

NOVATO HORSEMEN NEWS



December
2011

Board of Directors

- President:** Gary Sello (415) 309-8618
gary@indianvalleycarriage.com
- V. Pres.:** Greg Yates (415) 725-5034
mtbik4evr@verizon.net
- Treasurer:** Alyssa Aubrey (707) 878-2440
alyssa@medicinehorseranch.org
- Rec. Sec.:** Linda Leathers (415) 897-7234
Bugsandbuds@verizon.net
- Corrsp. Sec.:** Mary Shannon (415) 652-5353
hicute@yahoo.com
- Board Members:**
- Kim Fishman (415) 436-5390
kimberly.fishman@bankofamerica.com
- Amy Hutchinson (415) 457-0115
heydere@sbcglobal.net
- Sally Moses (415) 827-2481
sallymoses@msn.com
- Marianne Skinner (415) 898-9421
mmss@comcast.net
- Jim Williams (415) 897-3966
jtwilldvm@aol.com
- Art Yee 415-899-1025
arthurryee@hotmail.com

Novato Horsemen, Inc. PO Box 456, Novato, CA 94948
Web: www.novatohorsemen.com

2011 Holiday and Installation Dinner Saturday December 3, 2011

Dinner begins at 6:30 pm with General Membership meeting following.

This dinner will not be the usual first-come first-served affair. To guarantee your place in line, you must RSVP to Amy Hutchinson by November 29, at heydere@sbcglobal.net or (415) 457-0115. Anyone who does not RSVP will have to wait until all who did RSVP are served and may find themselves without a meal.

Main Course:

Turkey prepared by Scott Colvin

Pot Luck by Last Name:

A - D Bread/Rolls

E - I Desserts

J - M Veggies

N - Q Appetizers

R - Z Starches, including potatoes

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be available from the club bar at the usual cost.

RSVP's a must! Contact Amy Hutchinson at heydere@sbcglobal.net or (415) 457-0115 by November 29th.



Monthly Event Calendar

★ CLUB EVENTS ★

- 12/3 Arena Rental - CGA Gymkhana
NHI Holiday and Installation
- 12/3 Dinner
- 12/4 NJI Holiday and Installation Dinner

OTHER EVENTS

- 12/4 CSHA Awards Banquet - Napa



Welcome New Members,

**Thor Bodter, Robert De Brie, Karen Shaw,
Louise Souta, Michelle Spinoza, Greg Sullivan,
Kristen Yee and Nick Zallian!**

President's Message

From Gary Sello

Together, we have made it to the end of another year. As Novato Horsemen's begins its eighth decade, we can look back and know that many before us have come to the end of their elected term, some to stay on, and others to leave so new people would keep carrying our volunteer organization into the future. We have some third generation grandchildren in the Juniors, who in our lifetime will be sitting at meetings with generation number four. During the junior meeting Elections earlier in November, I listened to about a dozen junior members giving their speeches prior to voting. Many of the kids from six to sixteen spoke openly about their love of our club, and how much they feel like our community is their second family. This is our legacy, to be there for our children, and their children. To teach them well, and have them learn our love and respect for ourselves, each other, and our animals. We are a lucky lot to have horses in our lives, we are most fortunate indeed.

There will be some changes as the 2011 Board of Directors becomes the 2012 Board. Art Yee will be our new President, Mari Benson will be Vice President, Ann Hadley will become Secretary, and Dan Milliken will be a Director At Large. Greg Yates will be leaving, as will Alyssa Aubrey and Mary Shannon. All three have spent three or four years most recently on the NHI Board; Alyssa as Treasurer, Mary as Secretary, and Greg as Vice-President. Each one of the three outgoing Board members were very valuable to myself and other past Presidents, and more importantly, the club thrived as a result of these hard working, straight talking individuals. I am at a loss for words to describe the gratitude I feel for the 2011 Board of Directors and my hopes for the 2012 Board. With Amy, Jim, Marianne, Sally, Linda, and Kim transitioning to the new board, I think it's safe to say out pulse will hardly skip a beat.

To be a part of the honoring and the thanking of those who volunteer to help administer our club's business, as well as those put their heart and soul into special projects or specific events throughout the year, please attend our Installation Dinner on December 3 at the club. A flyer with instructions on who to RSVP to, what to bring, and where to sign up for set-up and clean-up can be found in the Newsletter. We hope to have good fun, and a humorous time going over the year and thanking those who worked hard to insure our clubs success.

The club encourages members to bring canned goods for donation to Novato Human Needs Center at this event. We sure do look forward to seeing you on December 3rd.

Thank you for allowing me to be President of Novato Horsemen's a third term in the past five years. It was an experience that many times forced me to dig deeper, listen harder, and learn that everyone has something beneficial to offer. I learned that all my good friends don't always have all good ideas, and that people who can really get on my nerves, do so because they are right, regardless of how I feel about them. The kids in the juniors got it right..... Y'all are like a second family to me. I cherish our memories, and anticipate with great excitement, what we will do together going down the trail.

Thank You,
Gary

Committee Chairs

Arena:	Scott Colvin 415-897-8438 Karen Kilian 415-897-0794 Dan Millikin 415-233-0658
Bar:	Mari Benson 707-292-3154 Pam Fike 707-579-6297
Budget/ Finance:	Alyssa Aubrey 707-878-2440 Curt Kruger 415-897-7308 Greg Yates 415-725-5037
Bylaws:	Sally Moses 415-827-2481 Jim Williams 415-897-3966 Greg Yates 415-725-5037
Calendar:	Karen Kilian 415-897-0794
Caretaker:	contact Employment committee
CSHA:	Mary Shannon 415-652-5353
Custodian:	Tina Georgeson 415-328-7695
Employment:	Alyssa Aubrey 707-878-2440 Jim Williams 415-897-3966
Fundraising:	Amy Hutchinson 415-517-3907 Kim Kouri 415-408-3677 Sally Moses 415-827-2481
Grounds:	Dan Millikin 415-233-0658
Insurance:	Tina Georgeson 415-928-7695
Junior Advisors:	Norm Dunham 415-902-1847 Karen Killian 415-897-0794 Lauren Magner 415-497-7330 Steve Schwindt 415-897-8453
Membership:	Jana Hefner 415-897-3955
Merchandise:	Sally Moses 415-827-2481
Patio/Arbor:	Jeri Ireland 415-883-2330 Linda Leathers 415-897-7234 Adam & Megan McAboy 415-895-1337 Jim Williams 415-897-3966
Sunshine:	Nancy Olson-Cuff 415-939-5005
Ten Year Committee:	Scott Colvin 415-897-8438 Jeri Ireland 415-883-2330 Curt Kruger 415-897-7308 Stephen Schwindt 415-897-8453 Marianne Skinner 415-898-9421 Jim Williams 415-897-3966 Greg Yates 415-725-5307
Trail Boss:	Mary Shannon 415-652-5353
Website:	Jeri Ireland 415-883-2330

Event Chairs

Boots & Buckles	Susan Atamaniuk 415-382-0101 Amy Hutchinson 415-517-3907
Cattle:	Scott Colvin 415-897-8438
Cowboy Mounted Shooting:	Dan Millikin 415-233-0658
Gymkhana:	Kelly Drosihn 415-892-3983
Halloween:	Collette Patt 707-623-0945 Jim Williams 415-897-3966
Parade:	
Team Penning:	Art Yee 415-899-1025
Western Day:	Kim Kouri 415-608-2984 Sally Moses 415-827-2481





Club News

CONGRATULATIONS and WELCOME TO NOVATO HORSEMEN'S 2012 BOARD

President: Art Yee
V. Pres.: Mari Benson
Treasurer: Kimberly Fishman
Rec. Sec.: Linda Leathers
Corrsp. Sec.: Anne Hadley
Board Members: Gary Sello, Amy Hutchinson, Jim Williams, Sally Moses, Dan Milikin and Marianne Skinner



December's Board Of Directors Meeting

The 2011 and 2012 Board Members will be meeting Sunday, December 18th at 9:00 am at Sam's Restaurant in Novato. If you have an item for the agenda or need to attend, please contact Gary Sello.

Membership Applications.

2012 Membership renewal applications are requested. Please take a moment to look at the volunteer section and check any events for which you would be willing to volunteer. Remember, renewals received after NHI's March meeting are subject to the initiation fee. So, don't wait, complete the attached application and mail it to Novato Horsemen, Inc., P.O. Box 456, Novato, CA 94948 or drop it off in person at any General Meeting.



Advertising.

With the New Year quickly approaching, it's time to think about advertising your business card in our newsletter. Business card listings are just \$10.00 per month (members price). (Run your card for one year and receive a discounted rate of \$100.00 for the year. Consider that you get an audience of 350+ members and our newsletter goes out to PRDC, CSHA, MHC and others. Please support the newsletter and our club by advertising here. Contact Mary Shannon at (415) 652-5353 or hicute@yahoo.com for information. Space is limited.

To All the Volunteers...

My heartfelt thank you goes out to all of you who gave of your time, muscle, and money to invent and orchestrate one heck of a Halloween Party. To my team - Jim, it was entertaining working with you as always. Jana, thank you for your fun spirit, creative ideas, the history lessons and your precious time. I am going to list all the awesome people that came out of the woodwork to help when they could. I pray I don't miss anyone. If I do please blame it on Ruby, she ain't what she used to be (being over 100 years old and all).

Gracie Murphy

Sasha

Norman Dunham

Dan Millikin

Mari Benson & son

Dave Hambly

Sue Hambly

Mary Shannon

Karen & Carmine

Kim Fishman

Kristi & Will Steadman

Laura Magner

Jeri Ireland

Karen Kilian

Jackie Walker

Leslie Bordonaro (new member-love her)

Even Marianne Skinner on crutches

And to all of you who volunteered to come join the party and have fun!! All My Gratitude, Rattlesnake Ruby

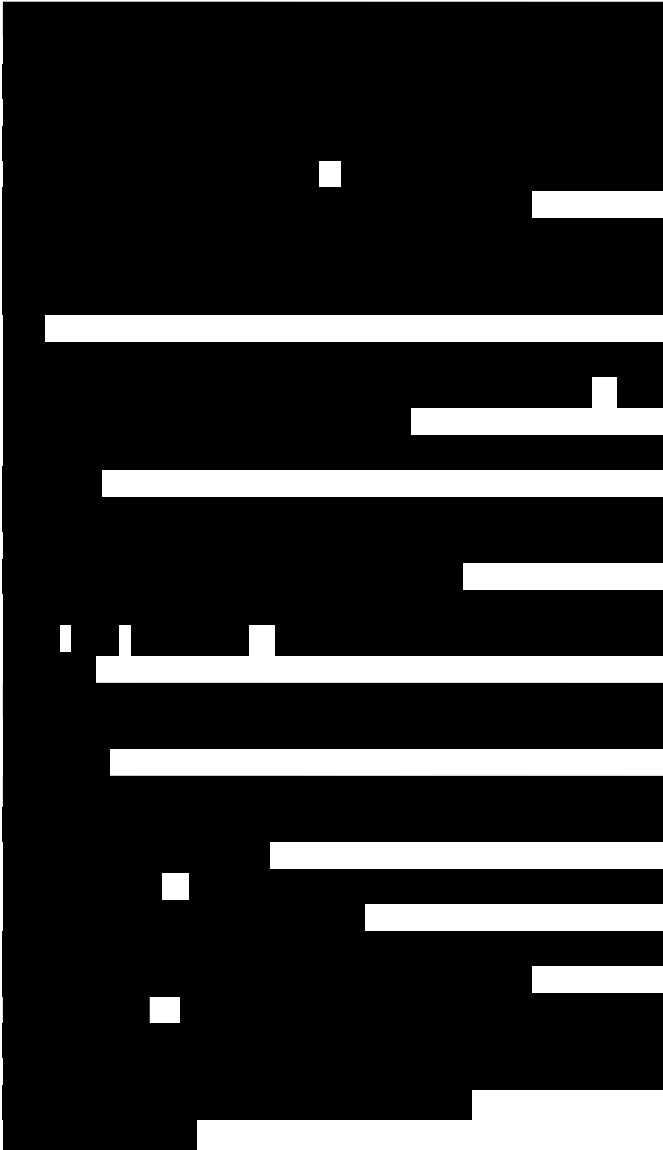


[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Tim Dempsey, Tracy Engelen and Rick Carlsen riding for the color guard for the Marin County Sheriff's Office Posse in the Petaluma Veteran's Day Parade.



GGNRA DAIRY - TAKE ACTION

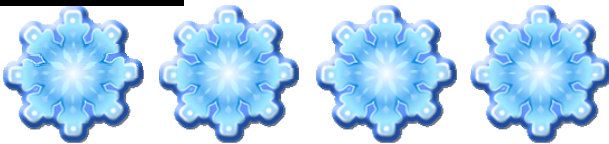
The GGNRA is in the process of proposing new guidelines for the presence of horses in the park. The draft preferred alternative has been chosen and is open for public comment until Dec. 16th. You can view the whole plan, which affects Miwok Stables, Presidio Riding Club, the NPS mounted patrol and the Golden Gate Dairy (Ocean Riders) at Muir Beach at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=303&projectID=14568&documentID=43986>

We are very glad that the draft preferred alternative chosen for public comment intends to keep horses at Miwok, Presidio Riding Club and the Golden Gate Dairy.

For the past fifty years horses have been at the Golden Gate Dairy. People who pass by often stop to watch the horses play, to walk around and see the horses in the stalls and talk with the people who are here working with the horses. We hope this will continue for the next fifty years, but proposed changes would remove the stalls and put all the horses out of the view of the public by relocating the stables behind the old dairy buildings. We believe if their chosen alternative for the General Management Plan is 'connecting people to places' then the horses are what will be drawing the public in to learn about the historic Golden Gate Dairy.

We hope that you will look at the proposed plan and if you agree that keeping horse stables visible at the Golden Gate Dairy, easily seen by passers by are important goals, please contact the NPS or Superintendent Frank Dean (Fort Mason Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123) and tell them what you think.

Thank you for taking the time to voice your opinion on this issue that is so vital to keeping the presence of horses alive in Marin.



Alina Sierra, Mary Shannon and Dan Greely riding for the Marin County Sheriff's Office Posse in the Petaluma Veteran's Day Parade.

THE HALLOWEEN COSTUME AND DANCE PARTY HULLABALOOZA!!



**NOVATO HORSEMEN, INC.
P.O. BOX 456, NOVATO, CA 94948**

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – 2012

*To Be Completed By NHI
Board Member*
Ck# _____ \$ _____
Date Voted In _____
Date Card Mailed _____

Name of Member _____ Spouse _____

New Member Renewal - No Change Renewal - New Info.
(go to Annual Dues Section)

Mailing Address: _____
Street _____ City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Profession _____ Spouse _____

Birthdate _____ Spouse _____

Email _____ Spouse _____

ANNUAL DUES

Individual Membership \$50.00 Couples Membership \$75.00
Initiation Fee \$30.00 Couples Initiation Fee \$60.00

New members (and existing members renewing after the March General Meeting) are subject to initiation fee

May we publish your address/phone number in a member's directory? Yes No

VOLUNTEER EVENTS 2012

As a NHI member, your participation in club events is essential and will be greatly appreciated. Please check the events for which you will be volunteering.

- Lead Club Ride Cook Dinner for Gen. Mtg. Marin County Fair Bartending
- Valentines Crab Feed Halleck Creek BBQ Ride 4th of July Parade Snack Shack
- Clubhouse Cleaning Horse Shows Western Day Cattle Events
- Work Parties Gymkhanas / Play Days Fundraising Parties Serve on a committee

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

As a member, I hereby agree to abide by the Rules and Bylaws of Novato Horsemen, Inc. I understand that, if I am a new member, I must attend a General Membership Meeting within 60 days of submitting the application to complete the requirements for membership. If I do not attend a meeting, the dues and initiation fee are retained by Novato Horsemen, Inc., and membership is cancelled.

✓ Member Signature _____ ✓ Member Signature _____

Sponsor's Name _____

WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

I (We) have read the contract on the back (or attached hereto) of this Senior Membership Application and I (we) am (are) aware that the contract is legally binding and that I (we) am (are) giving up legal rights and/or remedies to assert a claim for negligence.

✓ _____
Signature – Contracting party Date

✓ _____
Signature – Contracting party Date

Printed Name

Printed Name

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

I (we) am (are) voluntarily entering into the following agreement with NOVATO HORSEMEN, INC. and/or NOVATO JUNIOR HORSEMEN ("NJH") together with their sponsors, property owners, officials, and affiliates and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, representatives, and affiliated persons or entities (all of these persons and entities will collectively be referred to in this agreement as "NHI").

In addition to myself (ourselves), I (we) also make this agreement on behalf of the following persons who are my (our) children or legal wards (under 18 years of age). These persons may attend or participate in open events sponsored or organized by NHI or closed events of members of NHI, and I (we) agree to bind them to this agreement. :

Child's Name. _____ Age: _____ Child's Name. _____ Age: _____

All parts of this agreement shall apply to me (us) and the children/legal wards listed above. [We will collectively call ourselves "I", "me", "my", "we", "us" or "our" throughout this agreement.] This agreement shall be binding at all times, now and in the future, when NHI permits me (us) (directly or indirectly) to attend or participate in events sponsored or organized by NHI at any location.

In consideration of NHI allowing me (us) and/or my (our) minor children or legal wards to attend or participate in events sponsored or organized, in whole or in part, by NHI, I (we) agree as follows:

1. EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISKS. When preparing for, entering, attending, participating in, or leaving events sponsored or organized in whole or in part by NHI. Horses, mules and ponies are unpredictable by nature. For example, when frightened, angry, or under stress, the natural instincts of a horse, mule or pony are to jump forward or sideways, or run away from danger by trotting or galloping. Horses, mules and ponies are also known to kick, buck, rear up, spin around, strike, or bite. I (we) know that horses, mules or ponies can do these things without warning. I (we) also understand that all horses, mules and ponies are powerful and could have the potential to be dangerous to people who ride, handle, or are around them.

Further, I (we) understand that riding, handling, or being near a horse, mule or pony can expose me (us) to numerous hazards, which could include, for example: the propensity of a horse, mule or pony to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons around them; the unpredictability of a horse, mule or pony's reaction to sounds, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals; certain hazards such as surface or subsurface conditions on the land; and/or collisions with other horses, mules, cattle, ponies, or objects. I (we) understand that these risks and dangers can occur with or without negligence on part of NHI, and I (we) expressly agree to assume all of these risks. I (we) also understand that these are just some risks, and I (we) agree to assume others; I (we) am (are) not relying on NHI to list all possible risks for me (us).

2. WAIVER AND LIABILITY RELEASE. As lawful consideration for being permitted to attend or participate in events sponsored or organized, in whole or in part, by NHI at any location, now and in the future, I (we) agree to assume full responsibility for any and all bodily injuries or damages which I (we) may sustain when engaging in these and other activities caused by the ordinary negligence of NHI. The term "damages" means, for example, medical expenses; losses incurred because of bodily injuries or property damages, and/or personal property damages. I (we), for my (our) heirs, administrators, personal representatives, agents, and assigns, waive, release, discharge, and covenant not to sue Novato Horsemen, Inc. and/or Novato Junior Horsemen, together with their sponsors, property owners, officials, and affiliates and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, representatives, affiliated persons or entities, and others acting on their behalf of and from any and all claims, damages, actions, omissions, suits, or causes of action (present and future), whether or not the claims are known or unknown, arising out of the ordinary negligence of any of these parties.

3. INDEMNITY AGREEMENT. I (we) also agree to indemnify and hold harmless Novato Horsemen, Inc. and/or Novato Junior Horsemen, together with their sponsors, property owners, officials, and affiliates and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, representatives, affiliated persons or entities, and other acting on their behalf against all damages which are sustained or suffered by any third person(s) [people who are not parties to this Agreement, including, *but not limited to*, participants, spectators, visitors, guests, or others], including any and all injuries or damages whatsoever that I(we) [or my(our) horse(s), mule(s) or pony(ies)] may cause, directly or indirectly, while attending or participating in events sponsored or organized in whole or in part by NHI. The indemnity shall include reimbursement of NHI's attorney fees and court costs.

4. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR. For my protection, NHI advises me (us) to consider purchasing and wearing properly fitted and secured ASTM-standard/SEI-certified protective equestrian headgear when riding or when near horses or ponies I (we) am (are) not relying on NHI to monitor my (our) compliance with this suggestion, and I (we) understand that NHI will not check my (our) helmet (if I(we) wear one) or provide one for me (us) (if I (we) do not).

5. MISCELLANEOUS. This agreement is governed by California law and is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted under the law. Should any clause conflict with California law, only that clause will be null and void and the remainder shall stay in effect. This agreement can only be modified or terminated by a written agreement that is signed by the President of NHI and me. If I (we) breach this agreement, I (we) agree to pay attorney's fees and court costs incurred by NHI related to such breach.

6. HEALTH AND DISABILITIES. Many disabilities have conditions that pose special physical risks to participants during exercise. Horseback riding is exercise. I (we) understand that NHI recommends that I (we) seek the advice of a physician before participating in activities that involve riding or being near horses, mules or ponies.

7. ALSO, I (WE) REPRESENT THAT:

- **AT THE TIME I (WE) AM (ARE) SIGNING THIS, I (WE) AM (ARE) OF SOUND MIND AND NOT SUFFERING FROM SHOCK OR UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR INTOXICANTS;**
- **I (WE) HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (BOTH PAGES), AND I (WE) FULLY UNDERSTAND IT; AND**
- **I (WE) AM (ARE) AWARE THAT THIS CONTRACT IS LEGALLY BINDING AND THAT I (WE) AM (ARE) GIVING UP LEGAL RIGHTS AND/OR REMEDIES TO ASSERT A CLAIM FOR NEGLIGENCE.**

Classified Ads

2 DELAWARE HENS AND A ROOSTER Looking for a good home. Would like to keep them all together, all about 8 months old. Contact Karen at 415-897-0794

BELGIAN-QUARTER MIX MARE AND GELDING TEAM, about 15.1/1200 - 1300 lbs and in their late teens. They are completely broke to the harness and have been pulling wagons at a Montana Dude Ranch and in California. This team is as close to bomb proof as they get. The harnesses are included with the team. The price is negotiable but they must go to a good home where they will continue to be side by side in the harness. \$3,000 for both horses plus harnesses. Contact Steve Marion-Walker at semw@comcast.net or 415-462-5548

1989 CIRCLE J - LAGRANDE TRAILER. Extra tall and extra wide warmblood trailer. Straight load with a ramp. No center pole. Clean with good tires. \$2,500. Call Jana 415-897-3955.

DONKEYS NEED HOME Looking for a good home for two sweet small standard sized donkeys, a female and gelded male; they have been together over two years. They are healthy, have all their shots, are halter trained, lead, and can be trimmed without drugs. The owner can no longer care for these wonderful donkeys. Call Karen at 707 484-5813



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*Our costs are on the rise again.
 Please consider receiving this
 newsletter by email. Contact us
 at novatohorsemen@gmail.com.
 Thanks for your support!*