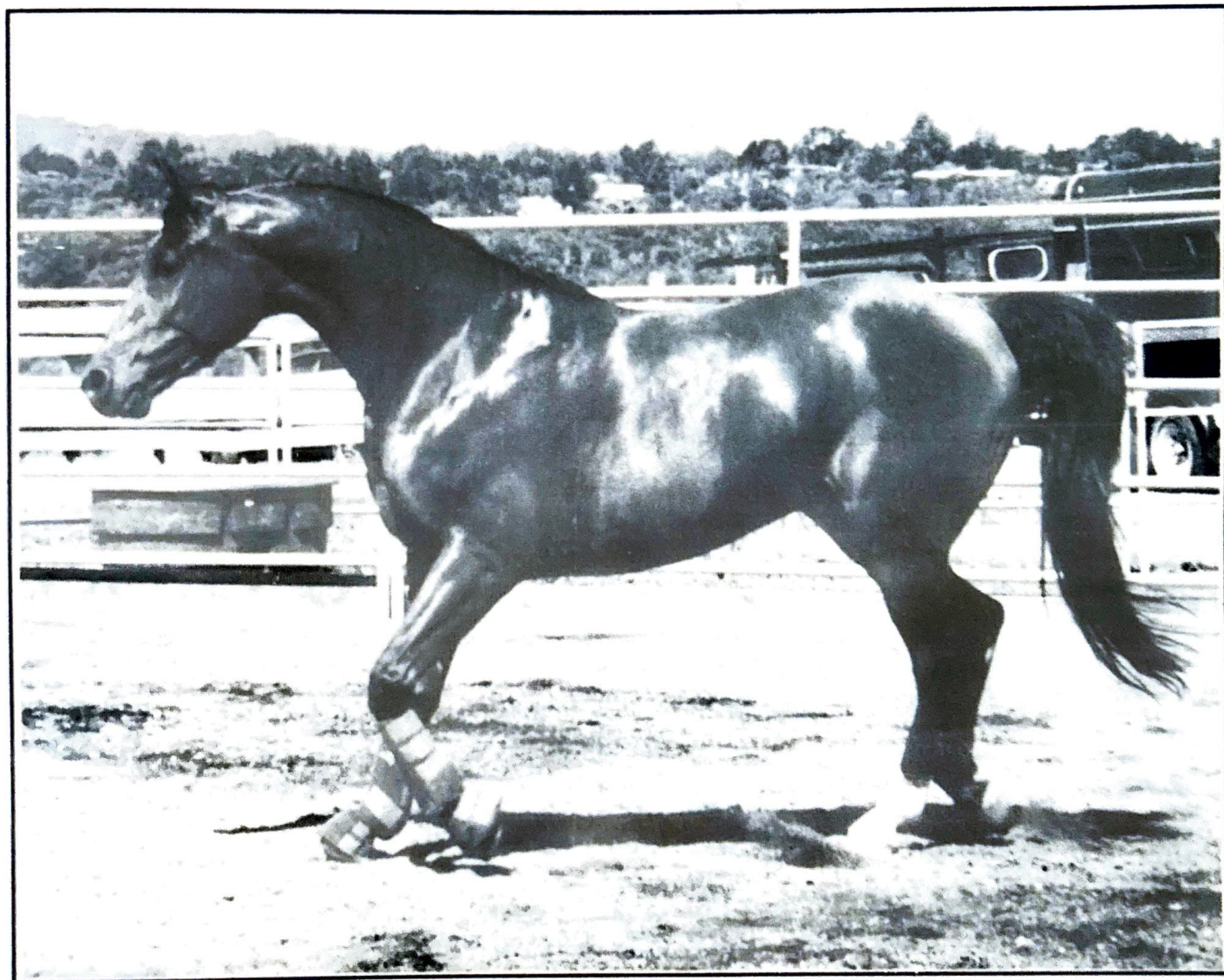


The San Mateo HORSEMAN



Summer 1996



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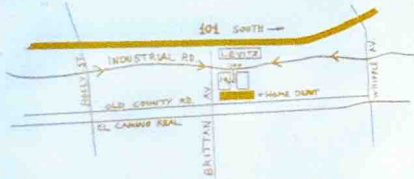
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Donna Tozi

I just can't believe this year is half over! I guess it's true — time flies when you're having fun. Our membership drive is in full swing. The Redwood Spice Cafe just gave us a gift certificate for a great lunch in Old Town Redwood City. The prize list is growing. Go out and get new members for the friendliest horse group in California! You'll make the new member happy, and you can win a great prize.

The Juniors group has had a couple of meetings. In one they made and decorated pommel bags, and in another Richard Winters did a 4-hour clinic. They learned how to teach their horses ground manners and how to tie. These are great kids — some of whom don't have a horse. If anyone out there has a gentle horse and would like to make a child happy by "sharing", please call Linda Menon at 349-1462 or 365-8011. Your horse will have a great time.

Dianne Hicks is doing a fabulous job with her learning seminars. We are learning everything from focus training to the round pen, saddle fitting to reining cow horses, driving to the T-Touch, posture training, chiropractic, corrective shoeing — WOW! Lots to learn.

Sue Sheehan is the best. Her Father's Day Ride from CTETA through the monkey farm to Webb Ranch for a great meal and fun games was a wonderful success with new faces and lots of Juniors. She's making great plans for our Jack Brook's overnighter in August and, great news, she's going to have an extra ride in July. Good work!

Bruce Baker is going to have the best ever mini horse expo in September. We get more minis each year. The owners have a good time because of Gladys Martines and her Charter Oaks, and we members have a great time because they're so darn cute!

Riding Clinic is almost finished, I'm sad to say because they're so much fun. Thank you Karen Rowley, Ron Harris and Christine Eppstein.

Larry Pelzner has done a Western and English show now with help from Sue Anderson and Eileen Borzone. Great job!

This group has something for everyone.

Happy trails,

Donna Tozi

Cover Photo:

Tennison Bey responds to commands from Charles Wilhelm during a round pen demonstration.

See story on page 4.

Magazine: Linda Menon

Advertising: Eileen Borzone

Photos: Virginia Magliano-Darrow, Sue Sheehan, Lorena Heatley, Barbara Washington

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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Summer Issue 1996

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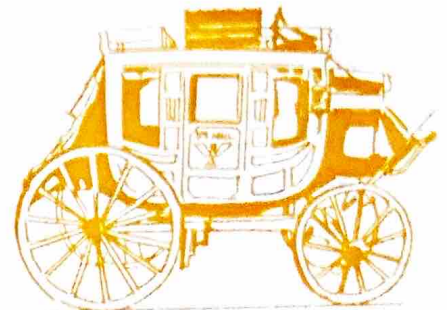
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SPRING RIDE IN WATERSHED

by Sue Sheehan

An exceptional number of people turned out for our first ride of 1996. After a week or two of cold, rainy and very questionable weather, we were blessed with a perfect day to ride in the southernmost part of the San Francisco Watershed.

We entered at the gate at Edgewood and Cañada Road and rode North behind Filoli. The trail meanders along the edge of a creek under the shade of a canopy of giant hundred-year-old Redwood, Bay and Pine trees. It passes the beautiful fenced-in pastures that once was the area that Mrs. Roth kept her magnificent saddle bred horses. The trail also passes an area that recently proved to be an Indian burial grounds after years of digging were done by local archeologist. The diggings had to be abandoned though once it was found to be a burial site

We took a break on a knoll in a grassy meadow, catching up with each other, finding out what our friends had been up to over winter. Carrying on from there, we were able to catch a glimpse of Crystal Springs Reservoir and crossed over a bridge where the water comes through the Pulgas Water Temple from Hetch Hetchy Reservoir to Crystal Springs.

Tying to cork oak trees planted years ago we gathered for lunch behind the Water Temple. The menu included Honey Baked Ham and different kinds of salads, hors 'd oeuvres and pies, cookies and brownies for dessert. Several people asked me about and for the recipe for my Chinese chicken salad. Well, it then gave me a chance to tell my story about how I saved a man's life by doing the Heimlich maneuver at Ming's Restaurant. When the manager brought a bottle of wine to our table, compliments of the restaurant, he asked if there was anything else he could do for me. I quickly answered, "Sure, I'd love a copy of your Chinese Chicken Salad recipe!"

Thanks to the help of Aleta Reed and Walt Kirk the lunch was enjoyed by all, including Water Department Ranger "John" who was able to join us for his break and told us a little bit of history about the Water Temple.

Exiting at the Cañada Road gate, we headed back down the trail along Cañada Road to our trailers. This took us past the expansive meadows in front of Filoli where I believe 80% of the deer in San Mateo County

gather at sunset to graze to their hearts content.

Having the privilege of riding the watershed was truly appreciated by all. Seeing the land, lake, creeks and foliage in its original natural, peaceful form was a joyful experience.

Thanks to all of you who joined us for this ride and made it such a nice day. Maybe we can repeat it again next year for the unlucky ones who missed it.



Bruce Doran, Jim Keeton and Donna Tozi



Enjoying the beautiful San Francisco Watershed



Coming or going?

CHARLES WILHELM SEMINAR AND CLINIC

by Dianne Larson Hicks

A roomful of San Mateo County Horsemen members, both old and new, listened attentively as Charles Wilhelm spoke at the Town Hall on April 23, 1996.

Currently apprenticed to John Lyons of Colorado, Charles pays a tidy sum for his privilege. It's a price he agrees to pay after carefully analyzing the skills and training of the various California horsemanship programs led by Tom Dorrance and Ray Hunt, trickling down to such trainers as Pat Parelli, Dennis Reis, and Richard Winters, to name a few. Another group in competition for horse/rider training of a similar nature are those trained in the Monte Foreman method. Pat Wyse from Conrad, Montana and John Bozanick or "Boz" from Springvale, California, are two Monte Foreman specialists. Buck Brannaman falls in there somewhere.

Armed with an Evaluation Checklist provided by Charles, the audience was able to see how Wilhelm analyzes a horse prior to accepting it for training. We were able to ask questions about equine attitudes and eventually inquire as to behaviors and specific problems people were having with their own horses.

Following questions we had a raffle which made six or seven people very happy as winners with horse products provided by Donna Tozi/B & D Tack, books by John Lyons and finally a round pen demonstration. Linda Menon's sister, Barbara Washington, won the round pen demo. Having sat through 15 minutes of hearing how Sissi Baskin had purchased and then ruined a beautifully trained horse, Barbara graciously offered the round pen demo to Sissi.

The first morning of June brought out a curious crowd to see the mystery and magic of the Lyons round pen training. In less than an hour Charles had Cloud maneuvering figure eights in first one-half and then in one-quarter of his 60 foot diameter pen. Enough people sat there in awe to make my day. He then had her begging to be by his side walking forward, back and sideways as if glued to his right shoulder. The horse at some point in this exercise comes to realize its safety zone is next to the

trainer and that being on the rail can be somewhat exhausting. The main purpose of all of this is to create a true sense of focus between man and man's good friend, the horse. It creates a rapport, a bond, and opens a door to a receptivity and learning.

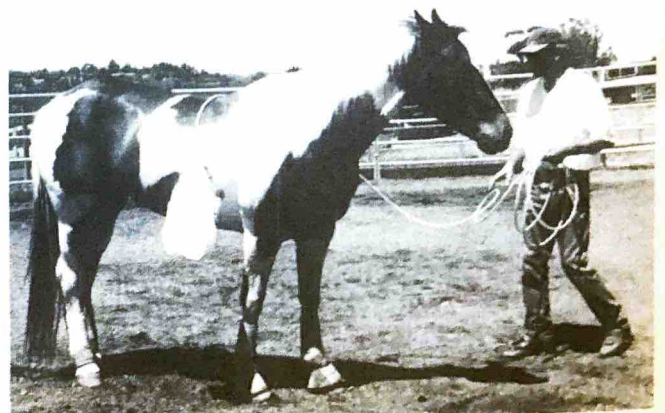
Charles then asked if Sissi would like to have Cloud learn to "spook in place." The photo of Cloud with the plastic bag attached to the lariat is part of sacking out and spook-proofing exercise.

Anyone who stayed late was able to observe Cloud getting a lesson in trailer loading. The morning of the event she had refused to load for the first time. After some work Sissi got her in at home. Charles showed her how to encourage the horse to get in without any second thoughts and that was just the "cream on top" of a wonderful morning at Portola Pastures with Wilhelm.

C.W. Training can be reached by calling (415) 961-9235



Charles Wilhelm discusses Evaluation Checklist.



Cloud gets "sacked out" by Wilhelm.

JUNIORS UPDATE

by Linda Menon

Our Juniors are having a great year! On May 19th about 14 of our Juniors gathered at Woodside Town Hall to put the finishing touches on and decorate pommel bags which we'll be able to use to carry water bottles and snacks on our horse outings. Sissi Baskin then led a discussion of trail safety tips to prepare us for upcoming trail rides. Thanks to Virginia Magliano-Darrow and Lorena Heatley for prep work; and to Sissi Baskin and Lorena for helping out at the meeting.

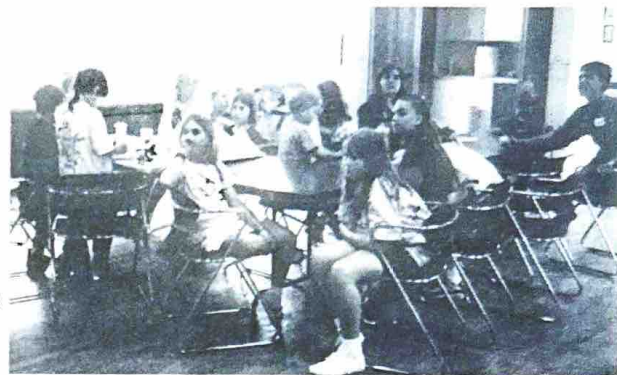
June 9th was our Juniors Ground School Clinic at CTETA with Richard Winters. There were 14 Juniors sharing 10 colorful horses — there was only one sorrel horse, one bay, and the rest were Paint or gray! The Juniors learned a lot about safety on the ground, gaining their horse's respect, and proper tying techniques. By the end of the 3-hour clinic the results in handling the horses were obvious. Thanks to Richard Winters and his family for coming all the way from San Juan Bautista to lead this wonderful clinic.

There were also about 14 Juniors participating in the Father's Day Ride barbecue and games at Webb Ranch, several who rode over from CTETA, but pictures and details of that ride will appear in our next magazine. And thanks to CTETA for allowing us to use their arena.

If you know Junior horsemen who would be interested in participating in our future activities, please call Linda Menon at (415) 349-1462 or (415) 365-8011. We still have a lot coming up: a play day on 8/10/96, Jack Brook horse camp, several trail rides and this Fall we're planning to have a hay ride, do some trick-or-treating, and have a party.



Juniors busy decorating pommel bags...



... and discussing trail safety.



A sampling of colorful pommel bags.



Richard Winters instructs the Juniors on ground safety ...



... and correct tying.

Bulletin to Horse Owners in the Unincorporated Parts of the County

REVISION TO STABLING PERMIT ORDINANCE, JULY 1996

by Adda Quinn Sublett

There is currently a stabling ordinance on the books for San Mateo County. It applies only to horses in the unincorporated part of the County. Many people either don't know about it or are ignoring this ordinance. The current law is both punitive and expensive for those who have complied with it. Only about 45 private residences and 20 commercial stables have been permitted under the existing ordinance. Fees associated with these permits can range from \$1500-\$4000 for one horse to be "registered" at a private residence. County staff has been inadequate to force compliance on the existing law, and in fact, has been told that they should not go out and seek violations. Most private horse owners have been "caught" not in compliance when their neighbors turn them in questioning health standards.

A committee was convened in February 1994, which included Lamar Brown and Don Haring of the West Coast Horsemen's Association, to consider revisions to the ordinance. Apparently no other horsemen have been involved. Their current draft version of the ordinance has the following provisions:

It provides EXEMPTION from this ordinance for private stables and farm horses in rural unincorporated areas but owners must apply under the new version of this ordinance. This exemption applies for the lifetime of the applicant, or until the property is sold (at which time the new owners can apply for the same exemption). Horsekeeping permit EXEMPTIONS will not require a public hearing. They do, however require filing of cumbersome paperwork and payment of fees (albeit greatly reduced fees from what is currently on the books).

For private stables in urban unincorporated areas (i.e., Stanford lands, Ladera, Emerald Lake Hills, Palomar Park, Oak Knoll, etc.) permits are proposed to be required. They propose to be valid for 3 years, with the potential to extend the permit period not to exceed five years. Commercial stables in unincorporated areas would be required to seek and renew permits annually. Most renewals would be automatic if no complaints had been registered and if the permit renewal was timely. Fees to process those applications are proposed on a "pay as you go basis" rather than the punitive, fixed fees now levied. Planners estimate

these proposed costs will be about \$200 per exemption, based on loaded hourly rates of \$35-50, but this is subject to the Board of Supervisor's approval.

Horse owners are encouraged by the Supervisors' acknowledgment that the old ordinance is unfair, unworkable and punitive for those who comply. We are also encouraged the Planning Staff's approach that private and farm horses should be exempt. We are, however, concerned that any new law that replaces it be reasonable and equitable. We do not feel that the current draft has seen the appropriate modifications to assure these criteria are met. We are seeking input from horse owner's across the County to provide substance to our discussions with County staff planners.

We believe that it is the right of horse owners (not a privilege) to keep their animals in appropriately zoned districts, being grandfathered (acceptance of what currently exists) as residential areas encroach on farm country. There are many questions that have arisen as to why only horses have been singled out when many types of livestock are kept as pets that are not addressed in this ordinance. The current law is de facto a pet tax with a very large price tag. Why urban and rural horses which are privately owned are distinguished as also an issue.

The question of what paperwork, if any, should be submitted to the County to achieve exemption needs careful thought. Realtors who have reviewed the draft document and met with the County already have made the argument that there should be no paperwork or fees to obtain exemptions. The current draft revision of the ordinance for horse keeping, or exemptions thereto, will require papers to be filed showing a plot plan, existing and proposed building, waste disposal and drainage plans, and Coastal Development permits if applicable. County Planning Staff thinks that this information should be on file even for properties granted Exemptions. Many people are concerned about providing the County this kind of information in terms of "future" changes in law and enforcement being taken retroactively. Many are concerned about having to pay fees to obtain Exemptions.

We encourage horse owners, particularly those in the

continued on following page

GENERAL MEETING—DE ANZA TRAIL

by Bruce Baker

On May 17th SMCHA members and friends gathered at Gladys Martines' Charter Oaks Stable for a presentation by Nancy DuPont about the De Anza Trail ride. We were all interested to hear the history of the blazing of De Anza Trail in 1775; learn of the dedication of the volunteers, led by Concord resident, George Cardinet, who worked diligently to have this trail named a national historic trail; and see pictures of the varying terrain and highlights of this 1400 mile trail. For details on the October reenactment of this expedition, see the update report by Nancy DuPont on page 16.



Nancy DuPont shares the history of the De Anza trail.



General De Anza himself helped recreate the history of the trail.



Stabling Ordinance, continued

unincorporated part of the County, to make their views on the proposed draft and ideas for what our proposed response to it should be, by calling SMCHA at (415) 568-1045 or writing to our PO Box. A committee has been convened to commence negotiations with the County. We have an opportunity to make a difference

and intend to make comments to the County. Ignoring this opportunity could potentially leave us stuck with the old, undesirable, costly ordinance. Please let us know what would be acceptable to the horse community so that we can best represent you.

EQUINE ATTORNEYS: WHAT ARE THEY AND WHAT CAN THEY DO FOR YOU?

Sissi Baskin interviews local San Mateo County attorney Kristine Yankovsky, Esq.

SB: What exactly is an equine attorney?

KY: An equine attorney is simply an attorney that specializes in horse-related law. There is no equine law specialty recognized by the State Bar, as equine related issues involved multiple areas of the law, such as contract, personal injury, business and tax issues. Previously, the need for an equine attorney was confined to particular areas of horse-related industries, such as racing, which involves sales, and breeding operation involving extremely valuable horses. As the horse industry has expanded so dramatically in the last twenty years in a multitude of areas, such as equine therapy and other equine support businesses, horse-related disputes, liability, and or business issues can arise in a multitude of different areas of the law.

SB: Can you give some examples?

KY: Yes. A basic potential problem for all horseback riders would be in the tort and contract areas of law. For example, a rider is out on the trail, near a road, when his/her horse spooks, the rider falls off, the horse runs into the road and gets hit by a car. The horse is badly injured, the driver of the car is killed and two other passengers are seriously injured, and the car is totaled. The horse is being leased by a seventeen-year-old girl (the rider) with no written agreement. The horse is insured, as is the driver. Who is liable for all the damages? This scenario involves multiple complex issues involving tort law, contract law, and insurance coverage issues.

On the business side of equine-related law, maybe you and your family have decided to start a small breeding operation for fun and possibly profit. You will want to set up your business such as that the tax benefits are maximized and the tax liabilities are minimized. You may also want to limit any liability which might arise from mishaps related to the conduct of the business. While running the business itself you will be entering into many agreements such as employment agreements with the people you are hiring to look after the horses, breeding agreements, purchase and sale agreements, and possibly lease agreements. This example would require you to consult an attorney

who has expertise in the area of business formation, tax, contracts, and employment law.

Another scenario might involve the operator of an equestrian center which hires their own instructors. Not only do the instructors provide lessons to students, they enter the stable horses and their students into shows located in nearby communities. The owner/operator of the stable will want the prospective clients to sign written disclaimers from any and all liability for injuries occurring on or off the property. He/she will have to enter into a number of agreements in writing, from the purchase and sale of his teaching string of horses, to written transport agreements with whomever trailers the horses to shows if an outside person is hired. He/she will have to look into liability issues and obtain adequate insurance. Again, this example would involve tort liability, business formation, tax, contract and employment law, and insurance issues.

SB: Are all these agreements in writing really necessary?

KY: An oral agreement is deemed valid in a court of law. However, problems of proof arise if two parties wind up in a dispute which requires the aid of an attorney in, or out of court. It is much better to have something in writing, especially in this day and age when everyone seems to have very busy lives, and memories are not likely to remain accurate over a



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period of time. Additionally, even though no contract is ever perfectly airtight, written agreements are simply preventative measures. They may prevent a potential lawsuit, and even if they don't, it is more likely that having a written agreement will help you in the event of a dispute.



SB: What about using form agreements that can be purchased at the stationary store?

KY: As a general rule, anything in writing is preferable to no writing because a writing backs up the fact that there is an agreement in existence. The problem with form agreements is that they are very, very general and only cover a few basic elements of an agreement. Any time you are entering into an agreement with someone in a particular industry, you will need a more tailor-made agreement suited to that industry. Even equine-related form contracts that are available on the market are limited to a very basic set of circumstances. Any time your situation varies from that "norm" you are more likely to cause more harm by using a form agreement than by not having a written agreement at all.

SB: Since you've said that equine-related law involves many areas of legal practice, what is the benefit of consulting someone who is an equine attorney such as yourself, as opposed to a general practitioner?

KY: Good question! The benefit lies in consulting with an attorney who knows horses and the industry practices. Horse-related activities can lead to a myriad of complex legal problems. If you consult an equine attorney before problems arise, he/she will be able to discuss the legal implications and consequences of your horse-related activities. He/she will more readily spot the risks inherent in those activities which an attorney who is not familiar with horses may not. Even if you wait until problems occur before consulting an attorney, an equine attorney is more likely to spot more equine-related issues and advocate your case more thoroughly because of his/her familiarity with horses and the horse industry.

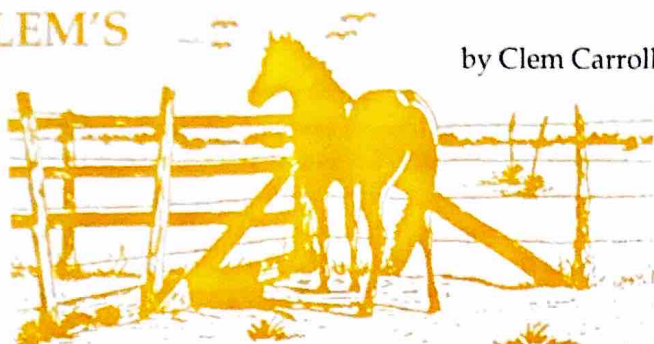
SB: Any other reasons for hiring an equine attorney over a general practitioner?

KY: Yes, savings to you, the client, in the form of lower legal fees. In the Bay Area attorneys generally charge anywhere from \$150 to \$300 per hour. If you have to spend time educating your attorney about horses, their upkeep, habits, etc., and about the customs and practices in the industry, the cost to you will be higher.

This applies in particular to drafting contracts involving the sale/purchase of a horse, or horse leasing agreements, where an attorney would be charging an hourly fee. So, in this day and age where people are trying to make their dollar go further, they can reduce their attorney fees by using attorneys who deal in a particular area of practice, in this case, the equine area.

Kristine Yankovsky has her own law practice in Woodside, California. She is an equine attorney who practices in the areas of contracts, business, employment, and tort law. She has been riding since age four. She began her formal training in England at age 5 with Pat Smythe, a former English equestrian Olympic gold medalist, and continued her training in Woodside at age 13. For further information you can contact her at (415) 368-2753.

CLEM'S

O
R
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by Clem Carroll

The Annual Los Viajeros 4-day Ride was held at the Ventana Wilderness Ranch on Tassajara Road in the mountains above Carmel.

The Nason family, descendants of the Esselen Indians, were the hosts. At one time they had long horn cattle grazing in the wilderness area, but the government stepped in and the area was no longer available. The Nasons turned their land into a guest ranch, inviting riding clubs to bring their own horses or rent theirs. They also welcome hiking groups. Guides are used to take people through this rugged wilderness.

Barbara George was ride chairman and did a super job planning the rides, the decor of the dining room, a screened-in circular building, built in the traditional way of the Indian, four enormous logs at the center holding up the slanted roof with the peak open. She had been scouting around for months to find something "different" for the club and indeed it was. The Ranch lay-out is at 3800 feet elevation and most rides led to breathtaking views of valley, mountain ranges, the ocean and much of the Los Padres National Forest. Barbara had pre-ridden the trails and knew where the steep climbs were, which trails led down the canyons to water, and which ones led to the viewpoints. There were a total of 80 riders, 40 were members and 40 were guests. For the sake of safety, she planned four groups to ride out at different times, each having 20 riders and a guide. Some horses stressed out, wasps and yellow jackets attacked them, plus their riders, and this was the hot, hot weekend — even San Francisco registered 103°. Horse people are tough, little was said, and after taking care of their mounts, then themselves, Josh and Cathy had ready, every kind of soft drink, beer, and the "hard stuff", plus a great hors d'oeuvre table. All the dinners were excellent, especially the barbecued salmon.

At the first dinner, each person was presented with a bottle of wine, the label designed by "you know who" in black and white, a silhouette of a horseman and the

background, a mountain scene of trees and a river. On the left corner a fancy designed L.V., then 1996 Ventana Ride, red (white) wine, "Thank you for coming, Enjoy!" Tied to the neck of the bottle with raffia, a miniature white or black cowboy hat.

The next night of the ride, after dinner, was the traditional Raffle Night. The donations were outstanding, many, many tickets were sold, and Kitty, the organizer, was overwhelmed. Never did the club do so well. Many of us passed our tickets to the children of the Nason family and what fun to see their joy.

During the beginning days of the ride, I watched little Nancy Crowley sit a fractious horse. She handled him like a pro. Walking around the various camp sites was fun. Old time members certainly can spot good locations — shade for the campers, running tie lines for the horses, and water close by. Rob and Lucy's was under a massive oak tree and they had a 360 degree view.

The last night, after dinner, we were invited to sit on logs, in a big, big circle, and another circle of rocks held a bonfire. The Nason family, children, teenagers and adults, all in costume, presented a ceremonial dance, with drums and under a full moon. Riders were invited to dance with them, and some did.

Thank you Grandpa Fred, your family and your crew.

Thank you Chair Lady, you did an outstanding job. Barbara picked a great crew to help her, most are members of SMCHA:

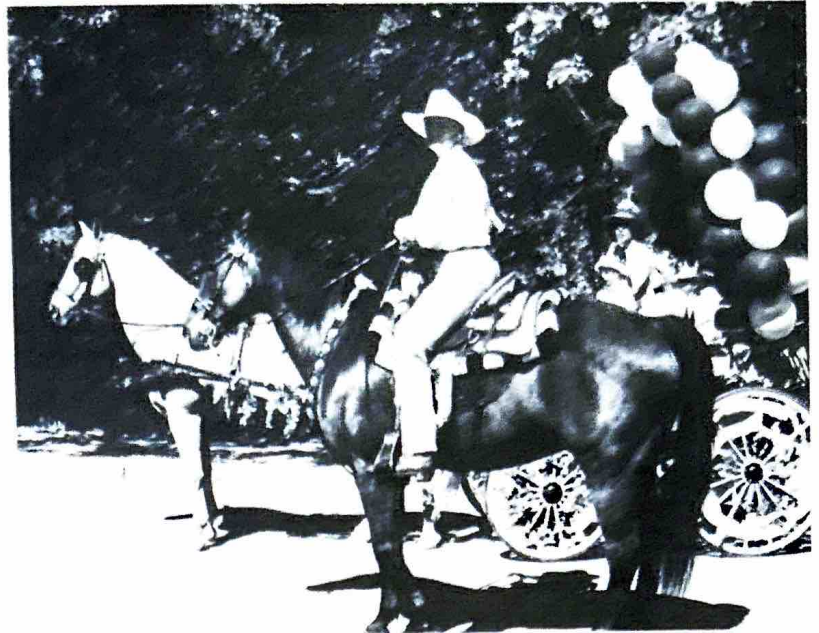
Dick Sanders
Rob Krensky
Dick Fancher
Josh Hatcher
Mike LeFevre
Kitty Haddix
Sue Machado
Bev Sanders
Lucy Krensky
Joyce Fancher
Cathy Hatcher
Rick Eagleston
Regina Davis
Christine Wright

continued

MAY DAY PARADE



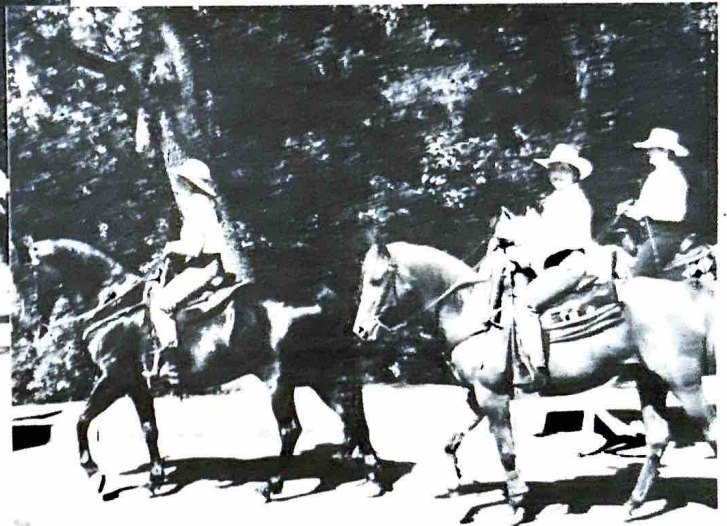
Hayley Baskin at the May Day Parade 1996



Dianne Larson-Hicks



SMCHA Color Guard, coordinated by Diane Hawks, leads SMCHA riders.



Clem's Corner, *continued*

Congratulation to Chris Olmo, longtime Woodside horseman, celebrating his 90th birthday in June and still riding. He was completely surprised by a birthday barbecue party held at the Shack with 90 friends wishing him well.

Our Noel Moody (SMCHA President twice in the 1970's) asked me to thank all her dear friends, SMCHA and Los Viajeros for the many cards and beautiful flowers sent to her. Noel had a successful surgery — breast cancer. She is doing remarkably well and by the time you have read this, she already has ridden her FLASH.

SHARING THE TRAILS

By Lisa Dixon

Can equestrians, hikers, joggers, and cyclists share the trails?

I say ... yes. Being an equestrian, my response will come as a surprise to many. However, let me add that I strongly feel we should NOT be sharing the same trails. It is just as dangerous for hikers and joggers and equestrians to share the same trails as it is when you add cyclists to the mix. But the reality of the situation is that, whether we like it or not, and I believe because of the economics involved, we may very well have to share the same trails. With the foregoing in mind, I think we can share the trails—provided all participants can be *considerate* of those they are sharing the trails with.

As a native of Palo Alto and horse owner for over 25 years, I've seen many changes in trail accessibility and the area itself. I've also seen an increase in the number of bicycle enthusiasts, hikers, and joggers, which I attribute to the fitness craze that has swept the nation over the last few years. And, I have seen a change in the attitudes of these people as well. Years ago when I would meet a hiker or jogger or cyclist on a trail, courtesy and consideration would always prevail. Now, it's every man for himself, much to the endangerment of others. We all expect the other guy to get out of our way. However, with the increase in traffic of pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians and the reduction of places to walk, jog and ride, this attitude just doesn't work. By expecting the other person to get out of your way, you could actually be creating a dangerous situation for everyone, including yourself. If you are a cyclist on a trail, there may be no place for a horse to go and by whizzing past the animal, scare him resulting in the rider being thrown and injured, or knocking down a hiker who couldn't get out of your way. If you're riding a horse at a trot or gallop and come up on a hiker or jogger—or even another horse—in addition to possibly causing your own horse to spook, you may also cause injury to the person on the ground who is trying to get out of your way or spook the other horse causing that rider to be thrown. Hikers and joggers are not exempt either. A jogger coming up behind a horse could easily startle the horse causing the rider to be thrown off or may result in the horse kicking you, the jogger.

These situations are nothing new. What is new,

however, is the increase in the number of accidents as these types of outdoor activities have become more popular as a way to get in shape. Over the years, I've kept my horses at stables from Woodside to Hollister and have never encountered the dangers I now face today when trail riding. So why are there more problems today than in past years? My feeling is that, in addition to the fitness craze, how we behave on the trails is simply a reflection of the attitudes prevalent in society today—a lack of common courtesy and consideration. And with the push to allow bikes to share the same trails, the dangers will be increased not only to the horses, but to hikers and joggers and even to the cyclists themselves. I do understand and sympathize with the cyclists—they pay their taxes, a portion of which goes to maintaining the park system, but they don't get the benefits they feel they deserve from the parks. And they have as much right to use those parks as the rest of us. Unfortunately, for the number of cyclists who are cautious and considerate, the cyclists most of us see are the ones who feel they "own" the trails and roads; those who expect us to get out of their way. They don't take into account the dangers they are creating by their behavior. Sadly, there are hikers, joggers, and equestrians who are just as guilty as cyclists.

We should be able to share the trails with one another but only if we are considerate of each other and are willing to learn about each other—in other words be *educated*. And with this article/viewpoint, I'll take the opportunity to educate you a little about horses. Riding a horse is a danger in itself; you must always remember that you are dealing with an animal with a brain, and one which, at times, can be very unpredictable. Although domesticated, the horse still maintains the "flight" mentality when he senses danger—real or imagined. When something spooks (scares or startles) him he bolts or jumps or spins out of what *he perceives* as harms way. For example, a horse may have passed a log or a rock on a trail numerous times and then one day decides to spook at it. Why? Well, it could be the sun hit it differently, or there was a change in the weather, or maybe he's just having a bad trail day. I don't know the workings of a horse's mind well enough to answer that other than to answer he just does.

As a hiker or jogger or cyclist, remember that you are dealing with a animal with its own mind and anything can set him off. Here are some helpful hints when you

SHARING THE TRAILS, continued

encounter a horse on a trail: For the hiker and jogger, if you're approaching head-on, slow down, move to one side of the trail and let the horse pass; if you're *approaching from behind*, announce yourself as you come up behind the horse. Allow the horse to move over and walk past then begin jogging again when you're past the horse. The same holds true for other equestrians approaching other horses—if you're galloping or trotting on a trail, slow down to a walk, pass the horse then continue on. As for cyclists, remember that you are sharing the trails with unpredictable animals (including horses)—use common sense; *slow down* around the corners, *announce you're approaching*, allow

for us to get out of your way, then continue on.

Whether we like it or not, cyclists will be on the trails—legally or illegally (I prefer legally). We must be able to get along, and therefore, have to be willing to accept the responsibilities and liabilities of our actions. Oh, I'm sure there will still be unpleasant encounters and accidents, but education, courtesy, and consideration will go a long way to preventing them. Instead of holding firm to our stances, let's work together to educate each other and make the trails safe and enjoyable for all.

HORSE TRAILS ON THE INTERNET

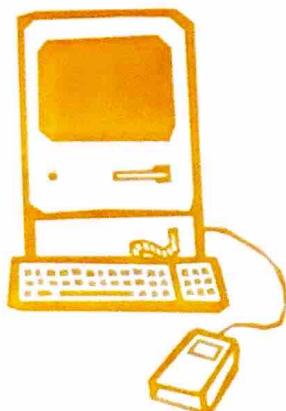
by Sissi Baskin

The rain kept me inside but not off some really fun places on the Internet. Equestrian related information is easy to find on many of the servers. This month I went through Netscape and found a terrific publication called Horses Monthly. Horses Monthly covers horse events and news around the nation. It contains rider and equine profiles; show coverage; regular columns on health topics, problem solving and training; reports on legislative and legal issues important to all horseman, and extensive calendar of events mostly in the Northeast areas.

Advertising ranges from national companies to regional stables and business. There are also real estate, classified, and photo horse sale ads.

At right is a sample of Horses Monthly Home Page.

They have 32 areas in which you can roam from their home page. From Combined Training to Regional Show Jumping Championships.



So don't let nasty weather keep you down. There's lots of great trails on the net!

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A FEW RECOLLECTIONS ABOUT MY OLD FRIEND, TEX

by Stuart G. Whittelsey

Tex wasn't his real name, of course. Ross Meredith, who "started" him at the Woodside Stables, gave him that nickname. His registered name was "First of All". He was the first horse foaled to his dam, Poco Palma, owned by Jeri Pabst of Atherton; he was the first horse foaled in January, 1965, on the ranch in Texas where his sire, Major's Manana, was stabled, and he turned out to be the first of a line of fine American Quarter Horses from the Pabst family's decades-long horse breeding program. First of All was indeed a well-chosen name, and I'll tell you more about why later.

Tex had a meteoric early show career. As a yearling he won Reserve Champion Gelding for the entire Pacific Coast, and he did it again the following year as a two-year-old. I was lucky to be introduced to Tex by Red Lott early in 1969 who was training him in Western Riding. For me, it was love at first sight! My oldest teenage daughter already had a good show horse, and my younger 10-year-old daughter and I needed a horse to ride with her. Red Lott arranged for me to buy him; then we continued his training and had Red show him while we used him for schooling shows, pleasure, and trail riding. Then as Tex went into performance classes he quickly racked up AQHA points, earning his AQHA Register of Merit in Western Pleasure.

My real bonding with Tex occurred when in 1970 I took him on the annual Fall Ride of the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County. It was the first Fall Ride for both of us. Six days and five nights riding and camping together in the Sierras provided the setting for me to find a lifelong friend and partner (and a part-time psychiatrist as well)! Tex and I joined the Mounted Patrol together that year, and for twenty consecutive years, we went on that strenuous Fall Ride together. He is the only horse ever to receive a medal from the Mounted Patrol, given to him on the completion of his twentieth Fall Ride. While on that ride as a vigorous 25-year-old he also won ribbons in 7 out of 9

gymkhana events (such as the keyhole race, pole bending, and barrel race).

During our long partnership Tex and I, as part of the Sheriff's special forces for Search and Rescue, responded to many "call-outs". Usually we didn't actually perform any actual rescues, except for one, which I will never forget. On the bitter cold night on November 15, 1985, together with Mac McGuire and his horse, Gambler, Tex and I found and rescued two teenage boys lost in the watershed forest in the pitch blackness

of a moonless night, saving them from hypothermia and possibly death. Needless to say, times like this really cement the bond between a man and his horse.



Tex at age 25 wearing his medal awarded him by the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County for being on 20 consecutive Fall Rides.

Tex loved parades. We rode together in probably 25 Fourth of July parades in Redwood City, where Tex frequently carried a flag in the Mounted Patrol's color guard. We would have participated in that parade this year, 1996, if Tex had not had another appointment with destiny. I don't think there is another horse who can lay claim, as Tex could, to being in every single one of the Town of Woodside May Day Parades since they began in the early '70s. Lots of pictures of Tex carrying the flag have appeared in local papers, especially the "Country Almanac".

Because we had originally bought Tex as a mount for a little girl, he had to be good with children, and he certainly was. He taught MANY people to ride and to appreciate horses, besides my daughter and me. There are scores of horse people in the Woodside area who had their start riding on this safe, gentle gelding. As for children — my children (who are now adults), and their children (my grandchildren), there were the Cerebral Palsy kids who for several years came and rode Tex and found legs for their first time, and the "special ed" kids from the Mountain View School District who found a relationship with a loving and trusting animal as therapy for their learning disabilities. Tex enjoyed having kids ride him and pet him and groom him and love him, and he certainly loved them back.

on following page

SHARING THE TRAILS, continued

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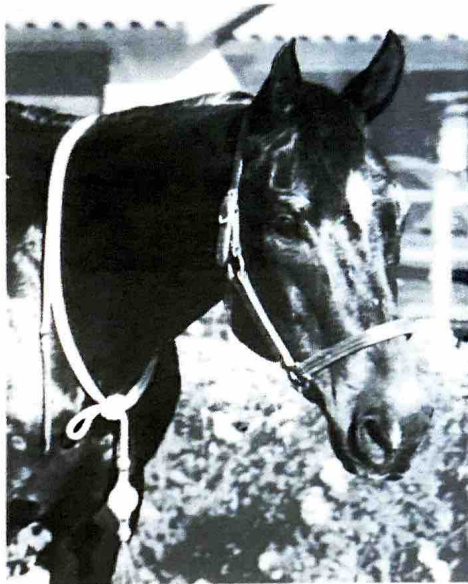
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HORSE CAMP EXPANDED, VOLUNTEERS CITED

[reprinted from the Spring 1996 edition of Gatehouse, a newsletter from Pescadero Creek Park Complex]

The Jack Brook Horse Camp has become one of the most popular equestrian facilities in California. This popularity caused some problems in that the camp had only two campsites, a large group area and a small group site. The small group site was the most popular as fees were lower and few groups needed the capacity of the large area. Another problem was that the Volunteer Horse Patrol had to reserve the small group site and pay the same fees as any other group. This severely limited the VHP and reduced public participation.

Park Supervisor Kenney, Director Sanchez and Superintendent Simmons decided to take steps that would make the Horse Camp more flexible, accommodate the VHP, and raise more revenue in the process.

The San Mateo County Horseman's Association, the Los Viajeros Riding Club, the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County, and the Shack Riders, chipped in half the cost of four additional corrals and these were added to the camp, with the park picking up the remainder of the cost. The wash-rack for horses was repaired, and a general spruce-up of the camp undertaken with volunteers from the VHP and equestrian groups doing much of the labor.

TEX, continued

Now I'll tell you why his registered name, First of All, turned out to be so appropriate. Well, he liked to be first in everything he did. And HE WAS FAST when he sensed a race happening. We raced a lot of horses, but I never saw one of his opponents — they were always behind us! As soon as Tex heard a horse coming up behind him in a race, he put on his afterburner and we soon left them in the dust! We didn't lose a race until he was over 25 when he was beaten by a very fast 5-year-old. On trail rides he was happiest leading the ride, but if he wasn't given that opportunity, he liked to be near the front. As he grew older, and arthritis crept into his shoulders, his stride shortened, especially at the walk, so he moved into what I called his "Texas Shuffle", a smooth western jog, to keep up near the front.

On Sunday, June 16, 1996, Tex led the horses from our Fox Hollow Farm over to CTETA to meet up with the

An additional small group site was constructed next to the large group area, and a separate campsite established for the Volunteer Horse Patrol. Now the camp would have two small sites and one large group area, and the VHP would have their own site at no charge. The immediate effect of these changes was that the revenue increased as both small group sites were heavily booked, with the large area reserved for those who needed the capacity.

Volunteer Horse Patrol attendance also shot up, with the VHP members acting as camp hosts and providing housekeeping duties at the camp. The VHP proved their worth when they were able to rescue a lost equestrian group that had failed to return to camp by midnight. Saddling up and using their familiarity with the park they were able to locate the lost riders in the dark and lead them back to camp. This saved an expensive search and rescue effort by the Sheriff's Office. In another case the VHP assisted a rider who became separated from her horse leading the errant animal back to camp and reuniting it with its chagrined owner. The VHP also provided information and guidance to trail users. The VHP's efforts made the park a safer place to ride and hike.

During 1996 we will continue to make improvements at the Horse Camp to ensure that it continues to be the leading facility of its type.

others from the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association for their Father's Day Ride to Webb Ranch and back. He did this ten mile ride with his usual strength and vigor. Clearly, he was having a good time, and so was I. But on Monday he started to run out of steam, and on Wednesday, after his stablemates all came to him and paid their respects, he laid down in their midst in the big corral and died. He had lived a long and good life in his 31 plus years — roughly the equivalent of 95 human years.

First Of All "Tex": Foaled January 7, 1965. Died June 19, 1996.

"God forbid that I should go to any heaven in which there are no horses." (R.E. Cunningham-Graham in a letter to Theodore Roosevelt.)

I know I will see my friend again.

HERITAGE TRAILS FUND: DE ANZA RELAY UPDATE

by Nancy DuPont, Executive Director, Heritage Trails Fund



Photo - Contra Costa Times

Arrangements are all being coordinated through the Heritage Trails Fund in partnership with the National Park Service. Some events will be in English and Spanish, heightening the awareness of National Park Service resources to Spanish speaking individuals.

The creation of this trail as a national historic trail has been in the works for over 18 years. Responsible for its passage is the perseverance of Concord resident, George Cardinet, who with the assistance of Congressman George Miller saw its passage into law in October of 1990. This significant trail was blazed by Anza in 1775 at a time in history when Britain had agents in the Sacramento Valley and the Russians had established a fort near San Francisco.

Runners, bicyclists and equestrians are invited and needed to become a part of an historic event. Beginning on October 11th and continuing for two months, history will repeat itself when volunteers will reenact the 1400 mile expedition of Juan Bautista De Anza on the first overland route from Mexico to California in a relay along this important National Historic Trail.

The Anza Relay is a 51-day, international event to publicize and interpret the Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail and to educate people to the history of the settlement of California and Arizona. Similar to the concept of the torch relay for the Olympic Games or the Pony Express Mail delivery system, riders will begin at Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico with a mochila (leather saddlebag) containing a proclamation which will be carried and presented at the trail's end on November 30th at the Presidio of San Francisco.

Relay segments will be "run" by three person teams of equestrians, runners and bicyclists in six mile segments covering 48 miles per day. All travel will be during daylight hours and will include special events along the way with notice paid to local landmarks, monuments and historic places on the trail.

For current updates of activities visit the *Heritage Trails Home Page* on the Internet at: <ftp://www.earthlink.net/~htrails>



ROBERT FERRAND, INVENTOR COMPUTERIZED SADDLE FITTING PAD

by Dianne Larson Hicks

Speaking and demonstrating at Charter Oaks on May 29th, inventor Robert Ferrand had us sitting on the edge of our seats trying to understand the effects of ill-fitting saddles on our horses' backs. SMCHA members and guests watched a video with frame by frame changes in saddle pressures in colors indicating heat and pressure. It seems as though the western saddle does have a broader displacement of weight, thus indicating less hot spots as compared to the English.

The saddle pad idea evolved from his earlier invention of a computerized bed pad intending to alleviate bedsores in hospital patients by monitoring their weight patterns.

A discussion was carried on relating to the "perfect" saddle. It is Ferrand's contention that there is no such seat. For years saddles were made in England to fit the Thoroughbred body. Such is still the case today. The problem is the body of the horse with all of the cross breeding of Warmbloods, Drafts, Quarter Horses, Arabs, etc., has created a broader backed horse requiring a wider tree. Many people are inclined to simply saddle a horse with the first thing that resembles a saddle. Few people have learned to take the time to properly fit a saddle to their horse. The realization usually comes following the discovery of a lameness. Ill-fitting saddles affect horses in a myriad of ways: difficult to groom, cinchy (cow-kicks when saddled), dips back when mounted, bucks over jumps, tail switching, head tossing when ridden, slow to warm up, loss of power in front or behind, lead change problems, stiff to one side, shortness of gait, lower limb lameness leading to back pain. Recognizing saddle fit problems we anatomically see white-haired spots in saddle area, heat bumps, dry spots, and atrophy of muscles. Physiologically we find muscle sensitivity spasms, altered sweat patterns.

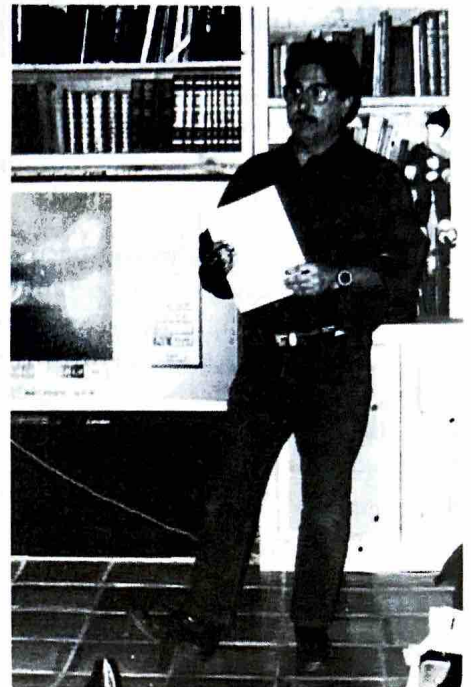
Quoted in the May 1996 issue of EQUUS magazine, Ferrand is being recognized, but the life of an inventor is a frustrating one. The unveiling of a new measuring device which can be placed on the horse's back and then set into the saddle underside is something which should eventually be recognized as being very useful.

Following the video and questions we moved downstairs to the covered arena where Robert had set up a television to relay the effects of the computerized saddle pad placed between his Australian saddle and his Missouri Fox Trotter Ace. After he climbed aboard, we all had a first hand view of the pad and the realization of how our weight and balance impacts our horse. I think it is fair to say that all who were on hand found this an interesting and thought provoking session.

Robert offered a raffle prize of a saddle fitting which was won by SMCHA member Linda Dingas.

Robert can be reached at his Equitech office 851-4636

Robert Ferrand discusses pressure variations in saddle fitting.



Robert Ferrand, aided by Dianne Larson-Hicks and her husband, demonstrates his computerized saddle pad on Ace.



DRESSAGE ON THE TRAIL?

by Sissi Baskin

Dressage is one of those singular riding disciplines that many horse people, specifically backyard trail riders, only associate with the ring. Each time a person rides a horse, they are, on an unconscious level, doing dressage in some form, whether it be a simple leg yield or half halt to regain balance. Why? Trainers agree, dressage is the basic training of the horse.

To improve balance and position, doing uphill and downhill work, make transitions and bend in serpentine formations in fields to strengthen the horse and rider muscularly, as well as to help the rider gain a better seat. Use roads for lateral work and straight lines. A horse without direction will wander, weaving down the road, requiring leg and rein aids to walk, trot, or canter in an actual straight line. And there's nothing better than the trail to test obedience and responsiveness.

Test your horse's obedience, specifically to prevent frightening situations from becoming out of control and dangerous for both the horse and rider. If the horse becomes distracted and tense, lower the horse's head by suppling, so that the horse becomes round, as well as to work the horse laterally and to ride in small circles, bending the horse to the inside wall is all basic dressage, all basic trail training for any horse at any level.

The trail presents many positive work possibilities for the horse that are not available in the ring. This is the reason many of the world's top riders such as Nicole Uphoff Becker and Klaus Balkenhol, use the trail in their advanced training. And this extension of the trail as a work area for the horse is a pleasurable alternative for both the rider and the horse. It lets the horse's mind relax, making him happier and thereby building a stronger relationship of well-being and trust. These exercises can benefit all trail riders, including those who are not at all interested in pursuing formal lessons in Dressage. All riders who ride away from the barn have experienced the balky, snorting horse that only wants to stop and back up, turn around, spin and run, or worse, rear. With strong aids and a balanced seat, much, if not all, of this type of behavior can be prevented before the horse even thinks about it.

The discipline of dressage teaches many things, but one important lesson it teaches at the start is that not only can the horse feel every minute movement of the rider, but that the rider should feel every minute movement of the horse. Know before the horse does what he is thinking of

doing and prevent the behavior. "Feel the horse's muscles and watch for his warnings just as he feels yours." And no place is more important for this type of communication, specifically concerning safety, than on the trail.

When the rider is communicating with the horse in any of the above examples, basic dressage is being performed. This communication and necessity of clarifying what dressage really means as a riding discipline cannot be emphasized enough. Basic training dressage, in its classic form, is a part of every discipline.

So next time you saddle your horse, walk a straight line down the driveway, pass around the garbage cans, halt for a pedestrian, maybe a car or two, and go out onto a trail and think, "I'm doing basic dressage".



MY DEAR LITTLE DEER STORY

by Sue Sheehan

Recently one morning a neighbor knocked on my door and told me that there was a tiny fawn under my car in the driveway. As soon as I got down on my hands and knees to look at him, he got up, walked out and "somehow" ended up in my arms. He looked to be about 1-2 weeks old and tired, scared and slightly dehydrated. My neighbor said he had been walking down the street and ended up in my driveway under my car. She had driven around for awhile looking for his mom, but found her nowhere.

Since it was Sunday morning of Memorial Day weekend none of the wildlife rescue places were open, so the little fellow was invited into my house. My dog immediately decided he was hers and I guess he thought she was 'mom', so started following her around the house. In fact, when Corey went into her bed and lay down, little Freddie (I had to name him after my dad) snuggled up right next to her and took a nap.

No words could possibly describe the feeling of having that little critter curl up in my arms, lick my neck and try to nurse on my chin. His big brown eyes and long eye lashes just stole my heart.

Trying to get him to drink from a bowl was impossible so I went to Carini's for some uni-milk, bought a baby's bottle and started to teach him how to drink from a bottle. He finally caught on and drank 'til his little tummy was full and then fell asleep in my arms.

On Sunday evening at about 7:00 p.m. I was looking out the window to my neighbor's orchard and saw a doe walk through looking all around. We suspected it was 'mom' and rushed to get "Freddie" out to her. Unfortunately, she took off before we could get him near her. So, we did leave him out there under a tree hoping she would return for him. That night was very cold, windy and dark. I stressed for hours whether I should leave him out there or not. Finally at midnight I went out,

bundled him in my arms and brought him back in. I gave him another bottle of milk, fixed him a cozy area right next to my bed and he spent the night free from harm curled up next to Corey. I, too, got a good night's sleep, not having to worry about him getting eaten or attacked by dogs, cats or ? mountain lion!

On Monday I spent the whole day cuddling him, feeding him and showing him off to friends. At 5:00 p.m. I once again tried to put him out in the orchard. Every time I put him down and walked away he would just trot right after me. Finally I sat down out there and waited till he found the perfect spot to lie down and wait for "mom". At that point my friend Gary strategically placed himself in front of a window with a pair of binoculars and watched. I knew that we "had" to get him to his mom because I had become so attached by now and just knew I couldn't keep him. Gary, being the good friend he is, did not want me to have a sleepless night worrying about Freddie. So, Gary spent the next 4 hours at his "post", diligently watching for mom. Finally, when it was almost too dark to see



"Freddie" finally learned how to drink from a bottle.

anything through the binoculars, she showed up. At first she sniffed him and then pushed him several times to get him up. Once standing, she pushed him again and then got in front and they slowly meandered off into the darkness of the night. I, of course, was happy for him and started crying tears of joy over the reunion. I did, however, think that if the boy in the "Yearling" movie could raise a fawn, so could I.

A few weeks later I saw the Yearling on TV and realized that my "Dear Little Deer" story had a much happier ending. I figure some day in the future a big buck deer will walk into my yard and tell Corey (in animal talk) to tell "her" mom that "Freddie" came to say hi!!!

1996 CALENDAR

TENTATIVE

July

- 4 - Parade
- 7 - LV - Montebello Open Space Ride
- 14 - SFHA - GG Park Ride
- 14 - English Show
- 11,18 - Western Clinic
- 10 - Board Meeting
- 21 - Ride
- 31 - Educational Seminar

October

- 5-6 - LV - Olompali Park Ride
- 6 - SFHA - GG Park Ride
- 9 - **Board Meeting**
- 13 - Columbus Day Parade, SF
- 19 - Trail Trials
- 25 - Grand Nationals Opening Night
- 30 - Educational Seminar

August

- 1-4 - SFHA - Jack Brook Camp
- 3-4 - LV - Graham Hill Ride
- 14 - **Board Meeting**
- 18 - SFHA - GG Park Ride
- 19-25 - Jack Brook Horse Camp
- 25 - Nor-Cal Show
- 28 - Educational Seminar
- 31 - LV - Jack Brook Camp

November

- 3 - LV - La Honda Progressive Ride
- 8 - **General Meeting**
- 13 - **Board Meeting**
- 27 - Educational Seminar

December

- 13 - **Board Dinner/Meeting**

January

- 1-2 - LV - Jack Brook Camp
- 8 - **Western Show - Webb**
- 8 - SFHA - Golden Gate Kid's Ride
- 11 - **Board Meeting**
- 18 - **Outdoor Meeting/BBQ**
- 19-23 - SFHA - Dakin Ranch
- 25 - Educational Seminar
- 29 - President's Ride

January

- 8 - **Board Meeting**
- 25 - **Kick-Off Dinner/Dance**

SMCHA events in BOLD

LV = Los Viajeros

SFHA = San Francisco Horsemen's Assoc.



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- J English Riding Clinic
- K Playday
- L Hospitality
- M Membership
- N Publicity

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