

# The San Mateo HORSEMAN



*Fall 1996*



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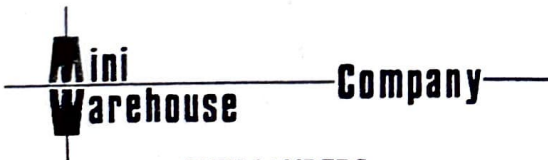
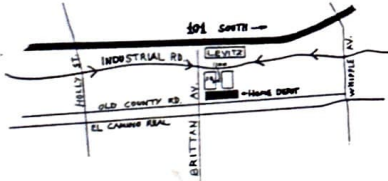
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Donna Tozi*

### HELP!

Wanted: Happy, energetic, positive people to work on horse shows, our Juniors group, trail rides, fun events, and especially the Board of Directors.

My year is coming to an end. I hope the record will show me as a president who tried. I have had wonderful people by my side who did an excellent job and I want to thank them very much. The truth be known, they more than made up for the few grumblers. Being the positive person that I am, I have a hard time dealing with grumblers. It's so tense!

So, if you get a phone call, and you meet the above requirements, please say "yes". You're needed!

That said, I hope you all out there in horse lover's land had a good horse lover's year. This year seemed to go by in a wink of an eye. Cow Palace coming up, then Christmas, then the installation of new officers. I guess I must have had a lot of fun 'cause it sure went fast. I'm so pleased and proud to have been your president in 1996. I didn't get everything done I wanted to, sorry to say, but I give the baton to the next person in charge. GO DO IT!

Happy Trails,

Donna Tozi



#### Cover Photo:

Jim Keeton riding Sundance at Billy Martin Clinic. See story on page 10.

Magazine: Linda Menon, Tanya Rebarchik

Advertising: Eileen Borzone

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

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## The San Mateo HORSEMAN

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July (Summer)

October (Fall)



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*(Application on back cover)*

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## THE SUMMER RIDES

by Sue Sheehan

### Father's Day Ride • June 16th

It was a very cool and windy day. We all gathered at CTETA Equestrian Park to ride to Webb Ranch by way of the "Monkey Farm Trail". The horses were feeling really good in the cool weather, so it was a little exciting at the beginning. Once we made a loop around CTETA and headed down the Monkey Farm Trail, everyone settled down.

At Webb Ranch we all enjoyed a barbecue of hamburgers and hot dogs. The Juniors were kept busy playing games such as the blindfold horse ride, egg & spoon, and piñata. We had quite a few guests new to horses, and the kids were given rides on "Percy the Paint" by Bruce. Cowboy "Earl" really seemed to enjoy himself. Dixie and her dad joined us for lunch. Her dad even got to play an obstacle in the "blind horse race". Thanks to Walt, Gary Lew and Sissy for their help.

I personally enjoyed the ride even more after seeing all the kids enjoying themselves. As a county horse club, I think it's great that we were able to provide such a neat day for kids who not normally be able to be around horses. We should do this more often.



Our blindfolded "horses" had a hard time staying on course!

Bruce Doran and Earl on "Cowboy"



### Edgewood Park Ride • July 21st

While June was cold and windy, this day was just the opposite. It had to be hottest day of the summer. We all gathered on Runnymede, rode north on the sandy track and into Edgewood Park. After ascending to the highest peak and enjoying the 360% view, we made a loop and then wound our way down the hill to the Day Camp area (Edgewood Road). After tying our horses in the shade, we enjoyed a lunch of barbecued chicken and ribs with all the fixins. Lynn Fritz (Park Ranger) stopped by for awhile and talked to us about some of the park issues (i.e., trail use, etc.). The use of Edgewood Park by horsemen has really been encouraged to show our presence. For this reason I added this ride this year, making five group rides instead of the usual four for the year. We were hoping to have Bob Emert join us, however after his retirement he and his wife were traveling around the US. Everyone seemed to enjoy the cold drinks, food and friendship. Again, thanks to my assistants: Walt, Gary and Sissy.

Many riders enjoyed the Edgewood day ride

## WESTERN RIDING CLINIC

by Karen Rowley

This year's Western Riding Clinic, from May 30 through July 18, was another smashing success. Co-sponsored by the Mounted Patrol and held at the Mounted Patrol's beautiful facility in Woodside, this annual event is always one of the most popular of the each year. Our thanks and appreciation to the Patrol for their continued support of this clinic for the past 10 years.

Special thanks to co-chair Ron Harris for his continued support, and thanks to all the helping hands who make it possible to have this fun and educational event each year: Eileen and Jim Borzone, Barbara Moyer, Christine Epstein, Nancy Crowley, Walt Kirk, Lisa Dixon, Marge Muhilly, and Beth Hopper. And, of course, thanks to our "waterers": Dave Burlingame, Bruce Baker and Bill Hopper.

This year again our great instructors were Joan Loftin, Joan McLaren and Nan Kreeger. We appreciate their dedication and support over the years.

The final night of the clinic ended with a delicious barbecue and horse show, where the participants demonstrated the skills they had practiced during the preceding weeks. Three scholarships of \$100.00 each were awarded, based on attendance, interest in learning and a willingness to try. The recipients this year were Lisa Bosia from the Beginning Class, Bill Baskin from the Intermediate Class, and Lucy Berg from the Advanced Class.

*The Stucky family*



*Eileen Borzone, Christine Epstein, Karen Rowley, Barbara Moyer*



*Rub-a-dub-dub, three men in a tub:  
Bruce Baker and Rick Payne*



### TAKING HOME RIBBONS

#### *Beginning Class*

- 1st Anne Stocker on Barbee
- 2nd Lisa Bosia on Sassy
- 3rd Michelle Payne on Smokey
- 4th Scott Heatley on Beaumont
- 5th Mike Lewine on Sam
- 6th Kelley Heatley on Annie
- 7th Haley Baskin on Starfire

#### *Intermediate Class*

- 1st Sharon Evans on Swifly
- 2nd Debbie Tucker on Celise
- 3rd Bill Baskin on Cloud
- 4th Nancy Brown on Jenny
- 5th Sandy Tozzini on Princess

#### *Advanced Class*

- 1st Charlotte Spritcer on Sonny
- 2nd Mike Hertert on Niles
- 3rd Lucy Berg on Leo
- 4th Mary Jo Harris on Beau
- 5th Harriet Quarre on Willy Wonka
- 6th Joseph Squillacioti on Buck

## WESTERN RIDING CLINIC

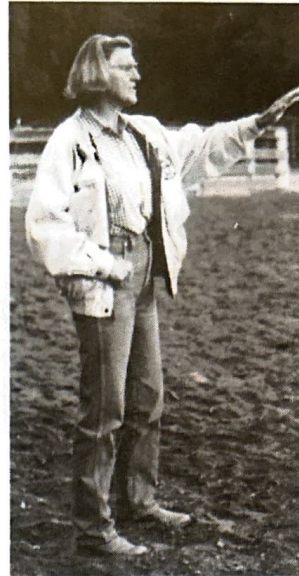
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96



*Beginning class with Joan Loftin*



*Nan Kreeger*



*Joan McClaren*

## YOSEMITE BY HORSEBACK

*by Bruce Baker*

For six straight years Doris Lantz and myself have gone horseback camping in Yosemite National Park. The rides were put on by the Merced Horsemen and they were great fun and spectacular in many ways. The views one sees are breathtaking. The ride sites switched between Bridal Vail Creek, Yosemite Creek, and Toulomne Meadows, all about 6,000 feet - way above the valley floor and all or most all of the tourists. However all the rides were day rides and we would end up back at camp every night.

This year I wanted to try something a little different. I thought a backpacking trip on horseback through the northern part of the park would be a wonderful way of getting away from the crowds. As it turned out, it was.

For eight days we saw only a handful of hikers and other horseback campers. I met my guide in Long Barn (30 minutes from Sonora) and we hauled the horses and pack mules to Cherry Lake, one of the lakes that feed to the Hetch-Hetchy. The northern boundary lines of the park meet the boundary lines of the Stanislaus National Forest.

The first few days were a bit rough as we did a lot of cross-country riding and it was mostly on granite rock. The second day my horse pulled a shoe but my guide Bob McDow was quite capable of tacking it back on. Bob probably knows this particular area better than anyone in the world and this is of the most importance if one wants to cross-country like we did.

Another reason I wanted to go on this ride is that I very much enjoy fishing. The fishing turned out to be excellent as

one may catch many varieties of trout including Rainbow, Brook and the beautiful Golden Trout.

At night the horses and mules were let loose and were collected in the morning - a little grain helps. It sure is a beautiful sight to see your horse graze on these magnificent meadows. Packing up in the morning was no easy chore as it took nearly an hour to pack up the mules to get ready for the day's ride.

Bob is an expert in packing and is an excellent cook as well. He had prepared meals in advance and froze some of them so that they could be used as an ice block of sorts until the end when we would eventually eat them.

We were very fortunate with the weather as we didn't have any of those typical thunder showers that hit in the mountains. But if one goes on a trip like this they should be prepared for them. Bob also said August is usually the best month to go to avoid the showers and also to avoid the mosquitoes which can be quite bothersome.

Along our travels we camped at Bearup Lake, Wilmar Lake, Snow Lake and we came out at Kennedy Meadows Pack Station.

We had a lot of fun and I'm planning on going next year again. If you would like to go on a trip like this in Yosemite, I will help you contact Bob McDow.

Bruce Baker (415) 366-5475

## EQUITANA USA 1996

by Tanya Rebarchik

For years, ever since I found out about Equitana, the "World's Fair of Equestrian Sports" held every two years in Essen, Germany, I had wanted to go see it. So imagine my excitement when the first advertisements for Equitana USA started appearing in the horse magazines and on the Internet. Equitana was founded more than 25 years ago by a German horse enthusiast, Wolf Kroeberg, whose idea was to bring horse people from all over the world together and also to attract people to the world of horses.

Equitana USA took place in Louisville, Kentucky, July 18-21, 1996. I arrived Friday night, looking forward to two days of living, breathing and experiencing nothing but horses. I was not to be disappointed - my expectations were definitely surpassed!

The program featured daily lectures and workshops by speakers from around the world, including Linda Tellington-Jones ("TTOUCH"), Susan Harris (Centered Riding), John Lyons, Denny Emerson, and Don West (from "Have Saddle—Will Travel" in Colorado), as well as several veterinarians. Topics ranged from Veterinary Care and Massage techniques to Communication/Training methods to Native American Traditions to a class on Fitness for Riders and a lecture on low-impact horse camping. Two enormous exhibit halls housed over 800 exhibitors and vendors, offering everything from the latest advances in nutrition and veterinary care to jewelry, tack and clothes—a true Shopper's Paradise! Famous Equine Artists Bev Doolittle and Kim McElroy were there and Kim McElroy was even signing prints (or notecards for the financially challenged such as myself) at her booth. Each hall also had a demonstration arena with breed demos and performances going on throughout the day. Every imaginable breed was represented—from the ever popular Quarter Horses and Arabians to Saddlebreds, Tennessee Walkers, Peruvian Pasos, Andalusians, and Friesians to the tiny Miniature Horses and the very rare Caspian Horse of which there are only a few hundred in the entire world. The event even included two competitions—the Equitana USA Team Penning \$5,000 Challenge, and the Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup 1996.

The highlight of Equitana was undoubtedly the Evening Performance called "The Mane Event." This 3-hour extravaganza featured a Medieval Knight Tournament, performed on beautiful Friesian Stallions; the Texas Ladies Aside—the official Drill Team of Texas, riding all Peruvian Pasos; a great reining performance and several one-of-a-kind acts. One of the most outstanding acts was performed by Ramon Baccera, who rode the magnificent Friesian Stallion "El Diablo," while driving a black Miniature Gelding "El

Grande," on longelines. The duo performed dressage maneuvers, including the "Spanish Walk" together in perfect harmony. Andalusians made some spectacular appearances, ridden in the classical Spanish way that makes them look so magical and powerful. A multiple Champion Charro rider performed some amazing trick roping acts, such as building a loop around his entire horse and keeping it going at a full gallop.

The show also featured the star of the movie "Black Beauty," "Doc's Keepin' Time," a beautiful Quarter Horse Stallion. The grand finale was delivered by a group of Icelandic Horses. These smooth-gaited, compact bundles of energy were fascinating to watch. Their unique gait, the "Toelt," enables them to travel at an amazing 35 mph! Very impressive, considering they only stand about 13hh! For those who missed this wonderful event, there's good news: it was announced that Equitana '97 will take place in June - same location.

### International Saddle Registration

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The sheriff community policing unit will be at B&D Tack on the second Saturday of November (11/9/96) and December (12/14/96) from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Your saddle will be stamped with a serial number and registered.

If you can't come on any of these Saturdays, bring your saddle to the store during the week and B&D Tack will have it registered for you.

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## SAN MATEO COUNTY INVADED BY MINIATURE HORSES

by Bruce Baker

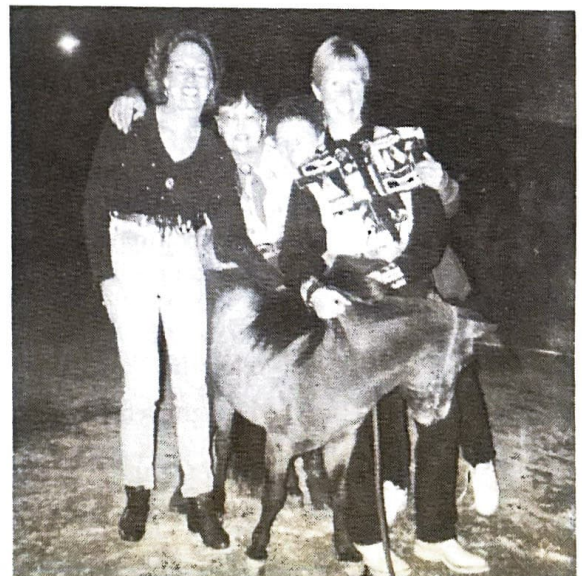
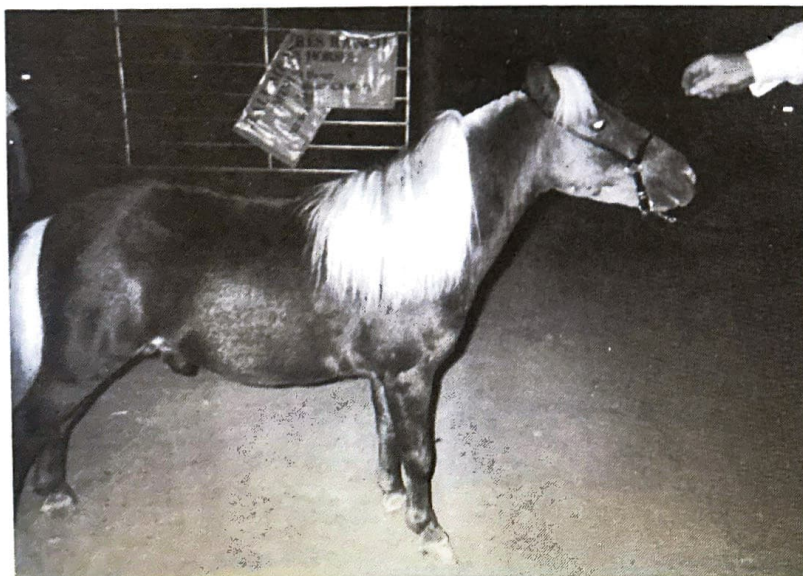
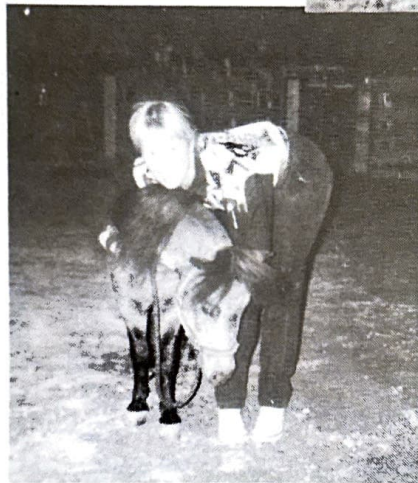
A dozen miniature horses from 2 months to 13 years old, invaded San Mateo County for the 3rd annual Miniature Horse Extravaganza, September 18th at the Mounted Patrol grounds in Woodside. Doing jumps and running courses the little guys did a great job performing for the 130 onlookers.

Pat Grady and his wife, Aggie, were gracious enough to present this event, along with their friends. Pat set up the course for the jumping, and keeping in mind that he was going to be leading his horses, he kept the course on the small size. Along with the jumping we had beautiful carts being pulled by these little guys. They might be small, but they sure have a lot of strength and stamina.

Not only did we have the pleasure of viewing the show, but we were able to indulge ourselves in a wonderful meal (barbecued Cornish game hen and all the fixings). Thank you to Gene Erickson for providing us with the feast.

Much thanks also to the Mounted Patrol and especially Dave Burlingame for providing lights/sound and preparing the arena for the show.

I would also like to thank Walt Kirk, Stephanie Goldie, Linda Menon and all those who helped in making the event such a success.



## JACK BROOK CAMP

by Sue Sheehan

The Juniors had the camp all warmed up for us when most of the adults arrived on Thursday and Friday. The official ride started with Saturday morning breakfast, but most of us had a jump start on that. A few of the Juniors remained for the weekend with their parents.

Many of us rode as a group on Friday. This diverse group included adults, kids on ponies, kids on horses and kids on Kiddy-Ups. Friday evening was a potluck with many different and interesting dishes. Doris even cooked spaghetti and Tanya's potato salad was a big hit. The night was clear with an almost full moon, so you could see the deer wandering around all night. Michelle Payne kept night watching sleeping next to the campfire on her cot.

Saturday started with a breakfast of egg/cheese/sausage casserole, with plenty of extras. Everyone rode in their own groups. Sissy, Connie (my sister) and I took a group of kids out for a long trail ride. To keep everyone happy we sang songs, played "Simple Simon" and even got to go "fast" (according to Cowboy "Mikey").

Hors-d'oeuvres were served up at about 5 p.m. and included garlic shrimp, guacamole, shrimp dip, jalapeño poppers, and lumpia. Dinner was a huge success with the help of many: salmon by Bill Hopper (he had just won 1st place at the San Mateo County Fair with this recipe), tri-tips and chicken cooked by Rick Payne. The salad making and veg prep and clean-up all done by Barbara Marcelli. Cake, two kinds of pie, and ice cream for dessert.

The raffle was a great success and the kids really enjoyed it. Sissy and her three helpers (Niki, Lindsey and Holley) really hustled to sell tickets. Our thanks to the following for their raffle donations:

Roberts	\$50 gift certificate
Carini's	Four \$15 gift certificates
The Horse's Mouth	1/2 ton of hay
Pasterino's Hay	1/2 ton of hay
Olsen Nolte	Halter & leap rope
In Any Event	\$50 plant basket
Bayhill Equine	Free worming
Buck's	\$30 gift certificate
San Mateo County Farm Supply	\$50 worth of horse supplies
Coyote Creek	Horsehair keychain

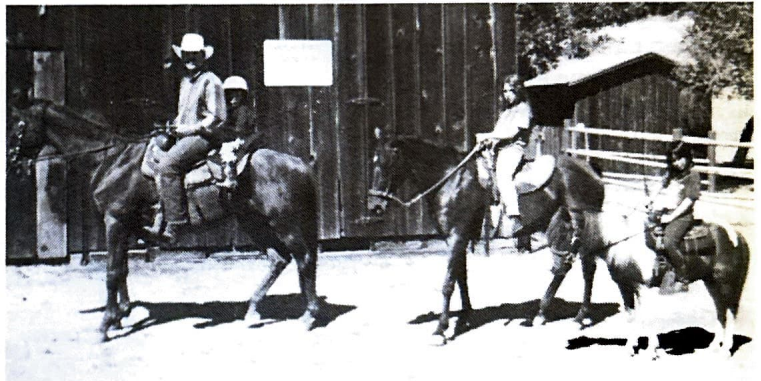
We thank everyone else who brought items, bought tickets and participated.

Joni Mathis brought her guitar and sang many "campfire cowboy ballads" for us, first with the microphone and then around the campfire. She writes a lot of her own songs and has a beautiful voice. It sure was special of her to come all the way up there to perform for us. Thanks Joni.

Sunday breakfast was eggs to order, including Spanish omelet, bacon, hash browns, pancakes and fruit salad.

The raccoons were the real hit of the weekend though. They kept us entertained by their goofy antics. Not only did they enjoy the garbage but they also went "hot tubbing" in the coolers (or should I say "cold tubbing").

It was really neat for me to have the Juniors there. I'm not around kids all that much, so it was a treat seeing them enjoy themselves so much. It could not have been such a great weekend without my helpers. Thank you to Walt, Tanya, Barbara, Sissy, Gene, Bill, Rick, Cheryl, Bruce and Ann.





COME TO A BARN RAISING!!  
at  
JACK BROOK HORSE CAMP

NOVEMBER 16 & 17, 1996  
9:00 A.M., EACH DAY

We will be restoring the old barn - tearing down the overhand portion (before it falls down!) and rebuilding it. People with carpentry skills are most needed, however, anyone who can saw a board or drive a nail is encouraged to participate. Our able leader, Bill Baskin, will be directing the construction, and will welcome ALL helpers.

We'll also be doing a general fall cleanup and preparation for winter throughout the camp, maybe some trail maintenance as well.

Be sure to bring: Your favorite tools, gloves, jackets, and lunch (no horses this time).

Camping gear and food if you care to stay overnight. Come in Friday evening if you like.

Please call Rob Krensky at 368-8200 if you have any questions, and, to let us know you are coming. Leave your phone number so we can reach you in case weather cancels.

This is an "equal opportunity" work day. All are welcome.

## BILLY MARTIN INTRODUCES REINING

by Dianne Larson Hicks

Many SMCHA members marked their calendars for what turned out to be quite an eventful evening on the 24th of July at Gladys Martines' Charter Oaks Farm in Woodside.

Solicited by our President, Donna Tozi, Billy Martin agreed to leave Watsonville for an evening to introduce to eager eyes the excitement to be found in reining training. Billy had heretofore worked primarily one-on-one or with just a few people at a time. Coming out to work with twelve riders in a clinic form with so many spectators was a new experience for him. The reason we had the opportunity to meet Billy under these circumstances was that Donna had her beloved "Checkers" in training with Billy during the winter of '95-96. Totally taken by this newly acquired discipline, Donna wanted to share it.

For Checkers this meant eating, learning, and stall-dreaming reined cow horse routine day in and day out for months. Then came the day that said cowperson (alias lum-lum provider Donna) could take the driver's seat abroad the newly transformed performance horse.



Billy Martin

We cannot repeat in this article the words used to describe the exact extent of delight with which Donna responded to this newly found activity, but suffice it to say she went BONKERS over it. Not being one to be greedy, Donna proposed we introduce Billy to the SMCHA.

When Donna asked me to promote the event in April I had to tell her I really couldn't do that without knowing what I was promoting. Two five-hour days on board horses provided by Billy put me in a position to begin to speak about his life's work. **This man has way more give than get when it comes to working with people.** He is tireless if you demonstrate a real desire to learn the things he knows best. I have never had anyone teach me as much in as little time.

Those who stayed on know Billy did not watch the clock. Our agreement was for something like 6-8 p.m. We started closer to 6:30 and ended, I think around 10:30 having worked our way through figure 8's, slide stops, backing, spins, and finishing with real, working reining patterns.

A fine BBQ was provided by our own Gene Ericksen, Ann Farris, and helping out, Jeff Wilson. Proceeds from the BBQ went to Region 6 Juniors.

Donna had arranged for a really cute country western duo named *Sister Heartbreak* to sing for us. Lack of a speaker system kept us from hearing them until very late. Very professional and very cute. Their names are Misty and Randi Armour and they can be reached at (408) 787-6602. Call'em.

TWO BIG HUGS TO  
GLADYS MARTINES AND SON ALBERT

KISSES TO WALT FOR COFFEE

HUGS TO STEPHANIE GOLDIE  
FOR COLLECTING MONEY

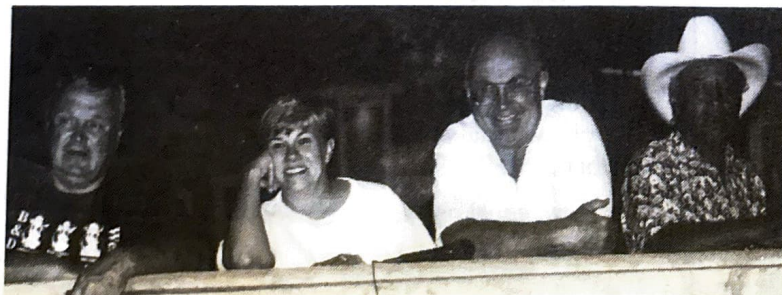
KISSES TO VIRGINIA DARROW FOR  
GREAT PHOTOGRAPHY AND CAKE

THANK YOUS TO CHRISTINE EPSTEIN  
FOR HELPING BILLY WITH HORSES

A HUGE, BIG THANK YOU TO BILLY MARTIN!!!



Sister Beartbreak  
(Misty and Randi Armour)



## BILLY MARTIN AS VIEWED FROM THE TOPSIDE

by Dianne Larson Hicks

If you read "Billy Martin Introduces Reining" you will know my introduction to riding a reining horse took place only weeks before during two five-hour days on horses provided by Billy. It bears repeating that Billy is tireless if you demonstrate a real desire to learn the things he knows best.

Two days before the Woodside clinic I called Billy to tell him my own horse was lame ... could I please "rent" one from him. He said, "maybe." One day before the clinic I called again ... the "maybe" being just a little too nebulous for me. (In the meantime I'm madly polishing up my daughter's Connemara which she uses strictly for 3-day eventing.) Billy answers my plea for a rental horse with, "I might have one" in what you could almost call a Texas drawl.

So, the evening is upon us and I unload my daughter's Irish horse all dressed up in my 1963 Phil Ray Olsen Nolte western saddle and a John Lyon's bridle. (This is a fairly hilarious picture ... God forbid any of my daughter's friends should catch sight of this.) Smiling broadly, I ride up to Billy and greet him with, "How do you like my Connemara cutter?" "Oh, I think he's real cute (try picturing Billy saying "real c.u.t.e.") ... so which one are you gonna ride?"

Heart in feet, I begin my stuttering act. "Did you really bring one for me?" There are three of the most awesome looking horses tied to his rig and I cannot even begin to imagine what the likes of me could be remotely wishing to sit on.

Long story short, he put me on Ortega. Ortega is one of his own that has earned points to compete in the World competition. A young woman who has qualified two horses of her own in training with Billy will also ride this one for him in the big competition. **And look who's sitting on Ortega.** I must admit feeling a little short of breath when I mounted this horse ... and, as I entered the arena the questions started popping: New horse Dianne? Who does he belong to? Where did you get that one?

But the killer questions came from people who had driven from some distance who know Billy well: Is that Ortega? How is it you're riding Ortega? Do you know what the horse can do when it turns back a cow? It'll **rip the teeth right out of your face!** You'd better be careful. **He's like a bullet.** About which time I began inviting these "friends" of his to trade me positions - put me on the sidelines.

That night I participated in my own kind of OLYMPICS. The only thing I can relate it to is this: Drive your great-grandmother's 3-speed on the column '62 Ford Pinto without power brakes. Park it. Climb into a 1996 Ferrari and leave this world behind you. Get my drift? **It was such an awesome opportunity.** I remain greatly indebted. The horse demanded more exactness than I could muster in places and without that exactness the performance would drag or fall apart. In order to continue, the correct cues had to be in place. When you get it right ... it's too awesome for words!

Donna knows what I mean!



Frank Buckley, Harriett Quarré, Dianne Hicks, Eleanor Ferrari

President Donna Tozi in action

## SMCHA JUNIORS

by Linda Menon

Our Juniors group continues to be VERY active; we had a busy summer, a great time and a variety of events.

Several of our Juniors participated in the Father's Day Ride on June 16th and not only enjoyed the ride through the "Monkey Farm Trail", but the great food prepared by Sue Sheehan and, most of all, the hilarious games. Thanks, Sue, for organizing such a great day!

On June 30th, the first Juniors trail ride, the weather was extremely hot - too hot to even sit in the shade, much less ride the trail. But the few stalwart souls who showed up survived the ordeal. Thanks to the Dalys (Nan, Kevin and Colleen) for their support!

Several Juniors also participated with the rest of the SMCHA riders and our Color Guard in the Redwood City 4th of July Parade, a first for most of the Juniors riding. It was an exciting experience - lots of noise, new sights, etc. - but the Juniors (and their trusty mounts) handled it all in stride - even the train and the cherry bombs!

On August 10th, Mark and Renata Campbell were extremely gracious to host the Juniors' Playday at their residence. Their sand arena was perfect for the occasion, and even provided plenty of shade for the spectators. Although we never actually got to play the games that Michelle Payne had planned, the kids that participated had a great time walking around the arena and trying out each of the horses - we had quite a variety from Sandy Tozzini's cute baby pony, to Sissy's "wild" Cloud, Haley's trusty Starfire, and my very own Lass who patiently "babysat" the beginners. Even Mikey Baskin got into the act and piloted Lass around. We'll have to work on our technique and take Michelle up on her offer to help when we're a little more "together". Thanks, Michelle, for being such a good sport and helping out! And thanks to the Campbells for hosting us.

The following day, Sunday, August 11, Junior members and their parents helped man the CSHA/SMCHA booth at the San Mateo County Fair. Thanks to Tanya Rebarchik, Gene Erickson, Anne Faris and Virginia Magliano-Darrow (I'm not sure who else) for setting up this wonderful exhibit. The public seemed quite interested and many people stopped to chat, ask questions, look at the pictures, and even leave their names/addresses for additional information.

Our second Juniors trail ride was on September 15 - a gorgeous day weather-wise (to make up for our first ride!). We met on Runnymede. After saddling up, Donna Tozi led us through the sculpture garden, out to Albion, through the eucalyptus grove to Manuella, and back down Olive Hill and Cañada to the trailers on Runnymede - an easy loop. We stopped along the way for a water and granola bar break. A

beautiful day, quiet ride, great scenery, and friendly folks - what more could you ask?

The highlight of our summer was, of course, our three-day Juniors camp at Jack Brook Horse Camp, August 21st through 23rd. There were about 10 Juniors participating, along with some of the parents and my sister, Barbara Washington, who came all the way up from Salinas to help out. The weather was beautiful the entire three days. We set up camp in the new campsite in the apple orchard. After our first trail ride where we tried to take everyone together - and a motley crew we were! - Sissy and I decided that it was probably a better idea to take 3 or 4 Juniors at a time, and group them according to ability. It's too bad (or maybe fortunate) no one had a video of us tacking up each day - by the third day we had it down to a mere 1-1/2 hours! But, in addition to tacking up and trail rides, we did have fun with other activities.



We set up a mini-trail trials course in the central meadow: a log to step over, a barrel to turn around, up and down the hill, cones to zig-zag in and out, a pouch to take off a hook and find a piece of candy, L-shaped poles, and step over stacked pieces of lumber.

We worked on craft projects which included: personalized and decorated water bottles to carry with us for our 3-day camp. We also talked about all the uses cowboys have for their bandannas and made our very own. The kids found all sorts of uses for them over the three days: to dry hands, to hold ice on a bee sting, to cover your nose/mouth on a dusty trail ride, to decorate Sparky the pony and even to wrap Mo's (one of the Baskin horses) leg when he got a little cut. And they did a great job because no matter how hard he shook his leg, it wouldn't come off! We also made "emergency whistles" - whistles on elastic decorated with colorful wooden beads. And how do you keep a dozen kids from blowing their whistles ?? - tell them the story of the "Little Boy Who Cried Wolf!". It works like magic! Just remember, however, that if you ever hear one of our SMCHA Juniors



blowing their whistle, you'd better come running because there's definitely a serious problem!

The hit of the three days, however, was Sparky the pony (owned and graciously loaned by Nikki Erickson, and transported to camp by Gene Erickson). Sparky went on a trail ride, was the master of the trail trials course, got dressed up, brushed down, feet cleaned and generally doted over by many little hands for three days. We actually had to have "Sparky rest periods" because there was only one of him, but many little ones to entertain him. I'm sure he was glad to finally get home and back to some peace and quiet. Thanks Gene and Nikki for letting him come and play with us!

So, we all had a great time at camp! We enjoyed the weather, our horses, our games, and getting to know new friends! I can hardly wait until next year! As with all of our activities, this would not have been possible without the support and help of the parents and volunteers. Thanks so much to Sissy Baskin, Barbara Washington, Jon Fee, and Sue Sheehan (for her macaroni & cheese)! And thanks too to the great kids who participated at camp: Branden Fee, Haley and Mikey Baskin, Kristina Hicks, Katy Lewine, Meara Griffith, O.D. Sims, and the Reger family.

If you know a youngster who would like to participate with the SMCHA Juniors, please call me. We still have some exciting events coming up this year in November and December; and then we start all over again in January!

Linda Menon: Work (415) 349-1462 or Home (415) 365-8011

*Sparky and his "grooms" at Jack Brook*



*Nicki Reger and O.D. Sims with Sparky*



*Lunchtime at camp*

## CLEM'S

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**Longhorn** - I started reading up on the history of the Texas Longhorn and thought I'd share this information with you. The Texas cattle descended from stock brought to America by the Spaniards in the 1500s. Years later, millions of Longhorns were driven northward to the railroads along the Chisholm and Western Trails in pioneer days. Today, only a few hundred of these picturesque cattle are still in existence. What most of us remember are the movies of cowboys and Longhorn cattle drives from Texas to the northern cities.

In the early days, these cattle were noted for the ability to do well on half the feed necessary for American stock (as long as they had water). They matured up to ten years, while others took six years.

When it was discovered that thousands and thousands of well-fed cattle were roaming free in the Texas area, enterprising men set up cattle ranches and much riches would be theirs if they moved cattle north and on to the well-populated cities.

After the Civil War, Confederate soldiers were the first cowboys. Little did the cattlemen know of the enormous problems they had to face, but the cattle drives went on year after year.

At first, it was open land, then settlers set up homesteads and started farming. The farmers became angry when hoards of cattle ate up their plowed crops. Then in the 1870s, someone invented the barbed wire (barbwire), up it went around their farm lands, and so began the "wars" of trespassing. Many towns were settled near the paths of the drives, the hope of the businessmen to reap rewards from the ranchers, cowboys, miners and farmers.

Before the cattle were moved, someone had the idea of branding them with their own design, and so started the cattle rustling and more hardship. Texas fever was a disease carried by the Longhorn, but they were immune.

Breeders north of Texas were concerned. More laws were passed, only to be broken. The newly settled towns drew outlaws, then the settlers decided they needed law and order and marshals to protect their holdings and

growing population. There really were men named Wyatt Earp, Wild Bill Hickock, Bat Masterson and on and on.

The following paragraph is from "The Reader's Encyclopedia of the American West": "Before barbed wire came into being, unbranded cattle belonged to those industrious enough to rope and brand them on open range. Consequently, a herd owner had to keep his animals well marked. One of the main purposes of the traditional spring roundup was to brand unmarked stock, usually calves born in winter and early spring. After the cattle had been gathered, those to be marked were cut out of the herd, roped, tied, branded, tallied by age and sex, and released to join the herd. The brand was usually placed on the left hindquarters, where it could be read easily by a right-handed roper."

Talking to my shoer one day, Terry Andersen told me the following story. He said, Longhorns are very smart and he once witnessed a lead cow approach a fence and with its horns lift the bottom of a fence, the herd passed under and then the leader twisted its body to the "free side". Another time, he saw one hold down the top of a fence, the herd jumped it and then the cow managed to get itself over.

**T**here is a book entitled "The Longhorns" by J. Frank Dobie, published in 1941. It is filled with stories told by old-time cowboys to anyone who would listen: their experiences, their exposure to danger during a stampede, their days of seeking water, their stories of cows torn between following the herd and leaving their newly born calves who were too weak to follow immediately. Usually the cook in a food wagon did the job of picking up these newborns. In his book he wrote about the development of legs and other "athletic" features of the Longhorns. No other cattle have ever shown themselves to well adapted to herd travel. All kinds of cattle stampede, but in a run the Longhorns would hold together better than any other. They would circle and not split up as will Durhams, Herefords, and Polled Anguses. Fine-blooded cattle will run over a man or a bluff that Longhorns would dodge. They would string out and not bunch up and thus become overheated. A herd of two or three thousand head, once on a trail, seemed to space themselves by instinct.

Handled properly, a trail herd, no matter how wild the individuals making it up might be on their native ranges, generally became, within a short time, a perfect traveling unit. There was always a leader, who assumed his or her place at the head of the herd and there kept it day after day. Behind him in the colored-spotted ribbon that stretched out from a quarter of a mile to two miles or more - the length varying with the size of the herd, the nature of the ground and the boss's attitude towards keeping them "strung out" or "coupled up" - the other cattle found their positions and without much variation maintained them.



The stronger, more alert and energetic animals inclined to work towards the lead, the weak and lazy towards the rear. The drags might be sound of feet, limb and wind, and in good flesh, but from the day they started they had to be pushed by the drag men, and they would have to be pushed until the end. If a forward animal became footsore, it would drop back, but after its feet healed it would take its old position.

**A**nother story: a rancher one day was riding over his range, still unfenced, in Colorado. He came upon a cow "lowing most mournfully and looking anxiously back over the prairie. That unhappy voice told plainly enough that she was in dire distress over her calf, and I galloped up to see what was wrong. She was a big white American cow, a strain of shorthorn in her veins. There, sure enough, about three hundred yards behind her, lay her newly-born calf, under the scanty shadow of a soap-weed. She had been brought out from the States, and came of gentle domestic stock, too domestic, perhaps, for life on the range.

The calf was not yet strong enough to follow its mother over the three long miles to the watering place, where all the rest had gone; and when his strength gave out he had lain down in the only bit of shade he could find. His mother, tortured by thirst, had hurried on without him, and then halted with divided mind. Thirst pulled her feverishly on towards the water, mother love plucked at her heart-strings to drag her back to her calf, and here the poor fool had stood for an hour, making the prairie echo to her distracted wails, and telling any wolf lurking within a mile of her that the bell was ringing for his dinner. I dismounted besides the calf, picked him up, heaved into the saddle and climbed back and settled myself there with him in my lap.

Small chance should I have been doing this if the mother had been one of my war-lock Texas cows, a fierce, wild daughter of the desert. But this gentle, idiotic creature offered no objection. She was accustomed to devolving her maternal responsibilities on man and she shambled along behind me with docile content, only lowing at intervals to tell her son she was there, as we make straight for the water holes. There I left the pair, safe in the protection of numbers, a thousand head of range cattle being strung up and down the creek.

I twined back to the rolling prairie, and as I went, I noticed a half dozen dun and brindle Texas cows, who had already slaked their thirst, traveling steadily away from the water in the same direction as myself. A few young heifers and steers accompanied them, though the mass of cattle, as I well knew, would stay by the water till the heat of the day was over; but this party of long-horned, long-legged Texas ladies clearly had business elsewhere — an old brindle cow with rings out to the end of her horns was leading the travelers. They

struck into one of the innumerable cattle trails leading from the high pastures to water and pressed up it, traveling one close behind the other at a steady walk that occasionally became a trot. I rode parallel to them, curious to see the goal they were making for so eagerly.

Up we went into the high rolling sand hills, and there, in the middle of them, in a little cup-like hollow, I saw a regular nursery. Eight little dun-colored Texas calves lay there, squatted close to the sandy ground which their coats matched so well, their heads lying out flat, with the chins pressed down on the sand, just as little antelope fawns would have crouched. In this pose they were all but invisible. Beside them lay two elderly Texas cows, whose office had been to guard the crèche. The mothers, who had traveled till now in perfect silence, began to low loudly and lovingly when they caught sight of their offspring, and in a moment each young hopeful had jumped up and rushed to his own dam, where his wriggling tail and nuzzling head, the busy lips frothing with milk, soon showed he was getting the dinner he had waited for so patiently. Meantime, the two guardian cows had risen to their feet, and lost no time in setting off in their turn to make their trip to the water, leaving their own two calves safe in the care of the rest of the band. The system of mutual protection was perfect."

**T**here are dozens of other incidents written in this book, many of them very sad. Lightning and thunder starting stampedes, some winters so severe the cattle froze; not finding water, or arriving and trying to cross rivers so heavy from rain storms, and finally approaching land with miles and miles of barbwire.

None of the stories seem to praise the horses the cowboys rode. Anyone into Quarter Horses knows that the famous King Ranch in Texas started a breeding program to develop the best in working horses, but before that, their sole interest was promoting the best cattle for delivery to the markets of the growing cities of the East.



## IDAHO: THE GEM STATE?

by Bruce Baker

Bet you didn't know that Idaho is the Gem State and not the Spud State. For the person who likes the outdoors, Idaho really is the Gem State.

This past July I was fortunate enough to visit Idaho and enjoyed a wonderful vacation. Horseback riding was my main objective on his trip. The group that I met are located in what is called Deadwood Valley, nearly 3 hours northeast of Boise. On the way to the starting point we passed Cascade Lake (nearly 100 miles of shoreline).

The first day I went out on a ride to a lake named Shepherder's Lake and was lucky enough to catch some 20" Cutthroat trout. I went out the next few days on a pack trip through the Frank Church Wilderness Area (300 square miles in size). In the distance one could see the Sawback Mountains. This is prime territory for viewing elk and other wildlife. Traveling cross-country with our guide we were able to view sights not seen by many. The outfitters made the trip very enjoyable, with their knowledge of the area and

the animals that lived there.

The stock was very capable of long journeys and were very well minded. Another important aspect of a trip like this is that the outfitters are a family-owned business and were extremely fun and friendly.

Also, if one didn't want to ride they could go boating in the nearby reservoir (where the limit was 25 salmon!!) or go canoeing down the winding river that ran in front of the cabins. On one occasion we came upon a moose and her young, feeding and drinking in the river. The canoe makes little or no noise in the water and the high grass along the river makes it a perfect way to get very close to elk, deer, moose, bald eagles, beavers and more.

I was amazed to find out that Idaho's population was less than a million and a half, but I think if more people visited Idaho, the Gem State, could double in population. But I think they preferred we just visit. If anyone is interested in this trip, I can put you in contact with Deadwood Outfitters, the folks who own this company. Just give me a call,

Bruce Baker (415) 366-5475

## REFLECTIONS ON HORSEBACK RIDING IN THE FRENCH ALPS

by Nancy Brown

On Jeudi 15 Aout (Thursday, August 15th) Gordon and I had the pleasure of participating in Rando Cheval (horseback riding) in the gorgeous town of Beaufort, France. We scheduled a ride with our guide Marie Turrel to a place named Lac du clou. We showed up at the designated hour and location. The air was crisp and laced with tinges of low-hanging clouds as we finished saddling up the horses and familiarize ourselves with the French versions of "whoa" (which sounds similar) and "giddy-up" (for which there was no translation)! After much laughter and sign language we set off through lush hillsides spotted with the famous Beaufort cattle, who supply the milk for a fabulous cheese by the same name. Our guide spoke broken English and we speak broken French, but our mutual love of the horses was the bond that brought us together.

After several hours of riding, we were fortunate to stop just as the sun broke out over the top of Mont Blanc. What a breathtaking site! We continued on our way reaching elevations that exceeded even the tinkling of the cow bells. Quiet!! Peaceful!! What a change from our everyday lives that are filled with the hustle and bustle of



going to work, traffic, and other irritating factors. We soon reached a clearing where we dismounted and filled ourselves with lush Myrtle berries (blueberries) and Frambois (raspberries) that were bursting with juices. Our final destination, Lac du clou, was shrouded with low-hanging clouds. Our view was hazy, but we didn't mind this at all. Our descent was, in some areas, almost vertical and once we had to dismount because of poor footing. We arrived back at the stable safe and sound, but with a renewed sense of awe at the power of the horse to expose us to rare and endearing experiences. As we "visited" with our guide we found that she and her husband were "refugees" from the scientific community and had moved to this beautiful area to give their children a better environment in which to grow up. She had found true happiness with her guide service and her husband with his carpentry business. As we drove away,

waving at our new-found friend, I had little doubt that she and her husband had made the right decision for them.

So, if you ever want a truly memorable riding experience, visit "Chevauchee en Beaufortain" and take a ride with Marie. She organizes rides that range from 1 hour to overnight pack trips and can accommodate all levels of riders!

## 4TH OF JULY PARADE

San Mateo County Horsemen, led by our Color Guard, participated in the Redwood City 4th of July Parade. This year we had several of our Junior members riding also. SMCHA was awarded 1st place in our division!



## EQUESTRIAN TRAIL HISTORY OF EDGEWOOD PARK

by Adda Quinn

Since before the beginning of the century, equestrians have used trails through what is known today as Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve. A string of private and commercial stables ran the length of San Mateo County for riders to access the area. Some of their names were: Carolands (Hillsborough), the Polo Grounds, Walter Johnson's, the Gymkana Club, House on the Hill, Tobin-Clark, Bar Pasture, Borel Estate (San Mateo), Green Briar, Lazy J and H&H (Belmont), Buck Marsh, Pat Lenfoot, Outlaw Ranch (Redwood City) Lazy Day Ranch (Portola Valley), the Circus Club (Menlo Park), Cavanaugh Ranch and the Stanford Farms (Palo Alto). With civilization accumulating along the El Camino and Alameda de las Pulgas, these nearby stables in the foothills provided both transportation and recreation into the beautiful Santa Marina Mountains west of mid-peninsula urban settlement. Equestrians from Daly City to Palo Alto frequented trails up the Farm Hill, Skyline Road and 42nd Avenue to take in the spectacular views afforded by the numerous ridges, then continued on to picnics in the watershed (then owned by the Spring Valley Water Company), or for further westward adventures. Despite the encroachment of civilization and subdivisions in the foothills, many of the original barns continued in operation until the mid-1950s.

Because it was open property (except for intermittent fencing for livestock containment) and adjacent to both Cañada Road and Edgewood Roads, Edgewood was often used as a dumping ground throughout its history. Equestrians learned very early in the century the importance of sticking strictly to well established trails in order to avoid hidden hazards in the Edgewood grasslands.

After World War I, Californian's passed a series of bond issues for the "erection of concrete auto highways" which were a standard feature in the County by the mid-1920s to accommodate the rapidly accepted "motor deluxe" which had soon replaced the horse as the preferred form of transportation.<sup>1</sup> Cattle raised on the San Francisco Peninsula were still being "driven" to the slaughterhouse at Hunters Point in the

1. Henry Finkler letter September 21, 1926 (courtesy of Nita Spangler via Ranger Lynne Fritz\*).

1930s by cowboys who stopped at Olson Nolte Saddlery and Tack Store to repair and reprovision their gear.<sup>2</sup> The Woodside Trail Club was started in the early 1930s by the families of Judge Chamberlain and William Roth of Filoli. By 1939, it had a well developed series of equestrian trails throughout the private property of their friends in Edgewood/Woodside area, including the Folgers and the Spreckles.<sup>3</sup> The San Mateo Horsemen's Association was founded in 1940 for the promotion of equestrian events and interests.<sup>4</sup>

When World War II began, Olson Nolte Saddlery was impressed into provisioning the US Army Cavalry with belts and gas masks were still being made by others for mules! During the War, parts of the Santa Marina Mountains were closed to equestrian traffic because the government was using large tracts of land to train attack dogs, notably the ridge just above the "poor farm" north of Edgewood.<sup>5</sup> The Mounted Patrol of San Mateo County was founded during the war in 1942, to watch for invasions and

2. "Olson Nolte, A Local Institution". Spring 1994. *The San Mateo Horseman*, p. 5 and cover picture.

3. "Reminisce, Memories in Barns". April 1976. *California Horseman* article by Bernice Scharlack, a journalist-historian raised in San Francisco.

4. *San Mateo County Horseman's Association 1940-1990—50 year history*.



provide security in the western hills which were too rugged for vehicles to patrol. Manpower was in critical short supply at that time. They were specifically invited by the San Francisco Water Department into watershed property and provided with keys to gates to allow access to property which had been closed to the public after its purchase from Spring Valley. The Mounted Patrol continues to provide volunteer search and rescue activities throughout remote portions of the Bay Area to this date.<sup>6</sup>

After the war, local equestrians were active in creation of the Statewide Trails Program which became the backbone of the present day trail systems in many of our public lands. They also secured permission for "right to pass" from private property owners and the Watershed. One equestrian who rode in Edgewood in 1949 reports: "We crossed what is now Edgewood Park's Southwest section and exited a gate at the top of Emerald Hill's backside, around Rocky Way or Hillcrest Way. We rode to Buck Marsh's barn. Picked up a horse and ponied it over to Pat LInfoot's (DVM) barn where Roy (Swineger) sold the horse to Peggy Schuman. The horse was a palomino mare called 'Penny.' We then delivered the horse to the Carolands Barn in Hillsborough," again crossing Edgewood.<sup>7</sup>

Aerial photographs obtained from the USGS and made available during the Edgewood Master Plan process in 1996, clearly show well established trails across Edgewood in 1948, 1956, and 1968. The Town of Woodside (southern neighbor of the current park) incorporated in November 1956. During the 1950's and 1960's, the people in Woodside liked to joke that its

population of over 5000 horses exceeded the human head count.<sup>8</sup> Many of these horses were stabled around this parcel and were amongst its most frequent users. The property, which was to become Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, was owned by a succession of private land holders until 1960-1970, when the State of California acquired most of it as a prospective site for a school campus.<sup>9</sup>

In 1966-1968, when Highway 280 was under construction, equestrians and the Town of Woodside successfully negotiated the construction of the overpass on the west border of the park contiguous with one side of the Watershed's "Triangle" with CalTrans and the State of California in order to allow equestrians continued safe access on the historic route from Palomar Park across the north side of the property overlooking Edgewood Road to its intersection at Cañada Road.<sup>10</sup> In the mid-1970's, a 4-H equestrian club which stabled at the Outlaw Ranch (by the Watershed aqueduct right-of-way bordering Edgewood Road) further negotiated with state and county agencies for permitted access along this same historic route. In 1977, a Trail Day was attended by 30 people marking the first coordinated effort which brought awareness of the importance of the Edgewood property to public attention.<sup>11</sup> In 1980, San Mateo County concluded financing and negotiations which secured Edgewood as a Park, and the Edgewood Trail is frequently used by both hikers and horsemen today.

The Town of Woodside was an active participant in development of the Environmental Impact Report prepared for the first Edgewood Master Plan of 1982. Woodside specifically requested four formal entrances: Cañada Road, Edgewood Road, Hillcrest Way, and at the Old



5. July 25, 1996 interview with Chris Olmo of Redwood City, age 90.

6. San Mateo County Mounted Patrol 50 Year History 1943-1993.

7. July 23, 1996 notes from Janet Estep of Woodside on a horseback ride she took with Roy Swineger in 1949.

8. San Mateo County Horsemen's Association, *Ibid.*, and Woodside Trail Committee members tales retold by Harry Williams and Lew Reed.

9. Nita Spangler. "History of the Edgewood Park Site", Rev. November 19, 1995. This document also provided a useful general chronology of historical property ownership and park/preserve creation.\*

10. Recreation Development Plan, San Francisco Peninsula Watershed Lands, Technical Report, August 1975, p. 11.

11. Notes and articles from (retired) San Mateo County Park and Recreation Superintendent Bob Emert on William D. "Mike" Mikesell, 4-H leader.

## Edgewood Park Trail History, *continued*

Stage Day Camp where existing trails already linked the horse community at the top of the hills around Edgewood with Woodside barns (now predominantly to the South) and connected to park trails in Huddart, Wunderlich, Pescadero Creek, Memorial, Junipero Serra, the Woodside Trail Club and the Watershed. The trail system in Edgewood also has served as a escape route for residents in the event of off-shores wind driven fires such as struck Oakland in 1970 and 1991.<sup>12</sup>

Once the park was secured, it took over three months for the County to clean up litter. Truckload after truckload of broken pipe, rusted barbed wire, garbage, and over 200 abandoned cars were hauled away. In 1982, the present trails system was laid out by the county in consultation with scientists from Stanford, the California Native Plant Society, and equestrians. Equestrians have participated in trail maintenance activities annually since creation of the Park.

The Clarkia Trail was flagged by Harry Dean and E.R. Sheehan at its present location to provide a buffer zone between wetlands/chaparral and the grasslands and replaced previous historic routes on the south side of the property. Tractoring to lay trail tread was begun in 1983, but had to be suspended due to wet weather. Work resumed in 1984, but was impeded by vandals who attacked the tractor rig when it was left overnight. Horsemen stayed with the tractor until wee morning hours subsequently and prevented further damage. Because of this cooperation, the Clarkia Trail was then finished very rapidly. Its construction cost \$20,000.<sup>13</sup> As a result of the type of problem experienced here and occurring in other open space properties in the Bay Area, a need was evident for help in the growing park system. The

## MIKKI'S HORSE RESCUE

by Dianne Larson Hicks

Mikki Brown of Moss Beach, California has fulfilled a dream to build a magnificent, custom, one-of-a-kind trailer built with a single use in mind: a horse ambulance. It is the only ambulance designed to lift a prone horse from the ground and transport it in a natural standing position, including support for the head. It took four years in design and development.

Horses do not do well when down for extended periods of time. Mikki's first experience in problem-solving with a horse that had to be back on it's feet or else involved the thoughtful use of a tow truck and a borrowed sling. Eighteen years of experience with horses both in training and in veterinary care as a vet tech, including 3+ years in emergency veterinary medicine, have given Mikki the impetus to design and build the ambulance.

A joint venture between Charlie Anderson and Davis University's Large Animal Hospital provided the "Anderson Sling" which took 12 years to develop. A major head injury,

Volunteer Horse Patrol was created in 1985.<sup>14</sup> Equestrian volunteers sought training and began to provide San Mateo County with a responsible presence in its parks to augment limited county staff. Today with nearly 15,000 acres of public lands, horsemen continue to provide this valuable service to both the County and the Watershed.

In the 1980's, equestrians joined a coalition of citizens interested in preserving the grasslands of the Park from development as a golf course. Through a series of public hearings and environmental reviews, this coalition was successful in demonstrating the value of this property for recreation and preservation, as well as the economic unfeasibility of trying to plant grass on infertile soil produced by serpentine. The golf course concept was defeated and the Edgewood charter amended in 1993 to include a Natural Preserve.

Today, increasing urban development on the hills around Edgewood has resulted in paved streets and automobile traffic dangerous for equestrian access to the Park's trails via Hillcrest Way. Because of the trails, barns and services available now primarily to the South, the Clarkia Trail has become of critical importance. Equestrians are exploring new connector routes

12. Public hearing San Mateo County Park and Recreation Commissioners July 16, 1981, Minutes, P. 6. Also: Site Development Guidelines Section V, item B. and Equestrian Trails, Public Meeting, February 24, 1982, Status Report, May 1982.

13. San Mateo County Park and Recreation Commission Minutes, August 4, 1983.

14. July 9, 1996 Trails Advisory Committee meeting statement that they were founded in 1985 by Marian van den Bosch, Volunteer Horse Patrol President.

*continued on page 23*

an EPM case, a spinal degeneration, a severe neck trauma and severe colics have been in Mikki's care. All horses arrived at Davis in a much improved condition from when they were first loaded at the time of rescue.

The ambulance has proven to perform its intended function to the fullest. All persons directly involved in the rescues have been totally impressed with the results this system provided. It always gets quite a reception.



*continued on following page*

## THE HORSE TRANSPORT BILL

### LONG-AWAITED PROGRESS FOR HORSES

Reprinted by permission from the *HSUS News*, published by The Humane Society of the United States.

On March 28 the U.S. Congress passed legislation that could meaningfully reduce the suffering of more than a hundred thousand horses sent to slaughter each year. Incorporated into the 1996 farm bill, the Commercial Transportation of Equines for Slaughter Act directs the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish regulations that protect slaughter-bound horses, mules, ponies, and donkeys from widespread abuses, documented during HSUS undercover investigations (see the Summer 1995 *HSUS News*). Although the final measure fell short of our initial hopes due to intense last-minute opposition from the livestock industry, we view the new law as a positive step toward addressing cruelties that have persisted for decades.

There is a widespread notion that old, lame, and unwanted horses are retired to pasture or humanely destroyed. The vast majority of these "surplus" animals are sold at auction. Because horses are not considered food animals in the United States, few Americans realize that their former companions often become the property of "killer buyers" when sold at auction. After sale these once-cherished animals are shipped for hundreds or even thousands of miles to one of eight equine slaughterhouses in the United States. Virtually all of the meat from these facilities is shipped to foreign markets.

Our investigations revealed that slaughter-bound horses routinely have been crammed into double-deck livestock trucks designed to transport cattle, who are shorter than horses. By the time they arrive at a slaughter plant, most horses have been deprived of food and water for many hours before loading and for as long as two additional days on vehicles. Mares and stallions, draft horses and tiny ponies, foals and adults, healthy animals and the injured or sick all have been thrown together for a terrifying final trip.

Through the USDA regulations, the new law would help remedy such abuses. Congress specifically has directed the

### Mikki's Horse Rescue, *continued*

Rescue is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Mikki provides timely response and professional care. Mikki feels that no horse should be "put down" because it can't make the trip to the veterinary hospital for diagnostic evaluation.

Mikki's Horse Rescue was present at the '96 Equitana USA in Kentucky. Three cheers for Mikki's invention. It's thoughtful people like her that make this world a better place.

Call Mikki in Moss Beach at (415) 728-3334 or use her pager in an emergency: (415) 804-7614.

USDA to address humane intervals for watering, feeding, and resting the horses. The HSUS will push hard for elimination of double-deck livestock trucks in horse transport and for safety provisions such as adequate headroom for large horses, nonskid floors, emergency-access doors, and protection from the elements. The regulations should require that veterinarians examine all horses prior to transport to ensure the horses are physically able to withstand the stress of long-distance travel. In addition, the regulations should prohibit the transport of mares in later stages of pregnancy and any foals six months old or younger. We will work with the USDA to create the strongest possible regulations, but ultimately it is the depth of public interest that will determine whether the regulations are stringent and comprehensive.

**W**e owe a heartfelt thanks to Rep. Bill Goodling of Pennsylvania and Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, who introduced the original legislation and showed considerable tenacity in keeping it alive. Both men refused to back down, even when the viability of *any* bill was threatened by powerful livestock lobbyists, who reneged on their earlier agreements to support the reforms. Representative Goodling and Senator McConnell received considerable help from Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, chairman of the House Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Subcommittee, who negotiated a settlement that kept a modified version of the legislation in the farm bill package.

We also greatly appreciate the crucial roles played by the American Horse Council and the American Horse Protection Association. Both organizations built congressional support for this measure. They also worked with us to achieve a consensus backed by a broad coalition of horse interests, veterinarians, and animal-protection groups.

The HSUS would have greatly preferred to see legislation enacted to eliminate horse slaughter entirely; the end of the U.S. trade in horse meat is our goal. However, it is clear that Congress is unwilling to ban horse slaughter at this time. Given that more than 2.5 million horses have been shipped to slaughter in the United States within the last decade alone—often in abysmal conditions—we decided to pursue, with considerable urgency, whatever federal protections were achievable. We believe this new law will reduce the number of horses who can be sent to slaughter and improve the treatment of those who are sent, while we continue to work toward eliminating the trade entirely. Write Lonnie J. King, Administrator, APHIS, USDA, Rm. 312-E, Administration Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20250, and urge the USDA to adopt strong and enforceable regulations.—*Trina Bellak, Esq., HSUS associate director of Federal Legislation; Marc Paulhus, HSUS director of Equine Protection*

## TINA HUTTON BRINGS NEW AWARENESS

by Dianne Larson Hicks

Our September 24th educational seminar drew both members and prospective members to hear Tina Hutton of Santa Rosa speak. The purpose of this seminar was to increase our awareness of how we sit, bit, and address our horses.

Tina's expertise includes years of training and association with Linda Tellington-Jones and her TTEAM™ method of working with horses. How we approach our animals and how sensitive we are to their well-being and how in tune we are with our own emotions and behaviors affects our understanding of one of our favorite best friends. TTEAM™ work includes basic groundwork, guidance both forward and back, and developing a sense of the horse's and our own "space" with the use of a "wand" or extended dressage-type whip. For people with horses that like to step all over them and walk through them this method is an excellent tool to educate a horse to stay focused, in balance, and in his own space. This work also benefits horses which are anxious or spooky.

One of the things we did with Tina was take turns, two people per team, being the "horse" wearing a bridle we brought from home, or being the "rider" and holding the reins. This created a clear awareness for both persons when the "horse" held the bit between his/her hands in front of the face with the headstall hooked over the back of the "horses" head. The person tugging on the reins suddenly became aware of just how much force is placed on the bit. When pulling more with one hand than another the realization of the awkwardness and possible pain became apparent. One reoccurring comment made by most of the "horses" (even though generally accustomed to a loose western neck rein) was that **they felt more comfortable when there was a constant gentle connection from hand to bit.** This offered a real sense of guidance. They said they thought their horses might feel more secure. And, they clearly did not appreciate tugs at the bit or having "their lips ripped off" as is sometimes the case when we try to control the horse by using unnecessary brute force. I think people surprised themselves.

We practiced rising and sitting on our chairs as if posting in a saddle. **We learned how to uncouple ourselves by first floating forward and up, bending at the hip joint, then adding more rise from the opening of the knee.** We practiced this taking note of how we came back to the "saddle." The idea was to take note of our landing. How we land on a horse's back when mounting and how we use good balance to rise and sit down onto our saddle in posting was of critical use relating to how we affect our horses back. **Gentle, thoughtful balanced movement saves both horse and rider.** This sort of information comes from Tina's certification with Sally Swift, Swift's Centered Riding.

Included in our awareness training were mind over matter

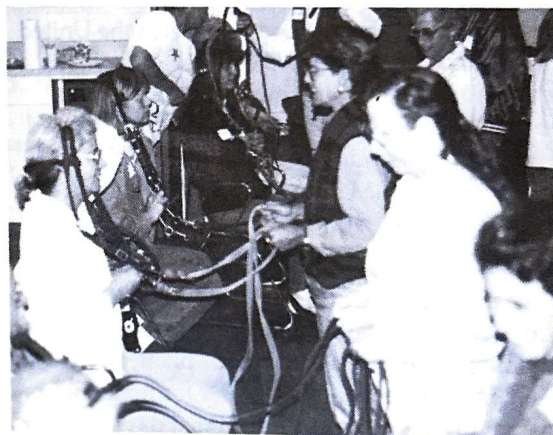
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Tina Hutton



Tina Hutton and Bob Desmond talking about strength vs. softness or tension vs. relaxation



Gaylynn Mann in the spirit of the moment



and the effects of strength. This one is harder to put into print because we were using imagery of power. We discovered how **less is more** and how powerful your mind is in creating strength. We found that tenseness and rigidity was less powerful by far than going soft and thinking or imaging our balance and our strength. The exercises we did involved beach balls in our pelvis affecting our balance forward and back. **We found possible off-sidedness in our body weights ... tendencies toward a lean to one side.** This comes up frequently in beginning riders who may "list" to one side or another. Unconsciously, this maybe a habit some of us have right now while riding.

For me the most powerful aspect of the softness versus tightening of muscles awareness exercise was **the realization that my body would fall into the most natural and desirable position when relaxed.** We took a poll to see what common instructions were yelled out by instructors when we were paying someone to "train" us to ride better. All the years of hearing lean back, shoulders back, eyes up, elbows into your sides, heels down came flying out of our mouths. Can anybody reading this relate to it? It's really quite amazing how when you take the "death grip" off of the rein what happens to all of the above complaints. Somehow the elbows have a way of falling into your sides just where they should be and all the rest somehow takes care of itself. Try it for yourself next time you ride. Get a death grip on the rein and see how your entire body responds in kind and then transfers to your horse. You will probably have a horse tossing its head and moving out erratically from below you.

Tina Hutton is available to do clinics that relate to TTEAM™ and Centered Riding. She works with individuals in our area already. There are no limitations as to the type of riding styles. She's worked in all of the major fields of driving, 3-day, jumping, cutting, reining, dressage, etc.

If you would like to be part of a local clinic please call me at 851-2233. If you would like to work one-on-one with Tina please call her at (707) 578-3472. She is very good at problem solving or troubleshooting if you have a horse behavior that you are having a tough time resolving.

### Edgewood Park Trail History, *continued*

with the County to try to obtain safe access to the existing trail system which is environmentally protective of the Park.

With almost a century of historic use, being one of the first groups to bring its potential for a recreational purposes to the County's attention, and with active interest in operation and maintenance pertinent to present day trails as connecting corridors to the rest of the County, equestrians have long had a special relationship with Edgewood. We hope that the County in its current Master Planning process, will continue to preserve and enhance trails in Edgewood for use by both hikers and equestrians.

## 1996 CALENDAR



- 5-6 - LV - Half Moon Bay Ride
- 6 - SFHA - GG Park Ride
- 9 - Board Meeting
- 13 - Columbus Day Parade, SF
- 13 - President's Ride - The Morshead
- 19 - Trail Trials
- 25 - Grand Nationals Opening Night
- 30 - Educational Seminar



- 3 - LV - La Honda Progressive Ride
- 13 - Board Meeting
- 14 - General Meeting - Deb Bennett



- 13 - Board Dinner/Meeting



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

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LV = Los Viajeros

SFHA = San Francisco Horsemen's Assoc.

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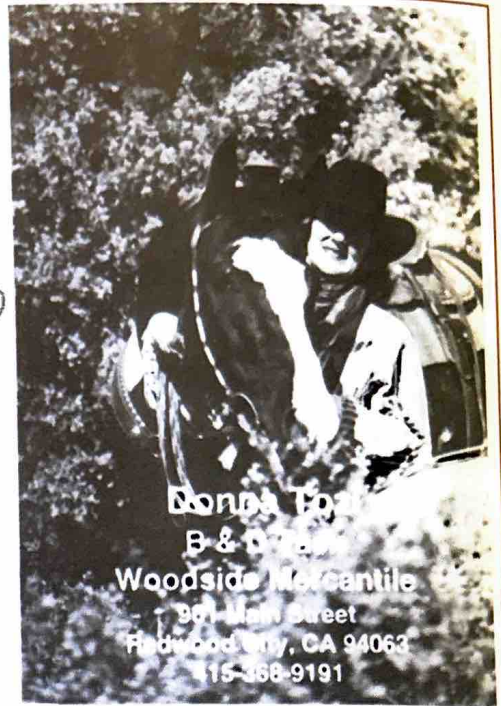
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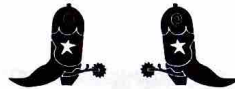
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