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75th Anniversary Year



Deb Alvarado riding Nick at the  
Open English/Western Horseshow

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**Magazine: Susan Snook (650) 965.9094 and Nancy Kouchekey (650) 776.8000**  
**Mailing: Express Printing (408) 400.0223**  
**Advertising: Sharon Butler (650) 720.0513**  
**Layout & Printing: Express Printing**  
**Club Photographer: Sue Winslow**  
**Cartoons: Chris Romano-Pucket**

**COVER**

*Deb Alvarado Riding Nick*  
 2015

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**FALL 2015**



Wow, SMCHA's volunteers have put on some extraordinary events this summer.

Golden Gate Park Ride with SF Mounted Police Department: Thanks to Gina Silva for ordering a warm day (maybe even a little too hot) for our Golden Gate Park Ride. It's a special privilege to spend the day with San Francisco PD and ride around Stow Lake and up Strawberry Hill for spectacular vistas of the Golden Gate Bridge and Bay.

Movie Night at Webb Ranch: Gretchen King and Bonnie Bertetta organized a terrific "Friday Night at the Movies" at Webb Ranch. Another perfect evening of warm weather and lots of horse fans parked their pick-ups the polo field to watch the Black Stallion...complete with beverages and popcorn. The Color Guard Cafe's team served up picnic fare and the menu had something for everyone. No one went away hungry. Thank you all!

Edgewood Park's Clarkia Trail Work Day: Our volunteer turnout got the job done! See Noel Moody's article in this edition.

We also had two successful horse shows in August. Thanks to all who participated, sponsored and volunteered!

Amy Hublou continues to do an outstanding job of promoting young equestrians and had booths set up at Day of the Horse at Woodside's Town Hall and the Mounted Patrol's Pumpkin Festival. It's vital to our equestrian community to embrace young riders and promote our Tozi-Sheehan Scholarships. We've added Sue Sheehan's name to the scholarship fund because she was so dedicated to the young riders along with her good friend Donna Tozi.

Holiday Barn Party is returning to the beautiful home of Carleen Whittelsey on December 13. Check out the flyer.

Coming up on January 23 is our annual Installation Gala...again at the Mounted Patrol Clubhouse, so mark your calendars. Guaranteed to be another fun evening, which you don't want to miss.

In the meantime, get out there for a ride on our beautiful trails before it starts pouring (we wish) and enjoy the fall colors.

Of course, I'll always appeal to you, our members, to think about volunteering and/or participating in more of our events. We can use more volunteers in many areas of our organization. Please contact me if you can help.

Happy Trails,

Cheryl Basin  
 SMCHA President 2015



## San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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for the Winter 2016 issue  
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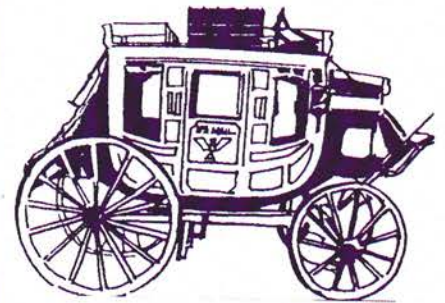
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## The San Mateo HORSEMAN

Fall 2015  
The official publication of  
**San Mateo County  
Horsemen's Association**

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



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## August Horseshows

By: Cheryl Basin, Horse Show Chair

### English Schooling Show at Webb Ranch - August 2

Twenty enthusiastic riders and their horses were all decked out in their English attire and tack for our annual English Schooling Show. It was a perfect August day, not too hot. Our judge, Lindy Dunlap, provided constructive criticism as the competitors walked, trotted, cantered and jumped. Helpful tips were welcomed by all participants. Thank you Lindy, we learned a lot.

Our professional and dedicated crew included Karen Rowley-Shawback, Deb Alvarado, Rich Boyd, Lee Reed, Adeline Forrest, Larry Pelzner, Sharon Butler and our photographer, Sue Winslow. SMCHA's Color Guard Cafe gals, Stephanie Owens, Kristi Eiffert and Tina Wuslich, were on hand with snacks, beverages and lunches all day. The course design was handled by Pam Daly with help from Beverley Kane and Greg Sonstegard to set it up the day before.

**We are so lucky to have wonderful sponsors for this show. Thank you all for your generosity:**

- **Larry Pelzner**, SMCHA Board member, donated five High Point cash awards
- **Western Saddlery**, Pleasanton, provided the "Goodie Buckets" teeming with grooming items
- **Portola Valley Feed** provided Horse treats
- **Carousel Saddlery**, Portola Valley, provided five High Point gift certificates

### SMCHA Open Show at the Horse Park - August 30

There's no better venue for a horse show than **The Horse Park at Woodside**. The crew is very accommodating, helping us set up the obstacles the day before the show and were standing by to drag and water arenas at a moment's notice. We had two terrific judges, **Lorali Casipit**, who judged the English and Western Pleasure, and **Chris Bugenig**, who judged the Halter Ranch and Trail classes.

**Pam Daly** designed and set up the English jump courses and **Mike Raynor** designed and set up the Ranch/Trail patterns. Thank you for your expertise. **Liz Sullivan** provided the AQHA rules in a very comprehensive one-page document which was very helpful to all the Ranch/Trail participants.

Our entire Horse Show Team is the best and they make it look so easy. Big thanks to the Office Crew: **Karen Rowley-Shawback, Deanna Tanner, and Ann Kirby**; the Main arena crew: **Lee Reed, Maryann Agosti, Larry Pelzner, Sharon Butler & Kim Jordan**; the Ranch/Trail arena crew: **Liz Sullivan, Adeline Forrest, Noel Moody, Bonnie Bertetta, Becky Witter, Mike Raynor**. Our club photographer **Sue Winslow** captured wonderful action-packed photos...which are on our website: [www.smcha.org](http://www.smcha.org)

Class	High Point Winner	Riding
English Hunter/Jumper Over Fences	Alexandra Moffutt	Duval
English Walk/Trot	Sara Atienza	Lucas
English Walk/Trot/Canter Open	Kelcy Senz	Naturally Blonde
Western Walk/Jog	Gabbie Howitson	Smart N Fancy Pep
Ranch Horse Walk/Jog	Jenny Schlansker	Tucker
Ranch Horse Walk/Jog/Lope Open	Armita Gohary	Topsails Smokin Hawk

Forty-six competitors entered in this show of 32 classes. For years we have offered "Never-Won-A-Buckle" awards, but this year we changed it up a bit and had beautiful silver buckles for "High Point" winners.

**Big thanks to all participants, crew, sponsors and gallery for making our shows so successful!**

SMCHA's Horse Show Calendar for 2016:

- Western Schooling Show @ Webb Ranch: Sunday, May 15
- English Schooling Show @ Webb Ranch: Sunday, August 7
- SMCHA Open Show @ The Horse Park: Sunday, August 28







## The Winner Collects Her SMCHA Prize

By Noel Moody

October 5, 6 & 7 found four of us going to San Juan Bautista to celebrate winning the wonderful prize last May at the SMCHA 75th Anniversary event, Leather, Lace & Horse Power. This generous prize was donated by Loryn and Rich Ross who operate a new B&B for horses and riders (and non-riders) at 537 Anzar Road in San Juan Bautista.

I was the big winner and invited Adeline Forrest, Ramona Martinez and Norma Tucker to join me and bring their horses.

The first ride was short because of the time factor, but it was fun riding around the twenty-four acres and then crossing the road and riding around a large broccoli field. After our social hour, we headed into San Juan Bautista for dinner at a Mexican restaurant on Third Street. We retreated to the hot tub upon our return to the B&B. They also have an indoor swimming pool.

The next day, after a leisurely breakfast, we saddled up and followed the small brown signs to the historic De Anza Trail. It was ten minutes from the B&B at the end of Third Street over Highway 156. The trail was a wide road leading up into the hills. It was soft ground compared to some roads and not rocky. At first it was a steady climb and then the trail leveled out at the top. There were many lovely vistas from this historic trail on our two-hour ride. The weather was mild and not hot, so we really enjoyed ourselves.

The De Anza Trail is a perfect place to get your horse fit. In fact, we met a gal on an Appaloosa who said she was getting her horse ready to compete at the Drill Team competition at the Cow Palace on October 16.

After another B&B social hour, we returned to San Juan Bautista for more Mexican food at a different restaurant. I had Mexican Meat Ball Soup that was to die for. Again we enjoyed the hot tub and then played a hot game of Mexican Train Dominoes. Great Time!

On Wednesday, we played tourist and went antiquing in town. Lots of stores and lots of fun. After lunch we returned to the B&B, loaded up the horses and headed back to Woodside.

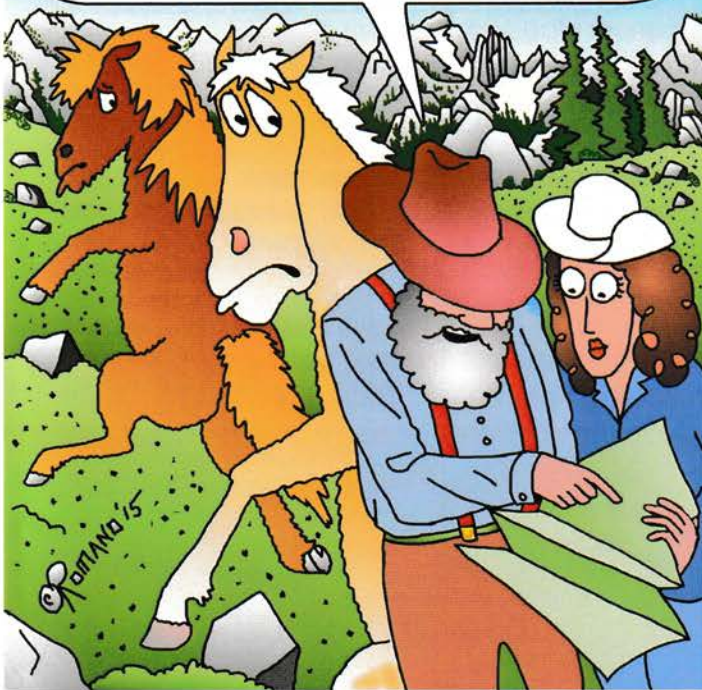
Thanks again to SMCHA for the fabulous prize. It was a blast! Oh, yes...the B&B has a petting zoo with miniature goats, miniature cows, llamas, donkeys and two cute pot belly pigs who don't wake up until 9 am. There were also fifteen wild turkeys roaming around. Loryn also had six small rescue dogs who stole our hearts.

We had a fabulous time at a fabulous place...truly a fabulous prize.





"We'll go over Starving Horse Pass, down Quicksand Gulch, to Poison Springs and into Locoweed Flats."



"I just may not mention you in my prayers—you bucked me off today."



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## Clarkia Trail Work Day

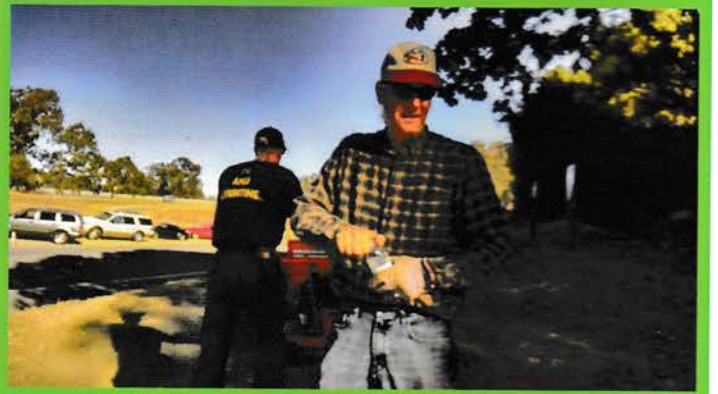
by: Noel Moody

September 19 turned out to be a very beautiful day to work on the Clarkia Trail in Edgewood Park. SMCHA has been helping to maintain this important trail for nineteen years after almost being blocked from riding there twenty years ago.

Eight hard working volunteers joined the two rangers hauling blue rock and base rock up the trail almost to the top where we spread the loads onto the trail. Redwood lumber was also hauled up to the rangers who constructed a new retaining wall. Many hands made the work go quickly and we finished about 1:30.

The San Mateo County Parks Department along with SMCHA furnished water, fruit, donuts and yogurt for everyone. Many thanks to the following volunteers: Beverley Kane, Mike Bushue, Anne Toschi, Jeanne Bell, Greg Sonstegard, Tom Paton, Mary Marr and Cheryl Basin.

It was a wonderful, productive day! Our trail is preserved, so get out there and ride it.



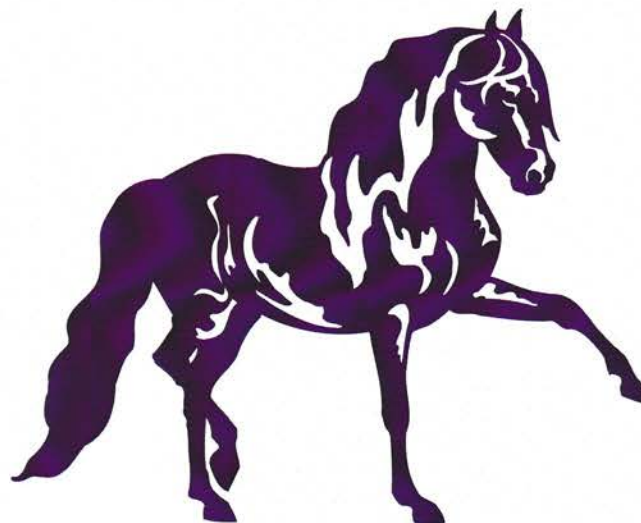


## Tozi Scholarship Recipient by Amy Hublou

We are pleased to introduce you to Kaia Maripuu, our 2015 Tozi Scholarship Recipient! Kaia Maripuu is a 14 year old from San Carlos, CA. She attends Carlmont HS and is in the 9th grade. Kaia was originally introduced to horses through her good friend Gabbie, who rides at Webb Ranch. That was two years ago and Kaia has been riding consistently at Webb ever since. Kaia has horse in her blood. Her grandmother rode and participated in Dressage shows in Sweden, England and Denmark. As well, her mother rode as a young girl. Kaia states that both her mom and her grandmother are very proud of her for carrying on this family tradition of horse riding. Kaia participated in her first show in June at Webb Ranch and is eager to do more. At that time, one of our SMCHA board members, Liz Sullivan, had the pleasure of meeting Kaia and was genuinely impressed with her level of composure and conduct. Kaia loves interacting with horses and getting to know their language. Kaia also recently participated in a Parelli demonstration hosted by Becky Witter and this peaked great interest in developing a better understanding of horse psychology and communication. As a youth representative of SMCHA, Kaia will be volunteering at some of the SMCHA sponsored events in our community. As well, she is our new ambassador for the SMCHA Junior Program and will be involved in not only developing out this program, but encouraging other youth to get involved. We are so excited about this new program being offered through the Tozi Fund for Youth and glad to bestow this gift on Kaia Maripuu! We look forward to seeing great things!



Amy Hublou, Kaia Maripuu, Cheryl  
Basin



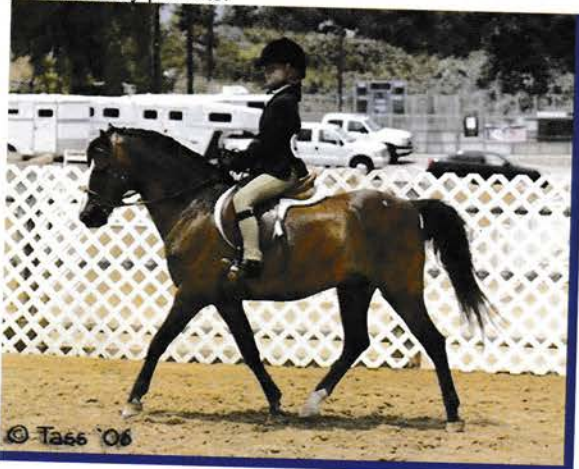




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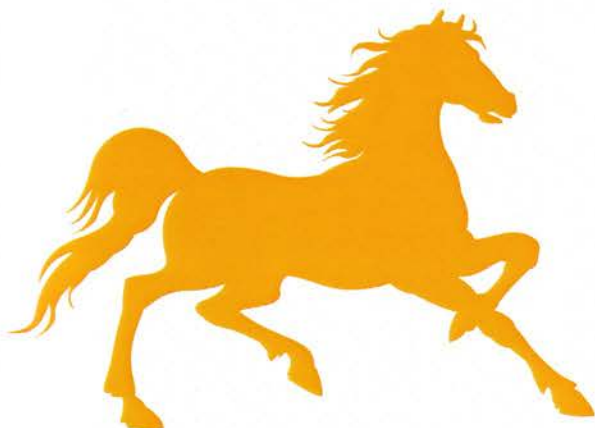
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# Golden Gate Ride

Greetings all,

Our ride in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> was to say the least, simply remarkable. The day started out bright sunny, and the rare occasion for San Francisco, hot.

Everyone showed up bright-eyed, and there was a certain buzz about the community. All the riders were introducing themselves, asking "Where did you come from?", and enjoying some friendly banter about trailers, tack, and even about a very friendly bird named "Peaches". Come to find out, we had riders from three different clubs join us on this wonderful day. They came from Monterey Bay, Santa Clara County, and of course from San Mateo County.

It was very nice meeting these new people, but I think more importantly, we all came together, because the common undertone was that most everyone had always wanted to ride in the park, and now a new check on their bucket list would be completed this day.

After the general greetings, coffee and some snacks were consumed. Next we were introduced to the officers from the San Francisco Mounted Unit, who were very nice, and showed us their wonderful barn that was constructed in the 1930's. The walls were filled with some great photos showing the history of this great and proud organization. After the tour and a short question and answer session, they briefed us on what to expect on the ride, and were told about safety issues. We mounted up, and began the ride. Our docents were telling us bits and pieces of history about the park as we headed east towards 19th Ave. Our main objective was to ride to the top of Strawberry Hill. We went under the bridge into the "car free zone" of the park, which was nice, because we were able to not worry about motorists spooking our horses, or worse yet, hitting us.

Along the way, we were greeted by smiling children and parents, asking if they could take pictures, or even pet the horses. That kept the smiles going all day long. When we got to the top of Strawberry Hill, we experienced the most breathtaking views of the entire city. On the west was the ocean, to the north, we saw the Golden Gate Bridge, and to the east, we saw the downtown. Many people took lots of pictures from this vantage point, and the smiles were huge. As we continued down the hill, the laughter continued. We passed a lovely waterfall that most of the horses looked at with a skeptical eye, but soon forgot about as we passed by.

When we returned to the barn, there were tables set up, and lunch was delivered. It was enjoyable listening to the different conversations of the group--talking about their experiences of the ride, and how many people had never seen the park in this way before. Most of us drive through the park on our way to the Golden Gate Bridge, but have never taken the time to see the various fields nestled away, like the frisbee golf course, the buffalo enclosure, and the polo fields, which are currently used as soccer fields. The best part was that we were invited back, and encouraged to ride in this park again.

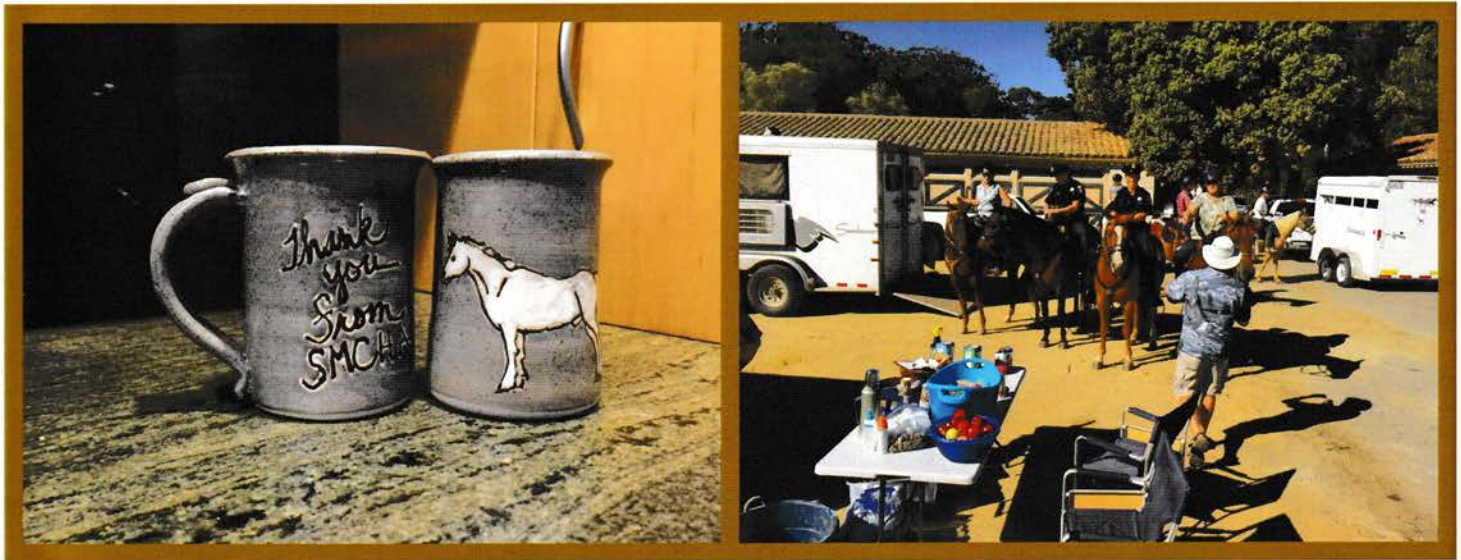
Hilde Licht was very nice to make some custom ceramic mugs for our docents, and we were later able to present them to the Officers at the Grand National Rodeo. These Officers again gave us smiles and said, "Thank you for the enjoyable day and please come back!". I have to admit, this ride was also on my bucket list, and I would like to thank everyone, who participated.

Paul Gurries

Thank you Gina Silva for organizing this fantastic ride!



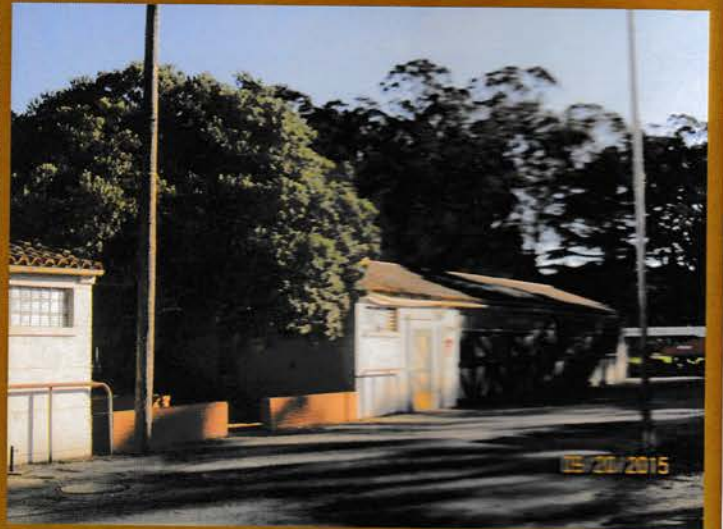
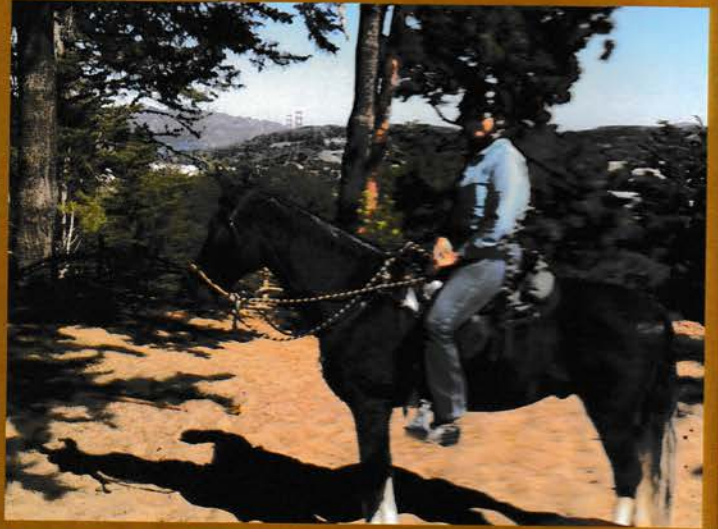
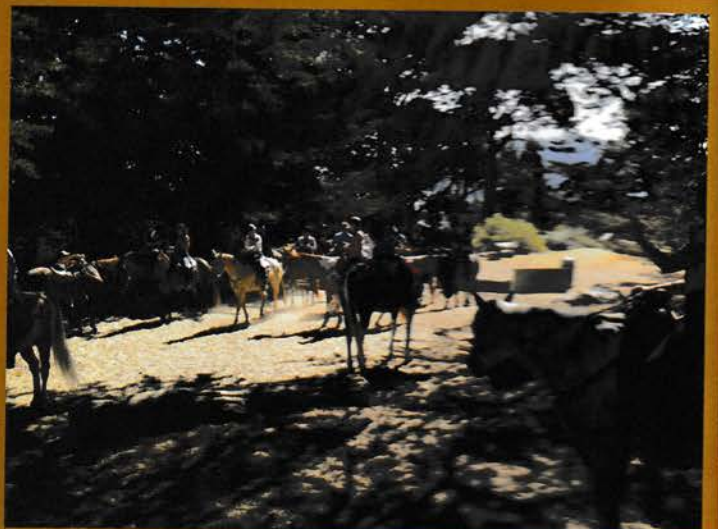




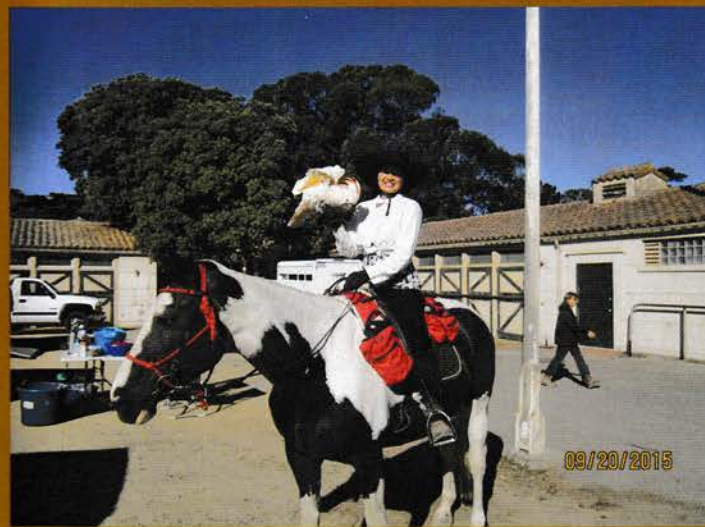
These mugs were made by Hildy Licht as gifts for the two officers that led the Golden Gate Park ride.













# Letters

"The following letters have been written by current and former Junior members who eagerly agreed to share memories of their favorite club activities. They also explain the ways in which being a member of SMCHA has enriched their lives. I want to thank each of them for taking the time to explain just how many positive experiences SMCHA provides for our youth and their families."

- Susan Snook

Nicole Stanley  
Age 17

*I've been lucky enough to be an SMCHA member for four years. I first joined at age 14, when I was leasing a lovely gelding named Chaz, owned by Laurie Gerst. Laurie recommended this association, and once I attended my first event, I was hooked! When I bought my first horse that winter, a sorrel Quarter Horse mare named Gracey, I made a point to attend as many fun SMCHA events as I could.*

*Our first event as a pair was the Western Schooling Show in 2012. As the two of us were fairly inexperienced with showing, we did not place too well, but with the help of the clinics and spectating friends we did score better as the day went on. The show was large and very well-coordinated; both the spectators and competitors had an air of positivity and everyone was very happy to help each other out; a mother of another competitor even helped me fix my braid before my first class! Two years later, we entered again and found that we had improved greatly. Gracey and I placed in nearly every class. Even so, the clinic classes helped to improve our riding, as did my friends watching the show. The annual schooling shows, paired with the western and English riding clinics, allow these summer events to be an outstanding experience for riders hoping to enhance their skills.*

*In addition to the pair of schooling shows during the summer, the Halloween Playday is an event that should be attended at least once. The show begins with an obstacle course through a series of challenging obstacles such as "noodle gauntlets" and over tarps, and it's a fantastic way to test just how tolerant **your** horse is. (I found that in Gracey's case, there was a limit.) Throughout the day, horse and rider pairs get to test their skills in a series of speed and control events such as barrels, big T, and keyhole. Every year there is at least one team event, so invite your friends to compete with you! As with any SMCHA event, fellow competitors and viewers are very supportive and are always willing to offer kind advice or input. Whether you ride gymkhana, jumping, or just like to relax on the trails, this event always promises to be a blast.*

*For any rider, youth or senior, Day of the Horse never fails to entertain. Riders spend weeks designing costumes for themselves and their equine counterparts, and this day is when they don them and ride out to the Woodside trails to collect stamps and goodies. This is the event I most recommend for a youth rider hoping to get acquainted with the association and community. The first time I attended, Gracey and I dressed as knights and joined up with a friend and her group. Gracey enjoyed the company, the trails, and most of all the treats! Volunteers at each stamp booth often carry carrots to feed to equine participants (with permission, of course), and the horses are very appreciative. Riders receive large goodie bags from sponsors containing gifts such as fly spray, popcorn, and grain samples. Day of the Horse is a winning event for all parties.*



*During my four years as an SMCHA member, I gained connections that are crucial to my progress as a rider. Through Page Mill Pastures I met instructor Ashlie St Clair and barn owner Giselle Turchet, both of whom taught me the importance of proper riding and emphasized the importance of a soft, broke horse. This association also allowed me to meet good friends including (but not limited to) Sharon Butler, Sue Winslow, and Emily Milner. Through such friends I met my mentor Kathy Torres and worked as her intern for a summer. This, in turn, allowed me to find my new horse, AQHA mare Em O Lena Stardust ("Dusty"). The connections that can be made by getting involved with SMCHA lead to chain reactions that can even jumpstart career choices.*

*Currently, I am not involved with SMCHA events- not because I don't want to, but because I am attending Colorado State University and dual majoring in Equine Science and Animal Science. I sold Gracey to a lovely local family before I moved, and Dusty and I are now training and competing on CSU's Versatility Ranch Horse Team. I am confident that a crucial event leading to my current state is my joining of SMCHA, which allowed me to make important connections and helped me learn countless necessary skills for my major. If I were to give one suggestion to youth riders reading this article: get involved in SMCHA. Learn as much as you can about everything in the equine business. Make friends, accept criticism, and find your niche. But above all, have fun with San Mateo County Horsemen's Association!*



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**Katie Nachtsheim, 18**  
Freshman at Vanderbilt University  
Member of Vanderbilt University Equestrian Team

*I first joined SMCHA when I started leasing a stubborn red dun pony named Sedona at the age of 11. I had started roping with Ed Cohn, and there was introduced to Dan Johndrow, and began riding at Webb Ranch. Many members of the Webb community were active with SMCHA, and thus I ended up joining as well. This ended up being a decision that would shape my next 7 years for the better.*

*By far my favorite memories from my time as a junior SMCHA member were the shows. I learned to love waking up at ungodly hours of the morning to pack up my show clothes, throw on a pair of sweatpants, and head out to the barn to prep for the day. Getting involved with shows was not only a blast in itself, but it was a great way to meet friends and make connections.*

*Another great event is the annual Halloween Playday. Those were always such fun experiences, especially the Cowboy Obstacle Course set up by Mike Raynor. This event included obstacles such as a teeter totter, leaning down to place a tennis ball in a cone on the ground, and untacking your horse and finishing the course*

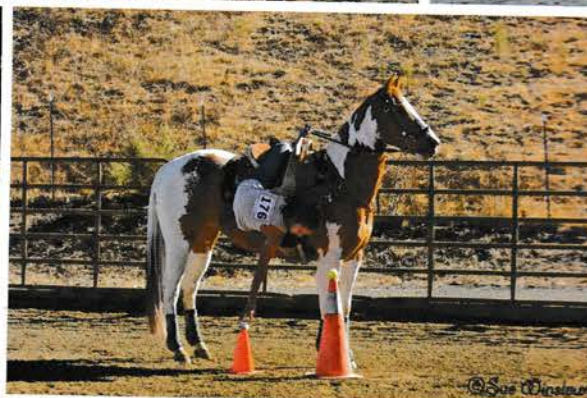
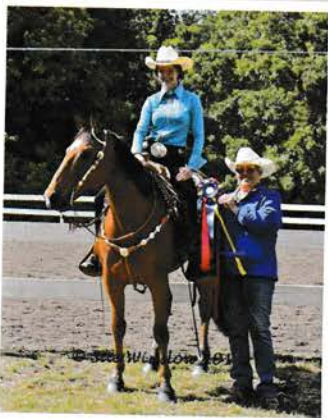


*bareback. It was such a fun, silly way to challenge my skills as a rider - and how far I could push my horse's patience. Another favorite event was the Bandana Barrel Race, which I participated in with my best friend Nicole Fava. We ran the normal barrel pattern at the same time, holding onto a bandana and trying to stay side by side. Events like these were an awesome way to challenge ourselves, practice our skills, and showcase our talents, but still have a ton of fun.*

*A final favorite was the annual Day of the Horse. It was so cool to be able to ride throughout the town of Woodside with friends and other members, and the "scavenger hunt" element added to the excitement. It was always so funny to ride along the roadway and watch passing cars and bicyclists turn to gawk. Dressing up for each year's theme was an endeavor which, for my group, began months in advance. It was like Halloween with horses!*

*From Bunco nights to shows to the Grand National Rodeo bus, SMCHA plans all sorts of fun activities for its members. Being a part of SMCHA enabled me to strengthen existing friendships, and build new ones. Had I not joined, I would not have had many of the fun experiences that shaped my early teenage years. Even my mom got back into riding - something she hadn't done since childhood! Through SMCHA we met Sue Winslow and several of the other women at Page Mill pastures, who my mom now rides with on my roping horse.*

*My advice for potential new junior SMCHA members would just be get involved. Get involved with as much as you can. If in doubt, just do it. You might find you like something you were never interested in before. Just do it for the sake of having tons of new experiences and meeting new people. I'd like to think I was fairly involved with SMCHA, but looking back, I still didn't take advantage of all the fantastic opportunities they make available to their members - especially their juniors. When you join, you become part of an incredibly tight-knit, fun, loving, (and fun-loving!) community; a community that is truly hard to find anywhere else. I miss my time being an active part of the association, but rest assured I will butt my way in as much as possible when I am home on breaks!*





---

**Emily Jane Vasquez**  
12 Years Old

*I am glad my mom signed my family up for SMCHA. There are some fun things the organization does.*

*One of the fun things are the Playdays. At the Playdays we rode obstacle courses, had timed races, had lunch and then did it again. The person with the most points won a buckle. The first year I rode in the Playday at Page Mill Pastures, I won a pillow for being the youngest and staying on most of the day.*

*Another fun event that they do is Bunco. I have done it two years in a row. The first year I went I won \$50, and the second year I won a gift card. Those were nice prizes, but the best part was talking to people I know, meeting new people, and having fun.*

*Last but not least, I have attended the Grand National Rodeo with the SMCHA. A group of members go every year. My favorite part is the barrel racing. Also there is a mechanical bull. Who doesn't like a good ride on a mechanical bull?! Hopefully there will be a party bus this year!*



---

**Nicole Fava**  
Age 21

*I was your typical horse-obsessed teenager. I had been leasing a Webb Ranch lesson horse named Midas, and was looking to get more involved in events outside of Webb's schooling shows. My first non-schooling show was SMCHA's Open Show at the Woodside Horse Park, and boy, was I nervous! This would be my first time jumping Midas outside of home turf, and those two-foot jumps looked terrifying. My nerves were calmed when I was graciously welcomed by a friendly group of SMCHA members, including show coordinators and competitors. I made friends with a group of junior members my own age, and had such a blast that I decided to start a membership with SMCHA. And that's where it all began.*

*I remember my first Woodside Day of the Horse in 2010, which was advocated by SMCHA. Katie Nachtsheim, Sterling Trubman and I spent hours planning our costumes for the "holidays" theme. Choosing Thanksgiving as our focus, we were decked out from head to toe in Native American costumes. Our horses had war paint all over them. At first we thought we might have gone overboard on the costumes, and that we looked ridiculous.*



*But once we met up with our friends from SMCHA, it seemed that everyone else had gone just as “overboard” as we did! I will never forget that ride, where a huge group of SMCHA horses and riders paraded around the town in some of the coolest horse and rider costumes I have ever seen. We may have looked like a bunch of fools to some of the Woodside townsfolk, but we embraced it. We had a blast.*

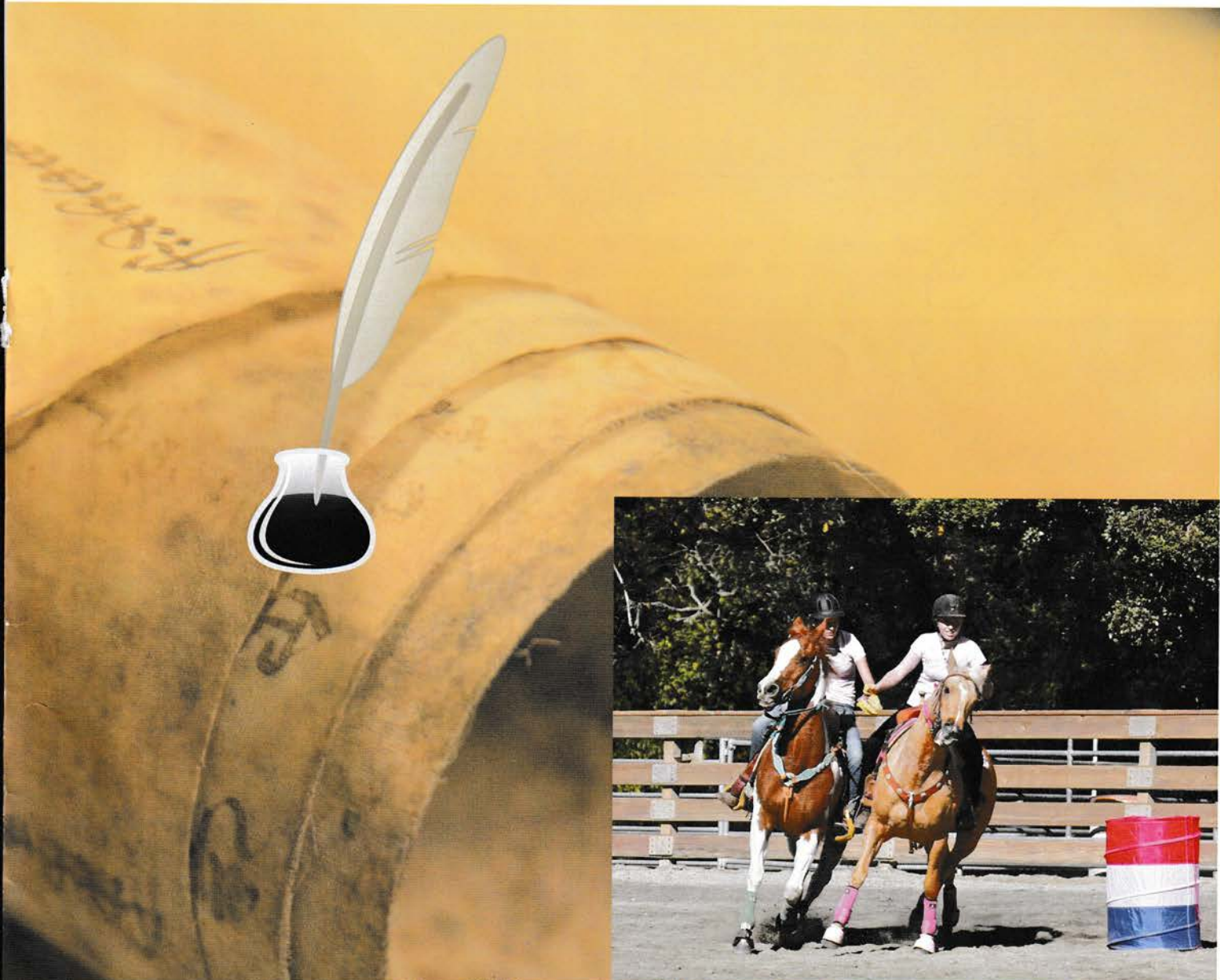
*A few months later, I bought my first horse, a cute palomino quarter horse named Miley. I really struggled to figure her out. She was fast... always in “barrel horse mode”... and didn’t really fit the show scene at the time. I entered her in the 2011 SMCHA Western Schooling Show, totally prepared for the day to be a disaster. And the beginning was just that. Her head was in the air, she was trotting off her toes, and I couldn’t slow her down for the life of me. Luckily, SMCHA had structured this schooling show to be the ultimate learning experience. At the end of certain classes, the judge picked up her microphone and gave every rider pieces of advice. I was able to apply this advice to the classes that followed, and Miley and I somehow managed to bring home an armful of ribbons that day. I entered the same show on my horse Ringo in 2013, and after another round of tips from the judge, we won the highpoint! As a somewhat green teenager with green horses, I remember these shows as being some of the best learning experiences I had through SMCHA.*

*In those years and the ones that followed, I attended more than just the organization’s horse shows. Bunco Night introduced me to a lot of other junior members, and we would join forces to beat out the adults at our table. The SMCHA movie night was always a good time. We would all run wild across the Webb Ranch polo field, then would sit down and enjoy the classic movies the adults had told us about. I always looked forward to October, when we would ride SMCHA’s bus to the Grand National Rodeo. Being juniors in a bus full of adults, we weren’t expecting the trip to the rodeo to be much fun. We were always proven wrong. One year in particular, I remember walking into the Cow Palace pondering how some of the older adults managed to turn our standard rental bus into a party bus.*

*As junior member, my all-time favorite SMCHA event was the Halloween Playday. Most SMCHA members remember Katie Nachtsheim and I as the “dynamic duo”: we were either partnered up in every possible team event, or finishing neck-and-neck in the individual events. SMCHA put on some unforgettable classes at those playdays. I’ll never forget the time I piloted Miley around a pole with Katie on a tarp behind me. Or the time when Katie and I ran the barrel pattern side-by-side, holding a bandana between us. When I mean ran, I mean we FLEW through that pattern. I’ll never forget how much every SMCHA member on the sidelines screamed for us and cheered us on.*

*Now that I’m an adult, I look back on my experiences with SMCHA as a junior and am eternally grateful. The organization has given me some incredible opportunities to advance in my riding through western and English shows, playdays, cow sorting and trail clinics, group trail rides, and more. But when I look at the ribbons and buckles with “SMCHA” written across them, more than just the events themselves come to mind. I think of all the new friendships formed, along with the old friendships that were strengthened. I think of the adults that always supported us, along with the juniors that supported each other. Most of all, I think of the amount of fun I had as a junior, and the amount of fun I continue to have through SMCHA today!*









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HERE IS SOME INTERESTING INFORMATION ON TICKS...

## Study: Lyme disease-infected ticks found in 'all kinds of habitats'

By Kate Daly | Special to the Almanac

A study funded by the Portola Valley-based nonprofit Bay Area Lyme Foundation found the bacteria that cause Lyme disease "in every place we looked" in this region, according to Executive Director Linda Giampa.

The Public Library of Science just released the results online. In May of 2013 researchers from Stanford and Northern Arizona universities led an effort to collect Western black-legged ticks, the tick that transmits Lyme to people on the West Coast. They dragged flannel blankets on and around trails in 20 parks and open spaces extending from Sonoma to Santa Cruz counties, caught and then tested 349 nymphs and 273 adults.

Out of all the sites sampled Ms. Giampa said, Windy Hill Open Space Preserve had a "slightly, slightly higher percentage" of infected nymphs.

She hikes Windy Hill with her dog often and isn't all that worried about the threat of Lyme disease because, she said, compared to the East Coast, this study shows "overall it's a low percentage of ticks carrying the bacteria, about five out of every 100 nymphs." The infected nymphs were found in the coast live oak woodland and Douglas fir parts of the preserve, whereas at nearby Thornewood Open Space Preserve, some infected nymphs turned up in coast live oak forest and then, to a lesser degree, in redwood forest.

Ms. Giampa said that's one of the surprising parts about the study, discovering that infected ticks exist in all kinds of different habitats.

Tick season is year-round in California, but since ticks like moisture, she said, the good news is "in a drought there are currently less ticks in the area than in the past."

Another surprise researchers found is that a strain of bacteria that has caused tick-borne relapsing fever on the East Coast and in Europe, has now moved into the Bay Area in increasing numbers.

On this coast, Western gray squirrels and dusky-footed wood rats are the most common carriers of the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. When a tick bites a host animal and then latches onto a person, the disease can be passed along. The longer the tick is attached to the person, the higher the chance of transmission.

Ms. Giampa encourages everyone to take preventative measures and be vigilant when outdoors. She suggests wearing protective clothing and checking for ticks periodically and thoroughly. Nymphs are particularly easy to miss because they are the size of a poppy seed.

Lyme disease can be treated with antibiotics. Without treatment, symptoms can develop over time and range from headaches to swollen joints and neurological problems.

"Anecdotally, we think (Lyme disease) does affect people differently, and, anecdotally, we think some people have an immunity to ticks," Ms. Giampa said, adding that the varying responses may have something to do with the genetically diverse variety of both the bacteria and people involved.

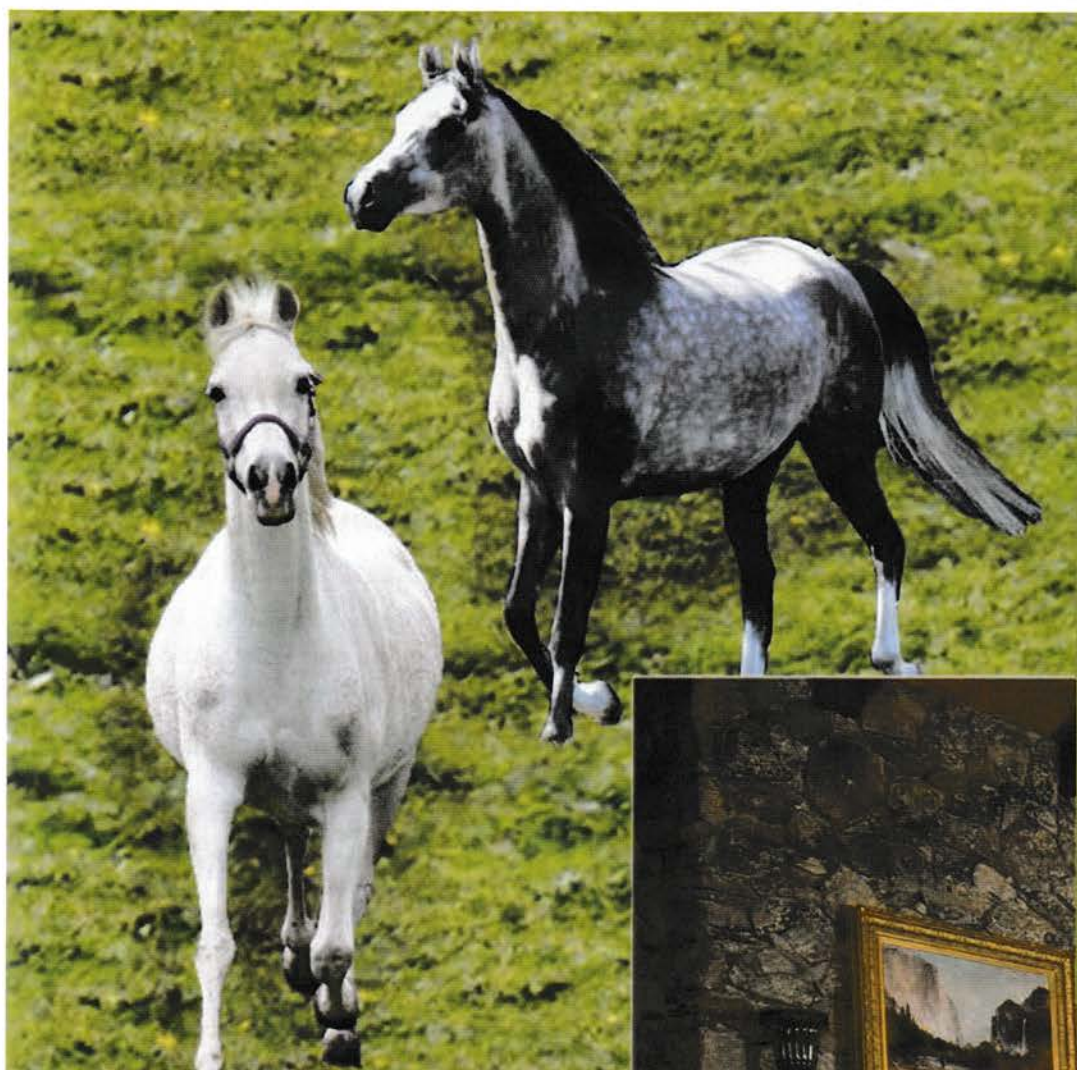
Right now, the Bay Area Lyme Foundation is supporting a study to find out why some people are "tick magnets." Another study is in the works to collect and compare ticks all over the country.

Visit [bayarealyme.org](http://bayarealyme.org) for more information.

This article is reprinted from The Almanac with permission from Linda Giampa, Executive Director of the Bay Area Lyme Foundation







# Comfort Family, Friends and Home

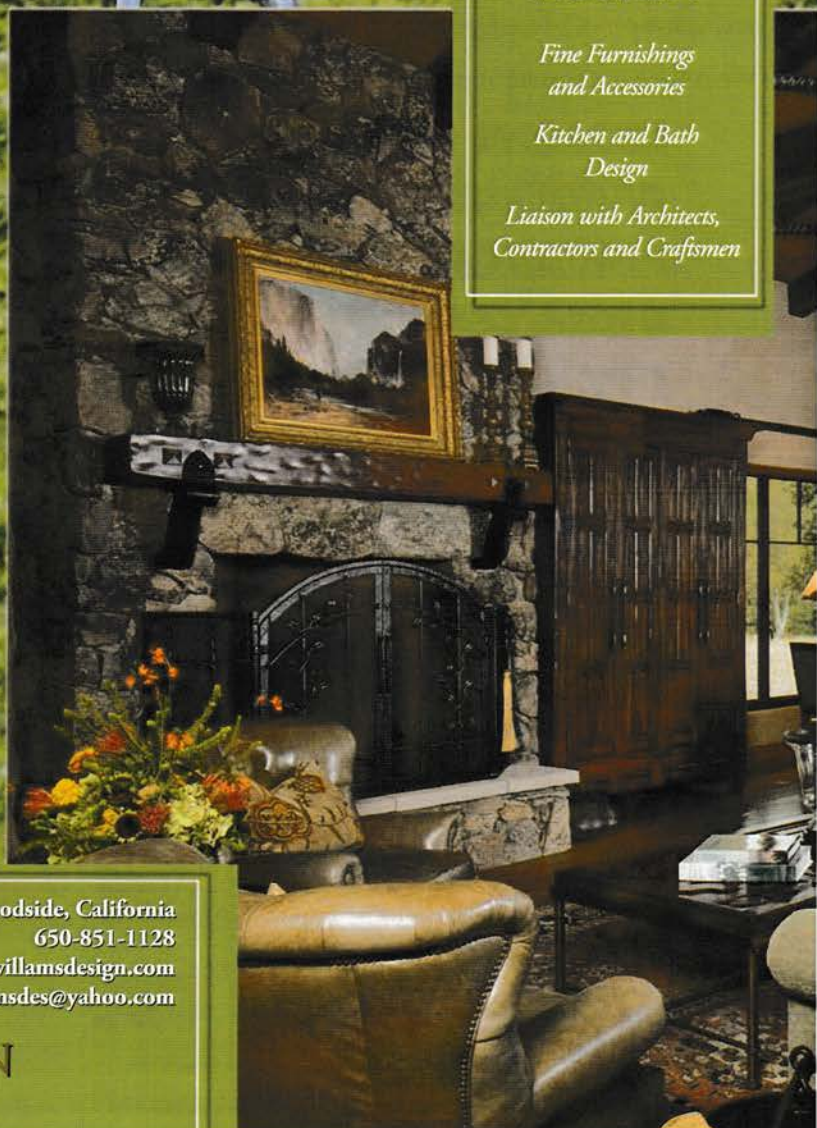
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SMCHA Hall of Fame  
by Noel Moody

We need your help! We need YOU to think of people you think should be in the SMCHA 75th Anniversary Hall of Fame. Who do you remember as being an outstanding member? He/she may be living or deceased. The only requirement is that it must be someone who was a member of SMCHA.

Just give us the name and it's not necessary to do a write-up, although a few words would be appreciated.

The SMCHA Hall of Fame will be presented at the Kick Off Gala and Installation at the Mounted Patrol on Saturday evening, January 23, 2016.

1. Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are you nominating him/her? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of person suggesting the nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Send your nomination information to: SMCHA, P.O.Box 620092, Woodside, CA 94062 or email to Noel Moody at [noelhorsez@gmail.com](mailto:noelhorsez@gmail.com).



## Grand National Rodeo

By, Christine Friis

### What a Great Way to End our Color Guard Season!

After a very successful and prideful presentation at the NCEFT Gala on September 26, your SMCHA Color Guard team focused on the upcoming Grand National Rodeo Drill and Color Guard Competition.

This season your SMCHA Color Guard had two new horses that had never even come close to experiencing the types of sensory stimulation a Color Guard season brings, yet successfully made it through unscathed. But after only a few months they were next getting ready for the big event at the Grand National Rodeo (GNR). This team pulled themselves up by their bootstraps and grabbed a hold of their will and determination to work through several obstacles that challenged us throughout the season. Many hours of scheduled (and unscheduled) practices were held to get ready for this year's Color Guard competition. "*Let perseverance be your engine and hope be your fuel,*" was the quote that seemed to be our team's underlying motto for 2015. This year the team hit many bumps in the road (and even a few crash and burns) but perseverance, hope and determination paid off in the end!

From the outside looking in, it may not look like much work for team of four horses and riders to walk in a rhythmic cadence around an arena, but it takes a lot of practice and bonded horses to achieve this. Add the little extras that are needed to win a competition, and you have a lot going on. Constantly in your mind you are thinking, eyes forward, smile, chin up, shoulders back, sit up straight, flag arm at 90 degrees, flags straight, hands soft, reins in the correct position in your fingers, why are my horse's ears pinned back, why is he swishing his tail, what is the cat doing in the arena and OMG there's a monster plastic bag to the left of us! Never a dull moment and lots of memories are always made.

Earlier in the year, we had talked about the opportunity we often have being in the spotlight in front of so many people. So, we decided to support a cause and bring awareness to breast cancer by wearing pink at the Grand National Rodeo Competition. October was Breast Cancer Awareness month and we felt it was very fitting. However with the outpouring of positive comments, we will be continuing with this cause and wearing pink for most of 2016.

Our riders, Cheryl Basin, Stephanie Owens, Tina Wuslich and Sara Esquivel, did a great job at the competition and were steadfast to earn a beautiful 1st Place Buckle and a pretty blue ribbon. Our ground crew, Jenny Mize, Debbie Padilla, Kristi Eifert, Caprice Tennefoss, Elyssa Lucas, Nick Esquivel and Elizabeth Sullivan did an amazing job suiting and booting the horses and riders to perfection, making the blue a possibility!

As another successful Color Guard season comes to an end, we cannot forget all the people that have contributed to our ground crew, Color Guard Café and all the coordination of their effort! Special thanks and big hugs are being sent out to Jenny Mize, Debbie Padilla, Kristi Eifert, Caprice Tennefoss, Cindy Sidaris, Karen Rowley, Allan Demmons, Adeline Forrest, Gina Silva, Elizabeth Sullivan, Beverley Kane, Deb Pugh, Patricia Hulin and the Lucas Family. On behalf of the entire Color Guard team we would also like to thank the SMCHA Board of Directors for your support throughout the year!







***San Mateo County Horsemen's Association Does it Again with Class***

Submitted by: Mark Hawthorne

Another successful camping and riding event highlighted this Summer Season for SMCHA. I am referring to our annual campout at the Jack Brook Horse Camp in the most beautiful Pescadero Creek/McDonald park complex held Thursday, July 23 through Sunday, July 26. The weather was excellent for the wonderful riding opportunities experienced on the variety of trails that characterizes the park.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the coordinators of the event, specifically Gina Silva (event coordinator), Cheryl Basin and Sharon Butler. These ladies did an outstanding job of providing the food, refreshments, and in some instances, the informal entertainment. This year showers were available after the long hours in the saddle and to refresh for the evening events. And of course, the highlights of the campout were the fantastic meals prepared by the members for the members. As you know there's nothing better than smelling fresh brewed coffee and bacon, eggs and sausage, being readied for breakfast, all fastidiously undertaken I might add. The evening festivities were lots of fun in and of themselves, folks filling their plates, exchanging stories of their day on the trails and then kicking back at the all-too-familiar fire pit for more relaxation and storytelling.

Saturday night's entertainment did not disappoint either. Plenty of music, dancing, and of course the raffle. What a way to conclude the weekend at Jack Brook. As they say, if you weren't there, you missed a lot of fun and a fantastic weekend. But wait til next year!!!!

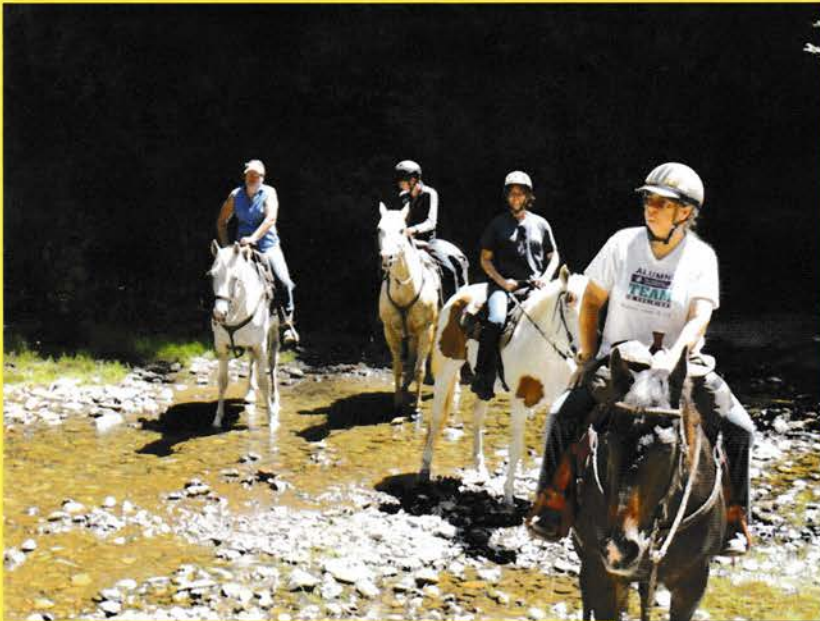
To make much of this possible, SMCHA partnered with the San Francisco Horsemen's Association to use their trailer (or Chuck wagon) and some of their equipment to make the campout a bit more convenient and enjoyable.

This year there were very few hazards on trails but due to the dry situation, the trails appeared a bit more dusty than usual. The creek was low but it was there and the horses enjoyed the cool, refreshing opportunity for a big drink.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the Rangers and members of the Volunteer Horse Patrol who were on duty during the weekend as there was a medical emergency involving one of our members who, while riding, experienced an accident with her horse. VHP Mike Bushue happened on the situation and coordinated with the Rangers to provide emergency services. The member did not break anything, has recovered and is back in the saddle.

In closing, I want to remind everyone, this outstanding campout would not have been possible without the support and participation of YOU, our membership. Remember, we are an Association, which means we support each other. God speed.









ANNUAL

# Holiday Party

**Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015**

**3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

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**Directions:** From Hwy 280, take Woodside Road to the west. Go 1.4 miles and turn left on Fox Hollow. Address is 0.4 mile on the right. Parking on the right side of Fox Hollow facing Woodside road only.

**Bring your favorite signature dish to share!  
Wear your holiday finery! Bring a friend!**

*Santa will be joining us so you don't want to miss the chance to make your wish list known.*

**Please RSVP by Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> with your name(s)  
and your potluck item to: Gretchen King,  
1-408-406-1331 or  
[hightechbuckarete@me.com](mailto:hightechbuckarete@me.com)**

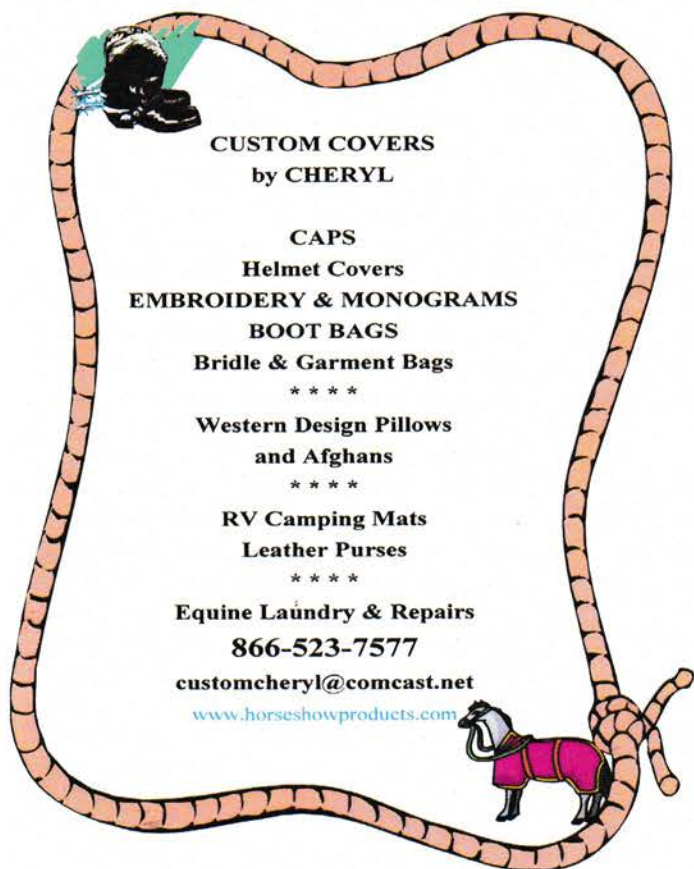
*We will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots  
and canned or boxed food items for Second Harvest Food Bank*

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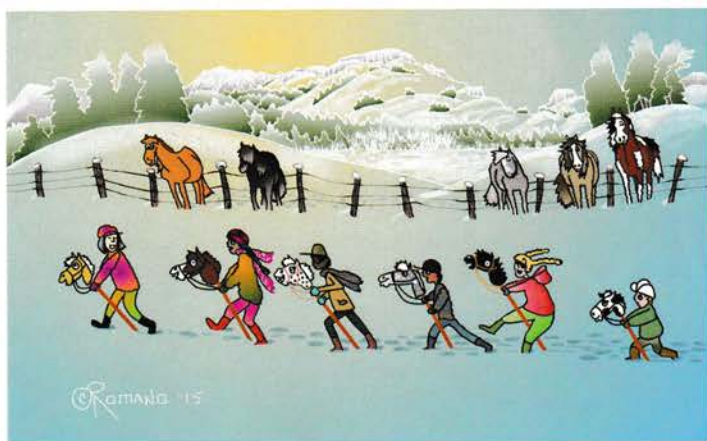
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#### 1 IDENTIFICATION

The goal of permanent identification for your animals is reunification in the event you become separated during a disaster. Permanently identify each horse by a method such as microchipping. This should be done by a veterinarian and the paperwork sent in to register the identity. NOTE: the microchip is useless without the registration. Other humane methods of identification include an **ID tag** attached to the horse's halter or a **plastic neckband** engraved or marked with information. At the time of evacuation, consider additional temporary identification such as a **leg band**. In a pinch, you can spray paint your name and phone number on the horse.



Also, take several **full-frame** and **close-up photographs** with detailed descriptions for each horse you own. Record breed, color, size, markings, scars, cowlicks or whorls, and other significant features. Keep copies in a sealed plastic ziplock bag and store it in a safe place. Send a copy to a friend or family member so that the information is preserved in case of fire, or keep a copy in digital form on a cloud server for access from a phone or other mobile device.

#### 2 HALTERS AND LEAD ROPES

Keep halters and lead ropes ready for your horses. On each halter attach a **luggage tag** with the following information: the horse's name, your name, email address, your telephone number, and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached.



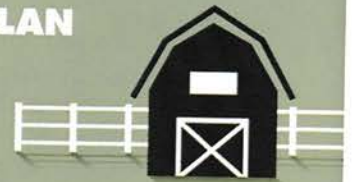
#### 6 EVACUATION SITES/REFUGE

Know where you can take your horses in an emergency evacuation. Identify at least two (2) exit routes and a **prearranged destination**. If possible, make arrangements with a friend or another horse owner to stable your horses in a safe zone. Contact your local animal control agency or local emergency management authorities for information about shelters in your area. During mandatory evacuations, shelter sites for animals will be identified by the Office of Emergency Services.



#### 7 BACK-UP PLAN

Have a back-up plan in case it's impossible to take your horse with you when you evacuate. Consider different types of disasters and whether your horses would be better off **in a barn or loose in a field**. Your local humane organization or emergency management agency should be able to provide you with information about your community's disaster response plans.



#### 8 COMMUNICATE YOUR PLAN

Share your evacuation plans with friends and neighbors. **Post detailed instructions** in several places—including the barn office or tack room, the horse trailer, and barn entrances—to ensure emergency workers can see them in case you are not able to evacuate your horses yourself.





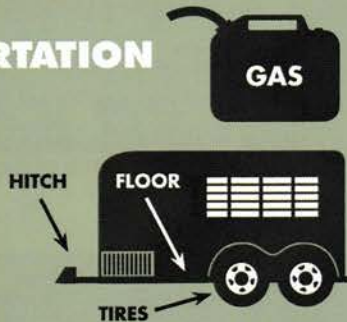
### 3 MEDICAL RECORDS AND PHOTOS

Place your horses' Coggins tests, veterinary papers, identification photographs, and **vital information**—such as medical history, allergies, and emergency telephone numbers (veterinarian, family members, etc.)—in a watertight plastic bag. Store the bag with your other important papers in a safe place that will be easy for you to access and take with you when you and your horses evacuate. An old backpack makes a useful storage container for "grab and go".



### 4 TRANSPORTATION

If you have your own **horse trailer**, keep it road ready by checking the tires, floors and hitch frequently. Make sure your truck is in good working order and that the gas tank is at least half full. If you don't have a horse trailer, make arrangements to have your horse trailered in an emergency. If you can, have several reliable people who could help with transportation in case one person can't help.



### 5 DO YOUR HORSES KNOW HOW TO LOAD AND UNLOAD?

It is vital that your horses are comfortable being loaded into and unloaded from a trailer. A stressful situation will only add to any existing loading issues. If your horses have not been trained to load and unload, **train or have them trained** and practice the procedure so they become used to it. A major problem in the San Diego County wildfires were horses (and mules) who were not trailer-trained, making it impossible to transport them to safety. As a result, some were left behind.



### 9 EVACUATE SOONER RATHER THAN LATER

**Evacuate early**, even before there is an official evacuation order. If you wait until the last minute to evacuate, emergency management officials may tell you that you must leave your horses behind. In this case, your horses could be unattended for days without care, food, or water.



### 10 SUPPLIES

Have fresh water and hay available for **72 hours**. Don't forget the water buckets. Prepare a basic **first aid kit** that is portable and easily accessible to bring with you for your horses. Also, prepare an emergency kit that includes water buckets, tarpaulins, leg wraps, knife, scissors and wire cutters. (See <http://cal-cares.com/personal-family> for what to include in an emergency kit.)



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## Movie Night Under the Stars-September 18th

by *Bonnie Bertetta*

Webb Ranch was the location for the traditional San Mateo County Horsemen's Association annual movie night. The weather cooperated and everyone enjoyed the mild evening.

Guest speaker Sharon Montoya Bretz, President of the San Mateo County Large Animal Evacuation Group, gave an interesting and timely presentation on evacuation and care of animals during an emergency. Due to the recent California fires much discussion took place on fire emergencies. Donations for fire victims were collected by Deb Alvarado, and other local relief efforts were discussed.

The evening was highlighted by the movie "Black Stallion". Everyone bundled up and sat under the stars on the Webb Ranch polo field to enjoy the presentation.

Special thanks to Mike Bushue for providing the audio and visual effects that made the evening enjoyable. Also...thanks to Nathan Hensley and Webb Ranch for the use of the polo field and outdoor area.

Event chairmen, Gretchen King and Bonnie Bertetta especially want to thank the members and friends of the SMCHA Color Guard Cafe who provided wonderful food and ambiance for the evening.



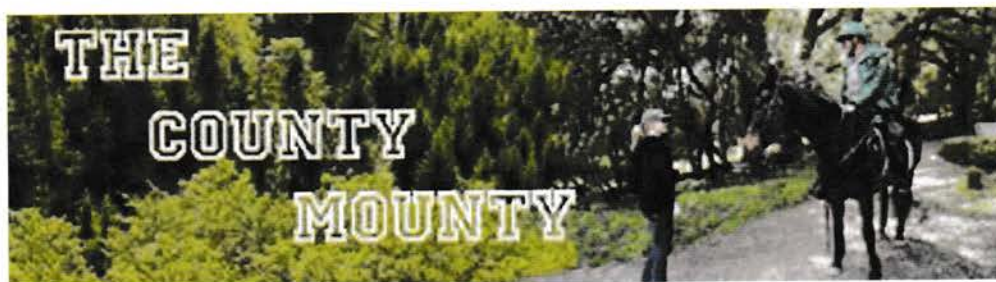


## Fire Relief

by, Bob Rosenberg

The aftermath of the Valley and Butte fires are still causing grief. SMCHA and VHP member Bob Rosenberg's article below, shows that the folks in our equestrian community really care and opened their hearts and wallets to provide relief to the victims. SMCHA played a huge part in this endeavor as evidenced by our Movie Night campaign, which produced a horse trailer full of supplies and food for the critters in need.

A reprint from the Volunteer Horse Patrol's newsletter:



Greetings, VHP members  
By, Bob Rosenberg

Fire Donation Follow-Up:

From Joanne Klebe: Thank you from the bottom of my heart to each and every one of you who have made donations to Wine Country Animal Lovers, Middletown Animal Hospital and the American Red Cross. We have raised over \$9,000!!

Just a little backstory. When the Valley Wildfire broke out a few weeks ago, it hit me to the core. Such a fast moving fire that people couldn't even reach their homes to get their pets and if they were home they could not evacuate them all. There is a lot of livestock in the area including horses, goats, donkeys, chickens, pigs, etc. Many animals perished. I live in the wonderful community of Portola Valley, which is horse country and realized this easily could happen in my own backyard. It didn't feel like I could do much but decided I would send \$100 to some organization. Then I had the idea that if I started asking friends, my clients and acquaintances I could turn my \$100 into much more. I was hoping for \$5,000 but thought that \$2,000 was more realistic. Well, the money started coming in and I started getting better at asking, ha ha. Then Gary Hanes, DVM, mentioned that he wanted to donate his 2-horse trailer to an organization who could use it. Through a bit of research we were put in touch with Middletown Animal Hospital. Well, we couldn't take the trailer up empty so Gary and I thought we would go to Costco and buy a few bags of dog and cat food. To make a long story short I reached out to my communities of Portola Valley and Woodside asking for donations of feed and again the donations started coming in. In fact, we couldn't fit it all into the trailer. Tuesday we were scurrying around trying to find an extra truck to haul the excess. Three people offered the use of their trucks! My brother took the day off work and we all headed up to Middletown with over 80 (50#) bags of horse feed, chicken feed, dog and cat food, carriers, beds and medical supplies. Everyone we met was so kind and grateful, even King Arthur, the pit bull. Dr. Smith and his wife Sheri were astounded by the supplies and cash we donated to them. They are offering all their medical services free of charge and they are the only vet in town, covering a wide area.

The day we went to Middletown was a day filled with mixed emotions as the devastation of the fire was all around us. Dr. Smith and his wife live in a community where only 8 of 20 houses are still standing. The fire came up to the driveway of the animal hospital. Singed flags were flying from flag poles. Lines of people awaiting their turn in line for which was probably just one of many.

We could not have pulled any of this off without the help of all of you! You opened your hearts and your pocketbooks to support us in our endeavor. You have made a difference in the lives of the people of the Valley Wildfires. And you made a difference in my life too. On a side note, Gary and I can't shake this thing and people still want to donate. So, if anyone wants to help out we are still accepting checks payable to Middletown Animal Hospital or Wine Country Animal Lovers and if anyone needs more information they could contact Gary or myself. We wonder if any club would like to do a feed/supply donation drive of their own? The need will be there for months. I would be happy to help but not to spearhead it.

With much appreciation, Dr. Gary Hanes and I thank you!

And More . . .

From Marty Bookman:

We want to get the word out about the Middletown Bible Church that has a Community Relief Center, behind Hardester's in HVL at 18990 Coyote Valley Road, Suite 30 to aid those looking to replace belongings lost to the fire. They will be at this location for more than just these first few weeks, they will be there for a few months. Please come by if there is anything at all that is needed. Their days and hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 10am - 2 pm. Also [www.MiddletownBible.org](http://www.MiddletownBible.org) or [mbcfirerelief@gmail.com](mailto:mbcfirerelief@gmail.com) for specific requests or donations.

On another subject...SCAM Alert From The Sheriff:

Warning from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office: Telephone Scam - Failure to Appear for Jury Duty. Social Media Coordinator Christa Bigue from County of San Mateo. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office is issuing a warning to the public to beware of phone



calls from individuals claiming to represent themselves as a member of the Sheriff's Office in an effort to defraud them. A number of the public have received unsolicited phone calls from an individual who fraudulently claim he is a Deputy Sheriff or a Sheriff's Lieutenant. They are told they must pay fees for failure to appear for jury duty. The impostor instructs them to pay the fees by purchasing a prepaid "green dot card" or be subjected to arrest.

The truth is, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office or any law enforcement agency will never contact a member of the public demanding they pay any fees and/or any fines and be subjected to arrest if they fail to comply. The public is reminded to be vigilant and never provide personal information over the phone, like Social Security numbers and credit card information, unless they initiated the phone call. If you believe you were the victim of this scam or a similar scam, contact your local law enforcement agency.

Bob Rosenberg  
VHP Unit Leader  
VHP Website: <http://smcvhp.org>

If you're interested in learning more about the Volunteer Horse Patrol, please contact Bob Rosenberg.

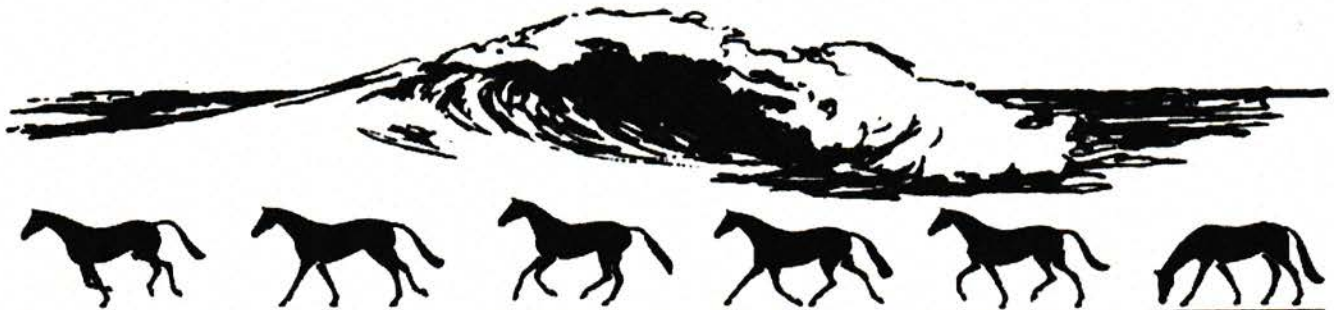
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SMCHA's Annual Installation 2016 Kick-Off Gala

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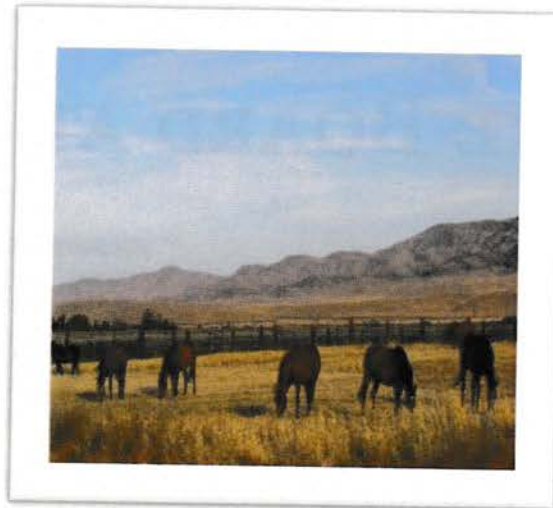
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COME VOLUNTEER ON OUR COMMITTEES!

We've got something for everyone - Enjoy helping with one or more of our great activities. Call for an informative chat with the folks below and help promote our wonderful horse community.

GENERAL MEETINGS - Gretchen King @ 408.406-1331 or Bonnie Bertetta @ 650.245-6403

RIDES - Gina Silva @ 650.245-0129

PROMOTIONS - Liz Sullivan @ 415.244-3280

COLOR GUARD - Chris Friis @ 650.704-2996

YOUTH PROGRAMS - Amy Hublou @ 650.218-2222

WEBSITE - Jenny Mize @ 650.380-1574

HORSE SHOWS - Cheryl Basin @ 650.722-0606

WESTERN RIDING CLINIC - Karen Rowley Shawback @ 510.432-0368

RANCH VERSATILITY CLINICS - Liz Sullivan @ 415.244-3280

HISTORIAN - Chris Friis @ 650.704-2996

SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR - Adeline Forrest @ 650.743-1665

THE SAN MATEO HORSEMAN MAGAZINE - Susan Snook @ 650.796-8979 or Nancy Kouchekey @ 650.776-8000

MEMBERSHIP - Tanya Rebarchik @ 650.867-2987

MAILINGS - Cheryl Basin @ 650.722-0606 or Gina Silva @ 650.245-0129

TRAILS - Noel Moody @ 650.322-6545

FACEBOOK - Beverley Kane @ 650.868-3379



*In Memory of Sue Sheehan  
July 19, 2015*



**Sue riding her beloved Boogie**

*There are some qualities that many of you never knew about Sue. She was fiercely loyal, very sincere, really generous, and unusually kind. She loved to ride her horses. She loved to travel. I have some funny and fond memories of our travels together. Corny as it may seem, there isn't a day that goes by that I don't think of her.*

*Farewell my friend,  
Adeline Forrest*





*We wish for you to have a Happy Holiday!  
From the SMCHA*





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## San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

Founded in 1940

### Membership Application

<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<b>Annual Dues</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> We would like to help with the following events/functions: <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors <input type="checkbox"/> B - Trails <input type="checkbox"/> C - Western Riding Clinic <input type="checkbox"/> D - Horse Shows/Playdays <input type="checkbox"/> E - Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> F - Trail Rides <input type="checkbox"/> G - Youth Programs/Youth Color Guard <input type="checkbox"/> H - Hospitality/Promotions <input type="checkbox"/> I - Membership <input type="checkbox"/> J - Senior Color Guard <input type="checkbox"/> K - Other: _____
_____ Youth Member (17 & Under)	\$25	
_____ Senior Member (18 & Older)	\$35	
_____ Couple	\$50	
_____ Family Membership* * Parent(s) & unlimited # children under 18	\$55	
Please list names and ages of children _____ _____		

Contributions are always welcome to any of the following events/functions in any amount

B \$ _____	E \$ _____	H \$ _____	K \$ _____
C \$ _____	F \$ _____	I \$ _____	
D \$ _____	G \$ _____	J \$ _____	

Total contribution: \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

If you **DO NOT** wish to have your name appear in our membership roster, please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

To be included in our roster, please remit dues by January 31.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to SMCHA and mail application to: SMCHA, P. O. Box 620092, Woodside, CA 94062