



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
HORSEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

June 2019



Home of the Graham Hill Showgrounds

Promoting all forms of equitation, quality care, education, and humane treatment of horses since 1945

From the President

Dear Members,

As I was thinking about what I could say today I, of course, started thinking about all the things we have going on at **SCCHA**. Once again, thanks to Mary Sullivan and her helpers and participants, we had a very successful Ride for Relay. By all accounts, a good time was had by all, and the proceeds went to the American Cancer Society. And now the arena work is nearly complete. The Fireworks ride planning is coming along. **SCCHA** is helping fund some of the trail work at Henry Cowell.

All that is good. But I also was trying to think of a good piece of horsemanship advice. As my horses and I have gotten older and wiser, I've let go of having an agenda when I ride. I've learned to enjoy the ride I get. And my horses seem to appreciate my outlook. The best piece of advice I could give is try to enjoy the horse you meet when you go out to the barn that day. Just like us they have good days and bad days.

Happy Trails,

Karen

Next Member Meeting:
June 18, 6:30 p.m at the Clubhouse



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Feature Articles

NEW TRAIL FOR YOU TO RIDE!

by Lindsay Overton

The new West Englesmans Trail re-route in Wilder Ranch State Park is now OPEN! Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBOSC) and State Parks have been working hard putting the final touches on this trail, and 5,500' of brand new single-track is now ready to ride. The new trail winds down through oak forests and meadows, has a lower average grade than the old fire road, and is designed to be an enjoyable hike or ride, uphill or downhill.

Drawn together by a respect for nature, and a desire for more safe and sustainable trails to access it, [SCCHA](#) and MBOSC have had a long collaboration. [SCCHA](#) representatives spent half a day in July 2017 walking the proposed re-route of West Englesmans with MBOSC.

Then, as work on the trail progressed, [SCCHA](#) hosted a Dig Day to contribute to its construction. There were 338 volunteers who donated 1,978 hours of time to help build this trail, in addition to 950 hours of MBOSC staff time and countless more hours of State Parks staff time. The project cost about \$47,000, which was funded by Old Cabin Classic 2016-18 proceeds, two Trap-a-Rock-Lobster campaigns, and a \$15,000 grant from REI. A HUGE shout of thanks goes to the Santa Cruz District Trails Crew, especially Chris Pereira and Jose Castañeda for helping to make this project possible.

More great things are expected! Continuing our collaboration, representatives from [SCCHA](#) (including your trail and advocacy committee, Debbie Boscoe and Elise Levinson) recently toured the San Vicente Redwoods proposed Phase 1 upper trail system with Bryan Largay from Land Trust of Santa Cruz and MBOSC. The CEQA for the project is in front of the County for approval and, if approved, trail building could begin this fall! For updates, please stay tuned to our [Trails and Advocacy](#) page on the [SCCHA](#) website and if you would like to get involved, please connect with Debbie or Elise!

Thank you, MBOSC, for your trail building and advocacy and for allowing me to steal words from your report on West Englesman for this article!

THE [SCCHA](#) FIREWORKS RIDE:

A New Comer's Perspective

by Melany Moore

(reprinted from the Summit Rider's Review, October 2018)

Last July I volunteered at the annual [SCCHA](#) Fireworks Ride, held every July as a Santa Cruz County Horseman's fund-raiser. I was stationed at the finish line to help with all the times, rider weights, pulse taking, etc. Having never taken a horse's pulse before, I knew I was out of my league - what a relief to get to play reporter instead!

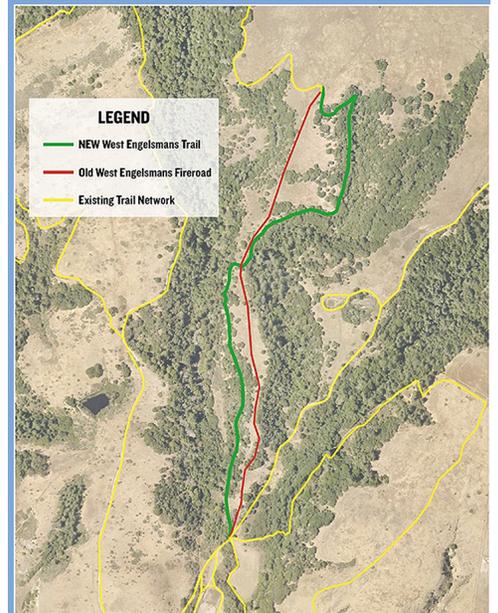
It turned out that there were a lot of seasoned help there, so I used my three hours to learn the nuances of endurance riding. I was fortunate to finally meet some of the local 'endurance riding legends': Julie Suhr, Pat Verheul, Becky Glaser and Linda Swarbrick. The women welcomed me and gave me un-edited information, to my beginner's questions.



Karen and her Shagya gelding, Daniel



DeeKenville, Lindsay Overton, Elise Levinson, and Heather Shupe hunting for ticks along the yet-to-be-built trail (after tromping through poison oak).



The map above shows the new trail as it fits into the existing trail network.

What would be a good way to start training for an endurance ride?

Start with 5-6 miles, three to four days a week. Ride longer on the weekends. Going up hills, the rider can dismount and hand-walk up the hill. “You need to be as fit as your horse,” said Tami Elkayam of Elkayam Equine Therapy. She was on site to give hands on healing, and jumped up once when she noticed a horse tying up after finishing the race. She quickly administered massage to alleviate the horse’s cramping in the hindquarters.

What would you feed your horse on race day?

Pat Verheul recommended straight alfalfa, equine SR and a touch of electrolytes, not bran mash (as I had heard) and steelshoes on the horse. She said, “you have got to know your horse, and you must condition your horse. Those that ride a calm and straightforward ride, do better than those that race.”

What should the rider take on the ride?

Helmet, hoof pick, string, zip ties, 6’parachute cord, duct tape, chap stick, sunscreen, 2 Advil, 2 Imodium (or more), water, electrolytes, snacks (Lara Bars, Platinum Bars for the horse or cookies with electrolytes), tennis shoes – some people get off and run, to give their horse a break. I saw one rider who had a gallon milk jug on a cord. It had a large cut out on one side. Curious, I asked about it. It was for dipping in the river when she crossed. She could offer her horse water from the jug later in the ride.

The Summit Riders were proud to count two of our members as riders in the 25 Mile competition: Pat McAndrews on Constessa and Heather Shupe on Rebel. I interviewed both riders briefly to get their insight.

Pat started her first endurance ride in 1977 and has ridden at least one every year since. Her first endurance horse was an Arab gelding she absolutely loved — riding him for 20 years. Her mount this year is an Arab mare, rescued four years ago. Pat says this mare was so scared of “everything,” she wasn’t sure she would keep her. Contessa has proven herself, and is a smooth ride. Pat could not be more proud!

Pat reported that she went to the **SCCHA** grounds to pre-ride the trails two weeks before the Ride. A huge tree was down, so she had to turn around and report it—returning a week later. I asked how Contessa liked the river obstacle? Pat said they crossed the river ten times in one day, all in the name of preparation. It isn’t fair not to prepare the horse for that surprise. Wow, was I impressed! Pat and Contessa finished tenth in the 25 Mile Ride. Dr. Kessinger said, Contessa was in as good condition as the #1 horse that came in that day. They tied for ‘best condition.’

Heather has been training most of the summer with Rebel, taking long rides all over California, in preparation for the Fireworks Ride. This was her first 25 Mile Endurance Ride. She called it “exhilarating” and would look forward to another one. Heather and Rebel finished thirteenth in the 25 Mile ride, quite a wonderful accomplishment.

Does the rider only trot on the ride or do they canter, as well?

Pat McAndrews said, “trotting at a pretty good pace, maybe 8-10 miles per hour, is her perfect pace.” She likes to stand up in the stirrups. That way she is off the horse’s back. She has never reported a “sore back” on her mount. She said, “A ten mile trot is almost a ‘Zen-State,’ like a runner’s high and a very content state-of-mind for her.” Pat says that her horse doesn’t like the two Endurance saddles she owns; she prefers the Western Saddle. People always ask her, “Is this your first Endurance Ride?”



SCCHA reps toured the San Vicente Redwoods Phase 1 upper trail system, along with members of MBOSC and LandTrust of Santa Cruz.



Registration is now open for **SCCHA**'s signature ride on July 13th.

Volunteers needed!

Contact Ride Manager Debbie Boscoe, Volunteer Coordinator Laura Matthews, or santacruzhorsemens@yahoo.com

Is there a finish time limit per distance?

Time limits: 25 miles = 7 hours, 15 minutes;

50 miles = 12 hours

For those of you who have ridden Endurance, I have a new-found awe of your fortitude and perseverance. What I learned that day will stick with me. Please count me in as a compassionate spectator. Bless all of you who dare to take on the 25 or 50 mile rides.

Lichen Oaks Adaptive Riding Center

(LOARC)

Dedicated to the Healing of the Mind, Body and Spirit

A member of PATH International

(Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship)

by Laura Matthews

We visited LOARC in May on one of the first days of sunshine this spring, and it was beautiful. The facility has recently re-opened and is amazing. The thought that went into its planning and building is readily apparent. The grounds, arena, stables, and turnouts are perfect, and any horse that lives there is a lucky equine!

Lichen Oaks, for those of you who have not heard of it, is in Felton, tucked away on Quail Hollow Road. It is serene and inviting, and immediately transfers you into slow calm. The area around it is spotted with oaks, redwoods, pines, and Manzanita, and a sleepy little brook runs through it: The perfect spot for therapeutic riding.

Their program offers children from the age of 5 though adult the opportunity to experience the gift that horses offer in a calm, safe and healing environment. They are dedicated to enabling humans, with special needs or are at risk, to share the companionship, mobility, and mirroring that our equine partners offer. Their programs can be tailored to individual needs, allowing interaction with the horse, both on the ground and mounted, in an amazing 76' x 139' covered arena. For the comfort of companions who bring their loved ones to the program there is a glass-walled viewing room, along with two decks and bleachers.

Since the program started up again, they are welcoming volunteers for side walkers, leaders, horse care, and barn chores...just in case you don't have enough to do at your barn! You can contact Caroline Fritch, the new program director at caroline@loarc.net call her at (831) 335-2347.

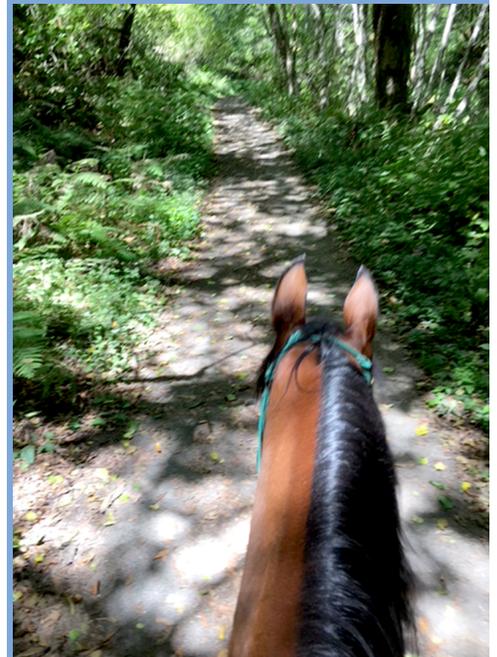
May Member Meeting

Arena Update and Big Screen Entertainment

Carol Kelly treated members who attended with a big screen experience, complete with draped windows, comfortable seating, and a big screen showing of one of the best classic horse movies of all time: *The Man from Snowy River*. Comments ranged from "OMG this my favorite scene" to "OMG I can't stand to watch this scene" (everyone who's see the film knows which scene). Delicious caramel corn, nachos, and red vines were included.



Pat McAndrews and Contessa



Heather's view of the Fireworks Ride through Rebel's ears

Welcome New Members!

The new arena will be open on Saturday, June 1 for the Pony Club event. Drainage outside the arena is still under construction. The official ribbon cutting celebration is being planned, so stay tuned!

Junior's Corner



At the May meeting, the Juniors had a choice of movies and went with this one:

Snowman: The Cinderella Horse

Late to the horse auction that day, riding instructor Harry deLeyer only found the remnants packed up for the slaughterhouse.

"I needed a quiet horse for the beginners," he vividly recalls, as though the events were yesterday. "I remember seeing his eyes and thinking, 'this one seems nice and quiet, I'll give him a chance.' "

He haggled over the price, paid a sum of \$80 and had him dropped off later that day.

Loved by the children he taught, as well as de Leyer's own brood of eight, Snowman (his name chosen by his children as the snowflakes fell in his first winter with them) was a placid horse who never once reacted when the kids pulled his mane or tail roughly.

In 1958, less than two years after being bought for \$80, Snowman won the Triple Crown of show jumping: The American Horse Shows Association Horse of the Year, Professional Horseman's Association Champion, and Champion of Madison Square Garden's Diamond Jubilee. "I never thought he'd be a champion at Madison Square Gardens," de Leyer repeatedly says, seemingly still in disbelief at the horse's performance against the world's best show jumpers.

Juniors: Don't Miss the June Meeting:

New members for May 2019:

**Jill Kilty Newburn
Dennis Matthews & family
Cole Giraldo
Jayden North
Cora Ayers
Peyton Holme
James Serbin & Cara Schwartz
Virgil Baker**



Mark Your Calendars!
Aug 31 & September 1, 2019
(Labor Day Weekend)

2-Day Obstacle Challenge
at the **SCCHA** Showgrounds

Questions? Call Heather: 408 348 9512

Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association



Junior Program

Friday ~ June 28, 2019

7 – 9 pm

Lesson will be with horses!

(Splash (25 yr old) and Osho (7 yr old) they are both Spotted Saddle Horses)



Grooming

What are grooming tools and techniques of how to use

Types of boots and bandages, when and how to apply



Boots and Bandages

ALL JUNIORS MUST WEAR T-SHIRT (NO TANK TOPS).

LONG PANTS AND BOOTS TO PARTICIPATE

Bring snacks to share

**Graham Hill Show Grounds ~ Clubhouse
1145 Graham Hill Road ~ Santa Cruz**

Members and Guests Welcome!

Ride for Relay Recap

Lin M. Campbell summed up her experience at the Ride for Relay, ***"As a first time participant I want to comment on what a great time I had AND that Mary Sullivan did a wonderful job organizing everything as well as keeping everything going so smoothly."***



The enchanting barn at Lichen Oaks.



Lichen Oaks' serene yet impressive covered arena.



Lin and her Icelandic gelding Fjöllumur racing for the finish line in the Ride for Relay.

Trading Post

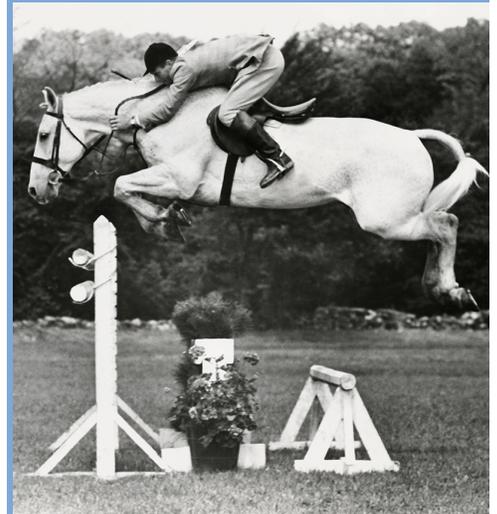
For Sale: 8 year old Arabian gelding, AERC registered, professionally trained, for endurance rides, needs intermediate middle-weight rider. 15H, easy keeper, \$5,500 OBO. Call Jeffrey Luternauer: 831-476-1407.

For Sale: 10 year old Rocky Mountain mare. 14.3H, gentle, very good with kids, sure-footed on trails and creeks. Easy trailering, natural healthy foot trim, never had shoes. Has been to three Linda Tellington clinics (her favorite mare for demo). Likes camping, has been to Jack Brooks, Roaring Camp. Very sound, UTD on all shots and dental. Looking for special home with room to roam. Text Shahla for video and pictures: 831-535-8070.

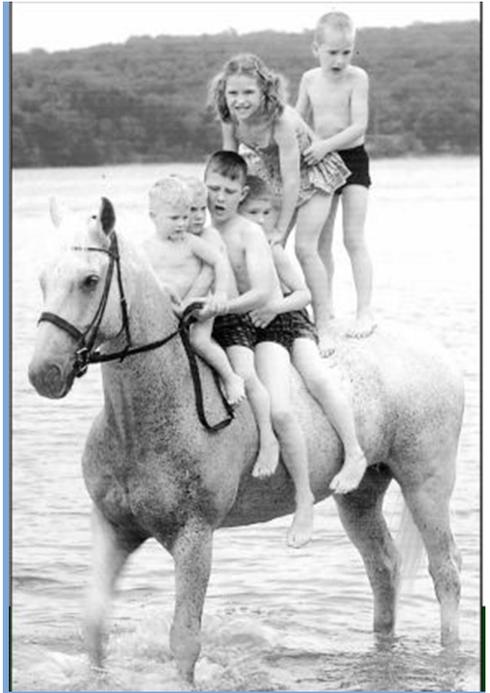


Major Overhaul at the **SCCHA** Arena

Safety, footing, and drainage were addressed in and around the arena. This included stripping out the sand, installing a 100-foot wedge of Olive Springs sand in the lower portion, and replacing the footing sand. This will help slow the movement of sand during the rainy season. The upper end of the arena was graded down, and Olive Springs sand was placed on the base. New drainage pipe is being installed to help carry water away from the arena, and new conduit is being installed for electrical wiring.



Juniors learned the true story of the fabulous rescue horse named Snowman.



Snowman: Champion jumper and beloved family horse.



*Monterey Bay Equestrians will be holding their
18th Annual Poker Ride
and Campout Fundraiser
on June 14-16
at the **SCCHA** Showgrounds*

*Get your registration in by June 1 and avoid a
late fee. For more info on this family fun event
(including an Obstacle Challenge), see
<https://montereybayequestrians.org/pokerride>
or contact Sminnich1962@gmail.com*



You're never too young (or too old) to have fun at the Ride for Relay (and to help a good cause).



*No better way to make new friends than attending an **SCCHA** event like the Ride for Relay.*



Juniors wrap the day with a good old-fashioned marshmallow roast.

June 2019 Events

June 1-2	Pony Club Tetrathalon	Nicole Fisher 831-239-3067
June 4	Redwood Riders Board Meeting	Kathy Rodoni 831-246-0441
June 7	Linda Tellington Jones/Rancho Ruiz	kirsten@ttouch.com
June 14-16	MBE Poker Ride & Campout	Sminnich1962@gmail.com
June 18	SCCHA Members' Meeting	Mary 831-331-6227
June 18-20	PVHC Kids' Camp	private event
June 22	Redwood Riders/Big Arena	Kathy Rodoni 831-246-0441
June 28	SCCHA Juniors' Meeting	scchajuniors@yahoo.com
June 29-30	Krista Koenig Clinic (pending)	morgansrule@sbcglobal.net
TBA	Arena Grand Opening Celebration	email blast to come!

 For more details and a complete list of 2019 events, see SCCHA website.

Ideas? Suggestions? Stories? Photos? Want to advertise?

Please contact us:

santacruzhorsemens@yahoo.com

2018/19 Board of Directors

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