

The EVENTER

MAY 2023



San Martin Horsemen's Association © 2023
Photo: Jan Jeffers

San Martin Horsemen's Association



Serving Our Community & Promoting Horses & Horsemanship

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May the Horse be with you!

First up this month is the always popular Trailer Tech Clinic on Sunday May 7th. See page 4 for more details and a link to sign up.

The General Meeting this month will be at 7pm on Wednesday 24th at The Longhouse Restaurant: 8195 Monterey St, Gilroy. Please arrive early if you want to order dinner.

The May club ride has been **moved** to Saturday May 13th at Henry Coe SP, Hunting Hollow entrance. Ride out time will be 11:00. Bring a chair and snack or lunch to hang out and be social after the ride!

Next month on June 17th we will have our first Play Day of the year, and it will include a Desensitization Clinic for horses and riders planning to enter the July 4th parade.

Membership for 2023

Please think about renewing your membership for 2023 as soon as you can. The form is [here](#) and page 4. Our membership fees remain unchanged at \$30 per individual and \$40 per family. Non-members pay at least \$10 more at each event so being a member is definitely worth it.

We are looking forward to putting on our calendar of events for 2023 and more in person general meetings where we can get together and enjoy some good old-fashioned social interaction.

Your membership also provides stability to the club and is a vote to say that SMHA and its activities are important to you and your family. Thank you to those of you already signed up for 2023.

San Martin Horsemen's Association Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons

President	Toni Whedon 408-656-8975.	Toni.Whedon@cbnorca.com	Secretary	Pat Scharfe	408.776.1621
Vice President	Kathy Madlem	408-858-5248.	Poker Ride Chair	open	
Treasurer	Karen Luke	kluke@garlic.com			
Membership	Bev VanderWeide	510 304 5884	Sunshine	open	
Newsletter	Tim Alton 408 623 1845	news@smhorse.org	Media Director	Toni Whedon 408-656-8975.	
Historian	Carolyn Tucker	carolynt@garlic.com	Trails Development Co-chair	Chere Bargar	408.683.2247
Trails Development Co- chair	Kitty Swindle	408.842.6215	Camp Chair	Toni Whedon 408-656-8975.	Toni.Whedon@cbnorca.com

Feel free to contact Board Members directly, or at news@smhorse.org – we look forward to hearing your ideas and having your input!

CLUB RIDE at Salinas River State Beach. April 16th

Lots of crashing waves and driftwood obstacles and some more great pictures on the SMHA [Facebook page](#)



Mane Stays & Events 2023 CALENDAR

<p>May</p> <p>13 Club Ride – Henry Coe State Park</p> <p>7 TRAILER MAINTENANCE CLINIC</p> <p>17 Board Meeting</p> <p>24 General Meeting</p>	<p>June</p> <p>14 Board Meeting</p> <p>17 Trail Obstacle & Parade Desensitization Clinic</p> <p>21 General Meeting</p>
<p>July</p> <p>4 JULY 4th PARADE, MORGAN HILL</p> <p>14-16 How To Horse Camp, SMHA Campout & Chilli Cook Off at Henry Cowell</p> <p>19 Board Meeting</p> <p>26 General Meeting</p>	<p>August</p> <p>6 Club Ride - Calero</p> <p>16 Board Meeting</p> <p>23 General Meeting</p> <p>27 DESENSITIZATION CLINIC with BIKES etc.</p>
<p>September</p> <p>9 Club Ride – Top of Mt Madonna County Park</p> <p>20 Board Meeting</p> <p>23 TRAIL OBSTACLE PLAY DAY</p> <p>27 General Meeting</p>	<p>October</p> <p>7 TRAILER BACKING - CLINIC</p> <p>15 Club Ride – Ed Levin County Park</p> <p>18 Board Meeting</p> <p>25 General Meeting</p>
<p>November</p> <p>4 HALLOWEEN POKER RIDE</p> <p>15 Board Meeting</p> <p>18 Club Ride – Bottom of Mt. Madonna County Park, Sprig Lake</p>	<p>December</p> <p>13 HOLIDAY PARTY, General Meeting</p> <p>16 Horse Ride & Caroling – Harvey Bear County Park</p>

Join SMHA for fun events held thru-out the year!

Have new ideas of things to do or places to ride? Let SMHA know! We LOVE your ideas!!

Hot topic: April General Meeting– Saddles & Treasures hosted, thank you Amy, and Jayne Perryman from [Santa Clara County Large Animal Evacuation Team](#) gave a presentation on emergency preparation.





San Martin Horsemen's Association Trailer Tech Clinic

SPRING IS HERE!

Time to dust off the horse trailer (or any trailer) and attend the San Martin Horsemen's Assoc. trailer maintenance clinic.

Gary Luke and Crew will help you get the things done on your trailer you have been meaning to tackle. Tell the guys what you need to do and they will instruct you on how to do it. They will supervise to make sure you remain safe and learn the proper way to:

- Change out a faulty light bulb or change to LED
- Fix a wiring problem on your trailer
- Add bearing buddies to your axles
- Fix a sticking tack room door
- Lubricate your jack, hinges, etc.
- Fix a broken tie out ring

Bring whatever problem you may be having, or just show up to make sure you are road worthy after sitting through the winter – it is worth your time to attend. RSVP with Karen Luke (contact info below) and let her know what projects you would like instruction on, and she will let you know what you need to bring to the event with you.

Sunday, May 7, 2023

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Blomquist Arena 8885 Guibal Avenue, Gilroy

\$25.00 SMHA Members, \$35.00 Non-Members



REGISTER
& PAY ONLINE:

<https://form.jotform.com/230878697301162>

Questions: Karen Luke kluke@garlic.com 408-203-5730 call or text

Pony Express

FROM: Lyn
June 20th, 2022 PST

I am 70 years old and I am riding my first Pony Express Re-ride. How did I not know that this organization even existed years ago? I am riding my 13 year Morgan Mare Vintage Firefly who I have only owned 7 months.

I ask myself when I first got the notion to look into this awesome experience and I have to think it was finding the 3 Cent Pony Express stamps in my grandmothers stamp collection. I then got my first letter carried by the Pony from my friend Linda Jenny, of PA, who was introduced to it by her friend Petra Keller of NV. Twenty years ago I was diagnosed with CHF Stage 4 and received my St. Jude mitral valve replacement, 6 months later a pacemaker was installed. Fast forward 20 years and I am still ticking and on my 4th S-ICD diagnosed with Stage 3B Kidney failure. The importance of this background is to NEVER GIVE UP ON LIFE, TIME IS SHORT, take on the challenge and don't let anyone talk you out of it.

I always feel it is important to thank the people who help along the way. My sincere thanks to many, especially Rich Tatum, Ride Captain CA, for allowing this Rookie to take a very important piece of the trail at the Folsom Museum to Willow Creek Recreation Area. Thank you Susan LaFrance, CA, for all your time to show us the parking, trail connection and final landing. Marcia Stumpf, CA, for your [More on the web](#)



hours of photographing all of our riders. A very special thank you to my Husband, he is my rock, the best pit crew and driver I could ask for.

We live 3 hours away in Morgan Hill so we needed to get up to the site the day before to avoid any traffic problems the day of the ride. Very grateful to Susan for allowing us to board with her Wednesday night.

Thursday morning was a beautiful sunny day. We parked in our lot and saddled up and rode up to meet the people gathered at the Folsom Museum. This was Vintage Firefly's first experience riding down city streets with traffic, buses, bikes and people in all directions. I was so pleased with her Rock Star attitude, so calm and quiet.

We loved meeting the people and taking photos with children of all ages. at the Museum who had a awesome experience for kids with hands on activities

I was proud to take the oath as recited by our Historian Larry Carpenter.

The Mochila exchange went smooth and we were now on our way to complete our 2.5 miles in 23 minutes. Proud to say we kept a great trot pace the entire time and completed our time was in 20 minutes and 24 seconds. The trail was beautiful following the American River. We were passed from behind and met oncoming bikes and I was very pleased with the courtesy of the bike riders giving us positive encouragement and Celebrating the Pony Express.

To say I have PONY FEVER, is a understatement. I can not wait to ride again!



Mane Stays

THINGS OF INTEREST/SUPPORT:

A Call for Newsletter Articles

Please think about contributing to some of the regular columns I started last year.

Horses of SMHA: a few paragraphs on your favorite steed or even your second favorite. You can tell us your best riding or training tale. Along with some photos this makes for an interesting read for your fellow members. I am using the word steed to be inclusive of all you folks with mules and ponies

Trail Reviews: write up a review of a recent trail ride,

include length, elevation, degree of difficulty, shade, mud, water crossings and especially whether you enjoyed it or not. Add some description of the trail, the trailhead location and a photo or two. Other members may have never been before and we all like to go to new places that are recommended by our friends. But it doesn't have to be a positive review a warning to others is very useful too, although some may take it as a challenge!

Email your article, in simple text with pictures attached, to news@smhorse.org, or just let me know if I can put you on the list for future editions of the newsletter

Countywide Trails Map Update

Explore and Provide Input



County Parks is working to update the Countywide Trails Master

Plan Map to better reflect current planning and changes to the countywide trails network since the map was adopted in 1995. Explore the [Draft Map](#) in an interactive web app format and provide feedback on conceptual changes to the map and countywide trail prioritization through the project survey or by attending an upcoming public meeting.

[LEARN MORE](#)

WATER TROUGH/Club Classifieds

Animal and Plant Sitting: Reliable Care for your plants and animals while you are away. 30 years' experience you can rely on! Call Chere at 408-683-2247

FOR SALE: Brand new in the box riding helmet for sale. Its a white Classico brand. Sells new for \$70 asking \$45 obo. Call Bev VanderWeide 510 304 5884

Classified ads for members are always FREE! Ad space for business services (member or not) as follows: 1/4 Page: \$15, 1/2 Page: \$25, Full Page: \$50, Business Card Ad: \$20/4 Months. Classified ads run on a space available basis. Non-members call 408-623-1845 for more information. **Newsletter Deadlines:** Five days after Board Meeting or the 20th of the month. Please send articles, classified ads, pictures and stories to: news@smhorse.org

CHITTY BLOG

Some Calendar items from the Santa Clara County Parks :

National River Cleanup Day

Sat, May 20 | 9am - 12pm



Join over one million volunteers who have volunteered annually to prevent trash and litter from entering our waterways, nationwide. This year's cleanup sites include Calero County Park, Uvas and Stevens Creek Reservoirs. No special skills are required for this event. Bring a filled water bottle and sunscreen. Standard adult size work gloves and pick up sticks will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own.

[SIGN UP](#)

Trail Watch Academy Training

Sat, June 3 | 9am to 12pm



If you are passionate about exploring our stunning parks on foot, bike or horseback, and wish to serve as a welcoming and secure guide for fellow park visitors, this Zoom training session is ideal for you. As an independent Trail Watch volunteer, you will act as the park staff's vigilant eyes and ears, providing valuable information to visitors and playing a critical role in emergency medical response situations.

[SIGN UP](#)

Trail Work Volunteer Days

Select Weekends Throughout Summer



Maintaining 342 miles of trails in a beautiful and safe condition requires a committed team of crew and staff. Our crew greatly appreciates willing volunteers to join us, get active, and collaborate with us in ensuring the efficient upkeep of our trails. Sign up for [Monthly Trail Days](#) in May, June, and July or a special [Trail Work Weekend](#) in partnership with Volunteers for Outdoor California (V-O-Cal) at Sanborn County Park May 19-21.

This is why Shetland ponies never caught on in Wyoming.



On the web: get the [BROCHURE](#)

Joseph D. Grant County Park
Brush Trail Water Tank



Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch County Park
Lake View



Mt. Madonna County Park
Miller House Ruins (between Upper & Lower Miller Trails)



Bonus!

Park & Location of Your Choice
Pick your favorite park, and share on the San Martin Horsemen's Assoc. Facebook page! Maybe it will get added to next year's #hoofpicsinpark challenge!



Prizes to be awarded at San Martin Horsemen's Assoc. December meeting. Club membership is not needed to participate, but membership is required to be eligible for participation awards.

Prizes sponsored by:
Toni Whedon of Coldwell Banker Realty



Hoof Pics in Parks Challenge

#hoofpicsinpark

Sponsored by:
Toni Whedon, Realtor
DRE #01435156
(408) 656-8975
Toni.Whedon@CBNorCal.com
ToniWhedon.com

A Trail Riding Challenge

Seven parks to explore on horseback. Ride out, take a picture, and share it on the San Martin Horsemen's Association Facebook page.

Instructions

1. Pick a Park.
2. Take a picture that looks like the sample shown for that particular park.
3. Post your picture to the SMHA Facebook page.
 - o tag your photo with #HoofPicsInParks and #park name
4. If you do not use Facebook, then email your photo with your name and the location where the picture was taken to Toni.Whedon@CBNorCal.com and we will post it for you!
5. Complete all of the parks in the challenge by December 1, 2022 and we will celebrate your success with a prize at our SMHA Holiday Party!

Prizes sponsored by:
Toni Whedon of Coldwell Banker Realty

Park Maps

- Almaden Quicksilver - parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/almaden-quicksilver-county-park
- Calero - parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/calero-county-park
- Canada del Oro - openspaceauthority.org/preserves/rancho.html
- Coyote Lake Harvey Bear - parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/coyote-lake-harvey-bear-ranch-park
- Henry Coe - coepark.net/planning-your-visit/park-maps
- Joseph D. Grant - parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/joseph-d-grant-county-park
- Mt. Madonna - parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/Mt.Madonna-county-park

Almaden Quicksilver County Park
English Camp Chimney & Vault



Henry W. Coe State Park - Hunting Hollow
Willson Camp (Wagon Road & Vasquez Road)



Rancho Canada del Oro Open Space
Silicon Valley view from Bald Peak Trail Rest Stop



Calero County Park
Bat Inn



Complete by
December 1st 2023



Serving our Community
Promoting Horses & Horsemanship

**San Martin Horsemen's
Association**
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