

Sonoma County

# *Horse Journal*

Volume 14 • Issue 3 • Summer 2017

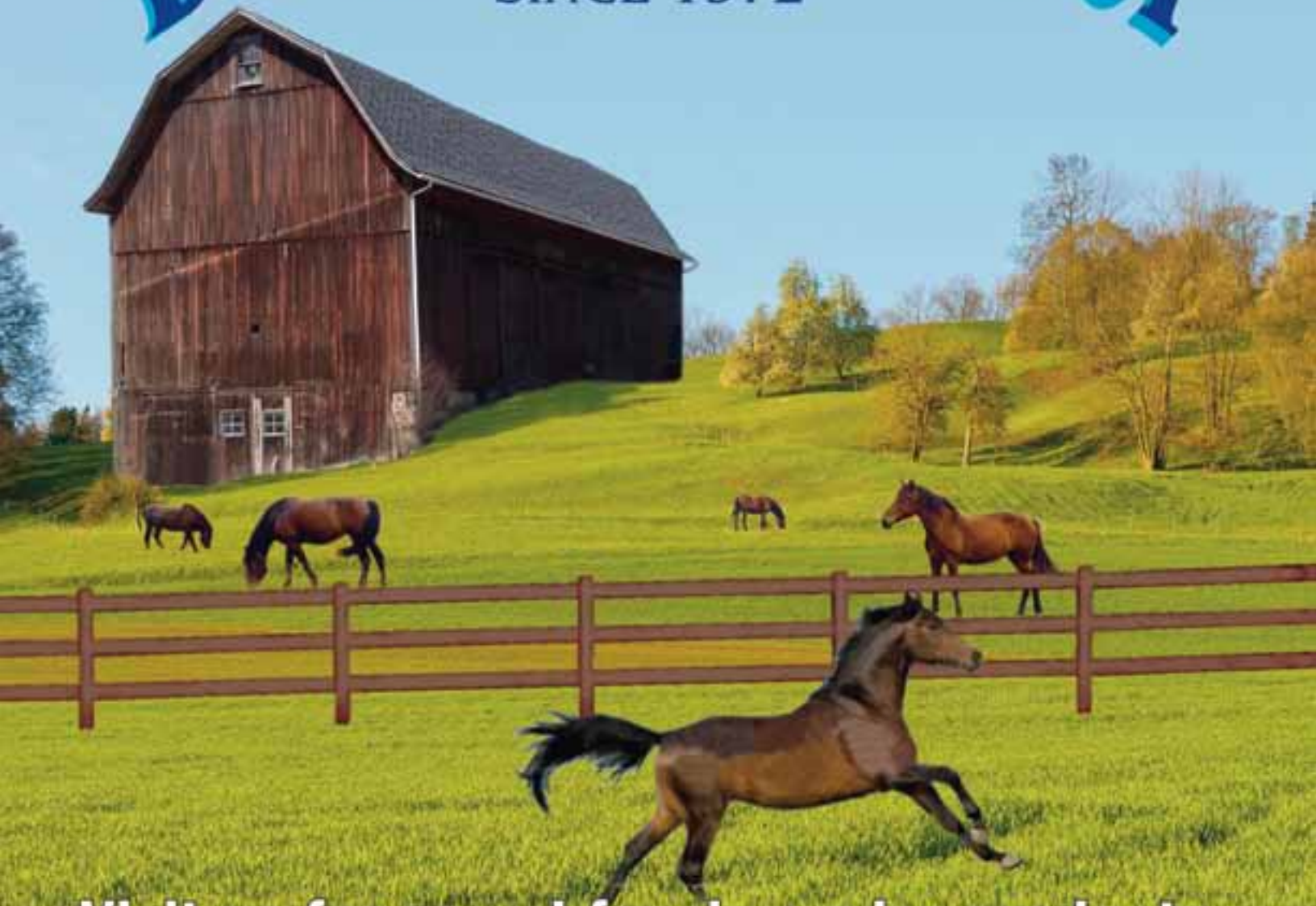


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**Sonoma County****Horse Journal**

Volume 14 • Issue 3 • Summer 2017

*Published by the Sonoma County Horse Council – Home of the Equus Awards***Inside this Issue**

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**Cover Photo: Marcie Lewis**

Kimberly and her Hackney horse, Bon Sejour's Tango aka "Ningie!" Check out Kim's article on page 8.

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## President's Message



Elizabeth and Greycie

Your Sonoma County Horse Council has been busy. Here is an update on our recent accomplishments.

**Open Arena Nights.** The SCHC is delighted to offer our members the opportunity to ride in the Chris Beck Arena at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. We have booked the arena from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on three evenings this summer—July 13th, August 31st, and September 14th. Additional dates may be added if there is interest. Reserve your spot online!

**Youth Horsemanship Workshops.** We are presenting four workshops for beginners and experienced riders, ages 8-18, to prepare them to ride in the Junior Horse Show at the Sonoma County Fair and other county fair horse shows. Participants will learn show ring etiquette and what is expected of horse and rider pairs in the various classes offered at the show. The Horse Council is grateful to its volunteer workshop leaders and to sponsors: HALTER Project, Edward Jones, Wine Country Ranch Equipment and the Sonoma County Event Center at the Fairgrounds. For details please check out page 7.

**The History Museum of Sonoma County – Horses of Sonoma County.** July 22, 2017 is the grand opening of an exciting exhibit featuring famous horses of Sonoma County and the pivotal role of

horses in the County's history from the 1800s to the present. The Exhibit, which will run through November 5, 2017, is co-hosted by the Sonoma County Horse Council, CEPEC and the History Museum of Sonoma County. For a glimpse of how horses have influenced Sonoma County, please see pages 9-11.

**Trailer Safety and Maneuvering Course.** On April 1, 2017 we hosted our first trailer safety and maneuvering course. Forty participants learned techniques for safe and effective horse trailer maneuvering. The course was so well-received that we will be offering it again in October, 2017. More information on the April course is found on page 20.

**What is next?** We are so fortunate to have miles of fabulous trails easily accessible to Sonoma County equestrians. It is time for equestrians to assume a greater role in maintaining our trails so that the parks are safe and sustainable for all users. In conjunction with Sonoma County Trails Council, the Horse Council plans to sponsor trail maintenance celebrations, um, I mean work days. Actually, they will be both, some work, some fun! Watch for more information on how you can be involved.

Join. The Sonoma County Horse Council operates exclusively through its volunteer horse-loving members. Please join us in our efforts to preserve and enhance the opportunities for equestrian-related activities in our beautiful county. Membership information is available at [www.sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org](http://www.sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org).

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

# Right of First Refusal – Happy Endings or Heartbreak?



A “right of first refusal”, sometimes called a “buy back option”, is a right granted under a contract that requires the buyer to give the seller an opportunity to own the horse again if or when the buyer wants to part with the horse. In other words, when the horse is offered for sale, the transaction cannot be consummated until the holder of the right is notified and either waives the right or offers to match the price. If the price is matched, the holder of the right gets to purchase the horse, and the seller’s prospective purchaser is out of luck.

The following is an example of a basic right of first refusal provision:

“The seller retains the right of first refusal if, at any time in the life of said horse, the Buyer is unable or unwilling to keep said horse. If the Buyer desires to sell or otherwise dispose of said horse, the Buyer agrees to contact the Seller and allow the Seller the first opportunity to purchase or reclaim the Horse. Buyer agrees to provide Seller with a current address, phone number and contact information and to notify Seller of any change in location of said horse.”

Additionally, a bill of sale and purchase agreement may contain language such as,

“Seller covenants that he/she is the lawful owner of said horse; that he/she has the absolute right to sell said horse free of any conditions or encumbrances, including any right of first refusal to a prior owner, and that he/she will warrant and defend against lawful claims and demands of all persons.”

As well-intended as the parties may be, right of first refusal provisions often fail. Among other requirements, a valid contract must involve a mutual exchange of consideration between the parties whereby one party gives the other party something of value, and vice versa (in this case, money exchanged for a horse). If a horse is given to someone on a “gift” basis, the promise to not sell the horse in the future without notifying the former owner will likely prove legally meaningless as gratuitous transactions are rarely

enforceable. Therefore, for this purpose, charging a nominal fee for the horse rather than gifting it outright is highly recommended.

Another reason a right of first refusal provision could fail is because it was never expressed in a written document. In many cases, a sale occurs with no written contract at all! To avoid this, sellers should have a written purchase agreement and a bill of sale, both of which include this provision. Successfully proving the existence of and enforcing an oral agreement in a court of law can be extremely difficult. For a refresher on the challenges with oral agreements, see my article titled “Problems with a Handshake: Enforcing the Oral Contract” in the Summer 2014 issue of the *Horse Journal*.

Despite a written contract with a properly drafted right of first refusal provision, there are situations whereby the legal obligation is forgotten or overlooked by the current owner thus leaving the former seller unable to buy back the horse when the current owner sells or rehomes it. If a former seller learns of a sale in progress, he or she could bring a lawsuit seeking an injunction (ordering the parties to not proceed) and enforcement of the right of first refusal provision. However, often enough the horse has already been sold, and in that case the former seller can bring a lawsuit for breach of contract seeing monetary damages. However, monetary remedies can never replace your horse.

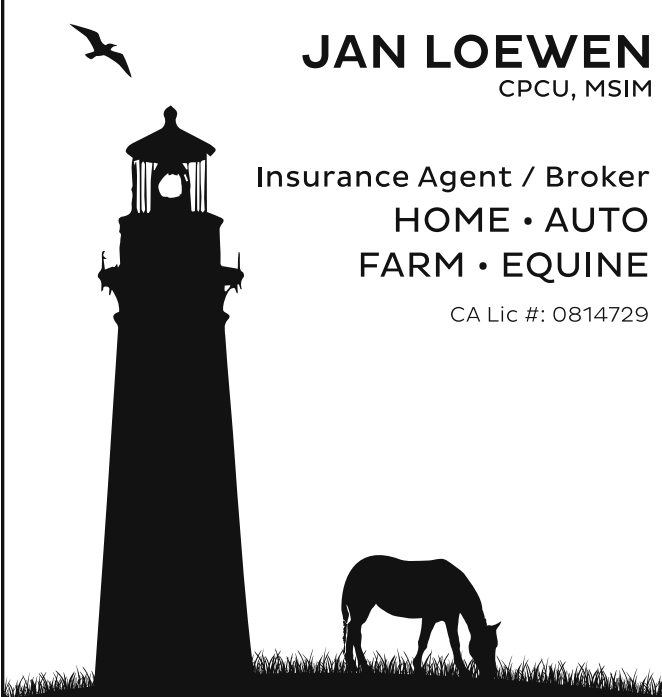
If you desire the right of first refusal when selling a horse, it is critical that the purchase agreement and bill of sale contain carefully crafted language that suits your particular transaction. This will help place you in a favorable legal position to either: 1) obtain the horse back under the terms of the provision provided the current owner doesn’t ignore his/her legal obligation; or 2) enforce the contract and right of first refusal in a court of law should you wish to pursue remedies for breach. Alternatively, if you are struggling with parting ways with your beloved horse, you may want to reconsider your decision to sell, and entertain leasing it out instead. In sum, no matter how well-drafted a provision may be written, happy endings are no guarantee, and sadly, heartbreak is often the result.



*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](http://www.pdoylelaw.com) and [www.equineesquire.com](http://www.equineesquire.com).*

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

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Information and registration on the website:  
[sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org](http://sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org)



## Readers Write

## Mirror, Mirror

by Kimberly Fishman

The first job with my horse carriage company was transporting officials on the race track at Fairplex Park during the Los Angeles County Fair. Having driven my horses there annually before I bought them, guys on the back side of the track were placing bets on how long my company would last without a carriage accident...or so I heard. Apparently they thought that no woman could do what they had struggled to do over the years, hang on to the reins for dear life and get through each meet without a wreck. My colleague and I held on so hard; when we couldn't hold the horses any longer we passed the reins back and forth to each other and put knots in them to keep them from sliding through our hands. We shamefully resorted to see-sawing at full speeds, sometimes. Both of my ring fingers were numb for years after the first month of working the fair. But finally the inevitable happened.... While driving the horses flat out on the track and approaching our destination in the SoCal heat, exhausted I gave up—loosened my death grip on the reins and said "WHOA!" Guess what I got? Exactly what I asked for.



Bon Sejour's Tango, "Ningie" is a rare Hackney Horse mare and Kimberly's #1 working horse—she goes single, pair, tandem and any combination in a multiple's hitch.

anywhere that work is, provided that the terrain is flat.

There is in driving, as with all equine disciplines, there is a sweet spot from hand to bit, no matter the length of the rein. That space where you have a light connection to your horse, where there resides a feeling that you are transmitting relaxation, is like a zone in which you and the horse(s) operate in harmony. If you hold without any release, you never transmit to the horse that it's free to relax. He is forever looking for the sweet spot because he wants to be in harmony with you, too. That spot is best found through half-halting, during the release.

Holding your horse because you are afraid tells him exactly that. My horses ran like HELL the first year at the track, and for a good reason—by holding them back I was telling them to be very afraid and ruuun!! More force = more resistance, in all aspects of our lives. Find the sweet spot with your horse as with any other being, because inevitably you will get back everything that

you give. Your horse is your mirror. When you see a horseman who is often smiled at, with a horse that softly complies with the horseman's wishes—it's a reflection of who they are.

Kimberly Fishman is the owner/operator of Hackney Horse & Carriage, providing horse drawn carriage and Indian wedding transportation for the entire Bay Area since 2000. Kimberly has been an avid horsewoman her entire life, a graduate of the Equine Science program at Centenary College, and promoter of the Hackney horse breed whenever possible. Ride in Style! With Hackney Horse & Carriage (408)535-0277 on Facebook, Pinterest and Instagram.



Photo: Susan Ragan

In the neighborhood of South Park in San Francisco, Kimberly demonstrates that you can drive a pair of horses on a city street with the same reining as you would while driving a single horse.

even the stud chain. The same theory is applied while you are on the ground leading your horse. With a soft hand you can train a horse to walk beside you in traffic, through a city, anywhere. Being able to work horses safely in all situations, from fairs to city streets, is the basis of everything that I do in my carriage business. Horses eat and need ongoing care, that requires money, money that they earn, so they need to be ready to work



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## Readers Write

## Horses in History

By Wanda Smith



Although 200 years have passed since the first modern horses arrived in Sonoma County, they continue to grace us with their contributions to our culture, economy, recreation, and quality of life. From **July 22nd to November 5, 2017** the History Museum of Sonoma County will present an exhibit of narratives, photos, and films of Sonoma County's famous equine champions and associated artifacts over the centuries. The exhibit is a collaborative effort of the Sonoma County Horse Council, California Equestrian Park and Event Center (CEPEC), and History Museum of Sonoma County. Exhibits include equine demographics and economics of the county's horse industry, riding apparel across the centuries, horse drawn vehicles, and displays of Sonoma County horses in movies, and equine fine art. Art prints, jewelry, note cards, crafts, and books will be available in the museum's bookstore.

An epoch is a narrative or story about an event at a specific time. Many equine epochs in the last two hundred years have impacted Sonoma County's history and culture.

Fossils found in Petaluma and Cotati indicate that pre-historic horses lived in Sonoma County millions of years ago. They were about 48 inches at the shoulder - about 10 inches shorter than today's ponies, and with predators like the saber tooth tiger and the bear dog, horses evolved longer legs and the ability to run fast. These pre-historic versions of horses, Neohipparions, still had three toes on each foot, but the two side toes were significantly smaller than the middle toe, which had become their primary source of support.

But horses as we now know them would not roam our county's valleys and hills until the early 1800s, when they arrived with Vaqueros (Mexican cowboys) recruited to protect newly established missions. They let horses roam free, and did not geld stallions. The horse population thus exploded over the next two decades. Vaqueros kept ropes around the necks of their favorite horses and when a Vaquero wanted a horse to ride, would catch one by the rope, saddle it up, and ride off. They trained horses to respond to slight pressure of a hackamore, bit, and the rider's legs, took pride in their horse's ability to respond to the gentlest of hand and leg pressure, and often had contests showing their horse's ability to perform various gaits with no noticeable cues from their riders.



Vaquero riding horse with romel reins and spade bit

Vaquero-trained horses were highly valued, used only for riding and not for work in the fields. The clothing and riding styles are reflected in today's clothes, horse training, and riding. The Vaquero's short riding jacket evolved into the Levi jacket; hackamore, romel reins, and spade bit are still in wide use; and Vaquero training and riding styles were forerunners of gentle training and Western dressage that are so popular today.



Horses hauling a log

Settlers homesteading the county began using horses for labor, to transport and haul logs, coal, crops, and harvested grapes before mechanization, thus helping the success of vineyards and famous wine of Sonoma County. At the end of the 1800s and into the early 1900s, horses delivered mail and dairy products, pulled fire engines and trolley cars.



Horses pulling a trolley

In the mid-1800s, newly established ranchers imported European horses for breeding and riding. Theodore Skillman, after whom Skillman Lane in Petaluma is named, imported European coach horses in 1876, and by 1885, horses had become one of the main sources of revenue in Sonoma County. Personal transport horses were mainly used to pull carriages because people thought fewer skills were needed to drive a carriage than ride a horse; the general public felt safer in a carriage than on horseback.

The advent of fancy horses encouraged more people to ride and sulky racing grew became popular. Standardbred trotters were used in sulky harness racing because they raced trotting rather than galloping. Anteeo became the most famous Standardbred stallion, siring 28 trotters with racing records of two-and-a-half minutes or less, and sired a number of valuable stallions that kept his name in trotting bloodlines for many years.

(Continued on page 10)



(Continued from page 9)



Sidney Dillon



Lou Dillon

Anteeo and his offspring put California on the national racing map, but a stallion named Sidney Dillon secured California's place on the international racing scene. By 1900, Sidney Dillon's offspring were winning races all over California and eventually produced a filly named Lou Dillon that became the fastest trotting horse in the world.

Racing became so popular that in the late 1800s, there were at least 10 race tracks in Sonoma County, many private tracks used for

training, but several, like one in Bloomfield, were open to the public for betting. It was located near the railroad that brought visitors from as far away as San Francisco in the 1860s. Another track, Taylor's Racing Oval, was part of the White Sulphur Springs Resort in Santa Rosa which was built in 1870 by John Shackelford Taylor (after which Taylor Mountain is named). Its hot springs and races created a tourist attraction for people from all over the Bay Area. It ceased being used for racing when the hot springs stopped flowing in the 1906 earthquake.

In 1891, Gustav Weske built an octagonal horse barn in Wikiup that was surrounded by his private race track. The barn had a cupola which provided a "bird's-eye view" of the training and conditioning of Weske's race horses.



White Sulphur Springs Resort



Weske Octagonal Barn with Viewing Cupola

By the beginning of the 1900s, flat racing with jockeys riding horses had become more popular than harness racing. Ranchers focused breeding programs on Thoroughbreds rather than Standardbreds. John Rossiter, a San Francisco shipping magnate, built a 20,000 square-foot stable on his 800-acre ranch in Wikiup. The stable cost over \$50,000; \$1,207,160 in today's currency. Constructed of knot free, Douglas fir wood, it had silver-plated, hand-wrought and hammered brass hinges on the stall doors, and was surrounded by a cobblestone walkway.

Rossiter stood a stallion name Disguise that sired horses with winnings of more than a million dollars for his stables.

The 1920s, though, were a bleak period for horse racing in California as betting became illegal in 1922 and remained so until 1933. Rossiter was one of the few men who believed in the future

of horse racing. The horse industry was almost non-existent at that time, but Rossiter continued creating a world-class collection of Thoroughbred horses, which gave new life to the Sonoma County horse industry. In 1926, Disguise turned 29 and the Rossiters hosted a birthday party for him attended by guests from as far away as New York. The table on the lawn was shaped like a giant horseshoe, the birthday cake was grain and mash, and the candles were carrots. The party was written about in newspapers across the United States and, for more than a decade, set the standard for Bay Area social events.

Rossiter ended up doing more for the California Thoroughbred industry during the '20s than anyone else.

The invention and popularity of the automobile reduced the need for horses as service animals, and World War I significantly reduced the number of horses across the United States. The county's horse population declined significantly. The Great Depression further reduced the horse population because people could not afford them. During World War II, many horses from Sonoma County were purchased for the U.S. Cavalry. Rossiter was an avid supporter of the American military and allowed his ranch to be used by the Army to house field artillery units which still used horse-drawn caissons.

Sonoma County did not resurface as a major venue of the horse world until mid-century, when Santa Rosa became the West Coast Center for horse shows. An economic boon that began in the 1950s allowed many people to acquire horses. Racing still existed, but only at the remaining two tracks at the Santa Rosa and Petaluma Fairgrounds. Horse operations as hobbies were prevalent, many used as tax shelters, and by the 1960s breeding and training facilities abounded, and horse shows became increasingly popular.

The most common horses at the shows were Arabians, Quarter Horses, and Standardbreds. Edna Draper and her husband were the first people to import Arabians into the U.S. from Spain. There was no loading dock when they first arrived in the East Bay, so she and her five horses dove off the ship and swam to shore. She and her husband didn't have a horse trailer, so they led the horses from their pickup truck to their ranch, 25 miles away. Those five horses



First U.S. Champion Arabian Mare, Surita

became the foundation stock of the 200 horses on Edna's ranch in Santa Rosa, on Llano Road, and from those 200 came many champions across the country, including the first National Champion Mare, Surita.



Rossiter Stables

(Continued on page 11)





(Continued from page 10)

Sonoma County produced several other extraordinary champion horses, including the international champion Arabian stallion, Monogram, Kentucky Derby Thoroughbred racer, Cavonnire, national champion cutting Quarter Horse, Shakin Flo, and Canal Lauriston, national champion Connemara Pony in six riding disciplines.



Western Pleasure



Cutting

during this period had entries in a variety of events, including Western and English pleasure, jumping, carriage driving, barrel racing, reining, and cutting (where horses are required to herd and control cows for two-and-a-half minutes).

The IRS curtailed hobby horse operations hobbies as tax shelters in 1986, resulting in a significant decrease in breeding ranches, horses, and horse shows. It took several years for the county's horse industry to regain its former strength, but by the late '90s, horse ranches, trainers, and the number of horses in the County began to rise. By 2013, the county horse population had increased to 24,000, with 36,000 equestrians, 140 trainers, and 125 boarding facilities. Annual county revenue from the horse-related activities, employment, and businesses generated \$683-million, placing it

Arabians and Quarter Horses dominated the West Coast show circuit between the 1960s and the 1980s. The biggest horse shows were held at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds, 8,600 show entries in 1972. That same year, the two year-old Snaffle Bit Futurity was held at the Fairgrounds. The Futurity is a reining and cow working competition for three-year-old horses that have not been previously shown. (It has since become one of the biggest Western riding shows in the world, with a winning purse of \$125,000.) The

majority of horse shows

with wine and tourism as major county revenue contributor.

There are at least 31 breeds of horses in Sonoma County now. Their historic use as service animals has evolved into pleasure riding and multi-disciplinary competitions. Horse events now include jumping, eventing, cutting, reining, roping, gymkhana, polo, endurance, dressage, driving, vaulting, and Fairgrounds racing. Their use has expanded to educational programs in disciplines such as animal science, showmanship, veterinary medicine, and horse management. Mounted patrols and search and rescue operations bring horses into public service. Equine therapy programs for the disabled, elderly, at risk youth, traumatized victims, and veterans abound. Their future in Sonoma County is as assured as their history here.

Wanda Smith is the Project Organizer of Equine Epochs, Executive Director of CEPEC, and author of *Wine Country Horses*. She has managed horse ranches in Santa Cruz and Guerneville and has been a cutting horse competitor.



Disabled boy learning balance while riding



Bonding with a horse



## EQUINE EPOCHS

History of Sonoma County Horses

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## Vet's Office

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

# Do You Need to Give Your Horse Electrolytes?

I see electrolytes powders and pastes lining the shelves of feed stores. What are they and do you need/should you use them?

Electrolytes are minerals that are required for a variety of bodily functions. The main ones are sodium, potassium, chloride and calcium. Let's consider each separately.

**Sodium** is important for acid-base (pH) regulation as well as muscle contraction and nerve conduction. The highest concentration is outside of cells. It is found primarily in bones, blood, muscle, skin and ingesta (food) in the digestive tract. The sodium in the ingesta serves as a reservoir. There are limited dietary sources as both forages (grass or hay) and grains are low in sodium. Sodium should be given free choice to all horses by allowing access to a salt or mineral block.

**Potassium** is also required for acid-base regulation, muscle contraction, and nerve conduction. Contrary to sodium, all forages tend to be very high in potassium. Most horses consume far more potassium than they need, excreting the excess in urine. Supplementation is rarely needed if the horse is eating normally.

**Chloride** is also involved in acid-base regulation and is a component of bile and hydrochloric acid in the stomach. It is usually attached to sodium and sometimes to potassium. Table salt is sodium chloride. Generally, if a horse is getting enough sodium, it is getting enough chloride.

### THUMPS

Synchronous diaphragmatic flutter, more commonly known as thumps, most commonly occurs in endurance horses. It causes the horse's diaphragm to become synchronized with their heart beat and is most often due to low calcium in their blood stream. Contrary to what you might expect, it happens most often in horses that eat a lot of alfalfa. Since alfalfa is high in calcium, their parathyroid hormone level is essentially *turned to low*. If they lose significant amounts of calcium in their sweat they are unable to access the calcium stored in their bones as it takes time to *turn it up*. Most endurance horses should have a small amount of alfalfa in their diet and eat some at a ride.

**Calcium** is a vital element that is essential for many processes including muscle contractions, blood clotting, and cell membrane functions. It is also needed for many enzymes and is a critical part of the skeleton. Bone is 35% calcium and serves as a calcium reservoir. If a horse's calcium level in the blood stream gets low its parathyroid gland will secrete parathyroid hormone, which releases calcium from his bones. There is some calcium in most types of hay but alfalfa has very high levels of this mineral.

Equine sweat is hypertonic, meaning the concentration of electrolytes is greater in sweat than in other parts of the body. The composition of electrolytes in sweat varies between individuals. Horses exercising in a hot environment can lose 10- 15 liters of sweat per hour. Hot, humid conditions are particularly challenging. Prolonged sweating can result in significant loss of electrolytes, especially sodium, potassium and chloride. Some loss of calcium can also occur.

Do we need to supplement our horses with electrolytes? Horses such as endurance horses who are exercising and sweating for several hours will usually benefit from the use of electrolyte paste or powders (added to water). Even though they eat at mandatory rest stops, they probably can't replace all of the electrolytes they lose. Horses exercising for an hour or two in hot conditions will likely benefit from having a couple of tablespoons of salt added to their feed afterwards but don't likely need commercial products as they can replace their potassium and calcium when they eat. Horses just hanging around on a hot day don't likely need anything, but adding a little salt to their feed won't hurt. Keep in mind that electrolyte pastes can aggravate gastric ulcers. If you use electrolyte powder in water you should *always* offer fresh plain water as well. Most of us non-endurance riders could probably save our money and just buy a container of salt to use occasionally.

*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](http://www.empire-equine.com)), or on Facebook.*



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## Readers Write

# The Benefits of Long-Lining

By Erika Jansson

Long-lining, or sometimes called ground driving, is working your horse on the ground from behind with long reins attached to the bit or cavesson. It has many benefits, including building trust, increasing communication, and strengthening of the horse. I am originally from Gothenburg, Sweden and received my equine education at Flyinge, The Swedish National Stud Academy. There I was first introduced to long-lining by the one and only Bo Jena. I spent two years at Flyinge and with Bo Jena. Even though long-lining might look easy when you see Bo or anyone experienced at it, it is a skill that takes time to develop.

Horses that would benefit from long-lining:

- Young horses being started under saddle because this allows them time to develop muscle mass before getting a rider on their back;
- Equines in rehabilitation, or horses that are brought back to work from extended rest;
- Performance horses in training and conditioning;
- Geriatric horses that can no longer be under saddle, yet would benefit from the attention, connection and exercise; and
- Those who enjoy and appreciate variety and connection!

The combination of body language and the long lines allow your conversation to flow naturally, in a language your horse already knows. The best part is that long-lining is useful regardless of what stage your horse is at in its career.

Equipment you will need for long lining is: bridle, long-line reins about 30' (preferably in leather), surcingle with lots of rings, whip, and gloves. Regarding the surcingle, it's important where you start your lines in the rings. I always start the outside rein on the highest ring to give the horse a correct understanding of the outside rein. Inside line on the low so it's easy for the horse to understand when you like to make a turn or encourage her when you want the horse to stretch down and low.

In addition to proper equipment, I cannot underscore enough the importance of these safe handling practices particularly when long-lining: 1) always wear gloves; 2) never stand directly behind the horse; and 3) never stand closer than the length of the whip.

The safest place to introduce long-lining to your horse is in a round pen. Take the time to get to know the horse's capabilities, understanding, and knowledge of this exercise. If long-lines are completely new to your horse, teach it the complete process beginning with accepting the lines all the way through to understanding the communication of the line aids. With the correct use of the lines, you can not only desensitize your horse to alarming motions, but also sensitize it to listening and coming off the pressure.



*Erika is long-lining Quinato, a 5-year old Holsteiner gelding.*



*Erika positions herself far enough away from the horse's hind end to be safe, yet close enough to effectively use the long-lines.*

Soft hands will communicate direction to the left and right as well as speed control for downward transitions, stops, and rein back. Working in the round pen will create an environment for your horse to understand all the cues that will later be taken into work under saddle. Creativity is key as you explore your horse's capabilities with turns, circles, serpentines, transitions, leg yields, half passes and, for the adventurous, flying changes, passage, or piaffe!

I always start each horse on a circle. Whether a pony, mare, gelding or a stallion, experienced or new to long lining, the first thing a horse has to learn is to be on the outside rein. It would be hard to overstate this as it's the basis for handler control. The handler is always positioned near the inside rein, and you don't want the horse to drop the inside shoulder and barrel into you. For some horses, in the beginning, that means that the horse can be strongly bent to the outside when long-lining on the circle. Sometimes strong use of outside rein aids is needed, but it's in self-defense. Control is critical, and without the contact of the outside rein, the horse can veer into you very quickly. It's okay if the horse isn't round at first, and, trust me, I have had a lot of ugly moments while the horse was still learning the idea of long lining! Support with the whip to keep the horse out on the circle and forward (forward is also a big deal).

This is your opportunity to be creative and add some fun and partnership into your horse's training. You can create your course specifically for your circumstances, choreograph each lesson, and incorporate your horse's needs, desires, learning style and more into it. The options are virtually limitless; long-lining has something to offer everyone, regardless of weather, environment or time constraints!

*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](http://www.ejdressage.com) and/or email her at [ejdressage@me.com](mailto:ejdressage@me.com).*



*Readers Write***What is CHA?**

by Lisa Lombardi

Certified Horsemanship Association is an international "non-profit membership organization founded in 1967 to develop a means to test and evaluate riding program staff for risk management, skills, teaching ability, horsemanship knowledge and professionalism." It's the largest and most active instructor certification system in North America, and its mission is "to promote excellence in safety and education for the benefit of the entire horse industry. CHA changes lives through safe experiences with horses."

CHA publishes educational books, including the Riding Instructor & Trail Guide Manual, The Equine Professional Manual: The Art of Teaching Riding, the Horsemanship Composite Manual, and Standards for Equestrian Programs, which are continually updated and revised by committees of professional equestrians. CHA also publishes the Instructor Journal, and numerous DVDs on equine education and safety.

Unique to CHA is that the organization is inclusive of every discipline, style of riding, and breed. It also includes therapeutic riding programs. Students can progress through four levels of English and/or western, and trail riding. Contained in each level is horse management as well as riding. Level one, for example, discusses such topics as basic aids for walk, trot/jog, turning and stopping. In



A sampling of CHA publications

level two, students begin to canter/lope, and may begin jumping. Colors, breeds, and parts of the horse are introduced. Level four, riders jump courses and/or ride reining patterns, as well as have an understanding of parasites and horse health.

CHA offers 5-day intensive training and testing clinics to instructors who want to become certified. Instructor candidates are tested in five categories: horsemanship, safety, teaching ability, professionalism, and group control. During testing, instructor candidates ride, teach a minimum of four lessons, and take a written

exam. They also participate in daily workshops on such topics as risk management and equine management. They may certify English, western or both, with or without jumping, as an assistant or at any of the four levels. If an experienced instructor scores at the highest levels in both seats, including jumping, they can continue training, testing, and evaluations to eventually become clinic staff.

In addition to offering a logical progression in training and certification for both students and instructors, there are also site accreditations in which facilities, horses, staff, and programs themselves must meet CHA standards.

Why choose CHA? CHA standards are used as guidelines for liability insurance companies. Lawyers involved in equine court cases can call upon those knowledgeable in CHA standards to serve as expert witnesses. Choosing a CHA certified instructor ensures the instructor has been trained and tested in safety and teaching techniques and horsemanship, and is continuing in education to maintain that certification. CHA provides continuing education and support.

There are annual regional conferences, and this year's annual CHA International Conference will be a 50-year celebration held at Lexington's Kentucky Horse Park, October 25-28. It is open to the public, and will include presentations, lessons, and workshops in a wide range of topics including "Engaging the Rider's Core to Engage the Horse's Core," "What the Judge is Looking for in Over Fences Classes," and "Drill Patterns for All Levels of Riders," and many, many more.

What should one look for in an instructor, facility or riding program? Legally, what should be the minimum age of a riding instructor? How many hours a day should a lesson horse work? What should you know about incident reports? What is the recommended height of an arena fence for your discipline? What is the maximum weight a riding or packing horse should carry? All of these answers can be found in CHA publications are considered guidelines for the equine industry to keep horses sound and content, and riders safe while participating in equestrian programs.

*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](http://www.clovertenthirty.com).*

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## Readers Write

# Animal Welfare Takes a Village

by Heather Bailey



"Elliot" was picked up in October of 2016, extremely thin and in need of care. Unfortunately, it was too late to save him, and he died within 24 hours of entering foster care with CHANGE. Elliot's pasture was alongside a busy road, and likely hundreds of people drove past him in this condition before anyone called to get him help. If you see something, say something. Elliot's case is still under investigation.

If you've had horses long enough, something like this has happened to you.

You're in polite conversation with someone who professes to be a fellow horse person, and they say something that sounds like the craziest thing you've ever heard. Maybe they tell you that blue-eyed horses are blind. Or horses don't need to eat anything but grass, even when there isn't any actual grass in their field. Or maybe every day you drive by a skinny horse on the way to work and it's looking worse over time, not better. Or when you visit your parents, their neighbor has a horse with an ugly wound that doesn't seem to be getting any care.

The first thing to evaluate, of course, is the kind of misinformation you're dealing with. In rescue, we often deal with the dangerously or purposefully ignorant. The people who can't be bothered to feed or water their horses because "they're just animals," or they can "just eat grass," or "the horse is my [son-daughter-ex-wife-ex-boyfriend]'s," or "vets cost too much money."

And, in severe cases that violate the law, that sort of misinformation needs to be dealt with swiftly and strongly. That is one of the purposes of the Sonoma County Animal Services (SCAS) arm of law enforcement—to uphold equine laws that protect horses from criminal abuse, neglect, and abandonment. And, because no one is either omnipotent or omnipresent, SCAS relies in part on community members to be their eyes and ears. If you have concerns about an animal's care or treatment, then call the officers at Sonoma County Animal Services and ask for a welfare check. (See sidebar to find out more.)

The standard of adequate and appropriate horse care, though, can often be ambiguous. And there are times where honest lack of information can lead to horses not getting the care they need and deserve. It is in this gray area where experienced horse people can play an important role in preventing abuse and neglect from happening in the first place.

The easy reaction when faced with horse-care ignorance may be derision or anger. Have you ever thought, What kind of person doesn't get their horse's feet trimmed? Or won't feed hay? Or periodically check its teeth?

Instead, when encountering a new or uneducated horse owner, try reaching out, without judgment, with advice and practical suggestions. Take time, from the heart, to share your horse

knowledge and education—the lifetime of learning you've built up. And ultimately, what is best for the horses? To be saved? Or to never need saving in the first place?

### So what happens when a call is made to Sonoma County Animal Services?

- An Animal Control Officer (ACO) is dispatched to the address and assesses the situation. ACOs would rather go out on a welfare check and find no violations than have someone not call if they are concerned.
- If a violation or situation is found, the officer must then make a determination as to whether or not immediate action is required (seizure, euthanasia, medical care) and if there is an owner on site or if one must be located. This can often determine the next course, because if it's a medical situation an owner on site can be compelled to take care of the animal whereas no owner means the ACO will need to figure out care.
- In the case of a potential violation, even if there is not immediate seizure or other action taken, the officer will begin the investigation and evidence gathering.
- If action is required on the part of the owner to come into compliance, the ACO will provide them with a list of requirements and a timeline, and "pend" the call for a follow up.
- If a criminal case is determined, the ACO will create a lengthy report with all of their evidence and submit it to the district attorney's office.
- The District Attorney's Office will then take one of the three actions: accept the report and forward the case for prosecution; return the reports to the ACO with notes about where they need additional evidence before moving forward with a prosecution or return the report and declining to prosecute at all.
- Should prosecution go forward, warrants will be issued and the subject will be cited, given a bench warrant or taken into custody depending on the nature of the case.

Heather Bailey is the Executive Director of the Sonoma County CHANGE Program and, with her husband, owns Phoenix Farm. The CHANGE Program was formed in 2007 to support local law enforcement in managing equine humane cases including neglect, abuse and abandonment.



*Readers Write*

# U.C. Davis Veterinary Students Return to Santa Rosa for a Dental Day

by Teresa Crocker, D.V.M.



*Pictured are Nick Edelman (2020), Laura Weintraub (2020), Lauren Taylor (2019), Persia Neumann (wet lab coordinator) (2019), Emelie Roche (2020) and Ariana Truszewski (2020).*

Working with rescue and sanctuary operations is a notorious frustration for veterinarians.

Many veterinarians flatly refuse to work with rescue groups and few offer discounted services. Good intentions and needy patients abound, yet treatment can be limited due to meager funds which must be directed to rent and feed. Residents are a troubled bunch, emotionally or physically, often both, which is what landed them in a sanctuary. Overcrowding is a common, as it is extremely hard for rescuers to say no to any animal. Generally, veterinarians are only called in for serious emergencies. A tight monthly budget inevitably leads to putting small issues on hold, while serious fires are addressed. We all realize that this leads to more fires, but balances increase and remain unpaid. Preventative care rarely happens unless a particular animal is sponsored. The veterinarian, who cares just as much as the sanctuary about the animals, is forced to make a decision to continue to treat, despite unpaid invoices, or decline treatment altogether, which often leads to both loss of the account and writing off the balance as bad debt.

Aside from the finances, continuously working with animals that do not receive recommended care takes an emotional toll on veterinarians, referred to as compassion fatigue. Although several vaccine manufacturers have stepped up to provide annual inoculations and de-wormers to a set number of registered non-profits (application process), other preventative measures are forgone.

This is especially true of dental care, which is intensive and expensive, even for prophylaxis. Cost comes from equipment, restraint (anesthesia in small animals, standing sedation in equids), and the skill set required. Although graduate veterinarians are trained in basic dental techniques, advanced techniques and the

experience required to open a mouth, and to be prepared to address any and every condition or abnormality, are not in the standard curriculum. Because of this, long standing prejudices have developed, especially in the equine world, against veterinarians practicing dentistry. With sanctuary horses, one may expect the worst in both medical conditions and behavioral responses. Horses are often fearful, lightly handled, and full of serious dental pathologies. While these issues do provide an excellent platform for learning, an experienced practitioner is unlikely to donate the time and services required to address every horse on a sanctuary. Once again, only the most serious cases are addressed, leaving routine care for another day, a day that never comes.

Bringing veterinary students together with sanctuaries is an amazing opportunity to provide care and training. Students are eager to learn and share knowledge, and the sanctuary horses provide a wide spectrum of ages, behavioral issues, and dental pathologies to investigate and address. Emphasis is placed on assessing each animal as an individual. Baseline physical exams and carrot (or cookie) tests are administered, sedative protocols developed, and oral exams completed. Tool handling and maintenance are practiced. Competence and confidence comes from experience. Sedating a fearful old horse for an extended treatment requires a very different approach than a basic exam and routine odontoplasty (float) for a younger, well-trained animal.

For the past 15 years veterinary students from the student chapter of the AAEP at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine (aka Equine Medicine Club) have trekked to Sonoma County twice a year to do just this. Learning from experience, they practice IV injections, tool handling, dental charting, occlusal adjustments, and routine odontoplasty, while bringing state-of-the-art dental care to sanctuary horses that would otherwise be left without. Veterinary students will return in June to team up with local farriers to practice tool handling and hoof exams. I am extremely blessed and honored to have been part of this venture since its inception, and hope to continue the tradition for many years to come.



*This year, the EMC club was able to acquire their own instruments through club fundraising including a new water-cooled rotary tool and the coveted Alumispec which help improve patient comfort, practitioner visibility, and preserve dental anatomy.*

*Teresa Crocker, DVM is a 2001 graduate of UCD SVM. Equine geriatrics, dentistry, podiatry, and behavior are her passion. To learn more about the rescues to which Dr. Crocker donates her services, Sadie's Haven Horse Sanctuary and Brighthaven Animal Hospice, please visit [www.sadieshaven.org](http://www.sadieshaven.org) and [www.brighthaven.org](http://www.brighthaven.org). To learn more about the Equine Medicine Club at UC Davis, visit [www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clubs/emc/](http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/clubs/emc/).*



## Readers Write

## Drunken Horses

by Daniel J. Demers



CAT BALLOU © 1965, renewed 1993 Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Drunken horse stories have been told in articles featured in American newspapers since at least the turn of the 20th century.

In 1901 Harry Brill, an eighth grader at Minneapolis' Adams School, received honorable mention for a composition he submitted to the *Minneapolis [MN] Journal*. The subject of his composition was a detailed description of a horse, along with a group of partiers, which drank large quantities of fermented apple cider (more commonly known as "apple jack"). The horse, according to Harry, was "an old bag of bones and angularities."

The so "doctored" horse attempted to walk but couldn't and it would "suddenly halt and throw out his starboard legs to keep from falling...[and] then [would] slowly gather himself up for another attempt," explained Harry. His hind legs got twisted together, "[the horse] sat down on his haunches, but still bracing up on his forelegs...the old horse actually seemed to enjoy it."

An even funnier story occurred in Chicago a few years later. Apparently a group of "several hangers-on around the saloon" [aka "regulars"] led a horse into their neighborhood saloon. One of the regulars bought a bucket of beer for the steed and were surprised that he lapped it up. Laughing, they bought a second bucket and, according to the newspapers, the horse drank the suds "with avidity."

When the horse began to show "symptoms of intoxication...several inmates of the saloon sought to lead it out," the reporter related. The poor drunk horse didn't want to go and "proceeded to use its teeth and heels" breaking up chairs and, according to one newspaper "converted the place into a pile of debris." The horse finally "placidly stretched itself on its side in front of the bar and went to sleep." He slept it off all day and all night "despite attempts to remove it."

A 1902 article in the *Washington [DC] Bee* related the story about a race horse named Colonel Clark who was purposefully liquored up before his races. It was the modern day version of "doping"—it's just that such "dope" did not exist in the 1880s. George Wither, a leading jockey of the era, related how he rode the Colonel in a series of three heats at Baltimore's Pimlico race track. On the day in question Colonel Clark was a 100-to-1 bet. He didn't win the first race but he finished "in the bunch." In the second race Wither won "in a driving finish," related the *Bee*.

Anticipating the 100-to-1 prize money, George Rye, the horse's owner rushed to the bar. "He yelled for the finest whisky in the house and received a quart bottle of booze that was strong enough to kill a half dozen men...[and] poured it down the horse's throat." At the same time Wither was being saddled for the third and final race—a one-on-one with the winner of the first race. According to Wither: "Then came the fun. The horse had the funniest kind of look on his face, and he reared and kicked so that it was with great difficulty that I got in the saddle." Then he refused to go to the post. The trainers "pulled and tugged at him" and finally got him to the starting post.

What happened next must have inspired the 1965 movie *Cat Ballou* which starred Lee Marvin, who won that year's Academy Award for Best Actor. According to Wither, the Colonel "just leaned against the fence like a tired man and wouldn't move." Wither finally got him onto the track but, according to the jockey, "my nag didn't know what he wanted to do...he ran part of the way...then he... began to throw his legs around, up in the air and fairly staggered from one side of the track to the other." Wither got "second money" but had he won at 100-to-1 he would have made a fortune. He lamented the race till his dying day "if the owner had [just] put half water in that bottle [of whiskey]...I would have landed a bunch of money." The owner, Wither related, "got on an awful tear [drunk] and almost died after being sick a long while."

In 1915 a small item appeared in the *Grangeville [ID] Globe*, which detailed the events planned for the upcoming Border Days Rodeo. It listed as one of the events: "Drunken Horse Ride." In her book *A Wilder West*, Mary-Ellen Kelm explains that "The Drunken Ride" was a popular novelty event through the 1920s. She relates "riders hooked their stirrups over the saddle horn and stood in the loops that formed on either side of the saddle.



Image published in Washington Bee, February 8, 1902

As they swayed back and forth, they brandished a bottle and at a certain point appeared to fall from the horse, but with one foot in a loop, they finished the race with head and shoulders just inches above the ground." While the event "demonstrated riding skills, flexibility and dexterity, the drunken ride also played upon a common stereotype of the cowboy—that of a common ne're-do-well," related Kelm. As the U. S. adopted prohibition the event was dropped from rodeos because "professional cowboy organizations...denounced such events as injurious to the reputation of cowboys and the sport of rodeo." Possibly the same people might have contemplated a "joint-ride" had today's intoxicants been available.

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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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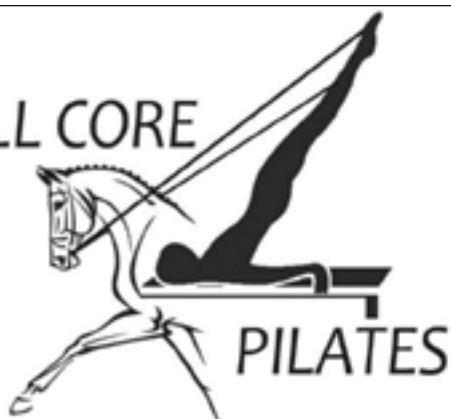
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## News & Newsworthy



*Megan and Lady reach the Pacific Ocean! Here she is with Mike Robertson who assisted Megan part of the way, and Denise Gilseth, Sonoma County Horse Council, with champagne to toast the finish!*

### Megan Lewis and Lady – Completing Their World-wide Trail Ride at Salmon Creek Beach!

On April 16, 2017, on behalf of Sonoma County Horse Council (SCHC), board member Denise Gilseth had the opportunity to meet Megan Lewis, (who is 67 years young!) and her horse, Lady, a 13 year-old Newfoundland pony. Megan emailed the SCHC asking if anyone could ride with her for the last leg of her 5,000 mile journey around the world on horseback. She began in Newfoundland, Canada, where she purchased Lady. In the United States, she and Lady picked up the Pony Express Trail in Missouri and rode it all the way to Sacramento, California, then up to Sonoma County, ending at the Pacific Ocean at North Salmon Creek Beach! She came over Coleman Valley Road from Occidental. She has literally ridden every mile - no trailering! Both Megan and Lady enjoyed a cool glass of champagne with Denise to celebrate their accomplishment.

Denise asked if she was planning any other rides, she said "NO!" She is now focused on building her bed and breakfast business and her Welsh Pony breeding operation in Wales. Her website is <http://www.frrwdfal.co.uk/>. Here are a few excerpts from Megan, and here's a link to her complete blog: [thelonghorserside.blogspot.co.uk](http://thelonghorserside.blogspot.co.uk).

Asked if she ever had second thoughts about the journey and how she planned it:

"I have thought that many times, but never ever seriously considered giving up! Most terrifying thing has been traffic, particularly what you call semis hurtling past with absolutely no consideration for horses.

I planned my route very thoroughly - this was imperative if I did not want to waste time on unnecessary detours/delays caused by difficult or dangerous routes when I was constrained by visa periods. I looked carefully for the best bridges to cross, underpasses to negotiate expressways, quiet roads to follow, and used Google Earth extensively. I looked carefully for places where I might expect to find grass and water for the horses. But my planned route was never written in stone and I often took heed of local advice to alter it.

As far as overnight stops were concerned, I only had certain ones planned. When we were crossing Eurasia with vehicle back up we/I essentially travelled until we felt it was time to rest, and then found a place to stay or camp. In North America, I knocked on doors a lot of the time to get permission to graze the horses on a likely piece of grass or pasture. This could be stressful when it was getting late and I had not yet found anywhere suitable, but I stayed in a lot of random places and met a lot of interesting people I would not otherwise have met.

When I was traveling with vehicle support in Eurasia I generally covered 20-25 miles a day once we got going, but with a pack-horse in North America it was more like 18-20 miles.

High point was definitely all the fabulous people I met in all the countries I travelled through, quite besides some of the beautiful off road country I experienced."



*Instructor Leonard Iniguez explaining points of trailering to the group.*

### Trailer Safety and Maneuvering Course a Success!

by Greg Harder, SCHC Board member

On April 1st, the Sonoma County Horse Council hosted a Trailer Safety and Maneuvering Course, which was taught by Leonard Iniguez and Officer Dave Jurich, CHP, at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds.

During the morning classroom session, weight limits and types of hitches were discussed, which lead to a thorough discussion about the type of driver's license one must have to tow their trailers. Also covered were how to merge on and off the freeways, and how to be observant of the other vehicles, to insure smooth operation. It was made abundantly clear that in California you may not tow a trailer faster than 55 mph, no matter the 'flow of traffic.'

After lunch, participants reassembled in one of the fairgrounds parking lots for the lab session. All participants demonstrated driving proficiency by backing trailers straight for about 100 feet, making a 3-point turn backwards, and backing through a serpentine of cones. Each driver had an assistant that was charged with delivering universal hand signals to aid in backing. Leonard, with his extensive commercial truck driving experience, helped each driver with their understanding of how their rigs drive backwards.

*(Continued on page 23)*





# Truck and Trailer Safety Checklist

Compliments of Sonoma County Horse Council

This checklist is intended as a general guide only, and is not comprehensive. You should seek the services and expertise of a qualified mechanic regarding the condition and requirements of your individual truck and trailer.

ITEM	TRUCK
Engine/Fluids	<input type="checkbox"/> Check and replenish engine fluid levels and wiper fluid. <input type="checkbox"/> Check all hoses and belts. <input type="checkbox"/> Inspect for any loose parts.
Exterior	<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure the rearview mirrors are properly adjusted.
Tires	<input type="checkbox"/> Check tire pressure. <input type="checkbox"/> Any signs of bad wear/defects?
Wheels	<input type="checkbox"/> Check lug nuts on wheels. Should be tightened before first road use after wheel removal. <input type="checkbox"/> Check and re-tightened after the first 10 miles. Check periodically thereafter.
Hitch	<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure the ball on the tow vehicle is the correct size for the horse trailer. <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure the horse trailer is level.
Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> Check headlights, turn signals, and fog lights.
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Drive down the driveway, and before you drive onto the main road get out and check over everything again. <input type="checkbox"/> If rig has been left unattended, check everything all over again. Someone may have been tampering with the trailer or horses, especially rear doors.
ITEM	TRAILER
Tires	<input type="checkbox"/> Tires in good condition? Signs of dry rot? Cracks on sidewalls? (Replace tires every 8 years regardless of mileage). <input type="checkbox"/> Check tire pressure (including spares and inside tire on dual wheels).
Wheels	<input type="checkbox"/> Wheel bearings serviced? (12 mos./12,000 miles and more often for frequent/heavy hauling) <input type="checkbox"/> Spare bearing set?
Floor, Ramp & Rear Doors	<input type="checkbox"/> Check for wood floor boards for rot/weakness. <input type="checkbox"/> Check aluminum floor for corrosion, small holes, and white "powdery" spots. <input type="checkbox"/> Check hinges, springs, and latches to make sure they are not broken, rotted, or missing.
Hitch	<input type="checkbox"/> Hitch locked on the ball? <input type="checkbox"/> Correct size ball?
Safety Chains	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety cables/chains connected? <input type="checkbox"/> Crossed and hooked to the truck frame?
Breakaway	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency breakaway system connected? <input type="checkbox"/> Check cable length (shorter than chains, but long enough for a tight turn). <input type="checkbox"/> Weave cable through one chain link to keep it secure.
Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> Test trailer lighting (brakes, turn signals, running).
Electrical	<input type="checkbox"/> Check for corrosion on face of plug. <input type="checkbox"/> Plug and secure electrical connection. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency battery charged? <input type="checkbox"/> Headlights on?
Brakes	<input type="checkbox"/> Check/test brake controller.
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Prior to loading horse(s), check trailer for hazards, including loose screws/bolts inside trailer. <input type="checkbox"/> Secure and latch all trailer doors, windows, and gates. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure horses are tied. <input type="checkbox"/> Hay nets/bags are securely fastened. <input type="checkbox"/> Check inside the horse trailer for bee and wasp nests. <input type="checkbox"/> Dividers are securely fastened. <b>Long/out of state trips – Trailer should have full inspection by a qualified mechanic prior to departure.</b>



Sonoma County Horse Council

## Packing for Your Trip

Compliments of Sonoma County Horse Council

Packing a few basic items will help ensure the safety of you and your horse, as well as your readiness to respond, should something unexpected happen during your trip. This list is offered as a basic guide.

### ITEMS TO PACK

- ☐ First aid kits for horses and humans
- ☐ Flares, cones, or emergency triangles
- ☐ Fire extinguisher (make sure it is easily accessible)
- ☐ Lug wrench/tire iron, chocks, and tire pressure gauge
- ☐ Tire jack/Trailer Aid and cans of "Fix-a-Flat"
- ☐ Hammer, screwdriver, pliers, and set of wrenches
- ☐ Coolant and quart of motor oil
- ☐ List of emergency contacts and phone numbers
- ☐ Cell phone with charger
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ☐ Electrical and duct tape
- ☐ Extra cash
- ☐ Knife
- ☐ Broom and manure fork
- ☐ Health papers on all horses (health certificate, proof of vaccination, negative Coggins)
- ☐ Tack – saddles, bridles, girths, etc.
- ☐ Hay and hay bags/nets
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Leg wraps, tail wrap, head bumper, fly mask, traveling sheet/blanket
- ☐ Extra halter and lead rope for each horse
- ☐ Rubber hoof boot/Easy Boot for use if horse pulls a shoe
- ☐ Lunge line
- ☐ Basic grooming tools
- ☐ Buckets and sponges



Sonoma County Horse Council

## Membership!

### *Well Giddy-Up and Join Now*

- 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](http://www.SonomaCountyHorseCouncil.org)

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(Continued from page 20)



Leonard instructs a participant on backing up.

The purpose of the class was to not only provide education on the subject of trailering, but to also increase our abilities as responsible horse owners. This was the first of such classes to come. The focus of the SCHC is to have as resources those individuals that have proven competency for moving livestock and who will be available to be a Certified Disaster Relief Worker in the event of an emergency in our county. Under the leadership of Dr. Ted Stashack, D.V.M., the Council is developing a Large Animal Disaster Preparedness plan to avoid the mishaps and tribulations learned from the Lake County fires.

Visit the SCHC website to get information and dates for future events—sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org

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# HOSSMOOR

## DRESSAGE SCHOOLING SHOW SERIES

Sat, July 22 – Judge Shareen Purcell (L)

Sat, Aug 26 – Judge Cherry Baumann (L)

Sun, Sept 10 – Judge Rebecca Armstrong (L)

- Ribbons to 6th, Prizes to First (Intro – Fourth)
- Trophy to Level High Point each show
- Buckle to Champion, Tray to Reserve (for Series)



## ENGLISH/WESTERN SCHOOLING SHOW SERIES

Sun, June 11 – Judge Lorali Casipit

Sun, July 9 – Judge Carol Gale

Sun, Aug 13 – Judge Ann Dennis

*Divisions each show: W/T, Youth, Novice, Open*

- Ribbons to 6th, prizes to 1st each class
- Trophies to Division High Point each show
- Buckle to Champion, Tray to Reserve (for Series)

**Hossmoor.com or 925-228-5790**



## Local Equestrian Events—Summer 2017

June 24-25	Russian River Rodeo	Guerneville, CA	<a href="http://russianriverrodeo.org">russianriverrodeo.org</a>
June 25	Schooling Show	Petaluma CA	<a href="http://woodbridgefarmdressage.com">woodbridgefarmdressage.com</a>
June 25	Combined Test and Dressage Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>
June 24-25	Working Equitation and Schooling Show with international judge and trainer Elisa Moya. Sonoma Coastal Equestrian Center, 3641 Middle Two Rock, Petaluma, Contact Nathalie Guion 707-782-0687		
July 2	Open House at Sonoma Equestrian Center, 11-2pm – Lusitano and Sporthorse demo and expo. 2829 Napa Rd., Sonoma. Contact Jack Burns 707-239-2290 or <a href="mailto:jburns@sbcglobal.net">jburns@sbcglobal.net</a>		
July 9	Cavalletti Clinic with Jack Burns Sonoma Equestrian Center. 2829 Napa Rd, Sonoma. Contact Jack Burns 707-239-2290 or <a href="mailto:jburns@sbcglobal.net">jburns@sbcglobal.net</a>		
July 9	Combined Test and Dressage Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>
July 9	English/Western Schooling Show II – Judge: Carol Gale	Hossmoor in Briones, CA	<a href="http://hossmoor.com">hossmoor.com</a>
July 13	SCHC Open Arena Night, 5-9pm, Chris Beck Arena	So Co Fairgrounds, SR	<a href="http://sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org">sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org</a>
July 16	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="mailto:ejdressage@me.com">ejdressage@me.com</a>
July 22	Dressage Schooling Show 1 – Judge: Shareen Purcell	Hossmoor in Briones, CA	<a href="http://hossmoor.com">hossmoor.com</a>
July 30	Possible Jumper Show 2017 - Jumper Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>
Aug TBA	Combined Test and Dressage Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>
Aug 13	English/Western Schooling Show III – Judge: Ann Dennis	Hossmoor in Briones, CA	<a href="http://hossmoor.com">hossmoor.com</a>
Aug 20	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="mailto:ejdressage@me.com">ejdressage@me.com</a>
Aug 20	CDS Regional Adult Amateur Competition	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>
Aug 26	Dressage Schooling Show II – Judge Cherry Baumann	Hossmoor in Briones, CA	<a href="http://hossmoor.com">hossmoor.com</a>
Aug 26-27	Working Equitation Clinic with Carlos Carneiro Sonoma Equestrian Center. 2829 Napa Rd, Sonoma. Contact Jack Burns 707-239-2290 or <a href="mailto:jburns@sbcglobal.net">jburns@sbcglobal.net</a>		
Aug 31	SCHC Open Arena Night, 5-9pm, Chris Beck Arena	So Co Fairgrounds, SR	<a href="http://sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org">sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org</a>
Sept 10	Dressage Schooling Show III – Judge Rebecca Armstrong	Hossmoor in Briones, CA	<a href="http://hossmoor.com">hossmoor.com</a>
Sept 10	Cavaletti Clinic with Erika Jansson	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="mailto:ejdressage@me.com">ejdressage@me.com</a>
Sept 14	SCHC Open Arena Night, 5-9pm, Chris Beck Arena	So Co Fairgrounds, SR	<a href="http://sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org">sonomacountyhorsecouncil.org</a>
Sept 17	Combined Test and Dressage Show	SREC - Santa Rosa	<a href="http://srequestrian.com">srequestrian.com</a>

For additional events, visit [sebastopolwranglers.com](http://sebastopolwranglers.com), [winecountryarabians.com](http://winecountryarabians.com) and [russianriverrodeo.org](http://russianriverrodeo.org)

**Please submit events for the next issue to Horse Journal Editor, Patrice Doyle - [schc.pdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:schc.pdoyle@gmail.com)**

## Sonoma County—Places to Ride

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



## 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!

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**Ad Sales:** Contact: Patrice Doyle – [schc.pdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:schc.pdoyle@gmail.com)

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**Specification Questions or Design:** Contact Lynn Newton – [newton5@sonic.net](mailto: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

## Summer Safety Report Card

CAL FIRE is warning of a "severe fire threat" in the season ahead. Here are some good "lessons learned" from top training resources. Set up your own "Report Card" and see what your grade is!

Sonoma County and its neighbors share a diverse and challenging range of conditions and communities, which also pose ever-present dangers.

**Increased tourism and events have a big impact on emergency response. Adjust your preparedness plans accordingly. Be mindful of tourist drivers who are unaware of the challenges of people hauling trailers, or loose livestock on roads.**



If you are in a neighborhood with event venues, make sure you obtain schedules. Events can have a tremendous impact on your ability to evacuate with your animals, or get home, in an emergency.

Equestrian events pose unique and complex challenges in emergencies. While all large show facilities are required to have emergency plans, most exhibitors are not familiar with them, or prepared. Most small and/or private venues do not have adequate emergency plans. **Would you know what to do if you had to evacuate in an unfamiliar location?**

- Before you travel to the summer and fall shows, **be aware of these highly flammable dangers, and other hazards.** Do a safety check EVERY time you hit the road. (Thank you to Code 3 Associates of Longmont, CO.):
- Hay & bedding storage, and bedding in trailers
- Boots and shoes with rubber soles
- Nylon-polyester clothing, ropes, halters, blankets, leg wraps, fly masks, dog collars
- Tightly situated portable stalls and old show barns
- Propane tanks in living-quarter trailers, campers, and RVs, portable BBQs
- Loose horses or livestock

A factor in nearly every response to incidents involving animals are "convergent" or "spontaneous" volunteers: well-meaning people who often create a hazard that prevent a safe response and successful outcome. **Help the responders help you: don't become part of the problem!** Respond only if you are trained and a member of a community or regional disaster response group.

Whenever your animals are in a trailer, whether private, commercial hauler, or an evacuation: **Provide insurance information and agent contacts.** If animals are in an accident, access to your insurance carrier may be critical to the fast & humane handling of your animals.

When sheltering in place: remove halters & masks; leave ID info in multiple places; do NOT open gates or cut fences! Put animals in bare or irrigated defensible space with plenty of water. Alert authorities and leave! **Resources from ALL regions emphasize "AWARENESS" as the best way to stay safe. Create your own checklists!**

**If you're interested in learning more, training to be a volunteer in a disaster, or to obtain safety checklists and learning links, visit the "Preparedness" and "Training Resources" pages at [HALTERproject.org](http://HALTERproject.org).**



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