



San Martin Horsemen's Association © 2023  
Photo: Carolyn Tucker

## San Martin Horsemen's Association



Serving Our Community  
& Promoting Horses & Horsemanship

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### Happy October!

The **General Meeting** this month will be at 7pm on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>, at Saddles & Treasures in Gilroy. Arrive early to browse and shop, [www.saddlesandtreasures.com](http://www.saddlesandtreasures.com).

Note there will be no general meeting in November as it would clash with Thanksgiving.

October starts with the very popular **Trailer Backing Clinic** on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup>. See the flier on page 5 with a link to online registration. **Advance registration is required** please call Karen if you cannot access the online registration.

**Club ride** at Ed Levin Park on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>, ride out time 10 am.

Keep your Halloween costume ready for the November 4<sup>th</sup> **Halloween Poker Ride**. Always a fun day, see flier on page 6.

### Highlights from the September Play Day

We had a great turnout with 24 riders and horses. There were some class first place prizes of handcrafted leatherwork donated by Joe Meerscheidt,

Thanks again to the Blomquist Family for the use of their terrific, well groomed arena and sheltered picnic area.

Thanks to all sixteen of the volunteers who helped stage the Play Day:

**Judges:** Jan, Toni, Carolyn, and Bev.

**Announcer:** Carol,

**Prizes:** Joe **Gofors:** Christine & Brian, Gary & Brady & Ryan, Pat, Michele, Kathy, Elaine & Tim



The 2023 Membership form is [here](#)

### San Martin Horsemen's Association Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons

|                                    |                              |  |                                |                              |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>                   | Toni Whedon<br>408-656-8975. | Toni.Whedon@cbnorc<br>al.com                           | <b>Secretary</b>               | Pat Scharfe                  | 408.776.1621                 |
| <b>Vice President</b>              | Kathy Madlem                 | 408-858-5248.  | Poker Ride Chair               | <b>open</b>                  |                              |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                   | Karen Luke                   | <a href="mailto:kluke@garlic.com">kluke@garlic.com</a> |                                |                              |                              |
| Membership                         | Bev VanderWeide              | 510 304 5884   | Sunshine                       | <b>open</b>                  |                              |
| Newsletter                         | Tim Alton<br>408 623 1845    | news@smhorse.org                                       | Media Director                 | Toni Whedon<br>408-656-8975. |                              |
| Historian                          | Carolyn Tucker               | carolynt@garlic.com                                    | Trails Development<br>Co-chair | Chere Bargar                 | 408.683.2247                 |
| Trails<br>Development Co-<br>chair | Kitty Swindle                | 408.842.6215   | Camp Chair                     | Toni Whedon<br>408-656-8975. | Toni.Whedon@cbn<br>orcal.com |

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

## Mane Stays & Events 2023 CALENDAR

### October

- 7 TRAILER BACKING - CLINIC**
- 15 Club Ride – Ed Levin County Park**
- 18 Board Meeting**
- 25 General Meeting**

### November

- 4 HALLOWEEN POKER RIDE**
- 15 Board Meeting
- 18 Club Ride – Bottom of Mt. Madonna County Park, Sprig Lake**

### December

- 13 HOLIDAY PARTY, General Meeting**
- 16 Horse Ride & Caroling – Harvey Bear County Park**

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!!

# Play Day



We have upped our first place awards!! Thank you Joe Meerscheidt for your awesome leather work and creativity!!

Roxie surveys the arena



Morning practice where everything goes smoothly, not always the case in the competition.

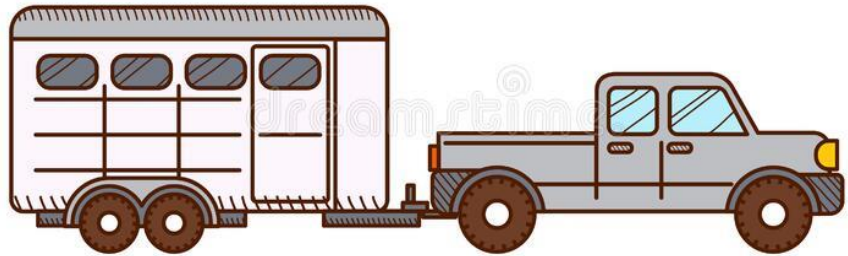


Thanks again to the Blomquist Family for the use of their terrific, well groomed arena.

Thanks to all sixteen of the volunteers who helped stage the Play Day:  
Judges: Jan, Toni, Carolyn, and Bev.  
Announcer: Carol,  
Prizes: Joe,  
Gofors: Christine & Brian, Gary & Brady & Ryan, Pat, Michele, Kathy, Elaine & Tim



FOUNDED IN 1968  
SERVING OUR COMMUNITY  
PROMOTING HORSES & HORSEMANSHIP



## TRAILER BACKING CLINIC

Join us for the day and learn how to handle your trailer safely. Bring your trailer and our instructors will teach you easy to remember techniques and safety skills. You will leave the event with confidence in handling and backing your horse trailer or any other trailer. Both gooseneck and bumper pull skills will be taught, with plenty of practice time for you with your rig.

**RSVP is required** – please register online using the Jotform link below. If you need to register the day of, you must contact us in advance to let us know so we can plan accordingly. This event is labor intensive for our volunteers and we need to prepare in advance to give everyone the best experience possible.

**When:** Saturday, October 7, 2023

**Where:** Blomquist Arena, 8885 Guibal Ave, Gilroy, CA 95020. From New Ave, go West on Roop Rd. Go straight ahead to the arena. **DO NOT TURN ON GUIBAL.**

**Time:** Registration 10-10:30am, Clinic 10:30am – 3pm

There will be a one-hour lunch break. Bring your own lunch.

**Fee:** Members \$50.00 Non-members \$60.00

**Event Contact:** Karen Luke [kluke@garlic.com](mailto:kluke@garlic.com) or 408-203-5730

**Register** online using this link: <https://form.jotform.com/232490681249158>



# SMHA

## Galloping Goblin Poker Ride & Costume Contest!

### Saturday, Nov 4, 2023

### Harvey Bear Ranch

### San Martin CA

### Fees

- **\$25 SMHA Members**  
(Includes one poker hand!)
- **\$35 Non-SMHA Member**  
(Includes one poker hand!)
- **Additional poker hands, \$5 each**
- **\$5 Discount** for early registration postmarked before Oct. 31, 2023
- **Receive a FREE poker hand** when you donate a new prize valued at \$10 or more
- **Bring a Picnic Lunch**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>8:00 am</b>  | Registration                                       |
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | Horse and rider costume contest                    |
| <b>9:30 am</b>  | Ride out<br>1 of 2 routes approx<br>4 or 5.5 miles |
| <b>12:30 pm</b> | Fun & Games & Prizes,<br>Prizes,<br>Prizes         |

**Tricks & Treats out on the trail!**  
Take San Martin Ave east from highway 101. Enter at SECOND driveway on left (past main entrance)

### Rules

- Minors must ride with an adult & can't ride a stallion
- Parent/Legal Guardian must sign for riders under age 18
- No un-ridden horses
- No riding double

Questions call/text: Toni at (408) 656-8975

Register online at [smhorse.org](http://smhorse.org) after 10/12

SMHA Volunteers needed. You don't have to ride to participate!

Hosted by SAN MARTIN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

\*Harvey Bear Ranch is a Santa Clara County Parks Facility



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:news@smhorse.org)

## 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 the Fall **10/9/23** work day on the Mummy Mountain trail in Harvey Bear County Park.

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## Big Basin Facilities Management Plan Online Survey

Big Basin Redwoods State Park is an iconic landscape that hosts rich natural and cultural resources, recreational opportunities, and cherished memories for many Californians. California State Parks celebrates all the ways in which the local community, partners, and the broader public want to get involved in the recovery and reimagination of the park after all park facilities were lost in the 2020 CZU Fire.

### [Big Basin Survey](#)

This survey will collect ideas about park visitor experiences and preferences that will be considered in the development of the Facilities Management Plan. The main survey is a series of simple multiple-choice questions and is designed to take about 5 minutes. All answers will be anonymous.

OPTIONAL: The second part is optional and is an interactive virtual experience with more creative and open-end survey questions. This part can take 15-20 minutes and is optional.

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## Henry Coe SP: Join us October 7th, 2023 for the Fall Tarantula Fest.

Come to the Coe Park Tarantula Fest and rub elbows (so to speak) with some of our fuzzy, friendly eight-legged guests of honor. The event is held at the headquarters campground, which has breathtaking views across the ridges and canyons of the backcountry.

- Listen to music by the Coe Park Jug Band while you enjoy lunch
- Click [here](#) for more information

- See live birds of prey and other local wildlife presented by the Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center (WERC)
- Tarantulas and other spiders on display
- Go on a leisurely hike with a volunteer to look for tarantulas in the wild
- Learn about some of the animals that live in Coe, hold a snake if you wish
- Go on a guided geocache hike to look for hidden treasures
- See the inside of a beehive and find out about these fascinating insects
- Find out what Coe Park geology has in common with candy
- Make a tarantula memento at the craft table
- If available, visit with firefighters and maybe sit inside a fire engine



# 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](https://parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/almaden-quicksilver-county-park)
- Calero - [parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/calero-county-park](https://parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/calero-county-park)
- Canada del Oro - [openspaceauthority.org/preserves/rancho.html](https://openspaceauthority.org/preserves/rancho.html)
- Coyote Lake Harvey Bear - [parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/coyote-lake-harvey-bear-ranch-park](https://parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/coyote-lake-harvey-bear-ranch-park)
- Henry Coe - [coepark.net/planning-your-visit/park-maps](https://coepark.net/planning-your-visit/park-maps)
- Joseph D. Grant - [parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/joseph-d-grant-county-park](https://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](https://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 1<sup>st</sup> 2023



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Promoting Horses & Horsemanship

**San Martin Horsemen's  
Association**  
P.O. Box 275  
San Martin, CA 95046