



San Martin Horsemen's Association © 2023

San Martin Horsemen's Association



Serving Our Community & Promoting Horses & Horsemanship

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The **General Meeting** this month will be at 7pm on Wednesday 24th, at Saddles & Treasures in Gilroy. Arrive early to browse and shop, www.saddlesandtreasures.com.

This newsletter has the 2024 Calendar right here on page 3. Mark your calendars appropriately. We have all the favorites there plus a brand new clinic to make a mohair cinch coming up in early February, please check out the flier on page 4.

Also included in this issue photos from the Holiday Party and the Christmas ride in the park.

Hapy New Year from Luna



Membership for 2024

Please think about renewing your membership for 2024 as soon as you can.

The membership application is available [online](#) including payment method, easy as a few clicks.

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 2024 and all 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 2024.

San Martin Horsemen's Association Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons

President	Toni Whedon 408-656-8975.	Toni.Whedon@cbnocal.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	Christine Amber	amber@equestriantraining.com
Historian	Carolyn Tucker	carolynt@garlic.com	Trails Development Co-chair	Chere Bargar	408.683.2247
Trails Development Co- chair	open		Camp Chair	Toni Whedon 408-656-8975.	Toni.Whedon@cbnocal.com

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

If you want to serve as chairperson in one of the open positions listed in the table above, please contact any board member.

Karen Mansel

Lifelong horsewoman Karen Mansel, passed away on December 6, 2023. She was one of the first members of SMHA and during her tenure serving two terms as Club President, membership soared to over 450 members.

She organized many overnight Horse camping trips to the Coast and High Sierras, which became annual Club traditions. The SMHA Color Guard was founded and performed with great success at several parades and a second place win at the Cow Palace. Fun events like Scavenger Hunt trail rides, Team Penning, Quadrille and the Galloping Goblin Poker Ride which is still an annual event for SMHA. The yearly Christmas potluck was enlivened with a program of zany skits Karen orchestrated.

Her passion for Trails led her to join both the County Mounted Assistance Unit at Mt. Madonna and the Henry Coe Park Mounted Assistance Unit. She earned her 2500 hour pin helping to scout, build, document and maintain the Coe Park trails.

Karen was active in NATRC Competitive Trail riding from 1972 through 1990, as both a competitor and volunteer. With over 2500 miles ridden in NATRC competitions on her beloved Drifter (JaDrift), the duo brought home many regional and national awards.

She and husband Jim retired to Georgetown, CA in 2006 where they remained active in church, volunteer work, and with their family of 8 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

A memorial camp scholarship fund has been established in her memory, for children to attend Forward Bible Camp (forwardbiblecamp.com).

Mane Stays & Events 2024 CALENDAR

<p>January</p> <p>17 Board Meeting</p> <p>24 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p>	<p>February</p> <p>9 Cinch Making Clinic #1 - San Martin Lions Club</p> <p>10 Cinch Making Clinic #2 - San Martin Lions Club</p> <p>21 Board Meeting</p> <p>24 Club Ride - Harvey Bear County Park</p> <p>28 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p>
<p>March</p> <p>9 Club Ride - Almaden Quicksilver County Park</p> <p>20 Board Meeting</p> <p>27 General Meeting - Longhouse Restaurant, Gilroy</p>	<p>April</p> <p>14 Club Ride - Grant Ranch County Park</p> <p>17 Board Meeting</p> <p>24 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p>
<p>May</p> <p>11 Club Ride - Henry Coe State Park, Hunting Hollow</p> <p>18 Trailer Maintenance Clinic (Tentative) - Blomquist Arena, Gilroy</p> <p>15 Board Meeting</p> <p>22 General Meeting - Longhouse Restaurant, Gilroy</p>	<p>June</p> <p>1 Trail Obstacle Playday & Parade Desensitization - Blomquist Arena, Gilroy</p> <p>19 Board Meeting</p> <p>26 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p> <p>29 Horse Camping Clinic & Chili Cook-Off – Henry Cowell State Park, Santa Cruz Horsemen's Assoc.</p>
<p>July</p> <p>4 Morgan Hill Downtown Parade</p> <p>17 Board Meeting</p> <p>21 Club Ride - Mt Madonna County Park, Pole Line Rd</p> <p>26 General Meeting - Longhouse Restaurant, Gilroy</p>	<p>August</p> <p>3 Bike Desensitization Clinic - Blomquist Arena, Gilroy</p> <p>21 Board Meeting</p> <p>28 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p> <p>31 Club Ride - Calero County Park</p>
<p>September</p> <p>14 Club Ride - Mt. Madonna County Park, Sprig Lake Day Use Area</p> <p>18 Board Meeting</p> <p>21 Trail Obstacle Play Day - Blomquist Arena, Gilroy</p> <p>25 General Meeting - Longhouse Restaurant, Gilroy</p>	<p>October</p> <p>5 Trailer Backing Clinic (Tentative) - Blomquist Arena, Gilroy</p> <p>13 Club Ride - Rancho Canada del Oro Open Space</p> <p>16 Board Meeting</p> <p>23 General Meeting - Saddles & Treasures, Gilroy</p>
<p>November</p> <p>2 Halloween Poker Ride - Harvey Bear County Park</p> <p>18 Board Meeting</p> <p>23 Club Ride - Salinas River State Beach</p>	<p>December</p> <p>4 Holiday Party & General Meeting - Longhouse Restaurant, Gilroy</p> <p>21 Horse Ride & Caroling - Harvey Bear County Park</p>

Join SMHA for fun events held throughout the year!
Have new ideas of things to do or places to ride? Let SMHA know! We LOVE your ideas!!

Two CINCH MAKING CLINICS

Brought to you by the San Martin Horsemen's Association

TrailMeister
Cinch Clinics
Feb 9 & 10



After going through the course, when you see a beautiful cinch, you'll say to yourself, "I could make that myself!"



Each of these full day cinch-making clinics include all materials and tools for your first custom cinch.

Comprehensive Topics Covered:

- Cinch Materials
- Correct Cinch Size
- Knots to Know
- Cordage Length
- Building the Cinch
- Details & Designs
- After Build Care
- Resources



Clinic Location and Time
San Martin Lions Club,
12415 Murphy Ave, San
Martin CA 95046
8am to 5pm



Friday FEB 9th Clinic



Scan or visit the link to register.
<https://www.trailmeister.com/product/cinch-clinic-deposit-sanmartin-ca-feb-9-2024/>

Saturday FEB 10th Clinic



Scan or visit the link to register.
<https://www.trailmeister.com/product/cinch-clinic-sanmartin-ca-feb-10-2024/>

Seats are limited, secure your spot
today! Clinic Fee - \$350 / person

**Pick a clinic and
REGISTER TODAY**

Holiday Party



Holiday Party in December was lots of fun - we had 30 people in attendance! Dinner was yummy, and our gift exchange game had plenty of laughs. It was great to see so many of our members together.



Lots of laughter & fun confusion during the gift exchange game...next year we might have a tutorial on which side is left and which side is right before we start the game. 😊



Lyn & Amy showing off their gifts from the gift exchange game.



Christmas Ride





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

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

FOR SALE: Logan 1989 2-horse, straight load trailer. Malibu model, 2 axel, unladen weight: 2600, original owner. Best reasonable offer accepted. Located in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Contact: sfrancy1@aol.com



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



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