

Sonoma County

Horse Journal

Volume 14 • Issue 4 • Fall 2017



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Sonoma County

Horse Journal

Volume 14 • Issue 4 • Fall 2017

Published by the Sonoma County Horse Council – Home of the Equus Awards



Inside this Issue

A Message from the President	4
<i>The Equine Esquire</i> —The Basics of California Dog Bite Laws	6
<i>Readers Write</i> —What is Vaulting?	8
<i>Readers Write</i> —Cutting Edge Regenerative Therapy	9
<i>Readers Write</i> —Working Equitation: Timeless Principles in a Modern Sport	10
<i>Readers Write</i> —Horse: The Whole Picture	11
<i>Vet's Office</i> —Equine Cushings Disease	13
<i>Readers Write</i> —The Benefits of Cavaletti Work	14
<i>From the Judge's Booth</i> —Judges...	16
<i>Readers Write</i> —Education About Hoof Pathology and Biomechanics	17
<i>Readers Write</i> —Bricky's Horse	18
News & Newsworthy	21
Local Equestrian Events	22
Sonoma County— Places to Ride	23
Membership Information	24
Advertising Specifications & Rates	25
Sonoma County Horse Journal Submission Guidelines	25



Cover Photo: Marcie Lewis

Vaulter Madeline Martinez on Kelley Holly's horse, Trident. Please see the article on page 8.

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President's Message



Elizabeth and Greycie

I hope you all have had a great summer with your equine partners. While you may have been having too much fun to notice, your Sonoma County Horse Council has been busy. We presented a series of youth horsemanship workshops to help local kids prepare to ride in the Junior Horse-show at the Sonoma County Fair. Local trainers were so very generous with their time, and the kids' enthusiasm grew with each workshop. On July 29th, we were delighted that nearly twice as many kids rode in the 2017 Junior Horseshow compared to 2016. We look forward to more workshops in 2018. The Horse Council is committed to encouraging kids to fall in love with horses.

We have concluded our summer series of Open Arena Nights at the Chris Beck Arena. For years, locals who remember "the good old days" lamented that equestrians no longer had access to the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Your Horse Council responded by booking the Chris Beck Arena for several evenings this past summer in an open arena format that allows members to use the arena in an unstructured format (i.e., do what you want, within certain constraints). The Horse Council is considering booking the

Lyttle Cow Palace for members to use during the rainy (and dark) season. The pivotal questions in the decision-making process are: do SCHC members want this winter option and are our members willing to support this effort?

To help us plan, we invite your response to the following questions:

1. Did you attend any of the summer Open Arena Nights? If not, why not?
2. Would you attend an Open Arena Night in the winter at the Lyttle Cow Palace?

Please send your response to me at: schc.epalmer@gmail.com.

You may recall that the Horse Council presented a Trailering Safety & Maneuvering course last April. This course (a morning lecture and afternoon lab) is designed for all levels of drivers and provided participants with information and hands-on drills for safe, responsible trailering techniques. The course was so well received that we are bringing it back on October 15, 2017. Please check out page 12 for additional information.

Last, but certainly not least, start thinking about your nominations for the 2018 Equus Awards! We will begin soliciting nominations in October.

Best,
Elizabeth Palmer
President, Sonoma County Horse Council



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*The Equine Esquire*

by Column Editor Patrice A. Doyle, Attorney at Law, Board of Directors

The Basics of California Dog Bite Laws

Dogs and horses simply go together. If you own a horse, you probably own a dog. Our canines often come to the barn, go to shows, and are our trusted companions that go basically everywhere with us. Even the most well-trained dog and well-intended dog owner can find themselves in a very unfortunate situation if their dog bit someone and caused an injury. Because of this, it's important to understand California's dog bite laws and prevent against such a scenario.

CALIFORNIA DOG BITE LAWS

California's current dog bite statutes state that a dog owner can be found strictly liable for injuries caused by his or her dog. California passed a statute that eliminated the "one-free bite" rule by holding a dog owner liable even if the dog has never bitten anyone or shown a tendency to bite. Under the current laws, liability is based upon ownership and the dog's past behavior is irrelevant. In California, a victim of a dog bite only needs to show that: 1) the dog was owned by the defendant; 2) the bite took place on public property or while the victim was lawfully on private property; 3) the victim was actually bitten by the dog; and 4) the victim was injured by the dog.

California Civil Code Section 3342(a) specifically provides as follows:

The owner of any dog is liable for the damages suffered by any person who is bitten by the dog while in a public place or lawfully in a private place, including the property of the owner of the dog, regardless of the former viciousness of the dog or the owner's knowledge of such viciousness. A person is lawfully upon the private property of such owner within the meaning of this section when he is on such property in the performance of any duty imposed upon him by the laws of this state or by the laws or postal regulations of the United States, or when he is on such property upon the invitation, express or implied, of the owner.

(b) Nothing in this section shall authorize the bringing of an action pursuant to subdivision (a) against any governmental agency using a dog in military or police work if the bite or bites occurred while the dog was defending itself from an annoying, harassing, or provoking act, or assisting an employee of the agency in any of the following:

- (1) In the apprehension or holding of a suspect where the employee has a reasonable suspicion of the suspect's involvement in criminal activity.
- (2) In the investigation of a crime or possible crime.
- (3) In the execution of a warrant.
- (4) In the defense of a peace officer or another person.

(c) Subdivision (b) shall not apply in any case where the victim of the bite or bites was not a party to, nor a participant in, nor suspected to be a party to or a participant in, the act or acts that prompted the use of the dog in the military or police work.

(d) Subdivision (b) shall apply only where a governmental

agency using a dog in military or police work has adopted a written policy on the necessary and appropriate use of a dog for the police or military work enumerated in subdivision (b).

Under California Civil Code Section 3342.5, dog owners have specific responsibilities. If their dog bites a second time, they will be investigated by their city attorney to determine if conditions of treatment or confinement of the animal exist that affect and allow the dog to be prone to bite again and continue to pose a danger to humans. If so, the state can order removal or destruction of that dog.

The statute of limitations in California for the injured party to file a lawsuit for his or her personal injuries is two years from the date of injury.

POSSIBLE DEFENSES

A person is not always liable under the statute if he or she can prove one of these defenses to a claim for injuries in a dog bite case:

- **Lack of ownership:** If they can prove that they do not legally own the dog, but rather are only keeping it, they may have a defense. A keeper or handler may be liable for a victim's injuries, but not under the strict liability statute. Compared to an owner, a keeper or handler must have some prior knowledge of the dog's vicious acts, such as a prior bite, before he or she can be held liable. Liability can also be determined if there was any negligence by the handler or keeper. Negligence is established by showing that the keeper or handler was not reasonably careful in controlling the dog under the circumstances and the victim was injured as a result.
- **Trespass:** The dog owner may not be liable if the victim trespassed upon property where the attack occurred (however the victim might be able to sue for negligence).
- **The injury was not a bite:** The statute's strict liability provisions only apply to injuries caused by an actual bite. If the victim was injured by being jumped on or knocked down, for example, any recovery would be under a negligence theory.
- **Assumption of the risk:** If the victim provoked the dog to attack and therefore assumed a risk of injury, the owner might not be liable. California courts have denied recovery to victims who either provoked the dog, negligently caused the attack, or assumed the risk of dog attack.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR ASSETS

Homeowners and renters insurance policies typically cover dog bite liability. Most policies provide \$100,000 to \$300,000 in liability coverage. If the claim exceeds the limit, the dog owner is personally responsible for all damages above that amount, including legal expenses. The personal liability coverage available through a standard homeowners or automobile policy simply may not

(Cont. Next Page)

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be enough, so you may want to consider purchasing a personal excess liability policy. Also known as an umbrella liability policy, it protects you against personal liabilities—such as dog bites—that could impact a substantial portion of your assets.

BEST PREVENTION – BE A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER

Ultimately, the responsibility for properly training and controlling a dog rests with the owner. Unfortunately, the most dangerous dogs are those that fall victims to human shortcomings such as poor training, irresponsible ownership and breeding practices that foster viciousness or neglect and abuse. Being a responsible dog owner goes a long way toward preventing injury to others while enjoying your favorite canines at the same time!



Patrice Doyle is an attorney in Santa Rosa and has been an avid horsewoman since childhood. She can be of assistance in guiding you through equine-related legal issues. Additionally, her practice areas include: personal injury, landlord-tenant, and contract law. She can be reached at (707) 695-9295, or visit her web-

sites www.pdoylelaw.com and www.equineesquire.com.

The above article does not constitute legal advice. Readers should seek legal counsel regarding their particular circumstance.



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Readers Write

What is Vaulting?

By Kelley Holly

Equestrian vaulting, or simply vaulting, is most often described as gymnastics and dance on horseback, which can be practiced both competitively or non-competitively. Vaulting has a well-known history as an equestrian act at the circus, but its origins stretch back at least two-thousand years. It is open to both men and women, and is one of eight equestrian disciplines recognized by the International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI), along with dressage, driving, endurance, eventing, paraequestrian, reining, and jumping. Therapeutic or interactive vaulting is also used as an activity for children and adults who may have balance, attention, gross motor skill, or social deficiencies.

Vaulting's enthusiasts are concentrated in Europe and other parts of the Western world. It is well-established in Germany and is growing in other western countries. Vaulting was first introduced in the United States in the 1950s and '60s, but was limited only to California and other west coast areas. More recently, it is gaining popularity throughout the United States.

Some trace the origins of vaulting to Roman games, including acrobatic displays on cantering horses. Others see roots in the bull dancers of ancient Crete. People have been performing acrobatic

and dance-like movements on the backs of moving horses for more than 2,000 years. Renaissance and Middle Ages history include numerous references to vaulting or similar activities, and it seems apparent that present-day gymnastics performed on the vaulting horse was developed from vaulting - allowing concentration on the gymnastics without (unfortunately) the horse.



Kelley Holly and the Tambourine Vaulters

Photo: Marcie Lewis

The present name of the sport comes from the French La Voltige, which it acquired during the Renaissance, when it was a form of riding drill and agility exercise for knights and noblemen. Perhaps vaulting's most prominent recognition as a form of equestrian sport in more recent times was its inclusion as artistic riding by cavalry officers in the 1920 Olympic Games. Modern vaulting was developed in post-war

Germany to introduce children to equestrian sports. In 1983, vaulting became one of only seven disciplines recognized by the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI), and the first FEI World Vaulting Championships were held in Switzerland in 1986.

Vaulting in America and the AVA
American vaulting can be traced to 1956, when Elizabeth Searle first saw the sport during a visit to

Europe. Seeing a potential application for her pony club in California's Santa Cruz County, she obtained a 16mm film of the basic exercises, and took it back to America.

Later, in 1966, the American Vaulting Association was founded by Searle and J. Ashton Moore, and in 1969, held the first official AVA competition at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds in Watsonville, California. In 1974, U.S. vaulters participated in the first international exchange in Stuttgart, Germany.

AVA members demonstrated vaulting at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, and again at the Atlanta Olympic games in 1996. Today the AVA has more than 1,000 members in 100 AVA clubs and affiliates all across the country. Originally focused solely on competitive vaulting, the AVA today has programs for all types of vaulters, from recreational and pony club vaulters to therapeutic vaulters, from beginners to world championship levels.

Here in Sonoma County the Tambourine Vaulters teach all levels of vaulting from the youngest tiny tot members to those aspiring the international levels. In addition to our competitive program we also offer recreational drop-ins and an adult only class. The Tambourine Vaulters have been established since 1981 and are coached by Kelley Holly.

For more information on vaulting or to join your local club visit www.tambourinevaulters.org.



Two of the youngest Tambourine Vaulters perform with ease and precision.

Photo: Marcie Lewis

Readers Write

Cutting Edge Regenerative Therapy

By Sara Lynn Specht, D.V.M.

Just as human medicine has advanced leaps and bounds, the industry of veterinary medicine has evolved dramatically in the last decade. Large and small animal practitioners are now able to provide advanced orthopedic surgeries, premier cancer treatments, and regenerative therapies for our patients.

Many horse owners have either heard of or even used stem cells, PRP, and/or extracorporeal shockwave therapy. Although these treatment modalities are still widely used, the latest in cell-based therapy are more effective and have shown great potential for use in a variety of musculoskeletal needs. As our medicine has advanced, regenerative therapeutic techniques have transformed and simplified treatments. Treatments can sometimes be performed in one day, or stall-side, making it easier on the vet, client, and patient.

The latest techniques making waves in the equine industry include IRAP, Pro-Stride, and Laser Therapy.



The IRAP protein is extracted and injected back into the injured area.

Here are some brief overviews of the latest modalities being offered locally in our surrounding counties.


IRAP, aka "Interleukin 1 Related Antagonist Protein," is a new therapy that utilizes a protein from the horse's own body to decrease inflammation in joints and other fluid filled areas. The IRAP protein directly decreases pain and inflammation by shutting down the body's own inflammatory mechanisms. The preparation process is simple. Blood is taken from the injured horse, the blood cells are cultured and stimulated to

release the IRAP protein, and finally the protein is extracted and injected back into the injured area. This entire process can be done within a few days and the protein rich solution can be stored for later use in the future. There are several benefits of IRAP over other joint therapies such as corticosteroids. IRAP is actually made by the injured horse's own tissue, and thus is not foreign to the horse's body, and it is gentle on the surrounding tissue, unlike corticosteroids, which can over time damage cartilage.


Pro-Stride is the latest in equine regenerative therapy. Pro-Stride is an autologous protein solution (APS) also separated from the horse's own blood like IRAP. The preparation and treatment can be performed stall-side in as little as thirty minutes. This allows fast and efficient use of everyone's time. The separated components provide important healing and growth factors to treat joint inflammation and arthritis, and may slow the degradation of joint cartilage (this concept is still being studied). Pro-Stride's superior modality is efficient and requires only one treatment, capable of providing pain relief up to one year.

Laser Therapy: The term laser stands for light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation. The tool directs a concentrated light of a specific wavelength toward the tissue of interest. The use of laser therapeutics has become more popular for a variety of treatments in our equine patients. Lasers are widely used for soft tissue and bone injuries, musculoskeletal pain, ocular injuries, wound healing and even thrush and white line disease. Lasers ignite the horse's own chemical cascades to alter electrical activity within cells, increase circulation to affected tissues, improve the lymphatic system, and increase oxygen supply and other nutrients to diseased tissues. Laser therapy requires multiple treatments and is a slow, but gentle process that can be safe and non-invasive.

Dr. Specht is a native of Sonoma County where she grew up working on her family's thoroughbred broodmare farm. She graduated from UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and the Chi Institute in Florida. Dr. Specht is currently an associate veterinarian at Sonoma Marin Veterinary Service.



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Readers Write

Working Equitation: Timeless Principles in a Modern Sport by Jack Burns



Working equitation rider demonstrates going over a bridge.

knocking over an obstacle is the goal. The most successful horses and riders are those who combine speed and confidence, handiness and bravery. Riders cannot just gallop all the way through the course. They must choose when to go fast and when to be more careful through an obstacle. A successful run through the speed phase is a demonstration of the highest equestrian abilities.

The last phase is cattle sorting. Since it is a team event it is only included in national level shows where teams are fielded. A team member isolates one cow from a herd and then the team sorts that cow to a predetermined pen. It tests teamwork and moving cattle efficiently, and accurately. It is a timed event.

For a horse and rider to do all of these phases is a lot of training and takes lots of practice. Besides being a growing competitive sport, many riders are finding that the versatility of the training is beneficial cross-training that enhances their existing training regimens. For some riders, getting into the arena for basic or intermediate dressage work is a great way

to get in sync with their horses and develop athleticism. For others, the obstacles are a great way to get out of the arena and help horses be brave, capable partners. No matter what emphasis riders take, the overwhelming majority of people have said they had more fun than they expected. People keep coming back to working equitation practice because of the rigor and versatility of the training, combined with partnership building with their equine partners.

In the United States there are two organizations that handle recognized competitions and provide a nexus for working equitation on the internet: United States Working Equitation Association

(www.usawea.com) and Working Equitation United (www.weunited.com). Portugal-based World Association for Working Equitation (www.wawe-official.com) runs international competitions and helps member countries coordinate national shows.

Because of the broad appeal of working equitation, don't be surprised if you find yourself and more of your equestrian friends having fun with it.

Jack Burns is a Sonoma County based equestrian specializing in classical dressage, working equitation, Lusitano horses and helping people achieve their dreams and potential with their horses. He makes regular trips to Portugal. He trains at Sonoma Equestrian Center (sonomaequestriancenter.com) and owns J-Dot Stables. More info: jdotstables.com and jburns@sbcglobal.net.

Working equitation is one of the fastest growing sports in the country because it is an effective and fun way of training. It is based on classical principles and practices but done in an appealing modern format. It originated in Portugal and Spain and has been influenced by the training traditions of those countries both in the arena and on the ranch. Today, there are national and international competitions in the United States, Europe, Australia, and South America. Besides being an engaging competitive sport, it is great cross training for all equestrians.

Four categories are included in working equitation competitions. The first phase is a dressage test similar to modern competitive dressage with some slight but important differences. Working equitation tests emphasize handiness and agility where competitive dressage tends to emphasize expressive gaits and high degree of collection. Working equitation tests prepare the horse for the obstacle phases that follow. This portion of the show is also called the functionality phase.

The second phase is called ease of handling and is the first of two obstacle courses. Obstacles are based on what might be found on the ranch. They include opening gates, crossing a bridge, stepping sideways over a pole, a small jump, putting a lance through a ring, slalom poles, and backing through a corridor. Course designers set the obstacles in varying orders and configurations each show to test competitors in different ways. In this phase, the handiness of a horse is highly tested, as is the rider's equitation and ability to make quick and effective decisions.

The speed phase is the third leg of the show and perhaps the most exciting to watch and ride. Riders go through the same obstacle course. This time they are not judged on style but on time. Being the fastest pair through the course without penalties for



Opening gates is one of many obstacles to demonstrate ease of handling the horse.

Photo: Jack Burns

Photo: Jack Burns

*Readers Write***Horse: The Whole Picture**

by Lisa Lombardi

Imagine for a moment you are looking at a detailed image, entitled "Horse," that extends as far as you can see. The image represents the vastness of equine science, horses, and horsemanship. This picture includes:

- A Nevada desert of grazing wild mustangs
- A dressage rider on her 17.1 Hanoverian preparing for the next Olympics
- A local 4-H leader demonstrating proper grooming techniques to 7 kids
- Five friends laughing as they make their way up the forested trail to the beach at Point Reyes
- College students dissecting a front leg in a farrier science class
- A middle aged woman at 2:03 am applying acupressure to her colicking gelding
- A child at camp, loping for the first time on a steady 24 year-old retired western pleasure mare
- Cousins riding doubles bareback into the pond at their aunt's farm
- A mounted equine therapy session
- A rancher and his guests on a Montana cattle drive
- Add your own images

Now imagine a blank sheet of paper covering the entire image. As we enter our journey with horses, we can only guess what might be hidden under that blank sheet. Then we take our first riding lesson and a small hole is punched through exposing a glimpse of



Chex Nu Dawn the reining horse jumping, Natasha Mallan riding

that picture underneath. We then take our first trail ride through the mountains, and a second small hole is punched into that paper, allowing us to view just a hint more of that picture. With each new horse experience, we have a better understanding of that whole image. An entire lifetime is not long enough to discover every detail of that immense equine world. The beauty lies in the continuous discovery, insight and realization that all the tiny pieces are part of that same big picture.

As equestrians, we often categorize ourselves, saying "I ride dressage" or "I only like trail riding, so I don't need to practice in an arena." There may even be a tendency to claim a particular discipline is more valid or a certain breed has less value. But what if we took the time to understand, appreciate the benefits from numerous aspects of horsemanship? Could dressage help a horse engage its body more efficiently during endurance rides? Could jumping lessons help a rider gain a more secure seat to help prevent a fall from a spook? Could learning the reining philosophy foster the realization a horse can indeed stop without bit pressure? Could learning the basics of saddle fit eliminate your pony's bucking? Perhaps a gallop on the beach could bring back the childhood joy of riding that has nearly been lost.

Living in an era of specialization, many of us tend to stay within one discipline. But I challenge all of us to embrace all equestrian education opportunities, and continue punching holes in that blank piece of paper covering the whole equine experience.

Lisa Lombardi is an SRJC equine science instructor, CHA Master Instructor, PATH, Ceip-ed certified, and has taught professionally since 1987. Lisa's 24-year-old lesson horse, Ten-Thirty, was Sonoma County's 2013 Equus Award winner, 2011 and 2012 CHA international school horse of the year runner-up. She currently owns 8 horses. www.clovertenthirty.com.



Chex Nu Dawn, the reining horse on a trail ride, Natasha Mallan riding



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Hosted by the Sonoma County Horse Council

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Sonoma County Horse Council

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About The Sonoma County Horse Council

The Sonoma County Horse Council is a nonprofit organization founded in 1978 to promote the health and well-being of horses and support horse-related activities in Sonoma County.

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Your membership helps unify the horse community into a single, powerful voice. The Council is a resource for the horse community to provide owners and lovers of horses access to information on a range of issues from questions relating to horse ownership and use, to land issues, political concerns, stewardship of the land, and disaster preparedness. Learn more.

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Member Spotlight

Ed Weiler (Mr. Ed) was born in Chicago looking for a pony. In childhood, he loved Ray Rogers and Big Boy on TV. That's probably why he has 2 palomino horses in the backyard at Creedfall Ranch in Santa Rosa. He's a partner, Marlene, who keeps her Quarter Horse/Palomino. Selecting these yellow geldings.

Mr. Ed graduated from Journalism School at the U of Illinois, landed in the great Plains, the fertile farmlands of Central Illinois. It was there he brought his first palomino for \$75, two days before Christmas... 1968. He's still here!



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March 2017

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Vet's Office

by Column Editor Michelle Beko, D.V.M.

Equine Cushing's Disease

Cushing's disease is a common problem in older horses. It is an endocrine (e.g. hormonal) disorder that is similar to, though not exactly the same as Cushing's in dogs and people. The technical name for equine Cushing's disease is pars pituitary intermedia dysfunction (PPID). The most obvious symptom is a long, sometimes curly coat that doesn't shed in the summer. Horses with Cushing's usually have a pendulous abdomen and some muscle loss, especially across their topline. They may sweat more than usual, and might drink excessive amounts of water and urinate more than they used to. Many will have a redistribution of fat so that they have a cresty neck and fat around the base of their tail even if they are a little underweight.

More serious complications of the disease are laminitis and recurrent infections. Laminitis is a potentially life-threatening inflammation of the lamina in the feet which serve to secure the underlying coffin bone to the hoof wall (see spring 2017 *Horse Journal*). We don't know exactly why this occurs in horses with Cushing's, but it may be related to elevated levels of insulin that result from the disease. Recurrent infections occur due to suppression of the immune system, the most common being foot abscesses and/or sinusitis.

The pituitary is a small gland in the base of the brain. It secretes many hormones that travel through the blood stream and affect other glands by causing them to secrete hormones. In horses with PPID, a portion of the pituitary called the pars intermedia becomes overactive. This is due to a loss of nerve cells that normally secrete a neurotransmitter called dopamine, which inhibits this lobe of the pituitary. The result is that the pars intermedia enlarges and may even get a benign tumor. This loss of dopamine secreting nerves is a normal part of the aging process that is likely accelerated in horses with Cushing's. Horses with PPID will have elevated levels of adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) secreted by the pituitary that then causes their adrenal glands to secrete more cortisol. Elevated levels of cortisol can suppress the immune system and inhibit the action of insulin.

Diagnostic tests are not required if a horse has an obviously long coat in the middle of summer. Most horses in the initial stages of the disease have subtler signs such as getting their winter coat



Goldie before and after treatment for Cushing's disease

Photos: Laura Adams

earlier in the fall and losing it later in the spring than they used to. Some may have less stamina and others may have laminitis for no apparent reason. These horses can be tested with one of two lab tests. ACTH levels can be checked or an overnight dexamethasone suppression test can be done. The latter test measures cortisol levels before and after dexamethasone administration. A horse without Cushing's will have a low (suppressed) level of cortisol after receiving dexamethasone which is similar to cortisol.

While we cannot completely rid a horse of Cushing's disease, we can treat them to minimize their symptoms. Pergolide was initially a human medication for Parkinson's disease (it was the miracle drug in the book and movie *Awakening*). It is no longer used in people, but is available for horses in an FDA approved tablet called Prascend. There are also many cheaper compounded formulations available, but a research project several years ago found many degrade quickly or have inconsistent levels of pergolide. About 85% of horses will have a positive response to treatment with pergolide. Some will need more than the standard starting dose. If they still fail to respond, adding a second medication, cyproheptadine, may help. The treatment is lifelong. Many horses are fine if left without treatment as long as they don't have laminitis or a chronic infection either of which are very difficult to resolve without using pergolide to treat the underlying Cushing's.

All horses with Cushing's benefit from good general husbandry. Keeping up to date with deworming, hoof trimming as well as body clipping them as needed will help improve their quality of life. If you think your horse might have Cushing's, call your veterinarian and discuss your possible courses of action.

Michelle Beko, D.V.M., has been an equine veterinarian since 1991. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter, eventing her horse Zeke, hiking, and travelling. You can reach her at Empire Equine at 707-545-3909, check her website (www.empire-equine.com), or on Facebook.



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Readers Write

The Benefits of Cavaletti Work

By Erika Jansson



Cavaletti work helps engage the hind end.

I am originally from Gothenburg, Sweden and received my education at The Swedish National Stud Flyinge. Cavaletti was always a part of the training and I was surprised when I moved to U.S. in 1997 that a lot of people were not using them at all, no matter what discipline.

Introduction

While being very popular in Germany and Europe, many other horse riding countries do not use cavaletti work on a regular basis. Cavaletti is the Italian expression that describes using poles put in a row, within a certain distance, to help train the horse within its three gaits: walk, trot, and canter. You can school your horse using cavaletti on straight or circle lines, with rider or while long-lining. I would stay away from lunging because you can't control the speed and that can be dangerous.

I wanted to introduce it to my students and anyone who wanted to try it, so, I have been offering monthly clinics since 2010, when I started working out of Santa Rosa Equestrian Center. It's been such great time to see all disciplines joining the clinic, as well as breeds like our regular warmbloods, Thoroughbred, Missouri Fox trotter, Gypsy Vanner, mules, and more. They all have done amazing work over the poles.

Why cavaletti work?

Offering your horse this kind of work can be a very effective way to help your horse build muscles and find balance. Cavaletti work has several advantages. Cavaletti exercises help to activate your horse's hind leg by challenging it to pull the hind leg upward and forward in order to step over the cavaletti. It helps the horse relax its neck and back by arching the back upwards, and bending the neck seeking the bit in a forward and downward manner. In order to balance and see the poles on the ground the horse has to bend his neck forward and downward, thus seeking the bit.

These three ingredients, the active hind leg, correctly using the back and neck muscles, and the horse seeking true contact, will help the rider achieve true collection in the advanced training. However, even if your goal is not that sophisticated, cavaletti work will benefit your horse by helping it carry the rider, because the horse will achieve better balance and build muscle.

The other wonderful thing about working with cavaletti is that it is a lot of fun!

What does cavaletti work do for horse?

Cavaletti work helps your horse:

- get into balance
- build muscle
- kickstart its hind leg

All this enables your horse to really work with you the way it wants to, giving you all of its concentration, its mental and physical power, with the touch of effortlessness in its movements because of its increasing strength.

One thing that I really emphasize is ensuring a good warm-up before starting pole work. I always tell my students to give the horse at least a 10-minute walk on the buckle before moving forward. Warm-up and cool down is the key to keeping your horse sound, in my opinion.

Working with cavaletti on the straight line, in a walk, will do much for your horse's rhythm. It strengthens the clear four-beat-rhythm of the walk, and allows for the walk to flow through its body. I especially recommend it for nervous horses that tend to lose their rhythm in the walk and tense their back up. Even so, this is the right beginning for every horse when starting cavaletti work. If your horse has never worked with cavaletti, start with one or two poles, adding a third and fourth if your horse is comfortable. Remember, you and your horse should have fun while working together.

I love to do these clinics because it is so much fun to see the confidence on both rider and horse after starting with just 3-4 poles, and see some horses build up to 18-20 poles in a row. Talk about body building! The clinic is open to anyone and free to audit. For more information about the cavaletti clinics, see the contact information below. To view a great video about the clinic on YouTube, Google "Erika Jansson".

Erika is a dressage trainer based at Santa Rosa Equestrian Center in Sonoma County, California. She offers private dressage lessons, long-lining, and monthly cavaletti clinics. Born in Sweden, she has spent her entire life with horses. She spent four years at riding schools in Sweden, worked in New Zealand, and for three years she was an auction rider for the Hanoverian Society in Germany. She is currently accepting new clients. For more information about Erika please visit her website www.ejdressage.com and/or email her at ejdressage@me.com.



Balance and building muscle are two of the many benefits of cavaletti work.



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From the Judge's Booth

Column Editor Melissa Kalember

Judges. . .



Education and positive reinforcement are crucial to help our future riders.

What perspective do you have of the judge? I often hear variations of:

'The judge didn't like me.'

'The judge doesn't like my horse.'

'The judge keeps pinning that rider/horse so that must be what they want to see.'

'The judge is mean.'

And the list goes on.....

I want to explore both sides of the coin. I travel all over the United States and work with many judges. I can say that MOST judges are not out to get you. MOST don't sit there and say 'oh I don't like that horse so it is getting last.' MOST judges are truly trying to find the best horse or rider out of the group they are judging. The flip side of this is the minority of bad or grumpy judges out there. Whenever I teach a clinic on judging, I always speak about this because most riders, at some point, have had an unfortunate experience with a judge. I have seen some of these first hand and felt sorry for the judge who is bad or grumpy. I felt sorry because their view of the rider/horse was limited, like always seeing the glass half empty. They no longer had joy doing what they were doing, and this directly affected their judging.

When this topic comes up in my clinics, I encourage people to share their feelings with management. If an unfortunate experience is happening, it is probably happening to many competitors, and if many express their feelings to management, hopefully the judge will not be called back. I have seen this happen! So speak up and share with management.

The only way to change our perspective is through understanding. I try to teach people what judges do all day, and tell them exactly we are looking for so they can understand what we are thinking and going through all day. This is comforting because the exhibitor understands what the judge is doing, and the judge doesn't have any negativity coming towards them!

Judging is fun! Certainly there are days where judges watch the best of the best. And then there are the other days, which are the majority, that are everything else. Most judging is watching the beginning-intermediate levels, and this leads to watching and keeping track of mistakes. Embrace the comments and suggestions from the judges, and if taken to heart and applied in your daily practice, your showing success will undoubtedly follow. I say this to educate, as education and communication is the key to understanding and being in comfort.

Best of luck in the show ring!



Melissa Kalember educating a group of riders during a clinic in Hawaii.



Melissa Kalember is a USEF R Judge, SAHJA Judge, equine masseuse, and intuitive trainer. Please contact her if you have a specific topic you'd like addressed: melissa@kalemberequine.com.


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Horse Community Gleens More In-Depth Education About Hoof Pathology and Equine Biomechanics

by Sallie Hollingshead

On July 27th, 28th, and 29th, the new Farrier Center hosted a lecture and clinic with Dr. Simon Curtis. Dr. Curtis is a world renowned farrier who has spent the past six years earning his Ph.D. in hoof pathology and equine biomechanics. Although centered on foals of thoroughbred race farms, his research is applicable to all horses of every age. On the evening of the 27th at the DoubleTree Hilton, Dr. Curtis lectured to forty-five horse owners, vets and farriers, about his studies of foals' hooves and the conclusion that his research led him to. The lecture ended with an insightful question and answer session.

Early the next morning, Dr. Curtis and thirteen farriers from four different states, met at the Farrier Center to begin an intensive clinic. Included in attendance were five local farriers, Rodney Deck, Sam Durham, Tanner Durham, Dustin Smart and Alan Townley, as well as Dusty Franklin, Mike Nale, Tim Shannon, Mikey Delenardo, Darby Holden, Logan Levitt, Alice Johnson, and Margie Lee Gustafson.

The clinic began at nine o'clock with a three hour lecture where farriers were given information in addendum to the previous night. Then the farriers were split into teams of four and were each given a horse to evaluate. They then spent the next hour figuring out the best possible shoes to make for their horse, as well as evaluating



Dr. Curtis presenting the morning lecture to a group of Farriers.

the other teams' horses. After a quick lunch break, teams got to work on shoeing the horses, each farrier having a foot to work on.

Dr. Curtis supervised, answered questions, and examined every shoe. After all the horses were finished, the horses were taken back to the arena to be evaluated statically and dynamically once more. The farriers reexamined confirmation, gait and hoof condition. Afterwards, each team shared what had improved and what they would do differently in the future. Dr. Curtis gave

feedback on each horse. Dinner commenced at six o'clock with food, fun, and camaraderie. The next day followed similarly, however this time the farriers focused on bar shoes as therapeutic shoes. Overall, the three day event was extremely informative and interesting. Special thanks to Sam and Tanner Durham, as well as the Farrier Center for hosting such an educational and exceptional event.

Sallie is a seventeen year old proud Thoroughbred draft cross horse owner. She has ridden since she was three years-old and has grown up with horses her entire life. She attended all three days of the clinic.



Logan Levitt, Mike Nale, and Dustin Smart building and modifying shoes to best enhance the horse.

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Readers Write

Bricky's Horse

by Daniel J. Demers

This is a one of those tragi-comedies written by "an old Turfman" which appeared in the *New York Sun* in 1904. It was his recollection of an 1889 incident in which he was involved.

Bricky McSweeney, the author relates "had freckles as red as his hair." Bricky was normally destitute and nobody knew how he got by. He did wager, but was "never known to win a bet." The Turfman recalled that Bricky "was a good-natured man [who] never lost his belief that someday" he would hit the trifecta. Bricky maintained privileges at a race track at the Saint Louis, Missouri fairgrounds by taking plugs from disgruntled race horse owners who tired of paying the keep of their non-winning steeds. For eight years Bricky always kept one of these plugs in his run-down shed at the racetrack and this "entitled him to get in at the gate and to move around in the paddock."

Bricky's tragic end came quickly. A lovable old blind she-hound, the stables pet, wandered out onto the track in the midst of a race. "A hundred stable hands yelled at her...scared her [and] she stood paralyzed plumb in the middle of the track [with] a field of horses...bearing down upon her at full speed." The luckless Bricky was fond of the dog and he raced out onto the track, grabbed her and flung her out of danger. It was too late for Bricky, however to escape the inevitable. The Turfman recalled: "Ten of the eighteen maidens trampled" him. A "maiden" is racehorse lingo for a horse of either sex that has not yet won a race. The article continued: "It didn't take an expert eye to see that Bricky was about to make a quick cash-in."

A call went out for a priest to anoint Bricky before his last breath. A nearby priest was summoned. He was "a kindly old man of the cloth [that leaned over] the gasping Bricky" just in the nick of time. With the anointment finished, the Turfman related "Bricky's freckled face spread into one of his ear-to-ear grins...[and he whispered to the priest] 'I ain't got no kin, so I'll leave my hoss to you,'" adding in his joking way "he ain't much of a horse father, but, you can melt him down and git some tallow candles f'r th' altar out of him at that." Then Bricky's "eyelids fluttered a bit and he piped out," concluded the Turfman.

All the stable hands chipped in and gave Bricky "something better than a decent burial," presided over by the priest "who had closed Bricky's eyes." The Turfman rode back with the old priest whom he described "as benign and gentle-souled a silver-haired man from the old dart [Ireland] as you ever met." The priest inquired about Bricky's bequest to him and the Turfman filled him about the deceased and his bizarre life living with non-winning "plug" cast-offs. He further surmised that the horse left to the old priest was likely useful "as altar candles" just as Bricky suggested. The Turfman volunteered to see if he could sell the horse "to some fellow with a milk [delivery] route." He also described the

old priest's "surroundings" to his readers. He lived in a cottage on the outskirts of St. Louis with a "little church about the size of a summer kitchen...which was mortgaged." The priest, the Turfman tells us, was just getting by. He was "one of those good old men of the cloth" that the bishops sent off somewhere to start up new parishes. He was "the whole works...ran the church, taught the parochial school, instructed the sodalities [religious guilds or brotherhoods], buried the dead, married the willing, christened the new ones, and all on the income that would not keep some jockeys in cigarettes for a week."

When the Turfman visited Bricky's shed he was "kind o' surprised." The four-year old stallion was a maiden, but in checking his pedigree the Turfman discovered "he was pretty cleverly bred." Instead of trying to sell the horse, he decided to work and train him.

After a few weeks of training the horse brightened up and developed speed and stamina. The Turfman slapped the stallion on his haunches telling him: "I'm going to run you to help out the square and white haired old man that buried your pal Bricky, and I want you to behave. How about it?" To his delight the horse seemed to understand—"the old maiden blinked his eyes rapidly and tossed his head and pawed the ground...he couldn't have made it any plainer in words...he was going to make the dog-gondest stab he knew how," related the Turfman.

A few days before the race, the Turfman went over to the priest's cottage and advised him of the upcoming race. He invited him to attend the race to which the cleric agreed "as a looker-on, but not a participant." The Turfman continued telling the priest "the boys are kind o' talking of chipping in...and getting down a bet for you." Believing gambling of any kind was evil, the priest told the Turfman the horse "may he run and win for the glory of God...but no gambling in my name."

Here's where things got a little dicey. A dozen or so of the trainers ignored the priest's wishes and put together a \$100 bet for the old priest. The bet was placed quietly in the Turfman's name. On the day of the race Bricky's horse's chances were set at 50 – 1. It was to be a mile race with a field of ten horses—all maidens. "When the barrier flashed...[the other nine] went off on a false start...the whole nine went the entire route [but] the old priest's horse wasn't among the nine." The nine were brought back and put into the gates for a new start. Knowing then that the priest horse would win due to the exhaustion of the nine, he had to lie once again to explain the old man's soon-to-be windfall. The

(Cont. Next Page)

(Cont. from Previous Page)

lie: "This is the [non-existent] Missouri Industrial Stakes...and the first horse [to the finish line] gets...five thousand dollars."

One can't help but imagine that old priest fantasizing about how much good such an amount would mean to his poor parish. Midway through the race the Turfman relates "it was the first and only time I ever saw a dignified old man of the cloth flacking his arms like a stable hand trying all he knew to yell his tonsils down level with his palate...[finally, sitting embarrassedly, saying] heaven forgive me for [being a] sinful old man...[then] mopping his brow [he muttered]... 'did ye iver see a rogue of a horse travel so fast in all the life av ye?"

After the race the Turfman and "a lot of us [stable workers]" went over to the old priest's cottage and counted out the first and last \$5,000 from the phony Missouri Industrial Stakes. The Turfman concluded his story telling the readers "It was worth a good deal more to see his face...[the priest] made a humorous speech... announced his permanent retirement from the racing game and presented his entire stable to me."

As to the Turfman, he relates he won a dozen or so "profitable" races with Brick's horse before he was retired but "none gave him as much satisfaction as the one the willing nag copped when he was the first home in the phony Missouri Industrial Stakes." Put into perspective, in 1889 \$5,000 was equal to \$171,000 in today's values. Still it took two lies to a man of God to carry off.

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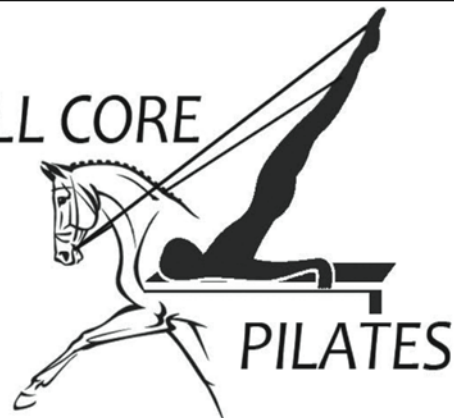
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Dan Demers' recent book *OLD WINE AND FOOD STORIES* is available through Amazon.com. The book contains ninety historically accurate vignettes about interesting and humorous events and personalities printed in American newspapers between 1779 and 1922.

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News & Newsworthy



The CHANGE Program Turns 10!

This month marks the tenth anniversary of the CHANGE Program, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to assist local law enforcement with equine humane cases. CHANGE, or Coins to Help Abandoned and Neglected Equines, is a volunteer-based, community network founded in 2007 to provide emergency transportation, foster care, veterinary services, and adoption services for horses taken into custody by authorities.

Since its inception, CHANGE has assisted in over 100 humane cases, many of which involved severe neglect including starvation and abandonment. Beyond maintaining a foster care network of private barns throughout the county, CHANGE has also provided training to law enforcement on equine husbandry, handling, and forensic investigation of humane cases. CHANGE has provided expert witness testimony in nearly thirty criminal cases, nearly all of which have resulted in felony or misdemeanor convictions. Other accomplishments include videos and publications in English and Spanish to educate the public on the basics of horse care, assistance to local authorities during disasters, and orchestration of low-cost castration clinics. The volunteer board of directors thanks the community for its ongoing generous support of the program. CHANGE funding comes solely from public support. More information about CHANGE is at sonomachangeprogram.com.



Hunter Lane—New Ownership!

Hunter Lane Equestrian Center is proud to announce new ownership in 2017! Congratulations to Margaret and Pearl Winterkorn on their recent purchase. Hunter Lane was founded in 1974 by Pete and Benita Mattioli as the Double Bar M breeding ranch. Standing at stud was Cal Bar, a stallion who stamped his stock with championship quality in conformation, gaits, talent, and temperament. Pete and Benita have decided to retire after 43 years, and so changed the name to Hunter Lane Equestrian Center. They would like to thank the hundreds of horse peoples who have trusted them with the care of their horses through the years. Long time horsewomen Margaret and Pearl have exciting plans for the ranch, which include many improvements and the establishment of Centaur Equithrapy, a non-profit organization benefitting the disabled through therapeutic horsemanship. See the Hunter Lane Equestrian Center ad below.



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Local Equestrian Events—Fall 2017

Sept 13-17	Strides & Tides	Sonoma Horse Park, Petaluma	sonomahorsepark.com
Sept 17	SREC Combined Test and Dressage Show	SSREC – Santa Rosa	srequestrian.com
Sept 20-24	SHP Season Finale	Sonoma Horse Park, Petaluma	sonomahorsepark.com
Sept 16	Sebastopol Wranglers Barrel Race	SW Arena	sebastopolwranglers.com
Sept 17	Combined Test and Dressage Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	srequestrian.com
Sept 21-24	CDS 50th Anniversary Championship Show USDF Region 7 Finals	Rancho Murieta Spectators Welcome!	california-dressage.org
Sept 24	RR Rodeo Association Play Day	Rodeo Grounds, Duncans Mills	russianriverrodeo.org
Oct 1	Sebastopol Wranglers Super Horse Challenge	SW Arena	sebastopolwranglers.com
Oct 7	Barrel Race	SW Arena	sebastopolwranglers.com
Oct 8	Day of Dressage – Judy McHerron	Hoofbeat Park	russianriverriders.org
Oct 5-8	Chris Ellsworth Ranch Horse Course (Sold Out for Riders, Auditors Are Welcome!)	Novato Horseman's Arena	chrisellsworthhorsemanship.com
Oct 15	Trailer Safety & Maneuvering Course	See Page 24, This Issue	sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org
Oct 15	SREC Combined Test Jumper and Dressage	SREC – Santa Rosa	srequestrian.com
Oct 22	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	ejdressage@me.com
Oct 28	SW Halloween Playday	SW Arena	sebastopolwranglers.com
Nov 12	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	ejdressage@me.com
Dec 10	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	ejdressage@me.com

Please submit events for the next issue to Horse Journal Editor, Patrice Doyle - schc.pdoyle@gmail.com



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Annadel State Park	6201 Channel Drive	Santa Rosa CA 95409	707-539-3911
Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve	17000 Armstrong Wds Rd	Guerneville CA 95446	707-869-2015
Bodega Bay Equestrian Trailhead-So Co Reg. Parks	1752 Westside Road	Bodega Bay CA 94923	707-565-2041
Cloverdale River Park	31820 McCray Rd	Cloverdale CA 95425	707-433-1625
Crane Creek Regional Park	5000 Pressley Rd	Rohnert Park CA 94928	707-565-2041
Doran Beach Regional Park	201 Doran Beach Rd	Bodega Bay CA 94923	707-875-3540
Foothill Regional Park	1351 Arata Lane	Windsor CA 95492	707-433-1625
Helen Putnam Regional Park	411 Chileno Valley Rd	Petaluma CA 94952	707-433-1625
Hood Mountain Regional Park	3000 Los Alamos Rd	Santa Rosa CA 95409	707-565-2041
Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail	6303 Highway 12	Santa Rosa CA 95401	707-433-1625
Lake Sonoma	3333 Skaggs Springs Rd	Geyserville (west of Hburg)	707-431-4590
Ragle Ranch Regional Park	500 Ragle Rd	Sebastopol CA 95472	707-565-2041
Riverfront Regional Park	7821 Eastside Rd	Healdsburg CA 95448	707-433-1625
Salt Point State Park	25050 Highway 1	Jenner CA 95450	707-847-3221
Spring Lake Regional Park	391 Violetti Drive	Santa Rosa CA 95409	707-539-8092
Stewart's Horse Camp	Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore	Bolinas CA 94924	415-663-1362
Sugarloaf Ridge State Park	2605 Adobe Canyon Rd	Kenwood CA 95452	707-833-5712
Taylor Mt. Regional Park & Open Space Preserve	3820 Petaluma Hill Rd	Santa Rosa CA 95404	707-539-8092

- The “NEW” SONOMA COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL website is now available!
- We think you will find the resources for our members informative and timely .
- We plan to begin featuring a local member or member business on a rolling monthly basis.
- Watch for posts announcing upcoming speakers & training sessions.
- As a member, we welcome your feedback – join and let us know what you would like to see!

Contact: SCHC.dgilseth@gmail.com with your suggestions.

**So, Giddy-up and click the “JOIN” button NOW
to become a new or renewing member!**

www.SonomaCountyHorseCouncil.org

TRAILERING SAFETY & *Maneuvering Course*

Sunday, October 15, 2017 • 7:30am to 5:00pm

The course is geared to all levels of trailering ability. It will provide the attendee with important information to be a safer, more conscientious and confident driver. Driver assistants will learn how to direct the driver to safely maneuver their trailer in and around obstacles.

Instructor: Leonard Iniguez

MORNING LECTURE

Topics include: trip preparation, driving do's and don'ts, and how to handle emergencies.

Location: Sonoma County Driving & Riding Club clubhouse at the fairgrounds. Aston Avenue Entrance gate #7. RSVP required for gate code.
Limit 60

AFTERNOON LAB

Each driver should bring their own trailer. We strongly encourage that each rig have a driver and an assistant.

Location: Brookwood parking lot east of the fairgrounds. Parking details provided with RSVP
Limit 40 (20 drivers, 20 assistants)

**NOT A MEMBER?
JOIN TODAY!**

**SUPPORT SCHC
& JOIN TODAY**

Register by Tuesday, October 10, 2017 - tstashak@sbcglobal.net

Pricing will be posted on the SCHC website soon! SonomaCountyHorseCouncil.org

Lunch Included



SonomaCountyHorseCouncil.org • [Facebook.com/SonomaCountyHorseCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/SonomaCountyHorseCouncil)

AD SPECIFICATIONS AND RATES

The Sonoma County Horse Journal is a quarterly publication designed to reach Sonoma County's estimated 30,000 equestrians through direct mail to SCHC Members, individuals, organizations, 35 local horse clubs, and distribution at local feed stores and equestrian businesses. A very affordable way to spotlight your business to the Northern California horse community!

	1 x B&W	4 x B&W - 1 Year <15% Discount>	1 x Color	4 x Color - 1 Year <15% Discount>
FULL PAGE (7.5 W x 10" H)	\$ 650	\$ 552x4 = \$2208	\$1170	\$ 995x4 = \$3980
HALF PAGE (7.5 W x 4.75" H)	\$ 325	\$ 276x4 = \$1104	\$ 683	\$ 580x4 = \$2320
QUARTER PAGE (3.5 W x 4.5" H)	\$ 175	\$ 149x4 = \$ 596	\$ 390	\$ 330x4 = \$1320
EIGHTH PAGE (3.5 W x 2" H)	\$ 90	\$ 77x4 = \$ 308	—	—

Ad Sales: Contact: Kimberly Fishman – carriagerental@yahoo.com

Rates are for camera ready art. EPS, TIF, JPG or PDF, actual size at 300dpi. Design services available at a nominal charge.

Specification Questions or Design: Contact Lynn Newton – newton5@sonic.net

Sonoma County Horse Journal Submission Guidelines

Article submissions must have content that is educational, substantive, and of interest to a broad range of equine enthusiasts. Examples would be horse handling techniques, veterinary topics, rider fitness, riding disciplines, farriers/hoof care, etc. Authors should include short (40 words or less) biographical and background information, qualifications, etc. Articles may be rejected if a submission is overtly promotional of a product, service, business, and/or organization.

All articles are edited before appearing in print.

Submissions should be no longer than 600 words and may be accompanied by no more than two pictures, unless arranged for in advance and approved by the editor. ALL PHOTOGRAPHS must be the property of the submission's author or be accompanied by verifiable usage permissions from the photographs' owner of rights. Please submit photos in jpg, tiff, psd or pdf format and at least 300dpi (about 1 megabyte).

Please format your submissions as a Word document, one-inch margins, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font. Include the author's name, phone number/email, and word count. Spell check your content, please.

News & Newsworthy submissions must be news items and/or announcements of interest to readership. Examples are show results, opening of a facility, and updates from rescue organizations/non-profits. Content must be 150-words or less and one photo.

Authors retain copyright for their work and grant the Sonoma County Horse Council and The Sonoma County Horse Council's Horse Journal permission to print submissions without remuneration.

Submission Deadlines

Spring Issue - Submission Deadline February 1 - Publication March 15

Summer Issue - Submission Deadline May 1 - Publication June 15

Fall Issue - Submission Deadline August 1 - Publication September 15

Winter Issue - Submission Deadline November 1 - Publication December 15

Farm & Ranch Safety Autumn 2017



September is **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**.

FEMA provides agencies, non-profits and individuals with great tool kits. We've taken the FEMA 2017 Weekly Themes and added ideas that are especially relevant to farmers and ranchers.

We usually associate FEMA with disaster response, but the greater message is about year-round preparedness and to engage the whole community. Data compiled over more than a decade shows that communities working together rebound faster financially, physically, and emotionally.

Across the nation the role models for community resilience, time and again, are those in rural areas. Farmers and ranchers, faith-based groups, and other small-town organizations traditionally and historically have come together to help each other out in times of crisis.

As urban/suburban development eats up more and more ag land, and the boundaries between city and country become increasingly blurred, much of the neighbor-to-neighbor connections have been lost. FEMA, and common sense, point toward the vital importance of neighborliness and personal preparedness.

Make Autumn the start of the your "Year of Preparedness"!

Take a moment to explore FEMA's Preparedness Month Weekly Themes and create your own action plan for your family, your business, and your community.

FEMA National Preparedness Month–2017 Weekly Themes

Week 1: Autumn 1-9

Make a Plan for Yourself, Family and Friends

Remember to make plans for livestock, workers, and non-English speakers

Week 2: Autumn 10-16

Plan to Help Your Neighbors and Community

Get to know your neighbors, exchange contacts, and make plan "mutual aid" plan and assess risks.

Week 3: Autumn 17-23

Practice And Build Out Your Plans

Hold family safety meetings and drills just as you do in your work place. Create a phone tree. Update your site plans and note new construction.

Week 4: Autumn 24-30

Get Involved! Be a Part of Something Larger

Volunteer with Red Cross, church, or other community group. Join a CERT (Certified Emergency Response Team). Start a Community Animal Response Team (CART).

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Dog & Cat Food
Vaccines & Supplies
Bird, Poultry, Rabbit
Feed & Supplies
Fire Logs & Stove Pellets
Rice Hulls & Shavings
Pelleted Bedding
Rice and Wheat Straw
Alfalfa, Orchard Grass,
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SCHC Equus Award, 2007

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Sonoma County Horse Council

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- Single level home & separate studio apartment



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We have many more properties coming soon, call for more information!

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All acreage is estimated, not based on survey.

Brokers do not guarantee development potential, business income or return on real estate investments. Buyers to assure themselves fully of their ability to use property for their intended purpose.