Wilson- San Mateo  
 Paul & Donna Barulich- San Mateo  
 Danielle Bushue- Belmont  
 Tamsen Duke- Foster City  
 Emma & Hannah Bailey- Woodside  
 Nicole Fava- Redwood City  
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 Debbie Doran- San Carlos  
 Nancy Edmonds- Redwood City  
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Barbara Stogner and Michelle Goodspeed enjoy each other's company



BJ McLellan, Noel Moody and friends were present for this Ride



Laurie Greenblat, 1st Vice President for 2011 gives a smile

## PRESIDENTS RIDE - ALICE'S RESTAURANT

San Mateo County Horsemen's final ride of the year, the Presidents Ride, offered us beautiful weather and wonderful food to complete a perfect afternoon. Riding the scenic Woodside trails up to Skyline, ending up at historic Alice's Restaurant for food and merriment, who could ask for more to kick-off the weekend?

On Saturday, September 25, 13 riders met at our staging area, Fox Hollow, and began the morning with coffee and doughnuts prior to saddling up, and headin' up the hill. Lead graciously by our wonderful own Noel Moody, who also happens to be a SMCHA Past President herself! Our current, three-term President, Barbara Stogner, was also along for the ride.

Once on top of the mountain, riders tied up behind Alice's Restaurant and enjoyed appetizers and Sangria's on the back deck. As always, the staff at Alice's was gracious, even supplying carrots and water for our trusty steeds.

Other Past Presidents in attendance to enjoy lunch were Jim Estep and Ron Harris. We could not have asked for more perfect weather or a better setting to enjoy it, complete with a view of our horses.

Thank you to the past and current President's of SMCHA who have kept this club growing and thriving, and continuing its success. Also, a big thanks to those who came out to participate in the ride and lunch. Member support is the backbone that keeps this club alive, and keeps us working toward new ride locations and more exciting events!

See ya'all at our next event!

Laurie Greenblat



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*Mounts await their riders*



*Nancy Kouchekey and Ginger Bushue*



*A great turnout for this Presidents' Ride*

## THE ART OF CATTLE SORTING

by Rich Braun

The definition of sorting that fits our application is from the Webster's Dictionary, "To arrange or separate into grades, herds, or sizes."

The origin of sorting is as old as man. Primitive man would separate an animal from the herd and try to drive it to a place where it was easy to kill it. As man progressed, so did sorting. The domestication of animals brought on sortings of many kinds such as on foot, on horseback, with dogs, and with pens or gates.

Cutting, which is an off-shoot of sorting, is a very popular sport in the western horse world. However, if you went to a real working ranch your chances of seeing sorting would be one hundred to one over seeing cutting. Cutting is a sport, sorting is applied to everyday work. It is used at brandings to separate cows from calves, heifers from steers. It is used at shipping time or before. It is used to sort off the sick or injured animals so they can be doctored. It is used to pull the bulls off the cows. At any large feed lot you will see cattle being sorted for size, color, age, sex and weight. They are separated into groups so they can maximize their weight and prosper.

We tend to think of sorting as being done in a pen or pens. But this is only one form of sorting. The true art of sorting is done on the open range without any pens.

Rodeo has many meaning, one of which is an enclosure for cattle. You may have also heard the word Ro-dear which is a cowboy term for enclosure for cattle formed by men on horseback. This was before the invention of barb wire. The men would form a square approximately ten feet apart. They would work a small number of cattle at a time because the cattle were wild and had horns. You may have to rope the cow to be able to work the calf. One cowboy would work his way to the group of cattle. Then he would very quietly work a pair out of the group (a pair being a cow and calf), then doing what had to be done. With the invention of barb wire ranches became smaller. It became more efficient to have large sets or corrals in different sections of the ranch to work the cattle in that manner and also was a lot safer.

The method of working the cattle stayed the same - slow and quiet. If you're a rancher you want weight gain because that's your profit. That's achieved by having the correct number of cattle for your land and not over grazing. So as a ranch hand, I want to be as easy on the cattle as I can. No stress when we are parting off calves from cows. We want to bring them slow and quiet to the pens for branding. No chasing the cows.

Sorting today is still slow and quiet. Don't chase the cattle, try to move them off the herd, try to go where they want to go

and head them off. You stay calm and keep your horse calm. And keep your horse working off his back end.

Cutting is the King of western horse sports. It is poetry in motion, horse and rider as one. The horse for the most part is self working picking up his cues from the cow, not from the rider. The horse reads the cow.

Sorting will never replace cutting but you can work cattle in a disciplined way, controlling and directing your cow and controlling your horse. When you achieve this you will be on your way to being a better horse person. If it's done right your horse will like it too. Sorting is fun.



*Chasin' the cow around*

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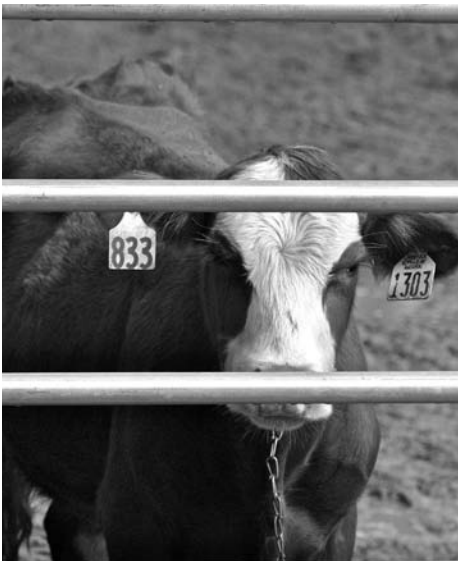
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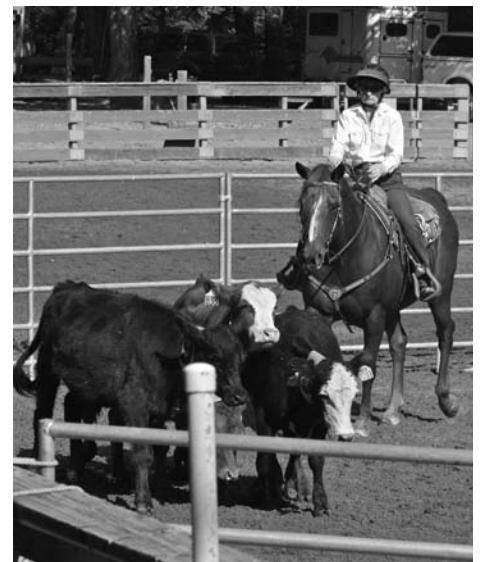
Joan McLaren



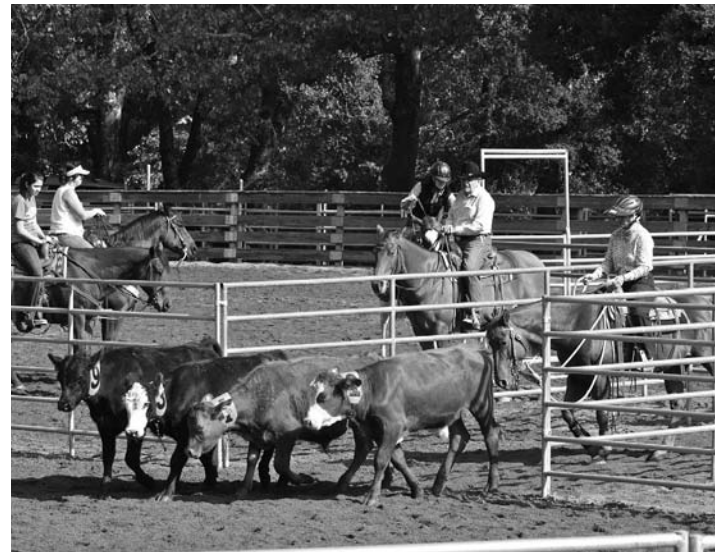
Horse and cow square off



Look for  
upcoming  
clinics in 2011  
and join in the fun!



Rich Boyd watches Gretchen King get a calf out of the chute



Pretty Fancy...four at a time!

## DAY OF THE HORSE 2010

By Yvonne Kerno

Begun in 2005 by two Woodsiders driven to preserve the equestrian landscape of their community, the Woodside Day of the Horse has become one of the Town's largest draws and a major Annual event for both seasoned riders and those interested in learning more about our hooved friends.

With 335 riders on the Progressive Trail Ride, and over 1200 in attendance at the Horse fair, the 2010 event was the largest ever, despite the recession!

"We were thrilled to see the number of riders increase over 20% overall counting 187 newcomers among them. If all riders from the previous six years show up for our Seventh Annual affair in 2011, we'll have close to 900 hundred participants on the roads and trails of Woodside!" said event co-chair Fentress Hall. What better way to raise awareness for the horse than an abundance of riders stopping traffic and turning heads in the community?

And let's not forget the Horse Fair that caters to families and those looking to know more about horses and the various equestrian related activities and services in the area. "Our 'Back in the Saddle' program, designed to encourage those retuning to riding, had a lot of interest this year," states Donna Poy, event co-chair. "50 people have expressed an interest in riding again, and that's 50 more potential horse owners and ambassadors for the horse in the area. We need that to keep the culture vibrant and alive."

The event is organized by the Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA!) and brings in critical funds for horse-related causes in the area. Donations to the community total \$56,000 to date, and include \$27,000 to the Folger Stable renovation project, \$16,500 to trail building and maintenance, \$3,500 for Large Animal rescue equipment and \$5,000 for the Veryl Goodnight sculpture now in downtown Woodside.

"Without the Day of the Horse, WHOA! could not have assisted with those important projects" continues Hall. "But it has become a huge event that relies on the generosity of hundreds of sponsors and a cadre of volunteers who assist throughout the year to make the event possible. It really 'takes a village' in this case, and our volunteers are essential, otherwise the funds raised would go towards operating expenses."

So when the call comes in from a friend, colleague, trail club friend or club member to assist in any way you can, put yourself in gear, answer the call and join in the effort and

FUN in making a difference in the equestrian community for generations to come. Please do your part to keep horses in our lives by volunteering through WHOA!

To volunteer for The Seventh Annual Woodside Day of the Horse, or to become a supporter of WHOA! simply email [whoa94062@sbcglobal.net](mailto:whoa94062@sbcglobal.net) or visit the WHOA! website at [www.whoa94062.org](http://www.whoa94062.org)

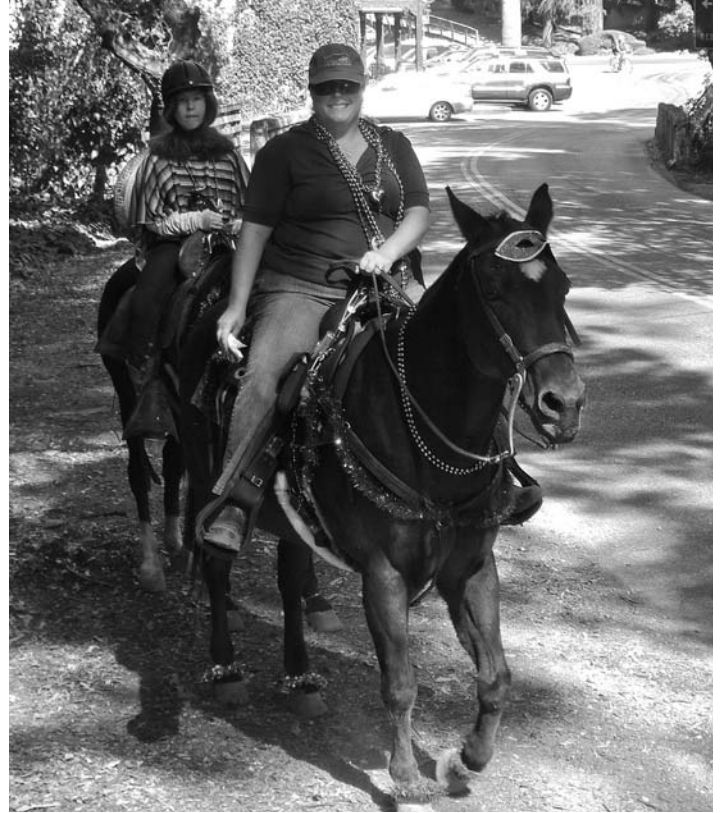


*The Blessing of the Horse*



*Club Photographer, Sue Winslow and Mr. Bean enjoy participating in DOTH*

Michelle Goodspeed and Alana Torres



Karen Rowley-Shawback and Alan Demmons out on the trail



Giselle is ready!



Barbara on the phone



Anne Whitten & Noelle Rodalari



Ashlie St Claire & Rudolph

## SMCHA MEMBERS WIN BIG AT THE COW PALACE

By Noel Moody

What a great Grand National Rodeo and Horse Show at the Cow Palace! Three SMCHA members were stars and we are proud of them.

Gary Schenck riding his Quarter Horse gelding, I'm No Plain Remedy (by Check Out This Remedy out of Plain Sugari) was awarded the 2010 Cow Palace Grand National Horse Show Championship buckle for winning the most awards of the whole show. Wow! Gary won the buckle for the AQHA Amateur Working Cow Horse class over fourteen entries. He followed that up by winning the buckle for the NRCHA Non Pro Bridle class. Gary and I'm No Plain Remedy continued their winning streak by taking the buckle in the AWH A Select Amateur Reining class. Not to be out done, Gary also won the AQHA Novice Amateur Cutting class on his cutting horse Waterdog Willy. Fantastic!

Gary is no new comer to the winner's circle. In 2009 he was awarded the Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Association year-end high point award for the Select Cutting Horse class riding Waterdog Willy. (Select mens senior rider over 50). Gary trains with the great horseman, Bobby Ingersol. Congratulations Gary. SMCHA salutes you.

On Saturday the Cow Palace held its first Grand National Sorting division. Three hundred and ten riders entered the six classes. It was held below the Cow Palace building in the outdoor arena. It's a great arena except on Nov. 20 it was pouring rain. All day, no let up.

Our two SMCHA members Rich Braun riding Cody and Fred Lonnberg riding Bo cowboyed up and showed everyone how to move those cows out of the herd in very bad circumstances. There were one hundred and nine teams in their class. They each had two go rounds. Rich and Fred sorted seven cows in their first go round in the pouring rain. They sorted four cows in the pouring rain in their second go round for a total of eleven cows. That was good enough for second place and prize money of \$500 for each rider. Awesome!

Rich Braun has been in charge of the cattle sorting and team penning events at the Mounted Patrol Grounds in Woodside for the past few years. He has put on numerous cattle sorting clinics for both senior members of SMCHA and for the SMCHA juniors. The clinics have been a big hit with everyone. Hooray for Rich Braun and Cody and Fred Lonnberg and Bo. You are awesome!



Gary Schenck - Grand National Horse Show Champion 2010

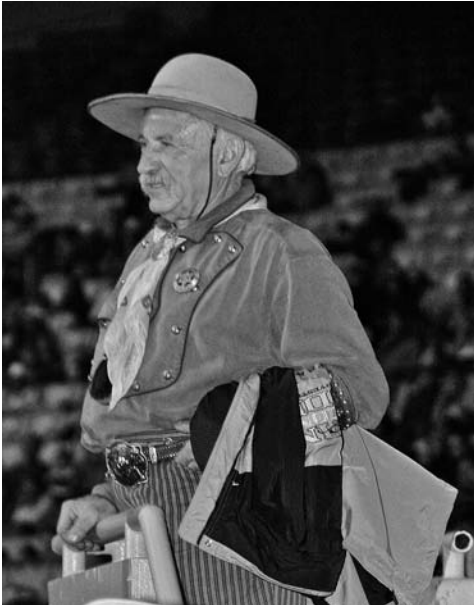


Loading up on the Bus



Now that's the way to fly our Flag!

Our very own, Kaktus Joe performed this year



Barbara and Adeline



Color Guard takes a break!

Braiding of the Tail



Liz Sullivan backstage at GNR

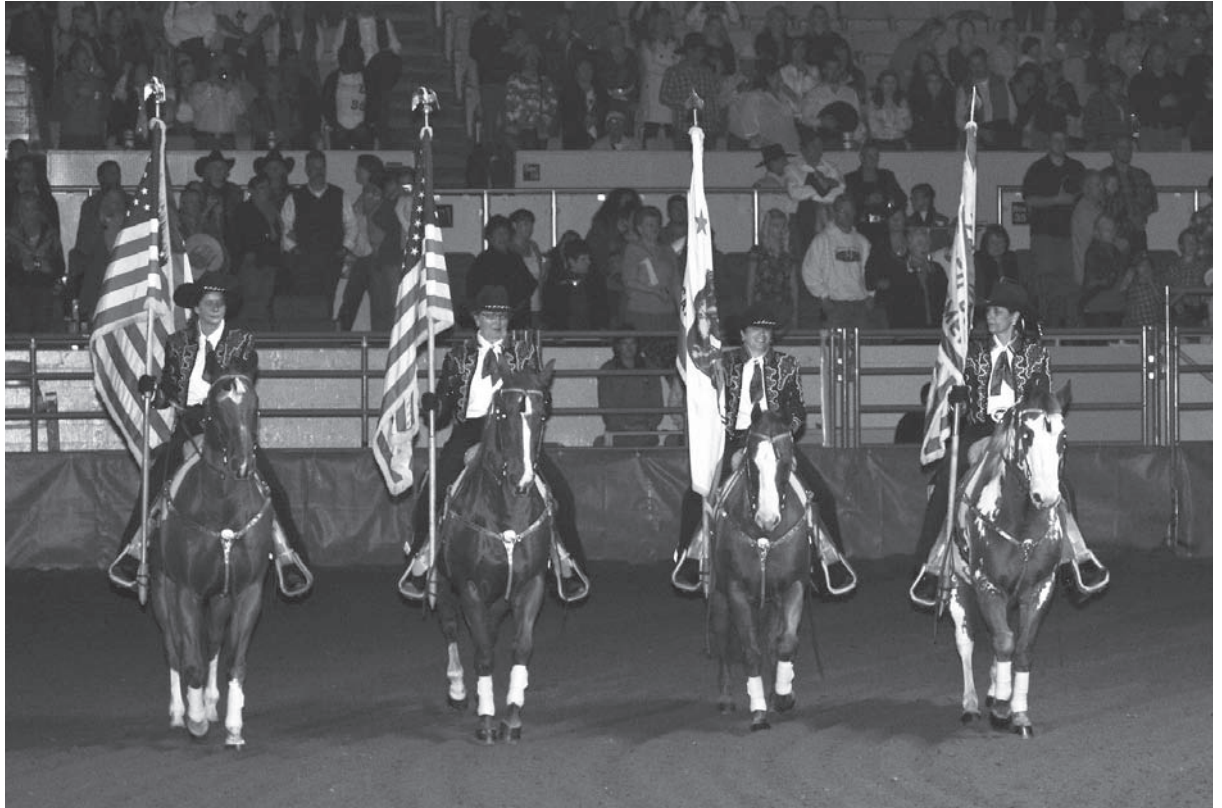


Color Guard, backstage, ready for the Grand Entry!

## SENIOR COLOR GUARD REPRESENTS AT GNR

By Anne Whitten

We Made it! Our first appearance at the Grand National Horse Show. This elite horse show was our year long goal and we were thrilled to represent SMCHA by invitation in front of all those people!



Pictured Left to right: Patty Walsh on Cowboy, Cheryl Basin on CeCe, Noelle Rodolari on Red and Anne Whitten on Flash.

## Senior Color Guard Calendar 2011 (Tentative)

Try outs held .....	NCEFT .....	March 6
Practice begins .....	NCEFT .....	March 19
Color Guard Café .....	Webb Ranch .....	May 15
May Day Parade .....	Woodside .....	May 7
*Western Riding clinic .....	Mounted Patrol .....	June 25
**Livermore Rodeo Parade.....	Livermore .....	June 11
**Redwood City 4 <sup>th</sup> Parade .....	Redwood City .....	July 4
**Salinas Rodeo Parade.....	Salinas, CA .....	July 16
Color Guard Café .....	Webb Ranch .....	August 7
Menlo Charity Horse Show .....	Circus Club, MP.....	August 12,13
*Peninsula Country Club.....	San Mateo .....	September 10
NCEFT Gala .....	NCEFT, Woodside.....	September 24
**Grand Nationals Horse Show .....	San Francisco .....	October 15th, 20
**Los Gatos Christmas Parade .....	Los Gatos, CA.....	December 10

\*not definite yet

\*\* judged events

## BITS OF HISTORY



By Sue Sheehan, SMCHA Historian

How many of you know the history of the 4th of July Junior Rodeo? It actually began over 60 years ago in La Honda to benefit the California Fire Brigade. Then in 1949, when they decided not to have a rodeo, any longer, Harold Zwierlein and his brother Ed wanted to move it to Woodside. They proposed the concept to the board of SMCHA, prepared a budget and researched funding. They searched for a place to hold the event and discussed options with the Mounted Patrol. It was decided that SMCHA would hold the Rodeo at the Mounted Patrol grounds for a rental fee. The 4th of July Junior Rodeo was off to a great start!

The first 2 years were a huge success. All the kids participating were local, and ranchers from the area supplied roping and bucking steers, calves, goats and pigs. Initially, entries were limited to 20, to keep stock to a minimum. It became a Nor Cal sanctioned rodeo and, as part of the charter they had to have goat roping, pole bending, barrel racing and girls' breakaway steer roping. The pig scramble was by far the most popular event with 2 groups divided by age and eventually evolved to 3 groups.

The next five years continued to draw more participants and spectators. After raising the fees every year the Mounted Patrol decided to ask for a percentage of the profits. This caused concern to Harold, who with many SMCHA members worked very hard to put this event on. So for many years, the Mounted Patrol continued to increase the percentage they required, until it became a large expense for SMCHA and no longer profitable. Following is an article from "The Almanac" July 2, 1980.

"Hal Zwierlein will barbeque this Fourth of July instead of running what might have been the 32nd annual Woodside junior rodeo. For 31 years, the former rodeo cowboy and his brother Ed co-directed the program for up to 500 young people in the area as members of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. But, not this year."

"Captain Charles Griner of the Woodside Mounted Patrol admits the patrol asked for a five percent increase—from 35 percent to 40 percent—in the gate rental rate for the use of the patrol grounds, but Mr. Zwierlein feels it is closer to 50 percent when you count the percentage they are asking for food and other receipts and the price was too high. Mr. Zwierlein admits that the patrol's higher prices also have caused the Horsemen's Association to look elsewhere, such as Huddart and Wunderlich parks, for horse show grounds. He promises the show will go on next year, however. And the Mounted Patrol has offered its facilities."

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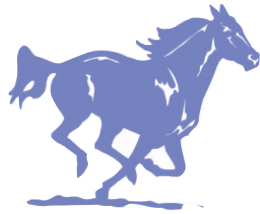
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**Bits of History, continued**

So, the next year (1981) was the last time SMCHA sponsored the Junior Rodeo. They decided to let the Mounted Patrol take it over. It was a sad day for Harold and the rest of the club members, because the Rodeo had been a huge money making event for the club and even though it was hard work, it was lots of fun. The Junior Rodeo continued to grow and included participants locally, from out of the area and even from other states.

This past July 4th was the 62nd Junior Rodeo and continued in the usual tradition, attracting about 3,000 spectators. Between the barbecues and watching fireworks light up the sky, kids of all ages came out, put on cowboy boots, belt buckles, chaps, and cowboy hats to compete in the horsemanship events.

The above information was shared with me by Harold Zwielerlein about 2 weeks before he passed away. It was a special pleasure to have the opportunity to meet with him and listen to the stories he shared. He was a true cowboy and a very active member and past president of SMCHA. He will be missed by all of us.



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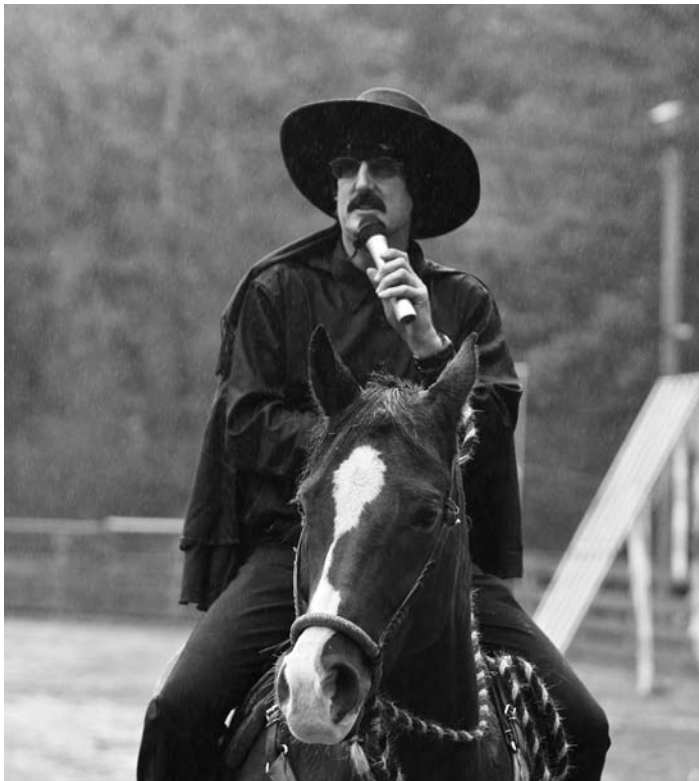
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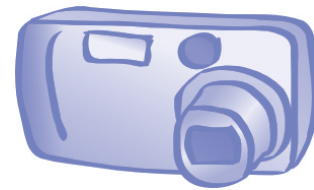


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## GENERAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

By Nancy Kouchekey

Saturday, November 13th, was our General Meeting at the Independence Hall of Woodside to elect new and returning board members.

This event was well attended by members of all ages. After the 2011 elections everyone enjoyed delicious pizza and beverages.

Elections were followed by everyone's favorite game...Bingo. I want to especially thank Justin Osieja one of our Junior members, for his gifted bingo calling. He sure keeps all of us on our toes and in line when the competition gets tough. It is so important that these events are well attended. Thanks to everyone who contributed their time to make this fun event a success.



Anne Whitten and Guido Nannini having fun playing Bingo!

Laurie Greenblat, 1st Vice President for 2011



Board Member Elections

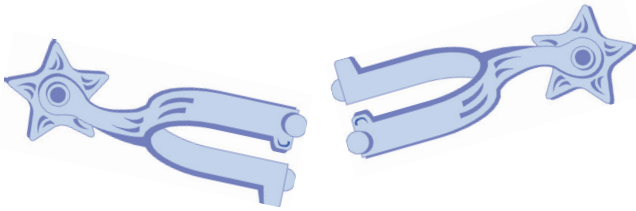


Noelle Rodalari and Amber O'Neill

Al & Sarah Filice.....looking for a Bingo



Cheryl Basin and McKenzie Rees



Amber has Justin (our wonderful Caller) verify her Bingo



Libby Kurtz and Terri Lobdell

Terri Lobdell and Liz Sullivan

## HOLIDAY BARN PARTY

*By Cheryl Basin*

Carleen Wittlesley once again opened her warm and beautiful home to host the SMCHA Annual Barn Party. About 60 members and guests enjoyed a sumptuous buffet which was organized and prepped by Robin Whalen. Her elves included Sue Sheehan, Kelly Buehner, Cheryl Basin, Justin Osieja, Barbara Stogner and Noelle Rodolari. The large ham was so delicious there was nothing left except the bone. We enjoyed Sue's famous crab dip and guacamole. Thank you to our many contributors of tasty food and all the generous gifts for the toy drive.

Ron Harris entertained us with his accordion and Amanda Muir accompanied him with her violin. Debbie Tucker sang a few Christmas songs to the music of Ron and Amanda.

The day was overcast but so mild, most of the guests mingled outside in the patio, which was amazing for mid-December.

Thanks to Sharon Butler for bringing holiday greens to sell. This has been a terrific fund raiser for SMCHA.

Incoming SMCHA President Nancy Kouchecky announced Barbara Stogner as our 2010 Horsewoman of the Year, an acknowledgement for her tireless efforts on behalf of SMCHA and the equine community for the last three years as President of SMCHA. Thank you and congratulations, Barbara!

*Barbara Stogner and Robin Whalen*



*Hostess Carleen Wittlesley on the left*



*Liz Sullivan, Anne Whitten and daughter, Andrea*



*Very festive entertainment was performed by Amanda Muir & Ron Harris*

Anne Whitten and Cheryl Basin share a laugh



Gretchen King, Nancy Kouchekey and Addie Sullivan



Nancy Kouchekey announced as incoming President for 2011



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## CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST PLACES FOR WOODSIDE COUPLE IN DOUBLE WIN AT STATE TRAIL TRIAL

*by Rosemarie Menager as reported by Rebekah Witter*

Riding Splash and Slick, Dean “Kip” Witter and Rebekah “Becky” Witter showed their skill and savvy at the California State Trail Trial Championships this Fall. Besides competing against a large assemblage of event riders from California, the couple faced 100 degree temperatures this September at the 2010 California State Horsemen’s Association’s (CSHA) Trail Trials in a two-day Championship at Napa’s Skyline Park. Their double win is a first in the history of this event. Kip Witter on his horse, Splash, won the Advanced division while his wife, Becky, and her five-year-old gelding, Slick, took Championship honors in the Novice division, marking the only husband-wife dual Championship in CSHA Trail Trials history.

Trail Trials are competitive events where contestants are typically set on a trail ride of approximately 10 miles where they encounter a series of 10 obstacles that the horse and rider must face as a team. These can include having to back through gates, while the rider is holding onto the gate, or using ropes to drag or lift objects around other obstacles. There may also be bridges, streams, ponds, rocks, other obstacles, difficult terrain and complicated sequences of tasks that the horse and rider must navigate flawlessly. The horse must be able to also back up, side pass, and walk, trot, or canter in a precise sequence while avoiding other hazards or obstacles.

The human-horse team of Kip Witter and Splash are former State CSHA Champions having taken 2nd place buckles in both 2009 and 2007. “We are thrilled,” Kip Witter expresses. “Despite the heat, long hauls and challenging obstacles, our horses hung in there and really did a great job both days.” A number of contestants succumbed to heat exhaustion in the melting temperatures.

Becky faced the additional challenges of riding Slick, a 5 year old and first time CSHA Championship competitor. But championships are in his genes. His dam, another member of the Witter stable, Lady Doc, was the 2009 first place buckle winner, and had three previous third place wins. For 2010 Becky was planning to ride Lady Doc again, but “on a whim” took Slick. This year the Championship rides were only his 4th and 5th Trail Trial events, but he ended up with the second best score of all 70 competitors. Becky states “I couldn’t be more pleased with his attitude and abilities.”

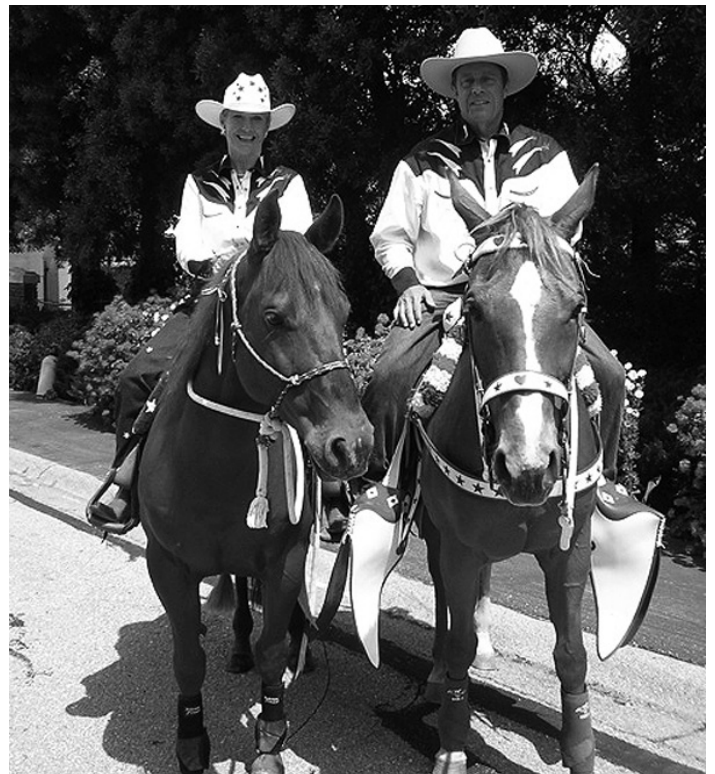
All three Witter horses, Splash, Lady Doc and Slick besides being CSHA Championship winners have been trained by Becky in Parelli Natural Horsemanship. Author of four books on the horse-human relationship, Becky attributes their

success to Natural Horsemanship. Notes Becky, “It can be very challenging for a team to perform calmly and correctly while being judged.” Body language and the power of focus is the language of the horse. We use natural cues such as sight, pressure and breath to train our horses,” she explains. “If I want my horse to go, I inhale and quietly raise my energy; when I want him to stop, I simply exhale, relax and he stops—it’s so subtle it appears as by magic. Such quiet, natural cues are an obvious advantage in all riding, but they really pay off in competition.”

Also of note is that both Witters won their championships, and all their competitions, riding in simple rope halters – no bit, no bridle, just communication, cooperation and a compassionate, competitive spirit.

Active in the local horse community, the Witters have a boarding facility in Woodside and are often seen on local trails and community events with their horses. Last year their three horses were also awarded a second place prize in the 100th Salinas Rodeo Parade, with this assistance of a SMCHA board member and rider, Rosemarie Menager. They have recently added another horse to their team of horses and riders, so prepare for more news of this additional competitor.

A Witter adage is “Happy Horses make Happy Trails, for Happy Riders.” Happy Trails Becky and Kip!!



*Kip and Becky Witter*

## PSST, DON'T TELL ANYONE...

...except all your best riding buddies, favorite friends and loved ones who might want a very special time away from home. There's a new Horse B & B – yes, I said, Horse B & B nestled in the foothills of the California Gold Country.

Enchanted April Inn in Pilot Hill is the creation of Elke Schlosser, long-time Woodside resident, horse-lover, artist, mother and now owner of a most wonderful Bed and Breakfast epitomizing the equestrian lifestyle.

Elke brings style and grace to all she does and Enchanted April is a lovely realization of a dream she's held for years. Her picturesque farmhouse sits on a knoll next to a vineyard, overlooking a willow pond, pastures, paddocks, barn and arenas. Gardens surround the house and the private back terrace offers a pool, hot spa, outdoor kitchen facilities and dining area. There's a welcoming Gathering Room filled with European antiques, a formal dining room and even a conference area for group meetings.

If you prefer to stay in your own camper, that is offered, but I like being pampered occasionally and Enchanted April offers that in spades!

The bedrooms are elegantly cozy with wonderfully comfortable beds and names that reflect the local nature: River Song, Grasslands, Meadowlark and Soothing Waters.

Being so close to the American River, trail riding abounds along the river and through the grasslands. There are a number of nearby spots to swim your horse as well.

And of course the Gold country is packed with fun side trips, so non-horse guests have plenty to do: local wine-tasting, hiking, biking, whitewater rafting, fishing, Red Hawk Casino, a fabulous masseuse in Cool, and many historic towns such as Coloma, Jackson, Placerville and Sutter's Creek to explore.

A group of SMCHA'ers discovered Enchanted April last year, came back this year and vow to return every year until Elke tires of us.

So don't let Winter doldrums get you down—just imagine a terrific trip to Pilot Hill and call or email Elke to book your time at Enchanted April Inn before the word gets out....

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## HAROLD ZWIERLEIN, PAST PRESIDENT OF SMCHA



Harold Zwierlein, who lived in Woodside for nearly 70 years, died at his home in Woodside on November 9. A rodeo star as a young man, Harold toured the country on the rodeo circuit, competing in venues as exalted as Madison Square Garden. He spent decades as a farrier in Woodside, shoeing many of the horses in town until he retired in 1991.

He also served a term on the Woodside Town Council, for a short time owned the Hitchrack saloon, was a volunteer firefighter and a founding member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, running the Junior Rodeo for them for 31 years. He also served on Woodside's History Committee and was a road commissioner.

Harold was a third-generation native Californian. His family moved to Woodside in 1941, a decade and a half before the town was incorporated, the population was under 500. In those days, it was considered a building boom, he said, "if three houses were built in Woodside at one time." He grew up around horses and he began competing in rodeos at a young age. "I started riding calves at the age of 10," he said. From there he progressed to steers until, at the age of 18, he could ride bulls. He also competed in bareback bronc riding and steer wrestling. He practiced at least three or four nights a week in his father's lighted arena. "My dad had a big ring on his property. He had 10 acres on Olive Hill Lane." From 1946 to 1952, he competed as an amateur and was the Tri-State bareback champion of the Cowboys Association of America in 1952, when he was 26. The next year he turned professional, and that began a 12-year career. He competed all over the country, sometimes in two or three rodeos in a weekend. He won in several big rodeos and lots of small - town ones.

In Madison Square Garden, at a 28-day competition, he came in sixth out of 80 bronc riders. He placed second in bronc riding at the world's biggest one-day rodeo at the Los Angeles Coliseum, in 1956.

"I was probably the best bronc rider that ever came out of San Mateo County," Harold said, rather matter-of-factly. In steer

wrestling, "I still hold the record down at Redwood City," he said. "I have the fastest time ever recorded in the 30 years of rodeo, at 4.4 seconds".

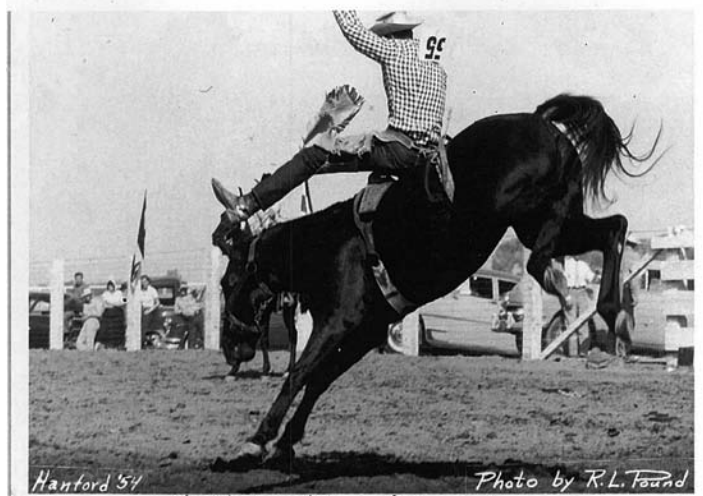
Harold served as president of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association in 1970 and 1973. Like father, like son, Harold was the first member to share the presidency with his father Ed, who was president in 1954. Harold and his father started the Fourth of July Junior Rodeo in Woodside for SMCHA. For the next 31 years, he ran the rodeo, with the help of his brother and many volunteers from SMCHA.

Harold always loved to tell a good story. Some of his oft-repeated favorites include the time he rode his horse into the Pioneer Hotel bar at the age of 16; the time he was baptized by an old classmate who had become a preacher who was just supposed to be baptizing his daughter, or the time a bucking bronco fell on him, fracturing his spine, and the rodeo doctor, who Harold suspected was actually a vet, wanted to shoot him up with morphine and send him back into the arena.

He was able to spend his working life outdoors, he said, adding: "I don't think I've had too many bad days in my life." Part of being a horse shoer was the ability to meet many horse people in the community and become life long friends with some. His best friend for more than 60 years was Pat Grady who passed away just 2 months after Harold.

Memorial donations may be made to Sutter VNA & Hospice ([suttervnaandhospice.org](http://suttervnaandhospice.org)) or the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association ([SMCHA.org](http://SMCHA.org)).

Much of the above information was obtained from an article by Barbara Wood in the "Almanac" on November 17 2010 and from his wife Irene.



## PATRICK E. GRADY, PAST PRESIDENT OF SMCHA AUGUST 20, 1931 – JANUARY 2, 2011

*By Sue Sheehan*

Patrick E. Grady passed away at his home in Sutter Creek on January 2 at the age of 79. Pat was born in San Mateo and lived in Portola Valley for many years with his wife Agnes and raised their three sons there. He was a farrier in the area for several years, as was his father before him. Pat felt lucky to have learned from him and to continue in his father's profession. Pat was a life member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, and president in 1975. He was involved in the local Lion's Club, was a Korean War Veteran, was an avid speed skater in his youth, and most of all, he was known for his great stories and his uplifting attitude. He had retired to Sutter Creek with Aggie where he continued to shoe and trim, along with raising and showing mini horses.

His wife, Aggie, died in June of 2009. They were married over 50 years. Pat and Aggie were both extremely active in SMCHA. Even after moving to Sutter Creek, they continued to share their love of horses. On several occasions they brought their mini horses to Woodside to put on demonstrations for the Club.

The following article was obtained from our 50th history book:

"Young, happy Patrick "Pat" Grady accepted the gravel and his presidential responsibility for 1975 with a smile of assurance for who knows more about horses from the 'feet up' than Pat? (being one of the best horse-shoers in Woodside). Aggie, though not a horsewoman, was his charming helper in the Association activities; their three sons were busy little elves who helped both Pat and Aggie run their home in Portola Valley. I first met Pat some time ago when a healthy young man of about 16 he came with his famous father, Ed, to shoe my horses. He is as robust, obliging and kind now as he was then and he has given his expertise as generously being one of the helpers in all the activities, but the guiding spirit as well. This year 1975 was an experience in sharing the work and fun and friendliness for all. Pat has the ability to bounce over and solve problems easily, the strength and confidence to inspire others to do the same. He was a doer. The key-note for the year was smiling co-operation and friendliness and getting the job done; he never brought forth animosity or criticism in others, but inspired their help and confidence which comes from that rare ability to get along well with people and to encourage them in their jobs."

Just 2 months before Pat passed away his life long friend Harold Zwierlein died. Pat and Harold talked on the phone every other day and talked about old times and compared their time in the hospice program. They made a bet with each

other that whoever went first, owed the other one a dollar. Harold made good on the bet. Just before he died, he gave a dollar to Rich Brooks to give to Pat! I think that they are now having great times together again. Horses go to Heaven too, and I'm sure they are having fun with them and not shoeing!!

Pat did not want a memorial service after his death. So, instead his family gave him a birthday party on August 20, 2010. He commented that "I'm probably the only one having a birthday and wake in the same week!" Harold and Rich were both at his party and a good time was had by all. His family asked that any donations be made to Amador County Hospice in Pat's name.



*Pat & Blaze*



*Pat  
horseshoeing*



*Harold & Pat at the 2010 Kick Off Gala and Installation Dinner*

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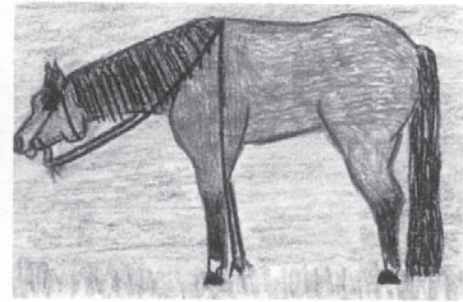
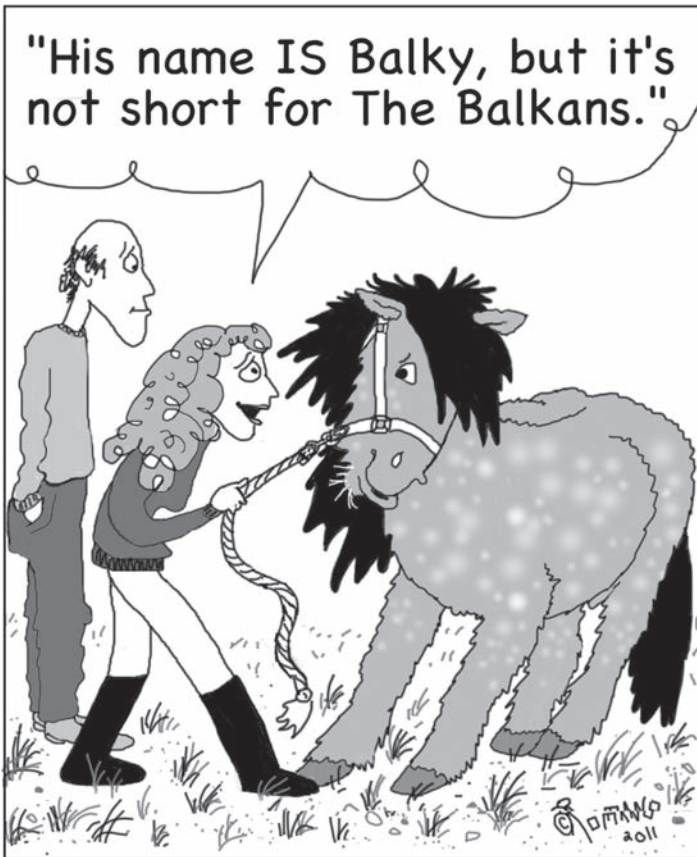


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Do you like being part of a team?

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We're holding try outs for the 2011 team in March.



Date /time: Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm (in the saddle!)

Tuesday March 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm (in the saddle!)

Location: NCEFT 880 Runnymede Road, Woodside

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No experience necessary but teachable horses and riders preferred!

Anne Whitten, Captain [awhit50@msn.com](mailto:awhit50@msn.com) or 650-388-8914



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**Sunday – April 17th**

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Travel west on 84 up to Skyline Blvd, turn a left (south) at the intersection and it will be on the right hand side about 7 miles down. The parking area is 1 mile south of the Alpine/Pagemill crossing. When you get to the turn out, Skyline Ridge parking lot, veer to the left for the equestrian/trailer parking, we are NOT allowed to park on the right side.

**\$20.00 member/non-member**

Lunch is included (12:30PM) – we will be having lunch in the parking lot so please bring a chair to sit on and maybe a small side table if you like.

**Coffee/snack at 9:30AM -Ride meeting at 9:45AM – Ride out at 10:00AM**  
As you RSVP please let me know if you would like to be a trail lead.

**Contact: Sharon Butler by Friday April 15th**  
**650/720-0513 or [missshaa61@yahoo.com](mailto:missshaa61@yahoo.com)**



## PENINSULA EQUINE MEDICAL CENTER

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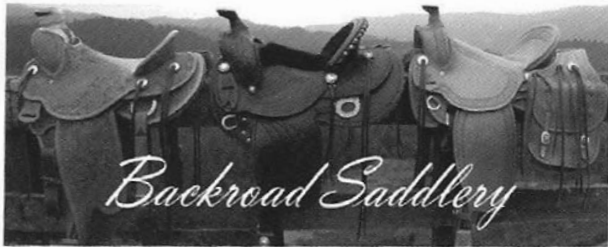
**Phone:** (650) 854-3162 **Fax:** (650) 854-3658

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# Save the Date!

## Coming this Spring... Western Riding Clinics



**Beginning May 19th - June 23rd  
Final Show and BBQ on June 25th**

**Every Thursday Night  
at the Mounted Patrol Grounds**

**For more information please contact  
Karen Rowley Shawback at  
[karen.rowley@morganplc.com](mailto:karen.rowley@morganplc.com)**

## SAVE THE DATE

SAN MATEO COUNTY HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
WESTERN SCHOOLING SHOW



WEBB RANCH  
2720 Alpine Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025  
Judge: Sarah Kennedy

[www.smcha.org](http://www.smcha.org) - Premium will be posted by March 1  
Sunday, May 15, 2011

Cheryl Basin, Horse Show Chair  
650-364-3020, [c-cheryl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c-cheryl@sbcglobal.net)

Sharon Butler, Co-Chair, 650-720-0513  
Noel Moody, Honorary Chair, 650-322-6545

"Please sign our new Limited Partnership agreement, in which I hold a 51% interest."





**2011  
BOARD  
OF  
DIRECTORS**



**Nancy Kouchekey**  
President  
"Tango"



**Laurie Greenblat**  
1st Vice President  
"Sheetan"



**Sharon Butler**  
2nd Vice President  
"Cool"



**Maria Fonseca**  
Secretary  
"Pepper"



**Cheryl Basin**  
"Scout"



**Bonnie Bertetta**  
"Cooper"



**Rich Boyd**  
"Koda"



**Bee Brown**  
"Annie & Tansy"



**Ginger Bushue**  
"Sonny"



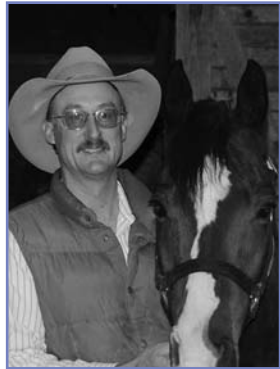
**Terri Lobdell**  
"Missy Sue"



**Rosemarie Menager**  
"Patron"



**Janine O'Neill**  
"Isis"



**Mike Raynor**  
"Flash Gordo"



**Tanya Rebarchik**  
"Don Julian"





**Dan  
Johndrow**  
Treasurer  
"Bebe"



**Larry  
Pelzner**  
Sergeant-at-Arms  
"Lena & Jo"



**Sue  
Sheehan**  
Historian  
"Bogie"



**Robin  
Whalen**  
Registrar  
"Isabella"



**Magda  
Bartilson**  
"Bodie"



**Adeline  
Forrest**  
"Cisco"



**Beverly  
Kane**  
"Dream"



**Gretchen  
King**  
"Missy"



**Libby  
Kurtz**  
"Natural Ice"



**Melanie  
Likins**  
"Desi"



**Noelle  
Rodolari**  
"Red"



**Karen  
Rowley-  
Shawback**  
"Reba"



**Barbara  
Stogner**  
"Slick"



**Elizabeth  
Sullivan**  
"Justin"



**Anne  
Whitten**  
"Red"



## Bay Area Equestrian Connection LLC

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## Wunderlich County Park Stables

Woodside, California



**OPEN  
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## Horse Boarding Now Available

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## Lessons & Trail Lessons

We offer both English and Western lessons either privately or in groups. Our lesson horses are some of the nicest and safest around. Trail lessons range from 15 minutes to an hour at very affordable rates. We offer full service training in several disciplines including jumping, eventing, dressage and competitive trail riding. Our staff includes specialized professionals.



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is your source for professional  
equestrian services.



[www.BayAreaEquestrian.net](http://www.BayAreaEquestrian.net)

## Trail Rides

Join us on the trails in the beautiful Wunderlich County Park, a 942 acre preserve nestled in the horse friendly town of Woodside. Riders of all ages and experience levels are welcome and accommodated. Enjoy the local wildlife, trees and flowers on your ride. A unique and unforgettable experience not to be missed!

**Drop By or Call Today to  
Find Out More!**



**Lessons • Trail Lessons • Events • Public Boarding**



# 2011 Calendar of Events

*Subject to change - please check website for updates*

## February

10 Board Meeting

## March

5 General Meeting - Spaghetti & Bunco Night  
6 Color Guard Tryouts @ NCEFT  
10 Board Meeting

## April

14 Board Meeting  
16 Jack Brook Clean-up Day  
30 SMCHA Spring Ride: Location: Skyline Ridge

## May

7 Woodside May Day Parade  
12 Board Meeting  
15 Western Schooling Show (Webb Ranch)  
19 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
26 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
TBA: May Group Ride

## June

2 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
4-5 Woodside Gaited Horse Show (Horsepark)  
8 Board Meeting (note: Wednesday)  
9 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
10-12 Horse Expo – Sacramento  
11-19 San Mateo County Fair  
16 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
23 Western Riding Clinic (Mounted Patrol Grounds)  
25 Western Riding Clinic Demo & BBQ (MPG)  
TBA: Clarkia Trail Clean-Up Day (Summer)

## July

3 Mounted Patrol: Rodeo Dinner & Dance  
4 Fourth of July Parade – Redwood City & HMB  
4 Mounted Patrol: Junior Rodeo  
14 Board Meeting  
18 English Riding Clinic (Springdown Equestrian Center)

## July - cont.

TBA – NCEFT Poker Ride  
20-25 Jack Brook Horse Camp  
English Riding Clinic (Springdown Equestrian Center)  
TBA Reining by the Bay (Horse Park at Woodside)

## August

1 English Riding Clinic (Springdown Equestrian Center)  
7 English Schooling Show (Webb Ranch)  
8 English Riding Clinic (Springdown Equestrian Center)  
11 Board Meeting  
15 English Schooling Show (Springdown Equestrian Center)  
22 English Schooling Show (Springdown Equestrian Center)  
28 Open English/Western Show (The Horse Park at Woodside)

## September

8 Board Meeting  
15 General Meeting  
25 Presidents' Ride  
TBA Clarkia Trail Clean-up Day (Fall)

## October

8 Woodside Day of the Horse  
13 Board Meeting  
29 Play Day & Halloween Extravaganza (Mounted Patrol)

## November

10 Board Meeting  
12 General Meeting - Elections & Bingo Night

## December

2 Board of Directors' Dinner  
11 Holiday Barn Party

**PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES • [www.smcha.org](http://www.smcha.org)**  
***Listings in italics are local events***



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A Non-Profit Organization

President Nancy Kouchekey  
Winter 2011

SAN MATEO  
COUNTY HORSEMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION

Membership Application



_____ JUNIOR MEMBERS (17 OR UNDER)	Annual Dues \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
_____ SENIOR MEMBERS (18 OR OLDER)	\$25.00		
_____ MR./MRS. MEMBERS	\$40.00		
_____ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**	\$45.00		

[Parent(s) and unlimited number of children 17 or under]

I would like to contribute to the following events or functions (see listing at right) in the following amounts:

B \$ _____	E \$ _____	H \$ _____	L \$ _____
C \$ _____	F \$ _____	I \$ _____	M \$ _____
D \$ _____	G \$ _____	J \$ _____	Other \$ _____

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors      | <input type="checkbox"/> H Junior Members     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B Trails                | <input type="checkbox"/> I Playday            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C Western Riding Clinic | <input type="checkbox"/> J Hospitality        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D English Shows         | <input type="checkbox"/> K Membership         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E Western Shows         | <input type="checkbox"/> L Junior Color Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F Magazine              | <input type="checkbox"/> M Senior Color Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G Trail Rides           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____          |

\*\*Please list names and ages of children:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

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

Do you want to be included in our Membership Directory? (Must be received by Jan. 31) \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SMCHA. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH. MAIL APPLICATION TO:  
SMCHA • P.O. BOX 620092, WOODSIDE, CA 94062