



2010

Serving our community
promoting horses and horsemanship

The Eventer

A publication of San Martin Horsemen's Association ©2010

- SMHA Events -

**April Gen Mtg @
Lions Club
425 Murphy Ave
San Martin, Ca**

Mar

6 4-h Play Day
13 Pleasure Ride
20 Board Calendar

April

9 Gen Mtg

June

11 Gen Mtg

August

14 Gen Mtg @Jack Brook
Pot Luck

October

8 Gen Mtg

December

10 Holiday Party

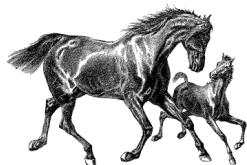
**SMHA Board meets 3rd Wed
of each month.**

Editorial corrections!:

Jan Jeffers will present in April not March. Chere's number was incorrect in the Classifieds.

Newsletter Deadlines:

Five days after the Board Mtg or the 20th of the month. Send articles, classified, pictures, and stories to:
SMHA.news@gmail.com.



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Next General Meeting, April 9th

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In April (not March), Jan Jeffers will tell us all about the Tevis Cup 100 mile endurance race. Jan has ridden in this race several times and can tell you what it takes to compete at this level.

March 6, 4-h Playday Fund-raiser

Plan to come play with your family, friends and your horses at Taylor Made Farms in San Martin. There will be ribbons and awards for four divisions: Tots, Youngsters, Teens and Old Folks. 4-h is a great program that needs the support of our community! Watch for more events in next month Eventer! Contact Jayne Perryman (408) 779-5804.

No Pleasure Ride in March, trails are too wet!

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SMHA Members!

SMHAMembersmembersmembersmembersmembersmembers

Edie Atkins & Gayle Lewis deserves a big thank you for offering to combine gymkhana forces with SMHA and their Gold Coast Barrel Racing Assoc. The Board postponed a decision on this because of extra insurance costs for adding public events to the calendar. It costs the club \$90.00 for each event added after the calendar has been submitted for the current year. We look forward to future possibilities. To learn more about Gold Coast and to see their calendar, go to:
www.goldcoastbarrelracing.com/2010RaceSchedule.html

Jennifer Ogawa, new member, gets a big thank you for offering to put on a gymkhana series for SMHA. SMHA by laws require members be active for one year before taking on chair positions. Thank you so much for your initiative, Jennifer!

Stacy Jenkins, who enlisted me to do the newsletter!, has organized a Quadrille team here in So. County, www.westernstardrillteam.com. They now have 13 riders and are very happy to add new people. See them perform at TMF (Taylor Made Farms) March 13, 11:00am. Go Stacy!

Christine Amber, that's me. I have put together an informal, social, weekly, walking trail ride every Saturday morning. I call it ride 52, for weeks of the year. Every week I email and post to ride52.org which local park we go to. When SMHA has an event, that's where we will be! If no extra insurance costs are associated with this, it will become an SMHA members-only weekly ride, except when other SMHA events are scheduled. Stay tuned and if you are interested email me.,

SAN MARTIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting – Feb 17, 2010

Present: Joan Throgmorton, Greg Linden, Dera Oldofredi, Sharon Hensley, Chere Bargar, Margo Barnett, Heidi Linden, Kitty Swindle, Denise Roberts, Christine Amber, Jane Perryman, Pat Scharfe

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Denise distributed and reviewed the proposed SMHA Budget for 2010.

MEMBERSHIP:

Heidi reported that there are 29 individual and 25 family renewal memberships. We have 3 honorary and 12 lifetime memberships.

NEWSLETTER:

Deadline for Newsletter is on first page. Christine delivers Newsletter to printer. Jackie and Jerry pick up, fold and mail it. Christine tells Greg, and he contacts Mary for labels. Extra Newsletters should be given to Heidi.

JACK BROOKS:

The San Mateo County Parks will have a meeting April 13 to pick times for horse club reservations for next year. Greg, Joan and Denise will make final determination of fees to be charged.

4H PLAYDAY:

Playday is March 6 at Taylor Made Farms. Jane has obtained ribbons and awards. She needs barrels (Christine volunteer to loan five barrels), food (Greg will take care of and he and Steve will cook), and stopwatches. Helmets will be required for all participants.

EQUIPMENT:

Chere requested approval for the loan of equipment for upcoming Coe Park and Bear Park equestrian events.

CLUB 52 RIDES:

Christine has started a group ride on Saturdays for riders who do not wish to ride alone and prefer riding with others. She would like to extend it to all SMHA members. Dera will call insurance provider to make sure we are covered. Christine will coordinate and put article in Newsletter.

OTHER:

Inventory: Greg, Joan and Dera have a copy of the last barn inventory taken. All agreed that we need to set a date for barn cleaning and to update our inventory.

Club Documents: Christine offered to pull Club documents together for Google docs.

Membership Application: Document needs to be updated.

County Park Volunteers: Volunteers to County parks should write Jim O'Connor, Acting Director for County Parks, to seek permission to use volunteer hours for SMHA park activities.

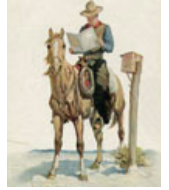
Gymkhana: Item tabled. Edie unable to make meeting.

Appreciation Note: Chere will send Elish Ryan a thank you note for speaking at our last general meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Classifieds:



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Members advertising policy:

- Classified run on a space available basis.
- Business card ads \$20 for 4 months (paid in advance).
- 1/4 page \$15.00 month
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Contact editor SMHA.news@gmail.com, 408.888.8703.

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www.sonrisastables.com at TMF in San Martin. SMHA's Karen Topping teaches english and western (bareback and groundwork too). Monthly lesson packages; students are encouraged to spend time at the barn (for free) helping out or to work with the horses. Contact **Karen at 408-644-5867**

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The California Bluegrass Association Presents

A night at the Grange with The Gibson Bros. and The Tuttle with AJ Lee * Morgan Hill Grange Hall, 40 E. 4th

St. Morgan Hill-- Mar. 20, 2010 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
doors open 6:00 PM --TICKETS: \$23 Members - \$25 Non-members, for more info call **Tim Edes**, (408) 779-5456 or (408) 595-4882 t.edes@verizon.net or visit www.cbaontheweb.org

Help -- The San Martin Animal Shelter,

The Shelter is appealing to the horse community; if each ranch owner or manager takes just 1-2 cats, the shelter could be emptied and no cat put to sleep. To achieve this, the Shelter is offering a fee waiver to SMHA. The adopter can make a donation of his/her choice and take up to four cats designated as "barn cats." Contact Brigid Wasson, Animal Shelter Supervisor, Santa Clara County Animal Care & Control, www.southcountypets.com

That Bucking Filly! --by Christine Amber

My home bred filly will be 5 this year. How she came to be is another story, so ask me some time and I'll tell you.

I planned to start her at two and video tape it so she could be the model for all the backyard started horses. At two, she had two bouts of the snotty nose that went through my herd. So that took care of that spring and summer. At three, she came up lame after I ponied her on the Bear trails. She had a short trim, she was fat. I didn't know if she had bruises from the ride, was tender from the trim, or was starting to founder. All spring and summer, she was off, that set back her training at three. At four, she started to be lame again, but this time I figured it out.

She is very hot and herd dependent. Even though she lives four feet across the fence from all the boys, she wants to be with them. She walks the fence line or stands and weaves because the horses are greener on the other side of the fence. I tried having her live with a male pony; she was dominant over him. Their relationship didn't stop her obsession over the fence. I tried Regu-mate, that helped settle her some. Then, bingo, I moved the 30+ year old gelding into her pasture. He is the boss. He pushes her away from food; he bites and kicks and moves her around, and then they stand swishing flies together. She was weaving and pacing herself lame.

Now, she only weaves a little at feeding time. I can yell at her, "Weena!" and she freezes. She has learned to stop moving because otherwise I won't come any closer with the feed. She is pretty smart.

When she was four months old, I put a little seven pound endurance saddle on her. When she was a baby, I used a cotton rope around her barrel to desensitize her to what would be girth pressure. Like every horse I start, she was first ridden in my big roping saddle with front and back cinch.

I've ridden her on a poker rides, on the trail and in the arena. Last spring I was writing an article about her for the Country News and I needed some action pictures. It was the first time she really bucked on the lunge line. Normally, I shut down any horse that is bucking after the second or third time I saddle them, then immediately send them off in a canter or lope. My hope is that they realize that bucking gets them more work, not out of work. Well, the day I needed pictures, I let her heave-ho a bit. That is all it took for her to think bucking could be fun when she feels fresh.

So, I always lunge her before I get on. If she does buck, she get's a scolding and more work. Generally, the scolding is enough to keep her feet moving in normal horse paces.

Two days ago, I saddled her up as usual and took her to the arena. When I sent her away from me on the lunge line, she began bucking so hard, violently exploding forward, I couldn't even hold the lunge rope. I gave a good tug before I let go. I wasn't about to get dragged.

I watched as she bucked off into hyperspace just like a rodeo horse. Watching with my gut relieved that I wasn't on her and worried that I just cheated death. I wondered, "What happened, what was that about?". I actually wondered in more colorful words than that!

As she began to buck and pitch around the second corner, I saw it. The keeper strap holding the front and back cinch together, had come undone. The back cinch had moved backward, a few inches closer to her flank.

Even when I know why or figure out what causes a horse to explode, the answer is the same. Work. I caught her and worked her good. Then while she rested, I moved the back cinch back and forth, back and forth. I scratched her itchy belly button and bumped the cinch, over and over and over.

The next day, she was very jumping about the saddle; what a major training set back. When I went to buckle the back cinch I noticed three big raised swollen spots below where the buckle would have been. They weren't filled with blood, they were too soft. They were itchy, too. Could they have been bee stings or hornet bites?

Before I sent her away from me on the lunge line, I took that little strap off that held the two cinches; I needed to see what she was going to do. When she moved forward, she felt the back cinch go under her flank. I could see it in her eyes, and her body sort of skipped a beat. She loped a little faster, scooting around the lunge line, but that was it.

And that is horses. Did I get the job done to go beyond that flanked bucking reaction? Did she get stung that day she bucked so hard? I will never really know. I keep asking and Weena won't talk. So forward we go, watching cautiously for the next thing I don't expect, and hoping I get the chance to find it before I get on her.

Sponsored by:



Promoting Horses and Horsemanship

San Martin Horsemen's

For:



Santa Clara County Horse Project

Playday Fun-Day Fund-Raiser



Saturday, March 6,

Registration 9AM

Fun and Games begin 10:00am

'till we drop (about 3:00pm)



Events including:

Egg & Spoon Race, Ribbon Race, Keyhole Race, Potato, Race, Figure Eight Race & much, much more!



Divisions and Ribbons

1st thru 6th and High Point Awards

Four Divisions:

Tots (8 and under)

Youngsters (riders 13 and under)

Teens (riders 14 thru 10)

Adults (20 and up)

\$ 15.00 per day

\$ 30.00 per day

\$ 30.00 per day

\$ 30.00 per day

Hot Dog Lunch Included!!

Rain and Shine

Join us at



Taylor Made Farms in San Martin

All are Welcome!



So, Come on and Just Show Up!!!! or contact
Jayne Perryman for more info 408 779 5804

Helmets required while mounted, Tots will be on leadline all others will be on-and-off their horses!

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 - Patches -2 sizes - - \$0.50

Serving the Community



Promoting Horses and Horsemanship

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