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San Mateo County



FALL 2002

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Inside

President's Message 1
 Visiting the Mustangs 3
by Sigrid Scharmann-Boyd
 Fourth of July Parade 7
by Nancy Crowley
 Poker Round-Up Ride 8
by Summer Lopez
 Welcome New Members 9
 Notes From Noel 10
by Noel Moody
 English Schooling Show A Winner 10
 SMCHA Open Western/English Nor Cal Show 10
 SMCHA Western Riding Clinic and Dinner 11
 Jack Brook Horse Camp 13
 Young SMCHA Kids 14
by Terri Vami-Pacheco
 Equine Chiropractor 15
by Nancy Crowley
 The Woodside Celebrity Challenge 18
 West Nile Virus 19
 Holiday Equus Dinner Dance 21
 San Mateo County Fair 23
 2002 Calendar 24

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COVER

Joan McLaren on
 Top Sails Susie McCue
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As our busy summer ends and fall approaches, I find myself amazed at all that we have accomplished in the last year. Our membership this year has increased sufficiently with each event. The website, which was constructed last year, has enabled SMCHA to get information out to both new and current memberships. Our general meetings, rides, clinics and horseshows have gone way beyond our expectations.

More and more information about the West Nile Virus is making the news these days and seems to be spreading across the states. We have included information on this in virus this quarter's issue. If more information is needed you may contact the Department of Health web site at www.health.state.nd.us/disease/arbovirus.

We still have more events to follow in the next few months. Our nominating committee is now working on next year prospects for new board members. Our November General Meeting is scheduled for the 27th, at which time we usually have a meet and greet for our new board members. We also have Holiday Equus 2002 scheduled for December 14th at Crystal Springs Golf Club. Last years event was attended with enthusiasm and in true holiday spirit from horse community. If you attended last year, please join us again this year and help us continue with a new tradition.

This being my last president's message, I would like to thank all the board of directors for their support. I also have had the pleasure of meeting and working with many new members this past year who have contributed enthusiasm, great ideas for future events and great friendships. It has been a wonderful two years. Your continued support has made my job a wonderful experience. Now I just need to figure out what I'm going to do with all my free time next year!

Kathie Goddard

San Mateo County Horsemen's Association

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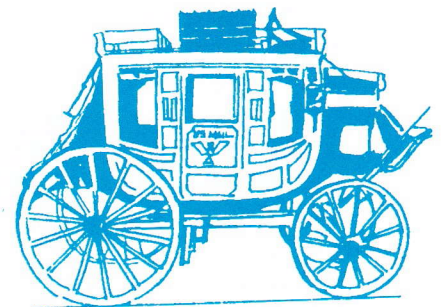
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The San Mateo HORSEMAN

Fall 2002

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

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



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VISITING THE MUSTANGS

By Sigrid Scharmann-Boyd

Like most horse-enthusiastic teenagers I loved to read stories about wild horses. I imagined to gallop the black stallion through rolling green hills, his mares and foals following, in the background the high mountains... ah, dreams!

I still love black horses, but I realize that the wild horses don't live (and never did) that romantic life I fantasized about. It's tough, surviving in the most remote parts of the country, high up the mountains, where cattle can't go. For a while it looked as if they wouldn't survive at all, being hunted by everybody, but now laws have passed to protect them (to a certain degree) and the BLM has taken over their management. For a complete history of the horse in the Americas I highly recommend reading Hope Ryden's book: America's Last Wild Horses (last edition 1999), which is also the history of the conquest of this continent, since it would not have been possible without the help of the horse.

Besides an amazing wealth of background information about the "Mustang Problem" she also offers a very sound explanation, why there are so many wild horses in the holding pens: Most BLM personnel have little training in wildlife biology and employ strategies borrowed from game managers. Hunting game in the fall produces a bumper crop of young in the spring, to be hunted in the future. Removal of "surplus" mustangs through roundups has the same effect, it stimulates the reproduction rate in mares, which is nature's mechanism to ensure survival of the species. There is no end to this loop, the more mustangs you remove, the more they will reproduce. And the more wild horses will be held in crowded pens, waiting for adoption. The "we have severe draught conditions and the mustangs are starving" explanation has been used for a very long time to justify the roundups and is mostly

BLM Mustang Center in the Palomino Valley near Reno



mythical. Nevada is basically a desert and you will never find lush pastures there without irrigation. The mustangs are perfectly adapted to this type of country, and survive well on little forage, as long, as they find water. Just provide water when needed and otherwise leave them alone and they'll do just fine!

But this is not the way things are being handled, and since a long time I wanted to go to Reno and see the BLM center for the wild horses myself. For the last two years I have cared for two mustang mares, who are just such nice

Mustang foal resting



horses, and good looking, too. Both are very smart, but have quite different personalities. One is a gray and looks (and moves) like a smaller version of an Andalusian with a very pretty head, the other I'd call a Miniature-Belgian, a stout red roan with a very laid-back attitude, she could really pull a wagon. They are great trail horses and good jumpers, too.

So I became very interested to see where they had originally come from several years ago. The drive over the mountains was easy, the weather good, just a little windy, the facility in the Palomino Valley was easy to find, even though the sign from the highway was gone. Suddenly there they were, an enormous amount of colorful horses behind high fences. We stopped at the office, got an introduction and a little map from the helpful receptionist and went on a tour.

There are several large pens with big herds of mustangs sorted by gender and age, plus

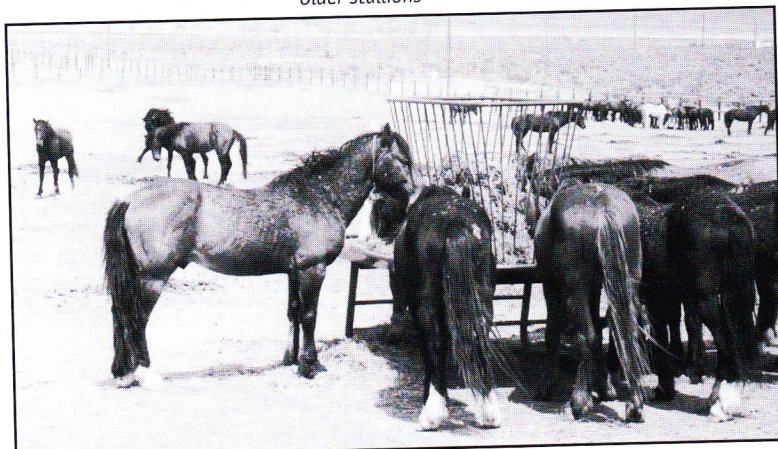
numerous smaller pens. The total number of horses supposedly was around 1500. We did notice, that the largest pen was occupied by only two, the personnel horses, we learned. That seemed like a waste of space, since the other pens hold hundreds... There are many feeders filled with good hay in every pen, so most mustangs are gathered around those, eating peacefully. Everybody (with the exception of a few older, swaybacked mares with foals) looked good, besides being dirty and shedding the winter coat.

We walked around and looked for hours, I photographed and video-taped, there was so much to see! The pen with the mares and their young foals held our attention for a long time. The babies are just adorable - and there are so many of them!

Other pens contained the weaned youngsters, colts and fillies, not quite so cute looking anymore, a little lanky and shaggy, but we know they all have to go through the "ugly duckling" stage. This may be the best time to adopt one, they are young and curious and will soon look for company in humans, when they are taken away from their herd. Then there are the pens for the two to five year olds, one for mares, one for geldings, also good choices for adoption. Some also hold burros among them, but not very many.

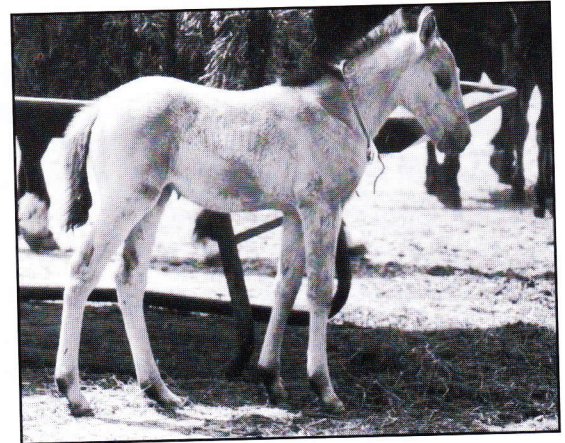
Right next to the entrance is the big pen with the older stallions, hundreds of them together, and rather peacefully, too. Most are quite handsome, a few very flashy and beautiful, but of course some are not very appealing. It's a little sad to see them confined like that, they were such proud herd leaders once, roaming the wide open spaces with their families. We were told that most of them will be gelded and sent to sanctuaries, since not many adopters are willing to take on an older (meaning over five years) stallion. I'm sure, with an experienced trainer they could turn into very useful horses, too.

Older stallions



Actually, there is a very beautiful story in Hope Ryden's book *America's Last Wild Horses* about an older stallion. At an adoption event a family was persuaded by a BLM employee to take

Buckskin foal



Mares and foals



home an eight year old bay stallion. They spend several months just to gentle "Laredo" and earn his trust. Next spring their daughter needed a horse to lead trail rides on and within a few weeks she had him broke to ride and ready to go. He developed into a totally bombproof horse everybody, even the most timid or handicapped riders, could safely ride on the trails. The story ends with: "Laredo is a symbol of all the mustangs that need a home, regardless of age, gender or initial attitude. Our hope is that no wild horse will ever be unwanted again."

So let's find them homes, they deserve it!

For all of you who haven't visited the mustang center (yet), here are my impressions and observations:

Most are decent looking horses between 14 and 15 hands. Some are beautiful. They come in a wide variety of colors, about 60% are bay and chestnut,

the rest are black, roan (often unusual shades), dun, buckskin, grullo, pinto, gray, palomino or show the Appaloosa color patterns.

They are very efficient movers. It was a pleasure to watch their long stride lust walking, or their easy floating trot. They didn't run around a lot, not even when trucks drove by, preserving their energy, I assume.

One can find all types of horses among them. Some look a little like a Quarter Horse, others more like a Thoroughbred, a draft horse or a pony and many definitely resemble their Spanish ancestors.

What can you do with a mustang?

Most of the things domestic horses do.

Jumping comes to mind, after all, there is a good reason why an adopter is required to have 6 feet high fences for the initial gentling process. The Spanish type mustangs would be good dressage prospects for juniors or smaller sized adults.

The pony type mustangs can be children's mounts, used as hunter/jumpers, for gymkhana, barrel racing, pole bending and such.

They can be trained to work cattle and do team penning. All will be surefooted trail horses. With their legendary stamina and speed they'll be great for endurance riding. They can be trained for handicapped riding.

Reasons to adopt a mustang:

You love the spirit of a wild horse, because you are spirited and adventurous yourself.

You have ridden and trained domestic horses before, now you are ready for a different challenge.

You always wanted your own horse, but you are living on a tight budget and can't afford a big purchase price.

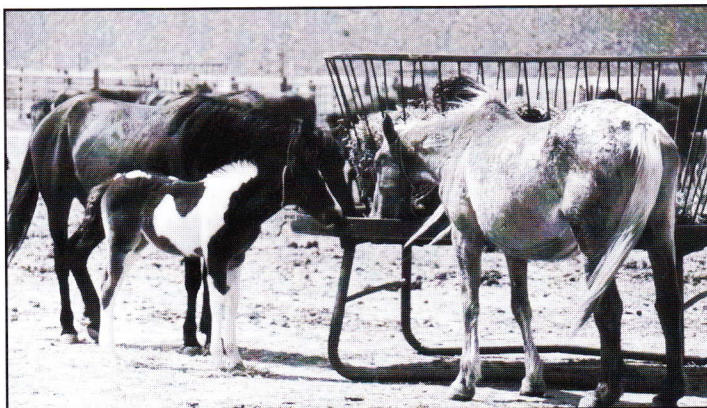
Older stallions



The \$125 adoption fee is very reasonable.

You have the knowledge, patience and proper facilities to gentle a wild horse and will find them a good home later. This would be a great summer project for a horse-crazy teenager!

Mares and pretty tobiano filly



Older stallions



You are feeling sorry for them standing around in their pens and know, they'll get better care at your home.

Are you getting interested?

Check and improve (6 foot high fences!) your facilities. Are you really sure you will have the time to work with a wild horse?

If yes, get approval for adoption at the Sacramento office.

Read a book (I recommend *The Wild Horse: An Adopters Manual*) or watch videos about horse gentling techniques.

Visit a "satellite adoption center" near your home (call office for dates) or make an appointment at the BLM center in Reno.

Visiting the Mustangs, continued

Organize transportation, you'll need a stock type trailer. Then just go and choose! Arrive early, so you have plenty of time to observe and compare. Binoculars help to see more details.

No bitemarks on a horse usually mean, it's a leader and might not submit so easy. Look for good conformation, take an expert along, if you are not one yourself. A flashy color is not as important as a good temperament.

Pick a young horse, if you have less experience, but don't reject a nice older one, if you are a good trainer. (I broke an eleven-year-old mare to ride, she's a great trail horse now!)

Another helpful book is "The Tellington-Jones Equine Awareness Method" with very good insight about how to judge a horse's character by looking at his head. This may sound a little strange, but I had good experiences with this method so far. Just a few brief pointers:

Look at the head in profile, a straight line promises an easy temperament, a single whirl in the middle of the forehead, big gentle eyes and ears spaced far apart and not too short are also good signs. Horses with a convex profile tend to be strong-willed (or stubborn), while a concave head indicates timidity. The more whirls on the forehead a horse has, the more complex or difficult it's personality.

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Observe and choose wisely - they are non-refundable! BLM employees will help you put a halter on your horse and load it into the trailer. Then you go home and you are on your own. Unload him directly into his new pen, have hay and water ready and leave him alone to settle down. Spend as much time as you can with him, follow sensible gentling techniques and know, when to hold the pressure and when to back off. With patience comes success. Some horses can be ridden after six weeks, but most take more time.

Always remember, you have to prove to a mustang that you are a competent, fair, trustworthy leader and friend, who is not going to endanger or hurt him. Then you will form that special bond, a bond unlike any other!

For more information about how to adopt a wild horse you can call toll free 1-866-4MUSTANGS or visit this website: www.wildhorseandburro.gov

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63RD ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Nancy Crowley

Joined by 30,000 of our closet friends, SMCHA once again celebrated our country's Birthday by marching through downtown Redwood City in the annual 4th of July Parade. The Color Guard and seven riders from our membership made our way down Broadway along with the marching bands, floats and beauty queens.

Again this year we were blessed with great weather, not too hot, not too windy, another sparkling day of red, white and blue. And speaking of red, white and blue, our nations colors were everywhere! The theme of this year's parade was "Raise the Flag." There was an extra feeling of pride and patriotism this year being that this was the first 4th of July since the terrorist attacks. We could feel the excitement from the folks along the parade route waving their flags, cheering and saluting our American flags as we rode by.

It was one of the smoothest parades we have ridden in years. All made it through on four legs and even the train whistle was quiet this year as we passed the train station. The announcers managed to read Marianna

Let's get this show on the road!

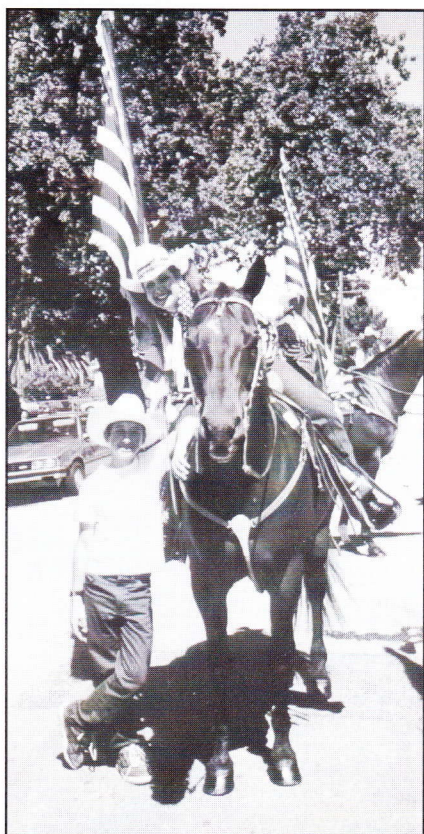
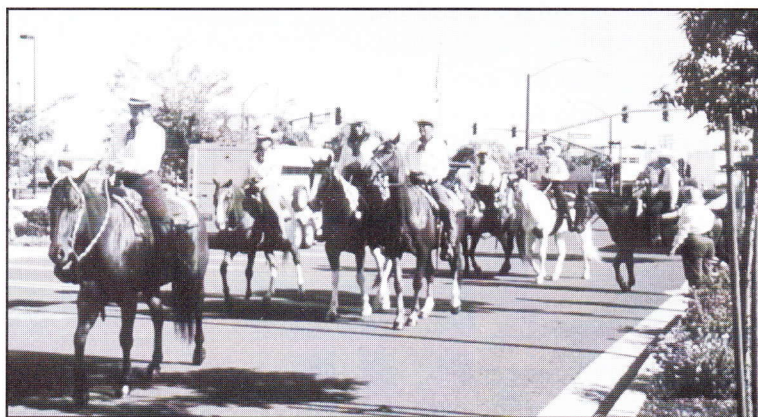


Daveggio's last name correctly at least once, always a challenge. We had several newcomers this year. Among them were Maggie Constantino, Roger Olsen and Penny Martin. They all had a good time, especially Maggie whose smile never faded. I'm pretty sure we have her hooked now!

The best part is we reclaimed our title of First Place in our division, Mounted Group with Color Guard. The Color Guard and members who ride in this parade always have fun and we don't do it for the prize, but I have to admit, it's nice to be recognized.

The glitter and the red, white and blue saddle pads are put up for another year. Come join us at our next parade in May 2003 at the Woodside May Day parade.

SMCHA riders



Nancy and Nick Crowley and Buddy

POKER RIDE ROUND-UP

by Summer Lopez

On July 13, 123 equestrians gathered themselves and their horses for the 8th Annual NCEFT Poker Ride. Riders traversed trails through Woodside's Huddart Park, picked up playing cards to form a Poker Hand, participated in fun trail activities, then ended the morning with a BBQ lunch at the San Mateo County Mounted Patrol grounds.

After the dust settled on the day, \$46,000 was raised



to support NCEFT's hippotherapy program, 40+ prizes were selected by riders, champions were crowned, and good, clean fun was had by all. The highlight of the day was the 1st-ever participation of a child from the hippotherapy program. Leading the way was 12-year old Charlotte "Charlie" Colby who has participated at NCEFT since she was just 5 years old. Charlie rode with her father, Budd Colby through the redwoods at Huddart Park, the culmination of a dream that the Colby family has held for many years. Charlie's sponsors and family raised over \$24,000 for her ride this year, thus earning her the title of "Top Fundraising Rider" for this year's event. Congratulations Charlie - your indomitable spirit serves as inspiration to us all.

The Club Challenge was met this year, with familiar faces taking home the honors. However, there were some new challengers this year which made for an exciting finish. Taking home the Most Riders award for the 3rd year running was the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. SMCHA President, Kathie Goddard, proudly accepted the trophy on behalf of the 32 members that rode under the auspices of SMCHA. The SMCHA has been a strong supporter of not only this event, but also of NCEFT in general and we offer our

thanks for their community spirit.

The winner of the Club Challenge Cup was no surprise - the men of the Mounted Patrol raised over \$25,000 at this year's ride - more than twice as much as they had raised in 2001. We are eternally grateful to these men who open up their hearts, and pockets, to give a helping hand to those in need.

We are truly blessed to have such incredible support from our local equestrians, the local business community and individuals who support their favorite riders, or make contributions to support this annual event. Not only did we receive generous contributions from our event sponsors (Wells Fargo, Green Truck Debris, S.T.A.R. Physical Therapy, Larry Pelzner, Kathie Goddard, Carousel Saddlery & Performance Horseshoeing), but also, over 250 individuals sponsored our riders this year—thank you riders for intro-

Poker Ride Results:

Total raised: \$46,000

Total Riders: 123

Top Fundraising Riders:

Charlie Colby (\$24,000)

Overall Top Rider
Top Rider, 18 & under

Molly Chappell (\$830)
under

Runner-up, 18 &

Danine Summers (\$1,751)
Lynette Sonne (\$450)

Top Rider, 19-44
Runner-up, 19-44

Barb Heine (\$1,900)
Kathie Goddard (\$1,140)

Top Rider, 45 & up
Runner-up, 45 & up

Club Challenge Awards:

Top Fundraising Association/Group:

Mounted Patrol of SMC—\$25,860

SMCHA—\$3,063

SFHA—\$1,475

Mounted Search & Rescue—\$1,180

(A team from JP Training raised \$3,641)

Most Riders Award:

SMCHA—27 riders

Mounted Patrol—22 riders

Los Viajeros—8 riders

SMC MSAR—5 riders

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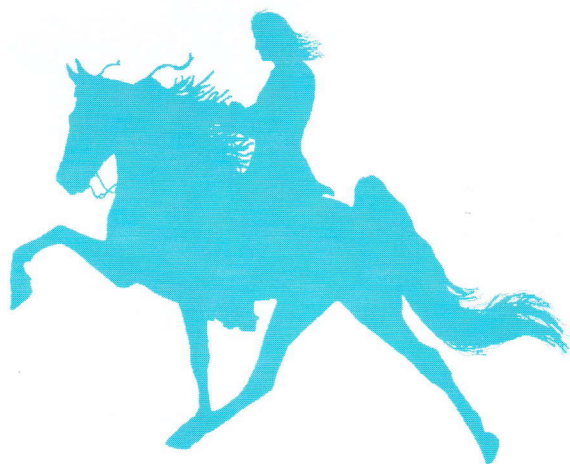
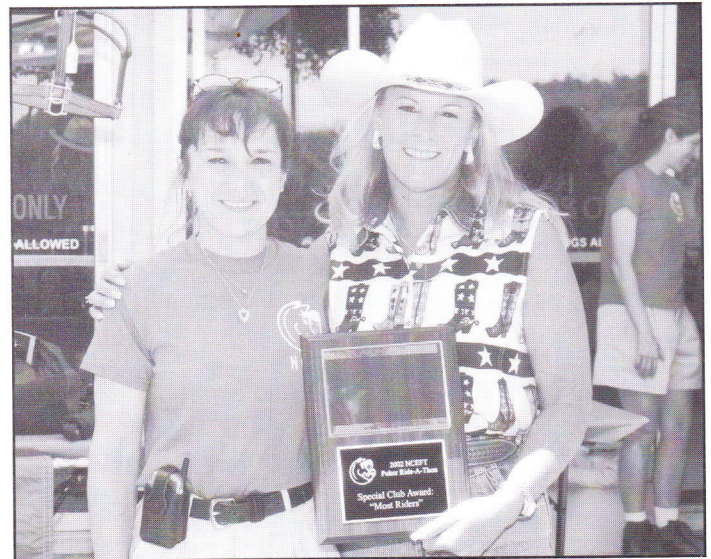
Kudos to the incredible volunteers who kept the Poker Ride running smoothly by staffing our registration



table, cooking lunch, dealing cards, & much, much more. Special thanks to the Bliss Family for another wonderful lunch, and to our Lunch Sponsor, Larry Pelzner, for donning his apron and manning the grill for us. We also appreciated our trusty poker

hand judges, Wayne Browning, DVM and Michelle Schubnel, who were ably assisted by Carleen Whittelsey and Shelly Begun.

Thank you EVERYBODY for helping us to make this event such an awesome and unparalleled success! Every single rider, donor, and volunteer contribution was appreciated.



Welcome New Members

Lori Anderson

Sarah Withers Divine

Janet Dudley

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Griffin

John G. Hursh

Jane & Steve Kikuchi

The Kucera Family

Mr. and Mrs. Larick and Fawn Hill

Pamela Lynch

Suzanne Scott

Lynette Sonne

Katy Stella

Kathleen Suitchfield





NOTES FROM NOEL

by Noel Moody

Congratulations to Raina Petrov, daughter of Bobbi Petrov, long time SMCHA member who now teaches riding at Portola Pastures. Raina was recently elected one of the three class presidents of the freshman class at UC Davis School of Veterinarian Medicine. Raina also received her masters degree in June in Immunology. Raina was a very active SMCHA Junior member of SMCHA and was high point junior rider numerous times at the SMCHA English show. It has been her dream since childhood to be an equine vet.

Tanya Rebarchik and Sue Sheehan had a wonderful trip to Colorado to attend the Pat Parelli conference. They saw Patty Lewine and DeeDee Lavine who were also attending the event.

Laurie Fieguth's horse, Gunner, is still standing second nationally in the Limited Novice division of the NRHA. Gunner, ridden by Laurie's trainer, Warwick Schiller of Gilroy, recently won two buckles at the Reining by the Bay and two circuit championships at Rancho Murieta over Labor Day.

Sorry to hear Judy Gage and her husband sold their house and moved to Santa Rosa. Their new home has a beautiful twelve stall barn and large arena. We will miss seeing her lovely Arabs on the Woodside trails but we wish them well in their new abode.

English Schooling Show A Winner

SMCHA is on a roll! Another fabulous show. Larry Mayfield, well known hunter-jumper trainer from Woodside judged. Many compliments from contestants were received about his fairness and thoroughness. That was how the entire day went. It was a totally positive happy event.

It began at 8:00A.M. and did not end until 6:30P.M. One flat class had twentyone entries. In fact, all the classes were large. We appreciate the support shown by the local riders and their trainers who came to this event. Some brought wonderful ponies who could really jump. It was fun watching them.

There were four division high point champions for the day. Each champion received a championship ribbon and a red white and blue halter with a lead rope of the same color. The champions were as follows: Short Stirrup-Rusty Stirrup-Kristi McBain riding Wish A Bit. Beginners- Pam Russell Dayley riding Velvet Brown. Junior High Point-Savannah Lindsey riding Sporting Life. Adult High Point-Marty Raynor riding Life's Grand.

SMCHA wants to thank Nancy Van Zwol and Bobbi Petrov from Portola Pastures for their advice about the program of this show throughout the years. Their help has been invaluable. We also thank Pam Dayley for bringing the jumps and setting the courses. We also thank Webb Ranch for allowing us to have the show there.

We had wonderful workers. Karen Rowley and Carole Graves were in charge of the desk. Kathy Goddard was ring steward. Larry Pelzner was in charge of the entrance gate. Robyn Zatkovich and Noel Moody announced. Virginia Darrow was the photographer. Our wonderful food people were Art Marshall and Marianna Daveggio who brought all the equipment necessary to cook their wonderful menu and also sold the food. We also thank Jim Keeton for his work.

Last, SMCHA appreciates the effort of the Horse Show Committee for all their work throughout the year. The committee is made up of Tami Tuite, Sandy Lees, Kathy Goddard, Art Marshall, Marianna Daveggio, and Noel Moody.

SMCHA Open Western/English Nor Cal Show

All the SMCHA shows have had wonderful participation this year and the Open Western/English show was no different. It was huge in more ways than one. The name really should have been the SMCHA International Open



Halter Class Buckle Winner Megan Boyle and Mr. Ready Made

Western/English show as we had a visiting Japanese equestrian team participating in the English division.

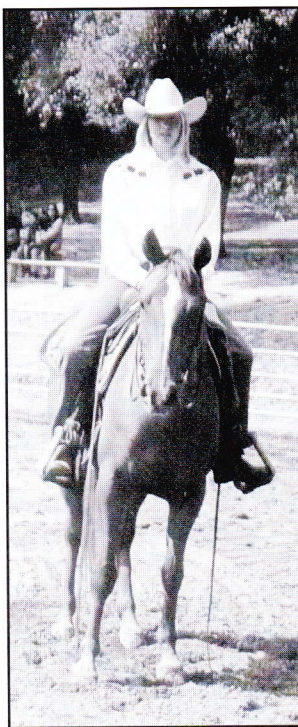
The show began at 8:00A.M. and didn't end until 8:20 P.M. The English division was first and we had a large contingent of local riders as well as riders from through-

out northern California and of course our visiting Japanese team. It was like the old days with classes as large as twenty- seven horses.

After the English division ended, the Western Pleasure and Western Equitation division began. Again, the arena was filled with some of northern California's best horses. They were beautiful to watch and their riders were sharp looking in all their lovely outfits. Next was the Reining division. A large group came from Napa to participate. Fifteen riders were in the Open Reining class and the Junior/amateur class had seventeen participants. The buckle Reining class was very competitive with fourteen entries. It was truly exciting even at 8 P.M. in the evening.

The lower arena was the setting for the Trail Horse division and the Halter and Showmanship division. There were many different breeds shown in the halter class

Kristen Spence and Missel Toe



including an imported English Sport Pony. Other breeds were Quarter Horses, Morgan, T. B., Paints, and Arabians. Lots of fun to watch! The Trail courses were very popular and had many of northern California's best horses showing off their stuff as they did the course. It was a great show of its own and had quite a few spectators sitting on the benches.

Kathy Hansen of Brentwood judged the English division, Western Pleasure, Western Equitation, and Reining division. Lorili Casipit from Knightsen judged the Trail Horse, Halter, and Showmanship division. They both did an excellent and professional job.

SMCHA extends a special thank you to Springdown Equestrian Center of Portola Valley for the use of their jumps and for their help in setting up the courses. We also thank the Woodside Pony Club for the use of their poles and jump standards for the trail horse courses.

Art Marshall was in charge of the food department. Bill Ashton, Aleta Reed, and Bev Schumann were his helpers. Karen Rowley and Ann Kirby were in charge of the desk. Marianna Daveggio was ring steward. Larry Pelzner was gate person. Maria Fonseca Cole and Carole Graves

announced in the lower arena while Robyn Zatkovich announced in the upper arena. Noel Moody and Kathy Goddard were managers. Dave Burlingame kept the arenas in wonderful shape and Donny Duncan watered the grounds. Doug Moody, Bill Ashton, Larry Pelzner, John Allison, and Art Marshall were ring crew. Virginia Darrow made the Sponsor Board. A big thank you to you all!

There was something new at this show that I have never seen before. The contestants clapped for the class sponsors as they were announced. How classy is that!

SMCHA is clapping for the sponsors also as we could not have this show without their support. We truly appreciate each and every one of them.

The buckle classes were very popular and the Gist silver buckles were very lovely. The winners were as follows. English Equitation- Melissa Hillberg riding Once Upon A Star. Halter class- Megan Boyle showing Mr. Ready Made. Showmanship class- Kathryn Lacey showing Miss Jalalenos Ms. Fancy. Trail Horse- Linda Salvi riding Darn Good Page. Western Pleasure- Janelle Marker riding Front League. Western Equitation- Michelle Mordan riding Imperial Chip. Reining class- Kelly Bennett riding Boomeledo.

Sheyna Allison



The SMCHA members showing were Sheyna Allison, Joan McLaren, Stan, Denise, and Jake Ramirez, and Kristen Spence. It was truly a great show.

SMCHA Western Riding Clinic and Dinner

The Western Riding clinic has to be one of the nicest on going events in Woodside. Beginning May 18th and continuing every Thursday evening until July 14th, it offered group lessons for our members. This year we had a group of twenty-two juniors guided by Joan McLaren. Joan Loftin taught the Intermediate class while Leah Grey was in charge of the Advanced group. The advanced group chose to work on a drill team routine which was great fun for all.

Notes from Noel, continued

Karen Rowley was in charge of the clinic and did a magnificent job as she always does. The clinic included the dinner and show which this year was dedicated to the memory of Walter Kirk who had been SMCHA Sergeant of Arms since 1982 and who always helped with the dinner throughout the years. It was also dedicated to the memory of Stuart Olson SMCHA member who always played his guitar and entertained us with his songs. He had been a professor of biology at Menlo College before retiring to Gardnerville, Nevada. He would drive here just for the dinner. Many songs that he sung he had composed himself.

The clinic show opened with the presentation of the colors by the Senior and Junior Color Guard. The instructors judged each other's classes. Only members who had attended the classes could participate. The class winners were: Junior class- First- Jacob Ramirez riding Woody. Second- Gabriels Cole riding Crystal. Third- Marian Cole riding Georgie. Fourth- Kinber Lew riding Sabiba. Fifth- Heidi Parodi riding Swifty. Sixth- Callie Pacheco riding Blondie. Intermediate

Class. First- Gretchen King riding Miss Ginger Snap. Second- Dan Johndrow riding B.T. Third- Chris Michalski riding Parker. Fourth- Carroll Ann Hodges riding Midnight Cavalier. Fifth- Deborah Vasquez riding Jane. Sixth- Roger Olsen riding Travis.

Old Texas Barbecue catered. Their chicken and ribs were delicious and all their fixings were wonderful. Just ask the one hundred twenty four people who attended. Even the moon cooperated. It

was full and bright. Special thanks goes to Karen Rowley's crew who served everyone. They were George Shawback, Christine Eppstein, Nancy Crowley, Penny Shawback, Ann Kirby, Virginia Darrow, Larry Pelzner, Laurie Fieguth, Doug Moody, Noel Moody, and of course Karen's mom. A special thanks also to Ron Harris who entertained us with his accordion.

The members of the color guards are as follows. Senior Color Guard-Kathy Goddard, Art Marshall, Nancy Crowley, and Marianna Daveggio. Junior Color Guard- Colleen Daly,

Georgette and Frank Goff and Mary Jo and Ron Harris



Ellen Piccolotti, Kristi Cucera, and Holly Cucera.

Each year the Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County and SMCHA join together to award scholarships to be used for further riding instruction. This year the Junior class scholarship winner was Sabina Andreini. The winner of the Intermediate class was Deborah Vasquez. Congratulations! There was no winner in the Advanced class because the class did a drill team routine instead. The Mounted Patrol donated the use of their arenas each week so this event could be held. We certainly thank them. We especially thank Karen Rowley again for all the work and effort she put in. She is truly wonderful. Can't wait until next year!

Ron Harris



Dinner time!



Eileen Borzone and Georgette Goff

JULY AT JACK BROOK HORSE CAMP

Nancy Crowley

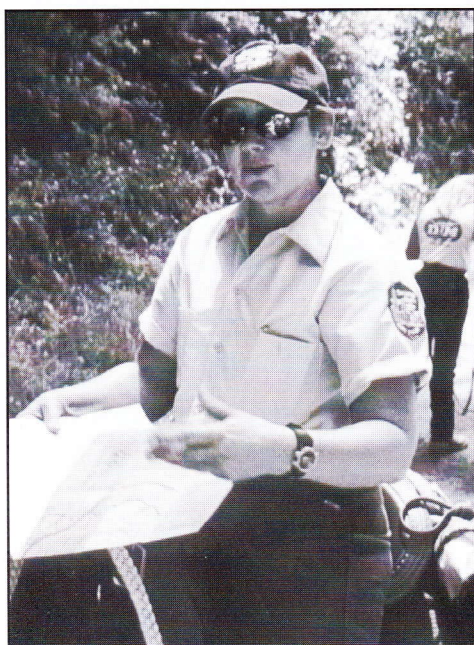
The flyer said "A week in July will make you swoon" and that is just what we did. This year our club had a second week up at Jack Brook Horse Camp in Sam MacDonald Park for July 22nd to the 28th and the weather was absolutely fabulous! Not a smidgen of fog with warm, beautiful days and clear nights.

Campers were on their own from Monday to Thursday for cooking. The official activities began Friday night with a potluck. The club provided the barbecued



Getting the campfire going

Nancy Crowley, "Are we lost?"



chicken, (thanks to Rick Payne for manning the queue). There was a smorgasbord of salads, side dishes and desserts. For the rest of the weekend we were treated to the divine catering of California Girls Catering. Lori Hoffmann prepared delicious meals which included breakfast

burritos, french toast and a scrumptious Saturday night dinner with tri-tip, spinach salad and homemade berry cobbler. It's a wonder we could all get on our horses with all that eating going on!

Great rides were enjoyed by everyone. Some made it down to the secret swimming hole. Time in the evenings was spent around the fire ring roasting marshmallows for s'mores and telling a few ghost stories. The kids always seem to come up with the best ones.

It was great to see some old friends there as well as some newcomers. Personally, this is one of my favorite spots on earth and every chance I get I take that road that is marked by a clock near a sign that simply reads "horse camp."

Carolyn Wilford gives Rick Payne a new "do"



TWO YOUNG SMCHA KIDS GETTING THEIR START RIDING HORSES AND PONIES

By Terri Varni-Pacheco

Callie Pacheco and Britney Olsen, 11 years old, both live in Half Moon Bay, go to the same school and ride together with Callie's mom, Terri. They have been in 4-H for two years and are both in the San Mateo County Horsemen's Association. This year both girls went to the San Mateo County Fair.

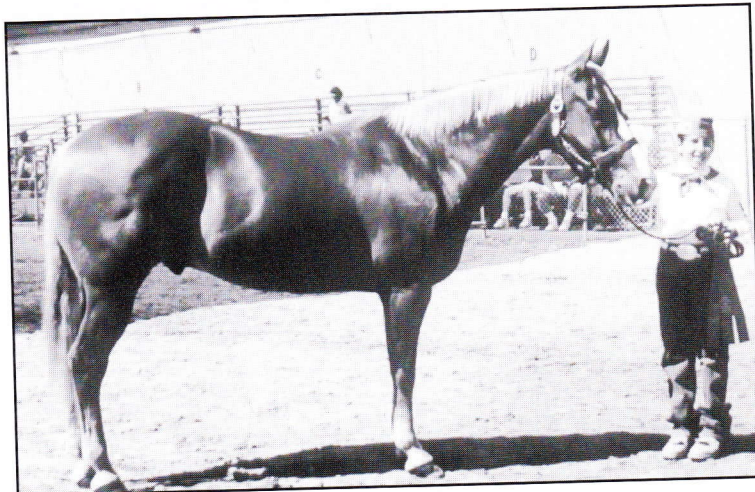
Callie has been in the SMCHA's Thursday night riding clinic for two years. She started with her pony Sweeta. Callie and Sweeta went to the 2001 San Mateo County Fair and had a successful fair. There are 2 classes—Showmanship and Horsemanship, and 3 divisions—Novice, Juniors and Seniors. The first and second place winners in each class advance to the next division.

Callie entered Novice Showmanship and placed second, entered Junior Showmanship and placed second again, then won first place in Senior Showmanship and qualified for Master Showmanship where they take the top 5 Senior Showmanship winners of all categories: goat, lamb, pig, steer and horse. Callie never showed these animals before; she had so much fun with all the kids from different clubs helping her for 5 days before she was to show them. She went in to have a good time and look presentable—and she did; she received 5th place.

Callie took Sweeta in Novice Horsemanship and placed second, placed second in Junior Horsemanship and second again in Senior Horsemanship. They had so much fun together, they could hardly wait for this next year.

Unfortunately, tragedy hit when Sweeta colicked and passed away on Ester 2002. Callie had 4 1/2 months to learn to ride her Mom's horse Blondie, so they worked hard at home and went back to the SMCHA Thursday night clinic lessons in Woodside.

Callie and Blondie



Callie entered Senior Showmanship this year and won the class which qualified her again for Master Showmanship for the second year in a row. (Plus she was the Youngest both years) She worked much harder this year. Again, she had 5 days to learn parts of all 5 animals, showing techniques and to be confident at what she learned from other 4-H kids. She went in confident and happy and came out with a 3rd



Britney and Smokey

place! What a great job! Callie showed in Senior Horsemanship and placed third. She also received High Point Horse at the fair. She was so thrilled with Blondie and can't wait to see all her SMCHA friends at the Clinic and other activities next year. Callie will always cherish Sweeta's memory and Blondie - Mom may lose her horse?

Britney Olsen joined 4-H in 2001. She loved horses very much but did not have one of her own. She studied and learned about all different horses and ponies, along with her Mom Janice. Both had a love for these animals.

Britney's Mom and Dad got her a Palomino pony named Smokey in September 2001. She started getting lessons from Callie's Mom Terri, who suggested to Janice to put Britney in the SMCHA Thursday night clinic to get her used to going places and get comfortable with riding in a big group. They did and what a wonderful group of kids and great friendships came out of this! Britney received a

continued

OH, MY ACHING BACK! AN EVENING WITH AN EQUINE CHIROPRACTOR

Nancy Crowley

If only our horses could talk. They would tell us, "Ouch my back really hurts; I think my L7 may be out!" But of course they can't and when they seem off we stand there looking at them wondering what to do. We scratch our heads, we call our friends for advice, we pull out our books and we worry.

Enter Marvin Anderson of Hands on Animal Care. At our General Meeting September 26th many of us were introduced for the first time to the wonders of Equine Chiropractic care.

For me, I had already been introduced to Marvin and have been fortunate enough to have him work on my horse Buddy for the last year. I found him to be a truly caring and compassionate animal lover. I have to be careful not to gush too much here because what he did for Buddy was miraculous. After struggling with periodic lameness and what I thought must be arthritis, I finally let my friend Kathie talk me into having Marvin take a look at my horse. I admit, I was skeptical. Long story short, a horse that struggled going downhill because of pain on his front end became a rocket on the down hills and a much happier guy. By the way, he has no evidence of arthritis.

Marvin Anderson began working on animals as a child.

continued

Young SMCHA kids, *continued*

scholarship this year for next year's clinic and is thrilled.

Britney and Smokey worked very hard to get ready for their first year at the fair. Britney's first class was Novice Showmanship and the pair placed 1st. Smokey did everything he was supposed to do and Britney stayed on course. They advanced to Junior Showmanship and received a red second place ribbon - another job well done. Britney then went into Senior Showmanship and placed 5th. The pair went from Novice to Senior in their first year—Wow!

After a short break it was time to get ready for the Horsemanship classes. Smokey and Britney entered Novice Horsemanship and placed 6th. Britney was so happy with Smokey! This is something she will keep with her the rest of her life.

You Go Girls!

The author, Terri Varni-Pacheco started her riding career at the SMCHA Thursday night clinic 30 years ago, and received her scholarship and started her horse endeavors.

His father, a Chiropractor for people, started teaching him how to do adjustments for the family dogs, cows and horses on their ranch in San Jose when Marvin was thirteen. He began his own career as a Chiropractor 31 years ago. His son, Marvin Anderson, Jr. joined the practice which eventually allowed Marvin Sr. to retire. It didn't last long.

About five years ago Marvin began doing adjustments for the pets of friends and neighbors, just to keep busy. His wife hasn't seen much of him since! He now travels from his home of Gilroy to all over the bay area as well as to Santa Rosa, Vacaville, Tracey, Modesto and as far South as San Luis Obispo. He sees an average of twelve horses a day, (his record is 31) and works twelve to fourteen hour days. After working with the San Jose Police Mounted Unit, he began getting calls from the Mounted Units of Crescent City and San Diego to which he had to politely refuse, after all, he's supposed to be retired!

At our meeting, Marvin worked on three volunteer horses. Before he begins, he loads up his pockets with carrots, straps on wrist guards and brings out his traveling step, a foam filled bale bag. Marvin stresses a series of five pre-ride/pre-work steps to take before getting on your horse. These steps are for both preventative maintenance and diagnosing any need for chiropractic care. He says we must think of our horses as athletes and all athletes warm up before they step on the track.

1. Sesamoid/Fetlock Freeing. The sesamoids are like a knuckle and you can picture them if you imagine your horse walking on his fingers. This is an area we can prevent tenderness if they are free to move. The sesamoids are two bulbs above the fetlock and are the size of a silver dollar. Flexing the sesamoids does not cause pain but can make a popping noise akin to cracking your knuckle. By applying pressure to the sesamoids and rocking the hoof back, you can release pressure there.
2. Carrot Stretches. By using a carrot for a motivator, you can have your horse stretch his neck to the right and left which opens the neck, shoulder and ribcage. Down between the legs opens the full spine. As a diagnostic tool, this can point to areas such as the pelvis that may be out of alignment.

continued

Equine Chiropractor, continued

3. Shoulder Girdle Stretches and Rotations. Pick up the front leg at the knee and cradle in the crook of your arm. Bring the knee to your waist and lean back using your body weight for the stretch. Hold 15 to 20 seconds. Circle shoulder clockwise and counter-clockwise five to seven times each side.

4. 1 and 11 O'clock Pressure Points (under tail). If you look at the anus as a clock, apply pressure using your thumbs in the 1 and 11 o'clock positions. You are applying pressure to the sacral tublical band. This is what holds the pelvis together. Think of this as the

motor of the horse and it needs to be loose. Apply 45-60 seconds of pressure followed by a short thrust.



5. Tail Pulls (twice per month only). Taking the tail with both hands, lean back and pull gently down the tail 10 to 15 times until you are off the tissue and holding hair only. One quick pull rocks the pelvis and opens the spine.

Using these five steps, Marvin determined that our first volunteer horse Cowboy was out in his pelvis and scapula in addition to several vertebrae. Stepping up on his bale bag Marvin was able to get leverage above the horse and apply pressure to adjust the scapula back

down freeing pressure on the nerve. After doing some adjustments down Cowboy's spine, Marvin was able to take pressure off nerve roots. Relief was instant and obvious.

Another volunteer horse, Taffy has had a headache for 24 hours a day. How do we know this? Marvin was able to determine that fluid had collected in her sinus. An adjustment to her poll relieved the pressure, evident by a tickle of fluid that ran out the nostril of the affected side after the adjustment. This could have been caused by a trauma such as bumping her head in the trailer, getting kicked or pulling back while tied.



We closed the evening with a raffle of two sessions with Marvin. The lucky winners were George Norbeck and Ramona Martinez. For more information on "Hands on Animal Care" call 408-482-5923.

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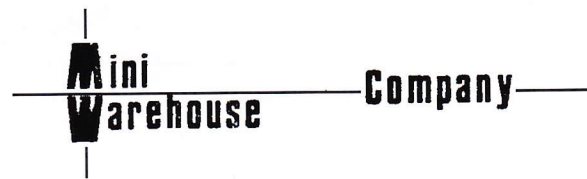
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THE WOODSIDE CELEBRITY CHALLENGE

On Saturday, September 21st, 8 teams of two riders showed up at the Horse Park at Woodside to compete for the Woodside Celebrity Challenge Cup. The Challenge pits two-person mounted teams against each other through a timed obstacle course, in the name of fun and community spirit, and to ultimately support the work of the National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy.

SMCHA Riders



Of the 8 teams this year, 2 were fielded by NFL celebrities from the San Francisco 49ers (Dan Buz & Dana McClemore) and the Oakland Raiders (Mervyn Fernandez & Robert Jenkins), and 6 teams were fielded by local community service organizations: San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, Mounted Patrol of SMC, Santa Clara County Firefighters (2 teams), SMC Sheriff's Office Mounted Search & Rescue Unit and the San Mateo County Horseman's Association. Running color commentary from the sidelines was provided by the incomparable Bubba Paris of SF 49ers fame - and no, he did not ride a horse.

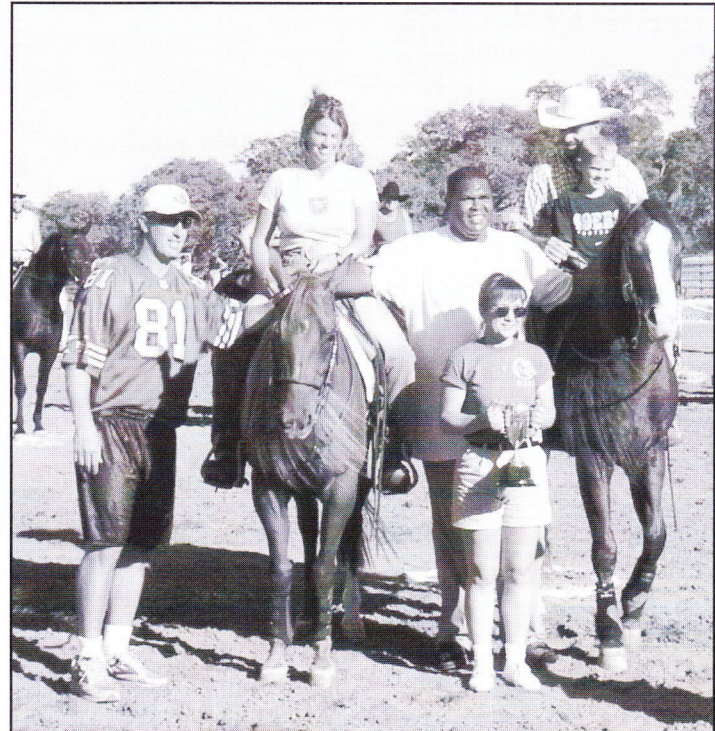
Run in a new format this year, the Challenge tested the mettle of local horsemen and horsewomen in side-by-side competition run on two identical courses. The Defending Champions, Casey Terribilini and Undersherrif Greg Munks of the SMC Sheriff's Office were dethroned in the first round by newcomers, Robyn & Warwick Schiller representing the SMCHA. The team from SMCHA didn't stop there. They handily defeated their next opponent, the 49er team and advanced to the final round against the SMC Sheriff's Office Mounted Search & Rescue team of Martha Dunn and Colleen Combes.

When the dust had settled, the SMCHA was crowned as the new Celebrity Challenge Cup Champions - congratu-

lations to the Warwick's for their, and their horses, fine efforts and sportsmanship! Congratulations also to the runners up from the MSAR Unit. The perpetual silver Challenge Cup will be engraved with the SMCHA's name and displayed at Buck's Restaurant for the next year.

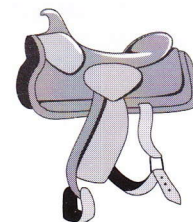
Aside from the competition, the SMCHA was also wonderfully represented by Laurie Fieguth and Kathie

SMCHA Champions



Goddard as they carried two American flags in a color guard along with Stuart Whittelsey and Bob Hall from the Mounted Patrol. Last, but certainly not least, NCEFT was assisted by some terrific volunteers on foot and those who also helped by providing extra horses for the celebrities to ride. A special thanks to Kathie Goddard, Gary Kirby, Martha Dunn, Dan Tripp, Roy Crawford and DJ Reed for lending the services of their fine horses.

At the end of the day, fun was had by all, spectators enjoyed the show, and \$13,000 was raised for NCEFT.



WEST NILE VIRUS

Information for Horse Owners

DESCRIPTION

West Nile Virus (WNV) is an arbovirus (arthropod borne virus) spread by mosquitoes and primarily affects birds, humans and horses. Birds are the reservoir for WNV. Clinical signs of infection are highly variable and range from mild and flu-like to severe, including encephalitis and death.

HISTORY

The virus was first identified in the West Nile District of Uganda in 1937, but did not appear in the United States until the outbreak of 1999 in the Northeast. The virus has progressively moved westward affecting most states in the eastern half of the country. The disease has not been observed in California, but based on the migratory patterns of birds, there is good reason to predict that it will appear within the next year or two.

CLINICAL DISEASE OBSERVATIONS

Not every horse exposed to WNV will develop clinical signs of disease. Of those that do, clinical signs include ataxia (stumbling, staggering, wobbly gait, or incoordination), circling, hind limb weakness, inability to stand, muscle fasciculation, paralysis or acute death. Only 1 out of 4 affected horses develops a fever. Between 20-40% of the horses that develop clinical signs of disease either die or are euthanized.

TESTING PROTOCOL

WNV, in horses can be definitively diagnosed by testing blood, cerebral spinal fluid, or certain tissues. The California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory provides **free** testing of suspected WNV cases in horses and ratites (ostriches, rheas, emus). Contact your veterinarian for more information. Please visit CDFA's WNV web site for more detailed information at: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/wnv_info.htm

SURVEILLANCE

The California Department of Health Services and the California Department of Food and Agriculture collaboratively conduct mosquito, sentinel chicken, dead bird, human, and equine surveillance programs for WNV and other related arboviruses. To report dead birds for possible WNV testing, call the Department of Health Services at (510)540-2356.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Reducing or eliminating your horses' exposure to mosquitoes is crucial to protecting them from WNV. Effective ways to achieve this include eliminating mosquito-breeding sites and reducing exposure to adult mosquitoes.

- 1) Eliminate mosquito-breeding sites by:
 - Cleaning waterers, bird baths, plant saucers, etc. at least weekly
 - Ridding unnecessary standing water (wheelbarrows, tires, etc.)
 - Scheduling pasture irrigation to minimize standing water
 - Keeping swimming pools clean and free from water on covers
 - Keeping ponds aerated and/or stocked with fish
 - Considering stocking water tanks with fish that consume mosquito larvae. (Local mosquito control may provide assistance)
- 2) Reduce exposure to adult mosquitoes by:
 - Stabling horses during active mosquito feeding times (dusk and dawn)
 - Utilizing screens when mosquitoes are eliminated prior to stabling
 - Utilizing fans, barrier cloth, flysheets, repellents (permethrin), and insecticide misting systems as adjunctive methods of control

VACCINATION

The USDA has issued a conditional license to Fort Dodge Laboratories to market a WNV vaccine for horses in the United States. This vaccine has been approved for sale in California. The product is described by the manufacturer as a "killed, whole cell vaccine paired with Metastim adjuvant and labeled for use in healthy horses as an aid in the prevention of disease caused by WNV.

The manufacturer's recommendations call for administering a second dose 3-6 weeks after the initial dose, followed by a yearly booster. Preliminary antibody testing on vaccinated horses suggests that it may take several weeks after the second dose has been administered for a measurable antibody response to appear. A number of horses in the Southeast, where WNV is now considered to be endemic, have become ill with the disease, despite having received an initial dose of the vaccine, suggesting that one dose may not be protective. Because complete information on the effectiveness of the vaccine is not yet available, it is important

to stress that WNV prevention should be mosquito control programs.

When owners are considering vaccinating for WNV, it is important to be aware that there may be future restrictions on interstate and international shipments of horses with titers to this disease. For horses engaged in international competition, this may be an important factor for consideration. Because it is important to distinguish between vaccinated and infected horses, it is important that accurate vaccination records be kept.

Should an owner decide to vaccinate, the vaccination should be timed to promote peak antibody titers to correspond with seasonal mosquito activity.

MONITORING YOUR HORSES

Owners are urged to notify their veterinarian if their horse shows neurologic signs, and veterinarians are asked to follow specific diagnostic procedures on clinically suspect horses. These procedures are detailed in the May 2001 CDFNDHS encephalitis newsletter. These guidelines may also be obtained from the practitioner's Animal Health Branch District Office.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question: Can my horse catch West Nile Virus from another infected horse?

Answer: No

Question: Can I catch West Nile Virus from an infected horse?

Answer: No

Question: What can I do to help protect my horse from contracting WNV?

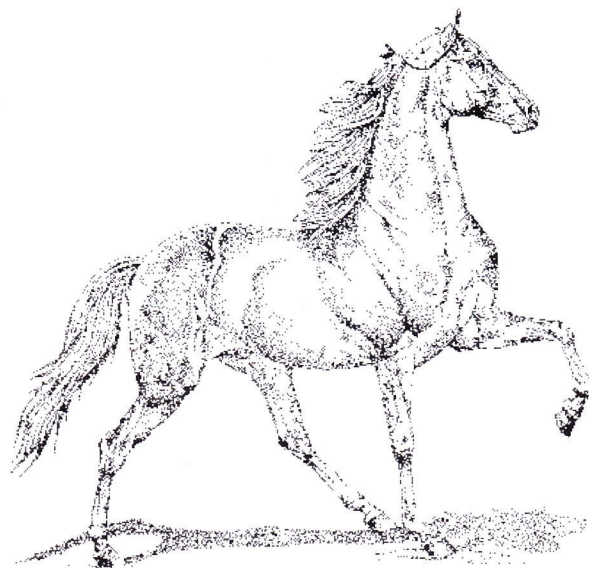
Answer: 1) mosquito control, and 2) vaccination options

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Cocktails 6:30 pm, Dinner 7:45 pm, Live Dance Music until 11:30 pm
Music By "The Lost River Band" and Brad Soules

\$47.00 per person. Reservations & payment must be received in advance by December 1
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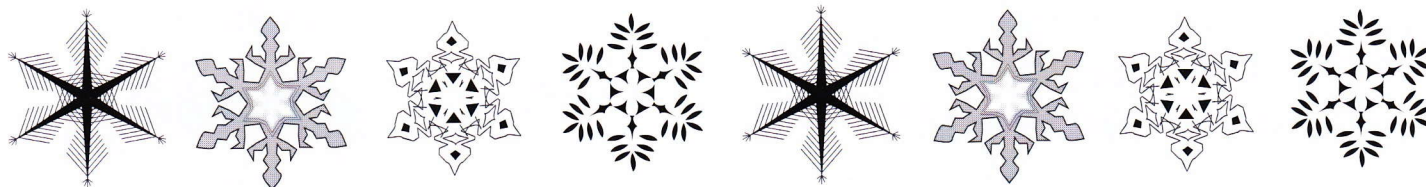
If you enjoyed last year's event, please join us again and invite some
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Please Reserve _____ Tickets for Holiday Equus 2002 at \$47.00 each
Dinner Choice(s): Prime Rib _____ Salmon _____

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Please make check payable to your choice: Los Viajeros, SMCHA,
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Remember, the reservation/payment must be received by 12/1/2002.

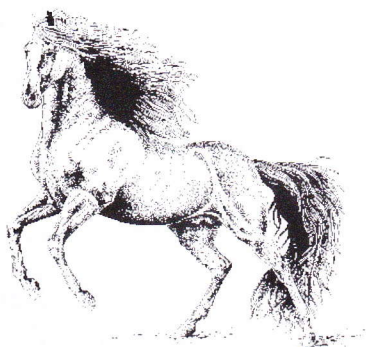




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SMCHA AT THE SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR

by Sue Sheehan

Well, we finally beat the "bees"! For several years now SMCHA has been trying to beat the bee keepers. This year with our patriotic colors we won. We resurrected the cook trailer, cleaned it up and decorated it in red white and blue. I'd like to thank Art Lesser for helping clean the trailer and also for getting it down to the fair. Also, thanks to Pete Spence, Rick Payne, Tanya Rebarchik, Linda Menon and Donna Tozi for help with the decorations and setting everything up. An extra special thanks goes to Virginia Darrow for her clever ideas and artistic "Mardi Gras" masks that had us right in the theme of the fair. Even the bee keepers thought we deserved first place this year.

Other participants at the fair in the collections competition were Rita Kirk with a tribute to Walt by entering

several of his belt buckles. Aleta Reed entered with a very small part of her giant lady bug collection and I entered some of my many horses. We all won Honorable Mention awards. I also entered several plants again and was pleased to win a first in the new "fairy garden" division.

Sometimes it is hard to get people motivated to help with our entry in the fair, because it has to be put together at the very last minute. However, every year, those of us who do it, really have fun and feel such a sense of pride. Hope more of you can get involved next year and we can beat the "Bees" once again!

Rick Payne and Tanya Rebarchik



Pete Spence



2002 Calendar

November

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

December

- 6 Board Dinner
 14 Equus 2002 Christmas Party

January

- 25 Installation Dinner

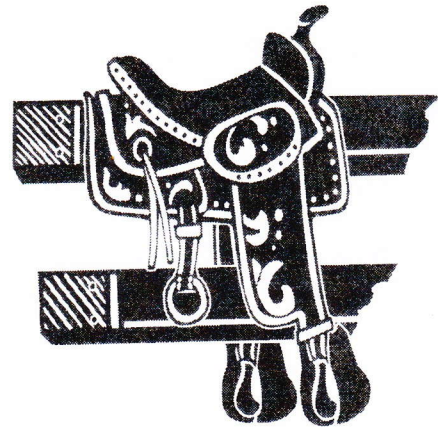
SMCHA events in BOLD

*LV, SF, Mtd. Patrol in
 Italics*

*LV = Los Viajeros • SF =
 San Francisco Horsemen*

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Tom Smith, Trainer of Seabiscuit

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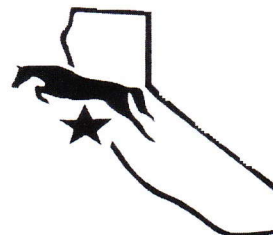
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Published by
SAN MATEO COUNTY HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
 A Non-Profit Organization
 Member of California State Horsemen's Association
President: Kathie Goddard
Volume 61, No.3 Fall 2002

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 2995 Woodside Rd #400/128
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**SAN MATEO
 COUNTY
 HORSEMEN'S
 ASSOCIATION**



Membership Application

	Annual Dues
___ JUNIOR MEMBERS (17 OR UNDER)	\$15.00
___ SENIOR MEMBERS (18 OR OLDER)	\$25.00
___ MR./MRS. MEMBERS	\$40.00
___ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$45.00

(married or single parent and unlimited number of children 17 or under)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

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

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