



# The Eventer

*A Publication of the San Martin Horsemen's Association*

## Looking Forward

### SMHA Events

#### December 08

- 12 Christmas Potluck and Party
- 13 Day of the Horse

#### January 09

- 12 General Meeting
- 17 Board Meeting
- 20 Pleasure Ride

### Community Events

#### December 08

- 6 Penning and Sorting at Thorsons's Arena
- 11 Land and Livestock Free Workshop
- 13 Land and Livestock Free Workshop
- 13 Bear Ranch Hike Bear Ranch

#### January 2009

- 3 Bear Ranch Work day
- 17 Coe Work Date (RSVP to Chere, 408-683-2247)

## Annual Christmas Holiday Potluck

Friday, Dec. 12. Come one, Come all! The Gilroy High School Chorale group will be singing in the holiday spirit! Volunteers needed for cooking hams and turkeys, decorating and clean-up!

## Meet your Pleasure Trails Chairpersons

One of the most asked about events for our club is the pleasure trail events. These events are open to club members only, and are a fun way of meeting other club members and getting out to explore the trails in our area. Marcia Linden and Maureen Olsen are the Chairs for this event.

A little background about them, which is in itself unique, both Maureen and Marcia are native Gilroyans. Infact, they both grew up in the Hecker Pass area, were both members long ago of the Adams 4-H club and even rode together as teenagers! Fast forward about 15 years ago. They began again riding together, often at Mt Madonna their old stomping grounds, and all of their daughters are now members of Adams 4-H. Together they represent about 85 years of riding experience and laughingly state they can usually tell you if something is a good idea. Not because they know it all but because they have probably already tried it! Often on matching palamino's, they laugh and will tell you they ride slow and easy, but usually get comments about how "nice and quiet" their horses are. So next time you see a pleasure ride scheduled, give them a call and show up, you will be treated to a relaxed easy going ride on some of the beautiful area trails. Rremember, where else but in this this area will you meet friends whose horse experience goes back 40 years?



**Editor's note:** Who are these shadowed women? Let's have a vote and see who can tell who is who? Marcia or Maureen, and what are their horse's names? The winning answers will be in the next newsletter!!!

### ***The Nov Poker Ride—A Great Success!***

A heartfelt thanks goes out to all of the volunteers who made this event a fun and great time. Here's a note from Member, Lori O., who rode Flame, her wonderful endurance horse, in the ride.

The San Martin Poker Ride went forward on a cloudy day with a threat of some rain in the afternoon. The ride had already been postponed because of rain. Lucky for us, the weather held and we were all able to enjoy a day on the trail at Harvey Bear County Park.

There were a good number of riders of all ages with a handful dressing up for the Halloween season. There were 2 loops to choose from - a short loop or a longer one. Because of the recent rain the footing on the trail was perfect.

After the ride there was a great BBQ and lots of awards for the poker hands. There were enough awards for everyone all the way down to a pair of 2's!

Overall, it was a very nice day for trail riding and meeting new people.

### ***Thank You Dr. Seals,***

Dr. Bill Seals gave a talk on Pigeon Fever, or Dry Land Distemper, at the Nov. general meeting. There are many cases of Pigeon Fever in and around our area now.

I, Christine Amber the Newsletter Chair, live in Gilroy on Roop Rd. I have 13 horses at my place, and I have one case of it. Dr. Toews, my neighbor, treated the horse here.

Although Pigeon Fever is not contagious or spread from horse-to-horse contact, it is infectious and spread by flies biting an infected horse and transmitting it to a second horse. There isn't a rhyme or reason about which horses get it. Your best prevention is fly prevention and control. If you have a horse with an open, draining abscess, make sure you have your veterinarian prescribe the most effective treatment. Some horses require

antibiotics, others not, depending on how severe the case is. Here is a helpful article on the internet: <http://www.theequinecenter.com/PigeonFever.htm>

### ***Seeing Nature Through Native American Eyes***

Today, Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch County Park, near Gilroy, is a place where people "visit" to relax and play. But to the Native American Ohlone who lived here over 200 years ago this area was a place to "live". On *Saturday, December 13, 2008, starting at 9:00 a.m.*, join park docent Judy Kessler-herself a Native American, on a moderate 2-hour hike on the east slope of Coyote Ridge. Here you'll see the park as the Ohlone did--discovering useful plants and wildlife and experiencing the spiritual power of this beautiful place. Participants should wear layered clothing and hard-soled shoes. Drinking water and a lunch and snack are highly recommended. For more information and directions call Ranger Crockett at 408-842-7800. Visit the County Park's website at [www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org)

### **SPECIAL MESSAGES**

***The Club Needs*** – A Program Chairperson, this person finds or coordinates the speaker for the monthly meeting. A Parade Chairperson. An additional Poker Ride Chairperson for the Poker Ride that coincides with the Trail Trials. For more information contact Greg Linden, 408-842-0777

***Taxes on Veterinary Care in California?*** --The PetPAC organization is collecting on-line signatures for a petition to the Governor. You can go to their website, <http://petpac.net> and click on the *Sign The Petition* link at the bottom of the page. Here is a copy of the petition:

To Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger,  
We oppose your proposed tax on pet owners for veterinary services. This is a very bad idea. Pet owners faced with tough economic times may be forced to forego medical treatment for their pets because of increased costs. We say NO to new taxes on pet owners.

**Let's hear your opinions!** What kind of activities would **you** like to have in SMHA? How many folks are interested in Playdays, Scavenger Hunts, Equestrian Drill Team, Members-Only Clinics? If you email me at [amber@equestriantraining.com](mailto:amber@equestriantraining.com), I will list your idea's in the newsletter and bring them to the Board.



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## SAN MARTIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

### Board Meeting Minutes --Nov 19, 2008

Present: Greg Linden, Dera Oldofredi, Melanie Headrick, Joan Throgmorton, Kitty Swindle, Pat Scharfe, Christine Amber

Meeting called to order at 7:20 p.m.

The minutes of the October 15 Board Meeting were accepted.

**PRESIDENT:** Karen Atwood volunteered to take over the position of Treasurer. The Board gave unanimous approval. Greg received a call from St Jude for a donation. He asked them to send literature and told them he would review their request with the Board

**MEMBERSHIP:** New 2009 membership applications were distributed. Applications for current members, preprinted with their name and address, will be sent with the Club newsletter. Membership for those individuals who joined at the Poker Ride is good through December 2009. Melanie will put together a current membership list ASAP.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Dera will now be handling insurance matters. Greg transferred the insurance folder to her and will review it with her. CSHA must be done by December 31. Dera will send a current membership list to CSHA for the State Convention High Point program. The Club calendar for 2009 should be completed in January in order for us to provide dates to the insurance carrier (the open events are limited to seven for insurance purposes – there is no limit for members only events).

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Joan reported the savings balance and the checking balance.

**GALLOPIN' GOBLIN POKER RIDE:** Preliminary figures for the ride are income \$1,602.00, expenses \$150.00. More expenses are expected to be turned in. The ride went very well in spite of having to postpone the ride to the rain date. Sharon will give a full report at our next Board meeting.

**TRAILS:** Kitty reported that Bear Ranch will be having trail days 1/3, 2/7 (Savannah Trail) and 3/7 (Mommy Mountain). Volunteers should call Irene at (408) 355-2276. Coe Park will have trail days 1/17 (1/24 rain date) 2/24 and 3/28. Volunteers MUST RSVP to either Chere (683-2247) or Kitty (842-621).

**NEWSLETTER:** Thanks to Christine for volunteering to edit our Newsletter. Greg, Mary, and Melanie are available for assistance in proofing copy before it is dropped at Sir Speedy. Suggested items for next newsletter are: (1) Paper from Dr. Seales on Pigeon Fever (Chere will check on); (2) Include Christmas Party (12/12). We need volunteer cooks – can alphabetize side dishes. (3) Committees which need chairperson – Programs, Publicity, and June Poker ride.

### **OTHER:**

At the January General meeting (1/9) ideas will be solicited for next year's calendar. The calendar will be set at the next Board meeting (January 21).

4-H Fun-Day Fundraiser will be held at Taylor Made on November 23.

Melanie gave the shirt catalog to Greg to be given to Susan Edes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



**Got a special horse story you'd like to share?** Email me your stories or favorite pictures you would like to share in The Eventer... sad or happy, maybe something someone can learn from or give a good laugh! [Smha.news@gmail.com](mailto:Smha.news@gmail.com)

***Come on out!*** General meetings are potlucks, open to all members. Meetings begin at 7PM and are held at the San Martin Lions Club, 12415 Murphy Ave, across from the San Martin Airport.



### ***An Invitation to Join***

Are you interest in learning more about Henry W. Coe State park, about its history, interesting animals, beautiful wildflowers, shrubs, and trees? Would you be willing to share your knowledge with park visitors? If your answer is "Yes, " you may want to consider donating some of your time as a member of the uniformed Volunteer Program at Coe Park. Training is provided.

Volunteers do all sorts of things for the ark. They staff the Visitor Center, go on patrol (hike, bike, ride), build and maintain trails, plan and provide interpretive programs and nature walks, work at fund raising events, help with the Coe Backcountry Weekend, and develop their own special projects.

Each year there are a number of openings in the uniformed volunteer program. If you are interested in joining please complete and ***submit a volunteer application form by AUGUST 13TH***. The form may be downloaded from their website: [coepark.org/volprogram.html](http://coepark.org/volprogram.html)

Quite a few of our club members are volunteers at Coe, or maybe we should say many of the volunteers at Coe are SMHA members. In any case, you'll already know some of the current volunteers. If you would like to speak with a real person about the program you may call headquarters and speak to the ranger or volunteer who answers the phone. **408.779.2728** The general Coe Park website is [coepark.org](http://coepark.org)

### ***Land and Livestock presents two free events***

#### **San Benito and Santa Clara Counties Livestock Demonstration Site Facility Tour**

**When:** Thursday, December 11, 2008 - Meet at 8:30 am

**Where:** San Benito RCD  
2337 Technology Parkway, Suite C  
Hollister, CA, 95023

The tour will travel throughout San Benito and Santa Clara County to Gilroy, Aromas, and San Juan Bautista.

**Cost:** FREE - Includes bus transportation, lunch, and refreshments

**Register:** Contact Kellie Guerra  
831.637.4360 ext 101 or email

[kguerra@rcdsanbenito.org](mailto:kguerra@rcdsanbenito.org)

#### **Space is limited.**

The Livestock and Land program has recently received additional funding for the 2009-2010 season. Hop on the bus and find out how you can qualify to receive money to make improvements on your property. Everyone in Santa Cruz, San Benito, South Santa Clara and Monterey Counties is eligible for funding.

#### **Designing and Installing a Rainwater Catchment System**

**When:** Saturday, December 13th from 8:30am - 12pm

**Where:** Hollister, CA

**Cost:** FREE

**Contact:** Kellie Guerra at 831.637.4360 ext 101 or email  
[kguerra@rcdsanbenito.org](mailto:kguerra@rcdsanbenito.org)

Topics will include:

- \* Water catchment for erosion control and water conservation
- \* Using rainwater at livestock facilities
- \* Designing your rainwater catchment system
- \* System components
- \* Choosing gutters
- \* Sizing your system
- \* Filtration and pumping
- \* Permitting requirements
- \* Water volume calculations

Download Flyer

[http://www.livestockandland.org/News\\_and\\_Events/index.html](http://www.livestockandland.org/News_and_Events/index.html)



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❖ **Too busy to clean tack or pull manes??**

Call Margo for rates: 408-683-2247