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San Mateo County



SUMMER 2002

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COVER

In Memoriam

Walter E. Kirk, beloved horseman and long time member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Here it is, summer already! I can hardly believe that half the year is gone. We have had a wonderful first half with tons of fun events. There was the Easter egg hunt at the Schmidt barn, the Spring Ride at Fremont Older Open Space Preserve, the family camp at Jack Brook and two great general meetings, one on spring shots and the other at NCEFT with a vaulting demonstration and presentation by Charles Wilhelm. I hope those of you that joined us at the Western Riding Clinic enjoyed the chance to get some great training from our wonderful instructors and enjoyed the fabulous bar-be-que on the final night.

But of course, we have so much more to go! Summer is our busy season with our English Schooling Show and NorCal Show in August. The poker ride was a huge success this year, and SMCHA again had the most riders. I would like to thank all of you who participated in this event. You have once again helped a wonderful organization fill their dreams. Our Western Schooling & Playday was also a very exciting experience for all who attended. This event gave members who would not normally enter a chance to enjoy both the games and clinics to experience just how much fun you can have with your horse. I think Nancy Crowley's horse Forest really enjoyed the carrot race.

Unfortunately, we did have one sad event this summer and that was the passing of Walt Kirk. Walt had been on the Board of Directors for years and served as the Sargent of Arms for many of those. I'm sure many of you knew Walt or just remembered him from cooking at events or working the gate at shows. He will be missed.

This year I have had a chance to do some traveling outside of the Bay Area and seen other areas in the state where people ride and show horses. Nowhere have I seen anything like here. We are truly blessed to have such a great place with the trails and horse oriented events available to us!

I have enjoyed meeting the new members at events throughout the year as well as catching up with the old timers. I hope to see more of you all during the rest of the year!

Kathie Goddard

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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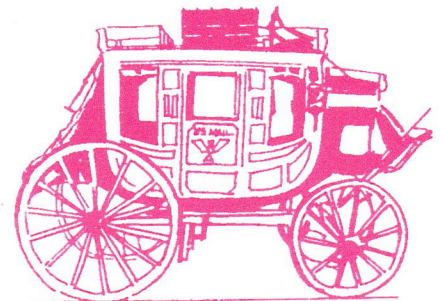
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The San Mateo HORSEMAN

Summer 2002

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

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



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(Application on back cover)

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IN MEMORIAM

Walter E. Kirk, beloved horseman and long time member of the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, died at home in Redwood City on May 13th. He was 84. On June 8th, a Memorial Service was held at the Mounted Patrol Grounds in Woodside.

In the 1970s Walt joined the SMCHA and in 1982 became a member of the Board of Directors. In 1988 he was elected as Sergeant of Arms and held that position, keeping order at all meetings, until his death. He always helped at the Junior Rodeo by cooking, working the gates and anything else that was asked of him. Last year the Mounted Patrol recognized Walt for all his gracious help. Walt never had kids of his own, but loved to be around everybody else's and was known as "Grandpa Walt" to the little ones.

At the Memorial, many people remembered Walt in a very fond way. Not only did he help the horse clubs, he also helped individuals by offering to feed and care for their horses when they were unable to. He was known to help fix barns, mend fences and participate in work days at Jack Brook. Years ago he invited a young woman on a SMCHA ride and introduced her to a young man whom he had also invited. They both

joined the club, started dating and were eventually married. That young man is our very own current Mayor of Woodside, Dave Tanner. Doug Moody shared his story about the "Dummy Club" of which Walt was a member and was

known as "Uncle Dummy." Several other people shared stories (some quite funny) about Walt. He was an avid bowler and was President of his league for 25 years. Some of his fellow bowlers came to the Memorial and shared stories also. In the last issue of The Horseman there was a featured article about Walt, which he was able to see and share with his family. It was nice to know Walt died knowing that all of us were grateful to him for donating his time and energy for so many years, willingly and always with a smile! We will miss a wonderful friend.

In addition to Rita, his wife of 60 years, Walt is survived by his brother, Earl Kirk of Lincoln, Arkansas. Memorial contributions and donations of horse tack, in Walt's name can be made to: NCEFT, 5001 Woodside Rd., Woodside, CA 94062



Kathie Goddard and Rita Kirk

Dave and Deanna Tanner



Jim Keeton in Walt's usual place!



Doug Moody



Paul Bjoring

SMCHA CELEBRATES EASTER

by Virginia Darrow

On Saturday, March 30th, the Easter Bunny and all his helpers visited Kathy and Alan Schmidt's beautiful home in Woodside and turned their place into Bunnyland. Chief Bunny, Loryn O'Neil planned a fun day for our juniors, families and guests. When I walked up the driveway, I saw big flowers on the trees and balloons and kids having loads of fun with the activities organized by Loryn and her assistants.

There were children playing pin the cottontail on the bunny at the barn with guidance from bunny Noel Moody—helpers Kathie Goddard and Kathie Alan designed the cutest, pink bunny for this game.

As I looked to the right, some of our teen-age juniors were providing face painting and having a giggling, good time. I think I even saw a horse waiting in line to have his face painted. At the side of the barn, the three-legged races were just beginning. Another of the activities for the juniors was decorating the baskets that they would use for the Easter-egg hunt. These little cowgirls and cowboys were very intense and concentrating on "eggactly" how they wanted their personal basket designed with ribbons, pom-poms, flowers and felt. We even had a petting corral with bunnies, ducks and a viewing box with baby chicks.

While all this was happening, the patio and pool area tables were set with pink tablecloths and flowers for a fantastic brunch. It was just lovely. This was the time for friends to chat and watch the children enjoying themselves.

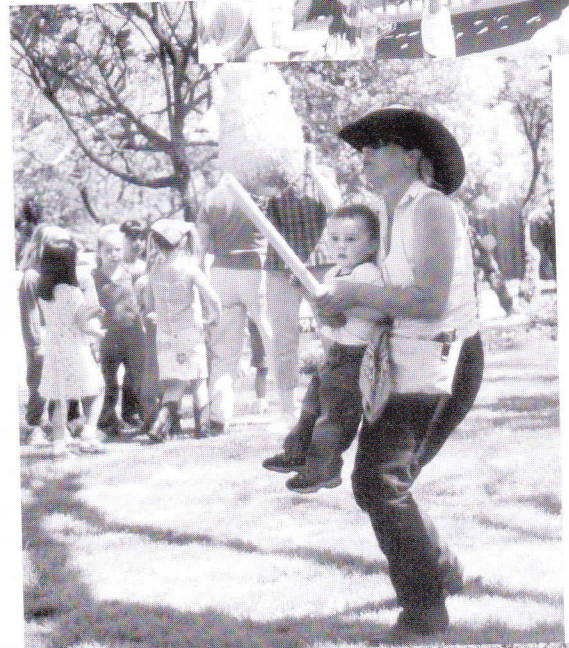
The highlight of the day was the Easter-egg hunt. The bunny helpers hid the eggs on the side of the hill and we started with the very little ones going first. It was so heart-warming to see the delight in their faces when they found an egg for their basket. Next came the older children and did they ever scramble up the side of the hill!

The children and families were then invited to the front yard for a chance to swing at a piñata with the winning blow spilling candies on the lawn and the children scurrying for their share. The last thing I saw was our president, Kathie Goddard, giving the little ones a ride

up and down the drive way on her horse, Quincy.

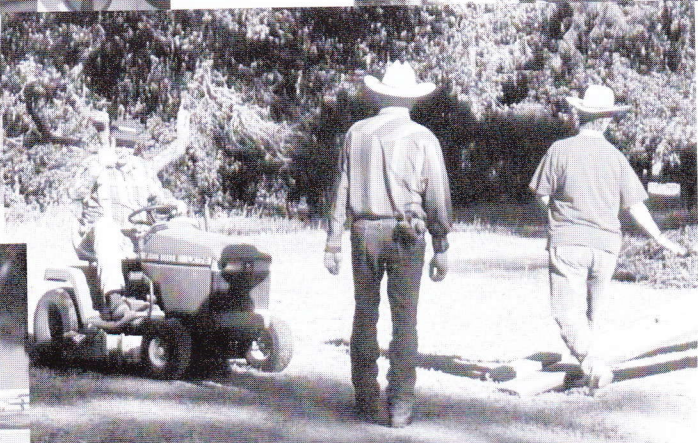
Many bunnies helped with the food and refreshments. Alan Schmidt, Dave Fraser, John O'Neil, Jon Buchan baked horse-shaped cookies, Bill Ashton, Kathy Schmidt's Mom, Melba, made great hors d'oeuvres, Stan and Denise Ramirez, Kathie Goddard's mom, Bev, Sue Sheehan and Lupita, Diane Hawks . . . I hope I remembered everyone!

Many thanks to Loryn and all the volunteers who made this such a fabulous day.





JACK BROOK WORK DAY APRIL 13, 2002



SPRING RIDE AT FREMONT OLDER

by Nancy Crowley

Break time

For our first ride of 2002 we stepped a bit out of the box, box stall that is. On Saturday the 6th of April we ventured over to a lovely spot in Santa Clara County called Fremont Older Open Space Preserve. Part of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, this preserve is located adjacent to Stevens Creek County Park and proved to be an easy drive down 280 from Woodside.

Fremont Older Open Space Preserve is 740 acres with nine miles of beautiful and well-maintained wide trails and breathtaking views of the Santa Clara Valley. The preserve is named for Fremont Older, a noted San Francisco newspaper editor who, together with his wife Cora, owned a portion of the preserve for 60 years. Their house was once a gathering place for personalities of the day and is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Thirty members and guests enjoyed a beautiful day and 2-hour ride. I'm happy to report that once again the weather cooperated with us and although it started out a bit cool, there wasn't a spot of rain, and the trails were in great condition. This



Adda and Lyndall
park rigs

Coffee and Muffins



is a very horse-friendly place, and we found the rangers as well as the hikers and bicyclists to be most accommodating and polite. The group rode out past Stevens Creek Reservoir and made a loop through the preserve, which included a trip on the Haystack Trail up to Hunters Point.

From there you get a sweeping view of the Bay Area and Silicon Valley that is hard to find anywhere else.

The ride concluded back at the staging area. Lunch was then served in a meadow complete with a babbling brook and good restrooms (always a plus!). The box lunches from Esposto's were scrumptious, especially those brownies!

Be sure to mark your calendar for the annual President's Ride October 13.

First Time Riders with SMCHA



SMCHA LOVES A PARADE

Nancy Crowley

As the first buds of spring flowers begin to bloom, the SMCHA Color Guard is dusting off their hats and polishing the silver for another season of parading.

Our year always begins with the annual May Day Parade in Woodside. Held every year on the first Saturday in May, it is truly a celebration of spring with music, singing, floats, kids, dogs and horses. Organized by the Woodside Elementary School this is a small town parade where there sometimes seems to be more parade participants than observers!

Representing SMCHA in the Color Guard this year are Marianna Daveggio, Kathie Goddard, Art Marshall and myself. Riding in the club colors of blue and yellow, our costumes were accented by the handiwork of Kathy Schmidt who made blue and yellow flower hat bands with streamers. Only for the girls though, Art sported a custom made boutonniere with a similar theme. We looked so good, the *Country Almanac* used our picture on a full page. Very "springy" I was told by a woman at the *Almanac*.

In their costumes from the Grand National Rodeo, riding with us were two members from our Junior Color Guard, Colleen Daley and Ellen Piccolotti. Along with the Color Guards were eight riders from our membership. Many were first timers who had a great time in this little parade.

On Saturday, May 18th we rode in San Carlos for the San Carlos Hometown Days Parade. After an absence of twelve years, the parade organizers were thrilled to have us back and we were happy to be there. Seven members who matched our club color scheme by wearing SMCHA jackets joined the Color Guard. A very impressive sight! Everyone had such a great time they made us promise to do it again next year.

Watch for an update on the 4th of July Parade in the next issue of the *San Mateo Horseman*.

San Carlos Hometown Days Riders



REINING

By Joan McLaren

"Entry number 99, yer up. 237 on deck, 240 in the hole . . ." says the gate man! Calmly we walk into the arena, my mare and I, such a team bonded with trust and love. Here we go, to the center of the arena.

Four spins to the right . . . four spins to the left—one-two-three—whoa! Don't overspin! Not to worry.

Begin two large fast circles to the left, keep her fast, hold that speed, keep the shape of our circle truly round. At the center a small slow circle to the left, then heads up . . . lead change! Like a Ballerina across the floor we've changed our lead to the two large fast circles to the right. Maintaining my shape and speed, and keeping my mare's attention from the cheering whistling crowd outside . . . I downshift to my slow small circle at the center to the right, and then . . . shoulders up, move her hip over and voila—change back to my left lead.

Now we continue around to the left into our wrap-around "cigar-shaped" turn, making sure we don't get less than 20 feet from the rail. Without closing the circle, I gather up, sit back and like a jet building speed on the runway I send my mare down to the other end of the arena, focusing beyond the arena wall ahead of me. Passing the center marker thinking "long" I tell my horse "whoa" and she slides across the ground like a wormy dog. Yahoo!! What a thrill!

Quickly we roll back with a spin over the slide tracks to the right without hesitation. Again I gather my mare, picking her up for balance, preparing for the next run down and stop. Here we go picking up speed, sit back and stop, roll back to the left—YESSS! What a team, my mare and I. Now we set up for our grand finale stop and back up. I lope up around the end lifting our shoulders, rating our speed, my eyes looking far ahead and here we go—down the right side of the arena thinking long . . . go far, go long, and now it feels right and I signal Whoa! The brakes go on, we slide across the ground leaving tracks like a big, long number eleven! Whistles and sheers come from the crowd around me as we gather up for the final back up; she bows her head and we back up 10 feet



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NOTES FROM NOEL

by Noel Moody

SMCHA Horse Show News

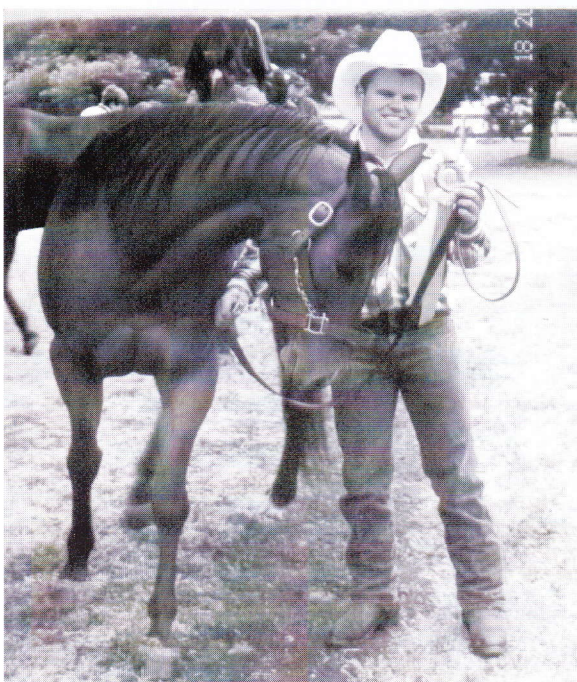
It isn't often one receives phone calls complimenting horse shows. It's usually complaints. But our May 19 Western Schooling show was a ten. Things like "This was the most fun horse show I've ever been to" and "This is the best show ever" were common exclamations heard. Why? We changed venues and every fourth class or so was an instructional free class where the judge, Lorili Casipit, gave a lesson. We had free clinic classes for showmanship, halter, equitation, pleasure, and trail. We also had fun races. There was a carrot race, potato race, human trail horse course race, and egg race. We gave away door prizes instead of high point awards. Our aim was to make it fun so people will want to show in western shows. It worked. We had the largest entry in ten years at this western show. We even made a profit.

August 4 is our English Schooling show at Webb Ranch. It's going to be wonderful too. Lots of low jump classes, rusty stirrup classes, and



beginner's classes. We would love to have all the local intermediate riders come because this show is designed for you. We would like to give a special recognition to Nancy Van Zwol of Portola Pastures for her help throughout the years in organizing this show's program and helping guide us through it as most of us do not ride English. She has always helped when we asked for advice.

Our Nor-Cal English/Western Horse Show will take place at the Mounted Patrol Grounds in Woodside on August 18. This year we will have reining in the afternoon and



English in the morning so no one will have to wait around. There will be eleven English classes as well as a full western division. Kathy Hansen and Lorili Casipit will judge. We will again feature our "Never Won a Buckle" classes where the winner will receive a \$200 Gist silver buckle for Reining, English Equitation, Western Equitation, Western Pleasure, Halter, Showmanship, and Trail Horse. There will be two lead line classes for six and under. There are many beginner and novice classes on the program. Bring a friend and enjoy the show. It's going to be great!

SMCHA wants to thank the Horse Show Committee—Kathie Goddard, Sandy Lees, Tami Tuite, Marianna Daveggio, Art Marshall, and Noel Moody for their work. We also thank all those who worked at the shows and the sponsors who make it all possible.

LV's Fun-Filled Summer

Los Viajeros has been traveling near and far enjoying a different place to ride the first Sunday of each month. It started at Half Moon Bay with a ride up the hills and back to the Three Zeros Restaurant. Other rides were to Pacheco Pass and Los Banos for our first overnight and dinner at the Wool Growers Restaurant. We got to ride on a private ranch in Gilroy where everyone enjoyed cattle

sorting as an extra bonus. Then we rode the beautiful Open Space above Skyline in Woodside for a 1-day ride where we were treated to lunch at Mary Shimmick's beautiful home.

However, the highlight of the summer was our Four Day Ride at White Oaks north of Santa Barbara. Sixty-one riders headed south June 20-23 camping among the numerous oak trees gracing the hillside. White Oaks is now owned by the Santa Barbara Trail Riders but it used to be a boys camp so there are many showers and a wonderful barbecue area that was perfect for the Fowl Players' thespian production. A myriad of trails led out from the camp into the Los Padres National Forest. Each day riders chose from a menu of seven or eight rides ranging from one hour to eight hours long and from level to very steep. One of the favorites was to the Santa Inez River where riders could ride their horses into chest deep waters and take a swim themselves. There were always nice parks along the river where one could tie up for lunch and water for the horses. The rides up the mountains were up canyons shaded by trees, but they were steep with single-track trails, many with drop-offs. It was great fun, and the views at the top were spectacular.

The Fowl Players presented "The Spell of the LV Forest" Friday night. Jodie Gebhard was the witch who cast the spell and then every spook one can think of appeared. There was a dancing ghost, a mummy all wrapped up, Frankenstein, ghoul—you name it, it was in the play. Only a hair from a unicorn could break the spell. Voila! There appeared the Browns' white horse with a horn on its forehead to save the day. Joyce Halpin, Amy Umpleby, and Jodie Gebhard were the playwrights and producers.

Later that night the annual LV Raffle took place. This year we had a refrigerator for camping, a \$900 tree service coupon, comforter, necklaces, books, horse food and horse supplies, cowboy shirts, riding jackets and other nice things. Thank you Kitty Haddix for your work. One day one group got lost because the men didn't believe the woman on the ride when she said the map said to turn right. Seems men are the same about directions on a horse as they are in a car. Anyway, the group arrived in camp at 9:30P.M. (they had left at 10:00 A.M.)

We had one other special entertainment: Amy Umpleby wrote very clever limericks about each rider. She recited them at dinnertime bringing chuckles from everyone.

August 3 and 4 we will be camping at the Stewart Ranch and ride the trails at Point Reyes. It is always spectacular riding there. Then we head to the Jack Brook Horse Camp for Labor Day Weekend. We are planning entertainment and it will be catered. Other rides will be at beautiful

Marin Headlands where we ride above the Golden Gate Bridge and look down on all of the sailboats. Fun! We will also have our progressive ride in Woodside in November. Last, Los Viajeros will join in the All Clubs Holiday Dance at the Crystal Springs Golf Club December 14.

For information about Los Viajeros call Bob Morin at 650-941-6569 or Nora Johnson at 650-747-0513.



Will I Find Them in Heaven

by Jewel Finley in 1932

Will there be a Black Rock Desert in Heaven when my days on Earth are o'er?

Will there be a good cow horse to meet me when I reach that Golden Shore?

Will there be heaps of sunshine and freedom, and will good old whirlwinds blow?

Are there ever sandstorms in Heaven? Please tell me, for I want to know.

Are there coyotes away up yonder, and at night do they howl so dear?

Are there mirages in Heaven that make one's vision so clear?

Do horn toads crawl through the burning sand? Does the greasewood glisten so bright after a warm desert rain has bathed it? And do the night owls call in the night?

I wonder if stars twinkle bright in Heaven if the moon shines down on you, too making of the desert a fairyland when the sagebrush sparkles with dew.

Will there be rough, bare mountains up there to climb with rim-rocks dangerous and steep?

Will there be any cowboys in Heaven who's brave hearts are true and deep?

And tell me, will there be a town called *Gerlach where my old pals as angels I'll see?

Will they be waiting to give me a handshake no matter how poor I may be?

I wouldn't mind leaving this cold, lonely world where wealth is all people can see.

If I'll find Black Rock Desert in Heaven—then Heaven's the right place for me.

**Fernley*

This poem is on the menu of Mary & Moe's Wigwam Restaurant, Casino & Indian Museum on West Main in Fernley, Nevada. (They have thousands of Indian artifacts on display).

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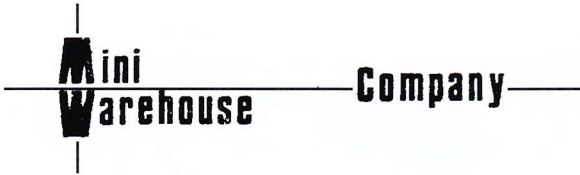


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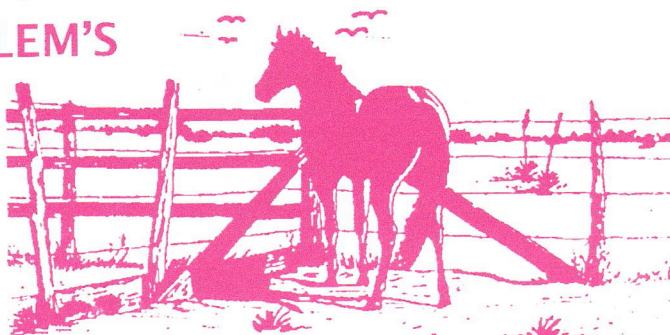
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CLEM'S

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by Clem Carroll

Just wanted to share this with you:

Before me are displayed a number of pictures taken in the Gulf of Mexico near the island of Cozumel. Our friends Sue Sheehan, Tanya Rebarchik, Debbie Tucker and Jeanne Dorrance are swimming with Dolphins!

A video was also taped - the dolphins swim under the girls, one at a time, and lift them up in the air, each

person carried ten feet or so, the Dolphins dive and are ready to do it over and over again. What fun!



In one of the pictures Sue is in the water between two Dolphins, each hand on the top fin, and being propelled at Dolphin Speed. There's a grin on her face that wouldn't stop!



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Our condolences to Ann Farris, Gene Ericksen and Sarah Ericksen on the loss of their Filly, Cali, and the recent loss of their horse, Night.

They have had some good news, though: Here are their latest new arrivals:

- 1) Mini colt (and mom) Lord Farquar born June 14, 2002
- 2) Shetland Pony/Mini filly- Cafe Latte, born May 10, 2002



Lord Farquar

- 3) TB/ Paint colt Hercules, born May 26, 2002



Cafe Latte

Hercules



I'll lend you for a little while
My grandest foal, He said.
For you to love while he's alive
And mourn for when he's dead.

It may be one or twenty years,
Or days or months, you see.
But, will you, till I take him back,
Take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you,
And should his stay be brief
You'll have treasured memories
As solace for your grief.
I cannot promise he will stay,
Since all from earth return.

But, there are lessons taught on earth
I want this foal to learn.
I've looked the wide world over
In my search for teachers true.

And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes
With trust I have selected you.
Now will you give him your total love?

Nor think the labor vain,
Nor hate Me when I come
To take him back again?
I know you'll give him tenderness

And love will bloom each day.
And for the happiness you've known
Forever grateful stay.

But should I come and call for him
Much sooner than you'd planned
You'll brave the bitter grief that comes
And someday you'll understand.

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by Cheryl

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2002 Calendar (tentative)

August

- 3-4 LV: 2 day Ride
- 4 English Schooling Show
- 8 Board Meeting
- 18 Nor-Cal Show
- 25 SFHA Kids Day-Golden Gate Park Ride
- 31- 2 LV Jack Brook

September

- 8 SJHA Redwood Regional Park Ride
- 12 Board Meeting
- 26 General Meeting
- 29 SFHA Point Reyes Ride

October

- 4 SFHA/SMCHA Bay Meadows
- 5-6 LV: 2 day Ride
- 10 Board Meeting
- 13 SMCHA President's Ride
- 20 SFHA Past President's Ride
- 25 Cow Palace Opening Nite

SMCHA events in BOLD

LV, SF, Mtd. Patrol in
Italics

LV = Los Viajeros • SF =
San Francisco Horsemen

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE
FOR CHANGES AND
UPDATES

www.smcha.org

November

- 3 LV: Progressive Ride
- 14 Board Meeting
- 27 General Mtg.-Elections

December

- 6 Board Dinner
- 14 Equus 2002 Christmas Party

January

- 25 Installation Dinner

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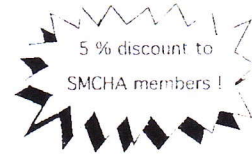
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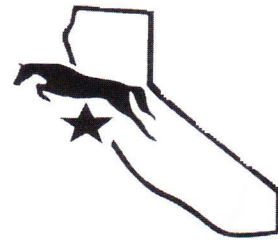
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Woodside, CA 94062-3507

**SAN MATEO
COUNTY
HORSEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**



2002 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

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

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

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| <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 |
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