SCCHA Newsletter April2023

From: Santa Cruz County Horsemen's Association (sccha@wildapricot.org)

To: lindsayao@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, April 10, 2023 at 09:25 AM PDT

Is your newsletter too small to read easily on your computer? Try this:

Hold down the CTRL key (on a PC) or the CMD key (on a Mac) while you hit the + key until the pages are large enough. If you want to revert to the original size, hold down CTRL or CMD and hit zero.

You can also enlarge the newsletter in the website archives https://sccha.wildapricot.org/Newsletter-Archives

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President's message:

Well, we've had more luck with the state legislature than with the weather. We have once again postponed the Memorial Tree Planting, tree based on the weather forecast for more rain. It's now scheduled for April 15 at 10 a.m. The trees are probably as anxious as we are to get them in the ground.

Do you remember the horse poop bill? This was proposed legislation, AB 233, that would allow local governments to require horse riders to pick up and dispose of horse manure from public lands. It would have meant riding with a shovel and bag and hauling our manure out of state parks and other public trails. SCCHA and a number of other clubs rallied and wrote our state representatives. We lobbied heavily with the legislative committee that heard the bill. They heard us! The bill has been amended and the requirement to remove manure from public lands has been removed. It's not dead but good enough. We still may be required to remove manure from sidewalks and paved streets. But, our thinking is that's OK. We should do that anyway. Thank you to everybody who wrote and called. It made a difference.

It looks like we are finally getting out of the mud season and moving into the shedding season. Plans are underway for a number of fun events. We've added a play day to the calendar—Saturday, July 1. This will be fun day of horse games where juniors are invited to participate for free. Of course, it's not just for juniors. Let's see how well the rest of us measure up against the kids!

We're also planning to add a Parade of Breeds to our September 9 open house. The public and other horse clubs in the area are invited. This is a great chance to show off your beautiful horses. We will have demonstrations—vacquero riding, equestrian vaulting—and will have horses for kids to brush and paint. (Yes, that's correct. Karen Bish has offered her white horses as canvases.) Lorraine Flores will bring her miniature horses to be adored, and Debra Means will bring some donkeys to add to the assortment. Please plan to join in the parade.

The Board would like to send a very special thank you to all of our members who have donated to the Club above and beyond membership fees. This year, almost \$1000 has been donated. We really appreciate it. Thank you.

Last, but certainly not least. The election. Thank you all for your confidence in re-electing the incumbent directors who ran. Darren Hawks is joining the Board for the first time. Welcome, welcome Darren. We're really glad to have her. We had a three-way tie for the final open seat. Patricia Davis, Debra Means and Katy Bazurto all tied in what we think is an unprecedented situation. In keeping with our bylaws to break a tie by "lottery," I drew a name out of the hat at last night's meeting. Katy's name was drawn and she will continue to serve. Kathy Rodoni, who has been a mainstay on the Board, has stepped down to devote time to their family business. We will miss her and thank her for her humor, horse sense, and hard work.

Happy trails,





Important Dates:

1/8 AgiYother Clinic

4/15 Memorial Grove Work/Party

4/18 Member Mtg/Tack Swap

5/6 Spring Obstacle Clinic

5/7 Spring Obstacle Challenge

5/13 Jec Ballou Clinic

7/1 Playday!7/8 Poker Ride

7/6 TOKET KIGE

7/22 Equestrian Trail Sports

8/26 Endurance Ride Clinic

9/9 Progressive Open House

Check the SCCHA website and FB page to be sure that the Showgrounds are dry and usable before you go. Also check the Open/Closed sign near the entrance for updated info.

For more info, click the links below:



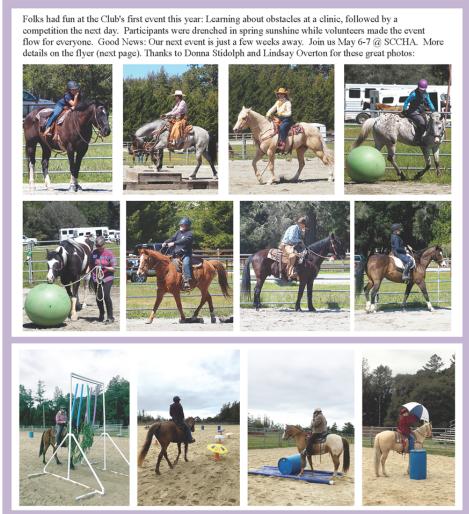
Don't forget to check the SCCHA website for more events: https://sccha.wildapricot.org/

and our FB page: https://www.facebook.com/people/Santa-Cruz-County-Horsemens/100057818433171/

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at manemom@gmail.com.

Earth Day Around the Barn

Earth Day is just around the corner, and now is the time to prepare your horse property for warmer weather. Here are a few environmentally friendly suggestions to get you started:

Put up boxes for swallows and bats. These flying insect eaters are excellent natural allies in the horse owner's fight against pests. Swallows are voracious; each bird eats about 4,000 insects per day! A single bat can pack away a pint of mosquitoes every night. Find out what species of swallows live in your area, and which type of box they prefer. Bats are even more particular about where they roost. They need a warm house at least 12 feet off the ground with no wind, but 6-8 hours of sun exposure/day.

Release fly predators. Flies are just beginning to come out of hibernation and start breeding. By releasing small amounts of fly predators every month throughout fly season, you'll keep fly populations down without chemicals.

Tend your manure pile. If you compost your horse manure, this is the time to turn and aerate your pile. It may be ready to rototill into your garden or share with gardening friends.

Hang fly traps. Non-toxic, reusable fly traps round out a natural approach to horsekeeping. Since each fly can lay up to 1,000 eggs in it's short 10-day life span, it makes sense to trap as many as possible. Use caution with sticky traps, which can harm birds and other wildlife.

Neutralize odors. Flies are attracted to moisture and rotting materials, like pee spots. Make sure your paddocks are graded and rocked below the surface to provide drainage. Stock up on zeolites to help dry and deodorize urine.

For more help getting your horse property ready for the rest of the year, contact your local conservation district, the nearest extension office, and visit

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Chinese proverb:

Before enlightenment, chop that wood, carry water. After enlightenment,

chop that wood, carry water.

Somewhere along the line—up with some other tricky life lies—we came to believe that working with horses was going to be easy. We will start at A (buy horse) and end at Z (ride horse wherever and whenever, with great ease and much happiness).

Now this is more of a possibility if you don't care how the horse feels or moves. If you view a horse as something akin to a bike, then you can treat it as such and you may well be able to achieve your end of the bargain—regular riding doing as you wish, when you wish.

However, if you actually care about the horse's side of the equation, and give a monkey's __about whether their saddle fits, their feet are balanced and pain free, and the greatest challenge of all—that they understand what you're asking and can actually respond to that physically and mentally—well then you have entered the realm of living with the truth. Once seen you can't unsee it.

And when you live with the truth, then fighting against it only serves to cause you much greater pain than you need to encounter. If every time you become aware that your saddle doesn't fit, or your horse needs support with their digestion, or—horror of horrors—they may be finding you a bit tricky to be around, you go into a spiral of despair, then you're going to end up in much more trouble than if you just addressed the situation.

If you want a straightforward, transactional relationship where you say, "I want to go there and do this" and your partner always agrees, then I would suggest with much kindness, you get a bike. Your bike may get the occasional puncture or wobbly handle bars, but it's not got much more to bring to the party than that.

However, if you want a partnership with a living, breathing creature with their own internal life, their own relationships, their own body which made no guarantees to you regarding such things as "rideability," then it makes no sense to rail against that truth. That is what you got yourself into, and if you get emotionally flattened every time something is tricky, then really you are missing the point.

Because when it comes to horses, there may or may not come enlightenment, but there will always be plenty of wood chopping and water carrying. You just have to keep on going, seeing what you're being presented with today, trying to understand that, learning from it as best you can and then continuing.

This may lead you to the holy grail of riding your horse wherever and whenever with much joy on both sides, and it just as equally might not. Both are the truth of the situation and wishing it was anything other is the fastest route to insanity.

-Kate, softandsound.org, North Bovey, UK



Rancho del Oso suffered mightily in the CZU fire. It remains closed except for the mile or so in from Hwy 1 to the parking lot, and the Marsh Trail to the Interpretive Center. There are no trails for horses or bikes, and according to Will Fourt, a planner with the parks, there might not be for another few years. Since we can't ride out there and so wouldn't be camping for a while, the park has decided to use the horse camp for other campers in the interim. Rest assured we are not losing the camp permanently; we get it back as soon as the trails open again, with the improvements promised a few years ago.

-Debbie Boscoe, SCCHA Trails & Advocacy



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Springtime: Clean & Inspect Before You Haul

Regardless of the amount of use your horse trailer saw over the winter, it should undergo inspection and maintenance before hitting the road in the spring of every year. Now is the time to prevent small problems from becoming emergencies later on. Basic spring cleaning includes a top-to-bottom wash and wax, removing rust, dirt, mold, algae, and pests that may have overwintered in the trailer,

Since all trailers are different, follow maintenance instructions in the owner's manual. Investing in service maintenance for your trailer and tow vehicle goes a long way to keeping your horses safe and comfortable. Until you get to a reliable mechanic, you can perform some inspection and maintenance on your own:



STRUCTURE

Floor

Pull up all mats. Make sure the floor is structurally sound. If your floor is aluminum, check for corrosion. If wood, press into the floor with a flathead screwdriver, especially around bolts. Inspect floor from both inside and underneath the trailer. If you find weakness, rot, or pitting, you must replace the floor before hauling your horses. Make sure mats lie flat. Before hauling, cover mats with clean shavings for traction and to absorb waste.

Frame

Check for signs of rust, especially at welds. Make sure doors, windows, and butt bars operate smoothly and latch securely. Look for signs of leaking at windows. Roof

Trailers stored outside take a beating from weather, especially roofs. Regularly cleaning and sealing the roof preserves the life of the trailer and prevents leaks.

Use a screwdriver to check that the wood in the ramp is sound. If the ramp feels stiff and heavy when you raise and lower it, your ramp springs need to be replaced. Make sure the ramp closes securely.

ELECTRICAL

Lighting

Hitch the trailer and verify that all lights are fully functional. Don't forget to check turn signals, too.

Use cleaners designed to remove corrosion and leave a protective film (don't use WD40, which attracts dirt).

Make sure all tires, including the spare, have plenty of tread. Check sidewalls: if you see signs of rot, replace the tires. Even if the tires look fine, replace them if they're more than four years old. Finally, inflate tires to the recommended PSI.

Hitch up and take the trailer for a short drive to ensure the trailer brakes are functioning, including the emergency trailer brake.

The tongue and hitch are especially prone to rust and weathering, so expect to clean and protect this area. Make sure the trailer sits level to the ground when

EMERGENCY KITS

Include replacement bulbs and fuses. On long trips, consider extra drive belts, coolant, engine oil, and any other items that may be hard to find on the road. Check fire extinguishers (one for the truck, one for the trailer). Check jack. Carry a large can of tire inflator, and a set of reflectors

FIRST AID KITS

Check to make sure first aid supplies are complete and replenished for you and your horse.

Keep track of your trailers mileage. Make sure that a mechanic checks wheel bearings, axles, lug nuts, wiring, and brakes every year or at least every 10,000 miles. Happy Trails...and may you and your horses stay safe this year!



To renew your membership:

https://sccha.wildapricot.org/Renew-Membership

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New Study Supports the Oral History of Horses in the American West

The oral traditions of Indigenous peoples have often been neglected by outside historians, in spite of their unique value in understanding the past. Multiple tribes in the American West recount that their peoples had horses of Spanish descent before Europeans physically arrived in their homelands. Written histories, however, pinpoint the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, when allied Indigenous groups pushed Spanish colonizers out of New Mexico, as the time when horses were first introduced to tribal cultures.

A new study, recently published in the journal *Science*, involved more than 80 co-authors, including geneticists and archaeologists, as well as historians and scientists from the Lakota, Comanche, and Pawnee nations.

In the study, about two dozen sets of horse remains were gathered from museums. These bones were taken from sites ranging from New Mexico to Idaho to Kansas In 1990, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation established a process for museums and other institutions to collaborate with tribes in returning stolen sacred objects.



He Stalks One with descendants of horses that accompanied the Cherokee, Choctaw, Muscogee, Chickasaw, and Seminole Peoples on forced removals, referred to as the "Trail of Tears." (Sacred Way Sanctuary via AP)



Lakota archaeologist Chance Ward examines horse reference collections in the Archaeozoology Lab at the University of Colorado, Boulder, (Samantha Eads via AP)

The analysis of these horses' bones revealed that they were indeed present, raised, and ridden by Indigenous groups in the Great Plains and northern Rockies by the early 1600s. These horses may have escaped from Spanish camps, or been traded through tribal networks.

The study also showed that, over time, the genetics of horses in North America switched from being primarily of Spanish origin to a mixture of British and Spanish, reflecting the ascent of different empires.

"Almost every aspect of the human-horse relationship is manifest in the skeleton in some way," said University of Colorado at Boulder archaeologist William Taylor, a study author

The ambitious research collaboration, which was initiated by Lakota scholars, validates oral traditions, and is one step to repairing a longstanding mistrust between Indigenous groups and archaeologists, who in the early and mid- 20th century raided tombs and ceremonial sites for cultural artifacts without consent.

From the 3/22/23 AP ariticle by Christina Larson



Reporting Trail Hazards

What a winter! We are all finding lots of trees down and other assorted hazards on the trails these days. David Coleman with the State Parks has a new form that anyone can use to report these issues (click the link below). He will review them and get crews working on them, beginning with the most urgent safety-wise. Remember that there are only a handful of people for all the parks, so if there isn't an immediate fix, please be patient: there is no need to submit multiple reports for the same issue.

—Debbie Boscoe, SCCHA Trails & Advocacy



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSf7TJd01smGRdjKnYCf0xoCyu4SmTHagmMibRAp253Hao4D_A/viewform

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Know that old gelding of yours?

—Shishana Rourke, author of *The Trail I Follow*

In reality, that little girl will ride and love him for a

This is Sterling, a rescue who did not make it. He is on the cover of Shishana's Rourke's book:

few years. However, she outgrows him. He's even slower and she's ready to run. Her family is not bonded with The Trail I Follow (on Amazon). your horse like you were. They sell him to the inexperienced family down the road. This family knows nothing about horses. They don't know how to feed an aged horse. He loses weight. Soon it's so bad they keep him in the back pasture where no one can see him. Finally, they take him to a sale.

No one at the sale wants a neglected, aged horse. So he goes through the ring and sells for \$400 to a killbuyer. The killpen is where I find him. I know nothing about his history and nothing about his health. All I can see is the wisdom and pain in his eyes. I take him home.

As much as I love what I do, I would love to never see one of these poor old guys again. It breaks my heart to know that this is the story of so many animals out there.

So please, please keep your aged horses. If you can no longer afford them, lease them to a friend or put them down. No one deserves for their life to end this way.

Know that old gelding of yours?

You know, the trusty gelding who taught you to ride. We all have one in our pasture. He was the first horse you trusted with your kids. Everything this horse has done has had a purpose behind it.

Now his joints are starting to show arthritis from all the learning you two did together. He probably has slowed down and needs a little extra food. Your family is ready for something with a little more speed, and he doesn't fit the bill. So you convince yourself you are letting him go so he can help teach another child. In your mind, you see him happily trotting down the road with a sweet little girl on his back.

In a Manner That Protects You and Your Horse

A Clinic With

Agi Yother, Biomechanics Trainer

- Feel safer and more secure in the saddle
- Develop a deeper and more secure connection to your horse
- Recognize the correct posture for a balanced and effective seat
- Develop a higher sense of awareness to keep yourself in correct alignment while riding Available for beginners and advanced riders

\$160 Clinic \$60 Audit Camping with Corrals Available Reach out to host Pat McAndrews:

Cell: 408-828-1140 Email: pat@kittle.net

Saturday April 8, 2023 9AM-5PM

Santa Clara County Horsemens 20350 McKean Rd. San Jose CA. 95120

"When they give it to you it's 1000% better than when you take it."









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Just fed horses wearing 2 shirts, a hoodie and zipped up jacket. How is there still hay in my bra? ...and if I'm being perfectly honest, I'm not even wearing a bra. Still, theres the hay.



Specialized Trailmaster Saddle for Sale



Lightweight performance-based trail saddle. 15lbs, with a 15" seat, and a wide tree. All black with a custom fleece seat cover over the leather seat. I'm including endurance stirrups and a Specialized girth. Billets are new but no leathers are included. Great condition. Just needs to be fitted to your horse. \$1399 plus shipping if necessary. debbieboscoe@gmail.com (Santa Cruz)

Solved it, no more taking my boots off every 5 minutes to tip the hay out 👌





Experienced Rider Needed

I have recently dislocated my shoulder, which will either require surgery or a complete replacement, so I will be out for an extended period of time. I bought a really nice mare that was started very well but stood in a dry lot for 8 years. I started trail riding and horse camping with her. It was like riding a 4-year-old which is where she had been left off. Abby is a 16-hand, 14-year-old mare. She is by a Gai Ultimate colt (Huckleberry Bey, a Varian Stallion), and out of a quarter horse mare. She is unregistered but a class act. Beautiful, handy, very smart and well broke, but inexperienced. I am hoping someone with experience would take her on until I can ride again. I don't want any money, but I don't want to lose her either. I have talked with a few people whose horses are retiring or on the "lay off list," but not sure they want to make another investment at this time. I board horses in pastures in Newcastle, so if yours is retiring or in need of a lay-up, we could trade for a time. If anyone is interested, please contact me to discuss, Karyn Purmort at dakotaenterprise@yahoo.com or 530.823.8754 in Newcastle (Auburn) CA.

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Family horse looking for good home. Missy, 12-yr-old grade TB mare, 15.3 h. Neck reins, has cow work exp. (sorting and roping), started on the barrel pattern, wonderful on trails. Missy will ride through rivers, to town, and is great on roads. She can be ridden without a bit, and is very willing to please. No medical isues, clean bill of health, clean legs, UTD on shots and feet. For photos and more info katrina_ramey@yahoo.com

Part-time riding instructor for children with disabilities needed. Westwind Riding Institute, a therapeutic riding program in Los Altos Hills seeks a Riding Instructor to join our team. The candidate will have excellent horsemanship skills, strong leadership capabilities, and arena/trail experience. Position requires safe, fun, creative instruction and training/working with volunteers. Classes meet Mon & Fri from 4-5 pm for three 10-week sessions. There is a 2-hour (Mon) summer evening session for 6 weeks. Experience working with children with disabilities is ideal. Please email, Westwindriding@gmail.com

Westwind Riding Institute is looking for a few good horses. Long-term lease wanted on gentle, healthy horses for our therapeutic riding program. The easy pace is the perfect second career for an older or outgrown horse, and a great way to make use of their life experiences. We have both pasture and stall boarding available in Los Altos Hills. We give excellent care and lots of love to our program horses. Contact Deb at Westwindriding@gmail.com

Felton: 800 SF 2/1 cottage w/ corral/shelter option. 10 min to Santa Cruz, 2 min to Felton. Meadow view, oaks, madrone, fruit surrounding, yet house gets plenty of light. 2 large decks, full kitchen, elec. range, fridge, full-size shower/tub, w/d hookups. Tile floors thruout, many windows, gas heat. Responsible for minimal upkeep for approx 1/2 acre fenced. Room for garden; horse corral/shelter avail at add. cost. Avail. 4/15. Dog(s) ok with refs. 2nd house on 6 acres, distanced from main house. Quiet, non-smoking. Rent: \$2,800. Sec/cleaning dep: \$2,800. Water/garbage incl. Tenant pays PG&E/propane. Contact Jeannette: 831.818-8013 or 335-8133, jennamoretti18@gmail.com.

Grade gelding for sale. Approx. 11 years old. Has been ridden English and western. Some working equitation and private lessons. In pasture since August. \$4,500 or best offer. Serious inquiries only. 831.818.6735, ask for Kim.

COAST ROAD STABLES Boarding Available. Choice of large paddocks with cover and storage. Several arenas and turnout areas, wash racks, trailer parking. Reliable cleaning and feeding available. Adjacent to Wilder Ranch State Park. Message Ben 831-247-0543 or Amy 707-477-4720.





SMALL RENTAL WANTED:

My good friend, Julie Carpenter, is a well-known local horseman and trainer who has been living up north and is now looking to find a place in Santa Cruz County.

Needed: small studio or a place with own bedroom and bath, can share a kitchen. Julie plans to live in Santa Cruz full-time during winter months, but only sporadically the rest of the year because she has a busy clinic schedule all over the West. She will happily pay rent here year-round as she would like to have a home base in Santa Cruz. Her price range is \$14-\$1600/month; prefer a location in SLV, but not critical. She has a very friendly, extremely well-trained dog.

I have known Julie well, both personally and professionally for several decades, and can strongly recommend her as a low-key, kind, and highly responsible person!

If you have any rental possibilities for Julie, please contact her directly via phone or text: 831-818-3129

Posted by Renee Shepherd, SCCHA Lifetime Member

TRAIL RIDER'S DREAM: ~ 4.5 miles above UCSC bordering Wilder Ranch. Over 100 acres, hours of trail riding PLUS, our access to Wilder may be the best in the area. Small, full-service stable that rarely has openings. We provide:

- 12'x12' matted stall w/a 12'x24' paddock.
- AM and PM feeding. We feed alfalfa, and an alfalfa-grass mix. We accommodate most diets.
 - · Daily cleaning and shavings
 - · Large turnouts (for an additional fee)

or 831-426-7692 to inquire. Happy trails!

- A heated and well-appointed tack room.
- 3 matted & lighted washing/tacking stalls.
 Farriers & Vets love it.
- An arena w/ mirrors and lights.
 Caretaker is communicative and conscientious, and can accommodate individual feed needs: grain, meds, etc.The Owner lives on-site, adding security, supervision and extra horse love. We charge \$550/month. Come see us! Please call 714-272-4618

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Upcoming Events 2023

4/8	Agi Yother clinic	Pat McAndrews, 408-828-1140 pat@kittle.net
4/15	Memorial Grove Planting	Bring gloves, shovel, & a dish to share
4/18	Member Meeting & Tack Swap	6:30 at the Clubhouse
5/6 & 5/7	Spring Fling Obstacle Challenge	Heather 408-348-9512
5/13	Jec Ballou: Fitness, Function, Flexibility clinic	jec@jecballou.com
7/1	Play Day	Hold the Date!
7/8	Poker Ride	Stay tuned for more details & prize list!

For more details, see SCCHA FB and website.

 $SCCHA\ News\ Submissions;$ DEADLINE is the last Tuesday of eachmonth for the following month's issue.

Stories and Articles

Members, please share your horse interests and experiences with us!

Must be "cam and/or copy to advance to SC SCCHA, 1251"

Cruz, CA 950

Cruz, CA 950

Images:

jpg, png formats, 72 dpi minimum

Trading Post Ads: Must be non-commercial and horse-related. Free to members; \$10 for non-members.

Include item, price, name, and contact info. Renew by email each month ad is to be run.

Must be "camera ready." Email images and/or copy to editor. Ads must be paid in advance to SCCHA. Send payment to: SCCHA, 1251 Graham Hill Rd, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Business Ad Rates:

Business card \$20/mo \$50/3 months 1/4 page \$40/mo \$400/year 1/2 page \$80/mo \$800/year

EDITOR: Karen Morgan

palmviewfarm@comcast.net

Thank Gen to our Board and all our Volunteers! 2022-2023 Board of Directors

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	33	
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