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2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW







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San Mateo County Horsemen's Association Halloween Playday.

ON THE COVER

Top Left – Compassionate Taylor Whitney of Portola Valley recently celebrated her 10th birthday and in lieu of presents, she asked for monetary donations to help horses in need.

Top Right - Alice's Restaurant stands strong despite the fires.

Middle Left – Laura Camozzi and Natasha Laba of Large Animal Evacuation Group (LAEG) loads rescued donkeys Nigel (left) and Percy (right). Middle Second Picture – Mariangela Sonstegard and Cheyenne enjoy the Lyn Ringrose-Moe Clinic.

Middle - Remembering longtime friend, Bill Bentham.

Middle Right - Strange orange days consumed the Bay Area.

Bottom Left – Melinda Stoker wins the costume contest at this year's Day of the Horse.

Bottom Middle - Thing 1 (Sally Quellos) and Thing 2 (Lori Carlson) win 1st prize in the Annual Halloween Playday!

Bottom Right - In January, at the SMCHA's January Installation Dinner, Cheryl Basin congratulates Mike Bushue, SMCHA's Horseman of the Year.

Didja Know?

Bob Rosenberg http://www.smcvhp.org/

The Pony Express, first operating in April, 1860, was created to deliver mail to the west coast of the United States. Riders rode up to 10-hour shifts and could weigh no more than 125 pounds. The service was discontinued only 18 months later.





Message from Our Co-Presidents

Wow! What a year 2020 has been! We've dealt with Coronavirus, fires, and political uncertainty, but thankfully, us horse folks were still able to hang out with our horses! Thank goodness for the barn, the ranch, the trails and all our horsey friends as these precious interactions have allowed our lives to be somewhat normal!

Throughout our 80th year, the SMCHA has been lucky enough to hold several somewhat normal events over the past few months. Lyn Ringrose-Moe provided a wonderful Cowboy Dressage Clinic, and the Trail Obstacle Clinic with Joan McLaren was, yet again, a big hit! All levels of riders participated in these clinics which reminded me of something Chris Cox once stated, "A beginner rider may want to work on intermediate horsemanship, an intermediate rider may want to work on advanced horsemanship, and many advanced riders want to work on the basics." SMCHA will continue to have events with all levels of classes so everyone can learn something new and/or keep learning!

Though most holidays have been downplayed this year, SMCHA did have a great Halloween Playday with so many fun games, wonderful costumes, and great prizes! For Thanksgiving, we hope some of you were able to go for a ride packing a leftover turkey sandwich.

Unfortunately, due to Covid, we will not be able to have our annual Holiday party, and our annual Toy Donation Drive will most likely be cancelled. We are saddened by this turn of events as this is a great way to bring hope and happiness to the children in our communities as well as bring you joy for donating to a wonderful cause.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors at SMCHA, we wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday season!!

Christine Friis & Jenny Mize



The San Mateo County Horseman Magazine

FALL 2020

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- March (Winter)
- June (Spring)
- September (Summer)
- December (Fall)

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ASK THE VET

DO HORSES LIKE MUSIC? IF SO, WHAT KIND? COUNTRY WESTERN?

We think that if you like music, your horse probably does too! There have actually been studies that show horses prefer Classical and Country music. This research also showed that horses are equally happy without music. However, different studies have shown that talk radio may be associated with stress (and gastric ulcers) in horses, so your horse would likely prefer some tunes over NPR. Most importantly, we think that if you are happy and calm while listening to your music, your horse will be happy too.

DO HORSES GET SKIN CANCER? IS THERE SUNSCREEN FOR HORSES?

Horses do get skin cancer! However, the cancers that horses get associated with sun exposure are not the same as humans. Humans tend to get a type of cancer known as melanoma with sun exposure, while horses who have pink skin tend to get squamous cell carcinoma. Horses can also get melanomas but they are usually found on grey horses in areas without much sun exposure (such as underneath the tail).

THERE IS HORSE- SPECIFIC SUNSCREEN; HOWEVER, HUMAN BRAND SUNSCREEN WORKS JUST FINE!

We would recommend putting sunscreen on any horses with pink skin, especially their noses, as horses can get sun burnt too. In addition, many fly masks contain UV protectants and can have ear and nose coverings which may help protect their skin.



DO HORSES GET CONSTIPATED?

This is actually a common problem in horses. When horses are constipated, this can cause horses to colic. The type of colic that is caused by constipation is known as impaction colic.

To help prevent horses from getting an impaction (or constipated), they need to be well hydrated. This is why you'll see vets using a stomach tube to give horses extra water when they are colicking. To keep your horse hydrated, we often recommend giving electrolytes when it will be particularly warm outside and also soaking any grain, pellets, or hay cubes in water before feeding.

By Steinbeck Peninsula Equine's Laurel Saldinger, DMV and Lauren Corey, DMV.

Managing Your Horse During Poor Air Quality Events

By Dr. Kelly Zeytoonian and the Team at Starwood Equine Veterinary Services, Inc.

The summer's CZU Complex Fire was too close for comfort to many residents of San Mateo County. The horse community was well prepared to activate during the immediate evacuation process, but many of us were left asking "what now?" as poor air quality persisted for weeks.

Below, I will discuss how owners can monitor air quality, how air pollutants affect equines, and how small changes in barn management can help. Finally, a collection of graphs are include to help guide exercise based on daily air quality levels.

Monitoring Air Quality

If you can't measure it, you can't manage it! The graphs we provide are no good if you can't find a reliable source for monitoring the Air Quality Index (AQI). Purple Air is a common resource using consumer-owned sensors. The challenge with using this source alone is that monitors are not as sensitive and some provide readings from inside homes that could falsely share air quality readings better than the outside. A more reliable source - Air Now - combines government sensors with consumer sensors on one map. A link to an interactive map can be found here: Air Now Interactive AQI Map

How Air Pollutants Affect Equines

Similar to our own response, smoke can cause burning sensation in the eyes, nasal discharge, and cough in horses. Particulates may

Continued on Page 26

AQI Activity Chart



Whoa! Reduce/limit aerobic activity to an easy trot and



Go for it, unless your horse has pre-existing conditions.





Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis

By Nora Grenager, VMD, Diplomate

American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, Steinbeck Peninsula Equine Clinic, Menlo Park

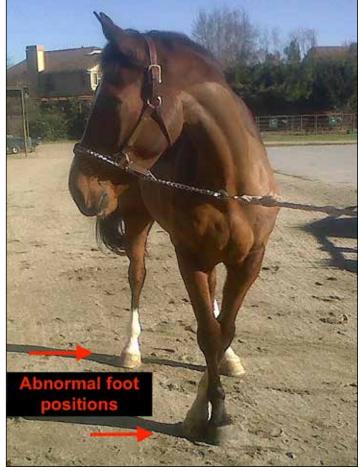
Introduction

Equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM) is a neurological condition caused by a parasitic protozoal infection seen in horses. It is not contagious, can be difficult to definitively diagnose, and is expensive to treat. This article provides a brief overview to help you understand more about this disease.

What is EPM?

EPM is caused by aberrant migration of the parasitic protozoa Sarcocystis neurona (and less commonly, Neospora hughesii) after a horse ingests infective protozoal oocysts/sporocysts in opossum feces. These protozoa are usually involved in a two-host life cycle between opossum (who are great scavengers) and an intermediate host (including raccoons, skunks, cats, armadillos). Typically, the possum passes infective oocysts/sporocysts in feces, intermediate hosts eat these infective feces, and then the protozoa migrate to their muscle tissue where it forms cysts. When these intermediate hosts die, the scavenger possum eat the infected muscle and the protozoal life cycle continues.

Horses are what we call "aberrant hosts" (i.e., they are not the intended host for the protozoa because the protozoa does not get to complete its life cycle in a horse). Infected possum may deposit infectious feces in horses' food or water sources. If a horse eats the infected feces of an opossum (or wild dog, for N. hughesii), the protozoa can migrate from the GI tract to the brain and spinal cord. Once in the nervous system, the migrating protozoa wreak havoc, damaging tissue wherever they go, leading to the neurological signs we associate with this disease (see section called "Clinical Signs").

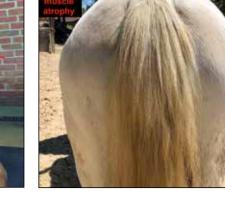


Some of the most common symptoms of EPM include tripping, stumbling, or wobbly gait.

In spite of lots of research, it is so far unclear as to why some horses are able to avoid infection while others develop full-blown disease. Investigated theories include immune status (i.e., if the horse is immune suppressed he/she is more prone to disease), stress level, genetic predisposition, and possibly the amount of infectious organisms the horse takes in. Various studies have been unclear as to how age, gender, and job/use relate to risk.

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Far left: EPM Severe Muscle Atrophy

Near left: EPM Asymmetrical Muscle Atrophy

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DEADLINE FOR ADS AND ARTICLES for the WINTER 2021 issue is February 1, 2021

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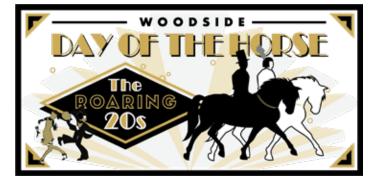


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Melinda Stoker of Woodside, winner of the Roaring 20's costume contest.

Creatively Reimagined Woodside Day of the Horse Events Helped Horse Lovers Ride Out the Pandemic



By Nan Meek

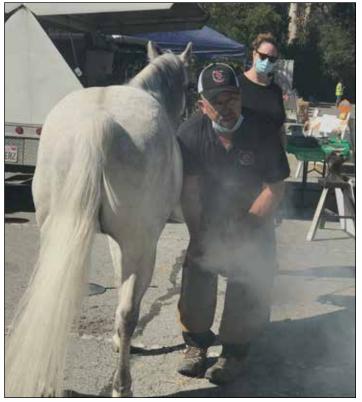
With the rallying call, "Let's ride this out together!", Woodside-area Horse Owners Association (WHOA!) volunteers worked for months to create a Day of the Horse weekend like no other.

This year's 16th annual celebration on October 9-11 came after seven months of life changes due to the COVID pandemic and hot on the heels of the worst wildfire season in living memory.

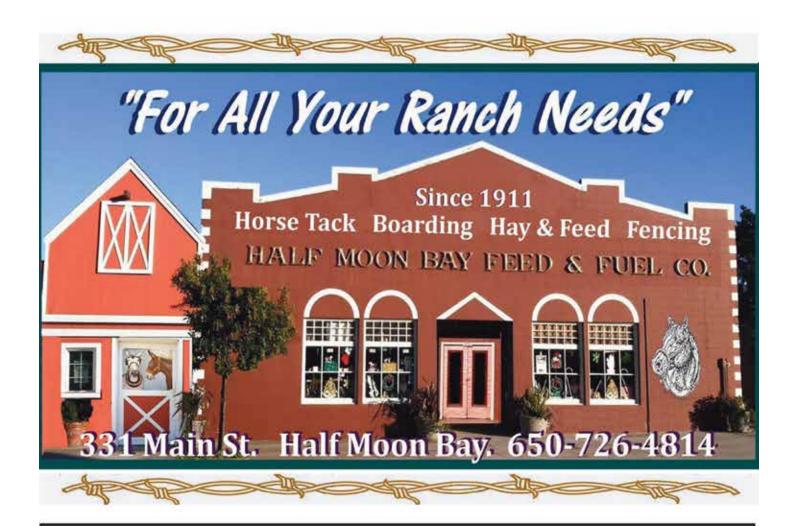
To continue this beloved event in the midst of the pandemic, the WHOA! steering committee and dedicated volunteers creatively reimagined every event, with compliance and safety first, but family fun with horses equally at the forefront.

Why was this so important? Woodside Day of the Horse reflects the mission of WHOA! to preserve the fundamental role of horses

Continued on Page 10



Farrier Steve Wiberg hot shoes "Champ" and entertains Horse Fair visitors.



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Woodside Day of the Horse

Continued from Page 8

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.

Online Equestrian Art Exhibit

Last year's Woodside Art of the Horse exhibit at Woodside's Independence Hall was a runaway success. This year, artists and local residents alike were thrilled when WHOA! announced this online alternative to last year's public gathering.

More than 100 submissions, including painting, photography, collage, and sculpture, were posted online, with voting by the public culminating on Saturday, October 10, when the top 12 were selected to appear on the WHOA! calendar for 2021.

Watch the WHOA! web site (www.whoa94062.org) and social media for the upcoming announcement of 2021 WHOA! calendar availability, with proceeds going to support community equestrian projects and programs.

Riding the Woodside Trails

On Saturday, October 10, the traditional Progressive Trail Ride continued its theme costume tradition with "Roaring 20s" interpretations that ranged from tuxedos and flapper fringe, to pearls and feather boas.

This year's route was shortened and kept to Town of Woodside trails, with safely masked and gloved ride stop volunteers offering refreshments on sanitized trays to horses and riders. While horses enjoyed their carrots, riders chose from packaged snacks and bottled water, or sandwiches generously donated by Buck's Restaurant, the Woodside gathering spot favored by equestrians and tech titans alike.

Family Fun With Horses

Sunday, October 11, brought the first-ever drive-through Family Fun Horse Fair to the parking lot at Woodside Town Hall. Family cars, vans, and SUVs were lined up from the parking lot entrance down Woodside Road, eagerly awaiting the Horse Fair's 11 a.m. start time. With free admission, family fun with horses was available to all.



Becky Witter & American Quarter Horse "24 Karat Bling" represent Western riding tradition.

Inspired by the drive-by birthday and graduation parades that have become the new normal, this year's horse fair was designed to be enjoyed by families driving slowly along a route lined with horse fair exhibits.

Open windows gave kids and adults alike the opportunity to take photos and videos of exhibitors, and sometimes to pet a velvety soft muzzle as well. Two and sometimes three generations of horse lovers saw the wide variety of horses and equestrian activities that make the Woodside area so unique.

Nan Meek Equestrian Marketing nanmeek@sbcglobal.net 650-823-1671



Petra Simms Sekerkova & Kladruber "Serpa" demonstrate in-hand dressage training.



Save A Pal Donated Cuddly Ponies for all kids at the Horse Fair.

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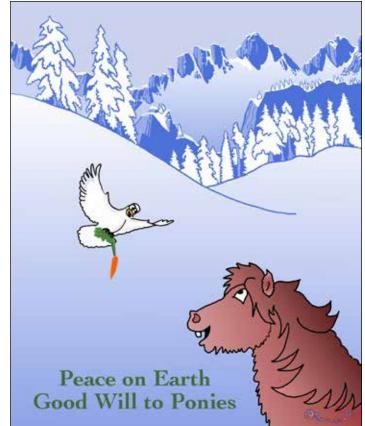
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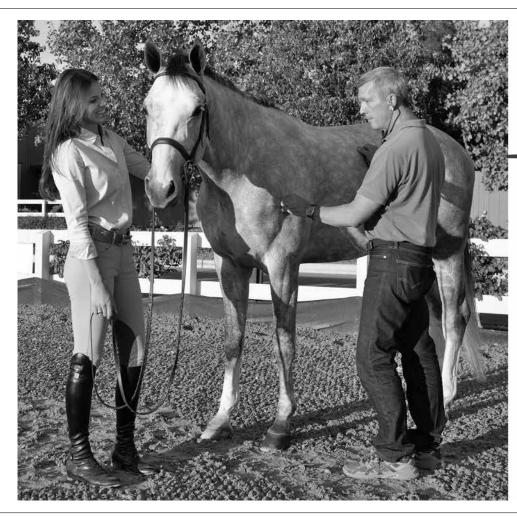


When your friend gets a better dish than you at a restaurant and you want a little bite!

Caption This Winner!

Congratulations to **Amanda Muir** for her winning "Caption This" entry! Amanda has won an Amazon Gift Card! Thanks to all who entered!







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Local Equestrians Didn't Waste Time Helping Four-Legged Wildfire Evacuees

By Maggie Mah

(Reprinted with permission from the Almanac)

When the CZU Lightning Complex fires exploded along the ridges and into the canyons of the rugged Santa Cruz Mountains on Aug. 18, members of the equestrian community in and around Woodside acted quickly.

Within hours, trailers were hitched up and heading into areas affected by the fires. Often working in the dark and through thick smoke, many volunteers made multiple trips to bring horses and other livestock to safety at equestrian facilities and small private barns.

Others stepped forward with donations to provide feed and supplies for sheltered animals. Volunteers pitched in to keep track of the animals, feed and clean up after them. The community's ad hoc efforts complimented the work of the San Mateo Large Animal Evacuation Group, a volunteer organization activated by Cal Fire during emergencies that rescued nearly 1,500 animals from areas impacted by the CZU wildfires as of Aug. 24.

Kiely Field in Woodside is home to the Woodside Junior Riders and the Woodside chapter of Pony Club International. Normally bustling with kids and horses throughout the year, it has been empty due to the coronavirus pandemic. Kathi Dancer, program director for Woodside Junior Riders, described how rapidly that scene changed as people frantically sought to move their animals to safety. "People started calling Tuesday night (Aug. 18) and then it just snowballed. While my phone was blowing up, those Pony Club girls swung into action."

In a matter of hours, senior Pony Club members Hannah Bailey, Vero Metheny and Taran Vixie had converted Kiely Field into an evacuation center and began receiving horses from the fire-stricken areas. Steve Wiberg, a longtime farrier with clients in the area, donated the first load of hay for the horses arriving at Kiely Field. In all, 31 animals were taken in.

"People have been extremely generous," said Bailey. "Whenever we've put the word out for something, the response has been amazing."

Denise Enea, former fire marshal of the Woodside Fire Protection District, played a key role in connecting horse facilities with space to evacuees in need of shelter. She also coordinated feed deliveries to all the locations. "I started to receive calls on day one of the fire, some as far as Morgan Hill. I picked up the phone and called horse facilities in our area and all said yes, of course -- bring the horses," said Enea.

The Mounted Patrol was another key evacuation site for horses, along with a pair of miniature Zebu Brahma cattle.

Emaan Amid-Hozour and Genevieve Crivello had two horses and a pony evacuated from the Skylonda area to the Mounted Patrol Grounds in Woodside by two members of the Mounted Patrol. On a recent visit to the Patrol Grounds, the couple watched their horses Charlie and Carson and pony, Emma, peacefully munching on hay. "This place was a lifesaver. I don't know what we would have done," said Crivello.

The Horse Park at Woodside also opened up to evacuees, taking in 30 horses, several donkeys and mares with young foals. Executive Director Steve Roon worked closely with Robin Camozzi of the San Mateo Large Animal Evacuation Group.



Photo by Maggie Mah

Laura Camozzi and Natasha Laba of San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group loads donkeys Percy and Nigel for the trip back to La Honda on Aug. 30.

"It was so gratifying to be able to do this. We are also lucky to have so many experienced horse people here," said Roon.

In addition to being an evacuation site, he said the management has been developing a plan for the evacuation of the Horse Park itself.

As the number of animals being brought in grew by the hour, so did the cost of caring for them. The Woodside Community Foundation responded quickly by funding a grant proposed by Scott and Kathi Dancer to provide feed and immediately started a Local Disaster Relief Fund focused on large animals.

According to Rick DeBenedetti, WCF's treasurer, donations during normal times tend to be on the small side and come in slowly, but all that changes when people react to an urgent need. "Then it's amazing how generous people are! The fund doubled in four days. It was crazy," DeBenedetti said.

WHOA! (Woodside-Area Horse Owner's Association) made a donation of \$10,000 to the fund.

Memories of Woodside Trail Riding

By Noel Moody

I was sitting around not doing anything because of Covid-19 and I began thinking about riding experiences I've had on Canada Road and in Huddart Park these past forty-plus years. I thought some of these stories might be entertaining!

How do you know if you have a good horse? Well, I had a couple of ways of finding out. I had a Three Bars granddaughter out of Little Joe Jr's granddaughter. She was a really pretty sorrel filly with a blaze and stood fifteen hands high. I raised her and broke her at two years old. She was about three and a half when I decided it was time to take her out alone down Canada Road after riding her on the trail with other horses for quite a while. I planned to ride her down to Runnymede Road, turn around, and return to Woodside Stable at Laning Drive and Canada Road. My filly walked out nicely. At Runnymede Road there is a huge, tall eucalyptus tree that is still there today. Unknown to me, there was a tree trimmer in the top branches. At that moment, a huge branch crashed to the ground and my three year old filly did what colts do...she reared up high!

I remembered to leave my reins slack so I wouldn't pull her over. Ross Meredith, who owned Woodside Stables, always said, "Never take a young horse out on the trail until it knows the word whoa!" My filly was ready to show off her Quarter Horse racing blood and head home in record time but I remembered what Ross said to do. I yelled, "WHOA!" so loudly you could hear me at Robert's grocery store and she stopped! My knees were like Jell-O and she was shaking like a leaf. After the shock wore off I thought, "This is a really good horse. She listened to me when she was scared to death." By the time I got back to Woodside Stables, I was beaming.

Quite a few years later, I was riding her son, Dash N Flash, in Huddart Park. He was a beautiful red sorrel with a blaze and four stockings. He was eight years old at the time. I was doing the Raymundo-Redondo loop. It had rained during the week and the creek was flowing well. I was crossing the bridge when the bridge gave way! Flash's left hind was stuck in the bridge just above the point of his hock at his gaskin. What to do? I got off and I remembered Ross's words of wisdom: "If the horse is in a tight spot, let the horse alone and let him get himself out." So I just prayed.

Flash went absolutely still and silent. I swear I could hear him think. All of a sudden, with unbelievable force, he smashed the board and splintered it into a million pieces. I massaged his leg and especially his pastern. I was terrified he had fractured it. Finally, he put his leg down and I led him into the creek's cold water for about an hour's soaking. I led him home after this very scary accident.

Three years later, Flash had another very scary thing happen to him. I was on Kings Mountain Road heading to the Mounted Patrol grounds. It was winter and we had had a lot of rain. I had just passed the highest part of the trail and was coming down to Kings Mountain Road. The blue rock trail didn't look muddy but all of a sudden, it collapsed! Flash sank into a sinkhole! He was stuck in mud half way up his sides and I was stuck in mud up to my knees. My stirrups were buried in mud. I slackened my reins; Flash got really quiet and didn't move...he was thinking. He leaned to the left and brought his two right legs forward. Then he leaned to the right and brought his two left legs forward. He repeated this until he "swam" himself out with me in the saddle. What a great horse! What a gem! He could cut cows too!

The third unusual incident happened to Doug and myself at the Jack Brook Horse Camp. We were riding on a single track trail in the woods when all of a sudden an orange bay gelding, about 15.2 hands high, ran up to us. He was whinnying and was thrilled to see us. Doug always carried an extra rope halter in his saddle bag. We took the horse back to the horse camp and called the Sheriff and the SPCA. No one knew anything about him so we brought him home to our barn. We named him "Jack" after Jack Brook Horse Camp. After about three weeks of posting posters in Pescadero, Half Moon Bay, Woodside, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and at different feed stores and barns, no one claimed him. We rode him to find out what he knew. He was a very kind, pretty, nice, older horse. He had big bone spavins on his back legs. We thought he had been dumped at Jack Brook because he could not pass a vet check due to his age. He sure was a sweet old guy. We donated him to a handicapped riding group in Morgan Hill. A happy ending!

These are some of my memories of riding on the Woodside Trail system. I have many more but I won't share those until I finish my next forty years. In fact, I'll have a lot more to tell because the Woodside trails are so wonderful and I'm making new memories every time I saddle up! Happy trails!







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In Memory of Richard Convery

August 1, 1935 - September 26, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the loss of Richard (Dick) Convery, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and uncle who passed away at age 85 after a very brave fight of six plus years from Multiple Myeloma cancer.

Born in Cooperstown, New York, at age five, he moved with his family to San Francisco, graduated from Polytechnic and entered the armed forces. He served in Korea and then stationed at the Presidio San Francisco Army Fort discharged in 1956. After his service, he went to work at UCSF pursuing a career in finance. He moved from Portola Valley to the Valley of the Moon and enjoyed the splendor of the wine country and being close to family in the area.

Richard loved life to the fullest and always wanted to try and do everything and go everywhere. He was a patriot, avid horse lover, became Captain of the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County (1995) and President of the San Mateo County Horseman's Association (1990 and 1991), past member of the DeMolay San Francisco chapter and the Elks Lodge. He traveled to 15 countries. He enjoyed lawn bowling, golf, sports, music and all the arts.

With all our hearts we will miss the Irish humor and big loving heart Richard shared so easily.

Due to COVID, funeral will be a private family gathering. Memorial donations may be made to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Hospice Services St. Joseph Health, 439 College Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

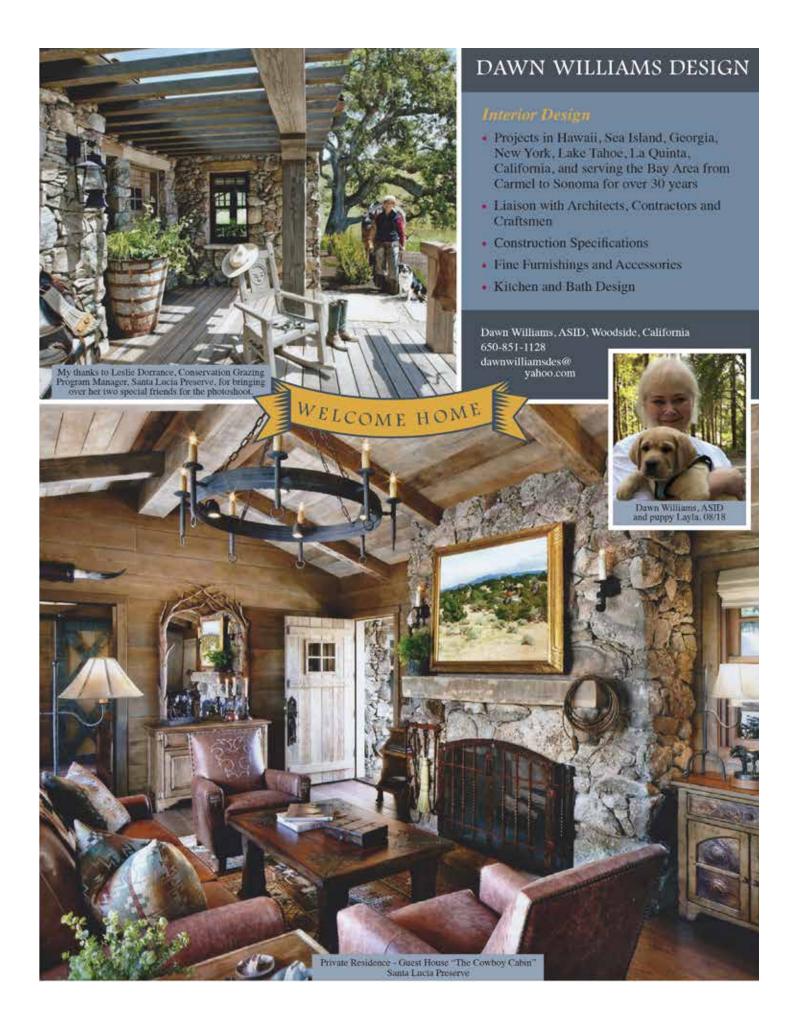
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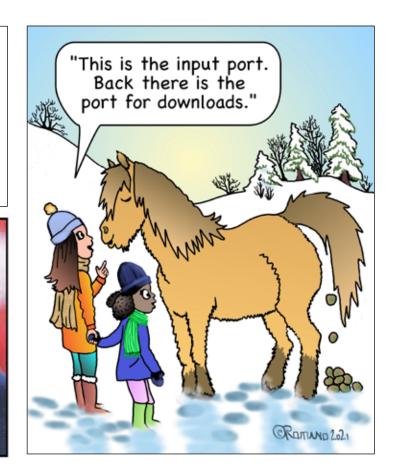
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SMCHA's Annual "Under the Stars" DRIVE-UP MOVIE NIGHT!



By Christine Friis

We were blessed with a beautiful night and a perfect venue at Webb Ranch's Polo Field! There was plenty of room for folks to park their trucks and climb in the cargo bed. Others simply came in their cars and pulled out a blanket or lawn chair. With all that room in the Polo Field, social distancing was not an issue. Luis came with his T-Chuvis Food Truck and by the looks of the long line; many attendees enjoyed his scrumptious food! Several kinds of grab-and-go popcorn was donated by Sharon Butler, Lee Reed and Adeline Forest. What a treat!

Elizabeth Ouellette and Sharon Butler hosted a fun trivia game for the crowd. The first trivia game was all about zebras. Questions like, "Are zebras black with white stripes, or white with black stripes?" (Answer - black with white stripes). Our second trivia game was all about the animals the San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group (LAEG) rescued. For example, "How many horses did LAEG help evacuate during the CZU fire?" (Answer - 326!).

SMCHA was honored to have many of the LAEG volunteers attend our movie night and talk about their organization. We showed our thankfulness for their challenging work during the CZU fire by presenting them with a commemorative plaque, showing appreciation from the entire horse community. These folks were first responders during the CZU fire, and we are forever grateful for the heroic job they performed.

Soon the sun went down and when the sky turned dark, it was time for the movie! This year's movie was a fun, family movie called Racing Stripes. It was about a zebra who thought he was a





Laura Camozzi and Natasha Lava of San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group loads donkeys Percy and Nigel for the trip back to La Honda on Aug. 30.

racehorse. If you haven't seen Racing Stripes, you should rent it as there was some very funny parts that kept us all laughing! Several volunteers from SMCHA opted to wear zebra ears and zebra tails, making the night even more splendid.

The SMCHA usually underwrites movie night, and this year, SM-CHA Board Member, Larry Pelzner, made a wonderful donation so everyone could just show up and enjoy the evening! We had a fabulous night with gorgeous scenery, comradery, laughter, tasty food, a great movie, and an opportunity to give thanks to all the volunteers from LAEG who facilitated the evacuation of over 1500 animals! A special thank you to Bonnie Bertetta and all the SMCHA board members who made this night possible!

For more information about Large Animal Evacuation Group visit their website https://smclaeg.org/ where you can learn more about fire preparedness as well as volunteer opportunities.





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Celebrating Local Heroes!



Owners Jeff and Kate are grateful for their story and community.

Loma Mar Store: Jeff and Katie Haas

By Marty Raynor and Cheryl Basin

In 2014, Jeff and Katie Haas bought the old Loma Mar Store and Post Office on Pescadero Creek Road. Dating back to the 1930's, the building was in dire need of renovation, so Jeff and Katie dove into an extensive remodeling/ rebuilding project, and proudly opened the new and improved Loma Mar Store and Kitchen in 2019. Their dream was to create a fun, community-gathering place where locals could spend time chatting, eating delicious food and listening to live music.

Everything was running smoothly until the pandemic hit, slowing business down considerably. Then, the scorching wildfire threatened their store, as it snuck up the hills, taunting the store and the land on which it was built.

They knew they were in trouble at 3 am Sunday morning, August 16, when Loma Mar's only resident volunteer fireman, Chris Conner, told the couple it could get bad. Real bad.

Undeterred, Jeff and Katie decided to stay put to take care of the fire fighters/first

responders and try to save their 2 properties (the market and their farm home on Wurr Rd). "We did everything we could to protect our property." said the couple. "We cleared brush, tilled the field, relocated goats and opened the pen for the chickens." When they were assured of their safety, they gratefully kissed the structures on their property.

La Honda and Kings Mountain Volunteer Fire Brigades went to help the Loma Mar efforts. The Loma Mar Volunteer Fire Brigade and other locals familiar with the area (including Chris Conner), who as kids had ridden their bikes all over the trails, knew the terrain and showed the way through the forest, using hidden trails and backroads.

There has not been a fire in that area in 100 years, but Jeff and Katie feel incredibly fortunate. During the intense phase, Jeff counted 30 helicopters flying overhead with water. Firemen on the ground not only battled the flames, but fed people's chickens and found stray cats. While the firefighters were tackling the fire, Tim Duarte, of Duarte's Tavern, made dinner every night and brought food to Loma Mar Market to feed fire fighters and 1st responders. It was an amazing community effort.

When Katie had the opportunity, she'd ask patrons what they had chosen to pack as they left their homes behind. She chuckled as she told us about her friend who packed only one pair of underwear! One pair!!

On a more somber note, Jeff remembered a woman who came into the store, completely overwhelmed, and left only to sit in her car in the parking lot where she sobbed for 15 minutes.

Jeff and Katie feel incredibly fortunate to have been largely unscathed by the tragedy.

"We were the lucky ones." Katie admitted. "We got to do something helpful." Jeff chimed in by thanking everyone who lent a hand during this tragedy, "The community response was overwhelming and we are grateful to everyone for their help and support."

Website: www.lomamarstore.com Facebook: facebook.com/lomamarstore Instagram: @lomamarstore Phone: (650) 879-0203

Celebrating Local Heroes!



Alice's Restaurant: Andy and Jamie Kerr

When the CZU Lightning Complex fires (and others in Northern Cal) started, there were so many fires down south; we could not get enough help up here. The first week, we relied upon local volunteers on the north line. The second week, more resources came to help.

During the fires, cones marking the evacuation zone were placed all around the restaurant, but thankfully, Alice's was not in the evacuation zone. The only way to get there was up Hwy 84 from Woodside or from the north on Hwy 35. With so many people evacuated and the restaurant difficult to reach, business dropped 75% overnight.

When La Honda Fire Brigade called and needed food, Andy took 50 meals down to feed the men and women battling the flames. Afterwards, he started taking meals to people at checkpoints who were working 16-hour shifts without any break or any food.

Andy would leave Alice's at 7am to make his first delivery at 7:15 am. Returning to the restaurant at 11am, he'd do a lunch run, rest for a couple hours before delivering evening meals. At one point, Andy drove eight hours a day doing deliveries. He estimated he was feeding 200-300 people, including firefighters, CHP (California Highway Patrol), SMC's LAEG (San Mateo County's Large Animal Evacuation Group), and locals who stayed behind.

When the larger community learned through social media of Andy's determination to keep people safe and well-fed, donations started pouring in. Alice's received \$25,000 within the first 48 hours, and another \$10,000 a few days later, which covered Alice's costs.

In addition to monetary donations, Woodside Bakery (Sharon Heights) donated dayold delicious pastries which Andy picked up and delivered.

At first, CHP officers would not accept meals because it was against policy, so to get them to take the food, Andy told them a small white lie, "Your lieutenant told me to order you to take the meals." And so they did! Due to the pandemic, Alice's business has been down 35-40%. Take-out is a popular option, but still staff had to be reduced from 60 to 20 employees. To boost business, Alice's started offering live music out back Thursday and Saturday evenings. The grassy area has picnic tables, spread out to assure a COVID-safe distance, where you can enjoy drinks and Alice's delicious food.

As a volunteer firefighter for Skylonda, Andy has had his experience with fires. In the 1980s, there was an arsonist setting fires in the area. In 1984/85, there was a big fire in Los Altos. But between COVID and local fires, brothers Andy and Jamie are moving forward, just trying to survive.

Let's help support these businesses who played such an integral part in helping our community.

Website: www.alicesrestaurant.com Facebook: facebook.com/Alice's Restaurant Instagram: @aliceswoodside Phone: (650) 851-0303



Halloween Playday

By Mariangela Sonstegard, Playday Committee Chair

On Sunday, October 25, the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association held the Third Annual Halloween Playday at Webb Ranch in Portola Valley. It was a fun-filled day providing entertainment for riders and spectators.

The morning was a little cool as the day kicked off with a costume contest. The creativity and imagination that went into the costumes were amazing and exceeded all expectations. The horses were all well behaved as the parade of costumes consisted of some colorful and flamboyant accessories. There were so many great costumes: Disney's Mulan, a Hula Dancer, a Pink Princess Horse, a Scary Clown and a Pirate, to name a few. The judges definitely had a tough job picking the winner. After much deliberation, the 1st Place Ribbon and beautiful gift basket were awarded to Sally Quellos and Lori Carlson and their horses, Ladd and Dusty. They were dressed as Dr. Seuss' Thing 1 and Thing 2.

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 riders had to maneuver through a series of cones, walk over poles, and then go through a left hand gate, followed by a right hand gate. Once they completed that task, riders had to back through two barrels, proving to be the most challenging part of the course. After the barrels, the riders had to trot through a series of poles, ultimately ending the course in a box at a complete stop and showing the judge their horse could stand at a stop. The 1st Place Ribbon and gift basket were awarded to Rose DiLuzio and her horse Smarty. Congratulations for a job well done!



During the lunch break of pizza, salad, Halloween cookies and treats the Webb Ranch Drill performed, dressed as witches. They rode in synchronized patterns to music that entertained and impressed all the spectators. It was truly a spectacular show!

After the lunch break 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, the Keyhole Race and a game of Red Light Green Light. In addition to the horse games, there was also a pumpkin decorating contest, a "guess the amount

Continued on Page 33













Managing Poor Air Quality Events

Continued from Page 5

make it into the lower airways and create residual inflammation. The inflammation and excess energy focused on clearing inhaled smoke particles can also lead to reduced immune function and flare-ups of allergies and/or asthma.

Airway damage is lasting and can take 4-6 weeks to resolve. Return to work should not occur for a minimum of 2 weeks following resolution of poor air quality. Please review the chart below and do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian if your horse is experiencing any of the abnormalities described.

Management During Poor Air Quality

Supplements can be an effective way to support respiratory health, especially those with Vitamin E and Omega 3 fatty acids. Some of our office favorites include:

- Breathe Wise Nasal Spray keeps nasal passages protected from irritants
- Pulmofix from Nutraworks Equine
- Platinum Healthy Weight for Omega Fatty acids

Nebulizing delivers medications to the respiratory system, and use with saline may show some benefit to helping healthy horses clear their airway. Nebulizing should be performed under the guidance and recommendation of a veterinarian because many substances can be irritating and cause more harm to the respiratory tract (please do not hire a lay person to nebulize your horse with aromatic oils!).

Husbandry

Horses in dusty environments or exposed to environmental irritants are more likely to suffer from respiratory infections. The following steps can decrease environmental irritants and help maintain a healthy airway:

- Hang extra water buckets to encourage hydration which is important for airway mucous clearing capabilities
- Wet down hay and other dusty food
- Feed hay on a mat if outside and on the ground in the stall; minimize throwing it over stall doors
- Wet floors before sweeping; don't use blowers at this time
- Wet shavings and arena footing to minimize dust in the barn
- When returning to work, avoid windy days and dusty arenas
- Have fans blow air through a barn, don't point them at directly at a horse
- Do not drag arenas

The fire season is still under way and while we can hope for rain, we should prepare for more days of smoke. The above recommendations serve as a basic guideline for monitoring and managing poor air quality and the graphics below provide you with a basic guide for levels of work you should ask of your horse given AQI levels.

Stay safe and remember to protect your own lungs while you look out for your equine partner!



CZU Fire Assistance by MSAR

By Debbie Padilla

In August, MSAR (Mounted Search and Rescue Unit) was called upon to assist the Sheriff's Office. Unlike our usual call outs, this one was without our horses and we were working in an active fire area. We were assigned in groups of two or three to a sheriff's marked vehicle and we were on our way.

One assignment was patrolling within Pescadero, notifying residents they were in a Fire Warning Area. We made sure they knew to pack belongings, including important papers and be ready to evacuate, if necessary.

Another assignment was to patrol around the areas that had been evacuated. A few of the towns we drove through besides Pescadero were La Honda and Loma Mar. We were looking for anyone that was still there to make sure they knew they were in an evacuation zone.

One of the Sheriff's Office goals was to keep the homes of the people that were evacuated from being burglarized. By having multiple marked vehicles driving around, we helped to accomplish this. We looked for anything that just didn't seem right or any people that might be where they weren't supposed to be. We called in anything suspicious to our dispatcher and a uniformed deputy was sent out to check further.

We were impressed by the number of fire personnel that were from outside the area that had come to assist CDF (The California Department of Forestry) in fighting the CZU fire. When we stopped at the La Honda Fire Station for a quick break, we were amazed by the number of volunteers working to provide meals, snacks and water to everyone working the fire.



MSAR members from left, Tsuki Morgan, Cheryl Basin, Christine Friis.

The fire was something that I have never experienced before and hope I never have to experience again. But, what I saw was people coming together to assist those in need. It was an amazing sight and I am proud of those members of our unit who volunteered in the many different areas that were needed.

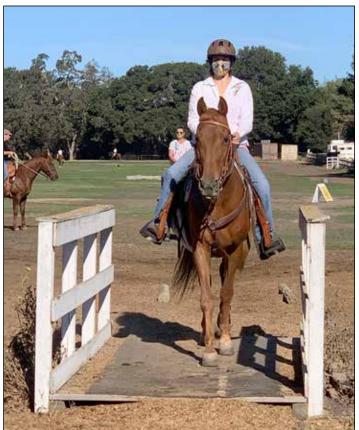


Trail Obstacle Clinic

Webb Ranch Saturday, September 26, 2020

Joan McLaren once again was our Clinician Extraordinaire leading, guiding and teaching two sessions of ten enthusiastic participants for a clinic focusing on Western Dressage and riders finessing their horses over a myriad of obstacles. These included poles, a bridge, a pattern, a gate. Depending on the rider's comfort level, they rode at a walk, trot and lope. We received many positive comments about their experiences. "Photos are worth a thousand words" so enjoy this collection from a fun day at Webb Ranch. Stay tuned for information about our 2021 clinics.











History's Happening Here

While rummaging through an old file cabinet, one of our members, Rob Krensky, found and sent in this article from the May 9, 1990 Country Almanac.

Rob writes, "Back in the sixties, it was traditional for the SMCHA Spring Ride to ride in to the SF Watershed through the gate at Edgewood Rd. by way of Edgewood Park. We would ride through part of Filoli and continue on the gravel road that goes all the way to Hwy 92. About ³/₄ of the way to 92, there was a nice picnic area where we would feast on typically KFC. Lunch would be brought in to us by a club member who had permission to drive in from 92.

It's hard to tell but the line of "ants" that goes diagonally toward the upper right corner of the photo is horses and riders. This was a typical turnout back in those days.

The photo, taken by me, was also on the cover an SMCHA magazine, probably in 1965. I was club photographer for a while back then."

Rob, thank you so much for providing a glance into SMCHA's past with this great article!

If anyone comes across old newspaper articles or other SMCHA memorabilia, we'd love to have them. Or, if you have SMCHA magazines from BEFORE 1972, please let me know!

Please email, Elizabeth Ouellette - elizabetho@outlook.com or call her cell:- 650-248-3409.

Riding through history with Woodside's Bill Holmes

Horsemen's group features Holmes in local history

BY LIBBY ARMANINO

As the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association starts to celebrate its 50-year anniversary, one has the chance to look back through history and salute its long-time members who are still active members of the community. Bill Holmes of WIKA Ranch is one such person.

Mr. Holmes has been a member of the horsemen's association for 35 years and earned the distinguished Horsemen's Award in 1965. This award is given to a member who has made a valuable contribution to the organization.

Having been raised in South Dakota, it's no secret that Bill preferred the mild climate of the Bay Area to the harsh winters of the Dakotas. Shortly after World War II, Bill married a local San Francisco girl and settled in Woodside. Not only did Bill decide not to go back to his horses in South Dakota but his wife Kay was led to believe he'd stay in the area for her!

Even though Mr. Holmes had been around hcress all his life, he did not have any here right away. Instead, he began a successful real estate career in Redwood City in 1946.

He remembers well his first real estate office. It was located at 660 Woodside Road and was originally an old barn used for changing stage horses. When the contractor came to bulldoze down the old place, Bill tried to tell him he'd find all kinds of old straw and hay in the walls but he didn't believe him. Sure enough, as the



SPRING RIDE in Edgewood Park in 1965 by the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. Bill Holmes leads the pack of 102 riders. Photo by Rob Krensky

buildozer hit, all four walls were heavily insulated with years of straw and hay.

Eventually the world of horses drew him back and in 1958 he purchased property on Jefferson Road and opened WIKA Ranch. Bill and his wife Kay still live on the property and it is the only house that boasts a swimming pool in the shape of a horse's head. No easy task for the contractor who was hired to do the job.

WIKA Ranch has been in operation for 32 years and offers its boarders local access to traits, a lighted arena, riding lessons and training facilities. Many of his boarders are members of the horsemen's association as Bill is active in recruiting for the club. The fact that some of his boarders have been there for 15 to 20 years speaks highly of a facility such as this one and the owner that keeps a watchful eye out for everyone and every horse.

Marilyn McCormick transferred her horses over to WIKA from the coast more than 20 years ago. It was there that she began a successful horse show career. Bill is still quick to keep her posted on upcoming clinics and events that might interest her. It is this caring and concern that most of his boarders feel is the biggest asset of WIKA Ranch as well as the proximity to Edgewood Park and other local trails. Some of the horsemen's association events that stand out in Bill's mind are the Fourth of July rodeos that were held each year, and in which he participated as a pick-up man. He was active in the club's color guard — a four-unit team on horseback displaying the State of California flag, two United States flags and the San Mateo County Horsemen's flag. The color guard represented the club in parades and shows throughout the area.

He was trail boss and led the club rides for many years. He remembers the Edgewood Park Spring Ride in 1965, which boasted 102 riders. What an incredible sight to see them strung out over the trail.

In 1964, Bill and other members of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association participated in the opening of the Wells Fargo Bank in Woodside. They staged a fake hold-up of an authentic stage coach at the corner of Woodside Road and Canada. Bill was riding a 3-year-old gelding called "Poco Cinco" at the time.

Bill spends most of his days maintaining the ranch these days and it seems there's always something to fix, mend or maintain but he seems to enjoy it and has no complaints. Kay is also active in helping out at the ranch and finds the daily chores therapeutic.

Not surprisingly, Bill managed to get Kay started riding shortly after they were married and Bill brags that she has never been thrown or bucked off a horse yet! She may have started riding to humor him hut soon grew to love it.

As development slowly creeps up to its back door, it is a welcome sight to see WIKA Ranch still operating successfully as a horse facility.

Libby Armanino is a member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. She is compiling a history of the club as it celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.



Above—MSAR members join the San Francisco Mounted Police for a patrol through Golden Gate Park. Below—the ring of Fire is one of the most challenging obstacles in MSAR training.

Partnering with Horses for Search and Rescue

By Marcy & Bob Rosenberg

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Mounted Search and Rescue Unit (SMCMSAR) is comprised of civilian horse and rider teams trained in 25 skill areas who volunteer their time, horses and horsemanship skills to assist with search and rescue operations. Certified in emergency response, these men and women are proud to be one of the few mounted units that is specially trained and frequently called upon to respond to emergencies throughout the state of California for mutual aid. They coordinate closely with the Sheriff Office and other specialized search and rescue groups to ensure the best possible outcome. If a sheriff's office is contacted about a missing person or is in the middle of a disaster situation, the sheriff will determine if circumstances warrant the help of mounted SAR. The mounted SAR team is prepared to be called out in all kinds of weather and at all times of the day or night. Though the San Mateo County is our main staging area, SMCMSAR operations are not limited to the county region. The Mounted Search & Rescue team has been called to help other county emergency groups as far away as the Sierra Nevada mountains.

may also see this dedicated group patrolling on horseback at community events and fairs, riding in parades or assisting with kid's educational programs. The unit also has people trained in technical large animal rescue and has equipment specially designed for those types of rescue missions.

The Mounted Search and Rescue unit goes through a tremendous amount of training for both the humans and the horses. Controlling a horse's feet is critical and we spend a great deal of time training our horses to respond to the rider's commands. A good deal of our training involves exposing our horses to strange objects, so they come to trust their rider and go where asked. The height of a horse provides searchers a major advantage in that they can see over objects such as fences or high brush and large open areas. One of our major training scenarios is landing a helicopter in front of the horses. We may need to be exposed to helicopters in order to evacuate an injured person. Horses also allow our searchers to carry more weight in supplies without burdening the searcher himself with this weight.

Horses have a superior sense of hearing and smell. As searchers, we are trained to pay attention to the horse's head and react should



the horse suddenly take notice of something. Horses can also search where ground volunteers cannot, such as areas filled with ground water and mud or even poison oak. Horses can be worked for up to eight hours without water in hot weather unlike dogs and humans. Horses provide a more inviting presence that may draw out children and people with Alzheimer's from their strong tendency to hide. Our mounted unit recently did a patrol through Golden Gate Park with the San Francisco Mounted Police. Horses display a warm and approachable presence, and this provides good public relations for the uniformed rider.

For more information or to learn how to join the unit, visit http://www.smcmsar.org/.

Outside of search and rescue missions, you

Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis

Continued from Page 6

Prevalence

Thankfully here in California EPM is less common than in other parts of the country (especially the east coast), but it is still a relatively common cause of neurological disease in horses. Interestingly, even though up to 79% of all horses in the US have evidence that they have been exposed to the protozoa that causes EPM, only 1% of horses actually develop disease.

Clinical signs

Clinical signs (or symptoms) of EPM are incredibly variable but the most common ones include tripping/stumbling/wobbly gait, asymmetrical muscle atrophy/weakness, difficulty swallowing, abnormal airway noises, abnormal sweating, and head tilt. Less commonly, horses can present with seizures, difficulty getting up, or even vague lamenesses.

Workup

Workup for EPM starts with a full neurological exam (+/- a lameness exam, sometimes) along with a good discussion of the horse's history (geographic location, age, job, duration of signs, any medications, etc.). It is important to rule out other possible causes of neurological disease based on the exam and this information. If your vet suspects EPM, he or she will discuss further diagnostics with you. The most definitive diagnosis requires testing of a spinal fluid sample. There is a blood test that measures antibodies made by the horse against the protozoa but unfortunately interpretation of results is not definitive in most cases. In chronic cases, a negative blood test does rule OUT the disease, but a negative test in a horse with very acute signs OR a positive blood test of any amount is not definitive either way. In cases in which your vet is highly suspicious of EPM, sometimes treatment is instituted without a definitive diagnosis due to cost and available testing options.

Treatment

Treatment is most successful if EPM is recognized and treated as soon as possible. This makes sense if you imagine the migrating protozoa causing damage—the sooner you stop the protozoa, the better! There are two main FDA-approved treatments (anti-protozoals) currently available for EPM—Marquis[®] and Protazil[®]. Marquis is a once-daily paste and Protazil is a once-daily scoop of pellets. Treatment starts with 4 weeks of therapy, but sometimes is continued longer (6–8 weeks), depending on the horse's response. A positive response is considered when clinical signs improve by at least 25%. Horses with EPM usually improve at least 1–2 grades with treatment (when using a 5-point scale to grade the neurologic signs), which may mean complete resolution if signs were relatively mild (or very acute).

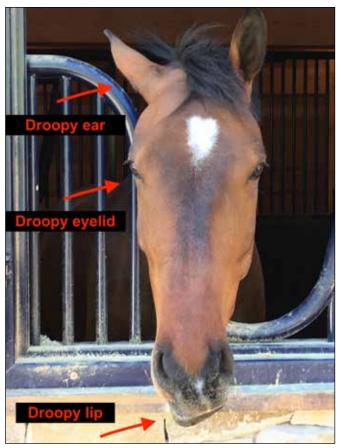
Adjunctive therapies include anti-inflammatories (usually Banamine[®], sometimes dexamethasone in severe cases), anti-oxidants (vitamin E), and rest from exercise (sometimes restricted to a stall, depending on the severity of the signs). Occasionally immune stimulants are given.

Prognosis

About 20% of horses with EPM have a recurrence or relapse of disease again later in life.

Prevention

Barn owners should do what they can to keep opossum away from the barn and food sources (keep them locked up and cleaned up!). Unfortunately no good vaccine against EPM is available. Like with many health issues in horses, it is helpful to minimize stress, maximize good nutrition, and administer appropriate preventive care (vaccines, deworming).



Symptoms of EPM include unilateral facial nerve paralysis.



Playday

Continued from Page 24

of candy in a jar" contest and a "guess the weight of a pumpkin" contest.

The entire day was filled with fun, laughter, light hearted competition, encouragement and prizes for riders of all ages and abilities and all those that came to the event.

A special thank you to Joan McLaren, Cheryl Basin, Carin Cartt, Sharon Butler, Mike Bushue, Lee Reed, Karen Shawback, Bonnie Bertetta and Greg Sonstegard. These volunteers helped make our Halloween Playday a huge success. We could not have done it with out you.

Editor's Note: A huge thank you to Mariangela for her hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to making the Halloween Play Day a huge success again this year!!



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Jokes

- Q. What kind of food do race horses like to eat?A. Fast food.
- **Q.** How much money does a bronco have? **A.** A buck.
- **Q.** What do you call a baby donkey? **A.** A burrito!
- **Q.** What sickness do cowboys get from riding wild horses? **A.** Bronchitis (bronc-itis)



TV HORSE NAMES

С JΖ 1 ΚΕ R I F D L WMA R C L Υ Т D F F Ρ С Н L С 0 V В W Μ Κ Κ S В Х Κ R Ρ R 0 W Υ 0 Н Ν W Μ D С Ε Ζ Х Ε Ε R Т Ν U Н В Α I Х 0 W Y Ε S Т S U Ρ R Α R Н Т L Ν Н D R V Т Ε Ζ ٧ С 0 R Μ R U G J 0 U Т U Т U С Υ Ρ Н Α Ν Т 0 Μ Т С Α С 0 F Т F S Ζ R Ζ Ε Ρ R Т J Α R 0 D Κ Μ S 0 V RW Α С 0 С 0 Ν R С Ρ S Ε Y Α Ε D ΗХ Κ ΚΧ Q Υ Κ U QΑ L Ν U Н G Κ Ν Ρ Υ Μ В Υ 0 T Μ Α W Τ Т 0 Ε Ε S В Т L V Т Т В R 0 R 0 0 Α Q T χ В D 0 Y R Ρ Κ D Ζ R V V L T Т В Ρ D J 0 J DW Т 0 H Μ Ν Н Ε Η QU U D Т Ρ Т С L G Ν Α Ρ С Α Y L 0 Н S R D J R N Η Α 0 0 D V U С J Q L MKAWCQC B G S W Ν J Ρ 0 YW

KATY DOMINO COCHISE **HERCULES TORNADO** SPORT VICTOR SCOUT CHICO BANDIT **WILDFIRE** COCOA SUPERSTAR **SPARTAN** SOPHIE **SILVER** RINGO POKEY PHANTOM FURY CHUBBY CHAMPION BUCK ARGO AMIGO

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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

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

TV HORSE NAMES

C J Z I K E R I F D L I W M A R C DYFFTP**CHICO**VBWMKK B O W Y O H X K N S R W M D P C R R T N U H E Z X B A E I X O W Y E S U P E R S T A R H T L N H D R V E O U Z V I C T O R M R U G J U L UCYPHANTOMTCACOFI F S Z T R Z J A R O D K E P R M S A V R W A O C O C O N R C P S E Y E D H X K K X Q Y Q A I K U N U H OGIMAWIKTNPYMOBEY T L Q V T T B E R O R O I O S A B X R B V D V I O I Y R P K I D Z B P J O J D W T D O H M N H E H Q U U D I P T C L G N A P C A L Y O H R D J Q S J R N H A O O L D V U C W N J M K A W C Q C B G S P O Y W

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