

The San Mateo HORSEMAN



Winter 1993



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Donna Tozi and Barbara Tyson



CONTENTS

Message from the President
Amos Dana 1

Trailer Safety
Karen Steeves 3

Bicyclists' Request Access to County
Park Trails 4

Installation Dinner
Amos Dana 5

Clem's Corner
Clementine Carroll 7

"Expect and Accept" Injuries with
Bicyclists in County Parks 11

1993 AQHA World Championship
Show Qualifying Points 12

Phil Ray
Noel Moody 13

Horse Lover by Accident
Bruce Doran 14

Equine Health Care
Douglas Novick, D.V.M. 16

IEHA Group Races to Save Rare
Russian Horses 18

1993 Calendar of Events 21

Message from the President
Amos Dana



As some of you are aware, I recently underwent a serious surgery and am recovering from that. As I quote from my first message to the membership I think of the injured goose leaving the flock in the accompaniment of one or two other geese, who remain with the injured member until recovery. I feel many of you in SMCHA fulfilled that role — and I am most appreciative of the prayers, support, visits, flowers and gifts. They helped more than you can imagine. So keep honking and flapping — it's all great support.

This year again promises to be a wonderful year, with tremendous activities, including rides, over-night camp-outs, horse shows, both Western and English, general membership meetings and one activity that might happen and to which I look forward, namely a family picnic at Huddart Park for all the members of our respective families. I think it is time to be able to share our love for horsemanship and SMCHA with those members and our family who may not be quite so involved with either.

Lastly, we continue to need the support of the membership. If anyone of you see something you like, let a Board member know. God knows each of us needs that kind of support. If you see something that needs correcting, let me know and I will do my level best to investigate the complaint and correct it or assign someone or group of Board members to work on the problem. Remember, the flight of the geese is the perfect example of organizational support — thus, keep on honking and flapping and step forward and take on leadership in SMCHA.

Your President,

Amos Dana

COVER

1993 SMCHA President, Amos Dana

Magazine: Linda Menon, Patti Wetzel
Photography: Sue Sheehan, Gay-Lynn Mann

Correction:

Our thanks to Sue Sheehan for the beautiful photograph of Lake Pílarcitos on the cover of the Fall 1992 issue.

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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\$300 per year

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Please fill out and mail in Membership Application on last page of this magazine.

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DEADLINE

FOR ADS AND ARTICLES
for the Spring 1993 issue
is April 30, 1993



P.O. Box 620092

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The San Mateo HORSEMAN

Winter Issue 1993

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

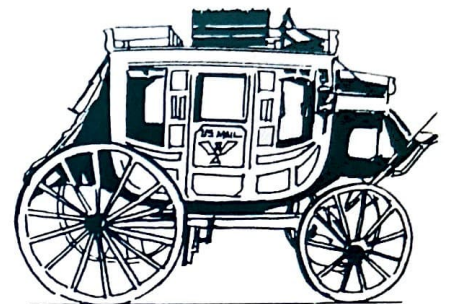
Published quarterly

January (Winter)

April (Spring)

July (Summer)

October (Fall)



MEMBERSHIP

Join SMCHA
Mail Application
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(Application on back cover)

Trailer Safety: Do It For Their Sake!

by Karen Steeves

**Reprinted by permission from California Horseman's News Magazine*

Several weeks ago, our advertising manager, Virginia McClintock was hauling her horses to a rodeo when she noticed another truck and trailer on the other side of the freeway. As she was watching, the bottom of the horse trailer fell out! Well, like any horse person would do, she stopped at a call box and notified the California Highway Patrol.

We don't know what happened to the horse in that trailer, but it prompted me to write an article on some tips for those of you who may be hauling to shows soon.

Since many people don't take their horses anywhere in the winter, the trailer sits and bears the extremes of the winter weather without a second thought from its owner.

There are a number of things you should check out on your trailer BEFORE you use it to haul a horse. I called around to several horse transportation businesses and dealerships to see if they had any tips to offer.

Don Bryant of Don Bryant Horse Transportation said he has the wheel bearings on all of his trailers repacked two to four times every year. This is especially important if your trailer has been sitting for several months in rain or snow. Moisture can get in the bearings and break down the grease, causing very serious problems later.

Bryant also mentioned the importance of checking your brakes and electrical wires. I would not do to have your brakes fail at an intersection or your lights not work on a foggy road at night.

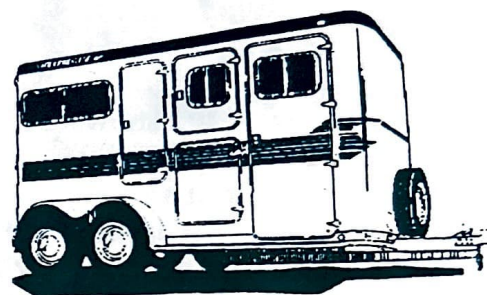
All the door hinges should be oiled as well. We all know how our horses love to spook at weird noises. It's enough that we ask them to enter a trailer, something that goes against all their instincts, but to add to the fear by having noisy hinges is asking for an accident.

Mary Sharp of Rocking S Horse Transportation said, "You just need to take your time and look it over because your horse's life is riding on it."

She said that the floor mats should be pulled out so that you can check the flooring properly and so that they can be cleaned. Also, while the mats are out of the trailer, check to see that any and all drain holes are not plugged up with shavings or ma-

nure. These holes are what let urine drain out of the trailer so that horses are not forced to stand in it.

Remember that wood floors, because they are made of wood are biodegradable. When they get moist, they will begin to rot. So if your trailer has been sitting in the wet winter weather, check your flooring thoroughly. Metal floors



need to be checked too. It can rust and corrode, creating a major safety hazard.

When putting your floor mats back in the trailer, Sharp said it is important to make sure there are no lumps. Horses or people can trip on these, an open door for potential disaster.

"You need to make it as safe as you can," emphasized Sharp.

She also mentioned that you should check to see that your cross struts on the bottom of the trailer are secure. They may have rusted and be in need of rewelding.

(continued)

Trailer Safety, *continued*

You should be sure to have a shop check all your tires, including your spare and check the ball yourself for chips or pits. This is very important because, if the surface of the ball is not smooth, the hitch will not slide over properly. If the hitch is not on the ball properly, it may come off on a ride. It can also cause a very rough ride and wear down the ball to the point that it may even break. Sharp's husband Steve said, "anything mounted has to be in top notch condition."

If at the end of last year's show season you left shavings and hay in your trailer, get it out and sanitize the entire area. Hay and shavings will mold and that can cause serious problems for horses and people as well.

Don't forget to check and make sure that all the latches and panic snaps are in good working order and not rusted shut. After all, what good is a panic snap that won't work in a panic situation? You may only need to use a little WD-40 or you may need to replace the entire latch or snap.

Wiring is very important too. For some strange reason, animals, especially dogs, love to chew on electrical wiring. You must have all wiring intact on your trailer in order to be safe.

The best thing to do is make a checklist for yourself and go

through it PRIOR to the morning you're planning on leaving. This way, you can make any necessary repairs and haul your equine friends in confidence. Your horses will surely thank you.



BICYCLISTS' REQUEST ACCESS TO COUNTY PARK TRAILS

The San Mateo Trails Advisory Committee is conducting a feasibility study to answer the mountain bicyclists' request for access to county parks trails. In the initial phase of the study a subcommittee will evaluate criteria for safe and appropriate trails for bicyclists. Many factors will be looked at, including steepness of trail, sight lines, width, type of soil, etc., with safety and enjoyment of hikers and equestrians also considered. MaryClaire Wellman, Marian vanden Bosch and Laurie Fieguth represent horse riders on this committee.

ROMP (Responsible Owners of Mountain Bike Pedalers) are asking for trails connecting Skyline with "the flatlands" below (Woodside Road, etc.). They particularly want loop trails in Wunderlich and Huddart Parks. Mid-Peninsula Open Space District now allows cyclists on multi-use trails such as Windy Hill, Monte Bello, etc.

About four years ago, San Mateo County determined cycling on park trails was not feasible. Many horse people worked hard then, but the ROMP group and others are again determined to gain access. Currently, bicycle riding is illegal in most (not all) San Mateo County Parks. The subcommittee intends to do its homework thoroughly in order to settle the issue, but your help may be needed again.

INSTALLATION DINNER

by Amos Dana

On Saturday, January 23, 1993 our 1993 Board and New Officers were installed at a Dinner Dance held at the Redwood City Elks Lodge.

Amos Dana will be presiding as President for a second year. Doris Lantz, First Vice President; Sharon Lann, Second Vice President; Deanna Marchi, Treasurer; Larae Akland, Secretary; Sue Sheehan, Historian; Carolyn Rice, Parliamentarian; Walt Kirk will continue as Sergeant-At-Arms.

New Board members include Ed Drotloff, Stephanie Goldie, Lisa Kasajian, Ann Kirby, Sherry Neufeld, Aleta Reed, Donna Tozi, and Dave Akland.

The high point of the evening was the announcement of the Horseman and Horsewoman of the Year. This year's Horseman of the Year is Bill Hopper and Horsewoman of the Year is Karen Rowley. These members have been active in the Association for many years. Bill helps in the rides, cooks at barbecues at our various events, works on horse shows and will do just about anything asked of him. He and Rick Payne repaired and painted our cook trailer. And, of equal importance, he fully shares his award-winning home brewed beer at many events.

Karen is at just about every event put on by the Association. I can't remember one she wasn't at anyway. For many years she has organized the Western Riding Clinic sponsored by the Association at the Patrol Grounds. She also organizes the annual Night At The Cow Palace during Grand Nationals. She'll cook, wash dishes, work the registration desk at shows, and generally just support the Association in all its activities. She also helped with the Color Guard.



'Horsewoman of the Year' Karen Rowley

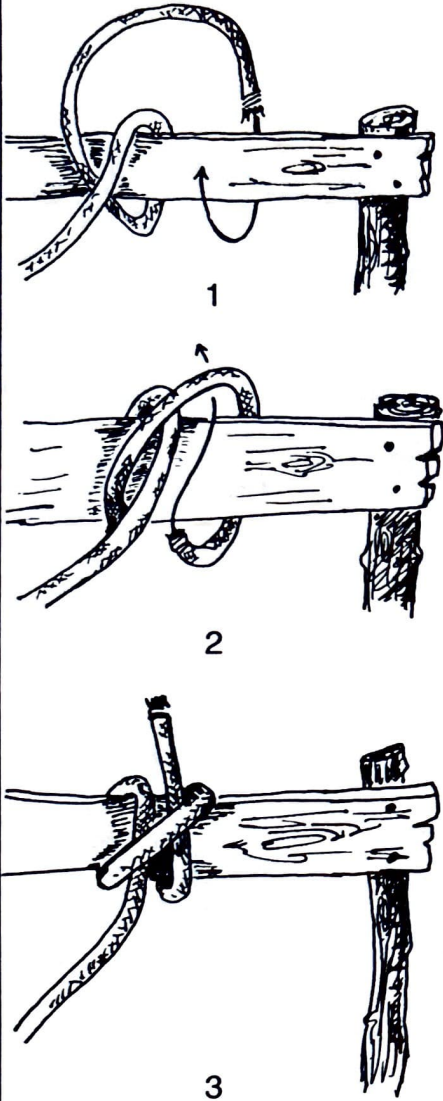
This year included a first time Distinguished Service Award for two of our long time members, Doug and Noel Moody. Again, these two people go all out for SMCHA. Doug helps quietly behind the scenes. He set up trail class courses, helps at Western Riding Clinic, will offer all kinds of assistance at trail rides and gives special support to novice riders, will haul extra horses to events in his large trailer. Noel is Mrs. SMCHA. She headed up the Western Horse shows last year and that is no small task. She also helps with the events, including English shows. And talk about encouragement—if you've never heard her distinguishing "whoopie" encouraging young riders you've really missed something. She also helps on rides, setting up trail courses, and provides advice to the Board and Officers of the Association.



'Horseman of the Year' Bill Hopper

Exceptional Service Awards went to our Color Guard — Laurie Fieguth, Nancy Crowley, Terri Forrester, and Claire Rittenhouse. Also recipients of the Exceptional Service Award were Eileen Borzone, Lisa Dixon and Bruce Baker.

CLOVE HITCH



Clove Hitch and Bowline

OVER the last 10 years or so, we have done a lot of camping at state parks with our horses. Most of the time we go to a state park that is nearby. Each camping spot has a hitch rail for campers to use. Since it is forbidden to tie to trees, we find ourselves leaving our horses tied to hitching rails for long periods of time.

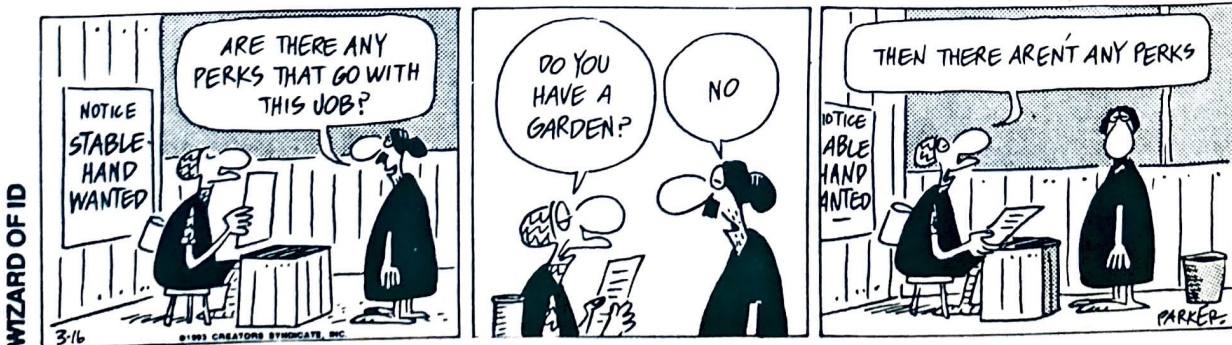
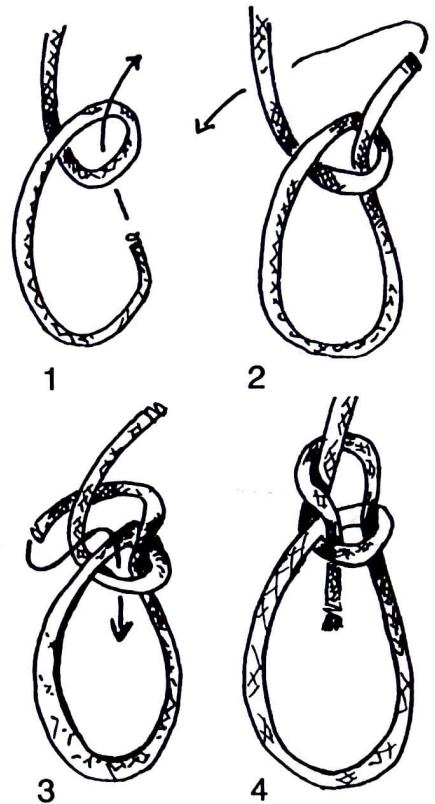
It is not unusual on any given weekend to see other horses get loose as well as tangled up in their lead ropes. The biggest mistake people make is that they tie their horses too long to enable them to eat off the ground. The horses sometimes get their feet over the ropes, or they are tied in such a manner that the rope slips to the end of the hitch rail and slides down the post.

After trying all kinds of half hitches, slip knots, and bowlines, I have settled on what I think is the best method for this situation. The first step is to tie a simple clove hitch in the middle of the hitch rail. This keeps the lead rope from sliding back and forth along the rail. I've found that just taking a couple of wraps works almost as well, and kids seem to pick that up a little quicker. The next step is to take the two ends that are left (one is hooked to the horse) and tie a bowline in it. This is a non-slip knot, and no matter how hard a horse pulls back, it is easy to untie.

I've tried tying a slip knot in the place of the bowline, but after several hours the knots slide together. We've all seen these slip knots pulled down so tight it took two men with vise-grips to get them apart. So if you don't know how to tie a bowline into a rope, take a few seconds to learn it and then practice for a while. It's simple and a must for all horse people.

—Don Straight
Webster City, Iowa

BOWLINE



WIZARD OF ID

3/16

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PARKER

CLEM'S

ORNER

by Clementine Carroll



As most local horsemen know, Raymundo Drive dead ends at one of the entrances to Huddart Park. About a third of mile from the beginning of the road, there is a wire mesh fence along the horse path, dropping very steeply on the pasture side. Last November, four teenagers were in a car that plowed through it and overturned at the bottom of the field. A young girl was killed, three young men badly bruised. Donna Tozi and Bruce's son, Robert, was in the back seat with the girl—she was thrown through the rear window. Robert's vertebrae was crushed in four places and he had a very bad gash on his head. If he had not been in top physical condition, he would never have survived this ordeal. Robert is a star football player at Woodside High School. Bruce said their Thanksgiving dinner, just the three of them, was a very sobering and quiet one, all so overcome with the tragedy and thankful that Robert was alive.

George Roberts' (owner of Canada Corner) son was one of the passengers.

Another fatal accident that happened in October — June Irhazy's husband, Dan, owner of The Boots and Saddle Restaurant in La Honda; his car went over the edge of Highway 84 not far from his home. We are all so sorry, June.

The following is a story of a young horsewoman, born and raised in the Woodside area. She became a veterinarian and her practice was in Placerville. Quoting from one of her letters. . . "I left my California practice in August of 1990, then journeyed to Pennsylvania to learn equine acupuncture and chiropractic from a vet in Chester County.

While in Penn, I spent a fair bit of time in the farrier shop of the U. of Penn. at New Bolton Horse Centre with Rob Sigafos, learning more about feet, forgework and general life. After my time with the vet in PA ended, I went home to mom's for a late Xmas. While there, Kirsten said to me "now that you're between jobs and since you're not sure if you want to stay in PA or return to

CA, this would be the perfect time to go to New Zealand! After all, you've wanted to go for the past ten years!" Two weeks later, I landed in New Zealand, in the interim having purchased my first backpack, flown back to PA to sort out my friends, vehicles, animals and belongings, and returned to Placerville to do the same.

NZ is beautiful, very green and the horses are fantastic. I backpacked over the whole country for 2-1/2 months, meeting many people, some of them veterinarians. En route, I was offered the fantastic position of taking over the equine work for a six-man mixed (primarily dairy) practice in the best horse and dairy area in NZ, the Weikato region. I guess mom was right again. She told me that I'd go to NZ, fall in love with the people and the place and some Kiwi man and only return to pick up my belongings. The boss is the vice president of the NZ Veterinary Association, head of the ethics committee, a great person and a fantastic boss, ruling by example. I worked for three weeks before returning to the States in April for five weeks, returning to NZ in June. I've returned once since for two weeks in December, much too short a time. . . My house is on the market and currently everything I still own fits in a pickup bed and is in boxes, awaiting

Clem's Corner, *continued*

shipping. I've never had less "stuff." I don't plan on moving back. I miss my family and friends, but NZ is all I've ever dreamed of.

The equine practice has gone wild. Jack Stewart has been the equine vet in this practice for 32 years, but he is slowly retiring. New medicine for the people around here. . . it has its moments, but I'm starting with the dressage/three-day riders, kids and younger race trainers. I'm teaching at several pony clubs in the area and enjoying it a lot. I am doing quite a bit of acupuncture and chiropractic, creating a new name for the therapy I'm practicing, postural rehabilitation, since it is more a postural training than just chiropractic and involves hoof balancing, saddle fit, training techniques and daily exercises.

I'm working on several international dressage and three-day horses, as well as the NZ Pony of the Year and other assorted good horses. I seem to be making a good name for myself, both as a good equine vet AND as a chiropractor/acupuncturist (I guess they aren't always mutually exclusive)! Recently, I worked on a race horse belonging to two of the bigshot horse vets a few towns away. . . and they were so pleased! The horse is making her first improvement in six months. They had me come for a recheck last week. None of us could believe the improvement. She's back in training! Two weeks ago I

returned to Aussie (Australia) for the second session of the IVAS (Int'l Vet'y Acupuncture Society) course which I had planned to take while in the States. It's being taught in Aussie for the first time. Marvin Cain, the premier equine acupuncturist/veterinarian from Kentucky, came to lecture. Fantastic!!! He really got me going. I've finally started acupuncture since then.

The people are a bit different here. I was about to say that they were a lot like the ones I grew up with around La Honda, but that's not entirely true either. They are very gentle, as a general rule, and quite polite, but not as stuffy as pommies (POHM = Prisoner of Her/His Majesty. . . the name for the British here. . . there are quite a few, but not all are stuffy). I am realizing that although they are very open, they rarely say what they really think, if they think it will hurt feelings, or if it would not be polite to say it. I am learning to deal with it. It is a bit different. Overall, though, I really enjoy them, and their country. I've been making more female and family friends. Sure adds stability to my life!

Mom does seem to always be right in her predictions for me. The perfect Kiwi man has also recently appeared. His name is Garry Thompson and last year built himself a house (alone, of course), likes to move big rocks around the terracing, play on tractors and run long distances in the hills. We run up

Pirongia mountain every weekend and have been waterskiing. I was playing a bit of tennis for awhile, in between riding my rollerblades whenever the ground is dry and working, but now I'm flat out riding and training some of Garry's surplus race horses he has managed to drown himself in (the family bred some horses for fun. . . they multiply fast), retraining them as pleasure horses to sell some of them off, as he's overstocked. Back and hip remaining good with hill-only running and rollerblading. Getting fit, finally! I am taking Seido Karate with the local club and am getting stronger. Currently, I cannot rollerblade, do karate OR run as a 17-hand eventer tried to make mashed potatoes out of my foot several weeks ago. . . quite blue, though not broken. . . tendons took a beating.

I'm hoping to start diving now that my gear has moved to NZ, and I will be learning to sail in the next few months. I went skin diving in January with new friends up at the top of NZ near Kaeo. Last weekend Garry and I went to Auckland for the Rod Stewart conference. It was fantastic, he opened up with Maggie May and continued on playing many of his older and quieter songs, letting different members of his band have their time and for the later part of the concert sitting around in a semicircle as a group like a jamsession for the real oldies. The weather was perfection for an outdoor concert and no liquor was allowed

Clem's Corner, *continued*

(although the green smoke was ever present). It was the most peaceful concert I've ever attended. We all really enjoyed it.

I have a clean, quiet and sunny one bedroom flat behind the house of an older couple in town near the clinic. The area surrounding the flat is all greenery and it doesn't really feel as if it's in town. The clinic, Te Awamutu Animal Health Centre, is primarily a dairy practice, although the facility, including a small animal clinic, is the best equipped and "most flash" practice I have seen in NZ. It is one of the private clinics, as differentiated from the "vet clubs," which are owned by groups of local farmers. We are a bit more expensive, but I believe the quality of medicine practised here more than makes up for it. Most of the practices in NZ are "clubs." We are in one of the more affluent areas, due to the dairy-ing industry here. Yes, I do cows now. Haven't had to lately, what with getting the equine practice flat out, but calving season. . . wow. . . we service approximately 650 farms between six of us. . . that's a lot of calves and downer cows in the rain. . . yes, to have all this green, we see a bit of cold rain through the winter. The "cow cockeys" don't even know what lariats are. The cows are usually in a bail or at least a yard when one arrives, although occasionally on a

Sunday morning, one gets the downer beef cow in the mud in a narrow wooden yard in the sleet with only the help of the 80-year old farmer to pull the calf (sideways the wrong way for the gate, of course) just to make me remember Placerville cow practice. . . I try to forget, but it never goes away. With six other vets, weekends and nights off are a reality. Everyone (including the partners) rotates equally. We double up at calving season, but otherwise, only on for small animals Saturday morning or general duty one-sixth of the time! A bit hard to beat.

The horses are great . . . Crummy backyard pony club horses jump three to four feet, and race horses out for their first race go to the post alone, without a pony horse. They are expected to have some manners here. Most do. Hunting season is soon to start. The hunting is fantastic here. . . they hunt over wire. . . what a rush! I've been fortunate to have been lent some pretty fantastic horses to hunt in the past year! The people are gutsy here and I am enjoying myself immensely.

I was on call at Christmas Eve, Christmas and Boxing Day (the day after Christmas). Luckily, it didn't really feel like Christmas in the middle of the summer, as it is here now. I had time to reflect and rather than getting

upset about being on my own without my family, (my own fault, after all) I was able to concentrate on what it's all about, the gifts of having people who care, some of whom one can be with, and some of whom one cannot, and the love of animals whom one can try to help, and the gift of time offered by working with the practice and not having to do everything myself, the time to study the new medicine and writing up this new form of medicine I'm practising so others can be helped, the gift of working in the kind of practice where one is urged to continue to pursue knowledge and excellence, where the boss is someone who rules by example. I couldn't even think of anything to improve him if I had to! Not only is he all this, and a great vet, but he's a great person, father, husband and not obsessive!

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SMCHA DUES?

If not, this will be your last issue of the *San Mateo Horseman*. Please use the form on the back cover and send your dues TODAY.

1993 AQHA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW QUALIFYING POINTS

AMARILLO, Texas — During its December meeting, the AQHA Executive Committee approved qualifying points for the 1993 AQHA World Championship Show, scheduled for November 9-20 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Committee accepted 50 percent of the average as a basis for the point level, and point requirements were either increased or decreased accordingly. However, the Committee decided that points would not increase in any class that did not have 25 entries at the 1992 AQHA World Championship Show, even if the formula called for an increase. In classes that had 25 or more entries, and the formula called for an increase in points, the point requirement was not increased more than two. This resulted in 38 classes being lowered or remaining the same.

To determine the number of points needed to qualify for the AQHA World Championship Show, the following formula is used:

Taking the top 20 horses in each event during the AQHA World Championship Show qualifying period, the points earned by the first place horses are discarded, and the number of points earned by the remaining 19 are totaled. This is divided by 19 to determine the average number of points earned in the event.

This number is added to the average computed from the previous year's qualifying period, and the total of those is divided by two to determine the average of those two years.



PERFORMANCE CLASSES	1992	1993
Senior Western Pleasure	18.5	19
Junior Western Pleasure	24	24.5
Senior Trail	16.5	18.5
Junior Trail	9	9.5
Senior Working Hunter	8	10
Junior Working Hunter	2	2
Green Working Hunter	5	7
Senior Hunter Under Saddle	14.5	15
Junior Hunter Under Saddle	12.5	12.5
Pleasure Driving	4	5.5
Senior Hunter Hack	9.5	9.5
Junior Hunter Hack	3.5	3.5
Senior Barrel Racing	27.5	27
Junior Barrel Racing	15	15
Senior Pole Bending	11.5	11.5
Junior Pole Bending	7	7
Senior Jumping	2.5	2.5
Junior Jumping	2	2
Senior Western Riding	10	11.5
Junior Western Riding	4.5	4.5
Senior Cutting	6.5	6
Junior Cutting	3	3
Amateur Western Horsemanship	15	17
Amateur Western Pleasure	30.5	32.5
Amateur Trail	13	14
Amateur Working Hunter	4	6
Amateur Hunter Under Saddle	20.5	22.5
Amateur Hunt Seat Equitation	11.5	13.5
Amateur Pleasure Driving	2.5	3
Amateur Hunter Hack	6.5	7
Amateur Barrel Racing	18.5	19
Amateur Pole Bending	7.5	9.5
Amateur Jumping	2	2
Amateur Western Riding	5.5	6.5
Amateur Cutting	4.5	4.5
Amateur Calf Roping	3.5	3.5
Amateur Dally Team Roping (Heading)	8	10
Amateur Dally Team Roping (Heeling)	8	10
Amateur Working Cow Horse	2.5	3
Amateur Breakaway Roping	2	2
Amateur Team Penning	2	3
Amateur Equitation Over Fences	0	2

PHIL RAY

by Noel Moody

SMCHA mourns the passing of Phil Ray, formerly a Palo Alto Police lieutenant, who served as the Horsemen's President in 1977. Not only a wonderful horseman who instructed the advanced group for four years at the SMCHA Clinic, Phil also taught Western Riding at Webb Ranch. A recognized CSHA judge, Phil presided over numerous shows throughout the Bay Area. Another talent of his was writing and publishing numerous articles on Trail Horses, Conformation of Quarter Horses, and the history of the American Quarter Horse appeared in the AQHA Journal, California Horse Review, Western Horseman and, of course, our own SMCHA Horsemen's Magazine. He was a fine gentleman and friend and will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife, Jean; one son, and a granddaughter.



Decals For Sale

After only about 20 years we have finally run out of our old decals and now have new improved decals.
(They look the same but cost more.)

For only \$2.00 you can get one.

Please make your check out to S.M.C.H.A.
and send to:

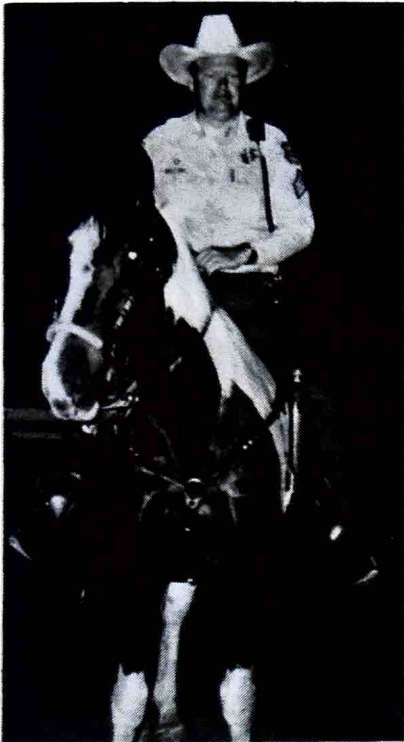
Harry Wellman
209F Boardwalk
San Bruno, CA 94066

OR

watch for the decals at S.M.C.H.A. events!

HORSE LOVER BY ACCIDENT

by Bruce Doran



Joe Kirby and "Percy"

Almost everyone who becomes a horse owner has a story of how they bought their first horse. Usually, the first horse is the first mistake, because you allow your eagerness and emotions to get the better of your judgement. A very good friend of mine, Joe Kirby, thought that his story would be different.

Joe has been a law enforcement officer for 27 years and a good portion of that time was spent working, training and managing the police canine (K-9) unit of a large Sheriff's Office. Joe, having a training background with animals, thought that his task of locating "the right horse" for his daughter Tammy would be an easy one. He located a nine-year old gray mare

quarter horse that was exceptionally quiet and easy to handle on a lead rope. Joe wanted his daughter's first experience as a horse owner to be a positive one. What he didn't know was that this particular horse's great grandfather had been a Kentucky Derby winner!

Joe gave the horse to Tammy and explained to her that she should ride the horse in the training ring until they had a chance to bond with one another and she knew how this new partner in her life was going to react to her commands. Well, I am sure you all know what happened next. Tammy and her sister Brandie decided that after three whole days of riding in a training ring it was now time to head out onto the trail. Tammy soon discovered that her new horse had two speeds, a slow walk and a run something close to a bullet train! While on the sand trail, adjacent to Highway 280, between Edgewood Road and Raymundo Drive, Tammy decided it was time to move out slightly faster than their walk. Well it did not take but a slight kick and Tammy was off to the races. When she discovered that she was passing cars on the freeway she knew that she had made a mistake. She wondered what was going to happen when she got to the gate at the end of the trail? She very quickly discovered that her horse can stop on a dime, although this had a somewhat discomforting effect on the rider. The last thing she remembered was passing

between her horse's ears en route to the ground. After a short trip to Sequoia Hospital, where Tammy works as an emergency room coordinator, she was treated by her co-workers and released. Fortunately, Tammy was not seriously hurt, but she learned a valuable lesson about horsemanship.

Joe and his wife Mary then met Donna Tozi and their relationship with horses changed forever. Donna introduced them to the great black and white Paints. Soon thereafter, Joe, Mary, Brandie and Tammy were all mounted and riding as a family. Mary fell in love with one of Donna's little colts and just had to buy him. That was horse #2. Tammy started riding my son "Percy." They quickly formed an attachment for each other. Then I did something I thought I would never do, I sold my son "Percy" to Joe so that he could give this horse to Tammy. That was horse #3. This, of course, resulted in Joe now becoming the primary rider of the old gray mare race horse. I still get to see Percy all the time and I still ride him in the 4th of July Parade each year.

Joe was still looking for another horse for his daughter Brandie. He located a nine-year old Palomino Paint mare that he felt would be just right for her. That was horse #4. Now the Kirbys were real horse owners. They even had their own herd!

About two years ago, Joe attended

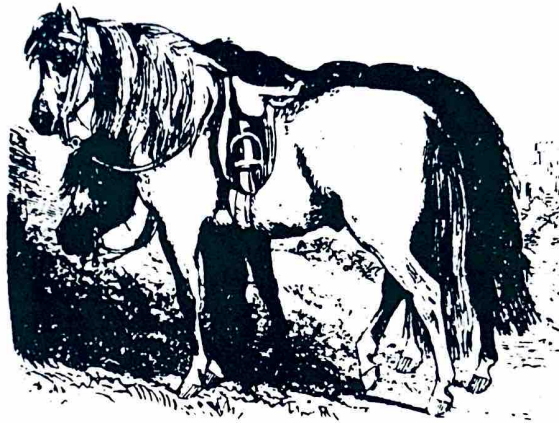
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Horse Lover, *continued*

a meeting of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, which was conducted at Charter Oaks Stables. The guest speaker was a member of the San Francisco Police Department Mounted Unit. After the presentation was over, Joe talked to this officer. They were both law enforcement officers and they both loved horses. Shortly after that meeting, Joe joined the Mounted Patrol for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. Joe is a full time Detective Sergeant, assigned to Homicide Investigations. He volunteered to join the Mounted Unit in his spare time. He decided on "Percy" to be his partner. Percy is the largest horse in the unit and passed all of the training requirements after just one month of additional training. Joe and Percy scored 100% on their qualification tests. Joe and Percy have worked the Santa Clara County Fair and the Gilroy Garlic Festival together. Joe has shown me a video tape of him and Percy working in crowd control situations at the Gilroy Garlic Festival, where they literally have to ride into the center of *five to six thousand people* and assist in breaking up fights that break out. They utilize the horse to wedge their way through the crowd and to allow ground officers a quick and speedy way of getting through the crowd and to the fight location. Then, they use the horses in a side pass to move the crowd back away from the fight and to make room for the ground officers to do their thing in breaking up the fight. If an arrest is made the horses again form up into a diamond and escort the arrest team and their prisoner out of the crowd safely.

Insomuch as Joe is a Sergeant, "Percy" is also a Sergeant and considered a duly

appointed Police Horse. I asked Joe how he felt about using Percy in police work and he told me this. He still can not understand how he can ride Percy into a crowd of six to seven thousand people, many of whom are carrying balloons, waving flags and throwing trash on the ground and not have a single problem with control and then the next day while trail riding in Woodside, Percy will shy away from a mail box or a paper plate discarded on the ground. Joe truly loves using Percy with the Mounted Unit. Citizens flock to the horses and they are terrific for good public relations.



Joe and his daughter Tammy have also attended several organized overnight rides with the Los Viajeros group. One of these rides showed that Joe does have a good sense of humor. We were at the Grant Ranch.

After a long ride, cocktail time arrived and the bar was open. Joe is a non-drinker but he does like his Diet Coke. Sue Sheehan had set out a display of very colorful horse cookies. This display was right next to the Hors d'oeuvres. Joe liked the chips but he especially liked those great colorful cookies. He did find them to be just a little bland and dry but he got about eight of them down before Sue pointed out to him that he was eating her horse cookie display. Well needless to say, Joe caught hell from everyone on that one. Everyone including Joe got a great laugh out of that mistake. To this day we still hide the horse cookies from Joe.

Joe and his family have become very involved with horse type activities. They have all participated in the Western Riding Clinic. Joe was a great help in the auction that was conducted a while back to raise money for the purchase of the Phlegar Estate for the open space district. Joe compiled a computerized listing of all the inventory donated. He developed a handout listing all items to be sold and did all of the clerking during the auction.

Horse Lover, *continued*

Of course not all of Joe's contacts with horses have been positive ones. While on a Poker Ride with the Mounted Patrol, Joe's horse Percy took a fall and he went down hard. His first concern was for his horse and had to be told to sit down so that his own injuries could be tended to. He had a very large laceration to his left forehead. No one had any water but several cans of beer appeared. The beer was used to wash away the blood and dirt. When the Fire Department arrived one of their first questions was, "How much have you had to drink today?" Joe stated, "Nothing." They replied, "R-I-G-H-T," as they backed away from the overpowering smell of beer. Joe received an ambulance ride to Sequoia Hospital, where he was again questioned about his drinking and falling off his horse. He received 18 stitches to his forehead and then immediately returned to the Patrol Grounds looking for his dinner and to play his poker hand. I think he was looking for those horse cookies.

Joe's latest adventure is that he is now running for the office of *Sheriff of San Mateo County*. He has an excellent law enforcement background, he has been a resident of San Mateo County for over 40 years and best of all he is a horse owner and lover. Joe has also told me that if he is successful in winning this office, he would like to establish a functional Mounted Unit within the Sheriff's Office. I hope that you will take the time to check out his credentials. Then when it comes time to vote, you can help make him our next Sheriff of San Mateo County. I certainly will!!



EQUINE HEALTH CARE

"Pigeon Fever"

by Douglas Novick, D.V.M., Palo Alto, CA

Q: I heard Pigeon Fever was back in the area. What is Pigeon Fever? Is it contagious and is there a vaccination against it?

A: Pigeon Fever has indeed made a return to the Bay Area this year after an absence of a couple of years. This disease causes abscesses to form. The bacteria involved is called *Corynebacteria Pseudo tuberculosis*. There are two reasons that it goes by the name Pigeon Fever. The first reason is that only five people in the United States can pronounce *Corynebacteria Pseudo tuberculosis*. The second reason stems from the behavior of the disease. Pigeon Fever tends to cause abscesses in the chest area of the horse. As the abscess develops the chest swells much like the prominent chest of a pigeon. Thus the name.

However, the chest is not the only place abscesses can form. In recent weeks I have seen cases in which abscesses form not in the chest but between the jaw bones and on one horse's sheath. It can also affect the mammary area in a mare. The disease starts with a firm diffuse swelling over the affected region. The hard swelling enlarges and then softens like a water balloon as the abscess comes to a head. At this point, the abscess either pops by itself or is lanced by your veterinarian. It is not uncommon for affected horses to have a mild temperature of 102 to 103 degrees.

Veterinary treatment usually consists of hot packing the swelling until an abscess has formed and is ready to lance. Once the abscess is lanced, the open wound is cleaned daily and your horse is put on antibiotics for an extended period of time. The problem with Pigeon Fever is that it can cause multiple abscesses in a given horse. About one in five cases will have another abscess once the antibiotics are stopped. In very very rare cases a horse can even get an internal abscess which can result in peritonitis when it breaks open.

There is no vaccination for Pigeon Fever. The bacteria is present throughout California and is spread by flies. It does follow a pattern of having one or two years when many horses in the area will get the disease. Then several years will follow without any cases being seen. This implies that horses in an

(continued)

Pigeon Fever, *continued*

area will develop a resistance on their own which gradually diminishes with time. On a given ranch if one horse becomes affected, it is likely that a small number of additional cases will be seen. However, unlike strangles, it is not likely that you will see more than a small percentage of horses on any one farm come down with the disease.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION YOU CAN REACH DR. NOVICK AT (415) 855-9626.

Dr. Novick is a seasoned horseman of more than twenty years. He is a former national level rider on the east coast hunter/jumper circuit and is a graduate of the Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, Boston, MA. Before moving to California, his extensive experience at the New Jersey Equine Clinic, included both performance and race horses. During the past 4 years he has worked with performance horses in the San Francisco Bay Area.

His special interests are Sport Medicine, Lameness and Reproduction. He also offers a full range of services including: treating Navicular disease, back and hock injuries, laminitis/founder, pre-purchase examinations, worming/vaccination clinics, general medicine, surgery, and artificial insemination.



S.M.C.H.A. SPRING RIDE

Sunday, April 18, 1993

Meet at Woodside Stables on Canada Road at 9:30 a.m. and ride out at 10:00 a.m. sharp. Plenty of room for trailer parking.

We will be riding to the Toyon Camp in Huddart Park for lunch. Appetizers, barbecue with all the fixens' and dessert will be provided.

Cost is \$12/person "guaranteed" Rain or Shine, and includes drinks. Non-riders are welcome at lunch, same price, be there by 12 noon. Reservations are a must. Remember, with your reservation, you are guaranteeing payment.

Bring a Halter • No Stallions • No Dogs

R.S.V.P. by April 12th

Doris Lantz
366-5475 or 583-7800

Sharon Lann
508-0235



GROUP RACES TO SAVE RARE RUSSIAN HORSES

The International Equine Humane Association

Once they competed for Olympic glory. Now, they battle for survival.

Russian Warmbloods, the elegant, coal-black horses that were the foundation stock for the former Soviet Union equestrian team, are on the brink of starvation in their changed homeland, and a U.S. humane association has embarked on an ambitious plan to rescue them.

"There are only about 400 of these horses left," said Luci Christian, president of the Los Altos-based International Equine Humane Association (IEHA). "They won't survive the winter without help. That's the bottom line, because their hay is running out and they've been receiving reduced rations for six months."

The association hopes to bring out up to 150 of the horses and establish a Russian Warmblood breeding center on donated land in the San Francisco Bay Area. That would ensure the survival of the species which dates back some 200 years to the days of the Czars.

Christian said the association has been working out details of the rescue with the Russian Consul General's office in San Francisco and Alexander Polozkov, the Russian Equestrian team veterinarian whose plea for help began the project.

The association hopes to raise \$500,000 to gain title to the horses and pay for their air transportation to the United States, while leaving supplies and seed money for the Warmbloods' Russian stock farm to try to ensure better care for those horses left behind.

There are also boarding costs associated with quarantine regulations for horses coming in to the United States from overseas.

The \$500,000 is not a lot of money when you consider you're saving a species," Christian said. "We have a lot of public support and I think it's something people want to see happen.

"We're in a race against time. They've already lost quite a few horses. It's similar to the crisis that we had during the World Wars with the Lipizzaner stallions and broodmares. These

horses have as much history as the Lipizzaners but have been isolated in Russia."

Fund-raisers are planned over the next couple of months to finance the association's mission and negotiations are under way with the two major property owners who may be willing to make room for the Russian Warmbloods on their land.

Virtually all of the surviving Russian Warmbloods remain at Staroshilovskly Konnyi Zavod, the former Soviet state stock farm in central Russian, about 180 miles outside Moscow.

Horses produced by the farm include Barin and Dikson, stallions that between them competed in the past two Olympic games and numerous interna-



'Barin,' a 12-year old Russian Warmblood and two-time Olympian, in a photo taken last May, before Russian Equestrian team veterinarian reduced hay rations.

Russian Horses, *continued*

tional dressage and other equestrian competitions.

Barin is still believed to be at the farm. Dikson is believed to be near Moscow under the care of a Russian equestrian team member.

The horses and equestrian team members essentially have been left to fend for themselves since the collapse of communism two years ago and the resulting breakup of the Soviet Union.

Word began filtering out of deteriorating conditions following a May 1992 visit to the Russian Warmbloods stock farm by Shelley Lawder, a Grand Prix dressage rider from Camarillo.

"She was over there and saw that things were starting to fall apart in May, so it started months ago but now it's down to really desperate straits," Christian said.

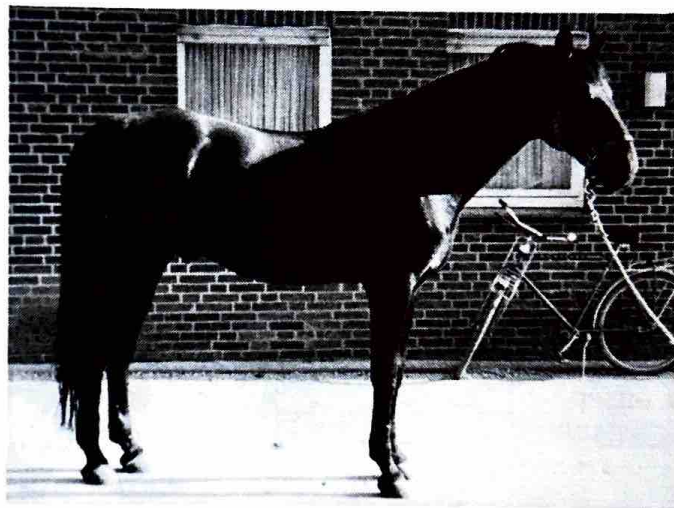
Polozkov, in faxes sent to the association, said the scarcity and expense of hay and oats has forced caretakers to slash the horses' daily feedings by about 50 percent. Such rationing has been going for the past six months.

Christian said the rescue will be carried out in stages and an association delegation was expected to leave for Russia in the next two to three weeks to lay the ground work and assess the conditions of the horses.

She said the first phase of the rescue was scheduled for early April when about 40 horses were expected to be flown out.

In horse parlance, "blood" refers to a breed's temperament. Thoroughbreds are considered "hotblooded," while a draft horse like a Clydesdale is "coldblooded." The Warmblood breeds combine attributes of both. The Russian horses have the strength of a more "cold-blooded" animal with some of the sensitivity and intelligence of a thoroughbred.

"They are powerful, but graceful and agile," said Kristine Yankovsky, a Palo Alto lawyer involved in the rescue efforts of IEHA. "It takes a lot of grace, flexibility and a certain level of intelligence for the horse to respond to the trainer."



Only 400 powerful Russian Warmbloods are left in the World.

She said the Russians have been reluctant to sell the animals to other European trainers because they want the breed to remain intact. The IEHA has promised to allow the Russians to obtain breeding

stock from the projected American herd when they're ready to have them again. The American plan is to ship up to 150 horses to the U.S. where they could breed on donated land.

"What we're going to try to do is structure it so where the horses are kept is an educational and training center," she said. "They'll be available to the public for viewing. We intend to make some available to riders who compete at the higher levels to promote the horses."

In addition, a U.S. Registry of the breed will be opened. Polozkov and two East Coast geneticists plan to study the breed through bloodtyping and DNA analysis to determine their

Russian Horses, continued

unique place in equine genetic history.

The IEHA will make Warmblood offspring available to the public in two years. Luci Christian said she already has accumulated a waiting list of 25 people nationwide. "It says to me that people want to see these horses have a future."

The Russians will also have an opportunity to purchase these offspring. "This is their only chance to ever get them back," Christian said.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the American Minor Breeds Conservancy are guiding Chris-

YOU CAN HELP!

Public support is urgently needed to save the Russian Warmblood breed from extinction. Cash and in-kind donations are needed immediately to support the substantial costs of the rescue. Horses are not available for adoption at this time.

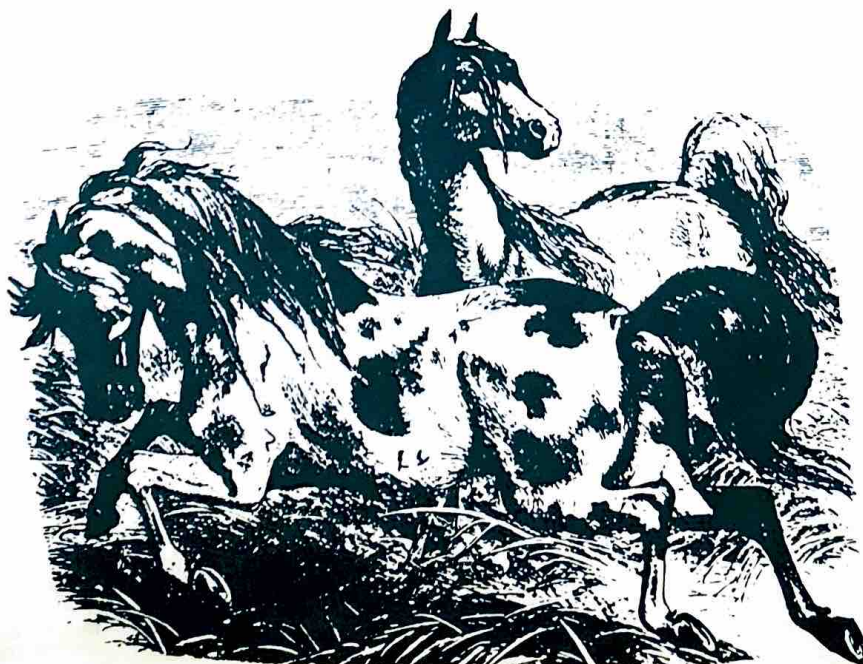
IEHA is sponsoring a dinner and auction to benefit The Russian Warmblood Rescue Project to be held Saturday, May 1, 1993, 6:30 p.m. at the Estate of Mrs. Fran Jacobs in Woodside, California. Dr. Alexander I. Polozkov, Chief Veterinarian of the former USSR Olympic Equestrian Team will be the special guest speaker. R.S.V.P. by April 18th, 1993.

To find out more about attending the dinner or offering other help, write to the International Equine Humane Association, P.O. Box 2031, Los Altos, CA 94023 or call (415) 941-5867.

tian in the rescue efforts.

Christian founded the IEHA a year ago to improve the standard of care for horses through rescue, rehabilitation, education and legal intervention. The organization was instrumental in rescuing five starving Sonoma horses last March and an abused racehorse a few months later.

The IEHA needs immediate public donations to save the Russian Warmbloods. For more information, write to P.O. Box 2031, Los Altos, CA 94023 or call (415) 941-5867.



S.M.C.H.A. 1993 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (Tentative)

January

13 7:30 pm Board Mtg., Sr. Center, Redwood City
 23 6:30 pm Installation, Elks Club, Redwood City

February

10 7:30 pm Board Mtg, Sr. Center, Redwood City
 25 6:30 pm General Mtg., Pot Luck & White Elephant Sale

March

10 7:30 pm Board Mtg., Senior Center

APRIL

14 7:30 pm Board Mtg., Senior Center
 18 9:00 am Spring Ride, Huddart Park
 22 7:00 pm General Mtg., Independence Hall, Woodside

MAY

1 8:00 am May Day Parade, Woodside
 12 7:30 pm Board Mtg., Senior Center
 16 11:00 am Family Picnic, SMCHA members, Huddart Park

JUNE

9 7:30 pm Board Mtg., Senior Center
 10 6:30 pm Western Riding Clinic, Mounted Patrol Grounds
 12 8:00 am Western Schooling Show, Webb Ranch
 13 8:00 am English Schooling Show, Webb Ranch
 13 8:00 am Annual Restaurant Ride, TBA
 17 6:30 pm Western Riding Clinic, Mounted Patrol Grounds
 24 6:30 pm Western Riding Clinic, Mounted Patrol Grounds



4	8:00 am	Independence Day Parade, Redwood City
8	6:30 pm	Western
14	7:30 pm	Board Mtg., Senior Center
15	6:30 pm	Western
18	8:00 am	Western Schooling Show, Webb Ranch
22	6:00 pm	Western Riding Clinic Show & Dinner, Mounted Patrol Grounds



8	8:00 am	English Schooling Show, Webb Ranch
11	7:30 pm	Board Mtg., Senior Center
15	7:00 am	NORCAL Open Western Show, Mounted Patrol Grounds
16-23	1:00 pm	Annual Jack Brook Horse Camp Overnight Ride



8	7:30 pm	Board Mtg., Senior Center
10	5:30 pm	Night at the Races, Bay Meadows, San Mateo
12	8:00 am	Play Day, Charter Oaks, Woodside



10	9:00 am	President's Ride, TBA
13	7:30 pm	Board Mtg., Senior Center
22	8:00 pm	Grand Nationals, Cow Palace, Daly City



10	7:30 pm	Board Mtg., Senior Center
18	6:00 pm	General Mtg., Election of New Board, Ice Cream Independence Hall, Woodside



3	7:00 pm	Board Dinner, Election of Officers, TBA
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22	6:30 pm	Installation, Elk's Club, Redwood City
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Classified Ads

Roommate Wanted

Male or Female roommate wanted. Must like animals and be willing to care for them when I'm away. Also prefer that he/she has some knowledge of horses. Might be able to provide board for one horse. Rent about \$500/month (or less) depending on availability to care for animals etc. Call Sue Sheehan at (415) 851-0296.

For Sale

Stove: Sears Kenmore Electric Self Cleaning oven; hood included. \$125 or B.O.

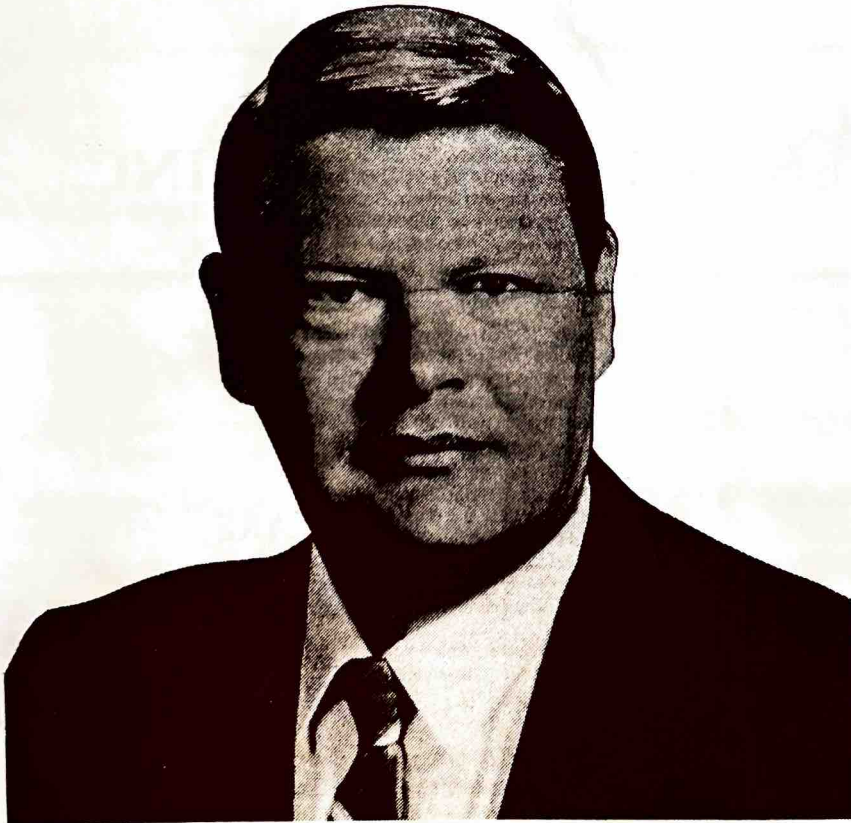
Refrigerator: Whirlpool 19.4 cu. ft. Frost free freezer. Excellent condition. \$175 or B.O. Call Sue Sheehan (415) 851-0296.

For Sale

Beautiful Palomino American Saddlebred gelding. Broke to ride, ready to show, lots of action, long neck. 5 years old. Priced to sell. Call Sonny Cannon (415) 851-7339 days.

If you have an ad you'd like to place in the next issue, please send to SMCHA, P.O. Box 620092, Woodside, CA 94062.

WANTED



JOE KIRBY
For Sheriff • San Mateo County

