

## SCCHA Newsletter December2022

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

To: lindsayao@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 at 10:00 AM PST

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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.

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# December 2022



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

## President's message:

Equestrians were recently invited to a special event to preview trails at San Vicente Redwoods before they officially opened on December 3. Previously owned, mined, and logged by Cemex, the preserve is near Bonny Doon, across from Crest Christmas Tree Ranch on Empire Grade.

Of the approximate 8,500 acres, the first 7 to 8 miles of the 38 miles of planned trail are stacked loops, running through charred redwoods, oak, and madrone, with sprigs of green reemerging.

Here's what I liked:

- Separate trails for bikes and equestrians. Hikers will share with equestrians.
- Nice views.
- Nice footing.
- Indigenous names for trails and good signage.
- A large parking lot with bathrooms and plenty of room to turn horse trailers.
- Well planned bridges.

But here's the drag. It will be sometime before horses have access to more than 3 to 4 miles of trail.

Heather Shupe and Mila Avignon said this about their ride: "Overall we found the trails easy to navigate and peaceful. The newly-built trails had a few soft spots and some rocky parts, while bridges had well-planned entry and exit points."

"Most of all we were impressed by the ambitious growth: The forest is busy recovering with charred trees hosting new growth everywhere, each plant seeking sunlight in new spaces opened by wildfire."

Suzanne and Robert Cornelius said they "ignored Google and took 17 all the way to up Highway 1 north in Santa Cruz, then up High Street, up past UC until it becomes Empire Grade. The new facility has a huge circle driveway and the various agency representatives helped people park on both sides so everyone could easily fit and people could get out."

"We were a bit disappointed to learn that there will only be 2 to 4 (depending on who was asked) miles of trail open to equestrians in this phase. ... Glad we went, but will unlikely go again until there is more mileage."

Happy Holidays! Please come to the

**SCCHA Holiday Party.**

**Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m.**

It's earlier than we usually gather, but we want to hang out at our new campfire and watch the sunset! Bring a side dish or dessert — and whatever you want to drink. SCCHA board members will cook turkeys, mashed potatoes and gravy.

Please RSVP to Robin at [manemom@gmail.com](mailto:manemom@gmail.com).

— Robin Musitelli



Happy Holidays!



**Important Dates:**

**12/18: SCCHA Holiday Party!**

For more info, click the link to the SCCHA website below:



Elise and Robin took a "sneak peek" at the new trails in San Vicente Redwoods.

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/>



## SCCHA Holiday Party

Sunday, December 18

5:00 p.m.  
at the Clubhouse



The SCCHA social event of the year! You're invited and we hope to see you!


- Sit outside and enjoy the new campfire, as well as the creative new landscaping!
- SCCHA Board Members will serve roast turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy.
- Bring a side dish or desert, and whatever you would like to drink.
- **Please RSVP to Robin at [manemom@gmail.com](mailto:manemom@gmail.com).**

### Mud Alert!

Please park along the driveway or tie rail.  
Avoid wet and muddy ground.  
Always check signage to see what parts of the Showgrounds are usable.




No time to groom? No photo ops with the equine family members? No problem!



**HOLISTIC HORSEKEEPING**  
with Madalyn Ward, DVM

**Horse Health Care:  
Does a Dirty Horse Stay Warmer During the Winter?**



Actually yes, under most conditions. For horses living in fairly natural conditions, such as those in living in pasture and exposed to the weather, being dirty actually helps them stay warm.

The dirt forms a layer of insulation in your horse's coat, keeping him warmer than if his coat was brushed totally clean. This is one of the reasons, among many, that horses in the wild take frequent "dirt baths."

So despite appearances, when it comes to horse health care in the winter, a dirty horse is a warm horse. Dr. Madalyn Ward, [HolisticHorseKeeping.com](http://HolisticHorseKeeping.com)



Last month, SCCHA hosted a clinic by equine fitness expert, Jec Ballou. Jec's clinics benefit a wide diversity of horses and riders. The November 5th clinic brought everything from an Icelandic to a giant Warmblood.

Participants learned both groundwork and ridden exercise routines geared towards helping their horses maintain a baseline of fitness and flexibility in the winter months when there is much less time for riding.

The day began with stretches and mobility exercises for the horses' polls, shoulders, and topline. Then, riders mounted up and worked through a variety of walk and trot routines to improve the horses' postures and quality of movement. It was fun to observe many of the horses begin to travel more fluidly and with flexibility as a result.

The final session brought challenging but fun canter exercises for those who wanted to participate. As Jec reminded everyone, it's not about conquering the exercise; it's about what the exercise can do for your horse's body. Overall, this clinic brought together a delightful group of riders who left with tools to work on for the winter.

**Stay tuned: SCCHA is hoping to have Jec return for another clinic on May 13!**





*Mila Avignon and I enjoyed the new San Vicente Redwoods trails Saturday, Nov. 18, a special event offered to horses only a few weeks before the park officially opened to the public.*

Overall SVR is a peaceful place, high above the San Lorenzo Valley and Santa Cruz. We were impressed with the extensive work done to clear trails, with pleasant meandering paths and pretty views of the ocean and layered ridges surrounding Bonny Doon.

Overall we found the trails easy to navigate and peaceful. The newly built trails had a few soft spots and some rocky parts, while bridges had well-planned entry and exit points. Most of all we were impressed by the ambitious growth: The forest is busy recovering beneath charred trees, hosting new growth everywhere, each plant seeking sunlight in new spaces opened by the wildfire.

At one point our horses got concerned...something was in the forest with us... above our trail but moving slowly our way... it was Bonnie Stoeckner riding with a pair of friends on another trail [photo above right]. We called out greetings as the horses relaxed along the short ride back to the parking lot.

On the drive home we passed dozens of bike clubs scattered along Empire Grade who were also enjoying a sunny Saturday. Some had gathered for a tailgate bbq which smelled sooo good. Others were riding in small groups, sharing stories and directions...just like equestrians!

Our heartfelt thanks go to the land trust and volunteers who built and opened SVR trails following years of planning and hard work.

—Heather Shupe



*The trails were absolutely lovely!* We hit pretty much every one and got just under 7 miles. On a clear day the views will be magnificent. We saw a lot of people still working on the trails and everyone seemed to be happy to see us. We were told that eventually they will expand the trails all the way to Davenport!

Many areas that were burned are recovering nicely, although I think the redwoods are the ones who fared the best. Lots of dead oaks and other trees in the mix. The

interesting contrast of vibrant green among blackened dead trees... a bit "goth" but with a much more colorful background!

Dogs (on leash and on certain trails only) and bikes will be allowed. The parking lot is not very big, but there were at about 10 rigs of various sizes there and they all fit fine. Access is on Empire Grade Rd. about 15 miles north of Santa Cruz. For more information, visit their website: <https://www.landtrustsantacruz.org/svr/>

—Elisabet Hiatt



*Twenty-three presentations from a notable community of like-minded, cohesive horse people who understand that the best thing they can do for their horse is to work on themselves.*

I imagine some of you have caught wind that there was this thing called the “Warwick Schiller Journey On Podcast Summit,” which took place the first week in November in San Antonio, Texas. Since I had the very good fortune to be able to attend the Summit in person, I will do my best to *try* to give you a taste of the experience.

First of all, the Journey On Podcast is hosted mostly by Warwick Schiller, and occasionally by his wife, Robyn Schiller. Warwick has been on a spiritual journey for the past 4-5 years or so, and has been sharing it very publicly. He has been absolutely transparent and vulnerable, and this journey has transformed the way he trains and sees horsemanship and really everything else too. One of his (and my) favorite quotes is by Wayne Dyer, “When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.” And so they do.

During COVID, Robyn came up with the idea of a Q and A podcast, but what actually happened is that Warwick interviewed some incredibly interesting people, ones who have made some kind of spiritually transformative growth in their lives. Most of them are horse people, but not all of them. Warwick is an absolutely excellent interviewer and can get the most interesting conversations out of people. Oftentimes the podcasts go nearly two hours or longer.

I felt drawn to several of his podcast guests and sought them out to work with one on one, or to do workshops or classes with. So when I heard that there was going to be a Summit where 23 of the first-year guests would do 20-minute speeches and also have panels and Q and A sessions, I couldn’t sign up fast enough.

The presenters included Jim Masterson, Dr. Susan Fay, Kerri Lake, Rupert Issacson, Leslie Desmond, Karen Rolf, Dr. Steve Peters, Sarah Schlote, Jillian Kriebing, Mark Rashid, Crissy McDonald, Terri Kuebler, Shea Stewart, Sukie Baxter, Elsa Sinclair, Barbara Shulte, Dr. Jessica White Plume, Nahshon Cook, Josh Nichol,

Jane Pike, Kathy Price and Carla Bauchmueller. A very Impressive lineup indeed!

When I arrived at the hotel in San Antonio where I would be sharing a room with Dr. Susan Fay, and where the event would be held, the excitement and energy were palpable! I had flown in with one of the presenters and another podcast guest from Season 2 and there were lots of friends and people I knew that would be coming, it was exciting from the start. There was a meet and greet along with a light supper buffet supplied by the hotel, and I saw some friends and met a bunch of new friends. *Everyone* was a friend, the energy was so warm and welcoming.

The Summit itself started with Warwick and Robyn greeting everyone, Their son, Tyler, was responsible for all of the tech—livestream and all, and he did an outstanding job. The first TIC (Teach Inspire Connect) talk was presented by Kerri Lake, and her beautiful uplifting speech about Love and Being Yourself set the stage for what was to follow. Next Karen Rolf gave her marvelous words of wisdom, so much content. Barbara Schulte made me sure to not forget tissues the next day. There were plenty of laughs, but there were tears as well. Warwick was a great MC and added to the panel discussions as well.

Both the people who presented and attended the Summit were all completely authentic, open, vulnerable, accepting. It was an incredible experience to be in a room of nearly 300 empaths. The feelings that we all felt were magnified.

The TIC talks were *so* powerful and varied, yet many contained common themes, including unapologetically feeling your feelings, without judging them as good or bad; living your truth, walking your walk, being yourself, whatever that may look like; the importance of breath, the power of pause, connectedness, balance, energy, intuition, harmony. Does this sound like a *horse* conference? Yes, it *was* horses that brought us together, but this was about us getting us better with ourselves.. It was huge and

powerful and left a lot of people reeling. There were many who literally felt the ground shift, and or had vertigo, and most of us are still, as Josh Nichol and Kerri Lake put it, needing to allow the snow in the snow globe to settle.

The things we shared, the TIC talks, and the chats at breakfast, lunches, or in the evenings, are significant life changing events. There is a shift of focus, of energy. Some people are calling this Summit the "Woodstock of the Horse World." It seems to be a paradigm shifting kind of event.

I was interviewed for a podcast about the podcast summit. It's called Equinely Inclined—Journey On Summit—It's Not About the Horse, if you want to find out a little more.

If you missed this Summit but would like to be able to soak it up, it is still available for purchase. The cost is \$99 and the website is [summit.warwickschiller.com](http://summit.warwickschiller.com). Of course, I whole heartedly recommend this expertly done recording for anyone (especially horse people) who might be interested and excited by the "woo" (which was by the

way debunked scientifically in some of the TIC talks). It is cutting-edge stuff, very inspirational and thought provoking.

If you have seen the Summit or do so in the future and wish to discuss it, feel free to contact me!

— Jane Kameny Brown



Warwick and Jane at the First Journey On Podcast Summit

### *Getting Us Better With Ourselves* ★ *Gets Us Better With Horses*

"When Warwick and Robyn Schiller decided to start a podcast I'm not sure they knew it would become a lifeline for many of us struggling in the loss, loneliness, and isolation we were living in.

The podcast included horses, but as Warwick says, it's not really about horses. It's about vulnerability. It's about personal transformations. It's about finding our higher purpose."

— Christine Dixon  
Transformational Mentor,  
Journey On Podcast Summit attendee

"Horses in a herd feel comfortable not because the herd provides physical protection, but because of the security of the awareness of all the other horses. ... The more you make the horse aware of how aware you are... that's what makes him feel relaxed. If you're present, he thinks of you as part of the herd. And if you let a horse know you're fully aware, it almost negates the need to train him to be relaxed. It's a bit of a quantum shift in how we think about things."

— Warwick Schiller  
<https://www.warwickschiller.com/>

"Humanity has this amazing capacity to shift our perspective, to change what we pay attention to and to change the meaning we assign to things. The rest of nature doesn't operate with that kind of consciousness. Through which lens are we listening to nature as we consider ourselves stewards of it? What if non-human life is stewarding us just as much as we think we steward nature?"

— Kerri Lake  
<https://www.kerrilake.com/>

"We have no idea how energetically 'loud' we can be. That is why many horses have to shut down in order to survive around people. That is why many people have to shut down around other people."

— Dr. Susan Fay  
<https://www.dr.susanfay.com/>

"In the cocoon of our comfortable lives, it's often our horses that give us the biggest sense of connection to a sensory base that is our birthright and yet often feels very far away. We ask ourselves, how do we develop our intuition? As though we aren't intuitive beings to begin with. So far removed we have become."

— Jane Pike  
<https://confidentrider.online/>

"What if ... You show up to your horse as your *true self*? You, free of self-doubt and self-criticism ... You, before you ever felt 'not good enough' ... You who are playful and free ... Your horse is waiting for YOU."

— Karen Rohlf  
<https://dressagenaturally.net/>

"Creatures of connection. I have found that my horses love to touch me. Placing their nose on me and staying in connection is something they often do ... in moments of calm regulation I love to freely interact and allow them the time to freely interact with me. This starts to create a deeper relationship and allows the unique character of each horse to shine through!"

— Josh Nichol  
<https://joshnichol.com/>





Dear Santa,  
 Please bring me:

- ☒ Lots of quality forage to nibble on
- ☒ A clean, dry bed and room to run
- ☒ Enriching activities so I don't get bored
- ☒ A loving, forever home with my friends



### Line Dance Lessons!

Santa Cruz dance instructor Shanta Shenoy had folks boot scootin' and tush pushin' in no time at last month's member meeting. After introducing the basic steps, she added music and away everyone went, even those of us greenhorns with two left feet. Just goes to show that you oughtta not miss another SCCHA member meeting. You'll be missing way too much fun!



### Available December 20

Looking to board horse in exchange for shared horse care at my property near Pine Flat and Empire Grade in Bonny Doon. Your horse would have an enclosed 12x12 stall with attached 24x24 pipe corral plus access to grass turnouts and a 3/4 size dressage arena with groomed, irrigated sand footing. Trails in Fall Creek Extension are accessible 100 yds down Empire Grade.

Contact:  
 Elizabeth Broome  
 beth95060@gmail.com  
 868-395-5610



### BONNIE STOEHN

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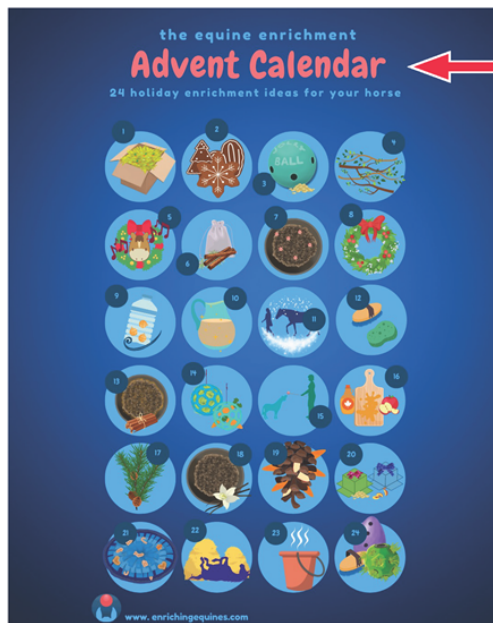
"Let's get you and your horse  
 headed in the right direction."



Thinking Horsemanship.com







An advent calendar with 27 days of enriching activities for your horse.

Check it out:

<https://www.facebook.com/enrichingequines>

### Upcoming Events 2022

**12/18 SCCHA Holiday Party**  
**5 pm at the Clubhouse!**

For more details, see SCCHA FB and website.

**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.

She needs a small studio or a place with her own bedroom and bath, but could share a kitchen. Julie plans to live in Santa Cruz full-time during the winter months, but only sporadically through 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 per month; prefer a location in SLV, but not critical. She has a very friendly and 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)
- 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 or 831-426-7692 to inquire. Happy trails!

## Trading Post

**Family horse looking for good home.** Missy, 12-yr-old grade TB mare, 15.3 h. She neck reins, has had cow work experience (sorting and roping), is started on the barrel pattern, and is 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 issues, clean bill of health, clean legs, UTD on shots and feet. For photos and more info: [katrina\\_ramey@yahoo.com](mailto:katrina_ramey@yahoo.com)

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

**Westwind Riding Institute is looking for a few good horses.** We would like a long-term lease on gentle, healthy horses to be used in our therapeutic riding program. Working in the easy pace of the therapy program 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 the horses in the program. Contact Deb at [Westwindriding@gmail.com](mailto:Westwindriding@gmail.com)

**Felton: 800 SF 2/1 cottage w/ corral/shelter option.** Super easy access, 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, electric range, refrigerator, full-size shower/tub, w/d hookups. Tile floors throughout, numerous windows, gas heater. 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 included in rent. Tenant pays PG&E/propane. Contact Jeannette: 831.818-8013 or 335-8133, [jennamoretti18@gmail.com](mailto: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.



*SCCHA News Submissions:*  
**DEADLINE is the last Tuesday of each month for the following month's issue.**

**Stories and Articles**  
 Members, please share your horse interests and experiences with us!  
 Articles from other publications accepted with reprint permissions. Email copy to editor in these formats: doc, docx, pdf

**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.

**Business Ads:**  
 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](mailto:palmviewfarm@comcast.net)

*Thank You* to our Board and all our Volunteers!  
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**Club Contacts**

Wayne and Becky Lamoly, <i>Club Caretakers</i>	TBA
Lindsay Overton, <i>Website Administrator</i>	<a href="mailto:lindsayao@yahoo.com">lindsayao@yahoo.com</a>
Debbie Boscoe, <i>Trails and Advocacy</i>	<a href="mailto:debbieboscoe@gmail.com">debbieboscoe@gmail.com</a>
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