



The Eventer

a publication of San Martin Horsemen's Association

Serving our community promoting horses and horsemanship

- SMHA Events -
General Meeting, Pot Luck!
Off-site @ Mt Madonna
BBQ & Trail ride too!

June

17th Board Mtg
27 Trail Trial & Poker Ride

July

11 Mt. Madonna Gen Mtg
trail ride & BBQ
15 Board Mtg

Community Events

June

6 Coyote-Bear Workday
20 CSHA Region 10 Show
21 PPSA Sorting Clinic
27 CSHA Retion 15 Show

Look inside the Newsletter for more information on these sidebar events. A complete Club calendar is online at: smhorse.com/calendar.htm

Newsletter Deadline

Five days after the Board Mtg or the 20th of the month. Send articles, classified, pictures, and stories of interest to: SMHA.news@gmail.com.

[SMhorse.com](http://smhorse.com)smhorse.comsmhorse.comsmhorse.comsmhorse.com

Jack Brooks Horse Camping May 28-31st

RSVP and go!!!!

Jack Brooks - San Mateo county; late Spring long weekend trip. SMHA has never been here this early in the year. Late Spring wildflowers should paint the landscape. It can be really hot at the end of May...or still cool. Jack Brooks is a unique camp experience: with redwoods, pipe corrals for the horses (first come first to use), hot running water, wash racks, microwave, real shower and toilet facilities, and a limited number of hook-ups for campers. Tents, trailers, RVs, etc allowed. Keep in mind that the access road is one-way and non-paved for about a mile, with designated times for traffic flow in-and-out of the campgrounds.

Visit Jack Brooks web site: <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/parks>
(*select the link for Facilities - under Sam McDonald Park. we are using Jack Brook Campsite #1)

RSVP - Mary 408-779-9594 or email smha1968@gmail.com

Trail Trials and Poker Ride, June 27

Volunteer & Compete, too. -- at the



Chaired by Sharon Hensley and Joan Throgmorton

\Discounts for official Volunteer Helpers, For more info or to volunteer, call Joan Throgmorton 408 842 5570.

Your club membership gets you \$5.00 off the entry, enter before the 27th and get another \$5.00 off!! What a bargain.

You can help out right now by:

- Getting the word out -- telling your friends & fellow horsepeople
- Chat and post on-line
- Putting up flyers-- get a copy from the website, smhorse.com

SMHA has only two fund raisers per year to help with club costs. Club insurance, membership in CSHA, reservation fees for some club camping, plates and goodies for the general meeting pot luck, storage space for club equipment like water troughs, the printing costs of this wonderful newsletter, etc. The only free lunch is included with the Trail trials / Poker ride -- TriTip Lunch following the ride (Approx 1:30)

If you have prizes or gift certificates for the Trail Trials, get them to Sharon ahead of time. Call her at 408 776-6878

June No General Meeting, but

A Call for Calendar Ideas!

The board voted to change the “planning year” from May=to=May. Five new activities will be schedule from Jan to May 2010 at the next meeting to round out the new planning year.

Why did we do this? Many places where events are held, like the County parks or Private Arenas require the club to post its insurance. The club insurance renews in May. Event’s like the Trail Trials and poker ride become “at risk” because getting info from the insurance company in advance of the renewal date is not possible. The most efficient and easy way to resolve the headache of sweating bullets while waiting for the insurance to process our renewal, is to give them a full year’s activity calendar in May.

This gives you another opportunity to get your ideas of Members Only activities to board members and committee chairs. If you have an interest in any of these ***or other activities***, call or email a board or committee member and let them know. Be willing to “chair” the idea; this means be the person who will organize the activity and make it happen.

I will list a few ideas that people have expressed to me.

1. Family activity that involves kids, gymkhana or games night.
2. Camping trip to introduce Hunter Pace riding.
3. Desensitization or exposure clinic for club horses and riders
4. Geocaching rides or camping
5. Internet and computers for horse people

As an example, I’d be willing to chair any type of clinic or training activity, an internet and computer class or a games day. When the board discusses these and other ideas that people put forward, if there is already a person willing to be a committee chair for the activity, it can be decided upon. When there is not a committee chair, then a person needs to found who will volunteer. If you have a special interest that you would like to share or teach to other members, pony up! Get you ideas on the table and volunteer to make things happen!

Jack Brooks next year will be one of the calendar items. Already, there are limited dates on the calendar for next year. The club will try to get dates that make it easier for family and children camping. We are competing with other organizations for good dates, but there was one opportunity during summer vacation that SMHA will try to book. Aug. 8 - 16th will be our first choice. Watch the newsletter to see if we get it!

May General Meeting Update

We had a nice attendance at the meeting for Phil Atwood’s and Christine Amber’s presentations.

Phil gave a cool slide presentation on Geocaching. It is like the old fashion treasure hunt using all the new technologies of the internet and global positioning devices GPS. The old fashion part is the way things are hidden. Some caches are small, but some are larger and disguised to fit into their surroundings. Mary Atwood ia a great fan of geocaching. She has been the first person to find many treasures in our areas. Even their kids and grand kids get in on the action. It doesn’t cost anything to join and on the trails and in the parks it is a great reason to trail ride your horse! the web site for this activity is: www.geocaching.com

Christine Amber presented on horse games. When thinking about horse games we always have to think of safety first. It is important to understand basic horse temperaments and individual differences in temperaments. Playing should always have activities that teach and emphasize skills. Good riding balance and accurate communication with your horse are just some of the skills that can improve through playing games.

There are games to make hot horses slow and slow horses hot, but games just for the sake of speed or without direction or purpose can cause more harm than good for any horse or rider.

Having fun is a great way to overcome challenges and to deal with fears. Always think ahead, think like a horse when planning your games, and get the advice of a trainer to make sure you are teaching and training the skills you want.

Lake San Antonio Update

I can give you this report first hand. Melanie Headrick chaired this activity. It was about a two hour drive, but all freeway or nice easy flat driving. I detoured the back way through Fort Hunter Liggett. How is that the government gets some of the best lands. Beautiful green meadows with tall reaching valley oak trees; Hunter Liggett used to be part of the Hearst Estate.

The facilities at Lake San Antonio were super. Lots of water access, clean and hot showers (if you actually turned on the hot water, ask Melanie), nice bathrooms at an easy walk and several porta potties very close to our camp sites, picnic tables, pipe corrals and BBQs.

The weather sprinkled at night and in the afternoon, but we had beautiful rides. Thirteen miles of interconnecting trails weave gently over loamy foothills, dotted with oak trees, wild flowers and wild animals. This would be a great place

