

2021 SCCHA Board Members – Election Candidates



President: Who am I? I feel like I've met more people since becoming part of the SCCHA board and I love that. I have 3 horses at our home in Scotts Valley. My only claim to fame in the horse world is that I completed Tevis on my wonder horse Omega in 2006. I am a full time Realtor with C21MM and work very hard at that. I still ride as much as I can and Henry Cowell and Wilder have become my favorite spots. As for SCCHA I've been lucky enough to serve on the board for about 5 years now. I had 2 terms as president and then I was asked by the board to fill in again as president part way through 2020 the year from hell. The board struggled through a lot of turmoil as we sorted through the issues of trying to keep the grounds available to our members during the pandemic. We've been lucky to have good advisors on the current board who have

diligently followed every nuance of the county and state rules helping us stay in compliance and open for our members. Then came the fires and more turmoil. Thanks to Mary Sullivan who has been a stalwart member of our board for many years, and too many other volunteers to name, our grounds survived and was a temporary haven to horses and humans evacuating. I can't stress enough that every board member has played an important role during the year. From those who started the year to those who came in mid-year to help. And I appreciate their dedication and support. To sum up: I've tried to help add my own experience and knowledge to our boards effort to keep things running and our club going strong. The past and current board members, all of them, are dedicated volunteers who put in a lot of time and effort. And I'm committed to continuing to help lead the board as president if reelected or as past president if that is where I fit. This is a wonderful club and we are fortunate to have such a stellar facility. Our duty as board members is to protect that asset and use our club resources to support the horse community as well as the community at large. And I hope I can have your continued support for 2021. The picture is me and my Shagya mare Sarah at V6 ranch this past June. – Karen Bish



Treasurer: I joined the SCCHA BOD in 2019. Mid-year I was asked to take over as Treasurer. It has been a rocky road for the new BOD but we have gotten a lot done and learned to get to know each other and work together virtually.

I have had many careers in my life starting with working in the Finance Dept of a bank, to Community Mental Health, Administrator and Paralegal of a non-profit Legal Aid group for 15 years, Marine Biologist at USCS for 15 years, and currently I own my Tax Preparation Business - Surf City Tax Service. I am a big believer in Volunteering and the work we do on the Board is important to the horse community. I have also participated in Horse Patrol in Wilder. I would like to continue to serve as Treasurer.

I currently have two awesome horses. My main riding horse is a 26-year-old Appaloosa gelding who is going strong and loves being out on the trails. I have had him (D/H) since he was around 5 and he has been a great friend and has kept me safe and sound on the trails. My second horse is a 5-year-old blue roan mare who I got before she turned 2 and is the sweetest mare. She is laid back and would rather walk than run, sleep rather than play, and eat rather than be turned out. But for the most part she is curious and enjoys being with me no matter where I take her.

Thank you for considering me for Treasurer for 2021. If elected, I will do my best.

-- Margaret P. Hughes (nickname Peggy)

Secretary: I believe whatever form the human/equine partnership takes, from trail riding to endurance, dressage, gymkhana, etc. we are all better people for the time we spend with our horses.

I can think of no better way to honor that, than working to keep our club and beautiful showgrounds going strong and available to members and their horses.

For info on my journey with

horses: <http://www.thinkinghorsemanship.com/About.php>

I am again running for recording secretary. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of SCCHA.

-- Bonnie Stoehn and Batgirl in Wilder





37 years. We are proud of our son, Chris, who lives in San Diego. I've wanted horses all my life and finally in my 40s I did something about it. I started taking lessons, which lead to a journey of gaited horse ownership and fabulous friends. I feel truly blessed.

-- Kathleen O'Neill

Director: Hello, I am running for a director seat on the board for the 2021 Year. I have served on the board in the past as one of the Grounds Directors.

I love Santa Cruz and horses and I care about the future of Santa Cruz Horsemen's. I have four horses, two of which are mine and two belong to the kids. I have two teenagers, two dogs and a cat. My life is full and I am blessed. I mostly trail ride and love to play with cows when I can. I am an avid hiker and love to spend time with my family.

--Kathy Rodoni

Director: I volunteer because I want to do my best to make sure that the equestrian community stays active and strong in the Bay Area. I support the growth of the club and value our members and volunteers. I am currently responsible for overseeing Marketing and Communication, Membership (Key Card Access), Camping Reservations, and the backend Website programming at the SCCHA.

During my first year on the Board (amidst the pandemic, fires, and my personal horse evacuation - while I had a broken wrist), I implemented processes to streamline online membership including easy credit card checkouts, discounts, and parking permits. I made the online reservation system for camping, the online store and the donation process. On a personal level, I love organizing campouts and creating an atmosphere where people can meet other riders in a social setting.

I am a retired Information Technology Professional. My husband, Jim, and I have lived in Morgan Hill for the last



Director: Happy New Year!! I have been fortunate enough to be your Membership Secretary for the past year, and an Associate Member of the Board the previous year. Lots of changes for us all during 2020, and many challenges. Having been evacuated due to the fires, I put my energy and passion for horses (actually all animals) into trailering horses (and one very large llama) out of harm's way as a member of our County's Equine Evac team. I witnessed many of our fellow horsemen and women working tirelessly in assisting our fur-babies at the fairgrounds and the showgrounds. I am proud to be part of that team! I am looking forward to a peaceful, healthy time with our horses in the upcoming year.

I retired from my career working over the hill and from Dancing Horse Stables this past year; and am now a member of the Coast Road Stables' family! My horse Dancer, is a Tennessee Walker and a dream to ride. I also have a year-old Aussie. I am a licensed therapist, and continue with a small practice providing counseling and support to individuals with behavioral and developmental challenges. I look forward to working on more projects at the showgrounds! I hope you will consider continuing supporting me in being on the SCCHA Board of Directors.

– Lorraine Flores



Director: I am very pleased that I was able to help SCCHA during the occupation of the Showgrounds by PG&E this year. I hope to be re-elected another year to make sure that their obligation to SCCHA is fulfilled. During the CZU Complex fire, the County, the property owner, gave PG&E permission to take over the south end of the grounds for a base camp. With the support of the board, I negotiated for SCCHA exclusive use of the North side, so we could continue Equine Evac and member use, and negotiated \$25,000 payment for lost income.

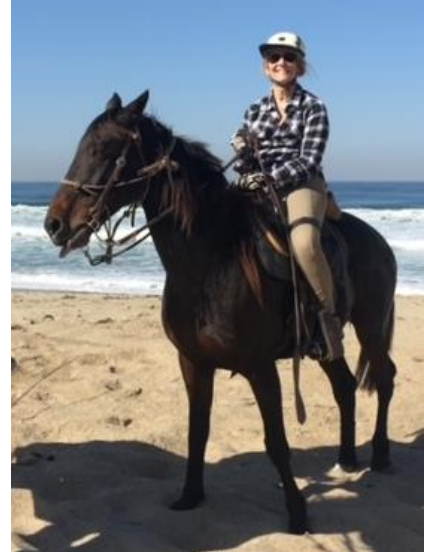
There are still some outstanding promises made by PG&E that I hope to secure. 1) resurfacing of our driveway and 2) making sure the grass they seeded is sufficient.

I also look forward to planning some FUN at the Showgrounds this year.

-- Robin Musitelli

Director: Our SCCHA is an amazing club, supporting our equestrian community. Thank you for considering me for my second year on the Board of Directors!

2020 was such a busy, unusual year. To keep our wonderful campgrounds open, I was focused on building and maintaining our COVID-19 response in order to stay current with Santa Cruz County and our State. In the meantime, I led updating and upgrading all of our contracts, rules and waivers. Also, behind the scenes on the finance committee, I helped create and update the reporting (P&L, Budget, and Balance Sheet). Although what I do for the club many people would find boring and tedious, I take great satisfaction in doing it, as it helps keep the club running smoothly and I so enjoy interacting with other members. It is very important to me that our club continues to grow and can be passed to the next generation.



A benefit to me in this crazy year was being able to consistently get out and trail ride with my husband, Steve and then sometimes with other members. I feel so lucky to be able to ride today, especially after being a Stable Manager when I was in school at Los Gatos High School and San Jose State University. One of the big highlights this year was to be able to do the Virtual Tevis Ride. It was so cool to be a part of the Ride! I love being out on horseback!

Giving back is important to me. I have been committed to volunteering for more than 20 years, having the opportunity to lead as well as teach in different clubs and associations. These groups include the local Disaster Aid Response Team, Ski Patrol, MLS Listings, and the California Association of Realtors. I have a varied background from working in restaurants through school, teaching Advanced First Aid, to being a Vice President/Regional Manager in Silicon Valley. I now represent my clients as a Residential Real Estate Broker Associate with Sereno Group Residential Real Estate.

Blessed with 3 wonderful adult kids, I get to work with my daughter and one son. We also have furry kids which are 3 horses and 1 service dog. To add to our menagerie, we have 17 chickens. It has been nice during the Shelter in Place to have our family with us!

I hope to continue my contributions to the SCCHA with another term on the Board of Directors.

-- Karen Trolan

Director: Carol Kelley



Director: Heather Shupe

There were two things I wanted to do upon retirement: Ride my horse and hang out with my horse! 10 years later I want to learn from my horse and hang out with horse-people.

If elected to the SCCHA Board, my goal is to expand opportunities for members to enjoy the showgrounds with their horses and with each other. We can do this by hosting events, adding new features like the trotting tracks and trail course, and by working together to keep our facility in good shape. Maintaining the club includes tending to our organization too. That means keeping good records, being receptive to member concerns and suggestions, and planning for the club's future. Accomplishing all that will take many hands and hard work. I respectfully ask for your vote, so I can be part of the team focused on keeping SCCHA the "go-to" place to ride your horse and hang out with horse-people.

