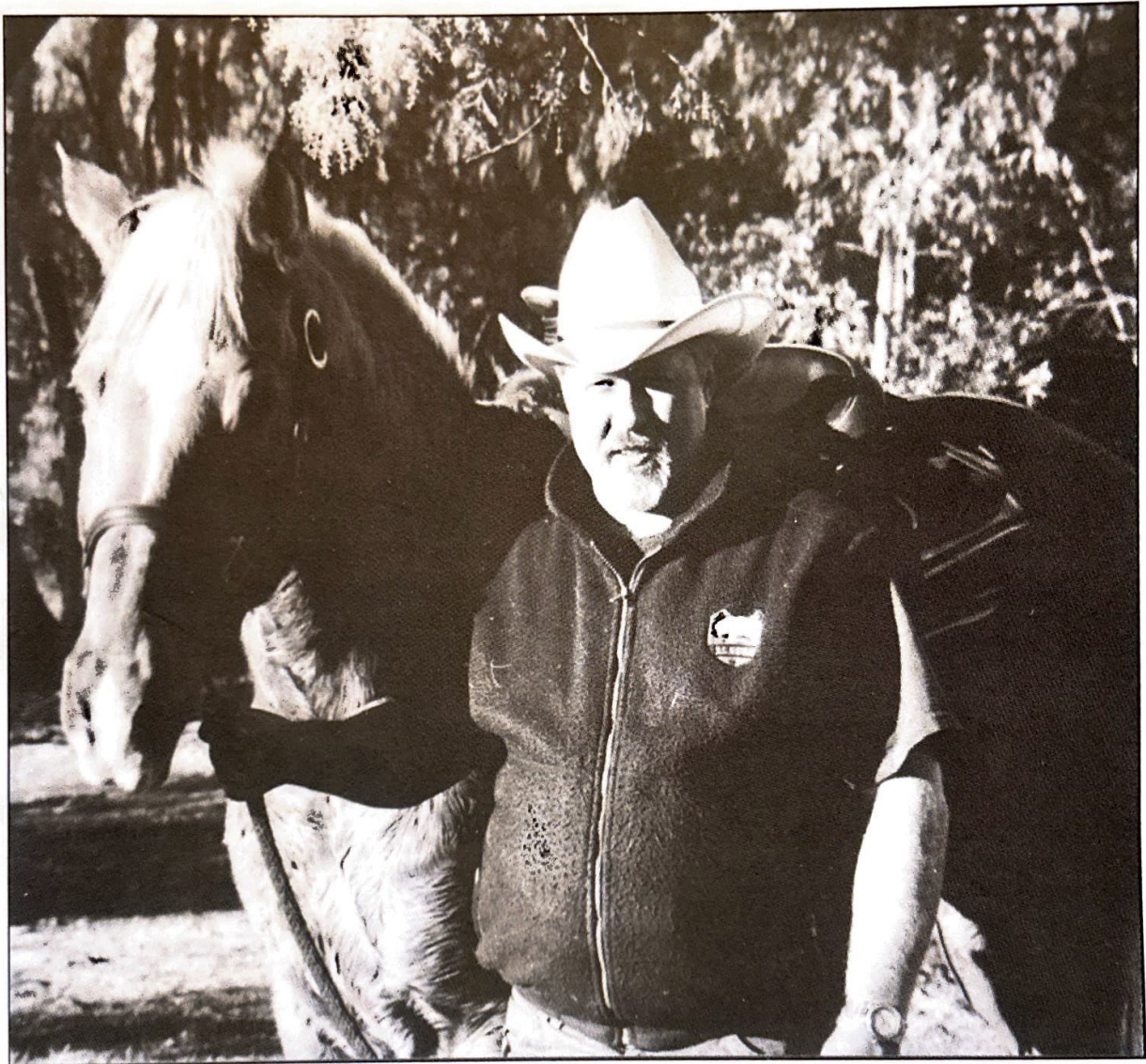


The San Mateo HORSEMAN



Winter 1997



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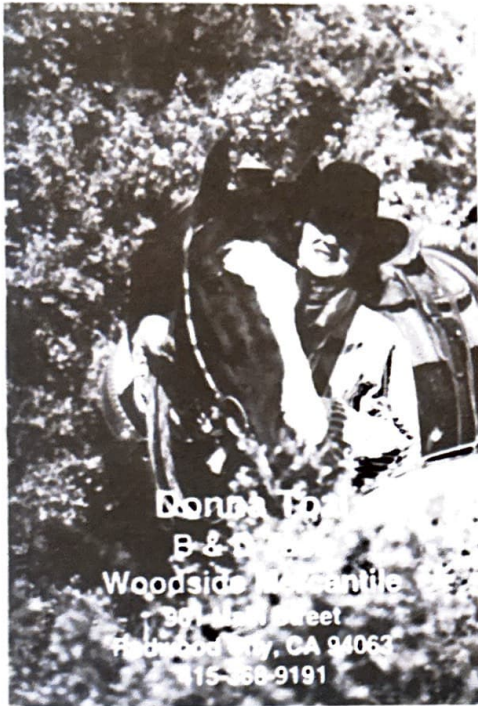
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bruce Baker



Four Score and about ten years ago, when I first became a member of the San Mateo Horsemen's Association and was able to join the Board of Directors, I thought I would never want to be President. Well, guess what—meet your new President!

This year will be quite a busy one as the Association plans even more seminars, rides and group activities.

Our new First Vice President, Mary Beth Stucky will be in charge of General Meetings, and our new second Vice President will be Nan Daley, and she will head up our rides. Diane Hicks is putting together some more seminars, and she is also working on our Trail Trials Ride which is one of the most popular activities offered by the region.

This past year the club went out to really try to get our Juniors' programs rolling again. With the help of Linda Menon we were able to triple Junior membership and she plans even more events this year.

Being a member of this Horse Club opens numerous opportunities that the average person would not be able to do. Some of the rides the group went on this past year (organized wonderfully by Sue Sheehan) were in areas that are normally not open to the public.

Karen Rowley put on our Riding Clinics again this past summer; she always does a great job, and the folks participating in the clinic get some hands-on training that they could not get at the same price anywhere else.

Diane Hawks has again volunteered to lead our Color Guard and they will again be participating in the Grand National Opening Night Ceremonies.

Show your support for these gals for they really appreciate it!

Our English and Western horse shows and our huge Nor Cal Show are also in the works. Check the calendar and watch for our mailers for details on all these events. Lastly I would like to thank Linda Menon for doing such a tremendous job on the magazine these last few years, and I would also like to thank Tanya Rebarchik for taking it over.

Hope to see you at the events this year!

Bruce Baker

Cover:
SMCHA 1997 President
Bruce Baker and his horse Bre

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BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE DEANZA RELAY

by Donna Tozi, Sue Sheehan and Dianne Larson Hicks

The Heritage Trail Fund was started many years ago under the leadership of George Cardinet. He worked with Ronald Reagan when he was governor of California to open and improve trails throughout our state. When Reagan became President of the United States, George went to many meetings in Washington, D.C. George is in his late 80's and still rides, continues to attend meetings regarding open space and trail agendas and works everyday to keep our wonderful trail system operating and expanding. Working side by side with George as his right-hand person is Nancy Dupont who has also gone to meetings all over the state and to Washington.

In 1976 George organized the DeAnza Relay. He attempted to ride as close as possible to the exact route that Juan Bautista DeAnza took in 1776 to colonize California and San Francisco. Just a few years ago, with George Cardinet and Heritage Trails, Congress dedicated this route as a National Trail System: Public Law 90-543, as amended 16 USC 1246. George decided again to put together another relay, this time to mark it's route with DeAnza markers and dedicate this the longest linear commemorative trail.

In the spring of 1996 in Santa Barbara there was a big parade to get the spirit of DeAnza alive again. Donna Tozi and Bruce Doran took their horses to that event and got involved! They have the right spirit when it comes to getting involved in horse activities of the greatest kind. Whether it is doing a five minute spot for a rodeo in the S.J. arena, jetting around with the American flag or dressing up for a Christmas scene (nativity or Santa Claus), Bruce and Donna are there with good hearts and humor. True western spirit. With this type of

Stu Whittelsey and Dianne Hicks



spirit, it is very hard to say NO to them when help is needed for their many adventures. This is how several of us became involved with the DeAnza Relay.

In August Bruce had some medical problems, however even with the restrictions put on him by his doctors, he still didn't lose his spirit and enthusiasm to see this venture through. At this point I (Sue Sheehan) became involved. We started having weekly meetings, the first few at Marty Brookman's house, and then in September her husband died suddenly of a heart attack. What a shock! Marty was unfortunately unable to continue with us after that. It then started to seem like a "real relay" with relay angels popping in all over. "Gentleman Don" Pugh came on board as our computer whiz and started really getting our schedule pinpointed down to the minute. He organized the Mounted Patrol in every way possible. He even got the San Mateo County Sheriff's office involved. So, in came Sheriff Joe Driscoll. Barry and Kathy Freeman from Romp and Stomp joined our meetings to bring in the bicycle riders to help with a part of the relay. We started discussing how to get the media involved and then all of a sudden along came Barbara Taddeo. She assumed the monumental task of getting schools, civic leaders and the media involved in our venture. The time kept getting closer and it seemed like we would never be ready.

In the several weeks prior we all went scurrying around doing our assigned tasks. Bruce, Sue and Milo Schmidt (our San Francisco chairman) went 4 wheeling it on the trails at the Presidio to figure out our route. Milo, also had some medical problems and he and Bruce were not up to walking more than a few feet. Good thing Sue, R.N. was with them. A week later Sue and Maura went on a docent led 3 mile hike from Mt. Lake Park to Ft. Point in the Presidio. This was the



At the Stanford Red Barn

DeAnza Ride, continued

exact route DeAnza had taken 220 years before. Of course, it looks a little different with 19th. Ave and a golf course in the middle! But, with a little imagination you could see right where DeAnza, his followers and the Indians set up camp and founded our beloved San Francisco. It was now time to try it on horses. Bruce, Donna, Sue, Milo, his mom Sylvia and wife Maureen pre-rode through Golden Gate Park and then via Park Presidio Blvd. to the Presidio. When we arrived at our campground destination (Rob Hill) the view was spectacular. You can only imagine how DeAnza must have felt from the top of his horse ever so long ago. Several more trips and phone calls were made to San Francisco to get the Officers Club set up for a cocktail party, to make arrangements for police escort, to get the arrangements made for the big ceremony at Ft. Point, to make sure the camping was 5 star rated for our trusty steeds, and to arrange for the catering. Flyers were made with times, destinations and maps. These were distributed to horse clubs, schools, hospitals, local stores and the media. Letters were written to get permits to enter Stanford land, Water dept., V.A. Hospital etc. Requests were made for donations to help with and sponsor food and drink at our lunch stops, breakfast and cocktail party

The week before we were to receive the official "Mochila", Bruce and Donna drove to Monterey (where the relay was at that point) to see just what the "Mochila" looked like and finalize plans with Nancy Dupont for the next leg through San Mateo County. Nancy and Jeanne Gillin had been with the group and ridden the whole 1,100 miles from Mexico! The 'Mochila' was beautiful, but huge! It is four saddle bags sewn onto a large leather piece that covers the whole saddle

and weighs about 60 pounds. There are holes to fit over the horn and the back of the saddle to keep it

George and Vie Obern

At the Presidio



in place. Sue was so funny; she didn't believe us when told how big it was and thought she wanted to carry it on her English saddle. Then, when she saw it she never said another word!

It was Monday night, Nov. 25th. and our last "pull-it-together" meeting. Sue and Donna arrived with costumes from Vie Obern and Al Lucas (who had ridden 20 years earlier on the '76 relay) Needles to say it was a little distracting from the meeting when we were all deciding whether to be soldiers or settlers. Joe Driscoll and Sue were busy getting the final route nailed down. Sue had been walking, driving and riding behind the scenes to know just what parking lot, bridge or road could be crossed to make the route from Palo Alto to Menlo Park to Redwood City the safest and most practical. Joe made arrangements for the Sheriff's Dept. to have a squad car escort us the entire route and our bicycle representative, David Vorlansky had all the last minute details squared away for the leg from Woodside through San Mateo to San Francisco. Mary Beth and Bob Stucky and Stu Whittelsey were there to offer input and last minute help. The time to meet the next day, was set for noon (this had been changed several times)

Donna Tozi, Bruce Doran and Sue Sheehan





George C., Sue Sheehan, Nancy DuPont and Phil Valdez (a decendent of De Anza)



...senting the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association."

The Mounted Patrol were our hosts at a dinner held at the Patrol Grounds on Tuesday evening and then early Wednesday morning we rode out from there to Pulgas Water Temple. A stop at Woodside town hall, and then down Canada Rd.

Tuesday was a sunny and warm day when all of us gathered at the Stanford Barn. We had soldiers, settlers, sheriffs and cowboys all decked out with guns and flags. The leg from the Stanford Red Barn past Ronald Mac Donald House and Stanford shopping center was very special. Riding across El Camino Real to El Palo Alto Park was memorable, especially standing 10 feet from the railroad tracks when two trains came. This was quite an eye opener for Dianne's young horse as well as some of the older ones. This park is historic because this is where the "El Palo Alto" (tall tree) is. The tree still stands as it did 220 years ago when DeAnza camped here. This tree is the only living historic marker in the country. The Santa Clara riders arrived a 1/2 hour late, we had a quick ceremony, passed the "Mochila" to Sheriff Don Horsley, the mayor of Palo Alto gave a short speech and we were on our way. The next stop was the V.A. Hospital on Willow Rd. This is where Sue works and was quite a thrill to be able to ride up front and have several of the patients and staff cheering and clapping as we went by. Flood Park was our next stop. Barbara Taddeo had all the children from Flood school and two others set up on bleachers cheering us on. Paul Bernal and Phil Valdez, descendants of DeAnza spoke to the children. Vie Obern (from Santa Barbara) told of some of the history pertaining to DeAnza's trip. She also spoke at our next stop which was Garfield School in the Hispanic part of Redwood City. Our final stop for the day was at the "Lathrop House" in downtown Redwood City. There we were blessed by a priest and entertained with special dancing by several school children. The "Mochila" was passed to Donna from Don Horsley. "This was really a thrill and never did I sit so tall on a horse as I (Donna) did while I carried the "Mochila". I carried it in to San Francisco. and then got it back at the wonderful Fort Point ceremony to turn over again to the Santa Clara representative. It was not only a thrill but an honor to carry it,

was our next journey. At the water temple we were again blessed by a priest and had a great BBQ lunch by Gene Ericksen with the help of Walt Kirk. At this point we were to turn the "Mochila" over to David(bicyclist), but it was a little heavy for a bike also. So, instead he carried a gourd with "blessed water" all the way from Mexico. A short ceremony was held in downtown San Mateo at a DeAnza marker and then the bikes proceeded on to San Francisco.

The next day was Thanksgiving and boy did we have a feast! Donna and Bruce found out 4 days earlier that the riders coming up from Mexico had no place to go for Thanksgiving dinner. So, true to fashion they pulled it all together with the help of Safeway, Harry's Hofbrau and Bruce's big facility. It seemed very fitting that we had such a big group for dinner, when we were celebrating the Pilgrims settling in America at the same time re-enacting the settling of California.

On Friday riding from the Rec. Center, past Lake Merced, down Sunset Ave, through Golden Gate Park, along Park Presidio Blvd. and on to the Presidio was quite an experience. "I (Sue) lived in San Francisco for 2 years and California for 20 and never realized till I did this ride that the avenues in San Francisco were named after people in DeAnza's party. What a history lesson this ride has been for me!" Dianne states that; "It's great to drive along Park Presidio Blvd. now, and say I rode there!" She rode in a soldiers uniform and got to escort one of DeAnza's relatives. A young woman from Petaluma who remembered as a child she saw her father pose for a statue of DeAnza. He was the closest decendent resembling DeAnza.

The cocktail party at the Officer's Club was a huge success and everyone seemed to have a good time. Authentic Mexican food was prepared by Lupita Osieja with help from her brother Carlos. Gary, Lupita's husband also pitched in

DeAnza Ride, continued



Jeannie Gillan of Rancho Murrietta

the Presidio) was a fun time. It was hard to believe we were in the middle of one of the largest cities in the world. Giant pines and redwoods made it great for tie lines and the footing was good enough to drive on, yet soft enough for the horses to have the next best thing to a feather bed.

There were bathrooms with running water and a fire pit where we had a huge campfire. Our visions are to make this the one and only horse camp in an urban setting! Breakfast the next morning was true camp style by of course, Gene Ericksen.

At 11 AM sharp on Saturday our escorts (Park Presidio Mounted Police) arrived to lead us to the ceremony at Ft. Point. More than 100 horses and riders, in costume, from all over Calif. staged at Rob Hill. We rode over the crest of the hill at the top of the Presidio Cemetery to see the most breathtaking view—it was one of the clearest days ever.

A quote from Rob Krensky "I wouldn't have missed the chance to ride to Ft. Point and be a part of the ceremony for anything." It truly made one feel extremely important. Words just cannot express how neat it was to look around at all the well behaved horses and riders in so many different colorful costumes standing at the edge of the bay with the Golden Gate Bridge as our backdrop. Speeches were made by some very important people including a U.S. Senator and our own fellow horseman, Ambassador Bill Lane. The blessed water (in the gourd) from Mexico was poured into the bay and we again were blessed for a continued safe journey by a priest.



Don Pugh and Ambassador Bill Lane

and helped as he had done all year for the S.M.C.H.A. Kimberly, their 2 yr. old entertained us and sat on the laps of our distinguished Mexican guests, Nacho and Enrique.

Camping at Rob Hill (the highest point on

were packed up and ready to leave you couldn't see 20 feet ahead of you and it had started raining.

After storming all night we awoke to sunshine. Once again at the Mounted Patrol grounds, this time stepping over puddles of water, we saddled up our ever faithful pals and headed for our last trek back to Santa Clara County. I believe that all the blessings we got along the way was the reason we had such great weather for the days that we rode that week!

The ride from the Mounted Patrol to the Stanford Red Barn was a new route for most of us. Donna quoted; "I've lived in this area all my life and I've never ridden on these hills. We'll have to have a club ride here some day." Barbara Taddeo guided us on the Monkey Farm trail, through Webb Ranch, over the Stanford hills and even through a tunnel, flags and all.

Our final destination was the Stanford Red Barn where our host, Bill Lane, was waiting for us with a wonderful lunch catered by Gene!

We really appreciate the support given by Bill Lane to Heritage Trails for the DeAnza relay. Without his help and the donations from S.M.C.H.A., Los Viajeros, and the San Francisco Horsemen we never would have been able to make this such a memorable event. It truly was "History In The Making."

Note: The DeAnza committee could not have taken on a project of this size without the help of so many others. We would like to thank all the other participants and helpers for their hard work for a job well done.



SMCHA JUNIORS

by Linda Menon

Saturday, October 26th, a brisk and blustery Fall day, the SMCHA Juniors (and Seniors too!) had a great time at our first annual Halloween Spooktacular! We started in the early afternoon by taking the horses trick-or-treating — with the horses in costumes and getting all the treats! Kids, parents and horses met on Olive Hill in Woodside in the early afternoon where the horses got dressed in their Halloween costumes. There was the Baskin's horse Starfire "dressed" as a dog with floppy ears and a spot around his eye; Linda Yamas' horse Angel dressed as, you guessed it!, an angel and her horse Crusader dressed as a punk rock star, complete with guitar; Lorena Heatley's horses Annie as a mariachi and Ali as a "Paint Horse"; the Marcelli's horse Ginger dressed as an Indian pony, with feathers and bells; and my horse Lass as a Hawaiian princess with flower leis. Haley Baskin was dressed as a cat (to go along with her horse, the dog), and Mikey Baskin was dressed as a fruit bat. The horses found the fruit bat quite exciting — especially when he spread his wings!

We led the horses since, although we thought each horse may be comfortable with his own costume, we weren't sure what they would think of their neighbor's costume. As it turned out, the horses seemed to enjoy the outing and weren't really concerned about any of the costumes —except, of course, for our little fruit bat!

We walked to Laning and up to Jane Drive where we stopped at several houses, previously

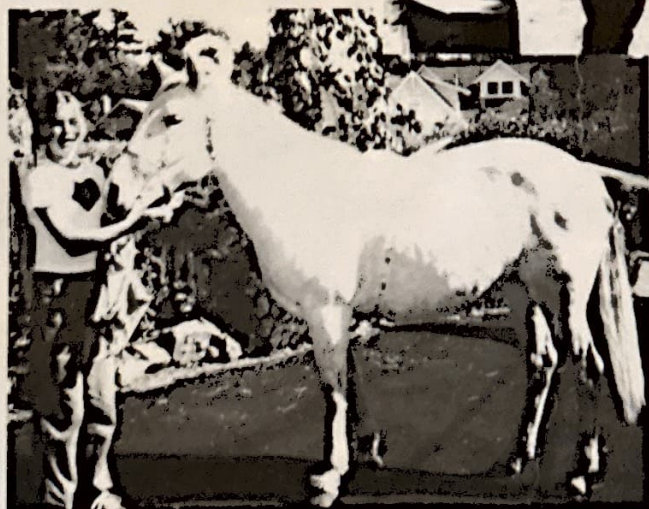
contacted and expecting us, to let the horses trick-or-treat. After completing the circle of Jane Drive, we walked back down to CaÒada Road and stopped at the homes of Clem Carroll and Joy Traube. Our hosts were very gracious and had prepared cut-up apples and carrots for the horses, and even some treats for the kids. After the first house, the horses learned quickly that this trick-or-treating was great! You just walk house to house and eat goodies at each stop! After trick-or-treating, we took the horses home, got them undressed, gave them some of their goodies and left them to enjoy their memories of the day. Then we were off with our pumpkins to join other SMCHA members at the home of Mary Beth and Robert Stuckey. The Stuckeys had all the gear set up to carve our pumpkins! With the stencils and special cutting instruments they supplied we were all able to create professional looking masterpieces!

We had a great day! Thanks to all who participated, to all those who let us stop and trick-or-treat at their homes, and special thanks to the Stuckeys for opening their home to all of us big and little kids!

Clem Carroll, Linda Yamas, and Crusader as a rock star



We are planning a repeat performance of our Halloween Spooktacular next October and hope you and your horses will join us! Meantime, we are also planning the rest of the Junior activities for 1997. If you know of a junior who would like to be part of our group, please call me — Linda Menon at my office (415) 349-1462 or at home (415) 365-8011.



Lorena and Scott Heatley and Annie

PRESIDENT'S RIDE 1996

by Sue Sheehan

October is the month for cool, crisp days with fall colors, pumpkins, ghosts, witches and goblins. Our Presidents' ride on October 13th did have some of that. We had a warm sunny day with pumpkins and angels, not witches (unless they were good witches) helping. No ghosts or goblins, though!

We were able to ride in the Morshead property in Portola Valley. This was an extreme privilege. Especially now, since it is no longer owned by any of the Morshead family.

When I came to California 20 years ago, this was the first place I rode. My sister lived nearby and she took me through it several times. The old growth Redwood forest is the most impressive in the area. The trails are wide and were always well maintained by the owners. There are three lakes, fantastic views and clover in the canyons that looks like it was put there as wall to wall carpeting for the "Jolly Green Giant". In the summer it always stayed cool and in winter it is protected from the strong winds, and footing always stays good. Sounds wonderful, doesn't it? For those of you who missed the ride I sure hope we have an opportunity to share it with you in the future.

The turnout was fantastic with over 40 riders showing up and over 50 for lunch. We even had 7 past presidents which included: Stan Schlichting, Katie Kane, Doris Lantz, Ron Harris, Amos Dana, Jim Estep and Harry Wellman. Lunch was served at the edge of one of the lakes. Chaise lounges and sunshine made it difficult for some to mount their horses for the ride back! The menu was another October tradition - German fare. Several kinds of sausage, German potato salad, sauerkraut, applesauce, German beer and homemade apple strudel (by Tanya). The Hors d'oeuvres were my typical—guacamole dip, shrimp dip etc. The ride included a few loops past all the lakes and through the redwoods. We were even able to stop in an open field for a group picture with Stanford and the bay as our background. I would like to thank my main helpers: Walt Kirk, Aleta Reed and Barbara Marcelli. I could not have done it without them.

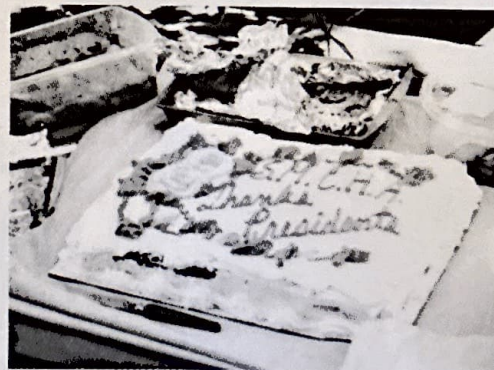
I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how much I enjoyed being the second Vice President and trail ride organizer this past year. It was really fun scouting out new and different places to ride and, even better, showing them all to you. I really even enjoyed doing the catering for the rides. I especially want to thank all my helpers, with, of course, an extra special hug for Walt for being there on every ride to do any menial task asked of him!

Donna's support and encouragement helped alot, too, especially when she would say "Oh, now, you know you can

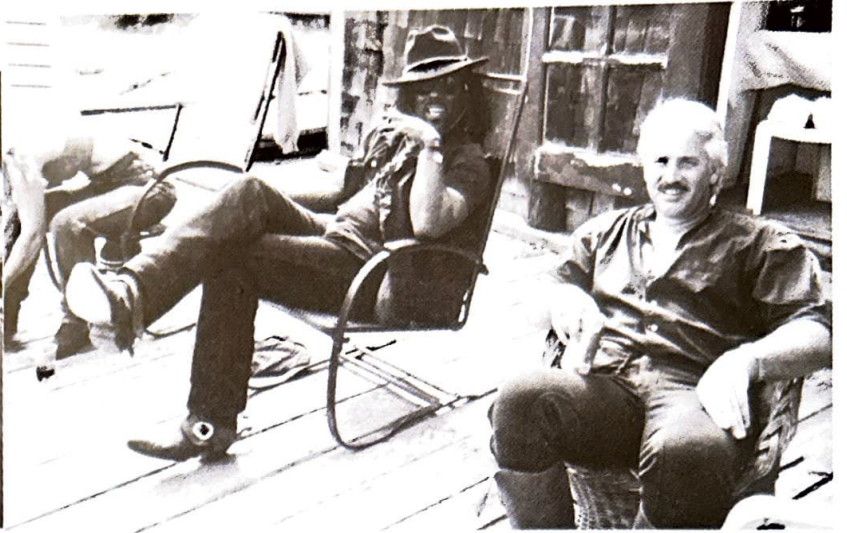
do it, Sue!" and I did. Thank you all for faith in me as your leader. Now hopefully you can make the same quote as Bruce Doran: "I'll follow you anywhere, Sue!!" (As long as it's not the Twinky trail, huh, Bruce?)



Sue Sheehan, Katy Kane, Donna Tozi



President's Ride, continued



Barbara Marcelli and Aleta Reed



What a great place for lunch!



Past and present Presidents: Jim Estep, Donna Tozi, Ron Harris, Doris Lantz, Amos Dana, Harry Wellman, Katie Kane

UNDERSTANDING EQUINE MORTALITY INSURANCE

by Julie I. Fershtman, Attorney at Law

Reprinted with permission of author from American Equine Magazine

The horse industry, as a whole, spends millions of dollars each year on mortality insurance. Mortality insurance is often compared to life insurance, although there are several important differences. Generally, mortality insurance is designed to pay a sum of money in the event that an insured horse dies or is stolen. Of the large numbers of people who buy mortality insurance, few truly understand that the policies and the companies who offer them is not alike.

Evaluate the Company Backing the Policy

In most cases, the insurance agency who sells a mortality insurance policy is not the same company who will financially back that policy if a claim (a request for policy benefits) arises. Therefore, before you buy the insurance, find out who the insurance company is, its reputation, financial stability and its history in regard to paying claims.

One way to evaluate an insurance company is to check the rating it had received through services. The A.M. Best Company is one commonly used service, but there are others. The A.M. Best Company can be reached at 1-800-424-BEST. Although rating services cannot guarantee whether the company will stay in business in the future, they generally provide an opinion of an insurance company's current financial condition and strength.

Mortality Insurance Provisions to Check Before Your Buy

Two provisions in mortality insurance policies, can be very important to those who buy insurance.

An "Agreed Value" Policy Compared to an "Actual Cash Value" Policy

One very important but rarely understood provision commonly found in mortality insurance policies involves the amount of insurance that was purchased. In the unfortunate event that a claim is made on a policy of mortality insurance, the maximum amount of insurance a policy holder can receive is either based on the "actual cash value" of the horse around the time of its demise or an "agreed value" of the horse that was set forth in the insurance policy.

To illustrate the difference between "actual cash value" and "agreed value" policies, let's follow a claim on a \$10,000 policy of mortality insurance issued on the life of a horse. We will assume: the horse's owner (the policy holder) submitted a proper and timely claim, the policy covered the loss of the horse and the manner in which the loss occurred, and the insurance company fully agreed to pay the claim.

If the policy holder had purchased an "agreed value policy," the insurance would pay the full \$10,000 based on the circumstances described above. If the policy holder had purchased an "actual cash value," or fair market value policy, the insurance company might be justified in paying less than \$10,000 if it had sufficient reason to believe that the lesser amount reflects the fair market value of the horse around the time of the claim. While situations like this are not very common, they illustrate the importance of insuring a horse in an amount that does not exceed its true value.

Can You Renew the Insurance Without an Examination by a Veterinarian?

Some insurance companies require, as a condition to the annual renewal of a mortality policy, an updated veterinary certification. Other companies may allow automatic renewals without the certification. If a company's renewal requirements are important to you, evaluate them before buying the insurance.

Conclusion

In conclusion, please keep the following ideas in mind:

1. All mortality policies are not alike. Not only are there differences among the companies that offer mortality insurance, but the policies themselves can differ in many respects. Consequently, mortality insurance policies offered by different companies, even if they have similar premiums, might actually reflect different types of coverage.
2. Read your mortality insurance policy very carefully. A mortality insurance policy is a contract between the policy holder and the insurance company. If the insurance policy has certain duties or requirements that you are required to follow (such as timely and proper notice of illness, injury, or death), your failure to comply with these duties might cause you to lose your insurance coverage.
3. Only in a few instances does the insurance agency who sells the insurance financially back the policy. When buying insurance, stick with reputable agents and agencies as well as reputable insurance companies.
4. This article does not constitute legal advice. When questions arise based on specific situations, direct your questions to a knowledgeable attorney or insurance agent.

About the Author

Julie I. Fershtman is an attorney with a law practice devoted to horse-related legal issues as well as employment law, business disputes, and other matters. Her biography has been published in *Who's Who in American Law* for most

of her ten years of practice, and she currently chairs the largest section of the State Bar of Michigan. The American Bar Association *Barrister* Magazine named her one of "21 Young Lawyers Leading US Into the 21st Century." In 1996, she has spoken at major national conventions including the American Horse Council and Equitana USA. She can be reached at 30700 Telegraph Road, Suite 3475, Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-4527, (810) 644-8645 or at Fershtman@aol.com.

Ms. Fershtman is the author of the nationally acclaimed new book, *Equine Law & Horse Sense*, which sells for \$17.95+\$3 shipping and handling (Michigan resident add 6% sales tax). Contact Horses & Law Publishing, P.O. Box 250696, Franklin, MI 48025-0696, (800) 662-2210.

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"RIDING HIGH" HITS THE MARK WITH TROUBLED YOUTH

The Riding High Equestrian Program has been successfully reaching troubled youth in San Mateo County in an new and innovative way. The challenge is upon us with drug abuse, crime, eating disorders, and teen suicide on the rise. We do know, however, that *Horses make Magic with Kids* (sm). Based at Park Pacifica Stables, *Riding High* reaches youth in a different and attractive "Arena".

Honey Cowan, a member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, an R.N. and a psychotherapist in San Mateo, began the program in 1994. The *Riding High Equestrian Program* became a 501 C3 non-profit corporation in 1995. Honey teams up with Lisa Marshall (a qualified riding instructor), Cynthia Pisani (a MFCC Intern), and Shawna Norbash, as well as many volunteers to serve youth who might otherwise be unreachable. The team helps them gain courage, honor and self esteem by learning to respect (a word not often in their vocabulary) and handle horses.

Joey, a stubborn Appaloosa, is a great teacher of patience. Tory, a beautiful gray Paso Fino, melts the hearts of even the toughest of customers. Repo, a Paint, won't go unless asked correctly.

The young students work on a strict schedule. They ride for 1/2 hour, work on the ground with the horses for 1/2 hour, and clean stalls etc. for 1/2 hour each session. Therapy is ongoing. Students learn task completion, patience and responsibility as they work on the issues which have been causing trouble in their lives.

The program is supported by the community, schools, police, probation, the courts, parents and therapists. The cost is \$250.00 per month which includes four sessions a month. Scholarships are available based on need. Thus far, no one has been turned away for inability to pay. The program is heavily dependent on volunteers, grants, donations and donated services. Student are invited to come additionally on Sundays or mornings during the summer to "practice", work and hang out as long as they are being productive.

Repo is moving in January and the program is looking for "user-friendly" horses who like kids.

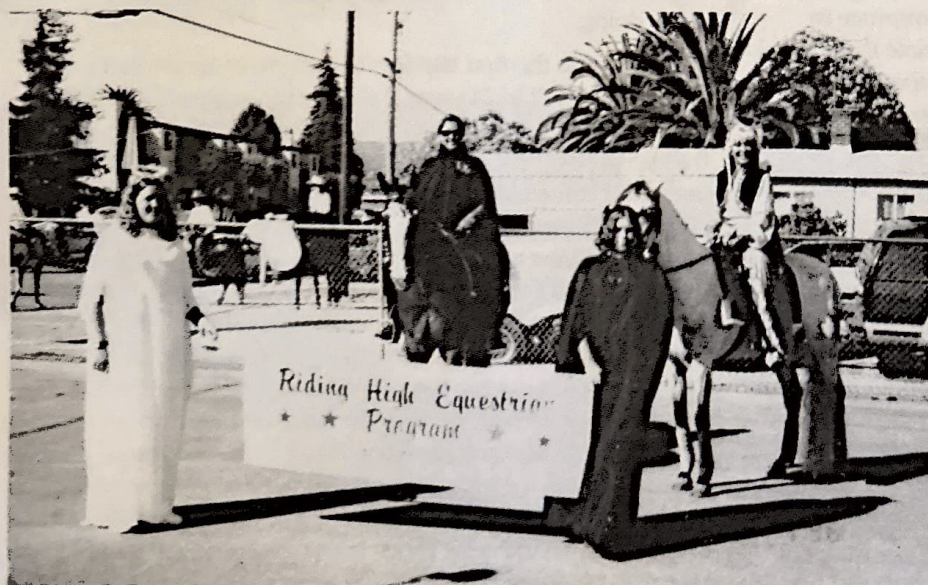
Riding High is holding its second annual fundraiser **Sunday, February 16, 1997** at Bay Meadows Race Track.

Donation is \$40.00 and includes admission, lunch, program, parking and a silent auction. This provides two ways to win...help the youth of San Mateo County and bet on your favorite pony!

Please help us help our kids.

For more information contact:

Honey Cowan, R.N., M.S., MFCC
18 Second Ave. #219
San Mateo, CA 94401
(415) 343-2515



Fourth of July Parade in Redwood City.
"Horses Make Magic with Kids" wins
2nd Prize for Novelty.
Devil Mandy, Angel Marjorie,
Genie Honey and Magician Lisa

FOLLOWING A DREAM

By Barbara Taddeo

How many people have dreamed about going some where but due to family, work, lack of funds or any other current but pressing excuse, we put off a dream we have had in the back of our mind and never realize it. How many horse people have also dreamed about going to the Olympics and taking part in it. This summer my dream came true.

In 1984 my daughter, Annie, and I attended the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. We spent the entire 2 weeks there attending several of the Equestrian events besides a variety of others. At that time we had decided that it would be fun to attend the 1996 games in Atlanta. Prior to 1984 I had attended the sailing events in Kiel, West Germany in 1972. I was in Kiel during the tragedy which struck that Olympics and was able to watch it on German television. I knew how exciting the Olympics were and wanted my daughter to experience it also.

The years went by and we became more involved with our 3 horses and Pony Club. Through various national competitions we traveled all over the U.S. competing in show jumping and Games (which is quite popular on the East Coast). In the back of our minds we still talked about going to Atlanta.

In 1995, as the Olympics drew closer, Annie was now a college student in Colorado majoring in Equine Sciences. I have been a single parent for the last 21 years so over the years I have learned that through volunteering many doors which would have been closed due to finances suddenly are open. I knew the Olympics ran on a lot of volunteers, so I thought why not. I can't afford the outrageous ticket prices and I would really like to go. Besides, I did not want to miss the anniversary of the 100th Olympic games. What better way to enjoy it than being part of it. To make a long story short, I wrote to the Olympic Organizing Committee in Atlanta requesting an application. I asked Annie if she would be interested and like most College students the last thing you want to do is go on vacation with your mother, even though you enjoy the same sports.

In the spring of 1995 I received a VERY thick application which ask everything from what shoe size I took to which jobs both volunteer and paying I have ever held in my life. I have always enjoyed volunteering, be it Pony Club, Girl Scouts or school activities. I have met people all over the world through my volunteer work. I also knew in filling out the application, the events I really wanted to see were all of the Equestrian events. When my application was completed and I had attached my paying job and volunteer resumes, my application was 20 pages long.

For almost a year I heard nothing except more questions and



Atlanta
Jump
represents
this
Olympics

a security clearance questionnaire. Then one late February morning I received a call from a woman in Atlanta to say I had been selected as a volunteer at the Georgia Horse Park. Even though I have over 15 years in logistics and event planning which included technology I was assigned to the transportation dept. I told the woman yes I was still interested and arrangement were made for me to receive what was the start of mounds of information. Thank Goodness UPS was one of the "official sponsors" of the Olympics. I knew that the trick to volunteer work is to first get your foot in the door.

A couple more months passed and further information came out on the job description. I soon learned that the job I was assigned was loading diesel busses in a parking lot. I wrote to ACOG again and informed them of my severe asthma reaction to diesel fuel. Once again the woman who I spoke to earlier called to try to convince me "what a fun job" it was going to be and that besides I was going to be given a "new pair of shoes". I then assured her the only thing I was going to see was the ceiling of the local emergency room, and besides for what the trip was going to cost me, I could buy designer shoes at Nordstrom's. I also reminded her about the Americans With Disabilities Act which I had extensive knowledge about and that my request was a reasonable accommodation under that law. Someone finally reread my application and I was reassigned. This time I was assigned to the technology dept. Besides I knew I would be happier doing a job which I enjoy doing.

This was the first trip for this length of time I had taken by myself in 24 years. I decided to wait and not tell anyone until 3 weeks before I left. I did not want to jinx the trip. At the time I had several very important irons in the fire and if someone knew the whole trip would be off. My biggest concern was leaving my horses behind. They are as important to me as my daughter. I decided not to tell my daughter until I was in Atlanta and working at the Horse Park. She was working in Colorado that summer and would not be home. I wanted to surprise her. Which I might add I did. I called her during the show jumping when Peter Leone, her old coach, (when she and J.K. were on the show jumping team at the college she attended in N.J.) was on course. I called her from the press box and let her listen to the roar of the crowd after he completed his first clean round. I wanted to spread my wings and fly on my own. For years. I was

Annie's mom or other numerous titles which get placed on our heads as our children grow up.

As volunteers, we were responsible for our own transportation, lodging and food. In the meantime I had to find a place to stay, rent a car, and get my airline reservation. To my surprise the last 2 were extremely easy and cheap. As a single woman I did not want to stay in a hotel by myself so I contacted Girl Scouts. Over the years I have hosted several Girl Scouts from the Atlanta counsel. I was able to find a room at the local Girl Scout camp in Mableton, GA which was on the opposite side of Atlanta from Conyers (40 miles one way). Good old Girl Scouts. I knew all those tours of San Francisco would someday pay off.

As everyone knows summer in the South can be stifling. When I was in college one summer I taught swimming during the day and in the evening through the VISTA program. I taught reading at night to the hill people in the Appalachian mountains. I was well aware of what kind of weather I was going to face in Atlanta. I kissed my horses good bye and took off on my 27 day adventure.

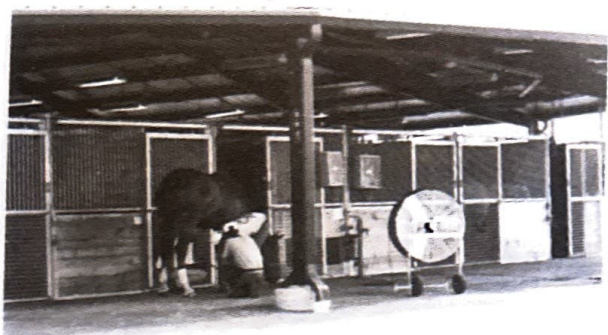
The arrival at Atlanta airport was so exciting. Upon checking in at the hospitality booth, a volunteer retrieved my luggage for me, and my next stop was the credential center where I received my badge and card for unlimited Coca Cola prod-

ucts for the next month. Coke devised a card which could be inserted in any Coke machine in the Olympic area for free drinks. By the end of the Games I had drunk gallons of their products, many of which are not on the West coast yet. The last time I worked in heat such as this was when I was a flight attendant in South East Asia. At least the heat doesn't bother me. That was an advantage because the majority of my job was outside. Many days we worked between 12 and 14 hours both prior to and during the Olympics.

The first time I arrived at the horse Park it was absolutely awe inspiring. It was the same feeling I had gotten on my first trip to the U.S. Equestrian Center in New Jersey. It was so beautiful. When I arrived, we had 6 days and counting before the start of the events. The weather was in the 90's. My first supervisor met me in a tee shirt and a pearl necklace and she had no idea about logistics, let alone horses or working outside. Right away I found someone who knew what they were doing and began working with the telephone and IBM people. ACOG didn't think it was necessary to build an awning over any of the televisions or computers. So our biggest job was watching Big Blue melt in the Georgia heat. I am a big Mac fan so this became amusing as time went on. Because of my background I was assigned to the international press area. I had worked with them in previous paying jobs. No one in our group had ever done any logistics for events so it became my job to barter in pins for equipment ACOG didn't think we needed. It included electric drills (2 pins, screwdrivers, 1 pin, etc). This was a skill I acquired when working in Europe for the Dept. of the Army and fine tuned when I was a flight attendant for an international carrier. To protect the computers, telephones, and televisions from sudden rain storms we covered them with blue tarps. This winter, as I look at blue

tarps covering hay piles, it brings back many fond memories. By the end of the Games we were getting pretty fast at covering the press box; on several occasions this included the reporters. After some of the rain storms which occurred at night, it was necessary to pour water out of the backs of the TV's and some of the computers. Every day we would lose a few. IBM just kept bringing new ones in when their tech. could not fix them on site. Due to problems and bad press IBM was getting at the beginning, they

continued



Horse Stall at the Georgia Horse Park



Barbara Taddeo at one of the Atlanta jumps



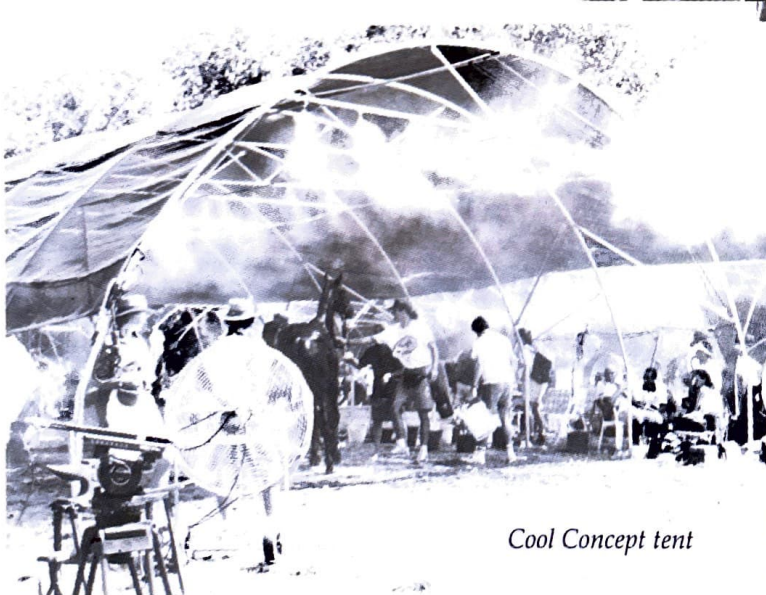
Woodside Vaulters

had their hands full. You would be surprised how much water [the computers] could take and continue working. Every day was a challenge. For this reason, part of my job after the Olympics started was to sit and watch the event and be ready for our daily rain storms. It turned out to be a great job! I had a better seat than the paying spectators. ACOG did not even bother building a cover for the VIP box, so they got to die from the heat just like the rest of us.

Besides my tech. job I also volunteered with the dressage group. Since I was the only one with a drill I got to redo all of the letters which mark the dressage arena. The flowers covered the letters so the riders could not see them. The same for the pentathlon people: I was the one with the 2 inch cellophane tape which held the track together for the running portion of the event. The barricades were made of Styrofoam and kept blowing over on the practice runners. We did not want this to happen during the actual event—that is why it was taped together.

As a volunteer, we were given our uniform, including new shoes, a ticket to the dress rehearsal for the opening event (7th row at the 50 yd. line), and free lunch. After day 5 we began to call them mystery meat lunches. To this day it is hard to tell what they were. Because of my press credentials, I and several from my group would arrange to check on televisions in the athletes' tent during lunch. Their food was far superior. The only spot I was not allowed to go in the

Awards Ceremony: US Second in 3 Day



Cool Concept tent

entire Horse Park was inside the Quarantine barn and the horse stalls. The quarantine area was under 24 hour guard with at least 2 U.S. Ag people and 2 vets on duty at all times. The horses in this area had all tested positive for a tick borne disease and were never allowed to touch grass. They were also only allowed to be in the Dressage and show jumping events. If they left the team area a vet accompanied each horse to make sure they did not come in contact with any other horse. Otherwise I was able to go wherever I wanted whenever I wanted.

Every animal rights group from through out the world was watching to see if Atlanta was going to blow it when it came to the care of the horses. Every precaution was taken to ensure the safety of the horses from starting the cross country phase of the three day event at 6:30 am, to installing special fans in the stalls and Cool Concept tents for the horses to walk through before and after they competed. Only 4 horses had minor injuries during the cross country phase of the event. Actually the animals were faring better in the heat than some of the people. The medical teams had their hands full dealing with the spectators who were dropping like flies. The temperature in the stands reached over 100 degrees due to the metal bleachers. Inside the Cool Concept tents it was 20 degrees cooler than the outside air. The tent consisted of a domed tent with large fans blowing a cool mist of water on the horses and riders as they stood inside them. After the cross country part of the 3 day event the horses were also

hosed down and given a trailer ride back to the barn. Spectators had to walk the 3 mile course. I was able to use an electric golf cart since I was hauling equipment and my camera. By the end of the Olympics I had taken 27 rolls of film and 15 hours of video.



It is unfortunate, but here in the U.S. the coverage from NBC

Continued

U.S. Medal Winner showing large medal given to riders 1st to 8th after press confernece

Remote controlled camera floated over stadium



was terrible compared to the Atlanta Olympic Broadcasting Network. Their television coverage was broadcast throughout the rest of the world. One of the features they had was the floating camera which was suspended from cables over the arena. It was mainly used during the jumping portions of the events and some of the cross country. They discovered that during the dressage events, that the small shadow it cast was distracting to the horses in the arena. So it was not used then. A similar camera was used at the swimming events and the Olympic arena. It was remote controlled at the top of the arena in the control booth. For me one of the most exciting portions of the events was the awards ceremony. I was able to sit with camera in hand next to the wall where the medals were given out. (about 50 feet away). It was unfortunate but the medal winners had their backs to the paying audience. This is why I treasure all of my pictures. Most people don't realize, but there are ribbons and a large medal given out to all of the riders who place 4th to 8th place. This ceremony takes place shortly after the main ceremony ends, usually near the press tent after the press conference which I was able to attend daily. My favorite broadcasters were from Ireland and the BBC. It was so interesting listening to them describe the event and riders to their audiences back home.

As far as teams go, I especially liked the German show jumping team. They were a fun loving bunch. My favorite picture of the entire Olympics was of Ulrich Kirchhoff and his horse Jus de Pommes. galloping around the arena on the last day after he had just won the Individual Gold medal. He rode his victory lap with no hands, waving two German flags like a big kid. To me this WAS the Olympics. Upon returning home I learned his horse died in late August. His ride will always be etched in my memory. Prior to that event I was able to have lunch with him and members of the Australian team. He was just a happy-go-lucky person and as humble as could be. I was also extremely proud of the American 3 day event team. I have always found eventers to be down to earth and very approachable. That was not the case with our show jumping team, except for Peter Leone. In my opinion, the U.S.E.T.A. needs to undergo several changes on our show jumping team. Some people have been on that team too long.

Sydney jump



My heart went out to Michelle Gibson after her horse spooked at the corner letter during musical cur in the individual dressage. Before that she was in second place. If she had remained there she would have been the first U.S. rider to ever score that high in Dressage.

The worst riders in the Olympics were on the Pentathlon team. They rode as well as D-3 Pony Clubbers which isn't saying much considering they are supposed to be experts in their sport. I felt sorry for the horses. It was exciting though to watch the final race which took place after the riding and at dusk. It was just like the movie "the Chariots of Fire". They even played the theme music from that movie.

Another historic event I was able to attend were the first Mountain Biking races in history. Their course was over part of the cross country course. Unlike with the horses, the heat was not taken into consideration. The women's race was started at 2 pm. Because of this many of the riders were lost to the heat. The men's race was held in the morning. They should have started both races in the morning as they had done the horse events.

During the lunch breaks on each of the event days different entertainment was provided. I was extremely proud watching the Woodside Vaulters perform. I was also able to meet and pet Doc's Keeping Time. (Black Beauty), and Ruggard Lark (July 1996 Equus cover). There was also a musical cur performed on both a Western horse and regular dressage horse at the same time.

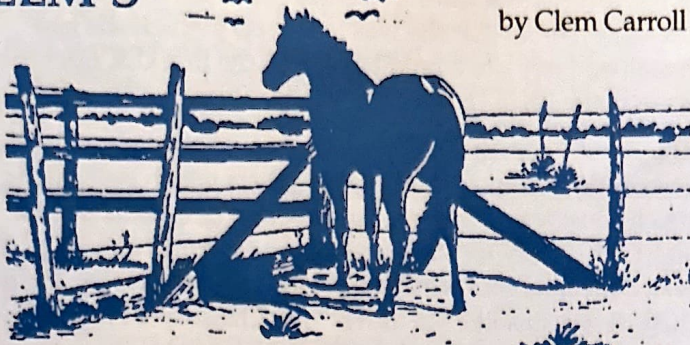
Until I spoke to the course designer I didn't realize the meaning of some of the jumps. The course according to Olympic rules must include a jump from the previous Olympics, one representing the present Olympics and one for the upcoming Olympics. My favorite jump was the Dream Catcher jump. The America's cup was a tour of U.S. It started in Maine and ended over the space shuttle jump as the riders jumped out of the world.

There are so many memories, such as crossing Atlanta in the early morning and seeing the golden dome of the Georgia capital on one side and the Olympic flame on the other and arriving at work at 4:30 am and watching hundreds of fellow workers boarding busses for the half hour trip to the Horse Park. It reminded me of an Alfred Hitchcock movie. It is hard to look back and think of all of the extraordinary horses and riders I met as well as many heads of state from various countries. Not to mention the talented people I worked with. Last but not least the pin trading in the strangest places. I would never usually strike up a conversation on BART or at the airport with strangers but this was not the case for these 2 magical weeks. In some ways the uniform I wore with pride was magic. No one was apprehensive in talking to anyone who wore it and vice versa. Would I do it again? You bet! I am looking forward to the Sydney Games and even the Salt Lake City Games even though my love is with horses. The Olympics are just like that.

CLEM'S

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by Clem Carroll



THE HORSE

No creature, with the possible exception of the dog, means as much to man as does the horse. Our history is linked more closely to this animal than to any other. Once roaming freely over the prairie in the community of the herd, then hunted by man for food in primeval times, the horse became essential for his survival and eventually won his respect and esteem. Wherever man has left his traces along the path leading from savagery to civilization, we also find traces of the horse.

Size and strength provide it with great physical advantages over man. The horse would probably be extinct by now were it not for one essential trait—a willingness to serve; to be subordinate to man.

Nature governs animals through their instincts without investing them with the capacity of decisions based on reason. Man, however, yields too readily to the temptation of ascribing to the actions of the animals with whom he lives his own ethical human principles, and in doing so commits an error. Animals are instinctively forthright in their actions. A given stimulus brings about a corresponding reflex whose nature cannot be influenced by intellectual process. Consequently man often has difficulty understanding instinctive actions of animals. One cannot talk to a horse except in their own language.

Opinions regarding the intelligence of horse diverge considerably. While some support with numerous examples of apparently premeditated actions, their faith in the great intelligence of their four-legged friends, others consider horses to be outright stupid. Both are probably wrong, because again both apply human criteria to animals. In reality horses do have some capabilities which are definitely superior to those of men. Among these are the powers of observation, concentration and memory.

The ultimate in refinement of the contact between man and animal, it is obviously of the greatest importance to man. It is also the result of a fundamental trait in the horse, that of his voluntary proud willingness to serve his master without negating his own personality. A proud servant: that is the horse. This devotion can only result from a relationship based on mutual confidence. What causes a horse to act

entirely contrary to his own instinct? What permits a horse to tackle, at the urging of his rider, a series of obstacles in a cross-country race which, as a wild animal, he would risk on his own only under threat of mortal danger or in utter despair? It is the "instinct of trust" developed in the service of man which tells him: "What your master demands of you is not impossible!" In this respect, the horse with the most determined character prove to be the ones who are most capable of great efforts on behalf of man.

These are the animals whose personalities have evolved more forcefully than that of the others due to aptitude and heredity. They are also the ones who rise to assume the leading roles in a herd of their fellows. Their faculties are better developed, they have keener instincts, superior memory, enabling them to use their experience to better advantage. There are also differences in learning ability; and there are even veritable dullards among horses who would only tab after the others in the natural community of the herd. These make up the "masses" from which the leading personalities stand out. These "clever ones" on the other hand frequently demonstrate in the service of man an eagerness and an unconcerned readiness to serve which permit them to accomplish their assigned tasks entirely independently.

Once a cutting horse for example has grasped that he is expected to separate a calf from a herd of cattle and to prevent it from returning to the others, he will often satisfy this difficult requirement completely on his own. The best among them can even play this split-second game with the calf without bridle or rein. Something akin to ambition is aroused within them. Their keen senses, their alertness and their ability to react serve these horse to such a great advantage that they seem to anticipate the movements of the desperately cavorting calf. In many of these horses one can sense that this work actually amuses them!

Here human intelligence has been entirely by-passed. In many cases the aids given by the rider would come too late in this game of tag. The animals react faster. With clearly noticeable pride in his achievement the horse develops downright human attributes. This is no blind obedience, but cheerful cooperation.

Animals are not born with flaws of character. They always act according to their nature; according to their instinct. The same state of existence that prevents any individual freedom of decision also prevents ill will. There are no malicious horses. Horses which bite and kick, buck under the rider, rear or run away, react only to external influences or to pain.

Their acute senses and their enormous memory may also cause them to react this way under certain circumstances—disagreeable past experiences or a premonition of a threat. They are utterly incapable of acting at variance with nature.

Thus, if one does presume a flaw of character, one seeks it in the wrong place. *It will be found in the human being.* The behavior of the horse is a mirror of his master—more so than is the case with any other domestic animal. Of course, the gifts of nature are also distributed among horses in varying degrees. There are widely differing inner characteristics in addition to the varying physical faculties. There are bold and fearful horses. There are those with good and those with lesser memories. There is laziness and diligence—and one finds vanity, coquetry and indifference. These characteristics place demands on the intellect and the sensibility of the human beings who deal with them. It is for this reason that a rider will better remember the character and temperament of this horses than their exact physical appearance. Is there anyone who can precisely describe a horse he once owned with every detail and marking? But the horse's reactions in various situations, the extent of his comprehension of man and of the closeness of his inner relationship to man—these are usually recalled clearly and in minute detail.

Only with great difficulty can a man communicate with horse. He must carefully study the horse's language, ranging from the resounding neigh of his greeting to the quiet throaty whinny of pleasure—from the gentle nudge of his soft nose to the expressive play of his ears.

At times the horse's acute hearing and susceptibility enable him to interpret the intonations of human speech so well that *he seems to understand the words.* A sharp yell can double the pulse rate of a sensitive horse. A calming singsong can

assuage high excitement; can drive away fear. But the emotional relationship can be even more delicate. A sudden fright experienced by a rider in the saddle can—without perceptible motion on his part—cause his mount to become frightened. Anxiety of a rider can make his horse afraid. A rider's determination can give him wings. The confidence of a rider in his horse can instill into both of them a strength which collapses at the slightest indication of insecurity.

There are psychic relations between man and horse which transcend reasonable comprehension. Emotional comprehension of these ties can gladden them both. It has only these prerequisites: mutual confidence and the preservation of natural talents. The arrogance of the creature endowed with reason vis-a-vis the animal fettered by instinct is shattered nowhere more readily than on horseback.

Yes, horses have personality. They are all different, and even individual horses are not the same from day to day—no more so than are human beings. If man demands of his horse to be a slave, he will soon have a hostile slave. If he accepts his horse as a creature with feelings and talents, as a personality, he will gain a loyal companion.

The inner qualities and values of the horse claim the finest human quality from man: tolerance. It is strange indeed that man can thus learn from an animal. Put aside arrogance and vanity when you mount your horse and he will make a sovereign of you. The nature of the horse confers nobility upon man.

SHARP TAKES JUNIOR STATE TRAIL TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIP

After participating all year long in Trail Trial competitions from Mount Madonna to Pt. Reyes, San Mateo Horseman's Junior Amanda Sharp won the Show of Champions Trail Trial ride in her division. The competition was held at the Vista Del Rey Ranch near Turlock on October 13, 1996.

Beautifully planned and run last minute by Pinky and Bonnie Martin (due to the necessity of back surgery of the State's Trail Trial President Sheila Daly) the Region 4 location was a Godsend and made for an unusual set of challenges. The Tuolumne River bordering the ranch created a bankside challenge for the dead tree drag, marching horses through six inch water-covered river rocks. Another challenge was an uphill march which was



exceedingly steep. It was indeed a championship ride.

Along with Amanda's winning the platter-sized silver belt buckle for Junior State Champion on the bay quarter horse named Cody (owned by Dianne Hicks) Dianne won a nice silver plate for sixth place for senior novice rider on her pinto

Chase in the day's competition.

*left: Amanda with Cody;
right: Dianne with Chase*



BARN RAISING AT JACK BROOK HORSE CAMP

by Rob Krensky

On November 15, 16 and 17, 1996 local horsemen from SMCHA, Los Altos Trails Club, the Mounted Patrol, Los Viajeros, Volunteer Horse Patrol, and San Francisco Horsemen's Association joined forces to repair the landmark barn at Jack Brook Horse Camp. The old barn was suffering from age and neglect over the years, and it had come to a point where it needed repair to keep it from falling down.

The plan was, and is, to remove the old overhang portion above the cattle feeders and rebuild it from the ground up. We had backing and support from the Parks and Recreation Commission, Director of Parks and Recreation Pat Sanchez, Park Supervisor John Kenney and Park Ranger Tom O'Connor - all of whom were essential to getting the job under way.

On Friday, November 15 the advance party consisting of Bill Baskin, Jim Estep, Rob Krensky and Ron Harris poured concrete piers and set pier posts on which the new structure would be built.

On Saturday, November 16 a hardy band of volunteers arrived to start demolition with Mike Lefebvre in the lead cutting the roof in sections with his trusty chainsaw. The cut sections were removed and hauled away by Mike's dad, Ransom, from Montreal, Doug Moody, Rick Eagleston, Bob and Edie Morin and, of course, Ranger Tom.

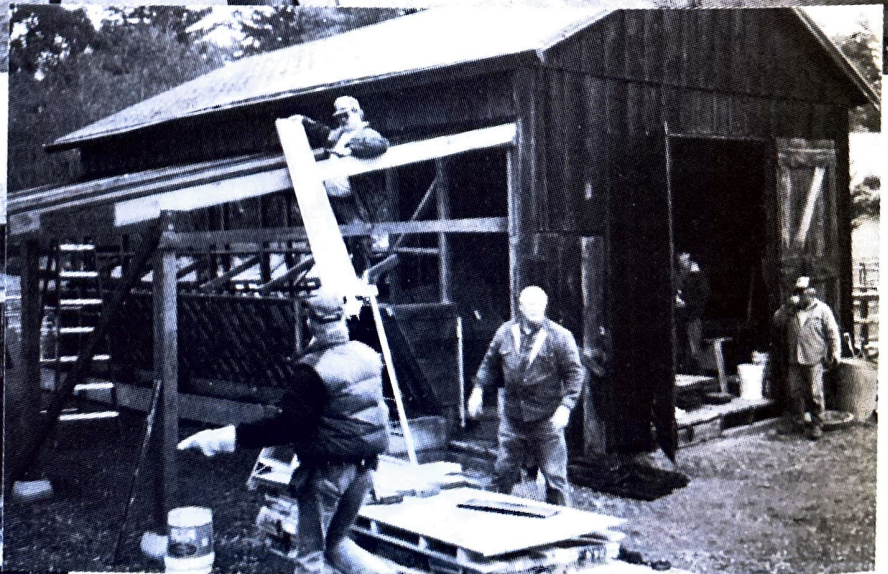
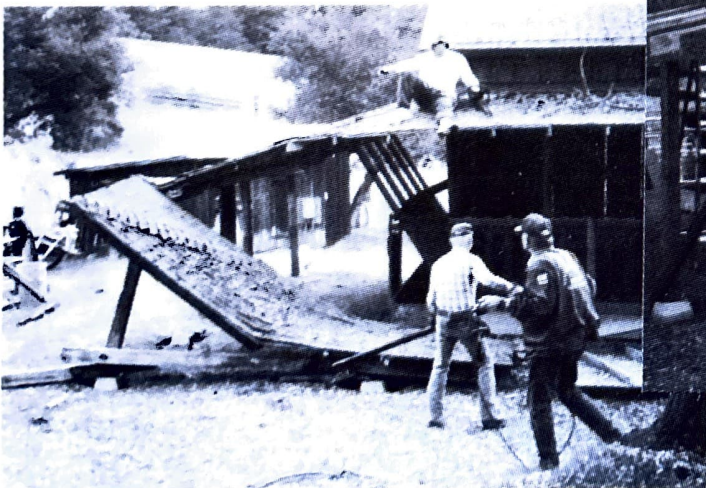
As soon as the old roof was down, rebuilding started about midday, which was also when we felt (but chose to ignore) the first rain drops. It would not dare to rain on our project!

With Bill Baskin directing, the basic framework of posts and girders was up in no time at all and ready for the rafters, which in turn would support the roof itself.

Some folks noticed that we were getting wet. Maybe it was raining? The work continued, roof sheeting (these are the boards that the shingles are nailed to) was started where the rafters were complete, while the rafter crew (Larry Bastioni, Mike Lefebvre and Killian Dill) continued at the far end of the barn. Meanwhile, Lucy Krensky, Karen Flores and Marian VandenBosch tidied up the camp in preparation for winter.

About this time we conceded to the rain gods and decided that it was getting too muddy and too wet to be working

continued



OPENING NIGHT AT THE GRAND NATIONAL RODEO

by Laurie Greenblat

October 26 kicked off the 1996 Grand National Rodeo at the Cow Palace. San Mateo County Horsemen's Association participated with members riding for the mounted Color Guard.

Despite freezing temperatures, howling wind and pouring rain, a good time was had by all. The riders—Nan Daley, Laurie Greenblat, Diane Hawks and Carrie Laudenslayer—placed sixth in their division.



Jack Brook Camp, continued

with power tools and the road might get too slippery for us to exit, and that we would all come back the following weekend (weather permitting) to finish the job. Unfortunately, as of this writing, January 2, 1997, the weather has not cooperated.

As soon as the weather allows, we will schedule a time to finish the job. A heart-felt thanks to all who helped to start it!



SPECIAL ALERT!

The recent floods have devastated many ranches and farms in the Central Valley. Donations for hay, feed and supplies are **URGENTLY NEEDED.**

If you wish to contribute, please make checks payable to

CSHA Charitable Donation (Relief Fund)
Send Donations to Gary Gustafson
6717 Cherokee Road
Stockton, CA 95215

1996 SMCHA CHRISTMAS PARTY

by Bob Stucky

What do you get when you have about 100 adults and children, good food, plenty of libations, Santa, and Sparky and his Pony cart out at Charter Oaks? One darn good time!

If you missed the 1996 Christmas Party, you'll want to mark next year's party on your calendar now! We had more fun than the law allows. Kids young and old were taking advantage of the photo-op with Santa.

Santa came in via Sparky the Wonder Pony. I guess the Reindeer must have had the day off. I'm not sure how many kids visited with Santa - somewhere between a lot and a whole bunch. Santa seemed to prefer hearing Christmas lists from some of the grown-ups—especially the "sit in the lap" part!

Not to worry, Donna, rumor has it he was a perfect gentleman.

Our resident kid at heart, Sissi Baskin, kept the juniors entertained in the covered arena after Sparky had had enough "Christmasing". The last time I saw her she had a rousing game of "Simon Says" going with kids climbing over and through the horse jumps.



Those of us too old or just too cranky to participate in the kid stuff, enjoyed the great food and great conversation. The Christmas Spirit was bolstered by decorating the tree and donating jackets to those less fortunate than us. People made and /or brought ornaments and hung them with care. We never did get a jacket count, but there were two large trash bags packed full. Rest assured that a few more people in the world are a little warmer this year.

The party kicked off at about 2 pm and was still going at full gallop at 5 pm. But, by that time, the food was running low, and Sissi had run out of gas (thankfully so had the kids). After a quick clean-up, we started making plans for next year's affair!

The event was cooperation in action. SMCHA joined forces with Los Viajeros, splitting the cost of the Christmas tree which was donated to Gladys. We bought the tree from Project 90, a program Gladys supports year round. Bill and Sissi did the legwork on the tree, and we can't thank you enough! A number of members provided food and drink at no cost to SMCHA, which is great! I like the good old-

fashioned pot luck dinners where some days salad is the main course. Maybe we oughta throw one of those events in mill for next year.

continued

Christmas Party, continued

Overheard at the party (two 6-year-olds talking):

Kid 1: Did Santa go back to the North Pole?

Kid 2: No, he just took his beard off and went to the bathroom...



THE THANK YOU LIST:

Gladys Martines for hosting the event at Charter Oaks Stables
Mary Beth and Tanya

Sparky and his cart - driven tirelessly by Nicki and Sarah Ericksen

Gene Ericksen and Anne Farris for letting Sparky come to the party

Sue Sheehan, who brought the bar, some SMCHA provided food and who generally worked her tail off.

Many other volunteers who brought food - too many for me to remember in fact.

Thank you one and all!!

ROMP AND STOMP VI COMING TO SAN MATEO COUNTY

by Adda Quinn

On June 14, 1997 off- road cyclists and equestrians will join forces in an educational effort to foster mutual respect, common courtesy and understanding of each other's needs while having fun! The event will take place in several of our beautiful open space preserves between Skyline and Coal on mixed use trails appropriate for such an event.

Increasingly, we have encountered opposition to expansion of trails and even threats of closure to existing trails from preservationist interests in the community. We believe that it is in the interest of all trail users, whether they are hikers, joggers, equestrians or cyclists, to find areas of common ground from which they can support one another in dealing with our regulatory agencies in matters that secure or

enhance trails. This event proposes to team small groups of bikers with equestrians to make new friends, desensitize our animals to bikes and educate cyclists about equine behavior.

We have found that the Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers (ROMP) is an excellent ally in the battle to protect and expand trails in that they sponsor trail patrols, trail education stations and other educational activities. They are active in trail building and maintenance as well. With over 200 members, they advocate for trail use by cyclists. While both cyclists and equestrians are well aware that there are many trails not suitable for simultaneous use by both horses and bikes. there are many opportunities to share wider trails in our open spaces with all trail users. We have agreed to work together to optimize trail opportunities for both groups.

It will be helpful to both bikers and equestrians to understand each other's needs, be courteous and assure safety of all when our paths do cross. To this end, we think ROMP & Stomp VI affords an excellent opportunity to foster such understanding. This event has been unanimously endorsed by the Board of Directors of the SMCHA which will co-sponsor the event with ROMP.

We hope that you will put this event on your calendar and join us June 14. While plans are still in the formative stage, we expect to have registration at 9 a.m. with staggered ride-outs beginning at 10 a.m. The event will be limited to 50 horses and 100 bikes. The ride route will probably be a 7-mile loop trip, ending with lunch to allow socialization off the trail as well. Proceeds will be donated to the Bay Area Ridge Trail and sponsors to help support trail efforts.

In the meantime—Happy Trails!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' CHRISTMAS DINNER AND ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

by Tanya Rebarchik

On December 6, 1996 the Board of Directors had their annual Christmas Dinner and election of the new officers and directors. Thanks to Rick Payne for hosting the event at his beautiful home! Many thanks also to Laurie Greenblat and Carrie Laudenslayer for serving the delicious dinner!

The newly elected officers are:

- President ----- Bruce Baker
- First Vice President ----- Mary Beth Stucky
- Second Vice President ----- Nan Daley
- Secretary ----- Lorena Heatley
- Treasurer ----- Lisa Dixon
- Sergeant-at-Arms ----- Walt Kirk
- Historian ----- Virginia Magliano-Darrow
- Registrar ----- Linda Menon

Their official installation will take place at the Kick-off Party January 25, 1997—mark your calendar for this fun event.

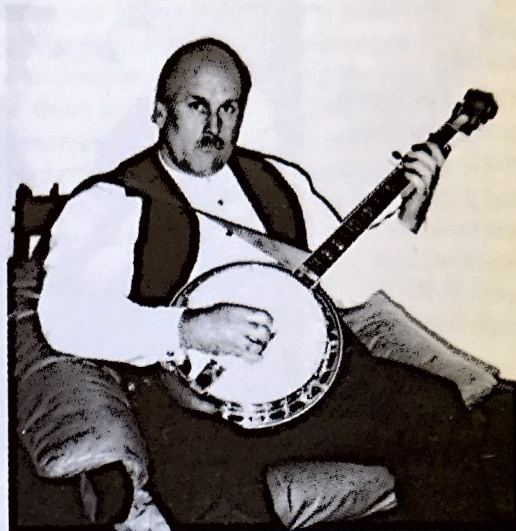
Mary Beth Stucky, Jim Keeton, Bob Stucky and Debbie Tucker



Sissi and Bill Baskin and Deanna Tanner



Entertainment by Tom Darrow



Mary Beth and Bob Stucky



President-elect Bruce Baker



Kevin and Nan Daley and Eileen Borzone

AN EVENING WITH DR. DEB BENNETT

by Linda Menon

At our general meeting on November 14th, SMCHA was privileged to host Deb Bennett, Ph.D., nationally known lecturer and clinician, contributing editor for *Equus* magazine, author of *Principles of Conformation*, and former staff researcher at the Smithsonian Institute. About 60 SMCHA members and friends gathered at the offices of Bruce Doran to take advantage of Dr. Deb's first presentation in this area and "Learn How Your Horse Works!". We appreciate Bruce's generosity in hosting this meeting since finding a large enough meeting room, with space for food preparation, and speaker accouterments such as a white board and video, on our budget (free), is not easy.

Gene Erickson prepared a delicious barbecue—not hamburgers and hot dogs, as expected, but wonderfully marinated steak, with chili, salad and yummy brownies for dessert.

The names of nonimees for new Board members—Jim Keenan, Deanna Tanner and Debbie Tucker—were announced and unanimously voted onto the Board. Welcome aboard!

And then there was Deb. You know that saying, "you had to have been there"? Well, this was one of those times. I will try to capsulize the essence of the evening, with advance apologies to Dr. Deb for my novice layman's interpretation of her masterful presentation.

Dr. Deb is an amazing speaker. She is able to verbally paint a picture that vividly illustrates the ideas that she presents. And the ideas? From abstract concept, she builds, step by step, using examples from real life experience and anatomical fact, each step flowing smoothly to the next step.

Dr. Deb began the evening by elaborating on the concept of "deep work"—the idea that simply asking your horse to do exercises, patterns, figures, etc., is "surface work". A true communication and teamwork with your horse is much more, and Deb described each of the levels of the pyramid: performance, gaits, limbs, roundness/transitions down, straightness/transitions up, ideas, emotions and ultimately spirit. According to Deb, focusing on the outward movements alone while ignoring the spirit, emotions, etc., leads to a horse with "holes"

in his "training". [And this from someone who is known for her strength in anatomical analysis . . . and o n e would think preference for the physical!] As Deb explained, many of these isoteric ideas are almost impossible to communicate with the vocabulary we have available. But Deb's facility with words allowed her to do as good a job explaining these ideas as anyone possibly could have.

Deb also explained why she has coined the term "perjustice"—basically meaning what "dressage" meant originally, before dressage came to signify merely a combination of physical movements meant mainly for competition. "Perjustice" concerns not just the exterior or physical, but the mental and emotional aspects of the horse as well. "To help the horse to go straight from the heart."

We also saw a video of endurance riders which graphically demonstrated straightness in a horse. I'm sure that after viewing, anyone who previously had a problem understanding straightness was no longer in doubt.

And thus the evening flew by—with quotes from Nuno Oliveira's *Reflections sur l'Art Equestre* (1964); references to Francois Robichon de la Guerinere (1751), Tom Dorrance and Ray Hunt (contemporary); examples from dressage, reined cow horse, and endurance riding; diagrams depicting the horse's anatomy; videos of horses in action . . .

And where did we end up? I, for one, was quite overwhelmed with all the new concepts. Will I be a better horse person as a result? Probably not instantly, but all of these new ideas, things we don't take time to think about on an everyday basis, have broadened the vistas of the horse world for me. Are they correct and the way? Maybe, maybe not; perhaps for some—perhaps for those who can understand completely. But, like life itself, perhaps there is no ultimate "answer"—perhaps it's not really the destination, but the journey that is important.

I appreciate Dr. Deb coming all the way from her home in Livingston, California, to share an evening with SMCHA. Thanks for a thought provoking evening.

Thanks, too, to Bruce Baker, VP of SMCHA, for organizing the evening; Bruce Doran for hosting us at his office; and Gene Erickson for the yummy dinner.

As part of the Equine Studies Institute, Dr. Deb Bennett offers telephone counseling, videotape conformation analysis, a horsemanship series, plus referrals and networking to connect you to others who can help you with a horse question or problem. You can contact Deb at:

Equine Studies Institute, P.O. Box 411, Livingston, CA 95334
(209) 394-8403



1997 Calendar

Tentative

January

- 8 **Board Meeting**
 22 **Educational Seminar**
 25 **Kick-Off Dinner/Dance**

February

- 7 LV Installation Dinner Dance
 12 **Board Meeting**
 26 **Educational Seminar**

March

- 2 LV Ride
 5 **General Meeting**
 12 **Board Meeting**

April

- 6 LV Ride
 9 **Board Meeting**
 12 *Heritage Trail Fund April on the Mountain
 at Mt Diablo; for info call 510-937-7661*
 13 **Spring Ride**
 23 **General Meeting**

May

- 3 **May Day Parade/Woodside**
 3-4 LV Ride
 14 **Board Meeting**
 17-18 *Equifest, Santa Clara Fairgrounds*
 29 **Western Clinic**
 31 **Educational Seminar**

June

- 1 LV Ride
 6 LV Ride Sign up night
 5,12,19,26 **Western Clinic**
 7 **Restaurant Ride**
 11 **Board Meeting**
 14 **Romp & Stomp**
 19-22 LV 4-Day Ride
 22 **Western Show**

July

- 6 LV Ride
 4 **Parade / Redwood City**
 9 **Board Meeting**
 10,17 **Western Clinic**
 26 **English Show**

August

- 2-3 LV Ride
 13 **Board Meeting**
 17 **Nor-Cal**
 18-24 **Jack Brook Horse Camp**
 30-31 LV Jack Brook

September

- 1 LV Jack Brook
 10 **Board Meeting**
 13 **Trail Trials**
 17 **General Meeting/BBQ**
 28 **Western Show**

October

- 5 LV Ride
 8 **Board Meeting**
 18 **President's Ride**
 22 **Educational Seminar**
 24 **Grand Nationals Opening Night**
 25 **Pumpkin Carving/Halloween Spooktacular**

November

- 2 LV Progressive Ride
 12 **Board Meeting**
 19 **General Meeting/Elections**

December

- 5 **Board Christmas Dinner**
 14 **General Christmas Party**

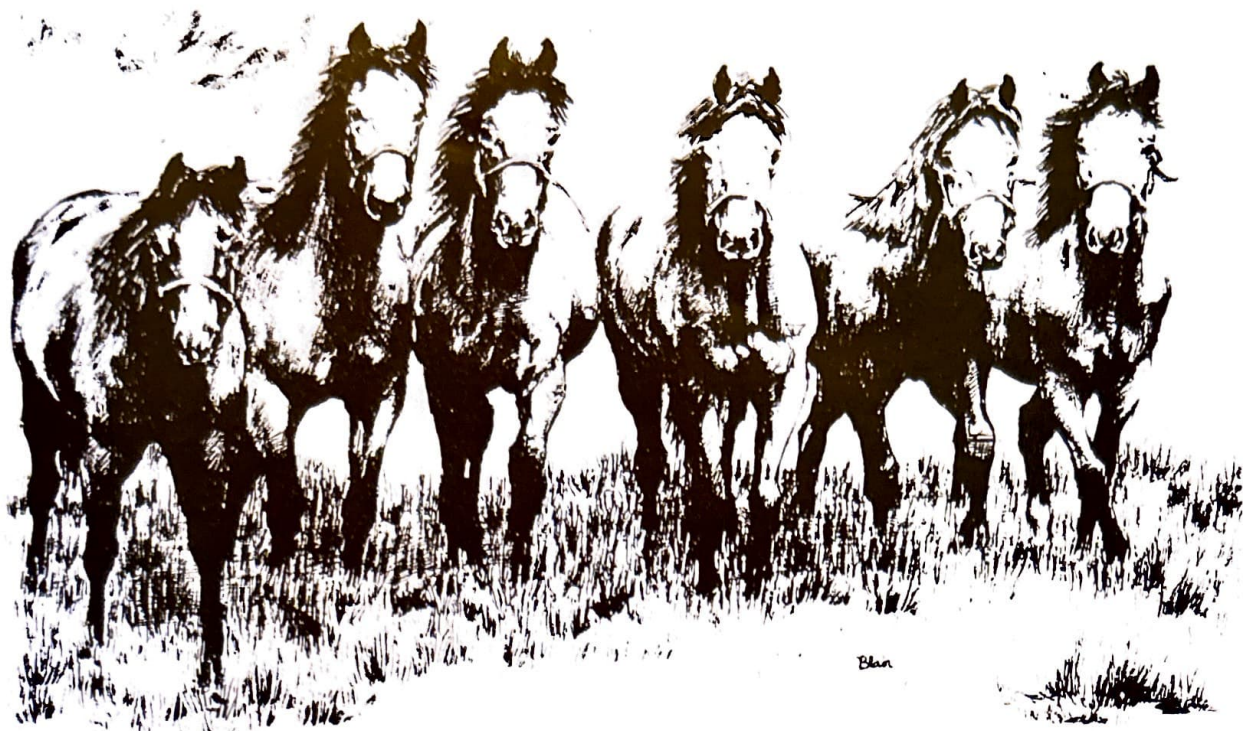
January 1998

- 14 **Board Meeting**
 24 **Kick-Off Dinner Dance**

SMCHA events in BOLD

LV = Los Viajeros





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1997 Membership Application

	Annual Dues
___ JUNIOR MEMBERS (17 OR UNDER)	\$15.00
___ SENIOR MEMBERS (18 OR OLDER)	\$25.00
___ MR./MRS. MEMBERS	\$40.00
___ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (married or single parent and unlimited number of children 17 or under)	\$45.00

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

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

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Annual dues are for January 1 through December 31 of each year

Do you want to be included in our Membership Directory? ___ Yes ___ No

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

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